

The Tar Heel

LEADING SOUTHERN COLLEGE TRI-WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

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Saturday, March 30, 1929

Onions That Grow in the Grass

While flowers are commencing to bloom and the grass is springing up even in the newly planted spots, the policy of campus beautification is doing splendidly. The present seniors have made their contribution, and cherry trees are to be planted along the paths from downtown to Old West and Old East dormitories.

But along with this welcome growth of improvements comes the most unwelcome growth of onions scattered thickly through many of our grass plots. Regardless of whether or not North Carolina raises more onions than Bermuda itself (as we have heard from some enthusiastic booster of this state), the fact remains undisputed that the campus of the University is not the best place to exhibit the fertile soil of North Carolina as an onion-producing land. So we make one plea. Can't the grounds committee or Dr. Coker or the men-who-work-about-the-campus start a movement to eliminate the pestiferous onions from the Campus Beautiful? At this time of year particularly they offer too much competition to the growth of the grass and the fragrance of the lilacs!

Lazy Collegians

Have University of North Carolina students heeded the doleful lamentations of the academic calamity howlers and shifted their attention from extra-curricular to scholastic activities? Results of the nominating caucuses here Thursday evening and Friday morning seem to indicate such a state of affairs, but we seriously doubt the validity of these indications.

Only one candidate was nominated and thus automatically elected for thirteen out of the fifteen class offices and nineteen out of the thirty-three campus offices. Included in the unanimous list were all of the more important campus offices: student body president, editors of all the campus publications except the annual, and president of the Athletic Association. An unprecedented state of affairs—but does it indicate a lack of interest in extra-curricular activities? The answer is easy—it doesn't.

All of the campus publications are at a higher stage of development than they have ever been before. The

Tar Heel will be changed from a tri-weekly to a daily next fall, the Bucaneer is more popular than it has ever been heretofore, the Yackety-Yack has the largest staff in the history of the book, and combination of the Carolina Magazine into a literary supplement to the TAR HEEL is expected by many faculty men to greatly stimulate literary interest on the campus. Debating, the Glee Club and the Band—all the forms of extra-curricular activity are flourishing.

Popular opinion on the campus attributes the lack of interest in the elections this year to an exceptionally strong political line-up. It is quite true that practically all the fraternities were united in one big frame-up. Taylor Bledsoe, king of all political bosses at Carolina, sings his swan song in this election. He graduates from the Law School this spring, and it is quite natural that he should attempt to crown the fruits of four years of successful politicking with one grand coup. And he has seemingly succeeded.

But the real cause of the clean sweep effected by the machine does not lie in effectiveness of the frame-up activities. If there had been more than one strong candidate for a substantial number of the offices an opposition machine would have been formed, composed of the supporters of the candidates not backed by the original frame-up. The real cause of the almost totally unanimous election lies in the dearth of material this year for the offices. More men than ever before are taking part in extra-curricular activities, but entirely too few of them are willing to buckle down to the long three-years grind that is a necessary preliminary to efficient filling of a major office here. Laziness and not machine politics is the fundamental cause of the unanimous elections this year.

The outstanding characteristic of the modern collegian is his almost inhuman capacity for indolence.

—GLENN HOLDER.

The University "Goes South"

Time was, and not so long ago, when young America's favorite ambition was to follow Horace Greeley's admonition to "Go West, young man." But the wild and woolly days of Indian fighting and Jesse Jamesian exploits have faded into dim antiquity, and flaming youth has turned to other fields to satisfy its longing for romantic adventure.

Modern sages advise "Go South, young man." And the wise youth realizes the greater opportunities that the New South offers.

When Bingham Hall was opened Tuesday morning it marked an epoch in the University's development. Steadily the University has expanded southward in the past few years. The construction of Kenan Stadium shifted the campus center a little more to the south; the new commerce building represents another major step southward in campus development. With the official opening of the new library next fall, the space between it, Venable, Bingham, and South will in all probability become the real center of the campus.

In effect the University has followed in its program of expansion the example of modern industry and the advice of the successful business man to the younger generation: "Go South, young man, go South."

—GLENN HOLDER.

Fish Stories

On Easter Monday it used to be the custom for the folks of the village to declare holiday, assume gentle smiles, and go fishing. Long, supple bamboo poles, a hook and sinker, an old tomato can filled with "bait worms," and a bite or two to eat was all the equipment needed. Fishing is a most delightful sport—perhaps not quite as thrilling as wild-game hunting or a game of golf, but nevertheless just as amusing and a bit more restful. Less interest, however, seems to be taken in fishing these days than prevailed some few years ago. Golf, baseball, and tennis have supplanted it. The lunch baskets have been put

away, the bamboo poles lie covered with cobwebs in dusty corners, and the worms are allowed to crawl complacently on their way.

Cy Burns, an old village resident, tells the story how on Easter Monday some number of years ago he caught in a steel trap which he placed in shallow water in a pond west of the village a huge fish weighing about twelve pounds. When he took the fish from the trap to examine it, he saw that it had four short legs and webbed feet. Many other stories equally as believable have been told about fishing around Chapel Hill. Yet the sport has lost its former glory, and it is seldom that one goes on a real, honest-to-goodness fishing trip in these days of long automobiles and short skirts.

Easter egg hunts, too, have lost their popularity. It seems as if the modern generation is losing faith in the Easter bunny. And the grass is kept so closely mowed that even if the eggs were hid, one wouldn't have any trouble discovering them. Sophistication is a great evil.

JOHN MEBANE

Open Forum

FORTUNATE STUDENT BODY

To the Editor:
I hope that I will not be asking too much if I ask for a few inches of space in your Open Forum to place a little idea I have before the minds of the students of the University of North Carolina.

The state papers for today have borne the news that our most beloved (I think that I may put it this way) President is going to remain with us instead of taking a position which is far better than the one he now holds from the standpoint of remunerative returns. I feel sure that the greater part of the student body can appreciate this step from the standpoint of the University and their own welfare, yet there may be a few who do not, and it is to this group that I am addressing this letter.

I do not wish to be dogmatic to the extent of saying that Dr. Chase is the best President that he has had for we have been very fortunate in that respect, yet at the same time I am afraid that there are some who fail to realize just what he means to us. A State University needs some one to engineer it in such a way that it will be able to withstand the rebuffs to which a progressive institution is inevitably heir. Furthermore, such an institution needs to build for itself a prestige among other institutions and the people at large. To the casual observer these things have a position of minor importance, but in reality they mean a great deal. Dr. Chase's successes in these lines do not need to be played up; I just ask you to recall them at your leisure.

President Chase has succeeded in turning the rebuffs that he has encountered into advantages and in winning his way to the top in the eyes of the people of the United States. In this progress, he has at no time failed to carry the University with him. Now we occupy a position which we have never enjoyed before and the greater part of the credit belongs to our President.

Now that we have been so fortunate as to be able to retain him, I would like for us to stop for just a moment and take stock, so to speak, of our good fortune.

FRED G. GILREATH.

Geology Department To Give Summer Tour

The department of Geology in co-operation with the Extension division of the University is offering five weeks of camping and travel by automobile through Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, and New York beginning June 17 and ending July 20, 1929.

This trip which counts two full courses in Geology is open to all male students of the University who have completed one course in Geology and to all other men who have credit for one course in Geology from a college or university of accredited standing. No provision can be made for women. The structure, physical geography, and stratigraphy of the Appalachians will be studied in particular. In addition to numerous visits to mines and quarries the glacial phenomena of Southern New York will receive especial attention.

Any person who is interested in the matter should see Dr. Gerald MacCarthy who is in charge of the proposed tour.

Official figures show that the Mexican government owns property worth about \$90,000,000.

Pen Points



By H. J. Galland

Biggest News

The biggest news of the week was undoubtedly the announcement of Dr. Chase's decision to continue as President of the University. A sigh of relief was collectively heaved immediately following the receipt of the news, a number of aspiring professors buried their high hopes of advancement to the top position under bright smiles, and the campus relaxed to its usual normal stride.

After 8:30

A rule has just been laid down at the Co-ed Shack to the effect that no drinks will be allowed after 8:30 in the evening. State editors with visions of headlines to the effect that "Ban Is Placed On Liquor To Curb Girls' Drinking At U. N. C." may subside in their swivel-chairs and pull their eye-shades an inch lower on their foreheads. They will find no story worthy of "busting the front page wide open" in this item. It merely means that the too-frequent trips of the motorcycle from Sutton's with "dopes" will be stopped after that hour, so that a little more studying may be done.

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Another item of interest from the domains of Spencer Hall is the rule that there must be no telephoning after 11 o'clock. It seems that certain young ladies were being rung up from Durham and other places at night after the ordinarily prudent co-ed is safely tucked in bed, and that long conversations of a somewhat saccharine nature followed. There was advice to "sleep tightly, dear" and "don't read in bed, darling, you'll ruin your eyes" and—well, you know the kind of stuff. And now, when you dial 4181 or 4201 or 4206 to whisper sweet nothings after 11, you will get only a stony silence. 'S tough, isn't it?

Take Your Choice

Outlines under a photo on the front page of this eminent journal announce that Mlle. Gina Pinnera, French-English-Italian soprano, will appear here next Monday night. Well, now, which is it, anyway? Does she sing 'em all three at once, or is she a woman without a country—a definite one? Or is the "Mlle." French, the "Gina" English, and the "Pinnera" Italian? Doubtless Memorial Hall will be packed Monday night with people eager to find out what is what.

The Ed

The Random Spearman ordinarily serving as Editor of this paper has up and left us this week-end. He thought he'd fool everybody by leaving a couple of extra editorials to appear in this and Tuesday's issue so nobody would know that he had folded his tent and gone forth. But now you know, anyway, that he isn't in Chapel Hill at the present moment, and so we grab the opportunity to state that we were in his home town this week and saw the newspaper office he has a job in. Right next door is a pool-parlor. And on the other side is a barber shop. These are two indispensable of a newspaper man's life, so the Ed is getting real training. He is also doing a little plain and fancy visiting during the week-end.

It Must Be So

In one of those advanced English composition classes in which every-one turns out tragedies, generally of the Carolina mountain type, and reflects on the futility of this and that, a co-ed scribbled a sentence in a notebook, yawned, and passed it back over her shoulder. It read, "Life is one fool thing after another—Love is two fool things after each other."

Nominations

Yesterday's nominations in Memorial Hall were about as neat a demonstration of the working of a political machine as is to be seen in a campus lifetime. A nice spirit of we-should-worry prevailed among the thirty or so boys, mostly prospective candidates, gathered to hear the President of the Student Body call for nominations and announce only one candidate for office after office. There was no cheering, no excitement, no campaigning—nothing to be seen except a group of Foregone Conclusions stalking through the Hall and seizing various positions of trust.

All Freshmen and Sophomores are requested to remember that the first regular chapel period of the spring quarter will be held Monday morning. No announcement regarding the program has been made.

Advertise in the TAR HEEL.

Unfavorable Report Given on Booker's Plan of Government; Committee Proposes New One

The committee appointed by the Dialectic Senate to investigate the feasibility of the new plans of Student Government as proposed by Dr. J. M. Booker, submits the following report after four weeks of exhaustive research, during which time interviews with interested students and faculty members have been freely resorted to, in addition to which your committee has drawn upon the experiences in student government of important colleges and universities throughout the entire United States, and having resource to mature judgment, and given weight to sound reason, beg to report the following:

1. That it is the opinion of the committee that a change which would provide a medium for greater expression on the part of the student body at large in the administration of its government and enterprises is more urgently needed at this time than has ever been the case before. The number of able, deserving, and even brilliant administrators and leaders registered at the University is more than twice the number of student officials at present. It is the judgment of the group that the apportionment of student officials has stood constant over the last period of years, while the student enrollment and number of enterprises have both vastly increased.

Your committee has therefore seriously considered the plan of Student Government drawn up by Dr. J. M. Booker and presented by him for consideration by the Dialectic Senate and Philanthropic Assembly because of the fact that his plan provides for an unusual increase in the number of campus officials. We find the Booker Plan impractical, however, for the following reasons:

a. It would abolish the Di and Phi in their present forms. We believe that the long and honorable existence of the two organizations needs preserving, and especially at this time, in view of an increased interest in the affairs of the two groups. We also feel that the primary objective of the Di and Phi is forensic, and that were the two societies to be abolished in favor of campus wide legislative bodies their real purpose would be entirely lost.

b. The plan, while excellent in theory, would be very difficult to put into operation on account of the size of the two bodies which would have some three hundred members, a number which represents one-third of the electors participating in elections on the Hill.

c. Further, the system would be unwieldy were the plan finally inaugurated. (It is quite generally known that the smaller the group the more efficient and expeditive its business.)

d. It would provide large assemblies with little work to do. This would eventually kill interest in government and thus defeat the very purpose brought forth in support of the system by exponents of the Booker Plan.

e. To foster a campus spirit is wise. The belief of your committee is that the division of the campus into wards or precincts for the election of candidates to the legislative department under the Booker Plan would mean an unwholesome division in campus solidarity. The other alternative presented by advocates of the plan is that the members be elected from fraternities and dormitories. Since a considerable number of fraternity members live in dormitories, it would be impossible to make this division. In addition, fraternity members have expressed themselves as being very heartily opposed to any move aimed at isolating them from the rest of the student body.

f. Since the Booker Plan aims at a sweeping abdication of practically all faculty supervision of student government, your committee feels that a very strong point against the plan is that the continuity of student government would be very largely broken up from year to year due to loss by graduation of seasoned legislative leaders, and that the stabilizing effect of sane and wise faculty guidance would be entirely lost under the Booker Plan.

g. Lastly the plan would require a written constitution, were it to be patterned upon the government of the United States. Since one of the prime reasons for the outstanding name of the University of North Carolina in the realm of student government has been the fact that we have had an eminently successful government in the past based on an unwritten constitution, we submit that it is entirely justifiable to continue without a written constitution.

2. In view of the fact that this committee has considered the Booker Plan and some five other forms of student government for more than four weeks past, and has compared

each carefully with the present system, the committee feels well qualified to recommend the following:

a. That the present system be kept intact with the exception of some changes outlined below, and that, above all, the unwritten constitution of the student body be retained.

b. That all class offices be abolished in favor of offices established within the various colleges of the University. It is the opinion of your committee that the division of a modern, up-to-date, and growing university, such as the University of North Carolina is, into purely artificial groups such as the freshman, sophomore, junior and senior classes is an unnecessary and detrimental cleaving of the student body into unnatural groupings. Since students are better acquainted with those students enrolled in their own particular school than in their entire class, they would be better qualified to choose officers from the smaller groups. In addition to this, there being nine practical divisions of colleges, there would be work for thirty-six capable men. Added to this fact, social events could be very easily carried out by schools, thus increasing the number and intimacy of such events. This committee respectfully calls attention to the fact that this idea is already in partial operation under the present system. Student Council members are chosen by the Pharmacy, Law, and Medical schools; the Law school elects its own officers; and the Engineering and Law schools both have yearly dances. This step, then, would only be the carrying of the present system to its logical conclusion.

c. In regard to the student council, it is recommended that the plan of electing members to the organization by schools be carried further than at present to include the nine practical divisions of the University. It is further felt that the high efficiency of the Student Council in regard to the judging of immorality and drunkenness fully warrants the complete releasing of the control of two additional forms of student breach of ethical conduct: namely, the issuance of bad checks, and cheating. This point is very strongly urged upon the faculty for consideration. It is the sense of this group that there is too much cheating being committed, and that were the students themselves sharing more actively in their own judgment and punishment a more proprietary interest would be taken in this phase of the honor system.

d. It is recommended that a vice-president of the student body be elected to serve in the absence or incapacity of the president and to be chairman of a Campus Cabinet of twelve members to replace the present unwieldy Student Activities Committee.

e. As has been suggested in the preceding article, this committee sees a need for abolishing the cumbersome and unrepresentative Student Activities Committee in favor of a group of twelve men elected by the student body directly for the purpose of serving as a check upon the management of student affairs and officials. For instance, this group could very easily do the following:

1. Receive financial statements for the purpose of maintaining efficiency from all persons or organizations receiving and spending student money in campus enterprises.

2. Review the work of all other organizations not receiving or disbursing money with the idea in view of checking up on laxity.

3. Serve as an advisory and recommendatory group to consider the advisability of measures needing campus wide opinion for a decision.

4. Sit as a court of impeachment in case officials of the student body government should ever, unfortunately, become unrepresentative of the campus will. It is understood that in such an exigency the action of the court of impeachment would be purely recommendatory. A decision having been reached, a campus wide ballot on the question of retaining or unseating the official in question would be held.

f. It is believed that the dignity of elections would be further enhanced by the election annually of three students of integrity to serve as an official Election Board of Commissioners to conduct and supervise all elections under the Australian Secret Ballot used at present.

h. To make the government at Carolina even more responsive than it is at present, we suggest the adoption of such political measures as the recall, by which inefficient or corrupt officials could be deprived of their offices by a campus wide vote; the initiative, by which the students

(Continued on page four)