

The Tar Heel

LEADING SOUTHERN COLLEGE TRI-WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

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Offices in the basement of Alumni Building. Telephone 403.

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Tuesday, March 1, 1927

PARAGRAPHS

"The Smiths are 'It,'" says a headline. Gosh, what a bunch of Its.

The South Carolina Gamecocks have proved to be the "dark horses" of the tournament. Who are going to be the "white mules?"

The souseingly poetic Illiteratus has put one over on us. We expected to learn his identity when he came to settle his wager, but he mailed the price of one "dope" to us from "around the well."

Mencken, in his "Notes on Democracy," defines politics as "the trade of playing upon its (the majority's) natural poltroonery—of scaring it half to death, and then proposing to save it." There, you naughty politicians.

This is the last one on 'Al'. We happened to be in the Better Annual office a few nights ago and saw that Cap was making plans to place the pictures of four alumni on each page in the Alumni section of the book. We asked why this was being done when only two had been gracing a page in past years. Al retorted that he was going to have his way about one thing in the flatter book.

It is interesting to note the large number of things pertaining to or being a part of Chapel Hill and the University that have been given as answers to the question, "What are the ten most beautiful things in North Carolina?" Miss Nell Battle Lewis has been conducting the

campaign in the *News and Observer*. One of the answers Sunday was "The arboretum at the University of North Carolina in early May which is not only a place of beauty but also an inspiring demonstration of what man can do as a co-laborer of God."

SLASHED APPROPRIATIONS

The amendment to the Permanent Improvements bill, which would cut funds for that purpose for state institutions of higher learning to half the amount recommended by the committee, will come up for a vote on the floor of the House today. Representative J. H. Folger of Surry offered the amendment during the debate on appropriations in the House Saturday.

Basing his position on the belief that the University, colleges and institutions supported by the state should suffer this drastic slash in their funds for permanent improvements in favor of the equalization fund for rural schools of pauper counties, Representative Folger declared to the House:

"I love the University; I love the North Carolina College for Women; I love State college; I love every institution in the state of higher education, but I am compelled by my own conception of duty to ask you to let these appropriations rest awhile and instead of building a six hundred and twenty-five thousand dollar library for the University of North Carolina, let it rest so the people can get a breath."

The question from Mr. Folger's House speech gives utterance to well-defined feeling among some of the citizens of the state. This is expressed in myopic mutterings that the University is getting the hog's share of state appropriations. Some narrow-minded and niggardly taxpayers, with dwarfed vision, cannot see the necessity of spending over one hundred thousand dollars for a library building and all the equipment that is put therein. This is not a sophisticated slap at the "folks back home" by a Mencken or a smart aleck come to town. Disgruntled alumni and friends of a neighboring institution, whose material worth has been increased hundreds-fold by a native of the state in perpetuating his name and philanthropy, aver that the University's demand for more funds is but an attempt to compete, openly and commercially, with that institution. Such jingoism is to be condemned. These charges could come only from the hauntings of hinterland, when it is evident that the University of North Carolina is one of the greatest public service institutions in the state and feeds annually more to the furtherance of the interests of the rural schools and communities than any other state service or department in proportion to its cost.

When the Surry Legislator demanded that the University Library fund rest "so the people can get a breath," he did not take cognizance of the fact that there is no "rest" in progress. It is axiomatic that individuals and their institutions move either forward or backward. If he were conversant with the blatant lacking in library facilities here at the present, the matter of resting with this project would seem far less practical.

The library is the laboratory of laboratories of a university or college. That the University of North Carolina might continue its service to the state and the rural school at the present standard and its position among the greater institutions of this country, the funds for the library and other permanent improvements are needed.

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From the State Press

An Impossible Operation

The spectacle in the house of representatives Saturday when serious consideration was given to a proposal to apply a flat 50 per cent reduction to institutional appropriations for permanent improvements lights up the mental no less than the legislative jam the house has allowed itself to get into. Weeks earlier it could not have happened; or if it had happened, the sheer blindness of the idea would have been understood more clearly. The clearing of sights over the weekend may be, as it ought to be, such that further consideration this week will be based at least upon an understanding of what such a proposal would mean. The house came to itself sufficiently Saturday to postpone action.

Behind the immediate proposal was offered the necessity for taking care of the public schools. That is a primary problem which can not be evaded. The fact that it has been evaded during the greater portion of the scheduled legislative period offers some evidence of the unwillingness to approach it in the manner a question of such admitted importance to the state deserves to be approached. Less than two weeks from the time when the general assembly ought to be through that body found it necessary, or judged it wise, to admit that it would have to begin all over again in the effort to build up the equalization fund. Since then the disposition has been to go back to some of the various proposals originally made. That was to be expected. But what was not to be expected is the continued postponement and behind that the patent inability to take hold of the problem until an hour when the burden of legislative work is such as to make all consideration far more difficult.

Here is the background for the placing in opposition of public schools and public institutions of higher education. In the house debate last week, to judge by much of the comment, the two stand in rivalry. To try to meet the necessities of the one would mean to starve the other. Both could not be fed and therefore one would go without.

This is to perform a major operation in the educational system of the state which would eliminate one or the other, something after the manner of removing an appendix or tonsils. It is not so simple as that. No operation in the power of the general assembly can cut off one part of the educational body without inflicting serious wound on the body itself. Slashing the higher institutions is a fine way to slash the public schools and cutting the heart out of the public schools is a certain method of bleeding the higher institutions. The two are inseparable. They cannot be attacked as individual units for the simple reason that they are not apart but are organically together.

In calmer, clearer moments the house will come back to an understanding of an essentially simple truth. The type of mind that would attempt to nourish the public schools by taking the nourishment of the higher institutions is the type of mind that in the end would do most damage to the public schools. Everybody is willing to admit now that finding funds for education presents all the difficulties any general assembly can handle. But it does not simplify the matter to attempt to fatten half the body by robbing the other half—it complicates it unto ultimate death.—*Greensboro Daily News*.

A Great University

Edwin Bjorkman (we don't know what you pronounce it) who spent a day or two at the University at Chapel Hill last week, paid a very high tribute to the instructors there. Mr. Bjorkman has been a resident of this State for about two years. He is living at Asheville and is a well known writer and critic.

"There is far more literary talent in North Carolina than most people realize," he is quoted as having said, and he attributes this largely to the influence of the State University which he says is the most outstanding educational institution in the South. That's a pretty nice compliment, and is well merited, especially viewing it as this well known writer does. He says the faculty members are known in other sections of the country, "far better than the teachers in any other southern institution." And there Mr. Bjorkman hits the key note. Already this paper has long ago expressed the same opinion.

"I doubt," says this critic, "if the people of this state fully appreciate the greatness of their University," and so do we, for no judge of men can really appreciate the rather long list

of big men composing the State University faculty without coming into more intimate touch with them than is the opportunity and privilege of the average North Carolinian.

The University of North Carolina is big, not because of its fine and ample buildings, and library and grounds and equipment, but because it has on its faculty such men as Dr. Archibald Henderson, Dr. Edgar Knight, Dr. E. C. Branson, Dr. D. R. Hamilton, and many others whose names could be mentioned. The time has never been, and never will be, when a great school is not about what some one defined it to be when he said that, a great school is a great teacher on one end of a log and a bright student on the other, or words to that effect.

These physical equipments are all right. All schools must have them, but what really makes a great school, or a great college, or university, are great instructors and bright and alert pupils.—*Stanly News-Herald*.

HOLMES PLEASES CYRANO AUDIENCE

Interpretation of Cyrano De Bergerac Is Fourth Playmaker Reading.

(De C.)

Montfieur, fat actor who hasn't seen his knees in all these many years; Ragueneau, good-hearted shop keeper who feeds poets in return for their poems and is naturally doomed to financial ruin; Le Bret, friend of Cyrano; Roxane, beautiful and charming lady; Christian de Neuvillette and Cyrano de Bergerac who together produce the world's perfect lover; all these characters lived again Sunday night in the Playmaker Theatre and told once more, in the form of Professor Holmes' excellent reading of Edmond Rostand's *Cyrano de Bergerac*, the tragic story of Cyrano's love for the beautiful Roxane.

Pictures of the different scenes were flashed on a small screen which was on the left side of the stage, and due to this and to the explanation of the settings by Professor Holmes one was able to clearly visualize the complete action of the play.

Professor Holmes succeeded in cutting the play so that none of the plot was left out and only the high spots read, nevertheless it did seem a crime that the witty dialogue between Comte de Guiche and Cyrano that took place while the wedding of Roxane and Christian was being performed had to be omitted.

Professor Holmes' interpretation of the different characters stood out distinctly and this together with his natural instinct for acting the parts kept the reading from being the least bit dull or uninteresting as a great many readings have been.

Professor Holmes had the necessary conceit to make Cyrano an outstanding figure in the first act in the Hotel de Bourgogne, which proved to be one of the best read of the five acts. In the scene by the balcony of Roxane Professor Holmes had his worst moments and later in the same scene he rose to great heights holding his audience spellbound. The stand of the Gascogne Cadets against the Spanish in the fourth act was well read and at times with great gusto. In the last act, at the convent where Roxane has lived for fifteen years, Professor Holmes shows good taste and some of his best acting talent in his reading of the last several speeches of Cyrano.

The Playmaker readings this year have been of the highest type and have pleased the audiences which have gradually increased at each reading. These Sunday night readings have proven to be some of the most enjoyable affairs that the Playmakers have sponsored.

Man and woman can get along nicely as life partners if they can avoid being bridge partners.—*Waterbury American*

OPEN FORUM

Editor of TAR HEEL:

I regret very much that I have been late in fulfilling my part of the contract, recently made with you concerning the Poem recently published by you and signed "Illiteratus," and I would like to explain that I have had quite a bit of trouble in collecting from the party of the third part, namely: the man who lost.

I am enclosing the price of one "dope." Let us hope you do not have occasion to use "said" dope as a chaser, if you get what I mean.

Souseingly poetic,
ILLITERATUS.

Hobbs In Atlanta At Meeting of the Conference Officials

Dr. A. W. Hobbs, Chairman of the Faculty Committee on Athletics at the University, has gone to Atlanta to attend a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Southern Intercollegiate Conference this week-end.

The chief matter to be discussed is the question of whether or not graduates of junior colleges may play on varsity teams in their first year at a Conference institution. As it is now they come under the general rule that prohibits any student from playing until his second year.

The graduate of a junior college who enters the University of North Carolina is qualified to become a member of the junior class. Under the one-year rule, therefore, he has only one year to participate in intercollegiate athletics before graduation.

Several of the junior colleges have voiced objections to this limitation. Mars Hill, North Carolina, is one place where the students want to be relieved from the operation of the rule.

Get Free Candy

G. W. Byrd and J. Hamlet were the winners of the candy given away Saturday morning by the Book Exchange. Each of the winners received a box of Nestles candy containing 24 bars.

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WHAT'S HAPPENING

TODAY

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

7:30 p. m.—Episcopal Parish House. Monthly meeting of Philological Club. Dean Royster will present a paper on "A Chaucer Controversy in 1785." Graduate students are especially invited.

8:30 p. m.—Phillips Hall. Dr. K. S. Lashley will deliver Sigma Xi Lecture.

9:30 p. m.—Student vestry meets in Episcopal Parish House.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2

8:30 p. m.—Phillips Hall. Dr. K. S. Lashley will deliver Sigma Xi Lecture.

THURSDAY, MARCH 3

8:30 p. m.—Phillips Hall. Lecture by Edgar Wind on "Styles of Architecture from the Egyptian to the Gothic Period."

SATURDAY, MARCH 5

8:00 p. m.—Tin Can. High School basketball finals.

Frosh Harriers to Meet Charlotte Highs

The University freshmen will stack up against Charlotte High School on March 12 in their first track event of the 1927 season.

Charlotte High comes with the rather remarkable record of three state championships in three consecutive years. Track is one of their strongest points, and they are looking for a win over the freshmen. Coach Bob and Assistant Coaches Ranson and Belding are especially desirous of all freshmen who are interested in track to come out, they said yesterday. With the meet only two weeks off, actual practice in preparation for the event will begin at once.

LOST

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THE TAR HEEL

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