

MAR JOE

Mr. Doe leaped from his seat on the back row, stumbled over several prostrate worshipers, and dashed headlong to the front of the revival tent. His speed would have put many an Olympic sprinter to shame. Ripping a crisp twenty from his worn-out wallet, he proudly let it slip from his hand and float frenziedly downward to its not-so-final resting place, an open Bible.

"God bless you, brother," sighed the on-looking evangelist piously. "God bless you, too," hollered back Mr. Doe as he retreated to the relative sanctity of his seat.

"He is," the evangelist mumbled to himself, "He is!"

Mrs. Stratton, having witnessed the episode in its entirety via that modern miracle known as television, turned to her husband with an air of righteousness and screamed, "Evangelists, they're all alike! They all get rich from deceiving the ignorant!"

Mr. Stratton acknowledged her scream with a low grunt, never taking his eyes off the lithe young beauty who had now appeared on the set to assure him that, "Gluck foot powder will make your feet irresistible to those of the feminine persuasion."

Everyday people are being deceived by charismatic, sweat-slugging evangelists, anxious to sell them salvation and "the baptism of fire" at any price, if they are so inclined (preferably \$20 per head). Millions more are being deceived everyday by the communications media which is willing to sell them

anything, if the price is right. The movie Marjoe (shown at MHC on Feb. 16) vividly exposes the former deception while becoming a functioning part of the latter.

Marjoe, so named after its star, depicts a young, golden-haired boy who, by

being paraded as the world's youngest evangelist, is manipulated by his parents for financial gain. Later, as an adult, he decides to star in a movie to expose the truth -- evangelists constitute no more than a den of thieves -- to the feeble-minded followers of such charlatans as himself. (Besides, movie stars eat better than evangelists do.)

In essence, Marjoe (the film and its falling star), depicts a state of total corruption in the field of evangelism. Like Mrs. Stratton we are manipulated into believing that all evangelists are just out in search of a buck. Just as many people have made the discovery that the possession of money does not equal the Supreme Good, so have many evangelists. To believe that all evangelists are money mad hypocrites is to contribute to an already overflowing reservoir of public ignorance; a reservoir from which the media (in this case a movie) draws daily.

It took a combination of conscience and a movie contract to make Marjoe abandon his lucrative facade. It is true that some evangelists are simply selling their product, but it is far truer that the communications media is out to sell the public a myriad of products. They will saturate us with whatever we desire until our senses are dulled and our gold is gone.

Marjoe does make us take a hard look at evangelism. Marjoe is a half-truth, as it is entirely from one angle.

When looking into a young face, which has been burned horribly on one side, yet remains beautiful on the other, we must look from all angles to get the total truth. Marjoe looks at only one side of evangelism, the burned side. Another look from another angle reveals the beautiful side of evangelism.

Beautiful because evangelism, just as the young face, is beautiful in its natural, original, true condition.

Marjoe does not attempt to expose us to this original side of evangelism. It reveals a partial deception and simultaneously creates another one.

Whether or not we are dismayed, elated, or just plain apathetic concerning the implications of Marjoe, we have the right to know that it is by no means something new under the sun. In fact, it's message is a little late, say two-thousand years: "Many will say to Me on that day, 'Lord, did we not prophesy in your name and in your name cast out demons and in your name perform miracles?'"

"And then I will declare to them, I never knew you; Depart from me..." (Matthew 7:22-23)

Perhaps our friend Marjoe has read these verses. If he hasn't, he should.

Sincerely,
Citizens Concerned about Public Relations
CCPD

AMERICAN HERITAGE TOUR

Anderson College announces an American Heritage Tour, May 12-25, 1975, in which students may gain academic credit in American History or American Literature.

The purpose of the trip is to relive the colonial experience, and selection of the sites and personalities has been determined by their contribution to the literary and historical development of early America. Beginning in Charlottesville and Richmond, Virginia, the classes will initiate their pilgrimage with Thomas Jefferson, writer and architect of buildings and a nation. In Jamestown, Williamsburg, and Yorktown, there will be the recollection of the first English settlement, the first rep-

resentative assembly, and the surrender which led to an independent America.

The tour will walk in the steps of George Washington at Mt. Vernon where the group will briefly relive the splendor of plantation life. The heart of past and present history, Washington, D.C. will host the travelers for two days. The itinerary provides for a meeting with Senator Hollings and the usual round of national monuments.

The literary aspect of the tour will prevail as the group visits New Haven and Hartford, Connecticut. The early religious heritage of the nation will be emphasized in Providence Rhode Island where Roger Williams established the idea of separation of church and state. During a two-day visit to Plymouth, the students will see 20th Century Pilgrims relate to their ancestors' influence as they embark on the Mayflower and view Plymouth Rock. A days' outing to Cape Cod and Martha's Vineyard will precede the journey to Boston via Quincy, Massachusetts.

The very essence of freedom and the colonial desire to attain it will lead the "AC colonials" to Lexington, Concord, and Boston through the Freedom Trail to the Old North Church, then on to Salem and the witch hunts of the early nineteenth century. Cambridge will direct the interest into the literary vein as preparation is made for a jaunt to Walden Pond and later through Sleepy Hollow Country, the inspiration of Washington Irving's Knicknocker Tales.

Though New York's history was instrumental in the colonial era, the emphasis here will be shopping, seeing a play, or other entertainment, and reverting to regular tourists for two days.

The tour will conclude with the Birth of a Nation as one touches the Liberty Bell, strolls through Independence Hall, and envisions the delegates drafting the

Constitution in Independence Hall.

Mrs. Sarah Greer, of the English Department, and Mrs. Pat Mulligan, of the History Department, both experienced travelers and instructors who are familiar with the areas, with the help of escorts in the various cities and an experienced travel director from Piedmont Tours will personally guide each tour.

Price of the tour includes transportation by Continental Trailways with luxury motor coach accommodations; lodging at first class hotels and motels; all sight-seeing tours, including a full day at Marth's Vineyard and cost of boat to island; baggage tips on the basis of one bag per person; admission for the places mentioned; and the services of an experienced Piedmont Tour-Escort. Price of the tour does not include meals or any personal services such as room service or phone calls. Only 43 persons can be accepted so we urge immediate reservation. Make checks payable to Piedmont Tours and mail by March 15, 1975 to Anderson College, P.O. Box 366C, Anderson, S.C. 29621.

The total price of the tour is \$325.00 per student, based on three to four per room with private bath. (Tuition and fees of \$110.00 in addition to cost of trip for those seeking three hours academic credit.)

Non-students price is \$345.00, double occupancy. Balance for the cost of the tour is due by April 15, 1975. No cancellations accepted after May 1, 1975.

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