

THE TAR HEEL

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THE PRESS ASSOCIATION

The proposal of a "North Carolina Collegiate Press Association" has met a responsive note among the college editors of the State which only demonstrate the already conscious need for such an organization, and assures its success. The immediate service that such an organization will render is that of bettering the service of the college newspapers of the State, and through this process of unification of interest, of knowledge of each others' problems there can be an infinite amount done for the cause of higher education in the State. This battle just getting under way in real earnest must continue.

Letters signifying approval, and pledging hearty support has already been received from the editors of the Old Gold and Black, The Trinity Chronicle, the Davidsonian, and the Salemite. In a few days another statement will go out from the Tar Heel, embodying the suggestions that have come in, and making some suggestions around which the beginning of a definite organization can proceed. We shall be glad to get from any of the college editors of the State any suggestions that will facilitate the work of getting the organization under way.

A suggestion has come from Editor Cassell of the Davidsonian that the literary publications also be included in the organization, which has met the enthusiastic approval of the Editor of the Carolina Magazine, Tyre C. Taylor. Perhaps in the immediate thing that the organization seeks there is no very definite place for literary publications, but in the ultimate, the complete realization of the idea, there will be a very definite place for them. We shall be glad to have the opinions of the newspaper editors with regard to this.

STUDENT FORUM

FRESHMEN AND FRATERNITIES.

Editor Tar Heel.

Dear Sir:—

It is a much disputed question as to whether the present system of not allowing freshmen to join fraternities is so satisfactory as the system followed in the overwhelming majority of colleges and universities, where freshmen are permitted to join fraternities. A happy medium would seem to give better results than are obtained at Carolina at present, where the situation is decidedly unsatisfactory. I believe, to the great majority of those concerned, a plan whereby a freshman is required to pass his first term's work, or a major portion of it, before being admitted into a fraternity has been followed with good results in many schools.

Pledging should be permitted in the early part of the term. This would serve to stimulate the freshman to pass his work. In lieu of passing all the first term's work, a certain number of laws should be required of freshmen who fail a subject, before being eligible for a fraternity.

This change, it seems to me, would be best for the University and all concerned. The long-drawn-out rushing season takes considerable of the time and energy of the fraternity men, and likewise the freshmen who are rushed. Sometimes group animosities are aroused over particular men that several groups may be rushing. The time and energy saved by a shorter rushing season could be used to improve the scholarship and participation in college activities of the fraternity men. A more congenial and friendly spirit would exist among the fraternities themselves. The freshmen, whom the present rule is designed to benefit—and does not—would be saved considerable time and distraction from their studies, which the present system demands.

It seems contradictory that here at Carolina, where freshmen even are allowed the most liberal kind of self-government that they are not considered as being of sufficient maturity to join a Greek-letter fraternity. What about trying a change? It is needed!

Wm. D. HARRIS.
Law '21.

APOLOGYS TO PEPYS

Up early at seven by the bell in the castle tower, with a dark brown taste insoluble from recent meeting of the Union Club. So to classes where all the morning doing business and thence to dinner at Swine. Did observe many new ties and it very strange withall, why wear them when donors may not observe? mine own collection hereunto not unpacked. Journeying hither and yonder did shake beaucoup des mains and noted great sufficiency of pre-exam-hidden decks resurrected. To a campfire supper where one did inquire if that day Swain Hall served onions, so at best leisure wrote resignation to aforementioned club which received much moralizing on life in a coed college. Did read in the Carolina Journal of stacked beds and from much pedlar experience gave dissertation to skeptics proving stage not set for pictures. Interrupted by divers and sundry wails from roommate who that night had eaten beans at S. H. neither raw nor cooked. He soon eased and did secularly discourse of microscopic reduction of board bill. Strove not with him, but after writing sad letter did to bed late.

STEVENS INSTITUTE

The approach of the swimming season finds our team nearing perfection. The first meet has been scheduled with Johns Hopkins for January 7th, while arrangements are being made for a trial meet with the Montclair A. C. as early as this Friday, the 17th. Coach Mitchell has been working the men three days a week, and is now concentrating on the correction of minor details.

PRESENT PROGRAM NOT AN OVER-NIGHT OUTBURST BUT IN A GREATER EXTENT

(Continued from Page One)

latest to which I have access) the University of North Carolina in 1918 was able to spend on each of its students the sum of \$264. During that same year Iowa was spending \$323 on each of her students; Florida, to the South of us, spent \$347 on each of her students; (almost \$100 more per man); Michigan spent \$300; Virginia spent \$320; and Kentucky spent \$371. During that year the enrollments were a bit lower than was expected when the appropriations for maintenance were made, and it is possible that some institutions were able to spend a few more dollars per man than usual. But the significant thing is that North Carolina was far below the average.

For the past year the University has spent roughly 242 dollars on each of her students upon an average, while the amounts spent by the other colleges of the State ranges from about \$130 per student by one of the colleges for women up to \$271 that Trinity spent upon each of her students. At the same time we find that Haverford College (of Pennsylvania which corresponds to the Guilford of North Carolina) spent about \$775 upon each of its students; Wesleyan (the Trinity of Ohio) spent \$400 on each of its students and Williams (the Wake Forest of Massachusetts) spent close to \$500 upon each of its students.

And thus it is easily seen that the work that the colleges of North Carolina have been doing is about on an equal scale with the work that has been going on in the public and high schools. In fact the recent advancement has been much faster in the public and high schools than it has been among the higher institutions of learning. That's why it was necessary last fall to turn away from the college doors a number of applicants that has been variously estimated at anywhere from 1,500 to 5,000. It would be serious enough to have to turn away one man, but when it is "hundreds," it comes to the point where it is compelling.

The high schools are going forward this year. The recent report of Superintendent Brooks is perhaps one of the greatest records of public educational advancement that the State has been able to record. And if the colleges of the State do nothing to take care of this rising tide in the public and the high schools, they will not only be deluged with applicants, but will even be submerged. The colleges and the University must push forward. It is inevitable. The only remaining question is: Shall we meet the situation now, or wait until it becomes worse?

And right in the midst of this overwhelming situation comes an obstructer who poses as a public educator (and who chooses to call all those who are fighting for the cause of education in North Carolina "promoters") and suggests that all that we need in North Carolina is more junior colleges, or not so much junior college as a half-breed, a cross between a high school and a college. In his lengthy statement he seems to be unable to see that the several parts of our educational system are units of a large whole, but who would divert the attention of North Carolina from an immediate and pressing proposition, and who would waste the money of the people of the State of what might be called in common parlance a half-baked proposition. He contends that he is pleading for the cause of the public and high school system. That is being cared for by the Superintendent of Public Instruction, and is already more adequately cared for than are the colleges of the State. There is no man in North Carolina who is fighting for the cause of higher education to the discredit of the public and high school system; there is no man, I believe, fighting for these higher institutions that does not realize that their growth is dependent upon the public and high schools, and that the future welfare of the State is dependent upon the complete and successful carrying out of a whole system. All must go forward together. And any man who tries to meet a great, organic situation with a make-shift must surely fail to appreciate the full significance of the situation.

North Carolina stands in a maze of obligations to herself. She cannot prosper one part and neglect the other. Education is the foundation for a fuller life. She cannot carry it forward in bits. And in this time of depression, she cannot afford to spend her money on a temporary measure. She can only proceed on the basis of permanency.

And the thing—the greatest thing for the State to do is to become thoroughly conscious of where she stands; is to become thoroughly conscious that she can only delay the cause of education. She cannot delay it. And it is because she has already delayed that the demand is so great

today. To delay further would be tragic, for one part of the system is slowly, but surely going forward. If we delay much longer to provide for the balance of the system, we will soon find ourselves in a tangle in which it will be well-nigh impossible to disentangle ourselves. The great shame of the present situation is that some feel that these demands are a sudden outburst, and to resist the demands for awhile and they will die down—that they will spend themselves. But this demand is organic. It can spend itself only as it realizes it must be met. It is possible to delay it, but not even that for much longer. You can't suppress a volcano.

It is unfortunate that right now, our present needs, and past unmet obligations should have banded themselves together to be met at a time when North Carolina is depressed,—at a time when the people of the State are experiencing a loss of two hundred million dollars in the period of a year. But during the past five years the State has gained about five billion dollars. When the present situation has passed over, and the chaff has been cleared away, North Carolina will find that she is abundantly able to provide the necessities of her own life. When the present pangs have released their grip upon the people, they will return to the thing to which they were coming when the present situation struck them—providing for the thing that contributes more than all others to a full life—education. We must see through the chaff, and meet the present needs.

And as this present demand is met, or postponed, we should realize that this demand is only to meet the present, urgent situation. And that there is a vast field beyond the present reach of the fullest pretense of our present system that yet remains to be approached and dealt with. We must travel the full road that lays before us. We can skip none of it.

For instance, we have at the University the School of Commerce, the School of Journalism, the School of Music that are all in their incipient stages, and which must be allowed to realize. To do this will require time and money over-and-above the present demands that have been presented to the State. There are today enough people leaving this State to study these subjects to people fair sized schools, and by the time that these several schools can be thoroughly developed there will be hundreds upon hundreds of students that will present themselves. And these students will come out of North Carolina life. These schools are already started. They must grow.

But the school that is perhaps less self-sustaining than all others is the Graduate School, which is just now getting under complete way. The University must provide for students who propose to go further than the four years—it must provide for at least three or four years of more advanced work before it can really call itself a University. To give this advanced instruction is expensive. But this sort of work must be provided for, or else we must continue to send our graduate students beyond the State, and continue, as it has been necessary for the last several years, to draw our faculty members from other States and other institutions. It is high time that we were training our own men who are to conduct our own system. It is

time that we were providing for our own people who are demanding this opportunity, even though they never conduct our own system.

When all of these, and the School of Medicine, the Pharmacy School, the Law School, the School of Public Welfare, the Engineering Schools, etc., have been enabled to meet the present demands made upon them, and are prepared to meet the increasing demands of the future, there will still be other things that we must accomplish in the field of education. A broad expanse lies ahead of us that we must explore.

We have no school of fine arts of any sort. We have no school of architecture, landscape or building. We have no divinity school in the State. We have no school of dentistry. Last year North Carolina furnished far more than fifty per cent of the students of one of the best Southern dental schools, and sent hundreds of others to other schools. All these we must ultimately provide for ourselves.

And so, we might look farther, and farther and see the things with which we are to be faced. But I feel sure we have gone far enough to indicate that there is something before us to be done. I hope I have gone far enough to show that the present appropriations that the State has been asked for are only to meet a present condition, and that the demand upon the State for educational support is going to grow heavier, and ever heavier. And that the present need, with its ever constant increase, must sometime be met.

The cause can't be defeated. No one wants to defeat it. Its responsibility accumulates and grows. The financial depression makes it difficult to meet today. It will be still more difficult two years hence. The responsibility is heavy now because others have shirked it. Shall we

again shirk it, and pass it on, letting it ever increase in size, while the State continues to suffer because of its unmet obligations to itself?

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