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GEORGIA

Advocate

ADVANCE SHEET



Monday, February 2, 1970

University of Georgia School of Law

Vol. 1, No. 3

Nadar Preaches The Doctrine Of Consumer Militancy

Ralph Nader, a Harvard Law School graduate, spoke Monday, January 26 to an overflow crowd of Georgia law students, interested Athenians and concerned consumers. Sponsored by the University Union's Cultural Affairs Committee, Nader appeared to tell of his various campaigns against American industry on behalf of the American consumer.

Mr. Nader was introduced as a "man who looks forward to life's simple pleasures"--clean water, unvitiated air, and healthful and nutritious food. After citing his widely publicized campaigns against dangerous cyclamates, cereal patties foisted upon the buyer as hamburgers and unsafe automobiles, it was remarked that "no one ignores him." Closing the introduction of America's consumer crusader, the speaker stated the aphorism that "it is awfully difficult to fool Ralph Nader anytime."

Entitled "Corporate Responsibility in Consumer Production," the address was concerned with three main values:

- (a) Integrity of the consumer dollar
 - (b) Health and safety hazards to the consumer
 - (c) The issue of human freedom in compelled consumption
- Admitting that the "consumer function is a very complex function," Mr. Nader stated that mere "disclosure" of consumer abuses was not enough, since this only "alerts people" and does not rectify existing malpractices. Such disclosure without accompanying widespread reform is why Mr. Nader feels the turn-of-the-century muckrakers failed in their efforts to correct consumer product oppo-

brium.

The address was limited to three problem areas in the "consumer movement": (1) the auto, (2) the food supply and (3) the environmental pollution.

The auto, America's "number one means of conveyance" costs the consumer in the form of accidents, air pollution, and highway expenditures as much as the producers make in gross sales. This is the only industry for which this may be said. The yearly direct cost of auto crashes is thirteen billion dollars, with an additional indirect cost of seven billion to be added to the previous sum. Nonetheless, the author of Unsafe At Any Speed has made some headway in his efforts to correct the flagrant abuses of the auto industry. In March of this year the Auto Safety Act of 1966 will go into effect; and within the next two years the massive New York State report of one half million auto crashes will be issued. The New York State report began its tests with the Volkswagen in the belief that it was "best to start at the bottom," and at thirty-one miles per hour everything--seat, seatbelt, steering wheel--went. This, he stated, was typical of a "car which tends to collapse like a Japanese lantern."

Charging that "this country is largely one of corporate socialism" and not democracy and free enterprise, Nader continued by adding that corporations fight most against consumer knowledge, despite the classical concept that a free market system rests on "buyer knowledge." One example of the corpor-

“Don’t Look A Gift Horse In The Mouth” -- Effects of the Draft Lottery

14, 22, 8, 15, 6, 30, 4 -- BINGO. The birthdays were called in the order extracted from the great bureaucratic fish bowl and the draft lottery was on. Across the nation visibly distraught male collegians watched in bedazzled silence as the first numbers were pulled. Fraternity and dormitory pools awarded the first chosen of their lot the macabrely ironic prize of a few dollars, with the admonition to spend the money quickly now that time was at a premium. Sad-faced boys with their futures in the balance chewed the ends of fountain pens and watched the Selective Service spectacle. As more and more birth dates were chosen more hopes sank, while the hopes of those still not chosen began to be buoyed up as the drawing continued. Many a confident soul would be suddenly shocked into numbing disbelief at the announcement of his birthday.

What did the lottery really do? It provided for a random selection of those men now draft eligible. Also, one would be vulnerable for the draft for a period of only one year under this new law. Nonetheless, the proposed immunity for those holding high lottery numbers may not really be the case. For example, in the first month under the new law the Athens Selective Service Board has called numbers up through the thirties. In some less densely populated areas local draft boards were forced to call up through number 120 to meet the quotas for the first

month. In areas where the pool of draft eligibles is small the position of one in the lottery is relatively inconsequential. To meet the draft quotas in some areas even those with high numbers will have to be called. Thus, the immunity of a high draft lottery number may be very short-lived. The one certainty of the new draft act is that the period of vulnerability will be one year. At least the period of anxiety has been reduced, if no other tangible security really resulted from the random selection.

One other concrete result of the lottery may be the curtailment of student dissent against the draft. Perhaps the Nixon administration is invoking the "divide-and-conquer" tactic against student dissidents. Radicals with high numbers will have second thoughts about militating against a system which provides them a guarantee of relative security from the military draft. This may be a major factor in the continually ebbing support of the monthly Vietnam Moratoriums. Political expediency on the Administration's part may have been a very real motivating factor in the rapid passage and implementation of the new draft lottery.

by Harley J. MacLeod
(Lottery Number 359)

GEORGIA

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Column On Dean Rusk Controversy

With everyone at Georgia talking and writing about Dean Rusk, perhaps one more effort is one too many, but then that depends on its substance. So, for lack of a better proposal, quoting Rusk's former boss, "let us continue," even if the continuance is as bad as his turned out to be.

The controversy in the state over the appointment of the former Secretary of State and Rhodes Scholar to a professorship of International Law has had what one might call educational results at several levels.

Without a doubt, students in the law school will benefit greatly from the opportunity to avail themselves of Secretary Rusk's personal experience and knowledge in international affairs.

And the boosts from Rusk's appointment to the cause of academic freedom in the University and to the already rapidly improving quality and reputation of the law school are very relevant points.

Aside from these happy factors, however, the controversy has reawakened many aware Georgians to the fact that the forces of the past still wield considerable strength among the state's population (as if they needed re-awaking with the governor so often

opening his mouth).

Indeed, Georgia is still Georgia, but at least the attempt to insert politics into the University System met defeat this time, in contrast to the temporary success of similar moves in the early 1940's.

In fact, the battle over this issue has not yet been conceded, judging from the continuing comments of the governor, several regents, and a number of legislators who apparently want to punish the University by cutting its funds.

Speaking politically, furthermore, the acts of various gubernatorial candidates concerning the appointment, though not conclusive, certainly cleared the air somewhat as to the nature of their personalities. Carl Sanders, for example, reportedly took a bold stand, telephoning the regents and urging them to appoint Rusk. Jimmie Carter told the press that a group of Georgia students with

Continued on Page 5

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NADAR Continued from Page 1

ation working actively against the consumer is the evolution of recessed auto bumpers, which are nothing more than "ornamental chrome eyebrows." These nonfunctional bumpers cost the consumer an additional one billion dollars a year in higher accident costs.

As a society, Ralph Nader feels, we have cared more for property than for human beings, and it is now "time for democratization of technology." This drive to "humanize technology is the nub of the auto safety movement." There needs to be an end to the "aristocratic allocation" of resources.

Speaking on the second problem area, the food supply, he warned there have been "unsettling facts disclosed in this area." Conditions depicted in Upton Sinclair's The Jungle are worse and more subtle now than at the turn-of-the-century. There are only three problems involved in the sale of food that it: (a) tastes good, (b) is tender and (c) is visually presentable. None of these three criteria has any relation to sanitation. The "cost-cutting proclivities" of the food industry are scandalous. Nader cited the testimony of a Massachusetts veterinarian before a House Committee who said he had witnessed the chopping off of animal tumors for sale in meat markets as brains.

The science of nutrition has

been painfully neglected. Nutrition occupies the lowest tier in the medical school curriculum. In fact, a recent Harvard poll indicates that physicians and secretaries have a comparable amount of knowledge about the subject of nutrition. One half of U.S. families have inadequate diets. This alarming revelation is attributed to the eating of improper foods as the result of psychologically persuasive advertising, or "the Frito-Lay syndrome." In fact, there is an entire generation of TV babies who think "coca-cola is essential to physical health and vigor."

To alleviate these shocking conditions requires only greater awareness, not huge allocations.

Environmental pollution or "environmental violence" was the final area of consideration. This "environmental violence" is far more serious than violence in the streets since it occurs over a longer period of time and it elicits no sensory reaction. An example of the problem--each year exposure to work hazards results in 15,000 dead and two and a half million permanently injured, yet the average state expenditure per worker to deal with the problem of work hazards is 40 cents a year. In Oklahoma the expenditure is but 2 cents a year per worker.

General Motors, a company with a gross income of \$2.4 million per hour round the clock and a higher gross income than any country in the world except the U.S. and the U.S.S.R., is responsible for 35% of U.S. air pollution. The rule of law is terribly discriminatory when applied to corporate violations.

Continued On Page 6

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5 POINTS

Employment Opportunities For Students

The Criminal Law Section of the American Bar Association announced that it wishes to increase interaction with their Law Student Division. After several discussions with Mr. Lynn Edwards, Staff Director of the Criminal Law Section, John Long, President of the Law Student Division, reports that an employment program has been developed, whereby the Section will employ Law Student Division members on a part-time basis to do research on Section projects at competitive salaries. Long stated that there is a likelihood that this section will develop a placement service for graduating students interested in the criminal law. The Criminal Law Section currently has a strong representation of district attorneys and public defenders in their membership.

Students interested must be members in good standing in the law student division, and be prepared to join the criminal law section which is open to all student members. Interested persons are urged to contact Mr. H. Lane or Lynn Edwards, Staff Directors in the section of Criminal Law, c/o ABA, 1705 DeSales Street, North-

west, Washington, D.C. 20036, or President Long, directly at the American Bar Association Center in Chicago, Illinois.

DEAN RUSK Continued from Page 3

whom he had been talking had said that Rusk should be approved, and Jimmy Bentley said that he thought the issue should be resolved as soon as possible.

These local factors notwithstanding, perhaps Secretary Rusk himself will profit educationally from the Georgia debacle. The great mass of opposition to his appointment, with very few exceptions actually based on his daughter's marriage, came from the kind of people who, though they are far more warlike than Rusk and even consider him an "appeaser" in his policies, comprise much of Johnson's and Nixon's "silent majority" that provides the political support or acquiescence for the war policies of death and destruction that Rusk himself stolidly espoused.

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SINCE 1929

The Coach Redeye Show

The Legal Eagles swept to their second victory of the season by crunching the Ag Engineer Moo Cows 49-32. "The Stilt" Crenshaw led the team in rebounds and scoring with another brilliant performance. Next week "The Stilt" will be presented with the COACH KIRBY TURNAGE MEMORIAL AWARD FOR BEING PROMPT because he could not be on time since he lost his shoes, his car would not start and there were five wrecks on Lumpkin Street. "Night Crawler" Nadler and "Baby Face" Wotten did an excellent job of ball control which prevented both teams from scoring and accounted for the 18-17 half-time lead.

The second half opened with a tremendous fast break led by "Stretch" Morris who blew the snowbird. "Boom-a-rang" Willis, who is probably in better shape than most, was able to go full speed (clocked at 1 minute and 28 seconds to complete one lap around the court). Luckily, Boo Booth had picked up two players from the taxi squad, i.e. their wives let them play. The two were Don "Hound Dog" Johnson and "The Greensboro Mauler." "Hound Dog" had a difficult time shooting because he couldn't keep his hair out of his eyes, while "The Greensboro Mauler" made a spectacular fall away tip

in for 2 of his 4 points. "Booman" had also recruited mystery player "Bozo" Richardson. "Bozo" lasted three minutes before collapsing from exhaustion.

As "Bozo" was dragged off the court, the old General, "Jimmie Poo" Humes darted onto the floor, ushered in by a standing ovation from the spectator. To digress a minute, "Jimmie Poo" wrote me concerning his image around the Law School. Well, I must admit that I was mistaken in describing his appearance last week. His hair was not graying, he is going bald. I hope this is a satisfactory correction, "Jimmie Poo."

The half court press and fast break began to tell on the Moo Cows as the Eagles rolled up the score. "Baby Face" Wotten began his grinning tactics late in the half, because "Meadowlark's" contact went away. However, "Meadowlark" Ginsberg's shooting game did not suffer after such a loss, i.e. he still could not hit the backboard. Well, until next week, remember to hang in there, sports fans.

-- The Incredible Hulk

NADAR Continued from Page 4

Until last week Wayne County had made no effort to prosecute Ford Motors for pollution of Lake Erie. Mr. Nader calls for a rule of law which reflects a "system of due process and democratic values." What is required is a combination of technical skills and an humane value system. Without technical skill, one who is concerned is but a "diletante." If reform is to be made then the people must realize that citizenship is hard work!

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