

EDITORIAL

THE STANFORD DEMONSTRATIONS

May 9, 10, 1968

It looks a little bit as though the West Coast has once again favored the East Coast with a little lesson on how things should be done.

For surely there can be no question about the fact that the demonstrations on the Stanford campus are more worthy of college students than the recent anarchy on the Columbia campus. And a good deal more effective -- certainly in the long run, and probably in the short run -- too.

Stanford's demonstrators are unhappy about the fact that last fall's anti-CIA protestors are being suspended. They're even unhappier about the way in which seven of those protestors were selected to pay the penalty for a much larger group.

And to show their unhappiness, they've organized a sit-in at Stanford's Old Student Union Building. So far as we know, they've taken over none of the administrators' personal offices. They've not pulled out and emptied a single desk drawer. They've stolen no confidential files. They've ground no cigarette butts into rugs or carpets. They haven't even, it seems, sat themselves smugly behind the desks of any college officials.

They've acted like gentlemen. Although we don't know enough about their specific complaint to comment on it, we find ourselves very fervently wishing them well.

KLIV salutes the Stanford demonstrators. We hope that other college groups can manage to learn something from their behaviour.

KLIV EDITORIALS FOLLOW MANY KLIV NEWSCASTS. KLIV NEWSCASTS BEGIN AT 20 MINUTES PAST THE HOUR.



EDITORIAL

COLLEGE STUDENTS AS POLICY MAKERS I

May 11, 12, 1968

"This is our university," a Stanford student leader is quoted as saying. "It is not the faculty's; it is not the administration's. It is ours."

Certainly it's true that some of Stanford's students seem to share that feeling. A good many Columbia students think that that university is theirs. Students throughout the country are acting as if they've suddenly become the owners or the rightful rulers of the colleges at which they are studying.

Why?

Take a kid who's a high school senior today. He's sweating out his applications to a variety of colleges. One of them finally does him the favor of accepting his tuition fees and letting him use its facilities for his studies. It may go farther: it may give him a scholarship, thus relieving him of part, or even of all, of his obligation to pay for his education.

Okay. So this youngster, who today is sweating out his application, suddenly -- tomorrow -- gets the chance to wear a frosh cap and to become an undergraduate at the college of his choice.

Question: What is the magic that converts this high school senior into a policy maker in a great university? What makes it possible for him suddenly to say — or to agree with those who say — that the university he attends is not the faculty's, is not the administration's — but his?

The answer escapes us. If you have the answer, let us have it. We'd be delighted to broadcast it on KLIV.

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EDITORIAL

WE WERE WRONG

May 10, 11, 1968

Our most recent editorial -- the commentary which congratulates Stanford's demonstrators for their restraint-was a mistake.

It was based on incomplete information: it was based only on Thursday's reports of a quiet, friendly group of sit-ins.

We had been out of town. We'd missed the early reports of students prying open windows so that they could gain entry to a building whose doors had been locked and chained.

We're sorry.

Even though we can still say that the Stanford demonstration compares favorably with the Columbia University anarchy, we certainly can't defend it. And we shouldn't have been in such a hurry to do so.

Instead, we might have commended the 1,500 Stanford students -- compared with the 400-odd who stormed the Old Union Building -- for voting to discontinue sitting-in as a tactic to win concessions from the administration.

But we believe that the time has come to examine an even broader issue than those considered by the 15-hundred voting students or the 400 who stormed the campus building — issues that are perhaps even closer to the root of this wave of campus disorders than any which we have so far discussed in this series of commentaries.

The next KLIV editorial will look at this issue.

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