

works of that great--and as yet
unrecognized--poet, John Downes

Let's You and Him Fight (9/41)

The following was written in a satirical mood after reading that thirty-eight of the S.U. professors favored a declaration of war.

3/46: They won. We had the war.

Thirty-eight professors sitting in a row
Along came a war and they said,
Suppose you go--
For we're very, very valuable to learning,
don't you know
And our views on Education are thus and so
and so
But when it comes to bloodshed,
Let you seek out the foe

II.

"We teach the flowers of the race,"
They say in manner wise
"And though it grieves us sadly
Our feelings can't disguise
That there's a madman roaming loose,
And he must be destroyed
But why don't we destroy him?
For shame that you should ask
For who'd assume the caps and gowns
And carry on our task?
Our plan would cause a sacrifice,
To us we're proud to say
For should the war dam suddenly burst
Our classes day by day
Would dwindle down and dwindle down,
Until the dean might say
"Because of lost enrollment,
We can no longer pay."
And if our wish for war comes true,
We'll certainly do our parts
We'll lecture, lecture, lecture.
And sell bonds with all our hearts
We'll write and talk and lead the band,
And shout war's glory through the land
And should they ask us to enlist
And let our red blood flow
Oh mercy, mercy, mercy,
Let the young chaps go.

Chief Downs retires

He made fire department the best

It is with great disappointment that I read of the retirement of Syracuse Fire Department Chief Michael Downs.

There are few people that have taken the responsibility of public service as seriously as Chief Downs.

Early in his career, he distinguished himself as a courageous man on the rescue company, as a firefighter and then later as a lieutenant. He was decorated with Syracuse's highest award for bravery, The Francis Hendrick medal, in 1962 when he, as always, put his own life on the line to save others.



DOWNES

When Downs became captain, fire Chief Thomas Hanlon put him in charge of the training division. Downs and his staff trained virtually every person now on the Syracuse Fire Department.

Downs was the man behind the scene that made the Syracuse Fire Department the finest fire service in the entire country.

Fire officers from the world over have come to Syracuse to visit with Downs and his training staff and see exactly how the Syracuse Fire Department was put together.

Downs has been a close confidant of every chief since Hanlon. I hope — for the safety of today's Syracuse firefighters and the people of the city of Syracuse — he will continue to advise the next chief.

Always a gentleman, Downs has been a leader to every man he ever worked with. He will be greatly missed.

E. JOHN SHIRLEY
Retired Syracuse firefighter
Syracuse

Now this sounds like a story
That could end with naught but dread,
But pray, dear reader, tell me--
How come--the next week they wed?

Untitled (6/44)

When you think of all our blessings
And count them day by day
Just tip your glass and say aloud
"Here's to the U.S.A."

Don't be a good time Charlie
And let the others pay
Remember you're lucky to be here
So "here's to the U.S.A."

So don't talk down our country
I have no more to say
If you don't like it, leave it
Here's to the U.S.A.