

CHapel Hill News Leader

Leading With The News in Chapel Hill, Carrboro, Glen Lenoxx and Surrounding Areas

VOL. II NO. 100

MONDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1955

Policies And Coaches

"We are not going to bargain for a coach who wants to set the policies. We will set the policies and be sure he conforms."

This declaration by the president of Rutgers University indicated he realizes his institution exists for educational purposes, and is not to be run by or for football coaches, or aggressive alumni, or the writers of anonymous letters who think an educational institution is degenerating when it fails to have a winning football team.

Rutgers is another university which is going through the agony of electing a new football coach. If New Jersey papers are like North Carolina ones they will add to the agony by giving more space and headlines to the merits of coaching candidates than to the merits of educational leaders, systems, or procedures.

Rutgers is fortunate in not being obliged to think about a new president at the same time when it must be thinking about a new football coach. Hence it may be spared the spectacle that has been witnessed in North Carolina, when a prominent daily newspaper tops its first page with an 8-column headline proclaiming an impending change of coaches at Chapel Hill. A change in educational administration would certainly not receive the same attention or black ink.

The Rutgers president is a bold man. Administrations have been dynamited for less. No doubt alumni and football fanatics would grant, for the sake of argument, that Rutgers should have the aim of turning out educated people, but no doubt they would also contend that the pursuit of education should not interfere with football.

Must Scarcity Be The Goal?

It is characteristic of the mossy growth thinking at Washington that in the face of down-going pork prices, it can devise nothing better than give-way programs, or artificial restrictions on production like less acreage or pig killing.

One would think that in a world whose peoples are not fed, and where even in rich America little children go hungry to school, a bountiful crop of pigs and other foods would be hailed with cheers and big headlines. Instead, such crops are greeted with long faces and received like calamities.

Such is the state of affairs that results from "the economics of scarcity." From this distance it would appear to be more nearly like the economics of lunacy.

A country does the right thing by its people and by other nations when it produces in abundance everything wanted by the hu-

man race and distributes these goods where the need is most evident.

If every country followed this program to the limit of its ability and resources, poverty and its sisters, disease and crime, would be on the way out and the flourishing economics of abundance would replace the jaundiced economics of scarcity.

There is no soundness in an economy which is pointed toward scarcity and poverty. Scarcity, it is true, raises prices, but it also sends more and more children to bed hungry. And hunger brings on rebellion and violence.

If the administration at Washington listened less to the counsels of scarcity and worked out a way not only to produce but to distribute the gushing production of good things of which America is capable, it would lift the U. S. into genuine world leadership instead of letting it grope in the dark.

Tax Help For The Little Man

The United States Government allows the oil companies to claim a 27½ per cent oil depletion allowance before taxes are figured. This is separate from the exemptions allowed them for costs of exploration and drilling.

Thomas L. Stokes, the columnist, points out that these sums saved can be spent on electing men to Congress who will be sure to protect this gigantic subsidy handed to corporations already swollen with money—a subsidy estimated at more than \$700 million a year.

Meanwhile Uncle Sam reaches into the pockets of a girl secretary and out of her pay of \$35 a week, extracts \$7 or \$8 in income tax.

This inequity and unfairness on the part of the United States Government has two results: more concentrated power in the

hands of the oil companies and more pinching on the part of wage earners in order to meet a slanted tax policy.

Yet we are not hearing anything from the orators of either party about this tax tilting for the relief of the rich and well heeled.

Senator Walter George of Ga. occasionally speaks of tax reduction for the small people, yet even he is silent on the loving way the United States Government has with those corporations that come to it beseeching for tax help.

Candidates for all positions are beginning to multiply. It might be a good idea to ask each one of them, from presidential candidate down: Do you favor lighter taxes for the little man and woman?

A Poor Man's Romeo And Juliet

By ROY C. MOOSE

Departing from their usual practice of presenting successful Broadway shows, the Carolina Playmakers in their latest production, "Blood Wedding," by Federico Garcia Lorca, have attempted to present an experimental tragedy that has failed both times when produced in New York.

One might say of "Blood Wedding" as a play what T. S. Eliot said of Hamlet, "the play is most certainly an artistic failure."

As in the case of Shakespeare,

Lorca's material seemed to be far inferior to his genius. Indeed, the whole essay on Hamlet by Eliot could be applied to "Blood Wedding." The plot of the play is based upon an actual incident in Spain, two men of rival houses fighting for the love of a girl—a sort of poor man's Romeo and Juliet story.

Linguistic Gap

The genius of Lorca in "Blood Wedding" is in the superimposition on this frail framework of the folk material—customs, superstitions, etc.—of his native Andalusia, the use of symbol, the lyricism of his poetry. And the failure of "Blood Wedding" in English is due directly to the failure of these essentials to bridge the linguistic gap from Spanish to English.

What we have in English is a half prose and half semi-poetic play that communicates the denotation of the words and symbols and not the connotation. Thus, in the process the deeper and more significant meanings are lost on an Anglo-Saxon audience. The result is something comparable in drama in Keats' cold pastoral in poetry.

It is with this barrier to communication that the actors were struggling in vain all evening. In fact, the English version gives little evidence that this play is one of the most important in the twentieth century revival of poetic drama; it is especially an important forerunner of the poetic dramas of Eliot. But here, Lorca, the heroic martyr of freedom of the poetic cognoscence of the thirties, fails to shine through. He has attempted, as the Bride says in the play, "a

dark river" and has given us "a little bit of water."

The first two acts are very static, and it would take superhuman actors to make something out of those acts. Only the third act catches that emotional interest and sympathy so necessary to tragedy; we can appreciate the first two acts only intellectually in the dramatist's working out of symbol, lyric, and native materials. The sustained interest in the "star-crossed" lovers is missing; and the fact that Marion Fitzsimmons by her more experienced acting ability ran away with the show as the Mother, made the play only more chaotic.

Against Odds

Thus the actors struggled valiantly against overwhelming odds. Mrs. Fitzsimmons gave a tour de force of acting technique, the greatest since her legendary Lady Macbeth; yet even she seemed to produce passions and emotions without true feeling. What flaws there were other than the problems of the play itself can be attributed primarily to the director. For instance, he should never have permitted Mr. Morgan to play the Bridegroom, the surviving son of a proud and noble family, as a hillbilly from Tennessee.

Mr. Sonkowsky was appropriately bursting with passion, but one felt that he was still playing his great role in "The Crucible." Not until the third act did he grasp the poetic form of the play.

Marion Rosenzweig as the Beggar Woman was admirable, and Robert Thomas as the Moon was quite good. But the center of the controversy, the Bride, as played by Martha Fouse lacked



Washington Post

Balthasar, Gaspard, And Melchior

There is no Christmas story more exciting to the imagination than that about the three wise men who came from the east to worship the infant Jesus. Their names are given as Balthasar, Gaspard or Caspar, and Melchior. And one of them was a Negro or Ethiopian, says the legend.

Legend is what we have mostly to rely on. In the New Testament, Matthew alone tells the story. Mark, Luke, and John omit it; perhaps they never heard of it.

The three wise men are supposed to have come from among the Medes, a priestly caste, in Persia, but they might have come from Egypt. In either case their journey must have been a long one, perhaps 1000 miles or more, and took months to carry out, since they probably travelled with the slow help of camels and donkeys.

There must have been some compelling motive to induce them to embark on such a long journey, attended with hardship and tedium, but what it was we do not know unless it was to add to their store of knowledge or to increase their prestige.

★ ★ ★

They may have had a professional motive for they were Magi, whence comes the word magician. The biblical dictionaries surmise they were possibly followers of Zoroaster, or they may have been dealers in occult matters. The Catholic Cyclopedia, that timeless compilation to which a thousand years is as one day, says, "they probably crossed the Syrian desert lying between the Euphrates and Syria, reached either Haleb (Aleppo) or Tudmar (Palmyra), and journeyed on to Damascus and southward by what is now the great Mecca route."

They had only the Christmas star to guide them. It must have been very large or lustrous to convince them that it contained a summons they must obey. It may have been a conjunction of Jupiter and Saturn, which ancient astronomical records say occurred about that time; or the star may have been a nova, flaring up for a time and then going out. At any rate, it seemed to move through the heavens, as stars often do, until it came to a stop. Below it lay the child who might be destined to be the king of kings, or the Messiah of whom the Jews had told them. From their baggage, dusty and worn after days on the highways, they brought out their gifts—gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

★ ★ ★

The gold may have been in the form of thin plates beaten between skins, which was an accepted currency anywhere, or it may have been in melted ingots weighing a talent apiece. A talent was about 108 pounds, worth, say, between \$15,000 or \$20,000. The frankincense was commonly used in the Middle East for ritual purposes while the myrrh was a resinous substance yielded by a desert plant regarded as holy.

The child lay in a crib at Bethlehem. The ancient artists were fond of depicting the scene as the Magi knelt before the parents, Mary and Joseph, and asked the privilege of presenting their gifts. Gentile de Fabriano paints only one of the three men as elderly and bearded; the other two are shaven and young—in fact, the third man is pictured as distinctly youthful and richly dressed.

★ ★ ★

The visit of these Magi to Bethlehem created a marked social sensation. Nothing like them had ever before been seen in this humdrum village. They were believed to be kings. When Herod, ruler of Judea, heard about them, he was alarmed lest they be heralds of the Messiah that might stir up the Jews and make them hard to govern.

The wise men were warned of his suspicions and advised to go home by different route. So they departed southward by Beersheeba, never realizing they would be the heroes of a story that would be told every Christmas for many a thousand years.—P. R.

some of that overpowering passion found in Mr. Sonkowsky.

If there was a star of the show, it was James Riley who designed one of the finest and most functional sets ever seen on the Playmaker stage. The use of lighting on these sets to express the

mood contributed more to the communication of what was going on than the words of the play. Mr. Riley is a man ready for the professional stage; one wonders just how long the Playmakers can hold him.

Chips That Fall

Had it not been for his auto safety belt, Highway Patrolman Tom Winborne, whose car was caught in a triple wreck lately at the junction of the Glen Lenoxx and Durham roads, believes he would have been in a hospital or worse.

"The door on the driver's side was thrown open," he says "and had I been thrown out I'd have gone under my own car or probably in the path of one of the other vehicles."

As to the bother of putting the belt on and off, he said: "The first day or two, yes, but it gets to be as routine as putting on and removing your overcoat."

There are two ways to keep alive these days: (1) Walk; (2) Wear a safety belt inside your car. Winborne's test shows such a belt should be an automobile essential in a day when the highways are dotted with irresponsible, lunatic, or drunken drivers.

In fact, matters have come to the point that when one is contemplating a trip, he must realize he may not return alive, and when he takes children aboard he cannot protect them from drivers who value speed, or a drink more than they do human life.

It was noted in passing the other day that when a victim falls from a car wreck, somebody rushes to pick him up. That is the last thing to be done. The next worse thing is to put him in a car. Two things to do: 1. Leave him where he lies. 2. Keep him warm with blankets and coats until a doctor, ambulance, or other expert help arrives.

A body of opinion is springing up which hopes that Tatum will be invited to be the next football coach "so that we can start talking and thinking about something else." It is argued that if the fanatics are not allowed to have Tatum now, they will fill future years with complaints about any other incumbent.

LICENSE PLATES

Current license plates will be valid until mid-February, 1956, the Motor Vehicles Department reminds Tar Heel car owners. Under a revised registration schedule, new tags will go on sale throughout the state January 3 and extend through February 16.

Before We Write Santa

By SIDNEY SWAIM ROBINS

Shortly before the new state of Eire was born, the Irish party then in the lead made an agreement with the British government by which they got a good many concessions. Eamon de Valera spoke up and said: "There is not a clause in the agreement which gives Ireland what she wants." Somebody in this country piped up: "No, and the only clause that could do that is Santa Claus". Of course if they wanted not only to be free but to "live happy every after", that might have been an overdraught even on Santa Claus's powers.

We don't want to ask Santa Clause for too much. Once I got an apple-core and a switch in stocking for just asking Santa to make another little trip on Old Christmas. At the time, it seemed an idea to try out. But I have been a little careful ever since.

It is not so much the children who offend, for Santa knows they are led on to ask. And it is no use standing on the sidelines and wishing the children themselves would be inspired to ask for some chores to do and a bundle of sticks to make something out of, so they could stand back and gloat over achievement.

The real miscue is when we grownups take God for our Santa Claus, pray him to wash up our

sins, to make us happy marriages slick, and bring and plenty our way. As he sent us in the long man", instead of maybe a and a bright star! Some grumbler asked min Franklin where happiness which the Con guarantees us. Ben tees you is the pursuit of ness; you have to catch it yourself."

At that, B. F. was no than the man who said: ness to be got must be The road to it is there make more and more ple happy. That is especi if peace is an part of as surely it is.

The more I travel amo great country, the more fully kind people crop up it. I find philosopher W saying that is the wonder about us. But it seems Christmas were a time realize how many people happy, for want of reason. We are talking about the world now. Hungry peo it, and with an start in life! I knew one man once, ex-school-tea said that what makes peo is being happy.

Letter To The Editor

To The Editor:

What I may think or say about the athletic situation at Carolina will not amount to a tinker's damn, but I am going to say it nevertheless.

In the first place, I think college athletics belong to the students and the college authorities. Why should an alumnus concern himself about student life that involves, or should, only the rounding out of the student into a whole man—a sound mind in a sound body? Athletics or physical culture is an essential phase of making a man and should be accorded academic standing, but under administrative and faculty control.

Instead of being given its logical and functional place in college life, we have permitted baseball, basketball, and especially football, to get completely out of control, with the emphasis heading in the demand that the college must put out winning teams at all costs. In basketball the emphasis is on students of height—giraffes, as it were—and rarely on skill and talent; in football it is weight, brawn and speed, and the country is combed for students who possess those qualifications, and scholarships are granted upon those qualifications, with the competition so keen that the prospect shops around for the top bid, which

controls the selection of stitution to be honored fortunate scholarship grantee.

How anyone can get the conclusion that any cation or scholarship must a legitimate part of the of the youth of the land yond my comprehending ty. And when it is possi get to the stage that "any cost" is the goal, com with authority and a mon sense should take is really a "low low" have come to when "at any cost" is the moral offered the youth land by our leading of learning.

George Barclay is not in the shameful working current demand to win University and the State Carolina. This man abated before it is even too late.

John W. Pittsboro,

Driver's Clinic

(A question and answer column on traffic safety, driving and automobiles conducted for this newspaper by the State Department of Motor Vehicles)

Q. Why should you not stop within 100 feet of a wreck on the highway?

A. For some unexplained reason many drivers delay braking when approaching the scene of an accident until they are right on it, sometimes even skidding into a vehicle or a person. Any vehicle not actually needed at the scene is an unnecessary hazard and creates a hazard for other motorists.

Q. What precautions are necessary to prevent an accident if you have car trouble at night?

A. Get off the pavement as far as possible, keep doors on the traffic side shut, caution passengers to stay off the pavement, turn on parking lights and do not permit passengers to stand between taillights and vehicles approaching from the rear.

World milk production has not increased as much as population, and production of milk per person is under the pre-war period.

WANTED by STUBBS USED BY THE ENTIRE FAMILY



The Remington Quiet-riter Ledbetter-Pickens

157 E. Franklin St. Phone 4611

But The Nicest Christmas Cards Cost A Nickel At The INTIMATE BOOKSHOP



PLAN YOUR CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEARS PARTIES AT RANCH HOUSE—PHONE 9-6091

CHapel Hill News Leader
Published every Monday and Thursday by the News Leader Company, Inc.
Mailing Address: Box 749 Chapel Hill, N. C. Street Address—Main Street, Carrboro Telephone: 8-444.

Phillips Russell — Editor
Roland Giduz — News Director
L. M. Pollander — Advertising Consultant
E. J. Hamlin — Business Mgr.
Robert Minter — Cir. Mgr.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
(Payable In Advance)
Five Cents Per Copy.

BY CARRIER: \$2.60 for six months; \$5.20 per annum
BY MAIL: \$4.50 per annum \$2.50 for six months; \$1.25 for three months.

Entered as second class matter at the postoffice at Chapel Hill N. C., under the act of March 3, 1879.