

## MAN BEHIND THE SCENES

Every organization has a valuable man behind the scenes, whose duties are to coordinate, regulate, and work for the good of the organization.

President Eisenhower has such a man in his organization who has been very valuable recently. This workhorse and politician is Attorney General Herbert Brownell. Brownell has been responsible for many of the recent civil rights achievements in the Republican administration.

Attorney General Brownell engineered the appointment of Earl Warren to the Chief Justiceship of the Supreme Court. He was instrumental in getting the long delayed Civil Rights Bill to the floor of the Senate. Although the bill had a lot of the sting clipped from it, Brownell was still the most valuable lobbyist it had.

More recently in the Little Rock crisis, Brownell was blamed for sending Judge Ronald Davies, an Eisenhower-Brownell appointee, from North Dakota, to settle the integration issues that had piled up the Federal Court docket in the Arkansas district.

After the Southern Governor's conference (Hodges, N. C., Clement, Tenn., McKeldin, Md., and Collins, Fla.) with the President about the Little Rock crisis, Eisenhower was ready to accept the promise of Faubus to take over, but reversed his decision after a conference with Brownell.

A good man behind the scenes is worth his weight in gold. Mr. Brownell must be worth a million to Ike.

Last week President Eisenhower with regret accepted Brownell's resignation.

## SPUTNIK - NOW WHAT?

What happens now that Russia has proved herself to be a step ahead of the U. S. in technological, particularly interplanetary, achievements? This is the question which has shaken the whole western world and has thrown the U. S. into a state of panic.

It is evident that when Russia launched its interplanetary missile, Sputnik, a few weeks ago, the government of the U. S. was caught napping. While the United States was occupied with the disturbance created by Governor Orval Faubus in Little Rock, Arkansas, Russia's Sputnik bounded into space, taking with it a particle of the technological and military prestige with the U. S. has maintained for more than a century.

A short while after the launching of Sputnik, the Syrian-Turkish conflict developed, forcing the United States to abruptly turn her attention away from internal affairs and concentrate her efforts toward foreign policy.

Heretofore, the United States has been highly esteemed by the Western World mainly because of its supremacy in military research. But what effect Russia's head start in the race for the ultimate weapon will have on the countries of the world is something of which no one is certain.

No longer can the U. S. afford to sit complacently by and hold its prestige in its lap, especially now that its supremacy is threatened by the rising power of the Soviet Union. For the sake of long-lauded Democracy, the U. S. must turn its efforts from the operation of government on the basis of expediency to a government based upon moral principles. A stronger adherence to the Constitution of the United States is of the utmost importance. At the same time a boost in military research is needed. Only through these channels can the U. S. maintain its respected position in the world.

### Roving Reporter Finds —

## Opinion Varies On Orientation

**Bessie Gibbs, asks:** Was NCC's Freshman Orientation Program Beneficial to you? If so, in what way?

**Lillian Finley, Nelson, Virginia:** I think it was very beneficial to me. The exams given showed me my weak points and my strong ones. Orientation helped me find a major in which I hope to excel.

**Adam Williams, Goldsboro:** Freshmen Orientation helped me in various ways. The activities of the first week were related in some way to college life. Some of the many ways I was benefitted were by (1) the inspiring talk by Dr. Elder (2) Adjusting to college life (3) further understanding of the operation of the library and (4) meeting new friends and faculty members.

**Betty Snipes, Durham:** NCC's well planned Orientation week was very helpful to me because it enabled me to make many new acquaintances and better adjust myself to college life. During Orientation Week I also became familiar with the faculty.

**Linwood Davis, Beaufort:** Yes, I was greatly benefitted by Freshman Orientation week. The programs and activities sponsored give one the feeling of being wanted and needed in the college community. Some of the activities were a little dull, but they helped a great deal.

**Emily Mills, Jackson:** To me the Orientation program provided additional information which should be necessary throughout college life. It helped in getting me adjusted to that which is to be expected: the environment and the responsibilities of a North Carolina College student.

**Doris E. Rice, Garysburg:** Yes, I was — and I feel that every freshman should have been benefitted by Freshman Orientation Week.

The activities that were planned and carried out for our benefit proved to be a valuable aid in becoming adjusted to our surroundings, instructors, and in some respects our duties here at North Carolina College.

## BOOK REVIEW . . .

## Novel On Classical Subject Wins Wide Acclaim

By Theodore Gilliam

The year 1956 was a good one for novels. Scores of novels achieved literary significance, and not a few vied for top place on the best-seller lists. For a while one book seemed to gain momentum on the lists, then it suddenly dropped out of the race. That book was *The Last of the Wine* by Mary Renault. Though it is an eloquent and deeply engrossing book, its subject (the Greek world during the Peloponnesian war) minimized its popularity with the reading public.

*The Last of the Wine* reconstructs ancient Greece in the last stages of the Peloponnesian war. Athens had gained indisputable prominence as the leading center of culture of the then existing world. The Athenians realized their position and sat back in smug complacency while Sparta prepared for the usurpation of Athens' power. Having successfully vanquished their nearest antagonists, the Athenians devoted their time to practicing for the Isthmian games and perfecting their various arts. Socrates, in spite of his drabness and ugly features, held youths enthralled in the street with his quest for truth and beauty.

Then came the shocking news of the Spartan's destructive excursions on Attica's mainland, and the Athenian complacency was disrupted. Too late, the Athenians realized the power behind the Spartan forces, for Alcibiades (escaping trial in Athens for allegedly destroying public statues of gods) had gone to the Spartans whom he aided in the siege of Athens. After some rather drawn-out battles on land and sea (which Miss Renault describes beautifully) the Athenian democracy was replaced by an oligarchy under Sparta's supervision.

No longer could the Athenians pursue the perfection of the arts, for the economy was beggared by Sparta's destruction of vast lands, crops, and houses. Many aristocrats, who had

### Letter To Editor

Dear Editor:

This letter comes with a two-fold purpose: to bring to the attention of our students the work being done through NAACP on other college campuses and to encourage students and faculty members to assist me in the organization and maintenance of a working NAACP chapter here.

As I recall all the things I learned and heard at the recent Charlotte NAACP meeting—the magnificent contributions these colleges chapters are making—I could not help but think of the plans which I have for our chapter at NCC.

Our goal for the year is membership of the entire student body and the majority of faculty members. In my opinion, there should be at least three Negroes in NAACP to every White Citizens Council member.

The progress of other college chapters will inspire, not discourage, us here at NCC. We shall progress with the help of all students and faculty members. I look forward, therefore, to having a "full house" at our first meeting on Saturday, Nov. 9, in the Moot Court Room of the Law School at 10:30 a.m. At that time, the purposes and goals of NAACP, as well as highlights of the recent convention, will be discussed.

I can think of no student here who can not contribute in some way to the success of the local chapter of NAACP. May I assure each of you that any constructive work you may do will be appreciated by NAACP and by Negroes throughout America.

I depend upon the students and faculty members of the college to join me in the fight for freedom.

Iris T. Grant

never done a day's work with their hands, were forced to earn their living. Many were killed. The dream of democracy, however, never wavered in the hearts of the Athenians. They fought admirably to the end to retrieve and defend the freedom they lost.

Against this background of turmoil is laid the story of the growth and thoughts of Alexias (fictitious), a young Athenian of good birth. Under the influence of Socrates, Alexias developed with Lysis (half fictitious) a friendship founded upon the principles espoused by Socrates in Plato's Symposium. Their relationship is handled with amazing frankness and delicate understanding. In Alexias' association with Socrates, Miss Renault describes rather intimately a host of Socrates' well-known followers including Plato, Xenophon, Phaedo, Alcibiades, and Kritias.

Miss Renault had before her an enormous challenge, and yet she met it with seeming grace and ease. All "the glory that was Greece" and part of the shame is unfolded on the pages of her book. Perhaps her greatest achievement is her characterization of some of the "immortal" Greeks, especially Socrates. Somehow Miss Renault's Socrates, whether correctly or incorrectly drawn, has a ring of truth about him. The depiction of Socrates' famous contemporaries, though cursory in some cases, is, nevertheless, remarkable, for she brings to life men of whom we know little. The description of the Isthmian games cannot be rivalled for real excitement. All the sweeping panorama of the Greek world during this chaotic period is retold in slightly poetic prose.

Miss Renault's sources of reference included many Greek writers. For her description of Socrates, she says that she leaned more toward Diogenes Laeritus' description. The book, however, evokes very much the spirit of the Symposium. Although the story is one of an ancient age, there is a warning to today's democratic thinking peoples: complacency is the surest invitation to usurpation of the basic freedoms by which we live.

## THE RAZOR'S EDGE

By Elnora Joyner

While young Negroes in some parts of our country are escorted to classes by federal troops, the questions arise in the minds of some—What is the reaction of the Negro college student to the present struggle of his race for integration? Is he concerned? Does he feel a personal responsibility toward his race and toward his country? If these questions were answered on the basis of the actions of the North Carolina College students, the answers would hardly make us proud.

The attitude of the North Carolina College student is one of complete inertness. He reads the newspapers, listens to the telecasts, and says to his roommate: "I hope 'they' will hurry up and do something about that integration stuff." It never occurs to him that he himself is an intricate part of the "they" to whom he assigns the job of doing something about integration. Little Rock is just a place on the map to him and the people

there are no more real to him than the characters in the movies which he crawls up the back steps of the segregated theaters to see.

The North Carolina College student is content. He has finished his high school education, he does not have to worry about being barred from white schools. It does not matter to him that he represents the "brain trusts" of the country or that he is the future teacher, voter, and parent. He has no convictions that will keep him from patronizing segregated places of entertainment. And he dare not suggest to his classmates that they refrain from attending segregated entertainment centers for fear that his classmates will think him queer.

Thus, onward he goes, concerned only with his personal needs and hoping that by the time he graduates "they" will have done something about integration.

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