

Voting Age

As Election time approached again here on campus, thoughts turn to the campaigning, speeches, poster parties, and voting which we all take for granted.

We enjoy the privilege here of voting in our leaders, and thus having a voice in the laws which govern us and the people who make these laws. Unfortunately, this is not true of many of us when election time comes outside of our University. We speak, of course, of national and state elections.

In North Carolina, voters must be twenty-one years of age before they can cast a ballot in a state or federal election.

Currently, discussion is going on in our state legislature concerning lowering the voting age to 18 years in North Carolina. One of the champions of the bill is Jim Beatty, a young man himself, who obviously does not go along with some of the arguments against this measure.

Those who oppose the bill argue mainly that young people do not have the judgment, experience, or concern to be allowed to vote.

We would venture to wager that young people have as much or more concern than adults have about national and state matters. Are they concerned, indeed, when 20 and 30 percent of the REGISTERED voters is a consistent turnout figure?

Also, we are more open-minded, less prejudiced, and more objective in most decisions. Because of the pressures of a fast and furious world, teens grow up fast because they must.

At 16, we are old enough to face a prison sentence just like a man.

We pay taxes as adults do.

Simply, we are competent enough to handle a rifle and a tax return, but not a ballot.

At 21, we are old enough to vote.

We hope that this representation will be granted to the young people of North Carolina. We would like to think that we could have a voice in laws which affect our future, and sometimes our present.

A Pat On The Back

A note of pride is evident as we thank editor Ellison Clary, Jr. for working with the Journal so successfully this year.

Clary has created a first rate paper out of a mediocre one in several short months. The Editorship is a hard, thankless job, with a great burden of responsibility.

This year has seen the paper grow to its size, from 4 to 8 pages. It has seen the staff grow in triplicate, with quality the keynote. Campus coverage has been excellent, with the paper taking the lead in opinions, service, and opportunity.

All this has been done while he remained in school, a seemingly impossible feat, when the ex-editors are reviewed.

A salute from the staff to a job well done.

Wednesday Break Problem: What's Been Done About It?

BY ELLISON CLARY

Dr. John Rock, a primary developer and proponent of the birth control pill, speaks on campus but scores of students find it impossible to attend his lecture because of previous plans to attend the Union officer candidate speeches being held at the same time.

Dr. Joseph Banks Rhine, a leader in extra-sensory perception research, speaks here but students are faced with choosing between his lecture and speeches made by candidates for student body positions which are occurring simultaneously.

Professors are unable to attend the Rhine talk due to the faculty meeting scheduled for the same time.

Today, Thad Stem, Jr., will appear during the same time period allotted for speeches by class officer candidates.

All these are examples of conflicts produced by the "Wednesday break", the time slot between 11:30 and 1:00 each Wednesday when no classes are scheduled. During this weekly period, nationally-known as well as regionally-known personalities speak or perform, student assemblies and class meetings are held, regular

meetings of various campus organizations occur, and faculty and administration gatherings take place.

More than a few professors and students here have spoken of the desirability of a change in the "break" system.

What has been done toward making a change?

"Very little," replies outgoing student body president Tim Britton.

A major plank in Britton's platform last spring was his promise to try to do something about the break. "I've pushed and pushed this thing," says Britton, "I've done all

I can."

Newly elected president John Gaither has also indicated he would like to see something done about

the situation.

"I don't know the reason something hasn't been done," John admitted. "I'm not too familiar with this but I plan to look into it. We're hurting for time during the break time," he said.

Dr. Julian Mason, Assistant to Chancellor Colvard, agrees with Gaither that "we're hurting". "I'm concerned that too much is being

jammed into that hour," he said. "I'd like to hear many of the speeches that are made at a time when there is a conflict."

Dr. Mason also said, like Gaither, knows little of what has been done toward correction of the situation.

Dr. Bonnie Cone, vice chancellor, said Dr. Loy Witherspoon and an informal group of students, faculty, and staff discussed the matter at his home "one Saturday." There has been "no decision in point," Dr. Cone said.

Dr. Cone pointed out that most institutions have no specific break time at all. Events are simply scheduled at best available times in this situation.

Many persons interested in seeing a change made in the present break advocate two breaks a week rather than one. These would occur on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

This system would quite possibly defeat the purpose of a rescheduling, however, feels Dr. Cone. She points out there are fewer students on campus on Tuesdays and Thursdays and not many would drive an extra 20 miles or more in some cases just to hear a speaker no matter how good the individual might be.

She thinks a Monday-Friday or Monday-Wednesday break would be a better change, if a change must be made.

"One or two class days could be added to the schedule to make up the time lost to these breaks," Dr. Cone said. She added that a committee could work on making speakers available for these breaks. If no speaker could be found for a break, the time could still be put to use for something, she said.

How can students get the Wednesday break change in motion?

"They could ask that a further study be made," answered Dr. Cone. She indicated that no petition would be necessary and that the student legislature could well make the study suggestion.

She said any resultant study should pay particular attention to what has been done in large, urban universities whose situation is similar to the one here. She listed the University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee and the University of California at Berkeley as examples.

Dr. Cone said that students, in the process of the study, should steer clear of saying, "This is a solution." Rather they should continually ask, "What is a possible solution?"

Dr. D. W. Colvard, chancellor, made two points in regard to the change. First, he said, it should be decided whether there is a need to re-examine policy here. Second, a change should be made on the basis of careful study.

"I am ready to receive reports of studies made in connection with the break," said Dr. Colvard. "I look forward to them to serve as guides."



You know, if They'd change the break day, maybe the lectures wouldn't conflict with pool either.

Business Leaders, Profs Meet

A Conference among business leaders and college professors will be held tomorrow at 10 a. m. in conjunction with a luncheon at the White House Inn.

The meeting, sponsored by the Charlotte Chamber of Commerce, is officially titled, "College - Business Forum".

There will be a panel consisting of four business leaders and four college professors selected

from UNC-C, Davison College, Queen's College, and Johnson C. Smith University.

Dr. John B. Robbins will represent UNC-C, and has assured us of a stimulating discussion.

All students and faculty members are welcomed to attend the meeting; however, all those planning to attend are asked to register at the University Union

desk in order to allow for luncheon arrangements.

The purpose of the conference is to encourage business in this area to lend support to the area colleges.

AP.A. system will be set up so as to allow members of the non-participant attendants to pose questions over a mike. In this manner, the relationships between business and college can be openly explored.