

The Friendly Gesture

One of the best examples of cooperation between town merchants and University students that has been seen here in a long time was exhibited by the Chapel Hill Merchants Association and Chamber of Commerce this week. It began when 65 students cut their vacation period a week short to return to Chapel Hill as leaders in the program for orientation of new students.

This was only the beginning. For many years Carrington Smith, former president of the merchants association and operator of the Carolina and Pick Theatres, has presented a complimentary theatre ticket to each new student. This year, however, almost all of the merchants in town joined in distributing to the new students envelopes containing ash trays, blotters, and coupons for merchandise at the various stores.

Climax of this friendly gesture of the merchants toward the students came Thursday night in the form of a banquet for all orientation counselors and other student leaders in Danziger's new rathskeller, followed by a movie at the Carolina theatre. In order to hold the banquet as scheduled, Danziger speeded up preparations for the opening of his new establishment—and he served an excellent meal.

In past years the merchants have claimed—and with some reason that blame for almost every student gripe has been laid upon them and the Umstead act, but this friendly gesture on the part of the merchants association, and especially of its president Vic Huggins, points toward an era of closer cooperation and better relations between students and the business operators of Chapel Hill.

To Think Or Not?

The United States is supposedly a free country, and people in a free country are supposed to be able to think for themselves. This should be especially true of college students. We sincerely hope that it is, for in the coming months there will appear on this page of the Daily Tar Heel a wide variety of columns and editorials, and it will take a discriminating reader to know what he is reading.

The writers of these columns will be, like most of their readers, college students. As a group they will be no wiser and no dumber than the average of their fellows. They may not be the most capable ones for the job, but at least they will not be afraid to write what they think and sign their names to it. Some of the articles will be intended only to entertain, others only to give information. But there will be many which will express all shades of opinion on highly controversial subjects. Of these there will be those that are carefully thought out, logical analyses, there will be those that are pure propaganda in varying degrees of camouflage, and there will be those that are nothing but so much poppycock. The Daily Tar Heel will furnish no labels to say which are which—to decide that will be the job of the reader.

With most of the opinions the reader will probably disagree. Why not? The columnists will disagree among themselves and the editor will probably disagree with all of them. In his disagreeing, however, we ask that the reader not merely discard the idea or opinion as so much tommyrot expounded by a stupid ass, but examine the reasoning of his disagreement—that he take the idea out of the column and weigh it carefully. He may find one worth accepting. And if, after considering the subject, he thinks he has a better idea, he is invited to set it forth on this page in a letter to the editor.

This university is renowned as a liberal institution, and the meaning of that word "liberal" is that the University not only allows but encourages its students to examine new ideas and philosophies and to re-examine old ones, to think for themselves and to form their own opinions even though no one else in the world agrees with them.

At a time when the actions of governments and the pressure of public opinion are pushing people toward unquestioning acceptance of established doctrines it is well that we remember that two of the elements which have made America great are a scientific curiosity and the ability of the individual American to think for himself.

The Daily Tar Heel

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Odds And Ends

By Rita Adams

ON CAMPUS: Pansies to the Orientation committee! (Never let it be said that we are victims of cliché-itis.) We may be at each other's throats about politics, both national and campus variety, but we are all agreed that this year's orientation program clicked with the perfection of a met performance. The only advice offered for future counselors is that the information tables offer more than "simple advice". Leave us hope that statement is no reflection on the minds of the noble souls who gave their all in service to the new-comers. Even the coed freshman who balked at the idea of taking her physical with the 30 boys in her counselor's group is finally settled down happily into Carolina life.

SPEAKING OF performances and animals, we are reminded of the many comments that are circulating about the Monogram club's new Circus Room. Folks seem to have taken to that place like ducks to water. So be sure to drop in to see the Hill's nearest facsimile to a circus parade, excluding the "Y" court, and then rest your weary bones on one of the comfortable chairs in the lounge. Within the next few days you should be able to break into "Animal Crackers in My Soup" and have a few meals in the downstairs cafeteria.

TOM KERR wishes to bring to the student body's attention that that expedition to the Raleigh-Durham airport cost a little more than gas and oil—the last two cars of the caravan whizzed home to the tune of \$14. Just too bad that stop light tripped red—but even worse that Durham has such an efficient police force.

FACES TURNED red for a group of so-called campus wheels early this week. They were celebrating their return to school over bumpers of beer amid much mirth. When a mocking laugh arose from a nearby table of high school students, the big shots went over to set things straight. The high school students turned out to be UNC freshmen—and at least one of the wheels was wearing the circular badge denoting "freshman's friend".

THIS YEAR'S freshman class must be bulging to their fingertips with talent. At least that's the way it sounds around Graham Memorial these days, what with the piano going in the main lounge from 8 in the morning until ??? (those coed closing hours keep us from hearing the finale) at night. How 'bout dropping in to hear the concerts and maybe working into the bridge tournament if you happen to be there Tuesday night.

IN TOWN: Mrs. F. F. Bradshaw has done her share of orientating new-comers among the townspeople with her chats and visits, sponsored by the Merchant's association. At latest report her score was 25 personal calls, several of which were on wives of students.

STUDENTS will be given opportunity to keep in closer touch with the town this year through the Chapel Hill Weekly. Special student subscription rates for 9 months are \$1.50 this year. In addition, copies of the paper will be on sale in the "Y" and the lobby of Lenoir.

IN THE INFIRMARY are Mary Louise Tomlin, June A. Cairn, Carolyn E. McElveen, Lloyd A. Bell, Emile Saleeby, Alvin Bernat, Ben M. Jones, Kenneth Strayhorn, Dean Matthews, Luther Trexler, Julius Culp, George F. Wooten, Irving Goodwin, Rodney Leonard, David Isaac, and William Henderson. We don't know them all, but that's a darn good football center, the president of the senior class, a passel of friends, and we hope they're all out by the time this column appears again.



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These Days

Fie Upon You, Mr. Truman

By George E. Sokolsky

Mr. Truman has missed the tone of the hour. This is not the time to "give them hell." It is a time for a serious and sober discussion of national affairs. It is not a time for a McKinley-Bryan campaign, nor even for a Roosevelt-Wilkie campaign. It is a time for Lincoln-Douglas debates.

Let me cite one reason: At the moment that Mr. Truman is giving them hell—as he put it—American delegates are meeting with delegations of all nations to continue efforts to reach a peace. It is three years since the war ended but there is no peace. In fact, we may be very close to a fighting war. The Russians may decide to push us out of Berlin at any moment and should they do it, we shall either have to fight or suffer defeat and one is as bad as the other. It is a very sobering thought that we are, in this September, 1948, at the climatic moment of World War II.

Under our constitution, we have to hold a general election

This Changing World

The System Is At Fault

By Bill Robertson

In the autobiography of Lincoln Steffens there is a chapter entitled "Preparing For College." We should like to quote a paragraph from it, which will no doubt have a familiar ring to the overwhelming majority of our student body. It runs as follows:

The elect were for the most part boys who had been brought up to do their duty. They memorized whatever their teachers told them to learn. Whether they wanted to know it, whether they understood it or no, they could remember and recite it. Their own driving motives were, so far as I could make out, not curiosity; they rarely talked about our studies, and if I spoke of the implications of something we had read or heard, they looked dazed or indifferent.

It is shockingly unpleasant to begin our first article of the year with such a quotation, but our purpose is not to increase the cynicism that exists among the students but to point to the causes of this condition de-

scribed so well by Lincoln Steffens. In the first place, our higher educational system is built upon a dog-eat-dog social system in which I get ahead only at the expense of someone else. The "Yankee swap" is traditional in our country, and, if my swap is clever enough, I shall end up becoming a Wall Street financier. For this an education is not necessary—so why take an interest in learning?

Further, our educational system is built upon a social system in which planning for the future is utterly impossible. (What will you be doing this time next year?) Aside from the fact that a terrible economic crisis is approaching in our country, which will increase unemployment and bring untold suffering to millions, the future is one of uncertainty and instability for the great majority of our students. This state of affairs is accompanied by all sorts of psychological problems if one begins to think. It is best to continue to memorize mechanically, and not to try to figure out what makes our society tick.

This year, to choose a President, the whole body of the House of Representatives and one-third of the Senate. No election could have been held at a worse time. But there it is and decent men make the most of it without degrading themselves or their country. Unfortunately, year after year, the elections become more vaudevillian. There are many explanations for this trend but the trend itself is too obvious not to cause distress.

Earl Warren, the Republican candidate for vice-president, set the high note for this campaign when he recognized that while the two-party system is essential to the American political structure, it must be recognized that there is good in both parties, that both have served America well. He did not attack President Truman; he did not vituperate. He was calm, dignified and statesmanlike. He followed the course set by Governor Dewey and, so ably pursued by Harold Stassen in his Detroit speech. It was an encouraging tone and gave some hope of a campaign on issues not on wise-

cracks. It would be to the best interests of the United States if President Truman adopted a similar lofty approach to his campaign. After all, America is, at this moment in human history, the central nation of the world, and Harry Truman is its President. True, he is also a candidate, but as President, he must uphold the dignity of his office and of his nation. Truman's divisive tactics are bad for America. I believe that they are also bad for Truman, as they will disgust many sober, thoughtful Americans, as they already have such men as Jesse Jones, Dean Alfange and others who are announcing against him. But that is his business. Mine and yours is the broader issue that his vituperation, his "give them hell" attitude, hurts America because it degenerates America. It gives the impression of political immaturity, of schoolboys sticking out their tongues at each other. All that may be funny—but we do not like to see our President imitating Milton Berle.

Lastly, our society, by its very nature, can not allow its young people to figure out the true and basic causes of the evils, the "crying injustices" in it, which are obvious to all students. The result would be a growing revolt against the "status quo". For this reason there is a deliberate perversion of the educational system to suit the needs of the profit system, in order to produce intellectual robots—and, in case these robots should begin to think, there are available preachers who preach the kind of despair and cynicism which gripped the feudal nobility before the French Revolution.

The corruption and decay of our educational system is contained in the corruption and decay of our social system. But an honest study of dying capitalism should give our student body no cause for despair. Rather it should give us greater cause to put forth our best efforts. Something is dying—but something is also being born.

Write Away

A Freshman Speaks

Editor:

As a freshman I would like to express in deepest sincerity my feeling of gratitude toward the orientation program and the fine job it has done here at Carolina. I believe that all freshmen, as myself, after arriving here only a few hours, were made to feel at home.

Charlie Loudermilk, counselor of team six, as well as all counselors have filled that gap of being a student of the University and just being here.

Even during the short time that I have been here I have grown to love Carolina, its traditions, and all the honor and decency it stands for and has stood for, for the past 155 years.

The freshmen and newcomers that I have met all have this feeling in common, and I do not believe that this would have been accomplished so soon if it had not been for the orientation committee and its work.

I firmly believe that I can say this in behalf of all freshmen: Gentleman, we are proud to be a part of Carolina and proud that it is going to be a part of us. However, all we can say at the present moment is, "Thanks, men, and we won't let you down".

Bob Braswell

This 'n That

Forum Fills A Need

By Bill Buchan

One of Carolina's most active and newest organizations is the Carolina Forum which was formed last spring by the Student Legislature for the unenviable task of securing speakers for the campus.

Under the direction of Chubby Cholly Long, the group has obtained acceptances from several senators, chairmen of strategic government agencies and other current important Americans.

Among the speakers listed for appearance here during the coming year are Senator Owen Brewster of Maine, scheduled for February; Marriner Eccles, vice-chairman of the Federal Reserve system on October 15; Earle Bunting, chairman of the National Association of Manufacturers for the fall; and Judge T. Allen Goldsborough, John L. Lewis's court buddy, for December.

Long listed other notables who have been contacted and have given tentative nods toward an appearance here, however their names will not be published until their appearance is definitely set. Among these men are high ranking candidates for political offices this fall.

The Forum chairman did state, however, that President Truman, Governor Warren and Governor Thurmond had been invited. A definite yes or no reply hasn't been received from any of these candidates yet. Henry Wallace turned down an invitation for another appearance in North Carolina. (And who could blame him?)

Long stated that the Carolina Forum is anxious to assist any organization on the campus in securing speakers for any program they have planned. The membership of the forum is made up of representatives from leading forensic and political campus groups. The officers for the coming year are Charlie Long, representing the Di Senate, chairman; Herb Alexander, representing the Carolina Political Union, vice-chairman; Peter Gerns, representing the Phi Assembly, treasurer; Edie Knight, representing the Collegiate Council for United Nations, chairman in charge of arrangements; Herb Mitchell, representing the Student Legislature, publicity chairman; Banks Talley, representing the International Relations Club, secretary and Jake Wicker, representing the Student Body president, co-ordinator.

The Carolina Forum, long needed on the campus, will eliminate the former constant problem of conflicting speaker programs that were presented by various organizations. The group is composed of some of our most capable, sincere leaders and results can be expected of them. They're certainly off to a good start and are to be commended for the schedule of speakers lined up for this school term.

15x15 crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-57 indicating starting positions for words.

- Horizontal words: 1. lofty mountain, 4. Oriental tea, 7. foot lever, 12. meadow, 13. personal pronoun, 14. existent, 15. entertaining, 17. roamed, 18. melody, 19. habitual custom, 21. city in Russia, 22. writing implement, 23. hence, 26. prayer, 29. gentle knock, 30. rents, 33. heats excessively, 35. facility, 36. guides, 38. raze, 40. paddle, 41. Dutch painter, 45. reclines, 47. infusible compound, 48. pigment, 50. prominent mountain spur, 53. game of chance, 54. grow old, 55. Etruscan gods, 56. river in Poland, 57. sward, 1. the poplar, 2. monkey-like mammal, 3. hesitate, 4. smart, 5. female chicken, 6. debates, 7. Turkish coin, 8. panegyric, 9. turns aside, 10. salutation, 11. headed, 16. fodder tanks, 20. noisy sleeper, 22. wind instrument valve, 24. ship channel, 25. goddess of plenty, 27. thing in law, 28. correlative of neither, 30. fold over, 31. before, 32. workshop, 34. pale, 37. folding supporting frames, 39. French bond, 42. spaces, 43. dialect, 44. satiated, 46. sweetsoap, 47. sprout, 48. close comrade, 49. macaw, 51. extinct bird.