

# Time For Contemplation

The appearance of a special strip of Peanuts on the other side of the page heralds the beginning of National Newspaper Week. Rather than expound the virtues of your student paper, or of the commercial daily press, we would rather explore some of the shortcomings and weaknesses of the contemporary American newspaper. To be even more specific, let's look at editorial policy.

If a competent intellect were to compile a fair sampling of editorial pages from around the country, he would probably fail to be impressed with the calibre of material presented therein.

He would see a plentiful supply of sentimental clap trap. There would be a copious amount of worthless articles dealing with such important issues as the coming of Autumn and the blooming of red berries. The tone of the entire editorial page would be one of extreme conservatism. Nothing of significance would be allowed to appear for fear of alienating the gentle reader.

The most overused, and at the same time underused cliché of our time states that "this is a time of crisis." The duty of every paper in the land, be it a weekly or a metropolitan daily, is to deal with this crisis. Questions of ultimate concern must appear freely, discussed intelligently by competent authorities. Instead of going down to the level of its readers, the papers should bring their readers up to their level.

It is a sad commentary on the entire newspaper profession that editorial comment is usually limited to problems of little concern. The issues of the world must be permitted to flow freely across the columns of our papers. An informed populace can be created in this manner, and another step to a brighter tomorrow will have been taken.

During National Newspaper Week, the papers across the land should take time to reflect on their duties and obligations rather than to pat themselves on the back for what is in reality a frighteningly poor job.

# Many Letters

Dear Editor:

- (1) The nation is at war.
  - (2) The nation is losing the war, badly.
  - (3) The nation must exert a vastly greater effort.
- If you're so concerned, why don't you enlist—and give 'em 105%?

Stan Fisher  
311 Stacy

Dear Chandler Bridges,

Thank you so much for your brilliant condemnation of our north. You certainly have contributed, in your little way, toward a greater understanding between the two sections of our country. To accomplish this momentous task, you have made several moves worthy of praise. First, I would say, your generalizations are by far the most sweeping, all-inclusive, erroneous I have ever read. As in the south, where the majority of citizens are not rabid segregationists; so in the north is the majority of citizens not vowing the south as a glass menagerie. You also have managed, with unusual clarity and brilliance, to show that the south is not ignorant in one breath, and then to show that we cannot see an injustice so fiery and disgusting and discrimination in the next. This would make the south look almost as mendacious and hypocritical as you have pictured the north. You seem to have an unusually clear insight into justice as you state first, "You can not understand the Southern integrationist's way of thinking," and then, just a few moving paragraphs later, "... you know what is right and wrong." It is little opinions like this which make me proud to live in the south. Thank you Chandler Bridges.

Victor K. Burg  
309 Ruffin

Editor:

One of the most frequent and most important questions that we as students hear is: "What is the purpose and meaning of being a student?" An easy and often-given answer consists in the reply that the purpose is to become educated. But this leads us to ask what education is, and there are many definitions of education from a broad inclusive definition to a very narrow exclusive definition.

My letter today is concerned with one of these definitions and my opinion of the immediate obligation this definition places upon us as students on this campus.

"Education is the process whereby one finds his relationship to society in that he understands the role he plays, his responsibilities and privileges, and by comprehending the meaning of society, determines that society."

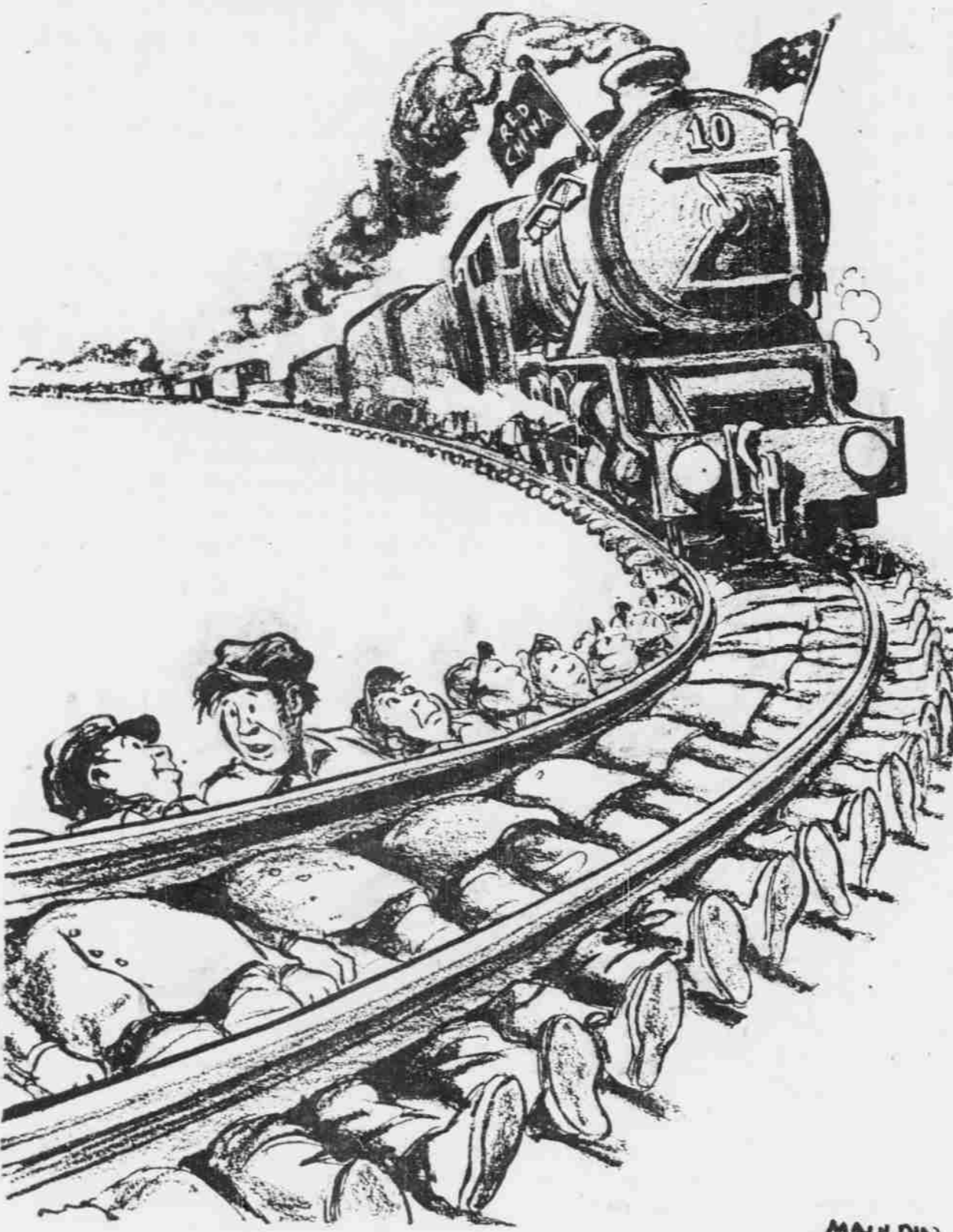
In light of this one definition, we students here have really missed the boat. Our society today is an international society. The period of independence has long vanished. Therefore to understand and comprehend the society, the world of today, we must go far beyond Chapel Hill, North Carolina, and even these United States. We must seek to break through the barriers of political and cultural indifference. We must so-to-say have international encounter.

It's quite evident that not all of us will be able to study abroad or not all of us will have time or opportunity to study each country individually or on our own, but there is one opportunity each of us has here, an area that we have neglected and have failed to take advantage of the opportunity for mutual understanding in this international world—the foreign students.

Yes, on this campus, there are many foreign students, students, who are representatives of their countries and their cultures, and who offer opportunities to understand their viewpoints, their economical and political problems, and many aspects of their culture. But the sad thing is that we fail to see these opportunities. Many foreign students have as their friends, other foreign students. We meet a student from Germany and because of our complete lack of understanding of the international world we are not able to discuss reunification or the Berlin situation and end up by asking if Hitler is really dead.

This year, an International Students' Board has been established as a committee of student government. Its purpose is to coordinate and promote activities and areas of student life where the foreign student is concerned. It is our opinion that we have a responsibility to the foreign student as a visitor in our community and

# "You've Got To Admit The Trains Run On Time"



Herblock is away due to illness

MAULDIN  
Copyright, 1959, The Pulitzer Publishing Co., St. Louis Post-Dispatch

country, to help him in any needed way, and to integrate him into our way of life, whereby he is able to form a truer picture of our country based on less superficial levels. At the same time we have the responsibility and opportunity to gain understanding of his country and his way of life.

There are unlimited opportunities for the various groups: sororities, fraternities, church groups, Y groups, political groups, etc., to have various speakers from these foreign students, to have informal discussion groups, to invite foreign students to your meetings in order that they may have contact with Americans. There are just as many unlimited opportunities for individuals.

The best step toward world peace is world understanding and that is advanced best of all through personal encounter of the peoples of the world and their various problems.

Frances Reynolds  
International Student's Board

Dear Sir:

It seems a pity that nearly all, if not all, of the letters written to the Daily Tar Heel are protests or complaints concerning some phase or the life of the University. Would it not be refreshing to see a letter in praise of some noteworthy achievement, some service consistently well-rendered, an instance of adherence to good conduct, or of some admirable decision made on our campus. But, alas, no institution is perfect, and a constant stream of praise for all aspects of the University should not be expected; indeed it should be avoided, because only by denial of bad situations and by subsequent suggestions of changes in these situations can one hope for improvement in any phase of human activity. Therefore, may I say as other readers have done, and deprecate some existing situations in hope that doing so will serve as an impetus for bringing about changes for the better.

One of the most disturbing things to confront me since my enrollment here this fall concerns the quality of writing found on the campus newspaper. Where but in an institution of higher learning should one expect to find publications most characterized by devotion to enriching the minds of their readers and by correct grammar and composition? I find it revolting to be confronted with pages replete with profane language and colloquialisms in almost every issue. Although it may come as a surprise to writers who make a practice of "spicing up" their columns with choice four-letter words and informal idiomatic expressions, most cultivated people consider this to be in bad taste. If cultivated people are not to be found on a university campus I begin to wonder indeed if they may be found anywhere at all? If in condoning such practices the staff thinks it is advancing the causes of liberal journalism and free thought, I suggest humbly to the staff that not everything done in the name of these two things is commendable by mere virtue of the fact that it is done. Free thought and liberal journalism are undoubtedly to be encouraged, but only as means to an end, not as ends in themselves.

After making an effort in the past few days to question several of my fellow students on their feelings about the service they get at Lenoir Hall, I am convinced that I am not the only one who is dissatisfied. I feel that we have a right to expect a modicum of courtesy from the employees. No one enjoys the condescending manner of their personnel who serve the food. Most of them act as if they are doing a sacrificial favor to disclose the exact name of any dish with which a student may be unfamiliar. They seem to act annoyed at having to place food on the dishes in the first place. More than one student has commented to me on the discourtesy shown him by one particular cashier. The management of Lenoir Hall might care to remind these people that without the patronage of the students the employees could conceivably be without their jobs! Perhaps it is a threadbare reactionary concept, but I always naively thought the customer had some right to courtesy and appreciation for his patronage.

A great number of Carolina "ladies" and "gentlemen" deserve reproof for their rudeness during the University Day exercises. Like elementary school children they need to be constantly reminded that in a public assembly it is accepted practice to remain silent while someone on the platform is speaking? The thoughtless chattering of so many students virtually drowned out the invocation by Chancellor House and continued unabated throughout Chancellor Aycock's remarks.

We were also admirably represented on television during the University Day exercises by the

stray dog that kept wandering back and forth in front of the South Building steps. The many other strays that frequent the dining hall, the library, and the classroom buildings need to be removed, also.

Since each student is charged for receiving the Daily Tar Heel when he pays registration fees, wouldn't it be wonderful if those in the numerous dormitories with three men to a room could wake up to find three newspapers outside the door instead of two? Suppose some luckless student has two roommates who get up in the morning earlier than he (because of earlier classes) and take both copies away to read over the breakfast table. Suppose this student not infrequently can find the paper nowhere on this floor of the building or nowhere at all in the building.

Scott D. Ward

Dear Sir:

After reading Jack Hargett's review of Look Back in Anger I had the distinct feeling Mr. Hargett may have missed the main points in the film by paying overzealous attention to minor points of the plot.

Before any workable proposal for social ills can be proposed it is the job of the social analyst to make society aware of the real problems it is facing. It seems to be to exactly this point that John Osborne has so ably turned his attention, and rather than being "misdirected areas" I feel that the play and film has a great deal of meaningfulness and is a penetrating reflection of the type of society we live in. Perhaps Osborne's attempt to make the cause of Jimmy Porter's anger conscious will focus attention on the problem and through appropriate social action relieve a lot of realistic, as well as misplaced, anger.

The film, at least to me, challenges the myth of the easily attained upward mobility that is dangled in front of the working classes in order to goad them into "working hard and getting ahead." One such supposed path open for youth is education, where if bright enough one can attain "middle class" respectability and rightfully feel the class structure is fluid and so deny the problems of the working class. Jimmy Porter has perceived and renounced this artificial distinction and is frustrated and angry because other people who should have interest in this struggle have turned to societal opiates rather than face the problem as it is.

Some irresponsible people (eg. Nixon) even try to deny the existence of a class structure in the western world. If education does nothing else it should alert people to the social problems around them and one only need open his eyes in North Carolina, as well as England, to see a rigidly defined social system with built in prejudices to keep wage earners in their place and receiving only a fraction of the value they are producing. Unfortunately, today, educational institutions are often part of the pseudo upward class climb and are thus reluctant to analyze the society they represent or their real function in that society. I think that it is unfortunate Mr. Hargett views John Osborne's attempt to do this as "... little more than ill wind."

Ralph Forsyth

# Attention Southerners

Editor:

I would appreciate it very much if my article could be permitted equal space in The Daily Tar Heel to that of the article by Chandler Bridges that appeared in the October 11th issue. Thank you, Kirby Jones

For you Southerners that ought not to be damned... and Chandler Bridges.

We Northerners do understand the Southern segregationist point of view. First, may I quote Mr. Bridges' article which appeared in The Daily Tar Heel of October 11, 1959. Mr. Bridges writes, "He does not believe (Mr. Bridges please be explicit, Who exactly is 'he' — Northern or Southern. For your future assistance may I refer you to pages 28a and 303-304 in the Harbrace College Handbook, the section on ambiguous reference) 'all men are equal' as the Constitution tastes or that 'all men are brothers' as the Bible says."

First, I do not think that a person who believes in this is an ignorant beast — only an uncultured, misinformed slob. Secondly, I do not think that a person believing in this should not only not be a citizen but shouldn't be allowed to live in this country. Frankly, I do not see why Mr. Bridges does live in America as his ideas coincide very neatly with those of our dear friend, Uncle Nicky, from the land of the Hammer and Sickle.

Just taking this statement at face value, it shows a complete mistrust in the idealistic principles upon which this country is built. Without those brave men to fight for such principles in 1776, we would probably still be under mercantilist domination.

Now to discuss the main idea of Mr. Bridges' essay. May I first say this. I agree that much housing in the North is segregated and this is certainly a fault of the North as you state. But if it is a fault of the North then it certainly is an equal fault of the South — eh Mr. Bridges? But as you say Chandler, old buddy, the schools are integrated. And if you think it is such a small token of integration, why doesn't the South adopt such a simple, small token? I will tell you why.

The Southerners are full of tradition — some good and some bad. The Southern way of thinking toward the Negro is not the fault of this generation or of the generation before that. It dates back to the days of colonization when African slaves were first brought to the 'states.' The Southerners, needing labor to work on their plantations, used these slaves and prisoners. Because these first Negro immigrants started off as slaves, they have remained in a low class and have never really been given a fair chance to rise out since.

As for the fact that racial problems in the North are never publicized... hogwash. Let me call your dear, humble attention Mr. Bridges to the numerous newspaper accounts on the race riots and street fights in New York City. Almost all the gangs there are divided racially — Negroes, whites, Puerto Ricans, etc. Certainly there is coverage of these fights. Perhaps not all of them receive headlines in The New York Times but they did get front page coverage last summer. The Mayor of New York and even the Governor of the state are trying to map out means to curb such riots.

This is more than I can say for the South. The Southern papers do publish the physical aspects of the integration troubles but take only the point of view of the whites or no point of view at all. There is no objectivity in such articles only subjectivity. The state legislature, i.e. Governor Faubus (no offence Govnah) tries to figure ways to weasel out of complying with the Supreme Court. They do not even try to settle their problems.

The first sentence of the last paragraph Mr. Bridges' great epitaph states, "The southern segregationist may be wrong in his discrimination against the Negro, but he does not believe he is wrong." I firmly believe that the Southerner, deep down in his little sweet heart, does believe he is wrong, but doesn't want to face it or fight it. Only the fortunate Negro — the Jackie Robinsons and the George Washington Carvers — the ones with guts crawl out of their holes in the ground. For example, look at some of the personalities in sports and music. Hank Aaron, Rafer Johnson, Count Basie, and Louis Armstrong have all proven that they are worthwhile in society. It is paradoxical the Southerners let such people entertain them and fight for them and for the country in times of war but don't allow them to attend the school of their choice. If the Southerners would sacrifice some of their lofty stature in society and give some to the Negro, I am sure that the Negroes would benefit the South and the Country.

This retort is not a condemnation of all Southerners as Mr. Bridges' article was of the Northerners. But it is directed to those individuals who are not perceptive enough or who do not want to be perceptive to see into the background of this problem. I am not trying to say that the North is completely innocent, but I am trying to say that, I think, the North is trying to do more to settle their troubles than is the South. The North is not carrying forth the prejudices and traditions of its great-great grandfathers to the extent that the South is. Ones forefathers should not govern ones own life.

Kirby Jones  
316 Joyner

# What About This?

1. The nation is at war.
2. The nation is losing the war, badly.
3. The nation must exert a vastly greater effort.

# The Daily Tar Heel

The official student publication of the Publication Board of the University of North Carolina where it is published daily except Monday and examination periods and summer terms. Entered as second class matter in the post office in Chapel Hill, N. C., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates: \$4.00 per semester, \$7.00 per year.



The Daily Tar Heel is printed by the News, Inc., Carrboro, N. C.

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