

The Tar Heel

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Vance Replies

The definite manner in which Charlie Vance, speaker of the legislature, dismissed the rumor that there would be no sessions of that body during the next term was very heartening to his followers. It was equally disconcerting to the doubting Thomases who were so sure that he meant to suspend activities during the next six-week period.

We do not believe that was his intention . . . we recall that former editor Horace Carter mentioned a pact the two had made when each was elected to office, that there WOULD BE NO BLACKOUT ON CAMPUS GOVERNMENT as long as they held office. Unfortunately, Carter did not have a chance to finish his work here, but his policies are being carried through as he would have liked it. More than that, Vance is continuing to fulfill the promises he made, even though so many untoward circumstances have provided suitable excuses not to do them, had he been seeking alibis.

Summer Sessions Difficult

The summer sessions are never an easy time for legislators or administrators, either student or faculty, and no one can expect more than genuine effort on the part of these people. Depleted staffs, unexpected transfers, new civilians, new V-12's . . . Carolina has gone through many stages in the past year.

There have been many graduating classes, many commissioning ceremonies, the Pre-meteorology school was dissolved, the ASTP army unit left, boys have been drafted, V-12's have been replaced, transferred and new men have come to take their place, yet student government has weathered the storm and gone on.

Now, added to the other difficulties, we are facing the new adjustment of synchronization, and even as the faculty and administrators of the school are being inconvenienced, overtaxed perhaps and certainly forced to make new plans, so the Carolina undergraduate body must do the same, and with the same grace.

The various organs of student government will become increasingly important during these next two short six-week terms, and will need the steadying voice of a strong popular leader. Since Vance represents popular vote, he is that man, and deserves the support of the students during these trying times.

Good Luck Harvey White

The appointment of Harvey White as temporary replacement for the likable hard-working Libba Wiggins is an excellent choice . . . for White, a Delta Kappa man from Birmingham, Alabama, already distinguished himself as a representative from the Interfraternity council and as chairman since last February of the Carolina Political Union, among other things. His calm approach to the most controversial problem should serve him and the students well in the sultry hot summer meetings of the legislature. We wish him luck. . . .

BY THE WAY

By Bill Crisp

It's a small world after all. Three years ago it seemed at least fourteen million miles from here to Berlin. Then one night, over around Moscow or thereabouts, a few fellows got together and decided to change the figures. They did. They say that one of Hitler's strongest mottos was "never go on the defensive." I don't know whether you would say the Germans have gone on the defensive or not, but whatever they've been doing has been in a backup manner.

Speaking of backing up, seems to me that the American people have done some backing up lately. Why, when I recall how dogmatic everyone used to be on this internationalism—back, say about the time we lost 60,000 men to Hirohito in the Philippines—it just seems kinda incredible that we could be so inconsistent as to change our minds so quickly. But that's what's happening.

Remember the Atlantic Charter? Some folks are acting as if it were the Chesapeake Charter from the narrow, isolationist way they've started interpreting it. And then there was the first Casablanca, and the second, and then Teheran. Teheran—I guess that was just about the climax. Since then, looking at what happened in Italy, and noticing the platform of the Republican conven-

tion, and just seeing how a great many Americans have started acting, you wouldn't believe that we ever had any real intentions of sacrificing a little American sovereignty in order to save a few million American lives in World War No. III. No, I guess we've just started back to that same old groove—economic worldliness (remember all that American steel the Japs used to kill our boys on Bataan) and political isolationism.

Somebody said that an isolationist was a man who sold scrap iron to Japan and refused to pay enough taxes to provide a fleet big enough to protect his iron-boat. Of course, there's all kinds of ways of construing this isolationism business. You can take a mercenary viewpoint on it, like the junk dealer did; you can take a fool's stand on it, like Bob

Reynolds did; or, you can even screw your reasoning around and look at it from a virgin sense of blind patriotism. It's all up to us. They tell me that this is a country where the people rule. Well, we're the people. If we want to go isolationist, that's what we'll do.

But thirty years from now, say about 1970, when our children look at those fourteen million miles to Berlin, we mustn't blame it on Hitler; we mustn't blame it on Roosevelt (I guess he'll still be in office); we mustn't blame it on the Democrats or the Republicans. In fact, we won't have to blame it on anybody or anything. Because after all, you know, they say that war is inevitable. Right now we seem to be bent on proving it, and when the time comes to reconcile differences, we can always explain it by that old axiom "There'll be wars and rumors of wars."

Well, I guess that's about all. I hate to sound pessimistic about this thing, but you have no idea how discouraging a thing like this can be to a man. I guess that's the way this old world runs. Why, just think, my own daddy was probably saying the same thing to himself about 25 years back. Come to think of it, my daddy lost a son over Britain 18 months ago.

Opinions--Columns--Letters--Features



Sea Breeze

By Ronald W. May AS, V-12

Two kegs of beer and the girls of Carr dormitory combined to make the soiree given by Old West at Eastwood Lake Saturday night highly successful . . . Lou Wharton and Joyce Gilliam were very helpful in making the arrangements . . . approximately 32 couples were present . . . the last time Old West gave a party "granny" had been swimming in the lake for two days.

John King and Phyllis Ganey are steady-ing . . . Fred Kemp may soon take off for Asheville to visit Nancy Kennicke, coed here last term. . . . Monty Koppel, Marine from Smith, will be going to Burlington next weekend because last weekend proved confoozin' but not amoozin' . . . there's such a thing as overplaying the field. . . . One of the campus bootleggers will soon be leaving. . . . Bill Spraggins and Lee Everett missed an appointment Sunday nite with Brooksy Popkins and Ann Cobb.

Who was the "Caucasian Dagger Dancer" cutting up in Brady's t'other nite? . . . previously he scarred up ten buck's worth of varnish and wall-board with a Don Cossack dance concoction . . . claims to be a Mohammedan by temperament . . . lives in Gaston when he's there. . . . What was the excitement in Gaston several days ago, and why does room 6 London Hall have a new inmate? . . . Pete Long, South Carolina desperado, is looking at train schedules these days, but hasn't bought a ticket yet. . . . Lillian Belk, Richmond U socialite and sister of Carolina NROTC Branton Belk, stopped here for a short stay last week . . . there's a sailor I know who is sorry he didn't know about it . . . he has some apologies to make.

Overheard in the Porthole: the things I like to do are either illegal, immoral or fattening. . . . Is Ruth Brown (Spencer) really pining because Chet Waterman was transferred to Duke. . . . Some people are wondering how long Roy Thomas can remain true to that girl back home.

Hillsboro has become a popular mecca for the Navy . . . Carol Butten and an NROTC visited "Snookums" Chance and Grace Chance . . . Snookums is a stenog at Duke and Grace works at Pre-Flight here . . . Stan Isaacs also made the trek. . . . Phi Beta Nancy Smith, daughter of Betty Smith, is planning an American Youth Hostel hike through the White Mountains of New Hampshire . . . it will be later this summer.

Under the Sun

By Bob Rolnik

"On the day the British declared war," ranted Adolf Hitler in 1939, at a Nazi party rally, "I commanded Goering to make all preparations for a five-year war, not because I believe this war will last five years but because we will never capitulate in five years." In exactly forty-seven days from today Hitler's war will reach the end of its fifth year. Yes, the days are ticking off. Adolf had better get his silver bullet ready!

Among the Lost and Found notices in the YMCA there was a small card reading: "LOST—TOP HALF OF GIRL'S BATHING SUIT—REWARD." Evidently the article had been returned because the notice disappeared two days later. . . . Wonder what the "reward" was!

In the Soviet Union these days, the hammer and sickle stands for something more than the emblem of Russian Communism. Minsk was reported recaptured by Soviet "hammer and sickle" offensive tactics . . . heavy frontal blows with wide-swinging encirclement movements!

Last Tuesday's edition of the TAR HEEL had a narrow escape. When the delivery people went to the printshop to pick up the batch of copies for distribution the entire pile had disappeared. The Chapel Hill garbage collector expressed his own opinion of the student newspaper when he dumped the whole bundle of TAR HEELS into his garbage truck. It took a personal expedition by the editors to retrieve the treasure from the town dump in Carrboro.



LISTEN STUDENTS

By Jimmy Wallace

The remarkable efficiency manifested by the student legislature reached new heights last Thursday night when that stellar body of legislative genius unanimously passed an amendment providing itself with power to temporarily appoint a large portion of its membership.

Of all the unadulterated balderdash which has ever been pawned off on an unsuspecting electorate, this compendium of hare-brained pseudo-reasoning takes the cake.

Well students, all this appointing business leaves us in a pretty helpless position. The student council, under the provisions of a legislature bill, appoints the men who will TRY you if you ever get into trouble. (Before the spring of 1943 these men were elected by the student body.) Now the legislature will exercise ITS appointive powers over a period of the next three and one half months to appoint men to REPRESENT you.

Sounds silly, doesn't it? It is. This episode has exposed several questionable appendages of the legislature's anatomy. (1) Most of the discussion was carried on by people who are not in the legislature. (2) Of these people, the ones who were against the bill used the argument of "it's undemocratic, because the right to vote is being revoked." (3) That argument was never refuted except by "it's not undemocratic." As you can plainly see, that is no argument at all. (4) With rare exceptions, the remainder of the legislature sat—as is its custom; sat upon its collective haunches and said nothing.

(5) Some of the Romans expressed impatience at prolongation of the discussion. Enough said. (6) Despite the arguments advanced against the bill, the vote was unanimous for it. This is a fascinating point. (7) No one ever gave a legitimate and coherent answer to the question "why can't the legislature elections committee sally forth and hold a few elections right now. Toute de suite." There is ONE answer, however, which fits perfectly. There ISN'T any elections committee. Why? The old one left school in June. It stands to reason that a new committee should have been appointed. The student body gains nothing by the stalling of the legislature. Apparently some modern Diogenes will have to go forth in search of the elections committee. Perhaps someone will get around to appointing such a committee in two or three months. And then, perhaps not.

At least the "rumor" that the legislature was closing up during the second session was spiked at the last meeting. The action is worth a compliment. Also, the PU board and the Debate council were denied a representative each. Orchids.

There is only one consolation in this hegemonic morass, and that is, if the government continues to sever itself from the governed, then the governed will cease to recognize it as an authority. Such an occurrence would be catastrophic. But it could happen here. In fact, it IS happening here. What can we do about it? Take steps to learn more about student government. There's a sign in the library which says "A man's judgment is no better than his information." Indubitably.

Self Appointed CRITIC

By Robert Gurney

LET'S STOP KIDDING OURSELVES. . . . So the legislature has passed the Replacement Bill unanimously. Now criticism will ring down from all sides. They will be accused of being totalitarian, fascist, undemocratic. Not one of these accusations will be true.

There is one charge, however, that may be leveled against the legislature that is true. That is the charge of inefficiency. Disappointing isn't it? To go to the legislature and hear brilliant speeches about democracy and dictatorship, freedom and fascism, and then to return to your room, away from all the orators and the thundering phrases, only to realize that all the time, inefficiency was the word in everyone's mind but on no one's tongue.

Do you need proof of the charge? Here it is. Owen Hall, a civilian dorm, has no representative in the legislature. In the recent Steele elections when charges of illegality were brought against some of the candidates, it was found that the Elections Committee, which was supposed to decide such cases, was non-existent. Need more proof? Remember the Dance Bill.

Inefficient? Yes. But whose fault is it? Charlie Vance's? Libba Wiggins' Harvey White's? Jimmy Wallace's? Bill Crisp's? NO. None of these are to blame. Right or wrong, these students have fought for what they believed was a better student legislature.

Then, whose fault is it? It is the fault of the student who stopped reading this column when he saw the word "legislature" in the first sentence. It is the fault of the student who, after being on the campus for months, asks, "What is this student government?" It is the fault of every man and woman in this country who looks upon democracy as a gift of God which once given will never be taken away regardless of how it is used.

There isn't a member of the legislature who will have his office tomorrow if you don't think he should. No, I'm not talking about revolution, Joe. I'm talking about recall. Read about it in the latest edition of your Student Legislature Constitution.

But then, maybe we get too excited over a "little thing like student government." "After all, the Carolina campus isn't the world. Neither the fate of the nation nor the future of the university rests on our student government," you say. Perhaps . . . but in the last analysis: If a college student body is incapable of operating an efficient democracy, what hope can we have for the nation? You tell us.