

# EDITORIAL

## EDILOKIVT

### A final word

When asked if I would like to write one last article for the Smoke Signals, I didn't exactly know what to say but I just couldn't pass up my last chance to speak my mind.

With the initiation of this ~~week~~ paper has come much criticism. I couldn't really say if most of it has been good or bad, but I think there is a good race going.

The faculty and administration has voiced their opinion to those on the staff, but for some reason failed to tell it to the whole student body. I do not know why, and wish they would have.

I guess that their biggest complaint was about the nature or taste of the rash of "Letters to the Editor." I have to say that I do not agree with the administration when they say these editorials should be censored to some extent.

As everyone has read, the students have done a fairly good job in reprimanding their fellow students for poorly opinionated editorials.

The students, I think, listen to this type of back lash more than they do that which comes from higher up. I hope that in the future the paper will be allowed to run free criticism and insure the student safety from any type of official reprimand, as long as the writer signs his correct name and it is his work.

The Smoke Signals seemed to gain interest at a rather slow pace this year until the very end. I hope that next year all of the returning students will lend a hand in supporting the paper and show the new students that this is their voice on campus.

The paper can become one of the biggest assets to the student if he would just use it. Maybe nothing was achieved with the paper this year, but it takes time for things to grow into something of value.

Every student wants a paper he can look forward to reading every week, but a handful of students can not give you a paper of this type. Support and co-operation is all the paper and it's staff ask for.

I would be the first to answer if asked what I thought of Chowan. Chowan may be an old school but it is young in so many ways. There are so many changes that need to be made in so many areas I couldn't begin to list all the changes I would like to see.

I can say that many, many changes have already been made in the two years I have been a student at Chowan. If the freshmen here now or those who arrive in the fall think some of the rules are bad, just ask someone in the class of 1969 what their freshman year was like!

We couldn't bring cars on campus on special week-ends and we couldn't enjoy ourselves in the local taverns without fear of being raided or having our breath smelled as we entered the dorm.

In the fall of '67, girls of either class could not single date, and just this past week freshmen girls were given forms to send home to allow them to single date along with the privileges already held by the sophomores.

I could go on and on, but there is no sense in it, all the changes are in black and white (somewhere!).

One final thing, I would like to thank all of those who helped the staff of this paper in any way at all. Every little bit of news and every letter helped us to give you a paper.

Those in the Graphic Arts Department helped beyond thanks. They extended their skill and knowledge beyond demand and receive all the thanks and appreciation they can get.

I have enjoyed this year although it has been hard work and I may not have been the best editor.

—Nancy Mohr, Editor

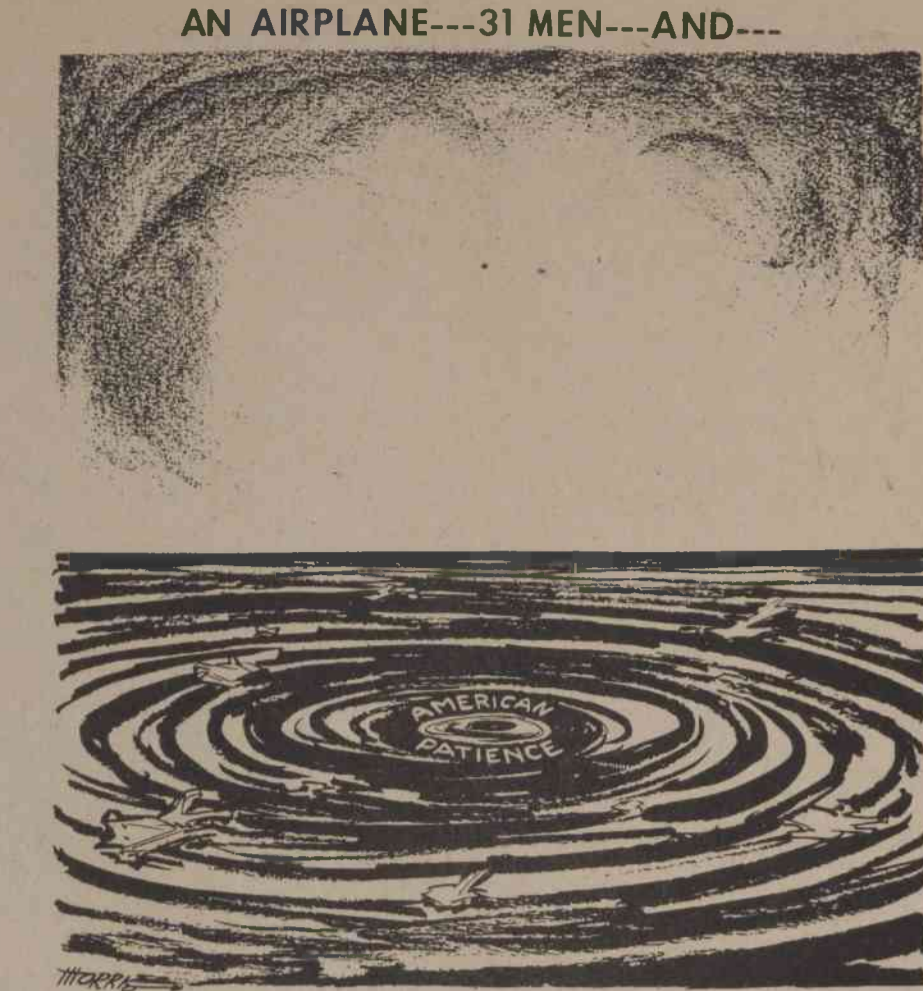
### Liquid "Gold" for Tax Collectors

Federal and state motor fuel taxes are generating revenue at the rate of one million dollars an hour during 1969. This will total close to \$9 billion, more than the revenue derived from any other commodity.

During the past half-century federal and state taxes from this source totaled more than \$120 billion—about the same as the total expenditures of the federal government from its establishment in 1789 through 1936.

People called the gasoline tax a "painless penny" when it was first levied 50 years ago in Oregon for highway construction, but today it is neither painless nor a penny.

### WHAT A MAN CAN DREAM, MAN CAN DO!



### Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

This last issue of "Smoke Signals" brings to a close this publication of our student newspaper for this school year.

During recent issues I have stuck my neck out on several occasions, and though my neck has been threatened on several occasions, my head is still attached. Or, to use the words of Henry: "My head is bloody but unbowed."

It has been interesting to observe student and faculty reaction to my letters. I am aware that my writing has displeased some; however, I take pride in knowing that I have exercised my right as a free American.

Fewer than 12 different students out of 1,300 have exercised this right on this campus. Yet, from every table in the cafeteria to every chapel seat in the auditorium, from every corridor in Marks Hall to every stool in the snack shop have come the cries of the habitual complainers who make up the Chowan College student body.

This is not abnormal and such should be expected; however, school spirit has suffered this year because too few have been those who were willing to do anything about their groans.

There can be no school spirit in a student body which is filled with fear, and there is really no need for fear of expression. Rising sophomores are urged to express themselves next year in an effort to create a better student body than we have had this year.

While I realize that letter writing of this nature is only a small part in ascertaining student opinion, it is helpful. Such opinions can only be learned when individuals have the intestinal fortitude to "stick their neck out" and let fellow student and faculty know how they feel.

This has been my intention this year. I have not attempted to polish apples, pass the buck, or glorify my position. I have not been interested in being elected Mr. Chowan College. My grin has not been as wide as our leader or smile so bright as some people's have as they have gone about their daily tasks.

After much meditation and consideration I have tried to think of something good to say about my old friend, Father Lewis of the hanging ree. Not being able to do so, I simply bid our readers farewell.

Respectfully,  
John Algeo

To the Editor:

I wish to make a few comments on the present atmosphere of Chowan College.

On the campus of Chowan College nothing seems to be accomplished. Students complain to no ends about the food service in Thomas Cafeteria, yet there has been no change in the foods served.

At present each boarding student pays \$175 per semester for three meals a day, seven days a week. Next semester this price increases to \$200 per semester. There are no rebates on meals not eaten in the cafeteria. This means if a student does not eat every meal in the cafeteria, he is losing money.

Why should students be served only one variety of a main dish at most meals?

Chowan College should seriously consider a meal ticket program such as now being used

### AN AIRPLANE---31 MEN---AND---



Don't bother to put Johnny's toys back in his playroom. Just perch them on your coffee table as a decorative touch. At least, that's what architects and designers seem to be doing these days.

With the world becoming more and more leisure-minded, decorative playthings are providing a gay accessory note as well as amusing entertainment. After all, who wouldn't rather play a mind-boggling game of Instant Insanity than talk about the weather.

And Instant Insanity is the name of last year's biggest selling item in the toy industry. It's a game made of four plastic cubes in various colors, that are an absolute panic to try to fit together.

So, this year the cubes are translated into pillows that you can inflate for the den, playroom, or patio.

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Another best seller, believe it or not, is the Ouija board. After years of being regarded by many people as a joke, the "talking" board is back in style. For some reason the occult seems to have captured everyone's fancy. So, accessory firms have taken up these playful items and brought forth astrological Zodiac signs in lucite cubes, wall hangings, and ash trays.

There's even a witchcraft set for freaking out cocktail guests, area rugs you can play tic-tac-toe on, wooden puzzles, and all sorts of paper toy items. One plastic cube puzzle from Denmark forms a million different forms. Another plastic construction set in flower shapes forms dozens of striking patterns.

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Although toys haven't quite made it to the kitchen yet, their color and decorative qualities certainly have. One set of pots and pans (by United States Stamping) is positively swinging. It features a splash-on abstract design in brilliant orange, blue and yellow. Cookware with colorful bottoms pretty enough to hang on the wall are particular favorites. Most are made with designs that won't burn off even with hard use.

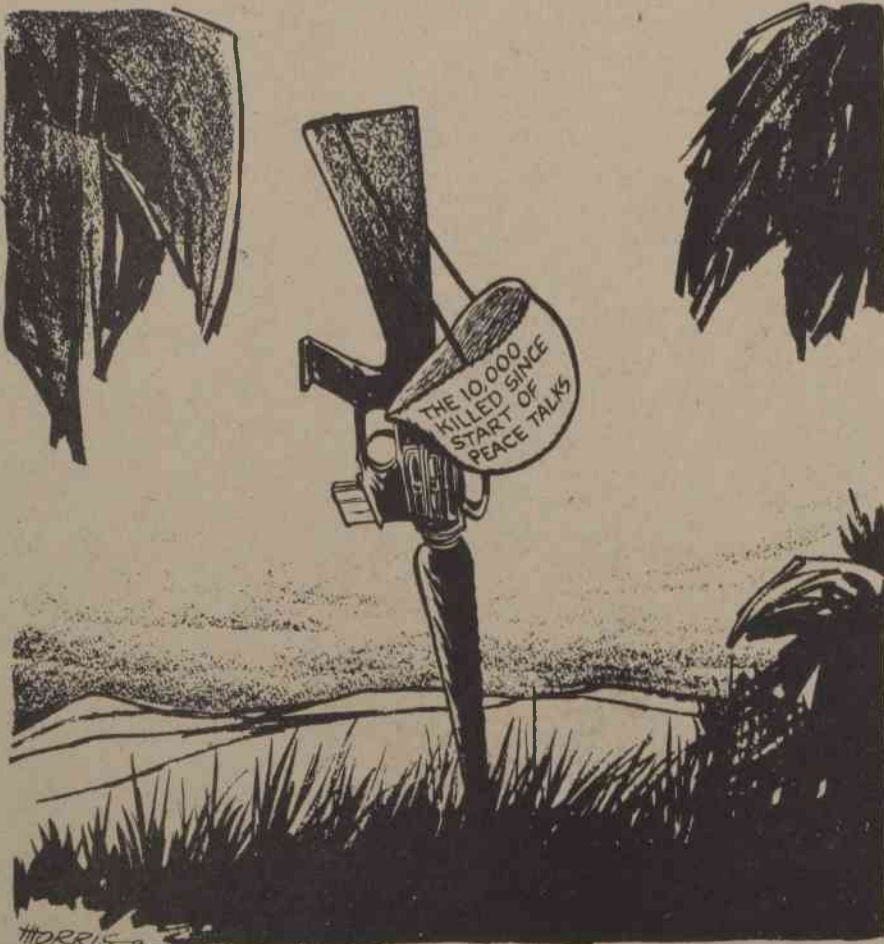
Two popular patterns are the traditional blue Meissen, and a Fiesta pattern of red and brown on gleaming white. In a heavy gauge steel, they have a satin-smooth ceramic covering.

### My Neighbors



"Uncross your fingers!"

### IN VAIN?



### Literary Musings

By PROF. ROBERT MULDER

#### A Visit to Mark Twain Country

Last summer's study at the University of Mississippi afforded me many fringe benefits. At the insistence of one of my old Miss. professors, I took a three-day jaunt to Hannibal, Missouri, the town of great American novelist Mark Twain (Samuel Langhorne Clemens). Reflections of that visit will always be outstanding in my mind, and since my students are beginning his masterpiece of "Huckleberry Finn" (THE great American novel) this week I must share with them and my other readers some highlights from that visit.

As the tourist approaches this now-famous town, he is made increasingly aware of its significance to American literary history. He may reach the city by crossing the Mark Twain Memorial Highway and Bridge. Greeting immediately are the Tom Sawyer Lodge, the Injun Joe Restaurant, and the Huck Finn Motel, all signs of commercial monopoly; yet, the names and pictures leap from the pages of the familiar stories in a pleasant manner.

Literary markers clearly lead the individual to hours of pleasurable roaming. The little village, that small part which Twain knew, carefully and completely maintains its authentic touch. The tourist must park his car and stroll through the town on foot, as Sam Clemens did as a boy from 1838-1853.

Of course, the town has its Historic Commission which has seen to its preservation, but strangely enough the best things in Hannibal are free, and this would have pleased Twain, as those who make this possible know.

I started my tour with the Clemens home, usually called the Mark Twain home. Flanked by a memorial museum and a flower garden, the home Sam knew as a boy faces the Becky Thatcher house across the Hill Street. To visit both places with the unforgettable voice of imitator Hal Holbrook as a guide is indeed to experience Twain's presence. A dozen or more Huck Finns, Tom Sawyers, and Becky Thatchers are always on hand to enhance the visit, running eagerly from house to store to garden.

At the foot of Cardiff Hill, described in "Tom Sawyer" stands that famous bronze statue of Tom and Huck, a creation of Frederick Hibbard. Behind this memorial the visitor may climb the "same" Hill and sit beneath the same light house as he watches the lazy Mississippi below mark its chosen course south just begging for a log raft filled with adventuresome youth. To be seen in the brownish water are logs adrift from some mill

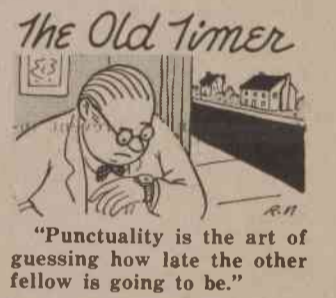
up-river waiting to be fished out and sold by some modern Pap. Squinting the eye will bring into view that famous and almost notorious Jackson's Island, a perfect place even today for young boys to play pirate. The tourist is hardly aware of the dangers involved as young boys cross the protective waters to escape the modern world. I could almost picture a campfire dying out as a Huck and a Jim were about to set out on a never-to-be forgotten journey down stream to the accompaniment of distant steam boat sounds.

Old Twain himself stands bronzed with book in hand in his own Memorial Park just a few yards from the lighthouse. The inscription reads "His religion was humanity and a whole world mourned for him when he died." This may seem paradoxical to the critic of today who would dismiss religion from the author entirely. The statue was erected for their favorite son by the State or Missouri in 1913 three years after Twain's death.

No visit to Hannibal would be complete without a tour of the Mark Twain Cave, just a mile or so from downtown. The best descriptions of the cave are found in "Tom Sawyer," and as I was directed by the guide I remembered the money the boys found there and recalled the hideouts made famous in story. Today the cave is lighted; I would have hated to visit there when Twain did with only candles for illumination.

What could be more appropriate than seeing the play "Huck Finn" in Hannibal. My Saturday afternoon was thus spent in the Ice House Theatre where a group of local people plus drama students from Missouri State College presented two delightful hours of adaptations from Twain's novel.

Any tourist will be impressed with the store of Twainiana known by Hannibal residents. I talked to a number of people in the town and was impressed by their familiarity with Twain's works. To Hannibal, Twain is not an attraction; moreover, he is the Great American author and even more important, a product of their proud town.



### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- April 24, Thursday  
SGA Concert, Showmen and Burt Massengale; \$2 per person.
- April 25, Friday  
Dance, Boykins Fire House, "The Rhythmn Masters," \$2 per couple.
- April 26, Saturday  
Parents' Day - Queen of Spring Crowning - Spring Festival Dance in the Thomas Cafeteria, free, "The Royal Seven" - 1929 and 1954 Class Reunions.
- April 27, Sunday  
Lecture - Charles Quinn, NBC news correspondent, Columns at 8:15 p. m. Free.
- April 28, Tuesday  
Advisor-Advisee meeting, 4:00 p. m.
- May 1, Thursday  
Sophomore Banquet - Thomas Cafeteria, 6:30 p. m.
- May 5, Monday  
Graduation Practice, 4:45 p. m.
- May 7, Wednesday  
Graduation Practice - 4:00 p. m.
- May 8, Thursday  
Awards Day - Special student will be recognized and scholarships announced.
- May 9, Friday  
Final Exams begin at 8:00 a. m.
- May 15, Thursday  
Last Day of Finals
- May 18, Sunday  
Final graduation practice 9:00 a. m. - Baccalaureate 11:00 a. m., Graduation Exercises, 3:00 p. m.

### The SMOKE SIGNALS Staff

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