

# The Daily Tar Heel

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# The Daily Tar Heel Editorial Page

Opinions • Columns • Letters • Features



## among the damned ... with Damtoft

Monday witnessed a spectacle unparalleled in the history of Carolina. Outside, inside, and on the roof of Memorial hall, thousands of students were to be seen vainly struggling to get in that building. Occasionally a scream would rent the air, and periodically two little men in white coats would run over from the infirmary and carry out a mangled figure.

Most of you are familiar with the setting that prevailed in Memorial hall Monday, but for the sake of my thousands of readers who receive this column by mail (and promptly throw it in the waste-basket), I shall review the setting. First of all, most people make a game out of getting grades, and to do this they establish two desks, one on either side of the stage, and each presided over by a dignitary, preferably an ex-funeral parlor director. This is so he can look at the four F's you have received, smile, pat you on the back and advise the easiest means of suicide. To get on with the game, however, leading down to the desks are two aisles flanked by numerous seats. Before this area of the playing field can be reached, however, everyone forms a conga chain in the hall and dances around trying to get in the doors leading to the main hall. Eventually someone gets in the door, but after he has done this, there are still several hazards to be overcome before the goal can be reached.

After gathering together the limbs lost in the struggle to get in the door, one next proceeds in attempting to gain an aisle seat in the auditorium. Now the gaining of this seat is the last and hardest obstacle before the goal is reached, because everyone in the hall is trying to gain one also. There is no particular reason why one must sit in these aisle seats but everyone makes a mad scramble for them and the loss of one's scalp or eye is an everyday occurrence. Assuming that you have gained an aisle seat, as you remembered to bring along your brass knucks, it is now easy to slide from seat to seat in your own blood so as to eventually reach the goal which of course is the desk where the grades are distributed. When one is close enough to see this desk, a particular phenomena may be observed. A student will walk up to the desk, radiant in the thought of having overcome the other students trying to get to the desk, give the man his name, and then suddenly collapse or go completely berserk.

As I was en route to receiving my grades, I wondered why this display occurred so often. Finally I reached the desk, gave my name and waited for the official record of the four A's I just knew I was going to receive. The official thumbed through the list, looked up at my face which had been torn and lacerated in my attempts to reach the desk, and then calmly said, "So sorry. You can't have your grades. You owe the library five cents."

## it happens here ...

- 2:30-2:45—Dr. W. Carson Ryan, head of the education department, speaks on "Academic Freedom" over WRAL, WAIR, and WBBB.
- 2:45-3:00—Our American Neighbors—S. A. Stoudemire of the Spanish department interviews Luis Mosquera from Venezuela over WRAL, WAIR, and WBBB.
- 7:15—Phi Assembly meets in Phi hall.
- 7:30—French club meets in Grail room of Graham Memorial.
- 7:30—Student Party convention on 4th floor of New East.
- 7:30—Sound and Fury executive committee meets in S&F office.
- 7:30—University club meets in Graham Memorial to choose new members.

## FINANCIAL AID...

There are two reasons why the people of Chapel Hill should be glad that the aviation cadets are to come here for training as pilots in the United States Navy Air Force.

The main reason is that this is an opportunity to help the nation win the war—and there is nothing else that any community can do now that is so important as to give help in the winning of the war.

The other reason, far less important than the first one but still important, is that the cadets—to the number of 1,875 when the full quota is here—will offset a decrease in enrollment which might have brought grave financial trouble to the University.

Of course nobody knows just what effect the war will have upon enrollment for the next college year, but all signs point to a big decline. Total enrollment kept up this year only because there was an increase in the number of women students to make up for the loss in the number of men. This counterbalancing factor cannot be counted upon again.

At this time last year all dormitory rooms had been reserved for the next fall, and there was a waiting list of more than two hundred applicants. Today there is not only not a waiting list but the number of applications is far short of the number of dormitory beds. With the expansion of the draft, with many young men volunteering, and with industry offering jobs to students who have been in college and to boys just coming out of high school, there is no telling how great the decline in University enrollment will be.

You will understand the seriousness of this when you are told, if you do not know already, that around 70 per cent of the University's revenue comes from student fees and student rentals. Suppose the decline in enrollment should be 500. Assuming an average of \$250 in fees and rentals per student, that would mean a cut of \$125,000 in revenue. A decline of 1,000, with the same average assumed, would cause a loss of \$250,000. In addition, there would be the loss to the community of the money, aside from fees, that is spent by students.

The proportion of the University's total revenue that goes into salaries is somewhere between 70 and 75 per cent, and so a large part of any loss of revenue would have to come out of salaries. Which means that a salary cut would be unavoidable if there were a considerable decline in enrollment.

To fill the gap made by the absence of five hundred, or seven hundred, or a thousand, or whatever the number is, of students who would be here in normal times but won't be here next fall—to fill this gap come the aviation cadets. The Navy and the University have entered into a contract under which the University houses and feeds the cadets and provides certain facilities and services. We do not know what the amount of the payment is to be, but the figure has been settled by negotiation and it can be assumed that the University is getting a fair recompense for its quarters, its facilities, and its services.

Thus the coming of the aviation cadets saves the University from a big loss of revenue.—The Chapel Hill Weekly.

## IN PASSING...

"The task of national defense is not the relatively simple one of accumulating arms, munitions, ships, soldiers, and other means of destruction. It is also one of supplying a steady flow of intelligent, well-educated, conscientious, skilled citizens into the population. The safety of the nation must not be neglected, but full safety even in time of war involves the promotion of the welfare of the civilian population, adequate instruction for our young people, and proper consideration of the problems of a post-war world. To weaken unnecessarily the educa-

## SPILT MILK...

There's no use in crying over spilt milk—or the lack of a quorum or a hollow victory.

When the student body was given a chance to back or repeal the Student Legislature's bill to reduce dance expenditures, final examinations had apparently replaced that issue in importance.

The lack of a quorum must have disappointed those students who were sincerely opposed to the expense reduction. We frankly admit our disappointment that what voting there was went against the legislature's action, that the reduction had to be upheld by the lack of a quorum. Only consolation is that the 7 to 5 ratio was not indicative of the sentiment of the whole student body. Although we disapproved, many students in favor of the reduction intentionally refrained from voting. Also, those opposed to the bill did a great deal more last day agitating than did the proponents.

Still intact are the reputation of this University, its student government and the peace of mind of a great many of its students.

At the same time still unfulfilled is the element of actual personal sacrifice. It should be restated again that neither the Legislature nor the Tar Heel has any power or any desire arbitrarily to direct the funds still in the treasuries of the junior and senior classes, the May Frolics association and the German Club. How that money is disposed of—refunded, wasted, contributed—is the decision of the members of those organizations. We have only the right to remind the leaders of those organizations of their present duty, that they work sincerely and thoroughly to present to their constituents all possible alternatives and to leave the decision—sacrifice or not—to the individual.

## YOU DO CARE...

"So you don't give a damn. You don't care if you pass or not. It makes no difference to you if the Allies do lose. So you're not going to let the war change your way of living in the least. So what! So this—"

Newspapers throughout the country, including the Daily Tar Heel, have been extremely critical about the lack of interest the public has been showing in regards to the war effort. This paper has accused the Carolina student of being doubly disinterested in anything having a bearing on our attempt to win the war. In fact we have criticized so much that some students refuse to read our editorial columns because they were so repetitious. In short, many have held that we are idealistic die-hards.

We believe that these students who regarded criticism of this nature in such a light for so long were, up until a few weeks ago, pretty much in the right. Now, however, when taking stock of what has been accomplished on the campus, we believe they are wrong.

Even before December 7, the OSCD got into full swing and is doing a great deal to train students for wartime duties. Five hundred dollars has been realized for a beginning on future contributions to the Red Cross. The faculty has instituted courses designed to help the student in the future when he is in the service of the country, courses that have proved popular and well attended. And last, but certainly not least, the CVTC has been founded to give practical training for military service.

We doubt if our influence has brought any of these additions about, and we don't care. We do care that they have become realities, and we do believe that at last, you are beginning to give a damn.

tional system at this as at any time is to increase definitely and materially the vulnerability of the nation." President Alexander G. Ruthven of the University of Michigan urges his institution to maintain its teaching standards and keep together its teaching staff.—Associated Collegiate Press.

## collegiate world ...

Colleges are not the matrimonial bureaus some people would have you believe they are, avers Dr. Clifford Adams, instructor in education and psychology at Penn State. As a matter of fact, non-coeds have a nine-to-one advantage in getting a husband because they have more time "to plan their attacks and make their catches."—THE PENN STATE COLLEGIAN.

Something new in defense courses is the one in map reading being offered at the University of Virginia. The course will offer fundamentals of map reading, including reading conventional signs and using the scales to measure distances. The importance of such courses has long been stressed by both the Army and Navy.—COLLEGE TOPICS.

A combination of the patriotic and the practical is found in the plan suggested at the University of California for investing a dormitory fund in defense bonds. At the maturity date of the bonds, the money would be used to construct a low-cost living hall.—THE DAILY CALIFORNIAN.

Possibly a solution to the parking problem and the rubber shortage would be the adoption of the new University of Southern California fad—roller skating to school, to dates, and to the show.—THE DAILY TROJAN.

Sadie Hawkins day with a new name gave Baylor girls a chance to do all the date-making last week as the campus celebrated its fourth annual Corrigan Week-End, with everything in reverse. For two days the girls did all the dating, paying, and courting.—THE DAILY LARIAT.

Personal Item: OSCD's Louis Harris spent a lovely weekend at the White House as the guest of our First Lady. Prince Olaf, the Princess of

## letters to ...

To The Editor: Several days ago, the Daily Tar Heel announced the formation of the students Book Co-op. Personally, I heartily favor the formation of co-ops here at Carolina and feel that they will net the students much in the way of management and sharing responsibilities besides their material values. However, the formation of the Book Co-op is, in my knowledge, wholly unnecessary.

The report of the Student Advisory Committee of 1940-41 gives a complete report on the book situation here at Carolina. They felt that the Book-Ex was doing all in their power to give the students what they wanted at a low cost. The profits of the Book-Ex are not in excess by any means. (These profits are turned into the General University Fund).

If the heads of the various departments—especially language, English, and Math—were asked to standardize their texts and use them over a stated minimum period, the major part of the book problem would be solved. The language department complain that cribbing in texts render them unusable as second-hand books. A mechanism to refuse full payment to students who have cribbed their books should be easily set up and controlled.

My objections to the present student Book Co-op are mainly that the energies which are being used in setting up a temporary solution could well be used to solve the text-book problem permanently. There is no doubt that in the short run, the student Book Co-op will work well and probably save the students small amounts in money. Yet, the wisdom of duplicating the facilities for handling second-hand books must be doubted and questioned.

Sincerely yours, Jim Loeb

Norway and Maxim Litvinoff were among those that graciously entertained our own Lou.



"THOSE PLANES WILL HELP US LICK 'EM!"

More aluminum up there, less in new telephones

— for VICTORY!

Many materials used in telephone making are listed as "critical" for war purposes. Bell Telephone Laboratories and Western Electric have redesigned apparatus and changed manufacturing methods to employ available materials.

Take aluminum. The reduction in its use in a year's telephone output is enough to build 294 combat planes. This program has been replacing critical materials at an annual rate of 7,747,000 pounds. Though it grows steadily more difficult to maintain as shortages increase, the program helps to meet the greatest demand in history for military and civilian communication equipment.

Western Electric ... is back of your Bell Telephone service