

The President And The Physicist

In a secret room somewhere in Washington today, the president of the University is performing for his government the most vital task to which he has yet been called.

It is Gordon Gray and his two fellow members of the Atomic Energy Commission's board of inquiry who will decide on the loyalty of Dr. J. Robert Oppenheimer, the pioneer atomic scientist.

The charges, made public by Senator McCarthy and others, that Dr. Oppenheimer opposed the H-bomb program with dark motives and that he even supplied the Communists with atomic secrets, will be sufficient to brand the man a traitor in the minds of many.

Guilt by accusation, however, is not yet the law of the land. And the only acknowledged doubt about Dr. Oppenheimer's loyalty—that as a young man he associated with Communists—was effectively scotched in advance by Dr. Oppenheimer in 1949 when he wrote to the late Senator Brien McMahon: "It would be foolish to suppose that a young man sympathetic to Communists in his student days would by that fact alone become disloyal and a potential traitor. It is basic to science and democracy alike that men learn by error."

This is an expression that we are certain, be remembered by Mr. Gray and his board members. The importance of their job is heightened by a world condition of crisis and suspicion in which the non-conformist opinions of free men are being taken in some quarters as a proper basis for judgment of their loyalty.

President Gray's fair mind and innate calm and unprejudiced nature will find heavy use here. We wish him well.

Take One Giant Step

We are taking our first baby steps today in an area previously reserved for the giant strides of Editor Rolfe Neill. We find, upon first use of his typewriter, a simple fact that needs acknowledging: He has been the best Daily Tar Heel editor of all.

Beyond the things well known about Rolfe Neill—that he has stated his belief articulately, that his editorial skill places him in the first rank of his profession, that he has made you laugh and made you mad—some less public accomplishments should be recorded:

For a long time, he has patiently put up with his less-dedicated associates, smoothed their egos and copyread their spelling. His field of interest has reached to all points of the universe and the University; little is above his attention; nothing is beneath his regard. He has held fast to his own opinions, allowing always for a contrary view. He has drawn from the past, not letting tradition become an impediment.

His newspaper has attested, we think, to his competency. In the language of the vaudeville circuit, he'll be a hard act to follow.

The Daily Tar Heel

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Night Editor for this issue: Rolfe Neill

Tar Heel At Large

Chuck Hauser

THE ROAD TO HELL got a lot of paving stones over the holidays as hundreds of students carried books and lecture notes home and to the beach to "study" while they relaxed.

THE CAMPUS changed a lot in just five days. The trees are finally full, hiding buildings behind thick green fans. You can walk down through McCorkle Place, past Davie Poplar, the Caldwell Obelisk, and Silent Sam, and never get touched by the sun. Grass has sprung up around the newly-planted Old Well garden area, where the tired azalea blossoms are gasping out the last of their beauty.

AND AS WE enjoy the fresh, young and glorious sensations of another spring at Chapel Hill, men are dying in agony half-way around the world, their bodies ripped open and torn apart by mortar and artillery shells, burnt crisp by napalm, and chopped to pieces by machine gun slugs... In Washington, the Republican strain to convince themselves and the American public that "we're not going into Indochina... well, maybe not..." and they sweat out the votes the party would lose if the administration which went into office on a promise to get us out of one war turned around and got us into another... And a lot of people who can see farther than the next election look at their maps, and wonder what the difference is between Indochina and Korea, except that Indochina is much more of a keystone in the defense of what's left of the Free World than the bloody and scarred Korean peninsula....

ADD SIGNS OF Spring: Students swiping sheets of lens paper from zoology labs as coeds hit the roofs and field glasses are dusted off and put to use.

QUESTION OF the Week: What does the University do with all those \$2.50's it collects just before and after a holiday?

THE DISPUTE over whether Jim Fountain can or cannot legally be appointed as head cheerleader caused me to go to the elections laws and see just what the statutes say. From Article XIII, Section 2: "In every vacancy filled by appointment, the appointee shall have the same political status as the officer who held the position. The appointee shall fulfill the requirements of Art. VII, Sect. 3." So I turned to Article VII, Section 3. It lists the academic requirements for all office-holders—"he shall have passed a minimum of 40 hours in three quarters immediately prior to that quarter in which he is nominated, which shall be accompanied by an overall grade of C or higher." Fountain does not have an overall grade of C or higher for last year's work. Now you answer the question—is he or is he not eligible?

Nixon spoke for one hour without reading a manuscript and scarcely looking at his notes. His delivery had force, earnestness and a grasp of his subject. He was not partisan. The first half

'You Thinking About My Security Or Yours?'



Nixon's Getting Ike Buildup

Drew Pearson

WASHINGTON—The international political furor kicked up by Vice President Nixon's speech before the American Society of Newspaper Editors has now subsided, leaving two main points very clear:

1. Dicky Nixon looms more and more definitely as the man Eisenhower has picked to succeed him in 1956.

2. There is no question whatsoever that the Eisenhower Administration contemplates the use of armed force in Indo-China if necessary.

Despite a modifying statement by the State Department following Nixon's speech, both the use of American ground troops and small atomic bombs have been under discussion.

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