

Student Autonomy And A Legislative Judas-Kiss

The Student Legislature demonstrated a distinct lack of fortitude at Thursday night's session.

Student lawmakers were called upon to vindicate the University from all responsibility for an odious and prejudicial incident, and they turned their backs.

The incident was the denial of state park facilities to a University student—Leroy Frasier—purely because of his race.

The Long Resolution, which hit the crux of the whole dispicable problem by censuring application of state parks' policy, was conveniently pigeon-holed by Ways and Means Chairman Jim Alford so that legislators might be spared the seeming hardship of speaking their convictions.

The argument that disagreeing with the State General Assembly in this area would be "biting the hand that feeds us" is particularly absurd and gutless.

The General Assembly does not feed our minds—though the Student Legislature's lily-livered action would appear to indicate the contrary. Nor are state lawmakers entitled to dictate convictions merely because they control the purse strings.

If student representatives concur with the prejudicial policy which denied a University student equal usage of the Unstead State Park, then they should stand firmly on their feet and speak their minds.

They should not pat members of the Cosmopolitan Club on the head and say:

"We're so awfully sorry that our state subjected an organization with international representation to a dispicable display of southern bigotry. We apologize. But we can't disagree with an unjust regulation. Our minds are tied to state legislative purse strings. We'll sell our souls for a dollar appropriation."

The Daily Tar Heel was particularly and conspicuously supporting passage of the Long Resolution. But if legislators agreed with the state parks' prejudicial policy and subsequently disagreed with the resolution, they might have at least had guts enough to stand up and say so.

It is a blatant mockery of student responsibility that they pigeon-holed the measure to prevent having to speak their convictions.

Student body President Sonny Evans remarked earlier upon hearing that the censoring resolution was slated for introduction:

"The legislature's growing up early this year."

Later he questioned whether the resolution was hitting the "crux" of the problem and suggested a "tempering" of the measure.

We wonder why President Evans didn't assert his leadership, if he

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WISE AND OTHERWISE: Good President Rests Plenty; Ike Is Great



By Whit Whitfield

A recent editorial verbally chastized President Eisenhower for his lengthy and all too numerous vacations. More than implied were the many serious ramifications of this problem as far as the editor is concerned.

The President's holidays are not to be taken lightly however, for they are important signs of executive foresight. The only real problem is the hardship that the Postoffice Department endures. They never know where to deliver the executive mail.

A good president needs a vacation often. It follows that Eisenhower is a great president, or so it would seem from the number of vacations he takes.

Last week former President Harry S. Truman was in Washington, and remarked to newsmen as they passed the White House. "I wonder who lives there now?" (who does?) Speaking further, Truman said, "If I had taken that many vacations you (the newsmen) would have boiled me in oil." This is probably true, for he WAS a Democrat you know.

Actually, having the president away on vacation so often is one way of insuring his safety; the enemy has only one chance in four of finding him, as a rule.

An enemy plane would certainly be embarrassed in Washington if the President were in Denver, Augusta, or on his Gettysburg farm, now wouldn't it? If the Ground Observer Corps was doing its duty, the plane would be annihilated before it could make the rounds.

By the same token an assassination plot would be foiled.

Besides this definite advantage, Vice-President Rickie Nixon is getting the feel of the President's office during Eisenhower's absences. He is expected to fill this position as soon as he can, is he not?

Nixon has frankly admitted that the rigors of the president's office are so great that Eisenhower should take as many vacations as possible in order to maintain his health and well-being.

This seems diametrically opposed to Eisenhower's pre-election speeches in which he stated that he would not run if he did not feel that he could devote the full amount of time and energy that the job required.

Then we are to assume that the job does not take so much time and energy after all. My

"It's Easier If You Keep Your Eyes Closed"



From The Miami Student:

Current Educational Trend: Neglects 'Uncommon Man?'

In America, much emphasis has been placed on the doctrine of sanctity of the common man, but in our administration of this democratic principle we must guard against the danger of forgetting the uncommon or exceptional man.

This danger is especially rampant in the field of education. One of the new trends in elementary and secondary education is to provide special classes for slow learners.

This trend is certainly a step in the right direction, but in their zeal to equip the average and below average student to cope with life, educators often overlook the exceptionally bright child.

It has usually been assumed that the bright child, while he may have been overlooked to a certain extent during his earlier schooling, comes into full bloom during his college years, when under the stimulating atmosphere of the university he is at last able to utilize his capabilities to the fullest.

This assumption is probably true, at least to a large extent. Even state universities, such as Miami, which are designed to give everyone a chance for a higher education, also offer a chance for the superior student to show what he can do.

There is a tendency in our schools to try to force all students to conform to the average. This is partly due to the fact that it is very difficult for the teacher to deal individually with children of all intelligence levels, so she must teach for the average child, hoping that the dull one will catch on and the bright one will not be too bored.

However, as more and more people go on to college, there is a danger that our universities will become more like advanced high schools and less like institutions where the nation's really good minds have a chance to develop.

During the next decade, American universities will have to adapt themselves to their new role of educating the growing masses of young men and women who are suddenly willing and able to come to college; and at the same time continue their old role of giving the superior intellects a chance of utilizing their abilities.

If America is to maintain her role as the leader in social, literary and scientific advancement, she must utilize the best brainpower available without abandoning the democratic principle of an education for all.

In order to do this she must revise her policy of caring for the exceptional child to include not only the exceptionally dull but the exceptionally bright.

The public schools must lay the groundwork for this acceptance of the "uncommon man," but the ultimate responsibility must fall upon America's colleges and universities.

GUEST EDITORIALS: A Perspectus Of The Publications

N. C. State Technician:

For the past several years there has been much controversy each fall about tickets to football games. Each year a hasty plan is drawn up and announced to the students about mid-season. It seems that this is a very fine example of very poor planning.

There is one month left in the present school year. The problem of date tickets and tickets in general should be ironed out now, rather than next year. The students have a right to know before next year at registration whether they are going to have tickets, ticket books, or identification cards to get into the State-Carolina game—which is the very next day after registration.

The Student Government in the past several weeks has recommended both that students have identification cards (instead of ticket books) next year and that date tickets be available for \$1.00.

The Athletic Council must now make a decision on these recommendations. It seems that it is the duty of the Athletic Council to meet immediately and make some decision on both of these matters. Of course, the Council could wait and hold its next meeting after school is out and leave the students uninformed on any decisions until next year. We hope, however, that they will not follow such a course.

Many students now have the opinion that \$1.00 date tickets are definite and that they are a "sure thing" for next year. This is not the case, however. One dollar date tickets are not definite. In fact, we have heard that the Chancellor has said that there is very little chance, if any at all, that we will have them. (And if the William & Mary game is sold to the Shrimers, how much chance is there of getting a ticket for one dollar to that game?)

Those who are opposed to the \$1.00 date tickets say it is financially impossible. They point to the fact that nearly one-half the Stadium would be filled with people who were paying less than a third of what the tickets could be sold for to others, and say that just last year the football team went \$18,000 in debt.

As for the identification cards, there is the problem of getting them ready—with photographs—while the student is registering... or at least by the football game the next day.

Admittedly, the Athletic Council has two problems here. Not in spite of these problems, but because of them do we request that the Council meet as soon as possible. The problems should be resolved and the student body should be informed before school is out of any decisions made.

The Miami Hurricane:

That college students have a monopoly on foolishness is a world-renowned fact. Any mature adult will readily tell you about the idiocy of gold-fish-eating, party raids and the like.

Is this such a monopoly, however? A local paper recently featured an article about a fellow who wanted to set a world record for staying underwater. We realize, of course, the importance of staying underwater as far as fish are concerned, but aside from the possible theory of colonizing the bottom of the ocean, why humans?

Another favorite pastime of non-college students used to be flagpole-sitting. The logic behind this inane endeavor also escapes us. Possibly a more accurate study of the solar system may be obtained if one is fifty feet closer to stars several billion light years away.

Add to this the adult carousel riders, people who push peanuts with their nose, at infinitum, and what have we got? Merely the knowledge that no particular group can say that they are less foolish than another. Or more.

The Cavalier Daily:

Another bill to repeal the poll tax will be introduced to the General Assembly this year. Supporters of the repeal movement predict that this year's try will fail as have others before it. It is unfortunate that Virginia, which is hailed as the cradle of democracy, should tolerate so undemocratic an instrument as the poll tax.

Two theories are advanced explaining the purpose of Virginia's poll tax. One states that it is to keep Negroes and poor whites away from the ballot box. The other says that it is to keep the vote small so that carefully organized groups, which have paid their taxes, can wield greater power in general elections. Both are repugnant to the most basic principles of democracy.

Probably the single argument in favor of the tax which could approach validity is that its payment is within the means of all—the annual rate is only \$1.50. It is not the amount which holds down Virginia's vote, it is the trouble of paying it. Citizens who live in one place and pay state property taxes can pay the poll tax at the same time, but persons who move around and have no holdings upon which to pay a property tax must show what amounts to great initiative to get their poll tax paid. It usually requires a special trip to city hall for registration. With complications like this in the path of our voting privilege, it is easy to understand how Virginia stands fifth from the bottom of all states in percentages of eligible voters casting ballots. It is a disgrace to our state.

Text books of this University teach us that a democratic principle just as important to us as Majority Rule is Regard for Minority Interests. This second principle seems to have flown to the four winds in recent years, not only in the case of the poll tax but also as it concerns the great issue of racial segregation facing us today. Perhaps facts such as these should be made plainer to the members of the General Assembly whose continued support of the poll tax seems to perpetuate its existence in Virginia law.

L'il Abner



By Al Capp

Pogo



By Walt Kelly

Postmaster's At It Again

Post-Mangler Summerfield is apparently delighted with himself and his initial coercive, browbeating attack on Congress.

Summerfield was successful in his recent sidown strike which brought a \$41 million appropriation into his postal coffers. Thus he has become power-drunk and proposes to repeat his Peronistic tactics unless Congress adds 78 million dollars to the Post Office appropriation bill.

This will temporarily suffice, says Summerfield, but at least 70 to 90 millions must be dumped into postal coffers shortly to get him through the current fiscal year.

If browbeating Summerfield could see beyond his nose, he would have proposed a budget commensurate with his needs in the beginning.

Now he should devote his energy toward promoting postal efficiency—not coercing Congress.