

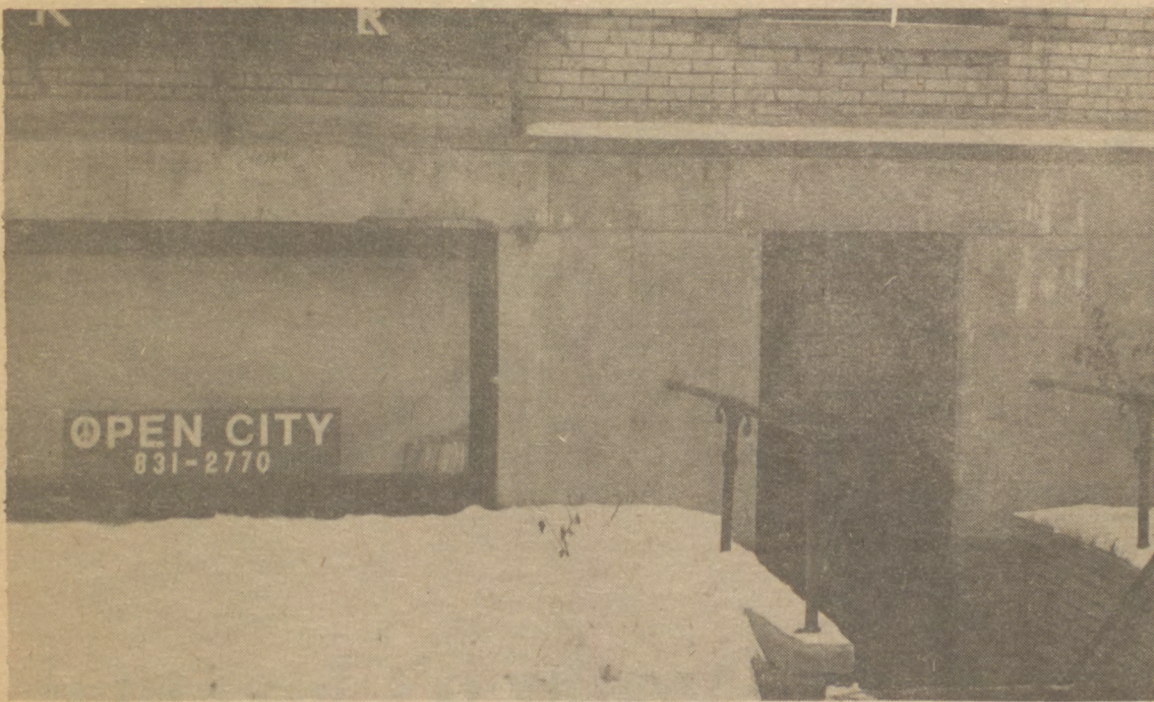
FOCUS ON OAKLAND

VOL. 1 - NO. 10

February 18, 1970

10c

Open City questions own existence, asks for funds



(photo by Dick Keller)

The atmosphere is loose, warm, loving. The place is Open City in Detroit. Their concern there is an intangible thing, expressed through an eagerness to help anyone in any possible way. Open City is an experiment in establishing a counter-culture, "a city open to all where people could share and live free." And it is a successful experiment, or at least has been. Open City exists to serve the entire community, but it is supported by only a minority of that community. If more people aren't willing to help their brothers by helping to maintain Open City financially, everyone will suffer when it closes.

Open City was begun last February by a group of people who wanted to encourage awareness in and of others, to elevate human values to primary importance. They have acted on these ideas by forming numerous committees to alleviate different social problems. One of the most important of these is the twenty-four hour switchboard service, which

is the center for information and help. Anyone with a problem need only call 831-2770 and a switchboard operator will give the name of a committee or a person to contact, if the problem falls within Open City's range of assistance. There is a staff of lawyers who will give free legal aid to people who can't afford it. The Legal Self Defense (LSD) Fund is also available to help with bail and other legal fees. For those with medical troubles a free clinic is held two nights a week. Counseling is available for anyone with psychological problems.

The basics of life keep Open City volunteers busy finding both emergency and long-range housing, operating a food co-op, and placing people in jobs. The latest project is a new coffeehouse located in the annex of the First Universalist Unitarian Church. The church, which also serves in the community, donated the newly-finished room for the non-profit coffeehouse. Named the Forest Theatre Coffeehouse, its purpose is to provide

continued on page 4

OU Fire Department awaits state money

A campus fire department is on the drawing board for Oakland University. Al-

lignment of funds, entirely from the state of Michigan, will actuate this program.

Mr. Earl Gray, a major proponent of this endeavor, said that the department will

include four men drawn from the present security police, on duty at all times. Three of these men would be doubling as security officers, with one acting as a central dispatcher.

In the event of an alarm the firemen could converge on a fire with equipment contained in the trunks of the cars they drove on duty. A pumper truck capable of pumping 1,250 gallons per second could be dispatched and driven by the dispatcher himself or a supervisor on duty at the time. As the fire department will have to respond to all alarms, there is a much greater chance that pranksters pulling false alarms will be prosecuted. The penalty for creating a false alarm is 90 days to a year in jail and/or a \$100.00 fine.

Mr. Gray, who is opposed to dogs in Police work said, when asked if he would enjoy a dalmation mascot for the department, "Well, maybe, if some students are willing to take care of it."

states.

To fulfill this requirement students must complete either; two courses in any one foreign language, two 4-credit courses in computer programming, or any 8-credit combination of courses in linguistics, mathematics, symbolic logic, or philosophy of language.

Oakland Review

Copies of the Oakland Review are now available for free in room 110 North Foundation Hall.

This years pamphlet, volume II, contains six articles written by Oakland students. The articles range

from any essay on the "Imagery and Isolation in" 3 of Joseph Conrad works to "The Effect of Emetine Hydrochloride on the Electro-mechanical Activity of the Frog Heart."

Contempt of Justice, Conspiracy Scoreboard

LAWYERS

William Kuenstler. 4 years 13 days
Leonard Weinglass. 1 year 8 months 5 days

DEFENDANTS

David Dellinger. 2 years 5 months 16 days
Rene Davis. 2 years 4 months
Jerry Reuben. 2 years 1 month 23 days
Tom Hayden. 1 year 2 months
Abby Hoffman. 8 months
John Freines. 6 months 16 days
Lee Weiner. 2 months 18 days

Bobby Seal was sentenced earlier to over 4 years.

Thefts shake Vandenberg, Do Thieves have keys?

Friday, December 19, 1969, began a series of robberies and harassments that are still a major topic in Oakland dormitories today. On that Friday--when most Oakland students were already home for the holidays--Vandenberg alone claimed losses totalling nearly \$2000. One room, on the fourth floor of Vandenberg, was ransacked and stripped of approximately \$700 worth of jewelry, sweaters and small appliances. The third and fifth floors were also hit, but the vandalism witnessed on fourth floor was missing in these thefts. Among the items taken were

stereos, tape recorders and tapes, television sets, radios, albums, jewelry, clothes and money. There were no signs of forcible entry.

Friday afternoon, a fourth floor girl was awakened by the crash of a stereo speaker and turned over in time to see a man fleeing from the room. She pursued him into the hall, but he escaped, taking with him a portable typewriter. The fact that he had attempted the theft while the room was thus occupied indicates that the burglars are sure of their skill. Had the stereo been unplugged,

continued on page 4

State Bureau receives OU budget request

Oakland University's operating budget for 1970 and 1971 has been submitted to the State Bureau of the Budget for intensive analysis. Their recommendations appeared in Governor Milliken's budget speech to the state legislature in January. The University's request is now going through the joint senate and house appropriations committee of the Michigan state legislature.

The appropriations committee will make its report,

and the house and senate will individually examine the request and approve it as is, or modify it to meet their standards.

The whole process begins in late July or August when the University must submit to the Bureau of the Budget its request for the coming year, its current budget, and a description of the present and proposed programs and their merit. After an intensive two to three month analysis, top officials of the Un-

iversity meet with the Bureau of the Budget for clarification and information on the proposed programs.

Following this hearing, there is a six to eight week blackout on information until the Bureau makes its report to the Governor for his annual budget report to the legislature.

The final announcement of the legislature's action is made known to the University

continued on page 4

FOCUS editorial

Good Morning, Starshine-yawn

We are attending, as Professor McKay has been telling us all year, a university in crisis. It is in danger of falling asleep.

To say 1969-70 has been a dull year at Oakland is to understate the case. There has been a noticeable lack of controversy. There have been few causes to bring people together, and those that were tried were generally greeted with a yawn and a "so what?". The abrasive characters of the past - the Lee Elbingers and Robert Hubers and Mike Honeys - have not made their presence felt this year.

Why? It seems incredible to believe that excitement could have seeped away with the graduates last April. Indeed, there are several contributing factors to the present stagnations. To examine each:

1) The lack of a radical-controlled, freely distributed student newspaper. Without question, Mike Honey and Dave Black enlivened the scene around here. Students and administrators may not have agreed with them very often, but they hit nearly every relevant issue at some point - and had people thinking and talking. Since they could afford free distribution, they were able to reach six thousand people each week. In an issue-oriented year (presidential election, the Huber scandal, etc.), they were able to find legitimate reasons to scream every week. And people reacted.

2) The lack of issues. The community is in a lull-between-storms stage. Last year was a hell-raiser. Everything that could've stirred a controversy did. Many of those problems have been resolved or shoved aside till a later date. It has been a year of implementation rather than fighting. For example, the proprietorial rules around the dormitories were radically different this fall than last - 24-hour open houses and lounges, no women's hours, and so forth. These changes were hassled out last year - we're now enjoying the fruition of the previous efforts.

New issues are beginning to arise. Educational reform is building up steam. Conservation is a growing concern. It will be several months yet before these develop to the point of confrontation.

3) The change in administration, and the fight for independence. There have been few waves from the Chancellor's office in 1969 and early '70. They have been highly agreeable to nearly every student "demand." What can take the wind out of a fight faster than having no opponent? With the changing of the guard, neither chancellor has had time to create troubles. Further, with independence so damn close, no one wants to rock the boat. Too many Board members and legislators watch TV 2. If the students are upset and cause trouble--well, byebye

independence. The hierarchy doesn't care to chance it.

4) The lack of student radicals. With the exit of Marc White from University premises, the radical establishment has pretty well folded. The SDS exists no longer at O.U. Plenty of progressive liberals are around, but it just isn't the same. Saying "Let's change within the system" just doesn't stir the masses like "Let's destroy the system" does.

5) Nixonian politics. As much as we hate to admit it sometimes, Oakland is affected by the nation around it. Nixon has successfully established "the politics of silence" across the nation. It's its mark here as well. We are influenced by the National Attitude--"Speak softly and then fall asleep."

The prospects for the immediate future are dim. By fall, however, the blood should start flowing once more around here. O'Dowd will have been in long enough to set direction to his administration. We will probably be an independent university, which should encourage bolder actions. Issues will be ripe--there are some major elections coming up, the anti-pollution fight should be in full bloom, and who knows what else. The only advice one can offer the Activist (or retired Student Leader) is to go back into hibernation. Get that half of your education the professors offer. The other half won't reappear for another six months.

Plunkett-He Tries

Tom Plunkett did not "betray" Oakland University.

Last year, many will recall, large numbers of Oakland students went "Plunkett-ing", working long hours at door-to-door campaigning to help elect this man Oakland County Prosecutor. He came across then as a sincere person, progressive in both philosophy and action. Plunkett was elected, due in a great degree to the student involvement in the campaign.

Since then, however, many questions have arisen in student minds about the new Prosecutor's sincerity. Several drug busts were noted. And Plunkett was the prime figure in the abortion bust of a month ago. Among those who had worked in his behalf, a growing cynicism could be seen. It was the easy way out--a liberal has great difficulty winning election in Oakland County. By appealing to the more conservative tastes of the populace, Plunkett could increase his chances of re-election

twenty-fold.

This has not actually been the case. A closer look at the evidence show a man doing a job, and doing it reasonably well. A man who believes in change, but who realizes that he was elected to enforce the existing laws, whether or not he agrees with them. Plunkett has a progressive outlook on law enforcement. He is trying, as Earl Gray has so successfully done on campus, to improve the image of law enforcement, to convince people that the police are on their side.

This man is trying to make "law enforcement" a more positive term than it has ever been in Oakland County. He makes no pretenses about having to enforce existing laws. But he is setting a different tone to the whole picture--a very co-operative, constructive one. Tom Plunkett has not "betrayed" the Oakland students. He is holding generally to the ideals he listed in his campaign. His track record is good.

Letter

Stereotypes Condemned

Dear Editor:

We wish to express our indignation over certain of the activities which took place at the Grand Opening of the Oakland Center. First, during one of the lunches, a number of Oakland women were involved in a fashion show sponsored by a local clothing store. The whole notion of a fashion show reinforces the stereotype ideal that women should be prettily packaged commodities (i.e., mindless sex objects). It's an insult that such an event was presented at a time when many women on campus as elsewhere in the country, are attempting to combat institutionalized male chauvinism, as well as the stereotypes which reinforce it. It is these stereotypes which are used to justify lower wages, poorer job opportunities and the entire "women's place is in the kitchen and the bedroom" ideology. To add insult to the injury, those of us who came to eat lunch were forced to become part of this event involuntarily.

Secondly, we are particularly disturbed by the events that took place at the Chinese lunch. In particular, certain members of the O.C. staff were observed to be garbed in coolie hats while pulling rickshaws. We feel we must point out the obvious, namely that this is a racial stereotype of the crudest form, and one which denies the existence of the Chinese revolution. It can hardly be construed as less offensive than bearded Jews in beaver hats in conjunction with a bagel and lox lunch or a black face show at a soul food luncheon. We have assumed that, though this campus is by no means free from racism, it would not be manifested so blatantly. Indeed, a group of students, under the aegis of PFTP is currently launching a massive attack against the nastier and subtler aspects of racism. We will do everything in our power to see to it that such activities do not occur again.

Sincerely,
Karen Sacks
Robert L. Stern
James D. Graham

Apathy-it's beautiful

by Bob Barkdull

This student populace sucks. I have never seen a bigger bunch of apathetic, hand-fed, noncommittal, pseudo-intellectuals in my life. The core (if you want to call it that) of this university's students live on campus. Those individuals run around filling their egos with thoughts of leadership. To me leadership implies one who attains the support and following of other individuals in his community. The so-called leaders on this campus don't represent anybody, damn it. And what is worse than that is the mass of unled and unconcerned faces that flit about the campus DO NOT CARE that the situations around here are being determined by that unrepresentative group on honestly interested individuals on campus who have taken it upon themselves to become activists in the name of "The Students".

The history of elections here at Oakland is joke. For those of you who even know elections are held here, brace yourself for some amusing figures. The Publications Referendum brought out a whopping 900 students out of 5,000--18%. The recent Allocations Committee Elections were even more humorous. About 400 students voted, less than 8% of the student population. The real winner was the Inter-Hall Council elections last year. Last April when the dust cleared from a typical display of Oakland style participatory government there was ---ONE!---candidate. The Inter-Hall Council Presidential elections were conducted with one uncontested candidate.

I'm sick of this. It's not the active people on campus that have gotten me so mad, it's the Goddam do-nothings that comprise the majority of this student body ---the dorm students who are too stoned to care, the commuter who is too bummed with being a commuter to do anything on campus, or the "Live-for-the-bookers" who are too busy reading about situations to get involved in any real live ones.

WAKE UP!

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Learning Committee Asks Support

Several weeks ago the University Senate established a standing committee on Teaching and Learning. This action came in part from the recommendation of a group of teachers, meeting over the summer months, who concluded that too often teaching habits and practices are inadequate and that effective teaching, when it does occur, is too rarely reinforced by the university community. The Senate responded by charging a standing committee to

"promote the teaching function and the learning process by sponsoring structured incentives for good teaching and by providing for a structured outlet for reflection on both the teaching and the learning processes . . ."

To this end several procedures are available: instructors and courses can be evaluated (cf. Oakland Undiapered); new teaching concepts and research findings can be made available through a newsletter; innovative teaching practices can be encouraged by offering experimental courses and by providing funds to support these efforts; seminars and forums can be held, where new teaching techniques and insights are described; outstanding teaching

and teachers can be acknowledged and supported through public recognition.

These and many other actions are available as ways of fostering good-or at least thoughtful-teaching. A more immediate and critical task, however, is to arrive at some decision as to what, specifically, constitutes "good teaching" so that it can be fostered. Unfortunately (insofar as consensus is concerned) there seem to be as many different concepts of good teaching as there are people participating in the process. On the other hand, consensual validation is often the most viable of all evaluative procedures. Most of us-students and teachers alike-do have fairly strong, clear-cut feelings about what makes good teaching, and this committee now asks for the expression of these feelings in order to better "promote the teaching function and the learning process . . ." Particularly pertinent now are student reactions observations and reflections-to the kind and quality of teaching on our campus. Student responses to this issue are, the committee feels, critical. Teachers will very likely make very pointed responses, very spontaneously. Students will likely respond more cautiously, if at all.

Yet without student response teachers may well, once again, find themselves teaching primarily for their own benefit.

In sum, the Teaching and Learning Committee herewith calls for student comment regarding teaching as it occurs (or perhaps doesn't) at Oakland. Thoughtful reactions-specific or general-are particularly urged. These reactions may be addressed to, and will be received in confidence by, any member of the committee. At the same time it should be understood that specific criticisms or complaints directed against specific instructors or courses will now be useful to this committee. Reactions may be made either in person or in writing. In either case, cogence is encouraged.

The members of the Committee are: Melvin Chernoff (History, New College, 111 VB), LeRoy Pritchard (Student Representative, 169 HH), Edward Rice (Psychological Services, 134 NFH), Ralph Schillace (Psychology, 258 HH), Robert E. Simmons, Ch. (Modern Languages and Literatures, 418 WH), Robert Stern (Chemistry, 345 HH), William Sturmer (Provost's Office, 101 NFH).

A Closer Look at "Proposal For Change"

"A Proposal for Change at Oakland University" has become synonymous with educational reform. The group behind this working paper is zealously trying to motivate all students by first informing them of the problems of the present educational system and then trying to convince them that the People for the People proposal is a step in the right direction. Despite the efforts of People for the People, there is still a question among many students as to what they are suggesting as an alternative.

The dominant theme running through the 18 page paper is "the individual must pursue his own problems, set up his goals, and determine his own methods of learning." The student now cannot exercise a choice in determining his curriculum, but must conform to rigid departmental guidelines. In the new plan students would choose their areas. Instead of majors, a system of concentrations would be set up. Chosen by the student, a concentration could last for only a semester or as long as four years. There would be no requirements set up by departments.

Because a student chooses the classes he is interested in without any necessary approval from the departments, there would no longer be required introductory lectures. All classes would ideally be seminar classes, with upperclassmen as well

as professors teaching if a shortage of professors arose. In fact, it would be up to the students to determine which way the class would go, each determining for himself how he was going to explore the topic. Becoming familiar with methods of learning and investigation would be the major goal of freshmen year study. The professor would become a resource person to guide the student and suggest other methods of study.

With all students taking classes for the sake of learning instead of fulfilling requirements, a new evaluation system could be put into effect. The 0-4.3 gauge would be done away with and replaced with a dossier system. Professors would comment on the students intellectual and personal growth rather than facts acquired. Upon recommendation of the instructor, the student would be given credit and his dossier would be filed away. If he wasn't given credit, no comment would be made of his unsuccessful attempt, hence no punishment for trying but failing.

To make the whole thing advantageous for the student it is very important that he know just what his goals are and what courses are best for his personal situation. The counseling service, then, must be completely revamped so that students have a place to go to when ques-

tions arise about curriculum. Not only would curriculum be discussed, but any area of college experience. The person would have to be professional advisors because of the amount of time necessary to provide adequate help.

Whether or not such a system will work is, of course, the present controversy.

People for the People feel "we have the talent at Oakland to tackle any problems that may arise; our largest hurdle is ridding ourselves of outdated notions and becoming convinced that change is still possible in the rat-race world."

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Worker Student Alliance Formed

The Worker-Student Alliance is presently being formed on the Oakland University campus to improve working conditions and the nature of jobs among campus employees.

To achieve these ends, the Worker-Student Alliance is planning several films and presentation imperialism and racism. Also a rally will be held for the entire University community sometime in the future where differing views can be discussed.

The biggest problem that the group faces is the improvement of bargaining power for full-time workers. The workers now have a very weak position from which to ask for better wages or working conditions. The administration can prevent any strike by threatening to replace dissatisfied help with lower-paid and always available student workers.

The student's side of the problem is also serious. He usually gets little or nothing besides money out of his job, but he knows that he must stay with it in order to get through school. Many times he has to spend more time working than studying. Soon his job becomes an end rather than a means and he begins to look at the university only as his pathway to a better job. The school has really defeated its own purpose.

A solution offered by the WSA would be to establish a permanent work force on campus. This work force would be much more efficient and inexpensive as it would be more compact, more concerned about the work, and could save the money wasted in trying to maintain a large shifting mass of student workers. This money could be used for better wages and benefits. Also the worker would have a much better position for bargaining with the administration.

The students could then work on jobs with a more social connotation. Some suggestions are a day-care center for married students' children, a more comprehensive POEAT program, work in a nearby hospital or veterans' homes, and involvement in community growth projects. Such jobs would be easily related to education and would be learning experiences in themselves.

An important principle of the group is that problems of the students and workers are only one part of the "military industrial complex," and that they cannot be attacked as an isolated branch. Because the characteristics of the Imperialistic nature of the U.S. infiltrate all aspects of our society, any meaningful change must be directed at and effected in the entire system.

The Worker-Student Alliance is attempting this type of change in trying to better the present situation at Oakland University. Worker wages here are very low, and worker benefits inadequate. If a worker is disabled on the job, his needs are taken care of under Blue Cross, but his family get no assistance whatsoever.

Next Issue -

University budget
examined

an interview with
John Fernald

The Board and
Independence

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Open City

cont. from page 1

the neighborhood with a place to go and something to do. Featuring live entertainment on weekends, the Forest Theatre could eventually earn enough money to support Open City but it is too soon to tell. Projected plans include the setting up of a

grams, including those who can afford to pay. The volunteers want to keep the city open, but if the predominating attitude prevails, it will be impossible. Money is needed for phone bills, LSD, and rent. Representa-

it's conceivable that the thief would have escaped unnoticed.

Even the Vandenberg staff was not safe from these pre-Christmas thieves. One janitor, having just cashed his check for two weeks work was robbed of over \$60. A sign was put in the elevators the following day in an effort to recover part of the loss, but the thief or thieves were unsympathetic.

Likewise, the ninth floor Hamlin north was robbed of a number of baskets that were intended for poor families in this area. Hungry burglars made off with canned fruits and vegetables, boxes of cereal, oatmeal, and other items with an equally low re-sale value. No major thefts were reported in the rest of that dorm.

Basically, there is nothing unusual in the robberies themselves. Everyone is aware that there is a certain

Budget Request

cont. from page 1

in detail around mid June or sometimes as late as mid July. The final operating budget comes about quickly after that as plans have been made beforehand. Finally, students must be notified if there is to be a raise in tuition or other fees.

The Chancellor, if he feels the University has been unfairly treated, can fight for an increase as Former Chancellor Varner did two years ago in 1968. This is not always the case however, as last year the difference in the budget was over \$40,000.

tives are willing to come to speak to groups concerning the financial problems.

Money donated to them would be an investment for some future time when you may need their help. The people at Open City are giving their time to help Detroit. Now it is Detroit's turn to help Open City.



(photo by Dick Keller)

non-profit organization to distribute all earnings from the coffeehouse where they are needed. The list of Open City programs continues but it is already obvious that their commitment is total.

People are gratefully using these services, but unfortunately abusing them too. As stated, only a small segment of metropolitan Detroit has supported this project, while many use the free pro-

Thefts From Dorms Mount

cont. from page 1

danger during the periods when there are only a small number of people left in the dorms. But there are a number of other important factors to be considered in regard to the Vandenberg thefts.

According to Debby Whipp and Debbi Hoffman, who live in 419 Vandenberg and claimed the \$700 loss, their room was not entered solely for the resale value of the items stolen. The amount of vandalism involved indicates that the thief of thieves had a good estimate of how much time they dared spend in the room. Every drawer was pulled out and emptied on the floor. The clothes closets were stripped and clothes thrown around the room. The bolsters were emptied onto the beds. The desks were ransacked and books were scattered about the room. Curiously enough, the other room of the suite was also entered and various articles moved around, but only a radio was taken. Left untouched were a stereo, television, and many other items of value.

It has been hinted that someone on campus has illegal possession of a master or sub-master key and gained entry in this manner. This theory was partially confirmed when, several days after the locks had been changed on 419 VB, someone slipped a key into the lock at 1:00 A.M., unlocked the door, re-locked it and escaped on the waiting elevator. None of the official campus keys have been reported missing.

An added element, which seems to become more important as the weeks go along, is that of the strange calls that preceded the 419 robbery and many of the others on fourth floor--Charter College. On Thursday,

December 18, Debby Whipp received a number of anonymous calls, during which the only sound from the receiver was a heavy, rasping breathing. She received more the following morning, and her room was entered that afternoon. In addition, the caller assumed that she was leaving for home Saturday and dialed her there twice. Miss Whipp lives in the Upper Peninsula.

The new semester began in much the same way as the old one ended. Several days after Registration, Barb Jacobs, 420 Vandenberg, reported that her room was entered and \$50 stolen. She had received several of the calls prior to the robbery. These calls spread to other rooms of fourth floor, but the thefts reached a temporary standstill. One room received the calls at 10:30 A.M. and P.M. while other received them every five or ten minutes at odd hours. Apparently, no other floors were involved.

To step up security, a guard was stationed in front of the fourth floor elevator during the hours that all Charter freshmen are in class. Anyone on the floor who could not prove where he was going and that he was expected there was asked to leave.

The girls themselves agreed to act as security guards by strictly enforcing the 12-hour escort policy. Any suspicious person on the floor is reported to the Resident Assistant, and she relays the information to Dick Conway, Hall Coordinator for Vandenberg.

Most of the other dorms have also stepped up security in an effort to reduce the theft rate. Residents have been advised to lock their doors before leaving the room and to keep them locked at night. A cooperative effort should make the dorms more secure for everyone.

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an interview with . . .

Thomas Plunkett

FOCUS: Mr. Plunkett, what are your duties as County Prosecutor?

PLUNKETT: My duties are primarily twofold--to prosecute those whom we can prove are guilty of crimes, and to protect everybody else from being accused.

FOCUS: What do you see as your role in relation to Oakland University?

PLUNKETT: Our role has always been a very clear one to me, and that is that when requested by the university community to perform any of our Constitutional duties, we do so. I respect the relative autonomy of the university community and think that many matters which may technically constitute violations of State law can best be handled through the disciplinary procedures of the university, and are handled very well that way.

So we wait to be called by the university community and we've always found their judgment to be sound.

FOCUS: What was your role in the abortion ring bust that occurred recently?

PLUNKETT: The Southfield Police Department was contacted by the Northland Inn. The people at the Northland Inn were disturbed at finding some rooms which had been blood-spattered on several occasions, and assumed that something "goofy" was going on--perhaps illegal. The police began an investigation to determine what was causing this, and in the course of the investigation, contacted a woman who had had an abortion in the Northland Inn, performed by Dr. Ketcham, (who was later charged). She was referred there by a clergyman in Chicago.

As is typical in any sensitive personal area, we tried to relieve the personal anxiety of the victims of crime in any way we can. In an abortion investigation when we normally do--what the police typically do, is attempt to avoid the necessity of relying totally on the lady who has had the abortion because it is such a sensitive and personal matter for her. And the testimony is embarrassing. The method is to send a female police officer through the same route followed by someone receiving an abortion. Then use that as the basis for the prosecution--not as a matter of entrapping people, because they've already done this. It's a matter of trying to recognize the sensitivities involved in the victim's situation. That's what was done here, and there was a case.

Our role in that was that we were informed very early that the investigation was occurring--that some sort of abortion practice was being conducted, apparently, in this hotel and in others. We gave advice about the legalities of the method of operation to be conducted in the investigation and then represented, in typical fashion. The case was there, in our judgements, and we issued warrants.

FOCUS: Do you personally agree with the laws governing abortion?

PLUNKETT: No. Let me make this clear, however. That does not change my duties to prosecute the laws that exist. There are many criminal statutes. There are 4,000 of them in the State of Michigan. I constantly agree with the laws governing abortion?

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(photo by Steve Schaffer)

tempt to get laws changed that I think are bad. I think that the abortion law that exists at the moment is wrong, socially injurious, and I think it should be repealed. I do not pretend to be an expert in the medical areas, in the moral questions that arise, nor in the social consequences that result in one sort of abortion law or another, or the complete lack of any abortion law. I think that some study should be given on some limitations on the availability of abortions. One limitation that I find absolutely essential, just out of a sense of total human reaction that I have in response to the concept of human abortion--I think there should be a cut-off point during the period of gestation, when it is no longer proper and valid legally to have an abortion. I start backwards from the point that I find it unconscionable to consider the possibility of aborting an 8-month pregnancy. Where you draw the line I think needs the attention of some experts. I don't think, as a matter of fact, that there are very many women around who would be so crass as to permit an abortion beyond a certain point.

But I think we have to recognize legally a point when the unborn becomes a person, and at that point do not permit it to be cut off from existence.

FOCUS: What are your views on drugs and drug violations?

PLUNKETT: Drug violations must be viewed in context. The two important points of context that must be considered about drug use in our society today are that the drug abuse instances among youth are probably less frequent than the abuse among adults. The adult abuse is accomplished through the legal process of a prescription, typically where a doctor wants to get a patient off his back and that's the easiest way. I think the people who are involved in that sort of process, the physicians and

the patients, should recognize the hypocrisy of their involvement in drug abuse programs aimed at wiping it out among youth while continuing their own drug abuse. That's where we create generation gaps. The second context that must be considered, is that drugs are just a symptom of something. What, I don't know. Drug abuse, in my judgement, is not beneficial. I think it is potentially harmful. I see the potential for great destruction of our biggest and most important resource, and that's talent, human energy.

of kids being rebellious--that's stupid. Our society is responsible for all of us, and if we produce the kind of thought pattern or habits that would bring millions of people into drug abuse, then we had better figure out what's wrong with our society that produces this. That's where the problem is, so talking about whether marijuana is harmful or not or whether it's less harmful than speed is irrelevant.

FOCUS: What, if anything, do you find wrong with the present law enforcement methods which are in operation?

PLUNKETT: What I find wrong in law enforcement today is that people are not concerned enough about it to do meaningful things. Unless we can address ourselves to the reasons why our country has so many cities where people will not walk at night, and other nations don't have that problem in that intensity. . . Hiring 1,000 or 5,000 more police officers will not solve that problem. We have to find out why. There are great studies already done that are being ignored successfully as held by the whole country. To my limited knowledge nobody is really implementing the President's Crime Commission Report. There is a stack of seven task force reports that I haven't read, so how could they be implemented in Oakland County? We don't need any more studies, we need interest in the problem.

FOCUS: Do you consider marijuana and hashish in this realm of drugs you are speaking of?

PLUNKETT: Oh yes. If we get hung up on the drugs themselves, we're missing the point. The point is that they're harmful. If we accept that premise, that they're potentially harmful, then we have to ask ourselves why so many people in our society wish to expose themselves to the risks involved. Answering that question is addressing the problem. It's a social problem, and it is not a problem with a bunch. The lack of interest results in lack of public support. For all the hue and cry, what the public really wants to support and real quickly, is a stop and frisk law or a police officer as mayor these are symbols.

Oakland County Prosecutor

The public thinks that by electing a police officer as mayor or that by enacting a stop and frisk law, that crime is going to go away. Those things will have not one small bit to do with getting rid of crime. We need a serious interest now expressed in the abortion law. We're going to settle this question because people are interested. We're not going to settle law enforcement until they are interested.

FOCUS: How do you change that?

PLUNKETT: Hopefully by an excellent public relations campaign. That's the only way that I know of that you can do it. That's the folly. We need public support. We can not get anything done in a public sector without public support.

Legislators count votes, and generally they want to do what they think the people want them to do because they like their jobs. Not all, and not every time, but in general that works. They weigh the mail on a scale that says four pounds in this direction and three pounds in that--I go for the four-pound issue. It's the only way I know that we can do it--a good public relations campaign.

FOCUS: When you were elected in 1968, you were regarded as a liberal who won in a pretty conservative district. Would you still consider yourself a liberal to the left of much of the politics in Oakland County?

PLUNKETT: I think we do ourselves a disservice to label each other. I think my making statements in answer to a question like that is a very shallow response. I think you have to watch what I do and make a judgement as to what I am. I am willing to discuss with you my attitudes and my policies, by I am not willing to label myself as anything.

FOCUS: Since you took office, what do you regard as the most significant changes that you've made?

PLUNKETT: You have to recognize that before I took over I was the Chief Assistant Prosecutor, and the Chief Assistant Prosecutor has a lot to say about how an office operates. One of the interesting things that we're doing is attempting to get more black lawyers. We're doing this with an active recruitment campaign, which we've never done before, and which no other prosecuting attorney that I know of has ever done. It's a formal recruitment program where we've been to the University of Michigan Law School and to Wayne State University Law School and spoken to the black student alliances. We are working out a program to bring in interns, who are black law students, during the summers so that they can become oriented to our of-

fice and the system so as hopefully to attract them as lawyers when they graduate. One of the problems that they can contribute by being an Assistant Prosecutor. We can tell them when we're recruiting that Prosecuting Attorneys in the county. We're offering them the opportunity to have the authority to make sure that justice is done. We're associating John Spreen with our office. Commissioner Spreen is going to attempt to be a liaison with police departments for us to help them and help us communicate better with each other. He's going to attempt to relate law enforcement in Oakland County to the public, and especially the young public. My impression of Commissioner Spreen is that he represents law enforcement with a smile. He spoke at Lahser High School some time ago and got a thunderous ovation. He has a reputation for riding little black kids on his scooter. This is the kind of image that law enforcement should have and must have if it is going to be effective. But we have to have public support.

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arts & media

"Z": Very Much Alive

Film-makers use their art as a professional and personal statement but rarely has any director stated his case so explicitly as Greek director Costa-Gavras does in *Z*. This new film, with a slashing title that matches its contents, is a thinly veiled account of the Greek assassination and military coup of 1964. It's a straightforward film and Costa-Gavras simplifies the complicated political situation without distorting it. Rightists are pitted against leftists as the story moves along at a clip that carries the viewer along with and into the action. The movement of the film is the drawing-up of a noose--followed by the abrupt drop of a body.

The military power faces opposition from a liberal, anti-foreign influence group led by an almost-saintly JFK-type named Lambakis (Yves Montand). An election-time upset is unthinkable, so riots and threats begin to appear with increasing frequency. The police are consulted but refuse to act and the threats become reality. For the sake of appearances, there's an official "Investigator" (Jean Louis Tritignant) assigned to track down the murderer. This "one-man-grand-jury" carefully gathers evidence pointing toward the incumbent officials as we hopefully watch witnesses add the testimony which tightens the noose. Then the "drop" accurately and inevitably disillusion any politically idealistic viewers.

Because of the rapid editing and ever-mounting pace of the film it fully deserves the New York Times accolade of a superb "suspense thriller." Yet Costa-Gavras has also filmed a relevant commentary on today's political scene. Throughout there are parallels with the

recent U.S. rash of political murders: it makes you wonder if Oswald, Sirhan, and Ray were simply disturbed individuals with personal vendettas. Is it really so unthinkable that American politicians would include murder and "merceneries" as tools in their repertoire? The associations are unmistakable: the brave widow Irene Papas (and Jackie Onassis (maybe Mrs. Lanbrakis will marry John Paul Getty?); the frame-by-frame treatment of the third account of the assassination and later newsreels of Dallas; the left versus right wing riots and corrupt police with Chicago's own 1968 debacle.

The film's whole impact is reminiscent of *On the Waterfront*. Both specifically delineate a timely problem of actual corruption, but are also part of the timeless conflict of ideals versus power.

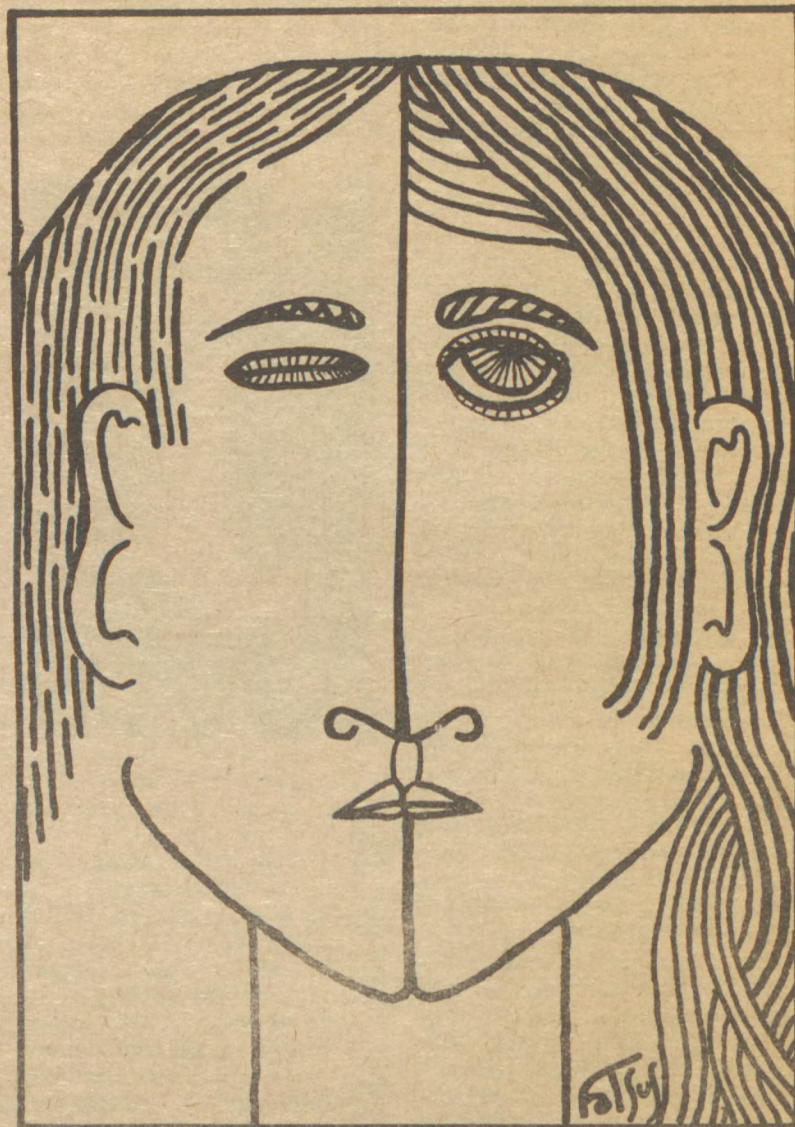
Besides being thought-provoking and pertinent, *Z* is an enjoyable, fast-moving flic that will please an audience of "movie-goers and cinemaphiles." In a film like this, the overall effect comes before the individual actors, so there are no "star" roles, but a uniformly convincing cast. Even so, Irene Papas lends her special power to the widow's role. Her eloquent silence con-

trasts with the multitudes of words of witnesses, politicians, and investigators. Looking like an Olympian

goddess, Papas does not need many lines to come across. Her scenes, along with all the other threads of the story, are spliced together in a rapid-fire fashion, switching from right to left to witness to widow without any loss of coherence. Good color and exciting photography don't hurt Costa-Gavras case either. And anyone who liked the scores from "Zorba" and "Never on Sunday" will appreciate the strains of bazouki, the haunting Greek mandolin, which serve as a background.

The music of *Z* is one of many hints at Greece throughout the film. At no time is there a direct statement made, but we are informed from the start that any resemblance to reality we detect is intentional. And the list of verboten's after the liberals' defeat is pointed: Aristophanes, Aeschylus, among other blatantly Greek items. Yet despite the pessimistic (or is it realistic?) ending, there's a final upbeat as we're told the last item on the list: "The letter Z, the Greek symbol for 'He is still alive.'"

by A. Sinila



MAN AND WOMAN

Two Poems

by David Bass

THE VIRGIN SUN CONGRESS (unfinished)

Seasonal ripening,
Comes the woman; the dunes
have shifted in
accordance
To her presence; her pleasure.

This sunsceptor awaits
The burning tide
of the flow;
The time has come when
the moon
takes
The heat.
The sun it burns
Within the blazing cold.

Each mountain dangles
helplessly, each
between her breasts.

Parting lips
The earth quivers

JUNKIE'S DIVORCE

Needle dawns
Rising vein
Red Ripe
gone for the blood; cut off
from the source

each morning dew a
registered plea to the sun
(hated sun)
each red cell the messenger
of this ever-pleasant death

What's
a
Focus?



WHAT'S GREEN?

readily
available...
Makes you
look and feel
your best

THE
VILLAGE
GREEN
of course

Put that in
your pipe
and smoke it.

210
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of the Month

"NUTS TO YOU"
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Fudge Brownies



Joseph K. being put to rest in "The Castle"

Kafka at Meadowbrook

by T. Jurens

"Every creative writer worth our consideration, every writer who can be called in the wide use of the term a poet, is a victim: a man given over to an obsession."

Graham Greene's statement regarding the plight of the writer is amply illustrated by the life and writing of Franz Kafka. Kafka's obsession was a guilt complex. Awed by his father, he searched for his parent's approval in every action, but his feelings of inadequacy left him frustrated and guilty. His book "The Castle" reflects this feeling of inadequacy through the continual searching of Joseph K., the main character. K. groups for recognition from the officials at the castle and for acceptance from the villagers, but is continually rebuffed, opposed, and left unable to cope with the situation. Max Brod's dramatization of "The Castle," now on stage at Meadowbrook Theatre, effectively conveys K.'s sense of helplessness. With emphasis on the word stranger, the audience learns that K. is not to be accepted in this dream-like duchy, that all his efforts are for naught. Kafka's pessimistic view of life echoes throughout the play, perhaps nowhere as plainly as in K.'s dream of the gatekeeper. A man trying to find The Law is prevented from passing through an important entry by a gatekeeper, who tells the man it is possible to wait for a more opportune time. The man waits for the rest of his life, and even more useful to K. But K., by this time so discouraged and exhausted he can barely stay awake, does not as he lies dying asks the gatekeeper why no one else ever came to the gate. The keeper replies that the gateway is only for him, and that it is now time to close it. This dream sums up the

theme of the play, that try as he will, man has no way of rising above mundane facts of life to something better. Yet Kafka added the final ironic touch by giving K. one chance to succeed. In trying to find an examination which hopes will be beneficial to himself, K. stumbles instead into the room of Buergel, a castle official who could have been have the energy to listen to Buergel, who indirectly offers his help. Having finally fallen asleep, K.'s one chance slips away from him. Kafka seems to think that man cannot realize even his opportunities for success, leaving him in a situation of hopeless impotence.

Everything in Milo Sperber's production reinforces the atmosphere of the play. K.'s ultimate goal, the castle, dominates the set, towering in the background. It is further emphasized at every change of scene when all lights dim except those illuminating the fortress. The music is strange, with no obvious sense of direction, mirroring the personalities of many of the villagers. Most important, the acting is excellent. In Richard Curnock as K., one could watch the deterioration from his general attitude of optimism in the first scene to exhausted hopelessness at the end. The tension seems almost to age him physically. K.'s two assistants Arthur and Jeremiah, played by James Sutorius and Jeremy Rowe, were well-matched, displaying good sense of timing in their duplicate movements. Providing the only light moments in the play, the pair were a welcome relief from the strain. Mikel Lambert as Frieda was believable but her transition from one emotion to another was at times too abrupt. The Provost (William Needles) and his prim wife Mitzi (Dorothy Mallam) both added to the produc-

tion through their somewhat irrational speech and actions. All of the actors, down to the peasants at the inn, helped support the performance.

The Meadowbrook production of "The Castle" is the first English language version to be performed in this country. Performed by the John Fernald Company under the direction of Milo Sperber, it is now playing at Meadowbrook Theatre, and will continue through the first week of March.

arts & media

Golly! A Gallery!

by C. Hoisington

There's a private showing of primitive art located in 208 Wilson Hall. Right now, it's a private showing because Tim Gilbert seems to be the only one in 208 Wilson. And that's unfortunate. He's starting to talk to himself. So far, none of the art objects have responded, but to keep Tim sane, why not stop by and check out the exhibit yourself?

The University Art Gallery is exhibiting its own collection of primitive art from Africa and Melanesia. Most of the African pieces were donated to Oakland by Governor G. Mennen Williams. Many of the African pieces are ritualistic, such as masks and ceremonial implements. The Melanesian objects are more detailed and more representative of tribal life. An extremely graceful work is a Melanesian antelope head constructed from wood and metal. Its design is surprising in comparison to the curder human sculptures.

Somewhere in the back of the gallery its curator, Mr. Usui, is storing other University treasures. Before they come out of the dark, however, Oakland students will have a chance to exhibit their own works. There will be a student exhibit in March. If you'd like to submit anything give Mr. Usui a call at extnesion 2350.

Meanwhile, back at 208 Wilson, Tim Gilbert is getting lonelier and lonelier. Stop by the University Art Gallery between 1 and 4:30 Tuesday through Saturday.



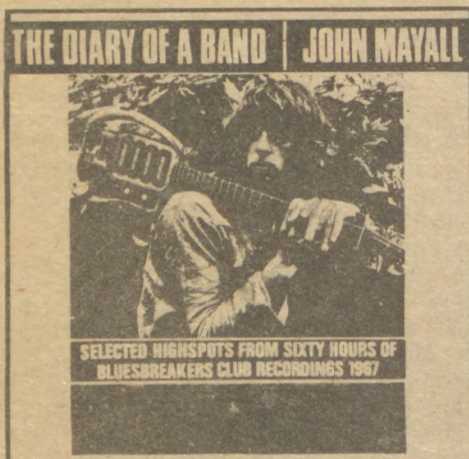
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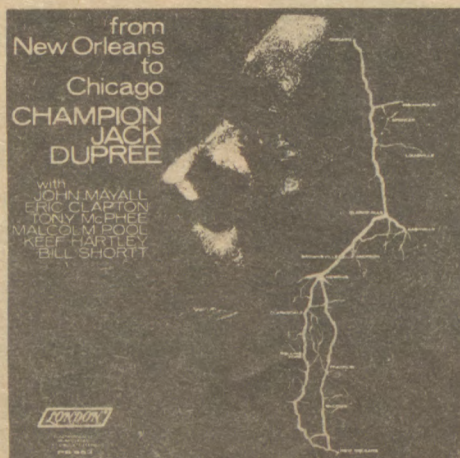
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