

The 'Room Rent' Problem

The state legislature should listen with an open mind to forthcoming pleas by University officials that budgetary appropriations be made for construction of new dormitories at Chapel Hill.

Chancellor William B. Aycock, in a Cabinet meeting yesterday, indicated that the administration will ask for the budgetary allotment as a major step toward relieving the burden on students of paying for self-liquidating dormitories.

Now, it was pointed out at the meeting, student rental fees jump approximately \$15 every time the University invests \$1 million in dormitory construction. Money for the projects is borrowed from the federal government, and the \$15 increase helps to pay it back.

Any increase in rental fees would be added to the \$132 per year now charged. As it now appears, that \$132 fee will be increased by \$30 to help pay for dormitories now being built on the campus. The total rental fee then would be \$163 per year.

That is, as Student Body President Sonny Evans pointed out, a lot of money demanded of a student at a state institution—where education is supposed to be in the grasp of all those who want it. And the trouble is that the charge has steadily been on an increase.

It is reassuring to know that student leaders and University officials see "eye to eye" on the growing problem of rental fees associated with new dormitory construction. In fact, it appears that the administration fears the problem with more acuteness than they have thus far been credited with.

When the contest begins for a budgetary appropriation for dormitory construction, the University will have some good arguments in its favor. First and foremost, we feel, is the fact that increasing rental fees have magnified the burden on the student who has a hard time financing an education anyway.

Second, it does not follow that the cost of education should increase commensurate with the physical growth of the University—a fact pointed out by Student Body President Evans in his opposition to the increasing rental fees.

Third, much interest could be saved if new dormitories were constructed with budgetary funds instead of with monies borrowed from the federal government over a long period of time. A 40-year loan can amass a considerable interest for the lender.

For any major construction program at the University a bond election may have to be held, in order to finance the project. Tar Heel voters, in such an election, should remember that, as the parents of many students attending the University, they ultimately pick up the check for physical expansion anyway.

And financed by bonds, the cost of that expansion would be spread out across the state instead of limited to the pocketbooks of those who are now sending or will one day send their children to the University. All in all, it would tax the whole electorate for an institution which belongs to the whole of North Carolina.

Regardless of the outcome of the legislative contest, it becomes clear that rental fees cannot increase forever at the University. Either they reach a leveling-off period, with budgetary appropriations taking over, or the University will lie dormant, as housing projects become a past idea in Chapel Hill.

Dogs Are Threat To Mail Carriers

Postmaster General Summerfield has announced a new policy saying, in effect: "If your dog bites your postman, you're going to have to pick up your own mail."

"The instructions (to postmasters across the country) provide for automatic discontinuance of delivery service whenever the carrier is actually bitten or his uniform torn by a dog," Summerfield's announcement read.

It's a good order. Having carried mail, we have evidenced the real threat to undisturbed mail delivery by vicious dogs which seemingly have an innate dislike for men carrying mail bags. And in real terms, Summerfield says his men suffer some 6,000 bites a year.

Now we probably can expect a public denouncement of Summerfield by the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals for the postmaster's harsh restriction of mail delivery to persons who let cruel dogs run loose.

The Program For Aid To Education

The Gettysburg announcement of a billion-dollar 4-year Federal program to bolster education said:

"This is a program to help meet the urgent demands of education as it affects our national security. It recognizes the rapid increase in importance of science and technology in modern life and the importance of these fields to national security."

The spur, of course, has been the recognition of the more rigorous methods of Soviet education. It is also the compulsive recognition that the United States will have to correct its deficiencies—specifically in stopping the waste of gifted youngsters, in stimulating basic research and learning, in making an honored and remunerative job of teaching.

There is, understandably enough, a considerable emphasis on Federal assistance to science and mathematics. But it is highly important, as Secretary Folsom pointed out, that the administration by no means puts all the emphasis on one field.

This is a crash program all right, but the long objective is across-the-board education. There is full and urgent awareness of improving research, training, and teaching in the sciences. But at the same time the report to the President, which he heartily approves, gets down to fundamentals with these two recommendations:

"Ten thousand scholarships a year for talented students who wouldn't otherwise go to college. This means searching out all the high-aptitude boys and girls and not letting the greatest national asset of all—brains—go to pot."

"One thousand graduate-level fellowships the first year of the program, 1,500 annually thereafter. This is to get more first-class people into teaching—and keep them there. There are the leaders, the seed corn of intellectual progress. We must have them—everything else depends on them."

It's a good program, even though a billion dollars in 4 years may not be enough. And it's particularly good because of the recognition that all education—both in quantity and quality—is essential to national security. Now let Congress get moving and put the program into immediate effect. And hereafter the United States ought not placidly wait for the U. S. S. R. to show the way.

(New York Herald Tribune)

Writer Says U. S. Seeking Good 'Deeds'

By FRANK CROWTHER

Since President Eisenhower's State of the Union message last Thursday, I have seen very few articles of criticism and have heard less than five voices of dissent. It occurred to me that I might have been overly skeptical and unfair in my interpretation of the message, so I patiently went to *The New York Times* and read it once again. After careful appraisal, it appears that I was mistaken in my previous consideration. It was not mediocre, it was rather pathetic.

After leading off with the progressive and affirmative statement that he (the President) did not plan to deal in glossy terms or vague generalities, he proceeded to do what he said he was not going to do. If that message was not glossy and general, I certainly wish someone would show me the specifics, point for point. Admittedly, he promised further exploitation in "future messages to the Congress," but that seems to be no more than another example of this administration's habitual procrastination. And I do not see any demonstration of the supposed crash program included in the budget which was released yesterday.

The U. S. News & World Report, in the January 17th issue just received by our paper, states that "the President's state-of-the-union message last week was a smash hit. . . . Don't you believe it."

Senator Wayne Morse (Dem., Ore.) probably voiced a most pertinent dissent when he judged the message "a sermon delivered at the wake of the Eisenhower administration. Between its lines was a confession of 5 years of failure on the part of the Eisenhower administration to meet the foreign-policy needs of this country."

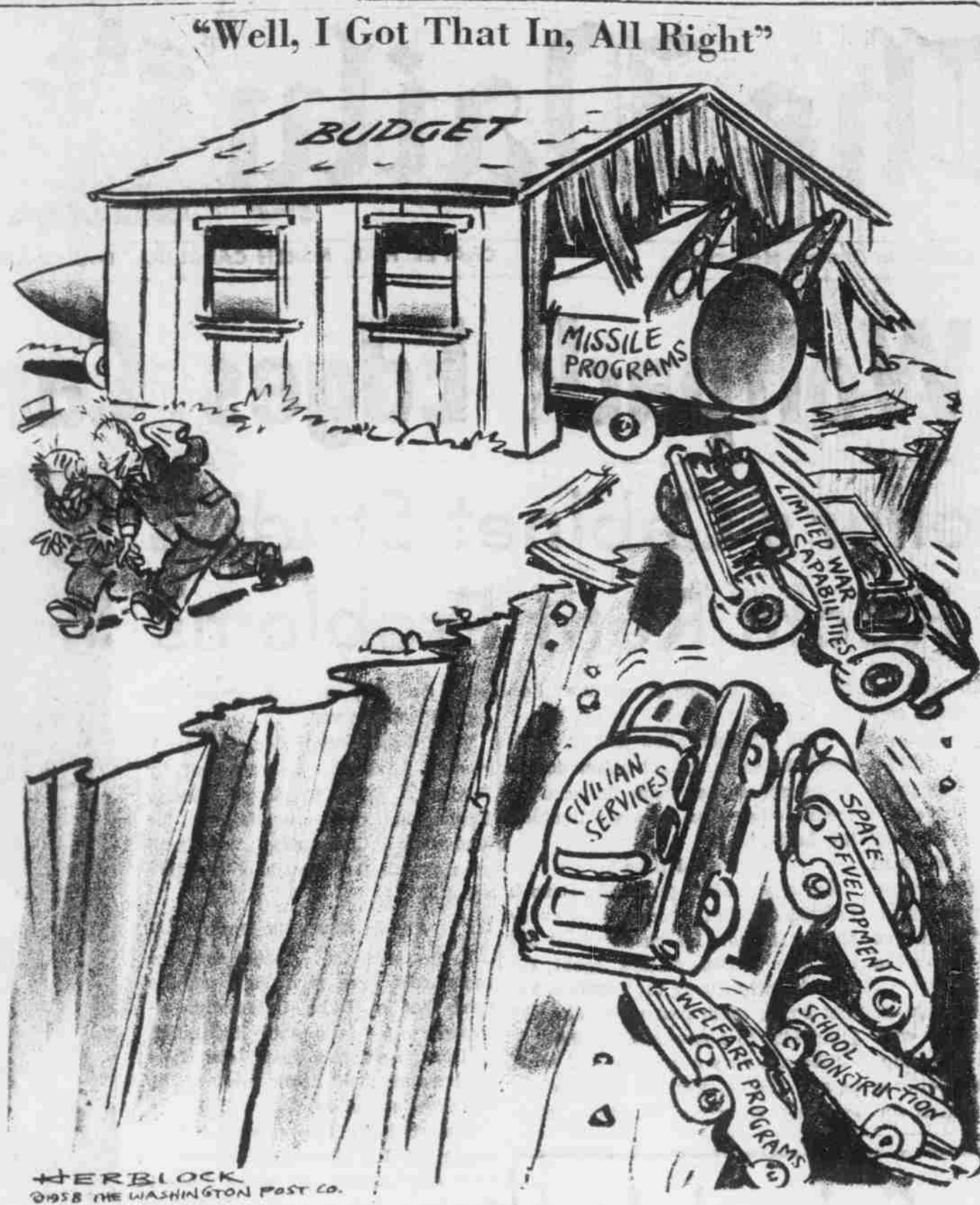
"I am glad the President at least discovered the problem of the malaria mosquito. Nevertheless, it should be pointed out that under the Truman point 4 program we had appropriated great sums of money for the eradication of the malaria mosquito . . ."

"I want to say I was particularly disappointed in his discussion of the great issue that faces the people of the world, that of disarmament. It is about time we implemented the disarmament. The President got right up to the line, then stopped."

Amen, Senator, Amen. I would like to turn some of the President's own words (though borrowed from Droll Dullnik Dulles) back for his own consideration. Let us have "deed, not words," Mr. President.

Gems of Thought

You will find hundreds of persons able to produce a crowd of ideas upon any subject for one who can marshal them to the best advantage.—Andrew Jackson



VIEW FROM THE HILL:

Budget Misses Important Points

By CURTIS GANS

President Eisenhower's budget message to Congress was an odd combination of the good and bad.

The budget highlighted the high-end defense expenditure yet, and neglected many internal projects necessary to a healthy nation. Moreover, the president saw fit to raise the debt ceiling instead of increasing taxes, when already the interest on the money the U. S. owes takes 11 cents out of every tax dollar.

The defense expenditure was one of the good features of the budget, and may help regain the balance of military power on the side of the west.

Another good program was the increase in the cost of out-of-town letters from 3 to 5 cents. It has been long noted that the Post Office has been operating at a deficit, and causing the increased outlay of tax money, which should have been supplanted by the users of the services of the post office paying its way.

The foreign aid program was a good feature in the amount of expenditure. It was not good in the proportion of military to economic aid available. The overbalance in favor of military aid will endanger none of the allies of the U. S., to the president, since many are seeking the means of alleviating the impoverished conditions that surround them. The Russians are currently offering, although in many cases not giving, economic aid.

In the field of education, the Eisenhower budget comes out sorely lacking. School construction and school crowding alleviation programs have been cut or postponed, and an inadequate 247 million dollars has been asked to do all the improvement in the present school systems that are necessary. This largely has been given to the development of scientific potential, without the realization that it takes other things besides technological advances to attain a strong democracy.

Moreover, such important programs in the field of water research such as the devising of a new method to change salt water into a drinkable and usable resource, has been all but neglected in the president's budget, and paves the way for so many communities in the U. S. to continue strict water conservation methods that would be unnecessary if the programs reached completion.

The slash in farm aid will undoubtedly alienate more farmers than are currently alienated by Secretary of Agriculture Benson, but it will also pave the way for another drop in farm prices. Moreover, the president in saying that this cut was to stop paying farmers not to produce, neglected to give an alternative for the surplus products that will doubtless be available. One outlet of which is all too necessary, there foreign aid.

aid and in slum clearance projects will not help the country, and indeed may negate what good there is in the new education program as well as the raising of the ceiling on home mortgage through the Federal Housing Administration.

To end the budget picture on a bright note, the recommendations for Alaskan and Hawaiian statehood and the liberalization of the current McCarran-Walter immigration law represent steps in the right direction. The problem here lies in the fact that statehood for only one of these two territories has a chance in Congress this year, and with the missile development fever, a certain amount of which is all too necessary, there will be little chance that immigration will get much attention.

It was indeed unfortunate that the president did not recommend any legislation to clear up the mess that is the loyalty-security program, but there is hope that Congress and/or the Supreme Court will overrule this dangerous and undemocratic part of the U. S. legal system.

All in all, the concentration on the defense of the nation and the earnest desire to keep taxpayers from paying any more, perhaps in a bid to win votes for the Republican party in the fall, let the president's budget for fiscal year 1959 fall short of what is needed in most of the things necessary to produce a strong democracy.



PEANUTS

by Charles Schulz



L'IL ABNER

by Al Capp



POGO

by Walt Kelly

The Daily Tar Heel

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More On Refugees—

To The Editor:

In view of Miss Waite's uninformed statement vis-a-vis the Arab refugees, following Ambassador Eban's address here, I thought the following might be enlightening—even to her.

In December, 1951, a group of eminent Americans, only one of whom was a Jew, and including in their number Reinhold Niebuhr and Sumner Welles, submitted a proposal on the Arab refugee problem to the United Nations General Assembly. During the course of that presentation, they stated that "the record shows that it (the flight of Arabs from Palestine) was an evacuation admittedly planned by the Arab war leaders and the Arab Higher Committee for the three-fold purpose of (a) Clearing the roads of the villages for an advance of the Arab regular armies. (b) Demonstrating the inability of Jews and Arabs to live side by side. (c) Disrupting services following the end of the mandate.

Although it is a matter of common knowledge that there is non so blind as he who will not see, I shall be glad to make this document available to persons of Miss Waite's mind, upon request. Suffice it here to report that an eye-witness account in the London Economist of October 2, 1948, supported the position of the American group referred to, as did such diverse (to an extent) persons as Emile Ghory, Secretary of the Arab Higher Committee, who told the Beirut TELEGRAPH that "the fact that there are these REFUGEES is the direct consequence of Arab States in opposing partition and the Jewish State," and Glubb Pasha, the British Commander of the Transjordan Arab Legion, who on August 12, 1948, in an article in the London Daily Mail, said "The Arab civil population panicked and fled ignominiously."

It is not necessary to comment on any other statements by Miss Waite, since she has clearly disqualified herself as an authority.

EFRAIM M. ROSENZWEIG

To The Editor:

Everyone seems to be following the perilous Arab-Israeli situation trying to find out what is really happening over there and just who is right in the dispute. And we have now heard the eloquent and honorable ambassador of Israel, Mr. Abba Eban.

Unfortunately Mr. Eban is the most eloquent speaker on either side of the dispute. A distinguished educator, master of oriental languages, suave diplomat, and persuasive arguer, Mr. Eban has disposed of his opposition with a few mellifluous flowing generalizations which would require detailed information and time for a rehearsal of the answer in order to be refuted.

We have not time to analyze complexities now. But let us merely look at some smaller points of Mr. Eban's interesting talk here at the University.

Mr. Eban spoke glowingly of the accomplishments of the young nation of Israel. He commented that it was not from nearby nations that Israel first received praise for its great successes, no, it was from far away nations such as the United States of America.

Naturally, Where else? Did not most of the support for the artificially constructed nation of Israel come from the United States all along? Anyone who has followed the UJA appeals for aid and the many things the United States and Britain did to help establish Israel cannot be so blind to facts as to accept quietly what Mr. Eban said.

Again, Mr. Eban asserted again and again that Israel is a democracy. Really? One can find facts that seem to contradict this. The writer knows of twelve American Jewish families who went to Israel a few years ago to settle in this great promised land. They returned claiming it was a reformed thought-controlled state without proper democratic freedom of expression being allowed. Some of them complained that they were not even allowed to speak in their accustomed Yiddish, or publish a newspaper in this dialect of German. A democracy? Let us have the truth.

But let us think about one further thing. Mr. Eban compared (or shall we say contrasted) the Jordan river with the Nile, Euphrates, and Tigris, pointing out how useless the latter are in providing irrigation and yet how much has been done by the Israelis with the former.

Well, what would Mr. Abba Eban have to say if America and other nations in their foreign aid programs had helped Egypt complete its dreamed-of Aswan Dam?

There are essentially no Arabs in this country who can send millions of dollars (American dollars let us emphasize) to help support Arab nations in the same way that the UJA gets Americans to contribute to Mr. Eban's claimed democratic Israel.

Unfortunately, not only is Mr. Eban very eloquent, but his followers have gained a monopoly in certain areas of the free press in this nation to the near exclusion of any voice from the other side of Israel's borders.

The directors of the Carolina Forum have been quoted in the papers as expressing the view that they would be most happy to try and obtain a speaker for the Arab side if there is enough public demand.

Where can we obtain a demand for an Arab speaker when the Arab side has only a minority of friends in this country as compared with the large public following which Mr. Eban has in the form of American Jews?

If Americans wish (as the writer does) to find out what is true of the situation in the Middle East, then speakers on both sides must be presented, not just on one side. We must have no more of this "we'll-bring-you-one-side-and-if-you-yell-we'll-bring-the-other-side attitude. Americans must hear impartially both sides. We must hear not just the UJA side and the Oil-Interest side of the thing. Let us hear constructive arguments and not idle damaging propaganda by fanatics. And a word of advice to the Arab side: You must find eloquent debating material to counter the platitudes presented by your opposition.

HENRY W. GOULD