

The Tar Heel.

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Enthusiasm and appreciation are the two qualities which at present seem to be taking a rest; for they have not of late appeared to any great extent in our college life. By enthusiasm we do not mean the isolated brayings or forced shouts of individuals scattered here and there, but rather the united applause of the whole college, an enthusiasm and interest not expressed by voice only, but by the manner and bearing of the whole being. Last week we met Oak Ridge and were victorious, notwithstanding the fact that their team is a strong one and had previously overcome us early in the season. Monday we defeated Tennessee and Tuesday we shut her out. We had every reason to be jubilant, but we were anything but that. In the game played here there was an unusually small amount of cheering and there seems to have been a general lack of interest and enthusiasm.

Why this state of affairs? Is it because we take it for granted that Carolina is invincible, and therefore needs no encouragement? If our team has a walk over that is no sufficient reason for the silence of the college.

The lack of appreciation may all be a matter of appearance; it is possible that we do really appreciate what has been done for us. However that may be, let us hereafter, under all circumstances, show the team that we believe in them and fully understand and properly regard all that they have labored for and accomplished for us.

A few weeks since at our annual inter-society debate, we were intellectually refreshed by a performance which could be called a debate only by courtesy, for it was in reality an oratorical contest—without oratory. The Fresh-Soph debate which occurred last Friday evening shows that the art of debating has not yet departed from among us. The speakers were interested in their subject and wanted to win. This is as it should be. The collecting of a column of references and figures and the reading of them to an audience do not constitute a debate; and a speaker who merely recites as a matter of duty, without feeling some interest in his subject, need not expect to keep his

audience spell-bound nor always awake. It is to be hoped that our coming debaters will keep up the interest in their work.

The Sewanee Letter.

The baseball season opens with good prospects for a successful team, although the late beginning of the team and the bad weather have thus far prevented thorough practise. Many of the '99 team returned and the new material is good.

Our annual debate with Vanderbilt will be held about the middle of May in the chapel of that University. The question will be selected by Sewanee, while Vanderbilt will choose the side she is to defend.

During the winter Mr. Edward Juntard of New York gave fifty thousand dollars to the Grammar School for the building of a new dormitory. The Vice-Chancellor is also in receipt of a donation of five thousand dollars to be devoted to the construction of a section room also for the preparatory department. Work is about to be begun on a chapel for the theological students. The new Hodgson Memorial Infirmary is nearing completion. Contractors and workmen are very busy about the University, in consequence of these improvements. The clock and chimes given by Reverend G. W. Douglas D. D. of New York have just been placed in Brestin Tower.

The seventh volume of Cap and Gown to be published in the summer promises to be one of the most successful of the series.

Coach Suter has been recalled to take charge of the baseball team and will be with us through the football season, also.

The Sewanee Purple.

The Fresh-Soph Debate.

The eighth semi-annual inter-society debate was held in Gerrard Hall last Friday evening. The query discussed was: "Resolved, that the constitutional amendment proposed by the last legislature should become a part of our State Constitution." Messrs. A. P. Spell and T. A. Adams, of the Phi Society, spoke on the affirmative; while the negative was argued by Messrs. C. A. Jonas and C. E. Maddy of the Di.

Mr. Spell, the first speaker, maintained that the amendment would place the ballot in the hands of competent voters. History proves the negro's inability to govern. He has made a failure at governing in Hayti and wherever else he has been allowed to try. The proposed amendment would not interfere with the protection of the negro's life and property. The measure would not be out of harmony with our traditions, for all along there have been restrictions on suffrage in some of the states. The United States has put a restriction on voting in all her newly acquired territory. The amendment would purify politics, and put our State in the hands of white people. It would insure better laws, because the white men could then vote their sentiments. Finally, the speaker thought, the proposed amendment is constitutional.

This is agreed to by some of the ablest jurists in the country.

The next speaker was Mr. C. A. Jonas, who spoke on the negative, and who, in substance, said that the amendment should not be made a party question; in settling this question party hatred and race prejudice should be laid aside. Our government was founded upon the doctrine of the equality of man, and we cannot pass this amendment without being false to that doctrine. The proposed amendment is not necessary to prevent negro rule. That can be prevented without the amendment. If it is passed more white men will be disfranchised than negroes. If section five of the constitutional amendment be declared unconstitutional after it has been incorporated into our laws fifty thousand white men in North Carolina will be disfranchised. The poll tax provision would result in the disfranchisement of large numbers of white men. In Louisiana one hundred thousand white men are disfranchised by an amendment similar to the one proposed here. The number of our representatives in Congress would be reduced by a reduction of ballots in the State.

Mr. T. A. Adams then spoke on the affirmative. He argued that constitutions have to be changed as society grows. The voter is the source of government; and hence the efficiency of the government depends upon the intelligence of the voter. The object of Democracy is good government; and this the present system does not afford, because politics is so largely ruled by demagogues and negro voters. Suffrage is for the benefit of the State as well as of the individual; therefore the interests of the State demand an intelligent vote. The purpose of the amendment is to allow only those to vote who are competent of voting intelligently. By excluding ignorance from the ballot politics would be purified and the government placed in the hands of competent men. The tendency of the present system is to perpetuate ignorance throughout the State and an educational qualification for voting would remedy this evil, and improve society. The amendment according to standard works on constitutional law, is constitutional in its entirety. And lastly the debater argued that the amendment is American and in harmony with the spirit of the times.

Mr. C. E. Maddy, speaking on the negative, closed the debate. He contended that constitutions are the foundations of liberty and that they should not be changed for slight causes. Our fathers established the right of the ballot with the sword, and this right should not be infringed. The proposed measure would lessen interest in politics. Those subject to taxation and military duty ought to be allowed to vote. The negro would not be elevated by being deprived of his vote. The amendment would be class legislation and would be morally wrong. When we re-enter the Union after the Civil War we promised to abide by the results of that war. The political freedom of the negro was one of its results. The proposed measure is not constitutional; and when the fifth

clause is removed on account of its unconstitutionality, the result will be that more white men than negroes will be disfranchised.

The committee to decide the debate, consisting of Judge McRae, Professor Cobb and Dr. Thomas Wilson, decided that the negative had won in the discussion. Both sides, however, were closely contested, and the debate was considered the best inter-society debate heard here in some time.

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