

The Tar Heel.

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA.

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Apropos of the recognition of the degeneracy of the literary spirit in the University, it would be well sometimes to consider remedies as well as to note the evil tendency.

The suggestion which we have to offer along on this line is that substantial literary effort, such as work in college journalism and inter-society debate, should find recognition that remunerates the student in a direct and practical way. In other words, it seems but just that such work should count in some way toward graduation.

The arrangement of the details of just how such work would count, we admit, would perhaps be a little difficult. But yet, we insist the matter ought to meet the serious consideration of the Faculty and the truth of the contention be recognized and given tangible and working application.

Why ought this to be done? First, as an incentive to literary work. No one denies that the literary spirit should be stimulated. But this spirit will not exist unless there are some solid results issuing from it, unless, in short, it pays to cultivate that side of life in college. If such work would count, men could afford to throw some energy into it; it would appeal to them as a thing paying immediate as well as remote advantages.

Second, it would engender deeper and more abiding interest in the literary societies, because they stand as the agencies of literary expression, the embodiment of literary spirit. If you make men see and feel the immediate results attained by being society workers, you at once engage their permanent interest in society affairs.

Third, it would give us better college Journalistic work, as the latter is an expression of the literary spirit.

Places would be sought on the publications and this competition would enrich the style and character of the average college production. Fourth, from the standpoint of the individual student the result ought to be successful, for no one is supposed to engage in that study which he does not like, which does not bear upon his future life work. Thus opportunity would offer for that sort of work which is especially necessary in journalism, law, or theology or indeed in any active life work, requiring ready thought and accurate statement.

Fifth, it would revive literary interest, the advantage would accrue to our whole University life. The swing in favor of the Scientific and Athletic spirit is already abnormal. The true University is that which encourages and promotes the future development of ever positive human capacity.

The literary cannot be neglected. It is fundamental and of prime importance.

Let us think of these things in candid sincerity. Our suggestions are crude, it is true, but we insist that they contain a truth that should not be ever looked.

Action depends on will and will on interest the the Herbartian way of putting

things and it applies as well in this case as in pedagogical territory. Get the student interested in literary endeavor by vital and immediate recognition and the voluntary effort will follow for which we now so often vainly call. Let's stop deploring conditions and set about a process of resuscitation.

Some of that unfortunate but inevitable class of our student population who "do strange things" without knowing exactly why or what for, have recently been possessed of a desire to transfer business and other signs from their present sphere of usefulness in the village to serve as ornaments for the various college buildings.

A Sunday School was also forced to contribute to the collection and a few mornings ago, above the entrance to the South building, was nailed an arch bearing the inscription "Suffer little children to come unto me." A passing visitor that morning would doubtless have formed the opinion that the children were already here and had escaped from the nursery the night before.

While we recognize the fact that "boys will be boys" and play jokes, and while we do not object to either, provided they are the right kind, we must insist that there is a vast difference between a good joke and a poor attempt at one—the latter being about the poorest thing that exists—and as the proceedings referred to evidently belong to this class we sincerely hope there may be no more of them.

The meeting of the Athletic Association last week revealed several gratifying facts.

One was that we are going to have a number of base ball games on the home grounds—rather a departure from the management of former years and one that will be appreciated, and we believe supported, by a large majority of the student body.

Another thing was the interest shown in track athletics and the field day. Capt. Thomas is a hustler and has made extensive plans for the field day which is to be a great social as well as athletic event.

We are glad to see this important but much neglected branch of our athletics, growing in favor, and we believe under the present management it will attain the prominence which we have so long hoped for and which it certainly deserves to have.

The treasury of the Univ. of Ga. athletic association it seems is very much like our own—that is to say empty and a good size hole in the bottom besides. The loyal ladies of Athens have become aware of the state of affairs and have come to their rescue by proposing to get out a "woman's editions" of the *Red and Black*, the proceeds from the sale of which are to be turned over to the association.

The "womans edition" in all its glory is now before us, and as the *Sewanee Purple* has gone into winter quarters we feel that we may venture another prophecy, without fear of rebuke, to the effect that Georgia's athletic debt will soon be a thing of the past and the literary fame of those fair "maids of Athens" established forever,

Philosophy of the Campus.

THE SEVERAL Mass Meetings and Conferences held of late have developed lots of hitherto undiscovered "statesmen," if nothing else.

Orator Jenkins' Washington's Birthday speech will likely be "a thing of beauty." He is a talented young gentleman and is going to make a great effort and a good speech.

In case an inter-state debate is arranged with the University of Virginia, the question of "How Far We Ought to Go to Win a Game?" should be discussed at an early date.

The Freshmen met the other night and received their *Water-loo*. In fact, several of them got so wet that a change of costume was imperative. Verily the way and conscience of the Freshman is hard.

It is a fine lot of young men who go from the University to apply for law licence Monday. They are Messrs. Warren, Overman, Brinson, McAlister and Hughes. They will meet with success in their profession.

Cleanliness is next to godliness, and almost as difficult; especially so when the bath-room is not given as good attention as should be shown it. Charity begins at home and everybody has got to bathe.

Prof. Edwin Anderson Alderman, one of the State's most polished talkers, has consented to address the National Educational Association which meets in a few weeks in Florida. Dr. Kingsbury, of the *Wilmington Messenger*, aptly says: "You can expect from him some choice thoughts, expressed in choice English." The *Messenger* is generally right on everything except foot-ball.

By the way, we haven't heard Foot Ball mentioned since the "Jollification Meeting" held soon after the Thanksgiving game. How soon the mighty are forgotten!

Dr. Hume, the South's foremost English scholar, was in Asheville last week, attending a meeting of the Executive Board of the Southern Biblical Assembly. The Assembly which aims to teach its members a methodical way of reading the Bible will meet in Asheville this summer, and will be in session three weeks.

Dr. Winston is highly complimented by press and people for his portrayal of "Martin Luther" in the "Reformation" at Raleigh last week.

Dr. Kemp P. Battle has abandoned the idea of writing a biography of the late Senator Vance. North Carolinians are so slow to patronize the literary efforts of her sons and daughters, that it is a matter of great surprise that they are as liberal in their productions as they are.

The Ramblers.

The peculiar minstrelsy known as the "Varsity Ramblers," intend to enliven their fellow students and friends on "the Hill" during this term. The membership is limited, and well organized.

With some of the best musicians in the University, and 'careful training' under the teaching of the Supreme Director, they are planning to give their friends Saturday night serenades. Red is the Ramblers' colors.

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