

# The Tar Heel

The Leading Southern College Tri-Weekly Newspaper

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Thursday, January 14, 1926

## CHARGES CONSTANT ABUSE OF OFFICE

From William Terry Couch, redoubtable editor of the *Carolina Magazine*, comes an epistle charging the *TAR HEEL* with "deliberate misrepresentation" and accusing its editor of "almost constant abuse of office" and of "having a smutty mind."

Mr. Couch primes his billet doux with a protest against the "charges" made by the *TAR HEEL* against his pet publication, but rapidly waxes warm and, entering into an attack on the editor, stages a frantic mud-slinging solo. Mr. Couch then states he desires vindication of the "charges" lodged against him, signs his letter and adds the note that his letter is "submitted" for publication.

Introducing Mr. Couch:

"In your issue of January 9, 1926, you state that *The Carolina Magazine* has dived into smut, that it has printed articles handling the problem of the sexes 'in a light and frivolous vein.' You follow an unfortunate misrepresentation which recently came out in the public press instead of attempting to correct it.

"You also have, I think, entirely mis-represented the facts, for what reason I must say I cannot see.

"I wrote the article on sex which appeared last year. I edited the article which appeared this year. The subject is an important one and certainly merits the attention of the students. In both cases with which I have been concerned the subject has been treated seriously and thoughtfully. Any mind which sees smut in the articles which have appeared in *The Magazine* is just naturally a smutty mind.

"So far as I am concerned it is all right to make your jokes about unessential matters; but when you deliberately mis-represent matters, which, if they were as you represent them, should have serious consequences, I think you are going too

far. People who do not read *The Magazine* may form entirely wrong opinions, and inestimable harm may be done to the University and the privilege of free expression of opinion students because of your almost constant abuse of your office.

"..... You have made a serious, and, I believe, unsupportable charge against *The Carolina Magazine*."

So much for the letter at present. Let us examine the serious and unsupportable charges made by the *TAR HEEL* against Mr. Couch's *Magazine*.

The *TAR HEEL*, on January 9, in taking up the subject of filth in college publications, first made it clear that it agreed with the *Biblical Recorder* that license on part of college publications should not be tolerated. Then college comics in general were dealt with. The question of college literary publications was then taken up. We quote from the *TAR HEEL*:

"The dive taken by college literary publications into the land of smut appears to be a recent departure. They formerly strove to be literary; now they strive to be sensational. This is certainly true of our own campus *Magazine*. 'Anything that will be read, and anything to fill it up' is apparently the editorial policy.

"Devoid of a 'necking table' such as was printed last year, the *Magazine* evidently ran the article, 'These Perilous Times,' as the nearest acceptable substitute. The *Biblical Recorder* broadcasts to the Baptists of the state that this student publication of the University is handling sex in a light and frivolous vein. The article should never have been printed and the *Recorder* is within its right in objecting to juvenile treatment of such fundamental importance."

With what has the *TAR HEEL* charged the *Magazine*? The "dive into the land of smut" plainly refers to college literary publications in general, and we have the very recent action of the Davidson College faculty, which fired a magazine editor due to too much sex stuff, as a striking near home proof that we were not talking through our hat. Then the *TAR HEEL* does charge that the local *Magazine* shows a decided leaning toward the sensational. And this we know to be true and do now reiterate it. The *TAR HEEL* has never charged the *Magazine* with "handling sex in a light and frivolous vein." It merely recorded a statement of the fact that the *Biblical Recorder* was broadcasting a charge to that effect throughout the state.

The only expression made regarding was to the effect that "it should never be to the effect that 'it should never have been printed, and that the *Recorder* was within its right in objecting to juvenile treatment of a subject of such fundamental importance. This we maintain is true. Mr. Couch opines that the "subject is an important one and certainly merits the attention of students." We find ourselves in perfect agreement over its importance. But sex has been getting entirely too much "attention from students" in entirely too many of our college publications and that's exactly what we have been protesting against.

The *TAR HEEL* dealt with the *Magazine* very mildly and the tirade turned loose by its editor would seem to justify a quoting of a favorite old adage, but we refrain from doing so. It was gently told that we didn't think the publication of "These Perilous Times" a wise step, and we merely acted upon the statement of the editor of last year that "there wasn't enough worth while writing being done on the campus to issue a literary publication monthly." We were acting well within our jurisdiction and did not abuse our office in the least.

One of Mr. Couch's chief grievances against the *TAR HEEL* is that it "did not attempt to correct the unfortunate misrepresentation that came out in the press." We suppose Mr. Couch means "apologise for" rather than "correct" and that what he really desires is that the *TAR*

*HEEL* should have attempted to explain away the objections raised. But that is not our method of doing things, nor is it our function on the campus. Besides we have discovered no "unfortunate misrepresentation."

If Mr. Couch wishes to continue to press his charges of abuse of office against the editor of the *TAR HEEL*, he has access to his own editorial column. We refuse to open ours to vicious ideas to burden our readers with a great deal of uncalculated bickering. But we would advise Mr. Couch first to discover what are the duties of the office of editorship of the *TAR HEEL*, before charging wholesale abuse and irresponsibility.

## OPEN FORUM

### Defends Magazine; Attacks Tar Heel

To the Editor,

The *TAR HEEL*,  
Chapel Hill, N. C.

Dear Sir:

In your issue of January 9, 1926 you state that *The Carolina Magazine* has dived into smut, that it has printed articles handling the problem of the sexes "in a light and frivolous vein." You follow an unfortunate misrepresentation recently came out in the public press, instead of attempting to correct it.

You also have, I think, entirely mis-represented the facts, for what reason I must say I cannot see.

I wrote an article on sex which appeared last year. I edited the article which appeared this year. The subject is an important one and certainly merits the attention of students. In both cases with which I have been concerned the subject has been treated seriously and thoughtfully. Any mind which sees smut in the articles which have appeared in *The Magazine* is just naturally a smutty mind.

So far as I am concerned it is all right to make your jokes about unessential matters; but when you deliberately misrepresent matters, which, if they were as you represent them should have serious consequences, I think you are going too far. People who do not read *The Magazine* may form entirely wrong opinions, and inestimable harm may be done to the University and the privilege of free expression of opinion among students because of your almost constant abuse of your office.

This year through your office as editor you have repeatedly given false impressions. You started the howl about liquor, giving out nearly two columns of publicity in an editorial which you printed December 3. Now, you print letters in your open forum which accuse the administration of having started the publicity by the statement it gave out December 9. And, after all this publicity, you refused to do the duty of a citizen when called on to report the boot-legal whom you admittedly saw selling liquor. You have shown rotten sportsmanship in growling at the football coaches when the team was losing. You have criticized the administration for stopping the dances when the administration had no alternative. You have made asserions, and I believe, unsupportable charge against *The Carolina Magazine*.

If your charge against *The Magazine* were true or even approaching truth, as Editor of *The Magazine*, I should be tried and disciplined. I do not believe any Editor should be allowed to follow an irresponsible editorial policy; and I should be willing and glad to submit the case between us to any responsible student or faculty group or both. It seems to me that the Publications Union Board is the proper body to consider such matters. I have appreciated the policy which this Board has followed of non-interference with editorial policy; but I believe there are limits beyond which editorial freedom should not be allowed to extend, such as for instance, the publishing of smutty or lewd articles or plain outright libel, and general irresponsibilities.

Sincerely Yours

Editor

*The Carolina Magazine*.

Note: I submit this for publication in your open forum.

## SNOW DELAYS WORK OF GRAVELING WALKS

The T. C. Thompson Construction Company's work on the screened gravel sidewalk extending from the East gate to the West gate through the campus of the University has been delayed on account of the recent snow.

The sidewalk will be bordered with veneered brick and will fill a long felt need through one of the main traveled parts of the campus. The exact cost of the new sidewalk has not been determined but Dr. W. C. Coker of the Campus Improvement Committee believes that enough cash will be left of the \$14,000 being used over a two year period in permanent campus improvements to later build up the terrace around Venable Hall, to harden the remaining sidewalks of the campus with gravel screenings, and to improve the road leading from Venable Hall to the Pittsboro road.



Guardians of the plastic age are finding their task a hard one. Youth, pliable and full of fire, is ever in conflict with tradition. Our elders, forgetting that they too once loved the dance of life when the spirit was young, fear for our souls while we are under the tutelage of the choicest intellect of the land.

Comes a shot from one observant mind: "In the day of the highly explosive mixture of youth, gasoline and liquor borne swiftly on balloon tires to remote retreats; in an era of college publications skating on the thinnest possible ice of decency, it would take Hercules himself to guarantee a fair substitute, and I believe that the Augean stables were, in comparison, an early season practice."

A few college students drink. A great many do not. It is the few who do that raise the row, and make otherwise sensible persons out all over the state believe we all do, and that the University campus is a dime edition of old Babylon. I recall one dear old lady back home a few weeks ago, spiritually troubled over the wickedness of Carolina boys and who had "heard it said for the truth" that even the co-eds here could blow smoke rings and cuss beautifully.

A sort of interesting thing it is to notice the improvement in an average girl's vocabulary after she's been in college for a few months and picked up most of the Essentials. Excerpts from their letters usually disclose that they have an awful crush on so-and-so and are thrilled to extinction at the results and sometimes are allowed to have dates, heavy dates, cool dates, blind dates, pop dates, darling dates and otherwise. Walking down College Avenue is just adored and so is going up town and anyone who picks them up is just too precious for words and they are invariably thrilled to death. And then there's so much to do, like going to gym and sike class and prom and basketball and chapel and lectures and counting the days before holidays, and oh just everything. The Queen's English strains a point and manages to live through it all.

I lift this idea from another and more fertile brain: Install phonographs in every classroom. With professors' lectures on the records. Students would like this; you can regulate a phonograph to the proper speed for taking notes; you can't a professor. Of course a phonograph couldn't check up on class attendance, you say, but that could easily be done by means of a time clock—let each student punch it as he came in. And that, it seems, would be standardization in keeping with the mass production sort of education we have to be subjected to today in every institution big enough to "rate" at all.

Louis Graves set off a fair-sized firecracker in his much-quoted *Chapel Hill Weekly* not long ago when he asserted that it was from fraternity circles that most of the hell-raising in colleges originated. And the noise sounded pretty loud to some, for it went off right under their feet. As yet, no one has felt qualified to rise up and deny his statement. Little gleams of truth, such as Editor Graves flashes occasionally in a few well-chosen sentences like the above, have a way of shining through the dense wall of popular consciousness—every once in a great while.

It snowed. There was no one-horse open sleigh to be had. And Cameron Avenue, paved, was such a wonderful place to slide down, if only sleds could be had. So bob-sleds had to be invented, from beds, while Mr. Burch wondered if the damage fee would cover the wear and tear. And such excellent sleds did the curved runner beds make, regular toboggans, Cameron Avenue looked more like Montreal than Chapel Hill, for a few nights. No more bed-riding, is now the newest addition to Mr. Burch's Rules and Regulations.

Some think that balloon trousers are certainly precursors of a return to Roman togas; others are afraid it is a sure prediction that men's clothes will eventually become dresses, followed by a reversion of the two sexes, with the adoption of trousers by women. The early physics experiments made to analyze the ratio between the amount of intelligence and the width of normal college boy's trousers leg shows that the intelligence decreases inversely as the width increases. But later experiments made by leading psychologists have disproved these facts of physics; and baggy trousers are found to have no decided effect on mental development. The bobbed heads of co-eds and the gay sweaters of cakesters—those things in "college style" keep the world from growing old. The width of a trousers leg or the quantity of hair on a young lady's head never had any influence over ability to learn. Clothes do not affect intellect.

### Calendar

Thursday, January 14  
Newspaper Institute in session, Carolina Inn.  
7:30 P. M.—Deutscher Verein, Murphey Auditorium.  
8:30 P. M.—Basketball game—Carolina vs. Wofford, Tin Can.  
Friday, January 15  
Newspaper Institute ends at 3:45 P. M.  
8:30 P. M.—Basketball game—Carolina vs. Clemson, Tin Can.  
10:00 P. M.—South Carolina Club, M. C. A.  
Saturday, January 16  
8:30 P. M.—Basketball game—Carolina vs. Guilford, Tin Can.  
Sunday, January 17  
7:30 P. M.—University Sermon, Gerrard Hall.

## CHAPEL HILL BECOMING POPULAR AS A RESORT

Miss M. A. Willcox, Noted Geological Professor, and Miss E. G. Willcox, Editorial Writer, at Carolina Inn.

Judging from the number of winter guests now at the Carolina Inn, North Carolina is destined to soon become an ideal winter resort. At present there are four guests at the Inn, and two more are expected before the first of February.

The two most notable of these four winter residents of Chapel Hill are the Misses E. G. Willcox and M. A. Willcox, retired professor of zoology and former professor of English, respectively, in Wellesley College, Wellesley, Mass. One of the chief reasons for the Misses Willcox deciding on Chapel Hill for a winter abode is due to the interest aroused two years ago when, in Pine Bluff, N. C., they happened to run across one of the unique publications of the University, "Birds of North Carolina," which branch of zoology Prof. M. A. Willcox is especially interested.

Prof. M. A. Willcox received her Ph.D. in Zoology from the University of Zurich, Switzerland, in 1898. She has taught zoology for 30 years in Wellesley College. After having taken some special work under Professor Alex Agassiz at his famous seaside laboratory at Newport, R. I., Miss Willcox went to England and studied embryology at Cambridge University under Professors Balfour and Michael Foster; the last named, Professor Foster, had been a student of the great Huxley. Returning to the United States after a stay of three years, Professor Willcox introduced at Wellesley the first laboratory course of embryology in this country. Professor Willcox has done a great deal of original writing relating to zoological subjects, among which should be mentioned the first book of its kind, "Common Land Birds of New England," in which an original key chart arranged on a plan of elimination enables any novice to recognize any type of bird to which it has devoted space.

Miss M. A. Willcox's sister, Prof. E. G. Willcox, has taught a subject more universally followed by undergraduate girls, that is, English. Prof. E. G. Willcox received her A.B. in 1898 from the University of Michigan and her M.A. from Radcliffe in 1899. She was one of the early leaders in the now nation-wide Parent-Teachers Association; for a number of years she has served on the educational board in Malden, Mass., near Boston, and has sponsored many distinct educational advances. She was for a number of years a leading editorial contributor to *The Advance* of Chicago, the chief Congregationalist paper of the Middle West, which was later merged with *The Congregationalist* of Boston.

## JUNIOR ENGINEERING STUDENTS MAKE SHIFT DURING HOLIDAYS

The students of the junior class of the Department of Civil and Electrical Engineering shifted during the holidays. This was the second shift since the opening of school in September, the other being on the fifteenth of last November.

About half of the members of each department work at various positions in the state while the others are attending classes in the University. This system continues through the summers, the one before and the one after the junior year. Those who are now in school worked until the first of January and will go back to work about the fifteenth of February.

Alpha Kappa Psi, commerce fraternity, announces the pledging of the following men: L. Allen Koons, Coolee; E. A. Humphrey, Jr., Goldsboro; F. W. Wagner, Charleston, S. C.; R. D. Crabtree, Greensboro; T. E. Clemmons, Hillsboro; K. R. Jones, New Bern; F. P. Jenkins, Tarboro; A. D. Moore, Burlington; J. H. Moye, Greenville; C. D. Blanton, Marion; G. K. Gillen, Reidsville; G. W. Nissen, Winston-Salem; J. K. Kyser, Rocky Mount; R. C. Maulsby, Rutherford; L. P. Andrews, J. H. Van Ness, Charlotte, and H. L. McCall, Bennettsville, S. C.

## MANY STUDENTS ARE AIDED BY LOAN FUND

Administration of Loan Funds Reached a High Degree of Efficiency During Fall Quarter.

During the fall quarter the administration of the student loan funds reached a greater efficiency than at any time since its establishment. This quarter marked the third year of its existence and its administration continues to be an increasing task for the office of the Dean of Men.

In the fall of 1923 that office granted 67 student petitions for loans, totalling a little over \$3,000. During the quarter just completed it granted 132 applications, amounting to nearly \$9,000. In addition to this increase in the number and amount of the applications handled, however, a further change was made in the method of application. A new application blank which gives more information concerning the applicant than the former one was prepared. Furthermore, all applicants were required to prepare a budget, which in itself is distinctly valuable and helpful to the students. To correspond with this tightening of the preliminary investigation as to the applicant's standing a risk, a more liberal policy was adopted in regard to the amount which may be borrowed by one student and the length of time allowed for the loan.

With the advance in the tuition rates of the University and the tendency to throw a greater portion of the cost of education upon the students, the importance of such loan funds is greatly increased. Due to the efficiency of the business office in collection the fund here is still ample to take care of the campus needs. Dean Bradshaw states that so far as he knows there is no institution in the country that has more liberal provision of this sort. In his report to the President for 1925 he says: "The cash investment value of an education is generally conceded to be about \$75,000. The University, then, is well within the bounds of wisdom in urging good students to avail themselves of loan fund privileges, rather than discontinue their education. Such has been the policy of this office in the administration of the loans."

## CAROLINA HAS THREE DELEGATES AT MEET

University Law School Represented at Convention of American Association of Law Schools.

Three members of the University law school faculty were in Chicago during the holidays attending a meeting of the American Association of Law Schools which was held there from December 29 to 31. Two of the representatives from this school hold important positions with the national organization.

Representing the local law school were Dean M. L. Ferson, and Professors R. H. Wettach and F. S. Rowley. Dean Ferson at this December session of the organization which he attended was selected one of a special committee to work for better co-operation between the bench and the bar and to promote a spirit of co-operation between law schools and practicing members of the profession.

Prof. Wettach is a member of the council on commercial law and served with this council at the recent meeting.

The three delegates from here went as representatives from the local school which is a member of the American Association of Law Schools. Only about 50 of the best law schools of the country are at present enrolled in the association, the University being the only member in North Carolina.



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