

Philosophical Profundities Of Dammit

On the afternoon of May 20 the senior class will assemble, for the final time, in uncomfortable robes and donning ridiculous caps, they will proceed through the ritual of ceremoniously receiving a diploma the symbolic gesture signifying the completion of the educational requirements of Mars Hill College. The grandeur and solemnity of the occasion will be impressive. Mothers and girlfriends will cry; fathers will remain stoically placid but inwardly just as exuberant as the day he or she took that first step or cut that first tooth.

STATEMENT EXPLAINED

cannot prove our statements a retraction is warranted and is thus made. What Dr. Bentley told the Communications Board as to what he said concerning the drug case is as follows: he spoke to a monthly faculty meeting on the Tuesday following the students' arrest on Monday. At this meeting he explained what had happened in the drug case and asked the faculty to refrain from discussing the case in their classes until the charges had been filed and the basic facts of the case had become public knowledge. Dr. Bentley said he did not instruct faculty members not to become involved. He added that he had encouraged one faculty member to visit the boys in jail at their request.

The HILLTOP apologizes for any damage that may have been done Dr. Bentley by printing the article, as Dr. Bentley felt it could impugn outsiders concept of academic freedom on the campus. However, we can not apologize for printing the article. We published the statement in good faith that it was true and accurate to the best of our know-

But lost amid the joy and sadness of that Sunday afternoon will be the questions concerning the true value of those diplomas.

The general conception of a diploma is a document that represents four years of earnest, diligent, and successful pursuit of knowledge in a particular field of academic curricula. Moreover, in the case of Mars Hill College, it implies not only initiative and an extensive knowledge in a defined area, but also a degree of achievement in other phases of the Liberal Arts as well. As a Mars Hill student within sight of graduation, it is with

ledge. We believe that it is the duty, responsibility and obligation of the newspaper to report on such matters that are important and of interest to the students. We try to present as accurate a picture as possible of the campus, including the warts as well as the beauty marks. Due to lack of time, limited staff and heavy schedules, mistakes can and do occur. We do not pretend to be the supreme judge of right and wrong or good and evil. The paper is always open to opposing viewpoints. We encourage anyone who disagrees with what we print to write us a letter or come by and see us. If they are still not satisfied after this action, they should feel free to contact the communications board concerning the issue. To summarize our feelings we shall quote Justice Brennan of the Supreme Court, "erroneous statement is inevitable in free debate, and...must be protected if the freedoms of expression are to have the 'breathing space' that they 'need to survive'." We concur with this statement.

sadness and disgust that one must face the realization that the implications of a Mars Hill diploma are not only hypocritical, but are as worthless as the paper they are printed on.

The concern of this writer and many others does not lie with the faculty. In not one course during my endeavors at Mars Hill have I encountered a professor not willing to go the extra mile in an effort to cooperate with a student possessing some particle of initiative. The faculty is not of Harvard quality, nor is it expected to be. They do an admirable job and the question of their qualifications here is insignificant. What is significant is the attitude of the students and the merits awarded their accomplishments.

It takes no scholar to realize that a highly important segment of the student body cares very little about academic learning. Their reasons for college are obvious: to avoid the job market, find a spouse, play ball, or to simply have a good time. Their detriment to the other students in terms of time and energy from the faculty are revolting enough. Still, the disgust towards this trend culminates in the graduation ceremony. It is here that the student who has earnestly labored for four years receives a slip containing exactly the same inscription as the one owned by the student who slid through--content, regardless of ability, of attaining only grades that insure graduation.

The idea that these students will receive equal recognition defies all sense of logic, equity, and justice. To issue this recognition is a crime, not only to the deserving students, but to the image of Mars Hill College as well.

PIKE EXPLAINS SGA PLANS

Editorial Note: In an effort to acquaint the students with the new SGA President, Larry Pike, this reporter asked Larry one nebulous, encompassing question and then attempted to clarify the situation through related questions later in the interview. The questions centered around where Larry hoped to lead SGA and what specifically did he hope to accomplish. The following is a synopsis of the interview.

Larry stated that since the college seems to be moving toward a competency curriculum this should attract a different type student, one that will hopefully be more flexible. He added that even with more flexible students that we'll have to work within the system. He said that we may not accomplish what we want to this year by this method but that we'll lay the foundation for im-

provement by future students.

Larry stated also that SGA will be efficient and thorough this year. Proposals will be thought out and all angles will be checked before they are presented. "People may complain about this method but in the long run this will be the most effective way we can operate."

Larry stressed that he wanted to involve everybody in SGA this year. With the new College Union building opening there'll be numerous opportunities for student input. Participation will show the seriousness and responsibility of students and help to evoke improvements. He added, however, that if students don't take an active interest in SGA then the elected officials will still try to work for improvements

OVERSEAS JOBS AVAILABLE

Any student applying soon can get a summer job in Europe for July, August and September. Jobs are available in the following countries listed in an order combining availability and number of jobs; time required to process permits and other papers; required qualifications; and social and other factors: 1) Austria, 2) Switzerland, 3) Germany and 4) France.

Paying jobs now open include all kinds of summer resort, hotel, tavern and restaurant work. Standard wages are paid, and room and board are provided free and arranged in advance. Volunteer work is also available in Germany, Spain and France but volunteer work offers only free room and board with no wages.

Work permits, health insurance, and a 5-day orientation period are provided in Europe to insure that you get off to your job at the right time with the right information and correct papers, after learning what to expect in Europe. All other instructions, information and details are exchanged by mail through the SOS Luxembourg Student Organization

while you are still at school or at home.

Students wishing a summer job in Europe may obtain an application form, job listings and descriptions, and a student handbook on earning your way in Europe, by sending their name, address, educational institution, and \$1 for addressing, postage and handling to Summer Placement officer, Student Overseas Services, 22 Ave. de la Liberte, Luxembourg-Europe.

editorial inSight

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papers and exams, whether these are completed and foster relief or yet to come and breed anxiety, add to the atmosphere for these actions. Then to, the emergence of warm weather and the plain fun of it are strong drawing cards.

However, I feel these are secondary and act only as the fuse to ignite the powder keg that is created by the social rules and regulations of the college.

