

# From A Young Citizen

It's pretty hard to make the people of North Carolina realize what an important possession they have in the right to vote. Older people preach at them constantly that they should vote, that all good citizens must vote if they want to continue as good citizens. Perhaps the non-voters in our midst will listen to a young person, Joan Goolsby, a sophomore at Needham Broughton High School (Raleigh) wrote an essay on voting. It's worth reading and worth heeding:

"Do you know that America is now facing a time of peril yet unsurpassed in the history of our nation? The peril is the decline or conquest of our nation; the reason is that many people who are citizens of the United States of America no longer care about or take any active part in our government. They do not vote for our leaders or on issues in question because they care not who the nation's leaders are or what the problems are which are facing us! We ourselves are the citizens of tomorrow! We will select our leaders. Our leaders who are our government is our nation."

"Today we cannot vote, as we are not of the required age; but in four, five, or six years we will have this privilege. But will we take advantage of it then? Today so few people vote that we cannot truly call our nation a democracy, for a majority of American citizens have no voice in our government, because they do not vote. We cannot say that issues are passed or leaders are elected by a majority, because a majority of the American people do not vote!"

"I cite as an example the recent bond election held here in our own state. Would you think perhaps 20 percent, 30 percent or even 40 percent of the 2,000,000 eligible voters in North Carolina went to the polls and cast their votes? No! Only 5 percent—a mere 100,000 out of 2,000,000 who were eligible even bothered to go to the polls! It was this 100,000 people who decided the fate of issues affecting everyone of us."

"You have heard of the great ancient civilizations of Greece and Rome. Greece, the first nation ever to have a democracy, fell after eight hundred years of a glorious and powerful existence because the citizens became too self-minded and intent on personal gain to care what happened to their government. As a result, corruption occurred, and outsiders were easily able to conquer. This same pattern, with slight variation, was followed in Rome, when after 1200 years of rise to glory and power—the citizens came to care not about the government."

"The pattern is the same. America began as a small settlement in a remote wilderness and in only 300 years has grown to be the most powerful nation on the face of the earth. We've destined to fall in a shorter time than did Greece or Rome—or will our rise of power continue and set an example for other nations to follow? If the latter is to be true, we must fight constantly—not nation against nation with gun and soldiers, but with our nation's citizens in a desperate and gallant effort to keep our democracy free and alive! There is one thing which all of us can do. This is to inform ourselves of the situation and vote! Vote for our leaders! Vote on the problems facing our city, state, or nation, and vote to "keep democracy alive!"

—Raleigh Times

# Reader's Repository

Dear Editor:

Mr. Turner's article on Sawley was an example of "run-of-the-mill" mediocrity trying to disguise itself; a confused attempt to associate the good with the simple minded and blind, and the wise with the vile; a bit of wistful thinking on the sheltered years of adolescence when "we were tops in some way" only to be corrupted by vile men "too eager to talk seriously too often." Men who think too much are dangerous.

Can anyone but conclude that this gentleman would have gleefully stepped forward to hand Socrates his cup of hemlock? The height of his own self-deception is justifying the "monotonous dronings and drivelings of every-day chit-chat," of which his article is a prime example, when served with a dash of "philosophical conversation with friends," is so embarrassingly obvious and puerile I hardly think it needs comment.

This article and others like it are dangerous because, although Mr. Turner may not intend it, here is comfort for that complacent middle class respectability that laws on imitation, and upholds those correct and solid "virtues" that demean the better side of our natures. Man is what he thinks and feels, and this finds expression in what he says and does. The blind cannot but stumble in darkness, but the man who thinks can see many roads before him. Mr. Turner's blind man is one for whom this painful choice of which road to take simply does not present itself. He is cloistered as the child from the corruptions that tempt and never discovers that to become a man one must constantly face the corrupt and give it battle. To fear this challenge is understandable, but to avoid it because of this fear is cowardly.

Man does not grow wise accidentally as the years pass, but only as he subjects himself to its rigors and struggles with himself to find answers to what is valuable and good. Many will not succeed, but in the attempt is to be found his noblest profession.

Irv Hochman

Dear Editor:

Re the article in the November 15 D. T. H. "Cord and Discard," there arose in my mind a certain element of incongruity. In the parable, the blind man was described as an ignorant egotist who was hardly aware of his existence and who was naturally congenial—but a "good man." He is a sort of honorable vegetable. The wise man was described as one with a profound social acumen, a Socratic self-knowledge, an inquisitive nature, and a directed ambition. He was egotistical in a different sense: the vegetable is self-centered because it only performs the basic subjective life functions, but the wise man was consciously vain—he liked himself. Mr. Turner's parable calls the wise man vile. We are to assume then that to be a wise man in this sense is to be repulsive, wicked, morally base, and evil.

As the parable continues, the wise (shudder) man comes into a sort of existential encounter with this vegetable. The result is that the ignorant but good vegetable is made to think, his way of life is open to attack, he becomes confused, his world crumbles, and he probably goes off somewhere and commits vegetable.

Mr. Turner seems to think that there is an acute danger that we will think too intently about life and truth, and he warns us about the evil man who thinks too much. The article infers that there are vile persons who are undermining our individuality, and that the only true individuality is the static personality we have before we revert to introspection and start questioning ourselves.

I do not see why the blind man is "good." I also don't see why the wise man is necessarily "vile." Surely, harm may come from too much of anything; but I don't think that Mr. Turner's revelation of The Great Danger of Our Age is really germane. Although the school policy is obviously aware of the problem of thinking too much and has taken steps to correct it, I don't think that we have to worry about such thing happening in our Carolina cabbage patch.

Frank Reider

# Sulky With The Fringe On Top



Herblock is away due to illness

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# Legislative Roundup

Dave Jones

Thursday night's session of the legislature resolved itself into a committee of the whole in order to discuss the crisis that has arisen over the proposed constitutional amendment.

This was done after the formality of a verbal order from the Speaker of the Legislature, David Grigg, to the Chairman of the Elections Board, J. Deifel, asking for the campus wide election, and a reply from Deifel in the form of a letter from Irwin Fuller, the Chairman of the Student Council, telling him not to hold the election.

A committee of the whole can discuss something like this with much less formality than the entire body, and discussion, not procedural points was what was needed.

The real heart of the problem was brought out by Gary Greer when he pointed out that the Student Council by laws grant it authority to review the by-laws of judicial bodies and no others.

He also pointed out that the measure had been declared unconstitutional, yet the three co-ed members who are required by law to hear cases of constitutionality were not present.

Greer was cutting with a double edged sword. He was saying that the council had no business taking the case in the first place and that it handled it illegally in the second.

Council Chairman Irwin Fuller listened silently in the back of the hall.

There was no action taken, there wasn't any planned at this stage of the game, but there was lots of discussion about the attitude of the council and the reaction that other campus organizations take to its rulings.

The picture must have looked pretty dismal about 10:15 p.m., because Representative James E. Crowmover (SP) . . . assistant to the president, member of the Grail, Order of the Old Well, former candidate for vice President, et cetera, et cetera . . . lost his head.

# Side Swipes

Rusty Hammond

It would seem now that there are THREE things inevitable: death, taxes and the Student Council . . .

The secret is out! The Duke football team will be invited to a Thanksgiving dinner before the game and served cranberries . . .

Student Legislature may propose the following: "Does UNC want Student Government?" If so, the old adage "Read it and weep" might apply.

As far as we're concerned, rock 'n' roll might possibly be tolerated if it would stick to its own drive. But when these would-be vocalists start desecrating old favorites like "Danny Boy," "Tennessee Waltz" and "Always", that's going too far. Any day now we can expect "Old Rugged Cross Rock" or "Star Spangled Banner Cha-Cha-Cha."

Virginia should have stood in bed . . .

We believe in the separation of powers. Mr. Jay Deifel is a UP member of Student Legislature AND chairman of the Elections Board. We believe in the separation of powers.

Beat dook?

Once there was a clean table in the Pine Room.

Free Flick this week: "All The King's Men", with Erwin Fuller.

Open letter to Chuck Erickson and Eddie Cameron: Enjoy the game . . .

For purposes of clarification, may we state our belief that Lou (The Toe) Groza never booted truer than did the SP in its recent purge. Only the method do we question.

# The Pack Bunches Up

The seventh week of The Daily Tar Heel Picks showed a very tight race for the leading position. Daily Tar Heel Editor Davis B. Young, who last week sported a three game lead over all competitors, found his spread narrowed to a single game.

Rusty Hammond — 41-25-4  
Peter B. Young — 40-26-4  
Chuck Ross — 39-27-4  
Charlie Gray — 36-30-4

# Gems of Thought

Children sometimes tear it up, but they never break up a home. The actuality of the present seldom looks as good as the theory of the past.

A reputation cannot be built on the things you intend to do.

Live for today—save the regrets of yesterday until tomorrow. Courtesy costs nothing, yet it buys things that are priceless.

Life's but a brief lesson—and school's out before we know it.

Luck is the crossroad where planning and opportunity meet.

The problem of life consists mostly of subtracting what a man owns from what he owes.

# The Economic Challenge

Norman Cousins, editor of the Saturday Review, has correctly stated that we have underestimated the capacity of the Russian people to produce. Cousins, co-chairman of the Committee for a Sane Nuclear Policy, made the statement in New York on Friday as he spoke to the 35th Annual Associated Collegiate Press Conference. A quick look at production charts and graphs for the past few years will bear out this contention.

Since the end of the Second World War, the annual production growth rate for the Soviet Union has been 9.5%, according to figures released by the Central Intelligence Agency. They would credit the American economy with a 3.6% growth rate during a comparable period. These figures have been disputed, and thus should not be considered to be a definitive statement. At the same time, although the figures may not be entirely accurate, they present an interesting example of the willingness of the Russians to pull themselves up by the bootstraps.

It should also be kept in mind that the Soviet Union was at a low point following the conclusion of World War II, while this country was in a fairly strong economic position by comparison. Nevertheless it is apparent that we have not given the proper consideration to the drive and intent, and indeed national objectives of the Russian people.

Their capacity to produce steel, iron, coal and petroleum was not expected. The present statements of Premier Khrushchev indicate a new desire to satisfy the needs and desires of his people to have more consumer goods. In helping to meet these needs, the Russians are pouring back 30% of their total production for re-investment, as compared to our total of 17%. The Soviet Premier is now boldly stating that the Russians will start a program of economic aid to the underdeveloped countries of Asia and Africa (within 7-10 years) that will make our Marshall Plan look rather small.

It should be perfectly clear that this economic growth by the Soviet Union presents a great challenge to this country. The facts are there, and their achievements cannot be denied. The Russians, and people everywhere have been shown a better way of life. "The revolution of rising expectations" about which Adlai Stevenson has spoken is certainly taking place the world over.

Our struggle and conflict with the World Communist Movement includes an economic facet which we must win. If we are to be first with aid to the underdeveloped countries, and meet the expected challenge of Russian products in the market places of the world, we must start now to plan.

We cannot continue to underestimate their past accomplishments or future projections.

# New Quiz Show

We would propose a new TV quiz show entitled the "64 Million Dollar Question." The rules for participating would be simple. The producers give you the question and the answer—you guess who sent it in.

# Essay Contest

Subject: "What is wrong with America and what can we do to correct it?"

Requirements: All essays must be typewritten, double-spaced and signed by the author. Name, address and phone number must be included. Length: 500-1500 words.

Prizes: There will be eight (8) prizes:

1st Prize—one \$25 RANCH HOUSE Steak Certificate

2nd Prize—one \$15 RANCH HOUSE Steak Certificate

3rd Prize—one \$10 RANCH HOUSE Steak Certificate

4th through 8th Prize — one RANCH HOUSE Buffet Certificate

(These prizes have been donated by Cactus Ted's RANCH HOUSE of Chapel Hill, one of the South's most distinctive restaurants. The certificates may be redeemed as meals at the RANCH HOUSE on or before March 15, 1960.

Eligibility: All students, faculty members and employees of the Consolidated University of North Carolina and/or any member of the Chapel Hill community, excepting staff members of The Daily Tar Heel and Ranch House employees.

Judges: Dr. Alexander Heard, Dean of the Graduate School, UNC; Davis B. Young, Editor, The Daily Tar Heel; Frank H. Crowther, Associate Editor, The Daily Tar Heel. The decisions of these judges are final.

Deadline: All manuscripts must be received or postmarked not later than midnight, December 1, 1959. The Daily Tar Heel reserves the right to print any or all essays. Winners will be announced on or before December 19, 1959.

Send all essays to: Daily Tar Heel Essay Contest, Box 1080, Chapel Hill, N. C.

# 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

# The Daily Tar Heel

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