



THE PLAIN BROWN WRAPPER

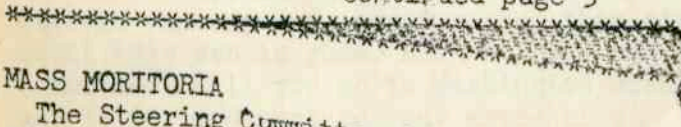
Vol. I, Number 1

October 27, 1969

EMANCIPATION

An event of major significance occurred last Friday on our quiet little campus. The age of the builder is drawing to a close, yes our beloved president, Doctor Frederick A. Meier has announced his retirement. This retirement will take effect on August 30th 1970. There will be various results from Dr. Meier's remaining on as a lame duck. Some of these will be beneficial to the students, some will be harmful. One of the main benefits the students can gain from this is the growing insecurity and loss of self assurance many of the faculty and staff will experience due to the big question mark now hovering in the future. Of course this insecurity will not become a major problem unless the students take advantage of it. Just to verbally draw an example, Mr. Agganis has basically been Dr. Meier's puppet, he has done only a few things on his own. One of these things was the random assignment of dorm rooms. The reason given for this action was that by mixing the upper classmen and freshmen together the dorm would have a greater social mixture and therefore make the adjustment to college easier for the freshmen. This was an unnecessary and foolish move by Mr. Agganis. There has always been a great deal of interaction between the classes in the dorm and people in college should be mature enough to pick their friends for what they are not the proximity of their room. This random assignment move has only succeeded in angering upper classmen who made an effort to get the room they wanted and found themselves in a less desirable location. Another Agganis Gem is the

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MASS MORITORIA

The Steering Committee for the 15th moritorium at Salem State College made a gross error. They tried to make their demonstration far too elastic and popular with everyone. My main point of concern is the fact that they argued for hours about the wording of their original

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COMMUNICATIONS ?

Today man lives in a multi-dimensional world. To survive physically it is necessary for man to know and utilize many facts. To survive intellectually it is necessary for man to be familiar with much of the thought of his and past ages. Man has several ways of obtaining this information, but he is always searching for a better news service.

I've made a mistake in the first paragraph, I'm sorry. You see, I used the term "man" which generally means including all men. Unfortunately the idea of getting faster and better communication of ideas isn't universal. At S.S.C. the trend seems to be one of suppressing the means of communication.

You are now reading the first issue of THE PLAIN BROWN WRAPPER. It is a newspaper dedicated to the powerful and the weak, the important and the trivial. It is not a voice of the entire student body. It is an organization which is run clandestinely to provide its writers with complete freedom of speech. If this issue seems to be rather small, the reason is that it was privately financed.

A small number of these papers will be stamped with a blue peac symbol saying "cancel out war". Hopefully, the receivers of those stamped papers will collect funds for the paper and send them to:

THE PLAIN BROWN WRAPPER
11 South Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02111

The staff and myself would like to hear from you (ie. students, faculty, and administration) on anything that crosses your mind. Please send your correspondence to the above address.

zerob brittar

In most if not all of our American colleges the truth is denied a hearing and excluded from the class room if it seems to conflict with the selfish interest of the moneyed classes-from whom endowments are expected.

Willis J. Abbot. 1899

Mass Moritoria continued...

statement of purpose. Many members of the C.P.A.G. were afraid that "strong words" would alienate those people outside of the college body, whose support they sought. This was a mistake. It is quite true that a desirable side-effect of this large of a demonstration reaches segments of the population usually not touched or polled by demonstrations. They were also concerned that words like "total" and "immediate" would alienate even members of the college community. What was October 15 - it was not for members of the American Legion or the D.A.R. or any other damn organization, committee, association, fraternity, lodge or bund. October 15th was a day for those against the war to speak out as mature and feeling individuals. There was no middle of the road. You were either into it or out of it. I met a blackman on Boston Common with tears in his eyes, he said simply "Thanks, thank you so much, twenty years ago I was in Mississippi doing the same thing you're doing here today. I'm with you and I know you would have been with me. Keep it up - they'll listen, they'll have to listen."

For some, maybe it did take guts, but it was something I had to do. But then I oppose this and all war and all of their savage, corrupt, foul facets. Possibly those who went the path of business as usual are war freaks. Maybe they really dig war. How about those of us in the Salem community who went to class, did they really dig war or maybe they wouldn't have instilled the same faith in a blackman on Boston Common. Maybe if they could have seen the face of that man bursting with joy and so proud they would have felt differently about the day.

Many politicians and public figures came out backing October 15th. Professor Howard Zinn of Boston University, in his speech on Boston Common said that he was glad to have verbal support, but he didn't need it, what he wanted was their support and voices in Washington for two days in November and for three days in December and for four days in January and then five and then six until this was is gone. How much are you committed? Will you go to Washington with us? Is it important to you? Maybe city hall can't be fought, but it can and must be rocked to its foundation.

Snake

THE MOVIE SCENE

Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid is an entertaining but disappointing piece of western fluff. The most that one can say for it is that it's a blatant copy of Bonnie and Clyde with two Clydes. It offers nothing new, but it's a whimsical film at any rate.

Paul Newman stars as Butch Cassidy, and his performance confirms the fact that he has given up any real acting - he'd much rather play Paul Newman. He relies solely on his cool presence and mannerisms; but, as we'll see later, that's all he really can do. Robert Redford as Sundance is much more vital; he is the fast gun, whose entire nervous system seems to be centered in his right arm. He, too, plays it cool, but also manages to keep his tongue in his cheek. Katherine Ross as Etta, the Bonnie of this film, has little to do but console the boys when their chips are down. However, she can't be convincing as a school teacher, just as Butch and Sundance don't seem convincing as bank robbers.

What consistently defeats this flick is the jokey, wisecracking script by William Goldman. His thing in the film writing field has always been the city detectives (remember Harper?) and his city talk just doesn't work out west. Butch's line, "I got vision and and the rest of the world wears bifocals" just isn't the true Butch; it's a cardboard cutout Butch. The lines make it almost impossible for the actors to make it come to life; they just romp around and therefore the film becomes a contemporary comedy. This attitude weakens the ending, and we are left thinking what this movie could have been. Still, the entertainment it affords us is more than enough to recommend it, the Newman fans (and Ross fans) won't give a damn how bad or good the picture is. Besides, who reads reviews?

John Carter

It was a long time ago,
But I still remember
her tears, when I left
her alone.
She stood there alone
as I walked away,
She still stands there in my memory.

