

The Tar Heel

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Thursday, January 21, 1926

WHAT PRICE PROFANITY?

The Davidsonian, which comes to us weekly from North Carolina's stronghold of Calvinism, often contains whimsical bits of philosophy that afford pleasant reading and subject for thought. In a recent issue we find a treatment of profanity. The editor asks the question, "What Price Profanity?" and then answers it:

"The art of profanity is no new one by any means. Since the first guttural speech of the savage man roaming in his native forest, there has been a tendency to degrade language by using words and figures of speech that are irreverent, unnatural, and obscene. We of today know this scurrilous type of speech as profanity, swearing, or simply 'cussing'.

"If credence be given to varied statistics that decry the alarming condition among our current young people, it is time for alarm. Those who know say that profanity is gaining ground each year; that its recognition on the legitimate stage and in moving pictures has fostered its popularity. Its use among men is pretty well widespread and it is gaining ground among the women. One may hear a flapper of the present day toss off a neat phrase that would have made her mid-Victorian grandmother swoon and those around her reach for the smelling salts.

"Among every stratum of life you hear profane phrases. It is not fixed among the dives and in the underworld. Although it has not lost the common touch it still walks with kings and the mighty. Few seem to be immune to it. Many children first hear profanity issuing from the lips of their parents. Their childish minds refuse to believe that anything their parents do is harmful to themselves. And through life the habit continues.

"To come down to the point of the matter we believe that profanity is not so much a sin as it is an offense against good manners and good breeding. Most men curse and swear because they hear others do so and it seems to them a natural vent for the expression of their exuberant

feeling. They fail to realize that the Bible holds it a cardinal sin to take in vain the name of God. It is as natural to some as breathing.

"Can we rightly blame the waif, who, brought up in the slums, punctuates every phrase with choice morsels of obscenity and profanity, utterly unconscious of his act? Who is to blame when a child grows up to manhood or womanhood with a curse or evil remark on every breath?

"College students uphold the traditions of their elders in this matter. Perhaps they think that it is manly; perhaps they have acquired the habit unconsciously—at any rate there are few who do not use profanity in abundance every day. A few friends with whom we are thrown in close contact use such language for the expression of their most elevated and sublime thoughts and ideas. Surely such a condition is deplorable. Perhaps a few 'dams' and varied mentions of the infernal regions are inoffensive to many, but to us, they are grating, even when there is the utmost provocation.

"Cursing and swearing accomplish little if anything. Worse than slang, such language gathers the scums of the gutters and filth of the streets, and blends it with mention of the most holy and sacred things of which we know. From a purely critical standpoint, it debases our language, robbing it of the virile strength and calm beauty. It is offensive and sickening. It shows a weakened mind, because the user resorts to nasty phrases instead of availing himself of the beauties of the English language.

"We, as future leaders, workers, and ministers of the world can do much to stamp down an evil that joins hand in hand with lawlessness and crime. It is a sin and an offense against good morals. Let us do our bit to discourage its use."

AL SMITH WRITES DEAN PATTERSON

Says He Appreciates Interest Being Shown Here in His Possible Candidacy for Presidency in 1928.

Dean Patterson recently received from Governor Al Smith, of New York, a letter expressing appreciation of the fact that interest was being shown on the University campus in the possibility of his running for President on the Democratic ticket in 1928.

Dean Patterson sent a clipping from the Open Forum column of the Tar Heel which called for a Democratic ticket in 1928 composed of Governor Smith for president and Ex-Governor Cameron Morrison for vice-president, to his brother on the Baltimore Sun. The letter was reprinted and was sent to the New York Governor by Dean Patterson. There promptly came from the executive mansion an acknowledgment and thanks.

Sigma Delta announces the initiation of John Olive, of Fayetteville, N. C., W. W. Anderson, of Greenwood, S. C., and Ward Dix Kerlin, of Camden, N. J.

Calendar

- Thursday, January 21
10:30 A. M.—Student section, American Society Civil Engineers, room 319 Phillips Hall.
4:30 P. M.—Playmaker Try-outs, Theatre building.
6:45 P. M.—Glee Club Practice, New West Building.
Friday, January 22
8:30 P. M.—Wrestling, U. N. C. vs. N. C. State, Tin Can.
Saturday, January 23
7:00 P. M.—Phi and Di Societies Phi and Di Halls.
8:30 P. M.—Basketball game, Carolina vs. Duke, Tin Can.
9:30 P. M.—Faculty Play, Playmaker Theatre.
Sunday, January 24
8:30 P. M.—Playmaker reading by Anne Majette Grant, Playmaker Theatre.
9:00 P. M.—Sigma Upsilon meeting.
Monday, January 25
6:45 P. M.—Glee Club Practice, New West Building.
7:30 P. M.—North Carolina Club meeting, 112 Saunders.
8:30 P. M.—"Y" Cabinet meeting, Y. M. C. A.
8:30 P. M.—Francis MacMillan, violinist, Memorial Hall.
Tuesday, January 26
6:45 P. M.—Glee Club Practice, New West.
8:30 P. M.—Freshman Friendship Council, Y. M. C. A.



The Melting Pot

By C. W. B.

I wish I could write—beautiful, blase things, words sentences, paragraphs and such like. If one could only write, one might find romance in catching classes, joy in writing themes, and quicken to the cosmic urge. But—

I have set too high an aim
And fallen far;
But my soul is like a flame
That loves a star.

I would hang a poet's shingle out
In Beauty's sky;
But embers close me roundabout
And they will surely snuff me out
Here in the grate
Where all my fate
Early and late
Must lie.

Already they come—those advertisements which cast a romantic glamor around foreign travel, and offer attractive rates to college students who will consent to go abroad in summer vacations. They used to go to New York and come back labeled as cosmopolites; now one must go to Europe; or one has missed some of the Essentials of College Life. And in Europe, what does one find. Scenery almost as beautiful as that west of Asheville; run-down-at-the-heel majesty of places existing mainly in the history books. There are no skyscrapers in Europe, no subways in the Alpine villages, no racing cabs in the towns of Brittany, no cafeterias on the Rhine.

Scarcely a week ago the University band went over to Pittsboro and gave the natives an entertainment. In the last Tar Heel, some conscientious reporter wrote it up, and declared: "The concert at Pittsboro featured a saxophone quintet by Kenneth Scott, president of the band. . . ." That should have been worth going all the way to Pittsboro to hear. They ought to advertise their out-of-town engagements more widely.

A thing is usually prized in just the degree that is hard to get. "Grats" from certain professors who cut their classes every once in a while have little kick for the students concerned. But let some professor with a conscience and a record for always being there fail to show up. The thing becomes an event—the impossible has happened—there must be celebration. And there will be—as the class tumbles out of the room like caged animals just released. The Spaniard loves his holiday; the college student loves his "grat." Nature is still very kind to her children—she instills in them a love for freedom—and optional class attendance.

The commonwealth of Tennessee has resolved to guard its youth against campus contamination; and things happen once in a while showing that the good people are not asleep. A very few months ago, the Southern Junior College, at Ooltewah, Tenn., was purged of all carnal sin. Following a chapel exercise a search was made of all the boys and girls' dormitories, and all novels, pictures, story magazines, lipsticks and rouge, were cast into a roaring campus bonfire. Burning with religious fervor, kindled by two revivalists, a committee of students and faculty entered the college library for every book or pamphlet having reference to evolution. The students, led by the faculty, emerged bearing the idols aloft, carried them in triumph and cast them into the flames. We haven't heard from the place since.

College comic magazines are interesting things, and nice—sometimes—to have to send to students at the girls' colleges. But most of them skate on thin ice, which sometimes breaks through, and then the editors suffer an academic drowning. Just as the truth about the stork and about Santa Claus is kept from children, so undesirable truth and untruth need to be kept from the minds of adults as well as adolescents. Milton did not know what a subversive gospel he was preaching when he said: "Though all the winds of doctrine were let loose upon the earth, so Truth be in the field, we do ignorantly, by licensing and prohibiting, misdo her strength. Let her and falsehood grapple; who ever knew Truth put to worse in a free and open encounter?"

Mr. Milton probably had no dream of the American undergraduate's perverse and stupid inability to distinguish between Truth and falsehood, liberty and license, art and pornography.

A fraternity of men who are working their way through school has been organized at the University of Kansas. Phi Kappa Alpha has been chosen as its name. The main purpose of the organization is to give intelligent help in securing jobs for students, and at the same time help promote better understanding between the faculty and working students. We might suggest—but perhaps there will be one here some day, too.

It's nice to get up on cold a. m.'s and hear the English sparrows singing in the campus elms; and workmen whistling

NOBLE SUPPOSED IN RED FLANNELS

Archibald Henderson Supposed In Arboretum In Bath Robe.

WHAT WOULD CHASE DO

Dr. Chase Proposes a Keeper For Well-Known Newspaper Man.

Ben Dixon MacNeil, writing in his "Cellar and Garret" column in the News and Observer of yesterday, tells of having received a letter from Dr. Harry W. Chase in regard to the attire that the former wore when he attended the Governor's New Year reception.

MacNeil wants to know what is the cure for absent-mindedness. While local professors are not thought to be accustomed gambling across the campus to any great extent, especially with their pants rolled up half way up to their knees, nevertheless Mr. MacNeil evidently thinks such actions might be a serious problem here. He suggests that the two cures are used by the President, the first being a club in the hands of Charlie Woolen and the other a magical drug.

Mr. MacNeil's own version of the letter from Dr. Chase and his picture of the supposed lamentable state of affairs existing here on account of an abundance of absent-minded professors is given below.

"I have read with deep concern" writes President Chase of the University, "your account of the garb in which you went to the Governor's reception. You do not need a valet. What you need is a keeper. I have associated with college professors most of my life and I have never known any of them so absent-minded by half as you have shown yourself to be. I think that some of your friends ought to see to it that you take something for it before it gets the best of you."

Just what would Dr. Chase have me take? I wish that he had been more explicit, as no doubt he could be. What simple remedies does he have applied when he sees one of his professors gambling across the campus with his pants rolled up half way to his knees. Does he dispatch Charlie Woolen with a club to creep up behind them and clout them over the head? Or has he some magical drug, and does he slip up behind them and poke a hypodermic into their flanks?

Supposing that from the window of his office he should see Dr. Marcus Cicero S. Noble strolling under Davie poplar clothed only in his red flannel undermentables, his trusty purp wearing the Doctor's favorite frock coat? Just what would Dr. Chase do in such a crisis? Or if Dr. Archibald Henderson should be seen wandering in the Arboretum in his bath robe, of if Dr. Venable should be

But I can't catalogue all the aberrations of absent-mindedness.

What I want to know is how does Dr. Chase keep the evil in check in his institution. And being a college professor by training and experience, how does he keep his own pants rolled down when he goes to receptions—and if he doesn't in what fashion does he cope with the fatalities that ensue when respectable, middle-aged matrons begin to drop dead all around him. Perhaps the calves of the Chase legs are more symmetrical than those of this department and the public exposure of them is not attended with such lethal results.

DUPLIN COUNTY CLUB TO PUBLISH A SURVEY

Several important matters were discussed at the meeting of the Duplin county club, Monday night, at the "Y". A good crowd was present, and the meeting was pronounced a great success. The first thing brought up for consideration was the group picture for the Yackety Yack. After a short discussion it was agreed to have the picture appear in the alumni this year.

The proposition of editing a social and economic survey of Duplin county was discussed from all angles, and finally agreed to. Those who will be in charge of the work are: President Carroll, J. D. Moore, F. L. Russell and S. B. Hunter. These men will receive the 4 course credits offered by the department of economics.

The meeting was adjourned after a unanimous vote to accept the invitation of Miss Eliza Moore to a club social at her home, Jan. 28. Miss Moore was formerly of Duplin County and has become a member of the club this year.

The next meeting is scheduled for the second Monday night in February.

The Deutscher Verein will hold its regular meeting Thursday evening, January 21, 1926, at 7 o'clock. The meeting will be held at the Episcopal Parish house.

Dr. Wind, of the Philosophy department, will play some German popular songs for the Verein. All those interested in German are invited to come out

merrily at work on South Building; and see the janitors arrive for the day's work; and then catch a nice early breakfast—and that eight-thirty. But so much nicer to simply lie in bed. Man is ever prone. . . . But when one begins to moralize, it's time to go home.

OPEN FORUM

PLEA FOR MORE CHURCH-GOERS

Editor: Why does such a small per cent of the student body attend church? Why such a small congregation? This question could be asked in any church in North Carolina. Where are the folks on Sunday morning? Something is wrong. Someone is failing to do his duty to himself or to his fellow man.

Is it the minister or is it the congregation? Go down town on Sunday morning and you will see a big bunch hanging out on the corner, not only here but all over the state. You can't force one to go to church—that is not my point—but make the services so inspiring and interesting that one will come of their own accord. The trouble comes because this is not done. Is it because the ministers of today do not appeal to the thinking class of people? Is it because the sermons do not link up with every-day life? Is it because the Bible is preached and not the purpose? Is it because we get fed up on this science and religion controversy where we have the ministers blessing out the scientists because they do not see life from their point of view? Too much facts and figures are preached. There is nothing that tires a thinking person as facts and figures from the pulpit. Is it that the ministers here do not take enough interest in student activities and contests?

I do know one thing: A recent trip through the dormitories on Sunday morning has convinced me that not enough of us are going to church and that back in most of our homes the same thing holds true. Now it looks like to me that it is time for some one to wake up and get busy and do something.

R. H.

HIGHS CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES HERE IN SPRING

State Championships in Basketball, Baseball, Tennis and Track Conducted By Athletic Assn.

The Executive Committee of the State High School Athletic Association has worked out a program for the spring of 1926 which will include four elimination contests in as many different sports. The four contests will be in the fields of basketball, track, tennis, and baseball.

The first of the four events will be the basketball championship series which will follow the usual plan, for elimination series, the final game to be played at Chapel Hill and the date to be set by conferences of the faculty managers. Last year there were 104 entrants in the basketball series and the interest shown so far this year should be productive of an equal or greater number. All applications must be mailed to Secretary Rankin, of the Executive Committee, on or before February 6. This will be the twelfth annual basketball contest.

The second of the four sports will be the inter-high school track meet. The meet will include thirteen events as follows: 100-yard dash, 220-yard dash, 440-yard run, 880-yard run, mile run, 120-yard low hurdles, high jump, broad jump, pole vault, 12-pound shot put, discus throw, javelin throw, and the relay race. The date of the meet has been set for April 16. This will be the fourteenth annual inter-scholastic track meet for high schools held under the supervision of the State Association. It is interesting to note that in the thirteen preceding meets the spoils of victory have been divided between only four high schools: High Point, Friendship, Chapel Hill, and Charlotte. The last three contests have been won by the team from Charlotte High School.

The event will be the tennis tournament which is one of the features of the annual High School week at Chapel Hill. During this week, besides the track meet and the tennis tournament, the final debates are held to decide the winner of the Aycock Memorial Debating Cup. All applications for entrance in the tennis meet must be in the hands of Secretary Rankin on or before April 3rd and the meet itself will get under way on Wednesday, April 14. Both singles and doubles matches will be played. This will be the eleventh annual inter-scholastic tennis tournament for high schools. Last year the singles title was copied by Lexington High School while Greensboro was victor in the doubles.

The last of the events on the spring program will be the annual elimination baseball championship series. All entrants must place their applications in Mr. Rankin's possession on or before April 18. The date for the final game, which will be played on Emerson field, will be set by a conference of the faculty managers of the various high schools represented. This will be the thirteenth annual baseball contest. For the last two years Shelby High School has won the final game. The same eligibility rules apply to all of these events as were applicable to the football series held during the past fall.

A rule at the University of Oklahoma forbids women to have dates after 7 o'clock on week nights, and further provides that walking home with a man from the library may mean dismissal from school.

The Intra-Mural Contest Schedule

- Thursday, January 21st
3:30 P.M.
Zeta Psi vs. Kappa Psi, court No. 1; East vs. J., court No. 2; Steele vs. G., court No. 3; Carr vs. F., court No. 4.
4:30 P.M.
Sigma Nu vs. Delta Tau, court No. 1; Alpha Lambda Tau vs. Kappa Pi, court No. 2; New Dorms. vs. Smith, court No. 3; Kappa Sigma vs. Phi Delta Theta, court No. 4.
Friday, January 22
3:30 P.M.
Tau Epsilon Phi vs. Kappa Alpha, court No. 1; Smith vs. Carolina Smoke Shop, court No. 2; Manly vs. Ruffin, court No. 3; Sigma Chi vs. Kappa Sigma, court No. 4.
4:30 P.M.
Beta vs. Alpha Phi, court No. 1; Theta-Chi vs. Theta Rho, court No. 2; Theta Phi vs. Alpha Chi, court No. 3; New Dorm. vs. West, court No. 4.

Playmaker Reading In Theater Building Sunday

The monthly Playmaker reading for January will be given on next Sunday evening, January 24, at 8:30 o'clock in the Playmakers Theatre by Anne Majette Grant, who will be remembered for her delightful reading of two Harvard plays last season: *The Playroom* and *Torches*. Mrs. Grant has selected for this season a modern Spanish play, *The Fountain of Youth*, by Alvarez Quintero. The public is cordially invited.

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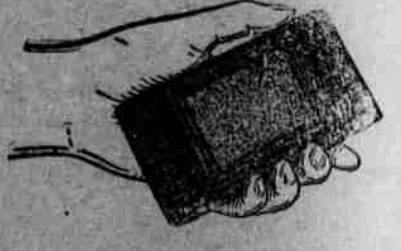
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