



# The Salemite

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## Voting Procedure Causes Confusion; Needs Change

The confusion which arose over the counting of preferential ballots during the elections last week indicates a need to evaluate the present system of voting for Student Government offices. The system is easily misunderstood and is excessively time-consuming.

Could ballots be counted on a strictly popular basis? Two assembly periods could be allotted for elections. During each period students could vote for offices which do not have repetitions in the list of candidates. Each student would vote for one nominee for each office. If one person did not receive a majority of votes, a majority being one over half of the number of voters, a run-off could be held the same period between the top candidates. Even if two run-offs were necessary, the ballots would have to be counted fewer times than now; for under the preferential system, if a majority is not received in first place, the ballots must be counted for each of the four or five choices.

A "vote-for-one" procedure would insure that the candidate that the majority of students want as their first choice would win.

## Reading Selection For Symposium Explores Mechanization Of Man

By Anna Cooper

**THE MYTH OF THE MACHINE: TECHNICS AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT**, by Lewis Mumford

The main thesis in this title by Lewis Mumford is that the machine was invented by man to aid him, and it is only when it is used as a "megamachine" that it robs him of his individuality and personal expression. The word "megamachine" seems to have been invented by the author to describe a technology centered civilization or a collective organization for power, modeled on the mechanics of the human body with man supplying only the brain.

This description certainly applies to the industrial civilization up to the twentieth century. However, now we have moved into the phase of the industrial sequence with automation and the computer supplying the brain. The present danger is that the brain power will be that of a master brain with the average individual serving only as mechanical parts.

The author rejects the statement that man is a "tool making animal" because, as he points out, this accomplishment is not his only or most important distinction. He has developed language, art, social organization, and rituals.

What is more uniquely human in man is his capacity to combine this wide variety of capacities into the human personality. Until recently, even the simplest article, the cooking pot, for instance, bore the stamp of the human spirit and personality that produced it. Until the later phase of the Industrial Revolution, civilization represented an interplay between man's use of technology and the development of the arts.

An interesting comparison is made between the Egyptian civilization of the Pharaohs and our modern capitalism. In both, the "megamachine" is the organized center of power. In the first case man was used as a machine for the glorification of the sovereign who was able

to accomplish this by the threat of punishment. Under capitalism, man is organized for production which is used by the state to foster nationalism and prestige.

An important difference is that under capitalism, reward, in the form of abstract money, is used instead of punishment. However, in the twentieth century the desire of reward has increased mechanical production until it has become a Mamon. War and military operations have become necessary to siphon off the excess production.

The author has used the historical approach to develop the many forces that have helped shape modern man. Scholarship is evident throughout the work which takes the form of long essays, each an entity. Mr. Mumford has devoted his long life to the study of man and technology. This book leaves no doubt in the reader's mind which the author thinks is more important. His two

older titles: **Culture of Cities** and **Technics and Civilization** bear witness to the authority he brings to this work. Frequently, he becomes philosophical and even imaginative, which may be frowned upon in an historical work, but from a person of Mr. Mumford's stature, this is not only permissible but provocative.

In spite of the sad state man finds himself today, the author makes it clear that he thinks man is resourceful and, given the knowledge and understanding of his predicament, can and will, as he has in the past, change his direction. There is no hint of pessimism here. Rather, the conviction is that man can control his destiny and that now is the time to begin is evident in each essay.

Note: **The Myth of the Machine: Technics and Human Development** is suggested as preliminary reading on the Symposium book list.

Perhaps you have recovered from Salem's big weekend enough to gather your wits and wardrobe together for another rousing weekend. Only this time its activities must be entirely left up to your own resources, instead of having something to plan around.

Meanwhile the weekend and week brought with it some events which really need to be revealed to all Salemites, so prepare yourself for an informative and inventive session.

Recently Jacque Touchton has received a new addition to her jewelry, only this is the kind that you wear most everyday. Jacque is lavaliered to Wake Forest Pika, Bill Preston. Bill is a junior.

Linda Larkin is planning an August 24 wedding to State sophomore, Ross Boyer. Her fiance is from Linda's hometown of Washington, too. Linda's plans include her fall enrollment at Meredith while Ross will be at State.

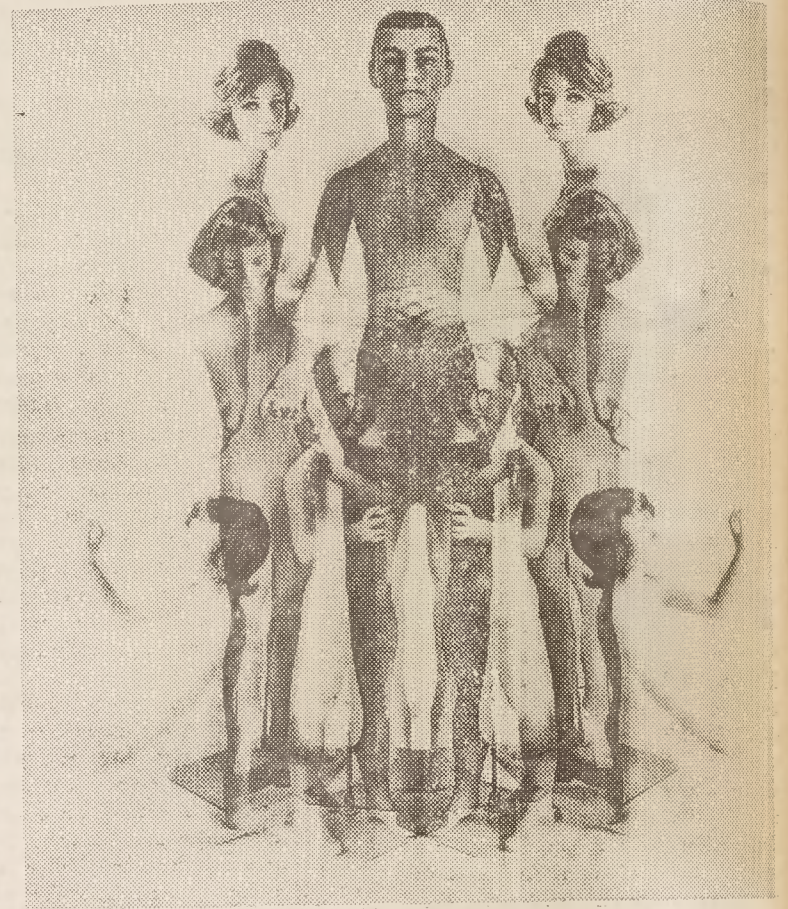
If anyone notices the pin that Sybil Cheek is so prominently sporting, do not panic and feel that she is being snatched from the cradle of spinstershood so soon.

However, she is very proud of that hardware, as it represents a semester of hard work and study at USC while she was head of her Delta Zeta pledge class. This past Sunday she spent taking a long, trouble-filled trip to that fair campus to receive full acceptance into the Beta Delta Chapter of DZ. Even though she missed some of the ceremony because of car trouble, she received recognition as Best Pledge, too.

## Around The Square By Carol Carson

Carilee Martin's birthday was quite an event in Bitting. She felt that all the dorm had neglected to recognize her special day until 11 p.m. Then she decided that it really couldn't be too important that she go to the living room right away. While she stood in front of her mirror on second floor, the candles on her cake on first floor melted

down into the cake, taking the frosting with it. Only when two "superwomen" went upstairs and half-carried, half-pulled her, would she come down for the celebration. Nancy Richardson had quite a celebration, too. She received roses from that certain someone, and they went out for a real funtime. (Continued on page 3)



Part of the "Great Ideas of Western Man" exhibit of Container Corporation of America now in the FAC is this interpretation of a quotation from Albert Einstein:

"Perfection of means and confusion of goals seem—in my opinion—to characterize our age." (Out of My Later Years, 1950) Medium: photography Artist: Art Kane

## National Figures Become Light Sleepers With War

By Lyn Davis

The President goes to bed at 1 a.m., under orders from his physician and urging from his wife. But he cannot fall asleep immediately, because this is the hour when American flyers leave their bases in South Viet Nam to bomb North Viet Nam. No matter how tired he may be, President Johnson awakens naturally at 3 a.m. to call the Defense Department to find out how many men were killed in the nightly raids. If the toll is unusually high, he cannot rest comfortably until dawn.

In Boston, two of the nation's leading figures also will not be able to sleep until the war in Viet Nam is concluded to their satisfaction. But in the meantime they must face trial for expressing their views. Dr. Benjamin Spock, 64, author of the all time best-selling piece of literature by an American, and William Sloane Coffin, Jr., 43, chaplain at Yale and veteran of World War II and the Korean War, have been indicted for urging this nation's young men to follow their consciences and resist the draft. Both men firmly believe that the conflict in Southeast Asia is illegal, a violation of the UN charter, and un-Constitutional in that President Johnson is running the war without the consent of Congress. They have also declared that our troops have no right to be stationed in Thailand, because our government and that of the Thais have not signed any treaty that mentions foreign troops on their soil. Because they so firmly believe that the war is morally and legally wrong, both men urge all young men who feel as they do to avoid the draft and thus avoid contributing directly to the war effort.

The trial of these two is very possibly a test case for all of the United States. Federal governmental officials had the charges brought in Boston in hopes of insuring a conviction, Boston is predominantly Roman Catholic and, hence, more conservative; yet the Council of Bishops in South Viet Nam have repeatedly denounced President Theiu, Vice President Ky, and their government.

The irony of it all is that Dr. Spock was an ardent supporter of Johnson when he first ran for re-election. The President expressed his desire that, as President, he would never fail in the doctor's expectations of him. Although not personal friends, the two reportedly had a warm admiration and respect for each other.

But the war has been and will continue to be a terribly, tragically ironic thing.

Other writers contributing this week are Debbie Lotz, Cyndee Grant, Diane Dalton, Cathy Dealy, Sallie Barham and Sandy Kelley.

