EDITORIAL

Reflections

In 1940, Thomas Wolfe, stated that "Man was born to live, to suffer, and to die, and what beholds him is a tragic lot. There is no denying this in the final end. But we must deny it all along the way. In such denial is the only hope of the future. He went on to say that "I believe that we are lost here in America, but I believe we shall be found ... I think the true discovery of America is before us, I think the true fulfillment of our spirits, of our people, of our mighty and immortal land, is yet to come. I think the true discovery of our democracy is still before us, and I believe that all these things are certain as the morning, as inevitable as noon. In looking back at the past struggles, we are fortunate to realize that what Thomas Wolfe stated is far from being unrealized.

The whole chaste and cheap aura cast by the arts of the last few decades has produced a reaction in our generation which has consciously or subconsciously run the gauntlet of practices in the arts and in dress.

In the dance of the forties, it was the style to have very controverted movements. There were certain steps which one did and in order to be recognized as a good dancer one had to know these steps well. Now, however, it has gotten to the point where it really does not matter what the hell one does, as long as he moves slightly, in time, or not in time with the music.

In the styles of the forties, there were those who practiced absurdity. The existentialists had a definite philosophy and wrote in terms of it, giving examples, and explaining it. They were not absurd in the sense that they did not know how to explain it, but just wrote absurd little plays and movies. Now we have a generation of some writers who do not know where they are going. Their philosophy is based on drugs. They use slang solely for the sake of using slang, and, in general, most of their writing is hopeless.

In painting, during the years of the war, Abstract Expressionism reigned supreme, and was not knocked down until Pop Art, Op Art, etc., entered the scene.

The music of the forties was mostly rehearsing of experiments with the twelve tone scale, and followers of Stravinski, and of Schoenberg, and you will find all, and the other show-time writers. They followed a set pattern for songs, that is the 32 bar chorus. The way they made a novelty song was by singing "a" and then "b," and then "a" and "c." Eans Vene was one of the first to experiment with electronic music (starting as early as 1950). He used synthesizers, the use of which is still considered a" new" technique.

In the dress styles of the forties, a result of the war, materials were scant, so there were no extra trappings on the clothing. Everything has a streamlined shabby look to it. There were no bold colors, now it is quite different. Aside from the American art dresses and other articles of clothing which are coming into fashion, the flagrant Edwardian era is once again getting better side of people. On the streets one sees women's houses, ruffles about the neck and wrists, large belts, pants with paisley patterns, kimonos, capes, and other old-fashioned elements with a new twist to them. It is obvious that people are tired of being chaste and sexless. People want to show off their good looks. This is good.

In architecture, the International style ravaged this country for about twenty years. The main exponent of this type of degradation of the city and landscape was S. G. Stein. A good example of this is the building in New York City. It has huge walls of glass brick which admit diffused light and no air into the interiors of the building. It is supposed to modern looking, but it is more bland in appearance than many of the brownstones of our cities, of long time for architects to defy this style, especially in so-called architecture commissioned by city government for developments. Now with people like Paul Rudolph, the importance of color, texture, light, and shadow play an important part in good architecture. You get the idea, I have said enough.

In the last few years, I believe our generation is rebelling against the sterile and technological cleanliness imposed on us by the last war and economic difficulties. I think this is a healthy rebellion and will lead to more imaginative and better works of art in general. I am in favor of it.

Our only hope and salvation for the future will be to conquer hypocrisy and mediocrity through the acquisition of truth and honor.

Richard V protections of your rights in this document are listed.

ADDRESS TO GRADUATES

From Dr. Salatino

First of all, I would like to bring a word of sincere felicitation to you, the young men and women of the class of 1967 who shortly will become the newest graduates of Roger Williams Junior College.

The programs of study upon which you embarked upon will either be continued or completed at other institutions. In order for you to accomplish this, we will have to meet the academic requirements of the college and become members of its alumni.

Here at Roger Williams, I trust you have found more than you had anticipated to find when you first entered this institution that its graduates have made full use of the resources for learning that are at the disposal of the student, Roger Williams is no exception. It is hoped that you have found the atmosphere so conducive to understanding the processes of living and working with other human beings, and that you have gained a sense of self-confidence and sense, too, of humility, that will be of enormous value to you in this ever-changing society and competitive world. This is education for a life of courage and endurance, not for any easy utopia.

At Roger Williams look to you the graduating class hereafter to exemplify this college's cherished tradition, which is the development of uncompromising standards of excellence.

From The President

It has always seemed especially fitting to me that the Commencement season for high schools and colleges comes at this time of the year. The long, harsh winter lies behind us and we are now living in a new season, a time for continued growth. Spring is the time for the curious to once more come out of hiding and rediscover the secrets of life. It brings home to us the reality that knowledge is never gained forever, but changes as does nature. Summer with all of its promises lies ahead, and spring is the time of the seeker, seeking the other man's trials and tribulations, and long after his formal education was ended, Roger Williams, the man, referred to himself as a seeker - one who admits he does not know the truth, but is determined to find the product.

For example, is Vietnam in 1967 the same as Czechoslovakia in 1965? Is it necessary for schools to be standardized? Are state governments archaic and inefficient entities? Does the federal government have the machinery to make enslavement possible? Is prosperity inestimably harmful? Can one possibly live without annual physical check-ups, all kinds of insurance, and guaranteed retirement income? Are abortion and euthanasia morally wrong?

I would love to include an addenda here examining the tyranny of numbers, in college itself, but my allotted space is insufficient for the Task. And I am certainly not one who can fill in these blanks for yourselves; Credit Hours Tuition

Years of human history covered in one semester course

Number of class meetings/week

Peter Porter
WILL YOU REMEMBER?

"Seek
And Ye
Shall Find"