

Challenge to Fraternities

There has been a certain stigma attached to the fraternity system in recent years. There are those who feel that fraternities breed all sorts of evil, consume too much time which should be spent on studies and cost too much for what the member gets out of them. There are others who think that such a segregation of students as caused by fraternities is bad for the college campus. Others argue that friction between the fraternity men and the "unwashed", as some would call them, is unpleasant.

Unfortunately many of these charges have been substantiated by strong evidence pointing to the failures of the social fraternity system. There is an automatic tendency to think of drinking and gay-partying as the prime aims of fraternity life. Carolina fraternities, in particular, have been tabbed country clubs and unnecessary evils. The prevailing opinion among the anti-fraternity leaders is that there is no good in a fraternity and absolutely no place for the fraternity system on the college campus. If the main objectives of fraternities were to offer a play-house for its members, then fraternities have lost their ground.

There is evidently some good in the fraternity system because otherwise it could not have survived these many years since its inception in the middle of the last century. For one thing a fraternity offers association with men who have been through a couple of years of college. This is valuable to a freshman because the advice of someone who has walked the path before will be welcomed by the greenhorns. This same association with a number of different men broadens and develops the individual's personality. Of course, also grant that other associations on any college campus perform an important part in rounding-out the college student. Generalizations can be made about the fraternity system for hours on end, but when it comes to facts, fraternities are left holding an empty bag. Point for point those who are anti-fraternity can actually put down on paper more bad features of fraternities than good points.

Granting that there is some good in the fraternity system, there remains a challenge to the fraternal organizations to present their case and prove their point. If they have one. The national offices of the various fraternities have realized that through the war years, fraternities have slipped down a notch or two from their intended status. This, men who believe in fraternities, are attempting to correct.

Rushing comes soon. The average age of many of the new men ranges from one to two years more than the pre-war freshman's age. This additional age means maturity which in turn means a certain amount of intellectual development. More questions are going to get a working over. Not only will students be more cautious about fraternities, but anti-fraternity crusaders will seek to spread the corruption of the organizations in question.

At the present the fraternities are strong. In fact many are too big for their own good. Some fraternity men actually feel that since there is such an over-supply of actives in the various chapters there is little to offer potential pledges in the oncoming rushing season. A few years will bring the enrollment of the colleges down and a decrease in the large number of fraternity men in each chapter will naturally follow. If the fraternities are to survive they must get new blood in their veins.

Chapters at the University of North Carolina need to utilize every possible means to offer something to new men. The challenge presents itself for fraternal organizations to revamp their program, put some meat on a skeleton of generalizations and meet the anti-fraternity element with some facts. If fraternities have their place then it is up to them to prove it. There is some good, but there are many who advance degrading theories regarding fraternities. In order to fight back, fraternities must realize their responsibilities to meet the challenge.

Did you hear about the male student named Jean who is living (living that is) in Alderman?

Responsibility's like a string we can only see the middle of. Both ends are out of sight.—WILLIAM MCFEE

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Strictly Detrimental

Campus Government Needs Increase of Student Interest

By Jud Kinberg

Government by the few is a luxury that the University of North Carolina's student government can no longer afford. Either the days of the "boys in the backroom" are over, or the whole system is finished. That backroom isn't of the politicians' own making, but rather the illegitimate child of complete lack of student interest in their own government. The result is a Student Legislature that is never visited by its constituents, leaving a "vitalization" of these now-news-dead groups and laws would bring the renaissance in interest that is vital for healthy student government.

Certainly, the Legislature is pointless if it becomes a ladies-aide or Thursday-evening debating society. A small chunk of UNC history shows the decline from great power of the DI and PHI when they no longer were actively supported and queried by the students.

Some of our leaders—and I believe they are quite few—may well be satisfied with dormant interest as they "deal" themselves a pat hand in each meeting of these governmental groups. Far-seeing men and women should and do view lethargy upon the part of so many as the first charge of dynamite under our entire setup. The bloup can land all our privileges and rights straight in South Building laps.

Through the Daily Tar Heel and the other publications, through forums and well-publicized Legislature meetings, through printing of the main portions of the new Constitution, seven thousand Carolina students must be made an active part of Student Government.

1946 is the year of decision in many of our time-honored rights. No longer can we put up with mumbled "War conditions" excuses. Our organizations must secure for themselves a place in every student's thinking which lasts beyond the week of campaigning of every election.

Sound Track

Busy Theatre Manager Tells Of Struggle To Get Pictures

By Bob Fineout

Mr. E. Carrington Smith's chateaux-walled office in the Carolina theater holds a particular fascination for us. In addition to its being modishly decorated and purified with washed air, it is so constructed that mysterious projection room noises are always audible. We were immediately conscious of this on our recent visit to see the energetic manager of Chapel Hill's two cinemas. As Mr. Smith waved us a seat, muffled music reached a crescendo and faded away. It was quite dramatic.

"Can you spare a moment?" we asked. Only the soft purr of the motion picture projector could be heard. "Surely, but keep it to a moment," Mr. Smith answered. He shuffled through some papers that littered his desk. "The boy scouts, the girl scouts, the North Carolina symphony, the March of Dimes all in addition to running a theater." We smiled sympathetically as the projection room music heightened the import of his words. "I guess I've signed a thousand of these by hand," Mr. Smith said showing us a stack of form letters. "Somebody lost my signature stamp."

We pressed the manager for some comment on the seldom-tranquil Hollywood front. "We're really having a struggle to get pictures," Mr. Smith said stamping the tobacco in his briar. "Paramount, MGM and Warner Brothers have cut out producing B pictures. In all, 30 per cent fewer pictures are being made." He sucked the match flame into his pipe bowl. "Take Paramount, for instance. Formerly they used to release one picture a week. But from now until January 1st they're releasing only two, 'Blue Skies' and 'Two Years Before the Mast.' It's really a mess."

Through the wall we could hear a woman speaking. Dorothy McGuire's voice we surmised, as her newest film, "Til the End of Time," was then occupying the Carolina screen. "You know," Mr. Smith continued, "theaters in big cities aren't affected by this picture shortage as acutely as I am. The Carolina has five changes a week, compared to the city houses with sometimes only one. The small theaters are in a bad way." His pipe was dead. "The Pick can always grab up the old ones," Mr. Smith said, as he searched for his matchbook. "Have you got any noteworthy pictures booked?" we asked. His pipe was smoking cheerfully now. "Yes I have. 'Deception' is scheduled for October 27 and 28." "Oh, that's the new Bette Davis film, isn't it?" "Claude Rains and Paul Henreid are in it too," Mr. Smith asserted. "But on October 29 we've really got a picture coming."

NO FRESHMEN OR WOMEN

State College, Pa.—(I.P.)—State Teachers Colleges in Pennsylvania will cooperate this year in giving programs designed to take care of freshmen who cannot be accommodated on this campus by Pennsylvania State College. Only upper classmen will be registered here this year. College authorities also point out that no women students will be admitted here, thus reserving all possible housing facilities for veterans.

Registrar William S. Hoffman explained that freshmen when admitted will be informed of the college to which they will be assigned. He said the selection would depend upon the curriculum elected by the student. It may even be necessary in some instances, he added, for students living in a city where a State Teachers College is located, to enroll at a Teachers College in another city.

Carolina Merry-Go-Round

By Bob Jones and Henry Saunders

For three weeks I have been looking over my shoulder in the hope of finding some talented and unsuspecting soul to help the Merry-Go-Round meet its three o'clock deadline twice a week. Henry is talented sure enough but as for being unsuspecting, I think that he suspects me. Its possible that he's entirely justified. Fred Flagler tells me that the Carolina Magazine will tell us all something about Henry in connection with one of the feature articles in the October issue. One of the most efficient, friendly and helpful men that we have met is Colonel Shepard, the University Veterans Advisor. Mr. Shepard has quietly solved more individual and collective veterans problems than most of us realize. If Mr. Shepard hasn't the answer to a particular question or problem it can be expected that he will get it shortly. An example of this is that at the meeting in Gerrard Hall on October 8 the suggestion was made that as a solution to the book problem (low margin of profit, limited amounts of certain texts) the possibility of the student veteran purchasing his textbooks at other stores at his home or elsewhere be investigated.

Mr. Shepard said that he would go to the Veterans Administration in Winston-Salem and see if some plan could be set up and approved. He was happy to report that under VA Circular 47, there was a good possibility and that Mr. Ritchie of the Book Exchange was now attempting to formulate a workable plan that would operate under the VA ruling. This is just one example of his real interest and assistance to Carolina Veterans. To Colonel Shepard goes a hearty cheer from every veteran at the university and the Carolina Merry-Go-Round.

What is all this nonsense about the "Carolina gentlemen?" My pappy, a kindhearted old horse thief, put down his jug one time and said, "Son, a gentleman's a rare thing and hard to tell from a rascal but beware of anyone who calls himself a gentleman, 'cause sure as sin he's a rascal." A lady from a ladies' school sent some remarks to this paper on how swell the gentlemen were who tried to pick up the delegation from the school attending a football game. Carolina gentlemen she called them. My pappy could pick up the neighbors' mare so slick that in time we moved because the neighbors didn't have any mares left, only shot-guns, but my pappy never claimed he was a gentleman on that account. Everybody I have asked says gentlemen are honest.

How is it then that another loosely used term, the "honor system," applies a standard of conduct that has been termed by some Carolina gentlemen to be outmoded? If we were all gentlemen the honor system would be vigorously in operation. Obviously we are not. Those that are gentlemen certainly don't need to be called Carolina gentlemen in every article about pep-rallies, etc. And those that aren't don't read anyway. Let's make this coming week the modest, quiet, Carolina gentleman week. Let's nobody use the phrase at all.

EXPERIMENT

Hattiesburg, Miss.—(IP)—A small-scale experiment with the tutorial system, most individual and most expensive type of college education, will be tried by the English Department at Mississippi Southern College, beginning this semester, according to Dr. W. W. Stout, head of the Department of Language and Literature.

Crossword Puzzle

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13			14			
15				16			17			18
19				20			21			
22				23			24			
25				26			27			
28				29			30			
31				32			33			34
35				36			37			
38				39			40			
41				42			43			
44				45			46			47
48				49			50			

ACROSS
 1—Daddy's business
 2—Dandy
 3—Burr
 4—Girl's name
 5—Danish coin
 6—Halter
 7—Girl
 8—Fox
 9—Percent (abbr.)
 10—Trap
 11—Clever
 12—Insect
 13—Printer's measure
 14—Sword
 15—Breakfast food
 16—Put in place again
 17—Prepared
 18—Annoys
 19—Chills
 20—Canyon
 21—Surname
 22—God of war
 23—Begin
 24—Compass point
 25—Nancy
 26—Restrains
 27—Philips
 28—Debit note (abbr.)
 29—Where Vavil lives
 30—Evergreen
 31—Shield or protection
 32—Obstruct
 33—Ideas (comb. form)
 34—Fee for house
 35—High wave
 36—Part of "to be"

DOWN
 1—Harden, as steel
 2—"The Lily Maid"
 3—Narrow opening
 4—Defected
 5—Newspaper makeup
 6—Nymphs
 7—Navy chaplain
 8—Weep
 9—Creeting cry
 10—Come into view
 11—Not long ago
 12—Deitrium tremens (abbr.)
 13—Quench
 14—Propagate
 15—Floating mountains of ice
 16—Dull
 17—Alluring woman
 18—Seaweed
 19—Southern State ("Ozark State")
 20—Male goose
 21—A fruit
 22—Tiny grooves
 23—Course in meal
 24—Cause
 25—Plant growing in tile
 26—Credit note (abbr.)
 27—Helper
 28—Adherent of
 29—Very small white lie
 30—Within