

### A Plug For The New, Restricted Elective System

Today's elective system puts "undergraduates on apron strings," argues Howard Mumford Jones in the October Atlantic Monthly.

Mr. Jones would make the point that drifts toward general education, toward broader study, are too tied up with concern for "adjustment" of the student and are ministering to the average and mediocre.

Mr. Jones, head of the English Department at Harvard, proposes a return to the "old, free-elective system... the untrammelled right of the undergraduate to make his own mistakes." Under such a plan, which he finds to have flourished between 1895 and 1915, "I can murmur," he says "that American literature, American art, American music, American science, and American technology came of age."

What Mr. Jones proposes may be at least partially warranted for the undergraduate of today, considering the oft-made charge that he learns very little about anything in particular; but we think Mr. Jones has misdiagnosed the tendencies in American educational philosophy when he argues against diffusion in the curriculum. Everywhere we look, general education is slipping shamefacedly into the corner to make room for specialization.

We find several other pretty weak legs beneath Mr. Jones's brief for the "old, free elective system." He comes perilously close to equating those who still believe in general education with a sort of intellectual peasantry; in other words, he equates those "on fire with fanatical enthusiasm for the first crusade, aerodynamics, quaternions, the Federal Reserve system, or the superiority of William Butler Yeats to all other recent poets" (to the exclusion, we assume, of more general study) with the intellectual aristocracy. No one would argue with him that John Sloan, Frank Lloyd Wright or Einstein of Princeton, with their immensely specialized learning, do (and did) not occupy a higher pinnacle on Parnassus than most of us.

But our educational system cannot be geared exclusively to the most promising specialists. What we would have, we fear, under a return to the "old, free elective system," would be a disastrous division in the level of education. We would have, on the one hand, an intellectual clique; on the other, a vast body of graduates who had completely wasted their time.

On this campus, we would develop, on one side, a small band of those who were off on the tangents of modern literature, of cybernetics, of nuclear physics; on the other, an army who spent every class hour in archeology and physical education.

Under the present elective system, which is not by any means free from flaws, the Einsteins, if they choose wisely, can still gain highly specialized learning; but the way is closed to those who would like to attend class two or three hours a day and then retire to the beer halls.

With due respect to Mr. Jones's thinking, we will, thank you, keep the present elective system.

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### Gracious Living—II (Second Series)

We bowled into Lenoir Hall with a coed friend of ours the other morning at 11 o'clock (which we had always thought the great coffee hour for mid-campus), marched up to a trimly-uniformed waitress who stood polishing the orange-juice dispenser behind the counter.

"One with double cream and one without," we said.

"Sorry, we don't serve after 11 in the morning," was the answer. "You'll have to go to the Pine Room."

Now, Gracious Living in Chapel Hill has many wellsprings, but not least among these is the vat of coffee which Lenoir Hall always has brewing at mid-morning. It is parching, withering — downright absurd — that the magic spigots are being corked at 11 a.m. Gracious Living in Lenoir Hall is drying to a drip.

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### The Daily Tar Heel

The official student publication of the Publications Board of the University of North Carolina, where it is published daily except Monday and examination and vacation periods and summer terms. Entered as second class matter in the post office in Chapel Hill, N. C., under the Act of March 8, 1879. Subscription rates: mailed, \$4 per year, \$2.50 a semester; delivered, \$6 a year, \$3.50 a semester.

Editors: ED YODER, LOUIS KRAAR  
 Managing Editor: FRED POWLEDGE  
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 Night Editor For This Issue: Reuben Leonard

### Crashing The Gates With A Shining Pen?

J.A.C. Dunn

NO SOONER do we say that things are very quiet on the Carolina Front than things begin to pick up and develop into a storm. This, we feel, is inevitable. It's like expecting pain after you wash your car. As a matter of fact, if the truth were known (and we can't think of any reason why it shouldn't be), we fully expected some public dust storm to blow up as soon as we made any expression of complacency.

SO HERE it is. The editors of this newspaper, twice within one week, have flung their weight around with a flaunting cry of "Freedom of the press! We must have freedom of the press!"

This is all very well. Certainly we must have freedom of the press. But let's not get ourselves arrested for breaking and entering in order to have it. At a meeting of the IFC last Monday night, Co-Editor Louis Kraar, denied entrance to the meeting on grounds that it was private and that proceedings were not for publication, replied that if the IFC would not permit the Daily Tar Heel to report the meetings, then the IFC would receive no coverage of any kind in the Daily Tar Heel.

"The Daily Tar Heel has a right to go into that meeting," Mr. Kraar told us when we questioned the propriety of his action. "The IFC is a representative student organization on campus. It affects students. What it does must be reported."

THE DAILY Tar Heel sent reporter Bill Corpening to cover the Pan-Hel meeting. Mr. Corpening was refused admittance. Contesting this refusal, Mr. Corpening forced the Pan-Hel to vote whether or not it would let a reporter in; the vote was unanimously against permitting the press to sit in on Pan-Hel meetings. OK, the Pan-Hel won't get any coverage at all of any kind in The Daily Tar Heel, said Editors Kraar and Ed Yoder. "As far as we are concerned, the Pan-Hel doesn't exist."

NOW LOOK, boys. Shall we be children, or shall we be newspaper editors? Shall we be sensible or shall we lose our heads and jump up and down on quicksand?

In our opinion no man, regardless of who he is, has a right to go where he is unauthorized or specifically uninvited to go. A newspaper certainly has an obligation to its readers to print news that affects them. However, a newspaper also has an obligation to the public at large, regardless of how many readers it has, to be ethical in its news-gathering methods.

"What if the student Legislature suddenly said, 'Our meetings are private and you can't come in unless you're a member,'" Mr. Kraar queried us.

Well, obviously, this would be wrong. This would be just as wrong as the IFC and the Pan-Hel saying the same thing. However, it appears to us that action in correcting a wrong of this kind should originate with the students. If enough people get mad and say so, the people at whom they are mad usually back down and acquiesce, particularly if they are representative people.

The people who are being hurt are the people who should help themselves. If the people either don't know they are being hurt or don't care, a newspaper's responsibility is to tell them so, not to turn into righteous gate crashers.

THE PEN, they say, is mightier than the sword. This is true, but only when the pen is used as a pen. The pen and the sword are still, no matter what Mr. Kraar says, two different implements. Using a pen for a sword blunts the point, it seems to us. Entry to a "peaceable assembly" is a privilege, not a right. Let's stick to the pen and let the ROTC handle the sword department, Messrs. Kraar and Yoder.

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### Mountains And Mountains Of Tickets— Parking Situation Gets Tougher As Automotive Iron Piles Up

Bill Ragsdale

Two thousand-plus automobiles makes a lot of iron to stow around a little town like Chapel Hill, and the problem of parking is getting progressively harder to deal with. There is, however, some action being taken now by the students, the administration, and the officials of the town of Chapel Hill. Everyone is mad because he is convinced that he is the only person that can't find a parking space. It ain't so. I can't either.

#### NEW LADY

There's a young lady down at the City Hall that wasn't there last year. The job she holds wasn't there last year either. It consists of burrowing into a mountain of old parking tickets, getting out the separate piles belonging to the different offenders, and sending out bright red bills with total fines in them. That can make for a mighty sad mail delivery. ANOTHER THING: THOSE GUYS OVER THERE CAN GIVE YOU A REAL HARD TIME IF YOU LET THEM HOLD THREE TICKETS OF YOURS AT ONCE. A total fine that would be three dollars goes up to about fifteen when combined with costs of court and the charge of serving a warrant. And that's what they'll do, Pal.

Registration has been going on for seven years now, and if it's accomplished anything concrete I don't know what it is. This year things are a bit stiffer; registration is compulsory, with suspect cars checked with Raleigh and the owners notified that they have forty-eight hours to register or explain why they didn't to the Honor Council. Actually, anything that the gentlemen up in South Building can do for us will come after, and only after, a complete registration of student cars. Registration itself isn't going to solve anything but the demonstration of student concern and willingness to cooperate must necessarily precede any action for our benefit.

#### TRUSTEES' ATTITUDE

The Trustees don't give much of a darn whether we have cars or not. They made the recommendation last spring that UNC attempt to improve the regulation of the use of cars and consider seriously the question of possession of automobiles by undergraduates. Most schools have this problem and most of them have much stronger rules concerning ownership than we approach having. Locally we have State, which forbids student cars on the campus, and Duke, which withholds the right of ownership from freshmen. We would have

### Readers Retort Conversation, Dunn & Gray

Alas, Poor Dunn

Editors:

Mr. Dunn's ridiculously pitiful imitation of Mr. Shulman's style in Thursday's Tar Heel would seem to indicate that he is giving his anemic imagination a grossly underdeserved rest cure.

I suggest that while the cure is being effected Mr. Dunn accede to the long-established precedent among Carolina journalists in similar straits of giving vent to an ever-lasting, all-consuming hatred for the University of Virginia. This old crutch has served faithfully in the past, having already been used once this semester by the Messrs. Kraar and Yoder. It has sure-fire appeal to the malignant jealousy lurking in the hearts of all true sons of the Old North State for everything the University of Virginia represents to them — culture, a refined social environment, an easy-going self-confidence that results from being heir to the heritage of colonial governors, men who framed our government, the foremost statesmen of the young nation, and Civil War generals.

Otherwise I'm afraid that if Mr. Dunn continues in his present nauseating vein he may incur censure in face of the discriminating acuity of the great student body of the University of North Carolina.

Shelton Whitehead Henderson

#### A Second For Leonard

Editors:

Rueben Leonard's article regarding the deterioration of the art of conversation was timely and badly needed. It is something which should have been sharply brought into focus long before now. I too have noticed the lack of worthwhile conversations. We need an awareness of the true values of life instead of this heavy concentration on parties, drinking and good times.

Perhaps The Daily Tar Heel could guide the Carolina student toward a higher level of culture and, ultimately, conversation. Each week an article, perhaps entitled "Literary Corner" could be included in the editorial section, featuring reviews and commentaries on outstanding books, art pieces and musical compositions, thus broadening the student's outlook. I know that the majority of Carolina students would welcome and benefit by such an opportunity.

Patty Randall

#### Who Is Responsible?

Editors:

But Mr. Gray did state his exact position. He resigned. They didn't accept it. Who, then, is responsible for headlessness? Not, I respectfully suggest, Mr. Gray.

Raoul Pierczinski

#### PRAYER BEFORE FOOTBALL

I haven't been in attendance at many college football games in recent years, so it may be that I'm out of touch with custom. Until the other night at the Wake Forest-South Carolina football game, I don't believe that I had ever heard an invocation pronounced before the evening's festivities got under way. Dr. Harold Tribble, Wake Forest president, did it and a mighty fine thing it was.—Al Resch in Chatham News.

### Goettingen Letter Mundy Doubts Geneva Spirit

Dave Mundy

(The latest trans-Atlantic post brought The Daily Tar Heel a letter from Mundy, exchange student at Goettingen this year. Mundy says he will have observations of student life in Germany as the term expires on November 1. He is typically gloomy about "The Spirit of Geneva." Mundy is a former Daily Tar Heel editor.—Editors.)

BERLIN—While ostensibly in Germany to observe German life, I hope to make a reportorial digression from purpose of the UNC-Goettingen student program. The political situation in Geneva," which looks quite different, supposed to look, as far as one American is concerned.

#### GAMUT OF OPINION

Since seeing my last of the U. S. have had many occasions to discuss the national situation with people from various nations. Naturally, their views have been the whole possible gamut, reactionary to the left. Even with this allowance, I feel quite in saying that the U. S. is currently in the greatest series of mistakes since the war days when Communism was in the teed custody of Eastern Europe and the series of mistakes, the "Spirit of Geneva" phrase goes, is insuring permanent domination of areas now under their control. The stage for further advances in Asia, the Middle East especially, France.

The "Spirit of Geneva" actually was long before the smiling faces of the Prussian shall Bulgarian and Comrade Krutcher.

#### SOFTENING

Since the last U. S. Congressional election has been a great "softening" of the U. S. towards Communist China. The fact that "softening" has been concealed from the home makes it all the more obvious.

The first evidence that the "spirit" was a disastrous one occurred in Singapore from the diplomatic receptions and of Europe and America. The instance was the nomination of Lin Yutang as head of the Peking University, which had been set up by Chinese university education for Chinese in Malaya. Already by late 1954 it was Southeast Asia that the U. S. was overto recognize Red China, ditch Chiang, piddling around and grant a few billion military aid for the sake of the American all while it writes Southeast Asia off as too complex to bother with.

The result has been to establish Red "THE" power in Asia. The Chinese people of Chinese extraction in Asia have all hope of a free China, and have turned themselves to eventual Communist domination same goes for most of the remainder of the sitting on the fence have gone over to the anti-Reds are either committing suicide tempting to change their colors.

#### SIGN OF FAILURE

The latest sign of failure is the return of Hugon Hanke, who was premier of government-in-exile, a government still recognized by four countries. The Communist satellite countries are being quite blaming all their past misdeeds on the posed Berlin. This, with the friendly over the west, has broken the spirit of West, has broken the spirit of those still hoping for an end to communist domination their homelands.

The "Spirit of Geneva" is in effect the sorest thorn in the flesh of the Soviet ability of losing their satellites. Meaning Middle East, Italy, and France, the are getting a new lease on life as the of peace." Last year, due to U.S. support prosperity, the communist parties in France were on the electoral defensive, are again increasing in significance.

#### DISTRACTION

The new "Spirit", which certainly exist without U. S. support, is driving anti-communist Europeans almost to distraction recently to a professor who but ago stuffed a few clothes into a traveling fled to West Germany. In the perspective own country he put the problem like years, even with peaceful East-West Communist indoctrination in East Germany have been so successful that Germany forever divided." The statement was of the hope that the Communists will not West Germany to their already well-



### Widening Gap Between Babbitts & Eggheads

#### On the pseudo-educated—

These are the people who appreciate paintings from the bottom up—that is, after seeing the painter's name they then have a proper reaction ready to hand and can tell you whether the painting is good or bad. These are the people who dogmatically take up the latest fads, whether they be painless childbirth or Kafka. And these people outrage the common sense of the layman by assuming a patronizing air toward the honest farmer or businessman, for instance, who probably has twice his native wit but who, unfortunately, has not read Proust. They know that culture is the money of the mind and like to rattle a little of the small change in their pockets. And culture is the one currency

we ought not to debase. . . . Now the educator, for his part, points out that wisdom and virtue are identical, the wise man is the good man; and it is the educated man therefore who makes the best citizen. Educators very properly insist that "respect for the truth is an acquired taste," and that acquiring it may take a long time and a lot of work and intellectual discipline, and may cost a lot of money. It is not necessarily acquired by practical training and experience, since this training puts its emphasis on how to get things done and not on values. And the educators further answer that education is something more than knowing the fashionable literary name; for education, as former President Conant of Harvard

said, is what is left after all that has been learned has been forgotten. . . . On the result of this open warfare: This division between the academic community on the one hand and the rest of society on the other has reached the alarming stage. "Academician" and egghead are some of the kinder epithets hurled by the business community, and businessmen resent being patronized as Babbitts and hollow men for their part. This is a great pity as it strikes at the root of what made North Carolina a great state—Governor Aycock's idea that if you educate the people the economic improvement of the state will follow automatically. Yet society today takes the attitude—and expressed this attitude

in concrete form in the last Legislature—that we will raise the material standard of living, then we will see to education. And yet education is not blameless. Both the educator and the businessman seem to feel that they can get along without each other. How many professors are asked to serve on corporate boards; and how many businessmen are consulted by a classics department, for example, as to how to put their case properly to foundations or the community? . . . Higher education is in danger of losing its place in North Carolina if this drift continues; and North Carolina is in danger of losing its place in the national economy if this happens. . . . —Judge E. Richardson Preyer at WC Founder's Day

### No Substitute For Sound Classical Education

IN OUR May issue report on the Great lecture series, read Euripides for Thomas More, instead of Moore; and than propylag.

Also, in her lecture on famous geological sites, Dr. Cobbs of Swarthmore color slide of the road which Odysseus traveled to the Temple of Apollo at Delos—From the Barnard (College) Alumni July 1955.