



The Observer



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Oakland University, Rochester, Michigan

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Black Center Opens in Pontiac



Alfred Munson Heads New Center

Ruth Louisell

Pontiac's black citizens will have their own community center by the first week in August. The center is located at the corner of South Sanford and East Wilson streets in what was formerly the headquarters of dope and prostitution rings in Pontiac. The new center has been built entirely by volunteer labor except for a small paid staff under the direction of the center's spokesman, Mr. Alfred Munson. Nearly all the materials used in the renovation of the building were donated by area merchants. Private citizens have also made contributions.

Just three months ago the center was a dilapidated drug store; today it is a modern building, complete with mansard roof, alternating glass and brick front, and countless new

facilities within. Chancellor Varner of Oakland University has made funds available to the black community for the project in order to make the university more relevant to its citizens. Mr. Henry Rosemont of the Philosophy Department represents O U in the program.

The University will also donate books and supplies to the center for use in their educational programs. Classes will be offered in Swahili and other African languages, African art, drama, literature, photography, composition, typing, and other technical skills. IBM training will also be available.

Twenty-three O U professors have already volunteered to teach courses equivalent to freshman exploratories to high school drop-outs. Successful completion of three of these courses, plus a GED test (high school equivalency test), will give them a high school diploma and credits towards a degree at O U. In addition to these

opportunities, the center will be open 18 hours a day, seven days a week, for whatever functions the community may desire to have. Mr. Munson has stressed that the center is designed to encompass all aspects of life in the black community. Members of other communities have volunteered their services but, said Mr. Munson, "We will seek our own leaders first."

One of the most interesting aspects of the center is the Wall of Respect or Dignity which will display scenery pertinent to the black community. The wall will also have a large mirror in which members of the community may view themselves on the wall along with such leaders as Malcolm X, Martin Luther King, Jr., Rap Brown, and Stokely Carmichael.

The center is symbolic in its location and practical in its purpose. It will offer programs pertinent to the black citizens of Pontiac, something they feel other community centers have failed to do.

Beer Lake Poorly Planned

Bob Simmer

In mid-June, the Oakland County Department of Health stated that Beer Lake was "unsuitable as a public bathing beach." The reasons given were that it was unsafe for swimming due to the turbidity of the water and unsanitary because of possible pollution from a county drain and the effluents from the heating system of Wilson Hall. The administration immediately sent out the notice that the lake was closed to swimming. A preliminary study by two O U students gives additional information that bacteria of the family Enterobacteriaceae are inhabiting the waters of Beer Lake. Members of this family can cause serious intestinal disorders, such as typhoid and diarrhea.

Dr. William Forbes of the Biology Department, after being questioned about the Beer Lake situation, stated, "The 'lake' could and should have been planned with the possibility of pollution considered. This apparently was not done. It

appears now that pollution should be expected because of the drainage pattern: source, inlets, outlets, etc. This seems to be the result of lack of foresight." Mr. Herbert Stoutenberg, assistant to the Chancellor, stated that previously the lake was a ravine (much like the one which is northwest of the lake), and when someone suggested that the ravine could be transformed into a lake, the idea was almost accepted immediately.

Dr. Forbes also stated, "A polluted lake is a potential hazard to any person in the vicinity. The university should fence off the lake several feet back from the water's edge; even this would not reduce the danger to zero." Mr. Stoutenberg commented that, if the lake was to be fenced off, it would probably be with a six foot high cyclone fence. This, however, would ruin the aesthetic beauty of the lake, and was ruled as out of the question.

(Continued on Page Six)

OU Budget Finalized

Because the state legislature signed the Michigan Higher Education bill allowing insufficient funds for the colleges, the MSU Board of Trustees has raised tuition for the third consecutive year. The latest increase will force state resident, undergraduate tuition up a minimum of \$15 a semester and a maximum of \$45, based on the sliding scale tuition plan. The minimum raise of \$15 will apply to students whose family income level does not exceed \$12,300; maximum tuition increase will be for those students whose family income is \$18,400 or over.

Accompanying the tuition increase will be an increase of \$22.50 a semester for campus housing and food.

The tuition changes, based on the "sliding scale" of ability to pay, will be as follows:

	Present	Proposed
Resident Undergrad.	\$177-250	\$192-295
Resident Grad.	\$215-265	\$230-310
Non-Resident Undergrad.	\$600	\$645
Non-Resident Grad.	\$615	\$660

The increase in tuition was due to the decreased per-student appropriation allotted by the legislature. The final appropriation passed by the state was \$7,448,749 or \$1.2 million short of the appropriation the university requested. The per-student appropriation for Oakland was cut by about \$45 from last year. The average per-student appropriation for the state rose approximately \$62.

The final appropriation for Oakland came only after months of work. A \$65 per-student decrease had been proposed.

Student Fees Allocated

ROCHESTER, Mich., July 12

-- Eight paved tennis courts will be added to sports and recreation facilities at Oakland University this summer.

A contract for the work was awarded to Nagle Paving Co. of Oak Park on its bid of \$34,950, the lowest of three submitted. The entire project cost of \$39,700 (covering fencing as well as paving) will be financed through student fee allocations.

The tennis courts will be constructed in the new athletic

and recreation fields that were cleared and graded during the past year.

Hollie Lepley, director of athletics and physical education, said the new courts will serve the increasing demands of the University's growing enrollment and will also permit the University to host tournaments involving the general public.

The work is scheduled to get under way immediately and is expected to be completed by fall.



The Beginning of a Big Mistake

"Racism, Law, and the Garrison State"

On Thursday, July 11, Milton Henry, Pontiac Attorney and first Vice-President of the Republic of New Africa (recently formed in Detroit), spoke at Oakland to Mr. George Rawick's sociology class on "Racism, Law, and the Garrison State". The following are excerpts from Mr. Henry's speech:

"I speak today, as always now I must, as First Vice President of the separatist Republic of New Africa, whose President Robert F. Williams, is presently in forced exile in China; whose minister of Defense, H. Rap Brown, is now under Federal Conviction, and all of whose citizens are non-self governing peoples, within the Continental limits of the United States.

Together with the other officers and citizens of the Nation, including Charles P. Howard, the renowned columnist for Muhammad's Speaks newspaper, who serves as our minister of Foreign Affairs; Betty Shabazz, the widow of Malcolm X, who serves as our second Vice President; Atty. Joan Franklin, of the National NAACP legal staff, who serves as our minister of Justice; my brother Imari, author of the Book "War in America," who serves as our minister of culture, we struggle to free ourselves from the oppression of the government of the United States and to give form, life, and structure to a government of our own creation.

How this struggle must affect the continued existence of the United States is the subject of this talk...

That the United States is presently in danger of subverting every decent tendency toward democracy and a syncretic society is patently clear to even the most casual observer of the American scene. What is not so apparent is that the central underlying question in our national dilemma is the same question which has forever challenged and shook this nation. Namely: whether black men should be entitled, as a matter of law, to manumission from their condition of slavery, with all the freedom such manumission necessarily implies; or whether American law, and other American institutions should operate to ensure the continued enslavement of black people within the continental limits of the United States.

To say that the United States now faces a civil war is to misunderstand the nature of the arguments being advanced by black separatists in the United States today. Civil wars can only exist between citizens and brothers of a particular nation. They are fratricidal in nature.

Black separatists say that they are not now, nor have they ever been citizens of these United States; and thus, civil war between blacks and whites in the United States is a misnomer - and an impossibility.

Black Nationalists claim that there are in this land two distinct nations, one white - one black - and that because of this fact - any solution of the "race problem" here which proceeds upon any contrary theoretical basis is doomed to failure...

CONTRADICTION OF GOALS

At no point in the history and experience of both peoples have the goals of the two coincided.

The white enslaver's freedom to ply the slave trade, and to bring his cargo to America, was the end of my freedom to possess and enjoy the land of my forefathers. His freedom to transport me was at the same time my greatest moment of subjugation and despoilation. His acquisition of capital as a result of my sale as property was the termination of my right to sit under my fig tree

and enjoy long the fruit of my hands. His joy was my despair. His freedom meant my enslavement. His elevation meant my degradation.

The truth of this principle has been so deeply carried into the experience of the black man in America that the claim so glibly advanced that he is now, or has been, a citizen of this country becomes sheer folly...

RECIPROCITY

Citizenship has always involved the idea of reciprocal obligation and benefit. A government must bestow and guarantee certain ascertainable benefits to the "citizen" in exchange for his fidelity, loyalty, and obedience.

The duty of paying taxes, or submitting to a military draft, or of obeying laws, can morally only be suggested when the government to which such fealty and allegiance is pledged, and given, reciprocates by affirmatively extending its full protection over the lives, and the incidents of life, of the persons submitting themselves to its authority.

Only under such circumstances can citizenship be said to exist... Needless to say black people have never enjoyed any such protection over their rights, either in or out of this country...

REPARATION

The law of Nations provides that, on manumission, the former slaveholder, loses all control over the former slave. If he loses control over the slave he loses the right to dictate anything further regarding his life; and hand in hand with that surrender of legal right, goes the duty to do justice and make reparation for the wrong theretofore done.

...a government which would impose duties upon persons subject to its jurisdiction, without assuring, by its law and the enforcement of its laws, the protection of the lives, the incidents of life, the personality, and the property of those required to live under it, must become to those persons a tyranny to be overthrown at all costs.

The years following the passage of the Fourteenth Amendment have seen the continual unabated violation of the rights of the black man. He has not been protected by the government which said he was a citizen... the result is evidenced by the intolerable social and economic conditions under which black men, North & South, live in America today.

The causes of these awful conditions are more than anything else, rooted in the psychological attitudes on the part of whites, which have persisted from the time of our enslavement. Those attitudes involve first, a belief in white superiority, and second, a commitment to white domination of the human race, the world, and all the world's goods.

THE MYTH OF NEGRO INCLUSION

This dismal picture of life for the disinherited black American belies the fact that since 1866 the "Negro" has nurtured a dream of inclusion into the American main stream. His organizations have tirelessly fought, year after year against lynching.

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POLICE

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(CONTINUED FROM PAGE TWO)

They have fought against discrimination in the Armed Forces. They have fought for the right to vote; for equal political representation; and for the right of equal accommodation in places of public resort; and for first one right after another which "citizens" of any nation enjoy as a necessary incident of their citizenship.

And yet, while fighting for inclusion within the system, and waiting patiently to enjoy the benefits of citizenship, black people have always stressed prompt acceptance of the burdens of citizenship. Give your life for your country - Pay your taxes - be a good citizen - Obey all the laws - Love your enemy - and Prove yourself worthy to be accepted by white America.

But, in recent years, in spite of the call of 'responsible' civil rights leaders for moderation, patience, and understanding, and good will, other more loud, insistent, and militant voices are being heard across the land. Cries of "Freedom Now" and "Black Power" have become commonplace in the black ghettos.

A NEW SOCIETY

... We want to make a new and better society in a new and better world. We do not want to become part of the violence, corruption, inhumanity, and cruelty which white America represents. — We see no reason to struggle any longer to be part of that system — to contribute to it — in a partnership of black and white: What we want to do now is separate from America — to leave it — and set up our own separate nation.

We want land — reparations — and the opportunity to go for self. And this is certainly a legitimate demand. . .

THE COST OF THE NEW REPUBLIC

What then will it cost to follow any other course? Today a quarter billion dollars annually is being paid in New York for welfare alone, with no possibility of return for either black or white. Duplicate these welfare costs in 20 states. The expense is staggering to contemplate — and interminable. There is no way to reduce these costs by presently accepted methods. Civil Rights talk of a guaranteed annual wage, or a negative income tax. Is this enough for black people? Is it good enough just to eat and be fed? We say no — for slaves ate and were clothed in some manner.

Yet how much will all these welfare-civil rights approaches cost the United States, with absolutely no possibility for resolution of its problems?

On the other hand, would it make sense for city after city to go up in flames, or for blacks to engage whites in a costly extended guerilla conflict, until justice within the system is assured or the system destroyed? Or would it make more sense for America to entrust its safety and prosperity to the restrictive confines of the Garrison State. Or would anyone think it appropriate for America to surrender its syncretic myths and Christian democratic ideals to those of the Nazi theoreticians of World War II, which gave birth to Treblinka, Dachau, and Buchenwald.

Apart from the impossibility of such a course, the blacks being unwilling to aid in their systematic extermination, the following of such a course would render impossible the peaceful transition of the United States into harmonious relationships with the black, brown, and yellow Nations of the third world; and this would spell the ultimate ruin of America.

... our solution will, in the long run, prove the most economical, realistic, beneficial, and peaceful, for all parties.

And we will work with determination for our independence from the United States, the more encouraged each day in the ultimate success of our undertaking, by an increasing black understanding of the fact that Land is essential for freedom, Justice, and independence.

We swear that we seek only a new and better society in a new and better world, and that we will not betray this trust — not through treachery, cowardice, or laziness — To our black brothers, and the black nation, on our lives, this we swear.

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—Harvey Taylor,
Detroit American

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Strong Urges Campus Peace Treaty

Karen Walkowitz

Mr. Tom Strong, head of Oakland University's Public Safety Department was asked this past week to evaluate his departments success, failures, and functions in relationship to the University community.

He stated that one of the departments chief functions is fire protection. Mr. Strong pointed out however, that because of a lack of budget allocations they have not been able to purchase any fire fighting equipment. What the department is really able to do at this point is to make inspections of the buildings and point out the fire hazards. Hopefully they will be able to purchase some fire fighting equipment next year so that the department will at least be able to competently handle the initial contact with the fire. Because of the image that police project, and because of the lack of equipment Strong feels that it is unfortunate that "fire protection hasn't become as important as we would like it to be."

Community relations with students seems to be the major problem with the Public Safety Department -- there are none. Strong feels that the Department "must be acceptable to everyone and it must also be an integral part of the University," he suggested the need for some kind of seminar with the campus cops and the students where some feelings could be aired out. He felt that "police departments throughout the country must change and be restructured. There must be some educative process going on for the men in the department as well as for the students in order for community relations to improve."

In discussing police tactics in the recent student revolts, specifically at Colombia, he felt that the police were a little arbitrary. "I don't see the need to enter with sticks flailing." He did feel that it was unfortunate that the real problems of the universities usually end up being focused on the actions of the police rather than on the real issues which triggered the revolt of students.

In a discussion of the possibility of disarming the cops, Strong's main emphasis was that the cops are not here to police the students but to protect them. The problem is not the gun but the man

shooting it. He also pointed out that of the approximately 400 offenses made since January 1968, only about 50 of them were students. "Unfortunately there are not only University people on campus and that's where the problem exists". The men in the department must be prepared to handle any problem at any time.

The pay scale for Oakland's men is below the average pay for the police departments in this area and it does have an effect on the type men attracted and the length of time they stay. **The following is a list of the men working for the Department and their previous job training:**

1. Daniel Aldrich - Police officer 4 years (3 different jobs) and has taken courses at OCC in law enforcement. He has been here since October 30, 1967.
2. William Allen - U.S. Air Force for 9 years prior to Oakland, in law enforcement. He has been here since October 16, 1967.
3. Jack Cabert - graduating from E.M.U. was in law enforcement branch of military service. He has been here since November 19, 1967. He is leaving in September 1968.
4. John Davis - graduated from M.S.U. in police administration. He was an officer for the Metropolitan Park Commission, and involved with plant protection at Pontiac Motors. He has taken an in-Service refresher course for police officers at OCC. He has been here since April 1967.
5. Harold Dawson - U.S. Army Military Police. No prior police training. He has been here since February 1968.
6. Albert Klug - Keego Harbor Police Department for two years. He has been here since September 5, 1967.
7. Robert Richert - Police Cadet with Pontiac Police for 1 year. no other training. Here since August 9, 1967.
8. Dean Rowe - In-Service training school at O.C.C. completed this year. Auxiliary police prior to O.U.. He has been here since April 1, 1967.
9. Gary Schroeder - Presently in O.C.C. for associate degree in law enforcement.

War Against Bugs

WASHINGTON, D.C. (LNS) -- The Army will spend a major portion of this year's research and development construction funds on completion of huge biological warfare research lab now being built at Fort Detrick, Md.

Congress appropriated \$6.4 million for the project. It is the Army's largest individual research and development construction project this year.

Fort Detrick is the Army's chief biological warfare facility.

The huge new complex of buildings of which the new lab is part, cost over \$15 million and will increase output at Detrick. The project was authorized in 1965. The fort will now be able to increase the number of permanently assigned human guinea pigs to 225.

Congressional debate disclosed that the new buildings, under the command of the Fort Detrick Surgeon General, will be devoted to research and development of "medical defense against biological weapons."

During congressional hearings Army spokesmen have often alluded to the dangers from possible biological warfare attack in order to scare-up the necessary money for their deadly, secret projects. Not once have they been required to present solid evidence that such dangers exist in actuality.

There is much evidence that in the frightening world of biological warfare there is no difference between research on defensive and offensive measures.



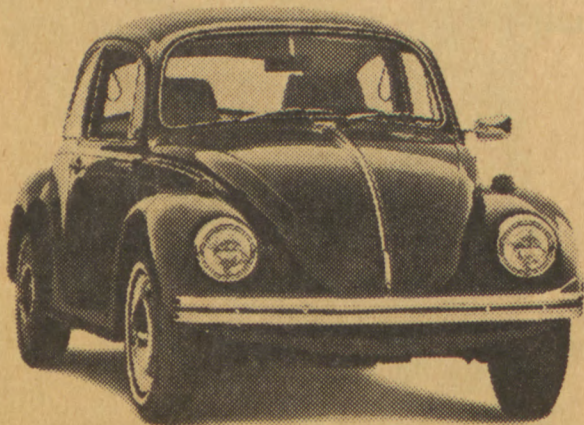
Drivers Needed For The Blind

For most people, transportation is as quick and available as the car in their own garage. But for the blind, ill or handicapped individual, even the necessity of keeping doctor appointments and treatment sessions becomes a real problem.

The Oakland County Volunteer Bureau is actively urging all adult men and women and retirees, with any free time and a car, to volunteer as drivers for patients needing their services. All over Oakland County there are children, adults and elderly persons who desperately need rides to hospitals, clinics and counselling agencies.

This is a rewarding opportunity for the volunteer in terms of community service and personal satisfaction. Interested people should call the Oakland County Volunteer Bureau at 642-7272, a division of United Community Services of Metropolitan Detroit.

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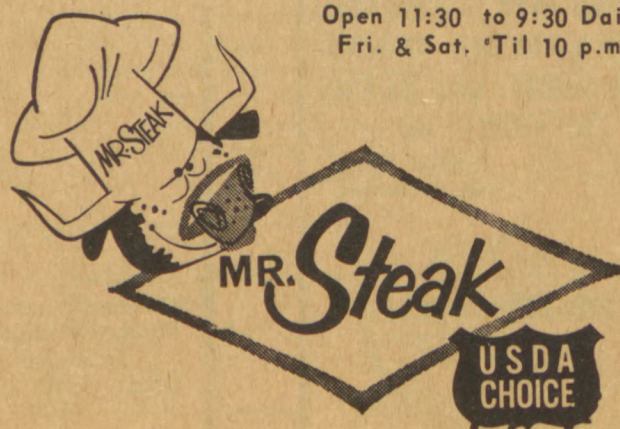
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Draft Resisters Prosecuted Twice

WASHINGTON, D.C. (LNS)—The Justice Department has begun prosecution of second time draft resisters.

Three or four young men have been arrested and taken to court in recent months for Selective Service Law violations after having served time for earlier draft offenses.

Violation of the draft law is the only felony which does not wipe out a man's draft obligation.

Not since the Korean war have men been imprisoned for second-time draft violations, but a new Selective Service law passed last year specifically directed them to seek such prosecutions. It suggests induction immediately after a man has been released from prison. Under the new law the Justice Department is also directed to "proceed as expeditiously as possible with a prosecution... upon the request of the Director of Selective Service System or (to) advise the House of Representatives and the Senate in writing the reasons for its failure to do so."

In practice, a Selective Service official told LNS, individual draft boards recommend to their local U.S. Attorney individual violations for prosecution.

Previously requests for second-time prosecutions were refused by the U.S. Attorney because of the previous offense, conviction and imprisonment.

"A second prosecution would have no beneficial enforcement effect," a U.S. Attorney in San Francisco told Selective Service in declining to prosecute a case. He added: "To the contrary, it might well arouse the ire of the court and thus in the long run harm the Government's enforcement policy."

In arguing against this position Daniel Omer, Selective Service (General) Counsel, equated a prison term with a man's draft obligation. He maintained that prison sentences less than two years in length "offers quite an inducement to a registrant to violate the law."

Jehovah's Witnesses make up 80% of the men imprisoned by the Government for Selective Service violations. Their religious tenets bar Army service as well as civilian assignments offered conscientious objectors. They do not fight their cases through the courts and, according to a Bureau of Prison officials, they are model prisoners.

In practice the prosecution of second-time draft resisters by the Justice Department has hit hardest those men who received light punishment for first violations. The burden also falls on men who were imprisoned at an early age. A man imprisoned at 20 would have a good chance of getting out and still being within the prime draft age.

Length of the Vietnam war has also been a determining

factor in this type of case, say Justice Department officials, because it has swollen draft quotas. One official said: "The possibility does exist that there could be repetitive convictions only because the conflict continues for so many years."

The Vietnam war is now the longest war in American history.

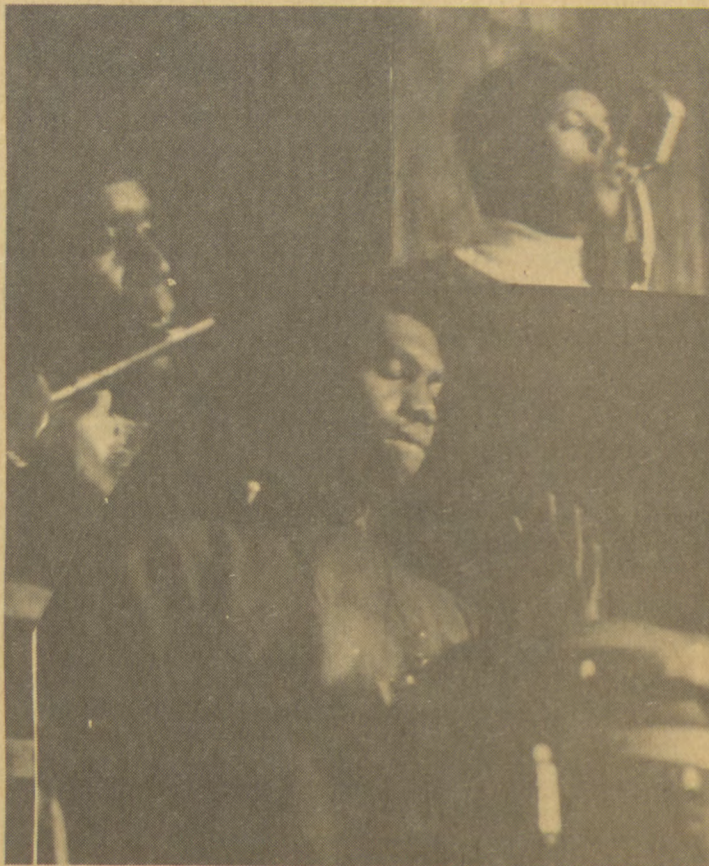
The long, brutal war is also responsible for the near-record number of men behind bars for refusing military service. Government statistics show 756 men imprisoned for draft law violations. There haven't been more since 1947 when the figures reflected ballooned World War Two draft calls. Nearly four times as many men were in prison last year for refusing military service as in 1964.

The sentence length is also nudging the World War Two record average of 33.4 months. In 1967 the average sentence has jumped to 32.1 months from 25.4 months the previous year. Maximum sentence under the law is 5 years and a \$10,000 fine.

The Bureau of Prisons denied reports that there are special plans for liberal treatment for the near-record number of draft law violators. A Bureau spokesman said that their best estimates did not indicate there would be a dramatic jump in draft law violators thus over-burdening present facilities.

Volunteers For McCarthy

Student volunteers needed to help circulate petitions for McCarthy. These petitions will be submitted to Michigan delegates to the Democratic National Convention showing grass roots support for the candidate. Anyone interested in helping in this effort should contact Mr. Morse at Ext. 2244.



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—Vincent Canby,
New York Times

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Tourel Performs Mahler

Rochester, Michigan-- Jennie Tourel, internationally known mezzo-soprano, will be soloist Wednesday (July 24) in a performance of Mahler's Second Symphony with the Meadow Brook Orchestra and Chorus conducted by the orchestra's music director, James Levine.

The concert will be held at 8:30 p.m. in the Meadow Brook Festival's Baldwin Pavilion at Oakland University.

On Tuesday (July 23) at 8:30 p.m., the Cleveland Piano Trio will present the third in its series of chamber music concerts at the University's Wilson Hall.

Miss Tourel has performed symphonic works with Toscanini, Koussevitsky, Stokowski, and Bernstein. She has sung in leading opera houses, including the Paris Opera-Comique and the Metropolitan Opera.

Closely identified with the music of Mahler, Miss Tourel has performed the Second Symphony frequently and recently recorded it for the second time on Columbia Records with Leonard Bernstein and the New York Philharmonic.

Miss Tourel, who is on the faculty of the Juilliard School of Music, will also give a series of master classes while in residence at the Meadow Brook School of Music.

Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto in E minor will be

performed on the same program. Violin soloist will be Jerome Rosen, concertmaster of the Meadow Brook Orchestra who will become associate concertmaster of the Detroit Symphony this fall.

Only two of the Cleveland Piano Trio will participate in the Tuesday concert. Pianist James Levine and violinist Jerome Rosen will perform works by Bach, Mozart, Schumann, Webern, and Brahms.

The concerts are free to Meadow Brook Festival subscribers. Admission for others is \$1.



CLASSIFIED ADS

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Beer Lake Poorly Planned

(Continued from Page One)

PROBLEM: TURBIDITY

Concerning the matter of turbidity, Dr. Forbes commented, "Turbidity reduces light penetration and this encourages anaerobic bacterial growth. Anaerobes are famous for their odors. If the agitation of the bottom of the lake is a major cause of the turbidity, this agitation could be reduced by placing on the bottom a thick layer of washed gravel." To this statement, Mr. Stoutenberg remarked that, if agitation of the lake bottom is indeed the cause of the turbidity, then there is the possibility that gravel will be utilized. This process, according to Stoutenberg, would have to wait until next winter when the gravel could be spread over the ice.

Dr. Forbes did not just criticize. One of the constructive suggestions he made was this use of gravel, but even this would not solve all the problems, for after a heavy rain when Beer Lake changes color from a misty green to a coffee brown, an extremely large inflow is witnessed. With regards to this, Dr. Forbes stated, "Prevention of such a high volume inflow would require a diversion conduit for waters from heavy rains. This would, of course, be antithetical to the basic idea which led to construction of the lake. Another alternative seems to be covering the lake area, allowing flow of storm waters through a large subterranean conduit." Mr. Stoutenberg was definitely against filling Beer Lake, and therefore, it is hoped that one of the other suggestions will be taken.

IMPROVEMENTS (HAVE BEEN) MADE

Regarding any action that might be taken with respect to Beer Lake, Mr. Stoutenberg mentioned

that "No Swimming" signs and ring life preservers have been purchased. It is noted that Mr. Stoutenberg was interviewed on July 2, 1968 and the signs and life preservers were visible around Beer Lake on July 5, 1968. Mr. Stoutenberg, when further questioned, stated that a Michigan State Conservation Department consultant would be brought in to determine what definite changes could be made. At the present time, it seems that the best one could hope for is that the gravel will be placed on the lake bottom. This may reduce the turbidity of the lake, and help to lower the pollution level.

For those one hundred or so resident students who do not have a car available to transport them to a local beach, there is hope. Mr. Stoutenberg has revealed that the University is now looking into the possibility of an outdoor swimming pool. This refutes the idea that Oakland does not care about its students during the Spring trimester. Here is evidence that the university is willing to spend a great deal of money so that one hundred students will not miss the opportunity of swimming outside during the summer semester. However, the question should be raised: "Which would cost less-- the building of an outdoor swimming pool or the restoration of Beer Lake?"

Dr. Forbes, in conclusion, stated, "Campus personnel, including many students, have an eye for aesthetic quality and regret the present and apparently permanent condition of the lake. The truth is that built into the landscape pattern of our classroom and dormitory complex, is a polluted drainage basin off limits to the students-- and of beauty only to the ignorant and nearsighted."

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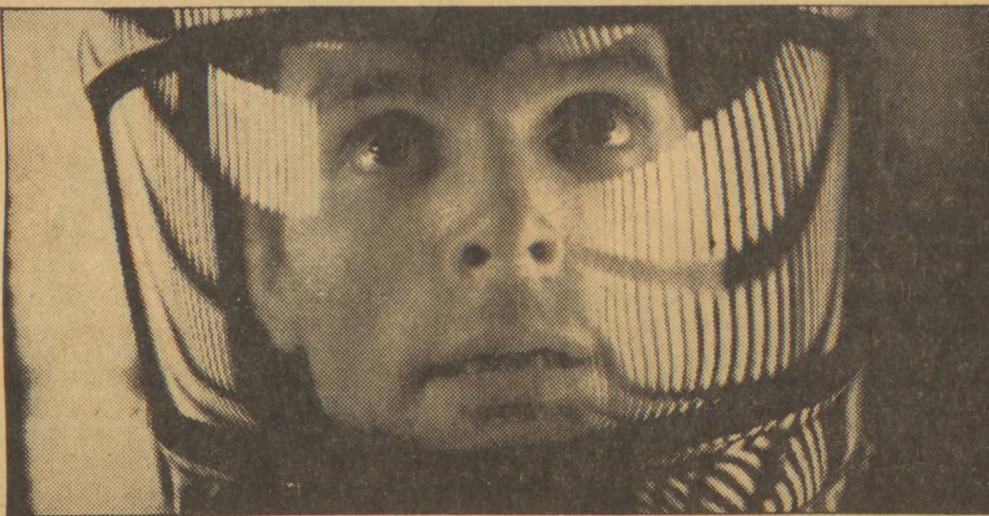
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THIS IS IMPORTANT

TRUMBULL TERRACE STUDENT WORKERS WALK OFF THE JOB

Last night a dozen student food service employees walked off their jobs at Trumbull Terrace. We walked off because the management of the Meadowbrook Festival received complaints and objected to the content of some slogans we wore on our hats. Some of those slogans were "Resist the Draft", "The Only Thing I Regret Is That My Country Has No Life To Give Me", "End the War", "Hell No I Won't Go", and "Not With My Life You Don't." We were told to remove the hats and buttons or leave. We left because it was an important issue. The issue was clear, the right to be a human being--to think.--The right of free expression.

SOME BACKGROUND

The fact that we wore these hats and buttons at no time interfered with our ability to effectively do our jobs. At no time did we talk about these issues or attempt to engage customers in any dialogues. No dastardly leaflets were put between the hamburger buns. The objection was very clear.--It was the editorial content. It would be all right if we wrote Meadowbrook Festival or our names or other harmless graffiti. But we were not to touch a sensitive issue. A few individuals objected to the fact that we wore these objects on the basis that they are taxpayers and pay our salary. That may be possible, although our wages are supposed to come from profits made by the sale of food at the terrace. But that is not the issue. Yes, we are employees, yes we are students, but we are human beings first. When we came here and when we started to work we signed no contract which stipulated that we surrender our consciences for the duration of our stay here. One customer asked ~~ear~~ us, "Do you have cages for these animals?" Another told a girl, "That's a beautiful hat" and gave her a dollar tip. Well, we don't think we are animals.

SOME LEGAL FACTS AND STUFF

The right of free expression is guaranteed in the Constitution of this country. Perhaps we should be reminded of what it says: The First Amendment: Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, or of the right of the people to peaceably assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances. This has been interpreted in the courts as including the wearing of buttons, armbands, hats, etc. There are numerous precedents for the exercise of these rights by students. In its booklet Academic Freedom and Civil Liberties of Students in Colleges and Universities, the American Civil Liberties Union states, "It is understandable that the Boards of Trustees and Boards of Higher Education, to say nothing of college administrators

themselves should be acutely sensitive to public as well as private criticism. Yet it is clear that the public interest is not served when the academic community is fearful of experimentation, controversy and dissent." The report goes on to state that students have the right of free expression on any matter which affects or concerns them.

The Student Handbook of Oakland University states: "The University supports the right of public assembly and open expression of opinions and ideas. This expression also carries with it the responsibility not to interfere with the rights and privileges of others ..."(p.43) The students involved at no time interfered with the rights of anyone. They at no time took any action. There was no "clear and present danger." They did, admittedly, think.

It was a big thing for some of those people to walk out. People badly need their jobs. A number didn't even wear hats with those slogans or especially agree with them. But they knew they were human beings and they stood by their brothers and sisters. They said this is the human thing to do no matter the consequences, because this is what it means to be free. No promises were made, only the hope that struggle and confrontation with the existing system of inhumanity would create a climate of tolerance and free expression.

WHAT WE WANT

We want to go back to work. We are going to report to work today (Friday). We don't know what is going to happen. If we are to succeed we need your help--students, Meadowbrook Music School people, Oakland employees, faculty members, upward bound, and Detroit Symphony personnel. It's your fight too. Come to the rally today at noon. Come to the festival today starting at five and later if you can't get there then. We hope you'll walk the picket line with us if we are denied access to our jobs. Get tickets so you can't be expelled. We don't want to destroy Meadowbrook. We like and enjoy it. Hopefully we can settle this, but be prepared for the worst...

If these words seem harsh, then perhaps the truth has been lost so long that its jarring awakening does seem harsh. The words of Thomas Paine "these are times that try men's souls" are very relevant today. For there are issues of these times "that try men's reason. We call on the appropriate administrative personnel of the Meadowbrook Festival and Oakland University to affirm the concept of free expression and free speech. We call on them for an affirmation of the content and purpose of the first amendment--LET US WORK! We hope you will help us in our struggle.

TRUMBULL TERRACE STUDENT EMPLOYEES