

# The Chapel Hill Weekly

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## A Definition Of Terms By Local Leaders Of Tomorrow

Our Chapel Hill High School agent is John Rogers, a young man of diverse talents with seemingly boundless energy and a vocabulary peculiarly suited to describing a girls' basketball game as if it were a Cecil B. DeMille spectacle produced at a cost of millions.

John homed in the office last week and presented us with a dissertation on current high school slang. Teenage slang is an axe under which innocent adult bystanders have been falling ever since high schools began. For this reason it is a good idea to keep up with slang's lurching, hip-swinging progress through the generations. Language is only a system or organized noises, the linguists tell us (perhaps hoping we will reorganize our journalistic system), but be it ever so organized, there's nothing like knowing what the noises mean.

John said, to begin with, that "hip" talk is long gone. An example of gone "hip" talk: "I dig, daddy-o. Here's my skins, so hand me over this here set of far-gone, way-out cool threads."

What the man said was, "Here's my money, I want this good-looking suit."

Daddy-o, skins, threads, and other linguistic noises of that ilk are now far-gone, way-out. Anyone using such talk would be laughed out of school, John said. Presumably, prefixing every sentence with "like" is as far out, and no less.

But in the absence of "hip," all talk is divided into two parts: uptown and downtown. The uptown guys are the good guys, the downtown guys the bad. In order to distinguish an uptown guy from a downtown guy look for the following: button-down collars, white shirts, dress slacks, sweaters, white London Fog windbreakers are uptown; double-breasted suits, blue-jeans and T-shirts worn to school, and leather jackets encrusted with stars and zippers are downtown. It is appalling to think that some of Chapel Hill's most stalwart and outstanding citizens are, in their elderly but carefully preserved double-breasted suits, downtown guys.

John added that people can also be "out to lunch," a synonym for downtown. A subtle distinction appears here: a person can be downtown and have good points, but anyone out to lunch is completely bad. It is interesting to speculate whether a person can be out to lunch downtown.

These days an unattractive girl in high school is a pig, beast, mule, cow or other

animal. A girl's unattractiveness is pointed out with a surreptitious comment of "oink oink." Proud parents who have wondered why their sons occasionally muttered "oink" will now be able to join in the conversation.

Chick, hen, and skirt all mean "girl." Soady, scaggy, and scaggy all mean "bad." Thus, a soady skirt is an unattractive girl (presumably a soady skirt can also mean an unattractive skirt). Fathers who come home after a tough day and find their daughters weeping inconsolably over having been "soady skirted" need not take the shotgun down from over the fireplace and go hunting boys; daughter has only been soady unattractive by her contemporaries.

Soady, etc., can also be used as nouns. Consequently, a girl might infer a shade of meaning and find it preferable to be called a soady skirt rather than a soady scag, if she has to be called soady at all.

Of course girls can call names back. If a boy calls her a soady skirt she can call him a scaggy toad or a scaggy grub, or a loser, or a soady buffalo. She can also call him downtown, out to lunch, nowhere, and gross.

If boys and girls like each other (this happens) they can call each other cool, swinging, rocking, uptown, tough, right, sharp, napping, and mellow. Judging by the pure linguistic richness of this vocabulary, the attribution of all these adjectives to one person would seem to make the recipient almost eligible for a National Merit Scholarship.

Deliberate distortion of grammar is also characteristic of current high school speech. To a farewell of "see you later," a common answer is "Oh, us will." John also mentioned "where am us bound to?" and "Us doesn't know how to does it" as good examples.

In high school parlance (uptown), a cigarette is a twiggy, an herb, or a weed. A bar is wheels or rollers. A hoodlum ("Likely as not," said John, "a quasi-hood who is just trying") is a hood, punk, or JD (juvenile delinquent). Roundball is either pool or bowling. Fuzzyball is tennis.

There you have the speech of the leaders of tomorrow. Note it well. Those who use it are going to inherit an unusually messy world, which they are going to have to try to clean up somehow. Us wonders if there is going to be able to do it any better than us is.



## Research For Future Growth

(This is last in a series of articles dealing with vital research programs in Southern universities that promise the master key for unlocking the region's vast treasures in the decade of the 1960's.)

Research by universities into the planned use and good management of the South's natural, economic and social resources means a future of continued growth and leadership.

This planning and management enters into many areas. It deals with nature and its primitive forces; it deals with social growth and the rapid growth of an urban economy in the South; and it deals with the building and support of new agriculture and industry.

One of nature's rich gifts to the Southwest United States is its supply of oil. In order to use the oil stored underground, man has first to locate it and then—often harder—to bring it to the surface. This process of oil recovery requires constant research into ways of coaxing the precious black gold out of the ground.

Research engineers have discovered that more oil is yet to be recovered in Texas alone than has been produced in the United States since the first oil well was brought in at Titusville, Pa., 100 years ago.

Cities and towns across Texas depend on oil for their livelihood. If oil cannot be brought out of the ground, these oil towns are in danger of becoming ghost towns. One job of the petroleum engineers at the University of Texas is to predict whether oil in a certain location will continue to provide a living for a town 25 years from now. Meanwhile, they work on the immediate problem of bringing the reluctant oil to the surface.

Nature offers its dangers as well as its blessings. Much of the South has done battle against the high winds of hurricanes and tornadoes. These battles were sometimes ineffective because no one knew how or when a storm was to strike.

But recently weather researchers at Florida State University have taken their instruments into the center of hurricanes in order to learn more about their structure and behavior. In cooperation with the U.S. Weather Bureau's National Hurricane Research project, they have flown Air Force planes into Gulf and Caribbean storms in the hope of gathering enough information to understand them and eventually to control them.

If control of weather is not yet a reality, the inhabitants of Bryan, Texas can verify the fact that prediction of storms is a step in that direction. Several years ago, the Departments of Oceanography and Meteorology at Texas A & M College predicted the path of a tornado by radar for the first time in weather history.

On the Gulf Coast of Florida, the "Red Tide" has left beaches full of dead fish which are the despair of commercial fishermen and Floridians who depend on the tourist trade.

This waste of a valuable natural resource has been tackled by researchers at the University of Miami Marine Laboratory. The "Red Tide" is caused by concentrations of a microscopic brownish-red form of marine life which give out a poi-

son fatal to fish.

Cause of the tide was discovered at the Marine Laboratory where scientists are now working to find a control for it.

Geneticists at North Carolina State College have developed a thicker hulled, harder peanut through laboratory research. By improving the peanut they have added appreciably to the economic returns from this agricultural product of the South.

In 1959, a scientist from North Carolina State took 50 pounds of peanuts to Oak Ridge to have them subjected to 18,500 units of radiation. The effect on the peanuts was primarily that of re-shuffling their hereditary properties, since about 11,000 mutations were produced.

When these peanuts were planted, the new sprouts had numerous combinations of favorable and unfavorable traits which were identified by patient observation of many plant generations. Investigators then found the plants with the best qualities and evolved the peanut called N.C. 4x. Today 75 per cent of the peanuts grown in North Carolina are type N.C. 2, boosting the growers' income by 73 dollars per acre. With applied irradiation N.C. 2 became N.C. 4x with even better characteristics and were available for planting in 1960.

## The Fake Nobility

(The Raleigh News & Observer)

Undoubtedly, North Carolina thus far and in display of great self-restraint has succeeded well in dealing with the difficult program of school integration. Those who love the State will hope that it will act with justice and wisdom in the matter. But there is a danger that too great complacency could mark this matter in this State.

Recently, for instance, Harry Golden, the nationally popular sage of Charlotte, was quoted on the subject. Golden, who was one of the few to oppose the Pearsall plan, which has never been used and scarcely mentioned since it was overwhelmingly adopted, was quoted as saying that the State's leadership had "displayed true statesmanship in this matter." Evidently, however, that statement does not exactly reflect Golden's views.

As the old year and the old administration moved to their ends, the Charlotte writer in a letter to a number of people expressed other views.

"Quite frankly," he wrote from Charlotte, "our State of North Carolina, (along with Luther Hodges and so many others) is getting a reputation around the country of being very 'noble' in this matter, but of course when you consider that we have exactly two Negro children in an 'integrated' school system of some 30,000 students, this 'nobility' is a complete fake...."

Golden, of course, would move much more rapidly in this matter than most North Carolinians. Still, if the State does not take his counsel, it must face his warning. North Carolina's good luck and good publicity depend, of course, on its good faith. Nothing else will suffice.

## -Looking Back-

(These items are from the files of the Weekly.)

IN 1926

Mr. and Mrs. F. O. Bowman are now in the bungalow on East Franklin Street formerly occupied by Mrs. T. S. Graves.

Pendergraft Motor Company advertises new Dodge automobiles at the following prices: Touring car, \$795; roadster, \$795; sedan, \$895; coupe, \$845; screen commercial car, \$810; panel commercial car, \$885.

Mark Noble recently went to Boston for a few days and came back by here on his way to his post in the faculty of Davidson College.

Phillips Russell has published a volume of his poems entitled "Flowings." It has been the subject of considerable comment in the London and New York reviews, not merely for the quality of the verses, but because the pages are perforated so that they may be torn out. "It is suggested," says Mr. Russell in a foreword, "that those poems which the reader does not care for may be detached along the perforated line and discarded." In reviewing the volume, the London Observer said, "Bards are becoming modest."

IN 1936

The bronze plaque offered by the Carolina Theatre to Chapel Hill's "most valuable citizen" has been awarded to Mrs. R. B. Lawson. The selection committee was composed of Lawrence Flinn, Mrs. Isaac H. Manning, Mrs. Collier Cobb, J. S. Henninger, and Robert B. House.

Chapel Hill may soon be freed by the necessity of putting up a building as quarters for the departments of its town government. The old structure which passes under the name of the town hall is in such a ramshackle condition that it is just able to stand up, and its inadequacy is all the more apparent since the new health department has been

crowded into the second floor. Two steel cages, one for white and one for Negro prisoners, at the rear of the second floor of the fire engine house, constitute the jail.

IN 1946

A governor, a device for cutting down the speed of an automobile through control of the flow of gasoline to the engine, will be installed in every taxi operating in Chapel Hill if the aldermen enact the taxicab ordinance that is to be presented to them at next Monday's meeting. The proposed law is of special interest because of the killing of Mary Ruth Caldwell, a UNC graduate student, when she was struck by a speeding taxi while riding on her bicycle at 11 o'clock last Thursday morning. The driver of the taxi was arrested on a charge of manslaughter.

The frogs in the Arboretum, fooled by the warm weather into thinking that spring had come, began peeping this week in a joyful chorus.

IN 1956

Miss Sallie Jackson gave a luncheon last Saturday at the Carolina Inn in honor of Miss Carol Lawton. Other guests were Miss Sue Ham, Miss Ann Branch, Miss Ann Wadsworth, Miss Carol Manning, and Miss Patricia Armstrong.

J. Herbert Holland has assumed the presidency of the Chapel Hill Exchange Club.

Chapel Hill policemen received new winter uniforms last week. At their meeting last week the Chapel Hill Jaycees passed a unanimous resolution asking Bob Cox to run for the office of state president of the North Carolina Jaycee organization. He said he deeply appreciated the request and would give it serious consideration.

The Carolina Theatre has installed a new candy counter. Eagle Scout badges have been awarded to Tommy Butler, Robin Gallagher, Ben Potter Jr., Joe Burket, and Allen Smith.

## Never Speak Until Spoken For

At their first wedding anniversary party last week actor Ernest Borgnine had an argument with his wife, actress Katy Jurado.

Miss Jurado took her two children by a previous marriage and returned out of the house in a huff.

Mr. Borgnine had no comment except, "I have to talk with my lawyer before making any comment."

Miss Jurado wouldn't say anything except, "I want to seek advice before saying anything."

This thirst for professional opinion may be one of the biggest troubles with modern marriages: husbands and wives don't ask each other's advice.

Miss Jurado should have said to her husband, "Ernie, what'll I tell the reporters about our argument?"

And Mr. Borgnine should have said, "Katy, I don't know what to tell 'em myself, but I think you should say we're just two hot-tempered people and we'll patch it up pretty soon and they should keep their shirts on."

And Miss Jurado should have replied, "Why, Ernie, I was going to suggest you tell them that yourself."

And Mr. Borgnine should have decided, "OK, we'll both tell 'em that, and that'll settle it."

And then they would have lived happily until their second anniversary.

## Through Three Eyes

by billy carmichael iii

Terry Sanford now hints that his term in office may be very taxing.

i i i

The big question at Harvard these days: Who's going to be watching the store?

i i i

Wayne Morse, who holds the record for the second longest filibuster in the history of the U. S. Senate, is leading the fight to abolish filibustering. That's like Dave Sime coming out against the 100-yard dash.

i i i

News item: Harry Golden Says Civil War is Finally Over. Guess he can't make any more money keeping it alive. Silence is Golden, Harry.

i i i

Inaugural item: Then the band struck up "The Old North State Forever" and Terry stood and Margaret Ross.

i i i

Frank McGuire's philosophy of an enjoyable basketball season: The Moe the Merrier.

i i i

Orville Campbell sure is brave the way he keeps coming out in the papers and saying, "I'm going to get that old battlewagon this summer, drag her down to Wilmington, and tie her up where everybody can see her."

i i i

The Defense Department is to be renamed McNamara's Band.

i i i

I want to apologize to the Chancellor about opposing fluoridation. The water doesn't taste as good since you started putting that stuff in it, but I haven't had a single new cavity either!

## Letters To The Editor

Dear Sir:

We are writing to express our concern over a situation which exists in Chapel Hill and which, in our opinion, does not need to exist in such a community as this.

This matter was brought to our attention when several members of the Negro community sought the good offices of the Ministers' Association to gain permission for them to attend the showing of "Porgy and Bess" at the Carolina Theater. As matters now stand, Negroes are not permitted to attend our local theaters.

After being discussed by the association, this request was forwarded on Wednesday afternoon by a local minister to the manager of the Carolina Theater. The Association's suggestion was that the Friday night showing be opened to the entire community. This suggestion was refused, for reasons that seemed valid to the manager; among them that several regular white patrons have threatened to withdraw patronage if the theater is integrated, even for a special occasion.

As you know, this particular movie is based on the famous story of Dubose Heyward. It is about Negroes and has an all-Negro cast. Having the open showing on Friday night, as was requested, might have accomplished two things. It would have

given our Negro citizens an opportunity to see a movie which has a special interest for them. Further, it would have provided white members of the community, who feel that the present arrangement is both unfair and undesirable, a chance to demonstrate their willingness to support a theater that would open its doors to the entire community.

We, the undersigned, who are pastors of local churches, sincerely regret that such an opportunity was not provided. We believe that most citizens of this community would support an "open door policy" for our local theaters, just as they have supported such a policy in other areas of our community life. We look forward to the day when there will be no discrimination on the grounds of race in any of the local institutions which are serving the public. Until such time, we feel compelled to withhold our patronage from this theater.

J. R. Mabley  
 Thomas R. Thrasher  
 W. R. Foushee  
 Orville W. Watson  
 T. P. Duhart  
 Charles M. Jones  
 Loren B. Mead  
 Vance Barron  
 DeWitt L. Myers, Jr.  
 Frank C. Perry  
 Robert Seymour

Dear Sir:

We are among those who cannot agree with the policy of the manager of the Carolina Theatre in refusing admittance to Negroes at regular showings. The dramatic and ironical situation of Negroes' not being welcomed along with everyone else at "Porgy and Bess," a movie made great by Negroes, leads us and no doubt many others in our community to take a stand which we should have taken long ago; we cannot attend movies at this theatre or other similar places until all people are as welcome as we are.

However, we do not approve of the destruction features of boycotts. Just as we object to the threats and economic pressures used by some segregationists against those with whom they disagree, we also do not want to have any part in bringing financial losses to the Carolina Theatre and its employees. We simply want to help persuade the manager to change his view and come to welcome all people at his theatre.

We are therefore sending the manager of the Theatre payment for the two tickets to "Porgy and Bess" which we would have bought but for his present policy. We intend to pay him similarly in the future for movies which we think we would have attended.

(Continued on Page 5)