

The Tar Heel

LEADING SOUTHERN COLLEGE TRI-WEEKLY NEWSPAPER



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Thursday, May 10, 1928

A WIDENING RIFT

The warfare of sarcasm between the Engineering and Arts schools, carried on in the past week through the medium of the printed page, indicates to some extent the growing estrangement of these two departments of the University. Neither side in this campaign of invective has had any deep-rooted bitterness against the other; attacks have rather been made in good-natured banter. But there is evidence of a widening breach.

The engineering school is more and more becoming a self-centered body, as is evidenced by the course of study and amount of work which each student must do. There are practically no courses, as far as we can learn, where the engineering student is in company with members of other schools. He takes the regular academic Math 1 and 2; but when he gets to the few courses of English proscribed, the distinguishing "E" is added to students in the Engineering school. It is thus that the engineering student does not come in contact with the general student body in the classroom.

Nor is the opportunity great for contacts outside the study halls. The work assigned engineering students is so difficult that leisure is quite limited; and college activities, with the possibilities of varied associations they permit, are practically barred. As a result, the engineering student has become, in a sense, reclusive.

This tendency toward separate and independent existence apart from the rest of the campus is also noticeable in other professional schools. It is perhaps essential that specialization be intensive; and it is certainly natural that students of life interests flock together. But there is this difference between these other professional schools (except pharmacy) and the Engineering School. Students in these former have spent some two to four years in the academic school before specializing, to get what has been vaguely called a "cultural foundation." The engineering student begins his freshman quarter with definite technical work.

Is it not possible that the engineer (and conversely, the arts student) loses something by this alienation? Is it not remotely possible that the engineer misses something by the omission from his curriculum of more "cultural" subjects—whatever they are? But that is another story.

Is it our hope (and belief) that the gulf between the University schools, which now appears to be widening, will not become a chasm.

—J. R. B., Jr.

It is estimated that the stones in the Great Pyramid would build 22,000 ordinary sized houses.

OPEN FORUM

FLAYS THE FLEECE

To the Student Body:

An old myth was cracked a little bit more Monday night, namely the legend that the Golden Fleece picks the most outstanding men on the campus, and is the highest honor a Carolina man can attain.

At least four men were selected, who, in the opinion of the writer and everyone with whom he has had the privilege of conversing, did not rate the honor.

According to the standards of Monday night, membership in certain social fraternities and other organizations which are made more on "pull" than any other quality, are qualifications of the very first order.

Then, on the other hand, can the members of the Fleece explain why they consistently refuse to take in men of spectacular achievement, and marvelous character, but who also have an independence of spirit, and are not exactly regular? Why is membership in your order confined to a certain set pattern of temperament, that may be very fine, but is not inclusive of the whole campus?

Another interesting fact is that in this group of eleven representative men there is not a single first-string football player, that most major of all sports. There is something wrong here. To the writer's personal knowledge there are those on the team whose character and personality are unblemished, and their name is legion.

Again it is worthy of note that the order has not had the guts to tap a genuine literary man of first rank since Bill Couch, three years ago.

It is time for the Fleece to set its house in order, which can be done by any one of the following methods:

1. It can pick men about whom there will be no question, in such numbers as it may require, and thus attain its ideal. These men are here.
2. It can relinquish its present claim to perfection, an admit that its standards are subject to human frailties and fraternity politics.
3. It can quit.

Or it can try to fool the campus one more time. And, at a not far distant day, such flagrant bunk, if it continues will be smote by the students in their might, never to rise again. The campus, like the people, cannot be bamboozled forever.

TAYLOR BLEDSOE.

P. S.—As a politician, I have no objection to politics, but as a veteran of many campaigns, I do object to such rank hypocrisy as a shield for politics as was put forth Monday night.

L. T. B.

FOR A SWIMMING POOL

Editor of Tar Heel:

The purpose of this article is to show that there is an acute need of a swimming pool at the University of North Carolina. We believe that there has been enough interest shown in swimming among the students to warrant action on this matter.

The University of North Carolina, one of the leading Universities in the country, has for its swimming facilities, only a small, left-over room, its dimensions approximately 30 by 60 feet, which frigidly contains unheated water, but does not contain proper equipment.

Most of the leading Southern Universities such as Georgia Tech, Washington-Lee, Duke, and others, have adequate swimming facilities. Many new high schools are including swimming pools as part of their equipment. Is it right that Carolina should continue to be backward in a matter of such vital importance? We say vital importance because swimming is an activity capable of being participated in by not only the minority but the majority. What a benefit would the state derive in having students carry back to their home communities the knowledge of swimming and life-saving, and helping to break down the prejudices which exist against this healthful form of recreation!

Our space is too limited in this article to list the many advantages of swimming. However, it is a well recognized fact that swimming ranks at the top, even above tennis, as the sport having the highest carry-over value—that is the ability of being participated in throughout later life. This feature is not true of many of our popular collegiate sports. Swimming puts into play more muscles of the body than any other single sport and can easily be made into a year round recreation.

Swimming is the only sport one comes clean from.

Any suggestions relative to this subject will be appreciated.

HERB BROWNE
DOUG POTTER

DEFENDING THE BUCCANEER

Editor of TAR HEEL:

The Buccaneer was a respectable magazine, with no question as to its being otherwise, until it was drawn through the mire by a few foggies who could not keep their minds under their hats, and who, not having initiative enough of their own, awaited a leader before starting their campaign of mud slinging.

Why should a publication be based on its aesthetic value rather than on its popularity if it would result in its being published at a loss? If more people would find enjoyment in reading the Buccaneer as it is now published, it should not be reformed so as to sacrifice the interest of the majority for the interest of a few who find it to their distaste. The Buccaneer furnishes us with some humor and its contents are soon forgotten; but those who are complaining most find such light participation extremely to their distaste. You will find their sort in some corner studying and concentrating upon a volume of Boccaccio or the like—something that will furnish fuel to their imagination and will linger on within the recesses of their narrow minds.

Jokes are read and soon forgotten; they do not have such a terrible effect on a person's life, and I don't believe that they will cause anyone to change the course of their life. What does have a great effect upon our life is that which we are taught, and where can one find any greater obscenities or bits of suggestiveness than in some of the books and material that are included in the English courses—and some of the professors take great delight in dealing extensively on such occurrences.

The idea of reforming our comic magazine is very excruciating indeed; reformers are only self centered, envious fools who, not contented with themselves, wish to reform everyone else and not themselves. Those who doubt the respectability of and desire the sentiment of the campus concerning the Buccaneer should take a vote among the students, unless they think the reasoning of the students to be inferior to their judgment.

Sanford C. Harper, Jr.

DI ASSEMBLY HOLDS MEETING

Resolution to Abolish Golden Fleece Postponed Until Next Meeting

Whitener introduced a bill into the Dialectic Senate Tuesday night, "Resolved that coaching classes be abolished." Senators Whitener and Parsley, chief supporters of the bill, stated that coaching classes are unfair and do not benefit the entire group. They serve only to raise grades artificially. The ones who attend these classes miss the fundamental issues of a course. They get only spot questions which enable them to pass final examinations. It was charged that assistant instructors collect fees from the students and in return give the students a list of questions which they, the assistant instructors, know are likely to be given on the final examinations.

The censors said that their attack was aimed primarily at the coach classes in Math and Botany and that they had no objections to extra sessions given free to whole classes.

The bill seemed absurd to those who opposed it. "Coaching classes are not easy routes through courses," Senator Yarborough said. "The assistant instructors do not make out the final exams." Opposition became intense. It was pointed out that in most cases coach classes are helpful and necessary. The bill was badly defeated.

Senator Cox introduced a resolution, "Resolved, That the use of student cars on the campus be forbidden." His argument was that cars disturb those who wish to study. The opposition declared the plan impractical for the University campus, which merges in with the rest of the town of Chapel Hill. The bill was also opposed because "it would restrict personal freedom." A vote showed there was only one supporter of the bill.

Senator Bledsoe dropped a bomb into the hall when he introduced a resolution: "Resolved, That the Golden Fleece should be abolished." This question will be discussed at the next meeting of the Di.

JAMES BOYD PLEASAS N. C. C. W. AUDIENCE

N. C. C. W.—(CP)—As the concluding number of the annual lecture course at N. C. C. W., James Boyd, the distinguished novelist, gave readings from his novels. Mr. Boyd, an adopted North Carolinian, has based his novels, "Drums" and "Marching On," on North Carolina life, and his next work will be on the great western migration from North Carolina.

Mr. Boyd entertained his audience in quite an informal way, by giving very simply, readings from his latest novels and also from his favorite poets, John Masefield and Rupert Brooke. The selections which he chose from "Drums" and "Marching On" were for the most part vivid character sketches and showed a splendid recapturing of the spirit of the Civil War period.

Mr. Boyd is considered among the foremost of the younger American novelists and as one of the keenest interpreters of North Carolina life in its historical aspect. Although a native of Pennsylvania, he is now a resident of North Carolina and is an outstanding figure in the literary life of the state.

A CORRECTION

The Tar Heel of May 5 stated that the dance to be given by the Phi Alpha Fraternity would take place this Saturday. We would like to correct this error. The dance will be held Friday, May 11, at the Carolina Inn.

We have often thought if Sandino would arm his men with teapots instead of rifles he could arrive at a settlement with the American authorities for a better form of government for Nicaragua.—Dodge (N. D.) Dispatch.

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