

# Innocent Flowers Tiring; Ready For Some Serpents

In Dante's Inferno, the poet and his guide found heretics in furnaces, the angry and sullen in ditches of muck, and the eminent Satan himself frozen upside down in a block of ice. But amidst all the wailing and agony, the fiery tombs and mud, the meek and apathetic—and unpunished—trimmers remain most pathetic.

While others gain their golden auras or their slow burns, the trimmers sit in sad and pensive regret for their great sin of indifference. They never asserted themselves. They never spoke on what mattered. And Dante regards them as Graham Greene regarded a woman in one of his novels. It was said by others that she wasn't even wicked enough to go to hell.

Let this be thought far fetched, we charge that trimmers aren't confined to Dante's divinely comic world. They live outside books.

Some live on this campus. Some even run for political office. Some just stay in their rooms, and with the approach of an election they shrink deeper into a narrow sphere of cynical indifference. They hang signs on their doors:

"No politicians wanted." "No, we aren't interested, Mr. Campaigner."

Sometimes those very doors are knocked upon by another type of trimmer who wants political office without having to tell others why he wants it. Of course it is easy enough to be vocal about the bicycle rack issue. But as to other more penetrating problems candidates often remain mute. If enough trimmers are running for high political office and no challenger to all the vapid nonsense comes forward, campaigns can become as coldly dead as Antarctica. It then becomes doubly difficult to draw the recalcitrant voters from seclusion. Who gets excited about bicycle racks? Who sails to lofty flights of oratory over TV sets?

We suggest that the would-be saviors of student government must convince their forces that it is inadvisable to be a trimmer and a fence rider on real issues. Those who take sides may throw themselves open to furnace blasts, even defeat. They may be wrong.

But they will avoid being crown princes of timidity.

# A Blow Against Tensions

In an inspiring show of leadership, student legislators recently passed a bill bluntly and firmly calling for more benches in front of dormitories. It was clearly the most frank and forthright action taken by the Legislature all year.

Such bold action deserves commendation. The legislators made their purpose abundantly clear—to provide "a haven from the tensions and disturbances of modern life."

Veteran campus bench warmers, such as the gang around Old West Dorm, appreciate full well what these modern tensions and disturbances can bring.

Old Westers a year or so back enjoyed sitting on their bench, un-

til winter came and the University grounds custodians led the bench into hibernation. When winter was finally over, the Old Westers were tired of standing, so they set to work figuring ways to conquer this winter tension and disturbance.

A chain, securely locked to an iron frame stuck in the ground, has permanently wedded the bench to Old West. Modern tensions and disturbances in the bench-sitting arena are gone, and Old West sits securely.

Soon, we expect, legislators will have to structure new legislation to keep the benches they obtain for all seasons. After all, the tensions—like Old West bench-sitters—know no season.

# Campaigners' Blank Check

## 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, 1872. 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—CHARLIE JOHNSON  
 Business Manager—BILL BOB PEEL  
 Sports Editor—WAYNE BISHOP

Advertising Manager—Dick Sirkin  
 Coed Editor—Peg Humphrey  
 Subscription Manager—Jim Chamblee  
 Staff Artist—Charlie Daniel

BUSINESS STAFF—Fred Katzin, Star Eershaw, Rosa Moore, Charlotte Lilly, Ted Wainer, Daryl Chasen, Johnny Witaker.

OFFICE TELEPHONES—News, editorial, subscription: 9-3361. News, business: 9-3371. Night phone: 8-444 or 8-445.

NEWS STAFF—Clarke Jones, Mike Vester, Joan McLean, Charlie Sloan, Dan Fowler, Jim Creighton, Don Seaver.

EDITORIAL STAFF—Bill O'Sullivan, Bill Ragsdale.  
 Night Editor—Curtis Gans

The Lenoir Hall check-cashing service used to be a sure issue any time campus politicians talked about service to the students.

We recall one particular student President, Ham Horton, who boasted that he had set up a service in the eating hall by means of which students could cash checks. The truth of the matter, revealed a bit later, was that Lenoir Hall always made it a policy to cash small checks for student customers.

Nevertheless, we have discovered a rather untidy flaw in the present Lenoir system for cashing checks, and we are prepared to pass it on to student politicians of all creeds for use in spring election campaigning—provided of course that they don't claim to have established a check-cashing service.

Lenoir never, never has a blank counter check.

# Letter Policy

The Daily Tar Heel welcomes letters on any subject, as long as they are signed and are not libelous.

Lately we have received a number of letters without signatures, or with false names. We always respect any reader's wish to have his name withheld from a letter. But we must know who writes a letter before it can be printed.

# READER'S RETORT

# Raps Arrests Of Alabama Negroes

Editors:

The city of Montgomery, Alabama; has arrested 115 Negro citizens (among them 26 ministers) and charged them with organizing a boycott of that city's buses in protest to Jim Crow laws. This unprecedented wholesale arrest creates an issue that makes seat-

ing arrangements on buses seem trivial by comparison.

In this country people are free (theoretically) — free to ride buses or to walk and free to urge other people to ride buses or to walk. Neither the city of Montgomery, nor the State of Alabama, nor any city or any

state government has the power to arrest a citizen of The United States for openly and honestly campaigning for or against any law or ordinance.

The United States is not a loose association of 48 independent and sovereign nations (90 years ago it took a war to prove

that). It is a Federal union. The Constitution and Bill of Rights apply to every citizen whether he be from Rhode Island or Alabama — whether he be black, brown, tan, yellow, or white.

Has prejudice and bigotry so decayed the judgment of white supremacists that they are willing to abrogate the principles that this nation supposedly champions in order to preserve the sanctity of segregation?

Now is the time for the Federal Government to show Alabama and anyone else who might be watching that the Constitution is more than a document to be studied by political science classes and that the question of "second class citizenship" was settled in 1865.

Ken Pruitt

# Ivy League Garb Called Sell-Out To Yankees

Editors:

Upon incomplete two years at the "Athens of the South" I was unceremoniously asked to waste my time elsewhere. To get even with the University for not recognizing my stellar merits—I joined the Army because I felt that they needed me. They didn't.

3,929,101.23 seconds later I returned to the University. The great day had arrived. But could it be something less than I had hoped for?

You're right. Nawth Ca'linians, Tarheels born and bred, the rebel, people who used to save their Confederate money cause they know'd the South would rise again, had done put away the Stars and Bars, drat their cotton-pickin' hide, jined up with the enemy, and revealed the scallawags that they was. (Before, maybe! But now, you cowards, we got Oak Ridge on our side.) What had them mis-able, dirty dealin', back-stabbin', magnolia blossom hat'n pack of insurable ingrates done to our sacred heritage? They had jined forces with the carpet-baggers; only, this time, they wore them bags on their backs!! You can imagine my surprise to see a man wearing burlap in a three-button-role. Ivy League! Man, tha's Ivy League... I ask myself and you what has happened when a North Carolinian and a Southern Gentleman can't cloth himself without APEING DAMN YANKEES AND FURNERS!!!!!!

Hugh Herbert Ross III

# Radar Traps

Motorists in some numbers around and about over the United States have evidenced indignation at being caught in what they term "radar speed traps." Some of these same motorists, as well as others who have not been trapped but fear they will be, have gone to some pains to avoid these so-called traps. A reporter on The Minneapolis Star recently made an exhaustive study of this problem and found a sure-fire way to avoid such "traps." We are happy to pass the secret along. It is: Don't speed. — Memphis Commercial Appeal

Al Capp

'I Hope You Brought All Your Tools This Time'



# The University Party Speaks

By Mike Weinman  
 UP Floorleader

The University Party reports record membership. We now have a grand total of 170 interested members, 70 of whom are women.

These 170 members represent every segment of the Carolina campus. Each dormitory, sorority and fraternity at Carolina has recognized representation. An outstanding example of this diversification is our party officers. Chairman is Bill Sabiston is a non-fraternity man living in a dormitory; Al Holt, vice-chairman, is a fraternity man living in a fraternity house; Sue Waldner, secretary, is a non-sorority member living in a dormitory; treasurer John Kerr is a fraternity member living in a dormitory.

This certainly shows that the University Party does not represent any one faction of the campus, but rather all of the campus.

## OLDEST PARTY

The University Party, organized in the 1920's, is the oldest campus political group. Throughout its life, the party has supplied the campus with the ablest of student leaders. This year, party members hold the offices of vice-president and treasurer of the student body, president of the senior class, all junior class officers except one, president and vice-president for the freshman class. Along with all these offices, the party has had a majority in the student

Legislature for the past two sessions.

During the recent recall issue, candidates Louis Kraar and Ed Yoder, and Lewis Brumfield addressed the party. After the talk, there was a question and answer session, in which any interested person, and there were many, could confront the candidates with any questions they wished to have answered. Don Fowler, student body president, also recently addressed the group. This is typical University Party activity between elections.

## LARGE ROLL

With the membership so large, it became necessary to find a means of keeping close contact with all individual members. This is accomplished by the University Party Newsletter, a weekly party publication sent to every member. The paper keeps members informed on committee work and general party projects.

This year, the party has found it necessary to hold its nomination meetings in the Rendezvous Room of Graham Memorial. The Roland Parker Lounges are now too small for the conduct of efficient nomination meetings. Everyone on campus is cordially invited to come to these meetings, held Monday and Tuesday, Feb. 27 and 28, and the following Monday and Tuesday, March 5 and 6.

We have never been in better position to say "every student is a plank in our platform."

L'I Abner



# Today is all you can eat Italian ravioli day at the RATHSKELLER

POGO

By Walt Kelly



# Why That Farm Mess

By Joseph & Stewart Alton

WASHINGTON — A loud, bitter, and ugly fight is about to start over the farm surplus. The Department of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson will contend that American agriculture is in a state of rigid high price supports. The surplus will just as stubbornly contend that American culture is in a mess because of Ezra Taft Benson. And most people will have only a very hazy idea of what the hubbub is all about.

One way to grasp what the hubbub is all about is to take one farm commodity and see what happened to it. Rice happens to provide an and reasonably typical example.

The rice story starts in 1941, when the government decided to stimulate rice production for wartime purposes. The farmers were offered a government guarantee that they would receive the parity price for their rice crops, partly an artificially established fair return for the

## BIG PROFIT

This in effect guaranteed big profits for some profit, and rice production shot up during the war—just what the wartime government hoped. After the war, the parity guarantee of being dropped, was actually increased to 90%. And between 1940 and the end of the war, the price of rice almost doubled, while in the period production more than doubled, and the government guaranteed profit was still made.

Parity payments are supposedly on a "basis. But the loan is strictly a "heads the winners, tails the government losses" proposition. The price of his crop goes down and stage the producer pockets the loan, no questions asked. It goes above the parity price, he can sell at the higher price and pocket the difference.

For the really big producers, this system is a deed a thing of beauty. On the 1954 crop, for example, the last on which a public record is available, the Craighead Rice Milling Company, Kansas collected \$431,853 courtesy of the Charles Schwartz Farms of California and the Louisiana Irrigation and Mill Company, whooping \$486,725, and J. K. and C. E. Co., biggest Mississippi producers, collected a tidy \$177,624.

## AVERAGE

The average payment of course, is much the range of \$8,000. But even this is a respectable sum to suggest why there is a political steam behind parity payments. As the system is for the recipients of the largesse, it has certain peculiar side-effects. In the first place, of course, with such a guarantee to produce, enormous surpluses are in the case of rice, more than a year's supply overhangs the rice market. This in turn of the price of the commodity, and makes it more expensive for the government to support price. The result is a vicious circle if ever there was one.

In the second place, the huge surpluses are an immense pressure to get rid of the stockpiles, anyhow, and dumping abroad looks very attractive. But even a little dumping can be a thing.

## RICE SURPLUS

Some time ago, a mere two million bushels plus American rice was sent to Japan. Instantly Asian market weakened. Since then, neutral rapidly gained ground in Siam, while the United States had been forced to make a deal with the Communist bloc, to exchange Burmese rice for machinery. South East Asia finally goes Communist, due in part to American agricultural policy.

There are variations in the pattern of the rice story is reasonably typical. A Senate agriculture subcommittee, after examining the world market, concluded that the primary cause of the deplorable condition in which the cotton farmer finds himself is the farm program of the United States.

No doubt the American farmer, in his exposed economic position, needs government support and subsidies. But surely a system which does us great harm abroad, weakens prices at home, costs the taxpayers large sums of money, and does not an ideal solution of the farm problem, as he has been in many ways, in this respect, Ezra Benson surely has the best of the argument.

# Intellectuals

By H. L. Mencken

The United States has not only failed to produce a genuine aristocracy; it has also failed to produce an indigenous intelligentsia. The intellectuals of the country are simply yankees blown constantly by foreign winds, but not always English.

Philosophy consists very largely of an opher arguing that all others are jackasses usually proves it, and I should add that usually proves that he is one himself.

The public schools of the United States damaged very seriously when they were taken over by the State. So long as they were run by the persons in charge of them retained a certain amount of professional autonomy, and it went a considerable dignity. But now it is all petty jobholders, and show the people goes with the trade. Even savages have a better solution of the educational problem: boys are taught, not by puerile enunciations, but by the best men, and the process of education then really educates. This is certainly true.