

# The Daily Tar Heel

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Friday, April 7, 1933

## Declaring a Professors' Holiday

Some few members of the faculty have been somewhat liberal with their criticism thrown against those members of the campus political factions who neglected their academic work all during the day Wednesday merely to take part in the politicking which took place at the polls. Most of these professors have taken the viewpoint that the act of many students' cutting classes on that day was entirely unjustifiable and evident of their lack of interest in a true search for wisdom (to be gotten, supposedly, from the dull, monotonous lectures in the classrooms). Nor is it entirely without foundations that the professors make these strong accusations of the campus politicians and the extremes to which they allow themselves to be carried in their enthusiasm for their party's victory.

The fact is undeniably true that were these students actively interested in student politics to make a habit of cutting classes regularly during the year, or even during the course of one quarter, the condemnations should be severe. But when it is considered that it is only once in a year's time that the student body holds elections, that the mistakes of these elections must remain in office for a whole year, and that the student body itself must suffer in the event these officers are "weighed and found wanting," the act of cutting class in order to see that the "qualified candidates" are elected is not altogether so condemnable as one might first think.

Nor is the fact to be denied that there are always matters of personal opinion to be considered in the case of the election of the various candidates. Yet the strength of conviction which one might hold as to his candidate's worth can be determined in a large measure by the work he is willing to exert in seeing that he is placed in his office.

The professors who make these accusations of the students who took such an interest in their political activity as to push aside their academic work for a day seem to overlook the fact that after all in a small degree the experience gained and interest aroused through taking part in the campus elections is actually a part of the student's education. When he leaves school he will be expected to take part in the elections of the officials which must govern the state and nation.

Actually if there were no students of firm enough convictions and interest sufficient to get them not only to vote but also to work for their candidates, it would mean that there would be no contest. There would be no heated discussions of qualifications. There would be no consideration to any large measure of the officers the men might make once elected. In short, if such conditions existed, any small group of students could get together, nominate their friends, and get them elected, purely and simply because there were no others interested enough to go to such extents. It is the heat of political battles that brings out the gold from the ore, so to speak, and assures the voters a democratic and, in the majority of cases, the wisest choice of the various candidates.

One settlement of the matter would be simply to discontinue classes on the day of elections. At least the professors would have another day to play golf anyway.

The wolf has been at our door so long she has had a litter of pups.—Blue Stocking.

## It's a Big World

From time to time editorials in the TAR HEEL are criticised as extraneous and remote from the interest of the student body. There are evidently some who really feel that the editorials should confine themselves to observations on campus and state topics and that the great happenings and problems of the world should be elsewhere discussed.

Among college men and women such a point of view is most unfortunate. To be sure we should love our University and be deeply concerned in immediate conditions and events. Nevertheless there are topics of infinite number which must be of great interest to the intelligent college student, questions of war and peace, of political policy and honesty, of race conflict, of class struggle as well as the arts and sciences. These are forces which will shape and mould our lives and which we in turn can shape and mould if we have the interest and the desire. These are questions of far greater concern than walking on the grass, the number of trips the wrestling team should take, or beer in Chapel Hill.

To write editorials the student must have strong convictions on the topic he is discussing. Occasionally there occur incidents of college life which excite such convictions but in the main they are of minor import and not productive of much controversy or difference of opinion. It is the national and world forces that are of vital consequence and which merit the attention and thought of college writers.

It may be argued that the editorial pages of our great papers provide ample discussion of these outside issues but how many of the student body take the pains to read them? Furthermore the voice of youth preparing to control the world's destinies is of an importance impossible to exaggerate.

A real and loyal attention should be paid by the college editorial page to the happenings that effect and concern the University. But this attention must not be permitted to close our eyes or still our voices to the multitude of things outside that we should want to approve or condemn, to preserve or change. We are here for education and education in a deeper sense is a broadened outlook and interest in things about us—the ability to stretch the imagination beyond the campus or the state into the world beyond where there is so much more to be seen and done.—J.F.A.

## Another Beer Editorial

Legalized beer in North Carolina by May! The idea that such a thing was possible a month ago would have been scorned by every North Carolinian who was considered a prophet (and there are many of these). The only state outside of Kansas to record a dry majority in the Literary Digest's prohibition poll of last year—one of the first states to enact a state prohibition law—the home of some of the leaders of the dry cause, to whom the mere mention of the word beer would have been sufficient to evoke psitticotic fits—this state has overnight gone wet. In the opinion of most competent political observers the attitude of the electorate on the question even as late as last October had experienced but little change,—and yet in the face of these things, the legislature votes overwhelmingly for the legalization of 3.2 beer and wine.

What freakish genie was responsible for this sudden change in the attitude of our legislators? The shift in opinion seemed almost miraculous—yet was it so strange? Additional revenue was sorely needed and a tax on beer would undoubtedly ease the financial duress to a considerable extent. During the presidential campaign of last fall, Mr. Roosevelt reiterated with much emphasis his favorable position in regard to the beer question. Despite his wetness, his popularity in the south was undeniable. The voting of dries for Roosevelt by the million may have had a peculiar psychological effect.

There is the well-known phenomena termed in psychological language "transfer" which may well be applicable to this mass shift of a social attitude. A confirmed dry, voting for Roosevelt, over-emphasizing the candidate's other qualities in order to justify his support, may have effected a transfer of the favorable attitude towards Roosevelt in particulars to a favorable attitude towards the man Roosevelt in general, thus evoking an involuntary and totally unconscious lessening of the previously strong dry sentiment. Combined with the popular reaction against Hooverism, one may see the gradually accumulation of wet support, the first crumbling of dry bulwarks and the swiftly multiplying strength of the wet tide—almost moblike in its type of social reaction—until the doom of the Eighteenth Amendment and the Volstead Act was assured.—V.J.L.

Freshman rules and customs have been abolished for one year at Franklin and Marshall College because there seemed to be no way of enforcing them. It is thought in campus circles that the action taken will arouse the college next year to the realization of a need for fresh customs.—Student Weekly (N.S.F.A.)

## Our Times

By Don Shoemaker

An intense follower of political machinations, this department drafted its political observer yesterday and requested some inside information on the election. After hanging some crepe over our door, he submitted several little items for our reader, a gentleman of incorrigible vanity, who will read them for the second time this morning.

Digging into the library files he (the investigator) informed us that a candidate for president of the student body checked out a copy of *Diary of an ex-President*, the famous Wintergreen-Throttlebottom epic, several days before the election. A candidate for the presidency of the 'Y' was reported as having taken out over the week-end, Conrad's *Victory*. But he must not have read it attentively.

We were particularly concerned about the workmen in front of Graham Memorial who plowed away at the red earth while the domos of the ballot box fumed and swore. Unaware that the fate of a campus, than whom there is no mightier, was at stake, they plowed away digging up the dirt, while their brothers in the lobby of Graham Memorial took their hints from that operation.

The front lawn of Graham Memorial, we think, is an excellent place now for a profitable venture on the part of the University. This department humbly suggests that, since beer is inevitable in North Carolina, the buildings department sow a first rate crop of wheat, oats, barley, or whatever it is the boys use to make their beer. We could use the coffee tricks in the Grail to brew the stuff, thus exempting us from taxation in the purchase of beer at the inevitable local establishments.

Possible the best quip of the week is the remark made by an intrepid freshman, "What's-his-name lost the 'Y' election by an Acee."

Feeling very much like Mr. Hoover driving to the Pennsylvania station on March 4th, we beg your leave, reminding you that there is no truth in the rumor that we intend to run in 1936.

## Spann Says Jewish Persecution Result Of Germany's Suffering

(Continued from first page)

Another aspect of the treatment of Jews in Germany that should be emphasized. He finds that before the War there was no more anti-Semitic feeling in Germany than elsewhere, but that now, when the German bluntness of character combines with the suffering of the nation, it has burst forth. In comparing the natures of Germans with those of other races, Spann finds a frank openness in the Teuton and a "behind-the-back diplomacy," so to speak, in others. Thus, he pointed to so-called American democracy—a democracy for the white man, that excludes Negroes.

It would leave an erroneous impression upon the reader to have him feel that Spann was merely voicing the old Teutonic nationalism. Naturally prejudiced to some degree in favor of the Reich, Spann nevertheless spoke with the tone of one who has made certain observations and then expressed them openly and with strong feeling.

Confronted with the report that Dr. Beard has said it was probably a good thing that America had entered the War in 1917 and turned the tide against Germany, because the old regime was hard to get along with, Dr. Spann confessed to some

truth in Beard's belief.

### Phase of Revolution

The rise of Hitler in Germany is described by Dr. Spann as just one phase—a reactionary phase—in the revolution that has been in progress since the World War. He pointed out that after the French Revolution there was a return of the Bourbon dynasty for a time, and that after the upheavals in England there was a return of the Stuarts. Even if the Hohenzollern family returned to Germany, he would attach little importance to it.

Asked what kind of a speaker Hitler was, Dr. Spann replied sarcastically that he was forceful, but that many people can make a lot of hot air.

### Traces Jewish History

Spann traced some of the phases of Jewish history to furnish a background against which the present events in Germany might be judged. He recalled that for centuries Jews have lived apart and have not been assimilated by the countries in which they lived, thus making them to be looked upon as aliens.

He also noted that in the middle ages usury was the only field of endeavor open to Jews. This, combined with the fact that natural selection growing out of protracted oppression, has produced a keen race, has made present-day Jews financially prosperous. Others grow envious, Spann believes, and at the same time consider them aliens growing rich while "the fair-haired youth" does not. All this, Spann thinks, underlies anti-Semitic feeling.

Before the war there was no more of this feeling in Germany than elsewhere; Spann pointed out that at that time Germany showed less discrimination than American institutions do now. But as a result of the country's post-war distress, Germans have

looked for a scapegoat. Even if it does no good, the professor declared, there is an emotional relief in saying, "That man and that man and that man are the cause of all the trouble," and then in giving them a kick.

## LIBRARY GROUPS HAVE MEETING OPENING TODAY

(Continued from first page)

Morgan of Tennessee, Reverend W. A. Stanbury of the Duke Memorial church, Dean W. R. Weatherford of the Y. M. C. A. graduate school, Nashville; F. A. Whiting, president, American Federation of Arts; Wilson Gee, director of the Institute for Research in Social Science, University of Virginia; Paul W. Wagner, Dean W. C. Jackson and Dean Howard W. Odum of the University.

Mrs. Lillian B. Griggs, Duke University librarian and president of the Southeastern Library Association, will preside over a banquet session this evening at 7:00 o'clock. Among the speakers will be Dr. E. W. Knight of the University, Essae M. Culver, secretary of the Louisiana Library Commission, and Tommie Dora Barker, regional field agent for the south of the American Library Association.

## Run-Off Election For Two Offices Set Today

(Continued from first page)

sitions developed into much closer contests than it was generally predicted before the balloting, and there were many upsets entirely unlooked for by the student body.

The polls for today's run-off will be opened at Graham Memorial this morning at 9:00 o'clock, and will close at 5:00 o'clock.



THE standing that sportswear has gained in fashion acceptance sanctions individual originality. The reversing of the dark coat and light trousers to the light coat and dark trousers was one of the ideas which caught on last season. This spring jackets of Shetland and Harris tweed (some of which will affect the Norfolk manner) and slacks of Glen plaids and hound's tooth checks promise to attain the height of high fashion.

**DURHAM MEN'S SHOP**  
 111 West Main—Durham