

Boys Refute Logic Of Tale By E. A. Poe

SAN ANTONIO (UPI) — Ah, the inquiring mind of the student.

Two high school boys took a close look, mathematically, at Edgar Allen Poe's "The Pit and the Pendulum" and decided it wouldn't work.

Craig C. Johnson, Jr., and Mike McKinley, Jr., of Winston Churchill High School, wondered about the Poe tale, in which the hero is strapped to a bench in an underground chamber while a giant pendulum swings ever downward on him, its razor-sharp edge swishing past with each swing. The youngsters said Poe gave them several clues to the size of the chamber, the sweep of the blade of the pendulum and the height of the ceiling.

The story says the chamber is generally square and its dimensions total about 75 feet; the pendulum's terrifying sweep covered "some thirty feet or more," and other references pinpointed the number of steps from various points in the room.

McKinley and Johnson put the dimensions all together in a diagram and showed it could not be. The pendulum could not have that wide a sweep in a room of that size, they found. The pit could not be in the center of the room. Poe notwithstanding, and the man could not be located where the story said he was. The boys submitted their explanation as an English theme, for school.

Johnson's father, an engineer, complimented the boys on their perception. But he also brought them out of their self-assurance.

Poe's story sought to bring an emotion or feeling, not mathematical certainty, he reminded them. Literary license and all that, he said.

A total of 60 billion francs (\$1.2 billion) will be paid in old age pensions in Belgium in 1967, according to government estimates.



Perhaps symbolically flames gutted a student's room above the Varsity Theater a few months ago, leaving his open notebook unscorched. —DTH Photo by Jock Lauterer

Economics Professor Gets Fulbright Grant

Dr. David Lapkin, professor of economics at the University of North Carolina here, has received a Fulbright grant to serve as a visiting professor at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem for the next academic year.

Lapkin will lecture in economics and American studies. He will leave in August.

A native of Richmond, Va.,

Lapkin joined the Business Administration faculty here eight years ago. He was graduated from Harvard and holds the M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from Columbia.

In 1964, he received one of the University's coveted Tanner Awards for excellence in teaching.

ART SHOW

A two-man show of painting and sculpture will be on display in the main exhibition room of the Morehead Planetarium from April 5-15.

The show will be opened to the full public this evening at eight o'clock. The artists, Jim Brewer, sculptor, and Dick Mandell, painter, will be on hand to discuss the works with all interested persons.

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Johnny Carson Resigns Show

NE WYROK (AP) — Johnny Carson announced his resignation from his Tonight show today, claiming his contract was breached by NBC's use of stale re-runs since a strike of network performers began a week ago.

However, NBC refused to accept the resignation, saying it had a right to substitute his old tapes. In a statement, the network said it "looks forward to Johnny's return to the Tonight program when the strike is over."

Meanwhile, the striking AFL-CIO American Federation of Television and Radio Artists asked the multimillion national membership of the AFL-CIO and independent unions to boycott the products of sponsors who advertise on the struck networks.

Carson has been honoring picket lines and has been off the air since AFTRA's 18,000 members went on strike March 29 against NBC, ABC, CBS and the mutual radio network. Mutual settled its contract deadlock with the union over the past weekend.

It was not clear from Carson's announcement whether he might be quitting NBC in support of the AFTRA strike, or whether he might be trying to get out of a contract with two years more to run.

Carson reportedly is good for \$10,000 to \$15,000 a week in salary from NBC. But his potential as a nightclub and theater attraction is believed to be about \$40,000 a week, and there have been current reports that he is eager to end his contract with the network.

However, a Carson aide said he thought the entertainer's reason for the attempted resignation was a professional decision, not directly related to the strike issues.

This source said the Tonight show is largely topical. He said Carson was displeased with months-old re-runs containing references, for example, to Christmas and other past holidays.

The spokesman estimated Carson's nightly audience at five million viewers. Sponsors pay an estimated \$15 million a year to advertise on the show.

The announcement issued on behalf of Carson read:

"Johnny Carson, star of the Tonight show, has notified NBC that he has rescinded his contract to appear on the show, effective forthwith. Carson took this action based on his contention that NBC broadcasts of repeat shows since the commencement of the AFTRA strike are in violation of his contract."

Other developments during the day relating to the AFTRA strike included speculation as to the fate of ABC's scheduled Monday night televising of the motion picture academy's "Oscar" awards — one of the year's big spectacles.

An academy spokesman said a decision will be withheld as long as possible, and that in the meanwhile preparations are going ahead normally.

Academy president Arthur Freed said the awards ceremony probably would be postponed unless the strike is settled and added:

"We just don't know what's going to happen."

There were published reports that comedian Bob Hope had stated he would not cross picket lines to serve as master of ceremonies for the awards. His comment was not immediately available but an academy spokesman said:

"We imagine the same feeling would be held by many other participants in the same position."

AFTRA has maintained that the network strike centers around the demands of slightly over 100 local network newscasters for a \$325 a week base pay, and an increased cut from sponsors' advertising fees.

However, NBC said in a statement that the "real issues" involve network staff announcers.

The network said AFTRA is demanding that NBC employ three additional staff announcers to handle a total of two hours work each week on FM radio outlets.

The networks have referred to this as "featherbedding."



Lillabulero staff members lounge on Silent Sam, waiting for inspiration. They are Newton Smith, Bill Matthews, David Mallison. Editor Russell Banks rests at Sam's feet.

Experimental College Gets Good Start

By JIM CLOUD Special to DTH

"The test of UNC's new Experimental College will come when students get loaded with regular course work," says School of Journalism Professor Walter Spearman.

"It will take a full semester to see whether the enthusiasm will be sustained." Mr. Spearman's Drama and Dramatic Criticism course meets at his home. The atmosphere is right. He offers everyone coke or beer, and they settle back in the living room around the fire.

"The class is stimulating to me," said Mr. Spearman. "I want to do more reading on the things we read about."

He says the "give and take" has been excellent. "Someone will advance an idea and this sets up the discussion."

"We got off to a slow start until we decided what we wanted to do. It's a new concept for a lot of people—the idea that a class isn't lecture and notes, etc."

The class has progressed from Arthur Miller, Tennessee Williams and Edward Albee to Eugene Ionesco and the "Theatre of the Absurd."

Two students in the class who have written plays in the style of the contemporary "Theatre of the Absurd" have offered them to the group for discussion.

Y Seeks Officers

Registrations for candidacy for YM and YWCA executive positions for 1967-68 will begin Monday and run through next Monday. Elections for new officers will be held Wednesday, April 19.

There are four positions open in both the YM and YWCA: President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The officers of the two groups work closely together in carrying out the programs of the organization. Those interested in running for any of these positions or who would like to talk further with present Y officers about this possibility should complete a registration form and sign up for an interview in Room 102, Y Building.

Interviews will be held Tuesday through Thursday afternoons April 11-13 in the Y offices. After discussion with the candidates, the YM and YWCA Executive Committees will draw up and approve their respective slates of candidates for the four executive positions. Elections will then be held on the 19th in Y Court from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. All students who have participated on Y committees or who hold Y membership cards as a result of their financial contributions will be eligible to vote.

Regarding the eligibility of candidates for office, Peggy Paul and Jonathan Gibson, the current presidents of the YW and YM state, "The Y offers an opportunity both for service to the University and the community and for imaginative leadership in an important campus organization."

We're looking for people with creative and well-articulated ideas and the ability to translate them into action. Previous experience with the Y will, of course, be helpful, but the Y offices will not be restricted to those who have worked with the Y before."

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PEANUTS COMPLAIN COMPLAIN COMPLAIN COMPLAIN COMPLAIN COMPLAIN CRAB CRAB CRAB CRAB CRAB CRAB CRAB CRAB CRAB CRAB IF HE DOESN'T LIKE IT, WHY DOES HE KEEP FLYING DOWN THERE EVERY YEAR? ANDY! THEY'RE COMIN' TO CUT OFF THE ELECTRICITY THIS AFTERNOON! WHO CARES? THERE'S NOT MUCH ON TELLY ANYWAY AN' THE H.P. ARE TAKIN' THE FURNITURE BACK TOMORROW! THEY'RE WELCOME — IT'S FULL OF WOOD WORM AN' THE LAND LORD'S SENDIN' THE BAILIFFS ROUND NEXT WEEK! YER'VE GOT TO ADMIRE 'IM — THE WAY 'E MAKES MOLEHILLS OUT OF MOUNTAINS LUVLY! — I WON A QUID OFF THEM AT CARDS LAST TIME