

**The Tar Heel.**  
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA.

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The TAR HEEL renews its welcome to Dr. Alderman, who has recently been formally inducted into the high office he has been called upon to fill. We predict that the selection of our Board of Trustees will prove to be a wise and judicious one in every particular. We have the utmost confidence in our new Executive and believe that his term of office will be a great factor in ultimately living down the hostility to state education, and in placing the University on a higher and more exalted plane of usefulness than she has ever occupied before.

THE COMMONS is improving daily. A skilled baker now furnishes the best of bread and other improvements are contemplated. Systematic contributions are now being made to adorn the Hall with paintings and busts, all of which evidences progress. The TAR HEEL is glad to know that this is true. Our standard for everything connected with the University is somewhat exalted, we admit, but lower that standard we can not and we will not. Every interest must measure up to this standard, and those which do not are unworthy of praise or encouragement. That Commons is rapidly assuming University form will be a source of more pleasure to no one than to the TAR HEEL.

The work of the critic is frequently misunderstood and rarely appreciated. He is usually a man who has ideas of his own and endeavors to introduce them, although he must depend, as a rule, upon those who come after to commend his efforts. Martin Luther was a critic; but he was persecuted during his natural life time. Rousseau was a critic; but his ideas bore no fruit until the French Revolution. We are so conservative, so averse to all change, that we are apt to condemn the man, who cries out against existing conditions in the hope of changing them in some fundamental way, as a socialist and an enemy of law and order.

But this is certainly an erroneous view to take of this matter. The critic, if he is a good one, does not content himself with furnishing objections only, for that is within the province of every mind; but he must go deeper than this and show that the fundamental principles, upon which the object or institution criticised, is based, are faulty and therefore the superstructure reared upon them must of necessity be dangerous and undesirable. Criticism of this nature is the need of our people today, and will omit the individual differences which characterize all things human and will seize upon and direct those basal

ideas about which thinking men agree. Viewed in this light, therefore, the critic is of the greatest service to his fellow men, for with clear and penetrating insight, he lays bare the fallacies and dangers, and makes it possible for true progress to supplant stagnating conservatism.

All men and all movements must be criticised and thus rightly directed in order to prevent those elements which are untrue from flourishing beside those which are true and desirable. Napoleon, who expected to have the world for his empire, after he had been robbed of his power and was no longer the idol of the French people, attributed his downfall to the fact that no one dared to criticise him while he was Europe's ruler.

Had some clear intellect pointed out the errors and weaknesses of this great man, the whole course of European History might have been changed.

Then we must agree that the critic is laboring for the advancement of his time and people; but like every reformer and advocate of new ideas, he must be prepared to receive the abuse and opprobrium of the very men he strives most earnestly and diligently to serve.

**School Superintendents.**

*Annual Meeting Held Monday and Tuesday of this Week.*

The annual meeting of the North Carolina Superintendent's Association was held at Chapel Hill Monday and Tuesday of this week. The first meeting was held Monday night at 7:30 o'clock.

Some of the papers that were read are:

"Civilization's Demands upon Teachers, or New Demands upon Teachers to Educate Harmoniously," by Superintendent C. W. Toms, of Durham.

"A Working Hypothesis of Education," by Superintendent E. S. Shippe, Reidsville.

"What and How in English Grammar," by Superintendent Alex Graham, Charlotte.

"Relation of the Schools to the Material and Commercial Interests of the Country," Superintendent John J. Blair, Winston.

"Arithmetic in the Wilmington Public Schools," by Superintendent M. C. S. Noble, Wilmington.

"A Course in Reading and Literature," Superintendent D. Matt. Thompson, Statesville.

Tuesday night was devoted to the general school interests of North Carolina. At 7:30, Superintendent L. D. Howell, of the Raleigh schools, read a paper on "Illiteracy in North Carolina, Its Cause and its Cure." The discussion of this paper was led by Superintendent Noble.

Prof. P. P. Claxton, of the Normal School, read a paper, "Our Teachers and Their Preparation." Superintendent Graham led the discussion of this subject.

The Tuesday night session was open to the public and the Hall was comfortably filled with students and townspeople. Prof. Howells' paper on "Illiteracy in North Carolina" was an eye-opener to many of us and furnished painful comparisons for our consideration. Local taxation was the remedy he advanced.

Prof. Claxton spoke at length and with enthusiasm on "Our Teachers and Their Preparation." The speaker said he had travelled from one end of the State to the other and knew that the public school teachers were far below what should be required of them. He plead for special training and grew eloquent as he talked about the little children, "the center of interest of every Christian state." At the Wednesday morning session the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:—

The N. C. City Superintendent's Association, at its final meeting, wishes to express publicly its gratification at the election of Dr. Edwin A. Alderman as President of the University. His connection with the Association as one of the organizers of it, an ex-President, and at all times an influential and stimulating member, makes this most recent recognition of his merit a matter of personal pleasure to us all.

But the Superintendent's Association is interested in the event for more weighty and public reasons. It is a recognition of the teacher's profession. Dr. Alderman has been engaged in public School work for 14 years, and has never had any other business. He has served the public schools in more capacities than any other citizen. His name is sononymous in North Carolina with popular education. The election of such a man to the presidency of the University, the State's highest public School, is the most encouraging thing in the history of our state.

We pledge him and the University our hearty support, and we believe we represent in this the sentiment of the public school teachers of North Carolina, and all sincere friends of popular education.

The Association further resolves to offer, with the approval of the President of the University, a prize each year to that student in the department of Pedagogics who shall write the best essay on an educational subject. The prize shall consist in the publication of the essay in pamphlet form at the expense of the Association, to be distributed among the leading educators of North Carolina and America. The Association reserves the right to decide the winner of the prize or to name the judges.

**President's Reception.**

On Tuesday evening preceding the Inauguration on Wednesday, Dr. Alderman tendered a delightful reception to the distinguished visitors, faculty, and members of the Senior Class. Governor and Mrs. Russell were present, and together with Dr. Alderman and Mrs. Graves constituted the receiving party. Every one had the pleasure of shaking the portly Governor's hand, and of being presented to his charming wife.

Among those present from a distance we noticed the Governor and party, Col. J. S. Carr, the members of the City Superintendents Association, Miss McCaull, Mrs. Martin, Geo. Stephens, H. E. C. Bryant and others. Refreshments were served and the evening was spent very pleasantly. Prof. Toy and Dr. Chas. Baskerville had charge of the arrangements, and it goes without saying that every detail was looked after with the greatest care and every effort made to make the evening enjoyable. May the President's receptions return and multiply.

**Pres. Alderman Inaugurated**

[Concluded from first page.]

**Prof. Noble Introduced.**

Just at this point in the proceedings Prof. M. C. S. Noble, of the Wilmington City Schools, was introduced and presented the resolutions which will be found in another column. Prof. Noble spoke feelingly of the University and its President, and assured Dr. Alderman that the city superintendents of North Carolina could be relied upon as his staunchest friends.

**The Musical Clubs.**

During the ceremonies the Glee and Mandolin Clubs rendered choice selections which served to vary the exercises in a very interesting way. One selection in particular was interesting to this writer, and incidentally, to the visitors also. We have forgotten the words if indeed we ever knew them (they were written in Latin); but the sentiment expressed was beautiful and inspiring. It was with difficulty that we prevented the briny tears from coursing down our cheeks as the song progressed.

**A Humorous Misfortune.**

The Irrepressibles in the rear of the gallery met with a rather ludicrous misfortune before the ceremonies closed. The leader arose and said, "Are you ready for the Yackity, Yack?" Nobody objected and the leader counted "one, two," "one, two," and began "Yackity, Yack," but he got no further. His associates refused to "Yack" and the leader sat down in some confusion.

**The Inauguration Over.**

After the announcements were made by Col. Kenan, the Rev. Mr. Turnbull, of Durham, was introduced, who pronounced the benediction, and the great inaugural occasion was a thing of history.

**Dr. Battle's Lecture.**

The first of the series of lectures to be given by members of the faculty this term was delivered in Gerrard Hall Thursday evening by Dr. Battle. Though it was intended especially for the Law Class, a large number of the faculty and academic students were present. His subject was "The Federal Constitution," treated in a way which no one without the Doctor's intimate knowledge of American history could equal.

He showed how natural was the reluctance with which the people accepted the startling innovations of the Constitution, and how jealously they regarded any encroachments on their rights. He then presented some of the objections raised by the opposers of the Constitution and showed how some of their prophecies had been fulfilled, especially those of Patrick Henry, during the last hundred years, and how some of them had been averted. He speculated on the result if Lincoln had been a man like Napoleon, and after the war had apportioned the lands of the South, which he might have confiscated, to his soldiers, and by their influence set himself up as President for life.

The lecture fully sustained the Doctor's reputation as an authority in political history, and those who were absent missed an instructive discourse on an important part of our history.

**Marshal Election.**

At a recent meeting of the Junior Class the election of Commencement Marshalls was held with the following result:

- E. J. Wood, Chief.
- J. G. McCormick,
- P. D. Gold,
- E. E. Sams,
- I. E. D. Andrews,
- P. C. Whitlock,
- Oscar Carver.

Subs. to the scalars, ot-ba ch.