

The Chapel Hill Weekly

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The New Board Makes Possible a More Rational Form of Consolidation

At a recent meeting for the discussion of the new State Board of Higher Education, Acting President of the University Harris Purks quoted four pertinent passages from statements about higher education in North Carolina.

1. Governor Gardner in 1931: "Any policy which best serves the whole State will in the long run best serve the University, the State College, and the College for Women.

"Our problem is not to concentrate upon the minor maladjustments which may be cured by remedial internal administration. Our problem is rather to view the entire higher educational effort of this State in terms of trends extending over generations and to direct these trends into channels which will prevent waste and insure to the rising generation the best training we can provide."

2. President Gray in his latest report: "The establishment of the Board of Higher Education, with broad powers to chart a course of development for public higher education in North Carolina, appears to be a sound and much needed development.

3. From the 1955 act creating the Board: "Its purpose shall be to provide the development and operation of a sound, vigorous, progressive and coordinated system of higher education in the State of North Carolina."

4. Mr. Purks: "I am inclined to think that we are now at points of size and complexity which require that more responsibility for sound and effective administration be assumed by the individual institutions. This does not necessarily mean that consolidation should go. In time, when the Board of Higher Education has gained in experience, knowledge, and perspective of higher education in our state, a re-examination of consolidation should be in order."

Add the passage that I cited in a previous editorial from the recent talk here by Major L. P. McLendon, a member of the Board:

"The act makes it clear that the authority of the Board shall not override the authority of the boards of trustees of the individual institutions in the management and control of their internal affairs. This is as it should be. There is unmeasurable value in the affection and devotion of the trustees to their respective institutions and to the traditions that have grown up around them."

These quotations strengthen the belief that the present University consolidation should not be regarded as a permanent system but as a stage of development, a step toward a broader and more rational consolidation. Governor Gardner's plan embraced only three institutions, whereas the new plan embraces all twelve of the State's institutions of higher learning, obviously an arrangement more in accord with his concern for the "entire high edu-

ational effort of the State." The Gardner plan was for what we have today, the actual merger of the three institutions under a single board of trustees and a centralized administration which has full authority over the three local administrations. This is contrary to the meaning of the 1955 act creating the new Board, as interpreted by Major McLendon in the words above quoted: "The authority of the Board shall not override the authority of the boards of trustees of the individual institutions in the management and control of their internal affairs."

The new Board is a creation which will permit all State institutions to be, not consolidated in the sense of being under a central management, but consolidated in the sense of having their functions coordinated for the prevention of wasteful duplication and overlapping. To effect this improvement the next Legislature should follow up the act of 1955 with a repeal act putting an end to the present consolidation and restoring each of the three consolidated institutions to its own board of trustees.—L.G.

The Presidential Press Conferences

In the statement about President Eisenhower's condition that Dr. Paul Dudley White, the eminent heart specialist, gave to the public a few weeks ago, he said: "Certainly one good thing can ensue from this illness of President Eisenhower, and that is the reduction of at least some of the strain of the job for the sake of himself and of future presidents. Of course the major strains of the principal national and international decisions must doubtless remain, but many of the chores such as the signing of documents, speechmaking, excessive press conferences under the glare and heat of the television lamps, and handshaking, traditional and popular though much of this may be, could, it seems to me, be wisely delegated to various other government officials."

Note the inclusion of "excessive press conferences" in the list of tasks and pressures of which Dr. White thinks the President might well be relieved. There is one element of the population, not numerous but exceedingly articulate and influential, that is in spirited disagreement with Dr. White as to what "excessive" means. That is the newspaper correspondents in Washington. The magazine, Editor and Publisher, has been carrying statements from some of them lamenting the interruption of Presidential press conferences caused by the President's illness. They have pictured this as almost a major calamity.

Marcus Duffield, who writes the weekly news review, "History in the Making," for the New York Herald Tribune, gave, this last Sunday, this brief history of press conferences:

"In the days of Presidents Coolidge and Hoover, the White House press conferences were dull affairs. Reporters had to submit written questions in advance. President Roosevelt livened things up by answering questions off-the-cuff. But he took the precaution of specifying that his words must not be reported in quotation marks—only indirectly. President Eisenhower, with his televised press conferences, has lifted all barriers and made the White House news conference an important instrument of government.

"He has held 75 press conferences since he took office on Jan. 20, 1953. The last one was on Aug. 4, just before he went on the vacation that turned into sick leave. The absence of press conferences has left a gap in leadership. There has been speculation that Eisenhower would fill the gap at least partially by replying to written questions."

The Washington correspondents are justified in regarding their work as of great value. It is indeed, in effect, a part of our government and a very important part. But the members of every profession in the world, because of being deeply absorbed in their own activities, have a much higher opinion of the importance of what they do than other people have. So, it is natural for the correspondents to tend to assume that the public interest in the Presidential press conferences is equal to their own. True, the reports of the conferences by the talented writers in Washington do make lively reading and I have no doubt that many millions of people, like myself, enjoy them. But there is such a big volume of other interesting matter in the papers that probably we would not feel

On 'Routine' Calls Officers' Life Can Be in Danger From Good Citizens, Says Mr. Pendergraph

By Lyn Overman
Most folks don't realize it, but nearly every day on the job the policeman's life is in grave danger, not necessarily from violators of the law alone, but also from the citizen who wants to uphold the law and cooperate with law enforcement officers.



H. R. PENDERGRAPH

During a talk with Officer H. R. Pendergraph the other day this became apparent, although the officer did not intend to describe the perils encountered in his "routine" assignments.

Most people are quick to protect their home with any means available during the night time, and when it's evident that a prowler is in the neighborhood, although he may be only a Peeping Tom, the home owner very often is apt to shoot first and ask questions later when he acts in fear.

As a result of this fear Officer Pendergraph, a native of the Chapel Hill area, and other men on the police force have actually been held at gun point by residents who reported prowlers in their neighborhoods.

The "routine" call of the prowler, as indicated by conversation with the officers, seems to be one fraught with danger.

Frequently, an overly cautious resident, erroneously believing he is aiding the law and acting according to law by shooting at a prowler, has by mistake, in the darkness, shot at an officer intent upon capturing the reported prowler.

Nor is it always true that

a knock on a door in the night time inspires a policeman against having a pistol pointed at his heart when a prowler is known to be in an area.

Although the duties of a policeman have their nervous aspects, Mr. Pendergraph plans to stay with the Chapel Hill police department. A Navy veteran, his first experience as a law enforcement officer came with the Shore Patrol during World War II.

In 1946, after two years with the Navy in the Pacific area, he returned to Chapel Hill and factory and construction work. In 1953 he was employed on the force as a patrolman.

At present, the officer and his wife, formerly Eloise Cozart of Wendell, live in Dogwood Acres on Pittsboro Road.

I Like Chapel Hill

By Billy Arthur

I don't recall now how the conversation at the coffee club got around to it, but we were wondering whatever became of the three-legged cast iron wash pots you used to see in every farm yard.

I know they've been replaced by washing machines on the front porches, but where have the pots gone? Are they made any longer?

I remember on my grandfather's farm in Cabarrus County we had one that we washed clothes in, made apple butter in, made lye and lard in, and I even had a bath in one summer. Truly a serviceable implement.

And the stick we used to punch or stir the clothes with? Remember, it had been in scalding water so much that it was almost white in color?

On days we didn't wash, I used it for a ball bat and a make believe shotgun.

Speaking of washing machines, how does one account for the many brands of detergents if 25 manufacturers of washing machines recommend but one?

And yet eight out of ten laundries use soap. And, further, every one of the detergents and soaps gets clothes whiter, softer than any other brand. I got into all this lather while exposed to day-time television during my pneumonia.

And something else, why take milk of magnesia and liver pills when you can eat bran, get identical results and be filled at the same time?

The sequence of announcements on the Greensboro station two afternoons weekly amuse me. Immediately following strong plugging of a delicious cake mix comes an announcement for milk of magnesia as a cure for indigestion and upset stomach.

Stop in at the UNC News Bureau in Bynum Hall most any day and you'll find Bob Bartholomew in a cloud of cigarette smoke sitting at his typewriter singing his version of the current song hit, "Sixteen Tons." Before he starts singing he always offers due apologies to Tennessee Ernie and the author of the song. The Bartholomew version goes like this:

"Sixteen stories and what do you get, Another day older and deeper in debt. Saint Peter don'tcha call cause I can't go, I owe my soul to the News Bureau."

that we were suffering a great loss if the press conferences were less frequent, and my belief is that, if a nation-wide poll were taken on this question, the vast majority of citizens would agree with Dr. White's opinion that the number of Presidential press conferences could be reduced without serious harm to the nation. Also, I believe it likely that most people would be found to hold the opinion that the submission of written questions would be a better way of conducting press conferences than the face-to-face asking of questions that the President is expected to answer right off the bat.—L.G.

How to Pronounce Himalayas
I heard a friend of mine, one day last week, pronounce the name of the famous mountains HimAHlyas; that is, with the second syllable accented and sounded like a in father and with the following a elided so as to make the word three syllables.

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found it under a pile of old papers in a desk drawer. The student, who had been wandering all over the world, had settled down, and had now become a man of substance, turned up for the appointment on the second. Mr. Carroll handed him the note. He calculated the interest, compounded semi-annually, drew a check-book from one pocket and a fountain pen from another, and gave Mr. Carroll a check for four hundred and some dollars.

My old friend and fellow University student, Hubert Hill, writes me from his home in West Virginia:

"I am one of the world's worst spellers and I enjoyed reading about the method Mrs. Paul Schenck employed to cover up her indelicacy as to whether a word was spelled with an 'ei' or an 'ie'. When I wrote with a pen my method was to make a double e and put a dot in the middle of the two ees. Since I have taken to the typewriter of recent years I have been at a loss as to how to conceal my ignorance in the use of words using either an 'ei' or an 'ie'.

"My thanks to Mrs. Schenck and to you for printing the hint. Could any one offer a suggestion as to what to do with words that may not have a double letter in them? I usually use the word twice in the same paragraph, spelling it in two different ways. One if them is bound to be right and I trust the reader will consider the incorrect spelling to be a typographical error."

Mr. Hill's letter is printed here exactly as he wrote it. If any of you find any misspelling in it you needn't report 'em to me. I am well satisfied with the letter as it is.

The Freshman in Our House

(Al Resch in the Chatham News)

Sign of the passing times: Only a few short months ago the High School senior at our house would express a desire to go somewhere and would ASK permission to go and would ASK to use the family car.

Now the college freshman at our house, home for the weekend, brusquely announces that he is going to Raleigh and that he is "TAKING our car."

Just like that does parental authority vanish into thin air. To say nothing of the old man's sudden realization that he no longer rules the roost in his own household.

"You can buy all sorts of things nowadays that look like other things. Women's electric razors look like compact. Some flashlights look like fountain pens. Cigar and cigarette boxes are made to look like books. Dog biscuits look like bones. You can buy a dime bank that looks like a snub-nosed automatic pistol. There is a veritable craze for disguised things. But there are two things you can't disguise. One of them is a fresh haircut and the other is a bottle of whiskey in a brown paper bag."—C. A. Paul in the Elkin Tribune.

During a seance, a medium was bringing people back from the other world. A 9-year-old boy was among those present. "I want to talk to Grandpa," he insisted.

"Quiet," said the medium, quite annoyed.

"I want to talk to Grandpa," "Very well, little boy," said the medium, making a few hocus-pocus passes. "Here he is."

"Grandpa," said the little boy, "what are you doing there? You ain't dead yet." —Indiana Telephone News

I was not surprised at this because I had learned from the dictionaries that this pronunciation was correct. The dictionaries do, however, note that the pronunciation with which I was brought up — HimALAYas, with four distinct syllables, with accents on the first and the third, and with the third sounded like the word lay — is, "though less correct, frequently used."

Well, I am glad to be able to cite one celebrated writer who used it. In Kipling's poem, "The Story of Uriah"—it is about the British soldier, Jack Barrett, who was transferred by his superior officer from Simla to torrid, swampy, deadly Quetta, so that the officer might steal his wife—one of the couplets is as follows: "I shouldn't be astonished if now his spirit knows . . . The reason of his transfer from the Himalayan snows." Here the word Himalayan has got to be pronounced my way in order for the meter to be right. Thank you, Mr. Kipling, for standing by me.—L.G.

On the Town

By Chuck Hauser

IN DEFENSE OF JIM TATUM: How often have you heard the remark made, in discussions of the Carolina coaching situation, that Big Jim Tatum of Maryland would willingly sacrifice academic standards in order to recruit a powerful football machine?

You have probably encountered the accusation many times. It seems to be the biggest weapon of the anti-Tatum forces. I have brought up the same point myself more than once—not as an accusation, but as a consideration which is weighed by persons in a position to influence the selection of the next Tar Heel head coach.

According to a statement by a person highly placed in the University administration, the intimation that Tatum considers football playing and academic standing as horses of different corrals is erroneous. When Tatum was freshman coach at the University during World War II, he was responsible for the bulk of recruiting football material for Carolina. During that period he was conscientious in his efforts to cooperate fully with the administration in screening freshman talent by academic as well as athletic standards.

Jim Tatum is familiar with the University's policies and practices regarding admission of new students, whether they are star high school quarterbacks or bookworms. When he returns to his alma mater as head football coach he will show that he has just as much respect for those policies as he had when he was last coaching here.

One last word on the coaching picture: By the time this newspaper comes out again, we should all know for sure whether or not Jim Tatum will be George Barclay's successor. I claim no prophetic powers, and I claim to have been taken into the confidence of no one "on the inside." But I'm betting that when Maryland finishes trampling Oklahoma in the Orange Bowl we will discover that the decision to bring Big Jim back to Carolina was made weeks ago.

THE UNITED STATES IS NOT a belligerent country. We seek to wage war on no one. We are urgently concerned with defending ourselves and our allies, but we will not resort to anything in the nature of a "preventive war" to accomplish such a defense.

To us, these things are patently clear. I wonder sometimes how clear they are to Soviet Russia and its satellites. Is their public concern over what they call our "aggressive" acts purely showmanship and shrewd propaganda, or does it reveal sincere doubt that we are the peace-loving nation we represent ourselves to be?

These questions came to my mind the other day when I read a news article on the front page of the Greensboro Daily News. The article read as follows:

"WASHINGTON, Dec. 22 (UP)—Six 'Corporal' guided missile battalions, capable of dropping atomic bombs on targets up to 75 miles away, will be sent to Europe soon to bolster Western European defenses, the Army announced today."

To illustrate my point, let me pose another question. How would we feel if we read a similar story in the morning paper, phrased slightly differently:

"MOSCOW, Dec. 22 (UP)—Six 'Joseph Stalin' guided missile battalions, capable of dropping atomic bombs on targets up to 75 miles away, will be sent to Mexico soon to bolster Western Hemisphere defenses, the Soviet Army announced today."

Wouldn't we be a little nervous about such "defensive" weapons so close to our own borders?

A RECENT VISIT TO ONE of State College's home games in the Coliseum prompts me to ask why colleges use up all the space in athletic programs telling you things you already know about the home team instead of things you want to know about the visitors.



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