

The Tar Heel

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Tuesday, February 2, 1926

The "Buncombe Bill", so named in honor of its chief local supporter who comes from that famous locality, will be presented to the students in chapel this morning for a vote on whether it shall go to the student body in a general ballot Friday.

According to those who are in a position to know, the proposed change in the council is being presented to the students purely as a political manoeuvre.

Ostensibly a measure for the improvement of student government here, we find it the off-spring of a vast political machine that certain campus politicians are attempting to crank and get going.

Frame-ups come and frame-ups go, but this is the most ambitious frame-up attempted since the coming of the present college generation. Instead of attempting to assure that only the men who deserve the jobs will get them, the present frame-up is attempting to extend its sphere. Its main purpose is to insure its success, manner or means of little consequence.

In their effort to build an impregnable frame-up, the politicians need more offices to hand out. They desire more offices in order to appease the aspirations of more candidates. If the measure passes the student body, it will be interesting to know the men that the politicians will put forth to fill the new jobs. Perhaps they have three strong men this year, but how about next year and the year after next?

True it is that the council now has on its roster special representatives from the professional schools. They deserve credit for serving in such an altruistic spirit. But they are supplementary to the council. Student Council as known by the student body is made up of such men as Fordham and Watt. They are the leaders and on them rests the Council's influence and power. Imagine the 1925-26 Council without these two men.

At the first trump card of the proponents of a change was that the

combined offices of president and councilman meant overwork. That argument has been thoroughly exploded. Now the politicians set their sails at a different angle in the effort to catch a feeble breeze strong enough to blow them to the land of more offices.

STILL WITH US

The Di and Phi are still with us. Saturday night they refused to cast aside their identity and voted to remain separate and distinct bodies.

It is a pity that the members of the two bodies should have shown such a selfish spirit as was disclosed by the arguments that brought about the rejection of the bill. The active members of the two bodies, which fall far short of the hundred mark even when combined, expressed complete satisfaction with themselves and gave vent to utterances of delight at the prospect of remaining small and weak. Their's is the spirit of exploitation—selfishly keeping the two bodies in a rut in order to reap what they see as personal benefit.

We grant that the ego is naturally the chief interest of every one. But when about three score men seek to monopolize a feature of college life that should be accessible to over a hundred score, the selfishness has become unwarranted. Of course, the student body would not be unanimously interested in activity of this nature, but if it is provided with an organization that could rest upon its virtue and merits, and not upon its traditions alone, interest could and would be much greater. The campus would at least have a reliable and recognized mouthpiece through which to speak.

The societies have fallen into such evil ways that it is really more beneficial to Mr. University Student to spend his Saturday nights elsewhere. Students cannot be blamed for passing up the societies for the Pick. The societies have driven them to it.

Perhaps Time, acting as a cure, will bring about a change from within the societies and place them again on a respected footing. If Time fails then perhaps the student body will eventually erect an organization of its own and allow the two antiquated bodies to perish from lack of reason for existence.

SAVILLE APPOINTED MEMBER ENGINEERING COMMITTEE

Professor Thorndike Saville has recently been appointed a member of a committee of American Engineering Council to report on Standard Methods for Rating Rivers for Power Purposes. American Engineering Council is the liaison organization through which the principal engineering societies of the country act on joint interest. The committee in question is composed of noted hydraulic engineers from various parts of the country. W. S. Lee Chief Engineer of the Southern Power Company is the only other representative on the committee from North Carolina. Great confusion has arisen due to different bases used by the Government and other bodies in calculating water power resources of rivers and regions. The committee is attempting to reconcile divergent views, and to prepare a standard method which will, if universally adopted in this country.

The Christian Endeavor and the Young Men's Class of the Presbyterian Church will entertain the co-ed and the young ladies of the town in the social rooms of the Presbyterian Church Friday evening at eight o'clock.

Calendar

Tuesday, February 2
8:30 P. M.—Basketball game—Carolina vs. State, Tin Can.
8:30 P. M.—Freshman Friendship Council, Y. M. C. A.
8:30 P. M.—The First Year, Playmaker Theatre building.
Wednesday, February 3
8:30 P. M.—Gir's Basketball Game—Chapel Hill Hi vs. Sanford.
8:30 P. M.—Wrestling meet—Carolina vs. F. Tin Can.
Thursday, February 4
8:00 P. M.—Lecture, Dr. P. M. Giesy, Chief of the Research Division of E. R. Squibb & Sons, Pharmacy Building.
Saturday, February 6
7:00 P. M.—Phi and Di Societies, Phi and Di Halls.
Sunday, February 7
4:00 P. M.—Concert, Memorial Hall.
9:00 P. M.—Sigma Upsilon meeting.

OPEN FORUM

The Editor:

In view of the serious character of the discussion of a proposed change in the election of members of the student council, and to correct a misstatement made in a recent issue of the Tar Heel, I should like to express my views regarding this proposal.

Everyone admits that the student council, like other human agencies, makes mistakes and that classes are not as active as they should be; but to say the trouble lies in the fact that one man doesn't have time to serve on the council and to properly head a class is absolutely untrue and upheld by those who have served in neither capacity. Contrary to the statement as given to the Tar Heel, I do not admit for a moment that work on the council has handicapped me in properly organizing and maintaining a good spirit in the Senior Class.

Insofar as I can observe from experience and observation the failure of class presidents to be more active is a result of three things: a lack of finances, the absence of past records and other information to help them in organizing and leading the class, and the possibility that the man elected is incapable. The first handicap has been overcome by the change in class finances before Christmas; the second will be greatly helped I hope by a plan now being worked out of having meetings for the presidents at the first of each year to give them information and advice; and the third element is present in all democratic units and is the fault of the voters when present. It is sincerely hoped that these steps will improve class spirit and activities; and believed that the separation suggestion would have no beneficial results.

On the other hand, I feel that the proposed change would materially weaken the council in its efforts to uphold the honor system. As important as the work of the council is, I do not believe that election to that position alone would interest the best type of men, and that the campus would find it difficult to secure the men wanted.

In the second place, the council must have men representatives of all the various groups and with the different campus viewpoints to really reach decisions satisfactory to the student body.

In the third place, a council should be composed of the strongest men in school, men who have influence and supporters on the campus, and who can use their influence to support council decisions rather than to oppose them. The President of the Student Body and the class presidents are necessary to give this strength and support to the council.

If those pushing this proposal are sincere in their belief that it would benefit student government and class spirit I feel that they are ill advised in these matters; and if they are proposing this for the mere reason of having more offices to divide up in a campus political machine that is too large for these offices now in existence. I am sure that the student body will see to it that they fall miserably.

L. E. WATT

Fellow Students:

The proposed change in the Student Council by which the presidents of the classes will no longer serve as councilmen, was originated in the head of one Bill Jenkins, a graduate student in political science, and in no way was identified with any political machine, as has been frequently charged, nor to my knowledge ever was.

The biggest reason why this plan should be adopted is to insure that better men will sit on the council. There have been grave mistakes in the past, when class presidents were very popular, and wonderful executives, but not the kind of a man who should sit on the Council. And nothing can lower respect for the council more than the knowledge of the student body that certain men are on it either drinking on the council, or drank before they were elected. This feature enough to warrant the adoption of the plan.

The argument advanced against this plan is that it will lessen the efficiency of the councilmen, as he will be out of touch with the student body. The presidents of the classes as such are among the most inactive men on the campus at the present time, by their own admission, and they also say that they feel isolated from the student body. Thus this condition would not be improved by continuing the present system. Our opponents can claim that this plan will lessen student co-operation when the presidents of the classes have admitted that they are getting practically none. On the other hand the representatives from the professional schools say that they are not isolated from contact with the students, and they are elected by the very plan we advocate.

Some folks do not advocate class split or cohesion. Then why pay any class dues? The presidents of the classes tell us that because they have had no money they have been able to do nothing, and they tell the truth. But with money

to be spent, it is going to take much time and energy to spend it wisely. That monogram man, who made Phi Beta Kappa, and still serves on the Council, is a gentleman of consummate ability. There have been none who could approach him in the past, and are likely to be none in the future. But his type is so rare that we cannot expect the rest of the councilmen to do as well as he.

If a man will lose his popularity by being on the council, which I do not concede, I claim that it is a poor sort of councilman who is so afraid of the unpopular which might fall to him on the council because he did his duty, that you have to bribe him to sit on the council by making him president of his class at the same time.

Another important fact to be remembered is that this plan will not change the council in any radical fashion, as it only affects three men out of eight on the council. The other five will still be elected by methods peculiar to them, and three of them are elected by the very plan we are advocating.

We have no fears of defeat Friday if the students will just view the question from all angles, and make up their minds accordingly.

TAYLOR BLEDSOE

CAROLINA RIFLE CLUB HAS SEVENTY MEMBERS

Outdoor Range Near Old Raleigh Road Has Been Secured and Rifles Have Been Ordered.

The Carolina Rifle Club now has 70 members. At the meeting of the club Tuesday night the membership was closed, and the club will take in no new members for the rest of the year unless vacancies occur or unless the government sends a surplus of equipment.

At a recent meeting of the executive committee of the University, the new organization which made its debut on the campus this year for the first time was approved and authorized, and is now a regular University organization.

The club has procured an outdoor range near the old Raleigh road east of Chapel Hill and now contemplates the building of an indoor range to be located somewhere on the campus. Work on the outdoor range will be started shortly by members of the club themselves and will be built according to instructions and plans of the war department. The range has already been surveyed and would have been well under way had not the recent bad weather interfered.

Rifles will be furnished by the government and have already been ordered. The fact that only enough rifles will be sent to comply with the present needs and membership prevents any further addition of members.

A list of members in the Carolina Rifle Club follows:

F. F. Bradshaw, F. D. Bell, F. M. Daugherty, B. S. Colburn, Jr., J. A. Barnwell, A. A. Cory, R. W. Knox, R. H. Geddie, L. C. Logie, F. V. Spence, J. F. Clemenger, Hayward Parker, Jr., A. Supple, J. Graham, J. O. Bell, Jr., J. N. Buck, S. W. Davis, Jr., W. H. Walter, Jr., W. M. Matheson, C. C. Inman, A. Mitchell, H. Weil, R. K. Paterson, R. J. Gasque, W. S. Bowen, C. M. Lear, J. N. Whitley, F. M. Bell, A. G. Olmsted, B. H. Goodwin, W. J. Bolen, T. W. Keller, T. J. Edwards, Miss L. Holden, M. F. Wooten, Jr., P. Foster, N. L. Brewer, B. Pipkin, C. R. Shuford, H. A. Breard, K. G. Dacy, T. N. Grice, A. R. Hollet, F. F. Simon, J. S. Styles, S. E. W. Kenney, D. D. Carroll, C. O'H. Grimes, F. H. Mangum, C. A. Rambo, W. S. Malone, C. C. Wilson, O. G. Grimes, G. H. Holmes, Jr., M. Kellogg, Jr., H. Cantej, Jr., J. C. White, H. T. Thompson, J. M. Reece, F. Atkinson, J. M. Slaughter, J. S. Starr, Jr., E. R. MacKethan, Jr., A. J. Watkins, A. D. Moore, G. A. Giddings, G. W. Rawls, J. A. Spruill, J. C. Brantley, E. J. Hardesty, Jr.

Wigue and Masque Initiates Nineteen Men

The following men were initiated into Wigue and Masque recently: "Bootie" Uzzell, of Greensboro. (Yes, By Gosh," 25, 26); Tom Rollins, of Asheville. ("Yes, By Gosh," 25, 26); Will Hicks, Oxford. ("Yes, By Gosh," 25, 26); John Trotter, Charlotte. ("Yes, By Gosh," 26); P. Q. Cooper. ("Ye Gods" 24 and "Yes, By Gosh," 25, 26); "Saxy" Dowell, Raleigh. ("Yes, By Gosh," 26); Julian Starr, Rock Hill, S. C. ("Ye Gods" 24 and "Yes, By Gosh," 25, 26); Bono Horton, Plymouth. ("Yes, By Gosh," 25, 26); Andy McIntosh, Chapel Hill. (Yes, By Gosh," 25, 26); Paddy Waddill, Henderson. ("Yes, By Gosh," 26) and Fred Kistler of Morganton, who was not present for the initiation, but who will return from junior co-op work in a few weeks.

A leave of absence from February 1 to September 1 has been granted to F. F. Bradshaw, dean of students. Dean Bradshaw will spend the time in graduate study at Columbia University, New York, whence he will return to the University.



The Melting Pot

By C. W. B.

Chapel Hill is blessed or cursed, as you will, with all sorts of weather. The place has a weather complex. And the weather is like the government—always wrong. Summertime here we say is stifling; in winter it is killing; in spring and fall we find fault with it for being neither one thing nor the other; and wish it would make up its mind. If perchance December or January passes without snow, we indignantly demand to know what has become of our good old-fashioned winters, and talk as if we had been cheated out of something we had bought and paid for; and when it does snow our opinions and expressions yearn for fair weather and mild—much milder than our language about it—meaning the snow. We shall never be content until each man makes his own weather and keeps it to himself. If that cannot be arranged, we would rather do without it altogether.

But, waxing eloquent in juvenile enthusiasm, we look ahead, and pine for Spring. And oh, how dainty is Spring. Nature at sweet eighteen! When the little hopeful leaves peep out so fresh and green, so pure and bright, like young lives pushing shyly out into the bustling world; when the fruit-tree blossoms pink and white, like village maidens in their Sunday frocks, hide each white cottage in a cloud of fragile splendor; and the robin's note upon the breeze is wafted through the woods! And farmers shine up their plows! And unrestrained souls ride box cars in quest of romance. And Tar Heel reporters bust into verse!

Individualists and impressionists—the wits and critics of today, nobly fill a great, useful purpose. They merge the conventions of old thought with those of the new bourgeoisie, and crack their whip at the circling show, like the circus ringmaster, with no desire of really hitting anything. But they are humanitarian, because they let poetry alone; rather they lambast the prose writers. Satire has a way of keeping poetry a trim little servant of prose, clothing her in the used garments rather than the real powers of housewifery. And the satire of these impressionistic wits is tempered by human sympathy for the growers and producers of those mushrooms in our worldly pastures—current American poems—numerous, often racy enough, but small and ill-fed. The Literary Digest prints some of them, but seldom digests them.

From New York, the melting pot of the world, there emanates folly, wisdom, styles and customs, and Mr. Mencken's America Mercury. Most of the sneers about hicks, yokels, Babbits, backward regions, rubes and the great open spaces, at present in vogue in this country, originate in New York. But that same sneer shows the most abject lack of culture. They haven't time to think in New York; no time to smile or laugh and no time to weep. They work in the daytime and attend classes in the evening. They eat standing up, like mules or plow-horses, gulp down their food with gallons of coffee, do their reading in smelly subways, incredibly filthy tram-cars, marry quickly, divorce in a hurry and get buried at a proportionate speed. The Four Hundred. Cosmopolitanism. Efficiency. Production. America's Greatest City. Skyscrapers. Manhattan. Ziegfeld's Bowery. Harlem. Hell.

The article in the February American Mercury on "Baptists" is pungent with satire, erratic in conception, and admittedly unfair to the whole Baptist faith. They are all described as belonging to the Great Mediocrity, rusties, fundamentalists, literalists, hide-bound in orthodox, red-hot Prohibitionists, and disciples of the late W. J. Bryan. It must have given the author immense satisfaction to unload such an article from his mind—if he has one. Why do they pick on the Baptists?

Folly perhaps will save where creeds have failed. College students are afraid to think, or to profess a creed. Pan is not dead. As long as youth gropes after the most elusive of all fireflies—Romance, there is no need for creeds. There is training in the gentle art of living in merely being on a college campus—things that are outside and apart from books.

The Di and Phi, sidetracking tradition and venerable history, are thinking of merging, consolidating. And maybe issue shares of stock at par. And appoint a president, treasurer, publicity man, secretary, and the other good Babbitt-endowed institutions must have. We wait to hear the reaction, the protest, that will come from alumni as the proposal is broadcasted. The Di and Phi can and will live on and do things, catering to the ones worth catering to on the campus, if let alone, if allowed to remain as they have been for many long generations of Carolina men. Consolidation. Perish the thought.

Mark Noble, son of Prof. M. C. S. Noble, who is a member of the faculty of Davidson College, spent the week-end here with his father, and sister, Miss Alice Noble.

MENCKEN LAUDS THE UNIVERSITY

States That It Is the Best in the South.

GIVES GOOD REASONS

Direct Reply Made to Student Asking for Opinion.

An article by H. L. Mencken appearing in the Greensboro News of Sunday, January 24, praised the University of North Carolina as being the "best in the South." F. L. Young, a graduate student here, became interested and wrote the Baltimore gentleman asking him why he entertained such a view.

From Mr. Mencken came the following prompt reply: "Your question is very easily answered. Compare SOCIAL FORCES to any publication of any other Southern University. The difference is that between a genuine seeking for knowledge and mere bombastic obscantism. That difference runs very deep: SOCIAL FORCES is but one sign of it. The cause of it I don't know. Is Chase responsible? I don't know. Is the state itself more intelligent than its sisters? I don't know. But this I do know: that Chase is a competent and courageous man, and the State lets him survive. That combination is seldom met with in the South. It is seldom met with anywhere.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) H. L. MENCKEN.

In discussing the letter Mr. Young writes the Tar Heel: "On Sunday, January 24th, the Greensboro Daily News carried one of Mr. H. L. Mencken's articles. In this he happened to state that the University of North Carolina is the best in the South. This interested me as it did somebody on your staff and others. Accordingly I wrote him asking why he held that opinion. His reply is direct. We may be glad that such a generally caustic critic should find two such pre-eminent reasons why the University is considered so outstanding in the South. Probably his mention of the Journal of "Social Forces" which as some of us know is published here, may lead a few of us to the reading and appreciation of it. It's December issue was particularly good. Also, let us pay more attention to our great President."

CAROLINA PROFESSOR TO ADDRESS WORKERS

Prof. S. H. Hobbs, of the sociology department, is leaving this afternoon for Atlanta, Ga., where he will address the Southern Association of Agricultural Workers on problems of rural taxation.

Representative farm demonstration agents, and delegates from agricultural schools in sixteen Southern states will be present at the gathering, it is stated. Mr. Hobbs will bring them practical suggestions in rural taxation gathered from studies he has made in North Carolina.

Last year Prof. Hobbs was president of one of the sections of the association, that was composed of rural economists and sociologists.

RESEARCH ASSISTANT TO NEW YORK MEET

Guy B. Johnson, research assistant in the Institute for Research in Social Sciences, left for New York Sunday afternoon to attend meetings of the Negro Business League and Research Conferences, to be held in that city this week.

Mr. Johnson is especially interested in this work by virtue of the fact that he is at present conducting research here on the general topic of negro background and folk-lore studies.

Local High School Honor Roll For Semester Is Large

Following is the honor roll for the Chapel Hill High School for the fall semester, which ended about a week ago: Eighth grade—Harry Bulce, Catherine Clark, Virginia Harrison, Margaret McIver, Eliza Taylor, and Alfred Hamilton; ninth grade—Fred Koch, Isaac Manning, Mabel Blake, and Christine Pendergraft; tenth grade—Odell Griffin, George Hery, Ben Lane, John Warren, Mary Adams, and Elso Graig; and eleventh grade—Lyda Eubanks, Esther Metasthain, Kathryn Morgan, Rosa Raney, and Katherine Walker.

Imperial Dry Ginger Ale

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