From the Administration

"THE IDEA OF ARMSTRONG"

By DEAN PROPEST

In the second half of the nineteenth century, the English writer and Oxford don, Thomas Huxley, delivered a series of lectures on the aims of education at the newly-founded Catholic University of Ireland in Dublin. These lectures were later published with the title, "The Idea of a University." An institution devoted to education can never achieve excellence or greatness unless there exists within each segment of the academic community devotion to a clear and complete "idea" which is the common core from which all intellectual aspirations spring. An "idea" is, of course, an elusive thing, not easily captured in the painfully inadequate medium of expression called language. In situations of higher education, attempts are made daily to express this "idea" in terms of an institutional statement of purpose.

Armstrong State College has such a statement of purpose published in its bulletin, but I would like to touch on that statement in the next few paragraphs, writing as the college chief academic official about "the idea of Armstrong."

Cardinal Newman's lectures form a classic statement of the value of a "disciplined intellect" which can be developed by a liberal education. A college must never lose sight of this aim, this important part of its "idea." Man's mind is his tool of action and if we help man to lift him above the other animals and makes him potentially the master both of himself and of his environment. But the untrained, the untutored man has usually not learned how to allow man for it allows him to fall prey to fatal error. How do we achieve the intellectual discipline that helps us to realize our fullest potential as men? What has ever warned a child known that learning is most often accomplished through imitation. Students often wonder about the value of the Sciences, of History, of Philosophy, of the Fine Arts and just as often are bewildered by unsound reasoning into the use of the term "irrelevant." A knowledge of Man's past—what has it told us about Man? A past thought, or a past expression of spirit—helps the individual come to terms with his present self, develops in him a sense of perspective—a sense of the possibilities and limitations of human knowledge brings to him an understanding of the nature of his being. In the development, his status, and his potential as a man. By imitating the past, the man learns from his past and by avoiding past errors, he builds a moral code for his own development. He is able to achieve, as Cardinal Newman suggested "a clear consciousness of his own opinions and judgments, a truth in developing them, an eloquence in expressing them, and a force in urging them." It is this element of education that teaches man "to see things as they are, to go right to the point of his thinking, to bear in mind of thought, to determine what is sophistical, and to discard what is irrelevant." Thus part of the "idea of Armstrong" is the common endeavor to achieve this awareness of Man in thought, this sense of the disciplined intellect which gives him his rightful stature as the supreme creation. Part of the "idea of Armstrong" is discrimination toward the indoctrination of the arts and is designed to give him the intellectual stability that enables him to function effectively as an individual in a rapidly changing world.

There is then, an "inward thrust" that is part of the "idea of Armstrong." But equally important is the outward thrust that is also a part of our "idea." The privilege of an education brings with it the responsibility of service. The educated man must not only think but also do. The heart of the matter in education must always be the development of the intellect—which in itself has utility, but the heart functions as the driving force for more than itself. If education is a "great good," as Newman suggested, then it will impart great good. The two major elements in the "idea of Armstrong" are then the development of "Man Thinking" and the development of "Man Acting." The goal of an educated man must be to make his society better and to improve the lives of all, and is designed to give him the intellectual stability that enables him to function effectively as an individual in a rapidly changing world.

Finally, the "idea of Armstrong" is an incomplete idea. Of all the institutions in society, a college or a university is the only one which can take justifiable pride in an unfinishing idea. The professor who receives a degree from Armstrong should be only at the beginning of his intellectual development. Hopefully he has been guided to a recognition of his own intellectual potential and that intellectual development has been stimulated to the point where he has the necessary discipline of intellect and for service which will make him grow for the rest of his life. If he stops with us, we have failed, for our success, and that of society, depends upon his reaching (Continued on Page 19)

STUDENTS ENJOY SOCIALISM

By ALAN ATKINS

TUESDAY, Oct. 4: A group of students at Armstrong State College today endorsed by a copy of the Communist philosophies of Karl Marx, Karl Marx, Karl Marx, and others. The students were identified by the Political Science I class at Armstrong College. The event is called "to study the idea of socialism."

Dan's Column

In The Defense of Apathy

Despite all the rhetoric you have heard, much can be said on behalf of apathy. If I'm right, it must be freedom to choose for yourself what you will care about, how much (and this is very important) how little you care. The move you make and care the richer you will be. The fundamental joy is always, and must always remain, that the choice is yours alone. Perhaps most important of all, you cannot give attention to one thing or person without taking attention from another.

Apathy can, in fact, be constructive. If only 5% of the population were to do something, enough to turn out for the recent Vietnamese election it would have a great influence on our way of life. Thieu is not a representative of the people, the same holds true of every fascist government. Certainly it is constructive to be apathetic about matters that are mostly a waste of time or an exercise in care about that which has relevance to our lives.

Of course, like anything else can be taken to excess, extreme apathy can be dangerous. It functions poorly as a signal to others that they have not made us feel that it has much relevance to our lives. That is, as a signal for the need for love. But love is funny. It does not work in the getting unless it works in the giving. If you don't care how you or others feel, whether they are amenable to just about the most basic comforts or the most sacred ideals, it only makes it easier for others not to care how you feel. If, on the other hand, you choose to care about yourself and others, it makes it easier. Indeed, wholeheartedly engaging with all human beings always want others caring about their feelings.

Apathy has a natural function as a defense mechanism. It is the device by which we can distinguish which has relevance to us from that which does not. We misuse apathy when we apply it out of hand to that which does have such relevance. We misuse it when we apply it to our friends and, our ideals. We use it right when we apply it to all petty and superficial social games.

Exercise in self-awareness:

No. 1: Decide whether supporting the Armstrong Basketball team on their drive to improve the name, and reputation of the school you attend is relevant to your life and stand by your decision.

Dance Concert Bookings

Humphrey Solicits Student Help

By CHIP HUMPHREY

Since I have been at Armstrong I have heard a lot of complaining about our dances and concerts. It seems that regardless of the dance or concert group's effort or the student body is unsatisfied. Several aspects of a concert group must be studied before booking the act. Drawing power would seem to be the most important one.

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Selective Service Announces New Draft Ceiling Number

The Selective Service System recently announced that random sequence number 125 could be the ceiling for induction into the military for men in the 1971 first draft group—that is, those registrants born in 1951 or older who received lottery numbers in 1970 or earlier and are available for induction since 1971. The Department of Defense, at week, announced a 10,000 draft call for the remainder of 1971. Draft Director Dr. Warren W. Tarr said that

There is a strong possibility that a separate Naval ROTC Unit will be started on the Armstrong State College campus. It is important that the college know how many male students might be interested in such a program. If you are interested, please contact Mr. Bck in the Student Activities Office, or Dr. Adams in Student Affairs.

Oklahoma Democrat Announces Candidacy

By ALAN DISILullo
Washington, D.C. (CP) — Calling himself a representative of the new populism, Senator Fred R. Harris (D-Ok.) formally declared himself a candidate for the Democratic Presidential nomination.

Speaking Friday, September 24, in the Senate Caucus Room, the Oklahoma Democrat remarked that Americans were losing faith in their government leaders and are becoming convinced that elected officials are incapable of changing the nation.

"I intend to try and turn this country around before it is too late," Harris said to the approval of over 200 supporters gathered for the announcement of his candidacy. Harris becomes the second official contender in the race for the Democratic nomination. Senator George McGovern announced his intention to seek the presidency last January 18.

Harris intends to build his new popular movement around three main points: Better distribution of the national economy, better distribution of power at home and a return to idealism as a basis for foreign policy abroad. In a recently completed trip through the South and Southwest, Harris elaborated on these points.

In Houston he called for an attack upon the economic concentration and monopoly power of big business. "If we broke up the shared monopolies that dominate our economy, prices would fall up to twenty percent in the concentrated industries," Harris stated. He added that he favored the use of a progressive Federal tax system to finance national health insurance and would institute such a program if elected. Advocating a cut in federal taxes for people who make less than $13,000 a year, Harris added that he would not use tax money to bail out corporate giants like Penn Central and Lockheed.

Harris outlined his foreign policy program to a gathering at Florida State University in Tallahassee. He said that the United States "should not insist that other nations adopt our standard of behavior" and that "we should allow them to develop those forms of government which are suitable for themselves." The crowd of 800 listened as he called for a cessation of all military and economic aid to the Thieu government in South Vietnam which "rejects free elections that 45,000 young Americans have died fighting for. Military aid to the military dictatorship in Greece and Brazil and an end to military and economic assistance to Pakistan.

Selective Service local boards would deliver 6,500 of these men in the period November 1-18 and the remaining 3,500 in the period November 29-December 9. Tarr said that he has directed local boards to give at least 60 days notice to all registrants facing the induction process in coming months. Current draft regulations require 10 days notice. Tarr said that the uniform national call provision of the new draft law assures every young man in the 1971 group who is 1-4 and qualified with a RSN of 126 and below that he will receive an induction notice in the near future. Tarr pointed out that some of these men will enter the Army in January, February or March of next year because of the extended liability provisions of the Selective Service regulations.

"Equity of treatment for all registrants requires that all men with RSN's of 125 or lower face the induction process," Tarr said. RSN 125 was the ceiling for inductions through June of 1971.

Tarr also said that he has directed local and appeal boards to defer all actions on classifications, personal appearances, and appeals until new regulations containing draft reforms are effected. The 1971 amendments to the draft law which were recently passed by Congress require the Selective Service System to publish all regulations changes in the Federal Register at least 30 days before they become effective.

"Because of the many reform provisions in the new law and being instituted by the System, it would be unfair not to extend these forthcoming advantages to registrants now facing classification or appeal actions. Accordingly, I have directed that all local and appeal boards defer action on such cases until the new regulations are formally distributed," Tarr concluded.

Nixon Plans End To Student Deferments

Washington, D.C. (cps) — President Nixon keeps his promise of April 23, 1970, college students beginning with the now-entering class of 1975 may have their education interrupted, if not terminated, by Congress' action in accepting a two year extension to the Selective Service. The law passed by the Senate

"The Choice of Champions"

John B. Rourke
NC. 10 STATE ST. WEST

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