

The Tar Heel

LEADING SOUTHERN COLLEGE TRI-WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

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PARAGRAPHS

Having undergone the red-hot junior issue with its flaming Scandals and its sweeping comments, the freshman issue with all its refreshing greenness, and the co-ed issue in its dainty feminine tints of pink and blue—the TAR HEEL at last returns with the sophs to its customary journalistic black-and-white.

Mutt Evans claimed that all the great athletes of the University were at one time juniors, but we might say that they were sophomores first and only became juniors after they had outlived their usefulness to the sophomore class!

Sophomore comes from a Greek word meaning wise. Now we wonder how many, outside of the sophomore class, believe in the absolute appropriateness of our name?

Would one say that "Lighted Candles" implied a "light" comedy or a "dark" tragedy? We ask the Playmakers.

We are indeed glad to see the strong stand taken by the freshmen in condemning the unpardonable rudeness accorded the G. C. Glee Club.

At the Playmaker performance we were terribly disappointed when the mountain girl failed to go out the door at the rear with the determination "to never, never come back!"

We look forward with eager anticipation to the janitor issue of the TAR HEEL!

Paul Ranson ceases to stand on his constitutional rights, but seeks legislative radiance from the "Phool" Bill instead. Efforts are under way to have the scene reenacted in Memorial hall for the edification of the Carolina student body, most of which didn't get to Raleigh for the initial performance.

Editor Madry announces now that the "special issue fever" has about run itself into the ground, the reporters will be recalled from their mid-winter vacation and will resume work on the next issue of the TAR HEEL.

The editor of the open forum column was called to his desk before this issue goes to press.

This is quite a logical step, however, since to Mr. Dula goes the honor of being the rightful successor to R. K. Fowler, for the "eternal sophomore" title. Mr. Fowler, it is rumored, has graduated.

POLITICS

The plea for cleaner, open politics on the campus is manifesting itself as a vital issue of the day. Plans for improvement have been suggested in the columns of the TAR HEEL and in Open Forum letters.

Personally, we do not think that present conditions would be much improved by turning control and regulation of politics over to any of the existing organizations—whether it be the Literary Societies or the Golden Fleece and the Grail.

To carry out successfully any plan of clean-up, or the installation of any open and above-board political system, there must be cooperation of the student leaders rather than sponsoring by any particular group. One of the weakest spots in student activities at Carolina has been a lack of harmony among those who hold the highest positions of trust and honor. The various parts of student government and activities have, in their policies and in their work, struck out at tangents from each other and have had no common goal and no bond of union which might hold them together for their mutual benefit and for the benefit of the entire campus.

If all the student leaders, all the incumbents of the highest offices, were to lay aside their petty differences and together form a cooperative body that would take as its aim the bettering of campus conditions, a tremendous forward step would be made.

Such a group, made up of men in whom the campus has shown its trust, would wield an incalculable influence in the student body and would be capable of putting into effect an efficient plan for more ethical politics.

If we look to our acknowledged leaders for a closer union among themselves and for their united support of some plan for cleaner politics, will they respond?

AS FOR MENCKEN

Several months ago the campus was all agog with the news that the great Mencken was to grace the Hill for a few hours, during which time he would look the place over and see what was going on on the campus of the "South's greatest university." He arrived, and, after being duly stared at, he departed. Young instructors who had been fortunate enough to grasp his hand telegraphed their orders for a score or so of his books and subscriptions to the American Mercury—his official organ—flowed in by the hundreds.

Little by little the tense excitement subsided and the campus went "back to normalcy." Mencken, admitting that he had been impressed, went on his way and was heard of no more until last Sunday when "The Battle Below the Potomac" appeared in a dozen or so of the nation's leading newspapers.

Much speculation had been indulged in as to his reaction and his pronouncement was looked forward to with anxious anticipation. But Mencken was pleased—a most unusual happening, it is true, the cause of which has not been disclosed—and the following ink stains dropped from his pen.

"I know of no American state with a more vigorous and praiseworthy university than that of North Carolina. Certainly there is nothing comparable to it in the middle west. For it is not trying to convert itself into a

gigantic rolling mill for the production of swine husbandmen, shyster lawyers and village music teachers; it is tackling the fundamental problems of southern life, and bringing to their solution a magnificent enterprise and a high order of skill. A generation ago, or even a decade ago, it was a capital offense everywhere in the south to admit formally that the south had any problems, save only those forced upon it by Yankee busybodies. But now, at Chapel Hill, the woes of the ex-confederate, urban and rural, are being studied realistically and to good effect, and no complaints are heard save from obvious idiots.

"North Carolina, indeed, now leads the whole country in this department. Its leadership in the south is plain and undisputed. It has got rich in late years, and it is spending its money wisely. Some time ago it engaged a Scotchman as governor, and now benefits from the racial talents of this gentleman. He is, like all Scotchmen, fanatically in favor of the enlightenment, and, again like all Scotchmen, he suffers an embolism every time sixpence is amputated from his hand."

So much for Mencken. Enough professors have already patted their own backs until they are quite stiff and there is no need for us to add to their agony.

During the last few months a new school of would-be thinkers have sprung up on the campus which, in order to cover up the damaging vacuity of their own minds, are rushing about hither and yon branding every new movement for reform as "Menckenesque." Let a man voice his reaction to the antics of the Fleece, let him draw attention to the obvious defects in our educational system, let him lift his voice in protest to some of the high-handed outrages which have been committed on the campus recently, and he is branded as a radical, yea, even a "puny imitator of the man Mencken."

We have but slight respect for the so-called intelligentsia, realizing that they are as vacant as those who maintain the "right attitude," and we cannot agree with them in their wholehearted adoration of the Mercury, but we do believe that they occasionally suggest a reform which is sound and worthy of the consideration of the campus. Look through you back issues of The Fawn, and see—now that you have cooled off a bit—if some of the reforms suggested, some of the criticism offered, was not merited. If it has shaken our complacency just the least bit, it has accomplished something of no little value. Yet, recall in your mind the reception accorded to the various issues of what was branded as "another yellow

journal." Tolerance is what we plead for. Before branding a new movement as radical let's dig down under the surface a little and see what we can find. Because an article is published which is in favor of abolishing the Fleece does not mean that its author is merely stimulated by a personal grudge or gripe. He may have some arguments which are really sound, and before any suggestions are offered that he be tarred and feathered it would be a wise plan to look into what he is saying. There is a possibility that you may be surprised at what you find.

But regardless of whether you are or not, let 'em rave. You are not being cheated out of anything. If they enjoy raving, let 'em go to it! If they are pursuing some fictitious goal they will soon grow tired of the chase and quit. If there is anything in their arguments you will, soon or late, be convinced. But be tolerant, there may be some reason for the criticism offered.

We rail at the intolerance and bigotry suggested in the Poole bill and our patience is sadly tried when we read of the activities of the Bible League. Yet we, in turn, prove to be just as intolerant in our treatment of suggested reforms here on the campus. Perhaps, after all, there is something in the philosophy of Henry Louis Mencken. Certainly it cannot be denied that under his biting scorn the literature of the south has greatly improved in the last few years. A consciousness of the realities of life would not be amiss in any of us.

Deans G. M. Braune and H. F. Janda spent several days in Asheville last week to arrange for the coming meeting of the American Society of Civil Engineers there next April 20.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

TODAY

8:30 p. m.—Buccaneer Board meeting, Buccaneer Office.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 13
7:45 p. m.—Illustrated lecture on "China," Dr. Collier Cobb.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14
7:15 p. m.—Y. M. C. A. Cabinet, Y. M. C. A.

8:30 p. m.—Gerrard Hall, address on taxation by Mr. Smith Richardson.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15
7:30 p. m.—Social rooms, Presbyterian church. Sigma Xi Smoker. Talk on "Past and Present Research in the University" led by H. V. Wilson.

7:15 p. m.—Phi Assembly, Manning Hall.

7:15 p. m.—Di Senate, Di Hall.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16
7:00 p. m.—Venable Hall Moving pictures, "Cuba the Island of Sugar."

8:30 p. m.—Wrestling meet, Carolina vs. Davidson, Tin Can.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18

8:00 to 10:00 p. m.—Social rooms Presbyterian church. Young people's Interdenominational Social.

DR. D. T. CARR
Dentist
Tankersley Building
Chapel Hill, N. C.

Tennis Courts Ready for Use
—The tennis courts are now in good condition for playing. The following rules must be observed. (1) The first courts on the left side of the fence as far back as the embankment are reserved for the varsity use and are not to be used by other students. (2) There should be no playing on the courts when they are too wet, nor should students come on courts with leather shoes. (3) When students have finished playing they are asked to lower the nets.
Varsity tennis practice is to be started soon and plans are under way to secure the services of a coach.

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The Waffle's Ancestors

With the world going wild over evolution we thought we had better look into the status of our good friend and tasteful dish, the waffle.

We find that the waffle has evolved quite a bit, but so far no one has questioned its right to stay with us.

Originated in Germany this dish was called the "wabe," meaning a honeycomb or cake of wax. Later the present waffle was called the "wafer" and now every college student knows the waffle as the best buy in a cafe.

Its the best twenty cents buy in Chapel Hill. And that's straight.



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