

## THE TAR HEEL

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Since THE TAR HEEL last appeared there has occurred an incident most unfortunate for the University. The steady progress that she has been making for the last four years against hazing has received a check from which it will take years, perhaps, to recover? A Freshman, surprised night before last on a shaded pathway on the campus by a party of Sophomores, and believing that he was to be hazed, fired at one of his assailants and came near to ending his life.

Now the question that comes up in regard to this affair is not "Who was right? or Who was in the wrong?" That is not for us to decide. The question that confronts us is a far graver one. Who is responsible for the existence of a state of affairs that will permit of such an occurrence at the University? And we do not have to go far to find the answer.

The burden of the blame lies upon the Sophomore class. Never in the history of the University has any Sophomore class had less excuse for hazing than has the present one. Last year, as Freshmen, the members of this class were under the protection of the upper classmen. There was practically no hazing in college; yet this fall every indication has pointed toward a return to hazing in its worst form. There is absolutely no excuse for this. Instead of attempting to uphold the ideals of the past few years, the class of '09 has done its utmost to annihilate them. Nor can the Sophomores clear themselves by shifting the blame to students in the professional departments. If the professional students have been sharing in the rowdiness of the last two weeks, the Sophomores have been more than ever under obligations to put it down. Instead of doing so they have joined in.

We do not believe that the hazing that has been going on has expressed the sentiment of the majority of the Sophomore class. Not six hours before the occurrence of the shooting Tuesday evening resolutions were passed by the Sophomores condemning hazing. However resolutions amount to nothing, and the majority of the class has not endeavored to control the minority as it should have done.

Further, though the greater portion of the blame undoubtedly lies on the Sophomores, the Juniors and Seniors cannot escape from sharing in their disgrace. The tendency

toward hazing which has culminated in the affair of Tuesday night was clearly apparent when college opened, and the upper classes should have taken action then. Now it is too late. What does it matter whether the Sophomores in the case intended to haze the Freshman or not? His experiences in the past led him to believe they did. As it happens hazing was not their intention, but as hazing it will be interpreted throughout the state and used to the injury of the University.

"The honor system has been in operation at the University for a number of years, you say. Is it a success?"

Is there a man in college who would hesitate to answer this question in the affirmative? Not one. But let the outsider who asks this question walk into our library and seat himself at our periodical table just inside the door. He picks up the current issue of some popular magazine. An article or a story attracts his attention, and he settles himself for a pleasant half hour. Hardly has he commenced to turn the pages before he is confronted by a blank space where a page ought to be. The leaf in question bore some picture or bit of verse that appealed to the aesthetic sense of some student—and he therefore removed it. Our visitor turns to the newspaper rack. His eye falls upon an attractive headline—but the column beneath it has been neatly removed with a penknife. He may call for some valuable book or piece of noted fiction, and find it either robbed of the information he seeks or missing entirely. However this last occurs but rarely. It is among the newspapers and periodicals that the mutilation is found most frequently—and there it has come to be the rule, rather than the exception.

Now what must our visitor think of our honor system? Surely it cannot seem to him to be in a very healthy condition. We do not mean to say by this that the man who clips an illustration from a magazine in the library would deliberately cheat on examination. We do not believe that. It has merely not occurred to him that the principles involved in each case are the same. It has not crossed his mind that he has the same moral right to enter his fellow student's room in his absence and appropriate his books as he has to mutilate the magazines on the library table. The cases are identical. Or perhaps these students who so hack the property of their fellows have not yet outgrown the scrapbook stage. If that is the case, they would certainly find it much more satisfactory to purchase a pair of shears and a package of antiquated publications from "the original Adam" and go about it at their rooms in earnest.

Whatever may be the cause of this evil, the evil itself must be righted. It has assumed proportions too alarming already. There is only one way to make the change, it must be done by the students themselves. Their attention has now been called to the state of affairs and we are sure that they will see that the necessary change is made immediately.

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### The Senior Election.

Last Tuesday afternoon the Seniors met in the chapel at five o'clock and selected their officers. The election was very quiet, and bore no evidences of having been preceded by "politicking," although it was averred that certain members of the class had been seen rather more frequently than usual around the soda-fountain of late.

Mr. J. J. Parker was chosen president, although Mr. W. H. M. Pittman, who was elected vice-president, ran him a close second. Mr. Parker has been once before the chief magistrate of his tribe, but that time, when Class I was marked upon his registration card, has been almost forgotten.

The other officers chosen were:

D. P. Tillet, secretary.  
J. T. McAden, treasurer.  
W. H. Duls, historian.  
J. W. Haynes, prophet.  
H. H. Hughes, poet.  
W. S. O'B. Robinson, orator.  
T. H. Haywood, statistician.  
Q. S. Mills, reader of last will and testament.  
E. C. Herring, class representative.

J. D. Pemberton, captain of football team.

Miss Daisy Allen, Manager of football team.

W. A. Houck, assistant manager. Messrs. Al Morrison, Charlie Weill, and Willie D. McLean were appointed on a committee to consider the advisability of making a change in the photographer of the Senior pictures. The photographs have been very unsatisfactory during the past few years.

The Senior class this year numbers sixty-five, and at least fifty-five of its numbers came from the Junior class of last year which numbered sixty-eight. Practically every one of these men will graduate, and to all appearances the class that goes out from the University next spring will be the largest ever turned out here. It is needless to say that its members think that it will also be the best.

Dr. C. L. Raper spent the summer studying economic conditions in northern New Jersey, giving especial attention to the great silk manufacturing city of Paterson.

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