

Lamb, Frazier, Defend, Oppose Integration

By LAMAR LAMB
Guest Writer

"Twenty-six million Americans can't be wrong." There are petitions decrying integration because it leads to miscegenation. There are bitter and cynical references to a very slowly progressing Board of Trustees for being too liberal. All of these are evidences of an element which is irrational in defeat as it has been in conception. The fact is, integration is a dead issue. The fact is, this column should not have to be written. But, unfortunately, there are those who would revive the issue. There are those who would reject the whole march of history, intellect, and humanity in order to preserve their perverse and immoral petty prejudices.

Right of Association

The sole plea of these men is that their right of association is at stake. There has not been, and apparently cannot be, a rational defense of their real aim: to avoid the Negro, to preserve the basis for pitiful paranoia. Instead the defense is an irrelevant one—"my right not to associate."

The defense is one which is thought to be philosophical and designed to cover the real motivation which is recognized to be indefensible. The real reason for the outcry causes guilty feelings which only makes the outcry more desperate, more unreasonable, and more dangerous.

"The right of association stands as the reason for segregation" is the proclamation which stands for a multitude of sins. There is no defense for racial prejudice in the proclamation, no analysis of the problems racism brings; there is really nothing relevant in the whole defense.

No Justification

The fact that there can be no justification for segregation is reason enough for Washington and Lee to accept Negroes as students. There are many reasons for us to aid in the break down of a decrepit system which has left us with a profusion of problems. There has been no responsible study of the problem which has not come to the same conclusion: that racial segregation is an anathema to everything Western Civilization has sought or hoped for.

Still, the cry is right of association. Let me ask those who make this cry one question: If I, for no defensible reason, decide I didn't want to associate with blue-eyed people, would I have the right to demand that this school, or any organization, keep blue-eyed people from me? In fact, there are people at Washington and Lee with whom I am perfectly happy to have absolutely no association at all. Yet, I do not demand, I could not demand, that Washington and Lee send those people away.

How can you make this childish plea? I should think you would be embarrassed to speak so loudly where you are so obviously wrong. First let us see a rational defense of your position, first let us see honest examination of your motives, first let us see one, just one, reasonable argument for your point of

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By SAM FRAZIER
Guest Writer

There is an old saying that the only good cause is a lost cause. If this is the case, segregationists call themselves "good guys," because the idea of absolute segregation is now nowhere triumphant. There is no state which does not have at least one integrated school, no place of business which can feel securely segregated with the placard, "We reserve the right to refuse service to anyone," and no employer who can assure himself that no member of the NAACP will ever work for his company.

Even back home in Alabama, those who once cried

"Never! Never!" have changed their plea to "Later! Later!" With the announcement that Washington and Lee university—the Shrine of the South, the Tomb of Robert E. Lee—had opened its doors to applicants of all races, the last fortress fell. The cause is now lost, and even George Wallace cannot save it.

Truth in Saying

There is, however, a certain amount of truth in the old saying about lost causes. The main argument which can be advanced for integration is that it offers a greater amount of freedom to a vast number of Americans. However, it would be as big a mistake to assume that segregationists are not concerned with freedom as to believe that all of us regularly burn crosses and bomb churches.

The most basic of all our freedoms is the freedom to choose. Our elections are nothing else but the exercise of this right. Furthermore, we are not required always to make the "right" choice in order to retain the privilege of choosing; we may discriminate. All of us chose to come to Washington and Lee. For most of us the racial coloration of the student body was not the basis of our choice, but for some, perhaps it was. As a result of the recent change in admissions policy, these students will no longer have the prerogative of attending a segregated school and remaining at W&L. To this extent, at least, their freedom has been abridged.

Endangers Fraternities

The mere acceptance of the principle of integration, however, does not profoundly affect us. What is

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As Others See Us

Sweet Briar Agrees With Hollins, But Expresses Hope For Dating

To the Editor:

We are delighted to be presented with the opportunity to evaluate Washington and Lee students and since the Editor of the *Hollins Columns* thoroughly expressed our sentiments, we may sound repetitious. Sorry, boys, it must be catching.

The allegorical fantasy which appeared in the November issue of the *Ring-tum Phi* brought up many sound points. We of Sweet Briar agree that although the Washington and Lee "gifts to women" think they have their "honeys" from "Sweets," if they are not careful, they will have them no longer.

In the fall of 1929, the Dean of our college announced that "Sweet Briar has severed, for an indefinite length of time, all social ties with Washington and Lee University, at Lexington, Virginia."

This action was made in protest of such behavior as is no doubt unchanged today. This was emphasized recently when a student said to his date, "I won't introduce you to ———, he's too colorful." Such a statement says little for the friend who was avoided, and while this does not indicate any lack on the part of the University, we feel that it indicates, instead, an immaturity and insecurity in the individual who was "too colorful."

We cannot criticize the student body as a whole. We believe that the responsibility for reputation and impression lies with the individual, whether male or female. We can appreciate comments made last spring by your representatives at a conference who pointed out that a girl who expects to be treated properly and acts accordingly, will be treated with due respect. More and more girls are becoming aware that this is true and are beginning to realize that they

Coming Soon—

ODK Loses Prestige When Biased Choices Govern Membership

By TRACY HARRINGTON
Friday Columnist

Today marks the fiftieth anniversary of Omicron Delta Kappa. The noon-time assembly in Doremus Gymnasium is of special significance, then; not only because it is the birthday of ODK, but because it is the birthday of ODK's founding—here, at Washington and



