

The Daily Tar Heel

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The Daily Tar Heel Editorial Page

Opinions Columns Letters Features

across the desk . . .

Best news of the week in publications comes from the Yackety Yack. Editor Charlie Tillett predicts the annual will be out on time this year. (Tsk! We had glorious visions of four desks on the platform at Commencement—one for the sheepskins, one for the Bibles, one for the Yack, and one for "Enlist Here's.")

Expected by the middle of May, the annual will feature color photography, snappy caption lines, excellent campus life photos, exceptionally good layout, and the Kay Kysers-judged beauty section.

Truman Hobbs and room-mate vacated the Presidential Suite in Steele for the DKE House. We sincerely hope that Candidate Bert Bennett isn't superstitious, but Hobart McKeever now resides in the Presidential apartments.

The campus "Hatch Act" will prove a boon to thrifty politicians. The campus finds it the answer to a prayer as poster-sore eyes lift to the first signs of spring. Ah! Spring at Carolina, the birds, the bees, the butterflies—and posters.

We have read with avid eyes the story of OSCD's reorganization. Momentarily we have expected trenches to appear around the Old Well, air-raid cellars to be opened for student use, sand buckets in every room, and air-raid wardens at every corner. Surprise was expressed that no hoses appeared in handy places, no black-outs had improved the Arboretum, no bomb-proof window shades had been stocked, or curtailment of sugar asked.

Yet, OSCD promises that Chapel Hill will be READY when the zero hour comes.

A complete list of all politicians who call lower quad dorms and ask for themselves on the phone will be given in this column. Such degrading practices have no place in the solid campaigning that the Emergency Committee promises the voters this spring.

The campus horoscope has it that an explosion can be expected from the Mag office early this week. The revolution, which is being supported by both the staff and the Editor has three distinct possibilities: (1) the abolition of the Mag; (2) a sit-down strike on a literary magazine; (3) the birth of a new campus Mag.

letters to . . .

To The Editor: There is one point on which the two warring groups agree. It is the proposition that the crucial fight in which our generation is involved is only in its traditional form a war among nations; in reality, basically antagonistic ideologies are fighting each other, along with old political issues. Modern theology, philosophy, ethics, political science, and literature are attempting, with more or less success, to squeeze the underlying ideologies into a blueprint of simple sentences. Fascists do it by hammering into the minds of small and grown alike riling slogans which appeal to men's joy in violence, and making them adore new Bibles, such as MEIN KAMPF. The other side has been making the engagingly provocative attempt to involve human and social emotions, and the critical acumen of people, to make them feel and understand what we are fighting for. Indeed, our task of public enlightenment is much more difficult. We don't conceal that everyone has to face simultaneously gigantic personal and social issues.

Students of this campus have been eager to form their minds by weighing critically the what and the why of great political issues. The self-governing associations of students supported "creative understanding" by inviting men of various political colors to convey the great drama of our present struggle.

Tuesday night Jan Masaryk, Vice Premier and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Czechoslovakia, is going to address this community. He has been for many years one of the outstanding leaders of the Czechoslovakian nation, helping to make it an island of Western civilization. His political vision, intellectual courage, and great diplomatic experience warrant the assumption that he will throw considerable light on the ever widening stream of our present struggle for freedom. I am sure that he will find on this campus the attention which he deserves.

Sincerely,
Ervin Hexner

Grail Commends Winston, Volunteers for All-Out Ball



To the Student Body,

For several months now the Carolina campus has been criticized almost daily for its apathy toward the war, rarely commended for any cooperation. The response of the student body last Friday night at the All-Out Ball and the sacrifice and work of students who made the dance possible calls for at least one commendation.

Pat Winston, leader in the Office of Student Civilian Defense, should be given full credit for an excellent job of putting on the dance. A few of the mechanical details were taken care of by the Grail. But it was Pat who originally conceived the idea of a dance to stimulate campus cooperation in the total war effort and who stuck with his plans for two months finally to make the affair a success.

Thanks of the campus should go also to the bands and the doormen who volunteered their services for no pay. Both Johnny Satterfield and Hurst Hatch turned down paying engagements to play for the campus and the war effort. Student doormen, who had always been paid previously, performed their four-hour service without accepting money.

The response of the student body, of course, could have been greater. But the figure of 529 paid admissions guarantees that at least that number of students have been started on saving toward a defense bond.

If Saturday night's response was typical of Carolina—and we believe that it is—then it is our conviction that this student body is not and will not be insensible to its obligation in the war effort.

Sincerely,
The Order of the Grail

among the damned . . . with Damtoft

(To the writers of "Dear Mom," we extend whole-hearted apologies for the following.)

DEAR MUSS (A letter from the Russian front written by Hitler to Mussolini.)

Dear Muss: The weather today was cloudy and dank.

Your steamer arrived but was missing a tank.

Your record gives a fit, To all the boys in my ranks.

How the hiss you. And Muss: The food is decayed, I don't sleep very well, As I've a cold in my head. And oh how I wish they'd make my men go ahead. How they muff it.

If you should run into That gen'ral, you know who; Give him some lead, and tell the folks, "T. B."

Dear Muss: That's all for tonight. My tank, it just crashed. Tomorrow's a big day, And my army's so hashed. I hate it here, And I'm layin' for you, Dear Muss. (Signed) Adolph

Headline in a large metropolitan newspaper: "Union to Try Girl for Working Too Hard."

This gave us all kinds of wonderful ideas for a union of students at UNC. Work would be strictly limited to five hours a day with time and a half holidays for every hour overtime. Any student who tried to work too much and thereby cause the teacher's grade scale to rise would be tried and dismissed from the University. We can hear the decision coming down now. "Mr. Brown. You translated seven pages when you were only supposed to translate five. That is all."

guest columnist . . .

(Editor's note: Phil Carden, ace news editor of last year, visited the campus yesterday. He was asked to write a guest column. He did. Then we did. We sent it to the printshop as filler. Here is the filler.)

We have so much to say in this little bittie first paragraph that we can't figure out how in the world we can possibly squeeze it down to the proper size. Well we do declare! We ran out of space!

But it still serves its purpose. It starts off the column without mentioning that we are a guest columnist. We always hated guest columns that spent the first couple paragraphs explaining that it was a guest column. When Harward says to us a minute or two after we came on the campus this afternoon: "I've got nineteen inches that I must do something with," we laughed.

Then we realized he was serious and we sat down to the trusty Royal. With our old loyalty to the DTH burning in our heart, we wrote: "A lot of water has passed under the dam since we left good old Chapel Hill way back yonder last year . . ." We stopped.

The students at Chapel Hill aren't interested in water, we said to our-

NEW DIRECTOR . . .

Graham Memorial has been adopted by its third daddy of this school year, and the latest one is a logical successor to carry on the able guidance of his predecessors.

There is little reason to feel that Graham Memorial activities will suffer from lack of variety. Henry Moll, its new head, has proved during the year that he has an imaginative and original mind. Witness the features appearing in the Carolina Magazine for the past seven months.

Moll, however, has a noble record to shoot at as Bill Cochran, retiring director, and Fish Worley, his predecessor, directed all their efforts toward making Graham Memorial a center of service and entertainment. And their efforts met with unusual success.

To Bill Cochran, a vote of gratitude and appreciation is due for his able part in guiding Graham Memorial activities. As he leaves to follow Fish Worley into the armed services, we thank him and wish him Godspeed in his new undertaking.

We welcome Moll in the knowledge that he will maintain the good record.

BUY DEFENSE BONDS

LET ALL KEEP FAITH . . .

(Reprinted from the Commercial Appeal, Memphis, Tenn., February 28, 1942)

"To The Commercial Appeal: "My only son was born while I was in France during the first World War. Today he is a member of the United States Marine Corps. He sailed from California the first of January, and we have heard nothing from him since. We know he is somewhere in the Pacific.

"The President says we do not have enough ships to send supplies to our troops, and that we must build ships in a hurry. Even as he spoke several hundred shipbuilders refused to work on Washington's Birthday because they were not paid double time.

"How can fathers and mothers of boys who are in the danger zone and who are being called to sacrifice their lives feel any 'surge' of unity when the President and the Congress permit a bunch of shipbuilders and munitions workers to quit when they get good and ready?

"Do our boys at the front get 'overtime' and 'double time' in the fox holes of the Philippines? Do our sons who are giving their lives to protect the jobs of these and others like them quit on holidays? Like hell they do!

"One of my friends, who is a good mechanic, with a family to support, went to get a job in a munitions plant. Every day we hear on the radio and read in the newspapers that such men are needed to turn out munitions for our soldiers, sailors and marines. But this man was refused a job until he could get a union card. He could not get a union card because he did not have enough money to buy one.

"Is it the idea of our Government that it is more important to preserve labor unions than it is to preserve the American Union? Why can't a freeborn American citizen get a job in a plant where the Government needs workers without having to pay tribute to a high-powered labor leader?

"If our sons are to be drafted to give their lives for their country, why should not Labor and Capital be drafted to supply them with munitions of war? Why should Congress, which has the power to make laws, be so tender of the regard for laborers and management who work and prosper in safety while having an utter disregard for the lives of the boys at the front?

"We don't like it, and we don't mind saying so right out loud. Maybe it is time we were electing some senators and congressmen who will crack down and compel Capital and Labor to get into this war. And, come to think of it, this is election year, and we might as well get busy while we have time and opportunity.

"John C. Sheffield."

OFF HAND . . .—By Tom Hammond

THE 40-HOUR WEEK

"Why should our boys at the front fight and die 168 hours a week when workers at home are holding up the war by refusing to work more than 40 hours a week?" is typical of the kind of statements that were being shouted this week as the question of the 40-hour week became a national issue.

Citizens in Oklahoma pledged that they would not vote for the re-election of any US Senator or Congressman who does not vote to abolish the limitations of the 40-hour week labor. Letters and telegrams poured into Washington. Congressman Howard W. Smith of Virginia, long a labor-hater, introduced a bill to wipe out all wage-hour agreements and abolish overtime payments.

Backers of this newest anti-labor campaign tried to create the impression that there is a Federal law prohibiting anyone from working more than 40 hours a week. Actually, the Wages and Hours Law places no limit on the number of hours that may be worked. It merely says that workers must be paid 1½ times the regular rate for all hours worked in excess of 40 per week.

Although anti-labor charges would lead you to believe otherwise, defense workers right now are working more than 40 hours. Employees in war industries are averaging 48-50 hours a week, with some of them, such as makers of machine-tools, working as much as 55 hours a week.

It is quite probable that US production would lose rather than gain if working hours were increased. Numerous experiments in various industries have shown that increasing hours much beyond 40 hours a week tends to reduce hourly output and even weekly output. In British munitions factories during World War I it was found that a reduction in hours resulted in greater total production.

Thus the question is essentially not one of hours at all, but whether or not workers should get extra pay for overtime work. The slogan "40-hour week" attempts to disguise as a campaign for more production what is really a campaign for lower wages. Labor itself took a voluntary cut in wages this week when the C. I. O. and A. F. L. both offered to drop premium pay rates for work performed on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays.

As to what should be done in regard to time and a half pay for hours over 40 we might take the opinion of W. P. B. head Donald Nelson: "The overtime pay which goes with the 40-hour week . . . probably has a good deal of value as an incentive to labor to put in the extra hours which are so necessary at this time. . . . The extra money earned has done much to counterbalance the increase in living costs."

President Roosevelt, Nelson, Labor Secretary Perkins, General William Knudsen, Robert Patterson of the War Department, Ralph Bard of the Navy Department and Admiral Land of the Maritime Commission have all spoken against dropping the 40-hour week. Their testimony also pointed out that defense strikes since Pearl Harbor have been microscopic; that overtime rates have not stopped production, although shortages of material have.

Then why all the noise about labor and the 40-hour week during the last few days? The President hinted that a "sixth column" promoted it to cause dissension. Senator Maybank told that the National Association of Manufacturers had spread exaggerated figures about strikes through the Associated Press. Someone said the campaign had been organized by the US Chamber of Commerce. Elmer Davis attributed it to citizens who hate Roosevelt more than they hate Hitler. Whoever started the latest anti-labor campaign, it seems that this time the charges have been proved unjust.

elves. We should give them a good pep talk about the efficacy of alcohol in driving away the war willies, and how they were getting perfect training for the cold, cruel world. With this thought burning in our heart, we wrote: "A lot of gin has passed down . . ." But the dean's office wouldn't like that, we reprimanded ourself. We ripped that sheet out of the typewriter. We should comment on some campus issue. After all, hadn't we always maintained that the Tar Heel should be a campus newspaper?

With this thought burning in our mind, we wrote: "A lot of mud has been thrown since . . ." we stopped again. We didn't know anything about the campus. We got up and went into the news office. Work had stopped. There was a pretty coed in there. . . .

With this thought burning in our mind, we dashed back to the typewriter and wrote: "A lot of mush has been slushed since this column began, this stuff must stop. There are more important things than Harward's nineteen inches. Six inches is plenty anyhow. See you at Sloppy Joe's, corner Yo-Yo and Fith, in Tokyo."

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