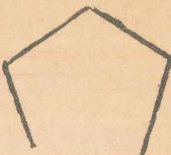




JOHN'S  
COLLEGE

# THE REAL COLLEGIAN



ANTIPOLIS  
MD.

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## RAGNAROK

Mr. C. D. Lewis, the REAL Dean of John's College in the twilight of the Golden Age, frequently remarked to us in private conversations that the world is going to hell. On this point we are inclined to believe him. In fact, this is our explicit editorial policy. We are concerned only with the Manichaeian principles. The revival of Satanism is the main aim of our contributors, and we are sure that their efforts will not be in vain.

## DEMONOLOGY

Professor R. N. Courant was prevented from giving his lecture as scheduled by a maximum audience, a minimum time, and a mediocre cold. A somewhat condensed version of the lecture he was to have given follows.

In Fortune Magazine (March 1948, June 1949) some applications of the theory of probabilities to Games and Strategy were discussed. Strategy was defined as: "interaction between two or more persons, each of whose actions is based on an expectation concerning the action of others over whom he has no control. The policy followed in making these moves is strategy." The best policy is one that will hold an opponent's maximum possible gain below your minimum possible gain. The mathematics of this maximum-minimum problem has been captured by



the military and classified as Top Secret. At best, I am only allowed to hint at solutions.

Problems involving minimal values of a group of functions may be solved by a new type of mathematics, the so called "calculus of variations". In geometrical optics the path of a ray of light that is reflected or refracted is that which is traversed in the least time. This path of least time can now be calculated for any given system by the use of the calculus of variations.

Had the German semi-mathematical metaphysicians known this branch of calculus, they would have provided a philosophy based on the concepts of relativity rather than those of Absolute Time and Absolute Space. This is because the calculus of variations can find for us equations expressing all the laws of phenomena, but which, however, are independent of our system of coordinates, that is, our conception of space and time.

Since mathematics has been taken out of the hands of the few and given to the many, it is necessary to put up guard rails and other safety devices. The most important of these is the destruction of the real infinitesimal or monad. The real infinitesimal was invented by a Greek in his cups (coffee cups) and not until he is ignored can Mechanics be put on a firm mathematical basis. The problem is one of education and if no one taught it, it would cease to plague us. As an illustration of this I will point out to you Mr. Bixby, who will be unable to rise from his chair until he ignores the monad.

I hope that I have not hurt anyone's feelings, but I can see no need for a question period. I am a Positivist: there can be no question concerning facts; and no other questions have meaning,

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The REAL COLLEGIAN has just obtained exclusive rights to the story, "My Trip to the Mardi Gras", or, "What Mr. Weigle Did Not Hear".

Copies may be obtained by writing Miss Helen (Five by Five) Andrews, Mahogany Hall, Canal St., New Orleans, La.

## DANTE AND THE NATURAL LAW

When we read Dante in seminar, we treat him primarily as a religious poet. The reasons for this are many, because although we realize that the Divine Comedy played a political role, we tend to bypass the complexity of his political environment and concentrate upon the theological content of the poem. Also it is read in the second year when thoughts of salvation are much more important than mere worldly worries such as lower taxes or fewer wars.

Now Dante was a pure White capitalist. This can be neither denied nor ignored. There are no Quakers in the Inferno - and a cursory reading of Marx's Capital will furnish abundant reasons for their absence.

One could find no more archetypal symbol than Vergil for the world imperialism that will do anything and go anywhere in order to make a profit. Vergil is even a privileged figure in the Inferno and the Purgatorio. However, he yields to a higher symbol, Beatrice, when his protege ascends to the Paradiso.

What is this mysterious motivating force which compels the capitalist dialectics to rise, as it were, against the very force of gravity? For although in Adam Smith prices seek their natural level, nevertheless, as was pointed out in the question period, Marx holds rightly that this is in contradiction with the natural law. Dante, recognizing this objection, answers it in the first Canto of the Paradiso by showing that Marx's law is merely the natural law while Adam Smith's is the divine law. We felt that this was the underlying paradox of Mr. Bigongiari's Lecture.

Daemon



What do you think of the proposed new  
dormitories?

Jack Carr-philosophist: I am not sure that the  
new plans take account of Hegel's implicit  
theory of tensions. L'art est toujours le  
resultat d'une contrainte.

Richard Warner Edelman- movie mogul: The new  
theatre properly should have only one narrow  
entrance.

Adam Pinsker-The King William Player:  
The buildings should have the form of Berg,  
the simple integrity of Wagner, and the tor-  
rential exuberance of Haydn.

Price Chatham - a youth: The colonial style  
should not be crossed with the neo-pagan  
Swedish Modern form.

John Alexander-the Libido Kid: Man, that's where  
I'd like to live.

Louis Graff- aesthetician: The cantilever con-  
struction has the highest safety factor, es-  
pecially if made out of unpainted reinforced  
concrete.

George John Lee-sometime student: Draw the form  
of the house conformably to this synthetical  
unity of the manifold in space.

### Fragment

Let us prey  
We in Adam Smith  
And Marx  
Are no more  
Than material  
And no less than the Geist

In this day  
There is no myth  
No larks  
And therefore  
Our burial  
Certain now without Christ

Bosch saw  
And painted  
Dante  
The Divine Comedy  
Was understood  
In tragic form

Eliot's awe  
Is tainted  
Vanter  
The human tragedy  
~~Has~~ brotherhood  
And every norm