

In Testifying For Teacher . . .

Citizens 'Not Unaware' Of Criticisms Made

Introducing the battery of spokesmen who had rallied in behalf of Berry Vause, the Rev.

Vance Barron told the Chapel Hill School Board Tuesday night—"I assure you that this group is not unaware of the criticisms and charges made (against Mr. Vause). But we have weighed them and feel that these do not in any sense justify the action proposed."

Dr. George Ham, Chairman of the University Department of Psychiatry, stated he was shocked when he heard of the situation. He commended Mr. Vause's "stimulus toward learning," adding that he had come to find that if anything his son was "trying to study too hard . . . He (Mr. Vause) has stimulated our son to the joy of learning . . . He is extraordinary as a person who stimulates children to learn."

"Most Inspiring" Speaking with deep emotion, UNC history Prof. Hugh Lefler gave Mr. Vause the highest possible commendation as a teacher of history. "I can truthfully say he is the most inspiring teacher I have ever run into at any level. My only concern has been that he is working himself to death. I have never known a more dedicated man.

"I am in a position, I think, to pass judgment on Mr. Vause's teaching of history. I am completely satisfied. He is a great teacher." Prof. Lefler continued that he had been so impressed with this person's work as a teacher and as Scoutmaster of Troop 39 here that he had tried to get him named Young Man of the Year.

"I have heard criticism of him as an unconventional type. If this

is true—we need more unconventional teachers. It's that kind of a man who can really inspire. — Believe me, some of us are wrought up."

Warning that in light of such attitudes "the whole American educational system is liable to die of dry rot," Prof. Lefler closed in saying that such a teacher as Berry Vause "comes along very seldom."

Straley Endorses

Prof. Joseph Straley of the UNC physics faculty gave an equally high commendation of Mr. Vause as a science teacher—"I couldn't hope for anything more than he has achieved," declared Prof. Straley. He held up a science periodical which his son was then reading voluntarily as a result of his teacher's encouragement. "I endorse what he has done with science as sincerely as I endorse Mr. Vause."

This teacher's unusual ability to handle children in and out of school alike was avowed by Mrs. Cleveland. In addition she said, "His ability to inspire children far outweighs" that charge that he might not be as highly organized as "the perfect teacher."

Dr. Edward Curnen of the University School of Medicine declared "He has brought into our home a quality rare in a teacher—evoking a real desire for learning on the part of his students."

tesy to reply to our inquiries." The immediate applause of the group made obvious its overwhelming agreement with his feeling.

From this came a mutual agreement that the Board would listen without comment—but if it later ruled against the wishes of the citizens group, it would hold an open hearing, if the person in question wanted such a hearing held.

Vause

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Starting many pupil projects which were not completed; (3) unorthodox teaching methods and failure to follow the text; (4) a question about some federal income taxes which reportedly were not paid—and which since had allegedly been paid in full; and (4) a question about proper procedure having been followed in the expenditure of some science supplies money.

After asking school authorities for "the real reasons," the minister said, he could learn only these. "I am now convinced there is no charge brought against him but these. I feel they must grow from a lack of communication between teacher and administration."

In defense of Mr. Vause the citizens speakers—numbering some of the University's more distinguished faculty members—termed him "one of the most outstanding young men in the community," "the most stimulating teacher our children have come in touch with," and "the most inspiring teacher . . . at any level."

One basis of the protest was that some Board members who had children as pupils of Mr. Vause "were sitting both as judges and witnesses in the case."

An 'Explosive' Movement

The emotion-packed meeting—termed a "spontaneous and even an explosive" movement—came about after the Board members declined to meet in private conference with a smaller group of the protesting citizens. Instead, the Rev. Mr. Barron explained, the Board had agreed to hear the group publicly at its regular meeting Tuesday night.

Elected by the group as spokesmen for their number, in addition to the Rev. Mr. Barron, were Drs. Morgan, Edward Curnen, and George Ham, Profs. Hugh Lefler and Joseph Straley, and Mrs. Fred Cleveland, Mrs. A. A. F. Seawell Jr., and Mrs. M. M. Timmons.

Yesterday Board Chairman Culbreth said only that the full Board had decided to renew Mr. Vause's contract. He said he was not at liberty to give other details of the Board's deliberations on this matter. It has been a standing practice of the Board to discuss matters of personalities and the hiring of teachers in closed session.

A Momentary Breach

It was on this phase of the situation that a momentary breach occurred between the citizens group and the Board. After the Board members filed into the library for their meeting, Chairman Culbreth arose to welcome the group to the session.

"Matters of personnel have always been considered in executive session out of consideration to the personnel involved," he said. "We would like to listen to you without comment on our part."

At this point Dean James L. Godfrey interrupted—speaking to the group's chairman—"May I ask you not to enter into any agreement to speak on these terms. I think we are entitled to know the reasons for this action. As our elected representatives you owe us the cour-

3,300 Expected To Be At Carolina

The University of North Carolina tomorrow opens its doors for the 1958 Summer School, in which will be enrolled a total of slightly over 3300 students.

Today is Registration Day for all enrollees, regardless of whether or not they have previously attended UNC. Tomorrow morning regular classes will start at 7:30 a.m. Students are reminded that classes will also be held this Saturday in all courses.

Summer School will again run for twelve consecutive weeks terminating on the 23rd of August. The first session will run from tomorrow until the previously mentioned date in August.

The male population of the school will be happy to learn that of the 3300 students who will be enrolled in the Summer School, many will be women. The usual seven to one ration of men to women will be lowered to a little over 2-1 according to the latest word from Summer School officials.

Class attendance will be on the same basis as the regular year, as rules pertaining to this will be left to the discretion of the instructor. However, class attendance will be taken from the first day that the courses are held—tomorrow. Instructors will be expected to notify any student who has an unreasonable number of cuts before he is dropped from the course.

Show Schedule

Area Movies Calendar . . .

New Varsity Theater: Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday—"The Proud Rebel" with Alan Ladd and Olivia de Havilland; Monday—"Sweet Smell of Success" with Burt Lancaster and Tony Curtis.

Carolina Theater: Thursday—"Gun Battle at Monterey" with Sterling Hayden; Friday and Saturday—"From Hell to Texas" with Don Murray and Diane Varsi; Sunday and Monday—"10 North Frederick" with Gary Cooper.

Valley Drive-in Theater: Thursday—"The Little Hut" with Ava Gardner, Stewart Granger and David Niven; Friday and Saturday—"Shoot Out at Medicine Bend" with Randolph Scott; Sunday and Monday—"The Joker Is Wild" with Frank Sinatra.

Center Theater in Durham: Now playing—"Another Time, Another Place" with Lana Turner and Barry Sullivan.

Agreement

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dents in the Carrboro-White Cross Attendance Areas qualified under the laws of North Carolina for admission to public schools except those who have customarily attended one of the two public schools now established in this area for grades one through eight. Any reassignment of students from Carrboro and White Cross to the Chapel Hill Schools, grades seven and eight, will be on an individual pupil basis by agreement between the two Boards.

"This assignment is on a tuition basis and is subject to approval as to each student by the Chapel Hill Board of Education.

"Effective dates relative to the payment of tuition and the time of enrollment are to be determined by the Chapel Hill City Board of Education."

Auditing privileges will not be granted to any student during the Summer Session. Only those students regularly registered for a course may attend.

In addition, many seminars and conferences will be held on this campus during the next two and a half months for a variety of organizations ranging from biology teachers to drama groups.

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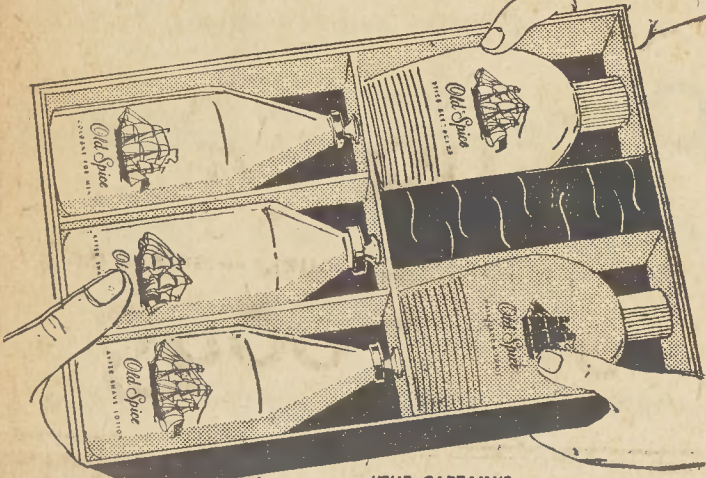
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