

CHARLOTTE COLLEGIAN

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Education In A Democracy

Demetrios Nixon

As the days pass by, I consider myself to be one of the luckiest persons alive to be able to go to school and study different subjects. Many of my friends and fellow students, if true, are doing the same kind of work, but I do not believe that they realize that they too are lucky to be able to attend school and to have as many facilities as they have.

Since I have been in this country only four years, I am sure I can easily distinguish between education in a democracy and education under communism, a dictatorship, or other form of government. The reason for this is, of course, that I have had the experience of living under different kinds of government. And I am sure that my fellow students would appreciate more of what they have and enjoy it more if they were in my place.

When I was in Europe, I was attending school too; attending school in Europe is twice as hard as it is in America. My native country, Greece, has been a democratic country since the ancient times of Pericles, Aristotle, and Socrates; but there is a great difference in the schools in Greece and in America.

As we know, Democracy is a form of government in which one can govern himself freely and has many opportunities to become a successful person in the world. No other word can take its place and no colorful illustration can give to it a more perfect meaning. The word "Democracy" is derived from the Greek word Democrata — Demoscratos which means, as it literally does in all the nations which have it, a people's government. People have loved such a form of government from ancient times because it was and is a government of equal rights and opportunities, a government of Christian principles, and a government in which one is free to develop himself and to become useful and valuable in our society.

Yes, many of us do not realize it; in fact, we do not see the difference between Democracy and other forms of government and are unable to fully appreciate what we have to enjoy every day of our lives. But suppose we were getting an education in Russia under the communistic government? Would we have the same privileges that we have in our democracy? Would we be allowed to work and to go to school for our own benefit? Would we be allowed to obtain an education because we served in the Army? Could we express our thoughts freely, speak freely, and write freely as we can in our Democracy? Certainly not. We would never have such privileges. In no other place in this world could we have such privileges—only in this country of God, called America.

I lived under Communism and I can easily tell the difference. I have studied their plans, and I know where they lead one; I have suffered under their form of government, and I can highly appreciate what I have under Democracy. Under Communism, one has no chance to develop or to distinguish one's self, because one has no freedom. When I compare the two forms of government, I see a dark chaos under Communism and a bright future under Democracy. When I left Europe four years ago, things were not as bad as right after the war years, when the "Black Tiger" was threatening us. Rather than to have to live under their form of government again, I would gladly die. Yes, Democracy is being formed in Europe again, but that Democracy is just like an infant with undeveloped senses and like a bird with one wing.

So what is better than getting an education in a Democracy? And what is better than freedom? Leonidas, the ancient Spartan, once said: "It is better, and we will prefer to die with freedom than to be a slave under the Persian government." And because he and his soldiers, Spartans, had democratic principles, they preferred to die, all of them, rather than surrender to the Persians.

So getting an education in a Democracy such as America is something to be proud of. If we could only learn the meaning of the word "Democracy", I believe it would be the best education we could obtain. And if we could just learn to appreciate what we have and to compare it with what other peoples have, the knowledge would be the greatest benefit we could receive.

Education in a Democracy is something that many people desire; so why not appreciate it while we have it?

If I can acquire my desired education in this Democracy, I believe it will be the greatest thing I can get, something which I believe is worth more than millions in a country where one has to live under the boots of a "Stalin."

Patient: "Doctor, I don't smoke, drink or chase around with women. Will I live a hundred years?"

Doctor: "No. But it will seem like it."

Nurse: "Did you drink the three pitchers of water and stay in bed, like I told you?"

Patient: "I drank the water."

TATTLE TALE

Everyone had better start studying, if they haven't already started—final exams are coming up now . . . That certainly was some float Charlotte College had in the Carrousel—many thanks and congratulations go to **Jay Sherrill** and **Brice McLaughlin**, the originators, and to all the students who helped out in building it . . . Quite a few of our former students attended the square dance last month . . . Some people would like to know where **David (Cotton) Cash** gets his good-looking girl friends (Some people is putting it mildly—Ed.) . . . Why is **Arial Stephens** so interested in Tuesdays? . . . It is understood that **Jay Sherrill** has a number of girl friends in reserve . . . We wonder where **Buck Mallonnee** gets those outstanding neckties — especially that shimmering green one . . . The girls at C. C. must not suit **Joe Poston**—he has tried them all and has not been satisfied yet . . . The Army has taken another C. C. boy—**Donald Horton** . . . **Dorsey McIlroy** has received notice that he has been deferred until June . . . Dr. Heck has been having quite a few field trips this year. The botany, geography, and geology classes climbed Crowder Mountain, literally on their hands and knees. For several days afterward the students appeared limping. The geology class took a week end off and went to Bluff City, Tennessee to explore some caves. **John Gamble**, **L. A. Spake**, and **Buck Mallonnee** went wading unintentionally in an underground stream. By what name has **Buck** been called as a result of his expressing his surprise at finding himself ankle deep in the icy water? **Carolyn Reichard** will be known henceforth as the "Bat Woman" since she took such an interest in the bats that the group captured . . . We wonder how **Arial Stephens** and **Warren Blair** made out in holding a half-dollar between the calves of the legs, and what the idea was . . . Several of the C. C. students have been married recently—**Jimmy Merritt** and **Norrie Hager**, both of

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The Faculty

R. FRANK HARWOOD

Ordinarily it is a long and circuitous route from a sheep ranch in Texas to the Commerce department of Charlotte College, but as traveled by Mr. R. Frank Harwood it involved some seven-league boots with an "assist" from several western railroads. May I say here that we students in the Commerce department are glad he made the trip.

Mr. Harwood began life as any ordinary boy in Kansas City, Mo. Here he attended school and participated in the athletic program, particularly football. From his position on the fifteenth string he could almost see the field on a clear day. Evidently this oversight on the part of the coach left an impression on our instructor, for, at the age of fifteen, he decided to Get Away From It All.

With only five dollars to his name, he slipped away from home on the start of what turned out to be a 5000 mile trip through the Southwest. Using his thumb to good advantage, he covered ground rapidly. When his thumb failed, the railroads were nearby. The Missouri & Pacific, Western Pacific, and the Denver & Rio Grande all contributed generously. His trip was almost permanently ended on one occasion, however, when the car he had selected turned out to be a refrigerator car which was sealed shut upon him. It was on this trip that he became a sheepherder in Texas. He worked for a total of three days and received seventy-five cents, of which fifty cents was counterfeited!

He finally worked his way back home and returned to school. As evidence of the beneficial effects of his trip, he won a scholarship to Jefferson College at St. Louis. From there he went on to St. Louis University, graduating cum laude with a B.S. degree in commerce and finance.

Before the war, Mr. Harwood was at various times a bank clerk, an accountant, a fireman in the merchant marine, a bus driver, and a railroad track laborer on the Union Pacific at Green

River, Wyoming. The war interrupted his career, however. He joined the Army Air Force and was accepted as a cadet for navigation training.

He received training at various fields in Texas; San Antonio, Houston, and Hondo were a few. He received his radar training at Langley Field, Va., and Boca Raton, Fla. While undergoing intensive training at Boca Raton, Mr. Harwood became a casualty of war. He had managed to come through all his prior training unscathed, but the two golf courses, tennis courts, swimming pools, and cabana at Boca Raton were all against him and his luck finally ran out. He broke his finger playing ball.

After discovering that this wound did not qualify him for a discharge, Mr. Harwood proceeded to take his flight training in B-17's and B-29's at different fields located in Tennessee, Texas, Louisiana, Florida, and Nebraska.

He arrived in the combat area on Tinian in the Marianas December 31, 1944. His tour of duty lasted until September 4, 1945. During this time he flew 29 missions in the B-29's and accumulated a total of 500 hours combat flying time. He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Air Medal with two clusters, two battle stars, and the Asiatic Pacific Theatre ribbon.

After being discharged, Mr. Harwood sold insurance for a time, then became a research engineer in the field of ceramics. Three years ago he brought his family to Charlotte and decided to stay. He became an instructor in the Commerce department of Charlotte College in the evenings, and he holds the same position in a business college during the day. In connection with the Air Force Reserve program, Mr. Harwood is currently a member of the 9940th V.A.R.T.U., and is also enrolled in the Command and Staff School of the Air University which has

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Decline Of Americanism

Fred Prince

Most people in this country believe that the American Communist Party and its fellow travelers are the chief enemies of our economic system and our form of government. The most dangerous enemy is the American counterpart of the British Social Planner, who denies that he is a socialist and operates behind deceptive phraseology. He begins by advocating a welfare state, not Socialism. Nothing is called by its real name. Words are used to deceive. Practices abhorred for ages by free people are identified by luminous words, and capitalistic practices are tagged with odious names. Profit and competition are vulgar. Socialism is always "National Planning."

The basic fault of Socialism lies in the fact that no one man or group of men, no matter how brilliant, can ever comprehend the vast amount of data and numerous conditions which would be necessary to make effective plans for a large industrial nation. This Socialism is not to be confused with our small but sincere Socialist Party which has functioned as a legitimate party for many years.

The crash of 1933 and the subsequent new concepts of government attracted the largest assortment of social philosophers ever gathered in Washington. As bureaucracy flourished, more Socialist Planners, from dark-red revolutionaries to pink reformers, swarmed into office.

Federal control of banking, federal invasion of electric power industry, and socialized medicine are presented as separate reforms, but they are part of the overall scheme of Socialist Planners. Private industry must provide money to pay deficits of the government industries and the additional costs of bureaucracy as well.

According to the Brannan Plan, consumers would pay market prices for produce, and the government would pay the farmers the remaining part of the price guaranteed by the government. But where does the government get the money? From the consumer, of course.

Americans must wake up and stop this menace which has been preying on their indifference or their greed for sixteen years. Trading liberty for security will be our downfall.

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