

FEATURES

"Johnny Come Lately"

The time has come for us to stand up for our rights. We have no other choice. Nova Scotia will have to secede from Canada. We've been putting up with enough guff from the rest of the provinces. As a small minority in a growing industrial nation we are in great danger of being submerged with no voice in our own affairs. We are losing our identity, our distinctiveness, and our individuality. Unless we want to become mere cogs in the Eastern wheel we will have to pull out and go it alone.

Come to think of it there are more provinces in this same boat. Both Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island have similar problems. Possibly we could get them to withdraw along with us. It would help to create a larger and more stable economic unit. By bringing New Brunswick in we could create a block large enough to stand on its own two feet. No doubt the western provinces are also feeling left out of national affairs and would be only too glad to join a union of this sort. In fact we could probably persuade every province in the Dominion secede with us - except maybe Quebec.

"Open Mike"

Did you ever wonder what happened to the old time soap operas on radio? The ones like "Our Gal Sunday", the story that asks the question, "Can a little girl from a little mining town out west keep all those sex-starved miners happy?" Or Ma Perkins who couldn't keep her nose out of other people's business long enough to wipe it clean. These programs all had one thing in common: everyone in them had insurmountable problems and all evoked sympathy. All across the continent housewives doing the dishes and the dusting stopped to shed tubs of tears when someone in "Pepper Young's Family" broke his clavical. In fact the soap required to launder the soiled handkerchiefs probably was enough to pay for the program.

Now all this has changed. Maybe we have too many problems of our own or maybe we can't find writers who will lower themselves to writing such drivel, but at any rate the new craze is jamming switchboards. All morning long the announcer sits there making phone calls or inviting other people to make phone calls, all of which go on the air of course. If nothing else it takes the fun out of listening on the party-line. Now, by merely having a nimble index finger, the required number of box-tops and the intelligence to answer a skill-testing question like, "When was the war of 1812 fought?", the little lady can become the proud recipient of a 20 year supply of New Blue Barf, the pink detergent containing green crystal bleach. By doing the same thing next week she may win a warehouse to put it in.

I wonder what the next fad will be. Maybe --. But pardon me a moment, I have to go and answer the phone.

NFCUS Blasts Iranian Govt.

OTTAWA (CUP) — The National Federation of Canadian University Students has taken part in a joint appeal to Iranian authorities, protesting the recent arrest of hundreds of students and suppression of student demonstrations in Teheran by Iranian police.

Joining NFCUS in this action were these other national unions of students: UGEMA, Algeria; UNEF, France; NUSAS, South

Africa; USNSA, United States.

The joint message, to other national unions, calls for protests against these incidents to be sent to Iranian Prime Minister Ali Amini and U.N. Secretary General U Thant, and messages to be sent to the Confederation of Iranian Students.

The joint appeal states that the signatories "strongly protest Iranian Government's bloody suppression demonstration . . . government forces invaded university grounds breaking agreement between university and government that police not violate traditional sanctity university . . . we urge all national unions protest . . ."

"THE TROPIC OF CANCER" ON TRIAL

from the Daily Pennsylvanian

(Courtesy of CUP)

The first step is being taken in Philadelphia this month on what may prove to be the most important and controversial censorship case since the trial of James Joyce's *Ulysses*.

Hearings have finished, although no decision will be handed down for at least a month, on District Attorney James Crumlin's request for a permanent injunction banning sale of Henry Miller's *Tropic of Cancer*. A temporary injunction was already in force.

Both sides in the case have stated that whatever the decision in this hearing, the case will be appealed all the way to the United States Supreme Court in order to get a final decision on whether or not the *Tropic of Cancer* is obscene.

JUDICIAL DISGRACE

A sidelight on the hearings was the behaviour of presiding Judge Vincent A. Carroll. His actions were described in an editorial in the *Daily Pennsylvanian* as "a judicial disgrace which must continually rankle the conscience of any bar . . ."

In the first day of the two-day hearing, several defense witnesses testified that Miller's book was not obscene. Dr. E. Sculley Bradley, vice-provost of the University of Pennsylvania, testified that the book is a picture of its times and "a serious work for the mature and has sufficient merit to survive."

Bradley followed Dr. Karl Bode of the University of Maryland, who testified that the book was in the tradition of dissent that characterized American fiction from the 1880's to the present. Bode said the book is "a vehement protest against slum living in New York, against conformity in general, against American sexual mores, against American middle class values, and against the commercial and civic obligation of the citizen."

LONE OUTCRYING

Bradley agreed, saying the book shows the same disgust with American values as do John Dos Passos' *USA*, the works of Hemingway, and T.S. Elliot's *The Wasteland*. He was joined by another defense witness, Dr. Emerson Greenaway, director of the Free Library of Philadelphia, who testified that the book was "a landmark in American fiction," constituting the "lone outcrying of a lone misguided individual screaming about things he doesn't like."

Judge Carroll, after Greenaway's testimony, said "I'd like to find out what he doesn't like about American life which led him to write a book about a lot of French whores."

Judge Carroll also asked if "the repetition of six four-letter words in one paragraph describing sexual intercourse" was necessary for literary effectiveness. "Later, he asked, 'Does the book go beyond the limits of candour defined by contemporary standards?'"

(In presenting the story, the *Pennsylvanian* ran this headline: "Morality Battles Logic; Judge Carroll Frolics as 'Tropic' Trial Ends".)

Bradley said the book "could not have been written without the use of the vernacular," and Greenaway said he did not think the book passed the limits of candour.

IVORY PALACE OF LITERATURE

During the first day of the hearings, Judge Carroll interjected a

number of remarks. Among them was an accusation that Greenaway lived "in an ivory palace of literature without regard to practicality of morality." "On another occasion, he glanced at Greenaway and announced, 'We want to know something about this man's mental processes.'"

The second day of testimony was devoted primarily to the case for the prosecution. The first witness, Dr. George Frignito, a non-Freudian psychiatrist who is medical director of the County Court of Philadelphia, condemned the book as a "biography of degenerate, chaotic sexuality."

At one point during Frignito's testimony, he claimed that in his work he examined juvenile delinquents and "street walkers." Judge Carroll interjected: "You mean whores and prostitutes."

"ABERRANT" SEXUAL BEHAVIOUR

Frignito testified that the book included "aberrant" sexual behaviour such as "sodomy, bestiality, prostitution, pimping, rape, male prostitution, voyeurism, masochism, coprophilia, fellatio." At this point, Judge Carroll commented that he had heard "more new names around here than the first time I went to France."

Frignito claimed the book was obscene under the definition set by the Supreme Court in *Roth vs. the U.S.*, 1957, which included excitation of prurient emotions, creation of desire and longing, and going beyond the normal bounds of candour.

He added that reading the book would "induce a young man to sexual indiscretions and delinquency." He also claimed that "65 per cent of delinquent boys and 35 per cent of girls admit to masturbation because of smut."

Another prosecution witness, Dr. Austin App of Lasalle College, called the book "filthy, obscene, immoral, irreverent, profane, blasphemous." He added "There is not a single favourable allusion to the Deity and many unfavourable ones. . . a literary monument —pfah!"

BOOK "UTTERLY REPULSIVE"

Sigrid Nelson Craig, a former teacher at girls' High School in Philadelphia and now Chairman of the Citizens' Committee Against Obscenity, labelled the book "utterly repulsive." Miss Craig was the last of five prosecution witnesses.

At one point during the testimony, Judge Carroll told the prosecution attorneys: "Yesterday I was sorry I came. Today I'd like to be in there as your partner."

After hearings ended, Judge Carroll told David Edelstein of the *Daily Pennsylvanian* censorship was justified because there is a point of tolerance beyond which you can't go.

The judge cited the stress in the Constitution on the "welfare of the people." This, he said, precludes anything that's going to hurt." Carroll claimed that "every time you find a sex criminal, you'll find pornographic literature."



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