

'Youth Has Foothold In NC Politics'

By Bobby Nowell
Editor

Roger Foushee, chairman of the Orange County Democratic Party, is one of the "New Breed" of politicians who have begun to jockey for power in many of the 100 North Carolina counties.

Foushee is 32, a graduate of the University of North Carolina, a book salesman. He worked for Gene McCarthy in 1968 and along the way had himself elected Orange Democratic chief. Two weeks ago Foushee and the young liberals had sufficiently consolidated their power within the Party to re-elect him for two years.

During his first term as chairman, Foushee believes, "We created a foothold for a renewed, vigorous, and responsive Democratic Party

that should be the model for the rest of the state."

Recent happenings at other county Democratic conclaves may indicate that others are following the example.

The young—or at least their concerns and viewpoints—had a decided effect on several conventions two weeks ago. Guilford and Forsyth Counties, along with normally hawkish Wake County, passed resolutions commending Sen. B. Everett Jordan for his vote against the first Byrd amendment in the U.S. Senate. Furthermore, Guilford Democrats urged support for the Cooper-Church and McGovern-Hatfield amendments in the Senate, measures which would curb United States war policies.

Elsewhere, blacks, women, and young people were elected to Party executive committees

in greater numbers than at any previous time.

"In the Piedmont there is a renewed political interest on the part of traditional liberals," Foushee explained in an interview.

"The N.C. 'Sanford wing,' the Kennedy and McCarthy kids, the old Stevenson supporters—this group of people, in their twenties and early thirties, have with their organizing abilities surged to the front or taken control of several county Parties."

He pointed out that of the six county officers elected two weeks ago, four are under 35 and two are under 30.

"Historically we came along at a very fortunate time," Foushee said of the resurgent young liberals. "Nineteen sixty-eight was a time when the older generation was growing tired of political involvement."

The chairman believes the Orange County party is now under close scrutiny by reform-minded individuals in other county organizations.

Among the resolutions adopted by Foushee's recent party convention were:

—Making abortion a matter to be decided by doctor and patient;

—Making possession of marijuana punishable as a misdemeanor instead of a felony;

—Giving the vote to 18 year olds;

—Shifting the primary voting date from Saturday to Tuesday to facilitate participation at the polls;

—Abolishing capital punishment.

"A few people were shocked by these resolutions,"

Foushee reported. "They said such things should not be considered at a county party convention."

"However, I think it's the duty of the party to speak to the needs of the people. As chairman, it is my hope and ambition to promote the right causes, stimulate discussion of proper issues, lend tolerance and understanding to divergent points of view, and serve as a model for Party reorganization in the state."

The structure of the Orange Democratic Executive Committee includes a chairman and three vice-chairmen, one of whom is to be of the opposite sex of the chairman, one black, and one aged 30 or younger if none of the other chairmen are under 30.

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Peddlers Return To Franklin St.

By Steve Plaisance
Associate Editor

The peddlers are back on Franklin Street, "selling" flowers and "giving away" their merchandise with each purchase of a flower.

Rocky Hulth and Victor Rattner were selling leather goods and candles on Franklin Street Tuesday and Wednesday, and expect to be there "until they arrest us or until we get the ordinance changed."

The ordinance in question was passed by the Chapel Hill Board of Aldermen on June 22, and states:

"It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, corporation or organization to display, sell, rent, offer for sale or rent any goods, wares, merchandise or commercial products of any kind on the streets or sidewalks of the town of Chapel Hill."

Exceptions include civic organizations and their groups engaging in charitable or fund raising drives... and that natural and home grown or artificial flowers may be sold in the central business district.

"I was the first to use the idea of selling flowers and giving my merchandise away," noted Hulth, "but many of the other guys are gonna try it."

Hulth and Rattner represent 13 members of the newly-formed Chapel Hill Craftsman's Guild, (CHCG), which was reportedly formed to counteract the anti-peddling ordinance.

According to Hulth, the CHCG will circulate petitions around the town and campus for the next few days in order to generate support for their bid to regain use of the streets. The petitions, to be submitted at the Board meeting on Monday, July 6, ask the Board of Aldermen "to revise section I of the ordinance passed June 22 so that in addition to flowers, handcrafted goods may also be sold by licensed vendors."

"We've already got 700 signatures as of Tuesday," Hulth explained. "We hope to get out at least 50 more petitions later in the week and collect at least 2,000 more signatures."

Hulth said that a committee had been appointed by the Board of Aldermen to study the street peddlers and the problems surrounding them, "but only one member of the committee has come by to talk to us so far."

When questioned about the police action in the matter, Hulth said "I'm scared shitless!"



Victor Rattner sells his flowers

New Left Counters 'America Day'

Thousands of people of all political leanings will converge on Washington, D.C. this week end to demonstrate separately support or discontentment with American traditions.

Members of the New Left are planning a "counter-celebration" or "smoke-in" to coincide with "Honor America Day" planned by right-wing organizations for July 4 in the Nation's Capital.

"Honor America Day" is billed as an

entertainment event to "honor the country on its 194th birthday."

According to Bob Hope, the master of ceremonies for the day-long festivities, the events are supposed to be non-political. Hope indicated that although a number of famous show business personalities will share the flag-bedecked platform on the Washington Monument grounds, the only speech will be given by Dr. Billy Graham.

"His address will be non-political, too," Hope promised.

The Associated Press reported this week that President Nixon had asked Hope himself not to make any political statements. Hope has recently dropped his comedy routine at rallies to speak in favor of Nixon's Indochina policies.

The official schedule calls for a mid-morning "National Memorial

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