

Campus Echo
North Carolina College at Durham
 NORTH CAROLINA COLLEGE AT DURHAM
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Supreme Court Decision Opens Way For 'Liberty, Equality, Fraternity'

On December 18, 1865, the thirteenth amendment to the Constitution of the United States of America declared slavery illegal and thereby granted the Negro, a victim of continuous involuntary servitude since 1619, his liberty. On May 17, 1954, eighty-nine years later, the Supreme Court of these United States, declared the "separate but equal" doctrine unconstitutional, thus securing for the Negro educational equality.

Yet there is still absent the third and final word of the trio, shouted from border to border by the French people during the eighteenth century—proclaimed and attained by a people less "democratic" and of less international esteem on the world scene during the twentieth century. The cry for "Liberty, Equality, Fraternity" has still to be realized within the walls of the Power of the west.

In Georgia, South Carolina and Mississippi, self-styled "representatives of the people" are rallying their forces in an effort to protect their system of segregated education. They have made public their violent reactions to this momentous decision, threatening to create internal dissension to equal the international turbulence. Confederate America now defies the tangible law as she once defied the intangible democracy.

But how is the Negro, who now stares up an open road which was barricaded a short time ago, reacting to this new step toward first-class citizenship? How well do we realize that the fight has just begun?

This Supreme Court ruling is but a law. And like all others laws, full advantage must be taken of it. Otherwise it will soon grow meaningless and the ink with which it was written will begin to fade, taking down into the dark well of oblivion our claim to our rights as Americans. There must be people who are prepared to step into the new roles. There must be students who will apply for admission to all schools without hesitation. There must be Negro parents who will suppress their fears and apprehensions and will both support this ruling and avail their children of the equality which is now legally theirs.

A new day has dawned; a new vista of progress has been opened to us. If we, the people who have been deserving for so long, are alert and perseverance, although the road may be rough, the detours will be few. Our federal government is for us. People from all sections of the country who believe in the theory and practice of democracy are for us. Who, then, can be against us?

An Editor's Farewell

As retiring editor of the *Campus Echo*, it seems only natural that I briefly recount the year's activities of the *Echo* and make a final statement to the entire student body which I have attempted to serve. I have enjoyed every minute of my work with the paper and I hope that in some small measure I have been able to give this organization the type of leadership which it deserves.

The **CAMPUS ECHO** is the heart of student government at NCC because the facts, opinions, activities and accomplishments of the students, when once announced through this medium,

are forever recorded and subject to the leisure of retrospective history.

The *Echo* has attempted to be the voice of the students, raised in praise, challenge, acceptance, rejection, and reprimand whenever the occasion has presented itself. The news appearing on its pages has been chosen in an attempt to interest the majority of the people whom it serves. Its editorials have attempted to intelligently discuss all issues at hand, not only those which materialize in our own sphere of activity, but also those which find their origin at national and international levels

BOOK REVIEW.

Hemingway's

THE OLD MAN AND THE SEA

By W. Sherman Perry

The popularity of **THE OLD MAN AND THE SEA** is not endemic to our campus. It is a book which critics at home and abroad have acclaimed and given rave reviews. "LIFE" magazine ran the work in full prior to its publication in book form, thus assuring a vast reading public. And according to many, **THE OLD MAN AND THE SEA** is Hemingway's masterpiece.

One might expect a book of such wide acclaim to be giant in size, comparable perhaps to *The Sun Is My Undoing* or *Gone With The Wind*. But this novel has only 140 pages. One might think also that the book has an extremely unique plot. This is not true. **PERRY** The story has been told numerous times. Man has been recording accounts of his conflict with

nature since means of recording were invented.

In *The Old Man And The Sea* Hemingway's principal character is the old and poor, but heroic, Santiago. Because of his great pride, the old man refused the charity of townspeople and continues fishing for his livelihood. But there is nothing false about this pride; it is born of the knowledge that Santiago was once a great fisherman. The fire of this knowledge is kept burning by a young boy who has uncompromising faith in Santiago.

The boy, the only other character of importance, continues to believe in Santiago even though all others, including his own mother and father, think the old man's career has ended. This faith is a great factor in Santiago's continued faith in himself.

One day Santiago ventures out to sea alone. A great eighteen foot fish is hooked. From this point on, the story revolves about a gigantic struggle be-

tween fish and man.

The Old Man And The Sea is symbolic of man's struggle against forces, both human and natural. And in Santiago we see the determination of man to rise above any and all obstacles, a perseverance which it itself ennobling.

Although I recognize Hemingway's place in and influence on American literature, I can make no claim to being a Hemingway fan. He is an acknowledged master of the brief, concise and lucid sentence, a style of which simplicity is the keynote. But because of this simplicity, Hemingway gives the impression that he is writing a story for one of the better written newspapers. The primary purpose of the newspaper is to inform; that of the novel is to entertain. Though at times Hemingway does inform, I seldom find him entertaining.

Nor shall I say that *The Old Man And The Sea* is his best novel. *A Farewell To Arms* and *For Whom The Bell Tolls* are superior works. Hemingway is a versatile writer; he has lived much and has had rich experience to draw from. Yet *The Old Man And The Sea* seems to be the work of a philosopher who needed some quick cash and so decided to write a novel utilizing his knowledge of fishing and baseball while distilling his philosophy throughout.



Peering Through The Bird's Eye

BY "BONNIE"

Congratulations, Grads!!

After about 1:30, on Tuesday, June 1, there will be an additional 308 adults, who, through preparation, diligence, and sticktuitiveness, have made themselves eligible to assume the roles and obligations of citizens and leaders in this most complicated world. These people will by that time be alumni of North Carolina College at Durham, and thus will automatically be rated as teachers, specialists, performers, or graduate students of the highest calibre. We are indeed proud of our class of 1954, "BONNIE" and we wish them the best of luck in their chosen fields and professions. These are our leaders potential, the cream of our social and academic crop. They have merited the torch of progress to bear high to keep bright, so that they may lead others from the darkness.



The Second Knock

Well, the third and final quarter of another academic year is slowly drawing to a close, and for this the majority

of us are very happy. However, as we consider our records in retrospect, balancing a i m s against accomplishments, perhaps we realize that the former out-weighs by far the latter. And at this we are not too pleased. Yet, we still find some consolation in the fact that we shall have another chance next year, and with a little more effort, and a little less resignation, with a little more action and a little less procrastination we shall improve. Let's take advantage of this second knock of opportunity and remember that the school of hard knocks teaches well, but the tuition is very high.

Orchids

Our Student Government President, Mr. Elliott B. Palmer, has accomplished a goal for which he is to be highly commended. After one full year of tireless work and almost three years of attempts, the Student Government Constitution has finally been completed and is now ready for ratification. The NCC instrument of government has been so improved that in future years few difficulties should arise which will not find partial solution within its framework. The pattern has been completed..the students and their leaders have only to follow its lines. Good student government need no longer be a hope springing eternal in the human breast but can now become a contemporary realization. Orchids to Mr. Palmer and his 1953-54 Student Government Administration.

No Coddling Here

North Carolina College is definitely not the only school which will not tolerate the coddling of its athletes, as was recently demonstrated in the stand taken by the University of Illinois on J. C. Caroline's academic record. The example has now been publicly set, so this should be a fair warning to our Eagles to take care that their class work is as efficient as their sports work.

by YVONNE SCRUGGS

and effect us as world citizens.

The staff with which I have had to work has indeed been a co-operative one, displaying loyalty and perseverance which has been a continuous source of inspiration and satisfaction to me. The credit for whatever success the *ECHO* has enjoyed this year is more to be given to them since no editor can work without a staff.

I extend to the student body my heart-felt thanks for their interest in the paper, and to the editor elect, my best wishes for an eventful and prosperous administration.—"BONNIE"

Toward Real NCC Government

By DUDLEY E. FLOOD

We are all familiar with certain quotations like "government of the people, by the people, and for the people," and "deriving its just powers from the consent of the governed", etc. These quotations grew out of philosophies upon which governments for nations have been founded.

Our Student Government at N.C.C. is established upon these same principles. But how many of us can honestly say that we have given a second thought to the success of this organization, except perhaps at election time, and even then have supported the organization to any noticeable extent? How many of us have concerned ourselves as to whether the Student Court has enough jurisdictional function to justify its existence?

On the other hand, many of us wonder why our government does so little to help us and why we hear so little about our governmental activities. I see only one answer to this question. Our student government, apparently contrary to public opinion, consists of and is dependent upon every person over which it has jurisdiction. The success or failure of the government is invariably in direct proportion to the degree of support given it by the students. It is fallacious to assume that the student body has fully discharged its responsibility by having elected administrators and representatives to the Congress. The elected merely represent the electorate. It is the privilege of each individual student to legislate through his representatives.

To assure ourselves of a more functional Student Government in the future, let us resolve to give our S. G. that support which it must have to succeed.