

The Tar Heel.

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA.

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Published every Saturday by the General Athletic Association.

Subscription Price, \$1.50 per Year.
Payable in ADVANCE or during first term.
SINGLE COPIES, 5 CENTS.

All matter intended for publication should be addressed to the Editor-in-chief and accompanied by name of writer.

Entered at the Post Office in Chapel Hill, N. C. as second-class mail matter.

The establishment of a University Magazine has been extensively discussed of late and some steps for the accomplishment of this idea are being made by two committees from the literary societies.

We *must* have it, and the only way to make its publication a success is to have it controlled and regulated by some rigid and well defined organization. Individual support or even control by the unorganized student body at large, is unsafe and unreliable. The venture must be undertaken by some organized body of men whose very organization will be a surety for its success.

Our classes have no such organization, nor has any other set of men in the University except the literary societies. They must take the matter in hand or else it will collapse. If they have their own interests at heart, they will do so, because such a publication, with its editors elected entirely from the society members, will attract men into the societies and conduce in a great measure to their influence in college life.

Furthermore, all members of the societies who have the University's best interests at heart should assist in carrying out the project. Shall we alone of the great universities be without some such publication through whose medium our literary efforts may be stimulated and their results preserved? No, it must not be so. This side of our University training has been neglected long enough already. Now is the time to make a start in this direction, and the way to do it is to establish a University Magazine.

There have so far been two gymnastic contests, and both of these were on such stormy days that it was impossible to have any out-door exhibitions. Why is this?

If the track team was scheduled for some races, pole-vaulting and such like exercises, these occasions would be much more attractive, while, as it is, they are witnessed by very few students and small notice is attracted to them. Why not pick out sunny days and have something that will increase interest in gymnasium work, instead of these boring indoor performances which interest no one except the participants? Rope-skipping may be very amusing to the skipper, but what a dead bore to the spectator!

Vanderbilt Letter.

Vanderbilt University,
Feb. 2, 1897.

At last the students at Vanderbilt are breathing easy. The examinations of the first term are over. Some are congratulating themselves on their passes, and are in a good humor with all the world. Others are regretting that they "rushed" society too much in the past, and have determined to lead hermits' lives for the next five months.

There is very little of interest going on in athletics just now; and all are either reviewing the past football season, or speculating as to our strength in baseball in the spring. This was an off season in football with Vanderbilt. Several games were lost in the earlier part of the season on account of the large amount of new material in the team; but by hard work a winning team was put in the field on Thanksgiving Day. Several of the old men will be back next year; and with O'Connor as captain, a very successful year is expected.

The University of Georgia is to be congratulated on its enviable record in football last season. Georgia played always a clean and scientific game, and well deserves the championship of the S. I. A. Association.

Vanderbilt was honored by the annual meeting of the S. I. A. A. in December last. This was a very important meeting and many measures for the good of athletics in the South were passed. It was also determined to hold the annual Field Day of the Association at Vanderbilt.

The stand taken by the Southern colleges in refusing to play the peripatetic "Yale" team of "barkers" certainly is deserving of much credit. It is to be hoped that the very cold reception given to teams of this sort by Southern colleges will stop these money making trips.

Lately Prof. E. E. Barnard, an alumnus of Vanderbilt, was honored by a medal from the Royal Astronomical Society. Prof. Barnard has had charge of the Lick Observatory, and now is at the Yerkes Observatory at the University of Chicago.

Vanderbilt is becoming a very popular place for fraternity conventions. Delta Kappa Epsilon held its convention here last fall, and Kappa Alpha, Sigma Nu, and Beta Theta Pi expect to meet here during the Centennial Exposition.

Dr. H. C. Tolman, with Prof. Harrington, of the University of N. C., has just brought out a book on Greek and Roman Mythology, a publication that the South may well be proud of. Dr. Baskerville has contributed his "Southern Men of Letter Series."

Vanderbilt's prospects for baseball are very bright. Our pitchers and catcher of last year's team will play again, and some very good material is in the University.

The University of Va. is to be felicitated on her recent acquirements by the Fayerweather will. Capital is so very scarce lately with Southern colleges that a hundred and fifty thousand is not to be sneezed at. It is unfortunate that the distribution of the estate has been so long delayed.

The Hustler.

Psychology.

[Communicated].

This is a word fraught with a multitude of fears and misgivings for the Freshman and Sophomore, and a still greater multitude of woes for the Junior and Senior.

We would ask, why is this thus? Is Psychology the bugbear of undergraduate studies? Is it the "Jonah" of the college curriculum? Indeed it is both of these, so far as getting a grade is concerned. Then we should ask, why is this thus? Is Psychology so deep and impenetrable that only the chosen few can comprehend it; or is it simply that the head of the department wishes to make it appear so? If the former be true, does it not seem probable that the chosen few would be the brainiest and most studious men in the class, the men who have proven their talent, ability and zeal by their previous record? But this is, as a rule, not the case. A large proportion of the men who pass on psychology do poorly in other departments, and many of the men who fail have, only once or twice before, fallen short of the honor mark.

It might be argued that this is because psychology requires a different or, some might say, a higher function of the intelligence. If this be so to the extent to which the marks seem to indicate, it should be stricken from the college curriculum, and only those who possess this very peculiar "subjective individuality" should pursue the course.

To prove that the marks on psychology are, with few exceptions, just indicators neither of brains nor industry, we will cite two instances which we think representative.

One man in a class of recent years, who has since proven by the marks of the Professor that he possesses this peculiar individuality, studied every lesson thoroughly, became interested and read one or more parallel articles on every subject, besides discussing the questions freely on class. He obtained grade "4."

Another man who has never had a reputation for brilliancy, read over only one lesson during the whole term, did no parallel reading and took no part in the discussions on class, but "crammed up" for examination, and he also attained to grade "4."

What does this mean? Is the Professor partial? We have never heard him accused of it. The problem seems unfathomable.

Bright and industrious men, who are interested in the subject cannot "get through" or at least can't get a grade which represents their talent and application.

Is it the fault of the teaching? The Professor is an excellent psychologist, as far as we are able to judge. He is always logical and concise, goes to the root of every problem, and his lines of argument are almost invariably clear and impregnable; but sometimes, just before he gets to the point, he jumps, or at least if he doesn't, we can't see what he steps on. Again he sometimes makes an illustration without stating the analogy: yet in spite of this, he often puts the question to members of the class, "How does your illustration illustrate the point?"

However, in justice to him, we must say—he often asks if the point is clear to all, and invites discussion. But if every man in the class were to ask every question which occurred to him (the way the more persistent men in the class do, and these seem to be the successful ones), the progress would be at the

rate of about ten pages a month instead of ten a day. Furthermore it is not at all pleasant to a man of the average make-up to air his opinions before so large a body of students.

When the examination comes, the Professor tells his class to "answer the questions in such a way that they will be intelligible to the ordinary wayfaring man." We should like to ask him—how much of the text-book which he uses is "intelligible to the ordinary wayfaring man?" He might say in reply to this, that if the answers were as clear as Mr. Dewey he would be satisfied. But he must remember that all Juniors do not possess the same command over the English language that Mr. Dewey does, and might not be able to express themselves with absolute clearness, even on a point which they perfectly understood.

We contend that he should not psychologically transform himself into the "ordinary—wayfaring—man" when he corrects papers, but if he can see from the answer given that the problem is thoroughly understood by its giver, he should grade him perfect, and not refer it to the above-named animal for consideration.

In this course it seems to be more necessary for a student to make a study of the Professor than of the text-book. We should prefer a little more Psychology and less Williamsology.

Whether our views with regard to this important question are correct or not, the marks show that there is trouble somewhere, and wherever and whatever it is we demand of those in authority that it be removed, even if the course has to be abolished from the curriculum.

This latter we by no means advise, for if properly taught, and properly pursued, we think it would be one of the best, is not *the* best course in college.

STUDENT.

The Horner men of the University on Wednesday of last week organized a club for the purpose of perpetuating pleasant memories of days spent at this renowned institution, and for keeping up a feeling of attachment between those who enter here from this school in the future. The officers and members are

Burton Craige, '97, President,
Stuart Carr, '98, Vice-President,
J. S. Carr, '99, Sect. & Treas.
Jones Fuller, '99, Toast Master.
Eatman, Stanly, Bellamy, W.,
Belden, Craige, Rogers, Carr, C. S.,
Carr, J. S., Carr, J. R., Lamb,
Fuller, Kluttz, Harris, W., Harris,
R., Moore, McKee, Woodard, Lipscomb, Collins, Howard, Bellamy, M.

Mitchell Scientific Society.

On last Tuesday night the Mitchell held its regular monthly meeting. The time was taken up by Professors Cain and Cobb, who discussed respectively "Highway Bridges," and "Some Missing Links."

A Prize.

A prize is offered by the *Hellenian* to the student who will hand in for publication the best article, either serious or comic. The prize will consist of two copies of the Annual.