

The Daily Tar Heel



Published daily during the college year except Mondays and except Thanksgiving, Christmas and Spring Holidays.

The official newspaper of the Publications Union of the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, N. C. Subscription price, \$4.00 for the college year.

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Tuesday, November 4, 1930

Ferretting Out The Blame

The meager showers of criticism that commenced to fall upon the Carolina football team and Coach Collins immediately upon the loss of the Georgia game waxed mighty like the traditional downpour of pitchforks and devils' horns when the Tar Heels emerged from the fray with the mediocre Georgia Tech eleven with no better than a tie. Some radicals are on the verge of demanding a new coach; others think the team is "shot through" with dissensions and petty misunderstandings; still others excuse the whole matter by saying that football and other college games are a lot of bunk, that it doesn't matter a damn which team wins.

This associate editor is convinced that the sports writers of the state have done more to ruin the Carolina football team than any other agency. When Carolina does win a football game, some backfield man who happened to have the ball when the scores were made is said to have accounted for the victory. If you don't believe this, just glance at the sports page of any daily paper. Such headlines as "Blank beats Mazooka" are by no means unheard of. One can search even a half-page write-up and find never a word about the work of some guard, for example, whose playing was perhaps as much responsible for the victory as that of the ball-carrier. After all, it is the whole team that wins the game and not one man, or any number of men less than eleven. Such a headline as "Carolina beats

Mazooka" would be nearer the truth than "Blank beats Mazooka."

What is the effect of heaping upon one man the publicity due a whole team? The "big head" is certain to take form. A football player who sees his picture in the paper from time to time and sees his name in the headlines every week is apt to conclude that he must be good; in fact, very good. Rationalizing about the situation, he concludes that he'll be good enough for the big game even after smoking cigarettes, to say nothing of certain other unnamable practices. The next idea that enters the head of Mr. Blank is that he might just as well flunk a few courses, since the old school couldn't possibly get along without him.

As long as coaches are able to persuade professors to pass students who are not doing passable work, there will be plenty of headliner men on the flunked-out list. A rule that applies to the average student should apply equally to football players. Strange as it may seem, these and other contributory factors combine to make football players (the headliner men) feel that somehow football is what makes the world go round, after all. The emphasis placed upon football is, of course, too ridiculous to be tied down in a few words. The age of brawn worship is as certain to pass as was the old age of duels. Only time can accomplish it, however.

There is no real spirit in the Carolina football team. A player who will allow himself to receive two "X's" at mid-term hasn't even one earmark of the Old Carolina spirit that reigned on the campus before the days of commercialized football and publicity-soaked players.

A man who hasn't sense enough to know that tobacco, liquor, and loose women don't help him play football doesn't belong at college in any capacity. Likewise, a sports writer who hasn't enough sense to know that one man doesn't win a football game doesn't belong on the staff of a newspaper.

We concur with a fellow student who suggested the other day that Coach Collins kick the sots and cigarette-hounds off the team and begin with another strain of football material. The present stock seems to have "run out."—J. C. W.

Run Rabbits

The most maligned things in the world are, we feel sure, extra-curricular activities—football, track, periodicals, dramatics, debating, and all the rest. And most of the derogatory remarks are habit. The world, for some unknown reason, is subject to fixed ideas. And one of those tenets is that extra-curricular activities have ruined more potential Phi Beta Kappa students than anything you could have. Men on this campus are pointed out as horrible examples of the result of diverted energies.

And there are in this world students, thousands of them, who have sacrificed their A's to baseball and dramatics. But we are willing to bet more money than we have ever seen that those students leave college of infinitely more account than the students who would not be side-tracked. Don't be a good fox hound, unwilling to take your nose off the scent. Instead run your rabbits now and then, and then come back to your mathematical or Spanish fox. If you must, let your fox escape now and then. It won't hurt to make an F.

Of course the ideal situation would be to combine in one hound the faculty of following at the same time the two animals. Some students, remarkable dogs, possess that faculty.

But whether you have it or not, run your rabbits. But be the fox hound too, and now and then come back to the original scent.—V. A. D.

The Importance Of Today's Election

Today is election day. With it comes the obligation of all true Americans to seek to make the ballot execute their will. Some citizens, probably half of the qualified voters, who have lost faith in party pledges will remain at home, caring nothing of the outcome.

Regarded by many as being unimportant, the election today is of utmost importance. There are four chief significances which may be attached to the result. Today the voters of the nation will express their approval or condemnation of the policies of the present presidential administration. They will condemn or acquit President Hoover and the Republican party for the serious business depression, unemployment and agricultural prostration by their votes today.

A second significance is of historical importance. The extent of the result on the next presidential election is at stake. During the past fifty years, since 1880, every time the party out of power gained control of the House of Representatives in an off election, it has succeeded in electing its candidate for the presidency in the next presidential election. Will the Democrats secure control of the House today or will the Republicans retain their majority.

Another important factor is the relation of the outcome to the tariff. The voters will decide today whether the Republican party shall be retained in power so that the present high tariff can continue to exist or whether the Democrats will be given a majority in the House in order to begin on a revision downward.

Of great significance are the issues of today's election. In some states the prohibition issue is foremost; in others it is used as a camouflage for attacks by advocates of predatory interests on such staunch opponents of Privilege and Corruption as Senators Walsh and Norris.

The problem today is to get out the voters. Are you going to shirk your duty as a citizen, or are you going to use your instrument of sovereignty in government—the ballot box?—B. H. N.

Perpetuating Traditions

They have almost come to be periodic in their appearances: lamentations for the former glories and passing traditions of the University. "Old grads" and those idealists among the present college generations regularly bewail the fact that there are no more gentlemen on the campus, that the honor code is being grossly disregarded, that the old school spirit has ceased to exist, and so on into reams and reams of paper.

Many reasons for this state of affairs may be produced, but one of them is particularly apparent. That is, increasingly more students are coming to the University from homes that have never known the influence of the University, from families in which there are no University graduates. There are, also, a number of students here from other states. The members of neither of these two groups are intimately acquainted with the traditional background of the University; they have not been impressed, through pre-college contacts, by Carolina traditions.

In a large measure, the future of the University depends upon the loyalty of its alumni and this loyalty, in turn, depends upon the students here and now receiving and perpetuating to the generations follow them its spirit and ideals. The task of

acquainting the campus with the traditions of the University has been delegated to the Daily Tar Heel by J. Maryon Saunders, secretary of the Alumni Association, editor of the *Alumni Review* and before and since his graduation one of the most popular men on the campus. In a talk to the staff Sunday evening, Mr. Saunders designated the Tar Heel as the only "platform" through which the entire student body could be reached, saying that, as such it bears the responsibility of informing the campus of the ancient and time-honored ideals so much revered by Carolina gentlemen in the past, as well as telling of the present activities and organizational advantages of the University.—E. C. D., Jr.

NEIBUHR'S SERMON MARKS CLOSE OF EDUCATOR'S MEET

(Continued from first page)

dered two pleasing selections. Dr. Neibuhr chose as his topic "social intelligence and the spiritual dynamic" and based his text on Phillipian 1:9—"and this I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and all discernment."

The problem which we face in our modern life, the noted divine declared, is to maintain the energies which result in ethical conduct and at the same time to direct moral good will so that it will be effective in the complexities of our industrial civilization. Broadly speaking, it is the business of religion to create moral good will, the spirit of love; and it is the business of education of direct this moral energy.

"Perhaps the most perplexing problem which we face," Dr. Neibuhr said, "is that our social relationships are becoming more and more indirect. We are

bound together in our society by means of production and transportation. Human sympathy which flows easily at the touch of human hand ceases to flow when men are bound together only by steel. Multiple ownership destroys the sense of responsibility and the multiplication of workers obscures the individual in the crowd.

"If we cannot bring the anarchic forces at the heart of our industrial society under the control of human conscience and intelligence there is no hope for our generation."

Dr. Neibuhr Sunday afternoon led a forum discussion on modern political, religious, and social issues, the meeting being held in the Sunday school room of the Methodist church. He outlined conditions as he found them in Germany and Russia while touring these countries this past summer, and then threw the meeting open for general discussion.

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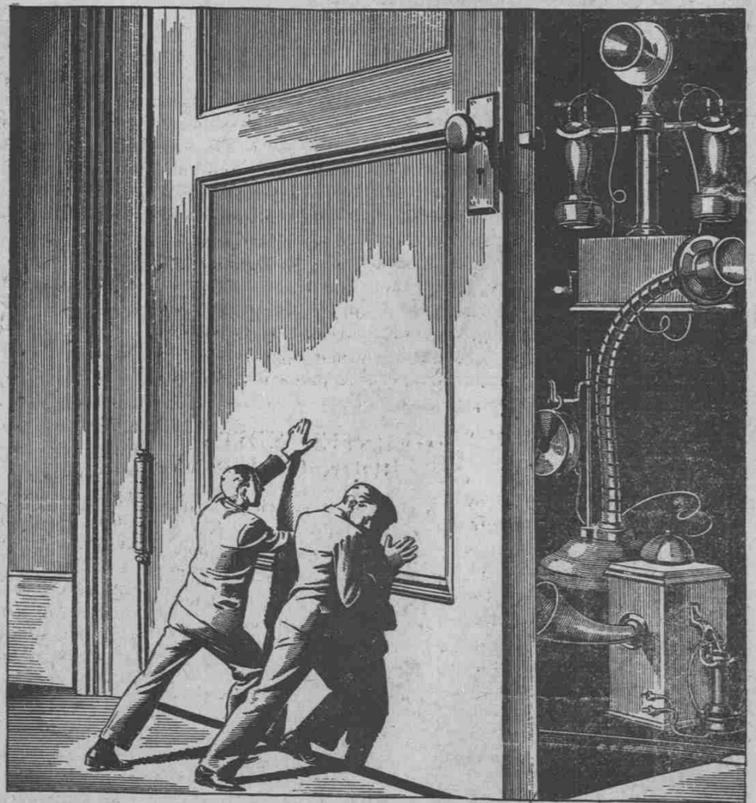


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