

# The Daily Tar Heel

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## A Giant's Eye

Ed Yoder

Elmer Davis, distinguished author and radio commentator, has sworn eternal hostility against every form of tyranny over the mind of man. He just published a book of his collected essays and speeches, *But We Were Born Free*, that indicates he intends to stick by his guns. Mr. Davis has detected the growing impulse in this country to reduce "the freedom of the mind, the basic freedom from which all other freedoms spring." He finds it in many facets of national life — in McCarthyism, in Congressional attempts to dominate national government, in censorship, in threats to schools, and in a nasty campaign against the bona fide liberal thinker — all of which, in fact, form a sinister concatenation. As no one else has done quite so well, Mr. Davis defines concisely and points directly at the sources of this dryrot. He calls on those who still value truth, courage, and dignity to combat them. There is something in this book for every reader. For those who still appreciate something on an ideal plane, there is much about freedom as an ideal. For those who must have a freedom defined so that they can see it and touch it, there is a tangible freedom. The importance of the book lies in its wide appreciation of what Tacitus called "the felicity of the times when you can think what you like and say what you think."

The major error we are making, according to Mr. Davis, is one of judgment. To negate those errors of judgment, some of which are getting so gross as to present a clear and present danger, he proposes a plan of action which entails common sense, courage, and anti-ignorance—a plan of action to bring the public to a realization of who is friend and who is foe.

The justification for Congressional investigating committees is that they may unearth some need for remedial legislation; Davis finds it incongruous that many of their probes have turned toward First Amendment areas in which Congress is prohibited from passing laws.

As Congress asserts itself, through its more ruthless members, he foresees a period of national fruitlessness — for "we might reflect that all of the periods of Congressional government in our history have been periods either of bad government or do-nothing government." It is thought to chew on.

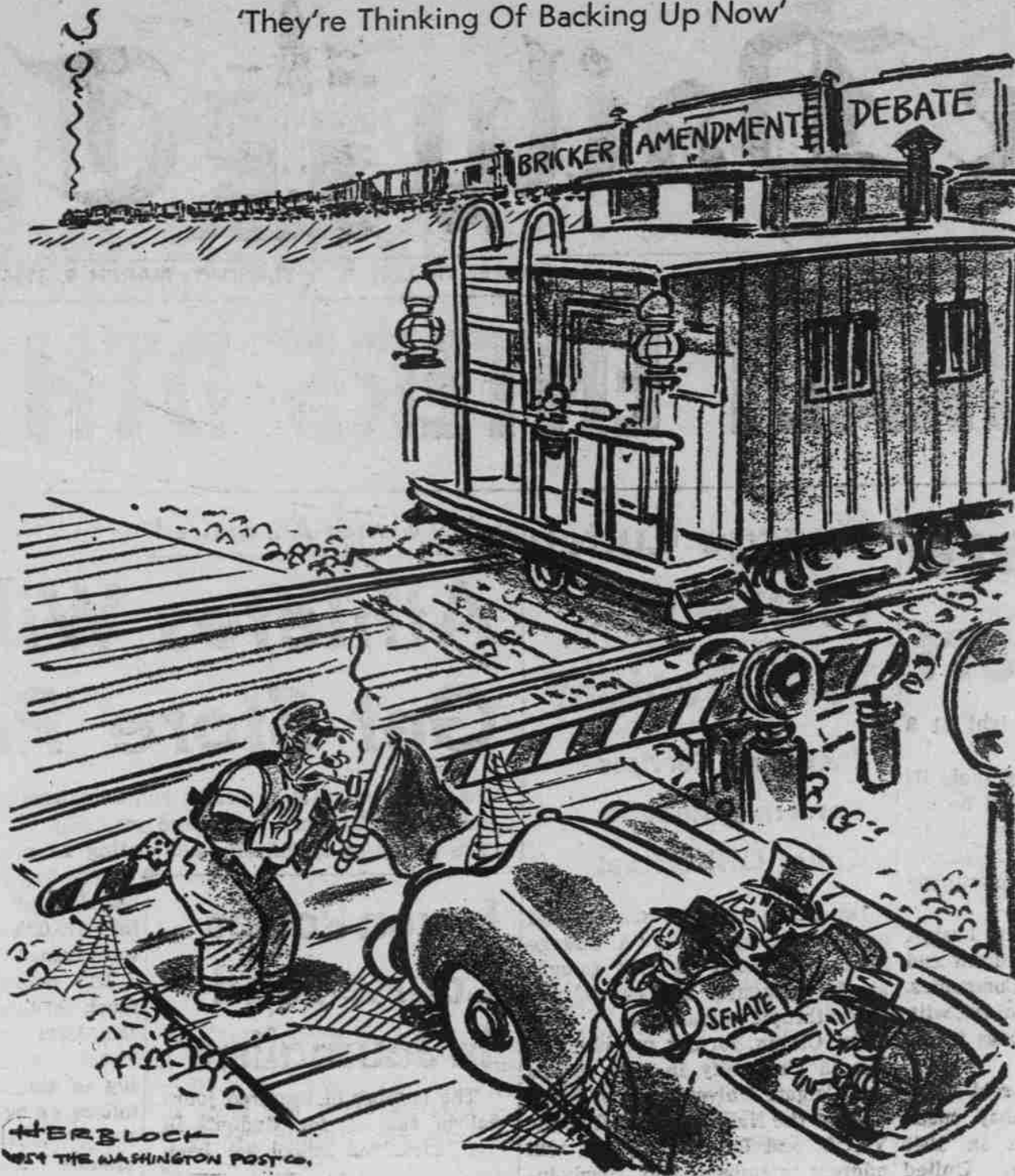
He lodges another annoyed reaction in his essay, "History in Double-think," which originally appeared in the *Saturday Review*. It is directed against the Chamberesque ex-Communists, the "wandering minstrels," who continue, often to the boredom of sensible citizens, to jingle their keys to the kingdom—the tenets of the extreme right wing. Chambers said in *Witness*, "there are revolutions and counter-revolutions"—meaning there can be no moderate ground. Mr. Davis disagrees (borne out by about 99 percent of the people in Europe and America) and is indignant at the audacity of those who may be as wrong now as they were in the Thirties.

His positive solution? He has not joined the ranks of the messiahs—and claims no infallible program. But he has good suggestions. His first dictum is, "Don't let them scare you." If need be, honest liberals must become as uncompromising as McCarthy; we must protest vigorously in defence of civil liberties; and when McCarthyism lies boldly and brazenly, we must say it lies—and tell why.

Intellectual sterility—even in a bee-hive of technological power—is the initial step downward. Dissent and difference of opinion must stay sound: error of opinion may be tolerated, as Jefferson said, as long as truth is left free to combat it. The country must get rid of fear of its own being.

A strong, well-balanced central government is important. Above all, we must remember the Constitutional safe-guards—"to prevent the majority from doing anything that may suit its whim of the moment is precisely the reason why we have a constitution."

Many of the things Davis says here are obvious and have been said from mumbling, scattered mouths before. But we have needed someone to say them eloquently and courageously—a sort of Odysseus to drive a red hot stake into the giant's eye. Mr. Davis has done just that.



## Indo-China Will Go To Reds

Drew Pearson

WASHINGTON—The headlines and hullabaloo over McCarthy vs. Eisenhower have obscured a lot of other things happening around the world, some just about as important to the free world as the battle over McCarthyism.

One is an indignant though unpublished veto by French foreign minister Bidault of the American suggestion that the United States train native Indo-Chinese troops.

When the proposal was put up to the French that U.S. military men use the same training tactics they so successfully used with the Greeks and South Koreans, Bidault told the American Embassy: As long as French troops and not Americans are fighting and dying in Indo-China, there will be no American training program.

Bidault's answer startled the Pentagon which had been planning to send General "Iron Mike" O'Daniel to Indo-China. O'Daniel will still go, but with no authority to train troops.

Meanwhile, it's reported that at a secret meeting in Peiping, the Russians and Chinese promised heavy armament and troops to the Indo-Chinese Reds. All indications are that Indo-China will sooner or later go Communist.

Senator McCarthy is looking for a new chief counsel for his investigating committee. Roy Cohn, the brash, brilliant young prosecuting attorney now holding down that job, is slated for the axe.

Chief reason is that McCarthy needs a scapegoat. The heat from

the White House has been too great, also from other members of the McCarthy subcommittee.

Another reason for axing Cohn is that the Army has kept a record of his telephone conversations on behalf of his friend Gerard David Schine in which he sought favors for the young ex-McCarthy investigator.

Significantly, McCarthy is trying to find a lawyer of the Jewish faith to replace Cohn. He considers this important in order to offset the charge that he is anti-Semitic.

Cohn, however, did not exactly help McCarthy to refute this charge. Meeting McCarthy and Cohn at the Carrol Arms Hotel in Washington one day, Arnold Forster, secretary of the Anti-Defamation League, was greeted with this salutation from Cohn: "How are all the — Jews in New York?"

"Fine," replied Foster. "I had dinner with your father last night."

One of the grand old men of American politics, Alben "The Veep" Barkley, is expected to announce this week that he will stage a comeback to Washington.

Barkley, now 76 years old, but spry than most men of forty, has been speaking all over Kentucky and will soon announce for the Senate seat he vacated when elected vice president in 1948.

Political dopsters predict that he is certain to win. Kentucky has come to love Alben as it does bourbon and race horses; so that almost no Republican candidate could stop him, not even one as able as Senator John Sherman Cooper.

Cooper, a former governor of Kentucky and once before elected to the Senate, is one of the most popular Republicans in a

state traditionally Democratic. It is said that if Cooper had been born fifty miles farther west he would have been a Democrat and could stay in the Senate indefinitely. However, during the Civil War, the political line separated Kentucky's eastern mountains from the pro-South midlands, and the state has been divided politically ever since.

So it's almost certain that the familiar face of the Veep will be seen once again around the Capitol.

It has now been two months since Congress convened, and at long last Senator Lyndon Johnson of Texas, the so-called Democratic leader, has called a Democratic caucus.

Ordinarily a party caucus is held at the very start of a Congressional session, but Johnson carefully avoided calling one until this week. Reason for ducking usual procedure was the fear that Democratic Senators opposing him would stage a rump revolt.

Meanwhile, Lyndon has been complaining privately to colleagues that his hands are tied by conservative forces back in Texas, such as oilman Hunt and the Shiverscrats. If he antagonizes them he fears he'll arouse opposition for re-election.

This caused The Louisville Courier-Journal, one of the leading Democratic papers of the nation, to ask Johnson editorially and his assistant, Senator Clements of Kentucky, which was most important—the Democratic Party or Texas opposition to Johnson. The main object of the Democratic leadership in the Senate, the Courier-Journal chided, seemed to be to conduct the Democratic Party for the benefit of Lyndon Johnson, not for the benefit of the nation.

## YOU Said It

Editor: We read Peacock's announcement for the candidacy of the editorship, and would like to make the following comments on his announcement. Statements from Tar Heel:

1. "For three years I have watched the Editor of The Daily Tar Heel force his opinions on the student body."
2. "These editors have disagreed with the majority of students on most major issues."
3. "This year the Editor has diverted much of his space to condemning our athletic program, though the athletic department is an important member in good standing of our University."
4. "Saturday's coverage of Dean Weaver's speech, with its anti-athletic coloring, plus what I consider a misrepresenting editorial, is the culmination of these three years of student misrepresentation."
5. "My goal is to print a Daily Tar Heel which reflects the opinion of the student body."
6. "My goal is to make the Daily Tar Heel a true student newspaper, not the sounding board of an individual."
7. "Our athletic program is not the only contention of the Daily Tar Heel's editorial policy. The Daily Tar Heel should be as conservative as the student body. I hope to make it so."
8. "If Peacock had such a genuine interest in the opinions of the editor and his 'forcing' of these on the student body, why did he continue working with the editor, and why did it take Peacock three years to get the 'courage' to challenge this 'sinful' practice? Tom failed to understand that we students do not believe everything we read. Perhaps he felt that he would write editorials which contained absolutely no opinion whatsoever. In other words the editorial column would be completely blank."
9. "Peacock admits that the editor has agreed with the majority of the students on some major issues. But what constitutes a major issue? Something which affects his positions among the 'gladitors' or something which affects the future of the students and the University?"
10. "The students give the editor the right to disagree and the right to point out ill-practices of any department when they elect him. In any exposure of favoritism, those who stand to lose most cry loudest."
11. "Dean Weaver's speech was quoted. When he said that athletics in the University had reached the professional stage, that's what he meant."
12. "Tom seems to feel as though he is the only person who can reflect the true opinion of the student body. At one place Mr. Peacock used the term referendum. Does this mean that he would hold a referendum before expressing 'his' opinion in an editorial? It would take almost forty-eight hours just to ask each student one question."
13. "Maybe he would obtain student opinion quicker by gazing into a leather ball."
14. "From the announcement, it appears that he is in favor of a true student newspaper and not a sounding board for an individual."
15. "We agree with him when he indicated that if elected editor, the paper would not be run by an individual. It would probably be operated by a group of 'elite.' 'Elite' which consider themselves the only persons with the insight to tell the students what they should and should not believe about big-time athletics. Perhaps they sincerely believe that the whole University would collapse if intercollegiate athletics were placed on an amateur basis."
16. "With Peacock's background of three years faithful service to athletics, we are sure that he will look with 'tolerance' upon those who believe that athletics is just one of many aspects of a University."
17. "We were glad to see that 5.8 per cent of his candidacy announcement pertained to things other than athletics. It shows that only 94.2 per cent of his mind is occupied with athletics. We need a 'broadminded' person of his wide experience in all fields."
18. "Old Peacock was really mixed-up when he said 'as conservative as the student body.' When did the student body become conservative? If the student body is conservative, why has it always elected a liberal editor?"
19. "There are only a few Tom-type conservatives. The others of us, whatever he may call us, believe in making progress which will benefit all students and all departments of the University. As Peacock concluded, we 'hope to do so.'"

Charles Childs  
Tommy Bennett

Editor: Re "Tale of the Dawg" for Feb. 26. Basically, there are two sides to every question, and the McCarthy dispute is no exception. However, in his zeal to be independent, your friend The Dawg has overlooked a number of points.

It is the right, rather the duty, of the Congress to act as watchdog on the Executive. They rightfully have the power to investigate any facet of government operations, or American or foreign conditions, in an effort to secure facts for future action or policy. However, it should be assumed that this legislative body will conduct itself in such manner that the overall efficiency of government and the overall security of the nation are not endangered.

No person who claims immunity under the Fifth Amendment has any right to hold a position of responsibility and trust. Those of us who are not swept up in either the Hate-McCarthy or Love-McCarthy clubs are able to see that this is true, but we are also able to see that "Fifth Amendment Communists" are not the only people who are quizzed before the Senator's committee. The day is coming when the self-respecting American will hesitate to offer his services to the government or the armed forces of the United States. No degree of patriotism or personal humility will allow a man of character to submit himself to being reviled and spat upon by demagogues.

McCarthy has helped to awaken America to the Communist menace, and should be given due credit for his efforts. Nevertheless, let us not be blind to the fact that, without democratic restraint, the greatest heroes have become tyrants.

William McCorkle

("William McCorkle" is the younger brother of Charles McCorkle, i.e., Chuck Hauser.—Editor.)

## YOU Said It

Vanishing Symbols; Coeds Challenged

Editor: It seems that everyone else is making comments concerning the dating problems of Carolina coeds, so I might as well get in my two cents worth.

Frankly, I'd much prefer dating imports. I say this for several reasons which would take too long to explain—but I'll cite just a couple for you.

First, I'll go along with what one of my fellow male students said a few days ago: Coeds will break dates just to date someone they like better. Well, they will also break dates just to sit in their dorm all night.

Maybe they're trying to play hard to get (God knows?). Well, they certainly should wake up or they will be sitting in their dorms at night because they have no alternatives. I frankly don't like to have a girl call me and break a date unless there is a darn good reason for it.

Secondly, why can't they come down off their pedestals. Most of our coeds have a formal introduction before they can even speak to a guy. They should go to WC, Duke or almost any other college and they will see girls speaking to the "opposite sex" regardless of whether they know them or not. That's not flirting; that's being sociable. (I hope the few friendly coeds will excuse me.)

In closing I'll say if the coeds want to date, why

don't they start being a little more considerate by not breaking dates unless it's necessary, and trying to be a little friendlier from now on.

I'd like to have a coed's reply concerning these two faults. So girls, if you can deny these things, let's read about it in this column. You poor dears.

Name Withheld By Request

Editor: What is happening to the campus? Around the Old Well, bulldozers are tearing up and flattening the area to make way for a formal garden. Down on Franklin Street, near to Graham Memorial and in front of the Planetarium, a long line of flowering trees has been hacked down to make way for a parking lot.

Parking space is a critical issue in Chapel Hill, but is it necessary to fell every tree in sight?

One of the attractions of our campus is the informality and charm of old trees and lawns—symbols of Carolina's liberal traditions and outlook.

Surely McCarthy is not being the efforts to put our campus in a straitjacket.

Please let us have new trees planted to replace the old ones as they die—and less of this formality that is more in keeping with young "Dook."

William Johnstone Brown