

# The Chapel Hill Weekly

Chapel Hill, North Carolina

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### Intensified Faculty Problem

The following comments on the University's faculty problem are by John A. McLeod Jr. in the Greensboro Record. They are reprinted here because the Weekly deems them of vital interest to many of its readers:

There are several aspects to the crucial problem of trying to maintain ample and qualified faculties in the three units of the Consolidated University of North Carolina but the main one is simply dollars.

A major manifestation of this situation is the bidding for top brains—or faculty "raiding" as it sometimes is called. This good old free enterprise practice is going on not only in engineering and technical fields, but in the arts and sciences as well. It takes money just to hold your own, let alone get ahead, under these conditions.

Institutions and industry bid for men in the technical fields; institutions vie among themselves for those in the arts and sciences, with industry stiffening the competition for those with scientific qualifications.

Retirement of older faculty members is no small factor to be reckoned with in keeping the academic ranks up to muster. For example about six of the present 10 law faculty members at the University unit here will retire within the next 10 years, according to Dr. C. P. Spruill, dean of faculty.

Dr. Carlyle Sitterson, dean of the college of arts and sciences here told The Record: "The best personnel is in great demand, and it is much harder to attract good personnel than to hold those we have. This is especially true of the distinguished personnel. . . . When you lose a man you know is good, you have lost a lot that is almost impossible to replace. You can't equate individuals. The chances are 50-50 you won't get as good a man as the one you lost."

To illustrate: A faculty member recently lost by the University was among the nation's six top men in the field. "We can't replace him," said Dean Sitterson. "The best that can be hoped for is that a promising younger man will measure up in perhaps 15 years."

Both deans, however, emphasized this point: "We still have a distinguished faculty, but there is danger in these losses. Many top men have stayed, despite inducement to leave, because of deep roots at Chapel Hill, their liking for community life here, freedom to work under pleasant conditions, and the like. But they can't turn down these offers forever."

The present situation began in the year 1951-52 when post-war enrollment and other pressures eased to low points. It worsened rapidly during the last year or so.

Seriousness of the problem in the Greater University's three units is clearly indicated in numerous cases cited by Deans Spruill and Sitterson at the unit here and in reports on file from N. C. State College at Raleigh, Woman's College in Greensboro, and the Division of Health Affairs here which embraces the schools of medicine, dentistry, nursing, pharmacy, and public health.

The following case is especially ironic: A Duke University teacher with a master's degree earns more than the Ph.D. at Chapel Hill under whom he is working on his doctorate, thanks to a recent Ford Foundation salary grant. Ford grants don't go to state-supported institutions.

Experience of the history department here in trying to get an assistant professor indicates the critical nature of the personnel problem in the liberal arts. Authorization to fill the post was given in August, 1955. During the ensuing months the position was offered

standards at salaries ranging from \$4,500 to \$5,400, maximum under the scale. All five rejected it. In two cases the prospects already were being paid \$6,000 as assistant professors.

On May 12, the history department chairman was forced to write: "We are back where we started with this position." He noted that he could have filled the post with "an inferior person" but he refused to do that.

Other "chapter and verse" on the inadequacy of the Consolidated University's salary scales:

A new Ph.D. offered assistant professorship from two leading universities at \$7,000 in each case—a salary higher than that paid to 26 full professors at Chapel Hill. (Greater University salary range for assistant professors is \$4,500-\$5,400.)

Full professor goes from \$7,234 here to \$11,000 salary at another university. (Salary range here for full professors starts at \$6,600 and goes to top of \$11,000 for Kenan professors effective July 1.)

Full professor making \$6,700 has two offers of \$11,000 plus lighter teaching load. Another earning \$7,500 here has offer of \$13,000 and nominal teaching duties. Still another at \$8,544 has offer of \$15,000.

A Kenan professor has offer of a three-year appointment at \$20,000 a year plus substantial "extras." (One Consolidated University official observed that in addition to higher salary offers, the "extras" often accompanying them are assuming more importance.)

The list could be extended. More money obviously is the solution to the problem, but how much more?

Deans Spruill and Sitterson estimate that a 15 per cent increase in the current payroll here (excluding Division of Health Affairs) would enable them "to hold the line pretty well." That would mean jumping the total for salaries from the current \$3,289,693 to \$3,783,147, an increase of \$493,454.

They emphasize, however, that if they are to hold the line with a 15 per cent increase, it should be set up so that 5 per cent will go for across-the-board salary raises while 10 per cent is reserved for use on a discretionary basis.

(Salary increases for the faculties since June 30, 1948, are: 20 per cent, effective Oct. 1, 1948; \$15 per month, effective July 1, 1951, and 10 per cent, effective July 1, 1952.)

Applying the 15 per cent yard stick to the other institutions, which have the same salary scales as the university here, the resulting figures are:

N. C. State College, boost faculty payroll from \$2,754,622 to \$3,167,815, an increase of \$413,193.

Woman's College, bump from current \$1,277,895 to \$1,469,476, an increase of \$191,671.

This means the total faculty payroll for all three units would rise from a current \$7,322,129 to \$8,420,438, an increase of \$1,098,318 per year.

At State College Dr. John W. Shirley, dean of faculty at the technical institution, laid down what may well prove to be a long range guiding principle adaptable to various institutions. He told The Record:

"No solution to the college faculty problem is possible so long as the spread between professional salaries in industry and colleges is so wide. Faculty status must be made to compare with the status of the industrial scientists, both in salary and in other benefits which are attractive to the young man seeking a suitable career.

"It is difficult to over-emphasize the chaos that may overtake our higher education system within the next decade unless farsighted leadership is exerted now to make teaching at all levels, and particularly college teaching, attractive to the best young minds of our state and nation."

### Gordon Gray's Slogan (The Charlotte News)

In a town where buck passing has reached the status of high art, North Carolina's Gordon Gray, assistant secretary of defense, is setting something of an example in reverse. At least he has startled several Washington newsmen who happened by his Pentagon office. They report, with appropriate awe, that he has posted the following slogan on his wall:

"If you could kick the person responsible for most of your troubles, you wouldn't be able to sit down for six months."

We would not only suggest that

## The Weekly Congratulates. . .

Although it's a little late, the Weekly would like to congratulate Bob Cox on having been elected President of the North Carolina Junior Chamber of Commerce. This is a real honor to Mr. Cox and to Chapel Hill.

The background of Bob Cox is well known to most of our readers. He played football at the University during the Justice-Weiner era. He was a member of the football coaching staff for three years, and then formed a partnership with Monk Jennings to organize Town & Campus, a men's clothing store here in Chapel Hill.

Bob and Monk have been successful in business. Bob has (and Monk too) been very successful also in being a good citizen of Chapel Hill. He served as local president of the Jaycees and was named Chapel Hill's Young Man of the Year in 1955. He has headed many civic drives and other projects too numerous to mention here.

He is married to a former University coed, Cathy Carlin. They have four children, all boys, and live on Greenwood Drive.

Bob has our best interest and support in his new undertaking.

## . . . and The Weekly Asks

The Weekly asks . . . Jack LeGrand laughed at this one:

A lawyer got a message one day that one of his clients, an old man with a bad heart, had just inherited five million dollars.

"I'll have to break it to him gently," the lawyer told his secretary. "If I don't, he'll drop dead from the shock, sure as anything."

He called up his client and made an appointment for the following day.

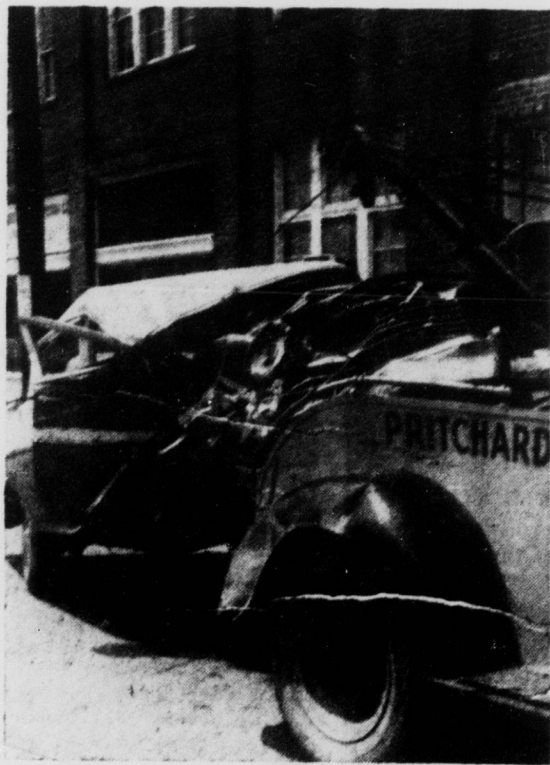
As the old man was wheeled into the law office in a wheelchair, the lawyer spoke of other things, and then said:

"What would you say, Sir, if I told you that you'd just inherited five million dollars?"

"Say?" quavered the old man. "Why I'd say half of it goes to you."

The lawyer dropped dead.

### Don't Jerk Wheel to Get Car Back on Road



Newspapers don't usually run photographs of wrecked automobiles on their editorial pages. This is the first one ever to appear in such a manner in the Weekly.

The picture shows one of the cars involved in a wreck on the Pittsboro highway during the University's Commencement weekend. One person was killed. Two others received multiple bruises and fractures and spent considerable

Cabinet and sub-Cabinet officer with a martyr complex but that some equally refreshing, if revolutionary, slogans be added for the guidance of bureaucrats. Such as:

"Collecting more taxes than is absolutely necessary is legalized robbery." —Calvin Coolidge.

"The love of economy is the root of all virtue." —Bernard Shaw.

"Injustice is relatively easy to bear; what stings is justice." —H. L. Mencken.

"Yep. The United States never lost a war or won a conference." —Will Rogers.

"Politics is the science of how you gets what, when and why." —Sidney Hillman.

"What this country needs is a good five-cent cigar." —Thomas Riley Marshall.

### But Why Can't He Spell? (New Orleans Item)

Do we get all the education we pay for with tuition and taxes? Does the nation get a reasonable number of true scholars from its school system? The pros and cons to the argument are many. What concerns us at the moment is a single little "con" which came across

## Chapel Hill Chaff

(Continued from page 1)

to many of my readers, probably to most of them, but some of the newcomers in the village may be interested in it.

Before the Revolutionary War there was a Church of England chapel called New Hope Chapel at a crossroads near the top of the hill leading up from Morgan creek. The building fell into ruins and disappeared long ago. The site of it is not known exactly but it was southwest of and close to where the Carolina Inn stands today.

The hill was called New Hope Chapel Hill. The words, New Hope, were dropped, and so the name became Chapel Hill.

There are three Chapel Hills listed in the U. S. Postal Guide: ours, one in Tennessee, and one in Texas. There used to be one in Kansas and one in New Jersey near Sandy Hook, but nothing is left of those two now.

Several years ago Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Edmister came upon a little place called Chapel Hill in England near the Welsh border. Mr. Edmister sent me a photograph of a sign bearing the name. When I told Miss Georgia Faison, the University librarian, about this and asked her to give me what information she could about Chapel Hill, England, she consulted her books and telephoned me that there were seven Chapel Hills in England.

Whoever wants more detailed information about the origin of our Chapel Hill will do well to read Archibald Henderson's "The Campus of the First State University."

Any politician will tell you—the trick is to hit the taxpayer without hitting the voter. —Jewell (Kans.) Republican.

We are all entitled to the pursuit of happiness—but not at 90 miles an hour—Arnold Glasgow.

time in Memorial Hospital. They were the only occupants of the two automobiles.

News about a person dying in an automobile wreck is really not news. It happens every day and every hour on our highways. Usually, though, when you read an account of the wreck you find that somebody was speeding or somebody was drinking or running past a stop sign. But sometimes two cars are involved in a wreck when both drivers were trying to obey the law. Such was the case in the wreck pictured here.

The investigating officer reported that neither car was going at an excessive speed. Driving conditions were good. No rain or fog. But a person was killed and two were seriously injured. According to the driver of a car behind the dead man's car, two wheels of the automobile slipped off the edge of the concrete as it rounded a curve. As the driver jerked his vehicle back onto the concrete it whipped across into the oncoming auto. The cars hit head-on at about fifty miles an hour.

The obvious lesson here is: If you get off the edge of the concrete don't jerk the steering wheel to get back on. To do so may send your car hurtling across the highway like the one shown above. According to the dictates of driving experts, and commonsense, the safe way is to continue on the shoulder till speed is reduced and a safe gradual return to the highway is guaranteed.

the editorial desk the other day in the form of a Letter to the Editor.

It was written by a student in a New Orleans senior high school. The age the writer gave indicates he is a junior or senior. The thought behind the letter was mature and cohesive. Indeed, for a high school student merely to have and act on the idea of writing a letter to a newspaper on a civic issue shows intelligence.

The penmanship was good, too. It was the spelling that appalled us. There were 20 misspellings in the 23 lines of the letter's one page. The writer started off by garbling the name of his school. Then, in addition to more forgivable errors he wrote "seams" for "seems," "and" for "an," "Are" for "or," and "themselves" for "themselves." One word was spelled three different ways in the course of the letter—all wrong.

Admittedly, this is an isolated case. The atrocious speller may be a demon at math and a whiz at physics—perhaps a future nuclear scientist, for all we know. But if he never learns to spell any better than this, he'll have to derive most of his knowledge first hand. He won't be able to read the books thrust at him in college and thereafter. Something must be wrong somewhere.

## I Like Chapel Hill

By Billy Arthur

Library Notes gives an appropriate answer to one of its readers who did not "agree with us on the punctuation we use in Library Notes. There may be others of the same opinion," the publication says, "so we offer this handy little package . . . ; ; ; ! ? : ' — " — and urge you to insert these marks wherever you choose in your own copy."

Carrington Smith didn't put his car in park or put the brakes on one day recently, and it rolled over a three-foot wall at the Chapel Hill Country Club. He called Pat Pope to come tow it in. Pat came, bringing with him an anchor chain which he tried to sell Carrington to use when he parks from now on.

They're telling the story about the doctor at N. C. Memorial Hospital advising his patient: "You've been wonderful. I'm going to be on the level with you. I have never told this to a patient before. But you've been so cooperative, I just got to tell you. You are going to die. Before you do, is there anybody you'd like to see?"

"Yes," replied the patient. "I want to see another doctor."

I like the gag about the Texan showing his friend around his fancy chicken ranch. "Got 700 hens in there, the best in Texas," he said.

"Do they lay a lot of eggs?" asked the friend. "With my money, they don't have to," the Texan replied.

Signs in several places about town read: "This is a non-profit institution. We didn't intend it that way. It just seemed to work out that way."

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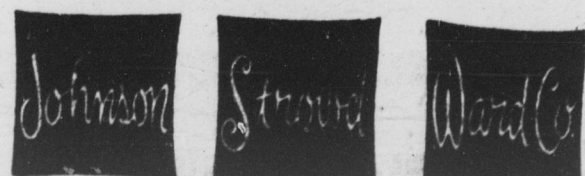
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