

THE TAR HEEL

Official Organ of the Athletic Association of the University of North Carolina.

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Contrary to the time honored custom of new editors we shall not devote our first editorial to a dissertation upon the feeling of responsibility with which we are oppressd as we assume the duties of our office. We shall not even promise to perform its duties to the best of our abilities. But we shall get down to brass tacks at once.

Now that the tragic inevitable has happened there is no need for sermons and editorials. The University and the state at large deeply mourn and regret the death of young Rand. Yet what in our smaller game seemed the irony of fate—that a man who was not "fresh," should be hazed by masked men, on the Athletic field, and should there by accident meet his death upon a stray piece of broken crockery, at the opening of the college year which has proven to be most nearly free from hazing of any year in the history of that practice—was deemed necessary to the fulfillment of His purposes by Him who is behind the big game.

LET'S START SOMETHING

There have been turned loose upon and among us some two hundred and fifty or three hundred new men who know little or nothing about the traditions of this place. The nearest contact that many of them have had with it has been the none too careful perusal of the catalogue. Consequently they know nothing at all of the place. They do not know what to take hold of or where to take hold of it. They do not know what things rank high in the estimation of the faculty and the students. They do not know what are the things worth while in college life and what are the things that they should fight shy of here. They do not know whether they are fitted to become writers, debaters, or what-nots. In other words they are absolutely raw recruits. They are citizens in the embryo. They must be developed.

What kind of citizens they will become depends largely upon the start they get here. If they go in for the things worth while they will be citizens of whom we, their Alma Mater, and the state may well be proud. If the man with undeveloped athletic ability is started along the right lines and is encouraged even though he does not show himself to be a

star during his first year, then three years from now we shall be at the top again in athletics. If the man who can write is encouraged to try soon our publications will be ranking with the best. If the man with histrionic ability is encouraged, we shall have no more headlines of the kind "She Stooped But Did Not Conquer".

While if the undeveloped debator or fresh from his prep school is encouraged our present high rank in the field of debate will never be less high.

But whether or not these men will get started in the right direction depends largely upon the old men. If the old men care enough for the future rank of their Fair Mother to forego a little rude fun at the expense of the freshman, and at the inevitable future expense of the University, and if they care enough for the success of that University three years hence, then all will be well.

From the old men the new need true advice and information where they have been receiving false advice and misinformation. Many a good man has had all the spirit knocked out of him by getting in bad on the start here. Many a freshman who would have made good in the community has had his ambition squelched by following the advice of some upper-classman who claimed to be his friend, but who all the while was stringing him to make him the laughing stock of the college, kill his spirit, and turn him out an enemy rather than a friend of the institution, and when by a little true information about things here and a little true advice there would have been made a student who while here would have been an asset and who, when left, would have become an ardent supporter of the University.

It is up to the old men to get the new ones into shape. Now this getting them into shape will not be the most pleasant work that ever fell to the lot of man; for after the present sad gloom, the natural result of a horrible thoughtlessness, shall have worn off, after the college shall have settled to its normal routine life, and after the members of the freshmen class shall have become generally known to the college some members of that class will make the job a hard one; as there are always a few among them who have the idea that they are still seniors in a prep school instead of very small potatoes in a large university. But even among the Nazarenes there is some good, which may be extracted if the proper course is pursued. And that course is not summed up by the playing of backwoods jokes upon the offending objects. It were far better to "freeze" them.

The majority of new men, however, will act in no way offensively towards the old ones. They will be gentlemanly in their bearing and will need no freezing. But even if they should conduct themselves in such a way as to give offense, it must be remembered that they are the future leaders of the college and as such must be patiently wrought with that when their time comes for leadership they will be able to carry forward with credit the student activities that shall be intrusted to them.

And always when you older men have an opportunity to impart useful information to the freshmen — impart it to them and to keep your imagination from running away with the facts just remember that in all

meetings where there are votes taken about important matters and officers, the freshmen hold the balance of power. And often in the past we have had reason to regret that they were none too reliably informed about some matters.

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