

Editorials
Commentary

To the students:

Your senators are meeting today and they will be trying to decide upon a way to go about reapportioning the Senate. Most of them want this reapportioning to make Senate more representative of you.

THE ISSUES involved are complex, but they boil down to these alternatives:

A constitutional convention can be called for next fall. By setting it this far in advance, time can be allotted for student election of delegates. These delegates can then apportion Senate. But, ASUN would be stuck with the same poor representation it now has.

—or, Senate can appoint the delegates as soon as this afternoon, and get the convention going. In this case, the convention would have about a month to work over various problems of apportionment and offer constitutional amendments for student referendum in March.

THEN, IF the referendum passes, the new apportionment will be ready in time for this spring's election.

The essence of this second alternative is whether we can trust our senators. If we can, then perhaps they will sincerely do all within their power to make government relevant to you.

True, a representative convention delegation is desirable. But a better apportioned Senate is more desirable. And the only way to get that this year is to urge our senators to order a constitutional convention, and rely upon them to select the delegates fairly.

To the senators:

Stop screwing us around. Your Senate is unrepresentative. There should be senators selected by living unit. And senators elected from colleges. And perhaps some at large.

You are not relevant to us because you do not relate to us.

Listen to the alternatives before you today. Use your common sense to analyze the situation. Forget your petty Greek-independent prejudices and forge a workable compromise. Forget your other personal interests and think, for once, about the good of the student body as a whole.

If you fail the students now — if you won't call a convention immediately to rectify the apportionment problem — you are failing your jobs. And it is hereby guaranteed that the students will know about it.

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Campus opinion . . .

Not too little, not too late?

Dear Editor:

Although I cannot speak adequately on program revision in other colleges, I would like to comment briefly on curriculum change in the College of Arts and Sciences in connection with your January 30 editorial citing the need for attention in this area.

Your comment that "improvement has come too little, too late," does not adequately take into account the considerable activity on the part of the College faculty in this area during the last three years. During that time the departments in the College of Arts and Sciences have:

1. Changed the physical science requirement from what was usually a four-semester sequence to a three semester one.
2. Altered significantly the B.S. degree by requiring 18 hours in the humanities and social sciences rather than the 24 previously needed.
3. Eliminated the physical education requirement.
4. Approved extensive revision of the minor by various departments. (Currently seven departments do not in essence require minors.)
5. Reorganized significantly introductory courses and in some cases major sequences in English, history, journalism, chemistry and physics, to name just five departments.

In addition, the college has recently voted to restructure its Course of Study Committee, lowering its faculty membership from 22 to 9 and including three new voting student members in its body. This group will have broader curriculum responsibilities than the previous committee, and review of the language requirements, an area in which you express particular concern, would be within its prerogatives if such a matter is brought up for discussion.

Sincerely,
Robert L. Hough
Associate Dean

An Open Letter to the Young "Nazi" of Hyde Park:
When you expounded your "Christian Nazism"

Obscenity in campus newspapers

Editor's note: The following is an abbreviated re-write of an article which appears in the current issue of Look weekly magazine.

Throughout the Midwest and all around the country for that matter, college newspapers editors have been angrier than ever with four letter words and lashing attacks on the way universities are being run. Besides the dirty words,

university presidents and deans complain that college newspapers cover campus news less and less and society's ills more and more.

University, whose quiet campus is light years removed from Morningside Heights or Berkeley. William R. Smoot, the bearded, long haired editor of the Purdue Exponent, was

fired by Purdue President Frederick L. Hovde. Some months ago, a signed column strongly attacked Hovde in what can only be described as vulgar, scatological language. The Exponent column accused Hovde, among other acts, of defecating on the student body.

control of the student daily. Silhouettes of two black panthers now decorate the top of page one, which displays the slogan: "The Year of the Heroic Guerrilla."



U.S. Attorney General Finch meets Sen. Strom Thurmond

by Rowland Evans and Robert Novak
Washington — Robert Finch, Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW), is moving toward mandatory school desegregation in the South, and hence a massive confrontation between him and Sen. Strom Thurmond of South Carolina in the Nixon administration's first internal crisis.

Finch clothed his order of last Wednesday, withdrawing Federal funds from five segregated Southern school districts, with face-saving gimmicks for Thurmond. But faulty press interpretation of these gimmicks as outright surrender to the South all but obscures the fact that Finch, while speaking more softly than the Johnson administration, is ready to use the big stick of Federal power to compel school desegregation.

THUS, A CRITICAL struggle inside the Nixon administration looms between Finch and other Nixon intimates who believe the President made a commitment to relax enforcement. The outcome is still uncertain but Finch was the clear winner last week in the first major battle inside the new Administration.

That this battle took place so soon after Mr. Nixon's inauguration is due largely to Finch's Democratic predecessor as Secretary, Wilbur Cohen — a cool and wily operative in the bureaucracy.

Instead of settling the five cases before he left office, Cohen bequeathed them as a political time bomb to the Republicans with action required by Jan. 29.

Moreover, all these cases were so un-complicated that none of the "freedom of choice" plans presented by the five local school boards could be defended as real desegregation. Each contained the familiar new pattern of Southern segregation — the old Negro schools continuing as all-black and the old white schools as all-white except for a smattering of Negro students for the facade of desegregation.

WHAT ACUTELY heightened the political tension of Finch's decision was the location of two of these districts in the home state of Thurmond, the President's most valuable ally in carrying the South.

Throughout the campaign, Southerners assumed that Nixon would stop withholding Federal school money. Nothing said privately by White House aides during the interregnum changed that impression.

But Finch wants to bring Negroes into the Republican party and is a strong civil rights advocate. Acting as Finch's chief deputy without portfolio is California State Assemblyman John Veneman (likely to end up as Under Secretary), even stronger on civil rights. The staffer handling the school question is Leon Panetta, formerly an aide to defeated liberal Sen. Thomas Kuchel of California.

IN GENERAL, Finch's aides urged him to cut off funds to the five districts without qualification. But strong pressure for a stall came both from Congressional Southerners and White House aides.

Feeling the heat from Thurmond, Finch called moderate Republican Senators in quest of advice and was urged to stand firm. Finally, he compromised, but strongly on the side of desegregation — cutting off aid but adding this gimmick: If the school districts reach agreement with teams of HEW negotiators within 60 days, the money lost for that period will be returned. The decision was approved over the telephone by Nixon, but it was Finch's decision, not the President's.

MAKING THE BEST of bitter disappointment, Thurmond publicly expressed satisfaction. In private, however, Southern Republicans are appalled and fearful that Finch's order paves the way for a Democratic comeback in the South. The veteran Rep. Charles Jonas of North Carolina was furious, storming to both House Republican colleagues and over the phone lines to HEW.

Finch showed in other ways last week that the millennium did not arrive for the South with Nixon's election. Finch refused to see a schoolboard delegation from West Palm Beach, Fla. (a hotbed of Nixon support), which is fighting desegregation, and insisted that the Floridians go through regular enforcement channels.

More significantly, Finch last week sought — though unsuccessfully — to retain Ruby Martin, a militant Negro lawyer, as director of HEW's Office of Civil Rights, offering her higher pay and direct responsibility to the Secretary.

THE FINCH team plans more emphasis on negotiation and conciliation in resolving desegregation disputes than in the LBJ era. Finch may also lower standards defining what constitutes acceptable desegregation.

But the events last week showed that Finch will not tolerate token desegregation masquerading as "freedom of choice" — unless, of course, Thurmond persuades the President to overrule him. Whether Thurmond succeeds in that should be clear within the next 60 days, when those five cases are disposed of once and for all.

SEVERAL weeks after the nasty column, the Exponent published a poem containing vivid sexual imagery. The administration promptly notified the newspaper's senior staff that Smoot was fired and a new editor would have to be chosen.

"President Hovde accomplished the impossible," commented a young Purdue professor. "He united nearly every force on campus against him."

The paper's 15 senior editors refused to accept the firing. Faculty and students threatened a boycott of classes. Smoot returned to his job.

"Poetry . . . that was the saddest part," Smoot said. "I was fired for a poem. Do the hardened cases men build themselves into exclude even poetry? They must and for that, I feel sorry for them."

SMOOT continued, "I'm not a newspaper-type journalist — that's where the administration made its mistake. They said, 'You don't find those kind of words in the Louisville Courier-Journal.' Well, our brand of journalism is not that kind. We have a more intellectual, mature readership."

Offensive words? The war in Vietnam is offensive to Smoot. So are automobile accidents. Should those things be taken out of the newspapers?

"The words that are offensive to me are words like deceit, and murder, because they symbolize terrible things. But take — for example. The thing it exemplifies is a very natural thing."

THE UNIVERSITY has leverage; it has not yet lost the war. "We are the legal publishers," said an administration official. "We give the paper substantial support — free quarters in the Union building, and we buy \$9,000 worth of subscriptions a year. The paper owes the Purdue Research Foundation \$40,000 to \$50,000 for its new press."

The leverage is in the works, but no solution is near. Meanwhile, in Detroit, Michigan, there is a very different situation at Wayne State University. A small group of black radicals who describe themselves as revolutionaries have taken

A recent issue contains such stories as an analysis of the trial of convicted cop-killer, Huey P. Newton, minister of defense of the Black Panther party; a black historian has been denied permission to enter Jamaica on grounds he is a security risk; and the organization of a tenants' union to fight poor conditions and high rents in Detroit slums. An editorial in the paper, entitled "On Pigs," tells why blacks should hate cops.

Prof. W. Sprague Holden, chairman of the department of journalism, would like to take away the paper's \$30,000 a year subsidy as well as its university affiliation. He wants to set up a "real student newspaper" that covers campus affairs.

Wayne State's student publications adviser, Frank P. Dill, recently quit in disgust after 22 years at the university. "This is not a newspaper but paranoid, racist pamphleteering," he charged.

A thin, bearded youth with a burning manner, Editor John Watson, is adamant. "I'm not trying to win no popularity contest. I'm trying to make people mad."

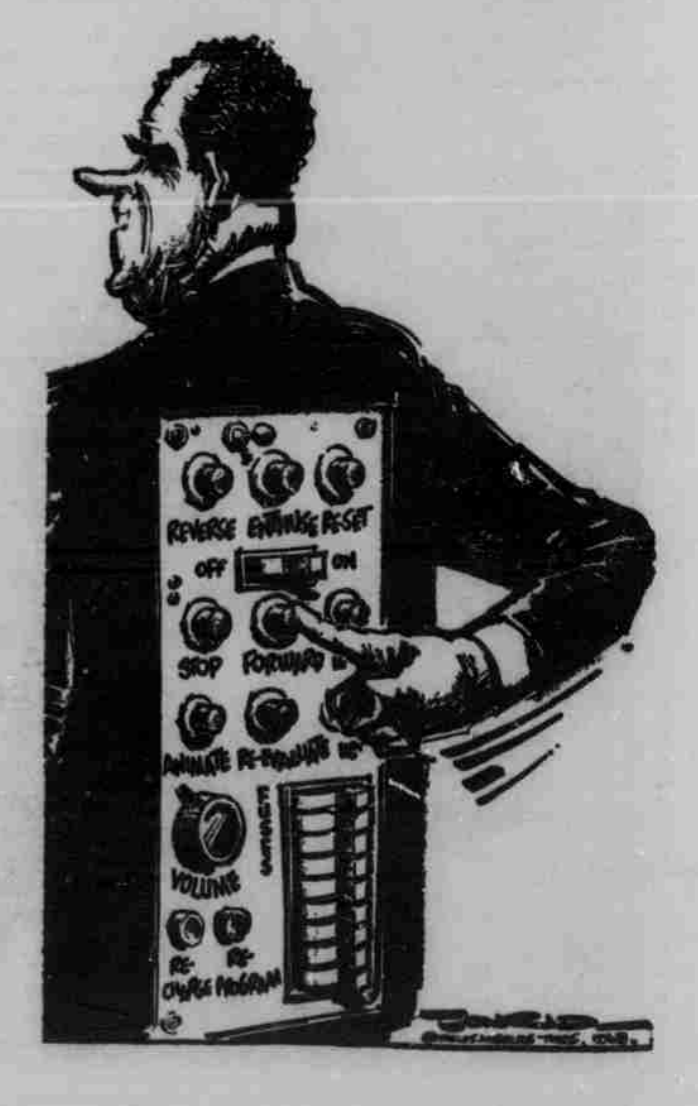
THE WAVE of liberalism and freedom of expression is present on other campuses as well. In Minneapolis-St. Paul, state legislators are passing around copies of a page on photo in the University of Minnesota Daily. The photo shows a large sign carried by a girl demonstrator protesting censorship. The sign damns Puritans with the usual four letter verb.

At the University of Wisconsin, the regents threatened to bar the Daily Cardinal for language used in a College Press Service story on a Colorado conference of student radicals.

In Putney, Vermont, the only printer in town told the Windham College paper to get itself another printer when it insisted that he print a story: The Myth of Vaginal Orgasm.

THE College Press Service, has been accused by some university administrators of testing authority by trying to further the dirty word movement. A majority of college papers subscribe to that service.

A CPS official denied everything. "We just try to report what we see and hear. That's the way people talk. We're not testing anybody. We're trying to communicate with and among students."



Wayne N. Moles

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