The THRUST

PROTEST PAYS- FOR HOW LONG?

The CUT and THRUST

PACE view

Revolution At The Polls

Pop and pot are cashing in on rebellion. The profits from protest surpass by far most other products on the money market and all at the expense of the youth—that element of society which generally leads the revolutions.

It can be argued that pot is a good thing for the so-called Establishment and the status quo. After all the users are youth, those who are forever trying to change things. It is youth who are uncomfortably optimistic, full of hope, constantly pressuring the system. But if a young generation can be made vague with drugs and deliberately turned in to preoccupation with its own animal senses, there is little to fear from it.

Pot clouds the judgment and makes nothing or anything seem significant. An old jazz musician's joke illustrates this point. A trumpet player comes back to his hotel room to find it reeking of "grass" and his roommate kneeling with his ear pressed to the floor. "Hey, dig this," he says. The trumpet player gets down on his knees, listens and says, "I don't hear anything." "Yeah, I know," says his roommate, "it's been like that all day."

In the words of Gene Lees, former editor of *Downbeat*, "revolution takes focused anger and the striking thing about the current revolution is its diffusion."

"Even the social protest that does occur works to the Establishment's advantage," he claims. "A bunch of kids turn over a car and burn it and Detroit replaces it at a profit. The insurance company pays off, meanwhile raising the premium to the sucker consumer, and turns the situation to profit by putting scare advertising on television. It's a judo trick that when the opponent rushes at you, use the energy of his attack to flip him on his back. Attack the system and the system will turn a profit."

It's conceivable that the exploited youth will at some future date wise up to what is being done to them and stage a rousing boat-rocking revolution. But for the moment a lot of them are buying the pop and pot package without being much the wiser.

No group has been more successful in cashing in on rebellion than the pop music industry. Plastic protest, packaged in psychedelic jackets and shrink-wrapped in cellophane, sells in the millions.

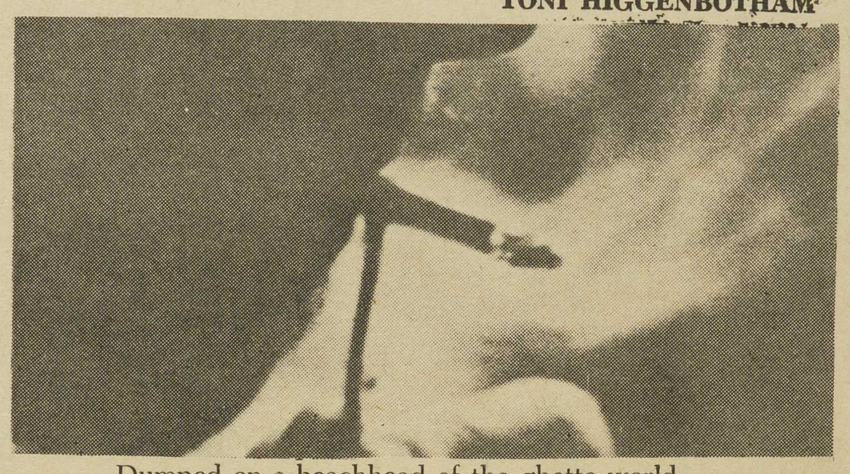
Teeny-boppers innocently believe that the Beatles and the Smothers Brothers, to mention a couple, with their multi-million-dollar manufacturing operations are one with them in opposition to the Establishment and big business. But they buy the messages of nonconformity with conforming regularity. The industrial conglomerates who have bought up most of the pop-music makers are now in a position to call the shots. This may be good business, but it must embarrass sincere revolutionaries who would like to change society and build a better world.

A new tack by youth could be in the offing for there are signs that the rug could be pulled out from under the pot and pop protest market. There is a new awareness following man's success in breaking free from Earth. Some expectations are soaring. There are people again trying the untried. Dreams are turning into reality. Insurmountable obstacles are being overcome and the innovators in our society are beginning to take on new styles of thought and enterprise.

They are shifting from seeking in, to reaching out. If the trend continues, pot profits will peter out and the pop-music market will have to pursue purpose rather than protest as its style.

"If education is to be relevant to Black people, it must have a two-fold purpose: revolution and nation-building. If the education of Black students is to be meaningful, it must direct these students toward the destruction of the forces of racism, colonialism and oppression that continue to drain Black people all over the world; and it must develop in them the skills which will allow them to conceptualize and structure projections of future Black existence."

The Beautifully Black
TONI HIGGENBOTHAM



Dumped on a beachhead of the ghetto world,
Set like the seal of disease on the wilderness—

Africa Fears The Love Of Black Sex

Johannesburg, South Africa, —The Immorality Act, forbidding interracial sexual relations, has come under new and strong attack from churchmen, politicians and sociologists.

The opposition has been fanned by statistics showing a sharp rise in prosecutions as well as acquittals, and by a series of recent cases involving unsavory disclosures about prolice tactics.

Mrs. Helen Suzman, Parliament's only vocal opponent of apartheid, or racial separation, recently declared that the Immorality Act "belongs to the dark days of witch-burning and the stocks."

'Not a Vicious Act'

But H. P. Torlage, a member of the governing Nationalists party, has said: "It's not a vicious act. It's a way of facing up to one of the problems that have to be faced in this country."

The pro-Government South African Radio Service commented that in the light of widespread support for racial separation, the only alternative to the act would be "the raw justice of the Ku Klux Klan."

Convictions under the Immorality Act went from 386 in 1964 to 693 in 1967.

One of those acquitted — a retired lieutenant colonel of police — said that because of public ostracism he had endured three months of "indescribable hell" before his hearing.

"It's easier to face a murder charge than one under the Immorality Act," he said.

Opponents of the act often call it the Peeping Tom Law, citing the type of evidence that emerges in court, One such case recently involved a white Johannesburg professor of anthropology and a 24-year-old Indian woman doctor. They were found guilty and given suspended sentences, and they plan to appeal. In court the police disclosed that they had hidden in trees and peered through curtains to watch the couple.

A pro-Government Critic of the act suggested that those involved in interracial sexual relationships should be dealt with like alcoholics — in clinics, as they were obviouly victims of psychological disturbance.

Racial Aide

Johannesburg, South Africa—Quintin White has a succinct explanation why the organization he runs is never suppressed: "We are the plus factor in South Africa's image overseas."

The organization is the South African Institute of Race Relations, which stands firmly against racial separation and which has just received a $200,000 grant from the Ford Foundation.

Its publications, pamphlets, fact sheets, memorandums and other contributions to thinking on race relations find their way to among other destinations, some 40 university libraries in the United States.

The institute, founded 40 years ago, is one of the last significant organizations in South Africa to oppose basic and pervasive policy of racial separation, or apartheid.

The organization comes under continual sniping from the state-controlled South African Broadcasting Corporation and the Afrikaans press. A mention of the police special branch brings a wry chuckle from Mr. White. "I reckon they have a file on me that thick," he says and lifts his hand a foot off his desk.

A SINGULAR MAN

LINCOLN, Neb. — Harry peterson, a former policeman, became yesterday the first Black in Nebraska history to be elected to a city council. Mr. Peterson, 45 years old, is now in public relations work. He ran second in a field of six for three Lincoln Council openings. Blacks total about 3 per cent of the capital city's population.

Chicago—The Associatiin of Chicago Priests may experiment this summer with radical changes in the style of life for parish priests.

Under consideration is a pioneering study to substitute suit and tie for clerical garb.

Participating priests would move out of rectories and into private apartments.

Instead of "father" they would be addressed by first name.

A Vote For Any Member of The Democratic Machine, Is A Vote Against You And Your Family For Another Four Hundred Years

Bill by Kennedy Would End South African Sugar Quota

Washington—Senator Edward M. Kennedy, Massachusetts Democrat, introduced legislation under which the United States would terminate South Africa's sugar quota as a sign of disapprc al of its racial policies.

Senator Kennedy told the Senate that South Africa's apartheid (racial separation), policy was "repugnant to the principles and ideals of all Americans (and) threatened to plunge the entire African Continent into racial conflict."

Underwater Holds Narcoties

Paterson, N.J.—Warren Rutherford was sent to jail on a marijuana charge by a judge who admonished: "I don't want to see you back in here." But, at the jail a search revealed that marijuana and hashish were sewn into the man's underwear.