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The Rising Rent

Many questions remain unanswered in the hassle over dorm rent hikes and future self-liquidating dormitories, and we think some clear exposition of the problem is needed before we students are able to take any type of effective action.

Dorm rents have been climbing at quite a fast rate in recent years, almost tripling since 1947. This is completely out of line with rises in other costs of education in the same period.

Currently, dormitory costs are figured on a per occupant basis that is applicable to almost all schools. The national average expenditure per occupant in dorm construction is \$4400, while here in North Carolina, state law prohibits any outlay of more than \$2750 per occupant.

Therefore North Carolina falls way below the national median in square feet allotted per occupant, as well as services furnished, such as social rooms, laundry facilities, typing rooms, storage space and so forth.

All of this while comparative studies show us to be well up on the rent scale.

These rent increases all stem from the problem of self-liquidating dormitories.

At present the University is paying for Avery, Parker, Teague, Craige, Ehringhaus, and the additions to Spencer and Nurses.

North Carolina state law provides that any increase in the rent must go to retire these debts before any new dorms can be paid for.

The Chancellor has asked the Attorney General to draw up an act repealing the law so that any debt on a new dorm will not be encumbered with the present debt.

The reason the Chancellor has asked for the repeal of the law is that the Advisory Budget Commission has recommended that the state provide no money for the proposed dorm construction.

The Commission's reason for

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Letters

Right Cause Wrong Tack

To the Editors:

For the past several years we have defended the position of the Negro leaders in the United States who have been struggling to establish a small beach head of dignity for their followers. We did this because we believed that, while men are not created equal, each man should have the opportunity to secure for himself, by application of his individual abilities, a place of honor. We still believe this, but we can no longer intelligently defend the position of these leaders.

They have over-stepped the line which separates a righteous struggle from a dangerous battle. The cause remains just, but the tactics are wrong. Reverend King is an intelligent and well educated man leading millions of inadequately educated Negro men and women into a contest with the white people and both sides are destined to lose if the present trend continues.

The Negro has never been hated in the South. It is true that he was looked upon as an inferior being by many southerners, but he was, in fact, inferior to his white counterpart in many ways. He was poorly educated, his economic status was inferior, and in many more ways the Negro was, as a race, inferior. He was, however, a human being, and his innate sense of personal dignity rebelled against this deplorable state. He began to pull himself from the dust by his bootstraps.

The Negro has never been hated in the South, but gray clouds of hate are beginning to gather over many southern cities. Reverend King is leading his Negroes into a battle of hate. He has begun to practice that which he preaches against. He has begun to tell his followers to disregard the personal rights of businessmen throughout the South. He understandably wants what is best for the Negro, but he is attempting to win by tactics which push the two races further and further apart.

The Black Muslims are seeding the clouds of unrest. They openly teach a doctrine of hate and incompatibility with the white race. Other minor voices fly into the winds which gather below the clouds, adding to the turmoil.

Eisenhower once found a young officer shouting harsh orders to a group of enlisted men. He took the trembling captain into his tent. Pulling a small piece of string from his pocket, he stretched it across the desk before them. "Now, push that string across the desk," said the older veteran. Of course the string only bent. The young officer looked quizzically up at the general. "Now son, try pulling it across." The soldier pulled the string across the table and handed it to Ike, who was smiling broadly. He winked and said, "Dismissed."

Reverend King and all of the other Negro leaders should try to lead their people into dignity and peaceful compatibility with their white neighbors, and not push them over the brink of righteousness into the void of hate.

Bill and Barbara Perkins
133 Hamilton Road

Peter Pan On Negroes

To the Editors:

Although it depresses me to see racial discrimination and I am well aware that it is wrong, spiritually, morally, or any other way in which it may be considered; I, most likely because I am a Southerner, a stereotype not much less ridiculed and not much easier to shake off than that of the Negro, feel funny inside when I see two figures, one black and one white or both of either color, with witty placards stoically pace before the College Cafe or the Varsity Theatre, or any other business establishment. I have never carried a placard to aid the Negro in his quest for freedom, and although I believe in his quest, I probably never will overtly stand up for his rights.

As I view the placard-bearers, often friends of mine, and feel uneasy, wishing there were some other way, a quotation from a book written by Patrick Braybrooke about James M. Barrie, the beloved author of Peter Pan, comes to mind:

"For were men really equal, there would be no reason to devise artificial means to make them so."

Wayne R. Hardy



'\$96.50?'

Khrushchev On Standards Of Ideology And The Arts

By JIM CLOTFELTER

Nikita Khrushchev's March speech on "High Ideological Standards and Artistic Mastery" is a spirited and comprehensive debunking of de-Stalinization as it relates to literature.

The speech, made to a meeting of party officials with leading Soviet artists and writers (including Yevtuschenko, Soviet poet slated to appear at UNC this spring until the party forced him to cancel his American visit) is printed in the April Current Soviet Documents.

In last Thursday's DTH A. J. Von Lazar discussed the implications of this speech and the overall Russian effort to control the arts, within the context of contemporary Soviet creativity. Here we will go more depth into the speech itself and its relationship to the Stalin "personality cult."

The Russian premier manages a defense of the Stalin era against "misrepresentations" and "one-sided arguments" by current Soviet realism" and Party control over literature and art. "Art belongs to the sphere of ideology," Khrushchev said. And: "Our party has always stood for partisanship in literature and art."

On Stalinism, the premier told the assembled artists:

The Stalin years were "no period of stagnation in the development of Soviet society, as our foes imagine they were . . ."

"Writers who assess from a completely lopsided angle that particular stage in the life of our country, trying to make out that nearly everything was bad, to paint everything black, are doing the wrong thing . . ."

"Mighty productive forces were created and a cultural revolution was carried out in the country" in those years . . .

Khrushchev then went on to claim that Stalin faithfully carried out the ideals of Lenin. Khrushchev even referred to the Stalin innovation of "Socialism in one country" — a major deviation from Lenin's (CSIS) — "Leninist policy."

The premier concluded, on Stalinism, with:

"The Party pays due tribute to Stalin's services to the Party

and the Communist movement. We still maintain today that Stalin was devoted to communism, that he was a Marxist, and this cannot and should not be denied. His fault was that he committed gross mistakes of a theoretical and political nature, violated the Leninist principles of the state and Party leadership, and abused the power entrusted him by the Party and the people.

"At Stalin's funeral many, including myself, were in tears. These were sincere tears, for although we knew about some of Stalin's personal shortcomings, we believed in him."

The main body of the 44-page speech is devoted to the glorification of "protection literature," as directed and controlled by the Communist Party. "We are against peaceful coexistence in the ideological field," the premier said, in a reiteration of traditional Soviet policy.

The main targets for Khrushchev's abuse were abstractionists, all schools of "formalism" within literature, architecture, art and music.

Realism of a non-socialist tinge was hit: "Some representatives of the world of art judge reality only by the small coming from the latrines; they portray people in a deliberately ugly way . . ."

Sholokov ("And Quiet Flows the Don") was praised as an artist whose "artistic individuality" was "promoted by his communist commitment."

Yevtuschenko was criticized for his defense of abstractionism. "This poet," Khrushchev said, "apparently fails to understand much in our Party's policy, he wavers, displays instability in his views on artistic questions."

Only the abstractionists themselves: "They are . . . perverted people whose brains are so to speak upside down, with their disgraceful poetablers that are an insult to people's feelings."

On modern architecture: "The Soviet Army Theatre is probably the craziest building erected."

On modern music: "Maybe I am old-fashioned, am getting on

in years," Khrushchev admits, with something of the sad bewilderment of an Eisenhower — he objects to the "kind of music that gives you a feeling of nausea and a pain in the stomach. . . ." And: "The so-called modern fashionable dances are simply something indecent, frenzied, and heaven knows what!"

But Khrushchev is very serious about non-deviation in literature — however much he may reminisce and joke.

"The enemies of communism pin their hopes on ideologically subversive activities in the socialist countries," he told the Soviet artists (sounding very much like an inverse reflection of Congressman Francis Walter . . .) "He who is not with the workers is inevitably against them."

Khrushchev said many of the "bad" Soviet writings in recent years sprang from the de-Stalinization effort. He again emphasized his abhorrence of the "personality cult" . . . But this in no way means that we let things take their own course after the denunciation of the personality cult, that the reins of government have allegedly been loosened, that the ship of society is drifting in the sea and that everyone can be self-willed and do as he likes. No . . ."

In questions of creative art the Central Committee of the Party will demand from everybody — from the most honored and renowned worker of literature and art as well as from the young budding artists — unwavering abidance by the Party line."

And there lies the de-Stalinization of literature — for the time being, at least.

GREATEST NEED

The world's greatest need . . . is mutual confidence. No human being ever knows all the secrets of another's heart. Yet there is enough confidence between mother and child, husband and wife, buyer and seller, to make social life a practical possibility. Confidence may be risky, but it is nothing like so risky as mistrust.

ARNOLD J. TOYNBEE

A Talk With Mrs. Motley

By FRED SEELY

Mrs. Constance Baker Motley, lawyer for the NAACP, sat quietly in the lounge of Graham Memorial Saturday night.

She sat in the midst of a gay atmosphere. The students from the Human Relations Conference were singing and laughing in the background, singing the integration songs that have become popular in the last few months.

They were songs of freedom, and the students, white and black, joined hands and formed a huge circle as they sang. "Keep your eyes on the prize, hold on, hold on." Mrs. Motley smiled as she looked on.

"This kind of conference is very good. It lets people from different states get together and discuss their problems", she observed. "Sometimes I get very depressed about the way things are going, but this makes me happy."

She became solemn when she spoke of the future.

"I'm due in Birmingham on Tuesday, and then in Savannah on Thursday. We hope to settle this Birmingham thing quickly, but you never can tell . . ."

She smiled when she spoke of James Meredith.

"He's a nice boy, a sincere boy. He's the kind who searches for a cause, and he found it when he decided to become the first Negro to enter the University of Mississippi.

"James works out problems for himself, and then he tells others. He wanted to prove himself, and no one can deny that he did."

Mrs. Motley, a graduate of Columbia University Law School, has been a member of the NAACP legal staff since 1946.

"We employ nine lawyers in the New York office, and we hope to add two more within a month. Several hundred more across the country work for us on a part-time basis.

"We wait for a court order before we move into an area. Then we play it by ear, as there's no telling what's going to happen.

"Things may go well, as they did at Clemson. But, sometimes . . . And one could see the memories of Oxford and Jackson and Birmingham on her face.

She is not a bitter woman. She faces each problem with realism and hope, and she knows that it will be many years before all she has been fighting for will be realized. And as she talked, Mrs. Baker reflected in her words what the young people were singing:

"Keep your eyes on the prize, Hold on, hold on."

Stars And Bars Desecrated

By RALPH MCGILL

One of the more melancholy stories of our times is what has been done to the Confederate flag. The honored banner has become the symbol of various organizations devoted to violence and defiance of law. It is carried by the sordid remnants of the long discredited K.K.K.; White Citizens Councils of Mississippi and Alabama, aptly described as white-collar Klans, have used it in meetings and demonstrations. It flutters from hot-rod cars driven by leather-jacketed toughs.

The brave men who fought under it and gave it honor would not be seen in the company of most of those who today betray and degrade the flag by making it a part of their particular brand of hate and lawlessness. Certainly there was nothing in the noble character of Robert E. Lee that would condone such shabby uses of the flag he so often saw his troops take into battle. Whatever the hates of politicians and civilians, the federal and Southern troops in general did not hate one another. The best official act — a present-arms by the Union troops to the last of Lee's command at Appomattox, was eloquent testimony to the conduct of honorable men.

Pogo

By

Walt

Kelly

