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The Knothole, March 1, 1968

SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry Student Body

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IT'S ALL HAPPENING AT THE ZOO......
I SAID IT WOULD NOT HAPPEN THIS YEAR, BUT-----

It has now happened: Two bills introduced to the Congress of the State of New York, one dated February 30 and the other January 30, 1968, have called for registration of all firearms, rifles, shotguns, and the "already registered" handguns. These bills were introduced and supported by 20 legislators, 19 Democrats and 1 Republican, all of which are in the immediate area of New York City.

Firearms legislation in Philadelphia and New Jersey have had absolutely no deterring effects on crime, and are a gross injustice to citizenry. Due to red tape and harassment, law-abiding citizens are denied the "privilege" so easily obtained by known criminals. Many citizens do not go through the red tape for security reasons.

New York City Council have passed the law now proposed for the state. Mayor Lindsay is the only one left to sign the bill. The only difference is the fee involved ($1, 3, or 25). The city cannot stand alone on this, and as a result, the state often follows in the footsteps of the city. This was clear during the issue over the Sullivan Law. This law is ridiculously unworkable and unreadable. Rockefeller and most city representatives think we will follow suit again this time.

Many of you hunt, and even more of you have some contact with firearms. You may still hunt, with a few minor changes:
1) Each firearm owned must be registered with the Department of State Police, including calibre, make, model, manufacturer's name and serial number, and any other distinguishing marks.

2) Description of self, photographs, finger prints, and other distinguishing characteristics which serve to identify you must be filed with the FBI, the Dept. of State Police, the Central Registration Bureau, and the issuing police authority.

3) Complete investigation prior to receipt of permit and periodic checks after issuance for security reasons.

4) Transfer of firearms is complicated and can only be to persons holding permits and with complete reports filed with before stated offices.

5) Certificates must be held on person at all times if possessing firearm.

6) Out of state residents must apply for temporary permit prior to entrance into state.

7) Fee of $1, $3, $25 or others will be charged for permit and renewal. If this is to increase income, will someone tell me how creation of a new Central Registration Bureau will save any money.

8) Unservicable ornaments will not be considered. This whole act of legislation will be an unservicable ornament.

9) etc... etc... etc...

10) Violation of any part constitutes a class A misdemeanor.

Prohibition is not dead yet. What can we do about it? You should write your legislators or any others in this state to tell them your opinion on this issue. One of your basic "assumed" rights is being violated. If you do not care, throw your support behind those of us who do.

For the addresses of any legislators, consult the New York State Redbook in the Moqt Memorial Library. (Reference shelf. Any questions concerning these bills, contact me. PLEASE WRITE, these bills will be up for law come June unless we can defeat them.

Bruce E. Robinson

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

DEAR EDITOR:

Since I am the "Methuselah" of the N.Y.S.C.F. having been here all the years from 1921 when I registered as a freshman, perhaps I may be permitted to comment on one segment of Mr. Elman's thoughtful contribution in the February 9 Knothole.

The student cry of "abolition of grades" has been sounding through these halls ever since the college began. With some exceptions, grades mean mostly written examinations, done under stress, and too often by cramming the previous night. Information "learned"? this way is almost immediately forgotten, --as you know. Also in examinations, the ugly matter of cribbing (thievery, or don't you all consider it so?) is often involved. The reasons are complex, but a few students seem to think it is a "game" between themselves and the faculty, to see how much they can get away with. In spite of these and other objections (you might consider that to work under stress may be good training after all), would you have no rating system whatsoever? Please explain how you would handle it. Should we abolish Alpha Xi Sigma? What would you do with many students who simply won't work unless they have to take exams? Some students don't belong in a university. They would do much better in a technical institute which prepares men and women for specific jobs. If you have no grading system, and a prospective employer asks the faculty about your technical expertise, how can we reply? Would you settle for a "pass" -"fail" system? With no grades, you are all reduced to a single plane of mediocrity. Is this what you want? I suspect that the "brighter" and/or harder working students would object strenuously to this idea. They want some recognition for their
efforts.

Of course you might prefer the Oxford system. One of our (American) Rhodes Scholars told how he went to the first lecture where the professor listed the required books to be read for the term. Our boy had met several of the English students, and during succeeding lectures which he faithfully attended, he noticed that few of them appeared. He visited one of them in his room and found him smoking his pipe, and surrounded by a "spread" of the required books. He was studying and filling up a notebook with important data, as well as trying to reconcile the different views of the authors. The American was astonished and said "I never see you in class." "Oh no" said the Englishman "I have to pass this course!" At the end of the term, during which he had conferences with his tutor, he had to take both a comprehensive, written, and an oral examination covering everything "important" in the long list of books assigned. Believe me the oral is worse than the written!

I have raised a few questions which I hope Mr. Elman and others will answer. I am now retired and may be attacked with impunity; please do.

William M. Harlow '25

IN ORDER TO FACILITATE PUBLICATION OF THE KNOTHOLE THE EDITORS REQUEST THAT ALL LETTERS BE SUBMITTED BY MONDAY OF THE WEEK OF PUBLICATION.

THE KNOTHOLE RESERVES THE RIGHT TO EDIT ALL LETTERS FOR CLARITY AND GOOD TASTE.

GUTTERING COMMUNICATIONS PROGRAM

A multi-screen 45-minute communications extravaganza will be shown three times in Marshall Auditorium on March 13. The first showing will be for Convocation at 11 a.m., -- the other two showings will be at 2 p.m. and 4 p.m.

This presentation by the Eastman Kodak Co., and the Rud Clarke Audio and Visual Co., is being sponsored by the Office of Public Service and Continuing Education to acquaint students, staff, faculty, and guests with new instructional aids and educational communications systems. It is colorful, impressive, and entertaining. A random access slide projector will play tic-tac-toe with you, and win.

The show, "Concerts in Communications," is new, and demands from all across the country are coming in to Eastman. David Hanselman was lucky to find an opening in their schedule for the College. Remember the date, MARCH 13, for a look at present and future instructional techniques.

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DON'T DUCK THE ISSUE

How much is a duck worth? To a sportsman, a duck may be worth quite an outlay of cash each season. The least of these expenses is usually the purchase of a federal duck stamp. The Zoology Club thinks that your old duck stamps can be put to good use, even after the season is over. Here's how!

Ducks Unlimited is a non-profit organization which is working to increase the quality and quantity of breeding grounds in Canada by building "duck factories." Their largest project to date is now under construction. This is the 512,000 acre Mawdesley project in Manitoba. This marsh area will soon be a major duck producing site, but only if they receive enough support.

This is where you can help. If you are a duck hunter (or claim to be one), or if you know of anyone who is, the Zoology Club wants your duck stamps. These stamps will be sent to Ducks Unlimited, which will sell them to collectors. How much is a duck worth to you? A little extra effort may enable more ducks to breed in the future.
Stamps may be turned in at the Zoology Club meeting on March 15, or to any club officer at any time during the month of March. If you need some exercise, or a good cup of coffee, they can also be turned in to room 660 Sadler Hall.

Keep an eye out for further information on the bulletin boards.

Joseph Curatolo
Recorder, Forest Zoology Club

BOBSLEDDING, ANYONE?

Edwin Ketchledge and Ray Leonard completed a course in bobsledding during intersession, and are now licensed to drive sleds. Site of this derring-do was the Mt. Van Hoevenberg Olympic Bobsled Run at Lake Placid. They would like to contact all persons who are tired of watching such exploits on television and want to get into the act themselves. If there is enough interest, a College Bobsledding Club will be formed. Anyone want to be taken for a ride?

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ZOLOGY CLUB NEWS

The Zoology Club has had a very successful year thus far and wish to invite any students, who don't know what they are missing, to attend our meetings. Our most recent program dealt with the critical problem of water pollution. Dr. Jackson talked on "Biological Indicators of Water Pollution." His talk makes one wonder what kind of situation we would be in if factories and cities were built at the head-waters of streams instead of the more common valley locations.

How about a new connotation for BOD? Biochemical Oxygen Demand is the amount of water-dissolved oxygen used in aerobic bacterial decomposition of the waste.

You have all heard the expression, "Blood is thicker than water." The originator ob-

iously lived in days of clean water. He may also have lived in Westport with the benefits of the Westport watershed. (For summer camp students have learned that a watershed is a small wooden board building covering a small spring.)

The ocean will never become polluted, according to some and disputed by shellfish and other estuarine dwellers, and will hold untold tons of garbage. Our cities will also hold many tons of garbage as has been scientifically proven by many striking sanitation workers.

Water pollution must be abated. Millions of dollars are spent in studying the problem with no results. It is our trout-stream in question, not our neighbors!

You have noted, no doubt, that the KNOTHOLE editors review everything for clarity and good taste. Therefore, I recommend each to become water works employees for the city of Syracuse.

Let me encourage you to participate in the joint Botany-Zoology Club meeting of March 15. Dr. Maurice Broun will be the guest with a slide show (that's slide show) depicting his favorite slides as a naturalist photographer. As an ornithologist he is interested in hawks and doves, and as a botanist he respects ferns and the powers of flowers. This sentence shows how one can color the facts. Dr. Broun is known world-wide as Curator of the Hawk Mountain Sanctuary in Pennsylvania. He has written Hawks Aloft, The Story of Hawk Mountain; An Annotated List of Ferns; and numerous magazine articles. He has helped establish Wildlife sanctuaries in four states. His recognition is widespread and it would be wellworth the support you give to the Botany and Zoology Clubs on March 15 at 8:00 p.m. in Marshall Auditorium. No charge for College of Forestry students.

Look through the KNOTHOLE to spy on the Zoology Club. You will be absolutely amazed at what you see.

Bruce E. Robinson
President, Forest Zoology Club