

THE TAR HEEL

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THOSE TEN LETTERS.

"All those who have written those ten letters to folks back home urging the home folks to write their representatives in the legislature to balance some of North Carolina's wealth against her educational poverty, raise their hand! Will you count the votes, Mr. Secretary?"

Mr. Secretary sticks the end of his pencil in his mouth and hesitates to announce the result. Why? Because those letters have not been written. What's the use for us to get excited about what someone else fails to do when we, who are the most vitally concerned, do not stir ourselves?

Practically every business man in Chapel Hill has taken up the cudgel and has been spending money during the last sixty days in an effort to convince the people of the state that they can and should respond to the present need. Patterson Brothers, Eubanks Drug Company, the Chapel Hill Garage, J. Frank Pickard, Andrews Cash Store Company, The Peoples Bank, The University Agency, The Book Exchange, Essie Brothers, S. Bernan, Gooch's Cafe, the Pickwick, Chapel Hill Hardware Company, and The Tar Heel have each one gone to the expense of running an advertisement in an effort to get the state and the students behind this proposition.

The citizens of the state have gone to Raleigh and staged a demonstration in behalf of the bond issue and have had a hearing before the finance committees. The University has presented to the officials one of the completest, and clearest cut statements of its case of any of the institutions of the state in an effort to get across this proposition.

The House and Senate Finance committees now have this budget under advisement. Shortly their recommendations will be made, and the final action will be taken by the two bodies.

There is yet time for the students to get in the fight. There is yet the best time. If you believe that we are right, you shouldn't mind taking up the fight now. Don't delay. Those of us who have not done so, should get those letters off at once; or get off the balance of the ten, if some have already been sent. The fight is not finished until the vote is taken.

THE STARVING.

Elsewhere in this paper is an explanation of the two organizations seeking contributions for the suffering people of the Old World, and the place to where contributions can be sent.

Mr. Hoover's campaign is for the sufferers of Central Europe. The Near East Committee's campaign is for the Armenians.

Checks for the former should be written as instructed in the article, and sent to the Y. M. C. A. Secretary, or to The Tar Heel. These will be immediately forwarded to the New York headquarters.

Those contributing to the Near East Relief Fund should send their contributions to Mr. J. A. Holmes, as explained.

The cause needs no emphasis. The Tar Heel would like to urge that those students who are in a position to do so would make their contributions today. It is a cause that appeals to everyone of us, and what is to us a rather small amount may mean the difference between life and death for those residing in the devastated sections of the Old World.

COMMUNITY CLUB WILL HAVE "CLEAN UP" WEEK

The Community Club at a meeting last Friday decided to inaugurate a "Clean Up" in the near future. There is no regular cleaning up system in the town, and something must be done to better conditions.

Some method so that the students could co-operate with the club in this matter was discussed. Especially around the post office and up town where the students congregate, there is a lot of waste paper lying around. The club wants every man to throw his trash in a can and thus help in keeping the town looking respectable.

During the fall a general clean-up was urged by the Community Club and for a while this worked very good. Since then it seems to have been forgotten, and the Club has decided to bring the matter before the townspeople and the students once more.

DEBATE PRELIMINARIES ARE HELD AT DAVIDSON

(N. C. Collegiate Press News Service)

On Friday night the Eumenean and Philanthropic Literary societies of Davidson College held preliminaries to choose candidates for the College debating teams. Four men and an alternate were chosen by each society. The inter-society finals are scheduled for March 4th. At that time two teams of two principals and one alternate each will be chosen.

Debates have been arranged with Wake Forest College and with Mercer University of Macon, Ga. The query as submitted is to be, "Resolved, That the United States should cancel the loans made to her allies during the great World War."

With the society preliminaries in the Fresh-Soph debates the previous Monday, the students had a busy week in debating.

FACT AND COMMENT

On Thursday night Prof. Koch gave a lecture in Phillips Hall on "Community Drama." This lecture was a part of the Welfare School course in Community Recreation. Mr. Koch showed some very beautiful slides on his work in North Dakota.

A children's clinic is being conducted at the Chapel Hill high school by Dr. Bradley under the auspices of the Board of Health with the school authorities co-operating. Dr. Bradley examines the school children for ailments of the eye, ear and throat, diagnoses their trouble and prescribes the proper procedure for remedying the same.

Dr. George Howe, Dean of the College of Liberal Arts, and Dr. G. A. Harrer, Assistant Professor of Latin, are attending the first meeting of the Classical Association of the Southern States in Columbia. Dr. Howe is one of the organizers of this Association, and he responded to the address of welcome, which was delivered by the President of the University of South Carolina.

John W. Umstead, of the class of 1909, was a visitor on the Hill during the week. Mr. Umstead now lives in Tarboro. He is Secretary of the Umstead Insurance Company of Tarboro and General Agent of the Jefferson Standard Life Insurance Company of Greensboro.

Professor Thorndike Saville of the Department of Civil Engineering, delivered a lecture in Charlotte Friday, February the 25th, on "Water Power in North Carolina."

Dr. W. S. Bernard conducted services at the Methodist Episcopal church last Sunday, he delivering a sermon to a capacity congregation.

Chapel Hill, N. C.
February 16, 1921.
To the Editor of the Tar Heel.

Dear Sir:—

I heartily approve of your policy of discussing freely and endeavoring to pass an unbiased judgment on the various public performances, amateur and professional, which are beginning to enrich our life in Chapel Hill. For the interest of your paper itself and for the good of the artistic life of this community it is of importance that you discuss freely and in a vital way such things as the work of the Carolina Playmakers. Neither the public nor the Playmakers themselves can make any use of meaningless puffery and you are quite right to eschew it. I believe, however, that if you are going in for dramatic criticism you ought to bring more discrimination to the task than was exhibited in the article on the fifth series of Folk-Plays, printed in your recent issue. The writer is evidently able and presumably capable of better things. He has, perhaps, simply let his desire to write a "snappy article" rather than a just and helpful criticism run away with him. This may be successful but it is not good journalism.

As a matter of fact, the critique strikes me as much more amateurish than the plays. The only definite criticism of judgment which appears to be at the author's command is the pleasantness or unpleasantness of the subject matter. Would he have liked The Miser better if the protagonist had recovered his health under the expansive influence of his change of heart, and if it had been dramatically revealed at the end that his money was deposited in another

bank? An additional scene on Christmas day might have brought in the wife (cured by the good news) and all the kids to a grand old family dinner; the daughter and her former lover could easily have been united and the whole concluded in the spirit of love and tears and happiness. That the author did not resort to these familiar sources of popular appeal is the evidence of his sincerity. When he becomes as he well may, a professional playwright on Broadway, he may succumb to this sort of thing, as most do, but even the most practical of college journalists ought to be willing to leave him for the present in the bloom of his youthful delusion that his public will endure something more truthful and serious than the sentimental amenities of the movie screen.

I do not claim that The Miser "got across" with full effect. It was inevitably too much for the actors, who nevertheless did well, too much, perhaps, for the writer himself. I do claim that it had intrinsic qualities of superiority which your writer should have recognized. His failure to recognize them would, if we were as uncharitable toward him as he was toward the plays, tempt us to rank

him as a dramatic critic not much higher than Polonius.

His manifest pleasure in Royall's light but delightful comedy is, however, a credit to him, and he is merely a bit too obvious in calling The Old Man of Edenton sensational. We will vote him a pardon for having let the elements of picturesqueness and the really successful acting in the last play go unmentioned if he will promise to carry a little less "journalism" and a little more real criticism out of the theatre with him next time.

Truly yours,
J. H. HANFORD.

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