

Literacy Test Is Right Tuff

By ART RUCHWALD
The New York Herald Tribune
Getting to vote in Bull Whip, Ala. isn't as easy as one would think it would be. First, you have to sneak around a mounted sheriff's posse, then fight your way through a cloud of state police tear gas and then you have to leap over a hundred cattle prods. And finally, if you still want to vote in Bull Whip, you have to register, and the registration office in the courthouse is only open from 11:55 p.m. to midnight on every sixth Saturday of the month. The problem is that, although the registration office is open, the courthouse is closed, and it's kind of hard to get into the building.

Even so, Mr. George Abernathy, a Negro, manages, much to the surprise of the registrar, to get in and asks to register to vote.

"Fine, George, fine. Ah'd be glad to register you as soon as you answer a few of these here questions," the registrar says. "Now, first off, what is your educational background?"

"I was a Rhodes scholar, I received a B. A. from Columbia, a Masters from Harvard, and a Ph.D. from M. I. T."

"That's just fine, George. Now let me ask you this. Can you read an' write?"

"I've written three books on cybernetics, Christian philosophy, and advanced political theory."

"Ah'd appreciate it if you did not use such big words, George. If there's anything Ah hate its an uppity voter."

Abernathy says, "I believe I have a right to register."

"Yes, you do George, but I have to give you this here literacy test 'cause we can't have ignoramuses voting for our great governor, George Wallace, if you know what Ah mean. Now, first off, would you please read something from this here newspaper?"

"It's in Chinese." "That's right."

Abernathy reads three stories from the Chinese paper. The registrar is thrown but he does not want to show it.

"All right, now will you read the hieroglyphics off this here Rosetta Stone?" he says.

Mr. Abernathy reads the hieroglyphics and the registrar begins to get nervous.

"George, here is the constitution of Finland, in Finnish. Would you please interpret the first 14 articles for me?"

"What has that got to do with voting in Alabama?"

"We got to keep out agitators and the like. Now, you going to take the test or not?"

Mr. Abernathy interprets the 14 articles and the registrar becomes truly frightened. He telephones the Governor's office and reports what is happening. An aid comes back in a few minutes and says, "The Governor says to give him part four of the test."

The registrar goes to his safe and takes out a clay jar. "George, there's only one more thing you're obligated to do for this here literacy test. Would you be so kind to read for me any two of these Dead Sea Scrolls?"



Teachers Returning

Educational Reform Ahead

By ROGER EBERT
Collegiate Press Service

The battle-lines which the educational debates of the next few years will be fought have been established, like rules for a game, by the student protest movements at Berkeley and Yale.

Suddenly there are two camps offering criticisms of American higher education. Almost overnight, so it seems, the critics of the Right have been met with the response of the Left. And the battle is joined.

There has been a liberal critique of higher education, of course, for years. But the battles fought by Robert Hutchins in the thirties, or even by Harold Taylor in the fifties, did not involve the curious and complex issues which are being worried over today.

The students who demonstrated at Berkeley, and who have protested the publish - or - perish mentality at Yale, are making a fairly sophisticated protest which cannot be compared to the broad ideological struggles which followed John Dewey, his disciples and opponents.

The first thing to understand about Berkeley, Yale, and the dozens of smaller educational reform movements which have developed this school year is

that they are essentially expressions of student opinion. Sometimes with confusion, often inarticulate, but always painfully sincere, these students are addressing themselves to dilemmas which seem to grow out of the big modern universities. They are not trying to apply a doctrine from the outside to their situations.

In their intense concern for the purposes of a university, the students are reacting to the growing pressures on their schools from outside interests. They see, or sense, that faculty members are encouraged to place professionalism and careerism ahead of teaching. They are discouraged by promotion policies which punish the dedicated teacher and reward the faculty member who has "published" — no matter what — perhaps while neglecting his students.

They are also concerned by the increasing number of research contracts by which the federal government and private firms "buy" research from universities. They see these contracts as an interference in the scholar's freedom to choose his own lines of investigation, and they argue with justice — that to fulfill the contracts faculty men must neglect their basic commitment to a university community.

In an ironic sense, the students are now calling their superiors to task. One of the most embarrassing results of an educational reform protest, to an administrator, is the inescapable fact that his students are demanding that the university place its proper work first. In effect, the students are asking the faculty and administrators to do their jobs. And the universities beguiled by the lures of contracts and status from outside the campus — are brought back to earth with a jar.

The issue that has now been presented is a simple one. Should universities exist as communities of scholars, concerned primarily with the quality and ethic of the education they offer? Or should they give undergraduate education a second - class status while winning approval in the outside spheres of government, industry, and professional societies?

Most of the conservative criticism of recent years has come from spokesmen who contend the universities are not filling various needs of the economic, defense or educational establishments. James Conant has held American education to task for America's lag in the space race; Hyman Rickover believes the schools aren't working the kids hard enough; William Buckley wants the universities to produce confident intellectual Cold Warriors.

The alternative position — that universities should be independent intellectual communities concerned primarily with

teaching and scholarship within an atmosphere of freedom — was not clearly articulated until Paul Goodman published his influential Community of Scholars in 1962. Now the vacuum on the Left has been filled by an articulate response at Berkeley, Yale, and elsewhere. Students, and a surprisingly large number of faculty members, are calling for a return to the traditional methods and purposes of university education.

This is a grass roots movement; the nature of its protest has been indicated by the nature of the evils it sees in the big modern universities. The troops of the educational reform movement are not inspired by ideology or dogma but by the realities which present themselves in the crisis of mass education.

When the students of Yale and Berkeley took their stands, they were protesting a system of bureaucratic priorities which places publication above teaching, needs above ends, careerism above vocation. They were arguing that higher education in America is on the brink of moral bankruptcy, and that a return to traditional education in America is traditional educational values is the indicated solution.

The students, for once, are arguing from the orthodox position. The burden of answering them lies on the shoulders and in the consciences of the administrative establishment. America's universities are being called for an accounting.

LETTERS

Podlisch Off Base On Gas Criticism

Editors, The Tar Heel:

Phillip Podlisch's letter to the Sunday DTH shows an obvious lack of information and maturity. He says only Italy and Japan has used "gaseous elements in their glorious warring deeds" since World War I. Ever read about what the British used on Cyprus several years ago Mr. Podlisch?

We haven't read any letters by Podlisch condemning the use of gas on Negroes in Alabama so we can only assume the he is only against using gas on the Viet Cong and their peasant supporters (It's all right to use the gas as long as it has no international repercussions?).

The United States permitted use of this gas instead of bullets to prevent harm to peasants being used as shields by the VC's in U.S. - Viet Cong battles.

Should we use bullets in place of an irritating gas? Such concern for the respiratory tracts of people as opposed to that of their hearts or brains is somewhat perplexing. It is evident Podlisch is either unwilling or simply incapable of distinguishing between the United States' noxious and Italy's and Japan's

Life, Liberty Vs. G. Ogre

The Minnesota Daily

(The scene opens in Predestinate Johnson's office. Seated with him is Guanover G. Ogre Wallace from the state of a la Banal. The Guanover has brought three of his most trusted aides to the conference. The Predestinate speaks:)

LBJ: "Gentlemen, be seated."

(The Guanover's aides produce sheets from their attache cases and slip them over their heads. Each sheet has KKK (Knuckle Knave Kids A.C.) stenciled below the peak.

G. Ogre: "Mr. Predestinate, I've thought you said 'be sheeted.' Since this ain't a formal occasion, they hope you do n't mind plain white."

KKKers: "White! White! Just plain white!"

G. Ogre: "Us southerners feel we're being discriminated on. All this bad publicity is going to hurt the cotton festival. Lookee heah at these newspaper pictures taken by smarmy Yankee." Makes people think that all the violence goes on down South. What about these pictures I got? Like this one of the police in New York. These cossacks and this one heah of the 7th Cavalry killin at Little Bighorn. And this one of the atomic bomb at Nagasaki. Ever see an atom bomb go off in Cellma? Bet your life. And who made that tear gas? Some Damnyankees out of Dow Chemical. And those cattle prods? Got Salem Massachusettes stamped right on em. Right boys?"

KKKers: "Right! Right! Just plain white!"

LBJ: "Hold on G. Ogre, I'm from the south too. That's why I thought we could see eyeball to eyeball on this. Friendly like. All I want is your statement for universal suffrage."

G. Ogre: "I'm all for it. Those people haven't suffered enough. By Jingo, living in a White House has brought you around to our way of thinking!"

KKKers: "Never underestimate a souther, white predestinate!"

LBJ: "Boys, I don't think you understand. What I want you to do is round up all the negroes in Cellma..."

G. Ogre: "Don't say another thing. Great minds think alike."

KKKers: "Alike! Alike! Ah likes the likes of you-all!"

LBJ: "Then march them all down to some big open area like the town square..."

KKKers: "The south will Raze again!"

LBJ: "And then..."

G. Ogre: "And then?"

LBJ: "Let them register to vote."

KKKers: "AGggghh! Betray-all!"

(Suddenly, with a flash of thunder and a roar of light, three masked men appear behind the Predestinate. He the Knuckle Knaves reel hard back on their heels.)

LBJ: "These are my three aides. Life, Liberty and Pursuit of Happiness."

Life, Liberty & Pursuit: "At General Election, progress is our most important product."

And as the curtain rings down we see Life, Liberty and Pursuit throwing cold - water You - All on the plans of the southern segregationists. Which proves once again that old adage from the lips of Sir Thomas Bigot: 'Hate makes Wait'.)

TO THE EDITORS

lethal gases.

Come down from your castle in the sky Mr. Podlisch. You make - believe world and your rebellion against Secretary McNamara and his "stiff - lipped, pugacious coterie of computerized deputies and his nervous, greedy flock of military hawks" is conspicuously lacking in maturity and insight into the necessities of the real world.

We are more inclined to be nauseated and to vomit after reading your "gas" than by any used by our armed forces.

Frank Kurth
Victor E. Ruehl
263 Aycock

Credit Line For Teddy O'Toole

Editors, The Tar Heel:

I would like to point out that the name of Teddy O'Toole was inadvertently omitted from the Course Evaluation Booklet as one of the people who wrote up the final evaluations. As he was a dependable worker and an excellent writer, I deeply regret this omission.

Sherry Stanley
Editor of the Course Evaluation Booklet

DTH Editorial Page

Opinions of the Daily Tar Heel are expressed in its editorials. Letters and columns, covering a wide range of views, reflect the personal opinions of their authors.

Smoking And Fiscal Health

A dispatch from the New York Times indicates that Empire State residents will not only be smoking less in the near future; they'll be paying more for it, too.

An increase of five cents a pack in the New York state tax on cigarettes went into effect at midnight, March 31, boosting the cost per pack to 40 cents, highest in the nation.

Trade associations forecast a drop of 20 to 30 per cent in New York cigarette sales, and said that the bootlegging of cigarettes from New Jersey and Connecticut, where prices are some 10 cents a pack lower, would increase correspondingly.

The State Tax Commission disagreed, however, saying the new levy would not be large enough to tempt professional smugglers. "If they're going to try it at all," a spokesman commented, "they'll try it from North Carolina, where there aren't any state taxes on tobacco at all." The spokesman may be right, and we don't doubt that there are some "professional" smugglers at this moment busily engaged in concocting air-drops on the remote reaches of Long Island.

But the real message of the New York tax goes beyond the cloak-and-knife aspects. The Tax Commission estimates a return of \$110 million a year from the increase, and that is a sum of a magnitude not to be taken lightly.

In 1961, Governor Terry Sanford went to the people of North Carolina and told them, regretfully, that new taxes would be required if the state was to be able to provide the educational facilities which its children needed and deserved. Then, demonstrating the courage and forthrightness that enabled him to spearhead one of North Carolina's most progressive four-year periods, he rammed through the legislature the reinstatement of a three per cent tax on food which had been discontinued during the high-income years at the end of World War II. In the process he passed over tempting revenues on cigarettes and soft drinks, as had every chief executive before him. He had reasons; neither stood the proverbial snowball's chance of passage, and neither would have provided sufficient revenue to finance our educational needs.

That such taxes would have been too small is a problem in mathematics; that they could not have passed is a problem in reasonable politics. North Carolina produces about one-half of the na-

tion's supply of cigarettes. The tobacco industry is one of the second most lucrative, after textiles, in the state. Add to this the thousands of Tar Heel farmers dependent upon tobacco as their "money crop," and you have some logical reasons why a tax on cigarettes was, to some, "out of the question."

Yet, some of the reasoning thrown up against tobacco taxes borders on the fallacious. For example, to say that North Carolina is a major producer of cigarettes is not to imply that its citizens are major consumers. The ratio of smokers to non-smokers in the state is smaller than in many of our neighbors, even though all of them have tobacco taxes. The loss in sales which would be experienced in the state would hardly have amounted to a drop in the bucket, yet the revenue from a five-cent tax would amount to more than \$25 million annually. Yet the force of political opinion continually forces our legislators to sell out to the tobacco interests.

The time has come for a re-evaluation of North Carolina's position. With the cigarette industry in a state of upheaval, we need to assess carefully its future, especially in the light of certain recent findings within the industry.

For example, the Surgeon General's initial report calling smoking a "hazard to health" was expected to reduce national consumption drastically. It did, but only for a few weeks; within a year sales had soared to all-time peaks.

Further, the Federal Trade Commission is now supporting the labeling of every package of cigarettes and all tobacco advertising with a health warning. This, too, may cut into the cigarette market, but Americans have an eerie propensity to look upon warnings as items to be disregarded.

If such turns out to be the case, then North Carolina will be in the position of abetting a destructive and hazardous industry whose pitfalls Americans seemingly cannot avoid. Such an industry should be congratulated upon its hardness, but it should not be fed by the hand it bites.

In other words, if New Yorkers will smoke for 40 cents a pack, and Americans everywhere will smoke despite stern warnings to the contrary, it will soon become patently ridiculous for North Carolina to prostitute its political principles.

The state should take its cut.

A Sinless, Sexless Best Seller

The Raleigh Times

A recently published book is the rage of Chapel Hill, the university town that is prolific with authors and ideas.

However, few editions are as popular as this one and are destined to be more of a "best seller" although this volume, retailing for only 25 cents, has neither sex nor sin as its sales motive.

Let us retract a bit. The volume does deal somewhat in sin but the sins are those of the University professors whose courses are evaluated by students in this unique volume which has been four years in the talking stage but which has, much to the credit of the university's

student body and the administration, finally emerged in book form.

Seventy courses get the treatment in "Course Evaluation Booklet," which contains information from 3,500 questionnaires returned by students who had previously taken the courses selected by the Academic Affairs committee for the analysis. The information from the questionnaires were written in readable form by a group of journalism students.

The book should be of considerable aid to the students as they prepare to register for next year's courses. However, some professors may end up with small classes and others with 'standing room only' as a result of the evaluation of the courses.

While some professors may have impatiently awaited the advent of the book in order to see their name in print, it is possible that the candid remarks in the student appraisals may cause some to wish the book had been banned completely. On the other hand, the prof whose course gets the compliments may store up volumes for his grandchildren and even send some to relatives on the west coast.

Whatever the attitude on the part of the professors, the publication is a unique one and one which shows the Administration, in permitting the publication, has considerable respect and confidence in Student Government which sponsored the book.

But best of all, it puts a prof on his toes. For no doubt some of the teachers, after perusing the publication, may realize that like another UNC man, they "can't go home again" — academically, that is.

The Daily Tar Heel

72 Years of Editorial Freedom

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