To the STUDENT BODY... ... from the EDITOR

"SUBVERSIVE" CONNOTATION RETRACTED

The Tar Heel retracts as untrue the connotation given by Mr. William Couch, of the University of North Carolina Press, to the usage of the word "subversive" in the second deck of our main head in the last issue. The Tar Heel retracts any inference that the "subversive" referred to any opinion held by the Tar Heel. It was the belief of the head writer that the petitioners in their communications to the OWI made remarks which may be labeled as "subversive," but we have been now informed that "subversive" holds a connotation which in the minds of some does not express the idea maintained by the petitioners.

We have taken no official editorial stand on the qualifications of Dr. Friederich. We merely presented the facts which were supplied to us by certain petitioners (their names appear on the front page of this issue). We have printed the facts as obtained from Mr. Couch and his associates in this issue. The Tar Heel conceives its obligation to be the presentation of news to the students and people of Chapel Hill. It has been our policy to present the facts on the first and third pages and interpret them on the second page.

As far as the Tar Heel being guilty of sensational news reporting, this is not true even if sensational news reporting were acceptable. The Chapel Hill Weekly not only devoted its main headline to Dr. Friederich's case but ran a separate two-column front page statement as well. This news was sensational! It is perhaps the most discussed current issue on the campus. Both the Tar Heel and the Chapel Hill Weekly were quite justified in playing up the case, for it is extremely important. The nation is now at a period when such matters must be carefully considered in the public light.

VICTORY, EUROPEAN

And now, after six chaotic years, the ominous shroud of powder smoke lifts slowly from the battered continent. Its usual overhanging cloud of bombers, bent on wreaking havoc down below, becomes but a faint mist of routine transportation flight. We here in America, unaccustomed to that ever-constant drone which spelt explosion, terror, devastation, can only sympathize with those who now rest easy in the calm of peace at last. It is beyond our scope to offer more than sympathetic hearts; we cannot hope to understand. For, from that struggle which so lately sounded taps for gunmen in the field, only those who have endured its hardships, felt its horrors, heard its quite audible cries of pain, and smelt its repugnant odor of death-only those, in their memory of experienced hell, can fully understand the meaning of this hoped-for peace. Printed indelibly on their minds and recorded forever in the deep, hideous scars of moaning Europe, is the evidence—evidence which, in future generations, shall suffice to relate the story. It is a story which will not soon be forgotten. Nor will its grim, cruel moral convey its message to the European heart alone. For here in this American state, the proof stands out vividly in those whose loved ones have been deprived of life, and limb, and lot.

At last the slashing sword is put aside. From Stalingrad to London, from Murmansk to el Alamein-wherever men have met to kill each other-the rumblings of the cannon cease. A curious horde of civilians, unacquainted with the din of battle, hasten through now-severed lines. Their mission is not unpurposeful: they seek to see in the flesh the toll of the crucified, the condition of those remaining few who, having miraculously survived the fascist branding iron, still breathe in decaying body forms, with tortured, insane minds. No, this mission has a purpose. A regrettable one, no doubt, but one, nevertheless, which must be seen to completion. The world must be made to know that these millions dead and millions suffering have paid a gruesome price to rid themselves of Nazi despotism. Theirs is and has been the burden of all freedom-loving humanity. Theirs is and has been the toil to keep that love of freedom unquenched by Nazi lust. From these tired and tried of man's ever-smaller world there came defiance of the tyrant's boot, victorious retaliation against the hangman's madness lately descended.

And now, the nightmare ended, circumstance demands, not tribute to the soldier's gallant stand, but faith and resolution in his cause so righteously defended, so selflessly upheld.

With our determined march now to the East, we dare not pause too long to view that half of Western World which, though released from all but heart-grieved chains, bespeaks the charred remains of Europe's ghastly war. Japan's dark islands looming forth still beckon to the might of our crusade. It must not falter during the brief interlude of semi-peace. Wherever rising suns be found to wave their bloody symbols of oppression; wherever ape-like men, more ape than men, peer through concealing palms; wherever leers a single yellow face whose smile belies a maddened mind, the gun must speak again. Relief that Europe's helmet rests at ease must be transformed into the courage still required. The slightest retrospection should provide incentive quite sufficient to impel our will anew.

We turn in expectancy toward the Golden Gate. The west coast of these states now becomes an assembly of all the hopes of all the world. America may point with pride to another deliberative body which, one hundred fifty-eight years ago this spring, sat in Independence Hall, shaping the federal union which led the Western World in democratization. It is indeed be-

Letters To The Editor

May 8, 1945.

The Editor,
The Tar Heel,
Chapel Hill, N. C.
Dear Sir:

I have not seen anything in a long time so disgraceful, so thoroughly unworthy of Chapel Hill, as the headline anonymous front-page attack on Mr. Friederich in this morning's Tar Heel.

The headline and the article beneath are filled with misleading statements.

This article is part of a carefully manipulated campaign to smear a member of the faculty of the University.

Mr. E. E. Ericson approached me several weeks ago on joining a group against Mr. Friederich. I thought to myself-as he was talking then-that of all the people in Chapel Hill, in North Carolina or anywhere else for that matter, no one could be found with less excuse for joining a witch hunt than Mr. Ericson. Look at his record. Before August 1939 he was anti-Nazi, anti-British, and pro-Communist. In August 1939, on the day of the announcement of the German-Russian pact, he flopped and began making excuses for the Nazis, saying that the war was an imperialistic affair, that it was none of our business. He opposed every movement to aid Britain and get this country ready. He used his influence with students to fill the Tar Heel with pacifistic propaganda and to smear the British. Everyone who lived in Chapel Hill then and was concerned about the threat of Nazism knows

I have charged Mr. Ericson with witch hunting, and he said the affair was none of my business. I now repeat this charge. I consider it very much my business—just as it is the business of every member of the University.

As to the charge against Mr. Friederich: Yes, in 1938 he was pro-Hitler. But in the same pamphlet in which he praised some of Hitler's policies he condemned the brutality of the Nazis.

It happens also that in this same pamphlet Mr. Friederich attacked Communism. Read the bulletin and you will find out for yourself why Mr. Ericson joined in the smearing campaign.

I have taken the trouble to check up on what Mr. Friederich was writing and saying during the same period. It is clear that after the Germans seized Prague in 1939, he became anti-Nazi. Later he wrote and published articles in newspapers in North Carolina advocating the preparedness that Mr. Ericson opposed. At that time, between August 1939 and June 1941 Mr. Ericson was following a line not laid down in America.

This morning when I charged Mr. Ericson with witch hunting and told him that of all people to bring up a matter of this kind he was the one that had the least right to do so, he said to me, "Why bring up my past?"

I have no desire to start another witch hunt. But when a small group of people gather in secret in Chapel Hill and try a fellow citizen in absentia, when they act as if they have the power and authority of a court, and when their action is accepted by a governmental agency, I say things have gone too far. Perhaps the time has come to try the triers—to bring up pasts like Mr. Ericson's.

Or perhaps we must try everyone who spoke a good word for the Nazis before the invasion of Poland — or before Pearl Harbor. Aren't there a number of people —good Americans—who once admired the things they thought Hitler was doing for Germany? Where are these Americans now? Haven't they been permitted to change their minds? Aren't they still respected members of their communities? Aren't some of them even in the service of our government—indeed, even in high places?

Why discriminate against Mr. Friederich?

Must everyone who made a mistake about the Nazis be condemned? I am one of those who a few years ago criticized the Lindberghs for their pro-Nazism. I had part in publishing a reply to Anne Lindbergh's "Wave of the Future," the most powerful pro-Nazi argument published in this country. Would I vote to send Anne Morrow Lindbergh to help re-educate the Germans? I would give her a chance. Before passing judgment on her I would want to know what she has said and done since Pearl Harbor.

Even as late as 1940 several young men-personal friends of mine with whom I had long arguments about Nazism-were saying the same sort of thing that Mr. Friederich wrote in 1938. They went into the armed services, and some of them are dead now-killed fighting the Nazis in Europe. If they were alive, don't you suppose they would be considered good enough to take part in the re-education of the German people? I think people who have had the experience of finding themselves terribly wrong and of admitting it, slowly and in agony of mind, would be better qualified for this job than anyone

The Chapel Hill triers did not consider what Mr. Friederich has said since 1938. The Tar Heel story refers only to Mr. Friederich's bulletin and very carefully puts the date of the bulletin in small type down in the body of the article. Of course, the self-constituted prosecution-judge-jury will now have to come into the open, now they'll have to rustle for evidence since 1938. What will they manufacture? Here is what one of them was trying to use on me a week or so ago: "Now, Bill, you know Friederich just isn't worth \$7,700." I heard the same figure from three other members of the group. The salary actually was to be \$4,600. Such is the way of gossip, of character assassination.

I wish to say that in my days here as an undergraduate in the University and twenty years with The University of North Carolina Press, nothing else has happened so thoroughly contemptible as this

Sincerely yours, W. T. Couch.

Dear Editor,

Herr Friederich states in his letter to Mr. Green that the pamphlet "Political Problems in Present Day Europe" was written before Munich and that after Munich, he (Friederich) saw the Nazi party in an entirely different light. Yet, in that same pamphlet, many parts of which could have come directly from Herr Goebels' propaganda ministry, there is a postscript dated October 1, 1938 (after Munich) in which Herr Frederich says, "Czechoslovakia's dismemberment is a direct consequence of her inevasiveness in refusing to grant better rights to her minorities. Two years ago she could have made a much better deal with Hitler." In other words, Czechoslovakia should have jumped at the chance to dismember itself for the benefit of the Nazi state, and the poor Sudetenlanders who were a racial minority and given no rights by the cruel Czechs!

Also in that same postscript appears the following, "To France the neutralization of Czechoslovakia means the loss of the last anti-German bulwark in central Europe. The system of protective and encircling alliances has been completely broken down." So, he tells us, the aggressive French had Germany surrounded so that the Germans had to carry out acts of aggression against her neighbors to break the ring around her to insure her safety.

"And I," says Herr Frederich, completely changed my views after Munich"

> Sincerely, John A. Fleming.

Mr. Robert Morrison, Editor, The Tar Heel, Graham Memorial.

Dear Bob:

No one could be more surprised than I when I read in your editorial regarding the plagiarism case

fitting that from these same American shores shall emanate the principles upon which the whole of mankind may be united.

Such a union, sought through necessity and heralded by our recognition that each nation is but a single entity in a common family, is the substance of a purchase still being made in the South Pacific atolls. That purchase, however immeasurable its price, must be completed. For then, and only then, can San Francisco give to the world the assurance it so earnestly desires: that never again shall it be necessary for men and women to celebrate at V-E day, except in jubilant remembrance of this week's glad tidings.

The Ram Sees . . .

BY AN OLD GOAT

Saturday night isn't the loneliest night in the week, according to Anne Phillips. As of last Saturday evening, Anne has been sporting a coveted sparkler . . . third finger, left hand . . . long-distantly placed on her finger by Jack Moshell, now in Midshipman's School at Notre Dame, Smiles! Beams! Joy!

Carolina social life has been on the up-and-up basis for the last coupla' weeks. The Pi Phi's entertained Thursday afternoon with an open house honoring the Stray Greeks. The Chi O's, Alpha Gam's, ADPi's, and Tri Delts also dropped in to pay their respects. The wearers of the shield and sword of Phi Delta Theta come to the front of the picture this week-end with their pledge dance tonight and Hogan's Lake party last night. The Valkyrie sing tomorrow night at Forest Theatre promises to be MOST ear-filling, and undoubtedly most eye-filling, if you know what this wooly creature means . . . and he thinks you do. Crowding out all other parties for the largest share of the limelight is the annual Neophyte Party this afternoon

and tonight at Hogan's Lake. Participants in the yearly brawl are Beta, Zete, DKE, and SAE. The Pi Phi's and the ADPi's are honoring the newly-organized Alpha Gams next Friday afternoon with a tea dance.

Congratulations are in order for the two newest wearers of the oval pledge pin of Chi Omega . . . Nancy Pinkston and Kay Allen.

Dr. Wilson Compton, president of Washington State College, visited the ATO's this week and had supper with them Wednesday night. Dr. Compton, an ATO himself, is in Chapel Hill attending the Conference on Research and Regional Welfare at which he was a main speaker.

T. J. Daily let the cat out of the bag this week by informing this old goat of the wedding bells that rang out for her last November 4.

Continuing the monopolizing of the Annapolising fad this weekend is glamour girl Sexy Legs Duffo, deserting her Carolina admirers in order to be able to enjoy a refreshing sail upon the river. See RAM SEES, page 4.

that I had made a statement. I made no such statement.

I had not seen the poem until it was printed in the Tar Heel. I thought the poem was very good and jokingly remarked to Mills that I gave Salter the devil for not submitting it to me for publication in the Catapult. The gist of my conversation with Salter was, quote: "Fine thing, here I beat my brains out for copy, and one of my own boys turns Poet Laureate for the Tar Heel." Naturally, since the poem had not been submitted to the Catapult, I could have no desire to delete it from the copy.

I did tell Mills that I was running a profile on Salter, but if you will check my last issue you will find that it was on sailor Richard Salter and not on poet Richard Salter. I can understand how Mills might have misunderstood my comment, but I feel that before you print statements in editorials they should be confirmed by their originators.

Very sincerely, John Graham, Editor.

It is quite possible that I did misunderstand Editor Graham in our informal conversation last week. I did not go to see Graham to get any information on the Salter case, and we mentioned the poem only in a joking mood. When Graham said that he was carrying something on Salter in his next issue of the Catapult, I naturally thought that it was the poem since I knew nothing about the profile. My apologies go to Graham, Salter and Morrison for this little misunderstanding.

Barron Mills.

To the Faculty and the Student Body:

In the Tar Heel of May 8, 1945 there appeared an anonymous article derogatory to the patriotism of Dr. Werner P. Friedericch, Associate Professor of German and Comparative Literature at the University, now on leave of absence for government service. While the statements in that article presumably do not represent the Tar Heel's opinion, since they accuse Dr. Friederich of Nazi sympathies, and therefore demand an answer from those who are in position to know Dr. Friederich better than did any other members of the faculty or community. Of the undersigned the first is the Head of the Department of Germanic Languages, the second is Professor of Germanic and Comparative Linguistics and office-mate of Dr. Friederich for the past seven years.

In the first place, Dr. Friederich is by birth and tradition a Swiss, fundamentally and unalterably a believer in democracy and the dignity of the individual man. He has never expressed or implied the least sympathy with Nazi ideology or methods. Those who wish to prove this have made reference to a pamphlet, written by him in 1938, entitled "Political Problems of Present-Day Europe." The phrases which they have excerpted at random and out of context are an attempt to smear the real import of the writing, and even so they fall ridiculously flat. However, from that same pamphlet, certain other statements show exactly the author's feelings about the Nazis, e.g., on page 19, with reference to the Nazi demands concerning the treatment of German minorities in other lands, we read: ". . . it seems incredible that Germany should make such an ado about alleged maltreatments of these minorities. if she herself is unwilling to grant the barest humane and decent treatment to the racial, religious and political minorities in her own country." And on page 20, after condemning Mussolini and the fascists, he says:

"On the other hand, Fascism is doubtless more palatable than National Socialism. Fascists at least aim only at political centralization, while National Socialists, with a thoroughness that is typically German, go much further than that, forcing not only the political but also the spiritual man under the yoke of their conception of philos
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The Tar Heel

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE PUBLICATIONS UNION SERVING CIVILIAN AND MILITARY STUDENTS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL

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Published Tuesday and Saturday except during vacations, examinations and holidays. Desdines Thursday and Sunday. Entered as second class matter at the post office at Chapel Hill, N. C., under the act of March 3, 1879. Member of ASC and Nat'l Adv. Service, Inc.