

The New Traffic Law Still Leaves Way For Injustices

The Daily Tar Heel erred in its recent evaluation of the student Legislature's new law broadening the powers of the Traffic Committee.

We still maintain that this law, giving the student Traffic Committee power to punish "excessive" traffic violators, was a mistake. But one of our reasons was based on somewhat less than the complete facts.

Legislators, we held, gave too wide power grant to the Traffic Committee when they left it to the committee to decide just who were "flagrant" traffic violators. However, as student government officials have pointed out, the Traffic Committee's by-laws—including their definition of "flagrant" offenders—is subject to legislative approval.

However, our other objection remains, and it is strong and valid. It is unfair for any student to suf-

fer punishment twice for the same offenses, which is precisely what will occur under this law.

Student violators will pay fines to Chapel Hill and also be subject to punishment by a student group for the very same offenses. What kind of justice is that?

The answer to the student car problem ultimately will be some plan of limitation of student cars—either by the trustees or students themselves.

We'd prefer to see students set up their own limitations, if they must come. And the signs that trustees will take firmer action on auto than students are already evident.

Self-limitation of student cars would require a bolder and braver course than student government and its President are following now. But, in the long run, it would stave more drastic trustee action.

An Obligation For Fairness

The housing problems of our brother institution in Raleigh may not be cause for everyday concern by Chapel Hill students. But when one group is treated with favoritism and shoved in ahead of 272 other students, few can remain uninterested.

It all started when married students in housing units controlled by the State College Athletic Department found they would have to move to other quarters. The students happened to be athletes, and they were assigned to the special project (National Youth Administration apartments) by athletic officials.

The move was necessitated by construction of an intramural field, so college officials felt a "moral obligation" to provide the six married athletes with housing.

By-passing a 272-student wait-

ing list, the six athletes are being moved into Veville, the colleges' housing unit for married students.

Veville residents are now seeking legal advice because they feel the athletes were given preferred treatment.

The Athletic Department fixed up the NYA project to house the six married athletes. Of 12 units, only six were occupied. Yet no other married nonathletes were informed of the vacancies or invited to live in the Athletic Department-controlled NYA development.

State College also has a "moral obligation" to the 272 students on Veville's waiting list, as the student newspaper there so aptly pointed out.

But the college has no particular obligation to a special group that was provided housing by the Athletic Department.

A Colossal Find!

The Dead Sea Scrolls

It was "rather early in the spring" of 1947 that a Bedouin boy, Muhammed the Wolf by name, made the colossal discovery of modern Biblical archeology as he tended sheep on the Western rim of the Dead Sea.

The repercussions of his find—almost two dozen caves lined with manuscript-filled jars—are just now centering their full impact on the Western world, particularly the world of Christianity and Judaism.

Edmund Wilson, who is at home in any critical job from Menander to Maeterlinck, from archeology to epistemology, writes about the so-called Dead Sea Scrolls in a recent book. The book is a slight elaboration on a lengthy article for The New Yorker magazine of May 14, 1955.

Almost 10 years after the first discovery, the first general impact is beginning to be felt. At first only a dedicated Metropolitan monk (now retired in New Jersey on the fat reward of his discovery) realized the value of the scrolls; he had a devil of a time convincing his fellow clerics—and the university-connected Biblical scholars—to take an interest.

The dramatic discovery coming, as it did, at the height of Arab-Jewish hostilities in 1947; the intrigue and difficulty of getting the Scrolls to scholars who knew and felt their explosive value, is enough. What lies beyond in implications for the Biblical faiths promises drama-extraordinary as the scrolls undergo exegesis.

Briefly, here is what Wilson found: The uniqueness of Christ as the Christian Messiah may be brought again into question. Wilson reports this, knowing that "one of the worst tendencies of insensitive modern scholarship (is its tendency) to account for everything in the Gospels in terms of analogies and precedents." The Essenes a Dead Sea waste-land sect or monastic order, originally held the scrolls; they probably hid them in the caves as Roman legionnaires invaded.

The Essenes record in some of the scrolls a figure who partakes of several key Messianic qualities—the same Messianic qualities as Jesus.

Wilson reports that several Christian scholars assigned to these manuscripts (several hundred years older than any Biblical manuscripts we had before) have balked, balked in the face of serious questions for their own religious commitments. This has happened on both Judaic and Christian sides, since beyond the question of Christ's uniqueness there is the question of the legitimacy of the Masoretic scriptures. And, as one of the scholars told Wilson, "we now realize that there was much more variety and flexibility in Judaism than had ever been supposed."

Several scholars have even speculated that the vacant period of Jesus' life, heretofore filled only by conjecture, may have been lived in the Essene order.

The whole business is, needless to say, complicated to a layman who makes no claims as a Biblical scholar.

Wilson's lengthy and resplendent essay doesn't argue any point—except that the work ought to proceed as fast as possible. Wilson writes as, *un pur savant*, without theological compunctions, without being pushed or restrained by personal theories or feelings.

But he is disturbed that the possibilities of the scroll discovery have thus far appeared only in scholarly writings; for the laity and the general public there are only magazine and newspaper distillations. If the Jewish scriptures; the uniqueness of Christ; and the assumptions of the "liberal" Christian scholars that the Gospels had a non-organic growth stand at stake, that is, for Wilson, all the more reason why research should continue speedily with findings being laid bare in intelligible terms to the waiting world.

At the end of one of T. S. Eliot's essays, he claims that Irving Babbitt "knew too much" about the world's literatures and religions to go beyond his humanism into religious faith. Granted, a sweeping landscape view of religious faiths, a vague relativity making no ultimate assumptions the ultimate rule, is often an immature stage in the development of faith. But it is hard to see how a faith can offer comfort if its channels are closed to new blood. It is hard to see how the scholars who won't push for exegesis of the Dead Sea Scrolls can live with themselves religiously—no matter how much lies at stake for their faiths.—E. Y.

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Editors—LOUIS KRAAR, ED YODER

READER'S RETORT

Student's Advice On Integration: Drop Tradition, Open Your Mind

Editors: First, let me say that I'm not a Southerner. I've spent most of my life in California and the Pacific areas.

However, in the last year or so, with my father (a naval officer) stationed in Charleston, S. C., and me attending a Southern university, I've been able to observe, to a slight degree, on hand some of the conditions I had heard so much about. I wasn't sure what to expect.

I had been led to believe, on the one hand, in "Southern Hospitality," but, on the other hand, was the picture of a haughty proud people who still evaluated others in terms of grandparenthood, etc. So I welcomed the chance to see what it was really like for myself as much as possible. However, let me state that I did not come with an altogether unbiased mind, for I have lived around people of many different

minority which are heard and give a bad reputation. I don't pretend to be able to offer any solution to your (the South's) problem, but I do think that the less arrogance and narrow prejudice, the better the outcome will be.

TO STATON

To you, Mr. Staton, I would like to ask: Just who in the hell do you think you are? Exactly what sort of God-endowed superiorities do you possess which justify your presumptuousness? There are a lot of people in this world, Mr. Staton, and you had better get used to the fact that you're one of them, and you're going to have to live with them for quite a while.

Let me ask you what's so terrible, so shocking, about the fact that an undergraduate Negro lives on the campus? Just forget tradition for a moment, and look at it with an open mind; are such

dire consequences in store? Will we all catch some horrible ailment? Tell me, I'd like to know. I've gone to school with Negroes, Mexicans, Filipinos, Hawaiians, Chinese, etc., and I've had a lot of friends among them, so your shouting at, the mouth doesn't show me much.

You mean to say you attended an attraction which featured a Negro? I'm astounded, I was under the impression that the sight of one in the same room would cause immediate disorders, due to some allergy or something. This hints at hypocrisy, Mr. Staton.

GUAM

I would like to say a little about a small island in the Pacific called Guam where I spent 11 months and attended my senior year in high school. Of an attendance of some 1800 students, I was a member of the stateside minority which constituted about four percent of the whole student body. Yet, need I say who created the most trouble, the most friction, need I say who did the most discriminating?

One begins to wonder if with all our civilization and progress, we haven't missed something essential, if we haven't disregarded something our country was originally founded on. Some of the sweetest, most sincere and considerate people I've ever met were some of those native students. They might have been simple and native, but they were honest, and they put a true value on other human beings. And then a girl from Virginia I knew there said to me, "I just can't stand to be near them (the natives) or touch them." How incredibly warped some people's sense of values can get.

Yes, Mr. Clement, and you Mr. Staton, you are still living in the South, and you are still living together as human beings in a free country. I am proud of how Carolina on the whole has acted in the present situation, proud that there are enough intelligent, mature, considerate individuals here so that a disgrace similar to the Alabama incident wasn't able to occur.

John Underwood

Thinkers Desegregation Will Start At College

Editors: I'm from South Carolina and although I'm not in favor of the stand my state has taken on the segregation issue, I'm still proud of my hailing place.

People, let's wake up and face the future. It's an obvious fact that the Old South is on the way out, and a new South of equality and justice for all is on the way. You can't treat a man like dirt just because he isn't the same color that you are. Look at the progress that Negroes have made in the last hundred years. It's not amazing. It's the natural thing for a man to do, to try to better not only himself but also the world in which he lives.

Integration can be accomplished not over night, but over a period of years, and will have to start at the college level and gradually be brought into the high schools and, later, grade schools.

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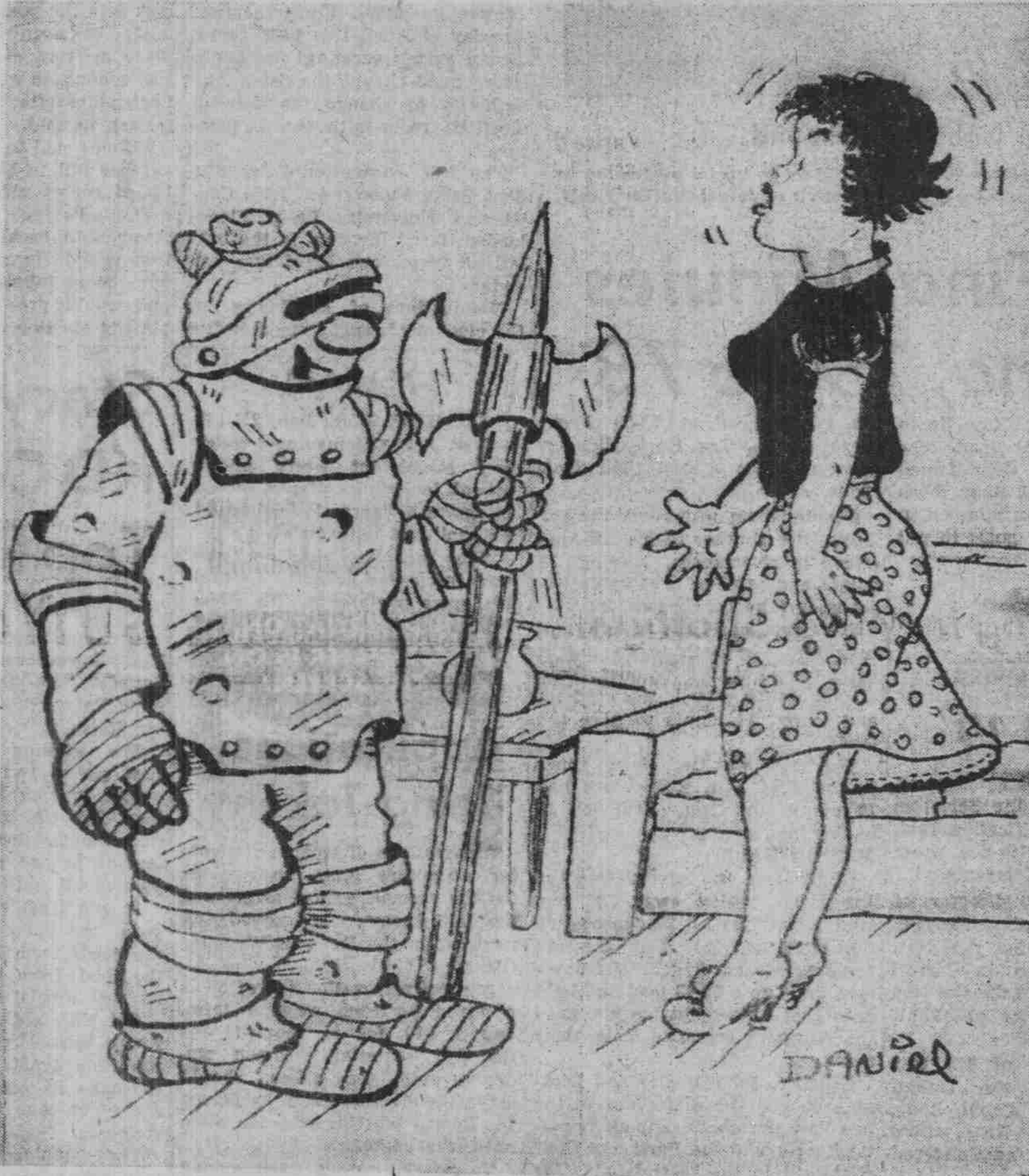
In reference to the letter of Mr. Bob Staton: He seems to be not only narrow minded and decadent, but also bigoted in his thinking. Mr. Staton should look at himself.

I too would like to see a poll concerning the segregation issue. I would like to see the poll taken on this campus. I don't think that the majority of the students enrolled in the University are the narrow-minded prejudiced people that some seem to think them. I think that we are people who believe that live and let live is not enough, but who adhere to the principle of live and help live.

Let us hope he gets on the stick.

W. D. Andrews

'Ready To Go To The Basketball Game, Toots?'



CONVERSATION PIECE

Time For President Fowler To Work On New Cut Rule

By Bill Ragsdale

I'm very proud of this school. It is the kind of university that I will want my sons to go to.

Perhaps the main reason for my pride in this place is that we are treated with more than the usual amount of respect that is given a student body by the faculty and administration.

We have been accorded this respect because in times past we have deserved it; we have acted wisely and consistently with the administration, and have had a voice in those matters that concerned us. Recently I see this pride I have in jeopardy. Other schools, and those close to us, are pulling ahead of us in areas in which we should be expected to take a lead.

EXAMPLE

An example of what I write of is the cut rule. As most of you know, Duke has established a system of unlimited cuts for juniors and seniors. State College has the same arrangement, plus a provision that enables seniors to choose whether or not they will take the finals in their various courses. State is a different kind of school from UNC: in our more liberal courses a final exam is perhaps more of a necessity than it is under their engineering curriculum. But we have as much right to freedom of choice in class attendance as anyone.

This cut system we have come into effect a little over a year ago. There was a big furor because some professors were allowing any number of cuts and other professors weren't giving any, so it was requested that some standardization be brought about. In response to this three professors—C. C. Carter, F. M. Duffey and H. R. Totten—met and came up with the system that we have now, justifying it by saying, "Regular attendance at class is a student obligation... an obligation

to the student himself and the State of North Carolina."

Sometime before long this system is going to come up for review, and it is at that time that we should get rid of it; obviously if we don't then it'll be around for years to come.

WASTE TIME

No one—neither the professors that have to waste time keeping track of attendances, nor the students who are bound by the restriction and who are made to look childish by it, nor the personnel that have to process the slips and cards—is in favor of the regulation, and no one is particularly slow about voicing his disapproval.

I have mentioned my reason for disliking the rule. It makes us look childish. That is not why we are here; if we are here to learn responsibility, then let us learn it, and those of us who don't learn it, those of us that don't come to class enough to keep up with why the class is presented, can fail. But let us make the decision; let's don't have it dropped down to us. To have that happen would be ridiculous and an admission of a willingness to be regulated and looked after.

FOR FOWLER

This is a time for Don Fowler to do something. We elected him to be our spokesman, to plead our case before the administration, and in this he has a perfect chance to do something positive and constructive which will save a lot of people a lot of trouble, give us more self-respect as students by putting us more on our own, reassert the powers of student government for the first time in too long a time, and keep us, as a student body, progressing at the same rate as other schools around here.

Let us hope he gets on the stick.

unity

Unity must be found in diversity. The difficult one, but if there is an absence of resentful principle at the party convention, principally a result of the apathy of the voters. People who fail to appreciate or fully perform all too often neglect to participate in the procedure most important to representation.

However, it should be recognized that nothing sacrosanct about our present system nominating the President and Vice-President, it can boast neither Constitutional sanction nor tacit recognition. Prior to 1828, the party had nominated its candidates by caucus method. Rather they were chosen by caucus, and the candidates were generally in rapport with the legislative branch.

The development has been an important one. It has been suggested that our nominating convention has contributed to the development of the somewhat unique Presidential form of government. The claim here is that, had the caucus-by-caucus method been retained, we would have witnessed the emergence of a form of government more akin to the English Parliamentary system in which there would be greater party responsibility.

CONSIDERATIONS

While such a possibility remains, this ignores certain important considerations. The fact that our executive is not a member of the legislative branch; another is that, whether or not, there has survived a strong sense in favor of the doctrine of separation of powers regardless of the possible value to be derived from the convention system as it has developed. It seemed to many that there should be a wilder means to accomplish the nomination of the President.

Some who have been distressed by the fact that both our major parties have members who work for the interests of the opposition have suggested party realignment to which they would prescribe greater centralization of organization and increased party discipline.

Focus On The News

By Pi Sigma Alpha

(This is the first of a series of reports by Pi Sigma Alpha fraternity on the current national political developments.)

(Pi Sigma Alpha is the national political honor society with chapters in leading universities. The principal purpose of the group is to foster greater interest in political science, and public affairs, in general.—Editor)

Every fourth year thoughtful Americans examine the process of nominating and electing the President of the United States and the frequently depicted as "only one heartbeats from the Presidency. Such re-examination ten produced criticisms levelled at both the nominating procedure and our Electoral College of choosing from the nominees.

Both procedures have been described as democratic, unwieldy and obsolete, and suits have been declared potentially unrepresentative of the people, yet in a century and a half no movement to reconstruct the over-all process has enjoyed a significant following.

Since the nominating procedure precedes the election process, this focus attention of a few pertinent questions have arisen concerning the existing process.

PROBLEMS

First, an understanding of the present nominating process requires some understanding of the nature and organization of political parties in the United States. The most striking feature of American political parties is that they are highly organized national machines. They are, in fact, distinctly local in texture and organization.

Our constitutional provisions and amendments have left most of the legal control of the parties in the hands of the forty-eight states, in turn have left the mechanics of party organization virtually in the hands of the parties. The result is that elections and party control is widely from state to state, being required to observe certain Constitutional guarantees for individuals.

So party organization is to a high degree local, and enough flexibility exists in the "loose" organization even at the local level, parties then, being loosely federated from the national level, are subject to little hierarchical control. They are commonly described as "decentralized".

PARTY SETUP

Many voters, not to mention millions of party voters, are unaware of the nature of local party organizations and hence unaware of the by-which the opportunity for participation are inclined to be suspicious and ready to support proposals for reform. They tend to forget that gates to a national convention are almost always committed to local interests.

These local commitments give us a picture wherein we find from 1,000 to 14,000 delegates each party's convention, representing at the limited range of local interests and competing the support of many candidates (at least ballot). But most convention delegates, ambitious and enterprising politicians, will be the state leadership, normally headed by the governor, especially if his term is not expiring, will they support a national organization in the position to their state organizations. The result, which exists, if any, involves a lack of national representation.

So from an extensive list of "favorite" national party convention must select a candidate who will prove satisfactory to a sufficient number of local pressures to secure the nomination. By similar considerations, the convention draw up a platform. The problem and the result, therefore, of the party convention is to attempt that of reconciling divergent interests to select a single candidate and a single statement of principles.

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