

# Math Facts Swapped

Scientists eagerly swap information with their colleagues.

An example of that exchange is contained elsewhere on this page today.

Two University of North Carolina statisticians shared information with another mathematician from the Remington Rand Corporation. Result: They solved a 177-years old problem involving "Latin Squares."

This is the story of their cooperation: Last February Dr. E. T. Parker of the Univac Division of Remington Rand wrote to Dr. R. C. Bose in Chapel Hill. He told Prof. Bose that he had certain information which led him to believe the mathematical conjecture posed in 1782 by Leonhard Euler was wrong.

Acting on the tip, Dr. Bose went to work with Dr. S. S. Shrikhande, also of the UNC Department of Statistics. The two of them "disproved" the Euler conjecture.

They sent their results to Dr. Parker. He solved the problem in thirteen days.

The three scientists presented their findings at the 557th meeting of the American Mathematical Society in New York.

It was a triple victory: (1) For the three mathematicians, (2) For finding an important solution to an old problem, (3) For the idea of collaboration between mathematicians and other scientists in their mutual exchange of information for the benefit of mankind.

# Drink Deep Or Taste Not

The Library is the center of University life.

That is as true of the Summer Session as it is during the time from September to June.

The University Library system contains more than 900,000 books. By next year the number will exceed one million.

Librarian Jerrold Orne and his excellent staff are providing their excellent services in making books available and in furnishing for those who require it a high-caliber of reference assistance.

We urge you to drink deeply from this Pierian Spring.

# The New York Times.

NEW YORK, SUNDAY, APRIL 26, 1959.

## Major Mathematical Conjecture Propounded 177 Years Ago Is Disproved



How three noted mathematicians — two of them University of North Carolina professors — cooperated in solving a major mathematical conjecture of 177-years standing was revealed in a recent front-page Sunday edition of the New York Times.

Professors S. S. Shrikhande and R. C. Bose of the UNC Department of Statistics presented their findings in cooperation with the calculations of Dr. E. T. Parker of the Univac Division of Remington Rand at the 557th annual meeting of the American Mathematical Association in New York City.

Dr. Parker "gave a lead" in

February of this year to Prof. Bose in Chapel Hill on the problem of Latin Squares which was first propounded by the European mathematician Leonhard Euler (pronounced "oiler") in 1782.

Dr. Parker reported what he then believed to be an "unimportant near miss" at disproving Euler's conjecture.

Professors Bose and Shrikhande then arrived at results which led them to believe Euler was wrong.

To test their results they sent it to Dr. Parker who also solved the problem in thirteen days, working with the equations obtained from Bose and Shrikhande.

The three mathematicians are

now known among their colleagues as "Euler's Spoilers."

The findings will be useful in problems affecting industrial and agricultural statistics.

# Professor Heatwave

Dear Professor:

Is it legal for a member of the faculty to hit a student?

The new North Carolina law permitting corporal punishment of public school children does not say anything about switchings or spankings for older people.

But from what I have seen around here, a good old-fashioned paddling by the faculty of the University would make some of these summer school students pay a little more attention and deter their goofing off so much. What do you think?

Disciplinarian

Dear Disciplinarian:

As much as some members of the faculty would like to boot certain students down several flights of stairs, it is unlikely that a policy of corporal punishment will be in force here. In the first place, some of the students are too big, and a professor might be struck in return if he laid hands violently on a

# SUNBURN

By STAN FISHER

OVERHEARD: Journalism Professor Kenneth Byerly lightly contrasting Duke and Carolina: "There's one thing Duke has we're lacking—an outstanding University only twelve miles away!"

Two guys appeared in the office of Summer School Director Arnold King last Friday morning greatly disturbed. One fellow was taking one course, the other two. The guy taking one course wanted to know if, since he was being billed for full tuition for taking one course, his buddy with the two courses couldn't also take the extra course he was entitled to.

Spanish Instructor asked class in Spanish, "Are there any questions?" Silence. In Spanish again, assuringly, "When class meets next time there will probably be some questions." All of it came after comments on how hard the text would be in the course.

After glancing through Woollen Gym last Thursday, maybe the admissions test now used by the University should be abandoned. Anyone who can wander through the maze set up in the gym, enter at the right place, exit at the

right place and hit all the right places in-between, surely deserves an opportunity to attend Carolina. But if he can do all that, maybe he doesn't need to.

If all the registration placards, signs, cards, class ticket enclosures and other little material were all placed in a pile, it'd sure be one heckuva amount of scrap paper. The Chapel Hill jay-ees could go mad.

Some critics seem to be pondering whether "Sunburn" deserves the title of "column." No, it doesn't. "Sunburn" is an affliction, for the remedying of which, News readers have three avenues of recourse: (1) popular appeal (2) tearing up press (3) lynching. Aren't you glad we're not daily?

REGISTRATION SCENE: Ray Jeffries, Assistant dean of student affairs, sitting at table in gym playing with a matriculation card. He looked awful bored with the entire mess. Wonder how many of those scenes he's watched.

Registration at Carolina and traffic jams around campus must correlate almost perfectly.

# Who... What?

By ROY GOODMAN

To be found on our lovely campus this summer are many B.M. O.C. Number is Charlie Grey, Student Body President, and two other Student Body Officers, Secretary Sue Wood, and Treasurer Bobby Bingham.

The summer school student government is headed by Angus Duff, who is president of G.M.A.B.; summer school secretary-treasurer is Hank Patterson, Chairman of the U.P. His rival Dewey Sheffield of Student Party chairman is here as a member of the Student Government Board.

Davis B. Young, who is best described as being a damn good editor of The Daily Tar Heel, has been spotted in his second home, EL TEMPO.

The campus is also graced with many lovely heads from all over the country. I spotted lovely Misses Ann Lucas and Nancy Baker, two distinguished legislators, gracing this campus et cetera.

Dr. Nash Collier has a very interesting experiment in the Chem-

istry Department with students from all over the nation doing research work.

# Letter

To the Editor:

The town of Chapel Hill is to be commended for its fine police force. It is surely the most effective police department in the Carolinas as far as giving out parking tickets is concern.

Is it true that you can make a life time profession out of just writing parking tickets? Believe it or not you can do just that in Chapel Hill. If this town is really interested in keeping the business of the students why don't they build a free town parking lot.

Think of the distress of the married student who goes "up-town" to do some brief shopping and before he can come back to the car with change to feed the never satisfied meter, the police have been and gone, but not without leaving their pink calling cards.

Don't think you can ever get by with not paying a parking ticket, because they will send to \$5.00 worth of notices to collect a \$1.00 fine.

Dear Citizens, you have the potential of a very good police force, but don't let them spend their lives and your money by spending their duty hours inflicting the public with unnecessary traffic fines.

Dewey Sheffield

If you see anything anywhere that makes you want to say, "A funny thing just happened; I was walking down the street and I saw etc. etc." that is just the kind of thing we want you to report to the UNC News.

Just appoint yourself a reporter: Tell who, what, when, where.

Bring it or telephone the UNC News Office at the Graham Memorial — 9-3361.

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