

The Daily Tar Heel

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To Elect Or...

At about this time of year political candidates crop up at a ratio of about one out of three students (increases to nine out of ten as you approach the Y court.)

All of them will not run, most of them will not win, but they are all thinking about it hard enough to come up with "platform" ideas as to what is wrong with Student Government.

Perennial among those ideas is that the editorship of this newspaper should be "taken out of politics." Last year's editor closed out his reign with an editorial called "Don't Elect Editor," and he explained why.

The reasons given are that the job is a technical one requiring politics, specialized skills, and that the best journalist is seldom the best politician, and therefore not the most likely to succeed in a campus election.

The fallacy of the argument is obvious to all democrats (small "d"). The paper is a big-time business. Even in this worst year since the war, the paper will handle around \$40,000 worth of business. But it is a cooperative business, not owned by private interest. Furthermore, the paper represents more than a journalistic endeavor. It serves as the voice of the students of the University to the university administration, and the people of the state.

For these reasons, it is essential that those who publish the newspaper, the owners, (the entire student body, not the Publications Board) be allowed to choose their management, just as in any business enterprise.

And it is essential that the cooperative block fee system contain a representative form of government, that those who are taxed may choose the taxers, and that those who are spoken for may choose their speaker.

Such is the theory of democracy.

by Dave Kerley

By Their Deeds

The moral irresponsibility of the UP leaders is illustrated once again in the Friday column by their Chairman, Mr. Biff Roberts.

The original re-districting bill introduced in the current Legislature was a bill proposed by the Town Men's Association and supported by the Student Party. It provided representation for the Town Men in proportion to their population... something they have never had under UP gerrymanders heretofore prevailing. Block voting by the UP machine prevented passage.

Encouraged by the UP floor-leader's assurance of cooperation, SP legislator Henry Lowett introduced a resolution creating a Bipartisan Committee to make recommendations. An amendment was adopted authorizing the Committee to consider also the dormitory districts, and the bill was passed.

The Bipartisan Committee met and decided (1) it would be impossible to work out an overall bill satisfactory to all sides in time for the spring elections, hence the Committee should propose a stop-gap measure and continue its study of the overall problem, (2) there was no immediate need for redistricting the dormitories and that problem should be deferred for study as a part of the permanent plan, and (3) a compromise bill on the town districts should be proposed immediately because both sides agreed the existing UP created gerrymander was indefensible. On a nine member committee, only one voice was raised against any of these decisions.

Two compromise plans for redistricting the town were proposed, one by President Bowers and one by the UP floorleader.

The latter was approved 7-1 as a later session of the committee, but only after a revealing incident. When the final vote was called for, UP Legislator Hamilton C. Horton, Junior, asked for a five minute recess to permit him "to confer with three other students." The recess was granted and Mr. Gromyko stalked out to hold his party caucus. Upon returning he formally proposed to reconsider the decision on dormitory districting, but the proposal received only three votes.

At the next session of the Legislature the compromise passed almost unanimously, but only after the UP had again tried to confuse the issue by introducing an irrelevant amendment. Their petty piddling was, as usual, nauseous.

A UP Legislator then introduced a bill to redistrict the dormitories. In general, this bill would have reestablished the same districts which were thrown out a year ago because they had proved unworkable.

At a Bipartisan Committee meeting part of this UP bill was deleted after a UP Legislator characterized it as "the stupidest thing I ever read." Further improvements were made, but the final draft was still reported out unfavorably.

In the Legislature the UP machine succeeded in getting several silly amendments adopted, one of which abolished the Co-ed Dormitory District entirely (on reconsideration they decided to let the gals vote after all). By the time they got the bill adopted, even the UP machine didn't know what it said.

Now did somebody want to know why a presidential veto was necessary?

Riff... by Raff

I often try to flatter myself by believing I am neither an alarmist nor a pacifist. In order to be neither of these I have to survey a whole issue and draw my conclusions from all the facts presented.

I have no inside dope on the affairs of academic freedom's state and am about as well informed as any of the rest of you—the reading public. A well-worn phrase is apropos here—"Do you believe everything you read in the papers?" Well, what else are we to believe? We have no other source of information unless we become our own detectives.

From a general view of the picture recorded in The Daily Tar Heel throughout the last week or so, I do not find myself getting alarmed or particularly outspoken. I am quite hot under the collar over the actions of some of our respected trustees and am glad to note that some of their trust has taken on a new form of respect. This, however, is indicative of something greater than revealing corruption in our public officials.

These dirty spots in society are not uncommon; we see them everyday. The ones who clean up these soiled areas are the ones who are too few.

We here at Carolina have been accused of being rather passive when it comes to government. Have you ever noticed who those accusers are? The ones who holler the loudest are the Carolina students themselves. After all, there are not too many people in the world who are willing to stick their necks out for the good of other people. Dick Murphy, Henry Bowers and folks like Rosemary Boney of the Woman's College "Carolinian" are rare and always have been hard to find.

Muck-makers have to be powerful people and many of us don't meet the requirements. We can't all be leaders in clean-up campaigns, but we can be participants. The recent exposes are valuable in the sense that they created an interest in just what has been going on behind the scenes. There are still those who feel it is necessary that the public be well informed and be presented with checked and correct facts. When people like these disappear and volunteer public servants are no longer in the forefront, then it is time that we should start worrying.

Of course, I do not mean to infer that because we do have such informants as Dick Murphy and the rest that we should become lackadaisical about our student government. I mean only to draw attention to those about whom we should be proud. Duty well done, fellows!

On Campus

At the University a few years ago, a psychology student finished his exam in five minutes. The exam called for definition or summary of the particular course in Psychology. The student wrote, "Psychology is the science of pulling habits out of rabbits."

Then the student went out and had a few beers. His grade on the exam? "A".

Letters To The Editor

Madam Editor:

After reading Mr. Dudley W. Crawford's letter in the February 24th issue of this publication, I find it necessary to pen an answer.

Mr. Crawford, you have painted a very vivid word picture of what seems to be a large part of the student body of the University of North Carolina.

However I must take issue with your intimation that our universities are entirely responsible for the thousands of hoodlums turned loose into the world each year.

Who are the parents of these hoodlums, who have prepared these hoodlums for attendance at our universities?

Pick at random a hundred students. How many do you think can name the books of the Bible? How many do you think can name even ten books of the Bible? How much do you think they know of the United States Constitution? How many know the preamble, can name or describe half of the amendments? How many do you think know their U. S. senators, U. S. representatives, the congressional district in which they live?

How many of the urban dwellers do you think, Mr. Crawford, can name their city councilmen? How many of the rural residents do you think can name their township trustees and county commissioners?

How many of the one hundred do you think can name even our chief delegate to the United Nations? How many have taken the time to read just once the UN charter?

How many do you think find it easy to write a simple essay, to solve everyday mathematical problems, to spell simple words, to speak before more than three or four strangers (or even friends)?

Who is responsible for these present-day hoodlums? You Mr. Crawford and your generation are partially responsible. The parents of today, the school sys-

On Campus

From the Minnesota Daily comes proof that Shakespeare's writings can apply to just about anything. Concerning Exams:

Studying in a library: "More light, you knaves; and turn the tables up, and quench the fire, the room is grown too hot." ... Romeo and Juliet.

Cramming a 3 a.m.: "How weary, stale, flat and unprofitable seem to me all the uses of this world." ... Hamlet.

Cramming at 7 a.m.: "It is not for your health thus to commit your weak condition to the raw cold morning." Julius Caesar.

Teacher hands out tests: "O most pernicious woman! O villain, villain, smiling, damned villain!" Hamlet.

Composition exam: "Why, I will fight with him upon this theme until my eyelids will no longer wag." Hamlet.

Fountain pen leaks: "Out, damned spot! Out, I say!" Macbeth.

tems of our great country, our churches, and our universities also share in the responsibility. Our young people do not become hoodlums upon matriculation. Perhaps, Mr. Crawford, you should visit some of our primary and secondary schools, some of our Sunday schools. Then look at the parents of these children. And don't forget to examine the grandparents, Mr. Crawford.

How can this unfortunate situation be remedied? Where do we start? What shall be done?

May I suggest that we start by practicing the golden rule. I would further suggest that we all take a more active part in our local governments, in our primary, secondary, and Sunday schools. We should be interested in who are our school board members, who are our governmental representatives. We should all become more interested in our community as a whole—attend city council meetings, write to our representatives when we don't agree with them, talk with our city councilmen, attend P. T. A. meetings and other civic group meetings, become familiar with our governmental and unofficial agencies.

Perhaps you, Mr. Crawford, do all or many of the above. But I am sure you know of many people people of your own generation and their progeny, who are very similar to these hoodlums you have written about. The one big difference is that the majority of them do not boo, hiss, whistle, yell, and generally make a fool of themselves in public. Perhaps I should have omitted "and generally made a fool of themselves."

It is not my intention to completely excuse the hoodlums because of their upbringing. The young people of today must realize that they will be the parents of tomorrow's children and will soon be responsible for the world about them.

Perhaps in another two or three generations we can look down (or up) and be justly proud of our progeny.

Name Withheld by Request

For those with short memories, alumnus Crawford's letter dealt with the "hoodlums" who haunt the local theaters. The editors.

On Campus

Will the Iron Curtain Crack A Smile? ...

Editors of the Wampus, humor magazine at the University of Southern California, have added a little warmth to the cold war. They cabled the following message to the Moscow office of Krokodil, only Soviet humor magazine.

"Our stock anti-Truman jokes are running low. Here you have inexhaustible supply. Our supply anti-Stalin jokes limitless. Suggest exchange and publication. Will run all your anti-Truman jokes verbatim for all our anti-Stalin stories you use verbatim."

So far Moscow has made no reply. Perhaps they are afraid they will be put behind Iron bars, or maybe they know it would be Curtains for them if they agreed to the bargain.