

Admissions Tests & The Lower Quartile

At its Monday meeting, the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees resolved into effect a drastic change in admissions policy for the University.

In the face of knocks at the college gates all over the nation, with Chapel Hill no less affected than other schools, a move in some direction had become mandatory. Enrollment in North Carolina colleges has risen over 30 percent during the residence of our student generation.

Acting President Purks, in his speech to the faculty at the beginning of the school year, registered his, and the Trustees', concern over rising numbers. The dilemma has been somewhat simple at bottom: Whether the University would attempt to meet the problem of rising enrollment by increasing its size and facilities; or whether it would raise its standards and thus be forced to exclude potential students at the bottom of the list.

The dilemma is part of a larger question in the philosophy of education: Is it possible to educate in the colleges a continually increasing number without the system's degenerating into mediocrity? The feeling has been high on both sides. One side charges that to retreat from the possibilities of higher education for the many would be to retreat from a non-too-concrete "fundamental" of democracy. The other charges that rising admissions have forced teachers, administrators, and colleges to gear their standards to the middle wheel. Joseph and Stewart Alsop, taking the latter view in an Atlantic Monthly article, suggested that American institutions of learning are making themselves "breeding grounds for mediocrity."

In our own situation, several factors are material: The University of North Carolina is a state-supported school, and depends for most of its operating budget on taxes levied upon the people of the state. Opponents of "selective" admissions have argued that as a tax-supported institution the University of North Carolina must, as it has done for some years, admit all qualified graduates of North Carolina high schools who care to come here.

On the other hand, evidence shows that the lower quartile students, once admitted, drop by the wayside in smashing numbers.

Carolina Symposium: The World & The Hill

If Chapel Hill was ever an isolated village, out of touch with the pulse of world events, things have changed now.

This spring the Carolina Symposium on Public Affairs will bring to campus some of the world's most prominent figures in human relations. This group will include Dr. Ralph Bunche of the United Nations, James Reston of the New York Times, Dr. Frank Graham, and others.

For a full week, these men will present their views, answer questions, and discuss public affairs with students.

Garbage Storage: \$300

Garbage, of all things, has been the center of persistent complaint by some of the campus fraternities.

It all started last year when Greeks were ordered to build garbage storage houses in compliance with a town ordinance. The gar-

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: LOUIS KRAAR, ED YODER
Night Editor: Fred Powledge

READER'S RETORT

What 'Alternative' To Recall?

Editors:

Perhaps the recall election was initiated by "corrupt politicians," and perhaps not. Does it really matter who initiates an action if the results are worthwhile?

There are probably many reasons why various students feel that a need for a new editor exists, but this writer cannot be-

lieve that freedom of the press is under attack. It is his belief that a false impression of the views of Carolina students on current issues is being fostered in the minds of many people in the country and that one vehicle which is partly responsible is The Daily Tar Heel.

A student newspaper cannot be

compared to a commercial newspaper when their functions are not at all analogous. The editorials of a commercial newspaper do not purport to be anything other than the views of the editor. But when a newspaper claims to be an "official student publication," its officers being elected by the student body, it

acquires a different character. It becomes the voice of the student body. Its editorial columns no longer are accepted as reflecting the opinions of only one person, the columns are believed to reflect the opinions of the group.

Do the editors believe that when parts of the editorials are reprinted in other newspapers that it is done because they are written by Ed Yoder or Louis Kraar? It is the belief of this writer that it is done because they are written by the editors of the "official student publication" of the University.

Certainly an editor should not sacrifice his integrity in order to conform to or reflect student opinion. On the other hand, it behooves the students to elect an editor whose views are substantially similar to those of the majority of the students if other readers are not to be misled as to the position the students take on current issues.

If the students come to believe they have erred in their choice, what is the alternative of a recall election?

John N. Isehqwer



EUROPE ON A BUDGET

American Meets British Girl

By Bert Kaplan

The second term at the University of Edinburgh had just ended. This gave me the spring and summer to hitchhike and "hostel" my way around Western Europe and Israel, taking buses, trains, or boats when weather, time, or physical barriers made it necessary.

I packed my rucksack with a few necessities, such as changes of underwear, an extra pair of trousers, a can of DDT, an extra nylon shirt, a packet, a sweater, a raincoat, socks, and shaving equipment. My grand tour was not going to be in the Ivy League tradition.

A typical Scottish downpour made hitchhiking unwise and I had a boat to meet in Venice. So I ran to catch the night bus to London—it only cost one-cent a mile.

My seat was next to an English girl of about 20. I waited through the first half-hour of silence that was sometimes necessary to break the British reserve and then remarked about the wretched state of the weather.

The weather being among the Briton's favorite topics, and one of the first things they were likely to comment upon when meeting anyone, I received a cordial greeting and a scathing denunciation of the weather. But this was typical Scottish weather for early spring, and I saw no reason to get so excited over the ordinary.

She reminded me of how the Scots had reacted when the sun appeared for a rare visit in January. They actually became ecstatic. One heard such remarks as these: "Isn't the sun beautiful!"; "I just love sunshine."

After getting acquainted, we talked about politics, the necessity for Anglo-American friendship, and the rise of the present day Scottish nationalism to a while.

Then she asked me, "How do you Americans stand central heating systems?"

Having just shivered through a Scottish winter, and having conscientiously tried to warm myself before a small, open fireplace which had only succeeded in keeping the chimney warm, I was more than shocked by her question. I quietly assured her that central heating was not unhealthy and not uncomfortable. (You have to experience the rigors of a Scottish winter to realize the incongruity of this question.)

She then asked, "But where do you sit if there is no fireplace as a center of attention?"

I had heard these questions before. It appears that the British are so used to sitting around the fire place that a room without one is unthinkable. Many Americans, similarly, would be lost in a living-room without a television set.

The bus ride to London was quite comfortable. The British even have toilets on their buses. At the bus station I exchanged addresses with my

bus companion, exhorted her to come visit the United States, and then hastened off for several days of sightseeing. In order to be a good tourist, in order to acquire at least the minimum snob value from a trip abroad, one must be able to talk about having been to this or that famous landmark.

NOTE: There were two typographical errors in my first article. A sentence was left out of one paragraph. It should have read: "Traveling in Europe can be fantastically cheap, provided you are willing to rough it a bit. My average cost per day was about \$1.75. In some countries it was possible to live on even less. However, the boy meets girl routine ruined my budget several times." In another sentence in another paragraph the word order was incorrectly printed. It should have read: "Last of all, I carried only washables, this avoiding cleaning expenses."

Courage On Campus

Student and faculty leaders at the University of Alabama have shown far more courage and responsibility than the university administration following the mob action against Miss Autherine Lucy.

The student government legislature has announced racial "mob violence." At a special faculty meeting, an art professor also charged that the university had succumbed to mob rule. Both students and faculty members demanded protection for all students, and a political science professor sensibly recommended that the university be closed until the state protected it.

These students and teachers have set themselves against the violence of the mob, the procrastination of the university trustees who suspended Miss Lucy from class, and the timid retreat of university President O. C. Carmichael. The reputation of the University of Alabama has found its defenders, but they are not those first entrusted with the task.—*St. Louis Post-Dispatch.*

Others Say

It used to be that when a kid was rewarded with a nickel for each A he got on his report card he thought he was pretty lucky, but now he feels that he is being imposed upon if he doesn't get paid overtime for staying after school.—*Douglas Larson in The Door County Advocate (Sturgeon Bay, Wis.)*

From another practical standpoint, the White House education conference was disappointing. The assembled school administrators failed to swap or sell off any of their losing coaches to the bush league circuits.—*The Chicago Tribune*

'Irresponsible' Can Use Recall As A 'Decoy'

Editors:

The other night at the Di-Phi meeting, Mr. (Lewis) Brumfield made some very funny remarks

I'm not just talking about the poem in which he saw himself "in all humility" presented by respectful angels with a Doctorate of Life.

There was something even funnier. He said that expression of disagreement by a newspaper could pulverize student opinion. He concluded that the best way to increase what he called "student freedom" was by flushing disagreement.

The audience was so amused they voted him down 3 to 1. Every man who had voted for (David) Reid's presidency of the Di deserted him.

But if we take off that slick catch-word, we find out he's really talking about something besides tyranny. He's talking about the ability of students to follow a course of action without being too limited by South Building or anyone else who cares to meddle in our business.

But how can he think that by committing an act that is thought of (even by those who signed the petition) as irresponsible that can possibly strengthen our hand in dealing with South Building.

We know that there are elements in the faculty ready on every occasion to limit student independence (e.g. the three-cut system). If the recall carries, this irresponsible element within the faculty can always decoy their dictatorial intentions by calling us "irresponsible."

John McCall

Dean Luxon Reaffirms Belief In Humanities

Editors:

Thank you for the editorial "Honor for the Living" in Wednesday's Daily Tar Heel.

The three men so honored have expressed their appreciation for their recognition.

As to the "If" final paragraph I want to reassure you by pointing out that for 20 years and more I have been the leader in the fight to keep journalism courses—and particularly techniques courses—at a minimum in Schools of Journalism. I can document this statement with at least six articles in the *Journalism Quarterly* plus other writings and talks.

I believe in professional education for journalism, but I define that education by insisting that at least 80% of the undergraduate program be in liberal arts subject matter.

Norval Neil Luxon
Dean
School of Journalism

Quote, Unquote

Universities are full of knowledge; the freshman bring in a little and the seniors take none away and knowledge accumulates.—*A. L. Lowell*

I would define the true courage to be a perfect sensibility of the measure of danger, and a mental willingness to endure it.—*W. T. Sherman*

The Drama Of The President

By Joseph & Stewart Alsop

WASHINGTON—There is, of course, a topic of conversation in Washington that is the great personal-political drama of the day: the decision.

The following quotations from interviews with access to the President, or access to which he will base his decision, are as accurate as memory will permit. They are to convey something of the flavor of the decision and something as well of the background of the President's decision.

"Talk about it? Of course he talks about it all the time, just like any other situation would. He's very frank about his instance, just the way he is at the press conference but he goes a little further maybe. He's a little burrs in the elbow again, and all worries, just like any coronary would, it has anything to do with his heart. He's up in the morning feeling a little lousy, he tries too. Don't get me wrong—I like to run about himself, but about the effects on the try. But if the doctors don't say no, I'll run."

BURNED UP

"Ike was really burned up about the speech calling him a part-time President. It is one more speech like that, and he needs to run."

"Three to two? Why I'll give you five to run—but maybe that's not fair, because something I can't tell you."

"Well, he talks in private very much he does in public, except for one thing. A lot of emphasis on what he calls the negotiators, just the way he does at the press conference. But Ike's a modest man, and he could not himself to say that the Eisenhower program probably go down the drain if he steps and his prestige and world position are in peace. But he can indicate these positions much more when he's talking to friends at public press conferences."

DEFINITELY

"Yes, he's going to run—definitely. I got a friend of mine who knows a general, next to Mainie's sister or mother or some party."

"Ike said he was going to consult his advisers, and that's just what he's doing. You name me one who will advise him? Adams? Shanley? Persons? Gruenther? Eisenhower? Hall? Allen? Go ahead, name just."

"Certainly he's talked about Nixon. When he tells him Nixon will be a drag on the ticket, looks sad and says he can't understand the matter of fact, I can't understand it myself. He's been a fine Vice President. Anyway, he's definitely made up his mind not to drop. Significant that he should have considered course it is."

"I'll tell you the real key man—General Humphrey. Ike inclines to run, if the doctors are okay. But he's being perfectly honest, he says he hasn't made up his mind yet. The doctors examine him, the President to take about ten days to think over the problem in the sunshine at George Washington place in Georgia—he's going to play a game for the first time, if the doctors say it's sure to turn to Humphrey for advice—he has. And he's almost always taken Humphrey's advice."

LEN HALL

"Take Len Hall. Hall's the smartest chairman since Jim Farley. He's said right that the President will run, bar a medical back, and he's obviously making his campaign on that assumption. Hall sees the President, and he's not a man to get out on that's going to be sawed off."

"Who plays devil's advocate? Ike is the devil's advocate. At the drop of a hat you all the reasons why he shouldn't run. It was his own devil's advocate in 1952, when all comers that a professional soldier would go to the White House, and the issue never came up in the campaign. The more sure he is in public, the more sure I am that he'll run."

And so it goes. All the "informed speculation" from Washington is based on such rumors as those recorded above. As they suggest, there has been a recent upsurge of confidence among President's associates, and among Republican politicians generally, that the President will run. Against this there must be weighed a counterweight of wishful thinking. Overall, a picture of a troubled man still wrestling with an agonizing difficult personal decision will profoundly affect the political future of the United States, and of the world.