

A View From The Right

By John A. Racek

On Thursday, October 6, 1966, many students, faculty members, and guest attended the first of the Monmouth College Student Union Lecture Series for this school year. The program featured Dr. Martin Luther King, the well known Negro Civil Rights leader.

On Thursday, November 17, 1966 Arthur Schlesinger, former aide to President Kennedy, will be the speaker for the second offering of the lecture series.

Wednesday, January 4, 1967, Norman Thomas, a devout socialist, will be presented to the College in conjunction with the lecture series.

Monday, April 10, 1967, brings John Howard Griffin, author of **Black Like Me**, to the front.

One may ask, "All this information is nice, but what is the point?" The point is this, with all these distinguished gentlemen speaking here at our school, one finds the liberal, pacifist, socialist, and welfare philosophies being pushed upon him.

The questions arise, "Who is responsible for overstocking the lecture series with liberal ideas by inviting such articulate speakers? Where does the money come from to pay for these speakers?" As far as I can ascertain, it is from the student activity fee that each student pays. I personally do not feel inclined to pay the salary of men who expound on an anti-Viet Nam policy, among other things.

The question I ask is, "Why is there no conservative speaker scheduled in this lecture series?" Surely intelligent and responsible students and faculty members have the right to hear both sides of the story.

Whether by choice or by accident, a mistake has been made. I fully realize that it is too late to correct the mistake, however, I feel that in subsequent lecture series more care and thought should be taken to insure a more balanced program.

A lecture series of this nature may seem insignificant to many, but a College or University has a duty to allow and nurture expression and thought of a diverse nature. This is the very essence of an institution of higher learning; to instill a thought process in an individual based on wide and varied experiences.

I for one cannot adopt an apathetic attitude toward this lecture series. In the past Monmouth College has had an excellent record of presenting both the liberal and conservative philosophies. Last year, for example, Fulton Lewis III eloquently stated the conservative viewpoint concerning American Foreign Policy. Why has this change in policy, concerning speakers, come about? A change to a one sided viewpoint?

One can only hope that notice has been taken of this change by the proper authorities, and that the situation will correct itself in the future.