The Daily Tar Fleel

Carolina, Chapel Hill, where it is issued daily during the regular sessions of the University by the Colonial Press, Inc., except Mondays, examination and vacation periods, and during the official summer terms when published semi-weekly. Entered as second-class matter at the post office of Chapel Hill, N. C., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription price: \$8.00 per year, \$3.00 per quarter.

ED JOYNER, JR. Business Manager .T. E. HOLDEN

Chalk One Up for Joe

Well, the Communists have done it again.

An editor of an insignificant little propaganda sheet was scheduled to make a speech. He made a long trip to Chapel Hill in order to deliver the speech, in which he would have said precisely nothing that he and others who think as he does have not been saying for lo these many

He would have drawn a large crowd, all of which except about one dozen of the Faithful would have been hostile. He would have said that nasty, old, capitalist, imperialist democracy is depriving people of their rights, and he would have been laughed at for his pains. He would have made precisely no converts, and he would have had precisely nothing to show for his extensive travels.

But then, ostensibly because a state law which has never before been invoked was being violated, this editor, one John Gates, was not allowed to address his meeting as scheduled. And now the editor of the little sheet can rest happy. All over the world people can be informed that in America, in the great democracy itself, in the bosom of a great center of learning, it was impossible to assemble peaceably in a public hall to hear a statement of a political creed. To compensate for the converts that could not have been made by a free interchange of ideas, there are now many thousands of potential converts to be filled with the news of the phoniness of democracy. Why, the editor has all but been turned into a prophetfor has not his newspaper been filled with the grim facts of "oppression" in America?

If Joe Stalin had paid agents in South building, they could not have handed him a nicer gift.

The otherwise-insignificant visitor to Chapel Hill yesterday is under indictment for conspiracy to overthrow the government of the United States by force and violence, and there is a law in effect in North Carolina which prohibits the use of public buildings for the purpose of advocating such doings. Editor Gates avers that he is not guilty of the charges contained in indictment, and that he came to Chapel Hill, not to use public buildings to advocate revolution, but to prove, to the contrary, that he does not believe in the use of force and violence.

The federal grand jury which indicted him and eleven other Communists did not find them innocent or guilty. It merely found that there is sufficient evidence to warrant that they be tried before a court of law. Editor Gates' trial is to start on Monday.

Under our Law, the Law which we are upholding and which Gates is charged with conspiring to overthrow, he is innocent until proven guilty.

The Daily Tar Heel happens to believe that Communists constitute a grave menace to the security of the United States and to the rights of human beings everywhere. But the Daily Tar Heel is not a court of law.

Neither is anyone in South building a court of law.

And to deny a particular Communist the use of a public building under the state law cited, someone must have decided yesterday that the twelve are guilty as charged; for clearly the law does not prohibit the use of public buildings to persons merely accused or suspected of advocating the violent overthrow of the government.

The real issues at stake, it seems to us, are far more profound. For the first time in our recent history, a man has been denied the right to speak his ideas freely in a public hall. Our proud heritage of hearing all viewpoints and welcoming all ideas in the marketplace of free competition is badly shaken today. Our appropriation may seem more secure, but our freedom has need of buttres-

That supression is the way of life in Communized lands makes the matter even more grave, if it has any relevance at all. For we are struggling the world over for human decency; we preach our faith in the individual and we stake our claims for democratic world dominion on the premise that it offers a better life for humanity than do the repressive concepts of the totalitarian state.

That we should resort to Communist-like suppression in the name of fighting Communism might be almost funny were it not precisely the stuff upon which the Communists thrive. That we find ourselves infringing on the Bill of Rights in the name of preserving and extending this same Bill of Rights must give great satisfaction to the masters of deceit and violence in the Kremlin whose smug cynicism has led them to count on precisely such behavior from us "decadent democrats."

But Mr. Gates hit the nail on the head when he asserted that the American people have a faith in things democratic and have a tradition rooted too firmly in fair play and decency to forfeit these standards. Authoritarianism shall not long make headway here, be it of the Communist brand which Mr. Gates peddles, or of the brand which styles itself "anti-Communist." We shall fight Communism by further endowing our people with the blessings of democratic living which they have come to cherish as they cherish life itself.

And locally, we can learn by yesterday's performances too. For those values which we hold so dear when we speak of the "Carolina Spirit" will not long survive if we weekly circumscribe them with new "ifs" and "buts".

Eternal vigilance, you know.

Comments

Legislature In Spotlight

By Jess Dedmond President of the Student Body

The political spotlight for the next few months may well be on the Student Legislature. Faced for the first time in years with the situation of no party holding a clear majority the legislature's leaders are at their best. For the past several days they have made the rounds of opposing factions in an effort to reach new and better understandings. Their interests at this time center around the committee chairmanships which must be filled at the Legislature's semi-annual reorganization. Political dickering is active but thus far quiet.

On the surface such dickering may appear obnoxious. But in our present situation it appears to be a healthy thing for Student Government. At least for once we have a legislature in which the political groups will cooperate as a matter of expediency. This may well presage a better understanding between factions and a more expeditious performance of student functions.

The new leadership of the three political parties will be directly connected with the legislature's activities, and will govern to a great extent the efficiency of our government. The new party chairmen: Banks Talley of the Campus Party and Joe Leary and Gran Childress of the University and Student Parties respectively many have their hands full. On them falls the task of rejuvenating a legislature which for the past three months rendered the poorest record of service of any since the ratification of the con-

At this time I see at least three major tasks which the legislature must take on during the next three months:

1. The formulation and submission to the campus for action of an amendment to the Student constitution to provide for a workable Summer School government. For this I recommend the establishment of a group from the legislature to work in conjunction with members of the Student Council in the writing of this amend-

2. The submission to the campus of a constitutional amendment to abolish the appellate jurisdiction of the Student

3. The writing and passage of a budget for the fiscal year 1949-1950 based on the needs of the campus. For this budget I recommend that consideration be given to changing the fiscal year from September to September since the block fee system is not in operation during the summer months.

Operas Praised

Excellent Musicianship

By Donald Roberts

There were no photographers darting about in the audience and no reporters on hand to record just which Mrs. Vanderbilt was putting her feet where, but opera came to the campus Tuesday night and came with a bang. Its bearers were the Music Theatre Repertory Group, a new group destined for a long and successful life if the reception afforded them in Chapel Hill is any indication.

In "The Telephone," the first of two short operas by Gian Carlo Menotti which made up the program, Amelia Cardwell and Ted Bodenheimer displayed both excellent musicianship and dramatic ability. Miss Cardwell especially showed her capacity for combining a brilliant voice with complete control of stage business, and with Mr. Bodenheimer, was able to set a rapid pace and sustain it throughout the op-

The second opera, "The Old Maid and the Thief" (labeled "A Grotesque Opera in One Act") had again the rapid timing that Menotti so evidently requires for a successful pres- trills Laetitia.)

and Mr. Bodenheimer were joined by Josephine Fisher and Dorothea Allcorn, and the four singers moved through the terrifically funny recitatives and arias with remarkable agility and a flare for bringing out each line to its most humorous advantage. The only notable flaw was in the performance of Miss Fisher, whose sometimes rasping voice could hardly be totally accounted for by the adequate abstration of Menotti's score. Dorothea Allcorn was more than adequate in the role of a fluttering old maid who stole in order to harbor a handsome beggar in her house. and Ted Bodenheimer reached the climax of his performance in his drunken scene with the two women of the house.

entation. In it, Miss Cardwell

Miss Cardwell as Laetitia added more laurels to her previous "Telephone" performance and probably the funniest scene in the opera occurs when she and Miss Pinkerton have broken into a local ABC store to steal whiskey for the beggar. ("What was that noise?" Miss Pinkerton croaks. "Nothing, that's in the orchestration,"

Same Old Blood Donor



These Days

Indictments Are Not Convictions

By George E. Sokolsky

The federal grand jurors' association of the eastern district of New York got up one of those questionnaires which asked a lot of "yes and no" questions, and queried high school teachers, professional engineers, college students and miscellaneous human beings on the subject of the grand jury and how it operates. The answers were discouraging. No matter by what process the answers were calculated, they give evidence of an astonishing lack of knowledge of one of the most valuable defenses against tyranny.

I was particularly interested in the replies to their question, "what is an indictment?" Seventeen percent of the miscellaneous, 12 percent of the college students and 35 percent of the engineers thought that an indictment was evidence of guilt; astonishingly, 11 percent thought that an indictment was evidence of

This explains in a large measure why so many believe that a man is guilty even if he is interrogated by a congressional committee, or why so many are sure that a man, like Alger Hiss, is done for if a grand jury indicts him. The old Anglo-Saxon dictum that a man is innocent until he is proved guilty seems to have passed out of our political

thought along with many other fine ideas in these troubled and confused times.

Of course, in the totalitarian countries, a man is guilty if the government says so, with or without trial. Our assumption is that the law exists not only to punish the guilty but to protect the innocent. Our law deals with the individual man and his inalienable rights defined by the constitution; the totalitarian concept is that the law is an instrument devised by the state, bendable to the purposes of the state. The grand jury is an ancient

institution in Anglo - Saxon jurisprudence. It is a body of "peers," that is, equals in rights and rank, who determine not whether an individual is guilty or innocent but whether he is to be made subject to a trial.

The indictment is merely a formal accusation. The grand

evidence before it is sufficient not to convince of guilt but to justify an accusation. In gathering such evidence, the - grand jury is permitted a latitude wider than will be tolerated at a trial. Grand jury proceedings are in private and secret; a trial is public. The grand jury is not governed by the rules of evidence and therefore may have more information than can be set forth in court. Should a great public wrong need to be righted, yet it not be possible for the grand jury to indict anyone, it may hand down a presentment, stating the case and recommending public action, even needed legislation. In practice, the grand jury may protect individuals from the malevolence of their neighbors or even the government. (Copyright, 1949, King Features

jury assures itself that the

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Literary Lines

Hemingway May Be Back

By Roy C. Moose Editor of the Carolina Quarterly

The news circulating among the lost generation of yesterday and the supposedly lost generation of today is that hard-drinking, hard-loving, and hard-hitting Hemingway is back.

First, he has decided to allow the republication of several of his novels in 25-cent book form. The first is "A Farewell to Arms," which Bantam Books will bring out this month. A second, the title of which has not been disclosed, is scheduled for release in February.

Until now Hemingway has prohibited the appearance of any of his full-length works in the popular edition format. The publishers point out that the reprint edition of Hemingway's classic love story will reach close to half a million readers. The whole idea is to popularize Hemingway with the masses.

But all of this is anti-climactic compared to the "coming-out" of Hemingway in last week's Life magazine. There spread before fifteen million readers (estimate plus propaganda) was an announcement of his new book. Already about 1,000 pages long, the work, which has consumed some six years, is to be a war piece "on the land, seas, and in the air." Even "War and Peace" cannot make that claim.

Publication date was not announced but the build-up of Hemingway undoubtedly portends its release this year.

Moreover, since the success of the movie version of "The Killers" his stories have been the cause of much bidding for screen rights by Hollywood producers. As a result "The Snows of Kilimanjaro," a short story, has brought a record \$125,000 and will be a major production.

From the pictures that accompanied the story in Life, the greying Hemingway, drinking his fifth soldier-style, still has enough robust individuality to remain the dean of the lost generation. And he looks capable of producing many more works of "A Farewell to Arms" and "The Sun Also Rises" caliber.

CULTURE: A recent release shows that the publishers of 25cent reprint books sold a record 135 million copies in 1948, twice as many as in the record year of 1945. At first this gave promise of showing that the "half-baked, uncultural" U. S. was at last hell-bent for culture. That is, until the breakdown of increases showed that twelve times as many western stories were sold in 1948 as in 1945. My guns, Cactus!

DEFENSE: Eudora Welty, the feminine half of Mississippi culture, tears into Edmund Wilson in particular and northern critics in general concerning their condescending attitude toward southern writers in a recent letter to the New Yorker. It seems that the critics north of the Mason and Dixon line think that the writing of Welty, Faulkner, et al is good "despite" the fact that

Incidentally, Miss Welty's new book is being published very soon, and is worthy of notation. Perhaps the South's top feminine writer, she has been a major force in retaining the focus of contemporary literature on this region.

Write Away

'Respect for Human Dignity'

May I take exception to your editorial "There Is No Comparison" between Communists and the founders of our nation? Jefferson fought the greatest danger to freedom in his time British colonial rule. Similarly, Communists fight the greatest danger to freedom in our time, monopoly capitalism; which limits freedom of choice by presenting only one side in the commercial press; which restricts personal freedom by concentrating huge economic power in hands not responsible to the electorate whose economic insecurity impairs the pursuit of happiness and keeps large numbers of people too absorbed in the struggle for mere existence to have time and energy for political and culturactivity. Most dangerous of all, if it appears that, by availing themselves of peaceful means, the people might change the form of economic organization, or merely win substantial concessions, the owning class steps outside the law and uses outright goonery. All who have studied the history of the labor movement will recall innumerable instances. When this is carried out on a national scale, as was the tragic experience of Germany, it qualifies for the title of fascism.

Communism teaches us to fight this. By law as long as democratic law prevails. By force under fascism and colonial oppre sion. But not to fight merely to preserve the status quo, which carries within it the inherent danger of fascism; but for socialism a new economic and social system, in which all who work can find security, dignity and freedom; for a country without Jim Crow

and a world without colonies.

Communists do not attack the political beliefs of Jefferson merely point to their incompleteness, especially insofar as they did not prevent the rise of monopoly. Far from advocating "the return to the Dark Ages of tyranny," Communists base themselves on the philosophic works of Marx, Engels and Lenin, the humanism and rationalism of our century. Nothing short of first hand reading of these classics (certainly not quotations out of context prepared by Henry Luce's "experts") can give an idea of the deep respect for human dignity that permeates all Communist philosophy, in which the forgotten people especially, the peasant of China and the worker of Eastern Europe, see the dawn of a new era in which they too can enjoy the fruits of 60 centuries of civilization.

Hans Freistadt

Power of the Men

In your editorial, "Power of the Women," in Sunday's Tar Heel, you referred to the lack of activity on the part of the YMCA. We have tried to get front page publicity given to our major projects, of which there have been nine or ten, but have only gotten back page items. On the other hand, the YWCA has received front page features on even their minor projects. There is something wrong somewhere. We have even found it necessary to put out our own publication, the "YMCA Quarterly," in order to publicize our activities.

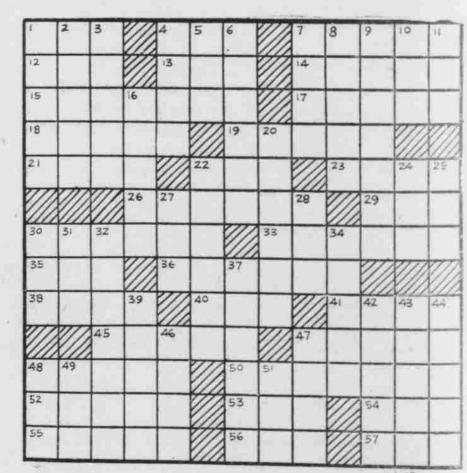
Both being rank outsiders in the YMCA two years ago and having seen it before Mr. Shotts took over, we feel that it has made remarkable progress is regaining the prestige it once held on the campus under his leadership. We hope that in the future the Daily Tar Heel will look into the real reason for the lack of knowledge of the Y's activities, rather than sit idly by and make criticisms.

Charlie Fox, Finance Chairman Sam Magill, Vice President

'Suspicious Activities'

If Mr. Lineweaver doesn't have faith in the findings of the House Un-American Committee concerning Dr. Frank, what about the Department of Justice files? Attorney General Tom Clark has his own "red and pink" lists you know, I'm a little puzzled as to the real motive underlying Mr. Lineweaver's article. Is he particularly against the House Committee or is he subtly attempting to defend Dr. Frank's "suspicious" activities?

Lloyd Overcash



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(abbr.)

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Answer to yesterday's puzzle,

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