

What Now, Astros and Phis?

Rush Week '67 is now history; the decorations have been removed from dorms and the court, and Astros can go back to wearing blue and Phis yellow. Approximately \$200 of student activity funds have been spent on construction paper and punch, and many hours of time and energy were devoted to various Rush activities. For one week almost every Meredith upperclassman fanatically sang the praises of her particular society. On Friday all conflicts were resolved as freshmen and transfers chose to follow the blue or the yellow.

Now that the week has passed, it would seem appropriate to evaluate the place of societies on this campus and what each plans to do now that it has been fortified with new members. In other words, what is the purpose of spending so much time and money to win Rush if the societies are to sink back into oblivion after coming to the fore during one week of the year? Rush is exciting and it is certainly fun for all involved, but should the primary emphasis of the societies center on one week out of the entire school year?

Both societies do have service projects—the Astros work with the students at the Governor Morehead School for the Blind, and the Phis with the children at the Cerebral Palsy and Rehabilitation Center. Also the societies were responsible for the campus United Fund drive. Each society has monthly meetings, yet fall meetings are usually concerned with Rush plans, and spring meetings are taken up with installation of new members, election of the next year's officers, and early plans for the following year's Rush.

As a result of the way Meredith societies were set up in the early years of the school, every student becomes a member of one of the two societies. While sororities are frowned upon because of the ill will which their selectivity supposedly fosters, there is something to be said for the principle of selectivity as opposed to automatic membership. Not too many people could be expected to exhibit undying enthusiasm for an organization which wants them primarily as a number for winning Rush.

Whether the lack of drive within the two societies is caused by their structure, by a simple unconcern for a group which one automatically joins, or by a feeling that societies are obsolete, there is a problem here. If societies are to continue to exist, there seems to be a need for additional reasons with which to justify their existence. Simply saying that they promote fun, fellowship, Rush Week, and one or two service activities appears to be a rather small basis for two groups which involve every Meredith student.

Competition between the two societies for the library fund, for example, could benefit both the school and the societies. Pride in society membership might be promoted by setting up small activities, such as campus and dorm beautification, in which small groups from a society could participate. Surely nine hundred students could easily come up with other ideas which could be handled effectively and beneficially by the societies. As long as we have societies, let's do something with them.

MIH

Man to Man

What a piece of work is a man! How noble in reason! How infinite in faculty! In form and moving how express and admirable! In action how like an angel! In apprehension how like a god! The beauty of the world!

—WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

Two problems which are probably the most terrible causes of unrest in the world are war and racial prejudice. One thing that both of these problems have in common is that they do not honor each human being as something wonderful and grand.

If these problems are ever to be overcome, people must consider and judge each individual with a respect and open-mindedness that is due every person. A person's color or background then could never be the basis for hate.

If people respected humanity itself and the potential of every man, how could there be wars?

Man cannot love man and hate races. Man cannot love man and advocate war.

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For God's Sake Be Human.

'The Twig' Wants Aspiring Journalists

Now at the beginning of the brand-new semester, this is your big chance to serve on THE TWIG. You have a wide selection of positions, including columnist, copy editor, or reporter. The qualifications for a copy editor include not only being able to read, but also being able to recognize grammatical mistakes made by ignorant reporters. Along the same line, reporters are nosy, curious busybodies, who confuse copy editors by writing with a maximum of such mistakes. Columnists express their personal views for and against attitudes and events at Meredith, and, if interested, should submit preliminary material to the Chief Leaf. How about being a branch on THE TWIG?

P. S. TWIG staff members have the scoop on Meredith activities before they actually happen. So if you want to be in the know—GO TWIG!!!

FOUNDERS' DAY

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After Dr. Massey speaks, Mrs. William C. Friday will present a tribute to Miss Ellen Brewer, retired chairman of the Meredith home economics department. A portrait of Miss Brewer will be presented to the college by the Meredith home economics chapter.

PARENT'S DAY

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ideas of students who wanted their parents to meet their friends and the parents of their friends informally. Plans for the day were developed by the Student Activities Board, under the direction of Parents' Day chairman Cindy Griffith.

Killinger Explains Why REW Theme Is Relevant

By FRAN TREXLER

He kept saying "For God's Sake Be Human" all week, so we decided to ask him why. Dr. John R. Killinger, main speaker for Meredith's Religious Emphasis Week, endeavored to answer why in a number of ways.

The question Dr. Killinger was asked first was why this particular theme was chosen for REW and what relation it has to the area of theology and literature. In explaining the theme which he personally suggested, Killinger said, "The theme puts the emphasis where it ought to be, not on the 'inhumanity of religion' with all its fluff (of traditional beliefs)." By way of further explanation Killinger went on to say that it was only at the human level that one began to realize who he was. "God wants man to be human, but man must begin with finding himself, not with religion." Religion will come after the initial search for self-meaning.

Literature and Theology

Next the question arose as to how literature is related to theology. Dr. Killinger says that the good artist is sensitive, concerned with human values, and attempting to bring his reader nearer to humanity, which will, in the process, acquaint him with theology. "Theology shouldn't spin out of itself, but should be related to experience," he said. He seemed to be placing human experience at the core of theology.

Dr. Killinger was then asked the role of religious emphasis weeks on the college campus and their meaning for students. Again his answer reflected the necessity of finding humanity through finding one's self. He said that the type of REW would depend on the type of school, but that a school's being related to a denomination was a poor excuse for sponsoring a REW. In essence Dr. Killinger said that a religious

emphasis week is a time for emphasis on certain values, a time for integration of the self in view of all the new ideas and theories tossed around in the hurried world of a college campus, a time for personal evaluations and decisions, a time to stop and to think.

In reply to the question of whether or not modern literature has lost its sense of moral awareness, Killinger casts votes in both directions. He said that if one spoke in the context of the "common morality," namely in tones mindful of the Ten Commandments, then the answer would be a definite yes. "But if one means by moral awareness that which is basically right and just, the answer must be no, for the simple reason that if a writer has lost this sense, he would not be an artist; that is, the core of being human is being 'moral,' and his sense of morality pushes on and makes the artist."

Killinger's Book

Also mindful of the human theme in Christian theology was the next question asked of Dr. Killinger on the argument of his book, *The Failure of Theology in Modern Literature*. Killinger was also asked to explain how he came to hold this particular position. Dr. Killinger replied that several books had been written on the "good" theology in modern literature, and he thought it was about time to have some dialogue on the subject. He wrote the book with the contention that no systematic effort had been made to produce a "good theology" in literature. He said that "theology had expired as a serious occupation for the writer of popular literature." He feels that modern literature is merely reflecting the thought trends of the people.

One of the most pertinent questions asked of Dr. Killinger concerned his thoughts on the obligation

of literature to reflect the Christian theme. Killinger's answer was a merry-go-round of yeses and nos. On one hand he said that it is impossible to state what the Christian position is, and that we can't expect the artist to portray the Christian position if he is not Christian. He felt, however, that the "Christian writers" could have treated some of their central theological themes in a better fashion. "Christianity is not a passionate, central concern for most writers today," he said, "so there is not much of a Christian theme reflected."

On the other hand, Killinger felt that the artist was prophetic because he was more sensitive and not "mesmerized" by the dreams in life. The true prophetic artist is one who puts his perception of life in a primary position. "We must see the good and bad sides of life," he said, "and it is not immoral to see the bad side because it points toward seeing the good. Modern literature really tells the truth," said Killinger.

Through this truth man is led again to the humanity of man and thence to the "core" of Christian theology.

OPINIONS ON REW

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type of thing.

Carolyn McGrady: REW shows me that religion belongs in the contemporary world as well as in that of the ancient Jews.

Suzanne Carpenter: This REW is making me realize that things I think aren't so weird and may be coped with by a good Christian attitude. I feel, as do others that I have talked to, that Killinger is talking directly to me.

Of the people interviewed, some expressed little real interest in REW; but there was a decided voice of approval for Dr. Killinger and the program as a whole.