

THE TAR HEEL

Official Organ of the Athletic Association of the University of North Carolina
Published Weekly

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To be entered as second-class matter at the postoffice at Chapel Hill, N. C.

Printed by THE SEAMAN PRINTERY, Inc., Durham, N. C.

Subscription Price, \$2.00 Per Year, Payable in Advance or During the First Term
Single Copies, 5 Cents

PARAGRAPHS

No man is too much of a bore to dodge a greater one.

It is the unexpected that always happens, in spite of the I-told-you-so man.

Strangely enough the man who makes headway is the one who gets there with both feet.

You can never tell. The men who are most accomplished don't always accomplish the most.

Some people impress us as being all out of focus. The closer we get to them the smaller they are.

No insult offered to a man can ever degrade him; the only real degradation is when he degrades himself.

He that voluntarily continues in ignorance is guilty of all the crimes that ignorance produces.—Dr. Johnson.

He who does not think well of the work he is doing, is made impotent by that very fact.—The Snow Man.

Things without all remedy, should be without regard; What's done is done.—Shakespeare.

Our grand business undoubtedly is, not to see what lies dimly at a distance, but to do what lies clearly at hand.—Carlyle.

No man can tell what the future may bring forth and small opportunities are often the beginning of great enterprises.—Demosthenes.

The student who takes long steps to save his shoes is about as economical as the professor who looks over his glasses to save the glass.

Sunshine has accomplished more for the world than anything else. Keep the spirits up and remember no task is hard if undertaken cheerfully.

The wisest and best of men,—nay the wisest and best of their actions, may be rendered ridiculous by a person whose first object in life is a joke.—Pride and Prejudice.

In the spring a young man's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of "things with large eyes and small hands," according to the modern youngster's adaptation of Tennyson's young line.

About October 1 in the basement of the gymnasium a student, who was going through the physical examination for the S. A. T. C., left a sum of money with Professor Herrer. He may have it by proving ownership.

There is a lesson for the University Press Representative in the basketball game of the 15th. It is never wise to claim a championship until one is sure that the title is incontestable. The best plan is to play ball and let the championship take care of itself.

When a man has sufficient strength of mind to rely upon himself and sufficient energy to exert his abilities, he becomes independent of common report and vulgar opinion. He secures the suffrage of the best judges and they, in time, lead all the rest of the world.—Ennui.

1. As the season approaches, we are grabbed amidships by a compelling sense of languor.

2. Work takes on a forbidding aspect; responsibility grows irksome.

3. We turn over three times in the morning and yawn, and curse the man who invented the Big Ben.

4. We have seen the robins on the lawn. The ground hog is a liar and goose bones are futile.

5. From a friend we receive a note telling of pike and big perch and unlawful gill netting, and felonious freedom in the joy of outdoors.

6. And by these signs, and by the women shopping, and by the boys with hats and tops, and the reckless clean-

ing of houses, we know that spring is immediately adjacent.

Wherefore, we yawn again, and reaching for our hat and ooze into the street, catch a jitney, beat it to Durham, and wrap our weary souls in the circumbient atmosphere.

The crack of wood meeting leather, the rap-rap of flying feet on the cinder track, the whish of the leather sphere, the thud of a falling pole-vaulter and the whistling of the wind as the jumper goes through the air are sounds to which every loyal Carolina man's heart should be beating a lively tune. Are you helping? If Emerson Field and the tennis court offer no attraction for you, then are you out for the forensic battles that are to be staged in the near future?—the debates, inter-society and inter-collegiate, the junior oratorical contest, which is the leading event of the Junior week.

The college educated man of today is under an obligation to the world. The world is in an unprecedented condition of disorganization, unrepair, and desolation, and it devolves on men in general and college men in particular to bring it back to its normal status and again start it on the road leading to a higher and better civilization. And it is particularly our task because our advantages in education fit us to realize the work in the hope of unborn billions for several generations to come. Posterity will call us to strict account. If we enjoy the opportunities and advantages of a college training then let us be sure that our conscience can never call us "slacker."

There is a large majority of people in this world who base their judgments of other men by the way they conduct themselves before others. This judgment is of course some time at variance with the true state of affairs, for the man in public action is often a different person from the same man in his private thinking. Since mere mortals cannot lift the cover on a man's thoughts at will we cannot blame them for turning to a more objective field of information. Granting then that it is only fair that you should be appraised at the face value of your public actions, how far above or below par would they place you? That is the question each man might profitably consider.

ONLY A WEEK OR SO AGO

Questions to the right of me
Questions to the left of me
Questions in front of me
Written and thundered
Stormed at with "why" and "tell"
Badly I wrote—and well;
But into the jaws of death,
Into the mouth of—a cavern
Rode my One Hundred.

Only a week or so ago the strange spirit of a stranger and peculiar set of exams hovered like a black cloud, an evil foreboding, over the University. The freshman trembled and feared that he was to graduate from a brief three-months' course. The sophomore shuddered. The junior crumpled up his spring calendar and with a regretful air, consigned it to the waste basket. The senior cast his mental eye back over his former mid-year struggles, and wondered if this would be as bad. The one phrase that was spoken oftener than any other at this time, perhaps was, "If he gives me a four, I'll be satisfied," or "I'll thank him for a four and be glad to get it." And the student uttering these words, all the time hoped that he might do a bit better than merely "get by."

These exams struck some hard and allowed other classes to pass by without any casualties. During the exam period, everyone had contempt for the new system, studying for four and five examinations at the same time, all scheduled for the same day, was no easy task—and then, only an hour in which to answer six or eight questions with any number of sub-questions.

One economic professor, we understand was so enthused over the quarter system of exams, and such an ardent supporter of the system, that he actually graded on a quarter basis. And many a man, we understand, fell by one or three quarters of a point. That's "going some" on the part of the professor but "a failure to get there" on the part of the unfortunate student, and he might as well have missed his mark a mile. As a result of the professor's peculiar close grading some of the weary workers have gone down once, twice, three times. Others have scratched four marks on the sands of time, and a great many have stuck in the mud on the bottom.

THE PROPER IDEA

The old idea of education was to come to college and endeavor by all possible means to inhale knowledge from books. If at the end of a college course, a man knew how J. Caesar died, the color of Cleopatra's hair, knew that E. Pluribus Unum meant "In God we trust" and could speak familiarly of evolutionary sociology, he was the highest product of education.

This system produced a thing with a head full of facts, the spirit of a fish, and with a physique that couldn't stand a hard winter in the tropics. As a rule, it parted its hair in the middle, toted its handkerchief up its sleeve, preferred Eudymion to Dead-Eye Dick, spoke of football as a horrid, brutal game, and otherwise carried

all the ear marks of the personification of the sweet essence of knowledge. In the discussion of the spontaneous transmutations of radium or the price of herring in Africa, he could hold his own, but in anything rougher than a checker match, he was a lost dog.

Here at Carolina, we propose to raise a different product. We realize that it is well for a man to know all that he can, but we also realize that book-learning alone does not make the ideal man.

There are four sides to every man's life, the mental, physical, moral and social. Any man who has developed along one of these lines at the expense of the others, has failed to make of himself a well-rounded man.

GRIT AND ACCURACY

Students, as a rule, are apt to improperly emphasize the importance of the routine class work in its bearing on their future success. By this statement it is not meant that we should not apply ourselves diligently to the details of class work, but rather to call attention to the valuable opportunities in the experiences of college life for the acquisition of an erect and manly expression, and last but by no means least, that grit which enables one to play a seemingly losing game and smile.

Every student owes it to himself to avoid that handicap of mental and physical indifference which is known as "slouchiness" and to cultivate accuracy of thinking and acting. Alertness leads to an access of ease and bearing that distinguishes the natural leader from those who make it a habit to follow.

Accuracy in thinking is likewise a necessary asset to a successful career. Far too many students are satisfied with approximate answers. Practice in co-ordinating ideas and expressing them tersely and clearly will be rapidly reflected in the ease with which others grasp the matter which is intended to be conveyed.

Grit is perhaps the greatest asset of all. The ordinary student is not prepared for the rough edge of life. His feelings are too easily hurt and he is ready to give up the sponge at the first jolt. The idea of grit belongs in the class-room as well as on the campus and every student should endeavor to acquire that which makes for real accomplishments in every walk of life. In short one should keep the goal in mind and not remark the roughness of the road.

IGNORANCE AND THE PEACE PLANS

Notwithstanding the utmost importance of intelligently deciding the advisability of the League of Nations, the crass ignorance of the people as a whole regarding this question is very apparent at the present time.

If the proposition of adopting the proposed league were to be submitted to the people at once, the decision would be no more intelligent than the flip of the coin.

For one reason or another the people are in a most pitiable state of ignorance or bewilderment about the peace settlement. There are six million voters in the United States and probably not more than a fourth of them could intelligently discuss the situation. Probably for political reasons few newspapers of the country have printed both sides of the question. Wide reading is the only method of becoming well informed.

Ignorance is the most expensive thing in the world and if we are to meet the serious problems which are continually to confront us it is our duty to be informed about them and not merely trust to miscellaneous political propaganda.

With the knowledge of having been the deciding factor in the gigantic struggle the United States should be able to handle the peace which was won at so great cost.

STICK

"We all admit that a postage stamp can be licked. Even at that, you have got to do the job behind its back. But a stamp never knows when it's licked. Placed on a piece of mail, its one object is to deliver the gods at a prescribed destination. And that is exactly what it does. Through storm and flood, wreck and disaster, it hangs on and never lets go. It sticks until it gets there."—Ex.

How many of us stick until we get there? Circumstances of far less importance than floods and disasters sweep us off of our feet. Why? Because we haven't the grit and backbone to stick. We throw up the sponge before the fight has begun. And say we can't before we have tried to see if we could.

The world is full of men and women of this stigma. But those whom we all admire and want to imitate are the ones who say to circumstance, "So you will break me, will you? We will see. I am going to see this thing through. I am going to get such strength from overcoming my difficulties that they will make me."

The fellow who never knows he is licked, whose one object is to deliver the goods, who hangs on through all difficulties is the fellow who has got old man S. O. L. backed up in the corner and the other green-eyed monsters begging for mercy.

NOTE TAKING

To the Editor of the Tar Heel: Experience has fully demonstrated that almost any good practice will

in the course of time be carried to the extreme by many, and have as its result the reverse of that for which it was originally intended. Innumerable instances of this acknowledged fact may be found with little difficulty. No man ever stated that sleeping is an undesirable practice, yet, he who sleeps too long finds upon reading the exam that certain developments have taken place in the course of which he was not aware. The practice of going out for athletics is an excellent one, and yet it is carried too far with the result that some of those who aspire to athletic fame and physical development find that in acquiring these two benefits, lose all the advantages to be gained from intellectual development as the result of study.

Again it is admitted that the practice of note-taking on lectures and recitations is desirable, and in some courses necessary. Notes have as their purpose to assist the mind in remembering facts, and, if properly used, serve their purpose excellently; but when too great an amount of confidence is placed in the notes, when note taking becomes a kind of reflex mechanical action by which every word reaching the ear, whether of importance or not, is set down, and when the writer himself later after class forgets what he has written, then is the time for excessive note taking to stop and for the dormant brain to begin work.

The true purpose of the human brain has not been accurately decided. Physiologists believe that all thought proceeds from the brain, which in most people is located in the upper part of the head. This belief has been questioned, because many people having a brain never known to have a single original thought. But for the time being, let us accept the fact that the seat of thought is in the brain. It follows that by thing one is enabled to think better. This is one of the reasons for our being in College. Yet many of us insist on engaging in a practice which is the very contradiction of all exercise of thought, that of excessive note taking. For instance, a certain student asks another if Prof. spoke of hardness as one of the properties of rocks. The student replies that he does not remember, but probably has it in his notes. The well-meaning student has written down many facts; some of importance, many of unimportance; and having written them does not know what they are about. Some would-be students automatically write the stale jokes of the professors down in their notebooks, and when the time for the quiz is at hand, memorize the jokes and think they are part of the course. Note taking in this manner does not leave the mind open for clear, original thought, but only clouds it by keeping it from working at all.

Note taking should be reduced to a science, the most important facts set down on paper, and minor facts carried in the head. The very writing of a fact serves to impress it on the mind; provided the mind is thinking at the time. Strive to make the notes be of assistance in developing memory and thought.

He that wisheth to rise with the sun should not stay up late with the daughter.—Exchange.

The more you think about men the less you think of them.

N. G. Gooding, recently discharged from the army, is on the "Hill."

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