

Thomas L. Robinson - President and Publisher
Brodie S. Griffith - General Manager
Cecil Prince - Managing Editor
W. W. Sirmon - Circulation Manager

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Weeding Out The Educational Misfits

WHEN University of North Carolina trustees decreed that entrance examinations will be necessary to gain admission to the institution's three units...

knuckle down to the educational essentials while in high schools. One rather important aspect of the problem should not be overlooked. Educators are increasingly concerned today about what President Harold W. Dodds of Princeton University calls "the rising tide of college students which seems about to engulf us."

It matters not, however, whether trustees discussed the racial implications of their move or not. There are substantial reasons why entrance examinations should be required. They have nothing to do with segregation.

It is conservatively estimated that the nation's college population will rise from the present 2,400,000 to 4,000,000 in the next decade, and by 1975 will reach 5,000,000. Thirty per cent of America's 18-year-olds are enrolled in college today as compared to 12 per cent only 25 years ago.

The university system faces—and has faced for a number of years—the problem of freshmen who are inadequately prepared for college work.

Statistics such as these compelled Gordon Gray, last president of the University, to urge in 1955 that admission policies be "reconsidered."

In the past two years the trustees have deemed all white applicants living in North Carolina and having diplomas from accredited high schools as eligible for admission as freshmen. After they are enrolled, the university has simply undertaken the task of nursing the inadequately prepared student up to college levels. Work which the freshmen should have received in high school has been made available at Chapel Hill, Raleigh and Greensboro.

Said he: "Our alternatives range between two poles. We may continue to hold our doors open and take in virtually all comers. Or we may raise our standards significantly, so as to hold enrollment at a relatively stable figure. . . . I am inclined to think that we should raise our scholastic admission requirements gradually and reasonably, so that we may in the same way raise our standards of undergraduate education."

Entrance exams would weed out unprepared freshmen, saving a state time and money—at the same time, making room for the deserving student who is ready for the college gaff.

The trustees' plan permits progress toward these ends. There is much to be said for the principle of maximum education for everybody. But what is meant by education? The trend has been increasingly toward vocational and psychological training in recent years at the expense of the liberal arts. This is doubtless a place for both. But as Princeton President Dodds has pointed out, "going to college" has become fashionable and ill-trained youngsters go on to college without any real conception of the reasons for higher education or the ability to profit from it.

The responsibility for this preparation lies largely with the public school system of the state. The state's "back-to-back" order would undoubtedly encourage the schools to do a better job of turning out finished products. It would further encourage prospective applicants to

of all. Politically, it means chances are improved that the Republican Party will be able to offer its very best leader to the voters this fall. There certainly ends. The President is to be "able" to give another five to ten years of active service in the presidency. But he must decide in his own mind if he is willing and able to give four years. The doctors cannot make that decision. They know the body, but cannot know the burdens of the President.

Ike's Health: A Burden Is Lifted

THE favorable report on President Eisenhower's health has lifted a burden from his and the nation's shoulders.

The only concrete decision the doctors could have made would have been a negative one. By saying such was not warranted the doctors have reported the best news possible.

The report removes all doubt, as far as it can be removed in such cases, that the President can finish in good health and active leadership his fourth year in the White House. It makes a professional prediction that he could actively carry the burdens of the presidency for "another five to ten years."

Omaha, Neb.: "The previous administration failed to heed the warnings of the FBI and failed to cooperate with J. Edgar Hoover. If had done so it would have tipped the Communist conspiracy in the bud." —OMAHA WORLD-HERALD.

As far as it goes, this is unadulterated good news, both in a political and a personal sense. It is cheering to know that a man who has given most of his years in service to his country has recovered from the attack that came to him as he struggled with the heaviest responsibility

Richmond, Calif.: "The previous administration unfortunately adopted policies which were soft, vacillating and inconsistent in dealing with the Communist threat." —CONTRA COSTA GAZETTE.

Brass Knucks & Righteous Indignation

THE pious protestations of those two great medicine men of U. S. politics—Harry S. Truman and Richard M. Nixon—over who-called-what-who? at least add a note of comicality to the election year goings-on.

It is significant that the closer a public man is to the presidency the more will be shrunk from the idea of federal enforcement, as distinguished from persuasion and accommodation. Gov. Stevenson has been notably firm and decisive in the national election, the struggle between the two parties and also the struggle within the parties, particularly within the Democratic Party, which have brought the dilemma to the surface.

Two lustier, more truculent campaigners do not exist. Neither is particularly famous for resisting the impulse to flick out a rabbit punch when the referee's eyes wander.

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However, the charge that the vice president came right out and called Mr. Truman a "traitor" in so many words is probably a subtle exaggeration. Mr. Nixon is a subtle craftsman. In our memory, he has never exactly accused any president of the United States of treason—in so many words. But he has never left any doubt about what he thought about the previous Democratic administration's handling of traitors. The implications left by pronouncements like these (emerged from several press reports of Nixon speeches over the years) undeniably cast some rather vicious reflections on Mr. Truman & Co., however:

What Mr. Truman forgets, however, is that he is a man with well-developed political instincts too. His punches, while confined to more conventional targets, were just as savage. He was giving as much as he was taking. He still is.

St. Louis, Mo.: "The Democrats either did not understand the magnitude of the Communist threat or ignored it." —St. Louis POST DISPATCH.

Congressmen are disappointed that Eisenhower's budget leaves no room for cutting taxes. It makes adequate provisions for everything but their jobs." —FOY MYERS (FLA.) NEWS-PRESS

Washington: "A Democratic Congress would be under the thumb of the ADA which is notoriously soft on the Communist threat." —BALTIMORE SUN.

Nothing is quite so sad as the symbol of defeated hopes and blasted dreams as dust-covered bathroom stools, stuck away in the closet." —ASTORIAITE CITIZEN.

Los Angeles: There is nothing the Communists would like better than . . . a return to "the Truman loyalty program under which Communist agents were cleared and hired." . . . said the vice president—Associated Press dispatch.

When driving at night, Allow plenty of head room. And be sure to lower the beam, not the boom." —LEXINGTON LEADER.

Charlotte Editors, The News: I previously published letters concerned with the color question some doubt has been expressed concerning Patrick Henry's views on slavery. Any doubt about Henry's opposition should be expelled by his letter to his friend Robert Pleasant, a portion of which is quoted here:

It is inconsistent with the Bible and destructive to liberty. . . . I believe a time will come when an opportunity will be offered to abolish this lamentable evil. Everything we can do, is to improve it if it happens in our day, if not let us transmit our own descendants together with our slaves a pity for their unhappy lot, and an abhorrence for slavery."

Another point in question has been the existence of the "sent back" theory about Negroes in the minds of those who laid the foundations upon which this country has been built. The organization of the American Colonization Society in 1817, with its limited success for more than a decade while largely supported by slave owners of Virginia, Maryland, Kentucky, certainly indicates that this policy might well have been incorporated in the thinking of our founding fathers.

place the entire blame for this unfortunate affair on the young wife concerned. She has admitted she made a mistake. The scarlet woman who approached Christ had also made a mistake but He forgave her.

into the society to which they do not belong? Just what do these people hope to gain by integration? If there were no segregation laws at all, I'd not want to integrate into the society of the white colored people of Charlotte. For one thing, I'd feel out of place among them. No matter how nice they might be, I'd feel that they'd be too white for me and that they'd be too black for me as they have always known it.

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'Ain't Nobody Here But Just Us Public Servants'



A Southern Whirlpool

The Hot Political Fingerbowl

power. It is the politicians, the men who have little or no prospect of themselves being in the White House and bearing the responsibility, who are heating up the issue.

There is no likelihood that the Republicans in Congress will agree to take the issue out of politics. For it is a most damaging issue to raise among the Democrats. Nor is there much likelihood that Gov. Stevenson's rivals for the nomination will forbear to raise it. It is such an easy way to make things difficult for him.

Let us stop and think before we let irresponsible politicians push us into the whirlpool. The way things are developing is a reason for asking ourselves whether the decision of the Supreme Court does not need to be supplemented. As it stands now, the question of what constitutes a "prompt and reasonable start towards full compliance" is left to the judgment of the federal courts. Now what would be a prompt and reasonable start, say in the District of Columbia might well be imposing a ban on Mississippi. Success in putting into effect the principle of integration requires a program which must vary with local conditions. It is for example, an enormous step forward when universities in the South admit Negro students. And it would be the part of wisdom to rule that the university as a prompt and reasonable start.

What's To Gain By Integration Editors, The News: Charlotte As a common working man, I'd like to ask the question that is in the minds of millions of people today: "Why do some white and colored people want to integrate themselves into the race

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Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

THE American public, not always versed in the manners and maneuverings of the world's greatest deliberative body, the Senate of the United States, must be amazed and flabbergasted at some of the things that have been happening in the investigation of natural gas lobbying contribution offered to Sen. Case of South Dakota.

Here are some of the things the public has a right to be amazed over: Ducking Amazezment No. 1 might be expressed over why the special Senate committee skirted in right and to the point of asking John Neff, the Superior Oil lobbyist, whether he had contributed to any other senator, but carefully refrained from

doing so. Senators are supposed to want to keep their ranks free from lobbying pressure, but they ducked questions which might embarrass them. Amazezment No. 2 might be expressed over why the special committee was composed of two of our outstanding Democrats, George of Georgia and Hayden of Arizona, both busy, both up for reelection, and both in need of raising campaign funds this year; plus one very alert pro-gas Republican, Bridges of New Hampshire; plus one very honest, but not very anti-gas Republican, Title of Minnesota.

Arkansas, author of the gas bill, were almost savage in their attitude toward Case when he first announced receipt of the \$2,500 contribution; also why the Senate leaders bowed in Sen. Hennings, chairman of a regularly appointed committee, with power to probe these campaign contributions, and refused to let him investigate.

Senate, the Election Committee, entrusted with the job of probing these matters, was barred from probing the Case case. What seems to be the case is that it seems to be realized that the public is not only amazed, but concerned over the prestige of the Senate. It is to be hoped that senators as honest men, not subject to outside pressure and outside dollars. Typical of the reaction of the public is a telegram from William Wilcutt of Drakeboro, Ky. It reads: "You are to be congratulated if you will get out of the Senate. I am sure in order that Sen. Hennings may carry on his investigation, I would like to be the first to write you out of the Senate. That's how the American public is reacting to the limited probe of the gas lobby."

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Men Definitely Not Created As Equals

Editors, The News: Charlotte ONE of the greatest falsehoods ever perpetrated on the people of the world is that "all men are created equal."

Every individual is different from another physically and mentally. I know that there are many individuals smarter than I and there are many in a lower mental state than I. This is a fact of life in a physical sense also. Just as individuals, the various races differ from one another in average mentality and physical attainments. So, let's drop this untrue and quit mistleading individuals and races.

As you know the laws of the various states are not uniform. Many more people from such states as North Carolina, New York, etc., to Florida, Nevada, etc., pay taxes on their income. Each state has varying laws as to segregation. By the same token, those not satisfied with the laws of their state in which they live can move to a state which has laws to their liking.

Editors, The News: Charlotte A READER writes that there is no difference between Negro and white has "a lot to learn" and he wonders "what part of Yankee land she comes from." I suppose the child should learn to throw rocks at fourth graders before the is worthy of living in Dixieland!

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Gas Probe Shrinks Senate Prestige

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