

# The Daily Tar Heel

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Tuesday, May 2, 1933

## Expense And Distance—

As college education of modern times has had to take care of more students, larger classes, and more complex problems in the business of distributing learning, there has been a necessary sacrifice of the more genial social intercourse and personal contact once possible amidst a smaller group. The gradual loss of the former compactness of the college class and the college student body has brought about an inevitable looseness in organization and diversity of interest in undergraduate life. Consequently we find the present day importance of cliques and factions within the student class and the resulting emphasis on politics. Be this development beneficial or deplorable, it nevertheless explains the ever-widening gap between student officers and administrators and the majority of the unpolitical men on the campus for whom they are administering. This majority is in partial or total ignorance most of the time as to what is being done, why, and how much.

It is to this last item and ignorance of it, that we must turn our attention. We may regard with playful leniency the futile manipulations of student executives and committees insofar as they are harmless. But the instant that their manipulating involves a hard yank at the undergraduate purse-string, it is time for all men good and true to rally to the cause. The class executive committees have found certain innocent amusement in casting about for a flashy orchestra, whose sole recommendation, it would seem, is to be its great expense and the number of hundreds of miles that separates it from Chapel Hill. Granted that there is a certain exotic pleasure in spending somebody else's money lavishly and that, too, there is a romance to be extracted from the vagaries of distance, it is time the game was stopped here and now.

With a reluctant but still firm hand, we must wake the dreamers from their delightful haze. They must be informed that the millennium is still far away. They must be told the startling news of the world's economic plight. They must be shown hundreds of students' pockets that would put old Mother Hubbard to shame. They must be informed with feeling that the financial climate is not fair and warmer, that many have been the college depression dances conducted with no loss of prestige; and finally that there is a difference between hiring a five hundred dollar orchestra which we can afford and a thousand dollar orchestra that is beyond all reason and sense of proportion. It is up to the majority of the students who are concerned to emphasize how they are concerned.—B.B.P.

## What Price Learning!

Time continues to print accounts of political atrocities in Cuba with an awful realism, but without doubt the reports pale beside actual conditions existing in Havana. The apathy of the general public and the National Government remains unexplainable when one considers that the same public once stirred itself to wrath and with righteous indignation liberated a suppressed people from a foreign despot only to permit a Machado, who is no slouch at tyranny, to insinuate himself into the confidence of that people, and, gaining a position of authority, to keep his balance on his self-created pedestal by murdering children and trampling over the people with a superb despotism.

Whether or not Cubans are incapable of democratic government, or whether economic conditions and sugar markets are responsible for prevailing conditions or not is only a subject for debate. Machado may be the least impossible choice from a host of possibilities, all incompetent to deal with a difficult internal situation, and any great ruler of necessity must preserve his administration by crushing opposition to his rule. But when that ruler adopts measures which check the progress of his country and block its contribution to world culture; then he becomes a tyrant and the enemy of civilization. Gerardo Machado became such a tyrant when he forbade the oldest autonomous student body in America to gather in the halls of the University of Havana.

Civilization has maintained its position and has advanced to higher levels in spite of wars and tyrants, but only by the aid of scholarship. Two years ago Machado attempted to abolish that aid in Cuba, and we should extend a bond of sympathy to Cuban students and experience

a reaction of antipathy toward the individual who is attempting to thwart in one corner of the world the purpose toward which every student the world over is striving.

Students of the University of Havana have always opposed both in thought and action any force operating to curtail political liberty or freedom of thought, nor have they in times past failed to offer their blood as a memorial to freedom. Although the dust is piling high around the shattered lamp may that spark of scholarship never be extinguished but guarded by its tenderers, may it wax great into a consuming flame for the destruction of one who would smother it in a blanket of suppression.—R.H.B.

## Too Bad for The White Collars

The march on Washington of unemployed college graduates, which began yesterday and will continue until delegates called by the Association of Unemployed College Alumni have gathered from all parts of the country, shows clearly the unfortunate status of the present-day holder of the sheepskin.

For if statistics concerning unemployed alumni are accurate, college training has become during the depression a liability rather than an asset. With unemployment as widespread as it is, the boy who contents himself with a modest job after completing a high school education has a definite advantage—from a financial standpoint—over the boy who goes to college in the expectation of increasing his earning capacity. The former has at least a regular income, though it is not to be denied that he runs the risk of losing his job in lean years, while the latter has incurred the expense of a college education usually without even having the choice of risking a job, since he seldom is able to get one.

Furthermore, college graduates are now on an unequal footing with organized labor. Before the depression, carpenters, brick masons, and other skilled laborers received high wages because they were able by concerted action to maintain a high level of wages. But the lack of organization of college graduates has caught them totally unprepared to meet the exigencies of a depression.

The Association of Unemployed College Alumni, which is calling the "cap and gown" march on Washington, is at least a step toward organization. We hope that its efforts toward securing relief legislation will be successful.—A.T.D.

## CONTEMPORARY THOUGHT

(Editor's Note: Printed below is a copy of the statement sent the DAILY TAR HEEL by Norman Thomas, Socialist leader, in answer to a query concerning the abandonment of the gold standard by the country and the proposed policies of inflation. Thomas was indisposed at the time of the request and responded at his earliest convenience.)

It is difficult to be certain whether the President wants omnibus powers to inflate in every conceivable way in order to inflate or to keep Congress from inflating. It is likely that the latter is his principal motive. Nevertheless both the international trade situation and the extraordinary lengths to which deflation has gone at home make almost inevitable some degree of inflation. The experience of England suggests that merely to go off the gold standard by prohibiting the export of gold to support the dollar in foreign markets, whatever the importance of that act in international affairs, will not bring about a significant degree of inflation at home. More will be necessary for political if not for pure economic reasons.

I predicted inflation and defended the desirability of controlled inflation when Messrs. Roosevelt and Hoover were both talking about "sound money." The need for some inflation was greatly increased by the terrible deflation consequent upon the closing of banks with from four to six billion deposits following the bank holiday. The government's failure to nationalize the banks or to work out any consistent plan for making the money in them more generally and equitably available left to it no practical alternation than inflation of the currency. For the failure to nationalize the banking system we shall pay a dear price in more ways than one.

Concerning the President's plan two general comments are in order:

1. On principle it is a dangerous precedent to give the President blanket power to inflate by almost any method and at will. It is a bad situation when senators disagree whether six or twenty billion dollars of additional currency can be had under the proposed measure. The President should have recommended specific measures of inflation which should have been acted upon by Congress. To give one man such power and to subject him to the enormous forces which will struggle for its use is not, in the long run, the way of safety or of wisdom.

2. While the President emphasizes controlled inflation there are no evidences of adequate control, except his own good judgment, written into the bill. If inflation is not to become the final disaster to wage and salary workers and the holders of savings bank accounts and insurance policies it must be clearly stated at the begin-

ning, that it will be stopped when the commodity level rises above the level of, let us say, 1926-27. That is when inflation ceases to be inflation. Moreover inflation should be not only controlled in amount but directed in distribution. Not silver mine owners or security holders but the unemployed should be its principal beneficiaries. The best outlet for additional currency or spending power is through the hands of unemployed workers, first by means of a maintenance allowance, and then by a program of public works. The administration's program both of relief and of public works is wholly inadequate. Finally, it must be emphasized that to resort to inflation after wages have been pushed down to sweatshop levels may well be the final goad to make workers revolt. President Green of the A. F. of L. is right. No policy, even of controlled and directed inflation, will be tolerable to the workers without an immense campaign for raising wages. Inflation will double the need for a steadily rising minimum wage. Legislation may help, but there will be no guarantee of effective legislation or its enforcement without organization of the workers both politically and industrially.

The real moral of the whole story is that what we need more than more money, is proper distribution of wealth. That will require not regulation of banks and industries but social ownership and planned production for use and not profit.

NORMAN THOMAS.

## SPEAKING the CAMPUS MIND

To the Editor,  
THE DAILY TAR HEEL:

While there are probably some on the campus to whom the *Buccaneer's* rating of many of the co-eds may appeal as funny, there is a larger group who justly consider it not only devoid of every vestige of humor but in rank bad taste. If the wit of this worthy organ has run dry and it is unable to amuse its avid readers with pure cleverness as it has so long done, let it discontinue its efforts until new strength is found and its humorous abilities restored. Let it not, however, turn the ungallant and the vulgar in a desperate effort to suit tastes that it erroneously ascribes to the majority of the student body.

The days of the famous southern chivalry are no doubt long over but let us hope that every last particle of it has not fled nor that all that was worthy of that day is forgotten. A respect for woman has long been a southern boast and this collection of insulting remarks about our girl students hardly becomes the magazine of Carolina gentlemen.

Many will say that the young woman of today is well able to take care of herself and needs no protection but it is obvious that these co-eds have no comeback or defense against printed remarks that are grossly insulting. It is the duty of the incoming staff to break away from this sort of thing which will, if repeated, reflect only discredit upon itself and the school as well as being unfair and humiliating to many of our co-eds.

In many ways it is a privilege, and it is certainly a pleasure to have these young ladies here and they should be extended every opportunity of enjoying Chapel Hill. This they can do best without the cheap attention of campus wits writing without fear of retaliation. Perhaps a few of the young ladies enjoy this sort of dubious popularity but it is safe to assume that the majority do not.

It is to be hoped that the new *Buccaneer* will confine itself to bigger and better jokes, cartoons, and columns, and not discredit itself further with efforts not only uncalled for, but unbecoming gentlemen. —J.R.A.

## College Clippings

By George Rhoades

### Society

The nucleus of Harvard's new Society of Fellows has been selected by university officials and comprises a graduate of Oberlin College, a Hamilton College alumnus, and three *summa cum laude* graduates of Harvard. These three-year appointments entitle each fellow to free room and board, free use of the facilities of Harvard University, and a yearly stipend of \$1,250.

### Exhilaration

To prove that the effect of the new beer is not intoxicating, a Stanford student consumed a gallon of 3.2 recently, and then successfully passed the Palo Alto police department sobriety tests. The student registered no temperature change nor dilation of the eye pupils, but remarked that he did feel a certain exhilaration.

### Vocabulary

Bing Crosby and Richard Arlen, in preparation for their work in the movie "College Humor," made a list of idioms and expressions frequently heard on college campuses. Although many are the well worn phrases every college man knows, we present below some which might find excellent use at Chapel Hill:

Apple-polisher: one who curries favor or grades from an instructor by ingratiating himself in the latter's good graces.

Capitalist: one who wears good clothes to classes.

Davenport technique: parlor tricks.

Don't be a ditzel: don't be silly.

Gravy train: any sort of successful graft, usually a management of some student activity.

Heap: automobile.

Hung a pin: become engaged.

Laplander: girl who likes to cuddle.

Struggle: a dance.

Took a powder: disappeared from a difficult situation.

### Hubub

The Tulane campus was agog last week when student elections were declared invalid by a faculty committee, following the protest of a candidate who stated that his opponent's one vote victory was due to the ballot of a student enrolled in two schools and who had voted twice. Meanwhile another faculty committee, of the college of arts and sciences, delivered a report of its investigation of the honor system at Tulane. They declared,

"The present operation of this college seems unsatisfactory not only to the faculty but to a majority of the students." Disappearance

Rivalling the mysterious manner in which it was stolen last fall, the valuable Guy Mannerling manuscript of Sir Walter Scott, worth \$15,000, was unexpectedly returned last week to the Columbus University library after police officials had expressed grave doubts as to the possibility of ever recovering it. Though a reward for its return was offered, no payment has been made by library officials, who are bound to secrecy and cannot make any statements on the return of the manuscript.

### Academia

Columbia University has announced the addition of a course on football strategy to its summer school curriculum—Students who must commute to classes every day at Massachusetts Institute of Technology have organized a Commuters club—An insurance company is now offering University of Missouri students a policy, which, if the student flunks a course, will pay his tuition for the same course in summer school—Meanwhile University of Washington students who flunk courses are barred to use the library.

## DEBATE COUNCIL WILL HAVE MEETING TONIGHT

The debate council will meet tonight at 9:00 o'clock in the Grail room of Graham Memorial. The meetings will take place Tuesday nights instead of Monday nights after this meeting.

Reports will be made on the debating tour to Atlanta and New Orleans by A. S. Kaplan, Phillip Russell, and Bill Eddleman.

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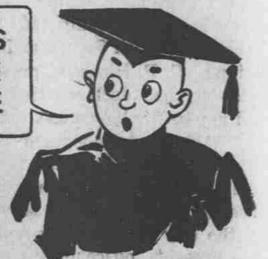
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