

The Daily Tar Heel

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ERNIE McCRARY, EDITOR

ECU And The Single University Concept

The Smithfield Herald

The Johnston County Board of Commissioners has adopted a resolution which, in effect, declares opposition to the State's "single university concept."

The Board's resolution does not specifically oppose the single university concept. It simply gives support to conversion of East Carolina College into an independent state-supported university. But the real significance of the Board's resolution should not be overlooked.

What President Leo Jenkins of East Carolina College is seeking is not simply an expansion at Greenville which would give the college university status. He wants East Carolina to become a university separate from the Consolidated University of North Carolina. He challenges the validity of the single university system.

The single university concept has been formally adopted by the State of North Carolina. The concept is written into law. It calls for a single state-supported university with a single president and a single board of trustees. But the University of North Carolina is not confined to a single campus. There is the University at Chapel Hill, at Raleigh, at Greensboro, at Charlotte. The single university concept does not rule out University of North Carolina units in other communities. It does not rule out expansion of East Carolina College into the University of North Carolina at Greenville. The single university concept does oppose establishment of state-supported universities separate from the Consolidated University System.

In a democratic state, it is not wrong to challenge any policy of government. It is not wrong for President Jenkins to challenge the validity of North Carolina's single university concept. Nor is it wrong for the Johnston County Board of Commissioners to challenge that concept.

What would be wrong is hasty abandonment of the single university concept without careful study of the effects of the change in policy. Advocates of the university policy contend that the policy holds in check bitter rivalry among state-supported campuses in bids for legislative financial support. A single university system discourages unwarranted duplication of educational functions. The economies of a single university system enable the State to stretch its dollars in the service of young people pursuing education. The single university concept is advocated as a means of promoting state unity in a common cause. It is a concept that did not suddenly spring up in North Carolina. It has evolved under the wisdom of thoughtful leaders, from the time of Governor Gardner to the present. In recent times the concept has achieved fulfillment with the blessings of two governors representing divergent political factions. The concept was promoted by Governor Sanford and is supported by Governor Moore.

The issue raised by President Jenkins should be decided on the merits of his proposal. President Jenkins and the county boards of commissioners that support him have the obligation to spell out what is wrong with the single university concept and to make clear how an East Carolina University separate from the single university system would serve the welfare of North Carolina.

It will be tragic if the proposed conversion of East Carolina into an independent university triggers an emotion-packed controversy that leaves buried the arguments based on reason. Already there are signs that some of President Jenkins's potential support lies among Eastern North Carolinians who (1) are sectionalists bitter over reapportionment and a shift of political power to the urban Piedmont; (2) are chronic critics of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and are especially angry just now over the recent amendment of the Speaker Ban law; or (3) are inclined to believe, without cause, that the single university system with headquarters in Chapel Hill is somehow involved in a conspiracy to impose Communism and racial integration on the people of North Carolina.

President Jenkins, of course, is an enlightened educator who has no spiritual kinship with people in our region who are afflicted with political paranoia. We may be sure that he bases his proposal on reason rather than emotion and that he identifies an independent university at Greenville with the economic and cultural advancement of Eastern North Carolina. President Jenkins deserves a full and fair hearing. Unfortunately, there is danger that his proposal could become a rallying point for embittered and frustrated people of the region who look longingly to the past instead of hopefully to the future and what the future conceivably could bring that is good for all North Carolina.

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"Reapportionment? Wait'll FDR Hears About This!"



The Student Speaks

Proposed Committee Can Cure Book Ills

By ALAN BANOV

You try to order your freshman math book, but the man at the Book Exchange says it might take weeks for it to arrive. You try to sell your political science book, which you've rarely used, but the man at the Book Exchange offers you one-third the price you paid for it originally.

You need a certain book for parallel reading for a course, but the Book Exchange never stocks it.

Sounds like bad news, which it certainly is. But how can you change this situation?

The Cooperative Committee of Student Government has a proposal which will probably ameliorate these problems, after very extensive study of the book store systems at other schools as well as Carolina's, the committee has recommended to the University Board of Trustees that a faculty-student-administration board be established to oversee the management of the Book Exchange.

The board would include three student representatives appointed by the student body president for two year terms; three faculty members appointed by the chancellor for two year terms; and the University business manager, the dean of campus affairs, and the chancellor or his appointed representative.

The board would hold an open hearing at least once each semester to hear the many complaints about campus stores, would meet once a month, and could conduct an investigation of campus store operations at any time.

The policies of the board would be subject to the approval of the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees of the University, but students would finally gain a voice in the policy decisions of the Book Exchange.

The UNC Book Exchange has been criticized for charging too much for textbooks. Although publishers generally suggest prices for books, other sores in the area have been known to charge less than the Book Exchange.

Another valid complaint about the store's policies is its habitually low re-purchase payments. The condition of the book seems hardly to be taken into consideration for determining its value, for the exchange usually pays only from one-third to one-half of the original cost of the book.

Students have found other stores and fellow students paying better prices for their used books. And Ehringhaus last year conducted a free book swap for its residents in a very successful project.

Like many services of the University, the Book Exchange seems more intent upon making a profit than serving students conveniently. The Book Exchange should be a viable institution, but its use of profits must also be examined.

Some \$400,000 of cumulative income in the University stores over the last few years has been earmarked for a new Book Exchange. However, students have yet to hear word one about when or where it is to be built. After this year, the fund for the new building should be adequate for the proposed structure, which might cost about \$500,000.

Some of the profits are supposedly appropriated for scholarships and fellowships. The appropriations for this item totaled about \$875,000 from 1957 through 1965. These profits are probably used wisely, but students should be told what qualifications are required for the scholarships, so more might be able to share the Book Exchange's wealth.

The Coop Committee, which was originally designed to propose a student operated cooperative book exchange, has examined such facets of the store's management. It has concluded that the coop would be "unfeasible" here because of lack of

funds, lack of permanent personnel, and lack of a store facility.

In addition, a clause of the State's Umstead Act prohibits "any unit, department, or agency of the state government . . . to purchase for or sell to any person, firm or corporation any article of merchandise in competition with private enterprises."

Campus opinion, evidenced in a poll conducted by Student Government's Communications Committee, overwhelmingly supports the establishment of a student-operated bookstore. Some 89.5 percent indicate their approval of such a venture, and 78.2 percent said they were dissatisfied with the Book Exchange.

The Board of Trustees has been present-

David Rothman

White House Has Bugs

The White House has a new efficiency expert — W. Marvin Watson Jr.

Watson has reportedly been monitoring telephone calls of presidential staff members. But, he claims, the only reasons he's doing this is his quest for the much-advertised T.R.J. efficiency.

This quest, Watson insists, also leads him to follow the comings and goings of White House assistants.



Columnists Rowland Evans and Robert Novak say Watson has unnecessarily invaded the privacy of LBJ's staffers. But I disagree entirely. I'm sure he's perfectly honest when he claims he does everything in the name of "efficiency."

The following dialogue I overheard recently ought to prove my point (and, lest anybody doubt my intentions, let me say I overheard the dialogue not in the interest of snooping but with efficiency in mind. "Please, McGeorge — me and the other gumshoes would like you to use that tapped telephone."

"But I don't want my civil rights invaded."

"Nonsense. LBJ is big on the efficiency bit, and he's complaining that White House security operations are costing too much money."

"But . . ."
"And while you're at it, how about moving over to the other side of the room."
"Hugh?"

"You see, McGeorge, we'd like to eliminate the cost of that extra hidden microphone we have in there now."

"I still say you're invading my personal liberties."

"Never mind that at the moment I'm also asking you to use only that olive over there when you mix up your martinis. You see, that's the one we've got bugged."

"What's next?"
"Next, McGeorge, we'd like you to remove the picture of your wife and family from your desk so we can substitute the one with the radio transmitter."

"You needn't go to the trouble. The Internal Revenue service had it wired for sound several months ago."

"Fine, McGeorge. That takes care of your office. Now — about those travel costs. The President informs me you have stayed well within your expense account, but my gumshoes who follow you complain they have exceeded their budgetary limitations. So please don't leave Washington unless it's absolutely necessary so we can spend less money keeping track of your whereabouts."

"What else?"
"We want you to neaten up your desk, McGeorge. We've been having trouble lately ransacking your papers."

"I swear, I'm going to submit my resignation."

"But why? If you follow the President's instructions, LBJ says he'll let you keep the lights on when you work late at night — provided you pull shades down."

LETTERS

The Daily Tar Heel welcomes letters to the editor on any subject, particularly on matters of local or University interest. Letters must be typed, double-spaced and must include the name and address of the author or authors. Names will not be omitted in publication. Letters should be limited to about 250-300 words. The DTH reserves the right to edit for length or libel. Longer letters will be considered for "The Student Speaks" if they are of sufficient interest. However, the DTH reserves the right to use contributed materials as it sees fit.

Flowers May Represent New Breed

BY RICHARD KING

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. — Until late summer or early fall if I had been asked, "Can anything good come out of Alabama?" the answer would have been no. Now I'm not so sure. The person in question is Richmond Flowers, Attorney-General of Alabama, and about him the only reply is, "Well — I'm just not sure."

By now Flowers' name has become relatively well known in the South and parts of the North. He has made the circuit of Ivy League colleges, appeared on national TV and been profiled in at least two national magazines.

But despite his claim to say the same thing in all his speeches, whether in New Haven or Tuscaloosa (where I heard him), Flowers is something of a mystery. Physically he is a large, rather good-looking man with a knack for vernacular and popular phraseology which stick in the mind. What he is trying to do is another matter.

Strangely (or perhaps not so strangely) enough, those at the extremes, the George Wallace supporter and the civil rights, evaluate him similarly. To them, Flowers is an opportunist who has jumped on a bandwagon and is out only for his own political advancement.

The segregationist reminds us that Flowers was earlier noted for his skill in telling Negro dialect jokes and maintains that he is still a segregationist. Those at the other end of the spectrum claim he is not really sincere but that he has some ulterior motive.

To these people one can only say, "Yes, BUT." Opportunism and politics are certainly not mutually exclusive in our system of government and to say that Flowers is an opportunist is like saying he is a human being. It tells us nothing about him really. To say that he has shifted his position is also a truism.

Every Southern politician (here one can dare an absolute statement) who has ever been elected and served in the South has at one time or the other had to defend, usually openly and with a loud voice, the Southern Way of Life — that is, segregation. Of course, here we could begin with President Johnson and go down the list. These objections to Flowers may very well be true as far as his personal feelings go, but they aren't very helpful otherwise.

What to me is encouraging is that a Southern politician, in Alabama to boot, is vying for the political support of the Negro. If this is hypocrisy, it is one of the rare examples of hypocrisy which is to be welcomed over honesty. This is an hypocrisy which the South has seen precious little of.

Again my point is that a public display such as Mr. Flowers has put on this fall is a change and one for the better, no matter how limited, petty, and inadequate it may seem to the dedicated civil rights advocate or the liberal Northerner.

From reactions by Negro students to Flowers' talks in Tuscaloosa, I think there is little danger that the wool will be pulled over their eyes; and they do not see Flowers as a kind of white Messiah.

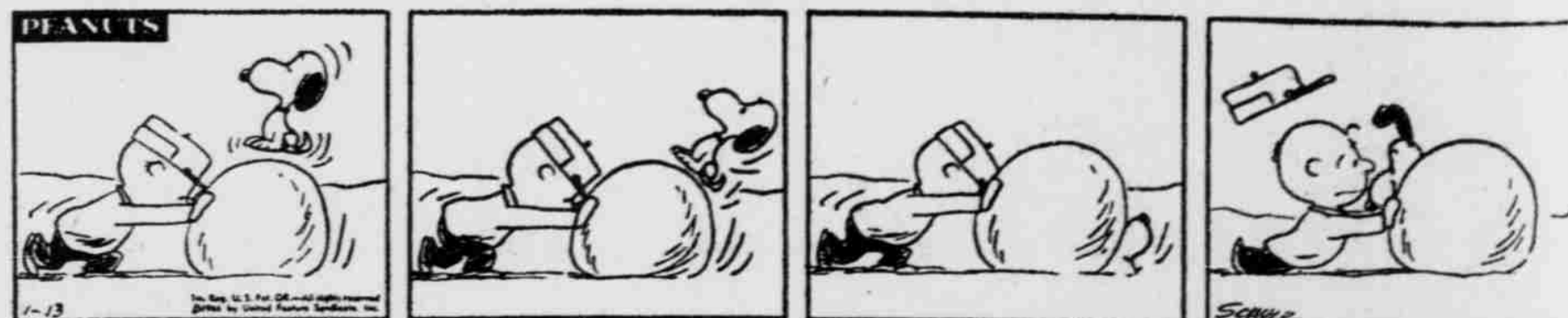
I think that Flowers' main appeal is to the much maligned (not altogether unjustly) Southern White Moderate. He is someone they (the Moderates) can be proud of. He stands for "the Law" and moderation. Flowers tells the Moderate that the Klan and Reverend King are at fault, that they both are troublemakers and just, that they both are complicated an already difficult problem.

This is what the Moderate has thought all along and feels in his bones to be true. (To equate the Klan and King is obviously a gross oversimplification, if not a lie. The ironic thing is that Flowers is considered a liberal or even a radical by some. This says more about the South's thinking on the race problem than anything else.)

Flowers may just be right, however. All his talk about the image of Alabama and the South being inaccurate may not be strictly correct, but by maintaining this he may rally enough support from various quarters to win an election at some time in the future.

Perhaps enough Southerners will finally get tired, from whatever impulse, of being the nation's whipping boy and try to change their image. To repeat an earlier point about hypocrisy: that the South even cares about its image is a fact, however small and hypocritical, which should be welcomed.

At present Flowers is the man. He may be the forerunner of a new breed of Deep South politician.



ANDY CAPP

