

Letters to the Editor

Solid, Not Silent

SIRS:

I would like to take issue with Hebe Rece in his article "Heretics and Hypocrites" (March). We students of the 1950s might be called "orthodox" but we should not be discounted nor considered a cause for worry. We feel the same paradoxes and dilemmas within ourselves as do the newer generations, but we choose to approach and solve them in a less dramatic and newsworthy manner. Do not believe that we have blended into the background. We merely have become the solid citizens who wait to pick up the pieces and put to rights the ruin and wreckage the heretics of the '60s are making. As Vance Raye puts it: "Today's minority may be tomorrow's majority."

Mrs. Ronald N. Davis
(Virginia Sue Bailey, '57ba)

Oklahoma City

Decreasing in Quality?

SIRS:

The contents of Sooner Magazine continue to decrease in quality. The March issue reached a new low insofar as interest to the alumni. If the University is being overrun by black or white students with very sick minds such as indicated by the two articles ("Those You Never Know" and "Confessions of a Black Student") in the March issue, then I'd prefer to forget I ever attended the University.

Many of us are perhaps guilty of "racism" in one way or another. . . . There will always be racism as long as you attempt to mix the black and white race. If God had intended that the two races be mixed socially, he wouldn't have made one black and one white. This doesn't mean they shouldn't have equal opportunity.

In the past several years, I have made small contributions to the Alumni Development Fund; however, I question whether I should continue to do so if the writers of these articles are examples of what is being turned out by the University.

W. F. Hildebrand, '37eng
West Hartford, Conn.

Provocative and Courageous?

SIRS:

Practically every entry in the March issue was of great interest. The piece on "Those You Never Know" was superb journalism and through appropriately disturbing to "us" whites, the "Confessions of a Black Student" was poignant and pertinent.

In addition to the excellent bibliography on page 13, let me suggest the following: *Report of the National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders* (Bantam Books in paperback); *The Wretched of the Earth* by Frantz Fanon, and *Black Fate, White Mask*, also by Fanon.

Let me urge you to continue in the courageous and provocative fashion that has refreshingly characterized Sooner Maga-

zine of late. It is a stimulating and welcome change from the banality and inanity of most alumni publications.

T. E. Bynum, M.D., '61ba, '64med
New York City

OU: Right or Wrong

SIRS:

The March issue was mostly an attempt to inflame the already smoldering racist issues. Also, you delight in forecasting the demise of all loyalty oaths. We don't like them either but not for the same reason.

Looking back, we must have been pretty simple when we attended OU. Among our values was a strong loyalty to OU and the United States. Yes, right or wrong. And we still feel that way. We also paid lip service to obedience of the rules. Now we find that patriotism and obedience are only for the common herd or those who cannot be identified as persons. And speaking of conformity, which you seem to abhor, isn't it the college student who starts the protest riots all over the world?

We were relieved to read in the January issue about the nice orderly people who paraded to the Pentagon to show their concern about the war. Also, we learned that Oklahoma State had some idiotic rule to protect the tender minds of their undergraduates from harmful speakers from the East.

We learned that the object of a college education might be "to develop a philosophy of life." Or "a faith in and search for eternal truth." It is a good thing such objectives will lead to a welfare state because these college graduates will not be able to produce anything.

It is noted that you recognize the existence of communism because you speak of people who are concerned about it. We would like to know what you think of it. Finally, we would like to make a suggestion. Since you are concerned about the downtrodden, why don't you do a bit about the plight and accomplishments of the "Heathen Chinese" during the early years of our country's history. We have never read that the government ever contributed to their welfare.

George L. Buckles, '25ba, '32geol
Monahans, Tex.

Indigestible

SIRS:

As a 1967 graduate of OU, I am in the middle of receiving a year's free subscription to Sooner Magazine. At first I was very grateful for this opportunity and looked forward to joining the Alumni Association, but now I have completely changed my mind. This is due to one reason—your magazine.

I am not an integrationist, an activist, a Negro, a liberal, a lobbyist for higher education, a radical, nor am I a hippie; consequently, I have no use for your magazine.

I am a person in education (teacher), a proud alumnus, one who wants to keep up

with other alumni, an avid football fan, an Okie, and a person with a few thoughts of my own. What a shame that we do not have a magazine.

My stomach revolts at the thought of picking up another issue of your magazine and finding that the major emphasis is still on the trite plight of the Negro. Your articles contain nothing new or interesting on the subject; nothing more than we constantly read daily in Life, Look, any newspaper, and for that matter *anything* readable (with the possible exception of the Bible—and of course that isn't expected of you). We alumni are very disappointed. Can't you do anything but follow?

Upon receipt of this letter, you may cancel my name off your list. Send my copy to some other agitator. I'm sure he'll get a big charge out of it.

Mike Grissom, '67ed
Wynnewood, Okla.

Our Alumnus of the Year

SIRS:

I wish to express my appreciation for the March Sooner Magazine. It is one of the most interesting issues that I have read in the last twenty years. Campus Notes is always of interest to an old graduate, but the feature on "The Invisible Student" was outstanding in its treatment of the problem. We are pleased to see that the Alumni Association is facing up to the problems that exist in the University. Thirty years ago, we largely ignored the real problems of University students.

Ernest A. Shiner, '26bs, '28ms
Wichita, Kan.

May Writers

Marjorie Clay, a member of the Humanities and Social Sciences Committee, is a junior in Arts and Sciences and an honor student. Her home is in Okmulgee.

Sheryl Freeman Young is a former member of the COR committee. She holds a bachelor's degree from OU and is married to Jerald W. Young, who received a master's degree in business from OU this spring. Sheryl is a native of Norman.

Brenda Taylor is a sophomore honor student in the College of Arts and Sciences. Her home is Sand Springs.

Mary Lyle Weeks, a graduate of OU, is a free-lance writer whose work has been published in several national magazines. She is married to Jim Weeks, sports editor of The Norman Transcript, and is one of the University's most devoted and knowledgeable wrestling fans.

Paul Galloway is editor of alumni publications.