

The Phoenix

SUPPLEMENT

Wednesday, May 6, 1970

Editorial

NEEDLESS POLARIZATION

Last night's mass meeting in Tarbles demonstrated the very faults which many of the strikers have admitted in their evaluations of their visits to other colleges. The frequent response to Swarthmore's participation in the planning of activities at other schools is one of resentment at the apparent arrogance of the Swarthmore students who, in their conviction that they have discovered the right method of solving the world's problems, expound their beliefs with great enthusiasm.

The faculty resolution does not represent an adequate institutional response to the conditions that are now present in our society. Although it states that that faculty recognizes that "grave moral, political, and educational issues are posed and highlighted by the recent invasion of Cambodia," and "endorses and encourages the innovative and constructive activities of members of the College community who wish to devote their energies for the remainder of the academic year to questions of national policy," the resolution does not carry through this stated support of the strikers in spirit.

The meeting twice lost track of the people with whom they most wanted to deal. First, when a group of striking professors arrived from the faculty meeting, they refused to return to argue over the specific details of the exam arrangements, although a good number of students felt that these arrangements were of major concern to them.

Later, when the faculty adjourned and joined the meeting in Tarbles, the group continued their discussions which were based on the meetings of the previous four days. Not surprisingly, many of the faculty members who had not attended the previous meetings could not participate fully. The result of this was a general feeling of dissatisfaction among the faculty who were at their first meeting.

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TUESDAY'S FACULTY MEETING

The faculty voted tentatively last night to allow striking seniors two alternatives to the usual procedures for examinations and graduation: taking exams or following "some alternative evaluative procedure" (to be specified by the department) before June 4, or to postpone exams until September, in either case receiving a degree in course. The faculty rejected by a vote of 57 to 31 the possibility of graduation based on evaluation of work already completed without further examination.

Analogous arrangements were created for postponing the work of non-seniors. Also likely is a two-day postponement of all written honors exams to provide some flexibility for strike participants.

Last night's discussion was considerably more clearly structured than that of Monday's meetings. It focused on a four-part proposal with several alternative subsections drafted by the faculty members who had introduced motions or amendments on Monday and members of the Council on Educational Policy. The faculty decided to consider the four sections seriatim, a procedure under which the parts are debated and voted upon separately before the whole resolution is considered as a unit. When it adjourned near midnight last night, the faculty had acted only on the four sections individually, so its actions are tentative. According to parliamentary procedure, the package may now be only marginally amended, but many faculty members expect attempts to make substantial changes at today's 4:15 p.m. meeting.

The crucial question was whether seniors who were doing satisfactory work should be graduated on schedule without further academic work or whether they should be required at some time to take exams or present some other evidence of academic performance. The initial proposal dealing with this question considered by the faculty would allow seniors to

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STRIKE MEETING DISCUSSES SOLIDARITY, EDUCATION

Discussion at the four and a half hour strike meeting in Tarbles was distinctly divided into two sections, separated by the arrival of more than thirty faculty members after the adjournment of the faculty meeting. The turnout in the meeting happened before the faculty members arrived, although the meeting had decided to continue the discussion presently in progress rather than aim discussion specifically at the new arrivals.

The first part of the meeting dealt mainly with a series of announcements and descriptions of the events of the day. Mike Hattersley '69, "until two weeks ago a graduate student at Yale," described events at Yale last weekend as he thought they had significance for the success of the strike here. The point he emphasized was that the Yale strike has been a success so far because of its unity. "The people who were there were convinced that it was the organizational meeting for a revolution," he said, so that the ideological differences between groups didn't matter.

Much of the emphasis of the rest of the first section of the meeting emphasized this need for "solidarity." Once again it was stressed how important they felt it was to bring everyone possible into the movement. Such committees as the business and religious groups have already begun to contact people in the Borough.

Students also emphasized the need they felt to bring the faculty into the strike. Initial reactions to the first reports of the faculty meeting varied between anger and laughter. One faculty member who left the meeting before the end told the strikers, "Those people don't want to talk about the real issues. They won't talk about the things about which they can be convinced." The group felt the faculty had been concerned with procedure rather than substance. After the faculty meeting adjourned, one member agreed that the issues had not been discussed: "Most of the issues you have raised here," he said, "cannot be discussed within the context of a faculty meeting. They can be still in other contexts." John Benditt concluded, "We are in the position of redefining the University. All it (the faculty statement) means is that tomorrow we have to start all over again to try to get them into the movement." Another striker reiterated, "We asked them here because we need them."

There was a noticeable shift in the discussion after the faculty meeting adjourned. Students decided not to spend much time discussing the faculty statement specifically, partly because they did not want, they said, to have a discussion where each group (students and faculty) was sharply delineated. Rather they wanted everyone to discuss on an equal level. The tactic did not seem to be totally successful, however, as most faculty members sat silently listening to the discussion.

For over an hour after the faculty members arrived, the group discussed the nature of Swarthmore as a liberal arts institution. After nearly twenty minutes of discussion, Paul Lutzker, Instructor in political science, said that he remained unconvinced on the very premises on which the discussion was proceeding: that much of the education at Swarthmore is irrelevant and misled. He had seen no arguments advanced in support of the basic premise. Even before he finished students were trying to give him the arguments he was looking for.

At nearly two o'clock Uwe Henke stood up and expressed confusion as to the direction of the meeting. He felt that the issue that was being discussed should be the topic for workshops rather than the general meeting. "The one issue which should preempt all others is what's happening in the country right now," he concluded.

There were numerous reports at the meeting on the activities which had been happening throughout the day. Dan Wasserman

stressed the non-violence of yesterday's march of about 3,000 strikers from Penn which had been scheduled to end at City Hall, but continued from there to the Induction Center at 401 W. Broad St. The march ended in a sit-down demonstration outside the center. Wasserman said, however, that many of the marchers left before the demonstration as "it doesn't make much sense for those who are supposed to be working to be in jail." Although four demonstrators were arrested, he stressed that no violence or confrontation with the police had taken place.

Henke, who had just returned from a meeting of the National Strike Committee, stressed the importance of the Yale strike to the direction of the whole movement. He felt that the success of the movement depended on the solidarity the strikers felt. The meeting, which united representatives from all striking schools on the east coast, was broken up twice by people trying to manipulate the direction of the meeting. He stressed that all people must be included in the movement. "I really think," he concluded, "that we have a chance to do something and change something."

Dan Wasserman also described the Regional Steering Committee meeting which he attended yesterday at Penn. The Committee includes two representatives from each of 20-30 area colleges on strike, and one from each political organization. The Committee today endorsed a proposal which called for Penn remaining open for the summer. "We could start using the resources of the University to serve society," The planning for Friday's Philadelphia Rally continued. Speakers will include at least one Conspiracy ~~member~~, one member of the Philadelphia Black Panther Party, and perhaps Wendell Young, Lynn Marcus, and Zeke Boyd.

PRESIDENT CROSS SIGNS ANTI-WAR STATEMENT

President Cross signed a statement Monday night calling for a "prompt end of American military involvement in South-east Asia" partly because of the widespread apprehensions that the invasion of Cambodia has caused among faculty and students on campus. According to The New York Times yesterday morning, 34 college presidents had signed the statement, including those from New York University, Haverford, Bryn Mawr, Princeton, Columbia, Notre Dame, Penn, and Johns Hopkins. The statement reads:

The American invasion of Cambodia and the renewed bombing of North Vietnam have caused extraordinarily severe and widespread apprehensions on our campuses. We share these apprehensions. As college and university presidents in contact with large numbers of highly intelligent Americans, we must advise you that among a major part of our students and faculty members the desire for a prompt end of American military involvement in Southeast Asia is extremely intense. We implore you to consider urgently the incalculable dangers of an unprecedented alienation of America's youth and to take immediate action to demonstrate unequivocally your determination to end the war quickly. We request the opportunity to discuss these problems with you directly.

SENIORS MAKE EXAM STATEMENT

195 out of the 226 seniors planning to graduate signed the following statement about exam procedures before yesterday's faculty meeting:

We, the undersigned members of the Senior Class, feel, due to the immediacy of the present crisis, that the following options must be made available:

- 1) Those in Course or Honors who wish to take

their exams as scheduled be allowed to do so.

2) (a) Those in Honors who feel they cannot take exams be evaluated on the basis of their past work and be graduated with a degree in seminar if they have performed satisfactorily in past work.

(b) Those in Honors who do not feel they can take exams presently scheduled, but who would like to obtain a degree in Honors be allowed to graduate in seminar this year if they have performed satisfactorily in work up to this time, with the possibility of getting an Honors degree in the future by taking Honors exams at a later date.

3) Those in Course who feel they cannot take exams be evaluated on the basis of their past work and be graduated with a degree in course if they have performed satisfactorily in past work.

We support and shall support as a body each Senior student in his or her individual decision as to which option he or she chooses. We want to emphasize that this is not an action against the College, but is a statement of support for the individual decision of each student.

Psych Dept, Organizes Workshops for This Afternoon

A group of psychology faculty and majors has recommended that psychology seminars and courses be reorganized for the remainder of the semester into a series of workshops "to consider questions of particular relevance in light of the importance of this time--that this is a crucial time for the country and a crucial time for our education."

A meeting this afternoon at 2 p.m. on Martin lawn will organize the specific workshops that will be held. The workshops are intended partially to provide the creative synthesis of learning normally provided by exams. "Mainly, however, they are intended as suggested frameworks for all those who wish to share their understanding, examine it, and gain more. Position papers emerging from the workshops may be distributed to the whole College community.

Questions around which workshops may be organized are: What strikers do about communicating with people of different views and different backgrounds, building and directing mass movements, what do strikers know about the development of social and moral responsibility, and what should be done about the use and misuse of scientific knowledge.

RACISM WORKSHOP CREATES INFORMATION EXCHANGE

A workshop on racism yesterday attended by about 30 people attempted to exchange information between black and white people on racism at Swarthmore and on the relation of oppression of the blacks to the strike against the Cambodian situation.

After an initial effort to define racism, Russell Frisbee commented that racism is so tied in to the economic and political system, that just eliminating personal racist attitudes will not eliminate racism from the system. Frisbee pointed out that the College has "investments in racist institutions" such as the Chase Manhattan Bank, which has a substantial interest in maintaining the racist government in South Africa, so even the College itself is helping to perpetuate the "racist system."

Frisbee added that the war in Vietnam is just one more example of "the racist attitudes of the United States." There is an implicit assumption in the foreign policy of the United States that "keeping the peace" and intervening in every little brush-fire war is the "white man's burden."

Several white students then asked the blacks at the workshop what they could do to end racism. They replied that before whites can fight racism, they have to have exorcised their own racist feelings. Tracy Nicholas said whites have to ask themselves, "When you think, 'black,' what do you really think?"

Many students expressed concern that the fact that blacks here eat and socialize together is alienating many genuinely concerned white students. They see the blacks apparently rejecting their friendship in a place where friendship and good interpersonal relations are values which have traditionally been accepted without question. One girl pointed out that many white students who had never had any contact with blacks before they came to Swarthmore came here expecting to learn all about the black culture and the meaning of blackness. However, on arrival, they discover that Swarthmore's black students tend to socialize among themselves, and that there is a minimum of contact between the races. This creates a conflict which the student must resolve.

Mike Hucles explained that the whole point to black separatism is to enable the black community to build itself up politically, socially, and economically so that when the black and white communities come together it will be on an equal, one-to-one basis. He and several others emphasized that they had told the white community how they thought the black-white relationship should be, and that the whites now should talk among themselves and decide what to do about racism. It would be condescending, Hucles said, for a black to say, "this is how to end your racism."

Frisbee questioned the depth of Swarthmore's commitment to ending racism, noting that it took an invasion of Cambodia to get a workshop on racism scheduled. "If Nixon pulled out of Cambodia and gave back job deferments," Frisbee said, "What would you do? Would it be ecology again?"

One student pointed out that whites can afford to regard ending oppression of the blacks as an extracurricular activity; whites just are not oppressed.

The workshop on racism will meet again at 10 a.m. Thursday in Bond.

REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL MEETING

Representatives of numerous regional high schools met at 7:30 last night in the Rathskellar to discuss issues raised by the invasion of Cambodia, the way their schools were reacting to the situation, and what actions they should take to speed an end to the war in Indo-China and help right the ills of American society. The group adjourned after setting up a steering committee. Representatives of Harriton, Westtown, Springfield, Swarthmore, Haverford, Ridley, Nether Providence, Lower Merion, Mitchell, and O'Hara Catholic high schools were present.

The meeting began with reports from various representatives on the situation at their schools. Most, with the exception of Swarthmore High School, which is holding teach-ins today, reported that their students had reacted generally apathetically to the recent events in Cambodia and the subsequent action on college campuses. The anti-war activities underway at these schools ranged from "nothing" at O'Hara, to leafletting and meetings at Westtown.

The students constantly stressed the need for a direction and purpose for the organization they were hoping to set up. Others countered with the argument that this movement already had a direction and a purpose; it was an organization that it lacked. A debate raged for two hours over what the objects of the regional high school student union they hoped to create should be and what form its organization should take.

Several objections were raised concerning the role of Swarthmore students in helping to organize and participating in the meeting. One student objected to Swarthmore students calling the meeting, until it was pointed out that students of Swarthmore High School had called it. Ray Bub criticized Swarthmore College students for monopolizing the discussion, but there was a general consensus that those who wished to participate in the meeting should, since all, regardless of their status in society, had a stake in the movement.

Students repeatedly emphasized the necessity for maintaining the diversity of the movement in order to counter what they termed Nixon's isolation strategy. A suggestion proposing setting up an inter-high school underground newspaper was criticized for too much restricting the goals of the organization.

After considerable debate, the group agreed on Steve Marion's proposal to set up a steering committee on which one or two students from each high school would be represented. The meeting then adjourned until 7:30 tomorrow night when it will reconvene in the Rathskellar to further consider building up an inter-high school organization. Many of the students present see this organization as part of a student power base. Tonight a mass meeting of students from city and suburban high schools will take place in the Fine Arts Auditorium at 34th and Walnut streets at 7 p.m.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH MEETING

A crowd of about 50 Swarthmore residents and a contingent of college students heard Harvey Oxenhorn and Professor of History George McCully speak briefly at the Presbyterian Church in Swarthmore last night. The speaking engagement, stemming from efforts of striking students to reach out into the community, was followed by a far-reaching and often lively discussion.

Oxenhorn spoke briefly on the institutional nature of the strike at Swarthmore. In an academic presentation, Prof. McCully dealt with the irrelevance of education in the university today, the result of the increasing fragmentation of academic disciplines pervading the entire society. He said the United States' foreign policy decisions which try separating economic and political concerns in ignorance of morality represent this fragmentation. The concern for relevance and the effects of fragmentation on society led to the actions at Swarthmore, he felt.

Varied audience reaction met the speakers when the meeting opened up for discussion. With McCully moderating, the group raised questions on issues ranging from the justification of the war to the eighteen-year-old vote. Two main factions appeared within the audience, one in support of the Nixon Administration and the other in opposition. The group's interest heightened over the high school response to the strike activities, and it requested that the students in the audience clarify the issues surrounding the high school protest.

Occasionally tempers flared among the more vocal of the audience, but in general the discussion was passive. The meeting broke up at about 9 p.m. and people began to write letters to their Congressmen and to President Nixon. Several people signed a sheet offering to serve as hosts for small gatherings at their homes to talk with students and faculty members from the College. "Sign-up sheets are located in Tables for those who are interested in attending such parties later this week," Oxenhorn reported.

After the meeting ended, many people stayed to talk with the students attending. Oxenhorn said they were "hesitant, but eager" to talk with people from the College.

NEW MOBE WASHINGTON MARCH

The New Mobe is organizing a march on Washington for Saturday, according to the College Protestant chaplain, Rev. John Boyles. Because of threats of violence at the march, there has been much discussion about whether or not to hold it.

Rev. Boyles returned to the College Tuesday after spending the weekend in Washington, where he organized the prayer service protesting the involvement in Cambodia that resulted in the arrest of Dr. Benjamin Spock and prominent clergymen. The demonstrators were arrested while they knelt for a benediction. They were charged with disorderly conduct and failure to move, and later released on \$25 bond. Rev. Boyles was not arrested.

The services were held in Lafayette Park across from the White House. The purpose of the service was to express the "moral outrage of the religious community," Rev. Boyles said the police told UPI that Rev. William Sloan Coffin was arrested at the service, and the UPI carried the story. This was false, Rev. Boyles said. Rev. Coffin was in New Haven during the service.

SWARTHMORE TO MEET WITH CONGRESSMEN

Two buses of Swarthmore students will leave early tomorrow morning for Washington, D.C., to talk to congressmen and senators about the Indo-China situation. The group of approximately eighty hopes to register their opposition to the Administration's action and to counteract President Nixon's characterization of college students as "bums."

In addition to talking with the representatives, the contingent intends to present letters signed by other students in the Congressmen's districts. Arrangements are also being made to have a statement indicating the group's opposition to the Cambodian invasion read into the Congressional Record. Another meeting of this body of students will be held at 7 p.m. today in Commons to discuss preparations for the trip.

EditorialNEEDLESS POLARIZATION
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In both of these cases, the group failed to follow its own advice of Monday night, when it agreed that Swarthmoreans should take great care in determining "where the people that they're working with are at." But for the faculty and those students who felt that the arrangements for exams were significant, the group was on a different plane of consciousness.

The strikers must now make a concerted effort to draw the members of the faculty into the movement to make this a truly institutional strike. As an initial step in bringing the faculty into the movement, "communes" such as those set up at Yale could be instituted here. These small groups would include faculty members, administrators, and students of varying political beliefs who could relate to each other in a manner far different than is presently possible in the large meetings. We should not allow a division in the College to form because of the faculty resolution.

TUESDAY'S FACULTY MEETING
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delay exams until the day on which the faculty meets to decide who is to graduate. Shortly after discussion of the proposal began, its author added a provision for the taking of exams in September by seniors unable to take them this spring at times to be determined by the departments; such students would graduate in course. Supporters of this position argued that finals and comprehensives

were an integral part of the educational experience at Swarthmore and should not be deleted, even under extraordinary circumstances. One faculty member contended that striking seniors want to "have their cake and eat it too" in demanding both release from academic commitments and degrees, even degrees "in seminar," in June. It was noted that participation in the strike called for an examination of conscience and that, while the College shouldn't deny degrees to those who made such a decision, it shouldn't make that choice an easy one by providing what one member called "Universal Life Church degrees." Opponents of the proposal described this view as lacking "a sense of humanity." The examination process was characterized as a last formal hurdle placed in front of the seniors and as having little integrative value. The faculty endorsed the principle embodied in the first proposal by a 57 to 31 vote. Freshmen, sophomores, and juniors were in effect guaranteed incompletes in their courses and seminars in a little-contested decision.

The committee's proposal for an opening statement of justification and intent was approved nearly unanimously after an alternate proposal was defeated. As finally enacted, the section reads: "Recognizing that grave moral, political, and educational issues are posed and highlighted by the recent invasion of Cambodia, the faculty of Swarthmore College endorses and encourages the innovative and constructive activities of members of the College community who wish to devote their energies for the remainder of the academic year to questions of national policy." The rejected alternative, which said that the "College alters its normal program...to enable members of the College community who wish to do so to devote their energies to questions of national policy." It was characterized by its opponents as giving too little support to striking students and faculty.

With little discussion, the faculty provided that students who wished to take exams according to schedule be encouraged to do so.

THE PHOENIX SUPPLEMENT

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