

The Future of Duke

Virginian-Pilot Editor Discusses University's Situation and Prospects

(From the Chapel Hill Weekly) In the February number of McNaught's Monthly, Louis I. Jaffe, editor of the Norfolk Virginian-Pilot, has an article entitled "Duke University's Bid for Greatness. Mr. Jaffe lived in Durham and a few years ago was a student in the institution before its name was changed from Trinity to Duke.

His analysis of the present situation of Duke University, and his speculations upon its future, are preceded by a brief summary and bequests which it has received, he sums it all up with the statement that "it is to have the costliest physical plant in America" and "the future value of its productive endowment is certain to be \$50,000,000.

Then he proceeds to consider what the university will do with its newfound wealth. Here are presented extracts from the article:

"Duke is not to extinguish its intellectual spark in an orgy of uplift. Its aim is to be great rather than big. 'A college must in large part be a product of development and not a forced growth,' said President W. P. Few, taking over the helm fifteen years ago from his predecessor, the late Bishop John C. Kilgo. Dr. Few carries a torch lighted at Harvard. Dean W. H. Wannamaker and his ablest colleagues have bathed in the robust academic freedom of the Sorbonne and Leipzig. Professor R. L. Flowers, business genius of the University, steers by the sign of a discriminating tolerance. These leaders of greater Duke will not, if they can help it, tolerate a sacrifice of true learning to the dulcet temptation of mere service."

"Rich Duke University will be, but not purse-proud or exclusive; dedicated to social service, but guarding the pure flame of scholarship and insisting on academic thoroughness; open to men and women of all sects and creeds and welcoming them without regard to where they come from, but selecting its student body discriminatingly and restricting it to numbers not too large for successful and distinctive assimilation. That may be said to be the present purpose of those who are ploughing Mr. Duke's millions into the 4,000-acre tract of Durham County hill and dale which is presently to become a Tarheel Versailles embellished with fountains, bridges, lagoons, a golf course and a towering campanile, and sprouting a forest of Gothic halls."

"What has been said up to this point suggests the essential reasonableness of the expectation that Duke will become a vital force in Southern education. That is not the same thing as saying that it may hope to become a great seat of learning in that term's world or even national significance. It will have the material wherewithal for such an achievement but between it and the shining goal there are certain imponderable and certain circumstantial barriers. An inherent difficulty is the strain of its connection with a powerful, sensitive, socially and politically alert religious denomination. Twenty-four of its thirty-six trustees are elected, twelve each, by the two North Carolina Methodist Conferences. Twelve are elected by the trustees themselves from the alumni at large. The trustees are ultimate masters over professorships and promotions, degrees and honors, courses and curricula. It is true that the Conferences cannot nominate. They can only approve or disapprove nominations made by the self-perpetuating board of trustees. Their power is analogous to the Senate's 'advice and consent' function in the case of foreign treaties. No one need be reminded how deadly that power can become in certain emergencies. In the neighboring college of Wake Forest, a comparable although not identical denominational control of the trustees is being resorted to by Baptist fundamentalists to hold over the head of a president who preaches Christ and evolution, the threat of summary dismissal."

"Justice to the traditions and precedents of Trinity College requires the statement that in the main it has administered its academic trust with integrity, liberality and independence. There was, for example, the case of Dr. J. S. Bassett, professor of history, who published on his own responsibility an article on the race question that brought the community, includ-

ing many influential alumni, to its feet with a demand for his head. Dr. Bassett offered his resignation but both the trustees and faculty declined to accept it. Their memorials on this incident, now yellow with the dust of twenty-two years, have the dignity of an academic bill of rights."

"Trinity has managed a high degree of academic self-determination under its sectarian stewardship, but the college was small and the era non-contentious. The situation has radically changed. Trinity has become Duke with ambitions to become a great university. What was simple for the old college is likely not to be so simple for the new. One year ago the embattled fundamentalists fought at Raleigh for a law like that later passed by Tennessee. The University of North Carolina roundly denounced this assault on academic freedom, but no sound in protest was heard in the legislative halls from the institution whose faculty twenty-two years before was prepared to tolerate error as long as reason is left free to combat it' and whose president on assuming the robes of office had defined it to be one of the functions of the highest type of Southern college 'to stand for correct ideals and even fight for them when necessary' and to 'throw itself unreservedly into the doing of the supreme duty of the hour.'"

"The bill was defeated but it may come up again. The controversy is a symbol of what has been going on in the imperfectly defined field of religion and education ever since Abelard. Always when the Galileos succeeded in making Nature a little clearer, the Popes cried out that somebody was destroying their God. Always it has been a false alarm. From Abelard's earliest university down to our own Congregationalist-born Yale and Harvard, great seats of learning have found that the free pursuit of truth in all its phases is best carried on independent of ecclesiastical auspices. On neither side of the Atlantic does there exist today a university of national or world rank that does not in respect of denominational control, assert and enjoy complete autonomy."

"Duke, freshly emerged from Trinity, is a free university in a strictly qualified sense—not in the understanding of that term at the College de France, Cambridge or Harvard. It extols free speech but its leading intellects find it convenient and comfortable to practice the fine art of reticence. There are no sacred cows ostentatiously belled, but by long tradition and no doubt by an imperceptible osmosis from denominational councils innumerable, there has been perfected at Duke an attitude of pietistic restraint, a disposition to avoid grappling with social controversy and intellectual unrest, and to stick to the unadventuring muttons of polite learning. The university will have the money with which to hire Michelsons, Remsens, Deweys, Pupins, William Jameses and Basil Gildersleeves, but it has yet to acquire the full academic enfranchisement that would enable them to live and teach there at their ease. It has yet to achieve that academic adulthood that would make James Harvey Robinson as welcome an addition to its history staff after he wrote his 'Mind in the Making' as he would have been before."

"If Duke University, lacking the Jeffersonian tradition and being in addition handicapped in catholicity of appeal by its organic affiliation with Methodism, expects not only to neutralize the pull but even in some measure to reverse it, it must perform something in the nature of an academic miracle. Many years—fifty, at least—will have to be allowed for such a consummation."

"The whole South has still great monsters of obscurantism, prejudice, partisanship and ignorance to slay before it can become an environment capable of discriminating between a true aristocrat among seats of learning and a scholastic department store ministering to educational and vocational arrivism. The level of living and thinking among the millions from which Duke must draw its students cannot but have its effect on the kind of institution Duke will be. It can march only so far ahead of the procession."

"Duke has great wealth and a great vineyard in which to do useful work. For the work in the vineyard it needs no further preparation. For the more exacting work in the higher reaches of scholarship, for the service which along can make a name for it among the world's great seats of learning, it needs chiefly two things—complete autonomy and time."

Misses Cordie Harmon and Ruth Berry motored to Raleigh Saturday evening to see the performance of the famous comedian, Will Rogers.

SHARK GOD'S WRATH OF LITTLE MOMENT

Overcome by Peace Offering, or by Cement?

Hawaiian natives prophesied calamity when ground was broken in October, 1909, for the construction of Pearl Harbor, America's strongest naval station, on the shore of the island of Oahu, near the city of Honolulu. For their legends said that on the site selected for the immense dry dock were the caves in which the shark god once lived. Their belief was based on the presence of numerous sharks in the vicinity.

When, on February 17, 1913, the immense coffer dam collapsed, the natives fancied that the shark god had avenged himself for the desecration of his temple. The construction company in charge of the naval works believed that faulty engineering rather than one of the ancient island gods was responsible for the collapse, and requested authority to proceed with the project. The opposition of the natives was so strong that many conferences were held before the Navy department agreed upon the plan which has since been developed.

When work began anew in December, 1914, the natives, believing that another disaster was inevitable, did what they could to avert it, and retained a female "kahuna" or priestess. They believed she possessed the ability to appease the wrath of the shark god by making offerings, and engaged her to conduct her rites on the shores of Pearl Harbor during all the time that the dry dock was being reconstructed. In the spring of 1919 all was in readiness for the release of the water from the new dock. This was regarded as the supreme test. A Hawaiian foreman sacrificed a white pig and white chicken to the shark god, with prayers and supplications that the dry dock be spared.

The pumping began. It was noticed that a muddy streak arose in the water within the docks. The Hawaiians then insisted that the shark god was again attempting to break down the structure by boring through the basin. As the last foot of water was pumped out the remains of an immense shark were revealed on the bottom of the dock, and naturally the Hawaiians believed that it was the god which had destroyed the first dock. The bones were distributed among the members of the construction crew as souvenirs.

Engineers who have studied both the first and second dry docks have been inclined to scout the efforts of the priestess in appeasing the shark god, and to credit the success of the second work to the fact that the present basin has a concrete thickness of 16 feet, while the collapsed dock had a base of only 8 feet.

Cancer on Increase

A careful analysis of cancer statistics gathered by the United States census bureau over a period of about twenty years in ten Eastern states reveals definitely that cancer mortality is from 25 to 30 per cent higher than it was about twenty years ago, according to Dr. J. W. Schereschewsky of the United States public health service, who made the statistical analysis and reported it to the American Medical association. "There has been a pronounced increase in the observed death rate from cancer in persons forty years old and over in the ten states comprising the original death registration area," Doctor Schereschewsky said. "Part of this increase is due to greater precision and accuracy in the filling out of death returns, but the remainder is an actual increase in the mortality of the disease."

Plan Prehistoric Park

Twenty-seven acres of land just south of Hollywood will be converted into a prehistoric park by the Los Angeles Museum of History, Science and Art. A large number of bones of prehistoric animals have been found in the asphalt beds in this small area. If the plans work out, the park will be planted with trees and shrubbery as nearly as possible like those which grew there when the saber-toothed tiger, imperial-tusked elephant and their contemporaries roamed in the jungles of southern California. Prehistoric animals, reproduced in stone, will be placed in this reconstructed jungle.—Pathfinder Magazine.

Counting the Pennies

"Getting to work from an all-night poker party is sometimes something of a problem," says a downtown business man. "The other morning after an awfully bad session, I found I had just a few minutes in which to reach my office several miles distant. I had only \$1.25 out I called a taxicab. I kept one eye on the meter and when the bill amounted to \$1.10, I ordered the driver to stop. I wanted the ten cents for coffee and slukers and the four cents for luck.—Detroit News.

Little Choice

First Casualty—What happened to you?
"Been teaching my wife to drive the car."
"Ah, ha! Why didn't you act sensibly, as I did? Mine wanted me to teach her, and I refused."—Judge.

She Knew the Game

Traffic Cop—I'm sorry, miss, but I've got to tag your car. You know what that means?
The Sweet Young Thing—Certainly. Now I chase some'ody else and tag them and then they're "it."—Life.

666

is a prescription for Colds, Grippe, Flu, Dengue, Bilious Fever and Malaria. It kills the germs.

MORTGAGE SALE OF LAND

Under and by authority of a mortgage deed executed to T. L. Dowd by Horace Dowd and wife, Agnes Dowd, dated January 7, 1924, the debt for which said mortgage is security, not having been paid at date due, I will offer for sale at public auction at the Court House Door in Pittsboro, on SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1926, at 12 o'clock noon, the land described as follows:
Lying and being in Gulf Township, Chatham County, beginning in Indian Creek at the mouth of Spruce Hill branch and up said branch to an ash stump, supposed to be the corner; thence east 94 poles to a white stone and pointers; thence north 108 poles to an ash on the bank of the creek; thence up the said creek to the beginning, containing 35 acres more or less. Terms, cash.
This January 28, 1926.
T. L. DOWD, Mortgagee.

Feb. 4, 4tc.

NOTICE OF SALE OF LAND UNDER DEED OF TRUST

Under and by virtue of the power contained and conferred in and by a certain Deed of Trust executed by J. W. Sanders, Sr., to Daniel L. Bell, Trustee, on the 9th day of April, 1925, and registered in the office of the Register of Deeds for Chatham County in Book "GL" at pages 181-2, default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness thereby secured having requested a sale of the land thereby conveyed to secure the payment of the same, the undersigned Trustee will, on
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23RD, 1926, AT 12:00 O'CLOCK, NOON, AT THE COURT HOUSE DOOR OF CHATHAM COUNTY IN PITTSBORO, N. C. sell, at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, the following described tract of land, located in Gulf Township, Chatham County North Carolina, which is bounded and described as follows:
Beginning at a stake, Peter Evans corner in J. A. Dowd's line running South with Evans line 71 poles to a stake; thence North 88 3-4 degrees West 144 1-2 poles to Daniel Dowd's line; thence North 5 1-2 East 73 1-2 poles to a post oak, W. A. Sanders corner; thence South 87 degrees East 142 poles to the beginning; contain-

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Attorney-at-Law
PITTSBORO, N. C.

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