

The Daily Tar Heel

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Wednesday, January 4, 1933

When Education Begins

However temporary a student's determination may be for more concentrated work when he finds that he did not do as well as expected during his first term of the year, he has, nevertheless, taken an important step towards his education when he encounters a struggle in his academic pursuits and begins to apply himself to its overthrow. The student who merely drifts along in his courses, never thoroughly applying himself, is not securing an education. His being in college brings him nothing in return, and he might just as well be loafing around the hometown drug store.

It is oftentimes to the student's advantage to receive a lower mark on a course than he had expected. To the normal student, it not only makes him realize that he is not doing his best work, but it also gives him a taste of defeat, which if taken in the proper spirit should whet his desire for more mental exertion. And not until such an incentive for work comes into the student's being does he actually begin his education. So long as there is no striving from within, there is no education.

At this time of the year when, for the present, at least, each student has a good intention to work, if he will but fulfill this intent and consciously study, he will suddenly realize that for the first time he is honestly getting an education.

So many new ideas have come out of Nicholas Murray Butler's institution recently that some wag has suggested that it be called: "Columbia, the Germ of the Notion."

The Legislature is out to set another endurance record. Except this time it is trying to find what record of endurance the University can set with its budget being cut to the bone.

After All Hoover Is Still President

The business-like way in which Roosevelt has started work as President is, indeed, admirable. Yet his conferring with leaders of Congress at this early date would seem to lack something in the way of good taste. His action very likely is based on the best of motives. Still his term as President does not start for three months, and Mr. Hoover remains the chief executive.

The fact that Mr. Roosevelt's action cannot but embarrass Mr. Hoover shows the weakness in a system which inaugurates a man four months after his election. The "lame duck" session of Congress has long been the object of criticism, but the folly of the delay before inaugurating the President has not been given sufficient attention. It in no way complies with our demands for national dignity to have the retiring president half in and half out of the White House, while the incoming president monopolizes the spotlight. Yet few citizens are aware that Mr. Hoover has sent long messages to Congress on topics of national importance. He is obliged to resort to the veto as the only way in which he can make his presence felt at all.

It does not seem either necessary or proper to force a president to take four months to wind up his administration. Nor is it respectful almost totally to ignore a man who is occupying the position of highest political authority in the country. Mr. Hoover was not elected for a term of three years and eight months. His term is four years. —B.B.P.

With Contemporaries

Jerkwater Stuff

At our University, as we all know, collegiatism in dress and physical appearance is discouraged for the sake of the inherited atmosphere. First Year men have been told a thousand times that sweaters in place of coats are taboo here, and that they must wear hats. Public initiations into societies are slowly becoming subdued. Moreover, all of this apparent conservatism is greeted with popular approval. Every thinking student appreciates intensely the advantage of a dignified background.

Yet all is not uniformity. There is the alien element which threatens the ancient atmosphere and which arises from a class that does not deserve a cultural shelter because, while conforming to the traditions of appearance, it forgets the basic requirements of gentlemanly conduct. This "jerkwater" element constantly threatens the security of an atmosphere which it does not deserve. In spite of its superiority of appearance, the University may yet be lowered to the jerkwater level by the inferior conduct of the misplaced "jerkwaterians."

Bad conduct among university students is evidence by unsportsmanlike gestures on the athletic field, discourtesy in the lecture room, and by mass booing, hissing, and stamping in all public places. Persons, misnamed "Virginia gentlemen," jeer like Eastsiders at the mistakes or efforts of players and officials in athletic contests. At a recent First Year football game a Virginia jeering section yelled so at the coach of a visiting team that other students moved away from the vicinity of the group to avoid the disgraceful association.

Mass stamping in the lecture room is the method used—always with the worst results—to restrain overzealous students or

to force an instructor to recognize the will of the class. Mass stamping, hissing, and booing in public are old Bronx customs which have taken root in a center of Southern culture. In public dining-rooms the unusual is greeted with raucous applause. At public gatherings the unpopular meets with genuine Bronx yells—and such could not make the entrance requirements of dear old Siwash, so came to the land of admission by certificate.

Part of the glory of the University will be forever protected by its historic appearance, but we are in danger of losing its whole inner meaning by insidious rah-rahism. Too much emphasis upon coats and hats and not enough on gentlemanly conduct may yet result in our losing the spirit of our traditions while frantically clinging to the literal observance of them.—Virginia College Topics.

Conference In the Making

Sometime next summer representatives of the leading nations will meet in London to decide the world's problems along economic and monetary lines. For the purpose of preparing an agenda for the delegates, two American members of the preparatory committee are now enroute to Europe, bearing the consent of President-elect Roosevelt as well as of the administration to proceed with plans begun last October.

To Norman H. Davis, U. S. delegate to the Geneva arms conference, goes much of the credit for whatever lines have been thrown across the gap between Hoover and Roosevelt. Governor Roosevelt's insistence that President Hoover take no action in connection with war debts that would commit the new administration had for a time, at least, thrown proceedings into a turmoil. Even now it is doubtful whether Roosevelt's policies will be a deciding factor in the work of the two American delegates.

But Davis' work has somewhat cleared an embarrassing situation for both the president and president-elect. Operating as an intermediary between the two forces, Davis has gained an insight into the views of both men, enabling him to continue his work toward some definite American stand at the forthcoming economic parley, of which he is an important figure.

It would certainly be unfortunate if American delegates at a world economic conference were unable to present the views of their government on matters pertaining to the interest of all the nations. Present indications point to some U. S. policy on tariffs and other economic matters, none on war debts. For, with all his good work, Davis has been unable to reconcile the views of the present and future chief executives in order to develop a definite policy. For that reason, the coming conference at London even now totters on the brink of failure, many months before it opens.—Daily Iowan.

ENGINEER CHOSEN FOR STATE COLLEGE STAFF

Dr. E. C. Brooks of State College announced last week that Theodore S. Johnson has been appointed professor of the newly created department of industry. No new funds will be required for the position as one place in the department of textiles was discontinued to provide for the new office.

Professor Johnson is a graduate of Denison University. He also attended Cornell University and Ohio State University as a graduate student. Recently he has been a partner in W. C. Olsen, Inc., of Raleigh, as consulting engineer.

John Lang Fostered Formation Of State-Wide Student Group

(Continued from first page)

present. Prominent speakers were President Frank Graham, Dr. Archie T. Allen, state superintendent of schools, and Dr. Francis D. Bradshaw, dean of University students.

John Lang was quickly recognized as the leader of the movement. He was elected the first president of the federation. W. D. Murray, Duke football star, was elected vice-president, Mary Jane Wharton, of N. C. C. W., secretary, and Mayne Albright, then a sophomore at Carolina, treasurer.

Activities of the infant organization commenced at once under the hand of John Lang. At the conference a rule was passed to admit junior colleges to the federation, and a rapid expansion program followed. A radio broadcast on student government was made by Lang under the auspices of the federation in Raleigh. Beginning October 12 the federation sponsored a state-wide student government week, in which twenty-five college professors and many prominent men participated. President Murrow of the National Student Federation was present to address numerous meetings with Lang.

Joined National Body

In December, 1930, the North Carolina Federation of Students officially became a part of the National Student Federation at the national convention at Atlanta.

The second state congress of the federation took place at Duke University May 16, 1931. Frank Gorham, of State College, was elected to succeed Lang in the state presidency. Charles G. Rose, of Carolina, was elected vice-president, Martha Pierce, of Duke, secretary, and Jack McKinnon, of Davidson, treasurer.

Under the direction of President Gorham and the congress chairman, Miss Pansy McConnell, the third conference, which had now become an annual affair, convened at N. C. C. W. at Greensboro May 6, 1932. Tyre Taylor, executive secretary to the governor of the state, was the principal speaker.

Weeks New President

This congress, which elected Haywood Weeks its president for the ensuing year, decided to affiliate its next convention with a Social Service Conference which meets annually in North Carolina. In the event that no association should be effected, the next conference of the state federation will meet at State College.

Work in the president's office since the adjournment of this congress has consisted largely of correspondence with the non-member institutions in the state who are being invited to send representatives to the next conference.

A meeting of the officers and the executive committee took place in Chapel Hill November 19. An invitation to affiliate the next conference with the Institute of Government, newly formed here, was accepted, and plans to send a delegation to represent the North Carolina federation at a meeting of the national congress at Tulane University in New Orleans during the holidays were completed.

Publication Founded

At this meeting the journal to be published as the official organ of the federation was authorized. President Weeks was empowered to select an editor from among Carolina student journalists. Claiborn Carr received the appointment. His staff is composed of Vermont Royster, Carl Thompson and Donoh Hanks. The initial publication was issued before Christmas.

"The policy of the officers in regard to the work of the federation," President Weeks stated recently, "is to continue building the organization along the sound lines pursued thus far, so that when all colleges in North Carolina have become members, and the federation has reached its maturity, it will be ready to fulfill its purpose, in the words of its founder, 'To perfect institutions for self-government, to improve their intercollegiate relations, and to create a wide interest among students in social and political problems of the day'."

Twelve Events Stand Out In University Life of Past Year

(Continued from first page)

Dr. Wilson to succeed Graham at Chapel Hill figure correspondingly.

Duke Victory

The Duke victory over the University, from a standpoint of uniqueness, was the outstanding athletic news story of the year, despite the fact that Duke gridiron record for the season had been infinitely more formidable than that of the University. It was the first Duke victory since 1892 and signaled the breaking of the Carolina jinx, which Duke has consistently been unable to overcome, though her teams were often stronger in years past.

North Carolina's state symphony orchestra, founded much through the instigation of local music lovers and faculty members, was one of the outstanding cultural news items of the year.

The election of Haywood Weeks, Swansboro, to the highest student executive post, featured in the student news of the year. Weeks' victory was unprecedented.

Graham Memorial building, dedicated in the presence of numerous alumni and state officials, figured prominently in the news during the winter quarter.

Obnoxious Salary Cuts

One of the most vital alterations in University affairs was the series of faculty salary cuts in force from the outset of the year and augmented by additional cuts this fall.

The Student Loan Fund drive, which elicited several hundred thousands of dollars from students, alumni, parents of students, and statespeople, figured prominently in the local and state press. Various University groups pledged support and hundreds of students did their part in soliciting funds through the state.

Some of these people who have been so successful with stamps, coins, rare books and antiques ought to try their hands at collecting war debts.—Philadelphia Bulletin.

You can tell which side is right. The more unjust their cause, the madder they get if you don't agree with them.—Atlanta Constitution.

LANG PICKED TO HEAD NATIONAL STUDENT GROUP

(Continued from first page)

teeman-at-large. He was one of the most active members of his class in his undergraduate days, and after graduating was active in the founding of the North Carolina Federation of Students.

The University has been very active in the federation for the past four years, having had a treasurer, two district representatives, and this year a president. The following statement by Weeks shows clearly the leadership of the University: "That the University of North Carolina is a leader in student government, not only in the state, but also in the nation, is unquestionable. This fact was brought out again, as in previous congresses, by the value which the delegates to the N. S. F. A. Congress at Tualne placed upon the discussion of the institutions of student government here at the University and the respect in which they hold them. The high respect in which our student government is held was more vividly shown when, in a discussion of redistricting the south along better geographical lines, certain universities fought violently to remain in the same district with North Carolina in which the University is the outstanding leader."

BULL'S HEAD WILL OFFER LECTURERS IN WEEKLY CHATS

Regular Tuesday Afternoon Programs To Include Interesting Subjects and Speakers.

A series of interesting programs to be presented at the regular Tuesday afternoon meetings of the book-minded in the Bull's Head has been arranged by Mary Dirnberger. The programs will begin with the first gathering of the winter quarter at 4:30 o'clock next Tuesday afternoon.

The presentations will include a special talk on T. E. Shaw's interpretation of the *Odyssey*, which will involve an interesting discussion of Greek life and the natural background for Homer's masterpiece; a lecture on bullfighting as suggested by Ernest Hemingway's latest novel, *Death in the Afternoon*; and the reading of the season's outstanding plays, *Dinner at Eight*, by Ferber and Kaufmann, and Thornton Wilder's translation of *Lucece*, Katherine Cornell's current stage success. An interesting discourse on technocracy will also be included in the set of entertainments.

The case is reported of a small boy who says his prayers in his sleep. We are reminded of the man who said Grace in his sleep, his wife's name being Amelia.—Punch (London).

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