

F. Venable

THE TAR HEEL.

Vol. 11,

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA, CHAPEL HILL, N. C., SATURDAY, JUNE 13, 1903.

No. 30.

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION BUILDING EDITION.

Y. M. C. A. BUILDING. ASSOCIATION WORK.

The University Association to Have Quarters of Its Own.

Strong, Earnest Effort Will be Made During the Summer to Secure the Much-Needed Building for the Y. M. C. A. at the University.

There are two great things that determine character—heredity and environment. A young fellow comes to college with his character already partly formed—what is born in him cannot be rooted out of him. Then the other part of his character will be molded by his environment during his stay here in college. The Young Men's Christian Association aims to supply this environment. It tries to surround the boy with the best influences. It gives him clean, pleasant, wholesome companions; it tries to get him in the best neighborhood where he will be subjected to the fewest temptations; it induces him to come out to religious meetings where the talking, singing and praying are done by young fellows of his own age.

But there is one great hindrance to this work, and the Association has been laboring under this handicap for many years. It has no building of its own. It has no place where the new man can come and find help in getting settled; it has no place where it can take the homesick Freshman and introduce him to pleasant, congenial companions who will join with him in pleasant games and cause him to forget his loneliness; it has no place where it can hold its devotional meetings, its Bible study and mission classes, its officers' conferences, etc., in peace and quiet. For many years the Association has had to meet where it could, in the Chapel, in lecture rooms, wherever there was no other meeting in progress.

But now the time has come when the Association feels that this state of affairs can go on no longer. *We must have a building.*

For several years the Association has been trying to raise funds. Letters have been sent out time and time again, circulars have been mailed, plans drawn up over and over. The result has been an accumulation of \$1700 which is out drawing 4 per cent. interest, so it has not been lost.

However, we have at last come to see that the requisite sum, \$10,000, cannot be raised by mere letters and appeals through the mail. The conviction has grown upon us that this money can be raised only by a personal canvass. And so the Association has selected three men to tour the State during the summer and collect the necessary funds. They are Messrs. R. M. Harper, president of the Association, Z. V. Judd, retiring vice-present, and C. P. Russell, corresponding secretary. These three with President Venable, Prof. Gore and Prof. Alexander constitute the building committee. All funds will be immediately deposited with Mr. W. T. Patterson, bursar of the University. The building will be started on the 12th of October, 1903.

The amount the Association asks for is \$10,000. The University with the largest Association in the State and as the head of the State's educational system should properly have the largest and most complete college Y. M. C. A. building in the State, and we call upon all loyal alumni of the University, all interested in the welfare of young men, and all friends of Christianity wherever they may be, to support and assist us in this great work.

I most heartily commend the effort to complete the fund for the Y. M. C. A. building. For more than ten years the project has languished with about one-third of the necessary amount collected and subscribed. Meanwhile the Association has suffered in efficiency. It is altogether unworthy of the University that this strong and most useful band of Christian workers should have no recognized building of their own, with assembly hall, class rooms and library. The University has been able to allow them one headquarters room only, as it was impossible to spare other rooms. *I regard the activity of this Association as one of the most helpful influences in the University.* They must have fitting quarters for their work, and I concur in their appeal to all friends of young men, lovers of Christianity, and loyal sons of the University.

F. P. VENABLE,
President of the University.

The aims and efficiency of the Young Men's Christian Association are heartily endorsed by President, Faculty and Alumni. The religious life of the University is largely dependent upon and radiates from our Association. The active membership has shown the spirit of self-sacrifice and devotion to the noble work of the organization. They have won our admiration and the cause they are engaged in deserves the coöperation and help of all who value educated Christian Manhood.

The pressing need of the Association is a building, a home for the organization, a focus for the religious activities of the University, which will greatly enhance the labors of this body of young men, who are giving freely of themselves for others.

J. W. GORE,
Prof. of Physics.

The Work of the Young Men's Christian Association for the Year 1902-'03.

Religious Meetings, Systematic Bible Study, New Life for Sunday Schools, Mission Study Class Organized. Gifts to Missions.

The work of the Young Men's Christian Association of the University during the past year may be summed up in what is suggested in the term *practical every day religion*. Many things, it is true, which should have been done, has been left undone, and of course when the Association is viewed from the standpoint of opportunity, the work may not seem to be so great. It must be remembered, however, that the college association differs much from other organized Christian work in that it changes leaders each year, and in the case of the Y. M. C. A. at the University, each new set of leaders has to begin work anew, and not where their predecessors left off, mainly because there is no permanent home for the Association.

RELIGIOUS MEETINGS.

Two religious meetings are held each week, one in the Chapel on Tuesday night, which is a half hour long, the other, a prayer meeting ten minutes long, is held in the Y. M. C. A. room each Thursday night. Business meetings of the cabinet and chairman of the committees were held each week during the past year. Several of the faculty, among whom were Professor H. H. Williams, Dr. C. Alphonso Smith and Dr. Thos. Hume, have made strong addresses at the regular Tuesday night meeting. Among some of the students who have made talks are Chas. Ross, G. P. Stevens, H. R. McFadyen, E. McDonald, C. C. Barnhardt, W. J. Gordon, B. F. Huske, E. S. W. Dameron, C. P. Russell, and Z. V. Judd.

BIBLE STUDY.

Bible study is the pivotal point of the Young Men's Christian Association. During the past year eighty men were enrolled in the seven Bible Study classes, in daily systematic study of the Bible. These classes meet once a week for class work under guidance of the following student-leaders: Z. V. Judd, H. R. McFadyen, G. P. Stevens, R. M. Harper, W. J. Gordon, J. B. Robertson, C. C. Barnhardt, and Chas. Ross. Eighty students were enrolled in these courses and the attendance on the whole was good. One great obstacle in keeping up class attendance to a higher per cent is that the Association has no rooms that can be used for Bible study only. The University very kindly lends the recitation rooms in the Alumni building to the Association each Sunday but they are not suited to the needs of the work, and classes cannot thrive as much as they would with regular rooms of their own.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

Four Sunday Schools near Chapel Hill and at the chapel near Lloyd's Mill are helped, and in a majority of cases taught and managed by members of the Young Men's Christian Association. Some of these schools have had different forms of entertainment provided, and only two weeks ago the Sunday School near Clark's Spring had a picnic at which Mr. Chas. Ross, the retiring secretary of the Association and a former member of the General Assembly, spoke to the people on "Education." The address was plain and practical and greatly appreciated. Members of the Association arranged for music and refreshments, the people in the country made swings, cleaned off the ground and brought one of Orange county's best dinners. As a result the picnic was a happy combination of events, and in the words of one member of the Sunday School, who had never been to a picnic before in his life, "the picnic showed me and my wife and my son John and his four can get more out of life by mixing up with other people." One not acquainted with the condition of the people around Chapel Hill can hardly imagine what these little entertainments mean in their monotonous lives and what a new outlook on life it gives them. Mr. E. S. W. Dameron with the assistance of F. S. Hudson, who recently died, had charge of the Sunday School work, and during the last fall kept the schools in touch with each other by visiting one each Sunday.

MISSIONS.

The mission department of the Association has been under the direction of Mr. J. K. Ross, chairman of the Mission Committee, and also a student volunteer. Mr. Ross taught a class studying missionary heroes in the fall, and in the spring an introduction to foreign missions. About seventy-five dollars has been subscribed by the students and faculty for the Brockman Fund for missions, and most of this amount has been collected. This money was given mostly in small sums, ten, fifteen and twenty-five cents a month and in some cases fifty cents and one dollar a month.