The Daily Tar Heel

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The Challenge Before Us

Three checks came to the office of the Student Auditor for him to sign, which action would have completed their round of dignitaries for the affixing of names. But the checks did not surmount the final barrier. The Student Auditor declined to sign them. They are collecting dust on the auditor's desk in Graham Memorial and will continue to do so for many days to come. The appropriations for which they were intended had been duly passed by what is generally regarded as a responsible body-a class executive committee-but the auditor refused to be party to the expenditure of class funds in the manner the responsible body of executive committeemen directed.

Executive Committee Holds Beer Party

The senior class executive committee, composed of members of the senior class appointed by President Benny Hunter, sometime ago voted itself a social -a beer party-to be financed by class funds. The committee members and invited guests-male and female-held their party in the American Legion hut. Shortly afterward, Class Treasurer Morris Rosenberg, acting on authority vested in him by the executive committee, drew up three checks (referred to above) for a total of \$31.82 to pay the expenses of the party.

The senior class executive committee, composed of members of the senior class appointed by President Benny Hunter, also voted that the members of the class executive and dance committees should receive keys, that \$30 of this amount should be supplied out of class funds, the remainder of the expense to be divided by those members purchasing keys.

Chronology of Senior Class Affairs

The story of the juggling act performed with the senior class budget must have background information supplied in order to be really understandable. Much of the history can be gleaned from fall quarter files of the DAILY TAR HEEL. Attitudes of the committee members concerning their responsibility to the class they represented are obtained from other sources. Here is the chronological story:

Back in the fall President Hunter called his executive committeemen into session to work out a budget for the spending of approximately \$6,000 of class funds. The budget published November 10 had in it an item of \$50 for observation and travel; one for \$350 for senior week; \$100 for banquets and smokers; \$100 for miscellaneous; and \$150 for unallotted. Printed with the budget was a statement: "The class authorizes the executive committee to change the unallotted fund to any expense item not sufficient. Money not spent under an expense item is to go into the unallotted fund." Travel and Observation

Much controversy arose in the executive committee session over the \$50 item for travel and observation, but it remained in the budget. On November 15, the day of the class meeting, Hunter issued a statement in defense of the travel and observation fund: "Fifty dollars has been appropriated for travel and observation. The present class executive committee feels that Senior week programs in past years have been mere threadbare repetitions of old stunts and games. Therefore, it has decided to set aside a fund, minute in comparison to the total amount of the budget (\$5,900), which will enable fellow classmen to visit other colleges and universities to observe how students there celebrate Senior week and to incorporate in our program any new ideas found to be suitable.

"The last item on the budget is \$100 for smokers and banquets. It is hoped to have several of each during the year, and to make them more elaborate and entertaining than ever before."

(The Student Auditor in refusing to sign the checks for the beer party ruled that a social function attended by only a part of the class (the executive committee and friends) could not be paid for by the class as a whole. Nor would he sanction the beer party being charged to "miscellaneous" or "unallotted.") Parliamentary Rule Is Stumbling Block

On November 15 the senior class met in Gerrard hall to pass its budget. The budget at this time had in it all the items listed above. Tom Keys, a member of the executive committee, rose in opposition to the travel and observation item and moved it be stricken from the budget. But another member of the committee moved that Keys' motion be tabled and the motion to table took precedence over that of Keys. The result was: By a parliamentary trick the travel and observation item remained in, without even a discussion of its merits. As it happened, a quorum was lacking, so the budget could not be

passed. But the pressure of Keys and others began to tell on the majority membership of the executive committee. Their long and lonesome cries for deletion of the travel and observation item finally were yielded to. On the morning of December 7 the DAILY TAR HEEL had a story that controversial item had been stricken out because a "majority of the group seemed to feel that criticism which had arisen over the allotment might hurt the chances of the budget to

pass . . . "A motion that 'Travel and Observation' be stricken from the budget by and the Foolish Faculty. Martin Harmon passed as quickly as the following motion to switch the money

involved to the 'Unallotted' fund. This increases this section to \$200." Once again a quorum was not secured for the class meeting. The budget an act which is used as proving passed by a postcard vote, travel and observation being omitted.

Attitudes of Certain Committeemen Here the story ends. No public mention has been made of other budgetary lum last night demanded that all Se- Senior Week.

affairs, other executive committee disputes over the legitimacy of class expenditures. The 600 or so members of the class, even if they knew an executive committee beer party was being held, did not know that they were the intended financiers of the social. They did not know that \$30 of their money would be appropriated for keys for committeemen.

Neither did they know that one committee member proposed that "trave and observation" be left in the budget, with a \$1 appropriation, the difference to be shifted from "unallotted" as soon as the budget had survived the scruting of the class. They did not know that many members of the executive committee acknowledged that some of the contemplated manipulations of class funds might not be exactly "cricket," but that past action of other committees rendered excusable such manipulations on their part.

Persecution Not Intended

The whole story is told not with the idea of persecuting anyone or any group. The senior officers and executive committeemen have had budgetary requirements explained to them. The Student Auditor halted the beer party checks and then set forth his reasons. For the sake of the record, it may be said that senior finances are in good order.

Personal Responsibility Vital

But the challenge is present. The muddled situation of this year, the misunderstandings, the occasional personal viewpoints as to responsibility to Doesn't Attempt to Influence Students the class in handling its funds-all are unwholesome. There is a challenge for higher standards among those controlling class finances; for a better come in contact with the students understanding on their part of their responsibility in spending nearly \$6,000; makes no effort to influence them. He it is quite possible that legislative action may prove necessary to give class was the Orange County chairman for finances the stability of control which they need.

The challenge is not to Senior President Hunter, to Junior President Kimball, drive and raised \$800 or so in the to Sophomore President Alexander, or to Freshman President Crudup. Their Chapel Hill community alone. That class monetary affairs are in nearly every case now past history. There is was significant, as will appear. every reason to believe that class finances in general are in order.

But the fact that the auditor halted certain checks or that other conflicts name comes swiftly into any talk of of opinion straightened themselves out, is not a guarantee that all will be the Red Menace is that of Dr. E. E. well in the future. If class executive committees are to be unrestricted in Ericson. This professor of literature drawing up their budgets, to be able to squelch discussion on them by par- has drawn the severe attacks of critics. liamentary rules at class meetings, or secure their passage with postal cards, He, they have charged openly teaches there is always the possibility that budgetary appropriations may be made Radicalism in his classes. He, they say, which in the light of clearer understanding on the part of the class as a whole, is a sort of Red leader on the campus. would not stand one chance in 500 of passage. Once an item has secured the He displayed his position some years approval of the class (even though this approval be secured without proper enlightenment of the class) there is no recalling it. The Student Auditor and anyone else is powerless to prevent its usage.

Possible Solutions Advanced

This is clearly a problem with two possible solutions. One is President Frank Graham. Dr. Eric- I began to feel that its reform proessential; the other may prove necessary. First of all, class executive committeemen and officers must have instilled in them a strong sense of responsibility to spend money intrusted to them only in behalf of the class as a whole. They must constantly question each Reactionary Influence expenditure and ask themselves, "Would the class approve of this expense? Is this expenditure being approved because an executive committee did the same thing five years ago, or is it really justifiable?" That is one solution, the one we strongly urge upon new thinker also is accepted. In what de- Or Socialism class Presidents Hardy, Elliot and Hearn. They must appoint class executive committeemen who will place their standards of responsibility on the highest of levels possible.

The other solution is a distasteful one; but for good class government in the long-run, it may be necessary. It may be apparent him or not. His students hold him in even now that the only hope for permanent good government rests in legislative action. A legislative committee to conduct a search- Hill. One guess is that he is not so much ing investigation of each budgetary appropriation recommended by class executive committeemen may be needed. It might prove wise to have the legislature pass on class budgets before the classes record their judgments. Or review by the Student Audit board may be another good alternative.

The complete answer is not apparent now. Study of the problem of class finances by class officers, by the legislature, and by others interested in better class government is needed before anyone can say that class finances are on sure ground.

There is no crisis in student government over events of the past year, but the future may bring trouble, and plenty of it, if past set-ups and attitudes are not altered.

ls There a War?

(Editorial)

"Why Mazie, of course I want peace! Who doesn't over here? Wait just a minute; let me finish this coke. There! It's so hot these days. Why bother your mind about all that fighting over there? I always say: what can one poor soul like you or me do about it anyway. Just let 'em fight. By the way, wasn't Gable delicious in GWTW? What's that you say? Ought we to help the Allies? Well, I just haven't thought about it. You know with comprehensives here right on top of us I barely ever read the headlines any more. England's winning, isn't she? Those Nazis just shouldn't have a chance in Holland, not with all those dykes and dams and things. By the way, are you going to the Blackout Ball tomorrow night? Ought to be a whiz! Joe's dragging me; got sorta friendly over the weekend. What's that? Am I going to "Bury the Dead"? Heavens, what's that! Oh, a play. Is that all? Well, I didn't know what you were talking about. Sounds morbid. I don't go for plays much. Oh, it's about peace, eh? Well I don't know. Wanna cigarette, Mazie? Just changed to Luckies; Joe likes 'em. You say it's at the Playmakers theater? Well, Maizie, I'd like to go but you know how much I like Cary Grant. He's on at the movies tonight. "Bury the Dead". Oh, I get it now! Catchy title, eh? Well, gotta catch a class, Maizie. Don't do anything I wouldn't do. See you at the "Y" tomorrow morning. Be good!"

Memorandum: If you are interested in peace, the Co-op group will present Irwin Shaw's "Bury the Dead" at the Playmaker theater tonight at 8:30.

Banquet Starts

(Continued from fr: st page)

Stauber, Gibson's maternal urge, will restrained sponsorship of beer parties. give forth with the class will and review the class history.

W. A. Olsen, public speaker No. 1, game between the Serious Seniors to pursue its policy of freedom."

Don Rosenberg (no relation to the well-known historian) will go through ground in microphone factories.

Dean Bradshaw

(Continued from Arst page)

"There is so little to be gained by testament, and Morris Rosenberg will beer parties when they cause such reactions out in the state," he continued, "and so much to be gained if there are will be on hand if he survives the ball none and the University is permitted

He held that the fraternities are just as responsible units of the student body as are the dormitories and any self-restrictive action by one should be enacted by both.

Commander-in-Chief of Foo and ex- niors wear Senior jackets to the ban-Major-General of Stuff Jim McCal- quet as well as to all other events of

Couch, Ericson

(Continued from first page)

GERTLAV MAY 12, 1940

tors, such as Dave Clark might extol. If I must choose between one and the other, I would choose the little dictator. That is not Communism as I understand it. My preference is for a democratic society."

He was asked about the publication of Red literature and that struck a worried spot. "The American people must wake up to that. Radical literature is cheap, attractively presented and may be had in any book store. Radicals see to it that it is available everywhere, but where are your cheap, attractive, authentic books on American political philosophy? The University Press is anxious to publish such books, and would have published them before now if they could have been financed. We are making a strong effort to do so

Mr. Couch added that he does not the "Fighting Funds for Finland"

. Another Chapel Hill figure whose ago when he had dinner with the Negro Communist Vice-Presidential Candidate Ford in a Negro hotel in munist Party. In 1932 I voted for Durham, and when a demand for his Norman Thomas. As I saw the trend dismissal arose he was protected by of the present national administration son has been under the deep suspicion gram had high possibilities of liftof many since then-a "bogey man," ing us out of the depression. I then if you will.

Rebels Easily Against

Ericson. That he is a meticulously Mr. Morrison. I have kept this regis honorable man his associates do not tration active since." question. That he is a very liberal Does Not Teach Communism gree does not appear, whether he is a Communis, a Socialist or plain Democrat. Intentionally or not, he strikes son's next statement: an attitude. His associates on the faculty like him whether they agree with admiration. He is a character on the a crusader for any cause as he is the rebel against what he considers to be reactionary menaces to academic free-

Your correspondent questioned many students and four of them happened to be in Dr. Ericson's

BIRTHDAYS

(Students having birthdays may get free tickets to the movies by calling by the boxoffice of the Car. olina.)

Bronson, Mary Jean Dalton, Lacy Augusta Isenhower, Samuel Holeman Kushin, Harold Nathan Loocke, William Arthur, Jr. McRae, Cam Owen, Jenness Russell Raoul, Mary W. Vincent, George Jackson Wood, James Frederick, Jr.

April 11 Aycock, Jesse Bardin, Jr. Dees, Fred, Jr. Fuller, Marion Miot. Jr. Furr, Walter Eugene Hobbs, Claude Elton Kirkman, Cordell Clement Lubman, Seymour A. Moser, Bernard Prior, Carl Rose, Abram Hewitt Steinbach, Arlene

classes. Speaking separately, each said that he had never been subjected to any sort of radical persuasion by the professor. None said he understood Dr. Ericson was a radical and two said they understood that he was a liberal. Asked what they meant by the terms. they said they did not know-only what people said.

Not a Communist; Voted For Morrison

Dr. Ericson says of himself: "I am not a member of the Comdecided to register as a Democrat. I have forgotten the date but it was the Summer that Senator Reynolds ran for You will think as you like about Dr. office, because I remember voting for

Parents of University students will be very much interested in Dr. Eric-

"I do not teach either Communism or Socialism in my classes, or any other political doctrine. I could not look myself in the face if I were to destroy my professional and intellectual integrity by using the classroom as an instrument for propaganda."

At this point your reporter had looked in at three Chapel Hill citadels of the Menace. They-the Carolina Polit-(Continued on page 4, column 1)

You've heard about them — read about them — wondered about them — here they are!

— Archer's Nylon Stockings — If you prefer the Archer's walking Chiffon or the stretchy tops we carry them also.

DEPARTMENT STORE



Slacks, Shirts and Play Suits for Women at BERMAN'S DEPAR