

Legislators Fire Back At Gray

Editor:

As Charlie Gray knows very well, nobody who has anything to do with the proposed amendment is "ignorant of the facts." Charlie knows what the facts are. David Grigg knows what the facts are. Erwin Fuller knows what the facts are. That is why these people have done everything possible not to even admit that the facts exist.

The facts are that a lot of students at Carolina have had enough of the one-sided, biased, summary type of justice for which the Men's Honor Council, Women's Honor Council, and Student Council are now so well known.

Independent students have had enough of being forced to vote for candidates about whom it is a physical impossibility for them to know anything because of the election procedure which is now used, besides the fact that under the present system most candidates find it to their advantage not to be too well known to the independent voters.

Most students are disgusted with the inconsistent punishments which the councils administer. Cases like the one of the girl whose Honor Council offense was allowed to be referred only to the house council because of a certain social relationship between the girl and an influential member of the Women's Honor Council, the numerous cases before the Men's Council in which the factors of dress, personal appearance, and social affiliations have played such large roles are entirely too numerous.

Any person who takes the time to examine the proposed constitutional amendment knows that it is a sincere and well considered effort to change this unfortunate and damnable situation.

The Student Legislature does not have the power to change the constitution. The Student Legislature does not desire this power. It is the job of the Legislature to be sensitive to the wishes of the people who elected them. In this case a majority of the legislature feels that this amendment is one on which the student body would like the opportunity to cast its vote. Because of this, the Legislature acted to have the question submitted to the voters—not to amend the Constitution themselves or even necessarily to advocate the change in every case—as some have said.

In taking its action, the Legislature followed in good faith the amending procedure prescribed in the Student Constitution, holding the Constitution to be the supreme law and taking precedence over all other laws, statutes, and by-laws in conflict with it. This is the principle set forth in the Student Constitution and in Robert's Rules of Order, which the Legislature follows as prescribed in the Constitution.

The story is already well known how the Vice President of the Student Body and Speaker of the Legislature David Grigg took it on himself to appeal to the Student Council to strike down the action of the Legislature, having failed in his extreme personal effort as Speaker of the Legislature to prevent the Legislature from taking action in the first place.

It has been told how the Student Council, under the leadership of its chairman, Erwin Fuller, did not inform those concerned when the case would be considered, as is their duty.

would not hear the reasons why the case did not come under the jurisdiction of the Student Council.

was generally rude and disrespectful to the people presenting the case for the Legislature, interrupting their arguments at frequent intervals for such purposes as disallowing anticipated statements.

attempted to prevent the admission of the public to the presentation of the case, as provided for in statute.

deviated from the announced procedure in a prejudging manner.

refused to hear an appeal of the decision based on the grounds that the Council did not follow its own by-laws which provide that the entire Council shall hear cases, three Council Members

being absent when this case was heard. The Chairman of the Council stated this denial without even consulting the Council Members.

Finally, we have all read in the paper how Student Body President Charlie Gray condones and approves the action of the Council, without reservation.

Because of their personal feelings about the substance of the amendment, these people have conspired to stand between the Legislature and the people it represents.

In a case over which it has no jurisdiction, the Student Council has taken the position of placing a lesser law than the Constitution and a law in conflict with the Constitution over the Constitution.

A highly prejudiced minority has by deception and deceit, unethical and unconstitutional means prevented the Student Body from voting on a measure which the majority of the elected representatives believe the Student Body wishes to vote.

Many would be tempted at this point to say that all of this is because these people are fraternity people. This would not be fair. It is true that fraternity people in general do not favor what the amendment provides. The Editor of the Daily Tar Heel does not favor the amendment, but he does not condone devious means to prevent its consideration. Ralph Cummings—fraternity man and former Speaker of the Legislature—never resorted to the tactics used by Speaker David Grigg, regardless of how strongly he felt about an issue.

Perhaps it is significant that no such example immediately past or present exists for the Student Council.

We must not condemn a fraternity man or any other man for having his opinion, but we must condemn any person who uses his power and position as a means of circumventing the will of the people who have entrusted the power and position to him.

That David Grigg, Erwin Fuller, and Charlie Gray are fraternity men is unfortunate and it would be unjust to consider their action as typical of all fraternity men.

They must be held personally responsible for what they have done as must any person who violates a trust and confidence placed in him.

The Student Body must renew its attempts through the ballot, petitions, and honest effort to put Student Government back in the hands of the Students. All of the means have not been exhausted.

Don Dotson

Dear Charlie Gray:

"Few men in public affairs act from a mere view of the good of their country, whatever they may pretend; and though their activity may bring real good to their country, they do not act from a spirit of benevolence."

Benjamin Franklin

I have felt in the past that the correct and proper way for myself, as a legislator, to act was to refrain from writing articles in this paper. However, the direct insinuation of personal irresponsibility and the indirect insinuation of student irresponsibility—i.e., the incapacity to elect responsible representatives—has compelled me to make a few statements.

Mr. Gray stated, "... the student council stopped what I consider an irresponsible move by the Student Legislature." Now, Mr. Gray, this is your second charge of the irresponsibility of the Student Legislature. I do protest! Possibly we should look into this work irresponsibility and find just where it is applicable.

Do you insinuate, Mr. President, that because the legislature followed the amending procedure as outlined in Article VIII in the Student Constitution, "to the letter" that they are irresponsible? I think not! As any adept student in constitutional matters could see, every procedure enumerated in this Article was followed. However, let us not deal in these technical points until a later date. The problem at hand is irresponsibility.

The Student Legislature at least had constitutional provisions to back their actions, but may I ask Mr. President, what constitutional provision or provisions did he follow when he purchased five thousand (\$5,000) dollars worth of government bonds with student monies without going through proper channels?

Were the students or the Student Legislature in agreement with this unusual "transfer of funds?" Mr. President speaks of "dangerous precedents to start." Is it dangerous to allow the students to amend the Constitution or did he happen to mean that to allow the president of the Student Body to make such "questionable financial moves" is a "dangerous precedent?" We have no guarantee that in the future such financial transactions will be beyond reproach. Possibly, Mr. Gray's action was wise and a good financial move. I am not condemning the purchase of government bonds but merely the way the purchase was made behind the backs of "irresponsible Student Legislature." The constitutionality of this act is in doubt, in the least. The fact that Mr. Gray has neither notified the Student Legislature of this act nor given public notice of this transaction, to me has implication other than responsibility. It seems that this "pet word" of Mr. Gray's, irresponsibility, attracts an unexpected "fellow-traveler."

Mr. Gray states "... (Mr. Fuller) has been unduly criticized by people who do not know the entire facts of the case." I say "humbug" to you, Charlie! We (the defendants) shall gladly present the facts with you to the student body in a public meeting if you wish, and at that meeting it would be nice if you have time to tell the students and possibly the Student Legislature about your unusual financial transaction.

Before leaving you with a few questions, Mr. President, I would like to suggest a field of study for your "most able" presidential-assistant-in-Robert's Rules of Order.

Next, I should like to ask the president a few questions:

1. Do you feel that because the Student Legislature followed the amending process as stated in the Constitution this constitutes an irresponsible act?

2. Do you feel that the votes of the Student Body could not decide if the Amendment is an irresponsible action?

3. Is there any correlation between your own preconceptions and what you call irresponsible?

4. Do you feel that the students are not responsible enough to elect responsible representatives?

Now Mr. Gray, the kettle is a little black too.

Bill Miller

Hammond Does It

Editor:

Well, Rusty Hammond has done it again. I certainly hope you have more intelligence than to pay him anything for the tripe he writes. If you pay him anything, he isn't worth it.

In my short years on this earth I have seen a few good writers, many mediocre writers, and some really terrible writers. Maybe that's what Hammond should do—strive to be mediocre.

This week, as all other weeks, he didn't have a damn thing to say, except for a vain attempt to make a few low-browed laugh. At least he didn't knock anything important like the Honor System this week, but I have no doubt that that will happen again soon.

Mr. Editor, I ask you: Is nothing sacred? As far as I am concerned, it is all right for Hammond to write as long as he sticks to his silly drizzle about Campus Scenes and the like, but for Heaven's sake get him off the back of Student Government and other institutions that are trying to do some good.

In this week's column he said that, "The thinking habits of most of the students on this campus are about as deep as the Sahara Desert at low tide." That's about the best thing he's ever written. Someone must have told him to write it because it couldn't be original. In fact, if people had thought about that when they read it, it might have done some good. But they probably glanced right over it just like they do most of his stuff. And, who in hell is he to talk about thinking habits being deep? He couldn't be any more shallow if he tried.

The whole trouble with this campus, if not the United States, is this refusal to think about anything important. And people like Hammond are the leaders of the pack. People would much rather run away from things than stand still and face them. The same goes for Rusty Hammond. He writes his little column every week, making fun of people and things without ever offering a serious solution.

Unwittingly, though, Hammond has touched a raw nerve in our way of life. If he could write more stuff like that he might even be acceptable. If people would just think more about things, especially as to some solutions, perhaps we could pull out of this intellectual ghetto.

So Hammond finally said something good. Or, more probably, someone else told him to say it. I was glad to see it happen, but I would be more glad to see Side Swipes vanish from the editorial page. I am not expecting him to come up with any more good ideas. Why not let the good writers take over?

Rick Heller

Head-On Collisions

Peter Ness

Confucius didn't say this, but I will. If one thinks long enough and hard enough about a situation, it will soon assume certain humorous aspects.

SUBJECT IN QUESTION: The Daily Tar Heel's daily statement that begins with "What About This?"

WHADDABOUT THIS???

1. The editorial page is big.

2. The editor is tired of writing new editorials each day, to fill this big page.

3. The editor, instead of exerting a vastly greater effort, reprints certain three-part statements day after day, to use up this space.

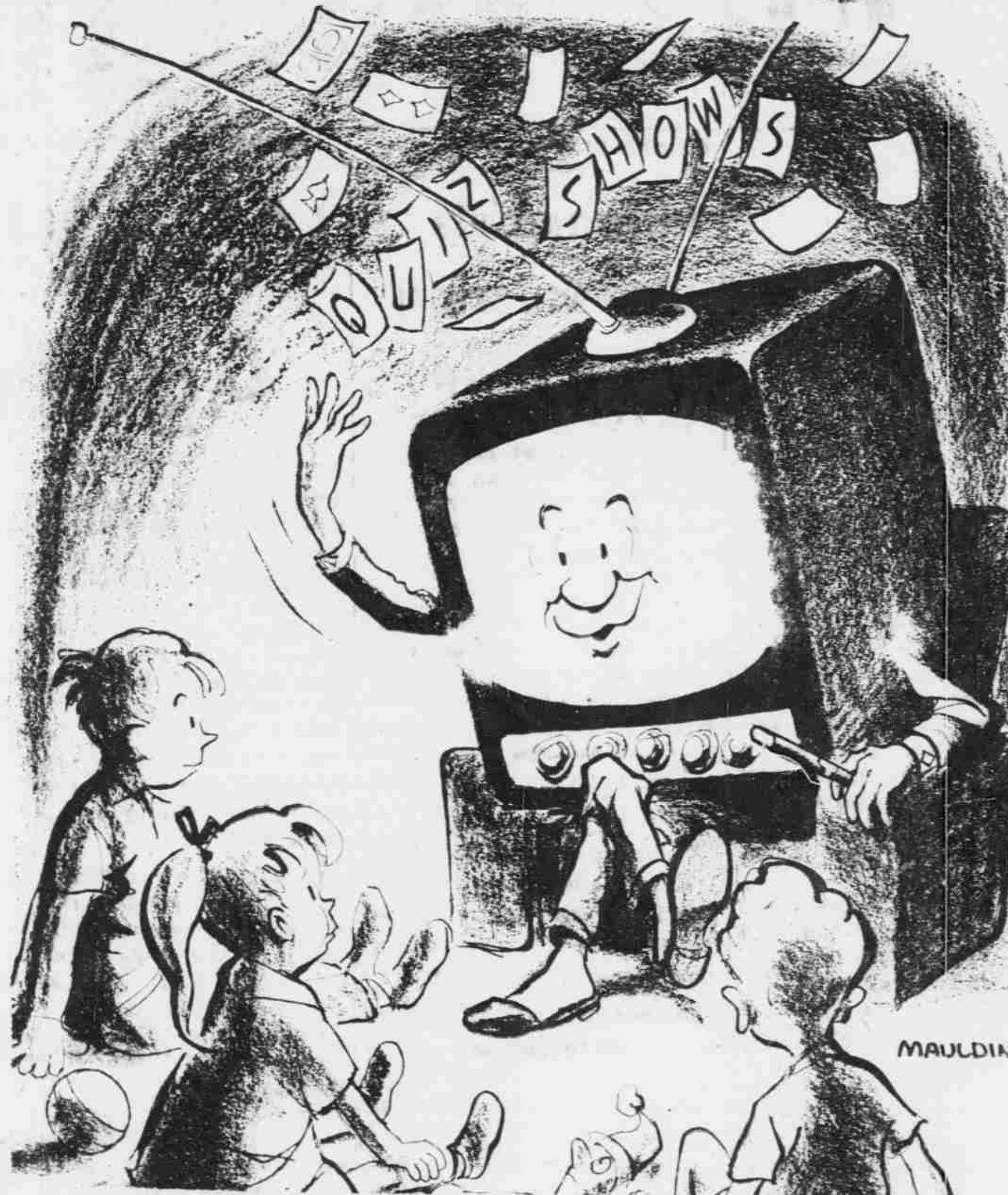
INCIDENTAL INTELLIGENCE: New geometry theorem: Twenty-four "What About This" clippings fried with a garnish of salt and pepper are equal to one serving of scrambled eggs in Lenoir Hall. (There are several axioms and postulates to the Lenoir Hall theorem, but they are considered unprintable here.)

Ten thousand "What About This" clippings have a cash value of \$2.10. . . . their philosophical value is considered to be less. (Take the money!)

SUGGESTION BOX

Print that "What About This" jazz indistinguishably small and give those parties who are interested in such matters as magnifying glass.

"So Much For Cheating. Now For A Nice, Sadistic Western"



Herblock is away due to illness

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What If A Man Dies?

"Already at the age of fifteen I might have learnt this lesson. I had a younger brother who lay dying. One morning towards four o'clock his nurse woke me and said that he was asking for me. "Is he in pain?" I asked.

The nurse said nothing, and I dressed as fast as I could.

When I came into his room he said to me in a matter-of-fact voice, "I wanted to see you before I died. I am going to die." And with that he stiffened and winced and could not go on. Lying in pain, he waved his hand as if saying "No!" I did not understand. I thought it was death he was rejecting. The pain passed, and he spoke again. "Don't worry," he said. "I'm all right. I can't help it. It's my body." His body was already foreign territory, something not himself.

He was very serious, this younger brother who was to die in twenty minutes. He had called me in because he had felt a pressing need to hand on part of himself to me. "I want to make my will," he said; and he blushed with pride and embarrassment to be talking like a grown man. Had he been a builder of towers he would have bequeathed to me the finishing of his tower. Had he been a father, I should have inherited the education of his children. A reconnaissance pilot, he would have passed on to me the intelligence he had gleaned. But he was a child, and what he confided to my care was a toy steam engine, a bicycle, and a rifle.

Man does not die. Man imagines that it is death he fears; but what he fears is the unforeseen, the explosion. What man fears is himself, not death. There is no death when you meet death. When the body sinks into death, the essence of death is revealed. Man is a knot, a web, a mesh into which relationships are tied. Only those relationships matter. The body is an old crock that nobody will miss. I have never known a man to think of himself when dying. Never.

From "Flight To Arras" by Antoine De Saint Exupery



Student Directory

Editor:

In a recent edition, you have issued a complaint as to the tardiness of the student directory and have indicated that the publication should be handled by the Publication Board. Allow me to make the following points:

1. Due to rising costs of printing and due to the increasing enrollment adding annually to the number of the pages of the directory, the Y has lost money for the past two or three years on this service to the student body. This publication is not and has not been considered to be a profit-making affair for the Y. Serious concern has been shown by the Y for the necessity of channeling student pledges into this publication.

2. As a past executive of the Y, I have approached the Publications Board on several occasions seeking to transfer this publication to Student Government. There is no question of superior ability of the Publications Board in such an adventure. Also their treasury is more able to handle any financial deficit. (The latter comment is made with the second hand knowledge that the Student Government finished the past year with a financial surplus.) Shall we assume that the student directory is temporarily a financial "White Elephant"?

3. Since the Publication Board has displayed no overt act to improve the situation, the Y, acting as an interested party free of campus politics, has made a commendable effort of organizing this year's student directory. True! . . . the directory is late, but the delivery was promised by the printer several weeks ago. Are we to discredit the sincere efforts of these interested students and Y office personnel for the negligence of an off-campus party?

The editor has indicated a desire for an improvement. May I suggest that the editor and other concerned persons remove themselves from this "Monday Morning Quarterback" position and move in more proper and effective channels for a more desirable student directory. To be very frank, recruiting voluntary student "Hard Labor" in organizing an efficient student directory from the thousands of badly scribbled directory information cards and to work with a local telephone company that has a gradual system of changing every telephone number in town, may be more challenge than the Publications Board could hope to meet from year to year.

Randy Shelton

Is Swift Fictitious?

Editor:

Probably the most famous man of satire in English Literature was Jonathan Swift, author of Gulliver's Travels. It will be recalled that he eventually became quite an insane man.

I see that we have another satirist who calls himself Swift living in our midst. Could it be that he is already insane? Incidentally, Jack Swift is an obviously fictitious name. If there is such person he is not registered at this university, in other words, not a student. Taking this into consideration, I would suggest that he keep his mail out of the Daily Tar Heel Office. If he is a student however, I would suggest that he take a course that has something to do with arriving at fictitious, fictitious names.

Louis May

So What?

1. The nation is at war.
2. The nation is losing the war, badly.
3. The nation must exert a vastly greater effort

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