

Conference

During the past weekend there was held on the campus of Pfeiffer College a unique conference.

The conference brought together students from 11 southern states to discuss the southern human relations problems. The students came from large colleges and small, public colleges and private, state schools and church supported schools. They met on a predominantly white, church supported campus. The conference was integrated.

The purpose of the conference was to bring people of differing points of view in different political situations together to discuss the southern race relations problem in hopes of finding a solution or at least a method of dealing with the problem on the various campuses. It was attempted to get as many dissimilar viewpoints as possible in order to give the widest range of interchange of ideas.

The conference was not a success. But if it was not a success, it was also not a failure. The time spent, the effort that went into it, and the generous donation of the Field Foundation were not wasted.

If the conference did not realize its ideal of bringing a great number of dissimilar viewpoints to the conference, it did bring many, who had not heretofore seen Negroes and white living, talking, and working side-by-side, together in an atmosphere of mutual respect.

If it did not bring the desired interchange of viewpoints due to the lack of conservative people at the conference and the unwillingness of all but a few conservatives who were at the conference to speak out, it did show the students assembled a glimmer of the differences of situations on the various campuses.

If it was somewhat one-sidedly liberal, it pointed clearly to the lack of understanding that many of these liberals have when it comes to the realities of human relations. It showed simply that although these liberals may have the right point of view, they lacked the understanding of men to carry this point of view across effectively.

The conference may have failed in finding a single solution to the problem of race relations in southern high education, but the students gathered there did suggest some approaches.

There were no answers provided at the conference, and in lieu of no answers only more questions were raised. However, the conference planners could not have hoped for answers, and the questions were a healthy manifestation of frank, open, and earnest discussion.

It perhaps was a failing of the conference that it was too short, but if it leads to improved planning of future conferences with the idea of having several future conferences to spread the base of discussion throughout the south; then failure may well be turned into success.

If the conference changed no one's viewpoint, it did increase the understanding of some and in doing so this brought the light of reality into the shade of illusion under which some of the participants operating.

The conference had several notable points.

It was noteworthy that conference of this sort could be carried on without incident so that no stigma of bitterness remained to mar the perspective of the conference, save the minor bitterness in the minds of some conservatives who felt rightly that their point of view was not well represented.

It was noteworthy that a man of the candor and common sense that James McBride Dibbs showed would come to such a conference and add so much.

Noteworthy, too was the deportment of Thomas Ellis, a Raleigh attorney, who has a conservative viewpoint, but had the courage to express it from the speaker's stand and the patience to answer all questions put to him in what was not a favorable atmosphere for his point of view. This does not justify Mr. Ellis' stand, but it makes him a large stride better than the man who will hold these views in private and say nothing in public.

Finally, it was noteworthy for the presence of Warren Ashby, a professor of ethics at Woman's College. His contribution in seeing clearly the issues, in evaluating the conference, and in getting students of varying viewpoints to speak out was perhaps the greatest individual contribution of the conference.

He had the answer to the question of whether the conference was a success, when he said that it could not be known. He said quite simply in the final analysis the returns are not yet in. If individuals gain some understanding through this conference now, in a week, or in a year, then the conference will be a success.

The best guess that can be made is that eventually the conference was a success.

Moonglow

Joe John

It has happened again. A resident of Spencer, North Carolina, has taken up the spirit demonstrated not too long ago by Governor Luther Hodges and other state officials. Mr. W. G. Lineberger, in a recent "letter to the editor" of the Raleigh News and Observer, took up a rather inadequate literary cudgel and struck out at the editor of "that" Wake Forest College magazine.

Although his pained outrage was not concerned with the same incident that prompted action from the State capital—the furor over the State Student Legislature—certain similarities exist between the two condemnations.

First, and most important, is that fact that both expressed contempt with individualistic expressions of opinion on the part of contemporary college students. Secondly, and not necessarily relevant, but unfortunately so, is the fact that both concerned a difference of opinion over the race question.

Had Mr. Lineberger's letter been a masterpiece of logical reasoning, had he presented his case with the brilliance of a Darrow and employed the commanding style of Faulkner, one still would have been hard pressed to concur with him. Regretably, none of the preceding excellences were in evidence.

The Spencer gentleman had but one phrase to use, and he repeated it twice, filling with indistinctive hogwash: "I have often heard the expression 'pimp-faced intellectualism' and I believe I have come across a good example . . . I hope that's all that article amounted to—'pimp-faced intellectualism'."

In an attempt to disguise his being rankled at the fact that a youth would dare to question the segregation policies which more learned generations have set down, Mr. Lineberger attacked what he felt a most vulnerable point in the student's armor—"tenderness" in years. In addition to being in very poor taste, his method of attack was far more childish than he must have considered the Wake Forest editor.

Petty outburst and spiteful, inbred hate, have built the race problem to the proportions at which it exists today. Immature attitudes and childish stubbornness

have prevented any reasonable settlement, leaving "solutions" to John Casper's hate-mongers and the followers of Arkansas' sturdy Ozark Orval.

Look again, Mr. Lineberger; your pimples are showing.

Gambling

Sidney Dakar

"Easy Come . . . Easy Go . . ." These DTH headlines referring to our loss to Duke reminded me of a woodsman who worked for 10 years in the North Woods without once coming out to civilization. The woodsman was only able to save \$100 per year over this period. After 10 years he felt that he deserved a well earned vacation and went to Las Vegas. The gambling and the chance for such easy money enticed him to play a few hands. Before the woodsman realized what had happened, his ten year's savings was gone. He shrugged his shoulders and as he was pushing his chair back from the table said, "well, easy come, easy go . . ."

Sometimes I wonder about the effectiveness of the security of our defense systems. A friend of mine who was at "Station Bar" (the western end of the DEW Line in northern Alaska) tells the following. The usual way they first discover that one of the lights on their radio towers is out is from Radio Moscow. "Moscow Molly" will say "I want to help the boys at Bar and tell them that the second light from the top on the west tower is out." One thing is for certain, Radio Moscow gets this information (sometimes within several hours) by some means other than dog sledging.

Speaking of subversion, this summer I saw a sign on the bulletin board of the Officer's Club at Thule, Greenland which caused me to wonder. The tour of duty up there is a year for the military personnel. There are no wives and in fact only five or ten Danish girls on a base of 6,000 men. The sign was a clipping from a magazine story heading and read: "Are you giving your wife all the companionship and love she craves?"

We have all heard that all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy, but some of us haven't heard that all work and no play makes jack and lots of it.



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Letters To The Editor

Editor:

Although by no means a faithful reader of your editorial page, I am interested in the progressive attitude which you frequently express thereon, and should like humbly to propose a means for dealing with one of the current southern problems to which you often allude and sometimes with earnest eloquence discuss—namely, integration. As a recent letter in Life magazine indicates (indeed, as is sometimes implied by the literary standards of your own periodical), education is not the southerner's dearest possession nor his most heartfelt need. Nor does religion, as evidenced by the reception which a South Carolina governor offered Dr. Graham, always claim as outthener's first allegiance. Therefore, why not concentrate on an organization which is particularly southern in its origin, yet which seems at present to be near extinction because of "lack of new blood" (to coin a phrase) or perhaps because of the unsolicited enmity and ridicule heaped upon it by nearly every group except its own membership. Gentlemen, would you entertain a modest proposal to integrate the Ku Klux Klan?

In our increasingly matriarchal society such an action would be doomed to failure without the support of the fairer sex, but is there any reason to stop the forming of a ladies' auxiliary to the KKK? Think of the contribution they could make: those women who made bandages for the Red Cross in the forties could now turn their spare time to making gasoline-soaked rags for burning crosses, or those who won prizes for needle-work could bring their petit point to perfection in embroidering robes and hoods. Even the younger girls, at least those with Girl Scout experience, could put their rope training to good use in tying hangman's knots.

No doubt the forward-looking statesmen in Raleigh would see the reasonableness in repealing their obsolete anti-mask legislation. With hood and gloves to conceal face and skin, a good plug of tobacco to hide any distinctive accent, and a liberal amount of do-it-yourself alcohol to bring us all to the same intellectual level, we would achieve that anonymity which is the goal of American life, and could unite in some universal human endeavor such as eating, rape, or murder. Where else could one get such a complete feeling of togetherness?

Honored sir, this epistle has already exceeded the limits generally accorded such poorly expressed offerings, and there remains but to plead for your con-

stant support of a great cause whose final achievement only future generations can decide.

With best wishes for your ever greater success in the noble battle for southern progress and universal felicity, I remain,
J. Bottom McFesse

RUSSIA TO BUDGET-TRIMMERS

The bear cringed back in panic when the Nazis struck him low; We helped him to his feet, and then

We helped him land his blow. But when the German menace died, And loud rang joyous cries, The bear turned on us in his pride, And hate glowed in his eyes. With every fang a bloody knife, With every paw a club, He sucked his victims' blood for life.

And reared his evil cub. So now he menaces the world, And ravages the land; The lion and the eagle hurled Their challenge—they will stand.
Wade Wellman

Notes In Review

Arthur Lessing

At least judging from the audience's reactions, the appearance of the Little Singers Of Paris was an immense success last Sunday in Memorial Hall. And, no doubt, their charming voices were at times quite delightful, their little pale faces were enough to make even the most unsentimental person's heart melt a bit, their appearance in monks' robes in the first part of the program and in the second part, dressed in identical blue sweaters and short pants with white knee-socks, was all very much a part of their heart-warming appeal. Yet, there is also no doubt in my mind that this was primarily a theatrical event rather than a musical one. The program was arranged not to stir our musical sensibilities, but our sentimental ones. The costumes had little to do with the music, but added greatly to the theatrical image of the sweet innocence and youthful purity. Even the particular interpretation of the music, which must be the director's responsibility, was such that first the audience's emotional sympathies for the boys were evoked, and only second were we presented with musical values.

As it became quite clear through the program that this was all deliberate, I, for one, was unable to retain the image of innocence and purity that the audience so rapturously embraced. Especially the sight of the little boys peddling souvenir programs and recordings in the lobby of the hall, in the few minutes of the intermission when they should have been relaxing from the strain of singing an entire program of fairly difficult dimensions, was for me personally a revolting experience. The question whether these boys are being exploited presents itself almost immediately. To answer it is more difficult.

This was, therefore, not a concert but a show, and, as such, it is really unnecessary to say anything more about the musical dimensions of this show as they were, as I have indicated, secondary. The program fluctuated between the light and the heavy, between Christmas Carol and Gregorian Chant, "Danny Boy" and a song of Debussy etc. In all of these one could not help but be impressed by some of the individual voices which were high, clear, and almost shrill in the intensity of vibrato. But there was little attempt on the director's part to blend these individual talents, and, in general, the overall tone of the choir was uneven. But this was of little significance to the audience; all that was really important was their momentary belief in the illusion before them.

In fairness to all established standards of musicianship, in fairness to the audience, and in fairness to the performers themselves, the organizers of last Tuesday night's Petites Musical concert should not have asked Mr. and Mrs. Kosemihal to perform in their series. I am certain that both of them are devoted to their instrument and love to play, but to put them on a concert stage was a serious mistake. There is a world of difference between a friendly get-together of amateurs to play some music they love and the very serious task, challenge and acceptance of that challenge that faces a professional artist. It was this world of difference that made the concert a mockery of music and an insult to the musical intelligence of the audience however polite they remained. But enough, let amateurs enjoy themselves and artists give us beauty—both have their place. Let's not confuse them.

Decay

The president of Pfeiffer College in an informal conversation pointed to the difficulties that the administrators have to work with. Highest among these difficulties is the student, and this is the second phase of the decay of American colleges and the University in Chapel Hill.

The almost total lack of intellectual activity cannot be laid solely at the doorstep of the University. A great deal of the blame lies in the quality of high school education that these students are receiving.

Yet, the situation is bad. It is worse because the University has to give students an education they should have gotten in high school.

It has produced an atmosphere of stagnation on the campus. The situation is not limited to UNC, but UNC has its share of it.

Symptomatic of this attitude is the elaborate framework of student government that has developed here as well as the lack of participation that is the rule rather than the exception. In schools where the educational climate is better, student government becomes not so important as an outlet, and participation in intellectual activities is greater.

Another symptom is the questions over which students get excited. Such things as football and fraternities, sex and drinking cause more of a stir than politics, religion, philosophy, or science. These last cause less reaction than a pin dropping on a large lake.

It is manifest in the dormitory here study is limited or in the Rathskeller or Tempo Room where the world of party and drink continues unabated.

It is manifest in the classroom by the lack of interest, the amount of outside work being done, and the cramming for quizzes.

And one can wonder what education has come to.

People are not coming to Carolina for an education. They are coming for a party, a good time, to learn some facts, and eventually for a job.

When they are here, they strive to reach low standards and attain lower ones.

Yet, the situation is not hopeless, although there is no quick cure, no panaceas—there is only a long slow approach to a solution and this has only been started.

Student attitude is a barometer of many things, the vitality of the nations, the standards of a college, and the direction of thought. America can no longer survive with the stagnation that exists today, and the responsibility for change must be placed on the University, the high schools, and the home.

There is no mistaking that the job is a tough one. To restore the University and undergraduate education in general in the United States to a high level will be difficult, but it is a job that must be done.

Nuclear Plane

Although the Russian development of a nuclear plane demonstrates the lag of the United States in key military areas and gives the Soviet Union another measure of supremacy in military power, the situation is not the same as it was with Sputnik a year ago.

The development of a new type plane is not going to mean as much as the development of missiles, for the world is coming into an era when the instruments of war will be of the automatic type, possessing great speed and maneuverability. They will supplant the plane whether atomic or non-atomic.

Yet, it should serve as a key to the future for the Defense Department in that they should look to the weapons and organization of the future and not be caught off guard by placing military emphasis on the wrong things.

It should not be taken as an ultimatum to push more funds into the defense of the United States or into education solely with a view toward developing scientists. Instead, it should start a re-evaluation process and put the primary commitment of the United States to education on all levels and in all fields.

The Daily Tar Heel

The official student publication of the Publication Board of the University of North Carolina, where it is published daily except Monday and examination periods and summer terms. Entered as second class matter in the post office in Chapel Hill, N. C., under the act of March 8, 1879. Subscription rates: \$4.50 per semester, \$8.50 per year.



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