

# Mediocrity Calls For Changes

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USE ALL MEANS TO EFFECT CHANGE

It is incumbent upon students to begin utilizing all means at their disposal to effect changes in Guilford which will create an institution where those interested can learn as individuals without undue restraints. If the channels for change are not in existence they should be made and used. Nothing short of a general commitment of change will cause the college to move in a positive direction. The administration must also make decisions to drop its role as babysitter, stop playing around with being an athletic powerhouse, and get down to the real business of providing educational opportunities of a wide variety for its students. The faculty needs to make solid its commitment to the students and their learning experience, by intellectual openness, not one sided indoctrination. In short the common commitment so often tossed around must be made a reality or Guilford will continue to languish in the throes of half-hearted mediocrity.

Larry Elworth

## Edgerton

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Section E: All dormitory governments shall operate in a similar manner.

Article X: Replacement of Officers and Representatives

Section A: Officers

In case of the removal of the President from Office, or of his resignation or inability to discharge the powers and duties of said office, the same shall devolve upon the Vice-President. Student Legislature of Guilford College may provide for a vacancy in the offices of President and Vice-President of the Men's Inter-Dormitory Government. The Men's Inter-Dormitory Government may provide for a vacancy in the office of the President and Vice-President of the dormitory governments.

## Union Events

Dec. 16 Art Series Movie-"The Trial," 8 p.m. Dana

Leadership Seminar - Judge Frank Kaufman, Union Lounge, 7-9 p.m.

Dec. 17 Eastern Coast Basketball Classic-Fayetteville

Dec. 13 Eastern Coast Basketball Classic-Fayetteville

Dorms close 8 p.m.

GUILFORDIAN

Staff Meeting

Thurs. 6:30 p.m.

Cox Hall 224

# Nader Defends Consumer Rights

By JEANETTE EBEL

'What is the rule of law for the poor in the slums must be the rule of law for a corporation.'

This is the message which Ralph Nader brought to Guilford Thursday, Dec. 4.

Nader is a "consumer advocate," a man who is seeking to protect the average man, the blue collar worker, from the abuses of impersonal corporations and industries.

## LUNG DISEASES

Nader has concerned himself with the Black Lung disease of coal miners and the Brown Lung disease of textile workers.

Life support systems in space capsules make it possible for astronauts to survive in the atmosphere of outer space, he pointed out. Nader questions why similar life support systems are not used in mines and mills to filter out damaging dusts. He questioned the value system of a country that puts different values on human lives.

'Nixon is fond of talking about the silent majority,' Nader said. 'But the Nixon administration is forgetting about the most silent majority of all, the blue collar workers.'

As a consumer advocate, Nader has taken the task of defending industrial workers against the unsafe conditions of their jobs.

Nader and a group of law students called "Nader's Raiders" attacked the FTC and demanded the resignation of its head Paul Rand Dixon.

Nader proposes an Office of Consumer Protection composed of lawyers to replace the FTC as protector of the consumer. The office would have no regulatory powers but would conduct studies on consumer abuses.

## AUTO SAFETY

One of Nader's major concerns is in the area of automobile safety. 'There is nothing in this country that compares to the scale of auto accidents.'

Each year on our highways, 55,000 are killed, 155,000 crippled, 4 1/2 million injured.

Nader maintains that it is silly to put the blame on the driver saying individuals should be more careful when normal human reflexes are 99,999% safe.

Automobile accidents are caused by unsafe autos. 'The country which has sufficient technology to design a vehicle to send a man to the moon has not developed a safe automobile. The country which has managed to achieve technological advances has not distributed these advances to the public.'

Until 1966, safety standards were set by the industry alone. Automobiles are the last form of transportation to be subjected to meaningful safety standards.

Safety has been treated by the industry as a "tack-on device," Nader said. Often safety features are made optional, yet year after year the consumer pays for style changes.

The greatest outrage, according to Nader, is the design of the car bumper. This device, originally designed to protect the car, is now no more than an "ornamental chrome eye-brow." When tested, bumpers collapsed at speeds no greater than 2.7 mph.

To increase the outrage, the industry has produced a "bumper guard" to protect the bumper. Bumper guards are "a multi-million dollar industry spawned



RALPH NADER Photo by Edgerton

out of the deficiency of the original product," Nader said.

'The kind of practice which produces bumpers such as these is criminal larceny,' Nader said.

Another outrage, according to Nader, is the designs of the outside of cars. Fins and chrome ornaments have caused injury to pedestrians; yet, they continue to appear in the new designs. These designs are "the products of depraved stylists allowed to run rampant," Nader accused.

Nader charged that the auto repairs and services industry is cheating the consumer. Nader maintains that parts are designed so that if one component fails, whole parts must be replaced. "In the United States an area as large as New England is under pavement," Nader claimed, "and the concrete and asphalt boys are just getting warmed up." Yet, more highways are needed to accommodate the increasing number of cars.

## Career-In-Greensboro

The Greensboro Chamber of Commerce and the Personnel Association of the Greensboro Area are co-sponsoring the annual "Career-In-Greensboro Day" for college juniors and seniors.

The date for the conference, December 30th, was selected to take advantage of the Christmas holidays.

It will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Elliott Hall at The University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

More than 35 Greensboro-area

businesses and industries will man display and information booths, reports Arnold O. Lawing, Jr., chairman of the project.

Last year, some 27 firms participated and attracted more than 189 college students.

The program is designed to serve two very important needs; first, to inform area students of the many job opportunities existing within the immediate business complex; and, second, to permit contacts between firm representatives and high-caliber potential employees.

## Pictures Of The Week

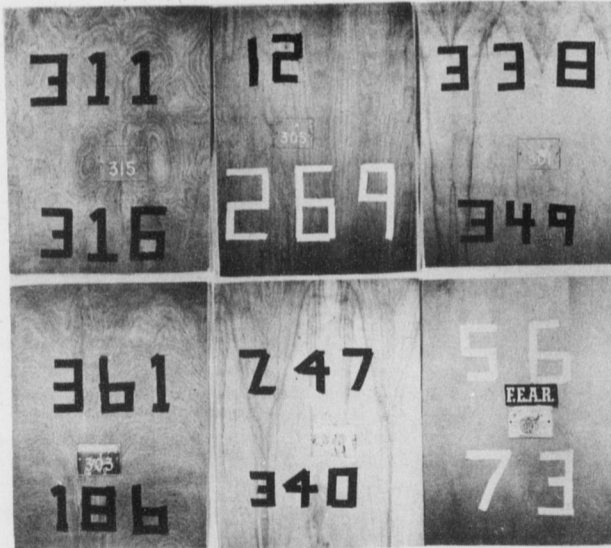


Photo by Willson



Photo by Sherman

proportional growth of cars and highways will cease only when public transportation is made available and practical.

## QUALITY OF FOOD

Nader also attacked the food industry for using "deception" in selling its products.

Only these things are necessary to make food saleable, Nader claimed: it must be palatable, tender and visually attractive. These standards can be met easily, Nader claimed, "through the misuse of modern chemistry. American made bread is nothing more than a chemistry plant."

Nader cautioned against buying processed meats which are made out of cereals and "4D," dead, dying, diseased, or disabled animals.

The dishonesty of the meat producing industry was exposed half a century ago by Sinclair Lewis in THE JUNGLE; yet, Nader maintains many of the same conditions still exist. Nader charged that outrages such as tumors being sold as brains are still being committed.

In addition to the rising incidence of food born disease and the crisis of wide scale poor nutrition, Nader charged that consumers are being cheated by such practices as injecting chickens with water. Although he admits the difference in individual purchases may be only a few ounces, he charges that the poultry industry gains 33 million dollars each year from this practice.

To demonstrate his point Nader cited hot dogs, which used to contain less than 17% fat, but now contain anywhere from 35% to 50% fat. Nader maintains that this extra fat is more than expensive, since fats have been shown to increase heart and respiratory diseases.

The food industry spends 16% to 18% of its income on advertising. Nader compared these figures to the automobile industry which spends only 3%.

## ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION

Nader defined pollution of air, water and soil as "violence against man, since human life depends on the relative purity of air, water and soil.

He emphasized the double standards which exists between laws controlling pollution by individuals and pollution by corporations and cities.

'It is a strange society which values rights of corporations over the rights of individuals,' Nader said.

## STUDENT PARTICIPATION

'The students more than any other class in our society are free to inquire, research and speak out,' Nader said. Therefore, Nader maintains that there is much that students can do to investigate the unfair treatment of consumers.

Nader said students can "develop not only a unique educational experience, but also gain a feeling of what citizenship in action is."

Nader encouraged students to investigate the textile and tobacco industries, industrial pollution and state government controls of it, claiming that "the currency of democratic power is information."