

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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Life Can Be Beautiful

By Dick and Wye

Life CAN Be Beautiful, that much we are sure. And today we aren't going to beat around the bush in any way, shape, or manner. Our subject is one of vital importance, the topic of discharges.

Among the many definitions of the word discharge, Webster tells us that it may mean "to set at liberty, to release, to dismiss, to free from that which oppresses." We admit Noah W. was a good boy, but we have traced the word farther back to the Southwest Hindustan branch of Indo-European dialect, where we have the two words "diss" meaning "want to" and "akzcharges" (we lose the akz through the process of dissimilation, sterilization, or some similar linguistic expression), meaning "getthehelloutaherequick."

There are lots of other people who hold to this definition, namely the ROTC cadets, the V-12 unit, and the Marines. The Pre-Flights don't count—it seems that over there we find much weeping, wailing and gnashing of teeth for, poor boys, the Navy is forcing them to go home within the next week. Forcing them, mind you! They beat them with a whip—a bull whip—a big bull whip—with thongs on the end! The heartless brutality of this order has had no effects on the more fortunate of the Naval contingent who can remain in the Navy unto eternity ("Avenge Oh Lord, Thy Woeful Sons." This last quotation is from one of Milton's sonnets. From time to time in our column you will no doubt find allusions and references to classical and mythical literature, or we may often forget ourselves and ramble on in Greek or Latin for a paragraph or two. When this happens and you find yourselves wishing you might also become enlightened

scholars, send the usual postcard and full explanations will be forthcoming.) But to return to those "twenty-year" men of the Navy who will be left here. This week we saw four ROTC cadets apprehended with a small pair of Junior Birdmen wings mounted on the left side of their caps and with their ties tucked neatly between the second and third shirt buttons in a vain attempt to be mistaken for Aviation Cadets.

Our report from the Marine unit concerning the same matter indicates that those Gyrenes, most of whom have enough points to buy an eight-pound steak, have been shown a clause on the reverse side at the bottom of the second page in which there is a statement to the effect that, if the war ended before April 26, 1964, all regular Marines would be automatically shipped to the Philippines to work on government sugar plantations for a period not to exceed fourteen years, at which time they will then be given the choice of returning to active duty or joining the ROTC.

Further proof of the great mental strain caused by the problems of discharges was revealed when two V-12's and three ROTC trainees who learned they were not to be released immediately went insane in protest. Upon confirmation of their insanity, the Navy commissioned them Lieutenants, s.g., and placed them in charge of the row boat at University Lake.

There are many more cases of like reactions, but the tales are too bloody to print. Like we said, some of us got it and some of us ain't. But we who ain't still hold that someday in the not too distant future Life will once again be beautiful.

Letters To The Editor

Letter to the Editor from an Imaginary Freshman
 Dear Mr. Morrison:

Last night I heard your very interesting talk on the Tar Heel, and as I am very interested in journalism, I decided to come around, as you put it, and work on the paper. Since you said you needed men on the staff and since I held the very interesting post of General Editor in charge of general interest stories on a very interesting high school newspaper, I thought I would turn out for the paper.

Sir, I must admit that you do work in a very interesting atmosphere which no doubt is conducive to your aspirations, but it is rather too crowded for me to attempt to spread my literary wings. When I turned out Thursday night, I did not expect to BE turned out by a flock of very interesting females waving typewriters in front of my eyes.

This letter is to inform you that I am still very interested in working on the Tar Heel, and look forward to a very interesting interview with you.

Sincerely yours,
 V. I. Freshman.
 Editor's Note: Very interesting.

Mr. Editor,
 Having read the recent letter in the Tar Heel warning of the Communists on the campus and in the faculty and having heard from Buddy Glenn at an IRC meeting the possibility of a great world state under the direction of Moscow and knowing that Bill Crisp believes that the world will go Socialist—well, having heard all this, this person is alarmed and believes that all that can be said under this impending state of affairs is "Intrench, intrench for the last stand!" I feel I must warn anyone who wishes to join me that there may be some strange characters in the ranks—even Uncle Joe Stalin may turn out to be a conservative. Conservatives of the world unite!

Vincent B. Williams,
 Pvt., USMCR.

Navy Demobilization Believed Unjust

By Irby Todd and Joe Denker

We would like to take this opportunity to add our passionate opinion to that of thousands of others that the present demobilization system of the Navy is extremely unjust.

There has been much said by people throughout the nation on the subject and some of our foremost columnists have struck at the Navy plan with a frankness which has already caused reverberations in the halls of Congress. But the reaction is slow. For the purposes of exposition we would like to quote from Drew Pearson, one of the more fearless political columnists writing today. In reporting how Miss Miriam Ottenberg of the Washington Star, through a slip-up, managed to get an interview with the retiring Chief of Naval Personnel, Admiral Randall Jacobs, he states that Jacobs said: "We want the young men in the navy. That's why age was included. The younger ones are the ones the navy of the future has to be built around." Pearson goes on to say that this is a tip-off to the fact that a young man can have been in the navy four long years—since before Pearl Harbor—and if he isn't married, he may still not be able to get out.

We know personally of several cases on the campus wherein men have been in the navy for more than four years, two or more of which have been spent overseas, and still do not qualify for release under the present discharge system. Some wisecracks will ask what they are kicking about and they will get a burning reminder to the effect that many of the naval personnel here have been in combat, some as far back as Guadalcanal. Then, too, they will remind the questioner that those men have been moved about under official orders and have had nothing to say of their own disposition.

We feel that the young men of the nation who, in many cases,

One might hazard the opinion, also, that they deserve to get out just as soon as the older men. After all, those men who came into the service at the ages of 32 or 35 are generally married, they have jobs to go back to, and they have had an uninterrupted joy of living through their lively twenties—perhaps the best years of their lives. They have tasted normal life with most of its attendant joys while the youngster has been in the mold of discipline and censorship for most

See NAVY, page 4.

In This . . . Poet's . . . Corner

WHEN I HAVE FEARS
 (Apologies to Keats)

By Curtis Butler
 When I have fears that I may cease to be
 Before my laundry is returned again,
 Before my other shirt comes back to me,
 And ere a change of sheets I may regain;
 When I behold in deep despair the place
 Where my clean pair of socks once used to stay,
 And think that foul and odious disgrace
 Shall be my lot ere comes delivery day;
 And when I stop, alas, to count the years
 Since last I saw my soiled vestments go,
 And think with weary sighs and useless tears
 That I may see them n'er again, oh woe;
 I clutch familiar garments about my frame
 And tread my aromatic way in shame.

To the STUDENT BODY... from the EDITOR AN UNBALANCED SOCIETY

The fact that the recent Tar Heel poll revealed that the coed student body ranks lowest among campus groups in knowledge of national and campus affairs must prove something. Of the four groups polled, the coeds gave 48.7 per cent correct answers, as compared with 68.7 per cent by the civilian men (excluding veterans). We know that the ancient belief that the woman is intellectually inferior has been exploded by science, but certainly a poll which we believe to have been very scientifically conducted has shown the inferiority of the Carolina coed of today.

The coeducational system at Carolina is certainly unwholesome. The refusal to admit freshmen and sophomore coeds to the University is, to be frank, the result of a political agreement rather than any of the many other reasons which have been presented. Great fear exists at the Woman's College in Greensboro that a purely coeducational University at Chapel Hill would ruin Woman's College. We do not feel that such a fear is well grounded.

Unfortunately, in this particular instance Chapel Hill is not one of the large cities of the state which send a host of delegates to the state legislature. While the Woman's College has the political strength of Greensboro, the University at Chapel Hill must rely upon her alumni for political support. But another political implication is more important in keeping Carolina from becoming the large, balanced institution which it should be. When the three larger state schools consolidated a number of years ago to form the Consolidated University of North Carolina, an unwritten agreement that Chapel Hill would not compete with Greensboro seems to have been made.

Today these political agreements have made the Carolina student body an unbalanced, unwholesome society, and have denied to women citizens of the state the right to enter college at the University.

Immediate lack of space and problems of discipline are not material arguments against the admission of women under the same conditions with men. The fact that such admission would be beneficial to both the students and the University can not be denied. The fact that such admissions would run afoul to the personal interests of some state politicians can not be denied.

THANKS, NAVY

As Carolina begins her own "post-war reconversion," the glad shouts of the V-12 trainees and Pre-Flight cadets who are to be discharged just barely manage to drown out the groans of those who have to stay in the service. And almost everyone on campus is happy that the boys are getting out of uniform, that the University can begin building up a full civilian enrollment under more normal conditions.

Yes, we're glad that it is no longer necessary to maintain a military program on the campus. But we should never forget the debt that the University owes to the Navy.

Where would the 1500 to 2000 civilian students have come from during the war years to fill the lower quadrangle? And no one could have possibly conjured up 900 more civilians to complement those already on the upper quadrangle.

It is quite true that the Navy's advent forced the uncomfortable packing of living quarters. True, the Navy men took over the University cafeterias, making worse the already bad eating situation.

Nevertheless, Carolina owes much to the Navy! Without those Naval trainees here, the University might even have had to close its doors. Carolina thanks you, Navy!

LENOIR HALL

The University is acting with lightning swiftness to reconvert the campus to a peacetime schedule. The job of turning the area occupied by the Pre-Flight School back into a functioning part of the University will be tremendous, but it will be performed with a minimum of difficulty.

The one conversion which should be given first priority is turning Lenoir Hall back to the service of the students. The dining hall is capable of serving 10,000 meals per day. With the present deplorable eating conditions in Chapel Hill, nothing can be more essential to the welfare of the student body.

The University will be slow to dismantle Swain Hall and the

At Ease, Lieutenant

By Jack Shelton

Former GIs on campus well remember (with appropriate grimacing) the theory of superiority of officers as practiced by the army and navy. Of all the difficulties encountered in the adjustment from civilian life, this was by far the hardest pill to take. Lack of privacy, stereotyped menus, ill-fitting clothes and even danger itself were by comparison minor irritants. But ask any GI what he hated most about the army and the answer was usually an emphatic "officers."

The average American soldier has great difficulty in getting the "master race" concept through his democratic brain. Even though most soldiers concede the necessity of the class distinction between commissioned and non-commissioned personnel, they cannot see nor condone the extent to which that distinction was underlined. Add to this a bitter resentment in the methods used for handing out commissions and appointments to OCS and you have the leading bone of contention among our servicemen. No matter where an army bull session started, it would invariably lead to the revelation of a new discovery as to what the civilian occupation of the CO really was. It could possibly be attributed to wishful thinking, but every new outfit one became assigned to was commanded by a former A&P salesman.

"Boy, just wait till I get out of this unprintable army and meet up with that unprintable of an unprintable son of a very unprintable CO of mine clerking in the local A&P. I'll walk up to that old ditto and say—"Boy, give me a pound of butter and no backtalk; I'm in a hurry." Statements along these lines floated in and out of barracks from Fort Bragg to Myitkyina. If the many GIs, who made more definite statements as to what they intended to do to some officers after the war, ever carried these threats out, the United States would be one mass of broken bodies for the next ten years.

Marion Hargrove and other authors of the same ilk (who sometimes make GIs wonder if they have ever actually been in the army) make light of this situa-

tion. But the many (we will never know the real number) of officers who were killed from bullets made in New Jersey attest to the seriousness of this feeling.

With this picture so very lucid to everyone who has been in the army, it is not understandable as to the motives involved in a few former officers continuing to wear their insignia and signs of rank long after returning to civilian life on campus. Do these men really feel entitled to a greater degree of respect or attention than the former GI? Because officers are fined and enlisted men sentenced to prison for identical offense, do they expect professors to grade them from C up and old GIs from C down? The average civilian today accords a great deal of respect to the honorable discharge button. Is that insufficient for our former holders of commissions?

One of the GIs' first stops after receiving his discharge is a men's clothing store, where a sizable chunk of that first \$100 payment goes for a bright sports jacket and all that goes with it. Yet somehow many former officers seem quite content to go on week after week "a la pinks." This is of course understandable in the case of persons unable to afford any civilian clothes or loathe to waste the money he was forced to spend (out of his own pocket), but why oh why are the shiny gold bar and insignia polished up and placed neatly back on the shirt every morning?

It feels more than wonderful to get back to civilian life (as only a veteran can know). It's sure great to drink milk instead of little white powder droplets in water. Ice cream still dazzles many a veteran and that new red tie looks mighty terrific. But more than all this is the tremendous satisfaction in being able to live a life of freedom, of not having to take orders from persons now our equals.

Sure, veterans saw the necessity of the autocratic system in the army. Didn't they make an adjustment (not too easy for fellows born and reared in a democracy) the success of which is clear in V-J Day and the brilliance of our fighting? See AT EASE, page 4.

Graham Memorial Cafeteria for the enrollment for 1946 is expected to be the largest in the University's history.

Chancellor House was quick to point out that Lenoir Hall can not begin at once to serve as cheaply as it did before the war. At one time, University dining halls were so efficient that they were flooded by non-students. A law was passed to refuse all non-students. We hope that Lenoir Hall will again be solely for students.



Cogs in the Wheel

By Allan Pannill

Though the road is mired, the wheel finds the firm ground beneath, and rolls on.

To an innocent bystander it seems that:

There are many things to be done with the return to the quarter system. 1. Get around to reorganizing the classes. 2. Give us, the students, some idea of the computation of the hours we've accumulated under the semester and trimester systems. 3. Carry out some of the many plans to be effective as of the end of the war.

Possibly an explanation can be offered for the additional charges that we have to pay at each registration. Check your copies of your registration forms, students, and see how many items you pay for that don't remotely concern you! What about it, kind collectors??

The veterans have got the right idea on their plans for the coming terms. Nice reception too. We might stand a chance of get-

ting the Pre-Flight theater opened to the public, now that the fly-flies are scheduled to be long gone by the first part of October. What's the scoop, Mr. Smith?

The floors of Bingham are swept once a week, whether they need it or not!

The Spanish Dept. is taking too many things in its own hands when it starts dictating when and how pop quizzes are to be given. Any instructor not believing in them has his hands tied, and the student required to take the course gets the business!

Midnight musings:

It's nice to know that a five day week is being strongly considered for the quarter system, and also that the fact that we won't get a vacation next spring is only to enable the ones who planned on graduating in June, to finish in time. It won't be a standing rule!

Can't help but wonder how much See COGS, page 4.