

Plans For The Probers

Well, we went before the Newspaper Research Committee yesterday and made several recommendations about operation of the Daily Tar Heel.

First, we held that the current method of selection of the editor—by popular election—is the only fair way, despite its shortcomings, to fill the top newspaper post.

Second, we proposed that a committee be set up to study circulation of the Tar Heel, pointing out the fact that we have a moral obligation, if not a constitutional one, to get the newspaper to all who are required to pay for it.

Third, we upheld salaries for posts of editor, managing editor and news editor as incentive to retain competent journalists in the most demanding, time-consuming jobs on the paper.

And fourth, we sounded out the need for a press camera for the newspaper along with other provisions needed in the processing of film and pictures for the Tar Heel.

Among our other recommendations were: revision of the Bi-Partisan Selections Board to exclude from its membership the editor of the Daily Tar Heel and of the Yackety Yack; and a program of co-operation and training with the journalism school to offer practical experience for students taking courses there.

Our reasons for popular selection of editor and for a revised circulation department already have been expressed. Too, we have explained reasons why journalistic school students should be encouraged to work on the Tar Heel. We have not, as yet, commented on our other recommendations.

Concerning salaries, we feel that only through nominal compensation for the most responsible jobs on the paper can we find and then keep students who are interested in

and know something about journalism. These people are required to be here every day; the work they do deserves much more than the pay they receive.

As for a camera for the Tar Heel, we feel that, in the long run, it will constitute a savings in expenses for photographs used by the newspaper. We now pay at least \$2 per picture, when taken by a staff member or by the photo lab. If we had our own equipment we could take and process our own pictures at cost.

We suggested a revision of the Bi-Partisan Selections Board for obvious reasons: a sophomore or junior editor of the Tar Heel, seeking reelection, would, by virtue of his membership in the selections board, be a party to his own endorsement or rejection by that board. We do not feel that a candidate for the post should pass judgment on himself. And if he can't pass judgment on all who appear before the board, he doesn't belong there as a member.

Our recommendations will be among others accumulated by the research committee when it reports to the legislature next month. We feel they are good ones, and we hope that the legislature will look open-mindedly at them when it receives the committee report in February.

It is noteworthy to point out here that, nowhere in the course of our relationship with the committee, have we seen anyone suggesting that the editor be saddled in the performance of his job. No one has proposed that a limit be placed on his editorial expression.

So long as that attitude reigns on the campus, a lot of good stands to be gained from the hearings. The evil will come when attempts are made to limit the editor in his comments on current affairs.

Russia Appeals To Hunger

From among the many remarks made here this weekend by Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, there remains one which, above all others, deserves repeating here.

Mrs. Roosevelt, discussing Russian appeal to backward nations of her (Russia's) key pitch in spread-the-world today, pointed out that communism is a comparison of the Red country before 1917 and that of today.

Is it not appealing to an economically poor, hunger-ridden nation approached by Russia that the Zarsland, under communism, has evolved from a poor agrarian society prior to 1917 to the heavily industrialized nation it is today? Mrs. Roosevelt asked.

Well, it is appealing. And what we Americans fail to realize is that middle-of-the-road nations, caught in a squeeze between the East and the West, look with startling amazement upon the long strides forward made by the Kremlin since the Russian revolution.

They don't talk about freedom and individual rights and property ownership to the impoverished nations of Europe and Asia. They

talk about food and clothing, a house to live in—those desires innate in a people who live in starvation and nakedness, wandering wherever they can to secure the scant necessities of life.

In a nation free and prosperous since its birth we cannot draw similar comparisons, though our industrialization and standard of living surpasses that of Red countries. Our appeal is on the basis of individual freedom and rights, which is the reason for our material advantages over the rest of the world.

But a starving people are in search of food for the body, not sustenance for the political mind. What we must do is compete with the Russians on their own level after altering foreign policy commensurate to the task.

Big Postal Hike: Poor Man Suffers

So now President Eisenhower has proposed that cost of first class letters—mailed out of town—be increased from three to five cents.

It would, he said, add some 700 million dollars to the coffers of the postal department.

Well, we didn't like it when General Summerfield first told Congress he was cutting off mail service unless he got an increased appropriation for his mail department. We still don't like the idea.

It's not being sentimental to say that even today some Americans have a hard time buying 3-cent stamps to send a letter. Delivery of the same is a basic American service, and we don't feel its cost should be boosted 40 per cent.

Hundreds of U.S. corporations use for advertising purposes—at a cost substantially below that required of pensioned widows whose only communication with their families is through the mails.

Yet it takes the same manpower, the same effort on the part of the postal department, to circulate advertising handouts as it does to deliver a first class letter. And many times the handouts hit the waste can before ever being opened.

The postal department was established as a service to the American people. It was, we feel, designed to meet the pocket book of the poor man, not to provide a means of advertisement for the rich.

WISE AND OTHERWISE:

A Story About 2 Young Boys—And A Rocket

By WHIT WHITFIELD
SPECIAL TO THE DAILY TAR HEEL:

(On January 6 in the small Texas town of Birdseye, three teenage boys announced the successful firing of a home-made missile, appropriately named Atlas. The missile had soared 40 feet into the air, arched gracefully, then fallen to the earth, demolishing a new chicken coop. The boys, Melvin and Marvin, aged 14, and Lyndon, 15, spoke in glowing terms of the project. Their mother, Mrs. Jonson, was also very helpful in making this special interview a success.)

Question: Mrs. Jonson, How did the boys become interested in building a rocket?

Answer: Their father was an atomic physicist working for the government in New Mexico before his death in 1952. They inherited their inquisitive natures from him I guess, and he also encouraged them to work in the small laboratory he built for them.

Q. Do they still have a laboratory?

A. No, they don't. My second husband is a retired businessman, and he thinks we should save our money so our boys will be able to go into business when they graduate from college.

Q. Well, then, Mrs. Jonson, where did the boys get the money to finance this project?

A. Their father left each one a sizeable amount to do research, but my husband persuaded me to save most of it. He's opposed to foolish spending you see.

Q. Boys, did you pool your resource to build this missile?

A. We each tried to build one to out-rip the other, but that didn't work. Neither of us could get one off the ground.

Q. Then you pooled your funds to build this one?

A. Yessir, but we quarreled about who was going to design it until mother stepped in and stopped us.

Q. Were you discouraged by the 40 foot flight of your first rocket?

A. Nossir, not at all. We could have done better if we had had more money for fuel.

Q. What type of fuel did you use? Solid or liquid?

A. Liquid. Gas as a matter of fact. Our stepfather wouldn't let us use anything else. He said it was too expensive.

Q. Boys, what is going to be your next project?

A. Well, we'd like to send up a chicken on our second attempt, and then eventually send a rocket to the moon.

Q. What do you anticipate being the greatest problem in your future undertaking?

A. Well, we should be able to get along with our experiments without fighting if mother supervises, but getting money from our stepfather is almost impossible. He's pretty stingy with OUR money you know.

Thanks a lot, fellows. You too Mrs. Jonson. Good luck on your next rocket.

"Why, No—I Haven't Been Sitting On That Report"



VIEW FROM THE HILL:

Freedom-A Challenge To The U.S.

By CURTIS GANS

There was an apparently insignificant and harmless item in Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt's speech on Sunday night. On the surface it sounded funny.

However, underlying this item is the inherent danger in communism, and perhaps the possible downfall of communism.

Mrs. Roosevelt was describing her trip to Russia and noted as one of the points of interest, the nurseries where children are put after their 57th day of life, so that their mothers can go back to work.

She pointed out that Soviet vision is geared to the labor supply rather than the families and that is why this step is necessary. The Soviets, she said, were also out to prove that these children can be brought up without the family, perhaps because there is enough affection for children around to make the nursery a wholesome place.

But what was astonishing was the idea that these children were being reared in Pavlov's and Beethoven's conditioned response method. Hence, these children were taught to do things that would bring them reward and avoid doing things that would bring them punishment. The net result was, from Mrs. Roosevelt's account, that these children were at the age of six months and one and one-half years human automatons.

They did exactly as they were taught; they did not deviate, and they took pleasure in doing these things. Furthermore, she noted that these children were perfectly happy and healthy.

The net picture is one of complete domination of the human mind, for the child has learned to act at all times reflexively. There has been at no time between the time the child was 57 days old to the time that he attains manhood and after, that the child has been free to think or act. He is at adulthood a walking and talking fool of anyone who would want to lead him.

What is frightening in this picture is the spectacle of total control of mankind. These are not human children; they are machines. When they attain adulthood, they are not humans, they are tools.

The net result is that before long the leaders in Russia may have total control over their subjects, and their subjects may be entirely helpless without their leaders.

If there is any picture that should cause the American to reflect and to see how high a premium there should be paid for the freedom of thought and action that is inherent to democracy, this picture of the coming age in Russia should.

This picture should show to the American, indeed to all the people of the free world, exactly what freedom is worth, and exactly what a country is without such freedom.

It must be noted that Russia has gained much in the forty years of the communist regime, but those gains were made not by choice, or human resourcefulness, but by forcing certain things upon a people who gradually learned that there is no such thing as choice.

The U. S. may be soon fighting a one minded nation. The resources of this country must be used not only to protect the individual in the U. S., but to acquaint the peoples of Russia that although they do not have it at present, there is a choice.

There is a difficulty in the Russian method. The succession of leaders will be difficult, if they have only tools instead of men. For these men will know how to react to given circumstances, but faced with something new, they will not have the resource of creative thought to get them out of the predicament.

Yet, it will be a long time from this day to that, and in between these times, on the U. S. rests the burden of leading the world and acquainting them with the true meaning of liberty. If not, the human race, as human beings, will become extinct, and that new breed of automatons will take over.

Nikita Khrushchev said to Mrs. Roosevelt that none of the efforts of the free world will help, and that world communism is the coming thing. The U. S. can try to put some doubts in Mr. Khrushchev's mind.

LETTERS TO EDITOR

Israeli Corrections

To The Editor: Miss Waite makes a number of statements in her letter in today's Daily Tar Heel which require correction.

The refugees left their homes during, and as a result of, the 1948 hostilities. It is remembered by everybody, with the exception of Arabs, that the 1948 war was started by the Arab states with the express intention of nullifying the UN resolution to establish the State of Israel. I would say, therefore, that the refugee exodus was caused directly by the Arabs.

Israel has consistently declared herself willing to compensate the refugees for their property, as part of a peace settlement with any one or all Arab states. Israel has continually offered to start peace negotiations but the Arab states have steadfastly refused to negotiate with her (to the extent of assassinating King Abdallah of Jordan when he was suspected of secret peace talks with Israel). Instead, the Arab states have instituted a shipping blockade, an economic boycott and guerilla warfare against Israel, and have reiterated their intention of destroying Israel by force as soon as they can. (For the most recent of these threats see Newsweek of January 13, 1958). Miss Waite's statement of Israel's unwillingness to compensate the refugees is simply untrue.

It is surprising that anyone should claim that the 40,000,000-odd Arabs are incapable of absorbing refugees in a number not exceeding that which 650,000 Israelis have absorbed in the last ten years. Are we to believe that nations with the richest oil fields in the world, nations who receive aid indiscriminately from both the US and Russia, should be incapable of even this? After all the propaganda of Arab brotherhood and unity that has been heard for years, one would expect some Arab cooperation in helping their kindred—and yet Miss Waite takes issue with Abba Eban for considering "Arabdom" as a whole in this issue.

The truth is, as many Arabs will admit, that the refugee problem continues to exist because they wish to solve it by one means only, annihilation of Israel and its resettlement by the refugees. The plight of the refugees is used by Arab propagandists as a sordid means of appeal to humanitarian feelings in the world for support in their campaign against Israel. It is unfortunate that some people of goodwill are taken in by this unscrupulous propaganda, just as others have fallen for Communist "peace" movements.

I was sorry to see that Mr. Ganz (DTH, January 9, 1958) misunderstood Ambassador Eban who did not say that the refugee problem was the main source of Middle Eastern friction. The basic cause of this unrest is the Arabs' violent hatred of Israel and all other Western nations and institutions. If the Arabs ever put the solution of the refugee problem before their blind urge to destroy Israel, they could negotiate a peace settlement with Israel and obtain help and compensation for resettlement of the refugees.

K. R. GABRIEL

P.S. One should not be misled by Miss Waite's glib statements of historical and statistical "facts." An example of the reliability of her information which amused me, a professional population statistician from Israel, was her quotation from the 1956 Census—as there has been no population census in Israel since November 1948.

Only One Side Heard

The Daily Tar Heel

Dear Miss Elizabeth C. Waite:

I hardly know in what language to express my gratitude to you for the spirit you have shown in your letter concerning Abba Eban's speech. Many people have heard only one side of the story and are not acquainted with the existing conditions in the Arabic countries. It is refreshing to discover an informed individual who has an understanding of this crucial problem. I thank you again for what you have done.

With deepest appreciation,
(Mr.) AWNI MOHAMAD HAMAD

Khrushchev Attacked

To The Editor:

I think congratulations are in order for that double-dealing Dean of Duplicity, Nikita Khrushchev. The man has become more adept at his diabolical brand of diplomacy with each passing day. In looking over his administration, it becomes evident that what he has been doing is playing for time. When he first gained control he filled the air with talk of peaceful co-existence; Comrade Stalin was wrong in many things, said he; our two societies can live side-by-side in the same world, quoth our new-found friend. This was followed by the Geneva talks, then, the long dragged-out London Conference.

In the meantime, things were happening behind the scenes. While the "Kremlin Kids" talked of competition between the West and East in culture and trade, they spent their money in education and scientific-military research.

And when successes came, so did belligerent threats come likewise—in increasing amounts. Until now, their present talk of peace stands as an open mockery when it is viewed next to their recent manifesto (proclaiming their intention to spread their system over the world by whatever means necessary).

The Russians have lifted the veil now, and the challenge isn't trade and cultural, but decidedly military.

One fellow I go to school with told me, "If war ever comes, I'll join the army right away!" But the war has come. We know now that anytime we lag behind in the race for military supremacy, we should expect an ultimatum to surrender or face annihilation. Yes, the war has come—and, the army is being formed. It's an army of scientists, engineers, technicians, and teachers. This army is America's hope of remaining free—and this is the army we are urged to join.

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The Daily Tar Heel

The official student publication of the Publication Board of the University of North Carolina, where it is published daily except Sunday, Monday and examination and vacation periods and summer terms. Entered as second class matter in the post office at 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.

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