

## THE COLLEGIATE

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Thursday, March 10, 1966

### A Cloud Of Smoke

This week the controversy over required chapel was almost settled as Howard Chapel nearly went up in a cloud of smoke. The cause of this near catastrophe was the delapidated light board which caught fire during Friday night's production of Stage and Script.

That this occurred is really not surprising. This light board has been a danger for years and has been the subject of controversy between those who must use the chapel and the administration. The trouble is that this controversy has led to little action as can be seen by the occurrence Friday night. We don't know the reason for this lack of action but we do feel that something should be done about this danger before a real catastrophe occurs and it becomes too late to act. Money is one thing but lives are another and if the electrical condition of the chapel continues to be the same is it possible that our college community may lose some of its members in a very unorthodox and hard to explain way. The chapel has enough problems without also being a danger to those who enter its hallowed doors.

As of yet this paper has made no statement as to its opinion about required chapel, but under such conditions that now exist in the chapel's electrical system it might be highly recommended that students stay away if for no other reason than to protect their lives.

### Singing Rivers

As if moved by the music of rushing waters, the Senate voted 71 to 1 for the "wild rivers" bill. The debate almost gurgled with the "ram-paging torrents" of the Salmon, the white water cataracts of the Rogue and the colorful swirls of the Rio Grande. In a few hours of nostalgic appreciation for untamed streams and unspoiled woods, the Senate committed itself to a national policy of perserving these values for which an urban-oriented society continues to thirst.

We surmise that the almost unanimous vote reflects the feeling in the country for the preservation of these singing rivers. Most of the Nation's streams have been befouled by silt, commerce and sewage. No doubt the general sense of guilt for this desecration contributed much to the demand that at least a few "wild rivers" should retain their original charm.

The Washington area will be especially delighted that the 140-mile Cacapon in West Virginia and a 20-mile stretch of the Shenandoah were added to the list of streams that must continue to flow freely. We have no doubt that many other rivers should be included. The wild rivers study team which began its work three years ago surveyed 22 rivers and gave some attention to 51 others that may merit preservation in an unspoiled state. Fortunately, the bill provides for a continuing study so that other spectacular streams may be added to this heritage of unique recreational areas.

It is impossible to understand the indifference that has been expressed by Chairman Apinall of the House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee toward the bill. These picturesque rivers are no less worthy of preservation than wilderness areas and that national parks which Congress has brought under its special protection.—THE WASHINGTON POST

## Readers' Forum

TO THE EDITOR:

In the March 3rd issue of "The Collegiate," I was very much disturbed by the letter to the editor on the subject of Harper Hall women. I could not believe that any one person could be as narrow minded as the author of that mishap undoubtedly is. Judging by the remarks made, I'd be willing to give 10 to 1 odds that she is one of ACC's young Freshman girls. I believe that she must have gone off half-cocked and did not bother to consider both sides.

The second side of this is one that has been a problem to the males attending ACC for years. I am referring, of course, to that high and mighty attitude that the typical ACC co-ed is blessed with. These girls wonder why they are not rescued from the depths of boredom which they find themselves sinking into on weekends. Well, they have no one to blame but themselves; because any young man in his right mind is not going to even consider approaching a girl whose nose is kept so high.

As to the comment made on walking and talking. This could be hazardous if a sudden thunder shower were to come up, the water just might pour into that nose so high leaving the man with an obviously drowned date.

My advice to the Harper Hall girls is to wise up and you will more than likely find your Hackney Hall man.

Thom Horack

### Draft Tests Are Optional

(CPS) — The Selective Service System has announced tests that might qualify students for a draft deferment will be given on May 14, May 21, and June 3.

High school seniors who will graduate in June and college students who desire to take the test must make an application not later than April 23 to the Science Research Associates of Chicago, the firm under contract with the government to prepare and administer the tests. It was awarded the contract over two other bidders.

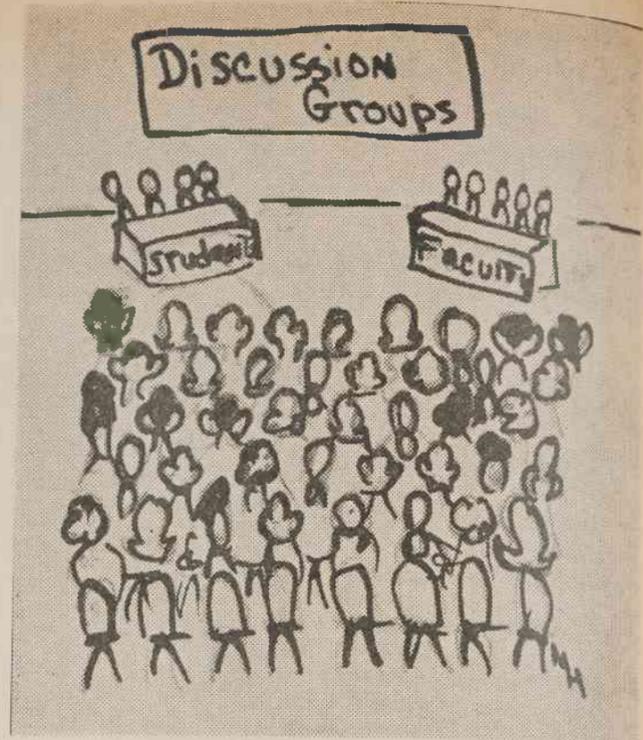
The Selective Service office stresses the test is optional and no student is required to take it. However, beginning in the fall, local draft boards will use a combination of school grades and scores on the test to determine who will be deferred. Indications are that a student with an exceptionally high standing in his college class would not need to take the test in order to be deferred. A student with a lower rank in his class might substantially improve his chances for a deferment with a good score on the test.

Although the criteria for deferments have not been announced as yet, it is expected to be similar to those used during the Korean war when a score of 70 (out of 150 questions) was considered deferable for an undergraduate student and an 80 was generally accepted for a graduate student.

The test is designed to test four areas — reading comprehension, verbal relations, arithmetic reasoning, and data interpretation.

A spokesman for the Selective Service office called the test "similar to a general aptitude test" with about 50 per cent of it devoted to verbal and linguistic skills and about 50 per cent to quantitative reasoning.

He said the test had been constructed so as not to give any advantage to any type of college major. There were charges that the test used during the Korean war was weighed in favor of math and science students.



And It Asn't Even Required!

### The Scene From Here

By CLAY BROWN

Since this column has a flexible nature, I would like to reminisce about an unforgettable character I had the pleasure of knowing.

Nguyen Van Chi is his name. Chi has been a member of Viet Nam's elite Airborne Rangers since early in 1955. Because of his military feats, Chi is a local hero. He has been shot, bayoneted, and cut from head to toe. His left hand is permanently fixed in a half closed position because he had been shot in the wrist by a sniper while he was parachuting into a suspected Viet Cong village. In addition to bom-de-bah shack. (Bom-de-bah is Vietnamese beer that is supposedly made from embalming fluid). Since Chi's shack is right outside the Ranger compound at Bien Hoa Air Base, it is there that we met and became close friends.

But Chi's heroic military actions are not the reason for this story. It's Chi's talents as a hustler of people that are. He had a quality only a select few possess — the quality to make people see humor in all situations. Chi stood out among his people like all the people the world over that posses this quality do. Chi also had a way about him that made me like him the minute we met.

Chi spoke very little English. What he did speak was a graphic pidgin English. In other words he painted the pictures with his hands and a few well placed G.I. slang terms. I can remember sitting with my buddies in Chi's shack watching the children chasing rats while he was outside selling some Vietnamese officer a bottle of American whisky or a carton of cigarettes. His business completed Chi would run back inside and continue his stories. Not that the bom-de-bah or the shack appealed to us, it was just that Chi's stories and the camaraderie we felt as a group kept pulling us back.

Chi did not run a black market ring as some might have presupposed, you see all the American goodies he sold to his fellow Vietnamese were given to him. They were gifts from those Americans that were fortunate enough to drink and listen to the stories in Chi's Shack. This way everything was open and above reproach as far as the authorities were concerned. We could have sat in the clean, cool, comfort of the Enlisted Men's Club, but I prefer to think that the off-duty hours spent in that dirty shack may have helped two countries better understand each other.

### Perspective On Nkrumah

Much that has been said and written in the East since the overthrow of Kwame Nkrumah in Ghana suggests that many in the West still have a lot to learn about Africa, Africans and above all about Pan-Africanism. From Accra, Dr. Nkrumah had played two roles until the end of last month. One was that of President of Ghana. The other was that of a founder - member and leading light of Pan-Africanism. He has lost the one. The question now is whether he will lose the other.

President Toure of Guinea — whose thinking has points of similarity with that of Dr. Nkrumah's — has moved to give him a base from which to try to keep his Pan-African role. What remains to be seen is whether this move has actual or symbolic value.

The Army coup, so manifestly welcome to the crowds in the streets of Accra, was the Ghanaian conscience expressing itself against abuse of power and a President's excessive vanity. The removal of Dr. Nkrumah from the presidency now gives the people of Ghana an opportunity to re-fashion their Constitution so that a freer atmosphere will prevail in their land.

But an element in all this is bound to be the reaction of the white Western world to Dr. Nkrumah's difficulties. To many Africans, this reaction already seems to have too great a component of malicious glee. And

they feel that this glee stems less from the white Western world's satisfaction at the humiliation of a man so closely identified with the whole history of Pan-Africanism in modern times.

Pan-Africanism has at least three facets: geographical, political, and racial-ideological. The geographical one is in many ways constant. The political one ebbs and flows — and at the present time is at a low-water mark, ironically because Kwame Nkrumah has so often overplayed his hand. Non-Africans make the mistake of judging the strength of Pan-Africanism solely from the barometer of African political unity as between governments. This leads them to overlook the constant pull below the surface of racial-ideological facet.

Perhaps the West should reflect on what might be the consequences now of adopting the very worthy Army leaders in Ghana as its darlings — and of overcelebrating the difficulties of Dr. Nkrumah. At the very least it will seem in many African eyes to justify the subtle allegations from the Communist world (and from some sensitive non-Communist African governments) that the coup in Ghana was an Anglo - American plot. We do not believe the allegation. General Ankrah in Accra has refuted it. (Reprinted from The Christian Science Monitor)