

The Tar Heel

LEADING SOUTHERN COLLEGE TRI-WEEKLY NEWSPAPER



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Offices in the basement of Alumni Building.

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Saturday May 12, 1928

A SWIMMING POOL

In the spring a young man's fancy lightly turns to many things. That the old swimming hole is included in this list shown by the lamentation of Messrs. Browne and Potter in the Thursday's issue of the TAR HEEL, where an open forum letter from these students calling for a University pool was printed.

It is indeed distressing that this University does not enjoy the advantages of proper swimming facilities. The oversized bathtub in the basement of Bynum gymnasium, sometimes flattered by the name "swimming pool," is quite inadequate. There are a number of students who do not even know of its existence—not that they have missed anything.

The University administration realizes this need as keenly as do students; but its hands are effectively tied. It costs money to build swimming pools; and the purse strings to the North Carolina pocket-book are very jealously guarded by the legislature. An attempt was made at the 1924 session of the General Assembly to secure an appropriation for a new gymnasium (in which was to be included a pool), but a co-ed dormitory was built instead.

Architects' drawings for the proposed gym include a swimming pool modern in every respect. The pool is to be constructed so that it will be indoors in winter, with warm water, and comparatively open during summer. Yet it is doubtful whether the next legislature will view this proposed expenditure with favor. The only alternative source of funds, private donations, offers still less hope.

The TAR HEEL is behind the move for a new gymnasium, with its swimming pool, but anticipates no immediate action.

J. R. B. Jr.

Sixty-Eight Will Be Candidates for Post-Graduate Degrees

Dr. J. F. Royster, dean of the Graduate School, announced yesterday that there would be 68 candidates for post graduate degrees in June.

Among this number, 15 of the men are candidates for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy; 35 for Master of Arts; and 18 for Master of Science. Oral examinations will start on May 15 and will last until commencement; however, the Masters have already stood their written examination, and the Doctors are taking theirs this week.

In August the University will confer another set of graduate degrees.

Eighty nine student were elected to Phi Beta Kappa last week at the University of Michigan.

OPEN FORUM

ANENT THE JOURNAL

To The Editor of Tar Heel:

The action of the Student Council in suppressing the YELLOW JOURNAL before publication and without having even read any of the material which was to appear in it is an act of censorship which would shame Mayor "Big Bill" Thompson or the Boston authorities or even the Tennessee legislature. One would think that after having made such complete asses of themselves in attempting to exercise the functions of literary censors last year the council would be more cautious, but apparently authority is too sweet. It should be too apparent to need statement that any responsible group or person has the right to issue any journal of opinion on a free campus, and that subsequent action should be taken only if statements appearing in it were proved to be untrue, libellous, or slanderous. Members of Sigma Upsilon have stated that they were willing to maintain that every statement in the journal as originally planned was true, that even some known to be true were deleted on the grounds of propriety, and that consequently they believed nothing in it to be libellous or slanderous.

Mr. Hudgins stated that every article in the journal should be signed, in spite of the fact that no reputable paper in the country—not even the Tar Heel—publishes the signature of the writers of all its stories, and usually the name of the editor is not published. He declared further that if any objection were taken by anyone to any statement in the journal disciplinary action would probably be taken. I have not the patience to explain to any befuddled intellect the absurdity of such an ultimatum, but would like to call attention to the fact that your open forum columns testify to objections registered against statements occurring in the conservative Tar Heel.

According to Mr. Hudgins the action of the council was instigated by Dean Hibbard, Dean Bradshaw, Joe Bobbitt, and one or two others. Mr. Bradshaw is a known reactionary. I can testify that Mr. Hibbard is an excellent teacher, but since he was unfortunately made a dean he appears to have joined the extreme rear rank of the conservatives, as is exemplified in this affair, his letter anent the Buccaneer, and other similar incidents. At any rate, the Student Council was in no sense warranted in assuming that this small group represented campus or faculty sentiment, and even had they known positively that the majority of opinion corroborated their own there is no justification for their interference with the freedom of the press until statements have been published which are proved to be untrue, libellous, or slanderous.

The whole affair is to be deplored, and it is to be regretted that Sigma Upsilon did not proceed to issue the journal in spite of threats. I believe the campus would not have supported the council in its tyrannical course. Certainly the campus (including Mr. Hudgins, by his own statement) buys the YELLOW JOURNAL and reads it. Mr. Hudgins declared that the case would go into the official records of the council and might be considered a precedent. Let us hope not.

PETERLOO

ON FREEDOM OF THE PRESS

To Whom it May Concern:

Does the Student Council represent the student body or does it carry out the dictates of certain high-ranking members of the faculty—such as Messrs. Hibbard, Bradshaw and House?

THE YELLOW JOURNAL has been suppressed. Such action was taken through the efforts of the above mentioned faculty members by means of veiled and subtle hints. In full record with them was a small group of students whose hides were in danger—and justly so.

From such a lead the Student Council called up the Yellow Journal staff Wednesday night. Proceeding on the assumption that the power was theirs, they virtually decreed that the Journal should not be published. The staff was warned that should the Journal come out, as it has heretofore, drastic action would be taken.

Thus the wishes of a "mere handful" on the Carolina campus were carried out. This was done on the basis of mere rumor, and suspicion—not evidence.

How can the Council justify such action instigated by the faculty? Someone showed a striking lack of backbone.

If these gentlemen of the faculty think that they have a right to censor student publications, either directly or indirectly, they sadly lack the principles of freedom and liberality of thought and expression for

which this University has long been noted. On no grounds can such policies be defended.

A FORMER COUNCILMAN

AN ATTEMPTED DEFENSE

To The Student Body:

In consideration of the fact that this issue of the Tar Heel contains certain indictments of the position of the Student Council in regard to the so-called suppression of the first YELLOW JOURNAL, I feel that it is incumbent upon me as chairman of the council to state its position on the matter.

To state in a few words the events that led to the action taken by the council: I was approached by certain students on the campus who officially reported to me that the YELLOW JOURNAL was to appear and asked that the Student Council take some action on the matter. Soon after this, I was called to a meeting of several faculty members and prominent university officials. At this time the whole matter was laid before me and the suggestion made that something be done. I told this group that I would not consider arbitrarily ordering the members of Sigma Upsilon not to publish the sheet, but that I would request them to meet with the Council in order that the two groups together might discuss the matter, and to enable the Council to state its position to Sigma Upsilon.

At this meeting the Council made the following statement to the group representing Sigma Upsilon: It was stated that the Council would prefer the YELLOW JOURNAL not to appear, but it was made clear that in no sense of the word was this an order. 2. The Council stated that it wished the Sigma Upsilon fraternity to fix the responsibility for the publication of the paper upon the students actually concerned, and that each article either be signed or in case this was not done that Sigma Upsilon agree to furnish the Council, upon request, the names of the men responsible for any particular article. This was done solely to enable the Council to fix definite responsibility upon an individual rather than to have to take action against the whole of Sigma Upsilon, in event the Council considered some part of the JOURNAL of such nature that action would be warranted. This was done for the sole purpose of protecting Sigma Upsilon as a body. After the position of the council was made clear, the members of Sigma Upsilon retired, considered the matter, and of their own free will and accord agreed not to publish the JOURNAL. Thus the Council did not suppress the JOURNAL. Also the Council did not make the statement that drastic action or any other sort would be taken in the event of the publication of the JOURNAL. It stated that action would be taken only in case the Council considered the publication unwarrantedly insulting and injurious to personalities and in case it were unparadonably obscene and lewd.

The open forum letter in this issue written by a former student councilman is to my mind very interesting because it displays such an utter ignorance of one phase of our student government on the part of one who should be well versed in such matters. This particular individual denounces the council for the action they have taken on the grounds that it has no right to censor student publications. To the contrary, the Council has such a right, and it was definitely and firmly established in the Carolina Magazine case of the fall of 1926. The action taken at that time was appealed to the faculty, and the special committee appointed to consider the case over-ruled the action of the Council, but in its report it stated emphatically that the Council did have the authority to take action on the case. The decision was over-ruled on the grounds of an abuse of authority. The difference in that case and this is that the present Council has as yet taken no steps toward censorship.

D. E. HUDGINS, Jr.

President Student Body

McNATT SPEAKS

Editor of TAR HEEL:

I have read the Open Forum of the Tar Heel with much interest for the past week; and if we did await a leader to start the criticism of the Buccaneer, surely he did not appear too soon.

Due to my dumbness, I have been at Carolina for a number of years. When I first came here, fresh talk about the Tar Baby was sounded from the lips of Carolina students who were interested in seeing the student publications at Carolina rise to a high standard of literary value. (Does this mean that we can have no HUMOR? Surely it does not.) Soon the Bull Weevil appeared on the campus. And soon it went away, too. The reason for this was that it did not come up to the standard that Carolina students expected. The English department had nothing to do with its expulsion.

The Buccaneer then came as from the fumes of unblemished thigh-pieces, pure yet full of humor and wit. Since that time the publication has fast fallen into the ruts of those comic magazines which have been taken from us. Shall it continue to falsely represent the wit and humor of our campus? It may for a while, but it can't continue long and live. There was a time when I could turn to the pages of the Buccaneer and find the Bus Schedule or the telephone number of a local pressing club, but now all the space that was once occupied by decent humor is filled with undesirable thought and "non-Carolina" ideals, and the local advertisements are replaced by "What Shakespeare said about COCA-COLA!"

Now, Mr. Editor, I am not in favor of doing away with the Buccaneer, nor do I think that you should be bothered with publishing the comic section of our publications; but I do think that there has got to be a rebirth of the true Carolina spirit in the minds of those who have to do with publishing the Carolina Buccaneer, or it will suffer the fate of the Tar Baby and the Bull Weevil.

J. P. H. McNatt.

PLANS COMPLETE FOR TWO SUMMER SCHOLASTIC TOURS

Metzenthin Directs Central European Tour; Number of Students and Outsiders Enrolled In Paris Tour.

At a meeting of the faculty committee on foreign study, held May 10, R. M. Grumman of the Extension Division announced that enrollments for the two University study tours to be conducted this summer have been coming in satisfactorily and that both the Central European Tour and the Paris Residential Tour are now assured.

Members of the Central European Tour will sail from New York June 30, aboard the S. S. Lithuania. They will visit five different countries, spending two weeks in Vienna and Munich. During their stay in Vienna they will be privileged to attend the world famous Music Festival, which this year will be devoted largely to Schubert music in commemoration of his anniversary. Under the direction of Dr. E. C. Metzenthin courses in German, with college credit, will be offered. The party now numbers ten members.

The Paris Residential Tour, under the directorship of Professor J. C. Lyons, is composed largely of North Carolinians. The following University students have enrolled for this tour: Frank Wilson, Jr., J. H. Moye, C. D. Blanton, M. D. Lassiter, Jr., Other members of the group include: J. W. Wheeler of Statesville; Miss Maude Vinson of Davidson; Miss Lina Pruden of Edenton; Miss Mary Oliver and Miss Bargaret Bryan of New Bern; Mrs. Kemp P. Battle of Raleigh; Miss Mary Virginia MacLean of Washington; Miss Eliza Grimes of Winston-Salem; Mrs. Basil Manly and Mrs. Dorsey Pender of Norfolk, Virginia; and Mrs. J. A. Williams of Boone.

Members of the French party will sail from New York June 16 on the Estonia. Headquarters will be taken up in Paris, trips being made from that city to Versailles, Rheims, Fontainebleau, Rouen, Caen and the Chateaux country. Courses in French will be offered, with opportunity for special study at the Sorbonne. This group will return to New York August 26.

Hon. J. Will Pless Speaks at Forewell Banquet of Law Fraternity

The Vance Inn Chapter of the Phi Delta Phi Law Fraternity gave a farewell banquet at the "Coop" Wednesday evening from 8:30 to 11. The guests of the chapter were Hon. J. Will Pless, Jr., province president of the Phi Delta Phi and solicitor of the eighteenth district, Dean C. T. McCormick, Dr. A. C. McIntosh, and Albert Coates, all of the University Law School. The banquet was presided over by Charles McAnally, the newly elected president, who acted as toast master.

The principal address of the evening was delivered by Hon. J. W. Pless. His subject was "The Purpose of a Law Fraternity." He stated that the fraternity should have a definite purpose and carry out a definite program. The initial address was followed by short talks by Dr. McIntosh, who spoke on "Legal Ethics"; and by Dean McCormick, who spoke on "The Relation of the Law School to the Fraternity."

Other short talks were given by Charlie Jonas, Fred Parker and Frank Gumme, the retiring president.

Eastern High School Championship to Be Decided Here Friday

R. E. Rankin, secretary of the State High School Athletic association, was in Salisbury Tuesday night where he presided over the second meeting of the faculty high school managers to arrange a schedule for the remaining baseball games to be played in the western high school championship series.

The Eastern championship will be played off here next Friday, and the winners will meet the western champion in the finals at a later date.

Little Arranges for Dental Courses Here

M. G. Little, of the Extension Division, met the Executive Committee of the State Dental association in Raleigh last night to make final arrangements for the post-graduate dental courses which the University Extension Division will launch within a few weeks. The courses proposed were approved at the meeting, and they will be open to dentists throughout the state during the summer.

The first president to draw a salary of \$75,000 was Taft.

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