

# The Daily Tar Heel

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## LET'S NOT HAVE MOB PSYCHOLOGY AND UNINFORMED BALLOTS DEFEAT OUR STUDENT CONSTITUTION

The legislature has done it! After over a year of concentrated study, debate, and writing, and after 150 years of spasmodic interest; and after 15 years of more intense possibility, a constitution will soon be presented for ratification by the student body.

Political lines became acute in the student legislature; it became relatively easy to identify a Student Party or University Party sympathizer by the way he voted on several critically debated issues.

The student body is not having a hastily considered document thrust upon them for ratification. One undeniable fact stands in the constitution's favor: it has received a tremendous amount of time and effort in its construction.

Our greatest fear is that several groups, perhaps working independently, will find some minor clause in the proposed document which does not fit in with their individual desires, and they might seek to wage open war on the whole document. A minority group will find a useful advantage in the fact that the constitution must be ratified by a two-thirds vote of the student body, at least 25% voting.

We feel that 25% of the students will vote, but we have some fear for a two-thirds vote.

Mob psychology, unfortunately, can victimize college students. Someone may start yelling, "Students, do you realize that the constitution abolishes the honor system? The constitution was framed by a selfish group of broken-down politicians! Coeds, this constitution will make this a man's student government! Law students, medical students, commerce students, pharmacy students, unite — you're being denied your historic rights!" Many students will not bother to read the constitution (which will be reprinted by the DTH) and may believe such argumentum ad populum.

We urge the student body either to study the constitution carefully or not to vote, for on this issue an uninformed vote is dangerous. We sincerely believe that any student who really understands the constitution is not likely to oppose its over-all provisions.—R. M.

## GOOD JOB DONE IN FREDERICKSBURG

Carolina can look with pride to its group of students who attended the Grand National Forensic Tournament and carried away top honors. Although the winners are not quite in the limelight that Carnevale's team received by its victories over other schools, we think our debaters deserve a large share of praise.

The Carolina orators were pitted against students from the largest universities and colleges of the nation, and we came out with two top places and a number of subsidiary victories.

Jim Taylor, an important cog in the student legislature, Phi Society, and Student Party, won the Men's National Oratorical Contest; and Bill Miller, a new but promising man on the campus forensic scene, won the Dramatic Reading Contest. Mrs. Jim Taylor, the "better half" of the powerful Taylor combination, took top honors in Woman's oratory. Cleo Jones, who looks like an attractive high school freshman (but is really a graduate student in history), defeated some powerful competition and walked away with an award in extemporaneous speaking. Other Carolina students who won honors for Carolina are David Pittman, who headed the delegation, and Maurice Braswell, Jim Doddo, Fred Chamberlain, Don Shields, Bobby Jones, and Lee Wood.—R. M.

## Science and the Future—

### Television ---- Just Around the Corner?

By Anatole Volkov

Less than fifty years ago spurts of electrical energy were for the first time thrust into space, and with the speed of light carried intelligence over an

ocean. Today a commonplace box governs the lives of millions of us, tells us the time, the weather conditions, and the state of the world; it is our court jester and our mentor—a commonplace box

called "the radio."

With the advances that have taken place in the field of electronics because of the war, television is in a position to supplant and take the place of radio. In fifty years our grandchildren will turn knobs to view the "Teledrama" or watch their favorite "Telecomedian" and see the latest "Visi-commercial" with the same blase indifference that we feel toward radio.

One of the greatest difficulties facing television today is the expense involved in giving the nation complete broadcast coverage. Unlike radio which can cover great distances, television is handicapped by what is termed "line of sight transmission." This means that the range of broadcasting is determined by the horizon as seen by the human eye. Such limited transmission would require many hundreds of stations to

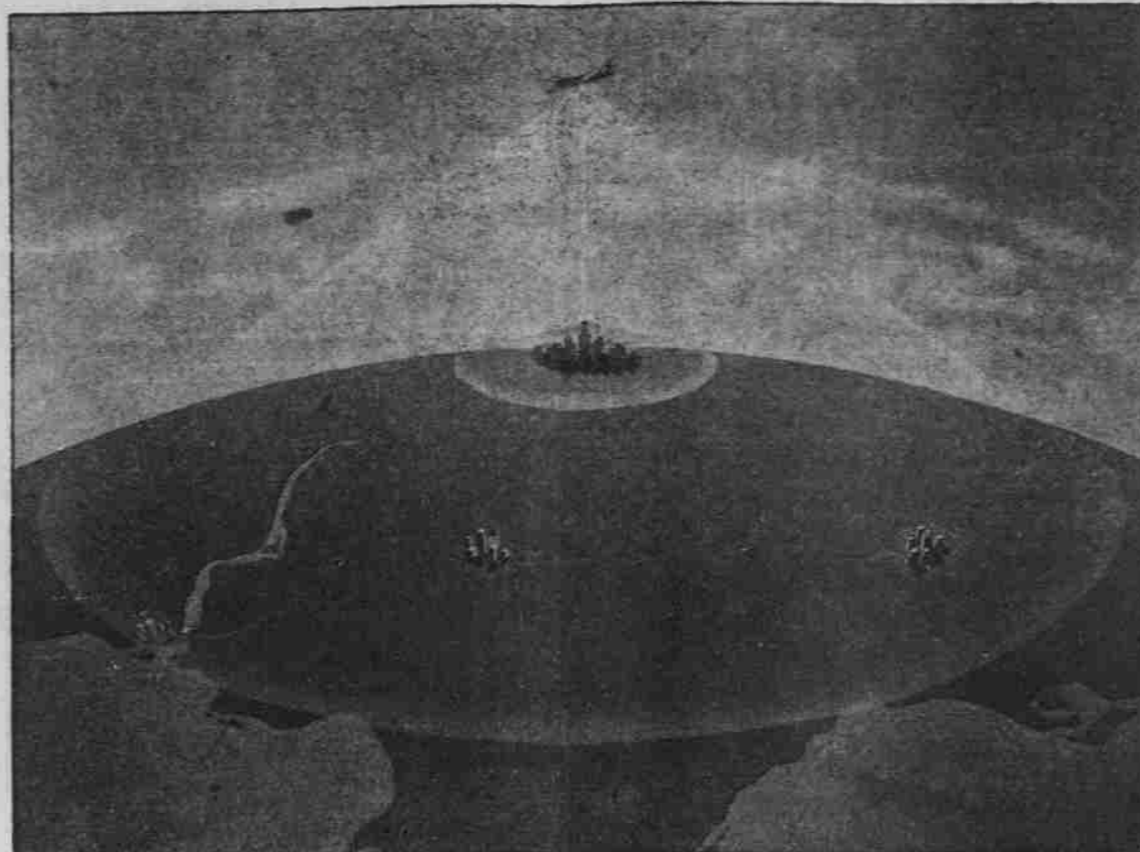


Figure 1

cover an area such as the United States.

Recently, however, a 27-year-old Texasborn Westinghouse engineer developed a system of aircraft broadcasting which is believed to have solved this problem. By use of this system a fraction of the power needed by ground transmission is sufficient to cover an area of 103,000 square miles as compared to the previous limit of 5,000 square miles (see fig. 1). Thus by using 14 stratosphere airplanes (see fig. 2) broadcasting at 30,000 ft., over three-fourths of the population could receive

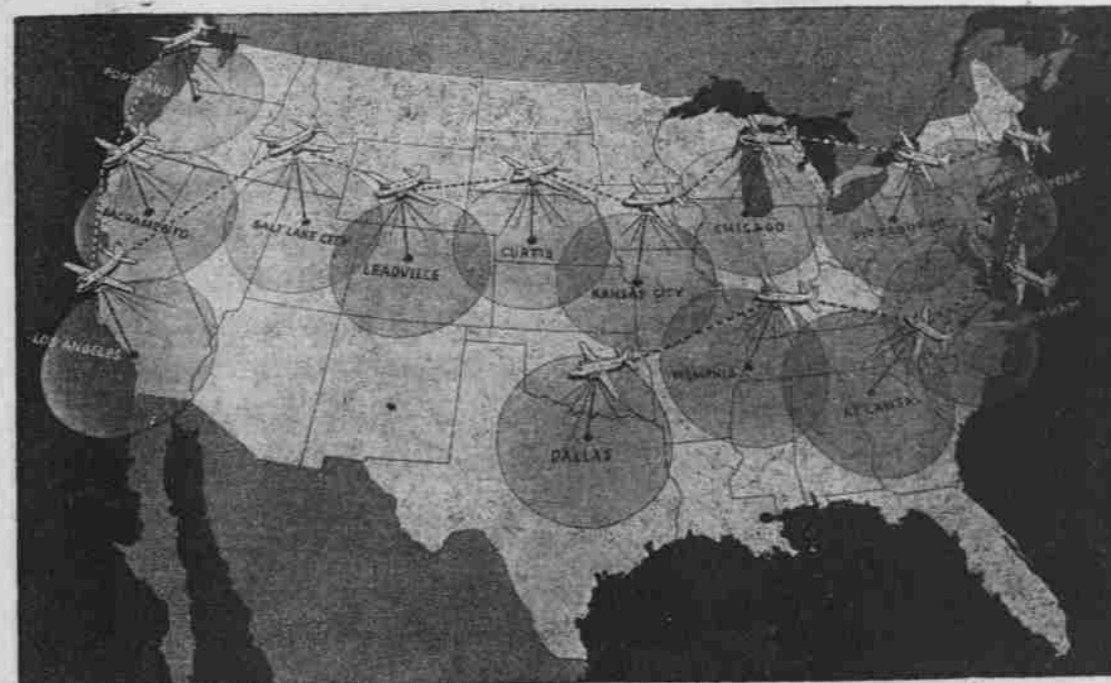


Figure 2

television broadcasts with little expense or difficulty. This method of transmission also has the advantage of better and easier reception.

The planes used in this system would be "conventional all-metal, low-wing monoplanes—almost as large as the famed B-29, but the gross weight only a third of the Superfortress. They would have automatic pilots, turbo-superchargers and supercharged cabins. Each plane would have a wing spread of 161 feet and weigh about 20 tons fully loaded. In addition to its nine transmitters and monitoring and relaying equipment, each plane would afford galley space and a lounge for the flight crew of three and

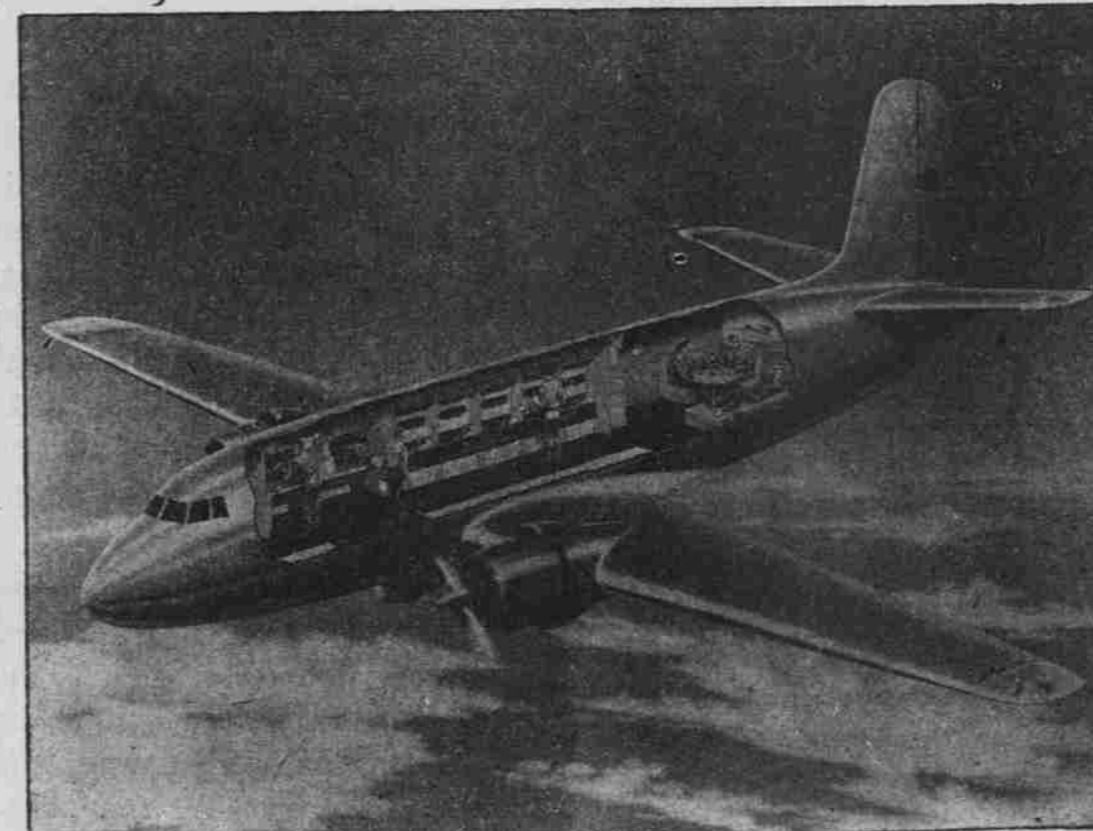


Figure 3

six radio technicians (see fig. 3).

There are still major problems to be solved. Unlike radio, television sets will require installation by experts and special antennas. Also because of the complexity of these sets troubles will be fairly prevalent and upkeep will be expensive. An even greater difficulty will be that of entertainment. Sports programs will offer no difficulty, but newscasts will be dull to watch as will forums and other standard items of radio entertainment. A new type of acting and comedy will have to be used. Scripts will be out and the television actor will either have to have an encyclopaedic memory or will have to improvise lines with only an outline plot as a background.

Yet in spite of these difficulties there will undoubtedly be a great increase in the number of sets sold in America, if the great monopolies that are being formed do not hinder further development. Science has done its part. It is now up to the great electronic companies and the radio networks to provide the realization of a nation's dream.

(Editor's Note: This simplified explanation of national television transmission will be particularly interesting to Tar Heel readers, because the Extension Division of the University is seriously considering providing television, originating in a studio to be built in Swain Hall, as part of our educational program for the people of North Carolina.)

ize that Carolina is "fortunate" enough to have on her campus some of the finest authorities on world affairs in this section of the country, I do not think that the DTH is the place to express the opinions of such a small minority.

Bob, I know that your job is not an easy one, nor is it the type of job where you receive your just recognition, nevertheless, I feel that you can and should give the students the copy that they want to read: that is, MORE NEWS OF THE CAMPUS, and as I said before, less views by the big-wheel politicians of the Campus.

Sincerely,  
Jay M. Taylor

## Dementia Domain

Edited by Ray Conner

### It Could Happen Here!

Prof: "What made you late to class this morning?"

Frosh: "There are eight of us in the room and the alarm was only set for seven."

"I guess I've lost another pupil," said the professor, as his glass eye rolled down the kitchen sink.

—The Colonade.

## Many Student Offices Remain To Be Filled

By Jack Booraem

The long overdue appointments to fill posts in the student audit board, to fill a vacancy in the student entertainment committee and to relieve the partisan nature of the elections board appear to be a political afterthought of the incumbent student administration. It is very possible that the activities of the newly formed Student Party have made it clear to members of the University Party that they had better mend their fences before the coming elections.

Though these appointments are an improvement in the student government, they fall short of what is needed and a long way short of what the Student Party is offering toward improved conditions.

The Student Party was formed by a group of students interested in the improvement in student government. This group has been working to convert our student government to a government of a more representative nature. It was obvious to this group that the cause of representation would best be served by the formation of a new party.

It has been said, by those who have the most to lose by representative student government, that the Student Party is an anti-fraternity party. The party policy of fraternities has best been expressed by the Student Party chairman, Chuck Heath, in a speech before the Student Party rally on April 11, 1946.

"In some instances there seems to be a bit of confusion on our policy toward fraternity groups. I would like to clarify this policy by stating that it is a settled issue of this party that we are not against fraternities or sororities as social or professional organizations, but we are in opposition to any organization that closely bind themselves together for the purpose of entering campus politics for the benefit of any minority element of students on this campus. There are a number of fraternity men and sorority women in our party and an even larger number of people who believe in fraternal brotherhood, but let this not be the issue, rather, let the issue be to convert what has been a student government by and for every student on our Carolina campus. This is a broad statement designed to give you. . . the persons whose will is to be carried out. . . the choice of how better student government may be attained."

Whether students are interested in politics or not, they should be interested in the allocation of their fees for entertainment and other activities, they should be interested in the improvement of their honor system and they should be interested in representation in the student government that governs their affairs. The Student Party is interested in these things and has shown its interest in student welfare by inviting every student to come to its meetings to represent himself.

An Indian named Shortcake died. That evening his friends came to bury him but his squaw objected. She said, "Squaw bury Shortcake."

(Ouch!)

—Varieties.

"Drink Canada Dry?" "I'll sure try!" drifted back from a northbound flivver.

—Pelican.

## Letters To The Editor

Dear Bob,  
The Daily Tar Heel, "the finest college daily in the south-east" has gone to the big-wheel politicians of Carolina's campus. It is no longer a paper that represents the student's views and opinions. The DTH seems to have become the personal battle-

ground on which three or four notoriety seeking students voice their very unimportant opinions.

It is my humble belief that Carolina students would appreciate less of these long-winded, idealistic letters sent in by some of the "master-minds of international politics." Although I real-