The Daily Tar Heel

Tuesday, December 15, 1970

Loyalty oath a state job must since 1941

by Bill Pope Staff Writer

"I can't see how if a man is drawing a salary from the State, there can be anything worse than his engaging in subversive activities."

That was the summation by John Sprunt Hill of Durham of a meeting held by the UNC Board of Trustees in June, 1941-a meeting in which radicalism at the University was the main topic.

The trustees agreed something needed to be done about the "radical activities of 10 or 12 professors" at the University and adopted a resolution ordering all UNC employes to sign an oath of support to the North Carolina and United States Constitutions.

Today, almost 30 years later the oath is still required for all new UNC employes, including janitors, secretaries and administrative personnel.

"It's about like a student signing the pledge," said UNC registrar Dr. James Gaskin. It may mean it is done so casually it doesn't mean anything."

Foreign citizens who hold jobs with the University do not have to sign the oath.

All members of the General Assembly and anyone "chosen or appointed to hold any office of trust or profit" in the state have been required to sign the oath since 1791.

The motion to require the oath for UNC employes was made by J.E. Millis of High Point at the 1941 meeting.

Thurmond Chatham of Winston-Salem, who seconded the motion said he was amazed the oath had not been required in the past, according to the Associated Press story of the meeting.

Hill according to the story, "declared that the taking of the oath would quell the unrest" of the radical professors.

An editorial in the June 9, 1941 Raleigh News and Observer did not agree. "Unfortunately, the new rule seems more an expression of irritation than a plan for patriotism," the editorial said.

"Do the trustees actually think there are some dangerous subversive elements in the faculty at Chapel Hill? If they do they took measures so half-hearted as to be silly.

"Obviously the man who wants to stick around and sabotage the State or youth in it will be the first to swear and will swear the loudest," the editorial said.

No specification was made on whether the oath had to be renewed each school year or whether the taking the oath one time would be considered binding for all future occasions, according to the AP story.

The first issue of The Daily Tar Heel for the fall term of 1941 announced in a

two-paragraph story that all employes Gaskin said he received only two or had to sign the oath by Oct. L.

The resolution says the president and was supervisor of the summer sessions. the deans of administration must see to it that all faculty members comply with the disapproval or concern with the oath oath. The comptroller and assistant signed it," he commented. comptroller have the same responsibility Gasking believes such an oath is for other employes.

The first part of the oath says: "I universities in the country. (name) do solemnly swear (or affirm) "A faculty member from another United States, so help me, God."

The second part of the oath states: "I be read to him," Gaskin related. true allegiance to the State of North his college. Carolina, to the constitutional powers Gaskin said a visiting professor from

"And that I will endeavor to support. citizenship if he signed the oath. maintain and defend the Constitution of Dr. Dan Okan, chairman of the best of my knowledge and ability; so help exam. me, God."

office handled the signing of the oath for for separating those who depart from the all UNC employes. All new faculty oath. A person will sign the oath even if members and administrators now take the he desires to disobey it. oath in the newly organized registrar's "It is regrettable that this type of oath office, while other University employes is necessary," Okun continued, "but I sign the oath at the personnel office

A notary public is required to make an issue out of it." the University, according to the applicants state whether they ever had resolution.

"As far as I know there have been no question was not on the application instances in which someone refused to forms at the other state universities. sign the oath," says Gaskin, who handled University administrators scratched the signing for five years as director of the question in Jan., 1959, claiming it the summer session employment.

three complaints about the oath while he

"However, all those who expressed

"widespread" among colleges and

that I will support the Constitution of the college who was coming here once called up to ask if we had an oath and ask it to

(name) do solemnly and sincerely swear "He expressed pleasure after I read it (or affirm) that I will be faithful and bear because it was not as strict as the oath at

and authorities which are or may be New Jersey jokingly asked several years established for the government thereof; ago if he would lose his New Jersey

said state, not inconsistent with the Faculty Council, compares the oath to Constitution of the United States, to the the one students sign at the bottom of an

"I'm opposed to both (oaths)," Okun Until this semester, the personnel said, "It doesn't have the effect intended

don't think it is important enough to

countersign the oath. If the oath is not In a separate oath, the University signed, one cannot receive payment from required from 1949 to 1959 that all job any communist connections. The

served no purpose.

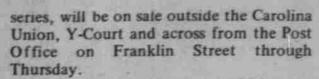
CHAPEL HILL 967-7092 Chapel Hill, N. C. 501 W. Franklin St. *** GOODYEAR TIRES** * MICHELIN TIRES

First 'Sumus' released today series, will be on sale outside the Carolina "Sumus No. 1" translated from Latin

means literally "We are Number 1." It also means the publication of a new series of literary works, graphics and

photography which makes its debut on the University campus today.

"December 1970" first in the Sumus



The book will sell at a cost of 75 cents. Kip Ward, editor of the publication, said Sunday the book results from the



efforts of UNC students who decided to pool the talents of local writers with those of other college students across the composed of poetry and photography nation.

He added that its purpose is to offer the opportunity for young people to be heard throughout the nation. "It is a' young, honest and vital voice," Ward said. "A lot of it is shocking."

selected from more than 400 manuscripts

collected from universities all over the country. About one-third of the book is offered by UNC students.

The Sumus publication will appear three times a year with the next issue coming out in April. In March, a Sumus

throughout the nation to be sold.

2 companies to recruit Jan. 7

The Placement Service has announced two companies will be recruiting on campus during the first week of January. on campus on Thursday, Jan. 7.

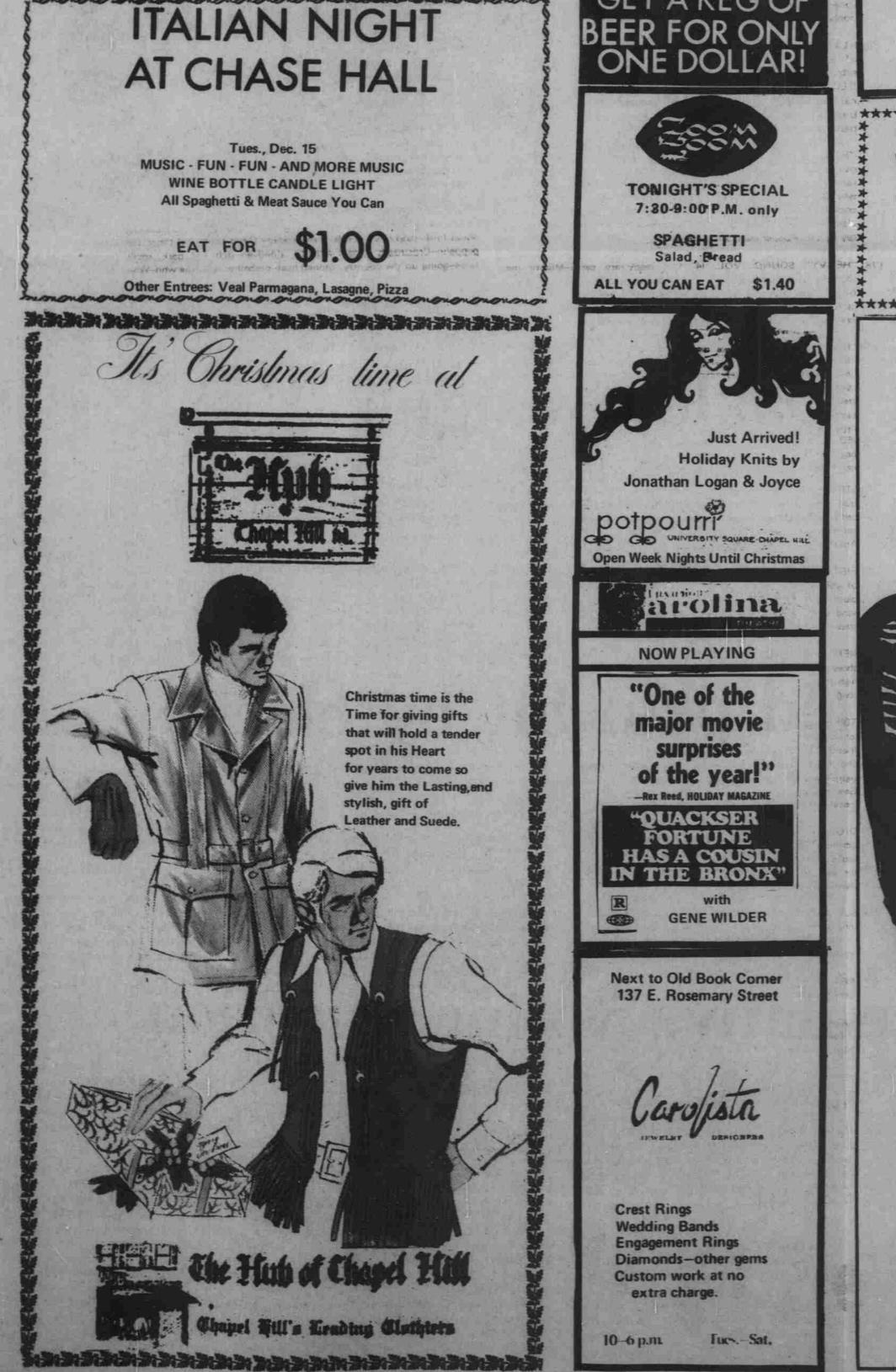
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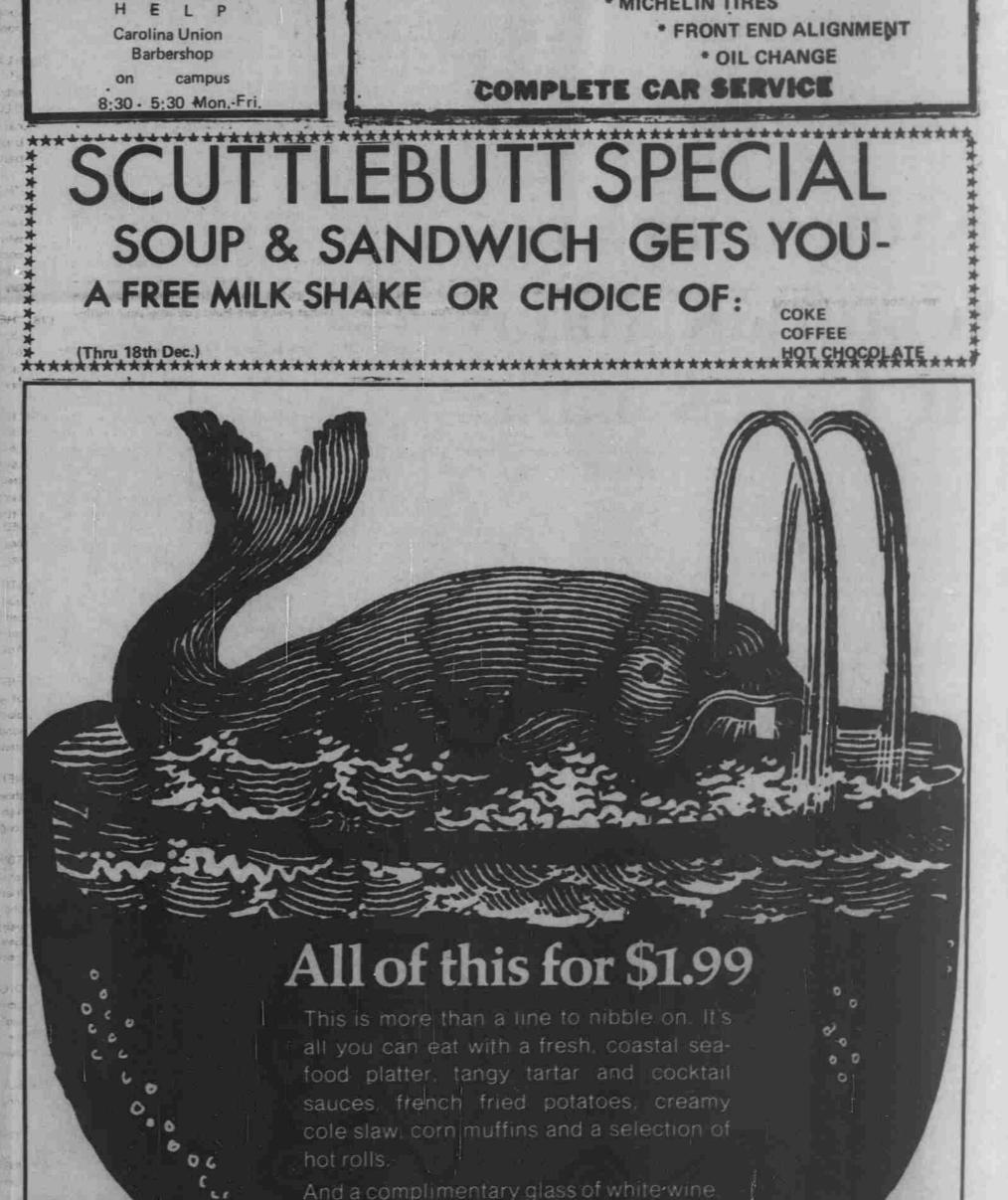
The Atlantic Richfield Company and the Division of Personnel and Retirement of the State of Florida will both appear

book of UNC student Timothy

Daughtry's poetry will be published. Ward said that "December 1970" will

According to Ward, the material was be sent to 200 university bookstores







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