

Hixson At Large



By DUMONT F. HIXSON, JR.

The thing that separates the wise man from the not so wise man is courage. Aristotle said that all learning is accompanied by pain. But only the courageous can endure pain. Socrates admonished those who would pursue wisdom to "know thyself." But if we may accept the word of the psychoanalyst, nothing is more difficult than knowing oneself.

The pages of psychoanalytic journals are, after all, filled with accounts of men who cannot know themselves because they fear themselves. Yet says, Eric Hoffer, "no man is truly literate who cannot read his own heart."

The teacher really asks a great deal of his students. He asks him to endure pain in his quest for knowledge. It is the opposite of the "adjustment" concept that has invaded much of our educational thinking.

"Adjustment" means that the human organism should move in a direction that reduces anxiety. Unfortunately freedom from anxiety may mean bondage to ignorance. It was Chesterton who decried the "open mind" that is open at both ends.

There is perhaps, an inverse relationship between intelligence and the ability to adjust. The more intelligent a person is the more sensitive he is. The more sensitive a person is, the less readily he adjusts. The only perfectly adjusted person would be a stone.

THE PURSUIT of wisdom is a heroic effort, entailing the endurance of pain and the overcoming of fear. Since the archetypes of fear throughout history have been power and the reliance on authority, the sage usually endures the hostility of society as well as its subsequent admiration.

A Socrates is condemned to death for corrupting the youth of Athens. Aristotle escaped to Chalcis. Spinoza was excommunicated and excommunicated. Christ scared the hell out of the bureaucrats and continues to do so. A Malcolm X, a President, and a senator are assassinated.

Creativity, a form of wisdom is an act of tension. The

artist, like the sage, is frequently involved in a state of painful revolution.

Yes, the pursuit of wisdom is a heroic effort. Zen Buddhism, Japa, Yoga, and rational Christianity are all painful and heroic endeavors. Since we are all at times cowards we are all at times ignorant. Since we are all at times courageous we are all at times wise.

Job Vans Effective

Have jobs, will travel. That could be the slogan of two red, white and blue mobile employment vans now becoming a familiar sight in Detroit and surrounding communities.

Used by Ford Motor Company's Wixom Assembly Plant, the compact Econoline vans are rolling recruiting stations designed to help hire new employees needed weekly during new model launching periods.

The vans have been touring the area -- Detroit, Livonia, Inkster, Pontiac, Howell, Brighton, Milford and other communities -- five days a week since August and will continue to do so through December.

With local police cooperation, two employees manning each mobile office set up mini-recruitment centers in the heart of a city or in busy shopping centers.

Current Wixom job openings include product assemblers, spot welders, paint sprayers and metal finishers.

The plant has immediate openings. In fact, one goal of the unusual mobile van program is to sign up new recruits and have them on the job within 24 hours.

Tiger Stars At Auto Show

Detroit Tiger Pitcher Mickey Lolich will join fellow hurler Danny McLain in twice-daily appearances at the 1968 Detroit Auto Show, according to Chairman Harry Tenneyson.

The show, one of the nation's largest, opens for a nine-day run at Cobo Hall on Saturday, Nov. 30. More than 300 vehicles--domestic and imported passenger cars, recreational vehicles, campers and motor homes--will be on exhibit.

Whether the two ace hurlers will combine their separate

skills as entertainers into a single act for the show has not been determined, Tenneyson said. Lolich is appearing in Las Vegas as a singer. McLain's specialty is the organ.

The two are among a lineup of top entertainers who will perform daily during the 4 p.m. and 8 p.m. stage shows for visitors to Detroit's 53rd Auto Show.

Hours of the Auto Show are from noon until 11 p.m. Advance tickets are available at all Sears and J.L. Hudson stores.

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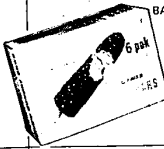
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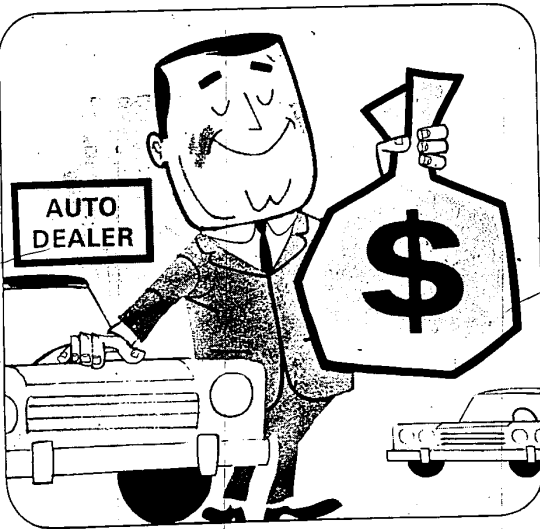
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