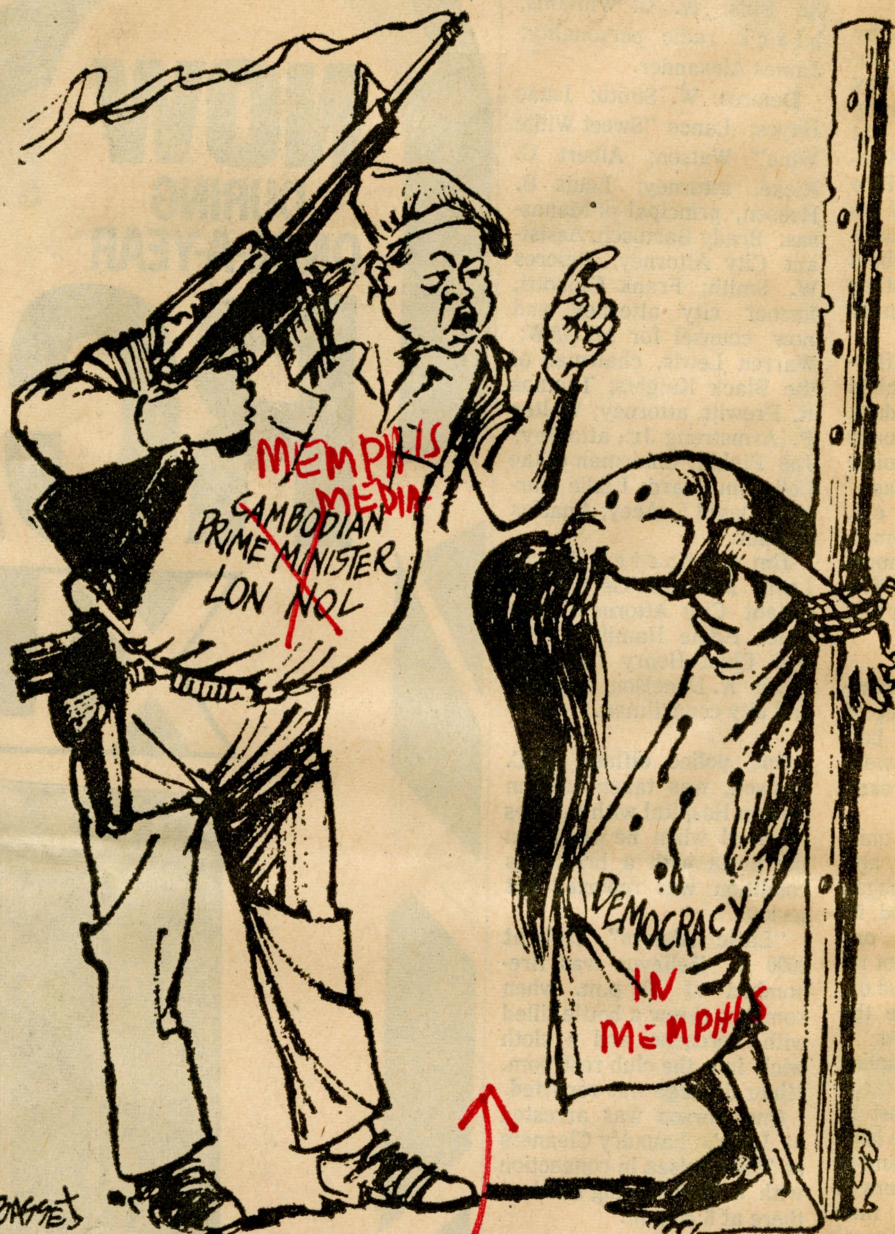


0PE 18-20

'Understand, This Is Temporary . . . Until You
No Longer Stand in the Way of Victory!'



P.S.

OCT. 21, 1971

Charles Schneider
Editor

Overton Park's Real Danger

You've seen it happen a thousand times on TV:

While mom and dad argue furiously about the upbringing of little Junior or Sis, the child takes off unnoticed. Sometimes he merely gets lost. Sometimes he is hit by a car. Sometimes he gets kidnaped. At any rate, the script-writers always put him in danger.

Change the script a bit, and ask yourself: Is the real danger to Overton Park going unnoticed while the lawyers, highway men and expressway opponents argue up in Federal Court over the proposal to run Interstate 40 through the northern part of the park?

Experienced forester W. Z. Hawkins was quoted in Robert Johnson's "Good Evening" column in The Press-Scimitar the other day as saying with reference to Overton Park:

"If some planned forestry isn't done

there, there might not be much woods left in 20 years or so."

On TV, mom and dad suddenly realize that Junior or Sis is missing, or get a call from the hospital or police. They are reunited, decide whatever it was they were arguing about wasn't worth it, and everyone lives happily ever after.

We realize that the expressway issue is an important one, and must be settled. Hopefully, the highway project will be allowed to move ahead without any more delay after the court hearing.

But we also hope Park Commission staffers and other concerned public officials — and conservationists — don't forget that Overton Park is still a park as well as an expressway battleground. Good forestry must be practiced there, or the park might have a very unhappy ending sooner than people think.