

Circulation Desk

THE BROWN JOURNAL

I firmly believe in the need for a free and independent student press—Dr. Harry Evarts

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BRYANT COLLEGE, PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

Tuesday, December 15, 1959

WORK HARD

with

INTEGRITY

DILIGENCE

HONESTY

and you shall be

REWARDED



Editorial

More than one hectic week has now passed since a fight between two students almost set off racial conflict on this campus. Fortunately, a harmonious environment now prevails in Curtis Hall. Now that tempers have cooled, heads have cleared, and general goodwill exists again, the actions of certain members of the administration must be scrutinized.

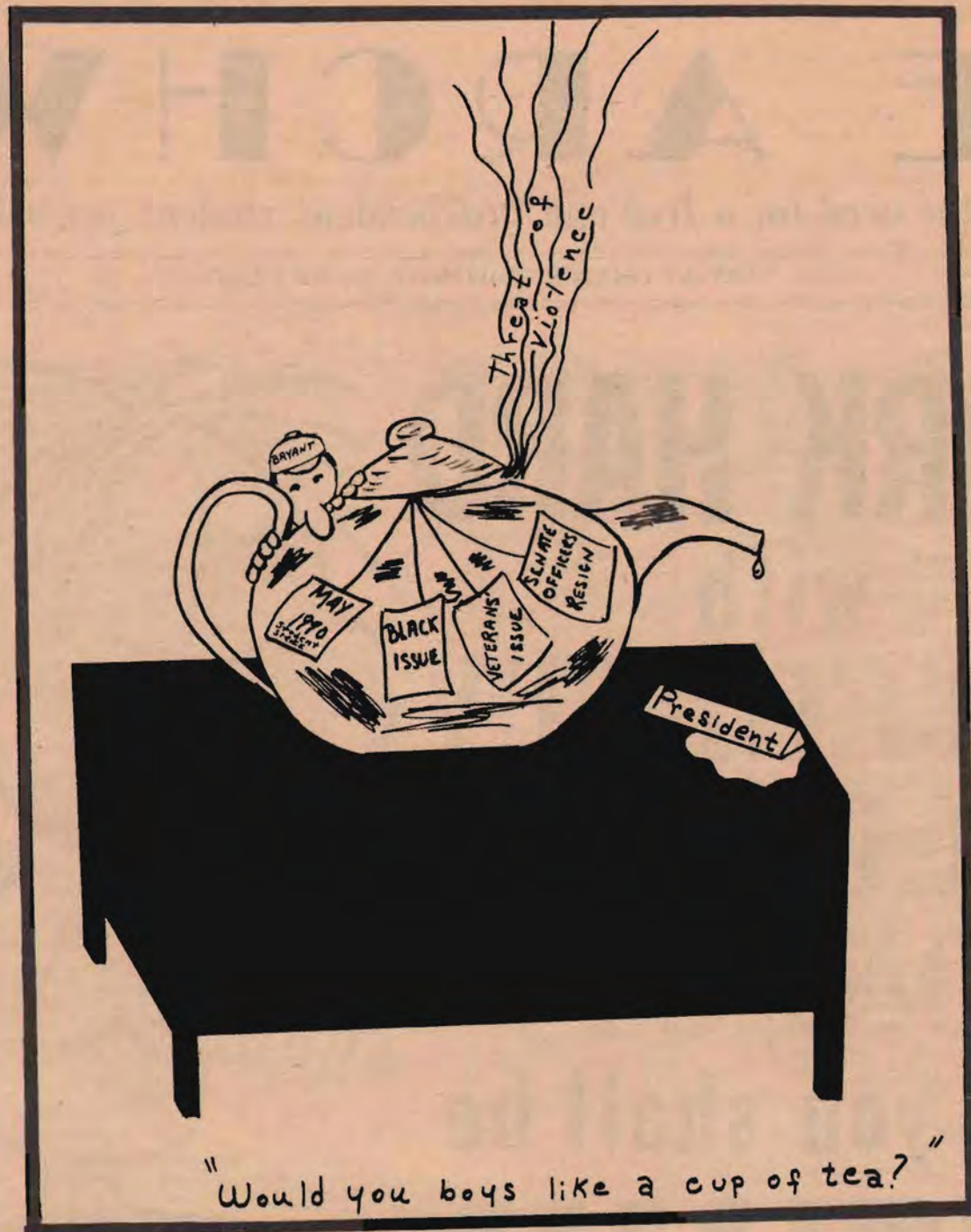
The first question that must be asked is why the two students involved in the fight were not dealt with in the procedure that is always employed whenever there has been a fight between students on campus—an immediate visit to the office of the Dean of Student Life and an investigation into the circumstances leading to the fight followed by appropriate disciplinary action.

Now ask, when did the fight between two students develop into a racial situation? Answer —

after the Dean of Student Life declared that we were experiencing a racial confrontation at Bryant.

Why was it necessary to move thirteen students from dormitory to dormitory during a testing period when there were only nine days left in the semester? The black students had been offered a common dormitory before the beginning of this semester and declined to take the opportunity because they did not want to be grouped. But then, the Dean of Student Life firmly believes in segregation rather than integration as is evidenced by his futile attempts as a student to gain an all black dormitory at Brown University three years ago. So, seeing the opportunity to seize his three year old goal he told students living in Curtis Hall that they had to move out. This was done by the Dean in a clear over-extension of his authority. Was this move made in the best interest of the College or to alleviate personal frustrations?

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Editorial

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The Archway would also like to question the Dean's qualifications by pointing out that he does not have a Master's Degree, as do all the other Deans. He holds a Bachelor's Degree, which was attained only one and one-half years ago. Dean Kurtz has demonstrated his inexperience and ineptness by failing to divorce his personal feelings from a subject which should have been dealt with in a completely objective manner.

In continuing our scrutiny of the administration, let us look at President Evarts. He does have administrative experience. However, he let his personal experiences of the past at Ohio University effect his decision in regard to the situation at Bryant. Instead of reviewing all the facts here at Bryant, he looked back to a different situation with different circumstances at a different College to decide the best course of action to be taken at Bryant.

Pressure was all that was necessary to influence the president. No regard was paid to the chain of command or channels of communication which the president so adamantly stresses in his dealings with organized student groups. He even stated that violence is the best way to insure the accomplishment of one's goals.

We can only conclude that the president's lack of concern toward being totally informed was demonstrated when he was offered the chance to hear a tape of a two hour meeting between Curtis Hall residents and Dean Kurtz which took place in Curtis Hall Sunday night, December 6. The president said that he did not want to hear the tape at this time but maybe sometime in the future. To date, he has not heard the tape. If President Evarts does not care to have the opinions of those directly involved before making decisions, he could at least learn from his mistakes by obtaining their opinions after making decisions.

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Editorial

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Bryant has a Vice-President for Public Affairs and a Director of Public Relations. We do not need another fair haired boy to act as a P.R. man.

It is Dr. Evart's obligation as President of this college to ascertain all the facts in any situation involving Bryant College or the College's students. To make a responsible decision, the facts are necessary. He has failed in his duty as President of Bryant College to act in a responsible manner.

In the past we have observed Dr. Manion's inability to make clear cut decisions concerning the students of Bryant College. (For anyone who is uninformed, Dr. Manion is V.P. of Academic Affairs and Provost of the College). These past inadequacies have gone unchecked. However, a recent statement by Dr. Manion warrants comment. "Dr. Evarts has no say in matters concerning academics." To Dr. Manion we ask, "Who but the President has more right and responsibility to make academic decisions concerning Bryant College?"

The time has come for the Administration to come to grips with the real world at Bryant College. It's time they saw it the way it is; not the way they'd like it to be.

Vets Protest, Change Calendar

The college agreed to change its calendar after a group of veterans made a release to the Providence Journal stating that they (the veterans) planned to demonstrate if something were not done about the fact that the Veterans Administration would not pay benefits for the month of January.

Last spring the students managed to lengthen the between semester break and by doing so in effect caused some 200 persons to become ineligible for benefits.

The regulation states that if a college is not in session for 30 consecutive days then no benefits will be issued.

If this gap were allowed then those people receiving government checks would be taken off the rolls and would have to reapply

when the spring semester began. This would mean that they probably would not receive a check until sometime in March.

Those students who have elected to attend winter session would continue along as normal, but winter session is not considered a part of the semester.

In order to eliminate any possibility of a demonstration and to insure that there will be no undue hardship upon anyone the Administration has agreed to begin the semester on January 21 instead of the 27th. This does not mean that anyone who does not wish to will have to return to the college earlier than he had originally planned.

The Administration hopes that veterans as well as those attending winter session will register on the new date.

Letters: Student Wintersession

Dear Sir:

As a seventh semester student I have selected to take winter-session next month. I decided to try to register early to make sure I wasn't closed out of the course I wanted, and to avoid the hassle of registration in January. My tuition is paid by my parents. All other tuition bills are sent to my home in Rochester, New York, and promptly paid. Being a student and unemployed. I do not have the cash now to prepay the tuition for the wintersession course. I was told at the bursar's office that the tuition could not be billed to my parents (as is always done for the regular year) or put on my account. Also I was unable to register at South Hall because I did not have a Bursar's stamp. This exemplifies the progressive and flexible nature of the administration. It can be assumed that Bryant students can not be trusted to pay \$60.00 if they take Wintersession, and this is what necessitates the strict rule for cash payments only.

This academic institution is supposed to exist for the students. How long are the students going to allow policies like this to exist? Think about it!

Sincerely,
Steve Rosenberg

Calendar Committee Recommendation Un-Accepted

With only 2% (51) of the potential voters (2143) and 12% (404) of the actual voters favoring calendar beginning October 4, 1971, I am unable to accept the Calendar Committee's recommendation.

It is difficult to decide counter to the recommendation of what has been, perhaps, the most thorough, conscientious committee at Bryant College this year. There is much to support the Committee's recommendation, but there are also strong arguments in favor of a September 7 opening in Providence, as recommended by the majority of faculty and administrators and an overwhelming 82% of voting students.

Predicting the comple-

Senate Resignations

December 10, 1970

Dear Members of the Bryant College Community:

Effective December 18, 1970 I am resigning as President of the Student Senate. There is no one reason for my resignation, however, several incidents occurring over the past few months have led me to make this decision. To recapitulate a few of these incidents: the trustees refusal to enter into a meaningful dialogue with students; the administration and faculty's unwillingness to discuss alternatives to an antiquated attendance policy; the lack of student response to the calendar for the following year; student apathy, specifically, dealing with the proposed constitution for the Student Senate.

These are only a few reasons but they demonstrate a general lethargy at Bryant College. These reasons are also compounded, firstly, by the faculty's lack of concern in matters out of their discipline and, secondly, the failure of the administration to act unless they are under pressure.

I am not trying to indicate that I am not in part responsible for some of the events that have occurred:

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tion of a multimillion dollar construction project ten months in advance of a New England winter is very hazardous. There exists the real possibility that the October 4, 1971 target date will be missed, in which event classes would have to be held in Providence regardless of the plan accepted.

There are special interests groups (veterans, student teachers) that would be inconvenienced by an October 4 opening. Even the dormitory students, who are most affected by the calendar, voted over-

whelmingly for a September 7 opening. It was clear from comments written on ballots that the long Christmas vacation and the January intersession were the most important considerations in the minds of those who voted.

We will plan for an opening on or about September 7, 1971, with specific details to be worked out soon. Thanks to you and your excellent Committee for its very thorough report.

Harry F. E. Evarts
President

frankly speaking by Phil Frank



Student Resignations

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maybe they are due to my personal inadequacies. Nonetheless, the situation at Bryant is critical. The Student Senate and the College have not been moving in the directions that I had anticipated. My own plans would have included: students as full voting members on the board of Trustees; equal student representation on the faculty Committee on College Organization, since it is my belief that this committee controls the life of this institution; a program for educational reform; a follow through with demands for increased black student enrollment, black faculty members, and black administrators.

I would like to thank my very capable colleagues, Jeanne Ritchie, Bill Street, and Doug Hazlett for the thankless hours they spent serving the students of Bryant College, a student body totally unconcerned with social issues and a student body that reacts only after a situation has reached a state of crisis. The major concern of the students seems to be "dope and records." Is it possible that the students of Bryant College do not want control of their own lives? Perhaps they do not want any student government at all.

Yours in Peace,

Reuben Abraham

87 Cooke Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02906
December 8, 1970

Reuben Abraham, Senate President
Student Senate
Bryant College
Providence, Rhode Island

Dear Brother:

Please accept this as my letter of resignation effective December 18. There are many reasons for my resignation. First, I am dissatisfied with your leadership. You have not put the time into the position that it requires, you are ignorant of the political system, and in general have not provided the leadership necessary to make the government function as it should.

Second, I am disgusted with the lack of student interest. Only 25% of the students took time to vote for or against me last spring. Only 68 people took the time to vote on the Senate Constitution today. I will admit there has been a lack of communication, but that prevents no student from finding out the activities going on. Both the government and the students are to blame.

Third, I am deeply hurt by students who have operated outside the government. Students don't bring problems to their government, they go rap to an administrator about them. The coffee house, the calendar, and the recent crisis are examples. Either these students don't know the government's purpose, feel it is too slow to act, or will fail to act once requested. Anyway, it has failed to serve them or they have failed to make it work. So what is the student government's purpose. It seems funny that many students sit in political science classes, but fail to learn or practice the ideas. Do the students want a government? Their answer this past week and before this has been no.

Fourth, today I finally found out that all my previous efforts of working within the system have been the wrong way. My futility in those efforts has showed me it has been the wrong way. People, especially those of the older generation keep their old ideas and values. I guess they must be insecure or confused of our new ideas, and they

must cling to their traditional values. Little do they see the trouble, violence, and disruption they invite.

The administration passed me the key today, and I guess in passing this letter I pass you this key. The key is the way to change the system. All you need is to get 300 people asking for one thing and threaten violence. Once you have that you have the campus, buildings, administration, etc., by the balls. So I see the way to get all the things we talked about, by violence or the threat of. But I feel that is the wrong way. I claim to be a conscientious objector. It would be a contradiction of principle to use violence in making this institution accept our values and ideas. So I will step down.

Maybe this incident was the cause of my resignation, though not the only reason. It is funny how the blacks can call themselves militant, or maybe even black for that matter. They have done bullshit, but they got time to play ball for whitey. I guess that shows you where their heads are at.

The Dorm Council is bullshit. They called a meeting after all was said and done. I guess I was stupid. I should have looked at society's past and the past of Bryant. How did we get optional finals last spring, last springs three demands, and parietal hours, threats of violence or disruption. Today was the end, I have had it with students. They act as if there was no student government. They must have thought I was a freak. Well they have showed me where their heads are at. Today I felt like packing up and leaving for good. but packing would have been too much of a hassle. All I can say is good luck and peace brother.

In peace,
William Street

6 Young Orchard Avenue
Providence, Rhode Island
December 8, 1970

Mr. Reuben Abraham, President
Bryant College Student Senate
154 Hope Street
Providence, Rhode Island

Dear Reuben:

This letter will serve as my resignation as Treasurer of the Student Senate. I believe that you are entitled to an explanation.

While serving as Treasurer, I have devoted every ounce of my energies to working within the system . . . employing peaceful policies instead of bombings, strikes, marches, demonstrations, etc. I have preached the merits of the system to all my fellow students who would bear me out. I have attempted to prove, by my accomplishments, that the "system" is the best way to get things done.

I find it impossible to work in any student government capacity when the president of the College has stated that it is a "show of force" and threats of violence that determine who will accomplish his tasks and who will not.

Statements such as those by Dr. Evarts, place a roadblock in the path of those who wish to use the "system" that will prove to be absolutely impossible to overcome. Working within the system to accomplish desired goals will never succeed when the top administration reacts more favorable, and quicker, to violence than to peaceful hard work.

When the President of the College insinuates that the use of guns, bombs, and riots, will gain greater rewards than the peaceful negotiation and rational discussion . . . then I am afraid that I must admit to being ashamed of Bryant College.

Sincerely,
Douglas R. Hazlett

cc: Dr. Evarts
Dean Smith
Mr. Cornelius
Mr. Monroe—The Archway
Mr. Delmonico