

The Tar Heel.

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA.

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The TAR HEEL has been criticised for not devoting more of its space to foot-ball and athletics. The criticism, however, we think, is without foundation. We admit that the TAR HEEL is the official organ of the Athletic Association and that it is our duty to lay stress upon athletics and in this we have not failed.

We are deeply interested in every feature of athletics and believe that athletics in its purity is the basis upon which to build a strong, vigorous college life and spirit. But while this is true, still there are other interests as vital as athletics, which it is our duty to emphasize. Athletics alone would make our life dwarfed and one-sided. The plain duty of the TAR HEEL is to make this life well rounded and harmonious.

Obviously then, we cannot, in justice to ourselves and those whom we serve, devote all our spare time and space to any one question in which we are interested.

Every year the question of Caps and Gowns is brought to life and discussed by the Senior Class.

As usual it has been resurrected this year, and the present class has appointed a committee to look into the matter. Now we are of the opinion that this question should receive some definite settlement. Let us make Caps and Gowns the established custom of our institution, or let them alone and stop talking about them. There should be good reasons for our action, however, whether it be favorable or unfavorable.

We are opposed to Caps and Gowns and offer these reasons as the basis of our opposition.

First, the precedent is against them. For years Caps and Gowns have been strangers in our midst. We are not sure that they have been used here since the war. Then why drag out an old custom that would be regarded as an innovation?

Second, Caps and Gowns would incur an unnecessary expense. The great majority of our men are poor, and cannot afford to spend money for that which would be absolutely useless after the graduating exercises are over.

Third, Caps and Gowns are out of date. They are relics of the old age of classicism which has passed away for ever. They were supposed to grace the ripe scholar, the man who had absorbed all the learning of his time. But the case is different now. College graduates are no longer ripe scholars. They are rath-

er men who are trained to think quickly and vigorously. The age that gave birth to Caps and Gowns possessed an established order of things. It was not necessary for men to think, they were required to adapt themselves to this order. Now there is no established order; every man is a king, reformer and thinker. Instead of spending his time absorbing the learning of the past, the man of this age must think and plan for the future. Hence, from the very nature of things the present age cannot produce ripe scholars, and Caps and Gowns, the insignia of ripe scholarship, are out of date.

We boast that our age is practical, that it seizes upon essentials and ignores nonessentials, and yet we desire to deck out in female togery a crowd of brawny fellows who are anxious to get out into the world's strife. Leave Caps and Gowns to the women; men have no use for them.

There is a type of man in our midst that the University could well do without. He belongs to a genus that is rare, but found here nevertheless. You see him on the campus, encounter him when you are trying to collect money for the football team, the TAR HEEL, or any other College enterprise. He is the fellow that is able to sport around College, ride to Durham when he feels inclined to do so, but is "dead broke, old man" when you appeal to him in the interest of athletics or any public spirited enterprise in which we all may be interested.

We wish we could hold these fellows up to the public gaze in such a way that their pettiness, selfishness, and unprogressiveness might fully dawn upon them.

We have no harsh words for the poor fellow who is really unable to contribute; but for the man who lavishes money upon himself and his own pleasures, and then refuses to respond to the cry for help from his collegemates who are endeavoring to maintain the prestige and good name of their College, for this man, we can have nothing but contempt. He is unpatriotic, his mind is engrossed with himself. Such men should be kicked out and refused association with respectable gentlemen.

Some men never grasp the situation and invariably do the wrong thing at the most inopportune moments. Those who visited at least one of the Literary Societies last Saturday night will testify to the truth of this statement. There were about twenty new men in the Hall and it was the plain duty of every member to impress these men with the dignity of Society and the importance of Society work, but what did they do? With but few exceptions the speeches were of such a character as would not be tolerated in the average cross-roads debating club. Seniors who should have placed examples before the new men failed completely or made no attempt at all.

This is the way to stimulate Society work. This is the way to regain our ante-bellum glory. Such men have no right in Society. Membership is optional, and when a man joins Society it is prima facie evidence that he is anxious to work. Let the drones and dead heads get

out and allow the men who do wish to do something for unhampered action. We would like to apologize to the new members for these men and assure them that the performance was no criterion of what they may expect.

Go to work early and make the most of your Society.

Notes and Comments.

It is the report about college that the time honored custom of celebrating University Day by a holiday is to be departed from this year, or rather that the holiday is to be postponed until January.

Why the faculty have been so suddenly and violently seized with the saving spirit is not clear.

The twelfth of October is scheduled and advertised as a holiday and has been one for many a year. During January we are just recovering from an overdose of holiday; and then besides, it would seem that so rare (may this be the last) and so important an event as a President's inauguration might justify an additional day off.

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We are so poor in patriotic songs, and the like that the appearance of anything new in that line is very refreshing. By far the best college song we have heard lately is "A Bow of Ribbon," by Mr. W. S. Myers. It is not only happy in sentiment but is set to a bright catchy tune.

Although the TAR HEEL is essentially the organ of the Athletic Association, and as such cannot devote much space to magazine matter; still it desires to reflect college life from every standpoint and would be more than glad to receive songs, verses, etc.

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If there is one character in college that stands high in public contempt it is the booter. He gets but little quarter among his fellows and seems without one redeeming quality. But he is not near so bad as that, in fact looked at in the proper light, the booter is one of the noblest of men. Laying aside all prejudice you will have to agree that the object of his life is to make others happy. The nearer he comes to this the better booter he is.

He goes to one and says, "Sir, I am a confirmed evolutionist," to another, "I can read Beowulf in the original backwards," and yet another, "I have annotated the Congressional Record for 1877." He asks advice, seeks a front seat and does many other things simply and only to gladden the heart of another. Be charitable and give him a chance.

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We are sorry that anyone has seen fit to take offense at the reference made last week to the University Dramatic Club. At the same time however we have nothing to take back.

It is a bad precedent to determine any University club by selection. If it is impossible to have the men try for places some method ought to be adopted by which application for places might be made.

A dramatic club offers such great possibilities for pleasure and profit that its composition should be made up with great care.

Foot-ball.

Saturday Oct. 3, at Cambridge; Harvard 6, Williams 0.

At Princeton, Princeton 44, Rutgers 0.

At Philadelphia, U. of Pa. 40, Bucknell 0.

At Ithaca, Cornell 22, Syracuse University 0.

At West Point, West Point 27, Tufts 0.

[Communicated.]

It is a sad fact that some people are not satisfied with the earth but insist upon having it fenced in.

The Dancing Hall has been turned over to the Committee to be used as the Common's dining room. This was done to save the expense of putting up another building; but it was expressly stated in the contract that the annual dances should not be interfered with. Now the letter of this contract will no doubt be carried out, but we fear that the spirit of the contract has already been broken. Every dancing hall and ours is no exception, needs two dressing rooms. At present one of our dressing rooms has been entirely destroyed and the other one is undergoing despoliation, being submerged in grease and filled with bicycles. This, we think, is breaking the spirit of the contract, and we (the dancing men of U. N. C.) hope that the Committee will be brought to account for this.

DANCERS.

Junior Election.

At a meeting of the Junior Class the following officers were elected:

J. D. McCormick, President.

P. D. Gold, Vice-President.

O. M. Suttle, Secretary.

C. H. Johnston, Historian.

L. J. Bell, Orator.

P. H. Ely, Poet.

J. M. Carson, Prophet.

E. T. Cheek, Essayist.

[This notice should have appeared last week, but we were unable to find men who could tell the result of the election. ED.]

New Telegraph Office.

For a long time the need of a downtown telegraph office has been very manifest. It has been a great inconvenience to carry or send telegrams to the depot, and everyone will be delighted to hear that the difficulty has been remedied.

The new office is in the rear of Yearby's Drug Store and is under the management of Mr. C. E. Best '98.

University Record.

The University is soon to begin the publication of a periodical under the above name. It will be a quarterly announcement, in pamphlet form, of facts and figures relating to the University. This quarterly is intended for the benefit of the friends and especially the alumni of the University, who are constantly demanding information of our progress. It will be made interesting and attractive, and will, by its authentic presentation of our condition, be a powerful instrument for the stimulation of that pride and interest which every North Carolinian may so justly feel in his University.

Class Teams.

Why are the various classes so tardy in organizing their teams this fall? Usually the class teams are in good working order by this time of the season. See to it that your Captains and Managers are elected at once. You cannot afford to neglect this matter, for the class teams are proving valuable aids to the Varsity eleven.

Lake and Joyner who will probably make the team this year got their first training on their class team.

Others who cannot at first contest with the strong varsity men can develop themselves here and take the place of the old players on future teams. Organize and get to work.