

# THE controversial PAPER

Vol. I No. 7

East Lansing, Michigan, March 3, 1966

10 cents

## YOU WON'T BELIEVE THIS, BUT...

... this issue is being sold on campus by permission of Student Board. Just like in the Good Old Days.

Your first reaction, if you have any spirit at all, is probably, "Are you KIDDING me?"

If you have no spirit or just haven't been around lately, we should tell you that all our publicity the past few weeks has concerned our prosecution by Student Board for alleged infractions of university policy.

Even the State News refers to us as "MSU's controversial The Paper," which makes us sound like the journalistic equivalent of Jimmy Hoffa or Christine Jorgensen. And all because of our very public trial by combat with Student Board.

When we went back to Student Board Tuesday night to ask for permission to conduct a campus "fund drive" this week, they wondered aloud if they ought even to listen to us while our case was still pending.

Then they passed a motion granting us a new fund drive, nine-to-one, with one abstention.

It's a wonder that, by that point, we weren't all rolling on the Board Room floor. It was Twilight Zone all the way.

We haven't published for the last two weeks, for one basic reason (if you forget about the little embarrassments of going through a trial and writing a brief and waiting for a verdict): we wanted to go straight.

(Going to Student Board wasn't our idea of going straight, but then selling our paper on campus wasn't our idea of going CROOKED either.)

We wanted to prove our good faith, to try every possible alternative to win legitimacy. According to all the regulations, the alternatives are going to the Board of Student Publications and going to the Secretary of the University.

We did everything we could legally do. And wound up back at Student Board.

(Who says you can't go home again?)

Once again, let us tell you the whole story. Any resemblances to "Catch-22" are purely coincidental.

### EXISTENCE PRECEDES ESSENCE

We have stated at several points during the past few weeks (for instance, in Vol. I No. 6½) that there appeared to be no way for an independent student publication to exist legally at Michigan State University. Events since we first began saying this have made it quite clear that this is indeed the case.

(Question: Does the fact that seven and a "half" issues of "The Paper" have been published prove that it exists? Maybe it doesn't and we shouldn't be annoying people by asking them to recognize our existence.)

The contention that we can't possibly exist, legally at least, is based on the very simple fact that the only channel the university has created to evaluate and approve student publications is the Board of Student Publications, a body comprising students,

### AN involved EDITORIAL

faculty and administrators and responsible directly to the Board of Trustees. Given, on the surface, complete control over student publications and the regulation of them, this board has consistently denied the extent of its authority, and has until recently concerned itself only with the tradition-bound regulation of the State News and the Wolverine. (It is going through a few traumas itself these days, of which more later.)

Having been rebuffed by the Board of Student Publications in many and complex ways--yes, yes, part of this was our fault, but by no means all of it--we have spent a good part of the last few months looking under every rulebook in the university to see if somewhere there was hidden away another potential method of authorization. We have systematically, or as systematically as possible considering we were spending a bit of time publishing a weekly newspaper, explored several unofficial and official channels of possible authorization and found each of them inadequate. That is, except for Student Board, which, according to the present rules, shouldn't have anything to do with publications.

### DEAD GIVEAWAY

We first went to Student Board for approval of fund-raising drives to enable us to sell our first two issues in December. This meant we could "give away" our "free" publication and, in return, ask for "voluntary contributions," usually about ten cents. This was a game designed to avoid the apparently inflexible ruling of the Board of Student Publications that no publication not authorized by it can be "sold" on campus. At the same time, "The Paper" Committee, a student organization designed to make our dealings with Student Board official, was granted a charter.

This continued through our fourth issue, in January. During that time, we went to the Board of Student Publications twice, twice failing to provide financial information about "The Paper" which was requested but which was not yet available, and twice failed to be authorized and twice were told that despite the rules which seemed to declare such a step illegal, we should consider incorporating and operating



elliott borin

### Student Judiciary:

### 'ANATOMY OF--AN ILLEGAL FUND DRIVE?'

on the campus as an off-campus-based student publication. Also during this time, we began publishing paid advertising, again in apparent violation of a policy of the Board of Student Publications which declares that unauthorized publications could endanger the university by possibly involving it in violation of advertising contracts, libel suits, etc.

(Exactly how the university is to become involved in the LEGAL affairs of a publication in no way connected with the university is nowhere made clear, but it is in fear of this eventuality that the Board of Student Publications refuses to authorize any publication for which it does not feel it can take FULL legal and financial responsibility. Even AFTER authorization it demands direct control of the selection of editors and advisors and direct veto power over financial operations, presumably to avoid legal complications.)

By the time our fifth issue was ready to appear, we knew Student Board was tired of helping us violate Publications Board policy by permitting us to non-sell issues containing unauthorized advertising. So we didn't ask for permission, but sold the fifth and sixth issues anyway. And Student Board accused us of thus acting in bad faith, and indicted us for 1) publishing unauthorized advertising and 2) not asking for permission to non-sell.

We were told to defend ourselves before the All-University Student Judiciary (which regulates the behavior of student organizations, which we really shouldn't be). In order both to do this and to continue trying to be declared somehow legal, we have refrained from publishing for the past two weeks. For all the good it did us, we might as well have kept publishing.

(Note--Student Judiciary, at this writing, has still not made public its decision as to our guilt; the decision, along with a policy recommendation, is scheduled to be revealed in the State News Friday, March 4.)

So, here we are, publishing again and in essentially the same position we were in before we stopped. Sadder and wiser, however, due to the run-

around we've been given in the interim.

### WHILE WE WERE AWAY

What we did in the interim, as the State News reported accurately Feb. 24, was to ask the Secretary of the university, who is empowered to do so, to waive the anti-selling ordinances for us. This would allow "The Paper" to sell on campus without authorization by the Publications Board. We also circulated a petition supporting our right to exist and asked numerous high-ranking faculty members to write letters to the Secretary asking for a waiver of the rules. (We believe some thirty professors, department chairmen, etc., have written such letters.) And, finally, we made arrangements to appear once again before the Publications Board, which had been scheduled to meet Thursday, March 3, in an open session.

What we expected to come of all this was a definition of our position by the time this issue was ready for sale. If the Secretary's office approved us, we would be set; if not, we would be scheduled to go back to the Publications Board in time to sell this issue with the board's authorization; if neither of these approved us, we would have exhausted the channels and were prepared to go on selling without any authorization, in protest against a set of rules which flatly refused to recognize our existence.

But we have been, quite simply,

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## What Is It?

### East Holmes Examines MHA

This letter, from a leader of East Holmes Hall's opposition to the Men's Hall Association, was rejected by the State News and turned instead into an article the writer considered misleading.--The Editors.

Since, in covering the campus "like a blanket," the State News has once again left several loose ends flapping, the time seems appropriate for an attempt to clear up part of the confusion in regard to the desire of many men of East Holmes Hall to withdraw from MHA.

1. As quoted in last Friday's (Feb. 25) State News, Jim Larson, the E. Holmes representative to MHA, claimed that "posters with false information about MHA were used." Several large posters were put in prominent locations in the hall, but they conveyed little "information" of any sort. Rather, they carried short slogans ("little boxes made of tickytacky and they all dress just the same"), intended mainly to call attention to the issues--necessary in view of the vast numbers who have never heard of MHA's existence, much less appreciate it.

2. Mr. Larson is further quoted as saying, "They were under the false impression that all dress regulations would go if we dropped out of MHA." This false impression is unique to Mr. Larson. Many of us feel that dress regulations should be established by and for the men of each hall, for themselves only. Some may prefer more formal dress regulations, oth-

ers prefer even less formality than now exists, but many are in agreement that dress regulations should be solely on the hall level.

3. The steering committee (temporary government) of E. Holmes, in its meeting of February 16, voted to hold a MANDATED vote on the issue of withdrawal from MHA. In a circular placed in every mailbox in E. Holmes soon after, Mr. Larson said, "The question of our place and our form of government in the univ. system is to be decided by YOU (the men of E. Holmes), not by the administration, the staff, or the temporary government of this hall." Apparently fearing

### LETTERS

that the results of the voting might not coincide with their own views (as proved to be the case), Mr. Larson and the steering committee reversed themselves in their meeting of February 23 (the night before the voting), and ruled that the results would "indicate opinion" but would not be a mandating vote. Fearing the results of democracy in action, Mr. Larson and the temporary government ensured that the results of the vote would not be binding.

4. To further quote Mr. Larson's circular, "In a recent publication of the E. Holmes scandal sheet, 'Deja Vu,' a most inadequate job of reporting was inflicted on the residents of E. Holmes Hall." This particular tirade refers to the newsletter published by the E. Holmes Scholastic Committee. "Deja Vu" and the Scholastic Committee advocated withdrawal from MHA and expressed a desire to see "the major governing body at a complex level" and the extension of dress regulations to the jurisdiction of the individual halls. This is what Mr. Larson also finds scandalous, "blinded by satire," and "a gross injustice" (to further quote his circular).

5. Bob Swanson, president of House House, asked Mr. Larson what MHA was using our money for. My Larson said that he "had an itemized list of expenditures in his room but couldn't remember any off hand." On being asked for general areas of expenditures his reply was, "We have a lot of operating expenses, like phone calls."

6. In E. Holmes, a comment frequently heard in the course of the controversy is, "MHA, what's that?" It is time for MHA to justify its existence, or cease to exist. MHA is irrelevant to the men in the halls.

Dick Lipsey, chairman  
E. Holmes Scholastic Committee

## An Invitation To Involvement

You've heard about it; you've read about it; you've studied about it. You may have even been a victim of it. Now YOU can DO something about Lansing's present housing crisis.

The Greater Lansing Urban League is conducting a sociological pilot study on attitude in a community in the Lansing area. The information yielded from this study, once computed, will help facilitate the solution of this community problem.

YOU CAN HELP. The Urban League NEEDS student volunteers. If you're tired of just TALKING about it, DO JOIN with us. There is a place for YOU.

The study-program will last for a two-week period beginning March 10. Students are needed to contribute eight hours of their time over this two-week period. GET INVOLVED. Call or write TODAY to:

Ralph W. Bonner, executive director  
Greater Lansing Urban League, Inc.  
402 Hollister Building, Lansing  
Tel.: 489-7198.

### THE PAPER

"The Paper" is published by students of Michigan State University as an independent alternative to the "established" news media of the university community. It is intended to serve as a forum for the ideas of all members of the university community on any topic pertinent to the interests of this community. Neither Michigan State University nor any branch of its student government, faculty or administration is to be considered responsible for the form or content of "The Paper."

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## An Intemperate Letter From An Editor

I am responding directly to a letter in the February 23 State News criticizing our Vol. I No. 6, from one Duane Pettersen, East Lansing graduate student, and indirectly to a number of others.

Mr. Pettersen says in his first two paragraphs that the editors of "The Paper," totally lacking support for, apparently, ALL their positions on every subject, have resorted to emotional appeals and ridicule. He does not support his allegations, of course, but space, we all must realize, is limited in the State News. (So limited, in fact, that they refused to run a letter from us that was, to say the least, a good deal less incendiary than Mr. Pettersen's.)

His third paragraph cries out to be quoted in its entirety:

I, too, desire to see The Paper exist and grow (I bought copies and signed a recently circulated petition). I wish it to survive because of the potential which it has shown itself capable (sic) in a few articles and reviews. I wish it to survive because in the near future I would predict that its staff would be replaced with more stable and rationally-behaved individuals--individuals whose approach to a goal is not through ridicule of all who criticize or confront them--individuals, who, when expecting opposition, do not "stay away from the meeting."

Well, thanks a LOT, Duane.

We have recently come across a whole barrage of such good, liberal, tea-party types, of people who are graciously willing to TOLERATE us on principle or because of some tiny spark of "potential" they've noticed stuck off in a corner of one issue or another--people who see every one of our mistakes with galvanizing clarity, and always did see the wisest course for us to take--can THEY help it if we never came to them and asked THEM what to do? After all, it would have been so obvious to go to Duane Pettersen, East Lansing graduate student, taking time out from editing a paper a week, printing it, selling it, typing subscription labels, building office furniture, trying to

find a sales staff, not finding a sales staff and selling it ourselves, arguing with administrators, arguing with the Post Office, chewing our way through immense quantities of red tape, being full-time Honors College students, and the few other little things we do with our free time.

But, my God, it's all been worthwhile! MR. PETERSEN, TOO, WANTS TO SEE "THE PAPER" EXIST AND GROW! Without us, of course. (The editors are apparently not among those who have shown any "potential.") But, still, the gracious founders of "The Paper," who have been so good to us as we bungled our immature way through six issues of what we immaturely hoped was something GOOD, not just something to be graciously tolerated, will surely realize that "The Paper" cannot exist with irrational editors, and will find someone more qualified.

MY DEAR MR. PETERSEN: The two editors you mention ARE "The Paper." Like it or not, there isn't anybody else. In fact, if you know of two other people--"more stable and rationally behaved," to be sure--who are willing to go through what we go through every day of every week, I wish to hell you would tell them to get in touch with us. God, could we use them! I don't frankly know why anyone stable and rationally behaved would ever get involved in something like this. If I were stable and rationally behaved, I certainly wouldn't. Particularly after reading letters like yours.

I support Mr. Pettersen will read this and say, Aha! Once again it is proved that the editors' approach to a goal is through ridicule of all who criticize or confront them! All I can say, Mr. Pettersen, is that at this point I don't have the vaguest idea of what goal we're approaching, but I damn well know something ridiculous when I see it.

Laurence Tate

# The Vast Wasteland Goes To College

By CHAR JOLLES

My conviction that teaching is a sacred profession becomes more naive every year, for mentors are becoming obsolete.

I had a mentor or two in high school--teachers who taught me to keep a journal, to introspect, to rebel and to tolerate, to read books, to share my life feelings with them.

Mentors, rapidly becoming obsolete in high school, are impractical at college. At MSU, a few professors--reactionaries, monkey-wrenches in the system--still strive to be mentors, teachers with personal commitment to the eager student. They have saved me from the false emphasis on good grades, token assignments to meet deadlines, token attendance at final exams, credit quantities . . .

The land-grant philosophy, as a friend of mine recently noted, has replaced mentors with monitors. My friend's allusion to closed circuit television sets, though made in jest, bears on a significant problem in higher education: the problem of quality education for hordes.

The "realistic" alternatives for institutions of higher learning are (1) inferior education, or (2) a better use of available teaching and learning resources, according to a report called "Better Utilization of College Teaching Resources" by the Committee on Utilization of College Teaching Resources.

(The Committee, sponsored by the Ford Foundation, is composed of college and university administrators.)

A third alternative--the enrollment ceiling--"can hardly be an acceptable solution," the committee reports. "Many state institutions cannot refuse admission to eligible students who have graduated from accredited high schools in the state."

(Pause to reflect: there were 63 sections of remedial reading fall term. Of course, can we deny a college education to high school graduates just because they can't read?)

The feasible alternative for mob education, if it is not to become in-

ferior, is better utilization of teaching and learning resources, i.e., new efficient teaching methods that place more responsibility on the individual for learning, and that make the few best teachers available to all the students.

"The quality of the teacher has far more effect on student learning than the methods of teaching used or the size of the class taught," the Committee reports.

Television, then, will allow more students to benefit from the pick of the scholarly world, and--advantage of advantages--the pick will give better lectures.

"The fact seems to be that television makes possible a new logistics of teaching which, by increasing the output per man hour, provides the means for creating a better product." (from "Televised Teaching Courses," by John W. Meaney, a pioneer in educational TV)

The professor has more time to prepare a lecture, it was noted, and his course becomes tighter, more rigorous, more condensed, "yet it covers more subject matter in less time."

Meaney, basing his conclusions on field interviews with administrators, professors and students, noted several other advantages to the telecourses:

1. The professor can bring to the classroom "great events in live or recorded form," close-ups of maps, drawings and demonstrations;

2. Recorded lectures relieve the professor of "much semester-to-semester parroting of himself";

3. The professor can see and criticize himself in action (but so can his colleagues and administrators--a disadvantage, according to some professors, who feel that the administration has enough authority over techniques of instruction);

4. With the use of video tape, faculty can continue even "when ill or absent to meet classes with prerecorded lectures"; for example, the lectures of two telecourse professors can be broadcast "while they themselves are away on sabbatical." (Or, as a professor of mine noted, even after they themselves are dead.)

Despite all these advantages over traditional methods of teaching--like, say, those of Socrates--the univer-

sity faculty has remained the bastion of reaction.

"Faculty opinion was generally adverse to the experiments in which television was used for instruction, even though sometimes the faculty said that they did a better job of teaching over television than in their usual courses," the committee reports.

Faculty discontent centered on an alleged "less of personal contact."

The Ford Foundation and The Educational Development Program (EDP) at MSU would agree with Meaney, who dismisses the alleged inhumanity, when he writes:

"A professor meeting in person with a small group of students is still regarded as ideal. But with the conventional mass lectures transferred to television, the students can at least see, not only demonstrations and graphic presentations, but also the professor's facial expression.

"Students report that the professor seems to be looking directly at each of them all the time; some professors believe that they can achieve, in a television presentation, a quality of intimacy and a conversational tone that are impossible to manage in a large lecture hall.

"And the psychological impact on students is stronger, they believe, because of the eye contact and image enlargement."

Another common complaint from faculty members is the lack of student feedback and discussions. However, this isn't an "unmitigated loss,"

Meaney points out. He discovered that some students prefer lectures free from interruptions and student-teacher confrontation; the TV lecture, they said, "is never late, always present, and has no human foibles such as favoritism and anger that waste precious class time."

Also eliminated is the "show-off" who gives such lengthy answers to questions asked by the instructor that much of class time is used for the students' views. I would prefer the views of a professor." (It warms my heart to hear such intellectual esprit-de-corps. May the university forever remain a community of scholars.)

Some faculty members see a threat of "potential exploitation of the professor unless agreements are worked out in advance regarding rights of revision, terms of intra- and inter-institutional use, and provisions for royalty payments wherever appropriate."

As I understand it, MSU closed circuit television has no defined policy on rights and royalties in TV teaching. (The AAUP does, however.) In most cases the video tape is supposedly erased at the end of the day after the faculty member has been able to review it. If he likes the tape, he can keep it for replay the following term; the decision is made, according to an EDP report, by the faculty member and the department.

There is also fear that putting lectures on video tape will tend to

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## WKAR

### As Much A Part Of Lansing As . . .

The noise about a culture boom in the U.S. could be likened to the efforts of Andre Malraux, first Minister of Culture in France, novelist and art historian, to encourage "la diffusion de la culture francaise."

Taste, when democratized thus, becomes diluted, as exemplified by the emissions from American mass media.

Besides the New York Times, other exceptions to this unfortunate rule are educational radio and television stations.

Yet, despite the noise about an American culture boom, "there is no financial incentive for educational radio," according to Ken Beachler, music director for WKAR-FM, a campus radio station.

"Radio, because of its power to influence, is doing a disservice to the American public, but the public is getting what it allows to happen."

While this nation's mass media are catering to the lowest common denominator, WKAR-FM is in the unique position of being able to select its audience.

"We do not program for a mass audience," Gordon Gainer, WKAR program director, said. "Those we reach are avid listeners. We receive enough mail and phone calls to know we are serving those we want to serve--a responsive, hard-core audience. "We will not lower our standards to get a larger audience."

WKAR-FM is, broadly speaking, a fine arts station. It has no "programs" or format, no glib disc-jockeys, no commercials, no gimmicks; just the classics in music and literature, a few news and sports round-ups, a daily rebroadcast of some significant speech given on campus . . .

It resembles, not by accident, WFMT in Chicago, consistently cited as the nation's finest FM radio station. WKAR-FM, in the WFMT tradi-

tion, turned fine arts in March, 1965.

"It went off beautifully from the beginning," Gainer said. "We were astounded at the good reception."

The campus FM reaches listeners in all of Michigan, and parts of Indiana and Ohio.

Again in the footsteps of Chicago's WFMT, WKAR personnel published an FM guide in July, 1965--a complete monthly listing of scheduled recordings, each one described in essential detail. Another guide appeared in September, another in October, with the December guide exhausting all available funds.

"We put out as many good guides as we could," Gainer said. "We didn't want to compromise the quality of the guide. We'd rather keep it on the same plane as our programming."

The guide--essential for patrons of the fine arts who like to know when they can hear performances of Shakespeare, readings of Dylan Thomas, Beethoven's 9th--is expensive to publish and requires more manpower than WKAR-FM has available.

Pending new budget approval by the university, the station would like to hire a new man whose major function would be publication of a guide.

(What more worthwhile way to spend public funds than for music?)

"The university is conscious of our being here," Beachler noted. Oddly enough, however, the student segment of the campus does not patronize the fine arts, even when so readily available on what could some day be the leading FM station in the country.

"We don't expect most students to get ecstatic over FM," Gainer remarked.

WKAR-FM, which aspires to be stereo some day, might be indeed the last stronghold of taste at MSU, and other stations like it, the last stronghold of taste in America.

CHAR JOLLES

This is the fourth in what Miss Jolles calls "an infinite series of punchy articles" dealing with educational developments at MSU--The Editors.

### SUBSCRIBERS!!!

One of the great joys of being a publisher is feeling responsible for making up to readers all the difficulties caused by the publication, no matter who is really responsible for them. Well, we sure as hell don't feel responsible for the fact that our subscribers have missed "The Paper" the last two weeks. It's not our fault the world is crazy. But we will try to make it up. Therefore, all subscriptions which normally would have run out next week, at the end of winter term, will be extended into spring term, through the tenth issue.

### NON-SUBSCRIBERS!!

You, too, can get in on the fun of wondering whether "The Paper" will be allowed to publish each week. All you have to do is send in \$1 now (see below) and sit home and wait for your copy to come. Either it will or it won't. But it's great fun waiting, and more fun reading "The Paper" when it does come.

I wanna I wanna Please enter my subscription through the end of spring term. I enclose \$1.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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"The Paper" 1730 Haslett Road East Lansing

# Les Liaisons Dangereuses, MSU

By DOUGLAS LACKEY



Some issues back in "The Paper" Richard Ogar presented an admirable demonstration of how a moral debate may be altered by considering the facts of modern contraception. His topic was abortion; I wish to consider the broader case of sex relations in general. It is indeed true that pregnancy is a serious business, and some contemporary moralists have worked that fact to death with numerous arguments beginning, "It is true that contraceptives prevent some pregnancies, but they are not perfect, and even the slight chance of such a serious event as pregnancy is enough to justify moral censures . . ."

All of these must now be thrown out, since the "slight chance" has disappeared--with care the possibility of pregnancy can be made so small that no rational person would make decisions on the chance of it happening, no more than I would stay in the house for fear of being struck by a random meteorite. (For those who claim that the "bugs" have yet to be worked out of pills, etc., I recommend this essay be put aside until the day, which is sure to come, when all complaints about them will be silenced.)

With the possibility of pregnancy eliminated, sex becomes much less a subject of moral interest, since the principal means by which people can hurt each other with it is gone, morality being, after all, just a device to keep people from stepping on each other's toes, and the less of it, the better. What little moral interest does remain is my subject of attack.

I chart the progressive sex emancipation (or decline, take it as you will) of the American female in the following succession of rules:

1. You mustn't have any premarital sex.
2. You may have some, but not much.
3. You may have any premarital sex, save intercourse.
4. You may have premarital inter-

Thought for the Day (from Martin Heidegger's "Being and Time"): "Thus, 'phenomenology' means 'apophanesthai ta phainomena'--to let that which shows itself be seen from itself in the very way in which it shows itself from itself . . ."

course, but only with the person you intend to marry.

5. You may have premarital intercourse, so long as there's love.

This is not to say that any of these limitations have ever been observed; they simply mark the limits of what may in public (enlightened) circles be allowed as good conduct.

The first four of these rules are in the main motivated by fear of pregnancy--in the fourth, for example, the restriction is made so that if pregnancy occurs, a viable solution to the difficulty is present. What is left of value in the first four rules after considerations of pregnancy are withdrawn, if anything, is embodied in rule 5. I confine my attention, therefore, to this last rule.

Rule 5 derives from a prior distinction between "meaningful" and "casual" sex, condoning the former and condemning the latter. Meaningful sex, I take it, is sex motivated by affection and ending in pleasure and communication. In contrast, casual sex is motivated by stimulation and ends in satiety. Now I think the distinction is a true one, and that meaningful sex, certainly, is more valuable than is casual. The question is, does this offer reason for moral condemnation of the casual?

The framers of rule 5 would have it, I think, that casual sex destroys any possibility of meaningful sex. But why should it? If I use a word meaninglessly (for instance, if I walk into a room, say "Good-Bye" and sit down) this does not prove that I do not know the proper meaning of the word, nor does it preclude my meaningful use of it at some future time (even, perhaps, at the very next moment). So also I do not see why indulgence in casual sex proves that one does not know what meaningful sex can be, or that it precludes the possibility of engaging in it. Since the supposed bad result does not ensue, rule 5 cannot be considered justified.

This argument must stand the test of its consequences, and some of them appear absurd. "How would you feel," my opponent might argue, "if YOUR mistress (or lover, as the case may be) began having casual relations with other people? Don't you feel that this would void some of the 'meaning' in your relationship? And if it did, isn't this, the destruction of something valuable, immoral?"

Most people, I suppose, would feel pretty bad in such a case, but the

question is, should they feel morally indignant? I cannot see why. These relations are of no concern to me; they do not show any disrespect to me; they cause no harm to her. On the positive side, they provide some physical variety, and are a relief perhaps for the sometimes dreary burden of incessantly propping up a "meaningful relationship." (The very title of which indicates the easy possibilities of absurdity.)

These issues are enormously complex and I shall try to unravel them at a later date. It seems clear enough, in this third case, that the trouble does not spring from sex per se but only from sex in a complicated context--the moral elements deriving from the contest and not from sex itself. Its relation to rule 5, directed against casual relations, is in any case tenuous.

The upshot of the discussion is that rule 5 cannot function as a moral rule, since it derives from a distinction that is factually valid but morally irrelevant. In passing we considered some ramified cases, and concluded that no moral problems evolved from sex, in agreement with my view that the moral problems of sex per se concerned pregnancy alone.

These conclusions should not be taken as a plea for engaging in casual sex, or even as an argument for saying that one ought to engage in meaningful sex. It is just to say that the

decision to engage or refrain is not a moral choice (with a universal imperative attached) but a mere personal matter, a question of esthetics, of one's style of living.

For those readers who remember the memoir of Douglas Lackey which appeared in our last regular issue, this essay may shed valuable light on the meaning of the events described there.--The Editors.

## No Comment

The following article is reprinted in its entirety from the Michigan State News.--The Editors.

### MOP BLAZE

Three firetrucks went to the Men's Intramural Building Tuesday night to put out a burning mop on second floor. (sic)

The smoke was first thought to be coming from an electrical fire in the ceiling until someone noticed the mop in the north-south corridor. Someone had apparently dropped a cigarette onto the mop around 8:30 p.m., firemen said.

They stamped the blaze out.

## "IN GRATEFUL MEMORY OF THE 133 WOODBRIDGE MEN WHO MADE THE SUPREME SACRIFICE IN THE GREAT WAR"

The guns in France felled England's roses,  
All her cutting-gardens died;  
Throughout the land, through reddened noses,  
England's garden mothers cried:

"The sacrifice of youth and beauty"--  
Pause to blow their noses hard--  
"Is every mother's bounden duty!"  
Then they tidied up the yard.

They culled in armloads blasted flowers,  
(Multilation all their own);  
And giddy through the scented hours,  
Potpourried and over-blown

Till every home could boast war's chattels:  
Medals, photos, barren wombs;  
Mute relics of the greatest battles  
Roses ever fought for tombs.

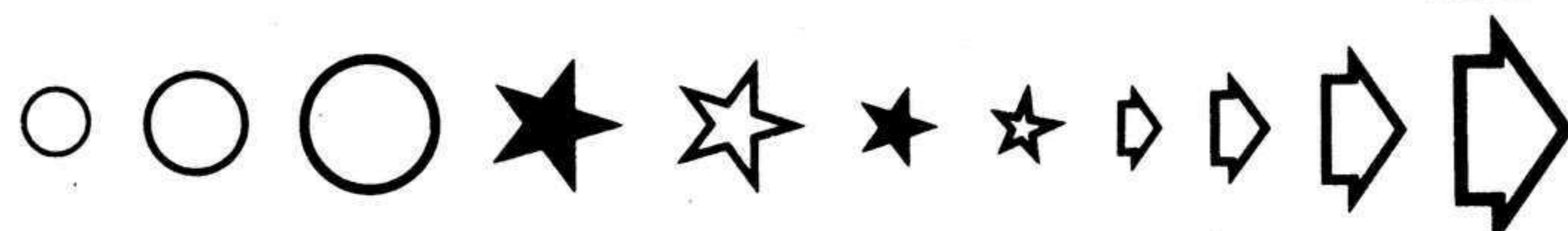
STEPHEN BEAL

*There Are NO Paid Advertisements  
In This Issue Of 'The Paper'*

Words of the Prophets Award #2 goes to whoever touches up the john walls in Bessey to make them read, "TRUCK YOU."

Now, you know as well as we do, that if things were normal, there would be no reason not to have ads in this space. If things were normal, such faithful advertisers as Paramount News, Spartan Book Store and The Questing Beast wouldn't be deprived of their ads, and who knows what other goodies we would be running along with the old regulars.

**BUT...**



**UNTIL THINGS  
GET BACK  
TO NORMAL, WE'RE  
STUCK WITHOUT ADS.  
REMEMBER, THOUGH:  
THE PAPER  
WANTS YOUR AD,  
AND YOU  
WANT OUR READERS**

**ads are still being sold call 351 6516 or 351 5679 NOW**

**THEATRE:**

# Lady Of Spain

By LAURENCE TATE

The Arena production of "The House of Bernarda Alba" was distinguished by some brilliant individual performances, by some of the most galvanic ensemble playing I've ever seen, and by--of course--the virtues of Federico Garcia Lorca's text.

It was, let us say, undistinguished by some dreadful performances, by the director's occasional bad judgment, and by the defects of the text, many of them residing in the utterly inept English translation.

The play tells the story of a Spanish mother who adheres to a harsh traditionalism and tries to make her five love-starved daughters do the

same. It is clear from the beginning that she must fail. The three acts are structured as a long buildup to the explosion that must occur at the end.

The body of the play then consists of a series of warnings and dark hints, or gradual probings into the people and forces that must bring about the catastrophe. We know almost from the outset that the catastrophe must be visited upon the youngest daughter for consorting with the oldest daughter's fiance.

Under these circumstances, Lorca sets himself the job of sustaining tension over three acts. He succeeds more often than not; but at moments things go slack, and we feel that we've had ENOUGH buildup, dammit, and it's

# 'Othello' On Film

By LAURENCE TATE

The transfer of the National Theatre production of "Othello" from stage to film has effected a rather remarkable reversal. In the stage production, Laurence Olivier's Othello won lavish praise while Frank Finley's Iago was generally scanted, and felt to be too subdued. On film, Olivier's performance reveals glaring weaknesses; Finley dominates the film with what cannot be called less than a great performance.

Let us all face the perhaps unpleasant fact that "Othello" is Iago's play. In the first place, he has better lines, at least to a modern ear; he is not compelled to chew through the great glob of hysterical ranting that constantly threatens to make Othello tedious--a threat, by the way, which is often carried out in this film.

Iago grabs our attention at the outset and makes us look at the action from his point of view. HE makes things happen, while everybody else is running around stupidly playing into his hands, gushing all the while about what an honest fellow he is.

Othello and Desdemona are pathetic, of course, but it is one thing to be chastised by the gods and quite another to be taken in by a shrewd and perversely likable con man. Othello is a sucker, and it is to Olivier's credit that he quite honestly attempts to play him as one; he attempts, simply, to make plausible the ease with which he is manipulated by Iago.

Where Olivier goes wrong is in failing to adjust his acting to the dimensions the screen requires. On stage, his extravagant gestures and eye-rolling flamboyance might have been on an appropriate scale; on film, he seems--oh, the irony of it!--stagnant. At the beginning and the end, he is magnificent; in the central jealousy-and-suspicion scenes, he overplays.

Finley's performance might conceivably have been colorless on stage, although it is hard to believe that; on film, he is a figure of immense authority and vitality, subtly dominating all his scenes--his defiant fearfulness almost steals even the final scene from Olivier. He plays Iago not as a caricatured demon but as a vicious but eminently rational man, aware of the way of the world and deliciously fond of manipulating it for his own ends. And since only Iago shows the slightest shred of sense, it is hard not to identify with him--he is rather like those movie criminals whose "perfect crime" doesn't quite come off, even though you wish to hell it would.

Almost the whole play--except for Brabantio's accusation, etc.--is taken up with Iago's machinations; yet Othello must dominate the final scenes if the play is to have any hope of working. Othello must somehow be transformed, in the space of a few scenes, from a deluded simpleton into a terrible and noble figure, who, if not tragic, must at least achieve a very high order of pathos.

Desdemona is given the job of switching the focus by the simple expedient of moving us so intensely with her grief and bewilderment that we begin for the first time really to hate Iago.

Maggie Smith plays her last scenes quite beautifully, making Desdemona's rather incredible sweetness rather credible. Physically she is--shall we say--a trifle voluptuous for the role; so that her achievement is all the more commendable.

In the murder and its aftermath Olivier plays with a quiet, harrowing intensity that momentarily convinces us that the play is appropriately titled. Any actor who plays Othello has to put up with a lot to get to the death scene, but, once there, one supposes it must be worth all the rest just to speak those great, gorgeous lines.

The film as a whole is a sometimes uneasy compromise between a cinematic production (like Olivier's previous Shakespeare films) and a straight filmed play. Stuart Burge, the director, plays around with oblique camera angles now and then, and uses quick cuts from one set to another to dispel the theatre atmosphere. But the sets are unmistakably stage sets, and various stage conventions are openly relied upon. In long scenes in a single setting, despite camera maneuvers, the air of static staginess becomes oppressive. This air is totally dispelled only in the flashing succession of concluding scenes.

There is little to quarrel with in the production qua production (as opposed to qua film). The minor actors are uniformly good; the costumes are serviceable. The lighting and sets seem to deal entirely too much in deadly browns, but that could be a result of the print quality, which is uneven.

On the whole, it is a fine thing to have this "Othello" on film. It shows (unlike the film of Burton's "Hamlet") an intelligent concern for the problems of the medium, and preserves some performances that absolutely deserve to be kept. It is unfortunate that Olivier's is not one of them.

about time something happened.

The slackness depends largely on a deficiency in the characterization of Bernarda, the mother. She is the defender of the old order, who believes that she is "safe" in respectability, who would hold back the anarchic, primarily sexual forces that must destroy the illusory security of tradition. (The play has obvious socio-political implications, and the house of Bernarda Alba is, in a sense, Spain itself.)

She ought to be a figure of stature and complexity. Instead, Lora allows her no sympathy, no insight, no humanity. She is like the Wicked Witch of the North, and in the lengthy scenes in which she refuses to see the impending catastrophe her obtuse arrogance is simply tedious. Only at the end is there any suggestion of depth.

Her final speech, depending on how it is read, can seem tragic or merely desperate. Mary Hardwick, in the week that intervened between the two performances I saw, changed from desperation to tragedy, largely by changing her reading of the last word in the play. I liked both readings, but the first is really more consistent. Lorca did not write Bernarda's tragedy, and there is no point in momentarily convincing us that he did.

The play, then, belongs to the daughters. It is a superb evocation of the bitchy, claustrophobic, desperate, paranoid, and sweetly wistful world of women under pressure, without men. A scene in which they all watch a group of field hands go by their window is dramatic poetry even in the mangled translation.

The playing of Vicki Jean Sanchez, Linda Millerd, and Earlene Bates, as the three middle daughters was just about as good as stage acting can get. Their rapport was positively telepathic.

As the oldest, Sandra Stanfield looked right but could do no more than get by in such superb company. As the youngest, Roberta Dahlberg was quite good, but was stuck with a number of badly translated lines at crucial points. (The really dreadful lines seem to congregate in the speeches of certain unlucky characters; the middle daughters somehow escape almost entirely, and that is probably part of the reason for their effectiveness.)

Essentially, the Arena production, after the first act (described below), was good, persuasive, and interesting. It faltered 1) when the translation was

embarrassingly bad; 2) when unsatisfactory actors held the stage; and 3) when the play went slack.

The first act was something else again. It began with an original song sung by Professor Carroll Hawkins. It would be unkind to dwell upon this, but it stopped the show at a point when it really should have been starting. Then an unidentified figure (who later turned out to be the daughters' crazy grandmother) strolled around the floor in silence.

The first scene was played, finally, between two servants, and consisted of necessary exposition in the worst imaginable translators' prose. The servants performed in contrasting styles, Mary Ann McDonald in bad amateur style and Marianne Lubkin in bad professional style. Miss McDonald soon went into an absurdly loud and long crying jag during which the rest of the actors entered.

The tempo of these and subsequent scenes was leadenly funereal, a criticism which cannot be dismissed because they take place, supposedly, in the aftermath of a funeral. Not until the end of the act, when the daughters took the stage alone, did the production shake off its deadly pageant-like torpor.

The act ended powerfully with an outburst from the grandmother. In this part, Ruth Garrison performed with bravura that was great in tiny snatches but too intense to be sustained; in a long third-act monologue, the characterization fell apart.

Mariam Duckwall, the director, proved in the final acts and has proved in past productions that she can do intelligent, sensitive work. She chose to slow up the already slow first act, I suppose, in an attempt to create an atmosphere of slow, inevitable decay. Whatever her reasons, the attempt failed.

And, too, it was her bad luck that her least successful actors dominated the opening scenes. Both Marianne Lubkin and Mary Hardwick had effective moments, but both were, on the whole, bad, though in not altogether disgraceful ways.

Miss Hardwick had a thankless character and a lot of bad lines to cope with in playing Bernarda, but the real problem, I think, was that she was cast against type. She is splendid at evoking pathos, but the sort of hardness and cruel control the role demanded seemed to be quite outside her range. Consequently, she

continued on page 6

## Same Contest-- Same Circulation



This is the positively final week of our idiotic find-a-caption-for-the-above-picture contest. (Which has gone on this long only because we haven't had a chance to cut it off.) As one of our readers helpfully pointed out, "You've got too much class to run this sort of thing." All right, but we're stuck with it. We have a number of inventive entries already, and will announce the winners next week.

To enter the contest, hurry up and cut out the blank below, and send to "The Paper," 1730 Haslett Road, East Lansing. You've only got until next Monday, March 7.

I think the picture of the cat sticking its head in the pot should be entitled

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Badge Number \_\_\_\_\_

Department Of Bureaucratic Atrocities

Up Down, In Out, . . .

The student who received the following two letters, somehow or other, is still attending MSU this term.--The Editors.

March 24, 1965

Since you earned 13 credits of "F" grades and 4 credits of "D" Winter Term, you are withdrawn and will not be permitted to enroll again.

Sincerely, E.A. Brand Assistant Dean (College of Business)

December 27, 1965

You have been withdrawn from the University. After a term on academic probation followed by another on final probation you have not earned the C average required for all students in the College.

It is best that you use your aptitudes and abilities in some other area of endeavor. Your continued performance below the level required for graduation indicates conclusively that you should turn your efforts in other directions.

While your academic performance in the University has made it necessary to withdraw you we all wish you success in the larger efforts of your life. Learning is a lifetime process and there are many ways of learning other than at the University.

Sincerely, S.E. Bryan Assistant Dean (College of Business)

How's That Again? Department (from a report of a recent campus speech by a Franciscan friar): "He said that a person who masturbates, instead of embracing a whole human being, only imagines one aspect of a human being."

CLASSIFIEDS

get results

But Only When They're Printed

You knew it was coming. We're complaining again. Complaining that we couldn't run our classified column this week because it's paid advertising (sometimes we wonder just how paid it is).

But, like the sun after a storm or like a smile after tears or like other things like that, it will be back, and will get results once again. Because that's what classifieds do.

We will continue to have all the ordinary classified classifications, plus some classified classifications of our own: coming events, sound-off, ultra-personals, etc. Just \$1 each, up to 50 words.

Just call 351-6516 or 351-5679. Or, better yet, call Paramount News Center, 332-5119, or go to Paramount at 211 Evergreen, East Lansing. They know all about it, and are prepared to take your ad. Go classified.

SOB SOB

Why aren't you working for "The Paper" yet? All these problems we're having, all this extra time we're spending feeling sorry for ourselves, and YOU still haven't offered to take some of the burden of the work off our shoulders. That sure is gratitude.

"The Paper" is badly in need of salesmen, clerks, office-watches, reporters, and other miscellaneous people. Mostly salesmen, though. If you care to prove that you're really grateful and really concerned whether we have enough free time to feel sorry for ourselves, please call 351-6516 or 351-5679 and let us know.

Call now even if you don't plan to work until spring term. We'd like to know who our friends are.

Red Cedar Report

By JIM DE FOREST

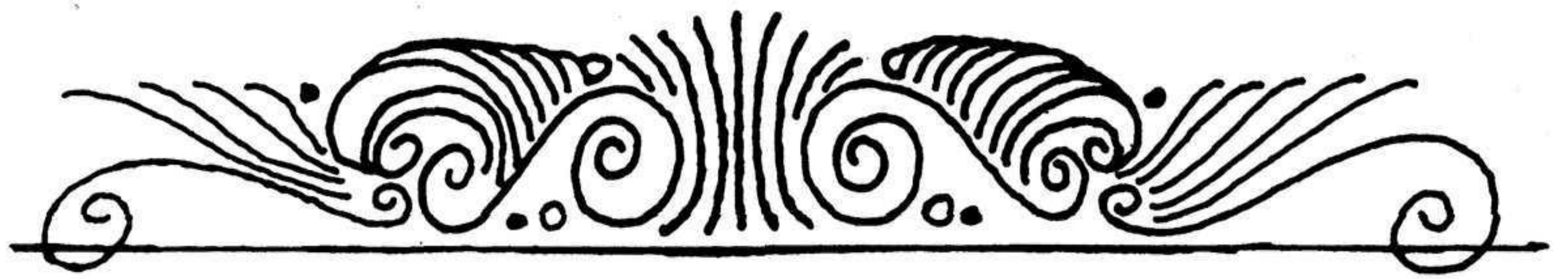
"The Paper" does not include a "Who's Who" column of pinnings and engagements. Why advertise your troubles? There's no market for them.

We got quite a thrill out of walking knee deep through the snow watching the snowplows clearing out the faculty parking lots.

MSU ducks are a hearty breed--they have to be to live in the Red Cedar.

So now they want to pay the members of the student government. Why don't we just hire an entertainment booking agent?

Our publication's subscription drive is going well. We caught three people in the pit trap yesterday.



On A Theme Of Ben Strandness

Born of necessity, out of desire, War cancers a nation, prime cause, Removed from conflict. Victim and carrier, the soldier Travels great arteries and standing-places With no civilian tranquility. He must go to sea, to wash on beaches, To rest in the sea; go to, perhaps through, Stumbling death. Survival dictates pride In the visible signs; a special Cap, a uniform of distinction Signifying ferocity. And there remain a nun who will pray, One-armed men afraid to remember: This he knows with the breath of his breath. The setting out, the returning, Are but stations of death; And who can tell him, where are the dead-- Yea, and where the answer, Prithee, beyond what star?

JIM THOMAS

Jim Thomas is a former MSU student now in the Marine Corps and expecting to be shipped to Vietnam in April.--The Editors.



A Few 'Impressions Of Annoyances'

Where on earth did the Registrar's Office and the entire Ad Building staff get the idea that they have something to do with academics? Their relationship to students is purely one of a retail establishment to its customers--and we should be treated with corresponding deference.

Why does the International Center bookstore, presumably a non-profit enterprise operated as a service, charge no less for books than its profit-making counterparts on Grand River Avenue?

The College of Social Science maintains an office in Berkey Hall (so that grad students won't have to make the trip out to West Fee--sort of like Rio and Brasilia). Why, then, with telephones and campus mail to connect the Berkey office with the student files at Fee, can't undergrads use this office for routine business (especially in winter)?

How do the bureaucrats manage to make the registration process worse each term? And why do we tolerate a

situation in which the registration process, ideally an entirely invisible activity, is with us for virtually all ten weeks of each ten-week term?

Why does the entire academic community cater to the ever-changing whims of the Registrar's Office?

Does anyone else see irony in Mr. King's advocating academic advisement without time schedules? This seems to me to represent a stage at which self-perpetuating technician-ship has moved into the realm of fantasy--that is, reality has lost touch with reality.

Why can't the writers of the State News learn at least the rudiments of grammar and orthography? I'll be willing to discuss their stylistic and substantive inadequacies as soon as they emerge from illiteracy.

Why is it impossible to buy decent camembert--or clams or pomegranates or any palatable baked goods, for that matter--in East Lansing?

Why is a commercial radio station (indisputably a non-university profit-making enterprise) allowed to exhibit its call letters on a trailer in front of the Auditorium, while "The Paper" (owned and operated by students) can operate on campus only under the guise of an eternal fund-raising drive?

Are the new dorms supposed to evoke thoughts of Kafka or Novosibirsk? And what is the significance of that inconvenient stretch of tundra between the Bogue Street traffic circle and the Akers-Fee-Holmes National Autonomous Region?

Why do the local cognoscenti exhibit such self-consciousness about being cognizant? the local intelligentsia about being intelligent?

The university, unlike most municipal corporations, has complete control over the location of every building on campus, as well as control over the timing and volume of traffic generation at each of these buildings. Why, then, is there any geographical inefficiency or traffic

congestion of any kind on campus?

Is the southwest complex a psychological syndrome?

Why can't the U.S. Weather Bureau in Lansing put a continuous tape-recording on its telephone service, so that we can hear the temperature instead of a busy signal?

Why can no radio station closer than the CBC network or WQXR broadcast intelligent news reports?

DANIEL OLDEN

Lady Of Spain

continued from page 5

often overplayed. Her cruelty was always artificial, not the natural action of a woman who happened just to BE that way.

Miss Lubkin was required to pretend to be an earthy peasant. She read some lines well enough, but the surrounding reality wasn't there. The director should have curbed her tendency to excessive gestures, mugging, and constant nodding of her head for emphasis (which began to look like a nervous tic after a while). The performance quite obviously studied, and calculated for effect, therefore ineffective.

David Karsten's white setting was functional and suggestive, which is all that can be asked in the Arena.

I have gone on about the production for so long because, clearly, it included things of uncommon excellence. As a whole, I would rate it somewhere between a distinguished failure and a flawed success.

Come One, Come All!

"The Paper" goes before the Board of Student Publications Thurs., March 10 1:15 p.m. Union Green Room

# HOW THE UNITED STATES GOT INVOLVED IN VIETNAM

In 1955, '56, '57, even '58 President Ngo Dinh Diem and his entire government had a fantastically complete, and almost naive, confidence in Americans, per se.

Especially "on the in" in those days was the Michigan State University Group, paid by the U.S. Government under a contract to "advise" the Vietnamese Government in a number of fields of activity. Among their "advisory" duties was the formation of what is now referred to by "foreign adventurers" and the foreign press as "the secret police of Mr. Ngo Dinh Nhu."

The MSU group proceeded with "training" for several years. The head of the MSU group was considered the most "in" man among the foreigners and many considered him more "in" than the President's own ministers.

The MSU group enjoyed an extraordinary power based on this confidence. Not only did they "train" but they also "controlled" in large measure the now famous "secret police."

The most "in" man of 1955 referred to in this 1963 editorial from The Times of Vietnam, a Diem-controlled paper, was Wesley Fishel, the young professor who had persuaded Diem to come to the United States to line up American support for his cause. Fishel first went to work for the Diem government in 1954 as an "advisor on government reorganization." He was also a member of the personal staff of Special Ambassador Collins and, in Fishel's words to this author, "I was the only contact that he (Collins) had with Diem that was at all effective for many months . . . . After two years I surfaced--to use a CIA term--to become head of the MSU program."

In addition to Fishel's and Diem's interest the decision to formally associate Michigan State involved higher policy considerations. The National Security Council in the spring of 1955 had decided on continuing all-out U.S. support for Diem. No less a personage than Vice-President Nixon called John Hannah, the President of Michigan State, to elicit his support.

Hannah was told, according to Fishel, that Vietnam had been declared top priority and that it was in the national interest for his university to become involved. Officially, the project would be part of the International Cooperation Administration program of assistance to underdeveloped countries. It was in fact the larg-

est operation and would involve 54 professors and 200 Vietnamese assistants. It was also to fill a special need.

The Geneva Accords had prohibited increases in the strength of either side through the introduction of "all types of arms" or build-ups in troop strength. The presence of the International Control Commission (made up of nationals of Canada, Poland, and India) offered the prospect of unfavorable publicity to the United States if its Military Assistance Advisory Group, United States Operations Mission, or CIA agents operated openly. The Michigan group would serve as "cover."

Diem, as a minority figure in his own country, required a strengthened police power. The Diem government had reason to expect an attack from segments of the armed forces hostile to it or from police units under the control of the bandit Binh Xuyen sect.

It was for this reason, according to Fishel, that Art Brandstatter, head of the Michigan State University School of Police Administration and ex-Colonel of M.P.s, began training Diem's Palace Guard. As part of this training program, described in MSU monthly reports, the Palace Guard was supplied with guns and ammunition the Michigan State professors obtained from the US-MAAG.

Bao Dai, when he had been Chief of State, had placed the national police and security services under the control of the Binh Xuyen, and they were hostile to the Diem government. By April of 1955, Diem could call upon army troops whose loyalties had been ensured by Ambassador Collins' statement that the United States would only meet the payroll of an army committed to the Diem government. These were employed to crush the Binh Xuyen. The Michigan State professors decided to concentrate their energies on the reconstitution of the police apparatus. Their monthly report for July, 1955, stated:

It has been generally agreed and the Ambassador has specifically asked that we concentrate almost exclusively on the police and field administration projects until the elections of

next July . . . . It is now felt by the MSU team that in order to be in accord with U.S. policy locally it is necessary to engage almost exclusively in immediate impact programs until after the elections in July, 1956 and that the immediate impact programs in our program are the field administration and the police projects.

By November, 1955, the professors were able to state in their monthly report:

During the month of October we received a notice of Washington's approval of the recommended expanded police program submitted August 29th. We started immediately to implement this program. Conferences were held at USOM on October 10th and the Embassy on October 23rd and 24th, trying to coordinate Internal Security operations in Vietnam, in which our government has an interest.

With Washington's sanction, the professors reorganized the old French-sponsored Surete into a new "Vietnamese Bureau of Investigation," which was modeled upon the FBI but would "also be responsible for the many other enforcement duties that are peculiar to this part of the world, such as information and postal control, etc." The police force was turned into a paramilitary unit, trained in particular to deal with uprisings on the part of the citizenry.

Once Saigon was secured, it became essential to pacify the countryside, and so the Civil Guard, a rural-based militia of 40,000 men, was organized. The immigration authorities were trained to fingerprint the Chinese population, which was distrusted by the Diem government, and all agencies of government were trained in maintaining security dossiers.

The monthly records of the project list a wide variety of guns, ammunition, vehicles, grenades, handcuffs, and teargas equipment that the Michigan State team passed on from "official U.S. agencies" to their Vietnamese proteges. From 1955 to 1960, the Michigan team had the major responsibility for training, equipping, and financing the police apparatus for Diem's state.

The MSU team, of course, had other responsibilities for building a governmental structure. The professors worked on the constitution, redesigned parts of the bureaucracy, developed a school of public administration and the beginnings of a civil service.

In their attempts to gear the government to a solution of the serious social problems confronting it, the MSU project published many studies. They were couched in the jargon of public administration and were aimed at increasing the efficiency of Diem's operations. These documents never mentioned the facts of the dictatorship under which the Diem family consistently stood in the way of the reforms suggested. The MSU team constructed a beautiful paper government that never was translated into reality.

The failure of the MSU project may have resulted in part from that "iness" to which The Times of Vietnam referred. President Hannah was an important Republican figure and had been an Assistant Secretary of Defense. Interviews with some members of the project revealed that involvement in a high priority government program gave them a heady feeling of glamour and prestige. As one member frankly states, "I saw the job in Vietnam primarily from the standpoint of my own career development.

## The MSU Project

By ROBERT SCHEER

This chapter from Robert Scheer's pamphlet, "How the United States Got Involved in Vietnam," is reprinted with permission of the Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions, publishers of the pamphlet. (Copies are sent free upon request; Box 4068, Santa Barbara, Calif.) Scheer is foreign editor of Ramparts magazine. This is the first in a series evaluating MSU's role in Vietnam.--The Editors.

I had taught public administration and I saw this as a job with experience, with an entree back into the academic world."

The project favored a technical approach to social problems. This "scientific style" provided a justification for academics functioning in a strange land as controlled agents of their government and permitted them to perform tasks that would otherwise have run contrary to the personal ethics of many of them.

The interviews this author had with various members of the MSU team revealed a strong sensitivity to the titles, positions, awards, and other attentions of the institutions with which they had contact. Later, their attitudes were to range from the rather cynical view of one project head who stated: "Knock it out of your head that 99 per cent of university guys are educators--they are all operators," to those who became tormented by the moral implications of their work in Vietnam.

In this category was one economist who thought that the academic program of the Diem government was an almost total failure and concluded that the peasants might have been better off with the other side. But although he was to write about Vietnam, he did not express such thoughts, and his reasons for not doing so were described as follows:

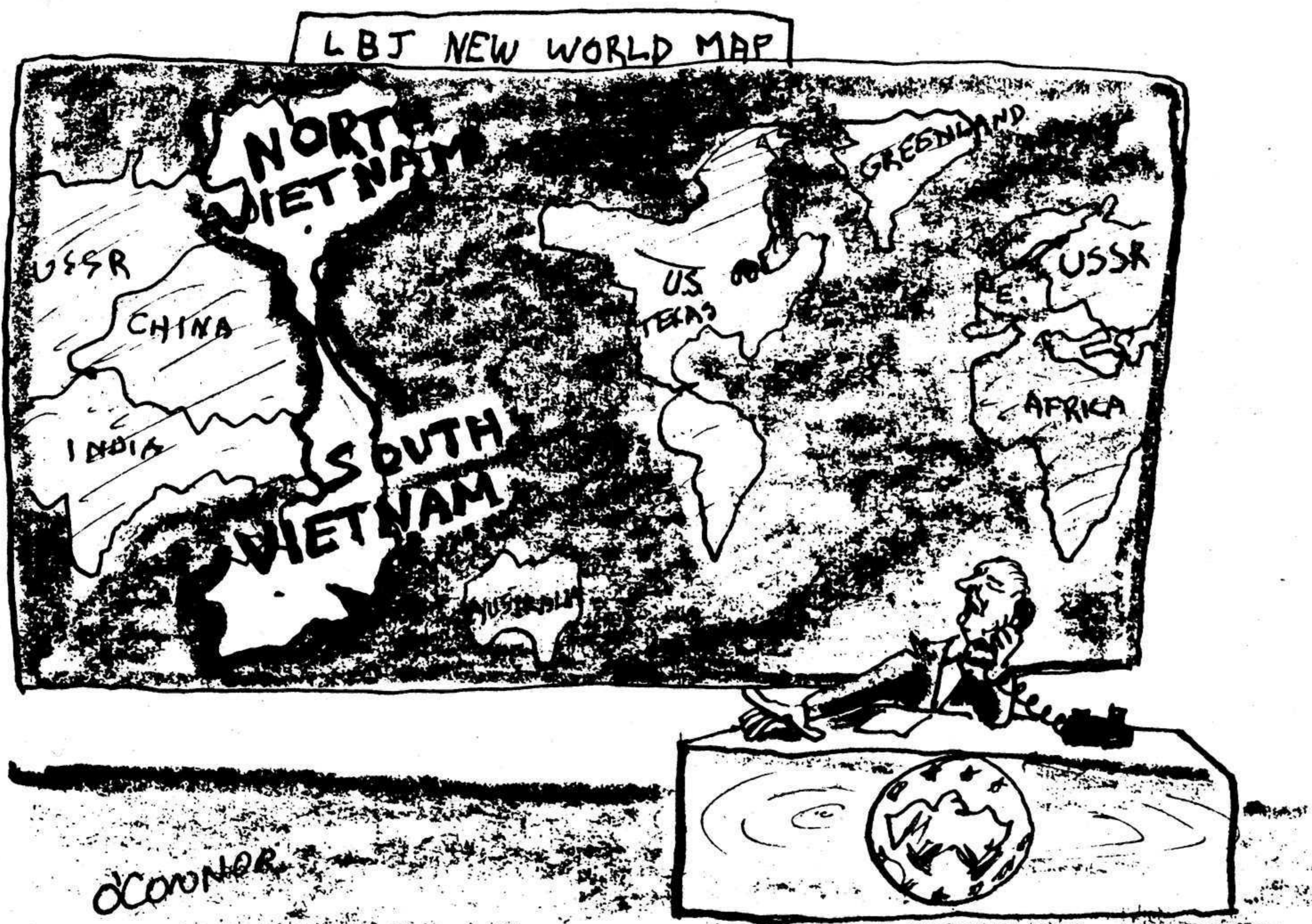
If you are an ordinary person you will be listened to insofar as it sounds right. Otherwise you're considered a deviant. Only if you have high status will a deviant be listened to . . . . I suppose people would most likely figure that I was a crackpot who lacks good judgment--not cashiered for this but always a question mark--wouldn't say you're subversive--but would influence their judgment about my judgment.

If they were reticent while in Vietnam, some of the professors became highly prolific on paper after their return to the United States at the end of their tours of duty. Much of our public expertise on Vietnam has come from alumni of the MSU project; they are the authors of many of the articles about Vietnam not only in scholarly journals but in the mass media. In this writing, they have concerned themselves with the many social and political problems facing Vietnam, but nowhere have they engaged in a critical analysis of the MSU project itself.

They had played a vital role in building the government apparatus for the Diem administration, but much of them came to feel irrelevant and self-defeating, and many of them came to feel that a good part of it was, in an old-fashioned sense, immoral.

The God-On-Our-Side Award for this week goes to Secretary of Defense McNamara, who explained to the House Armed Services Committee that he needed \$4.1 billion for ammunition alone this year for the war in Vietnam "in order to enhance the effectiveness of our ground forces and reduce casualties."

Turnabout Department: The Trouble-For-Trouble's Sake Award goes to the planners who removed the exterior door handles from the Grand River entrance to the Union Grill, requiring people to walk an extra half trip around the building to get in.



"Now, Mr. Shriver, if y'all in the poverty program would just look at the whole thing in the right perspective . . ."

## EDITORIAL

continued from page 1

denied even the privilege of finding out where we stand. It really was quite simple:

We asked the Secretary on Tuesday of this week for his decision on our request for a waiver, which we made nearly a week earlier. After evading us for half a day, the Secretary, Jack Breslin, told us in so many words that he just wasn't going to make a decision. He advised us, as if we had never thought of it, to go to the Publications Board, or--here's a new idea, and probably an irrelevant one--to ask the Dean of Students office for approval. Mr. Breslin as much as said that even though it was his job and his job alone according to the university ordinances to approve or reject waivers such as that we requested, he was not going to rule on our request.

At the same time, Frank B. Senger, chairman of the School of Journalism and chairman of the Publications Board, had just announced that the meeting scheduled for March 3 was being postponed until March 10. The reason: two members of the board (Vice President John A. Fuzak and Vice President Phillip May) were going to be out of town for the meeting and therefore the meeting could not be held. Be it said merely that this has never stopped the board from meeting before. (And, for perspective, it should be noted that at this meeting a proposal by the three student members of the board for a complete reevaluation of the board and its responsibilities was to be discussed,

along with "The Paper's" request for authorization.)

So, there we were on Tuesday evening, without any chance of approval from the Secretary and without any chance of a decision from the Publications Board until a week from now, and with a rather strong desire to avoid being arrested for selling illegally, if at all possible.

### HOME AGAIN, HOME AGAIN

So we telephoned Student Board, which was meeting at the time, and asked if we could come over and--hah--ask for another fund drive. Sure, they said, come on over. We came over and, after a long evening of debate on such matters as whether to call certain student leaders "vice presidents" or "administrators" or "directors," Student Board voted to allow us a fund drive, as long as we didn't include advertising in this issue. Which is exactly what they did for us in December, only this time they added in the discussion some criticism of those administrators who have failed to consider the durability of our patience as a factor in adjudicating our claim to existence. That's putting it very, very mildly.

And here we are--still, God only knows why, without anything like an understanding of our legal position on advertising and still, again God only knows why, unable to come right out and say we're SELLING the damn paper.

We still need money from adver-

## The Vast Wasteland

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"freeze" them and lead "to their repeated use even after parts of them have become outdated," Meaney notes.

This is no more than the fear "of normal human inertia," he adds, and "no more justified than the fear that writing lectures on paper would freeze them."

At MSU, the life expectancy of a tape is about three years.

Student attitudes regarding telecourses are fairly nondescript. They like them in the sciences and tolerate them in the social sciences, but prefer the old-fashioned interaction in the humanities. It is interesting to note that students in five Oregon colleges and universities, although generally favorable toward TV, felt that the course in English composition was highly ineffective over television. One of MSU's largest telecourses is English 213, expository writing.

The common criticism that efficient, economical teaching methods tend to produce inferior learning is apparently somewhat legitimate. Wilbur Schramm, in an article called "Learning from Instructional Television" (Review of Educational Research, 1962), declared, "There can no longer be any doubt that students learn efficiently from instructional television."

And, "The conclusion is that the average student is likely to learn about as much from a TV class as from ordinary classroom methods; in some cases he will learn more and in some less, but the over-all verdict has been 'no significant difference'."

The committee on teaching resources concluded, however, that experiments in new teaching methods demonstrated their economic feasibility, but "seemed to produce inferior teaching and learning . . . The

aim, knowingly or unknowingly, may have been rote learning rather than real insight or understanding, or it may have been the mastery of a textbook rather than the mastery of a subject . . .

"In evaluation of these experiments the committee was forced to adopt a double standard.

"It preferred what it considered superior education achieved more economically, but it also accepted, as a lesser good, inferior instruction achieved with economy."

Of course, the committee doesn't condone inferior instruction. It just recognizes the economy of efficiency, and looks to the future.

Meanwhile, I recommend audiovisual contact with a mentor or two; it can be a highly stimulating educational experience.



## Compare And Contrast Department

The following item, from the *Ontarian*, published at the University of Guelph, Ontario, was submitted by a reader:

### RYERSONIAN SUSPENDED

The *Ryersonian*, the student newspaper of Ryerson Polytechnical Institute, was suspended for a year from membership in the Canadian University Press at the organization's annual conference held in Calgary during the holidays.

Acting on the recommendations of an investigation committee of student editors from other Ontario student papers, the 30-member CUP decided to suspend The *Ryersonian* because it has a managing editor who is paid by, and responsible to, the school administration.

## Members Of The Board Of Student Publications

### Chairman:

Frank B. Senger, chairman, School of Journalism

### Administrators:

(named by the president)

James H. Denison, assistant to the president

John A. Fuzak, vice president for student affairs

Phillip J. May, vice president for business and finance

### Faculty

(chosen by president through Committee on Committees)

Robert Ebel, professor, counseling and personnel services

Richard Fairley, professor, biochemistry (outgoing)

Anne Garrison, associate professor, business law, insurance and office administration

### Students

(chosen by other members from open petitioning, but not to include members of any publication's staff)

Beverly Hall, junior, English

Dirck Terwilliger, junior, journalism

Arthur Tung, sophomore, pre-medicine

tising, as we have right along (we gave it up this week only because our two-week break in publication lost us most of our ads anyway and we wouldn't have made enough money to make it worth the fight); we still need to sell on campus if we are to survive (and EVERYONE, without exception, has admitted that "The Paper" should survive); we still need some definition of our status so we can either be legal once and for all or can be illegal and can start fighting, in total war, the obvious unconstitutionality of the whole business by which we've been held up thus far.

### THE SOURCE

That brings us back to the Publications Board (funny thing), which is now planning to meet next Thursday, March 10 (1:15 p.m., Union Green Room) to discuss 1) "The Paper" and 2) the proposal of its student

members that its powers, procedures and limitations be more strictly defined.

Their proposal would recognize for the first time the existence and value of student publications which need not be formally authorized (that is, "managed") but which should be allowed to sell on campus and include advertising; their proposal would make public for the first time the exact procedure which allows the State News its uniquely privileged position; their proposal would lead inevitably to a more democratic, humane and reasonable policy toward student publications.

Meanwhile, here we are, "giving away" copies of our "free" publication in a "fund drive" which is not quite a campus-wide sale of a newspaper. But almost. Someday, maybe we'll know exactly what we're doing and whether it's allowed.

