

North Carolina: Leading State In The Southland

You can listen to a man like Harry Ashmore and experience the feeling deep down in of a love for North Carolina that you never realized even existed before.

You can hear this gallant news-paper editor talk of desegregation and the ugly effects it has had throughout the south, and thank God for North Carolina and what it stands for.

And even though you know that all is not yet right, you can share with the rest of his nation the feeling of fairness through relative liberalism which distinguishes the Tar Heel state among the nation.

Here we have freedom. Here university students can assemble in a public forum to hear about and to discuss the biggest problem facing our nation on the domestic front today. Here liberals and conservatives meet on common ground, because both groups respect the rights of others, and place these rights above their personal sentiments.

Maybe that is why North Carolina is the foremost leader of southern states. Perhaps that is why, above all others, we have earned the respect of a nation torn between sectionalism and universal individual rights.

We wonder, after hearing Mr. Ashmore's timely address, if the south is not cutting off its nose to spite her face—if she is not dampening freedoms of the many to curtail the freedoms of the few.

In Mississippi, Mr. Ashmore noted, new voting requirements have been instituted which obviously are directed at limiting the Negro ballot. But at the same time, these requirements also could put the reins on the white vote.

At a southern college, a liberal Quaker not only was forced to cancel a scheduled address, but in turn the college's board of trustees coerced the administration into taking an oath to support segregation at the institution.

And this type of action is occurring all through the south. We are robbing our people from one state to the next of democratic privileges in a frenzied attempt to hold down the exercise of freedoms which our national constitution guarantees.

In the end, the south can only be the loser. In the end, we can only be so entangled by legislation against minority groups that the web will be weaved for the corrupt political dominance of the candidates to win.

Thus, candidate A could win the editor's chair with scarcely more than 20 per cent of the total vote. That is because no runoff provisions now apply to this particular election.

In other student government races, however, runoff provisions do exist. For instance, in a three-way race for student body president a candidate must win a majority of the vote to gain the office which he seeks.

When no majority vote is realized on the first ballot, a runoff is held between the two candidates with the most votes in the first election and the top man in this second election then wins the presidency.

This same practice should apply in the election for Daily Tar Heel editor. For we believe that no person should be placed in office on gaining only 21 per cent of the total vote, and the student body generally doubtless will concur.

The implications of the current practice will probably be seen in the coming elections. It will be interesting to see on what percentage of the total vote your next year's Tar Heel editor will be chosen.

Just between you and us, we hope it's by more than 21 per cent.

Our Nomination

Quotation of the week:

"I haven't been abroad since Little Rock, although I have had many invitations to go—most of them from Little Rock." — Harry Ashmore, editor, The Little Rock Gazette.

WISE & OTHERWISE

Election Time: Writer Views '58 Candidates

By WHIT WHITFIELD

This spring a new horde of editorial candidates has appeared on the scene.

The Editorial Selections Board (Court of Star Chamber) is unable to stem the tide. The Selections Board may or may not deem a candidate qualified, but this is no stop-gap, for those candidates who are deemed unqualified will doubtless run anyway. And one of the surest ways to get elected on this campus is to run independent of any sponsorship by a campus organization.

In the south, all these privileges are being abridged. In the south, democracy has given way to demagoguery and the impassioned bitterness of a few is contributing to the downfall of a nation—because that nation stands on and is responsible to equality.

And we turn to North Carolina. We are making strides forward. We are earnestly attempting to travel the pathway to desegregation which all admit is marked by hardships and trying times. Yet we are moving in a forward direction.

North Carolina is known for her liberalism, has been known for her liberalism since the days of early colonization when she was a refuge to the religiously abused. In that light we are blessed by an asset the magnitude of which can hardly be judged in the breadth of our history.

Let us hope that the Tar Heel state will remain a liberal state. Let us hope that ever more she will be judged for her respect of all and the discrimination of none. Let us hope that not one citizen is denied his right to free thought and public expression.

Let us, in a word, hope that North Carolina continues in the tradition which has made her the guiding light of all the southern states.

Election Laws Due For Change

A major fallacy now exists in elections laws which the student legislature should take into consideration immediately after the April 1 elections.

Specifically, we refer to the practice of selecting The Daily Tar Heel editor on basis of popular vote and not by a majority of the electorate.

Take, for instance, the situation which currently exists on the campus. Five candidates are seeking the Tar Heel post, and all any one of them has to do is to get more votes than any of the other single candidates to win.

Thus, candidate A could win the editor's chair with scarcely more than 20 per cent of the total vote. That is because no runoff provisions now apply to this particular election.

In other student government races, however, runoff provisions do exist. For instance, in a three-way race for student body president a candidate must win a majority of the vote to gain the office which he seeks.

When no majority vote is realized on the first ballot, a runoff is held between the two candidates with the most votes in the first election and the top man in this second election then wins the presidency.

This same practice should apply in the election for Daily Tar Heel editor. For we believe that no person should be placed in office on gaining only 21 per cent of the total vote, and the student body generally doubtless will concur.

The implications of the current practice will probably be seen in the coming elections. It will be interesting to see on what percentage of the total vote your next year's Tar Heel editor will be chosen.

Just between you and us, we hope it's by more than 21 per cent.

POGO



PEANUTS



"Sweetiepie, Tell Us Little Old Judges In Your Own Words What A Scoundrel That Reuther Is"



Readers Disagree With Gans

Mr. Gans.

I trust that your article of the 15th advocating cash payment to student help in Lenoir Hall was written in the interest of the student worker and not as a result of any political aspirations you might entertain. This being true, I would suggest that you investigate your proposition and determine its full effect on the income of the average self-help student. You stated in your article that "A compromise last year seems to have made a dead issue this year." You're right. The issue is dead, and it's dead simply because most of us are satisfied with things as they are. Here's why.

Most of us work during the summer and earn enough to pay at least a part of our way through school, averaging \$600 to \$700 a summer. This means that we must pay federal income tax at the rate of 20% on any additional cash we make during the school months.

The prospect of paying from \$80 to \$90 income taxes out of our present earnings is far from attractive. Allowing for the automatic 10% deduction given by the federal government, it would still be necessary for our pay rate to be increased about 23% from 76¢ an hour to 93¢ an hour in order for us to net 76¢ an hour and break even. Such an increase is highly unlikely.

You may have a point when you say that the student gets no benefit from what he saves by eating the 40¢ special—but not a good one.

First and most important, Mr.

Gans, the payment of cash to the average Lenoir Hall worker would lift his annual income so that he would be required to pay some or more income tax. To offset this increased tax payment, the worker would need a 20% increase in his income. No income tax payment is required under the meal ticket system.

May we pose this question? How many Lenoir Hall workers did you actually consult before writing your editorial, Mr. Gans? Does your editorial really reflect the views of the students who work in Lenoir Hall? We think not.

Next, if you had bothered to check the facts, sir, you would have found that there are many self-help jobs available on campus and none of the students are forced to work in Lenoir Hall.

Finally, Mr. Gans, does not your candidacy for editor of The Daily Tar Heel have an influence upon your sudden change from an aloof parliamentarian to a sympathetic humanitarian? I believe you will find being a good politician is not always compatible with being a good journalist. We, the undersigned, are all workers at Lenoir Hall and definitely are opposed to the cash payment plan suggested by Mr. Gans.

Brad Jenkins, Al Harris, Jim Wilson, Stanley Griffin, David Robinson, Leon Lynday David E. Keever, Gerald Schultheiss, Richard Alexander and Jim McRae.

In Russia, They Drink Their Vodka 'Straight'

By DAVID YOUNG

In an exclusive two-hour interview with Ergen A. Zaostrovsten, second secretary of the Soviet Embassy in Washington, D. C., this correspondent was filled in on the basic concepts of Russian education and its present functions.

Zaostrovsten is by profession a lawyer and a graduate of the Institute of International Law in Moscow. He has been in this country for six months and prior to his present assignment, he was a professor in one of the larger Russian universities.

I first contacted him at a press conference held on this campus on Tuesday afternoon featuring Senator John Sparkman, Malcolm Cowley and Sergei Striganov. At the termination of this event, we adjourned to his room at the Carolina Inn for a most informative and educational stay.

He informed me that in the Soviet Union children start to school at the age of seven and must continue for as many years. At the end of this period, they are subjected to a battery of examinations and comprehensive aptitude tests to determine the vocation for which they are most suited.

They then proceed to study for three more years in a more specialized atmosphere. The end of this period corresponds with graduation from an American high school.

The student is then ready for one of the free state universities. He may choose any that he likes and will spend much time looking at schools before deciding. The grading scale in all high schools runs from five, through one and if a student has maintained all fives and fours, he is eligible for a scholarship amounting to 10,000 rubles or 110 American dollars a month. This will cover all of his expenses.

The first semester of college runs from September until January, when a fifteen-day vacation is granted from the labors of academic training. If a student is far from home or without parents, the state will send him to a special student's rest home for this period, where he will make contact with other students.

The second semester starts in February and runs until the middle of June. While in school a student is expected to attend four hours of lecture each day as well as a two-hour seminar. After this he must prepare at home for the next day.

During the course of study, a student will become well versed in all phases of science as well as his native language, a foreign language (often English), the Russian Constitution and Russian and European history.

In 1956, 1,800,000 young Russian students were enrolled in institutions of higher learning. An additional 200,000 will enter this year to swell the ranks of the country's 800 colleges and universities.

Aside from this tremendous interest, there are over 4,000 specialized schools in the Soviet Union today. Since 1941, the Russians have trained over 8,000,000 men to work in the field of transportation alone.

Zaostrovsten said that every student is also guaranteed a job after graduation. However, he is not forced to take this job. If he doesn't he may seek employment on his own. Another point of interest was the fact that of the 20,000 students now enrolled in Moscow State University, 16,000 are enrolled in the college of sciences.

Commenting on the impact of this year's Carolina Symposium Zaostrovsten called it a useful program. He said, "it is a good way for students to know more of their own country as well as those of others."

It will help those who participate immensely. This program should create a drive and ambition in students to study harder and to seek the answers to their questions."

Concerning the launching of a Vanguard missile by the U. S. Navy on Tuesday, he called it an "outstanding American scientific achievement."

As a parting shot he commented on American vodka. He said, "it's good, but we like to drink it straight at home."

THE EDITORIAL VIEW:

Viewpoints And Ideas

Basic To Symposium

The University of North Carolina has been described as the "citadel of the southern mind" and throughout its illustrious history it has repeatedly demonstrated that the description is an apt one.

The Carolina symposium on public affairs, in progress on the campus this week, is a type of activity which has served to spread the reputation of the University far beyond the borders of the state which is its main support.

This symposium carries out one of the principal functions of a forum worthy of the name. It presents divergent viewpoints. It offers speakers whose tones range from the drawl of an Alabama senator to the halting accents of a Russian diplomat.

Such forums are all too few. The practical scientists may develop the artificial moon, but it will be the political and social scientists who determine whether these moons reflect hope or serve as signs of impending disaster.

It is reassuring to the legions of alumni and admirers of the University of North Carolina to have this fresh illustration that the campus in Chapel Hill is still a market place for ideas, popular and unpopular alike.

Such intellectual commerce is as essential to the life of North Carolina — the South and the world—as is the trade in more tangible commodities. Out of it comes the broadened understanding that must be the prelude to peace—and survival.

by Walt Kelly