The Daily Tar Heel

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Little Caesar In Blue

The traffic problem (it's no new story) is in pretty bad shape. As a matter of fact, it doesn't seem to be getting any better and drastic measures are liable to pop up before anyone on campus knows what has happened.

But that is not our subject today. Our subject is very closely related to the traffic problem, but it, or possibly we should say he, is a much more serious problem. His name is D. G. Simms, and he is one of the two well-known "campus cops." You probably have seen him; he's not too tall, has a red face, carries a lot of weight and is in the habit of slinging it around more than he ought to.

Simms, instead of being the mannerly, helpful, gentleman in blue whose duty it is to keep a watchful eye on the traffic and parking lots, oh yes, and write parking tickets for violators too, has taken it upon himself to become one of the most hated men on campus, a little Caesar in blue.

Take just one example out of the many we could cite. On Tuesday afternoon our friend Simms had wandered down to the Morehead Planetarium parking lot. The Buildings Department was in the process of painting lines for parking spaces and indicating no-parking spaces with fresh white paint.

A friend of ours drove into the lot, saw that the paint had just been put down, and carefully guided his Chrysler over to the side of the lot where no spaces had been painted in. Simms dashed over and rudely ordered him to park in the marked spaces. Was he blind? But the paint is fresh and I thought maybe you didn't want anybody driving on it today, our friend politely explained. To which our little messiah of the pink tickets indicated that any more back talk and he would make some trouble for the unsuspecting car owner.

Take another example. And another friend without a red sticker. This fellow drove his old Ford into the lot behind Carr Dormitory on the upper campus. Simms sharpened his pencil and his rude sarcasm and descended upon the poor driver. Before he was through he had actually threatened (1) to haul the student up to court (which he might have been able to do), and (2) (of all things) to see that the student was thrown out of school! His actual words were, after the student had answered that he did not want to go to court, "You wouldn't want to get thrown out of school, either, would you?"

Simms is not hired or paid by the Chapel Hill Police Department. Simms is hired and paid by the University of North Carolina, and his boss is P. L. Burch, who is also in charge of Victory Village. So to Mr. Burch we will direct the next remarks.

You will never solve the parking problem by antagonizing car-driving students with little Caesars who think their private domain lies between the Planetarium and the Library. No student will mind getting a ticket if he knows he's in the wrong. He knows he runs that risk when he parks in the wrong place. But he does mind getting browbeaten around, spoken to like a Mississippi sharecropper, and threatened with expulsion from the University by a man with no authority to make the threat.

The solution, Mr. Burch? Either give our friend Simms the word to straighten up and fly right, write out his little pink tickets and keep his big pink mouth shut, or get rid of him. It isn't often we go after a man's job, but maybe this is the time to do it.

At any rate, this is the time to do something. Simms is not just obnoxious, he's downright unbearable. —C.H.

Student Government Roundup

Beginning next week, the Daily Tar Heel will run a series of articles on the operation of student government at Carolina. Recent incidents over the nation have emphasized the important role which student government is playing in colleges today. Recent events at State and Wake Forest have brought this realization close to home. Most of the activities of student government, however, receive very little publicity.

With this in mind, perhaps it would be wise if we paused a minute and took a look at what Carolina student government is doing. The committes and officers stay busy daily, and without this work the University could not function in the manner to which the students are accustomed.

Student government leaders receive relatively little praise for their work, indispensable though it may be. Take Charlie Gibson, for example, who has worked tediously on the Student Entertainment Committee, or John Sanders, who in the capacity of Attorney General has been invaluable to student government. Roy Holsten, chairman of the Honor Council, can scarcely call his time his own. These students, along with many others, are the ones that make student government function.

The features next week, however, will be primarily designed to acquaint the students with just what is going on in student government circles. It's time we all took stock of the vital role it has.

DREW PEARSON ON The WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

WASHINGTON,—Most of the closed-door meeting of Senate Democrats was spent in a technical discussion of pending legislation and floor strategy into which, however, Sen. Clint Anderson of New Mexico injected the question of Formosa. He suggested that the State Department keep the Democrats better informed so they could answer their Republican critics who, he added, seemed to be well supplied with speeches on the subject.

"Every time the Republicans get up, they have a prepared speech," Anderson complained. "If they are able to do that on $1-a-plate," dinners, we ought to be able to get a few speeches prepared for us on $100-a-plate dinners."

Except for Ellender of Louisiana, the attitude of the Democratic Senators was to support Truman's stand on Formosa. Their view was voiced by Senators Russell of Georgia and McKellar of Tennessee, who agreed that the "American people don't want to go to war over Formosa."

The Republican Policy Committee, assembled from all over the country to write a new GOP policy statement, was stolidly eating lunch in the Mayflower Hotel.

Across the room, a big, well-dressed man spied the policy-makers. He looked vaguely familiar—like a floorwalker at a swank department store or a Hollywood director. It was George Bender, ex-Congressman from Ohio and a Taft booster.

Happily Bender strode across the room, whispered a few words to the Mayflower's orchestra director, Sidney, cleared his throat, and roared into song:

"I'm looking over a 4-leaf clover that we overlooked before.

The first leaf is courage, the second is fight.

The third is our Party that's always right.

No need explaining, the one remaining.

Is Taft that we adore."

Then eyeing Harrison spangler, the GOP National Committeeman from Iowa, Bender switched his tune to Ioway."

Finished with his singing, Bender boomed at the Republican elders: I'm unorthodox, and I know it, but sometimes I think the Party's too orthodox."

Note—Ex-Congressman Bender rented a small elephant to pose with a somewhat pained Taft at the Philadelphia convention in 1948.

Charley Brannan, the big, likable Secretary of Agriculture, is a guileless looking fellow, but he pulled a fast play on the enemies of the Brannan Plan.

Secretary Brannan solemnly announced that surplus potatoes, which the government has been buying hand over fist at $1.08 a bushel, would be given to any nation that wanted them. This was hailed as the answer to the spud problem.

Actually, Brannan was slyly pointing out the absurdity of the whole potato price-support program.

program. For here are the inside facts.

1. Potatoes are so costly to transport that no nation will take them even as a gift.

2. Meanwhile, Uncle Sam will have to hand out $80,000,000 to buy an estimated surplus of 67,000,000 bushels. Of this mountain of spuds, only a drop in the bucket—17,000,000 bushels—can be absorbed in school-lunch and Welfare Programs.

3. The price which Uncle Sam must pay for surplus Maine potatoes jumps from $1.55 a hundred pounds last September to $2.20 in March, all of which is why Brannan maintains the only basic solution for surplus crops is to let prices drop to benefit the consumer and pay a subsidy to help the producer. This is the nub of the Brannan Plan.

Phillippine Corruption—A big scandal is brewing in the Phillippines. The American Embassy reports that millions of dollars of benefits voted Filipino veterans by the U. S. Congress is finding its way into the pockets of Filipino politicians rather than war veterans. Ambassador Cowan has sent a scorching cable to Secretary of State Acheson urging him to read the Riot Act to President Quirino.

HATCHING

Carolina Forum

Laertes' Weapon

By Lewis Mumford

There is a saying by George Russell (A. E.) that has by now almost achieved the anonymity of a proverb. **Man becomes the image of the thing he hates.** This maxim used to be quoted somewhat unctuously by those who opposed America's participation in the war against fascism, as sufficient reason for our complete abstention. What they should have taken as a counsel of prudence the advocates of appeasement treated as an absolute injunction never to hate what is hateful: a doctrine more evil than the corruption it seeks to avert. For Plato correctly pointed out in The Laws that justice depends upon our ability to be roused to anger and courageous action by the very hatefulness of evil. The possibility of exchanging weapons with one's opponent and of using the poisoned weapon to slay him, as in Hamlet's duel, is not an excuse for avoiding the challenge: it merely means that we should erect safeguards against such a transfer and hold our proper weapon tightly.

From the standpoint of a universal ethics, the democratic nations were not merely justified in fighting fascism: they were equally justified in hating its main principles and practices; unfortunately, they found themselves involved in the struggles, less through their own decisions than through the action of their enemies; and their sluggishness in responding to the moral issues raised by fascism, in the case of Abyssinia, Republic Spain, and Czechoslovakia, made them slow to understand that a renewal of their own moral life was necessary if their cause was to achieve more than a physical victory. The active barbarians of fascism, who trampled upon moral values, could not be successfully opposed by passive barbarians, who had allowed their traditional moral values to be eroded, and who, in the name of relativism or of anthropological insight, denied that any common standard existed for judging the conduct of an ethnic group. And in time, without openly changing their minds, the Western Allies tacitly accepted the diabolic principles and took over the methods of their enemies: witness our widespread use of obliteration bombing (genocide).

The moral relativism of the democracies not merely accounts for the sins and crimes we imitatively committed in the course of fighting against fascism; it also accounts for our persistent failure to recognize the enormity of our own conduct. Behind this relativism stands two false dogmas that are widely, if often unconsciously, held. The first belief is that "Modern man can do no wrong." He can do no wrong, on one theory, because discrimination between good and evil are arbitrary and illusory; or, according to a still older notion, propounded by the followers of Rousseau and Godwin, because man is by nature good, and when left to himself will never commit evil. At all events, whatever modern man does is right—provided he can get away with it. Or finally, he can do no wrong because the good and the right, on both Nietzschean and Marxian terms, are merely the forms of conduct by the ruling classes. These general doctrines have been supplemented by a further belief which gives comfort to those who retain at least a figleaf of conventional moral judgement: the belief that good men, by definition, commit no evil. This is a variant of the dogma of "original innocence;" and it has probably been responsible for the apathy exhibited by "good" people—who pay their bills, respect their legal obligations, and obey the laws—toward the moral offenses that have been committed by our government in their name.

Actually, some of the worst evils of our age have been sponsored, not by Hitler and Himmler and Mussolini, but by men who in their lifetime had achieved almost the stature of saints. It was Mahatma Gandhi who, at the most critical moment in the struggle against fascism, urged the British to surrender to Hitler; it was Albert Einstein, another truly noble soul, who, aware of the dangers of Germany's creating an atom bomb, brought to President Roosevelt the proposal that we create similar instruments of extermination—a proposal that capped a military error with a moral sin. Finally, it was another good man, Mr. Henry L. Stimson, a public official of high probity and civic responsibility, who, even after he had had time for second thoughts, publicly justified the use of the atom bomb on the grounds that it had saved the lives of countless American soldiers.

In the course of fighting against the Fascists, in other words, we seized their poisoned weapon and turned it against them. Unfortunately this is also our funeral, for the methods of nihilism, first openly accepted by us in our pre-atomic bomb practice of obliteration bombing, can have only one terminus: general annihilation. That is the natural destination of a world that has lost its life-preserving taboos and its moral inhibitions.

Reflections will show that there are no physical safeguards against moral nihilism: hence all current suggestions for the inspection of conventional and atomic armaments are mischievous forms of self-deception and humbug. Once any government is ready to exterminate the people of a rival state as so many vermin the means of achieving this secretly are at hand. In an obscure cellar in any small country the biological instruments for destroying the human race can now easily be manufactured. Against this radical insecurity, every man must develop a moral conscience, every man must accept the burden of political responsibility, every man must be a public officer and a member of a universal police force, acting in behalf of the human race. Today there is no path to peace and justice and liberty that does not demand a wholesale moral transformation, in which every human being will participate, not as the citizen of a nation, but as a personal guardian of the human future. Only the institution of a universal morality can save a world competely demoralized by the cult of power.

The first step toward such a morality is to measure the depth of the abyss into which even good and honorable men have fallen during the last decade; only so will we be moved to summon forth the efforts necessary to reach the daylit areas of sanity and morality. . . .we need to be awake and sensitive, awake and sensitive to the same degree that we have been asleep and insensitive, indeed utterly paralized, in the past generation. We cannot found a more universal system of political cooperation through world government on the moral morass of relativism, tribalism and nihilism. No, as individuals and as members of a political state we must re-create within ourselves a world-view in which right and justice will have meaning, because they are equally applicable to all men: including ourselves in every necessary condemnation, and including our most active enemies in every promise of a better life. If we make this effort in time, we shall also, perhaps, be able to avert the tragic last act of the drama of annihilation we have been pushing so rapidly to a climax. On our willingness to undertake this radical reorientation the future of man now seems in no small degree to hang.

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'Vital Center' Is Vital

By Bill Kellam

Prophets are too often without honor in their own country, especially if the prophet is a bit to the left of center and the majority of his fellow citizens show rabid inclinations toward congragating on the opposite side of the ideological fence.

Such is the situation of brilliant young Arthur Schlesinger, Jr., and his recent volume, "The Vital Center," which is a realistic, hard-hitting manifesto of the non-communist left—and we still do exist.

The reception accorded this fine volume has been disappointing, though not surprising. Schlesinger has trod left and right on too many sacred toes and smashed too many idols. The truth is always unpleasant to many people. Thus the more reactionary elements of the press, which includes an unfortunately large percentage of this nation's news sheets, has either ignored or completely dismissed the book as shallow or repetitious.

Time Magazine, which lucely speaking is a magazine of sorts, dismissed the book because it "said nothing new or significant about the 20th century's political problems. Certainly it offered no solution for them." The above quote is taken from a reply this columnist received to a letter which he wrote to Time asking why "The Vital Center" had been omitted from the mag's list of the oustanding books of 1949?

The purpose of the book is defined in the foreword. ". . . not to set forth novel or startling political doctrines. . .It is intended rather as a report on the fundamental enterprise of re-examination and self-criticism which liberalism has undergone in the last decade."

"The Vital Center" does not introduce any revolutionary remedies for the world's ills, but it does invigorate the old remedies and clearly restate how we can use them to strive to make our way out of the morass of fear, prejudice, and hysteria which now grips too many sections of this country.

Schlesinger voices his basic tenets of a sincere faith in the integrity and freedom of the individual, a belief in the limited state and due process of the law, and a rejection of totalitarianism of the left and right wing variety.

The present failings of the American right and left are incisively analyzed. The plutocratic hierarchy of the Republican Party ruined the right by forgetting everything but class privilege, private profit, security, and business dealings. They forgot all about those idealistic-sounding but necessary interests-sounding necessary interests of the whole nation, social obligation, war, and honor.

By pursuing only their own ends, they met their end. Right, Dewey?

The left went hog wild in its reaction against the excesses of the right. Fellow travelers and doughface (democratic men with totalitarian principles) progressives infiltrated, infected, and almost killed the left. But Henry Wallace came along and saved the liberal movement by drawing the pinks, doughfaces, etc. in his ranks in 1948.

Now is the time, Schlesinger says, for those who believe in democracy to join together to insure that this contry returns to the activism of the Jacksonians. Accepting the limitations of the real world, they must work for democratic socialism in which the demoralizing, overpowering tendencies of industrial organization will be subdued, a large amount of basic satisfaction will be produced, and individual freedom will be preserved.

This free society can't exist without civil rights and civil liberties. To insure these privileges, distinction between acts and thought must be defined. All witch hunts must be ended. Unpopular ideas and organizations must not be prosecuted, or persecuted, until their subversiveness is legally established.

Several chapters are devoted to communism, but the lines of the East-West controversy are already defined in most minds. Schlesinger does interestingly explain the appeals of totalitarianism.

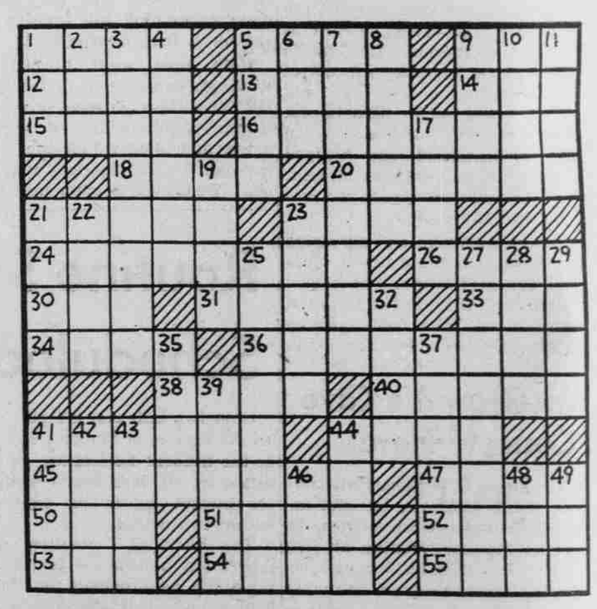
These are only a few of the ideas set forth by Schlesinger. Read "The Vital Center" and see for yourself how vital it is. It's well worth the price.

Davis dam on the Colorado River is expected to back up water to the foot of Hoover dam.

A tunnel under Mt. Blanc is being built that will shorten the Rome-Paris route by 10 miles.

It is estimated that about six tons of coal are used directly or indirectly to manufacture an average motor car.

Horticulturalists have developed a full line of midget fruit trees that grow to only a few feet tall.



HORIZONTAL
1. just
5. one indicated
9. apple seed
12. sea bird
13. female relative
14. united
15. stay
16. determined
18. haze
20. eloquent discourser
21. aflame
23. murdered
24. tear
26. ennead
30. time
31. antelope
33. forthwith
34. space between ribs in vaulted roof
36. educated
38. animal without feet
40. one who [illegible]
41. pertaining to bodies at rest
44. impelled
45. salt of arsenic acid
47. U. S. coin
50. shelter
51. auditory
52. above
53. a beverage
54. an abode
55. allot

VERTICAL
1. not many
2. Brazilian bird
3. adverse
4. recede
5. sour
6. color
7. saucy
8. reserve fund
9. sulk
10. within
11. match
17. very fine linen
19. withered
21. fish sauce
22. happen
23. composed
25. assign
27. dull
28. memorandum
29. pitcher
32. take out
35. new
37. haphazard
39. nut pine
41. season
42. exemplar of strength
43. on deep waters
44. denomination
46. it is, contracted
48. satisfied
49. prior to

Answer to Saturday's puzzle.

SPA AMT SEPAL
ERN LEA TARGE
VAINEST AREAS
ETTA STAINS
NEARS END SAW
READS CERE
ALLOTS ERASED
SLOW STRIP
ADD REE PENCE
GRATED ROIL
IDEAS TENSILE
DIRGE ELI SIC
ASSES REP EAT

1-30

Average time of solution: 27 minutes.
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