

A.D.H.S. Slave Day



"Wha dat you say maseh?"

Slavery came back in style last week, when A.D.H.S. auctioned off its finest fannies in the name of student council funds.

Volunteers stood on the auction block on Thursday afternoon, offering a day's undying devotion to the highest bidder. Some went for as high as a dollar. Others went into servitude in groups of two or three at economy rates.

Grade 13 gave visible evidence of the co-operative spirit that results from five years of mutual suffering, by pooling funds to buy a number of slaves including Mrs. Warner.

Friday, it was too late for volunteers to reconsider. In one home, the early hours of dawn were shattered by a slave singing "You Are My Sunshine" over the telephone to her master. Mr. Bray's property had to appear in class wearing a gas mask and carrying a huge magnifying glass.

One unfortunate soul found herself reduced to a between-class-coolie, peddling about on a tricycle with her master perched behind on a wagon. Another was so bound up in chains and combination locks, that many were afraid she might fall and drown herself in her tears. Her master was forced

to reduce her burden to a mere pound or two of steel or face charges by the Humane Society for the Protection of Dumb Animals.

Throughout the day, slaves carried books, washed cars, massaged necks and entertained the every whim of their all too enthusiastic masters.

A dance in the gym Friday night with special rates for masters and slaves, completed the project.

A profit of 57 dollars was banked by the student council to be used for future efforts and for the support of the school's foster child overseas.

Criticism of Criticism

By Victor Funk

The timeless art of criticism is really going wild.

Have you noticed? Students are running down teachers, teachers are running down parents, parents are running down M.P.'s. M.P.'s are running down taxpayers (behind their backs), and Canada is running down the U.S. and the U.S. doesn't even know about Canada yet.

It is apparently true that if you are concerned about something, your country or your school for example, the proper thing to do is to criticize. It's an obvious case of too many chiefs. Most people making statements these days have simply no idea what they are talking about or don't really care.

It's just a matter of making a spontaneous conclusion, highly biased, of course, and voicing it just as loudly as you can. The result of all this "gliberty-glub" is nothing and that's how much gets done.

According to the Oxford Dictionary: critical-censurous, fault-finding, and/or skilled in criticism.

Notice the "skilled" part. In a skilled criticism of something a thorough knowledge of related facts should be attempted. You hear reams of people every day talking about Harry or cutting up Joe because of the clothes he wears. This type of thing can only hurt.

My pet beef is a number of students ganging up on another. Any person can only be normal if he is accepted as normal, because what is normal anyway? Who are you to criticize? What did I say? Here I am criticizing criticism.

Lack of proper facilities dampens smoking issue

According to a recent survey, 52 per cent of the students contacted in Acton District High School are in favor of a smoking lounge within the building. However, it appears doubtful that anything will be done about it in the near future.

To meet fire regulations, such a room must be specially built with tile floors and proper ventilation. There is no area suitable within the school at the present time.

Vice-principal Joe Bray commented, "We're sympathetic to the students needs, but I can't really see anything until the time for new building plan comes along."

Results of the survey distributed among students, showed that the majority of smokers in the high school were in the four-year program. The girls are mostly in the four-year business and commerce courses. The boys are more widely spread out.

Oddly enough, the highest percentage of smokers are at the grade 10 level. There appears to be no definite reason for this trend, unless the novelty simply wears off by the upper grades.

While 52 per cent of the students voted in favor of the lounge, only 30 per cent said they would be willing to clean up after school. A total of 30 per cent stated that their parents approved of the lounge.

Of those who filled out the survey, 24 per cent were smokers. Another 11 per cent said they felt they might start smoking if they had the lounge.

Where do Volkswagens go when they're wrecked? To the Old Volks Home, of course.

Free Press YOUTH PAGE

fresh tracks by Barbara McIntosh

THE READING BUG

For years I lived in a world no bigger than my own experience and no brighter than my own imagination. Then I discovered books.

At first, I was a one-track reader. Within a matter of weeks I had consumed every horse novel on the shelves of our local library. Then it was Jungle Boy and Tarzan of the Apes. After I discovered I was a girl, I advanced into Nancy Drew mystery books and the Anne of Green Gables series.

I remember that I liked to read late at night when the house was quiet. I used to put a sweater over the top of my bedlamp so my mother couldn't see that the light was still on. Once in the middle of Stephen Leacock's Sunshine Sketches, the sweater caught fire. I had to change reading habits from then on.

Prescribed school books automatically became dull even before I started reading them. Somehow knowing that they were doomed to analyze and dissection took away the glamor and excitement.

The reading habit seems to be like progressive alcoholism. Once you begin to get a taste for it, it becomes a need that must be satisfied or it results in a nervous, irritable sickly condition. The hooked reader will stop at nothing to absorb the printed word. He reads the paper, the cereal box and the label on his silverware for breakfast. He absorbs billboards, gum wrappers, licence plates and even painted sweatshirts... anything to tide him over until he can once more sink into the seclusion of a good book.

A good book can take the place of a lost love, treat you to a trip around the world when you're broke, add adventure and intrigue to a dull existence, or enable you to let on to the world you've been around even if you've never ventured outside the town limits.

A wise man named Erasmus once said, "When I get a little money I buy books and if any is left I buy food and clothes." You don't have to get that religious about it if you exercise restraint.

It's National Book Week. How about a new hobby?

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Hear! about - that growing shortage of skilled supermarket checkers?

Somebody has. Humber College of Applied Arts and Technology has started a Supermarket Checker Education Program guaranteed to provide a trained pool of checkers, increase checker performance, and reduce training costs.

According to industry leaders, about 20,000 supermarket checkers are needed across Canada. With training costs estimated as high as \$400 per cashier, millions are spent each year preparing workers for the sophisticated check-out systems.

In addition to cash register training, the program offers price marketing, bagging, operations in all departments, opportunities in the industry, history, sales promotion, customer relations, cashing cheques, bonus money, and would you believe shoplifting?

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