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The General Assembly of Students, which will take place in the Stiepan Center during early February, will deal with four unresolved student life issues, according to Tom Brislin, Student Government Hall Life Commissioner. Resolutions will be centered on the issues of parietal hours, hall self-government and fair judicial procedure, Notre Dame-St. Mary's relations, and a declaration of student rights and grievances.

However, Brislin expressed worry over the Assembly's chances of success, saying "The big problem now is that nobody has picked up the ball and run with it. The whole thing could collapse if no one steps in to take charge." He remarked that it is hoped the Assembly will cause enough student interest to Stiepan Center with at least 2000 students.

Brislin expressed hope that resolutions submitted in the first four areas will "provide a mandate, that is, for Murphy to take action, to stage demonstrations if demands are not met." He maintained "We don't want to see the Assembly descend into trivial griping over student rights. We would like to see educational reform come first."

Brislin said students would sit and vote by halls, hall presidents serving as spokesmen in voting. Microphones will be set around the floor of the convention to allow for students to speak. Brislin said he hopes to have resolutions in time to set up debate, appointing floor leaders for both sides on a bill and providing for an hour of organized, controlled debate before the floor is opened up to general student opinion. If a great many resolutions are submitted, Brislin said the Assembly could be called upon to choose which ones it would like to consider.

Looking ahead and speculating on what could happen, if Assembly resolutions are ignored, Brislin said one possible tactic would be to simply close down student government. He said "Student government provides so many services to the University that Notre Dame could not possibly do without it." Brislin pointed to the example of Newton College in Massachusetts, where students threatened to close things down and had their demands granted.

Circle 'Big Brothers' Counsel SB Kids

A committee within the Blue Circle is making plans for forming a big brother program, as is officially called, a Youth Advisor Program between Notre Dame and the South Bend community. The idea for such a program was conceived last year by Hank Topper who worked on the details of the program with the help of the Community Services Board and the Blue Circle. This year the details of the program are being worked out by a Blue Circle Committee under the leadership of Paul Ramsey.

The Youth Advisor Program has a predecessor called the Big Brother Program which was a complete flop three years ago, but the committee feels that chances for success are better now "because of better planning and funds." The Youth Advisor Program has been planned under the supervision of a social worker and funds have been obtained through the Catholic Social Services in South Bend, which will also screen both potential advisors and advisees.

The program will work with boys between 7 and 17 who are having discipline problems at home, school or with the law and have been referred to social agencies for help. Paul defines the program as mainly "preventive." "The children and young men we will work with have been in some trouble, but they can be helped if someone is willing. The program is based on the theory that if someone in trouble meets someone near his own age that he respects, he will emulate him. We would like to give a socially acceptable type of person to be emulated."

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January 8, 1968

**BY TOM FIGEL**

Man everyone probably read, is sometimes lauded as the only animal who laughs. What goes unobserved is that man is the only animal who needs that release.

If our age needs a name, and someone will suggest that it does, ours is the age of comedy. Man has never had so much to laugh about. He is the only creature who can reason but seldom does, the creature who can mold the earth but hardly ever anyone can communicate but seldom does. Terry Southern has said that in our day, the place of the satyr has been taken by the newspaper reporter.

Nothing is so funny as things as they are. Dr. Barnard operates before a full house and South Africa is upset by an inter-racial heart transplant. Vietnam is an effort of more than fifty nations, not a unilateral involvement: Canada has aided the effort with two hundred scholarships and Ireland has contributed $2800. Other nations such as the Dominican Republic, have promised building supplies. South Korea maintains one division in South Vietnam, while two U.S. divisions are in South Korea.

The Churches call for Christ in a congregation's everyday life but avoid the touchy subjects. Arabs and Jews lie about a war presented in lighting color in every home. People who will swear to avoid a squib just disposes its ions for the length of their hair.

Frankenstein, the Wolfman, and King Kong have been put out to pasture, no longer having the ability to quicken pulses or magnify the brush of leaves against a window. Our horror movies come from the simple reconstruction of what is. "Dr. Strangelove" plays to a full house every time; but the audience laughs as though it were in church. "The War Games" a BBC production, a documentary of Britain after nuclear attack, is enough to set hair on end but still evokes laughter by quoting American scientists and Anglican bishops, civil defense pamphlets and the man in the street.

Laughter is the reaction of a creature too small to deal with his world. But the time of laughter draws to its own end, unobserved by man who cannot believe what, out of balance, tickles the mind. Man laughs because he needs to laugh; but laughter is something he can't afford.

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**1968: ITS CAUSE AND CURE**

Are you still writing "1968" on your letters and papers? I'll bet you are, you scamp! But I am not one to be harsh with those who forget that we are in a new year, for I myself have long been guilty of the same lapse. In fact, in my senior year at college, I wrote 1873 on my papers until nearly November of 1874! (It turned out, incidentally, not to be a such a serious error because, as we all know, 1874 was later repealed by President Chester A. Arthur in a fit of pique over the Black Tom Explosion. And, as we all know, Mr. Arthur later chose to neglect his baby action. Who does not recall that famous meeting between Mr. Arthur and Louis Napoleon when Mr. Arthur said, "Lou, I wish I hadn't of repealed 1874?" When Louis Napoleon made him immortal rejoinder, "Tiens que nos etayer tu." Well sir, they had many a good laugh about that, as you can imagine.

But I digress. How can we remember to write 1968 on our papers and letters? Well sir, the best way is to find something memorable about 1968, something unique to fix it firmly in your mind. Happily, this is not a simple cause, as we all know, 1968 is the first year in history that is divisible by 4, 2, and by 7. Take a pencil and write: 1968 divided by 2 is 984; 1968 divided by 5 is 393%; 1968 divided by 7 is 281%. This mathematical curiosity will not occur again until the year 2079, but we will all be so busy then, celebrating the Chester A. Arthur centenary that we will scarcely have time to be writing papers and letters and like that.

Another clever little trick to fix the year 1968 in your mind is to remember that 1968 spelled backwards is 8691; "Year" spelled backwards is "raye," "Personna" spelled backwards is a "Annosrep." I mention Personna because I am paid to write this column by the makers of Personna Super Stainless Steel Blades, and they are inclined to withhold my check if I omit to mention their product.

Not, mind you, that it is any chore for me to sing the praises of Personna, for it is a splendid blade that shaves you cleanly, a gleaming blade that leaves you stain-free, a much less blade that leaves you scratchless. If you are tired of facial slump, if you are fed up with jewl blight, try Personna today...available both in double-edge style and Injector style. And if I seem a bit excessive in my admiration for Personna, I ask you to remember that 1968 spelled backwards is 8691. But I digress. We were speaking of the memorable aspects of 1968 and high among them, of course, is the fact that in 1968 the entire House of Representatives stands for election. There will, no doubt, be many lively and interesting contests, but none, I'll wager, quite as lively and interesting as the one in my own district where the leading candidate is none other than Chester A. Arthur.

Mr. Arthur, incidentally, is not the first ex-president to come out of retirement and run for the House of Representatives. John Quincy Adams also holds another distinction; he was the first ex-president ever to serve as president. It is true that Martin Van Buren's son, Walter "Blinky" Van Buren, was at one time offered the nomination for the presidency but he, also, had already accepted a bid to become Mad Ludwig of Bavaria. James K. Polk's son went into retirement and run for the House of Representatives in 1874 and was offered the nomination for Personna, I ask you to remember that 1968 spelled backwards is 8691. But I digress. We were speaking of the memorable aspects of 1968 and high among them, of course, is the fact that in 1968 the entire House of Representatives stands for election. There will, no doubt, be many lively and interesting contests, but none, I'll wager, quite as lively and interesting as the one in my own district where the leading candidate is none other than Chester A. Arthur.

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