

Let's Get Out Of Limbo

The Board of Trustees' Executive Committee will file into Governor Hodges' office in Raleigh tomorrow for what could be the most crucial meeting since Gordon Gray's appointment as Consolidated University president was approved.

The Executive Committee has two possible courses:

1. It can maintain status quo, with President Gray in Washington as an assistant secretary of defense, and an acting president, now Dr. J. Harris Purks, in the consolidated office.

2. Or it can decide, as it did not when Mr. Gray departed in June, to accept his preferred resignation. In that case, the Executive Committee must think about a permanent successor.

On Quicksand

An acting administration stands on quicksand. The atmosphere which surrounds it, and of which it is part, is one of hesitation, uncertainty, and temporariness. It can fall almost instantaneously at the wishes of the trustees. The shortcomings of a temporary administration are not due to any fault in the personnel who man it; but they are without power to put it on par with an administration of certain tenure.

An acting administration, further, can't escape from the shadow of the actual administration, which still rests in Mr. Gray's hands. A president, even on leave, is responsible for the action of the subordinates who fill his job; and no matter how much real authority is vested in the subordinate, his position is in the final reckoning compromised.

The Daily Tar Heel feels that these limits on an acting administration make it unsatisfactory. The Executive Committee, we hope, will see eye to eye and move to change things.

It seemed doubtful, in light of what President Gray said in a press conference soon after he arrived on the Washington scene, that he planned to come back. He told columnist Doris Fleeson that his reasons for leaving Chapel Hill were "personal." But in his recently-issued report to the trustees on the state of the University, President Gray spoke enigmatically of his leave. He called it a "respite" for the University from the guidance of a professional administrator. These two explanations weigh against each other. It would seem that if Mr. Gray's reasons were actually "personal," time would not bring him back; but a "respite" is not permanent.

The Executive Committee, we think, should find out whether President Gray wants to return. If they find he does, he should be asked to withdraw his resignation and return immediately.

Finally, contrary to what he does not intend to return, the Executive Committee should accept his resignation with appreciation for his work and move on to the selection of a successor.

Educator Called For

If a successor is to be chosen, the trustees, we believe, would do well to turn to the ranks of the educators, the teachers, the men who serve in the classrooms, for their choice. Editor Weimar Jones of The Franklin Press has put the case for an educator as eloquently as it can be put:

North Carolina has its own traditions, character, and personality. Its university inevitably has grown out of those things; and to be a great university, it must continue to be distinctively North Carolina. To do that, it need not be provincial; every great individual remains true to the best in his background, remains himself, and the same is true of institutions. And unless our university remains true to itself, it is in danger of becoming one of those characterless, colorless aggregations of buildings, professors, and students chiefly remarkable for bigness — and a winning football team.

If the University is to build honestly and well, it must build on its own past, and on its state; and to do that, it must be headed by a man who understands and loves North Carolina; who knows where the University's roots lie, and has learned the feel of the soil in which they grow.

Finally, and of course most important of all, the new president must be a great person in his own right — an educator who translates learning into human values, a man of tolerance and broad human sympathy, a leader possessed of vision and faith and courage.

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 3, 1879. Subscription rates: mailed, \$4 per year, \$2.50 a semester; delivered, \$6 a year, \$3.50 a semester.

Editors: LOUIS KRAAR, ED YODER
Managing Editor: FRED POWLEDGE
News Editor: JACKIE GOODMAN
Business Manager: BILL BOB PEEL
Night Editor For This Issue: Curtis Gans

Treason On The Sports Frontier

Dan Saults

Missouri Conservationist

Even if it does irritate old grads, I'd like to think out loud for a while about football teams and their stadia, basketball squads with their monster field houses, track teams languishing in loneliness before vastly-empty stands, and the polo, tennis, golf, lacrosse, boxing, wrestling and cheerleading teams that are an integral part of high school and college life besides filling up sports pages when the baseball season is over.

Of course, these, items in the wonderful world of sports are part of the American way of life and must not be questioned. They prepare our young men and fair womanhood for citizenship and teach true sportsmanship. We could not have won World War II without exhibition boxing matches by champions; and without the football squads of the armed services, how would the forces of truth and freedom ever have swept to glorious victory?

★ ★ ★

I do not question these virtues. But thinking aloud on a personal basis: I quit playing basketball 15 years ago and quit dreaming of stardom long before that; I haven't tossed a baseball for five years; I haven't engaged in fist-cuffs since 1944, when an out-ranked and second lieutenant decided to see if he should have been outranked.

But I still go fishing; I still hunt a little.

Nobody ever really taught me these sports I can practice as a middle-aged man; coaches were busy trying to develop a hook shot or a fast start in the dashes. I wish, now, someone had taught me how to fish a little better, because that sport will be open to me as a participant for a good many years yet. God willing. Gunning or angling. I don't have to confine myself to indulging in what we collich-cultured journalists call "vicarious participation."

So at the risk of being disloyal to the sports sections of the free American press, I'm wondering—not suggesting, just wondering—if a course in plug casting or gun handling wouldn't prepare our American boyhood for life just as adequately as football casting or basketball handling. Seems to me the acquired skill might be more useful after boyhood has become manhood, might even teach a man or a woman to live with themselves better than they would learn by watching matched teams beat each other's collective brains out.

★ ★ ★

If this be treason, make me

of it. You can't draw 50,000 people to a fly-fasting contest, nor get Old Sivash's name in headlines with an exhibition of gun safety. But the air is fresher on Blue Bonnet creek than in Yankee Stadium and there's more exercise in following a dog across a field than in sitting on a hard board using eyeballs and vocal cords.

Techniques of live-bait fishing may not build school spirit but it surely wouldn't hurt academic standings any more than a 10-day jaunt to Madison Square Garden. Travel may be educational, but so few people get on basketball squads—someone has to be under seven feet.

★ ★ ★

It's hard to understand why so many schools resist hunting and fishing as "specialized interests" while paying a football coach more than the Dean of Men to instruct one-fiftieth of the student body. There are required "gym" classes, of course, but these generally—there are notable exceptions—rate calisthenics more ennobling than plug-flipping. Push-ups may build bodies, but their value in soul therapy is doubtful... and how many of you do push-ups now you're at the age to need 'em?

Hunting and fishing aren't particularly virtuous pastimes, but they keep a practitioner in better shape now than he's kept by the memories of boxing he did 20 years ago. Can you honestly name any sport that's useful to you to day, unless you're a young professional?

I'm not griping, you understand... just wondering if a course in using the outdoors wouldn't be as useful as a class in folk dancing?

—Point Of View—

Student Government: A Further Attempt At World Interrelation

Bill Wolf

I should like to continue the attempt to relate campus life and particularly the opportunity for self-government offered in Student Government to the problems of contemporary society, by proceeding next with what is sure to be a very superficial and obvious analysis of the results of political, social and economic problems on the individual and on society.

Most of us would be delighted to spend our days in the company of our families and friends, secure in the knowledge that we were loved by those close to us, assured of continuing status in the community, secure in the knowledge that we were productive parts of an economic system ever advancing and capable of rebounding from any setbacks, and that over all hovered an ever-present deity, rewarding all who abide by the imperatives of his cult. There are doubtless many people who manage to believe that all is well with these things which matter to them, and expect to live their lives in this manner.

However, it takes a positive will to ignore the fact that people in the United States are profoundly affected by the problems facing most of the rest of the world, and that it is quite unlikely that we shall be permitted by circumstances to live in such peace and contentment. Most of the rest in the United States probably recognize the dangers to their existence posed by the possibility of an atomic war with Russia, even if they know nothing of other contemporary problems.

These place their hopes, I presume, in "muddling through," at worst, and prefer to think that "it will never happen here," which is much better. Finally, there are a few individuals who recognize that, while history is largely chance, and that things are logically likely to happen frequently do not, and that others logically quite unlikely frequently do, as long as there is any chance whatever of an atomic war of a cataclysmic social revolution which might destroy Western Civilization, those chances must be reduced to a minimum by constant efforts.

A motive for this last group, in addition to that of self-preservation, is one necessitated by belief that Christianity, a central part of this Civilization, is worth trying to save; that they have an obligation to their fellow men, less fortunate than themselves, to assist them in all possible ways to achieve these people's aspirations and incidentally, in so doing, to further their own.

COMMON FACTOR

There is a common factor among these groups; all recognize explicitly or implicitly the insecurity of their position. For many in all groups, this insecurity is exhibited by a feeling that they have lost many of the certainties which used to govern life, at least life in the Good Old Days.

This is not necessarily true at all, but the feeling that it is, that the bedrock of their society is crumbling, produces the curious social life of our times.

In the United States this is shown by the escapism-at-all-costs (why else increase the horsepower of automobiles yearly), the apparent apathy or concern with mere trivialities on college campuses across the country, the violent and often irrational reactions against social change of any sort anti-integrationists threats in the Deep South to abolish

the public school system, for example), and the sometimes equally violent and irrational attacks on institutions, ideals and policies which are felt by some to be holding back the tide of progress, to be pernicious anachronisms, intolerable in the face of the exigencies of the mid-century world (academic freedom, segregation, the open shop, private provision for medical service, public power, and not using atomic weapons on Red China to "win" the Korean War are examples).

I should not be surprised if a good bit of the latter attacks were not the result of a desire to "get it over with," if trouble were inevitable. Needless to say, while most of us exhibit these reactions at times and in certain areas, and while they are very tempting in that they provide the adherent with the certainty that government in the field of power, for example, is the cause of all this, most of us will take even revolution in our strides with but little trouble, and a few regrets for the past. A few see in this seeming chaos an opportunity and a challenge to create a world better than ever before. One of the most notable of these is Bertrand Russell, a modern renaissance man, "a sane man in an insane world."

SUM OF INDIVIDUALS

Society, the sum of individuals, reacts to these times of change by calling for new truths to replace the old ones, since many are now impossible to believe, and are therefore useless as imperative guides for social conduct. Some call for new "religions of science," others for return to orthodox, and still others for a synthesis of all the ancient religions into a new one, embracing all peoples.

With the passage of the mores of the community comes an awareness of social guilt for having cast them aside. Some find "Peace of Mind," others their way to mental institutions, and most another bottle of beer, a football game, and Princess Margaret's romance.

The result of all this, in America at least, is certainly not the impending collapse of the social structure due to acute anxiety. Quite the contrary, I think that it is because we are not sufficiently aware of the threat, being in most cases put to only a little inconvenience. The "it will come out all right in the end" philosophy and particularly the "it will never happen here" notion could certainly turn out to be right. I do not think that I would bet on it, and the subject of a later article will be an attempt to dramatize the unhappy past results of such bets.

Reader's Retort: A Compliment For Handling Fud-Duds

Editors:

I wish to compliment you on your goodnatured yet unequivocal handling of the fuddy-duddy element of old folks as represented by Louis Graves, O. J. Coffin, and C. W. McGee.

C. B. Ives

A Spirit Indeed



Reader's Retort

A Plug For UP By Floorleader

Student Party Floorleader Larry McElroy's letter in Tuesday's Daily Tar Heel was quite appropriately headlined "SP Propaganda." In it, McElroy proceeded to criticize the University Party's legislative program; indeed, the letter said that the University Party has had no legislative program this fall.

Bear with me, students, through a few words of UP propaganda just to set the record straight!

As floorleader for the University Party, I can truthfully say that WE HAVE A VERY CONCRETE LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM, AND WE HAVE IN LARGE MEASURE SUCCEEDED IN CARRYING IT THROUGH.

Our aim in the Student Legislature has been:

(1) To reduce the amount of superfluous and abstract legislation and to concentrate legislative efforts on concrete measures which student leaders can carry out and enforce.

(2) To further in the Legislature the concept that administration and faculty co-operation and support are necessary (and should be desired) for effective and worthwhile student government. The University Party feels this is a fact which student leaders have tended to lose sight of in recent years and one which largely accounts for some ineffectiveness in student government.

(3) To ensure more conservatism in spending student government funds. Because of the depleted condition of the student treasury, this has become a necessity. In fact the spending powers of the Legislature have become nearly null, for the treasury is still feeling the effects of the rampant spending spree undertaken by the Student Party dominated Legislature in the spring of '54.

Here are the results:

Since the University Party has been in power, the number of bills introduced has been reduced. We don't believe it's the amount but the kind of legislation that counts. A UP-dominated Ways and Means Committee reported at one of the first meetings of the nineteenth session "The whole body is guilty of putting before itself abstract measures and ideas, which they have developed no further than the idea stage, and which have little chance of ever promoting concrete action... We ask that the legislators... be willing to work and investigate to discover what may be done to accomplish these ideas, and... that they bring them to the body in the form of definite, concrete suggestions..." Certainly this type bill is harder to come by, but in the long run a few good effective and enforceable measures accomplish more than many resolutions which "urge," or "go on record as favoring." Both parties have, since this report, reduced the amount of such legislation, but the UP led the way.

The University Party's second major policy has also achieved recognition and acceptance by the nineteenth assembly. Only Thursday night the Legislature defeated unanimously a motion to strike from a bill a clause directing the new Constitutional Revisional Commission to seek administrative and faculty aid and advice. The University Party hopes the renequing of this concept in the student Legislature will be a milestone in Carolina's Student Government.

The UP legislators have also succeeded in carrying out their third major aim, the reduction of legislative spending. The nineteenth session INTRODUCED money bills calling for an expense of about \$6,000; however only about \$4,000 worth of appropriations was actually passed thereby saving student government approximately \$2,000. Compare these figures with the nearly \$20,000 spent by the last SP dominated legislature. Because such extravagant spending in the past so depleted the student treasury, the nineteenth session of the Legislature has really been restricted from doing, money-wise, some of the things it could have done had we had a safe reserve of funds.

The University Party has, then,

Reader Charles Katzman Writes A Dramatic

Editors:

In response to the editorial of Nov. 10 Chapel Hill is burning! The fumes of student government is aflame, and the ashes of what once was, or used to have been at some time, are floating crazily, riding on the hot drifting breeze from the office of The Daily Tar Heel, the second floor of Graham Memorial, haunting strains of fiddle music, the instruments in hand, are dancing around the ceiling. Around its neck hangs a sign "I tried, but student leaders there were so I died." A chorus of staff workers in mournful tones somewhere in the

(Enter trustee, visiting on campus)

"We apologize, we apologize," the (salaming all the while), "would we were these worthy representatives from a government. We hope you were patient we sent."

"You see sir," exclaims one editor, "I'm in drift, and its never happened you know!"

"We're sorry that there just were student leaders to send to your meeting in situation. Do we still have cars at

"Don't be silly, boy," says the trustee, "students can't handle yourselves much your automobiles. Glad you brought about student government to the Board. Just stopped by to tell you that." (Exit)

"We need a revolution!" screams one editor.

"The Tar Heel must be the voice of

ness!" exclaims the other.

"I think we have some fine leaders government," says a little staff member, "things aren't that bad." He is silenced from the editors.

(A solemn column of figures enter swirls of smoke, pale after the battle mobile, sickened now as well as the

"Thank you for your well-timed speech the spokesman for the rejected ones,

"We didn't intend to embarrass you, staff member.

"We appreciated your constructive speech says the spokesman, "also your legal confidence."

(The figures turn as one, and file

DTH office, away from the source of flame.)

The staff is silent. The effigy was unceremoniously, as little currents of burnt waver about the room. Editors and staff are strangely quiet. One editor looks

other.

"Damn! Its hot in here."

Charles Katzman

The Serenade Of No Ball Or A Plea For Efficiency

Editors:

Why is it that a university that can control 6,000 students cannot cause a ball at the proper times? The bell always rings hours to begin the classes, but frequently not ring at the end of the class periods.

This is a source of embarrassment to professors, who often get carried away by lectures and have to be reminded that they have been over for five minutes, and who either have to remind the professors of oversight, or else be late for the next class.

Surely it is not such a difficult task to ring the bell promptly. Let's have a little efficiency on the part of the Administration.

Stephan

not only "called the plays and carried the ball" but we have scored.

We are thankful for those students who helped put UP in the majority. The University Party would ask, however, that you the voters not only look at past legislative records but also at the ability and integrity of the candidates now running to take seats in the twentieth legislative assembly.

Jim Exum
UP Floorleader

A Definition

When a Russian says that some proposal is "unrealistic," he doesn't mean that it's unrealistic. It means only that he is turning it down because it doesn't suit his book.—The Montreal Star