

FSM

NEWSLETTER

No. III

Berkeley, California

November 2, 1964

WHERE WE STAND

Last week things looked favorable. But that was last week, and weeks are no longer measured in days but in decisions.

Two committees were set up. One, dealing with the eight suspensions, recommends to Chancellor Strong. The second, dealing with campus political freedom, recommends to Clark Kerr.

The committees were to be the major instruments in handling the disputes. Instead, they turn out to be only picture windows. The administration does not take them seriously. The events of last week proved this.

Kerr agreed to issue a statement that he looked forward to the recommendations of the committee on political freedom. Instead, the only statement he issued accused the students of FSM of being non-students and Communists.

Before any recommendations are made, Kerr and The Regents have asked the state legislature to draft laws making certain types of otherwise legal demonstrations misdemeanors on campus.

Before any recommendations are made, Kerr has decided what kind of recommendations he wants to hear.

Reinstate the suspended students, Strong's committee urged, at least while their cases are being heard. Strong, who had previously agreed to follow any recommendations, said No.

We asked that our legal counsel be allowed to question witnesses to Strong's committee on points of law. No, again.

It is more than evident that the administration has its own plans, its own goals, its own means; and these plans, these goals, these means have nothing whatsoever to do with what the two committees decide. The committees are picture windows, but like all good picture windows, you can see right through them.

WHERE WE GO FROM HERE

We do not know how long the already established committees will take and we do not even know that the administration will listen to their decisions. But let it be known that we can be stopped only by so many detours before the road begins to lead nowhere, and then there will remain only one road, that of direct action.

We continue to meet in growing frustration and with deepening doubt as to the value of the committee proceedings. We are not the professionals the bureaucrats claim we are--but we learn fast and we will not falter again. We shall not again consider a new procedure, a new committee, as "a major victory."

Let us return to the issues. We demand these on-campus freedoms for all:

- 1-Freedom to advocate off-campus political and social action.
- 2-Freedom to recruit for off-campus political and social action.
- 3-Freedom to solicit funds for off-campus political causes.
- 4-Freedom from harassment of both the "72 hour rule" and mandatory presence at meetings of tenured faculty moderators and police.

The committee that handles these points may meet indefinitely. Committees cannot mediate basic rights; they can only urge their reinstatement.

The ACLU has become deeply involved in this case. Their lawyers are certain that the rights being denied cannot legally be denied. We expect to have full freedom of speech on this campus. There will be no settling for half of the first amendment and two thirds of the fourteenth.

Though our hands are now tied with red tape, red tape is not inviolable. It can be cut, it can be

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FINANCES

As of Saturday September 24 (after the hootenanny) the Free Speech Movement had raised a total of \$878.62 and had spent \$714.74. This does not mean that we are ahead since we are expecting a whopping phone bill. The greatest single expense is paper and ink, \$385.78, and after that comes Publicity (\$225.40) which includes stamps and envelopes, posters, P. A. systems, telephone deposits and buttons. The use of meeting halls has cost \$67.00. Food at demonstrations and miscellaneous accounts for the remainder.

Our single largest source of funds has been collection for the newsletter (by contribution) \$340.24 and second, cash collected at demonstrations, \$323.88. Donations at meetings have been \$194.50 and private contributions \$20.00. Profit from sale of buttons has not yet been calculated.

We'd like to do a great deal more leafletting and we could use a temporary central headquarters near campus but these are presently beyond our means.

According to a university regulation, the administration may decide in any instance that police will be required at any on-campus meeting. In such a case the sponsoring organization is required to pay the protection money. We'd like to notify the bursar right now--don't bother to bill us for the hundreds of cops who "guarded" our Oct. 2 on-campus meeting.



"De ends don't justify de means!"

THE BIGGEST NON-STUDENT

"It is a known fact that President Lopez Mateos of Mexico espouses interest and friendship for Fidel Castro's Communist form of government in Cuba. What amount, or form of persuasion is our State Department taking to discourage the above?"

"The Tribune considers it a privilege to recommend the election of Barry Goldwater as President of the United States."

"Mississippi justice is a disgrace to the nation," said one official of the NAACP. We agree."

"The Rumford Act was enacted by a legislature with a 'gun at its head' in the form of CORE pickets clogging the corridors of the capitol, chanting, demonstrating, and generally obstructing calm deliberation. The result is manifest in a singularly obnoxious law."

"We need not one but a million Barry Goldwaters to clear the muck and stench out of our government, remove the dirt and corruption from our White House and rekindle the beacon light of hope for the enslaved people all over the world."

The University Administration does not allow its students to advocate ideas or collect money on campus. The above five quotes come from the editorials, columns, and letters of a publication that can be bought ON-CAMPUS for ten cents--The Oakland Tribune. They can do both; we can do neither. We asked Dean Towle why. She had no answer.

BLACK FRIDAY

Provoked and much irritated
The very young underdog
Felt so hurt.
He demonstrated
--To be heard--
Throughout 3 days and 2 nights.

In dense bureaucratic a fog:
Five hundred cops on his sides:
The boss let him enter and greeted
And underdog was seated
And cheated
Completely out of his rights.

Underdog is growing wise,
He will not be cheated twice.

VIOLENCE

REPORT ON REPRESSION

The Academic Senate has condemned violence on the campus.

Nine professors in statistics, mathematics, and engineering bought an ad in the Daily Californian, in which they said:

"We are shocked at the massing of police on the Berkeley campus on Friday, October 2, 1964. This threat of force was wrong, and in our opinion, must never be repeated."

It is clear that there has only been one threat of force: Clark Kerr's threat to break up a peaceful demonstration with more than 500 helmeted, club-carrying policemen.

The students have exerted only moral force. By refusing to participate in injustice--by refusing to let eight students be suspended for breaking a regulation that hundreds had violated, by refusing to let one be arrested for a "crime" hundreds had committed--they showed that they had real strength, strength of conviction.

If force had been used to end the demonstration, it would have been only the force of the police, carrying away unresisting demonstrators.

The students would not have hurt the policemen, or anyone else. Instead they asked to be arrested and possibly hurt themselves, to demonstrate how deeply they believed that they were right.

If violence is threatened again, it will be threatened by Clark Kerr. The students do not need violence; they have the strength of numbers--and commitment.

The Committee on Campus Political Activity (the 18-man committee arrived at in the October 16 settlement) is conducting hearings and discussions on political and social activities on the campus.

In a document to be presented to the Committee this week, sixty-five topics will be discussed, ranging from the loyalty oath controversy of the early 1950's, through KPFA's role as a means of communication between the students and the larger community, to the problems of such political groups as Students for Fair Housing.

The purpose of the report is to document the history of repression of political and social activity--of faculty as well as students--on the Berkeley campus in the last decade.

Documentation has come from the Daily Californian, the minutes of the Academic Senate, the Senate of the ASUC, and The Regents of the University, as well as organization files, interviews, and sworn affidavits from people involved in past controversies over the civil rights of students.

The document supports a general finding--that political activities of students (and faculty members) have been directly suppressed whenever necessary; more often, the burden of rules and regulations has led to a presumption that nothing can be done, and the result has been, all too often, apathetic inactivity.



KRYPTONITE

THE POWERS of governing still remaining in the hands of the king, he will have a negative over the whole legislation of this continent. And as he hath shown himself such an inveterate enemy to liberty, and discovered such a thirst for arbitrary power, is he, or is he not, a proper person to say to these colonies, You shall make no laws but what I please! And is there any inhabitant of America so ignorant as not to know, that according to what is called the present constitution, this continent can make no laws but what the king gives leave to; and is there any man so unwise as not to see, that (considering what has happened) he will suffer no law to be made here but such as suits his purpose?

AS BRITAIN hath not manifested the least inclination towards a compromise, we may be assured that no terms can be obtained worthy the acceptance of the continent, or any ways equal to the expense of blood and treasure we have been already put to.

--Thomas Paine, Common Sense

Where We Go (cont.)

broken, it can be ignored. Once we did ignore it, in the days preceding October 2, and we got promises, promises of procedural meetings that have decided nothing but have dragged much.

Perhaps we should not have moved on October 2. Perhaps our subsequent demands should have been stronger, our subsequent position firmer. If our greatest weakness was letting our hands be tied, then we must make this greatest weakness our greatest lesson.

We repeat: when the morass of mediation becomes too thick to see through, action must let in the light.

NO! NO! A THOUSAND TIMES NO!

All week it's been nothing but "no," from every bureaucrat on every issue.

Particle, a magazine devoted to math and science, was told, "No, you can't send delegates to the Executive Committee of the FSM or we'll kick you off campus."

Campus CORE was told by Mrs. Weaver, "No, you can't have that rally; in fact, you can never use any Hyde Park area. By a new clarification we find that they are intended for impromptu speeches by individuals, not recognized campus groups."

David Friedman of Campus CORE followed her through a chain of reasoning too long and silly to reproduce. She finally admitted that the Communist Party or the Socialist Worker's Party could organize a rally in Hyde Park, since they had not applied for off-campus status--but not CORE.

At this point, Friedman decided to abandon any attempt to reason with Mrs. Weaver. He informed her that the CORE membership had voted to hold the rally--no ifs, ands, or buts. The rally would be held. Faced with this, Mrs. Weaver granted permission. (I quit!" "Then you're fired!")

The discipline committee of the Academic Senate recommended that, as a simple matter of due process, the eight suspended students be reinstated for the duration of the hearings. Chancellor Strong said, "No!"

What will be the result of the Committee on Political Activity? After the hearings, after the discussion, what then?

Perhaps we are beginning to see what will happen. Chancellor Strong has shown the attention he pays to faculty recommendations. What will he do with the recommendations of a committee that is two-thirds students and faculty? (If, indeed, any recommendations are made.)

What will the answer be? We fear that it will be short and simple--"No!"

AN HONEST VOTE

"It is the sense of this committee that there be complete free speech in certain geographical areas of the campus for all persons."

This was the motion presented by Charlie Powell, ASUC President and student member of the Study Committee on Campus Political Freedom. The Study

The Committee met on the afternoon of October 29 to discuss question one of the six questions, outlined below, that the Committee will consider through its existence.

Initially, the student delegation to the meeting urged that no geographical restrictions be placed on political freedom. The faculty proposal suggested the limitation (though still allowing for complete freedom within the specified areas) and after some concessions Powell made the above motion. Here is the voting breakdown:

For: Powell, Aptheker, Goldberg, Stapleton (student delegates); Chait, Rosovsky, Gargarino (faculty delegates.)

Against: Chernin, Brode, Kidner, Searsy, (administration delegates.)

Abstentions: Bratten (Student); Vermeulen (Faculty), Towle (Administration)

(One student, Mario Savio, was at the suspended students committee but it is more than likely that he would be in the 'For' column. One administration and two faculty members were absent.)

Afterwards, an administration member expressed his resentment that the students forced the vote. "I did not want to be put into the position of voting against free speech," he said.

But the question arises how, in a committee expressly formed to inquire into free speech and to come to specific decisions on free speech, he could possibly have expected to avoid voting on free speech.

Do the administration delegates plan to come to a decision at all? Or will they get so caught up (intentionally) in procedure, protocol, and pomp that in the end it will fade away with little more than a whimper and no definite conclusions.

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Money and mail to FSM; Box 809, Berkeley, Calif.