

Letters To The Editor

In Our Opinion...

Students Stand Up For Jesus

Orange Lie Repainted White, Or: Hit Dog Always Barks

The answer came. One week after the DTH ran an editorial entitled "White Lie Painted Orange"...

oldest newspaper title for his sheet. It's a matter of about seven months, he says, claiming that he can show proof of a publication on Feb. 25, 1893...

Officers, Show Your Wares

Since the campaign for class officers began a few weeks ago, we've called a spade a spade, a gimmick

a gimmick, an independent independent. Now it seems only fitting that we call a winner a winner and offer our congratulations.

Briefly Editorial

California voters who got tired of listening to the late night election returns Tuesday were fortunate in that they could switch channels and pick up Ronald Regan in a late movie for a change of pace.

On Knowing Christ

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There are a great many men who do not hold the views of brassness and, I suspect, bigotry which Mr. Roush espouses. Most probably a large number of the fighting men in Vietnam are examples.

Must we conceive of religion as detrimental to all who listen? Can it not do something for those men in Vietnam who are not inclined toward Mr. Roush's views?

Mr. Roush's fourth paragraph reads: "They (the fighting men in Viet-Nam) only know that they are in a real world of terror and suffering and death from which no amount of praying or preaching by Graham will rescue them."

Graham Good

Editor, The Daily Tar Heel: I don't know your reason for publishing the letter on Nov. 6 from Lawrence C. Roush of Wilson, N. C. criticizing Billy Graham, but since you did I would like to say I agree with most of his points but am puzzled by some.

Peter Harris

American Population Gropes For Maturity

It was once told to me that Americans love the underdog. I was also told that the reason for this was that they identify with the success of the underdog—they feel the victory as their own.

After sitting through many New York Met baseball games, I understood this philosophy. Since most of the people in our beloved land have immigrant backgrounds, the struggle from the bottom towards the top has been a real story.

It can be seen quite easily that the underdog became something of a national symbol. However, this symbol has become tarnished lately. The drive towards greater materialistic attainment, in spite of individualism, has created a false sense of values for American society.

America has exposed itself as a nation of frustrated downtrodden. The Lee Harvey Oswalds, Richard Speaks and Charles Whitmans are more than unique individuals in a society structured by middle-class values.

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feel this way, too, though I speak now only for myself. I would also say I respect Mr. Roush's criticisms and his doubts — I have shared most of them at one time or another.

Mr. Roush refers to the "shallowness of his (Billy Graham's) preachments" — Mr. Graham has made no claim of being a preacher of "depth." He presents the simple gospel message of scripture and trusts the Holy Spirit to take care of the "depth."

As to the "powerlessness or calculated indifference of his (Billy Graham's) 'god'" — God has exercised His power by withholding His intervention that we might exercise the power He has given us.

Also, should God intervene and stop the fighting and suffering as Mr. Roush thinks He should if He exists then everyone would be on God's side. There would be no decisions then.

Mr. Roush feels that no amount of praying on the part of Dr. Graham could rescue our fighting men. Mr. Roush apparently does not believe in the efficacy of prayer; more things are accomplished by prayer than he imagines.

Shallow Atheism

Editor, The Daily Tar Heel: I would like to comment on the letter of Mr. Lawrence C. Roush which appeared in Sunday's DTH. Mr. Roush spoke of a powerless god, and said that he was not aware of what Dr. Graham's presence in Viet Nam will accomplish.

I agree. Aren't we all in the same situation? This entire world is

enemy territory for the Christian. He is a subversive agent sent out to undermine the world's plans, and to represent His master who is an enemy agent who came to this alien territory in the guise of a man.

Since ideas, to him, would be man-made, he has only man to blame. The Christian has the choice of man, God, or Satan ("Power of evil" or what-you-will) to blame — but blames man, too, and is trying to change this situation by declaring Christ.

I fail to understand what he means by "great cause." I see no "great cause" without Christ Billy Graham declares. "Exactly what his (Billy Graham's) presence there (Viet-Nam) will accomplish is beyond me," states Mr. Roush. I say the same thing, with other implications than those of Mr. Roush, of course.

University And Bigots

Editor, The Daily Tar Heel: The other day I wrote a letter questioning the reactions to and implications for the university community of men like Maddox, Reagan, and Wallace (by proxy) being elected candidates of the highest offices in their states.

I interpret what has happened in the recent past as a challenge to the whole intellectual community to feel called upon to leave their "ivory towers" to inject knowledge in society at large among the voters in the constituencies.

How the insights so necessary for a sound democratic process can be instilled in the electorate I do not know exactly, but certainly the mass media will have to play a major role in a massive educational drive.

Praying doesn't mean one lives in a fantasy world, but rather one — in having faced reality — is seeking the only sure help he knows.

I am sure that a visit by Dr. Graham can have a very exact and positive effect upon our men in Asia. There will be no "meaningless malarky" from Billy Graham, and I doubt that he will attempt to get the soldiers to make "decisions for Christ."

However, Dr. Graham may be able to boost the faith and morale of our soldiers. He may be able to lift their spirits, therefore keeping them from despondency and fear. These important things he

may be able to do — he must try. If Mr. Roush had faith in the God Billy Graham professes, he would believe that good can come from Dr. Graham's visit. So maybe now Mr. Roush knows why Dr. Graham must go and what his presence there might accomplish.

It is a good thing for Dr. Graham to make the visit. But, Mr. Roush, don't take my word — ask our boys in Viet Nam whether they mind Billy Graham coming into their world of "suffering and death."

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Apparently Mr. Roush does not know the Christ, for he asked who Christ might be. I would like to tell him something.

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Second class postage paid at the Post Office in Chapel Hill, N. C. Subscription rates: \$4.50 per semester; \$8 per year. Printed by the Chapel Hill Publishing Co., Inc., 501 W. Franklin St., Chapel Hill, N. C.

fects on values and attitudes be instilled and fostered throughout the society if not the universities and more specifically their faculties will assume the appropriate major role in this vital growth and development process?

This points up the basic question: can a free university be an adjunct to the state and its political power wielders? By definition, this seems impossible; what does free then actually mean?

To go back to the original issue: what specific insights do I suggest be given the electorate to ensure the continuation of sound democratic government on all levels? I concede that is a difficult if not almost impossible task to induce change in highly prejudiced individuals.

However, according to research only a small though very articulate minority will fall in this category. Most people are susceptible to knowledge and changing values if they can see merits in changing.

But never being exposed to for instance, the psychology of prejudice and self - defenses, of important knowledge about vicious circles operating behind poverty and racial discrimination, of the positive repercussions of anti - poverty programs throughout the economy, of the less than devastating effects of some creeping inflation and its connection with unemployment, on the effects of the U. S. image abroad of different programs and policies, these are just a few examples of knowledge that I feel should have wide dissemination.

A common misconception among many voters and one of probably great significance for their value system is the belief that most societal ills are solely attributable to those who suffer from them. That misconception offers a convenient escape from guilt feelings and responsibility.

If poverty, unemployment, criminality, alcoholism, drug addiction, etc., all can be accounted for by character deficiencies for which, moreover, the individuals have only themselves to blame, then, why should I bother?

That, I believe, is another example of an issue to be dealt with by a vast army of educators invading the news media to foster enlightened democracy. Probably bigots would not, then, be elected candidates for neither high nor not so high governmental offices.

If there is not a high correlation between military power and general and political enlightenment and maturity, then it may well be said that the foundation of security in the world is placed in jeopardy.

What I have in mind is enlightenment and maturity not primarily as reflected by the ratio between the total population and people going to colleges and universities but rather by the enlightenment as manifested at the polls.

Sven Lundstedt

