

Diplomacy

Sometimes American diplomacy goes from the sublime to the ridiculous

Such a case is illustrated by the retaliatory decision of the State Department to close the avenues of travel to Russian diplomats so that their presence in the United States is restricted to Washington and New York.

This followed close on the heels of a similar Soviet decision to restrict travel of Americans in the Soviet Union to Moscow and Leningrad.

The issues involved are too serious for the U. S. to play cry baby about the whole thing.

The United States is supposed to be the bastion of freedom, where nothing but the most needed defense secrets are hidden from its public. Restricting travel, thus, is contrary to what the U. S. stands for, and is setting up a new Red, White, and Blue curtain over its own affairs.

The extreme pettiness is only a further indication that the United States is following Russia's lead in the field of diplomacy, and this following has often led the United States into ways contrary to its stated principles.

The time spent in deciding whether to restrict Soviet travel in the United States might have been more profitably spent ascertaining the reasons for the Soviet action, for that action is indicative of a new attitude shift in the Soviet Union which has been manifest for several months.

The cold war is getting colder, and the Berlin deadline is getting closer. The United States had better think of extricating itself from the problems it has in Europe, the Middle East, and Southeast Asia before it pursues any further retaliatory policy.

The time for thought is now.

Honor Council

After a long struggle and a surprising outcome, the Pi Phi sorority finally got a chairman of the Women's Honor Council.

With all kidding about sorority politics aside, Sandy Trotman is to be congratulated, and the Pi Phis are lucky to have such a capable girl.

The Daily Tar Heel

The official student publication of the Publication Board of the University of North Carolina. There 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.

The Daily Tar Heel is printed by the News Inc., Carrboro, N. C.

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Student Government Report

Don Furtado

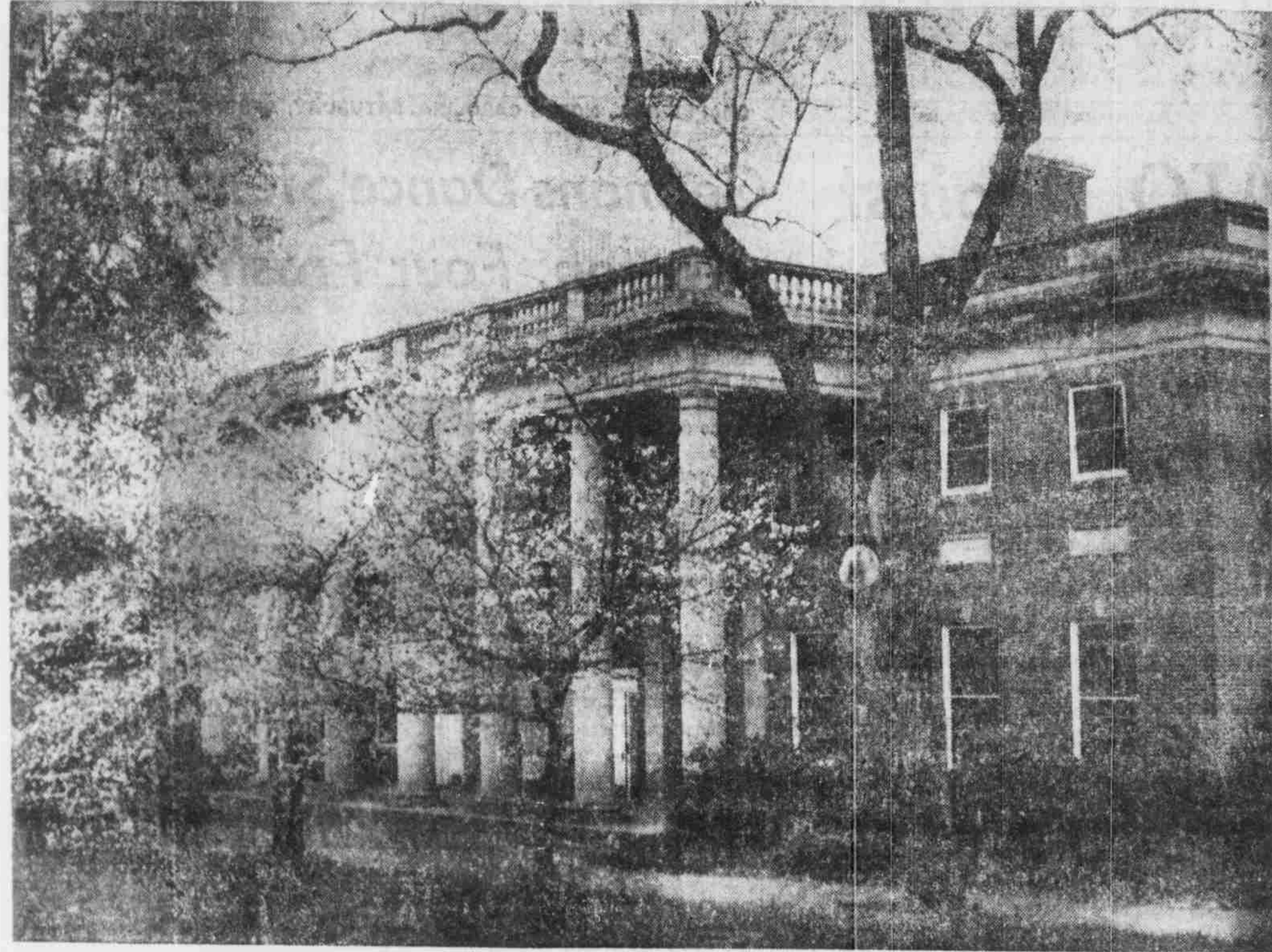
As the 1958-1959 Student Government term comes to an end, I feel that it is proper to submit to the students of the University of North Carolina a brief report of the accomplishments of Student Government during the past year. It is my hope that this report will provide valuable information to the students and will serve to point up various problem areas which must be confronted in the coming year.

(1) Dormitory Visiting Agreement—An agreement was reached with the Dean of Women's Office to allow visiting in dormitory social rooms by women guests. This agreement has been needed for a number of years, and, though it is presently not as extensive as we hope it will be due to a lack of proper dormitory facilities, it should serve as a long stride toward the creation of a mature dormitory social atmosphere.

(2) Parking Meters—In the spring of last year, the town announced its intention to place parking meters along fraternity and sorority areas on Columbia and Franklin Streets. A protest was made, and subsequent appearances were made before the Merchants Association and Board of Aldermen. The results were only partially satisfactory, for, though it was decided not to place meters in front of fraternity or sorority residences, some parking places were lost to the students. The response of individuals residing in these areas to Student Government's request for numerical support at appropriate meetings was generally disappointing.

(3) Student Associate Director on Merchants Association Board—Out of the parking meter controversy came an agreement between Student Government and the Merchants Association to place one student on the Board of Directors of that group. Gordon Street, who was a great aid in previous work with the merchants in the parking meter debate, was appointed to this position. Subsequently, a Student Bad Check Committee has been established by Student Government with Gordon as head. This committee is not judicial in any form but is merely a notification service for the merchants by Student Government. Presently several extensive plans are being discussed by the merchants, and student representation has been assured. In the coming year, it is felt that the Associate Director will be able to build extensively on the foundations of cooperation begun this year.

(4) Wall Telephone Booths—Numerous dormitory phones have been damaged both intentionally and accidentally during the past year. Much of this was due to the lack of privacy, the inefficiency, and the construction of most dormitory wall phones. In an effort to correct



these conditions, Student Government approached Mr. J. S. Bennett, of the Operations Department, concerning the installation of wall phone booths of the nature of those in Graham Memorial and the Y.M.C.A. As a result a number of these have been installed, and their success assures expansion as finances allow.

(5) Codification of the Student Government Statutes—In order to provide a source of reference to all laws previously passed by the Student Legislature, the staff of the Attorney General has codified all statutes passed in the twenty-five sessions since the Student Legislature's organization.

(6) Class Attendance—In an effort to get University professors to abide by the intent of the unlimited cut provision instituted last year, a letter from Student Government was sent to each member of the University faculty. Certainly, the results of this communication were far from being entirely satisfactory, for though the overwhelming majority of professors have illustrated a sincere desire to establish a mature absence policy, there are a few who still insist upon wholly irrational attendance requirements.

(7) Publications—In an effort to set down publications policy and to remedy various unsatisfactory publications practices as extensive revision of bylaws of the Publica-

tions Board, the body responsible for supervision of the eighty thousand dollars expended by various publications, was adopted. This document, which clarifies such areas as composition, financial procedures, awarding of contracts, selection of editors and business managers, etc., should be of great service in the future. Credit should be given to Harold O'Tuel, Chairman of the Publications Board, for his efforts in this field.

(8) Conduct at Football Games—Conduct by some students at our first two or three football games was ungentlemanly, to say the least, and was discreditable to the student body as a whole and the University. In an effort to remedy this, Student Government initiated a campaign for more appropriate conduct. Student Council action was taken in several cases. At the request of the student delegation, the Athletic Council has decided to enforce conduct regulations at future football games. Though there is nothing wrong with drinking per se, when it infringes upon the rights of others to enjoy athletic contests, appropriate action must be taken. In the future, all persons, students and otherwise, who cannot conduct themselves properly will be required to leave the stadium.

(9) International Student Board—In past years, students at the University have not illustrated proper

attention to our students from other lands. These students have all shown outstanding ability in order to come here to the University, and, by not realizing the full potential for mutual understanding and knowledge which they offer, our student community has missed a great deal. As a result, an International Student Committee has been established by Student Government along with an advisory board of representatives of the Cosmopolitan Club, Y.M.C.A., N.S.A., Graduate Club, Campus Christian Council, etc. This board will concern itself with assisting the University's foreign student advisor, foreign student orientation, publishing available exchange scholarship, administration of the Goettingen Scholarships as well as establishing programs to allow more contact with all elements of the campus with those foreign students who may wish to participate.

(10) Foreign Student Leadership Project—For the second straight year, the University of North Carolina has been one of the fifteen campuses selected to participate in NSA's Foreign Student Leadership Project under which student leaders from other countries are brought to American campuses to observe and take part in Student Government and campus activities. This year's participant is Jose Lopez from Bolivia.

(11) Open Stacks—In an effort to alleviate congestion at the circulation desk, the Student Library Committee recommended that an open stack policy be used by the library on an experimental basis. This is now being done, and results have thus far proven satisfactory.

(12) Attorney General's Staff—In order to guarantee better separation of powers for complete investigation of all cases and less demand on Student Council and Women's Honor Council members, the Attorney General's Staff now investigates all Campus Code cases in addition to Honor Council cases which was its sole responsibility earlier this year.

(13) Scuttlebutt in New Dorms—The Student Campus Stores Committee, under Jim Crowner, was successful in convincing the administration of the need for a Scuttlebutt in the new dormitory area. This has already been installed and is functioning, and plans are under way for the construction of a larger separate facility of the nature of the Scuttlebutt across from Peabody Hall.

(14) Date Tickets—In past years arrangement for reduced price date tickets for football games were not made until the fall which sometimes resulted in unsatisfactory planning or no date tickets. A meeting has been held with Mr. Chuck Erickson, Athletic Director, and the following tentative dates have been set on which one-half price date tickets will be available: South Carolina, October 10 (This is Band Day and Dad's Day.); Tennessee, October 31 (This is Homecoming.) One-half price tickets will also be available to UNC students for the Duke game in Durham on November 21. It will be impossible to arrange date tickets for the Clemson game on September 19, because it is only two days

Criticism

Bill Bailey

There are many puzzling facets to our modern social order, of which, the most oblique is the criticism of the critic. Our culture is a nice flat-bed boat in the middle of a serene lake of complacency; anyone who splashes or makes waves is immediately pined by the state, the church, and the indignant populace. There are three basic complaints that the social plaintiffs hurl: (1) that the attitude is flippant; (2) that the content is merely repeating the obvious; (3) that they are not "constructive."

As to (1), I shall refer to a rather famous quotation for an answer: says Russell, "This serious purpose inspires them even if, at times, they seem flippant, for those who are solemn and pontifical are not to be successfully fought by being even more solemn and even more pontifical." In relation to (2), certainly the obvious must be pointed out before the intricate is even attempted; and also what is obvious in hindsight is hardly so in foresight. But it is (3) that most of the spittle is flung upon, and it is (3) that I will most concern myself with.

The common retort that the destructive critic receives is that well-known and insipid, "If-you-are-to-tear-something-down-why-don't-you-build-something-better-in-its-place?" statement. This is today, it seems, the fashionable reply to the critic; it is now in vogue; it is Ivy. They apparently stand by the argument that everything worthy of being torn down is worthy of having something built in its place. I think that this is due more to our poverty of imagination, than anything really rational. Could you actually think of anything really "constructive" to say of the poetry in the belated SPECTRUM? I think not; it would be sheer stupidity to try to evaluate it as anything more than palpable rubbish. Why, its not even a poor imitation of Pound or Cummings... One may as well praise the aesthetic merits of a dictionary. Can the idea of patriotism really be of any value to the mind of man? Again, I think most certainly not. Goosestepper, drum beaters, rabble-rousers, all. Patriotism is nothing more or nothing less than a direct appeal to the mob instinct, which is to say, one of the most ignoble instincts extant in Christendom. If there is anything here more than brazen hypocrisy, then the glitter of it all has certainly blinded me... It is extremely well hidden. However, people will continue to load their critical guns with the ammunition taken from the "constructive" stockpile; it doesn't bother them if someone points out that these bullets are blank... its enough just to fire them for the noise that they produce. It must be then, that these persons are deluding themselves with that chronic Hope that is imbedded deep inside; the same Hope that clings to the idea of Happiness for mankind through democracy and religion. There seems to be no way to convince these hopefuls that they are doing no more than pumping water out of a ship wrecked on the reef of insolubility... and they want to go down with the ghost ship.

Now, let my claim not be misunderstood. I feel that there certainly are praiseworthy institutions both intellectually and ideally, and the critic should come to their aid as aid is needed. But the worthy causes have a tendency to be crowded out as the useless ones grow and linger. Instead of heaping plant-grower on the worthy causes, I think that the garden should first be weeded of the many undesirable. Human nature is a queer bird that attaches itself to almost any convenient and irrational chicanery, and to dislodge it is the job for a task force in itself. There is something uncanny about the tenacity of the human claw to this ghost-cause... and when there is rubbing about the sensitive areas, howling occurs. And to control the resulting noise, the fashionable set needles the critic with the "constructive" argument... what they want is free-wheeling, easy-going, and soothing criticism, one that neither makes waves, nor bites deeply enough to ruffle the feathers.

Howsoever, there is very little chance any kind of criticism will really provide much philanthropic aid to society; the machinery is kept too well oiled. The Pontiffs who hold the controlling strings of mankind always manage to give the gears and pinions a regular grease job to grind over opposition with little more than a bump or a slight let-up in speed. The complacent are safe... they are flies in a land where there is no flypaper.

Letter

THE FADED IMAGE

By Wade Wellman

The first time we saw him,
He seemed like a god;
And his voice struck our minds
Like a powerful rod.
Square-shouldered and mighty,
And strong in his pride,
We felt that the campus
Bowed under his stride.

The next time we saw him,
And heard his strong voice,
It roused our excitement,
It made us rejoice;
But something was missing—
None something was dead,
And something was lacking
In all that he said.

The third time we saw him,
We only could think
That his image had faded
From scarlet to pink.
His stature seemed smaller,
His strength had declined;
And the voice which once gripped us
Had fallen behind.

At times yet we see him—
He walks on his way;
And he's just like the others
We meet every day.
In him there is nothing
Save that which we spurn;
And the image of power
Will never return!

Loss Of False-Face

