

The Fountainhead

By HARRY NODEN

In our competitive, materialistic society, people of lower economic status tend to feel depressed with what life has offered them. Yet many of these people have twice the materialistic wealth and conveniences that even the kings and queens possessed ages ago. Why were the kings happier? Perhaps it is because they had status. They were at the top of a self-invented value system.

Individuals, kings or Rum Alley drunks, who are capable of incorporating a value system that gives them status, can achieve happiness in the most miserable of conditions. People who delude themselves into thinking they are fortunate, happy and successful, become these things. The method they use is simple if the individual using it is not consciously aware of it.

This method is recommended by Norman Vincent Peale in his book, "The Power of Positive Thinking," although the central idea is obscured to make the delusion easier. Mr. Peale suggests that people who are searching for happiness should "try to help others who need them."

What happens when you find others who need you? How does it make you feel? If you are normal, you probably feel fortunate and happy that you are not in their position. Subconsciously, your ego is inflated, because you are placed in a value system that gives you status.

Religious organizations offer eternal happiness by promising status after death to those who believe in their teachings. People who have strong religious convictions, can easily find happiness. That's why everyone seems so sad.

Greek Nu's

Fraternity rush is over for the semester, and the Alpha Chi Rho's and the Sigma Pi's have announced their 1964 pledges. New pledges of Alpha Chi Rho are: Dave Strellic, Mark Simon, Chuck White, Richard McKissick, Larry Ondako, Tom Parry, and Ron Kozikowski.

The brothers of Sigma Pi welcome pledges Dayne Webster, Mike Handley, Dave Staples, Dave Cooper, Buzz Brundage, Rich Conover, and Steve Hoover. These new pledges can look forward to living in the new Sig Pi house which will be constructed this summer.

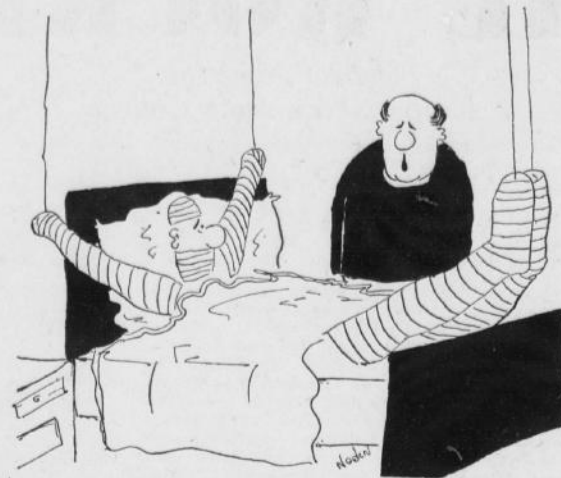
Theta Chi fraternity has acquired eight new pledges. They are: Tom Galiger, Don Putivk, Al Carin, George Rodunda, Dave Snidler, Robert Galvin, Jerry Koeller and Bernard Baden. Theta Chi won the scholarship award for last semester. They will become a national fraternity in April.

On February 26, Betti Ann Karpa, a sophomore English major, was elected president of Alpha Xi Delta. The other recently elected officers are: Celeste DiCarlo, vice president; Elaine Daniels, recording secretary; Barb Simons, corresponding secretary; Peggy Mergen, treasurer; Mary Jane Evancho, assistant treasurer; and Jan Gebhardt, membership chairman.

The sisters of Kappa Delta plan to purchase a book in memory of our late President John F. Kennedy. This book will be placed in Maltby Library. A book in memory of Mr. Roy T. Hickman will be given by the KD's to the geography department.

Tri Sigma's pledge class officers are: Becky Jacobs, president; Brenda Fehr, vice-president; Karen Dellvuk, secretary; and Joy Cable, treasurer.

Any announcements, election results, or other information concerning Greek social organizations must be given to Jacquelyn Szymecki, 144 Rhoads Hall, in order to be printed in the ROCKET.



"You Pledged What?!?"

OBSERVATIONS

"I did it and deserve to be punished," said George Washington in the Cherry Tree incident. This little story is taught to children to emphasize the respect they should acquire for the truth. The honesty of this man and the truth he spoke has become one of the characteristics of our American life.

We, as a nation, have fought for truth in two world wars and are striving for the strength of truth in the cold war. When the words "we will smother you" come over the air we scoff. Can we Scoff?

In history schemes of tyranny in the United States have been wiped out. "Bossism, Socialism and communism have been dirty words. Truth and Americanism are supposedly synonymous. Yet look around at the citizens of tomorrow and of today. If they can not be truthful in their everyday lives, how can the nation be truthful? Someone once said, "A nation is only as good as its worst citizen."

How many children would like to have it and so pick it up on the sly? How many teenagers feel it is "kicks" to have sticky fingers? How many colleges, including ours, have lost good books, expensive tools and good students because someone thought they would pull something. And how about those who have no reason, but steal and would steal again if the chance came up. Why? What is the matter with our society?

Now the problem is stated what is to be done about it? The social rules are usually taught to children by their parents and teachers. Can we as future teachers tolerate untruths in our society? If not what plan of action should be taken? Can a person who has told a lie or been dishonest when he is confronted with the evidence be honest if he tries to tell others dishonesty is bad?

Action can take the position of talking about the honest policy of professors, the actions of others and the things that certain people of the world have done. Actions can also take the form of a lack of apathy and the start of something to reduce the amount of dishonesty on the campus. Who can tell, the action of students in certain events and because of certain acts by other students might have a good effect on the student body as a whole. "Great oaks from little acorns grow." What might happen if some of the students spoke what they felt to enough of the right people and stopped complaining about the mess that the school could be in. How can a teacher promote action in his students if he cannot initiate some in himself?

If dishonesty becomes synonymous with America we WILL be smothered. Not because of an inadequate government or supply of weapons, but because of our inadequate citizens we will be conquered. Each needs to decide now and ACT! Actions still speak louder than words!

LETTERS to the EDITOR

Dear Editor:

The fall semester of 1963 brought with it many things; new freshmen, football season, a new dining hall and "Fairview Zoo."

The two off-campus dormitories, Fairview and Summit have been in a continuous rivalry, due to the immaturity of the Summit boys. Name calling, animal calls, hyenna laughs, discrimination against the physical education majors, grapefruit throwing and letters to KDKA are only a small portion of the antics used by the Summit boys.

We the Fairview girls, demand a formal apology for those actions which not only degrade Fairview and the physical education department, but the entire college as well.

Fairview Girls

Dear Editor:

In view of all the adverse criticism Maltby receives, I would like to offer a word of praise. I have recently visited three libraries — one public and two college — in search of materials for research papers. I found, to my surprise, that Maltby has a better selection of magazines — at least educational and literary journals — than any of the other three.

If we would only look around we might be amazed at the strengths our library has which we have never noticed!

Sincerely,

A Surprised Student

American Merry-Go-Round

By DAVE KANIA

Stop for a moment, and think back to when you were a child. Do you remember ever visiting an amusement park and riding on the merry-go-round? Do you remember the fascination over the gleaming lights and the whirling figures that flashed by at a dizzy speed? Recall, if you will, the giddy and elated feelings of emotion that passed through you as you rode on the endless circle. Now compare the merry-go-round ride of childhood with the real-life world of today. It would seem that the only difference is that the merry-go-round would eventually stop while the pace of American existence never slows its relentless pace.

It's hard to believe the "good old days" have passed into history in the short span of only six decades. If we could stop for a moment and reflect upon the technological changes that have shattered the rural society of America at the turn of the century—the automobile, the airplane, mass production and industry—we cannot but be impressed with ourselves. Along side of this growth our tempo of life has increased proportionately. It can be compared to a person running on a treadmill that slowly gains speed without pausing to let the individual catch his breath.

In the process, the running man must leave something behind in order to keep his balance. Thus, hallowed American institutions such as the family, religion, and clean living are subjected to the most vehement criticisms, are satirized and discredited and made to look foolish and "squalid."

Today we have the era of atomic energy, space travel, pizza, drive-ins, and good times in general. It is also the era in which people cannot even afford to die; it's too expensive. This is the era of the happy American, watching life through rose-colored glasses, and only mildly disturbed because the rest of the world is "going all to hell."

As in the days of John the Baptist, a few voices in the wilderness have cried out in protest, but the majority of Americans have the tendency to sit in smugness and complacency until their personal ambitions are frustrated or another "Pearl Harbor" wipes the fog from their eyes.

Our fault lies in the fact that we have found nothing to replace what we sacrificed upon the high altar of progress. If we were to tear up a plant by its roots, it dies. If we destroy the keystones of our society, confusion reigns. And something must fill the vacuum. The only other institution capable of assuming such a burden is the state. But the state is like a cancer that, once fed with power, assumes an insatiable appetite to consume all in its path. This includes ourselves. Today we have social security, socialized medicine, automation, interference of national government in state affairs. Tomorrow it may be the spectre of "big brother," George Orwell's symbolization of the all-powerful state of 1984.

In our generation parents have become the servants of children. Terms such as cold war, subversion, civil rights, juvenile delinquency, dope, cancer, benies, suburbia, depth research, soft-sell ads, status, power and money—the list is endless—have been household words.

It would seem that Americans are so involved in keeping up with each other on the treadmill that underlying forces hidden from our sight work quietly and efficiently, chipping away at our liberties, creating confusion, destroying the framework of society that brought our nation to its position of greatness.

And the sad part is that we are neither aware nor care.

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One chapter in "Chaos in Our Colleges" by Prof. Morris Friedman severely indicts holders of Phi Beta Kappa keys. The author has found three types of key wearers who "have made dangling the key today a sign of sham and hoax."

There are the former "grade-hounds" who feel they have proven themselves and are through with books and learning. There are the "smart alecks, those who wear the key but deride it." And there are the blinking scholars who are narrow and indifferent to the world around them. And these people, says Friedman, a member of the academic fraternity himself, is "Why I Don't Wear My Phi Beta Kappa Key."

Other chapters in Prof. Friedman's new book likewise hurl caustic criticisms at various aspects of today's colleges. It's worth reading!