

Poetry

By DON PHILLIPS

It's Raining, Politician
the sun is shining and yet the rain falls
it's raining throughout the changing world
raining bricks and bottles and words of hate
it's raining hard in Viet Nam
raining mortars, bullets and young blood
it's raining and the politician opens his umbrella
of course to keep from getting wet

I'm changin like the seasons
why, I can't begin to explain
and I'm not even sure I want to know
things once bright are starting to fade
and how long will it take the new
to start to fade like the old
and will there always be a way to turn

on chilling fall nights
amid tall waggin fallin stars
and the scent of peppermint flowers
my mind plays out many songs
of man's internal storms
and lands of watermelon trees
but the song that often whistles
through the caverns of my mind
is the song of man's desire to be free
to think, act, and live as free as the
summer's breeze
instead of being swallowed by a daily
routine
always a struggling to keep his head above
water or above his neighbors

News briefs

Bernice Bernatz, Dean of Women, has been granted a leave of absence for the spring semester. She will return for the Pre-Session of summer school.

During her absence, Mrs. Florence Ingham will serve as Dean of Women.

William R. Benner, Director of Financial Aid, began a sabbatical leave Jan. 20.

William Blair, Director of Social Activities, and Dr. Jack Owens, Dean of Student Affairs, will handle Mr. Benner's affairs during his absence.

The Air Force will administer the Air Force Officers Qualifying Test (AFOQT) to interested seniors, both men and women, on Saturday, Feb. 17, at 9 a.m. in Lawrence Hall. Students interested in taking the test should sign up immediately in Mr. Blair's office, Room 116, Lawrence Hall.

The Army Officer Candidate Selection Team will be on campus on Feb. 21 at Lawrence Hall from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The team will interview seniors and graduates for the college Officer Candidate School program.

Inquiries will be answered on the above date.

The task force will reconvene on Feb. 8 at 3:30 p.m. in Phillips Memorial Library. The organization will resume work with the review of section five of the AAUP statement: Procedural Standards in Disciplinary Proceedings.

Task force meetings had been cancelled until reports on the proposed men's judicial system were compiled.

The last day to drop a course without penalty is Friday, February 23.

A.W.A.A. Square Dance will be held on Thursday, Feb. 15, from 8 to 10 p.m. in the Field House. Bill Dana will be the caller.

You are cordially invited to participate in a Student Union Committee sponsored program. If you would be willing to have a student to your home for dinner, please

contact Mr. Norris' office at ext. 461.

Dr. Jack White will have infirmary hours from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday instead of 4 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Penn Academy exhibit, "American Art Today," continues until March 3

The 163rd Annual Exhibition of the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, Broad & Cherry Streets, opened to the public with no admission charge on Friday, Jan. 19, and will continue until March 3.

Titled "American Art Today," the exhibition includes a panorama of contemporary oil painting and sculpture. Special gallery talks about the exhibition by leading artists and art critics will be given every Thursday at 2:30 p.m., except Washington's Birthday. Lunch time gallery talks are scheduled every Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from January 23 through March 1, from 12:30 to 1:00 p.m.

Hours during which the exhibition will be open free to the public are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday; 1 to 5 p.m. Sundays and Washington's Birthday. The galleries will be closed every Monday. Information about hours, gallery talks or group tours can be obtained by calling the Academy at LO 4-0219.

NAACP elects officers

The West Chester State College branch of the NAACP has elected new officers for the coming year. They are: Diane Grundy, president; Gloria Harper, vice president; Elva Croswell, secretary; Rich Serchion, treasurer; and Brenda Nichols, publicity chairman.

The officers officially assumed their duties on Jan. 29. Wayne Burton will again serve as advisor. The first project this year will be a display on campus for Negro History Week.

Fug-power— from sexual hangups to STP

By ANN MORRELL

The Fugs are a group...

A few weeks ago I overheard a West Chester guy in Recitation Hall telling an unbelieving female friend, "No, I'm not kidding. They're a group and their name is 'The Fugs.'"

And she, with the brilliant perception typical of our West Chester students, said, "The Fugs! Do you know what their name sounds like?"

Yes! There is a group called the Fugs. Furthermore, they know what their name sounds like. And, incredible as it may seem, some of the harmless-looking students at West Chester have seen and heard the Fugs, and like them!

Fug Quantity

There are usually five or six Fugs when they perform in their permanent show at a Greenwich Village theater. The number varies, as there is a high turnover in Fug-power.

However, three of their members are standard. Ed Sanders, one of the permanent Fugs, also

edit a "magazine of the arts" delicately re-titled by TIME magazine, LOVE YOU. Other resident Fugs are Tuli Kupferberg, one of the few people who jumped off the Brooklyn Bridge and lived to tell about it, and Ken Weaver, who according to rumor, lives in the East Village with his wife and seven mistresses.

But the Fugs aren't just another bunch of cute boys with Beatle haircuts. They aren't boys, they're men; they aren't at all cute, and they do have any haircuts! But they do have a point to make—or, several of them. Many otherwise socially well-adjusted people think their point is justified.

Sex Distorted

The Fugs seem to think the role of sex in man's life is distorted by our society. One way of pointing this out is to distort it in another direction. In one of their original songs, describing the experience with his "Shm Goddess", the Fugs singer says of it:

"The first time ... it nearly drove me insane. The second time ... it ripped me out of my brain. The third time ... I fainted nearly dead..."

If this description seems exaggerated, or in poor taste, how much worse is it than the use of sex in advertising such things as razor blades and automobiles?

In "I Couldn't Get High," the Fugs "wanted to cry ... thought I would die because I couldn't get high" after trying wine, pot, and STP. Unhealthy? When was the last time you heard your neighbor in the dorm ecstatically describing how drunk so-and-so was at the senior party?

The Fugs seem to think there is a connection. "Nothing" is a concise expression of one of the dominant philosophies of West Chester: "Monday nothing, Tuesday nothing, Wednesday and Thursday nothing, Friday for a change, a little more nothing. Saturday, one more nothing."

Duty Categories

All analysts of the creations of the Fugs must be kept carefully between quotation marks. Many people would dispute any classification applied to the Fugs. They may be called "musicians" since they "sing" and "play" instruments, as well as doing monologues and dialogues in live performances. They have been called a "rock group," and a "folk group," but actually defy categorization.

In addition to their original lyrics, they set to music poems by such authors as Blake and Swinburne.

The surest thing to say about the Fugs is that they are a group which has played to many thousands of people across the country. They have fans who go to see them repeatedly. Among their fans number such social misfits as four guys who call themselves the Beatles.

Want proof of their existence? Their two albums are carried, from time to time, by the IGA Bookstore. They appear regularly in New York, and occasionally in Philadelphia at Town Hall or the Trauma.

They have been on David Sasskind's show several times, and offer to appear free of charge at any Cub Scout or Sunday School picnic to which they're invited.

Several of my friends and I suggested the Fugs as a write-in choice of entertainers to be presented at West Chester. Apparently, a majority of West Chester students find the Lettermen more interesting.

Vanity Fair provides a trip through time to the Thirties

By JOAN KROCK
Feature Editor

"(Hitler) loved his mother and hated his father, and any modern psychologist will tell you what that means."

This startling sentence begins an article by John Gunther titled "Has Hitler a mother complex," which is found tucked between a short story by Gertrude Stein and pictures of Coney Island bathers in the September, 1934 issue of VANITY FAIR. It reflects the spirit of a decade of Red scares, summers at Coney Island, the New Deal, Katharine Hepburn, censored movies, and the childhood of psychology.

A Time Machine

VANITY FAIR is dead—or should be. The social barometer of America between 1913 and 1936, the magazine VANITY FAIR chronicled the whims and woes of the gay Twenties and the grim Thirties in a way which makes these years that shaped the sixties live today. Opening VANITY FAIR is like stepping into a time machine.

Advertised as "a record of current achievements in all the arts and a mirror of progress and promise of American life," VANITY FAIR, 1934, had a flair for the offbeat and unusual. Written for the upper social classes, it was flippant on such subjects as the Red scare.

In a January, 1934 issue, William White lampooned the Red scare as "a malady that seems to attack, first of all, statesmen who happen to be out of power." Speaking of the United States' recognition of the Soviet Union in 1934, he hoped that the Soviets "with a proper regard for the dramatic, would appoint at least one Soviet ambassador with a long black beard."

There was also a series of cartoons. The Rich, preparing for the Revolution, showing American capitalists reading Marx and eating with their servants.

Against Censorship

In a decade of strong censorship, VANITY FAIR was bold in lauding the legalization of James Joyce's banned novel, ULYSSES, and in demanding more sex in movies. In a pointed attack against censorship, it showed scenes deleted by the movie censor, satirically pointing out the viciousness of the charges.

Two deleted pictures were a white kitten snuggled against a blackbird, condemned for hinting at miscegenation, and two little girls exchanging a friendly kiss, supposedly hinting at

sexual deviation.

VANITY FAIR effectively demonstrated that the immorality and filth were not in the pictures, but in the minds of the censors.

Famous Contributors

In VANITY FAIR, 1934, great literary figures rubbed elbows; H. L. Mencken, Gertrude Stein, and Paul Gallico. The magazine was a conglomeration of culture: the theatre, ballet, beautiful reproductions, and creative photographs.

On the lighter side, VANITY FAIR, 1934, held paper dolls of Einstein, complete with cut-outs of anti-Nazi armor and a relativity suit. The magazine was also unbelievably hung up on Hollywood with pictures of stars scattered throughout the magazine.

In 1914, Jack London wrote, "I find that I really need VANITY FAIR. It keeps me a little in touch with all the flipperies, insincerities, vanities, decadent arts and sinister pleasures of life."

Filled as it is with advice about dress, social intercourse, and "decadent" drawings, VANITY FAIR, 1934, is more than just Vanity. It is a time capsule holding the temper of the Thirties.

