

Board Meeting 1968

Auditors trying to get a contract
Replacement values
90% of cost?
4 month checks
\$26 changes - taken into account but not considered
Red-haired secretary
Bored, but taking copius notes.

"Could you tell me how many school districts
or colleges you are working with?"
"Well actually, we are new, actually
it is untested, we are trying however?"
Physical inventory -
Red-haired secretary
Physically fit, beautiful, even.

Company-- new, uninterested, fat, new
Trying to make it.
Red-haired secretary.
Like to make it.

Deans talking about something
While board members chatter
Everyone is extremely happy
One dean is asleep
It must be important
"All west coast".

Old line company wins
The establishment always wins
Lackey bringing coffee
Everyone happy
Innovation!!!
Friend of the company wins.

PHOTOGRAPH

Two dimension glossiness
suggests a mirror
and my face
becomes confused
with the face
staring out from
the three by five
prison.
Crooked nose
proud, but not
quite in line
suggests a way
of life.
Eyes (are there two or four?)
suggest an understanding
that neither owns
and as the photograph
becomes fuzzier
the question invades
my brain (not yet
confined to a three by
five prison.)
Do ghosts exist?
... as the images merge
both heads are
perceptibly nodding.

FEBRUARY 1971

Churchill Winston
MDA
LSD
Speed
The Big H
Uppers
Downers
A civilization crumbling
Institutions no longer viable
Freaking out
"The centre will not hold"
Cries of human distress
Pain of multi-edged razor blades
Up and down the backbone
of a decaying skeleton---
and we talk of
Pensions
Strikes
BCTF
Placement on the
SALARY SCHEDULE and
RETIREMENT.
We have retired.

Bob Lane

Spring Meeting Number 1

Robert Lane

A spring day
warm sunshine wasting
while qualifications
recommendations
stipulations
ramifications
are discussed by people
for whom spring no longer
means a romp in the sun
and the salty spray
of sun heated water
splashing on the face.
Masks occasionally slip
and for a moment
one sees a human face
or is it another mask
under which lies another
mask?
Under all the masks
one finds the hungry
Moloch
feeding its own ego and
with insatiable thirst
grabbing out for the
extensions of its own
prehensile inadequacy.
Courage is so easy when
the enemy is absent
and spokesmen who
are usually silent
and obsequious are
in the warmth of the
spring sun suddenly
quite vocal and adamant
about demands which
will disappear as
the sun goes down.

Spring Meeting Number 2

Pine needles
reflecting
broken shafts of
sunlight
while words surround
me deadening my mind
with a syrupy stickiness
that clogs out the
sunlight
and lulls me
into a Lethe state
where ideas and
sensations are
lost in the
syrupy state of a
sleep that does not
satisfy.

SPRING 1969

May, with its promise of new life
reflected in tulips
daffodils, grape hyacinth
and rhododendrons
will, nevertheless, pass,
to be replaced by
the heat of June
working, as it does,
to dry out the beauty
of the flowers.

The torrent pours from
an invisible source
burning through
the delicate petals
of flowers only born
to die.

The sun that sustains
life, also takes it,
for beauty must
pay its price in
the momentary now.

Green grass sends
redolent smells
only after being cut
and the conflict
is everywhere apparent.
The nothing new that
is not there competes
with the all new that is
and the difference
is unknowable
to a mind neither now
nor nothing
nor here
nor there
and the sense of joy
is stifled by a
shrill cry of the
human soul which
whispers ("like dead leaves?")
through the remains of
another Spring.