

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
In Orange County, Year \$4.00
(6 months \$2.25; 3 months, \$1.50)
Outside of Orange County by Year: \$5.00
State of N. C., Va., and S. C. 4.50
Other States and Dist. of Columbia 5.00
Canada, Mexico, South America 7.00
Europe 7.50

A Time to Dig Deep

The 1956 Community Chest drive begins in Chapel Hill today, and its goal represents 20 per cent more than was collected in last year's campaign. This money is urgently needed by the nine Chest agencies. The Chest is not just "another" drive. It is a combined request from local agencies which depend on our contributions to survive.

All contributions are welcome, naturally, but Chapel Hillians should think of their Chest donations in terms of dollars rather than dimes. Instead of having fund raisers knock on our front doors nine separate times for these nine local agencies, we are being asked to give once—for all.

No one questions the worth of the agencies concerned. No one denies the need for the Scouting program, the recreation and community centers, the day nursery, the libraries, the Humane Society, and the Y-Teen activities. These are organizations which contribute something fine and worthwhile to our community. We are being asked only to fulfill an obligation which is rightfully ours when we are asked to give our financial support.

More volunteer workers—from division chairman to door-to-door solicitors—are participating in the Chest drive this year than in any previous campaign. They are giving valuable time as well as money. Most of us are only being asked to dig into our pockets and our hearts. We should dig deep.

Something for Grown People to Decide

One of the first published statements that met my eyes when I got home last week was one by John W. Umstead, citizen of Chapel Hill and member of the University's Board of Trustees, to the effect that, if the University administration did not do something about restricting the possession of automobiles by students, the Trustees would. I hope the Trustees will not find it necessary to act on this, but if the administration doesn't I hope the Trustees will.

I have said in these columns several times that I thought the possession of automobiles by students should be restricted, and I am still strongly of that opinion. The University administration seems to think that this is a matter in which considerable weight should be given to what the students think. There is certainly no objection to giving them an opportunity to express their views, but these views should not be taken as highly important. Many of the students are still adolescents, which means that they are incompetent, from lack of knowledge and experience, to form sound judgments; and most of the others are such a short way beyond adolescence that they are still immature. The great majority of students are minors in the sight of the law, and, when any question of University policy is up for discussion, they should also be regarded as minors by the faculty. Listen to what they say, treat them courteously and sympathetically, but don't let them usurp functions that belong to grown people. The University administration is in loco parentis with respect to students and its decisions on student privileges and student behavior ought to be based on that fact.—L. G.

The Question of the Obligation to Vote

A year or so ago, I asked, in a casual sort of way, if maybe people weren't being harangued too much about their duty to vote. It wasn't that I objected to go to the polls; I just thought that the urging was being overdone. I said that to have my obligation to take part in an election dinned into my ears so constantly, day after day, was

getting to be more than a little tiresome.

Now I find this matter discussed seriously in an article in the November issue of Harper's by Robert E. Coulson. He is the mayor of Waukegan, Illinois, who has had his name on a ballot five times in recent years and has come out winner four times. He has been a Republican party official and an active party worker for fifteen years.

Excerpts from his article are reproduced here below.—L.G.

By Robert E. Coulson in Harper's:

Three years ago anyone who failed to vote had to face the combined scorn of both political parties, the school-teachers, boy scouts, war veterans, chambers of commerce, and leagues of women voters. Last year bar associations, girl scouts, tavern keepers, President Eisenhower, radio and TV stations and junior chambers of commerce joined the crusade. There is every prospect that in future elections, non-voters will face jail sentences or fines, or be called to testify before investigating committees.

Before this happens, someone should come to their defense. Non-voters are often more intelligent, more fair-minded, and just as loyal as voters. The right not to vote is as basic as the right to. If voting is made a duty, it ceases to be a privilege.

Non-voting, multiplied by the thousands, is said to mean voter apathy, and this is supposed to be a sin. Have we lost our sacred American right to be apathetic?

The notion that "getting out the vote" makes for better election results is neither non-partisan, patriotic, nor logical. It is a device to favor the machines of both parties. It handicaps independent candidates, unfairly burdens the party in power, makes elections more expensive to conduct, and worst of all—places the emphasis on the ritual of voting rather than the thought behind the vote.

If you fill in all the blank spaces on the ballot, the political machines will steal three-fourths of your vote. Let's see how this works, in a typical primary election.

Here are seven offices to be filled by nomination, with two or three candidates for each office. Citizen Stringfellow is interested in seeing Jones win for Auditor. He has no information about the candidates for Attorney General, Treasurer, Superintendent of Schools, or the others. He votes for Jones and then looks on down the list. He has been persuaded that it is his duty to vote for somebody for each office. So for six of the seven offices, he marks an X opposite the name best known to him, or the name on top, or the name suggested by his committeeman. These are machine candidates, and Citizen Stringfellow has given away six-sevenths of his vote.

After him, comes Citizen Stalwart, who knows the candidates for two of the seven offices. He also fills in all the blanks, letting the machine steal five-sevenths of his vote. At this rate, during a day's balloting, the candidates backed by the strongest machines with the biggest publicity budgets will win, even though not a single voter had an intelligent preference for them.

"Getting out the vote" is always partisan. A calm and dignified effort benefits the party in power. An excited or hysterical effort benefits the party out of power. The Republicans were very happy to use the pressure of "neutral" groups in the 1952 elections. But they had better learn that this is a two-edged sword. Next time, the girl scouts, veterans' groups, radio stations, newspapers, and community funds may be out needling the Republicans with propaganda.

All public-opinion surveys show that a certain proportion of the electorate has no opinion about many vital issues, does not know who is running for office, and does not care. A gentle campaign to bring a submissive one-third of the apathetic sheep to the polls gets out a voting majority for the candidates who have had the greatest amount of publicity—who usually belong to the party in power. A rip-snorting effort to get out all the ignoramuses tends to turn them into the rebel column, and thus benefits the outs.

In either event, the girl scouts should wash their hands of it. The job of getting out the vote is a partisan effort which belongs to the professionals.

The silliest idea of all is the notion that it is un-American or unpatriotic not to vote. "A plague on both your houses" is a fair American attitude—

The Recital of Stephen Kovacs

By Jose A. Helguera
At Hill Music Hall, On Tuesday evening, October 25, a most unusual (for the younger generations) recital was given by Stephen Kovacs, a master technician, which recital took this reviewer back to the first piano concert he attended, a good many years ago, when the fashion was for the great pianists to display their gifts by performing the so-called "pianistic" works popular at that time.

Kovacs began by giving a fine performance of the rarely heard Antonio Vivaldi's "D minor Organ Concerto," as transcribed for the piano by the little-known contemporary composer, Stradal. The first movement, "Maestoso e pesante—Fuga," was characterized by the fine organ-like sonority achieved, both in the fortissimos and pianissimos. Throughout this whole movement the bass line was beautifully maintained, along with the lyricism of the melodies, the well-exposed fugue. This was the subject of a clear and musically treatment. The second movement, "Largo," was sung with poetical phrasing and finely brought in contrasts. The "Finale" was performed with great musicianship, precise and clear technique, well developed crescendos and diminuendos, ending in a brilliant coda and final ritardando.

The nowadays unheard "Dante Sonata," by Franz Liszt, was the next number, which was performed by Kovacs with a tremendous and well-sustained technique, and, leaving aside the numerous somewhat trite passages of this sonata, the artist's execution of its tremendously difficult arpeggio octaves, double scales and many other trying phrases, prepared us to enjoy the melodic passages, which were poetically sung. While this reviewer was never very fond of this work, Kovacs' performance made it quite enjoyable.

Then came the Brahms "Variations on a Theme by Paganini." Beginning by a clear and poetical statement of the basic theme, Kovacs went through the complete first book and almost the whole second book of these variations. Each of these was clearly and musically played, getting its "place in the sun" through its individual interpretation, giving the audience a good idea of how each one of the forty-odd departures from the original theme was developed. His recapitulation, return to the basic theme and coda were magnificent.

After the intermission, Kovacs introduced "Storm over Hungary." This very "Lisztian" composition, by a contemporary composer, Szelenyi, was finely performed by Kovacs, who gave us good poetical singing of melodies, fine and smooth dynamics.

The true gem of the old Viennese court was brought back to us through Kovacs' playing of his own transcription of the "Fledermaus," by Johann Strauss. The character of the original music was well

preserved in this paraphrase.

Then came the "Capriccio in F minor," by still another Hungarian composer, of the classical school, Ernst von Dohnanyi, which short piece was delightfully performed.

Next on the program was the Paganini - Liszt - Busoni "Campanella." Perfection itself was Kovacs' execution of this fantastically difficult work.

Finally, we heard the rarely played Liszt's transcription of the Overture to "Tannhauser" by Wagner. The Pilgrims Chorus was beautifully brought out, and so was portrayed the Bacchanale's frenzy, by Kovacs, amid the many difficult adornments added by Liszt to the already difficult music of the original work.

The first encore was another transcription by Kovacs, of the old Rumanian folk dance, the "Hora," in the second part of which a "Bebop" effect was introduced by the composer. The

second encore was still another transcription by Kovacs, of the "Marche Militaire" by Franz Schubert, which to this reviewer seemed to be based on the transcription of his same march by Taussig. The last encore, "Clair de Lune," of the "Suite Bergamasque," by Claude Debussy, was delicately and delightfully played by Kovacs, who, through his poetic phrasing in this little excerpt, showed us that he is fully capable of performing romantic music, of which there were only glimpses in this recital.

Stephen Kovacs' playing distinguishes itself by its great display of an always pure and well maintained flexible technique, which enables him to execute the most difficult works ever written for the piano, with the greatest of ease, "the difficult ease which only geniuses achieve," as a Spanish critic-philosopher wrote about Sarasate, in the late nineties. May we hear Stephen Kovacs again, with less transcriptions and more real good music!

This Is the Law

By Robert E. Lee

(For N. C. Bar Association)
Smith takes his watch to a jeweler for repair. Nothing is said at the time about payment. When Smith returns for the repaired watch, the jeweler informs him that the cost is fifteen dollars. If Smith refuses to pay, may the jeweler continue to keep the watch?

Yes. If a person requests another to perform services for him, there is an implied contract to pay a reasonable price for the services rendered. If there is a dispute as to the reasonableness of the price, the dispute may be litigated in the courts.

If a worker or artisan has in his possession the personal property of another on which he has performed requested services, he has a right to retain the property as security for the payment of his services. Lawyers call this right "possessory lien."

This particular lien may be created without an agreement of the parties. It arises by operation of law out of a custom which arose many years ago and has been made a part of our common law. This explains why many repairmen do not require compensation in advance for services rendered or materials added to personal property in accordance with the owner's request.

How does a repairman enforce his lien on personal property which he has made or altered at the request of another?

The statutes of North Carolina permit the repairman to sell by his own act at public auction, without intervention of a judicial proceeding, the property for the purpose of enforcing the lien. There are certain details to be followed in the publishing and giving notice of sale. An attorney should be consulted for advice.

Does a garage keeper have

a lien for storage charges?

In North Carolina a garage keeper does not have a lien for storage charges. This is due to the fact that the privilege of a lien is usually extended to those who have by their skill and labor imparted some additional value to the property of another.

In a considerable number of other States there are statutes giving to a garage keeper a lien for storage charges. In several of these states the lien exists even though the garage keeper voluntarily surrenders possession.

Does a warehouseman have a lien for storage charges?

Yes. There is a statute in North Carolina which gives to warehousemen a lien on goods in storage.

The Supreme Court of North Carolina has held that the Statute applies only to persons or firms who operate warehouses as a business for compensation, and not to isolated instances in which goods are stored in a store or building of the claimant. The warehouseman must be one who holds himself out to the public as being in the warehouse business and who has paid a tax for such a privilege.

"When nothing seems to help, try looking at the stone-cutter hammering away at his rock, perhaps a hundred times without as much as a crack showing in it. Yet, on the hundred and first blow it will split in two. We may know it was not that last blow that did it, but all that had gone before."—Megiddo Message.

"True, the medical profession still has no cure for the common cold, but research has developed several miracle drugs which, if taken under a doctor's supervision, don't make a cold any worse."—Kansas City Star.

By Chuck Hauser

I BELIEVE I HAVE MENTIONED before that I think Jackie Gleason is about the funniest "comedian" on television. I have one further comment to make on sorry TV shows, and then I will shut up for a while: Arthur Godfrey makes me want to throw up.

Godfrey is not only the biggest bore on TV, he also seems to be running a race to see if he can win the title as the star with the least amount of gray matter between his ears. He discovers talented youngsters, promotes them until they have been warmly accepted into the hearts of the viewing audience, then cans them without a word of explanation or apology. This doesn't indicate good sense or any sort of respect for sound public relations.

What started me thinking about Godfrey was his latest victim—petite and talented Lu Ann Simms, who got the axe late last week. Every time Godfrey shoves one of these people out the door, a little more of his own popularity goes out the door at the same time. In each case, he loses another popular performer (whose success is a result of Godfrey's backing) and he builds his own reputation further as a ruthless and unfeeling tyrant. When newspaper reporters ask Godfrey to explain the firings, he tells them it's nobody's business but his own. That's where he's wrong. It has become the public's business because Godfrey has made these people into public figures.

No wonder Godfrey's audience ratings have slipped! If he continues to behave in his established pattern, we may all be thankful one day to see his name finally eliminated from our program listings in the morning newspaper.

THERE IS A HAUNTING TWANG and an unearthly loneliness in the sound of the samisen, a three-stringed Japanese instrument which furnishes a good bit of the background music and atmosphere in "Ugetsu," the moving film which played late last week at the Varsity. The samisen, plucked one string at a time, and the melancholy chock-chock of musical wooden blocks add to the gentle air of fantasy which pervades this prize-winning (Venice Film Festival) motion picture. "Ugetsu" is a ghost story, but it lacks the harsh unreality with which we are familiar in American ghost stories. This is a warm blend of realism and the supernatural, woven together by camera work which is remarkable in its restraint and low-keyed polish.

There is a ballet-like touch in the animal behavior of the farmer who wishes to be a great samurai warrior, the mincing steps of the ghost—Lady Wakasa, the plodding dutifulness of the potter's wife, and the ecstatic abandon with which the potter throws himself into his love affair with the ghost.

The name, "Ugetsu," is a contraction of the title of a collection of short stories written in 1768 upon which the film is based. The full title is "Ugetsu Monogatari," and it means, literally translated, "Tales of a Pale and Mysterious Moon After the Rain." That comes very close to painting a word picture of this movie. It is pale, and mysterious, and very very enjoyable. It has suspense which would make Hitchcock envious, and it has an oriental restraint which neither Hitchcock nor any of his American colleagues could attempt to match.

PRICES SKIDDED DOWN TO 10 cents a gallon in that Charlotte gasoline price war late last week, as one station operator offered regular gas at the rate of 10 gallons for \$1 to the first 100 customers to show up at his station each day. If the rate gets any lower, it might pay a Chapel Hillian to drive all the way to the Queen City to fill up his tank. The heck with this 25.9 cent stuff at Pittsboro!

I Like Chapel Hill

By Billy Arthur

Frank Umstead wasn't making a political speech at the Kiwanis Club meeting last week when he said: "I didn't lose as much money stopping farming as I did while I was farming."

Wallace Caldwell and I met at the Dental School the other day as I was about to have my gums manicured.

"I don't go to a dentist when something gets wrong with my teeth," he advised. "I just take 'em out and send 'em back to the factory."

See where Arthur Godfrey has discharged some more of his crew. It's a good thing he got out of the Naval Reserve or he would have fired all the Navy.

Some folks, it is reported, have as many as 10, 12 and 18 separate tickets for parking violations in Chapel Hill, and the police department is threatening to issue warrants for them. Isn't that going to be a lot of trouble? Why not issue them a season pass.

Looks as if I've got a fan. In the mail this week came a letter, reading in part:

"Many of my customers have told me of a very amusing article in your paper about our new deodorant soap being sent through the mail. It's nice to see something on the lighter side in the paper these days—a little clean fun, and if our soap is used—it'll be clean."

If the writer had kept on for another 50 or 100 words, he could have written my column for this issue.

No one's going to talk me into doing my Christmas shopping early. How do I know who my friends will be by December 25?

Things I remember way back when:
The backyard baseball games when we used to make the bigger boys, to even things up, bat left handed if they were naturally right handed and bat right handed if they naturally hit from the port side.