

The Tar Heel.

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA.

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The TAR HEEL regrets that a certain class of men do not seem to appreciate the Post Master's efforts to give us a decent office. After every mail there is a disgraceful crowding, pushing around the delivery window, this is very disagreeable to say the least. Such conduct in a public place is contrary to the spirit that should prevail among University men and is unworthy of a gentleman anywhere. Post Master Kirkland is determined to put a stop to this practice either by closing the window and refusing to give out the mail or by having the principal offenders arrested and punished. A word to the wise is always sufficient.

On last Monday evening, Dr. Battle gave the concluding part of his second talk before the Young Men's Christian Association. The first was more of a formal lecture, delivered Sunday afternoon, September 29th on family life in the Bible; the second, on The Temptation and some lessons that we can draw from it, was delivered in two parts.

The first part was given two weeks ago and was concerned with the facts of the Temptation: the second part gave the practical lessons. Dr. Battle laid emphasis on the fact that Christ furnishes us a model by which we can shape our conduct. As Christ refused to yield to the temptation to employ his divine power for the gratification of his personal desires, or for the attaining of his own ends; so, in choosing a profession, in taking any important step in life, the question with us should be, not, what can I make out of it but how much good can I do in it?

FOR many years dramatic clubs have been organized and successfully operated at Harvard, Princeton and the other large Universities; nor have these clubs been confined to the large institutions above mentioned.

Last year Sewanee presented in Nashville a Greek play which was much complimented, this year a dramatic club has been organized at Vanderbilt, and efforts in the same direction are being made by other Southern institutions; and yet we have never heard of such a thing being mentioned here.

Why is it? Is it because we have no dramatic ability or because we have no taste for such things, or is there some other reason?

It seems to us that there is ample material here for such an organization if it could only be gotten together and started to work. Perhaps like the glee club, track team and everything else that has been

started here, it is only waiting for some live entergetic man to take hold and start the ball rolling. The football season will soon draw to a close and the uneventful winter months set in; this is the very time for such work, think about it and see if something can't be done.

Preserving the College Papers.

It has often been said that North Carolinians never hesitate to make history; but that they leave others to write it. This lack of interest in the preservation of papers and documents of any kind, which may be of historical value is quite general in the State. The TAR HEEL has spoken of this before; but it wishes to speak of it again, and to speak of it with especial reference to the college publications.

If the students who subscribe for the Magazine and the TAR HEEL would keep them, and, at the end of the year, have them bound, they would never have a reason to regret this course.

At present whatever appears in the paper seems quite unimportant, because we are in the college life ourselves, and know what is taking place around us. But after we leave the University, the pleasure that comes from the re-reading of the papers can be appreciated only by those who have experienced it. But the pleasure to be derived is not the most important thing. The papers have an historical value which only the student and writer of history can appreciate.

It is very difficult to write the history of any movement in North Carolina life, because the material is wanting. The history goes unwritten, or it misrepresents the facts, and we complain; but we have only ourselves to blame. Every one should be a history preserver, as well as history maker. Then, when the writer wants material, he can get it.

EXPERIMENTS have recently been at Princeton with the chronoscope for testing the speed of a pitched baseball.

The distance was 60 feet and the time of Altman's ball was six-tenths of a second and Bradley's fifty-nine hundredths of a second.

YALE and Princeton will hold their annual debate this year at Princeton on December the sixth. Yale has choice of sides and the question for debate will be: *Resolved*, "That in all matters of State legislation of a general character, a system of referendum should be established, similar to that now established in Switzerland."

THE University of Pennsylvania *Courier* comes to us this week with a net circulation of 13,253 copies, which is the largest of any college paper in the world. The *Courier* is by far the best of the many college papers that we receive and fully deserves all of the success it is now enjoying.

WE learn with much regret the death of the *Harvard News*.

It has always been a welcome visitor here and read with much interest.

Its discontinuance is due entirely to financial troubles which seem to have been caused by competition with the *Crimson*.

The Magazine Situation.

There is some complaint about the late appearance of the *Magazine*. The delay has been due to several circumstances not easily avoided, both on the part of the editors and printers. The *Magazine* is now struggling for its existence, and it has been a question whether it should appear or not.

Let us look briefly at the situation as it now stands.

What is the object of a college magazine? Did the *University Magazine* accomplish that object?

If we be not mistaken in our views, the object of a college weekly is to give us the news of the college world in general and of our own institution in particular, and, together with the annual, to be a record of our college life, which we can preserve and to which we can look back with pleasure. On the other hand the object of the magazine is to stimulate us to try our powers of expression and of thought, and to preserve and give to others the benefit of this work when it is accomplished. If we are correct in our statement of the objects of a college magazine, then it must necessarily follow that we admit that *The North Carolina University Magazine* has been an ignominious failure.

Let us look at its history. It has been in existence for nearly thirty years, this being the twenty-eighth volume. During that time it has been in the hands of men, most of whom have since become well known in the State in their various walks of life. Since its beginning it has ever improved and under the management of Prof. Cobb (who has just resigned his position) it gained for itself the just and well-deserved reputation of having the largest circulation of any college magazine in the world. (Notice we say *magazine*. Some of the college weeklies have surpassed it). It was preserved, and back-numbers were much sought for by the historical societies and the libraries of many of our largest cities and colleges, Boston Public Library and the Library of the University of Michigan being among the number. There was a large number of subscribers in Northern cities. Its articles were quoted and referred to by many of the largest papers in the country. Then why should we say it has been an ignominious failure? Because it did not accomplish the main purpose and object of a college magazine. If it had it would not have been in such demand. Its articles were mostly historical, and were written by the most prominent men of North Carolina. It was this that gave it value. It was this that made it sought. But why did it fail in its main purpose? We cannot say. The Editors left no stone unturned to make it accomplish this purpose. They endeavored with all their power to get undergraduate articles. They printed 90 per cent of the articles handed in by students and refused 90 per cent. of the articles handed in by those who were not students of the University. Of the sixty-five articles which appeared during last year, only eight were by undergraduate students, and the editors had hard work to get those

eight. Viewed then from the point that the *Magazine* is for the improvement of thought and of composition among the students, we must say it has been a failure, and it is now in the hands of the Societies either to stop or to continue its publication. It is for them to say whether they are willing to take upon themselves the labor of publishing an Historical magazine for alumni and others, or whether it must be discontinued at once.

W. R. WEBB, Jr.,
Editor-in-chief.

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