pletely independent of this school that if USC were to sink into Columbia’s growing asphalt tomorrow it would not only be unaffected but would probably prosper ten fold! At least that has been the attitude in the past of the alumni of this school and of the moribund General Assembly -- colleges and universities are extraneous frills to be supported solely because of the fine entertainment they provide -- and I think that this attitude, understandable since the powerful of the Assembly are geriatrics, is but one symptom of the bite of Fundamentalism and its attendant hysterical emphasis on Christian fellowship and anti-intellectualism.

Its greatest vampire would probably be Reverend Carl MacKintyre and his clever entertaining of RED with everything else. Like his great teacher before him in the dark ways of gobledygoek, Joe McCarthy, this vampire can be tripped up with simple logic, the cold light of reason, a well-aimed obscenity at ancestors, and the maturity of the victim who must show not the slightest desire to believe in fairy tales. It is precisely this stifling influence and interplay of the Jockula-Fundamentalia Fellowship that is so damaging to the intellectual enterprise for its punishes the imaginative, incipient bock-rocker, smooths on the pleasant talker, throws out of its acquaintance the morally outraged protestor, takes into its arms the short-haired, industrious, just plain DECENT youth with Jesus in his mind and soul, and sports in his heart! Yes! Let’s open our scholarships to those who think for themselves! Joe Grunt! A doctorate in Business Administration, president of PKA, Most Congenial Man of 1972, minoring in Phys. Ed., and great Gamecock fan! Also beer bust champ and all around good sport! YUK! YUK! (Scratch)

Of course, when one is confronted with such an apparition -- and you will be, my child, since USC is full of them -- one can, as well as recite the usual chants, call on the name of a friendly counter-vampire, Gagula, who will bite you and leave you vomiting your insides out, confusing your enemy and temporarily immune from further bites. Think of it as just one more incident on the poverty stricken road to intellectual Calvary -- after all, it’s not the money you want, it’s the KNOWLEDGE and the martyrdom you’ll gain from it.

YES! Strive for it and your heart even though you can’t make more than $200 a year with your five degrees in the Arts and Sciences and get a little wistful and hurt when you see a talented arm or leg go up at upwards $90,000.00.

No. It’s not like Europe where the mind is treasured for itself and rewarded for being at its best -- critical, chaotic, and creative. Entertainment indeed!!! Bah! You Americans! Let them eat basketball nets!

Next Week: The Bite of Fundamentalia, The Curse of Milatricia (military), and a Night of Terror in the Valley of Corpula! (corporations)

Letters

Save Tidelands

The present condition of the tidelands marshes and estuaries of South Carolina does not lend itself to optimism.

Albert Schweitzer once gloomily declared that “man has lost the capacity to foresee and to forestall. We will end up destroying the earth.” It is now that we see and feel a wave of apprehension about the health of the world. Suddenly millions of people recognize with frightening clarity that the only life-supporting planet known to astronomy is under a sustained assault that threatens to destroy its intricate fragile and interdependent ecosystem. And as this recognition widens and spawns protests and calls for reform, it becomes increasingly doubtful that man can forestall the onrushing ruin.

There is reason to believe that in its headlong rush from the caves to the moon he has locked himself within institutions that impel the suicidal repetition of the very acts which he now perceives to be deadly.

Under the law of medieval England the land embraced not only the soil the air and the water, but every living plant and creature upon or within them. This included people so that even the harsh feudal system made strong exactions on the rulers to protect the otherwise rightness peasants. There was a wisdom in this that America has lost to her sorrow.

Modern America is presently committed to the endless proliferation of goods, growth based on ever-rising numbers of persons, and a steadily mounting gross national product. In order to sustain its impetus, the American system makes incredible exactions upon the land.

In the ceaseless quest for goods and status, men have become so frantic to keep up with their fellows, and have so cluttered their communities with the effluvia of their civilization, that they must, to progress, link with nature and some measure of sanity, repair at frequent intervals to yet unspoiled and uncrowded areas.

Thus the very social and economic system that sucks at the earth and rends it for its ores, fuels, crops and lumber, flings multitudes of men, women and children across this same land in search of peace and spiritual restoration. Here are the twin forces that appear to doom the magnificent coastline of South Carolina.

We should be acutely aware of what these forces have done to some of our other great natural heritages. The Appalachians. Already a million acres of Appalachian have been blasted and bulldozed into ruin. Already 10,000 miles of streams have been severely damaged, half of which have been destroyed past any possibility of restoration.

On their way to the sea, the final repository, these streams now carry a horrendous freight of silt from mountains. sulfuric acid from unsealed mines, untreated human and animal waste, and practically every other imaginable form of filth, trash, and litter. Such grim statistics can be told today, whereas it only a few years ago to Florida. As extraction speeds up, new contaminants of many kinds will be added to them, to become permanent inhabitants of our coastal waters and marshes.

The history of our country is replete with examples of speculators obtaining title to land and mineral rights at a pittance of ...