

SANTA, HO!

Santa Claus' existence can not be proven scientifically. This is unfortunate in an age like ours that takes pride in knowing things. Presupposing the Claushood is genuine, permit us to sketch and attempt to vivify his nebulous being. One sees twelve Santas in a three block area. He should not tell anyone these imposters are really Santa's helpers. The perpetuation of this myth can only enhance chances for the old boy's demise. Biliious bell-ringers do not a St. Nick make. That poor gentleman seems to some an anachronism in later twentieth century America. Let us look at him objectively and all of us can readily see his true modernity.

He has a full white beard. Facial growth like this must mean he is alienated. He probably is a long-time pot smoker, sometimes draft resister. In Chicago in August, he might have been maced, clubbed and dragged away. Of course, he would merely peel off a few fast ho-ho's, indicating one reason why skeptics doubt the reality of his being. Each individual takes himself seriously today, maybe too seriously. By contrast, Claus laughs at himself, even is amused when stuck in chimneys. He gets caught in them because he is fat, grossly overweight in fact.

Quite naturally, his fleshiness offends the modern American sensibility. It is infuriating to conceive of someone with such a gargantum appetite. Why many people even leave high calorie Christmas Eve snacks for Santa! No, in a nation gone mad on dieting in search of wasp waists and protuberant ribs, a man like Claus is simply not believable. He has that suspected attitude of enjoying what he eats. Americans, munching scrumptious celery and nibbling at various other rancid diet concoctions, must readily detest the hearty eater from the far North.

If they don't loathe Santa for his dietary practices, surely they despise him for his work in the world. Imagine someone who gives gifts without hope of reward or thoughts of any clever angle. His actions certainly earn the animosity of neo-Jeffersonian-Calhounist democrats who loudly proclaim the virtues of the self-made man. Claus' benevolence demonstrates the advanced stage of creeping socialism to this faction. To them, the rotund sleigh driver must be a Red Peril equally as dangerous as the more publicized one.

It is all the more suspicious that he is so beneficent when one considers the relatively reclusive life he leads most of the year. Not only does he live apart from accepted society, but he is apolitical and lacks spirited nationalism as well.

Claus travels around the world and has several aliases. He is a greater bagman then anyone the Cosa Nostra has to offer. His behavior appears quite strange. If he has a phone, it might bear wiretapping. It is possible he may be a world leader in disguise. Imagine a Russian premier of recent years. Add to his shiny dome a shock of white hair, give him some whiskers, and change his conservative clothing to rather garish garb. After all, people have seen pictures of the alleged S.C. with his boot off, pounding on one object or another.

Jim Vaus of Youth Development Inc. was chapel speaker at Montreat on December 3. October 24, he appeared in quite a different role from that of campus guest. He spoke before the Citizen's Advisory Board On Youth Opportunity, a group chaired by Hubert Humphrey. His topic was one he would know well: The Ghetto. The following excerpt is taken from that speech.

In the crises of the Ghetto, we have suddenly moved with speed, lots of money, programs, and tools. For a period we have eased the conscience of the nation. We have come forth with quantity even if we missed the quality.

We have not solved our problem overnight....we never will. We may have to back up a long way. We need long range programs. Along with programs to meet the physical poverty, we must meet their emotional, intellectual and spiritual poverty. The crying need is manpower to do the job....skilled leadership to guide the manpower, administer programs and handle the funds to do the job.

The President's Council had done a great job of inestimable value. Because of your effort Business and Labor responded, Mayors, Educators, and Volunteers have followed your guide lines....but it's not enough!

Summer programs, jobs, and education to fill the gaps are great.. but it's not enough. Opportunities have been provided for many....but in the inner city....opportunity is not enough!

I agree with the government financed study that rejected as false the view that most ghetto negroes are angry. It went on to report that a majority appear "overly content or apathetic." I find that very true.

It is increasingly difficult for agencies whether government or private to reach in from OUTSIDE of these communities. Some of the people cry "we can do it ourselves. Give us the money...the power...let us go!"

It is obvious that in the majority of cases they are not prepared to do the job.

In my opinion we will have to back up from escalated programs and big spending, before we can move forward. We must have established long range programs removed from the threat of "Are we funded yet?" Removed from the threat of changing politics.

MONTREAT-ANDERSON COLLEGE

Basketball Schedule 1968-1969

- Dec. 9, Winston-Salem B-C W-S 7:30
- Dec. 12, Ashe.-Biltmore Coll. (J.V.) Home 8:00
- Dec. 14, Friendship College Home 8:00
- Dec. 17, Western Piedmont Coll. Morganton
- Dec. 18, Ashe.-Biltmore (J.V.) Asheville 6:00

