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The Fixer, July 8, 1970

Madison College Press (Free)

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It seems somehow inconceivable that anyone now at Madison should be unaware of the frighteningly regressive turn of events here during the 1969-70 session. However, new people do arrive; therefore, for those of you who may not know, I shall present an account of my last semester at Madison College.

I had been a silent and nonchalantly dedicated student of Madison for three semesters; I carried a 3.2 average but had learned very little. I had no delusions such as the common one that I was "getting an education." I was simply getting a degree; any learning that took place in the process was but a coincidental benefit. In short, I suppose one might say that I was all too typical.

In November, 1969, the FIXER appeared. It was often crude and dogmatic, as embryonic creations usually are, but more often than not had a veracity that could not be impeached by its stylistic deficiencies, it at least afforded one a more honest viewpoint than "The Breeze," the official campus "organ." Therefore, I viewed the FIXER with a vague distaste mitigated by respect, if that is possible.

By January, it became apparent that the FIXER was being callously murdered by student disinterest. Although I was never a writer and never shall be, I felt that my meager efforts were necessary as a part of the attempt to preserve the FIXER. The idea of having two papers or campus (particularly when one was a paper of opinion) which did not necessarily have to agree or every issue appealed to me immensely. This is how I came to write for the FIXER.

Once having joined the staff of the paper, I shared with the other staff members many difficult moments. It became apparent that the college administration was bent on the destruction of the FIXER. Attempts to become a recognized campus organization, to obtain or solicit funds, and ultimately to continue printing the paper on campus were brusquely thwarted. Our pleas for communication were ignored; instead of HEEDING our adjurations, the administration sent copies of the paper to the Attorney General in an attempt to silence them.

Even with the Attorney General's assistance, however, the administration could find nothing in the FIXER which was legally actionable. There was no legitimate means of stopping us; the FIXER somehow survived the year. In point of fact, ours was the only paper on campus for the last six weeks of the session.

My other activities at Madison were concerned with the dismissal of professors James McClung, E. Houston Rogers and Roger Adkins and the blatant persecution of professors such as Leon Mase, J. David Black, R. von T. Napp and Forrest McCready. Some of these professors and numerous others had opened my eyes to a world of irrationality and paranoia that I would not have believed existed. This had been my first vicarious experience with the administration of Madison College.

After the dismissal of the three professors was made public in February (by the FIXER), I dedicated myself to the task of picking out the rationale behind the action. The reasons which had been given by the administration were patently suspect: contrivances; therefore, I chose James McClung as representative of the three and conducted some independent research into his case. I wrote letters to administrators, conducted interviews with Mr. McClung's colleagues, made inquiries into his credentials in relation to the other members of the English Department, and even came to know the man quite well personally.

I can still find no way to impeach his teaching competence or his qualifications and have not discovered any legitimate reason for his dismissal. More importantly, I found him to be one of those few professors who genuinely inspire their students, who relate to them and teach them. His students almost universally respected him.

My research indicated that he was the very sort of professor (cont. page 2)
that had been systematically eliminated from this campus for years. Suddenly, it became all too clear to me why my hopes of receiving an EDUCATION at Madison had been so quickly and thoroughly forgotten. Men and women who can firmly educate have a very low survival rate here.

On the behalf of all the professors who had been persecuted, maligned and intimidated at Madison, I attended two peaceful demonstrations in February. No change was forthcoming as a result of these gatherings.

On April 26, I attended a vigil in Wilson Hall, after all the inquiries had been made and all other legitimate avenues of expressing concern and seeking civil answers to civil questions had been exhausted. For me, the vigil was a means of dramatizing our concern about the loss and impending loss of our most respected professors. We also wished to speak to President Miller there in one last effort to discover WHY this was happening to our school.

We were, without exception, an eminently peaceful, cool-headed and respectful group. Unlike many other sit-ins, our gathering never posed any threat of personal injury or property damage. Our group, numbering as many as seventy students and three professors, was strongly committed to non-violence and an open, inquiring intellectual atmosphere.

For my participation in this affair, I was arrested for "trespassing" and later suspended from Madison for fifteen months. My convictions for trespassing and my suspension are being challenged in court, but the purposefully vindictive nature of the administration's action will not be erased even though its penalties may be controverted. The administration had thirty people arrested and twenty-six suspended from school simply because they gathered peacefully in an open building and that fact will not be forgotten.

It might well be noted that the longest suspensions meted out by the administration were given to members of the FIXER staff. The administration may perhaps think that the FIXER has been utterly destroyed by its ill-conceived purge; this is hardly so. Free expression of ideas and, above all, truth, will out at Madison.

The FIXER lives!

Lewis H. Sword
(In Exile)

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Madison's Influence Spreads

THE REAL TEST FOR TEACHERS:

IF YOU CAN TAKE IT YOU CAN DO IT...

NEW YORK (LNS)—The following is part of an instruction sheet which was ripped off from the New York City Board of Education. It went with the exam given to applicants for teaching jobs in elementary school. The procedure is indicative of the tactics teachers will be expected to follow with their students:

After the test has started, a proctor will request you sign above your name in the List of Applicants for this test, and you will be finger-printed. No completed paper will be collected during the last ten (10) minutes of the time allotted for the test.

PROCEDURE AFTER TEST IS COMPLETED

1. Stop all writing when requested to do so by the proctor.
2. Put in order the pages of your answer paper.
3. Number the pages consecutively.
4. In the left-hand margin of the first page, write the total number of pages and the words "The End."
5. Use the small pin to pin together, at the upper-left-hand corner, the pages of your answer paper.
6. Gather your scrap paper together, pin it all together at the upper-left-hand corner, and mark it "scrap." Place the scrap underneath your answer paper.
7. Place your short-answer score sheet on top of your written English paper.
8. Place the gray envelope at the upper right-hand corner of your score sheet.
9. Place the examination card on the top of the gray envelope.
10. Fasten everything together with the large clip, centering it over the card.

DO NOT LEAVE YOUR SEAT UNTIL YOUR PAPER HAS BEEN COLLECTED. (LEAVE THIS PAPER ON YOUR DESK)

WANTED—HOME FOR PUSSY-10 wk old half Persian kitten needs a good home. Call Tina 896-6602 anytime

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NINE MONTHS IN JAIL
AND $1000 FINE IS NOT JUSTICE!

ON JUNE 30TH SEVEN PERSONS WERE CONVICTED OF
SITTING IN WILSON HALL (TRESPASSING?) IN HARRIS-
ONBURG CIRCUIT COURT. SENTENCES WERE:

Jim McCLUNG 9 MONTHS AND $1000 FINE
Jay Rainey 6 MONTHS AND $500 FINE
Steve Rochelle 6 MONTHS AND $500 FINE
Lewis H. Shord $500 FINE
Ed Johnson $500 FINE
Bob Evans $500 FINE
Bill Masse $500 FINE

BOND WAS INCREASED FOR FOUR, FROM $250 TO $500.
COURT COSTS NOW APPROACH $1000.00
WE NEED MONEY, HELP US DEFEND YOUR
LIBERTIES AS WELL AS OUR OWN. SEND AS
MUCH AS YOU CAN AFFORD TO:
MADISON DEFENSE FUND
90 MADISON COLLEGE PRESS (FREE)
BOX 35
BROADWAY, VIRGINIA 22215
CHECKS MAY BE MADE OUT TO THE AMERI-
CAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION OR MADISON
DEFENSE FUND.
"Kill Cong" Badge Awarded for Ear

Detroit (DRE) - Specially designed "Kill Cong" badges were awarded by a U.S. Army battalion to soldiers who could prove they killed a soldier of the National Liberation Front (NLF) last year, according to statements by returned servicemen.

"One way to prove your claim to a badge was to bring back an enemy ear," former Sgt. Frank Shepard, 23, of suburban Plymouth, Mich., told the Detroit Free Press, one of the motor city's establishment dailies. "They kept a string of ears at headquarters, which I saw. The ears were rotting and they smelled pretty bad. It turned my stomach. It was like we were on a hunting trip or something."

The badge was awarded by the 5th battalion, 60th infantry, 9th infantry division, stationed at Nha Kim last summer, Shepard said.

The badges had an olive-green background with the words "Sat Cong" (Kill Cong) in black, he added.

When Sen. Philip Hart (D-Mich.) inquired at the Pentagon, the Defense Department replied that the Sat Cong badge "was a program that was recently instituted in the 5th battalion, 60th infantry."

The Pentagon letter, signed by Col. C.T. Benedict, chief of the personnel services division, said that because of the deaths of the battalion commander and the brigade commander "additional information concerning the badge and its purpose could not be furnished."

The Fixer needs and wants the support of all sections of the Madison community. We do not want to see one side of an issue completely dominate at any time. We want all persons to be part of this paper. Our meetings are completely open to anyone who wishes to attend. We will print any article submitted to us with only two restrictions: names must accompany all articles submitted for publication (names will be withheld upon request), and articles must follow copyright regulations. We censor no one. If you feel the paper is not fulfilling its purpose then work to change it, write articles, work on the paper, do not simply attack us and say we are doing a poor job. For if you have not attempted to improve the Fixer, what kind of job are you doing?"

"Tiger cages" are common prison practices, existing even in the US, according to an Army officer.
An Air Force Recruiter Tells It Straight

KERIDEN, Conn. (INS) - Seeking a new pitch for enlistment into the Air Force, a Connecticut recruiting sergeant recently hit upon an ingenious scheme. In a letter to a group of draft-evading young men in the Keriden area, Tech Sgt. Robert W. Knapp asked three poignant questions:

1. "Did you know that the vast majority of the U.S. forces killed in Southeast Asia have been draft-evaders?"

2. "Wouldn't you rather take advantage of the opportunity to join the branch of service that has lost the least amount of men in Southeast Asia as opposed to being drafted into the branch that has lost the most?"

3. "Are you willing to take the gamble with your life or would you rather go into a branch of service that is virtually non-combatant?"

Sergeant Knapp concluded his appeal with the following observation: "If you don't like what I have to say, then you can still take the draft. But at least it won't bother me so much is I read about you in the obituary column."

Fixer Meeting

7:00 PM
Saturday, July 11
at the Generation Gap (next to school)
BLACK CONGRESSMEN DISGUSTED WITH NIXON

WASHINGTON, D.C. (LNS)—The following statement was read by Representative William Clay, a black Democrat from Missouri, to the House on May 18, 1970, I.P. Stone's Bi-Weekly abridged it to the form in which it appears here:

For more than ninety days the nine black Members of the House of Representatives have been trying to arrange a meeting with the President. On February 18, 1970, we wrote Mr. Nixon requesting an audience. The members of the black caucus make known at this time our outright disgust with the President's policies and his refusal to give us an audience. In a letter dated April 20, Mr. Nixon informed us through his staff assistant, "We had hoped to be able to work this out, but the President's schedule has been such that we just have not been able to work it in. At this point, we do not foresee an opportunity in the immediate future, but we will be back in touch with you if an appropriate time arises."

During this ninety-day interval, our President, who claimed he wanted to "bring us together," found time to meet with representatives of eleven veterans' and patriotic groups to discuss foreign policy. There is no question where Mr. Nixon has placed his priorities. He has traveled more than 35,000 miles in foreign countries. He has entertained hundreds of foreign diplomats but refused to meet with the elected representatives of the black "nation" within this country. In all of the President's travels, he has not seen the suffering and deprivation in Watts, Hough, Fillmore, and the other ghettos.

The black citizens of the United States constitute by their very numbers and condition one of the largest "underdeveloped" nations in the world. The President, despite his pledge to serve all the people of this country, has ignored his responsibility to our people. The President's position on the Voting Rights Act extension and on school desegregation, his Supreme Court nominations of two southern racists, his veto of federal education funds, and his refusal to place a priority on the domestic concerns of hunger, housing, poverty and employment testify to his apathy not only toward the black people—but toward all poor Americans.

The President has declared his disdain for military defeat and his passion for honor among the world community. If there is honor to be won, it is here in this country where American blood is staining American soil. Six murdered in Augusta and two in Jackson.

SOLVING THE WAR

"I have told the Americans that someday soon they will have a face-to-face confrontation with Red China and to solve the war in Vietnam they will have to attack Red China."

Nguyen Gao Ky, Vice President of South Vietnam, 1966

ELECTIONS IN 1972: MAYBE THERE WON'T HAPPEN

Old Mole/LIBERATION News Service

NEW YORK (LNS)—President Nixon has hired the RAND corporation to investigate the possibility of "radical elements" disrupting national elections in 1972.


RAND is a research and "think tank" corporation, originally created by the Air Force. According to Howard's sources, RAND's study would "envision a situation where rebellious factions using force or bomb threats would make it unsafe to conduct an election." The study would "provide the President with a plan of action." The study is ordered because the President's advisers are "increasingly concerned about the country's internal security."

The Wall Street Journal almost came right out with what that means: "Nixon men find a rumor hard to spike—that the RAND corporation is studying the idea of cancelling the elections if radicals threaten to disrupt it." Those who remember 1968—Chicago, Gene and Bobby and Wallace—might think the 1972 elections won't be much anyway. Some may remember Adolph Hitler, who in 1933 outlawed all German parties after the Nazis burned down the legislature (the Reichstag) and blamed it on the agitating Communists, and a year and a half later, elections were suspended.

The RAND study, at least, is Top Secret, and reporters have not yet discovered exactly what it is about. For instance, will it determine what conditions would allow or encourage Nixon to cancel elections; or will (cont. on page 7)
WASHINGTON, D.C. (INS) A case filed in mid-June in U.S. District Court in Washington, D.C., will test the legality of the Attorney General's list of Subversive Organizations.

The suit is being brought by Duncan Gordon, a former San Francisco postal worker, against the Attorney General's list of Subversive Organizations. The suit asks that the list be declared illegal, and that no further lists be issued.

The suit seeks to establish that the list is illegal because it violates the First Amendment in its censorship of organizations on the basis of their views, and it violates due process by imposing sanctions and invading property rights and the rights of reputation on the basis of indefinite, subjective criteria which can be interpreted to apply merely because of the Attorney General's own prejudices.

The suit seeks to establish that the Attorney General's list is illegal because it violates the First Amendment in its censorship of organizations on the basis of their views, and it violates due process by imposing sanctions and invading property rights and the rights of reputation on the basis of indefinite, subjective criteria which can be interpreted to apply merely because of the Attorney General's own prejudices.

The suit asks that the list be declared illegal, and that no further lists be issued. The suit is being initiated by the National Emergency Civil Liberties Committee, and will be argued jointly by the firms of Rabinowitz, Boudin and Standard, and Forer and Rein of Washington, D.C.

The Madison Defense Fund has 3 copies of Jerry Rubin's book Do It! for sale. All copies are autographed by both Jerry and William Kunstler. The price is $10. Proceeds go toward paying the growing court costs involved in the April 26 vigil in Wilson Hall, for which one person faces imprisonment for 9 months, two face jail terms of six months each, and four face fines of $500.00. This is an American Civil Liberties Union case, which is being handled by John C. Lowe of Charlottesville. Contact the Defense Fund, c/o Madison Collier Press (Free), Box 35, Broadway, Virginia 22215 or by calling Lewis at 433-2232 or Jay at 896-6602.

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S LIST CHALLENGED IN COURT

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INSURANCE COMPANIES PROFIT FROM STUDENT STRIKE

WASHINGTON, D.C. (LNS)—A recent report issued by the Chronicle of Higher Education indicates that insurance companies are making huge profits from zooming premiums charged to colleges and universities affected by campus revolts. Banks, too, are reported to be charging higher than ever interest rates on campus construction bond issues.

Northwestern University's insurance costs have quadrupled from $21,000 to $85,000, while the University of California reports a five-fold hike in its premiums.

Universities are busy seeking ways to halt these rises. One plan calls for separate rates: lower premiums for classrooms and dormitories, higher rates for target buildings such as administration headquarters and ROTC installations.

ROTC ACTIONS PUT PENTAGON UPTIGHT

WASHINGTON, D.C. (LNS)—The Defense Department is reported to be very worried by the storm of anti-ROTC actions that have swept colleges and university campuses this spring. More than 30 ROTC buildings have been fire-bombed since the U.S. invasion of Cambodia and many others were seized and disrupted.

ROTC is the major supplier of Army officers, accounting this year for half of all new commissions. But nationwide enrollment has dropped 41% over the last three years, 26% last year alone.

Although 156,000 students are still involved in either compulsory or non-compulsory ROTC, Pentagon officials acknowledge the declining intelligence of new ROTC recruits, according to a New York Times report. One Defense observer said, "Dumb officers and brilliant officers both make blunders, but dumb ones make more of them."

YOUNG MAN DOES IT IN THE ROAD

CINCINNATTI, Ohio (LNS)—Joseph Rahn, 21, was charged with reckless driving after he deliberately drove his vehicle into a police car. "I just felt like ramming a police car," he said according to a New York Times report.

NEW YORK WOMAN QUITS DRAFT BOARD, CALLING NIXON'S LOGIC FLIMSY

BOONTON, N.J. (LNS)—Jean Merritt, a 44 year-old executive with textbook publisher Silver-Burdett, called it quits with New Jersey's local draft board 252 recently, becoming the first New Jersey board member to resign in protest of Nixon's war policy.

"I cannot in good conscience continue to abet a system that is unfair to support a policy that is fostering conflict," she wrote in a letter to the "resident. Merritt called Nixon's explanation for U.S. incursions into Cambodia "flimsy."

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