

# Trustee Executive Committee To Consider Coed Petition

## An Editorial

MONDAY MORNING the petition of our faculty asking that daughters of University employees be admitted to the freshman and sophomore years at Carolina will be presented before the executive committee of the Board of Trustees in Raleigh.

The faculty appeal will be placed before the trustee executives of Judge L. J. Phipps of Chapel Hill. Along with the faculty's request that daughters of University employees be allowed to register in the general college, other documents requesting the admittance of all Chapel Hill girls to the University will be presented: the petition signed last spring by 183 townspeople, the resolutions of the Rotary and Kiwanis clubs and Parent-Teachers' association, and the recent petition with 200 town signatures sponsored by Jack Frink's ASU.

The petitions of the faculty and townspeople were introduced at the May 31 meeting of the trustees last spring; but the board, involved in the engineering question, did not give them formal consideration.

### Directed Against Dr. Graham's Order

June, 1935, President Graham recommended to the Board of Trustees that women students be prohibited from matriculating in the freshman and sophomore years at the Chapel Hill unit. This order the board approved. Against this ruling the faculty and town petitions are directed.

The faculty request appealed to President Graham "to modify the order prohibiting the admission of women to the freshman and sophomore classes at Chapel Hill to the extent of permitting daughters of University professors and employees to matriculate for those classes at Chapel Hill at and after the beginning of the summer session of 1936."

The townspeople requested "such change in the rules and regulations governing the Chapel Hill unit of the Greater University that will permit the registration at the Chapel Hill unit of women students during their freshman and sophomore years who reside with their parents within commuting distance of the said University."

### Faculty Unanimous Against Rule

Although only University staff members of professorial rank (assistant, associate, and full professors) were solicited to sign the faculty petition, a total of 151 signatures were secured. Only four staff members of professorial rank refused to lend their support; but as reasons for not signing it, even these four gave considerations not hostile to the petition itself.

Two chief reasons, the faculty members presented, for opposing the general college to their daughters:

(1) "Chapel Hill is the only site of a state institution of higher learning where there is no other college admitting freshman and sophomore girls."

(2) "Since salaries of University professors and employees are still about 20 per cent below the 1930 base, and the cost of living has increased rapidly within the past two years and is still increasing, it will be a great hardship, if not an impossibility, for many professors and University employees with daughters eligible for college to send them away from Chapel Hill for their education."

### Arguments the Townspeople Gave

The local Rotary club, voicing the opinions of the Chapel Hill townspeople, stated as reasons for allowing all local girls to enter the University:

"There is no other State supported institution of higher learning within commuting distance of Chapel Hill . . .

"The parents of a large percentage of the graduates of the Chapel Hill high school are financially unable to pay the expenses of the said graduates at any institution of higher learning which would necessitate said students living away from home . . .

"Practically all of the girl graduates of the Chapel Hill high school could and would attend the Chapel Hill unit of the Greater University of North Carolina should they be permitted to attend the unit during their freshman and sophomore years."

### Administrative Committee Balks

Before going to the trustees last spring, the faculty petition first reached the administrative council of the Greater University. Supported by statements from Deans Hobbs and House opposing the arguments of the faculty, the administrative committee issued a resolution "that the council advise the President not to recommend the adoption of this petition when he presents it to the Board of Trustees."

This motion was moved by Dean House and, according to Ruth Fitzgerald (acting secretary), was seconded by Dean W. W. Pierson of our graduate school.

The reasons the administrative council presented for its action were:

"Unfair and unwise discrimination between the daughters of faculty members and the equally worthy and equally needy daughters of other residents of Chapel Hill.

"Opening up again the whole question of consolidation.

"Discrimination in favor of residents of one community of the state against residents of other communities in the state."

### What About These Objections?

With the request now being made to admit all Chapel Hill girls to the general college, the first argument of the administrative council (that to admit daughters of University employees would be discrimination against "equally needy daughters of other residents of Chapel Hill") fades into nothingness.

The second objection is that admission of University employees' daughters would re-open consolidation. To admit girls to the lower classes here, the argument goes, means the Woman's College would demand the right to enroll men. By the nature of consolidation itself, however, W. C. U. N. C. is the Greater University's distinguished college for women. Carolina is half coeducational. By letting in a limited number of freshman and sophomore girls and thus furthering the tendencies towards coeducation here (where men and women are already together) does not mean that the distinguished college for women must change its only-for-girls nature and enroll men. The functions of the two institutions differ.

If to maintain a distinguished college for women, the consolidation heads must prevent girls from coming to the general college of an already half-coeducational University at Chapel Hill (especially when the functions allocated to the two schools in the first two years are almost identical), then there's something wrong, we suggest, with the W. C. U. N. C. nunnery idea itself.

Lastly, the administrators objected that to admit University employees' daughters would be discrimination against other communities in the state. This, too, is the chief objection voiced against admitting all Chapel Hill girls to the general college. It is strange, however that the opposition forgets that President Graham himself back in 1932 forced through the trustees a resolution stating "that mature women living or working in Chapel Hill or vicinity can enter the University as freshmen or sophomores after consideration and approval of each case by the dean of admissions . . ." When for two years under this resolution of Dr. Graham's Carolina allowed local women to enter the first two years, no hue and cry was raised by the people of the state that there was discrimination against them. The administrative argument, "discrimination!" strangely enough, seems to have cropped up only since the 1935 trustees action.

### Justice and Improvement

Admission of Chapel Hill girls to the general college here would be a step towards equalizing the now unwholesome ratio between men and women students on the campus. With the general college women living in their homes, social problems would be at a minimum and no additional dormitories would be necessary to provide for the increase in registration. Professors would receive a compensation for their sliced salaries; and local girls, who otherwise would be deprived of an advanced education, would have the opportunity to attend college.

Justice and progress demand the admission of Chapel Hill girls to the freshman and sophomore years of this University.

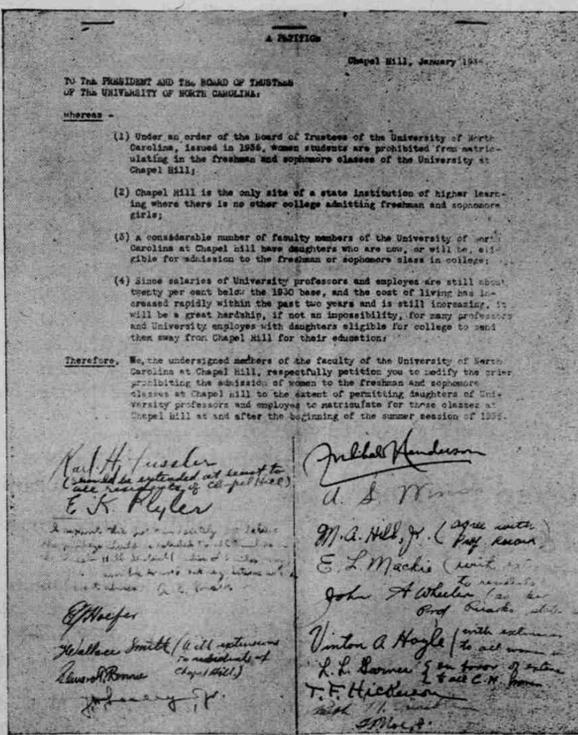
## The Daily Tar Heel

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For This Issue  
News: Herbert Goldberg. Sports: L. S. Levitch

## Reproduction Of Faculty Petition



## List Of Faculty Petition Signers

- |                     |                   |                     |
|---------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Adams, N. B.        | Frazer, K. C.     | Metzenthin, E. C.   |
| Adams, Raymond W.   | Fussler, K. H.    | Meyer, H. D.        |
| Akers, Susan G.     | Garner, L. L.     | Miller, W. J.       |
| Bagby, English      | Garrett, M. B.    | Mulder, J. E.       |
| Bailey, J. O.       | Giduz, Hugo       | Munch, H. F.        |
| Baity, H. G.        | Grumman, R. M.    | Nelson, R. W.       |
| Beale, H. K.        | Gwynn, J. M.      | Newsome, A. R.      |
| Beard, J. G.        | Hanf, F. W.       | Noe, T. P., Jr.     |
| Bears, C. D.        | Harland, J. P.    | Odom, H. W.         |
| Bernard, W. S.      | Harrer, G. A.     | Olsen, W. A.        |
| Bernstein, E. M.    | Heath, M. S.      | Paine, G. L.        |
| Boggs, R. S.        | Henderson, A.     | Peacock, E. E.      |
| Bond, R. P.         | Hickerson, T. F.  | Pegg, C. H.         |
| Booker, J. M.       | Hill, M. A.       | Perkins, E. W.      |
| Bost, R. W.         | Hobbs, R. J. M.   | Pierson, W. M., Jr. |
| Bradshaw, F. F.     | Hobbs, S. H.      | Plyler, E. K.       |
| Breckenridge, M. S. | Hoefler, E. G.    | Preston, C. E.      |
| Browne, E. T.       | Howard, George    | Prouty, W. F.       |
| Brown, K. J.        | Howell, A. C.     | Robson, C. B.       |
| Buchanan, D. H.     | Hoyle, V. A.      | Rose, A. S.         |
| Bullitt, J. B.      | Huddle, J. W.     | Ruark, A. E.        |
| Burlage, H. M.      | Hudson, A. P.     | Russell, J. C.      |
| Caldwell, W. E.     | Huse, H. R.       | Russell, Phillips   |
| Cameron, F. K.      | Jacobs, M. L.     | Sanders, S. G.      |
| Carmichael, C.      | Jenkins, W. S.    | Schwenning, G. T.   |
| Carroll, D. D.      | Jocher, Katherine | Sharpe, R. B.       |
| Chadbourne, J. H.   | Johnson, Cecil    | Slocum, E. A.       |
| Chang, Y. Z.        | Johnson, Guy B.   | Smith, G. W.        |
| Coffman, G. R.      | Johnson, W. R.    | Spruill, C. P.      |
| Coker, R. E.        | Jordan, A. M.     | Staab, H. H.        |
| Coker, W. C.        | Knight, E. W.     | Stoudemire, S. A.   |
| Cornwell, O. K.     | Lasley, J. W.     | Stuhlman, Otto, Jr. |
| Costello, D. P.     | Lawrence, Geo. H. | Taylor, G. C.       |
| Couch, J. N.        | Lear, J. M.       | Taylor, M. D.       |
| Couch, W. T.        | Lear, J. E.       | Trimble, R. M.      |
| Cowden, D. J.       | Leavitt, S. E.    | Totten, H. R.       |
| Crane, H. W.        | Leffer, H. T.     | Trabue, M. R.       |
| Crockford, W. D.    | Linker, J. B.     | Van Hecke, M. T.    |
| Dashiell, J. F.     | Lyons, J. C.      | Vance, Rupert       |
| Dey, W. M.          | MacCarthy, G. R.  | Wettach, R. H.      |
| Dobbins, J. T.      | Mack, E., Jr.     | Wheeler, J. H.      |
| Donnelly, G. L.     | MacPherson, D. A. | Wiley, W. L.        |
| Downs, R. B.        | McCall, F. B.     | Wilson, H. V.       |
| Edmister, F. H.     | McChesney, E. W.  | Wineor, A. S.       |
| Emery, S. A.        | McIntosh, A. C.   | Winkler, E. W.      |
| Emory, S. T.        | McKee, W. J.      | Wolf, H. D.         |
| Ericson, E. E.      | McKie, George     | Woodhouse, E. J.    |
| Farrar, P. C.       | Mackie, E. L.     | Woodsley, J. B.     |
| Fessler, J. W.      | Mangum, C. S.     | Zimmermann, E. W.   |
| Friederich, W. P.   | Manning, I. H.    | Zucker, A. E.       |
|                     | Markham, E. C.    |                     |

## Petition Leaders Make Strong Plea In Letter To President Of University

Dear President Graham: The purpose of this letter is to transmit to you the enclosed petition, addressed to you and to the Board of Trustees of the University of North Carolina. This petition had its origin in a meeting, on January 13, of 10 professors who are the fathers of daughters soon to be eligible, or at some time in the future to be eligible for admission to college. Its object is to ask a modification of the Board order prohibiting the admission of girls to the freshman and sophomore classes at Chapel Hill—this modification, for reasons given, to be in favor of daughters of University professors and employees.

Adopted at the meeting referred to, this petition has been circulated by Messrs. N. B. Adams, English Bagby, W. S. Bernard, John M. Booker, M. S. Breckenridge, J. T. Dobbins, Karl H. Fussler, R. M. Grumman, A. P. Hudson, J. M. Lear, G. R. MacCarthy, H. F. Munch, A. R. Newsome, and E. K. Plyler. Only faculty members of professorial rank have been solicited to sign it. For various reasons—illness, absence from the University, and failure of the solicitors to see them—a number of professors have not been solicited. Of those solicited, all but four have signed it. These four, it was reported, gave, as reasons for not signing it, considerations not hostile to the petition itself. The total number of those signing it is 151.

It was the opinion of the 10 professors who drew up the petition that they were not reopening an old question already decided by you and the Board of Trustees, but that in asking freshman and sophomore privileges for the daughters of University professors and employees they were requesting a modification of the existing Board order so definitely limited in its application to a specific group that it could not be abused. They feel, in short, that they are raising a new question. Moreover, they believe that there is ample precedent for the proposed modification. Since most of them are wholly dependent upon University salaries for the support and education of their families, and since the economic condition of those so situated offers no encouraging outlook for the education of daughters away from home, they feel further justified in laying this question before you. In doing so, however, they do not wish to be understood as unsympathetic toward Chapel Hill citizens with daughters to be educated.

While laying this petition before you at this particular time, they are aware that the January 31 meeting of the Board of Trustees will likely be crowded with matters of graver import. Through us they express their appreciation of the magnitude of your duties and responsibilities at such a season, and their averseness to adding to your burdens. For these reasons, they authorize us to assure you that a postponement of your consideration of this petition until after the January session will not be disappointing, but to say, however, that they will deeply appreciate action early enough, if favorable, to relieve those immediately concerned.

A. P. HUDSON, J. M. BOOKER, A. R. NEWSOME

## Resolution Of Local Rotary Club

THAT WHEREAS, the present regulations of the Trustees of the Greater University of North Carolina prohibit women students from entering the Chapel Hill unit of the said University during their freshman and sophomore years, and,

WHEREAS, there are graduated each year from the Chapel Hill high school approximately 30 girls who reside either in Chapel Hill or Carrboro or within commuting distance of the Chapel Hill unit of the said University, and,

WHEREAS, there is no other State supported institution of higher learning within commuting distance of Chapel Hill,

WHEREAS, the parents of a large percentage of the graduates of the Chapel Hill high school are financially unable to pay the expenses of the said graduates at any institution of higher learning which would necessitate said students living away from home, and,

WHEREAS, practically all of the girl graduates of the Chapel Hill high school could and would attend the Chapel Hill unit of the Greater University of North Carolina should they be permitted to attend the said unit during their fresh-

man and sophomore years. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Chapel Hill Rotary Club in regular meeting assembled on the 20th day of May, 1936, that the Board of Trustees of the Greater University of North Carolina be and the said Board is hereby requested to change said regulations so as to permit girls living within commuting distance of the Chapel Hill unit of said University and who are otherwise qualified to attend the Chapel Hill unit of the said University during their freshman and sophomore years. That a copy of this resolution be presented to the Board of Trustees of the Greater University of North Carolina at its meeting in Greensboro, N. C., on the 30th day of May, 1936.