

Editorially Speaking

The President's Proposal on the Draft

Undue anxiety over some particularly vexing problem often leads to mistakes in judgment. Mistakes in judgment usually lead to mistakes in action. Knowledge and understanding are calculated to receive anxiety, to promote sound judgment, and to point the way toward proper action. Thus, this word to those guys (and gals) who may have become despondent, frustrated, and ready to quit because of what they have read (and failed to read) of the President's proposal on the draft.

The President's message to Congress on March 6 had to do with several facets of the current Selective Service system. In the first place, the Selective Service Act (authorization for the draft) expires on June 30, 1967. If the draft is to continue, the Act must be extended by Congress. There is no question but that Congress will vote an extension. It is generally agreed that some form of Selective Service is essential to the national welfare.

In the second place, the present system has been the object of a great deal of criticism with regard to the method used in "calling up" draftees and with regard to the matter of deferment. It was to meet some of those criticism that the President acted with reference to deferment for graduate students and proposed his F(air) A(nd) I(mpa-tial) R(andom) system of selection (the "lottery"). *The Matter of deferment for undergraduate students is still under advisement and is yet to be decided.*

A staff writer for the *Washington Post* has compared the draft system now in effect with the President's FAIR proposal as follows:

Who is deferred of exempt from the draft?

Here is a table prepared by Administration officials to show how the draft operates today and how it would operate under the proposal's President Johnson outlined in his message to Congress.

TODAY

All fathers are exempt and exemptions are granted to others who demonstrate "extreme hardship."

Student exemptions:

- ROTC students
- High school students until graduation or attainment of age 20
- Students until end of academic year
- Divinity students (exempt by law)
- Undergraduates and graduate students satisfactorily pursuing a full time course (under special criteria)

Occupational exemptions:

- Those in critical occupations and essential activities
- Essential agricultural workers
- Apprentices meeting certain criteria
- Ministers (exempt by law)

Other exemptions:

- Reservists
- Sole surviving sons (exempt by law)
- Certain elected officials (69 in total)
- Non-draft liable aliens

WHEN FAIR PLAN GOES INTO EFFECT

Since the majority of young men will be liable to the draft in their 19th year, the grounds for deferment would be limited to:

- Extreme hardship
- Students in officer programs committed to serve
- Students until end of academic year
- High school students until graduation or age 20
- Reservists
- Medical and dental students

The Chowanian

salutes



Rudy Morton

Baptist Student Union President Rudy Morton is active in dramatics and college choral presentations and was recently named "Student of the Month" by Murfreesboro's Exchange Club as this civic organization paid tribute to his many contributions to church and community life.

- Ministers and divinity students
- Sole surviving sons
- Certain elected officials
- Non-draft liable aliens

If undergraduate college deferments are permitted until a bachelor degree is obtained:

- On graduation, man has equal exposure with 19-year-age class of that year—under the FAIR plan
- No graduate deferments permitted except for medical and dental students

Whether undergraduate college students deferments are to be continued is yet to be decided. Apprentice deferments will be continued if undergraduate college student deferments are continued.

In addition, conscientious objectors will continue to be eligible, under strict criteria, either for non-combatant military service, or for civilian work contributing to the maintenance of the national health, safety or interest.

Quotes

The failure who never arrives is a hero compared to the failure who never tries.

Taking it easy today doesn't prepare you for the demands of tomorrow.

"An idealist," said Henry Ford, "is a person who helps other people to be prosperous."

Men try to defy, women deny, middle age.

Modern American

By Tommy Vann
Student Art Columnist

With Chowan College's new library-fine arts structure beginning to take its place on our campus, it is interesting to note that Thomas Jefferson would have made a wretched director for proposed expansion of the college's fine arts program.

John Walker, director for the National Gallery of Art, recently said that Jefferson "would have felt little sympathy" for such noted contemporary collectors of the arts as the Wideners, Mellons and Kresses.

Jefferson believed, Walker said, that "the collecting of art was 'to give a pleasing and innocent direction to accumulations of wealth which would otherwise be employed in the nourishing of coarse and vicious habits.'"

Coarse and vicious habits, indeed! Can you imagine a director for our fine arts program pointing out to a talented artist or potential donor that but for his interest in the fine arts he would be busy nourishing his coarse and vicious habits.

The arts have become more democratic in the centuries since Jefferson's time, to the point that government is financially assisting in their support. While Jefferson, probably the staunchest supporter of college education during his lifetime, had little regard for art, President Kennedy and Johnson have committed the federal government to such programs as the National Endowment for the Arts and Humanities. This program will annually distribute millions of dollars in grants to painters, sculptors, musicians, dancers, museums, art centers and theatres.

Quotes

"The nearest way to glory," said Socrates, "is to strive to be what you wish to be thought to be."

Freedom is based on our willingness to do things we would be forced to do if we weren't free.

A girl who knows the ropes will probably get spliced.

The Chowanian Staff

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for

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