

# The Daily Tar Heel

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ERNEIE McCRARY, EDITOR

## Hot Spot On Campus

The pressure is on in South Building. Particularly for Acting Chancellor J. Carlyle Sitterson.

Once again he must rule on whether or not Herbert Aptheker and Frank Wilkinson may speak on campus. There is a chance that his first refusal could be interpreted to have been made on the grounds of opposition to the dates requested, rather than the speakers themselves. A decision on the new invitation should carry no such ambiguity.

Sitterson's position is especially precarious because of that little prefix to his title — "Acting." He would like to see it shortened to "Chancellor," and his handling of this problem will undoubtedly have a great bearing on his chances of getting the job permanently.

For that reason, he is proceeding with extreme caution — perhaps too extreme.

An extended delay in reaching his verdict could easily have the same effect as an immediate denial of the requests.

## Wheels Of Justice Turn Slow

Seventh In A Series

What is wrong with the Honor System? Witness it in action.

A defendant in a Men's Honor Council trial Tuesday night asked for an open trial. Four trials were scheduled — his was to be third, starting at 9:30.

The first trial was handled without difficulty.

Two of the Council members had to leave then, however, (to be tapped into the Order of the Grail) and a quorum had to be recruited from Council members attending the Roger Miller show in Carmichael Auditorium.

A Daily Tar Heel reporter was present at 9:15 to cover the open trial. He and about a dozen people—the defendant, witnesses and investigators — waited in the hall outside the Council room while the delayed second case was tried.

And they stood there waiting until 12:45 a.m., when they were finally told that the third defendant would not be tried that night after all.

"We can't start a case after midnight. It'll have to be tried after the holidays," a Council member said.

He neglected the fact that those waiting had been reassured — even after midnight — that the case would be heard that night.

At least one of the witnesses kept waiting all night had a quiz the next day. This might not be tragic, but it emphasizes the inconvenience and frustrations caused by the trial system.

Despite their attempts at professionalization, the Honor Councils could yet use some lessons in courtesy.

Conclusion of the series on the Honor System tomorrow.

## Drugs Are Dangerous

Dr. Ed Hedgpeth, director of the UNC Health Service, has asked the DTH to print the following letter:

In the issue of The Daily Tar Heel for March 29, 1966, a front page article entitled, "Notice For Physical Prompts Suicide Try," I notice the following statement: "Beaumont said a nurse in the emergency room told him that even if the boy took all the tablets in both bottles it would not have killed him. The number of tablets in a small bottle of the sleeping pills is 20."

This kind of statement strikes me as representing very careless conversation and thoughtless reporting. Lest someone reading this article gain the impression that the indiscriminate use of drugs may have no harmful effects, I hasten to state, and state emphatically, that the indiscriminate use of drugs on the part of anyone is a very dangerous procedure to follow and may in a given individual be life-threatening. Drugs should be used only upon the recommendation of one who thoroughly understands their actions, dosages and indications.

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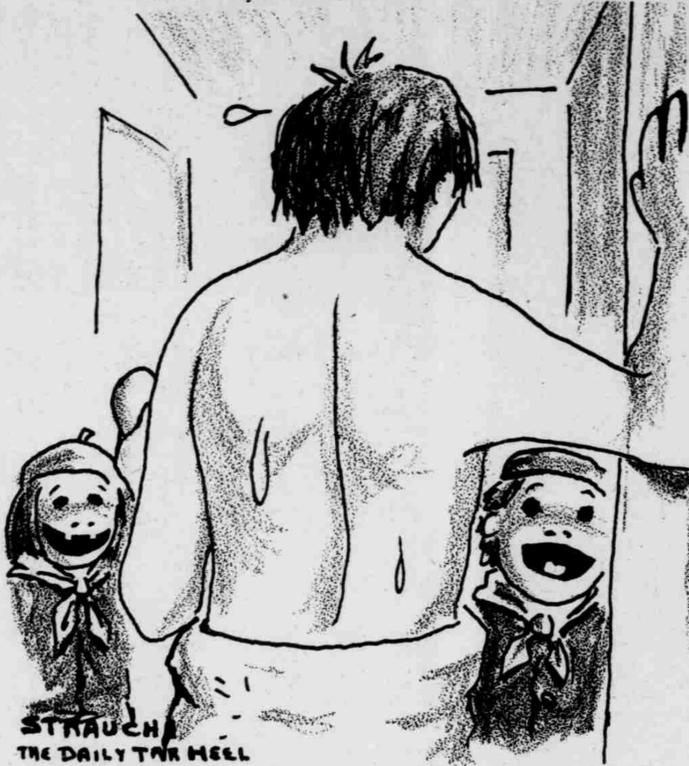
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"Wanta Buy Some Cookies, Mister?"



STRAUCH THE DAILY TAR HEEL

Phil Clay

## Holy Galoshes! Why Was Batman 'In'?

Now that the "Bat-craze" has subsided, perhaps an analysis of its origin is in order. "Batman" is a unique combination of comic fiction, science fiction and fiction-fiction. This combination yields a grammar school adventure series as childish as "Superman" and as technologically exciting as "Voyage to the Bottom of the Sea." Before the drama, millions of Americans sat — from 8 to 80, from idiots to intellectuals and from all socio-economic strata.

No TV show this winter attracted so much attention as "Batman." It was the time when every dorm television room was full and alive with inmates in this stupid captivity. Within weeks, the idea was popularized. Records, sweatshirts, "pin-ups," caps and pennants proclaimed that "Batman" was the new national hero — in a way not unlike James Bond.

A moratorium on common sense was declared so that such nonsensicals as "leaping lizards" and "holy galoshes" could sneak into our already cliched vocabulary. But what was behind this facade? Why did this form of escapism attract so much more broad-based popularity than traditional soap-operas or adventure-fiction programs. More particularly, why did my fellow Carolina Gentlemen become so caught in this craze?

First, "Batman" is a modern man of high technical skill and constant heterosexual intrigue. This is in contrast to tradi-

tional heroes whose instruments are archaic and who seldom include women in the tragedy the way "Batman" does.

In one moment, Batman may make love to a woman and when the momentary utility is over, he will dispose of her like a Kleenex tissue. This is consistent with the college-man model as epitomized in "Playboy." The women in "Batman" are not innocent, noble or loyal like Lois Lane in "Superman," but they are intriguing and more important, expendable.

Another consistency between the "Batman" model and the Carolina Gentlemen model is the idea of the technical over the supernatural. Superman would be disregarded by the Carolina Gentlemen. Superman's modes are angelic, his mores are Puritan, and he is technologically archaic. To the contrary, Batman is a genius.

On another level, Batman is a typical "organization man." He embodies the traits that any successful executive might have. He is well organized, resourceful, pragmatic, amoral and insensitive to any social echelon but his own. Those who get in his way must be done away with — without gore and without remorse ("What a way to go-go.")

Without the extra added characteristics i.e. "Bat-cave," "Bat-ray," and "Bat-mobile", there are a lot of "Batmen" on this campus and in this country. They may

Barry Jacobs

## Johnson's Electoral Plan Doesn't Really Do Much

Almost since the day it was written into the Constitution, the electoral college has been the subject of much abuse. Nobody really seems to like it; but, except for the change wrought by the 12th Amendment in 1804, nobody has been able to do anything about it.



The authors of the Constitution, unwilling to trust the people with the election of the President, devised the electoral college as a sort of middle-man in the procedure. Thus as originally conceived, the electors would actually have a free choice in casting their votes. The growth of political parties, however, soon made this choice a mere formality.

Electors were pledged to support the nominee of their party. They generally did as they were supposed to; and in 1800, when electors simply voted for two men, strict party voting resulted in a deadlock between Thomas Jefferson and Aaron Burr. Following this near-fiasco, the one and only reform in the electoral college was made: separate ballots were required for president and vice president.

In the 12 years since the 12th Amendment was ratified, the system of electing the president has come under almost con-

tinual fire. Basically, there have been three major criticisms: a candidate can get a majority of the popular vote and still lose; the process is undemocratic, and the people should be able to vote directly for the president; a candidate who gets 49 per cent of the votes in a state gets none of the electoral vote. In 1964, another criticism was voiced when Alabama Democrats voted to have unpledged electors, rather than electors pledged to vote for President Johnson. The people of Alabama, it was charged, were denied the right to vote for the President.

Johnson has now joined the ranks of the opposition; and, in keeping with his character, he proposes to do something about it. He has offered a constitutional amendment which would keep the electoral college, but do away with the electors. Each state's entire electoral vote would go to the candidate with the highest popular vote.

Johnson's plan solves only part of one of the three problems mentioned earlier. The people will, in effect, be able to vote directly for President. However, the election would still be undemocratic since votes in different states would have different weights. The Johnson scheme obviously does nothing to remove the other two objections: a candidate can still win the popular election and lose the Presidency, and a candidate with 49 per cent of a state's vote still gets nothing.

Since Johnson's proposed changes really don't get at the heart of the electoral inequities, it is hard to escape the conclusion that politics is behind them. The major effect of such changes would be to make unpledged elector movements difficult, if not impossible. Groups dissatisfied with both major candidates would have to put up a third candidate as an alternative, rather than simply running a slate of unpledged electors.

It will be much easier for the two major parties to attack a third candidate, such as Gov. George Wallace, than to attack the idea of unpledged, or independent, electors. It will be harder for the dissidents to convince the people to vote for someone than it would be to convince them to vote against both candidates by voting for independent electors.

There are certainly many things wrong with the present electoral system. It can be unfair, and it has resulted in some strange elections. Any changes, however, should correct the evils and produced a better system. The President's proposed changes are not worth the trouble.

be described as bright, amoral, apolitical, insensitive, lustfully heterosexual, loyal, handsome and physically fit. So, it is no wonder that Carolina Gentlemen were crazed by "Batman." They saw a little of what there is in America. Gotham City could be any American city.

But alas, the craze has subsided. Why did it happen in the first place. Was it because it disturbed the viewers? Was it because spring turned the mind of the Carolina Gentlemen to his own adventures? Was it because a few weeks of this madness was enough? One doubts that any of these was the real reason. It rather seems that the whole thing was so ridiculous as to cover up the disturbing dilemma that a craze for such nonsense indicates.

David Rothman

## Great Society Goes Too Far

Okay — I'm for the Great Scoeity, but this is ridiculous.

Uncle Sam will foot a \$2,550 bill so that 200 Oregon high school students can listen to lectures by columnist Walter Lippmann, United Auto Workers president Walter Reuther and civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King.

It's not that these three men won't be educational — far from this. But the federal government underwriting lectures by them?

I'm a staunch Democrat, yet something within me says that the government paying for these talks is just as bad as financing the students' exposure to Barry Goldwater, Ronald Reagan and Sen. John Tower.



The whole affair has a nasty smell to it, especially considering Lippmann, Reuther and King's political affiliations.

This is all part of Project Prometheus, a \$100,500 farce named after the mythical Greek who brought fire to mankind.

Only \$6,000 comes from Southern Oregon College, where the students will room, and the Jackson County intermediate education district. Uncle Sam pays the rest.

The program will feature classes in 28 subjects (including "human manipulation in the 20th century"—whatever that means,

besides politicians' pulling strings—in addition to Shakespearean plays, visits to a music festival and six "cultural" movies. So it can't be entirely bad.

Nevertheless, Republican criticism, at least for the moment, seems well justified.

"It would be nice if my boys could get this kind of expense-paid cultural enrichment," said Rep. John Byrnes of Wisconsin, the father of six children.

He suggested that "a private foundation should be paying for this kind of thing."

"It really doesn't make sense to spend taxpayers' funds on such frills while the nation is fighting a war in Viet Nam."

The Great Society can continue despite the war, but it's quite obvious that a lot of states could make much better use of the funds — like North Carolina or, indeed, Mississippi (think what a splash Dr. King could make down there!)

Meanwhile, one can easily discover the Herald Tribune's policy by reading between the lines:

"Judging by the initial reaction on Capitol Hill, Project Prometheus is likely to draw white-hot Republican fire against the Johnson administration."

An obvious understatement.

Hopefully, though, the educational experiences provided the students will soothe Project Prometheus' critics.

But if the students don't come out ahead, at least one group will:

Their 14 teachers, who are each to be paid \$200 a week.

## Letters To The Editor

Critic Criticized

Editor, The Daily Tar Heel: Mr. Ludwig's review of "The Importance of Being Earnest" was incompetent and irresponsible.

One might find it amusing that he should with a toss of the hand dismiss Oscar Wilde at this late date and excuse him due to his youth and lack of experience. But I question his right to indulge in little clevernesses (and in his own words, "camp") at the expense of those concerned with the production. And to say that the Playmakers should not have at all produced this play is absurd and unconsidered.

A newspaper review should in some way reflect the total effect of the play upon the audience. This review would have one believe that the play was not worth seeing—hardly an accurate appraisal, judging from the generous laughter which actually occurred throughout the evening, and the enthusiastic applause following. It is, of course, a right of the reviewer to disagree with the general audience, but only if we are made aware of the credentials of the reviewer and only if he has stated his criteria. I question the credentials of this critic; his criteria were neither expressed nor implied.

I hope that before Mr. Ludwig undertakes to review another play he will first gain some small understanding of theatre, and most important, some idea of the role of the reviewer, which is to instruct and to inform, not to ridicule.

Lewis J. Hardee

Save The Trees

Editor, The Daily Tar Heel: I find the article concerning trees adjacent to the proposed Student Union at Emerson Field amusing. The administration has lost all perspective on trees and it is appalling that the campus planner and the building architects have perpetrated or permitted this to happen.

As a graduate architect I find the statement that if the tree "... is in a workable place, it could be saved." The statement should be if the tree is in a workable place it will be saved regardless of who

died under it. Way back in the dark ages—three or four years ago they were teaching architects that buildings should be planned around trees — I never dreamed my education would be obsolete quite so soon.

Granted it may be wonderful to plant a whole group of trees and have them all mature at once — a hundred years from now — when no one even remembers who built the building, but what about the present generation?

For the convenience of the contractors and the architects the UNC campus may be soon divided into two well defined areas — the new buildings with their new saplings and the old buildings set in a grove of trees and for the next twenty years never the twain shall meet. Seems to me I learned something about integrating the old with the new too.

Richard D. Tarbox Dept. of City and Regional Planning

