

ALCHEMIST

April 8, 1963

In Teachers We Trust,
All Others Do Their Own Work

VOL.II #7

EDITORIAL

A STATEMENT OF POLICY

In recent weeks the integrity of the ALCHEMIST editors, and indirectly the integrity of the staff has been questioned. We the editors, feel that it is time to answer these criticisms.

Cries of horror were heard from several quarters when, along with the last issue we had a special supplement issue on Maneurium 40. We were told that it was "unfunny", "not in good taste", etc. Others said the opposite. Just why did we print it? Is it because we got it from someone in a position of authority? No. Is it because we thought we could sneak something past Dr. Stanton? No, he seldom sees the paper before anyone else. Were we trying to be "Vulgar"? No. Why then?

Because we thought it was funny! We were under the apparently mistaken idea that someone would read it and get some enjoyment out of it. Perhaps we were wrong.

We would like to point out here and now that no one is ever intentionally insulted in the ALCHEMIST. If someone feels they are being insulted, they are reading the paper in the wrong frame of mind. We will admit to polking fun at almost everyone in the school, from the highest to the lowest, but no harm is ever intended in our "humor". Everyone has their own peculiar points which go to making them an individual. It would be a dull world indeed if everyone was exactly the same.

What exactly then is the ALCHEMIST? Is it a newspaper? Yes, even if everything in it isn't quite the truth. There would be about one page if we printed only what happened in the

Science Building. The news needs to be "expanded" just a bit to fill up the space. Everyone does not agree with our opinions on certain matters, but at least we are permitted to publish them. Our guest editorials during the year came as often from the main building as from the science building.

We have been granted considerable freedom of expression. We believe that we have lived up to the trust.

RJM

EDITORIAL #II

apologia pro vita nostra

Recently the Alchemist was brought under attack for not being a worthwhile newspaper. The criticism was to the effect that the paper could be good if only it printed more worthwhile material, such as student research for instance. This was a serious charge and we feel that it should be replied to in kind. Herein therefore, we will have the first and only serious article of the year, our apologia pro vita nostra.

Our only claim to existence rests on the fact of doing something which is needed. And we feel that we are doing something for the chemistry student body. The immediate question comes 'how on earth are we contributing, all we ever seem to be doing is tearing up.' We like to identify ourselves with the student body and in our expression we feel that we are voicing the opinions of the students, in other words, saying what they would say if given the chance. Furthermore, we claim to give them the chance. We therefore feel that we are contributing to free expression among the chemistry student body.

But secondly we must consider the

the charge that we are destructive, that all we do is tear things up. While we are forthright enough to know that we don't have all the answers, we are cynical enough to think that others are like us in that they don't have the sum total of all the answers either. In the hope that others will open their eyes as we have - to the facts - we play up certain incongruencies. We exaggerate, granted. It's an accepted vehicle of humor. But humor itself is a vehicle of truth. And ultimately this is what we are striving for.

Further it is charged that much of the matter is irrelevant. We don't claim to be absolutely selective in our articles, yet we do manage and we have so far, to get such articles into the paper as are interesting to the students who are our primary audience. Some articles have to do with seniors, some with underclassmen but they all hold interest to some particular student group. But any student who keeps his eyes halfway open will be pretty sure of being "in" on almost all of the articles. If nothing else, it helps to reduce the barriers between classes. If other groups feel that they are on the outside, perhaps they should have closer contact with the intended audience.

Some have claimed that the articles are trash. This may be so, the subscription is dirt cheap. Yet, one may well wonder whether taken in context our "masterpieces" are not equal to those of some literary publications on campus. We are chemistry majors writing for chemistry majors on topics that chemistry majors are interested in. (and let us not fool ourselves as we fool the outsiders, we don't sit in a retort eating and drinking chemistry.) When after our unlettered fashion we poke fun at some philosophy courses somehow it seems to have a better ring than some opus in the quadrangle, at least we can understand it.

Some claim we are too outspoken, this is also true. The paper would be really worthless if we didn't call a spade a spade. If the reader wants circumlocutions and polite evasions, there are more than enough places on campus where he can get his fill.

What then are our ultimate motives? We propose to give the students a chance to get things off their chests in a humorous manner in order that all who read it

might recognize the problem as the student has, and our further hope is that those who can do something about correct the situation will take the necessary action.

So far the existence of the paper has been precarious, we sincerely hope that it remains so. There is no better game than balancing between "being and Nonbeing". But our aims should be understood - to represent the opinion of the students, in order that problems they see may be seen by others.

AAJ

CHEMICAL ABSTRACTS

We extend our sympathy to Tony Murty whom opened a box of unexposed photographic film. Too bad it was in the light... Co-Editor Juhasz reports that the Tactical Unit (Rangers?) have killed 5 sandbags in bayonette practice... with their teeth... Congrats to all the Chem majors who went to NYC and showed the natives what REAL drinking was. Wish somebody was sober enough to take down all the action.... Was it Co-Editor McGarry who was seen in a cheap hotel talking to Maurice?;... How did Ken Pompei do better in the Grad records than that star David Mangzo.... Who invented Sowicki ball anyhow.... Ken Pompei plans to go to UB to study psychology.... Anybody know the basic theory of GC.... Isn't it against the rules for professors to smoke in the classroom.... Is it true that Bruce McKay was standing on his head for three days in NYC.... Why do all the old officers seem so relieved.... Why do all the new officers seem so worried.... It was a tough race, Jim Kolb.... Does Myke really miss the attention of the Alchemist....

RJM * AAJ

NEW EDITORS

In the next issue of the Alchemist it will be our duty to step down and name a pair of new editors. We have little choice in the matter. It is either quit or be stoned, so we are taking the coward's way out.

We have made few friends over the last year but many enemies. We can only hope that the new editors can reverse this trend. If they carry on the old Alchemist tradition, they stand to be even more unpopular than we were.

But at any rate, they will be the most influential people in the A.S. (The power of the press, you know etc etc etc). They will have difficulties, problems with everything from the staff to the readers. Alienating people is not as easy as it may seem. We wish them well.

RJMcG * AAJ

NIT NEWS

Actually the happenings of the Chem majors in NYC are more interesting than the NIT so we will write about them instead

Tom Beras, the world's greatest drinker (with the brew to prove it) got slightly bombed. One group almost got tossed out of their hotel room for having beer cans on the ledge. Stan Marzalek still has to be reminded about what he did. Seniors found the juniors were not their juniors when it comes to drinking. Et tu Charlie Bruce McKay proved to be quite level headed about the whole thing. Karl Hagler, the old grad, proved his army training and slept on the floor. Jim Kolb is reported to have shampooed with beer while in the big city.

MAY MEETING

IN HIS FIRST OFFICIAL ACT AS PRESIDENT JIM KOLB IS HAVING A MEETING ON MAY 2nd.

DEAR IRVING

Dear Irving,

Since the philosophy department revised its curriculum to include a philosophy major and philosophy electives I have a very perplexing problem. I am undecided as to whether I should take "Existentialism for fun and profit" or "Xenophon and the Modern Drag Racer!" Will you please help me solve my mirabile.
E. Kant '64

Dear E,

My advice to you is to switch your major to philosophy, thus you could take both courses plus many more useful and interesting topics. As for a job upon graduation, I understand that the Aquinas Baloney Corp is taking any IS that the college will send them.

Dear Irving,

When I graduate from college this summer my father has a \$10,000 a year vice-president's job in his corporation waiting for me. The trouble is I feel that I don't want to compete in the business world, I would much rather join the peace corps.

J. Schlemeal

Dear J,

By all means join the Peace Corps. Your own personal happiness is more important than material gain. I have often said that money is the root of all evil.

By the way, J, ask your father if that vice-president's job is still open?

Dear Irving,

I am a high school senior and a champion zuwicky ball player. I was on the All-Ukrainian team three years in a row. I am contemplating coming to Canisius next year. I was wondering if I could continue to play zuwicky ball while I am in college.

Horace (the Shot) Enjenefski

Dear Shot,

You are indeed fortunate in coming to Canisius to play Zuwicky ball. You could not have chosen a more opportune time to come because next year the Chemistry Dept is expanding to include a zuwicky ball major with electives and everything.

CJR

NOTICE:

Let it hereby be known that ex cathedra by virtue of the power invested in us as Alchemist editors we hereby officially proclaim the correct spelling of the word soiki, sewicki, sowiki, zuicki, or zuwicky etc, used to designate a certain game played with a ball to be spelled hereafter as:
Z-U-W-I-C-K-I ball.

Signaverunt:
AAJ *RJMcG

NEW OFFICERS:

President: James Kolb
Vice President: Bruce McKay
Secretary: Bill Ceiger
Treasurer: Mike Omara

Congratulations to the new officers and tough cookies to the old....
from the Alchemist

ACS ALCHEMIST
VOL.II#7
OFFICE-Underground
SUBSCRIPTION-FREE

EDITORS

A.A.Juhasz
R.J. McGarry

NEWS

R.J.McGarry

FEATURES

R.J.McGarry
A.A.Juhasz
C.N.Richards

TYPING

R.J.McGarry
A.A.Juhasz

THOUGHT OF THE MONTH

HAVE YOU EVER BEEN IN A PENNY ARCADE WHERE IT WAS AGAINST THE RULES TO HIT WHAT
YOU WERE AIMING AT?