

The Tar Heel



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Thursday, May 9, 1929

The Registrar Hoists The Danger Signals

Once more the danger signals are displayed in the registrar's office. An X or a W on mid-terms heralds impending disaster for the recipient, unless he improves the quality of his scholastic work.

Grades are, after all, important primarily from the standpoint of their effect upon the individual. They are not accurate as indicators of the amount of knowledge actually obtained from the courses; they merely serve to estimate the progress the student has made. Good grades add to the self respect of those receiving them; this alone makes them well worth striving for.

A bit over a half of the quarter has passed, but enough time is left for the X and W men to earn decent marks on their courses.

Governor Gardner Comes To Carolina

Tonight Carolina students will have their first opportunity of hearing Governor Gardner speak before a University audience. An unusually large crowd will probably turn out for the Golden Fleece tapping, inasmuch as the keen interest in the event itself will be augmented by a desire to hear the Governor's speech.

Governor Gardner has yet to demonstrate his efficiency in his new office. The administration is still in the formative stage, and it is as yet impossible to judge as to the manner in which the new executive will perform the duties of his office. Mr. Gardner is unquestionably capable of developing into an excellent governor, but it is impossible to determine whether he will do so.

For these reasons the appearance of the governor here has aroused especially keen interest. Tonight the University faculty and student body will have a chance to obtain a close-up view and to form a first-hand estimate of the new chief executive of the state.

Concerning Horse-Hairs, Pussy-Willows and Tad Poles

About this time of the year the youngsters develop an inordinate fondness for collecting dogs, cats, fish-worms, tadpoles, lightning bugs, and all species of live stock. The offsprings of Chapel Hill citizens are no exception, and all manner of animals have made their appearance in

local back yards in the past few weeks.

One of the favorite experiments of childhood is to place horsehairs in water and watch them turn to snakes. Another is to collect several sprigs of pussy-willow, put them into a milk bottle, and wait for them to crawl out in the form of kittens.

All of these things are closely related to the spring-time urge of man to assert his domination over the animal world and to gather unto himself as many chattels as practicable.

Is An Early Annual Desirable?

Today students are receiving their copies of the Yackety Yack at a relatively early date. Last year the annuals came out somewhat later, and the business manager states that this year's edition is the earliest within the past several years. Part of the efficiency, it has been implied, is due to the printing and engraving houses. Of course, members of both editorial and business staffs come in for their share of praise.

Those in charge evidently think the early annual advantageous. Indeed, there are a number of advantages such as the elimination of work for those on the staff at a time of the year when everybody is pressed for time, the increased satisfaction on the part of the majority of students in having the Yackety Yack in their hands as soon as possible, and a longer period of time before the beginning of the new scholastic year for the organization of an efficient new staff.

However, in as much as the annual is supposed to be a year-book containing the record of activities (especially of seniors) for the full year, the early Yackety Yack of this year falls short. There is a distinct disadvantage in that certain men who are graduating this year have achieved distinctions and honors for which they receive no due recognition in the formal record of the year's proceedings. Of course, we make such a statement with the feeling, not that Carolina men care so much whether their feats are set down in black and white, but that the year-book is not complete as it might have been had it come out two weeks later.

The high quality of workmanship displayed in both written matter and photography disprove any thought of incompetency on the part of the staff which this comment may have aroused. It is to be hoped that next year's edition presents as pleasing appearance as this year's. The only fault we have to find, as was pointed out above, is that the book should not have appeared until at a later time.—B. C. M.

Open Forum

GIVES YACKETY YACK A SEVERE ONCE-OVER

To the Editor:

Although only sample copies of the University annual, better known as the Yackety Yack, are floating around at the present time, these give ample evidence as to the full value and rating of the book, as compared with its predecessors. It is a commonly agreed-upon fact that a passing glance of the book gives a fairly good impression, but the old rule of "distance leads enchantment" rules supreme in this case, and the passing glance is extremely deceitful. As a senior at the University, this is the last and much more to be prized annual of all the other three received while here, that is it SHOULD be. It is an extremely beautiful cover which encloses such an assembly of errors, mistakes, and other detrimental factors which have been practically unknown to the preceding three with which the writer of this has become well acquainted. So numerous are the criticisms to be given, that time and space limit the length of this and hence the number here discussed.

According to a vote by the Senior Class, there were to be four pictures to a page, but according to the sample copies now circulating, such a vote was only child's play and used only to take up time at the Senior class smoker. As a result of a vote of such importance, the staff or some part of the staff, seemed to have the Seniors' interest at heart and grouped six together, probably for no other reason than that of saving a few dol-

lars per page. This interest is greatly appreciated, but it was indeed uncalled for, and in this case, was used in a very undesirable and much-to-be-criticized manner.

Other mistakes such as leaving out group pictures, a general mixing of individual names and pictures, and even omitting some of the latter altogether, join hand in hand in making the Yackety Yack of this year the poorest of the four with which the writer is familiar. The question now is "Whose fault is it?" It seems the logical conclusion to be arrived at is that the business staff of the Publications Union made a grave error when it changed printers in an effort to save a few dollars. As a result, the idea may be formed that the students are due a refund, and we would like to know when and where this may be obtained.

H. J. HINES, JR.

DEFENDS HONOR SYSTEM

Editor of the Tar Heel:

May I add a word to the discussion of the honor system?

I have followed the discussion with interest. So far no new argument has appeared. If the reader will consult the records of the Phi society in the spring of '83 he will find an account of this battle. Then the fight was made in the name of liberty. The leader entered the hall with a paper containing the names of a majority of the society pledged to abolish the system. When the ballots were counted he had lost by thirteen votes.

The objection now is that the system does not work. There are twenty five hundred men here taking tests frequently. In seven thousand tests there are one hundred cases that are below the standard. Compare this result with the result at any college that has espionage. I did this in two cases. The boys told me that the student who could not outwit the espionage was dumb.

If there were no action below our standard, there would be no need of any system. I do not know of anything that works perfectly. Perfection is a goal, not a condition.

May I offer a record covering many years as a teacher? I have never watched a student; I have never had a case of bad faith. I wonder if there is a teacher anywhere in any system of supervision who can match this record.

There is nothing in our State so fine as our Honor System. It is the University's best gift to American life. It is the diet upon which men feed. Judged by any test there is no system that compares with it. It is in order to cooperate; it is our privilege to love it.

HORACE WILLIAMS

Geology Professor To Conduct Research

For about three months during the coming summer Professor J. H. Swartz, of the geology department, will be doing a most interesting piece of research work in the field of geophysics under the Geo-physics section of the U. S. Bureau of Mines. During this time professor Swartz will be working with two Canadian scientists in the development and perfection of new methods for the location of ground materials of economic importance.

The party will spend a month of its time working in Canada and the other two months will be spent in the north-western part of the United States, probably Idaho. The final plans of the party have not yet been decided on, but it is planned that in the course of the work, the Eolvos Torsion Balance, which measures exceedingly small differences in the force of gravity, will be used. In addition to work with this instrument, instruments which somewhat resemble radios, and which use the oscillating wave as its principal feature, will be used in determining the location of ores and oil.

The importance of this work and the progress that has been made in it can be realized when one considers that it is only four years old, and that the Geo-physical section of the Bureau of Mines, is only a year old. The new methods of locating mineral deposits and oil basins has become of tremendous economic importance in recent years, for now mining and oil companies no longer make borings to determine whether it is practical to open mines or wells at a certain place, but instead they have these tests made and are then practically certain of the results to be obtained when actual excavation or borings are made.

Carolina Trophies Are on Exhibition

For the past several days the trophies won by the Carolina track teams, both varsity and freshman, have been on display in the window of Dean Paulsen's Smoke Shop. The Carolina teams won three trophies at

the last state meet that was held at Greensboro last Friday and Saturday. The Carolina varsity brought back as a permanent addition to the group of athletic trophies of the University the large silver cup presented by the Greensboro Chamber of Commerce to the winner of the state meet for three successive years. This graceful cup is etched with a figure of the entrance to the new Greensboro World War Memorial Stadium, where the meet was held.

As a trophy for having won the one mile varsity relay, the team of Nims, Barkley, J. K. Smith, and Garrett brought back from the meet a large bronze figure of Mercury. The freshman track team won as a prize for winning the 880 sprint relay, a small bronze figure of a sprinter. These latest symbols of victory of the Carolina teams will soon be placed with the other prizes that have been won by similar teams in the past.

Tau Kappa Alpha Takes Nine Men

The student body of the University yesterday witnessed something new in the way of fraternity initiations. All day long nine neophytes dressed in tuxedos and derbies and carrying canes stalked hither, thither, and yon over the old campus. Inquiring students found that they were neophytes of Tau Kappa Alpha, national forensic fraternity.

From 6:55 to 7:30 these stately dressed youths paraded their oratorical ability on the street of Chapel Hill. Throngs of students greeted their noble efforts.

The ceremony of the initiation was performed in the Phi hall from 7:30 to 8:30. C. E. McIntosh, secretary of the School of Education, made a brief speech on "The history of Tau Kappa Alpha" after the horse-play was all over.

The nine men taken into the fraternity are H. H. Hobgood, of Bunn; E. H. Whitley, of Pantego; H. N. Brown, of Chapel Hill; J. C. Harris, of Warrenton; W. W. Speight, of Spring Hope; R. B. Fisher, of Chapel Hill; R. R. Fisher, of Chapel Hill; R. M. Albright, of Raleigh; and E. L. Haywood, of Durham.

Rome has a traveling municipal dentist whose office is a reminder of the lunch wagons used in the United States.

Mrs. Mary Graves Rees Receives Appointment

Mrs. Mary Graves Rees has been appointed a member of the Art Commission of North Carolina by Governor Gardner. This appointment is for a period of two years and comes as the result of Mrs. Rees's outstanding art work in the North Carolina Art Society and her work in the Women's Federation of Clubs in this State.

Mrs. Rees has recently returned from an art exhibit at Greensboro

which she held before the North Carolina Federation of Women's clubs. She has been one of the leaders in this state in drawing the State's artists into a closer organization in an attempt to establish an Art Museum some time in the future.

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