

THE TAR HEEL

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MASS MEETINGS

Friday night a mass meeting was held in Chapel which as a mass meet was about as complete a fizzle and failure as was ever pulled off on the Hill. The primary purpose of a mass meeting at Carolina is "to get up enthusiasm", is to go forth and lay violent hands on that much abused thing called "college spirit" and bottle it up to be used in a game next day; is to lure one to Gerrard Hall with the blare of a brass band, force one to listen to an tique jokes, and then yank a yell or two out of one. This is termed "college spirit" and "getting behind the team." Well, jokes and band were present Friday night, but enthusiasm and spirit were not. The crowd sat in chapel and would have gone gently off to sleep had not the band blared forth occasionally. It showed as much spirit as a sick kitten just about to cast off this mortal coil.

The trouble with that mass meeting was that the whole idea was wrong. College spirit is not a something that you can stir up over night using a joke however funny or a yell however noisy as ladles with which to stir. College spirit is not a something that you can cork up in a bottle labelled "shake well before using" and "give two tablespoonfuls in wine glass full of jokes before each game." College spirit is not worked up enthusiasm—not noise and racket. And every mass meeting that is called to stir up college spirit must be a failure.

What is college spirit anyway? It's not noise nor mass meetings, but a presence that stirs and vitalizes; a sense that we are brothers all, sons of the same gracious mother. It's the vital, moving life of the student body, born of a loyalty dauntless, a faith unconquerable, and a love sublime love. It's the very texture and fibre and soul of life. It's deep and you cannot stir it with mass meeting.

A mass meeting is not the cause and source of college spirit, but the expression of it. This is not an editorial on the folly of mass meetings. We are not opposed to mass meetings—we like them, want them, but we want them to come as an expression and result of that deepmoving, thrilling thing that animates all and makes all one. And yells should be given not as a source of college spirit, but as a measure of its fullness.

Something is the matter with "Carolina Spirit. Something is sleeping—or dead.

Somehow we would rather laugh and sneer at some fellow's failure than to cheer him at his success. We would rather look for things to criticize than things to praise. This isn't limited to athletics. It goes through all our life here—we talk more of the University's lack than of its fullness; we see the crack in the Old East Building, and forgot that that building and its hallowed associations is a precious heritage to us; we call this a "hell of a hole, and think we have said something bright. No, college spirit is deeper than a mass meeting—more vital, closer, fuller.

Some of these nights after the lights have winked go out to the old Davie Poplar and look up and around you. Be by yourself and watch the calm loveliness of the moon sift through the leaves and play on the campus as it rolls away from you. See if you don't feel more decent, cleaner; the presence of "one quiet thought"; and a stronger love for this old place; and then "home returning soothly swear, was never scene so sadly fair".

Ah well, you'd probably break your shins over a chair in your room getting to bed—and college spirit is a darn funny thing anyway.

"The students confidently expect a victory over Washington and Lee and the University of North Carolina, two colleges which have a much larger attendance than we have. Have you thought why we have been consistently beating them for the last five or six years? Well, the gist of the matter is this: the school has been loyally backing the team; for two men that come out for football in most colleges, we have three; for two rooters that they have, we have four."—*The Virginia Tech.*

The senior class held a very important meeting last Friday in Gerrard Hall. Several important committees were appointed. The following men were appointed by the president as the "Stunt Committee": L. N. Morgan, B. D. Stephenson, J. C. Whitaker, L. L. Orr, and Dave Murchison. Their duty will be to investigate various schemes for a stunt, to report to the class, and then to have charge of preparing the stunt.

C. E. Teague and Bill Hendrix were appointed to look after getting senior pictures in the *Packety Pack*.

C. P. Quincy, Blake Isley, and Higgins were appointed to look after the all important question of getting proper and artistic millinery for the seniors.

The banquet committee appointed consisted of Frank P. Barker, Bill Graves, Thad Reece, Dick Wharton, and C. K. Burgess.

C. E. Norman delivered a ringing address on the present lack of college spirit. It was voted by the class that his remarks be put in writing and be printed in the *Tar Heel*.

Fred Drane, last year's treasurer, made a somewhat detailed report, the substance of which was that the class owed about \$15.50.

The "Gamecock" says that the devotees of the pig-skin art at the University of South Carolina are going to decorate the score boards with numerals on the right side this year.

V. P. I.'s football horizon—to use their expression—has a roseate hue. Hodson, however, whose punts played the deuce with us last year is not back with them,

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