

CU Retreat Confronts Problems

A campus-wide retreat, involving a representative cross-section of students from all classes, is being held this weekend at Besty-Jeff Penn 4-H Camp near Reidsville.

The retreat, sponsored by the College Union and co-ordinated by Union president Sally Peterson, will be attended by approximately 40 students. Its purpose is to confront and discuss problems concerning the college, and to educate students faculty and administration of each other's problems in order to find some possible solutions.

The program, which will get under way Saturday afternoon, will include discussions on four broad topics, led by the following students: Mark Lessner, academics; Val France, school services; Dan Hulbert, school regulations; and Vicki Wyzynski, campus attitudes. Students invited to attend the retreat were given a choice of topics to sign up for.

For the Sunday noon meal, which will climax the retreat, a number of administration and faculty members will join those already involved in the program for further consideration of the issues.

Miss Peterson said, in planning the event, that as far as she knew, Guilford was the first school to organize such a retreat.

Representation Questioned

By CATHI LOWDERMILL
In December 1968, Greensboro citizens voted 2 to 1 against a proposal called "Plan B" which would have changed the form of the city government. Rather than to vote for "Plan B", the people of Greensboro voted for the present system of local government. The vote, however, was not so much a vote for the present system as a vote against "Plan B."

Currently, Greensboro's city council is composed of seven members elected at large, who in turn choose a mayor from their number. However, the city manager—not the mayor—has the most important position in the local government.

Complaints have been made that the people of the southeast and southwest quadrants of Greensboro are not equally represented with the present system, and that the council is dominated by members from the northwest quadrant. In an attempt to provide equal representation, "Plan B" was suggested.

Had "Plan B", been adopted, the city would have been divided into twelve wards which would have been equal in population. Each ward would have elected its own representative, and the mayor would have been elected at large. Specific changes promised by the proponents of Plan B were (1) that the mayor would be the chief executive rather than the city manager, and (2) that councilmen would receive a salary of \$100 rather than the \$2400 which they now

receive, and the mayor would receive up to \$5000 as opposed to the \$4800 which the present system pays him for part-time work. With his new salary, the mayor would work as a full-time employe of the city.

When "Plan B" was defeated the Chamber of Commerce promised to help create a plan for a better ward or modified ward system to be presented in a referendum before the May election of city councilmen.

Unforeseen problems arose when, after being presented with a multitude of plans, Greensboro's delegation to the state assembly abandoned the idea of changing the city's form of government. But with no help from the delegation, there is little chance of having another referendum before the May election. State law requires that North Carolina's General Assembly approve such a referendum, as well as any change in a city's form of government. Traditionally the Assembly approves a referendum when all members of a city's delegation want it; therefore, until Greensboro's delegation asks for a referendum, the city may not be able to change its form of government.

Another tradition is involved in the decision to put the referendum aside; the delegation does not usually introduce a petition for any major change in the form of local government unless the city government itself calls for a change. However, Greensboro's city council has urged the delegation not to take action. Thus, from a practical political standpoint, a change of government in Greensboro is impossible for at least two years.

In order for action to be taken before two years have passed, a new statute must be made in the 1969 legislature giving local governments the power to call referenda without petitioning the General Assembly. The Greensboro Jaycees have endorsed a recommendation that local citizens may petition for a referendum. In the present proposal, the local governing unit is the only body having the power to hold a referendum.

As it now stands, there is a

Potpourri

Members of the Downtown Division of Guilford College have begun publishing their own campus newspaper, *The Utter*. Neil M. Smith, editor, and Ned Giberson, founders, are members of the Student Activities Committee who felt that "Downtown students should be informed of what's happening in Greensboro and to increase interest at the Division." The newspaper is operating on a \$120 budget, completely financed by the SAC. The second issue appeared last week.

REQUIRED CHAPEL BOYCOTTED

An estimated 300 Queens girls refused to enter the college's Belk Chapel for services last Wednesday. The boycott was aimed at the Queens tradition of weekly worship service. The girls felt that regardless of the affiliation of the college, an enforced worship service could not be justified. Queens girls were joined in their protest by the Charlotte Observer. In an editorial entitled "Enforced Chapel Risks Emptiness," the newspaper noted that "It is axiomatic that worship can't be coerced, even though a requirement for student attendance at chapel may be enforced as a matter of school policy."

OCEANOGRAPHY STUDIED

Wilmington College plans to use its unique position as the only four-year North Carolina school located on the coast to emphasize oceanography. An increasing amount of interest has been generated for study in this area. The college felt that it was their job to impress upon the public the need to take advantage of their own resources.

FREE COLLEGE IN MAKING

A movement to establish a non-credit Free College is under way at Appalachian State University at Boone. Courses relating to social and political interests as well as academic and vocational pursuits are anticipated. The Free College has the backing of the University and is being directed by its administration. The purpose of the Free College is to complement existing programs of study without duplication of them.

DRY SPELL ENDS

Davidson College's 1837 Charter banned beer and wine sales within five miles of the college campus. Early in February the town of Davidson voted to become wet, thus ending the 131-year dry spell.

INDEPENDENT WORK PROPOSED

Leo Jenkins, president of East Carolina University at Greenville, has suggested that athletes who participate in football and basketball be enrolled in a program of independent study during the season of participation. The students would do written work when it was convenient which would mean more practice time.

Color-blindness

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it's still there. He noted that "The majority of textbooks still used in the North and the South either ignore the black people or present a stereotyped magnolia myth".

According to Farmer, the worst victims of this conditioning process have been the blacks. "We have been taught that black is bad, some sort of deformity. We've been taught to reject ourselves and part of our rejection has been the rejection of Africa". He noted that when Negroes in America rejected Africa they were cutting an umbilical cord with their past. "There is no future without a past" he said. Ideally, he foresees a future in which people of all races and nationalities are proud and not fearful of honoring their culture and people won't feel subcultures weaken the American nationality. He wants the black American to accept his blackness and be proud of his culture.

"Changes in agenda", as Farmer calls them, have also caused widespread confusion. An example of this is the case of a Negro who tried to support the movement of integration of residential areas by moving his family into a white suburb. When he originally did this, he was a sort of "hero", but later he became an "Uncle Tom" to the black community. There is more residential segregation today than in 1954 according to Farmer. He does not support black separatism, but he insists that the black ghetto will not disappear because to some people it is home and they want to live there.

What does Farmer optimistically envision for the future? He desires "not color blindness, but seeks color conscience to eliminate color inequity". He wants black Americans to be "more respected and dealt with as equals; not necessarily to be loved".

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