

Letters to The Daily Tar Heel editor

Refugee group political in scope

To the editors:
These are the times of humanitarian concerns whether the issue in point is earthquake, civil war, or pollution. It is remarkable also that each one of these expressions of human concern always contains a qualifying clause, i.e., there is no politics involved. Reading the other day (Friday, November 12, 1971) in The Tar Heel that a "group to aid Pakistani Refugees" has been formed at UNC, I thought, at first, maybe the humanitarian concerns and the political motives have finally been separated; but, indeed that was a mistaken belief.

Despite the claim that this group has nothing to do with the politics, it was fairly obvious that the program of this "Refugee Committee" or "Crisis Committee" (I don't know which) is certainly quite political in nature and scope. If urging the U.S. students to write to their Senators to put pressure on Pakistan via U.S. Administration is not political in scope, one wonders what is political. But, of course, this is a matter of perspective, and definitions are convenient arrangements to realize one's own purposes.

Refugees are a concern for the entire international community. However, their settlement can be best realized and effectively managed under United Nations auspices. Especially, under the present India-Pakistan Border situation, it is all the more essential to have a U.N. organization conduct the settlement operation. I would, therefore, suggest that students, churches, or anybody else who is seriously interested in helping refugees should directly send their contributions to the U.N. Let us not make the refugees the pawns in pursuing a particular view point. Refugees should be given maximum help in the settlement process and the agency to do so is the U.N.

The suggestion to urge Congressmen to put pressure on one party, i.e., Pakistan, is rather strange in this regard. A pre-condition in the solution of the refugee problem, at this stage, is the normalization of relationships between India and Pakistan. In this regard, the students should be asked to urge their Congressmen to help, in any way they can, in facilitating negotiations between

the two parties towards making peace first. I believe, Mr. Nixon has shown a tremendous insight into the problem by asking both parties to restrain themselves. At the least, the Congressmen and the Senators should be urged to show a measure of confidence in the way he is handling this situation. Urging legislators to become partisans in an explosive situation is not going to help anybody - refugees or non-refugees. If anything, some of the Senators should be asked to exercise a little more judicial judgment on the events in the sub-continent. But as it is, some of them are also moved by their so called "humanitarian motives."

I am glad that the Committee is going to arrange information for the people "... who know nothing about the situation at all." This is indeed laudible and, after some thought, I decided to pass on some information for the benefit of those who know not. I shall do so again through The Tar Heel at opportune moments.

Jahangir Khan
124 Polk Street

Freeze affects foreign nations

To the editor:
Any student who traveled to Europe this past summer and was there at the time right before Nixon put a price-freeze on the U.S. dollar, can tell of the economic instability that existed in the U.S. dollar, in relation to foreign currencies, at that time. I for one, had just entered Italy when the freeze went into effect. I was fortunate, in that I had already exchanged forty dollars for its worth in Italian currency. Other people were not so lucky and didn't get money - in some cases, for as much as two days.

A few days after the freeze, economic advisers of the Common Market countries met in Brussels, Belgium, to determine what steps should be taken to counter the inflow of inflated U.S. dollars into their countries.

Prices in Rome for just about any service or item a tourist might want to obtain were outrageous and absurd. The feeling one got was "Yankee Go Home." What has caused the economic inflation and instability in European countries? Considering that many of these countries back their own currencies with the U.S. dollar as a standard, and that American economy necessarily involves all

European countries in which American companies have affiliations, there can be no doubt that the American economy has played a great part in the shaping of the economic conditions in European countries. In fact, the American economy no doubt greatly affects the economic condition of the entire globe. American inflation is synonymous with world inflation.

American inflation has been the result of management not being able to keep their rate of production of goods as quickly accelerating as the rate of the demanded price to produce those goods. The faster accelerating rate of cost to produce has forced management to raise their price of the finished product. Management itself is infected with inefficiency and bureaucracy within its own companies, which has also played a major role in the lagging rate of production v. cost. It is the responsibility of management to increase the internal efficiency within their own companies to raise their rates of production. It is the responsibility of the source of pressure which causes a raise in the cost of production - that source being organized labor - to not demand wage increases that exceed the rate of production and therefore raise the price of goods making it cost more to buy an item than it would have before the wage and corresponding price increase, i.e., it is the responsibility of labor not to raise the price index.

When the cost of producing a good increases without a corresponding increase in the rate of goods produced, this makes the price of the good itself increase, so that it takes more money to buy the same number of goods, thus making the dollar worth less.

Somehow, labor and management must cooperate with one another, each realizing lack of cooperation from the other party only results in both being hurt. This lack of cooperation hurts the American economy, the people of the United States, and the world. A standard ratio of rate of production to cost must be established by business and labor, in which the goal is to not exceed the set ratio past set limits by more than a predetermined amount both ways. If the rate of production increases without an increase in the cost of production, this causes deflation - as in the economic depression of 1929. Conversely, if the cost of production exceeds the rate of production, this causes inflation, as is now occurring. So an excessive increase or decrease of one without the other

plagues a capitalistic economic system. Therefore, a standard must be set and enforced by both management and labor. Yet such a necessity, at least at the present time, is almost if not altogether impossible.

I'll never forget the time I went into a food store and mentioned the problem of inflation to a cashier. I said, "You know the dollar is in big trouble because of all this inflation." He replied, "I don't care so long as I get my wage increase. Then I can buy anything I want, even if the price goes up or not." His attitude reflects what I think has been the attitude of most people and, for that matter, most countries throughout the last century.

The belief is that a dollar is an almighty device with which can be obtained a great measure of security. It is assumed that the dollar retains a constant worth, that striving to collect more and more money will provide great security. The fact that the dollar fluctuates in worth, and at times has been worthless, is overlooked. People and nations do not control the dollar, the dollar controls them. There is lack of insight into the fact that unless the economy is stable through cooperation of all parts of the economy, all parts will suffer.

Last, but not least, we hear George Meany, President of the AFL-CIO, getting his own salary raised by 28 percent, from 70 thousand to 90 thousand a year, with the entire AFL-CIO convention in Miami, Florida, mocking President Nixon, who is trying desperately and ineffectively to bring together the oppositely charged ions of labor and management, with George Meany having declared the day before "that he and four other labor members of Nixon's Pay Board will refuse to cooperate with the board or its decisions until they win their demands of back pay for the freeze and full payment of all negotiated wage hikes." Greensboro Daily News, November 20, 1971.

Where the economy will end up remains to be seen.

Phil McDavid
412 Ruffin

SG candidate is non-existent

To the editor:
Student government elections at UNC are usually dull things, but the most recent ones must have had their moments.

I don't know why I even bothered to read the story in November 11th's DTH, but am I glad I did. It was beautiful!

I have just one question: was one Miss Karen Pusey, the writer of the article, truly aware of what she wrote? I'm a dirty old man and I know what she wrote. I'm wondering if she's a dirty old woman, or incredibly naive. I would like a truthful answer to this question, please.

I ask the question because if Jesse Helms or any redneck state legislator sees the article, he'll have a cow.

I'm referring, of course, to the two candidates for freshman class officers who were found not to be enrolled at UNC - Sandy Beech and Connie Lingus. I wish to commend whoever thought up the idea of writing in those names. You're beautiful, baby!

I think the whole episode tends to show what a farce student government is. I wonder how anyone could possibly try to seriously fill a student government post after finding out that a non-existent candidate such as "Connie Lingus" had beaten them.

Ralph Buchan, Jr.
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North Wilkesboro, N.C.
Class of '69

Bible contains historical facts

To the editor:
I read with much interest the letter from a Mr. Farmer in the November 17 issue of the DTH. Mr. Farmer expressed a sincere disbelief in the Bible as a guide for conduct, as the Word of God or as having any value at all. I'm truly sorry Mr. Farmer and other people feel this way, not because it harms me in any way, but merely because of what they are doing to themselves.

Mr. Farmer laughs at the Divinity of the Bible and describes its writers as men who had no desire to be prophets, yet they continually prophesied in their writings. They wrote between "gulps of wine" over, by his own admission, an extended period of time; yet their prophecies, for some strange reason, have consistently corresponded, and, in fact, have come true. The birth of Jesus Christ was predicted centuries before the event. A great deal of His life was prophesied and for some strange, unexplainable

reason, at least in Mr. Farmer's mind, this all came true.

I would also like Mr. Farmer to explain to me how in the Book of Psalms, David could describe the crucifixion of Christ in detail, when in fact, crucifixion was not a known form of execution until 1000 years later. This, Mr. Farmer, is a reasonable, historical fact that you put so much stock in.

And yet, it is not all the prophecies, all the consistencies or all the "historical fact" that causes me to believe in the Bible. Compared to my personal experience with Jesus Christ, all of those don't mean a thing.

I became a Christian in September of 1970. My roommate showed me who Jesus really is, and how his life had changed through his belief in Him. I saw the joy, the love, the peace of mind that he had received, not by way of a temporary chemical experience, but thru a personal spiritual experience with Jesus. That night I accepted Jesus and asked Him to enter my life and give to me the fruits of the Spirit. I'm still young in the Christian life, but Christ and His Word, the Bible, live in my life today. Jeff Colbert died that night, 14 months ago, and I was born, never to die again.

Because Christ lives in me, I am able to love you as a brother, even though I've never met you and even though you espouse views totally opposed to mine.

I pray, Mr. Farmer, that some day in your lifetime someone will show you the truth and you shall also receive eternal happiness and life. You may research the Bible and its effects any way you wish, but I might suggest that if you wish to find any answers, research how much better this society would be if everyone turned on to Jesus Christ. We would then be a society destined to live for eternity, rather than doomed to destruction.

Jeff Colbert
1004 Morrison

The Daily Tar Heel accepts letters to the editor, provided they are typed on a 60-space line and limited to a maximum of 300 words. All letters must be signed and the address and phone number of the writer must be included. The paper reserves the right to edit all letters for editorial statements and good taste. Address letters to: Associate Editor, The Daily Tar Heel, 1004 Morrison Street, Raleigh, N.C.

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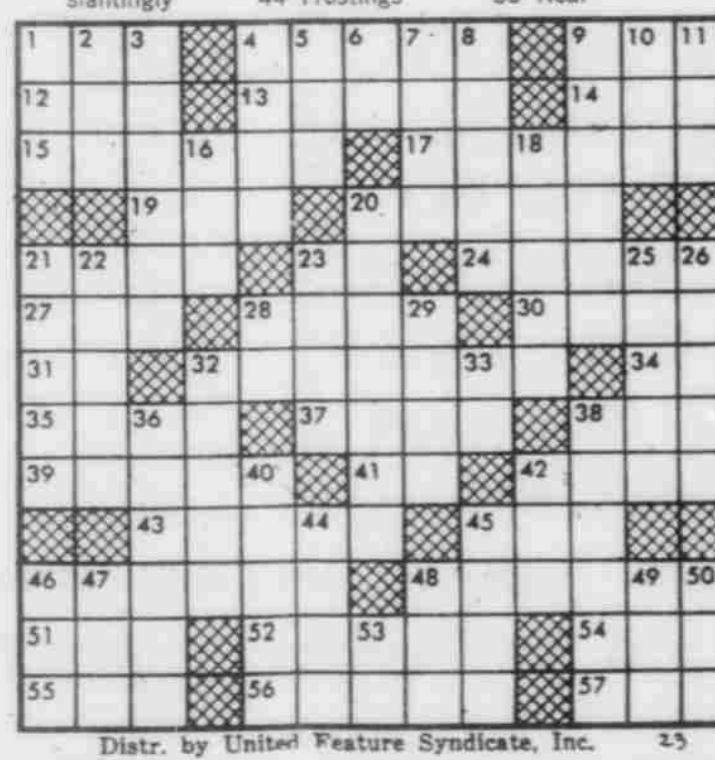
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Crossword Puzzle

- ACROSS
- Gratuity
 - Itching disease of skin
 - Secondary
 - Fruit-drink
 - Mottled
 - Things, in law
 - Gasped for breath
 - Water wheels
 - Click beetle
 - Peeled
 - Merganser
 - Teutonic deity
 - Ardent
 - Spread for drying
 - Jog
 - City in Nevada
 - Paid notice
 - Causes
 - Part of "to be"
 - Domesticate
 - Hurried
 - Music as written
 - Omit from pronunciation
 - Man's nickname
 - Solar disk
 - Lowest point
 - Caoutchouc tree
 - Outing
 - Toward rear of ship
 - Exist
 - Rent
 - Beam
 - Parent (colloq.)
 - Chemical compound
 - Pronoun
- DOWN
- Hit lightly
 - Mountain on Crete
 - Awaited settlement
 - Equal
 - Mournful
 - Bone
 - Rockfish
 - Worship
 - Span across water
 - Affirmative vote
 - Worm
 - Haul
 - Raises
 - Succeed
 - Declare
 - Commemorative disk
 - Periods of time
 - Growing out of
 - Citizen of Rome
 - Symbol for tellurium
 - Drove nail slantingly
 - Part of fortification
 - A state (abbr.)
 - Chopped finely
 - Guides
 - Roman official
 - In music, high
 - Frostings
 - Employer
 - Cushion
 - Man's name
 - Peer Gynt's mother
 - Cheer
 - Brood of pheasants
 - Near

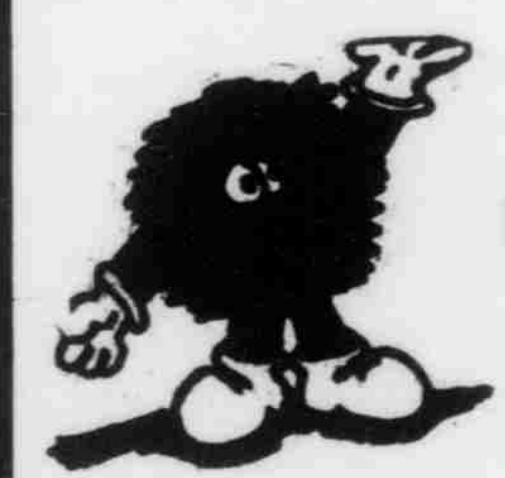
Answer to Yesterday's Puzzle

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