



JAMES K. POLK

## James K. Polk Only Alumnus To Become President Of USA

James K. Polk, the only president who ever failed to carry both the state of his birth and of his residence, had quite an unusual career as a student at the University of North Carolina.

Any man who would walk six miles each day down the old Raleigh road for his meals rather than partake of the University fare at Stewart Hall with the "ingrates," as he called those eating there, might well be termed "queer."

But there were other things. His first year he made himself almost a studious recluse and by hook or crook evaded the supposedly compulsory participation in the Di literary society—then came back the following year to become one of the society's most active and distinguished members, so distinguished in fact that he was twice elected to the presidency of the organization, an honor never conferred on any man before.

### Brilliant Character

He was a singular and at the same time a brilliant character. A perusal of the minutes of the venerable old Di Senate, still very much alive, reveals through time-yellowed pages many interesting little "peeps" into the life of North Carolina's only president—if Andrew Jackson be excepted, the latter's birthplace still being in dispute.

Polk, born in Mecklenburg county, was graduated with his A.B. degree in 1818 and took his M.A. in 1822. Removing to Tennessee, he rose rapidly through positions as member of the Tennessee assembly and member and Speaker of the National House of Representatives to a position of national prominence in the Democratic party.

He was nominated for the presidency on the ninth ballot in 1844 and on a platform of immediate annexation of Texas, the big question then facing the country, carried the election over his Whig opponent, Henry Clay, the "William Jennings Bryan of his day."

The University, however, treated its native son and alumnus better. It conferred on him the degree of doctor of laws in 1845. And in 1847, when Polk visited the University, he paid his Alma Mater eloquent tribute in an address to the students. Said he: "I cannot adequately express thanks for the reception which has been tendered to me but I am greatly touched and am grateful for it. Twenty-nine years have passed since I was here, yet I recognized as I came up a number of particular objects which were still the same in these halls in which I spent three years of my life and to the acquisitions here received I mainly attribute whatever success has attended the labor of my subsequent life."

Polk never lost sight of his Alma Mater, and never forgot the associates of his University life or the different sections of the campus he had frequented. Among these associates were such subsequent leaders as William D. Moseley, first governor of Florida; William A. Graham, Whig governor of North Carolina; John Motley Morehead, also governor of North Carolina; and John Y. Mason, later a member of Polk's cabinet as Secretary of the Navy.

### First Glimpses

One of the first glimpses we get of Polk from the University records is that of a very individualistic young man who was fined in rapid succession for "gross irregularities" because his insatiable preference for scholastic pursuits surpassed his zest for parliamentary discussion and regular attendance of the Di Society.

He was absent from the meeting of the society at which he was expected to open his first debate on the query, "Would it be justifiable in the eyes of the world and agreeable to the laws of nations for the United States to assist Spanish America in

defense of its liberty?" Presumably because his studies required practically all of his time, Polk requested that he be placed on the inactive membership list, and "upon the motion of Morehead," April 3, 1816, he was permitted to withdraw from the duties of the society for the remainder of that session, but at the beginning of the next session he became very active in the work of the society.

During the time he served as president of the Di Society and filled the unexpired term of Hardy L. Holmes, who had retired at the beginning of office, May 8, 1817, he spoke on the following subjects: "The admission of foreigners into the United States," "On powers of invention," and "On eloquence." When Polk was re-elected the following year after filling this unexpired term, he established a precedent which has never been broken. He is the only man who has served two consecutive terms as president of the society. He delivered his inaugural address, May 20, 1818, in which he voiced his ambitions and displayed that "go-gettiveness" that characterized his stay at the University.

### Address

"Seize with them their avidity the opportunities for improvement as they pass, for ere long you may be called upon to succeed those who now stand up as representatives of the people, to wield by the thunder of your eloquence the council of a great nation and to retain by your prudent measures that liberty for which our fathers bled. It may be part of a delusive phantom that plays before my imagination, but my reason tells me that it is not. For why may we not expect talents in this seminary in proportion to the number of youths which it fosters, and with the advantages which have been named, why may we not expect something more than ordinary? But if it were visionary, I would delight to dwell for a moment upon the pleasing hope."

"Hamilton C. Jones was fined ten cents for threatening language to J. K. Polk and Polk the same for replying to Jones," says the Di records, indicating that Polk was quick on retort and would defend any principle he thought to be right. Seven fines of ten cents each were imposed upon him for walking across the grass and two other fines for absences are charged against him. Polk, despite his record in these respects, was an outstanding and popular figure in campus politics, holding the very confidence of his fellow students, who adopted as a watchword when attempting to clinch an argument, just as true as "that Jim Polk will get up in the morning at First Call." He was appointed a Censor Morum, an office sometimes conferred upon the unruly with the purpose of establishing self-discipline.

Polk also served on these committees: a committee to examine into the state of the library, a committee to buy books for the library, a committee to determine damage done to library books, a room committee, and a committee to offer suggestions. He was also treasurer, secretary, and corrector of the Di Society.

### Hard Work

Hard work was the slogan of Polk, and it is evident from the books he presented the Di library that he read extensively. In conjunction with James Simmerson he presented eight volumes of Gibbon's "Rome." Polk, himself, gave to the library, Williams', "France," Addison's "Evidence," and Gospels' "It's Own Witness."

When he was graduated in 1818, he made a commencement oration in Latin and had many honors conferred upon him for his high scholastic achievements in classics and mathematics. During the entire three years he spent in the University, he never missed and was never tardy at either class or chapel exercises.

## Up And Coming

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 4**  
 4:00 p.m.—Le Cercle Francais, the French House, 216 E. Rosemary.  
 6:00 p.m.—CRIL, at the Grill.  
 8:30—Music Under the Stars, Forest Theatre.  
**SUNDAY, AUGUST 5**  
 Church services.  
**MONDAY, AUGUST 6**  
 7:15 p.m.—IRC meeting, Graham Memorial.  
 7:30 p.m.—Freshman Friendship Council, Graham Memorial.  
 8:00 p.m.—University Veterans Association, Horace Williams Lounge, Graham Memorial.  
**TUESDAY, AUGUST 7**  
 1:00 p.m.—Men's Faculty Luncheon,

Carolina Inn. Speaker: Goro Deeb.  
 7:15 p.m.—YMCA Cabinet meets.  
**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8**  
 9:00 p.m.—Di Senate, third floor, New West. Discussion on Trusteeship Clause in United Nations Charter.  
**THURSDAY, AUGUST 9**  
 7:30 p.m.—Duplicate Bridge, Graham Memorial.  
**FRIDAY, AUGUST 10**  
 8:30 p.m.—Friday Night Frolics, "Y" Courts.  
 Exhibition: "What Is Modern Painting?"—August 9 to September 2, Person Hall Art Gallery.  
 Anne Goldthwaite Memorial Exhibition Continues to August 5, Person Hall Art Gallery.

## PHI GAMS

(Continued from page three)  
 runs in the first three innings of play, and then coasted to their fourth league triumph. Bartling held the losers to six hits, and also led the hitting department with three hits in five times at bat. Deegan, with two singles, led the loser's fight to remain in the contest.

The only other contest in League B was a forfeit in which the Beta crew racked up their first league win, when Co. 2 NROTC defaulted that contest.

In League C, Med School remained in the ranks of the undefeated by winning over Steele via a similar route, good old Miss Forfeit, and wound up Wednesday's competition with a 2-0 won and lost record.

In another League C contest, Two Brews once again gave proof of their intent to give the league leaders a good fight for the pennant, by scoring a lop-sided 21-1 win over DKE. Ten runs in the last of the fourth sewed up the game for the winners. Burns, Two Brew hurler, limited DKE to a mere duo of hits, a double and a single, while his mates were pounding McGee, the losing pitcher, for ten, including two home runs.

Previous to this defeat, DKE had scored their first win of the campaign, when Steele defaulted Monday's tilt.

In the hottest game of the week, the Leathernecks and Ringers, both undefeated at the time of meeting, tangled in as close a game as has been played. The Ringers finally emerged on top of a 6-5 count, as they overcame a five-run Leatherneck outburst in the first inning, went on to score two runs in each of the second, third and fourth innings while holding the Leathernecks scoreless. Both teams played a nice brand of ball, but the offensive power of the winning team, which banged out ten hits, was, in the end, too much for the losers.

In another tight contest, the Leathernecks squeezed through to a 5-4 triumph over Kappa Sigma. Two runs in the last of the sixth, with Kappa Sigma leading by a 4-3 count, iced the game for the winners. Bradley, with two homers and a single, led the loser's hitting attack, while Parker, Leatherneck catcher, hit a homer and double to lead his teammates in that department.

## SPORT SPINS

former three of his four setbacks this season. He has won 17 . . . Mel Ott slammed out his 500th home run of his career Wednesday off Boston chunker Johnny Hutchings. Only Babe Ruth, with 714, and Jimmy Foxx, with 531, rank ahead of Ott in that department.

Plans for the State closed tennis tournament have been completed and the annual net affair will get underway in Greensboro next Thursday . . . Several Carolina lads, including intramural head Walt James, are expected to compete . . . Speaking of tennis, the UNC mural tourney is moving right along, first round matches having been concluded yesterday . . . The swimmers, successful to the tune of four National Junior titles and new American and National records this summer, will meet Army, Navy, Cornell and Georgia Tech this winter. That's quite a potent slate!

The football authorities are still working on the game to precede the regularly scheduled season opener with Georgia Tech September 29. We hope they will be able to get the tilt, for we feel it would aid greatly the chances of the Tar Heels in the regular season's play. It will probably be with a service team, and this would be a good warmup for the collegiate opener with Tech.

## TRAINERS

(Continued from page three)  
 always there sitting on the bench, waiting for any error or any weakness which a player might contract. They study carefully the way each man plays, especially that guy who was out with a broken arm or leg the other day or so—and that other man who was out for a week sick. From their past experience and knowledge, the trainers are able to tell what will happen when a man falls a certain way, and just how long or to what extent the injury will take to heal.

Of course all serious cases are taken to the team physician, Dr. Hedgepeth, who in turn may send the boys back again assigned treatment by the trainers. Hedgepeth is always in contact with White and Quinlan at all the games and any emergency case is quickly taken over by him or another physician.

Trainers must also look after the daily hygienic habits of the players. They must check their food and what all they eat, their sleep and other health habits. In other words, every personal habit of the football player is known by the trainers and the players trust the knowledge and experience of their trainers.

So readers, the next time you hear of "Doc" White or "Chuck" Quinlan, just remember that they are a vital and unheralded part of the Carolina football squad, doing a wonderful and essential job in training the Tar Heel team on its way to future victory.

## GRAHAM

(Continued from first page)  
 House Committee conducting hearings on the bills that while speaking in a Southern state, a heckler in the audience said:

"If the federal government grants money to the state of New York, under its new constitution it may use that money for the transportation of Catholic school children. Therefore, I am opposed to federal aid to education."

Dr. Graham remarked on the unreasonableness of this attitude. He told the committee that, if New York wanted to make transportation available to all children, regardless of the school they attended, it shall be allowed to do so without any interference from the federal government. He insisted that, in framing a law for federal aid to education we must think above all things of the child.

Why, President Graham asked, should a school bus driver be required to ask a child whether he or she is going to a public or non-public school? "We should not deny any child the right to walk on public sidewalks," he said, "so why should they be denied the right to ride in a public school bus taking children to school?"

## Navy Trainees Will Be Advised By Regular Deans

The office of the V-12 Coordinator was terminated on August 1, 1945, and all Navy trainees have been assigned to regular deans and academic advisers.

Marines and all NROTC students at present enrolled in either NS 4 or NS 5 (navigation) will report to Dr. Godfrey and Dr. Klais of the General College Division. Miss Foster and Dean Hobbs of the College of Arts and Sciences will advise the Pre-Medical and Pre-Theological Apprentice Seamen and all NROTC students who have completed NS 4 and NS 5 and who are working towards a B.A. degree. Advisor of all Pre-supply Apprentice Seamen and all NROTC students who have completed NS 4 and NS 5 and who are working towards a B.S. in Commerce degree will be Dean Carroll of the School of Commerce.

## Big Business: Former Editor Sells Mickey Mouse Watches

Here's a new one for the armchair military strategists to consider:

"If we ever have a war with Russia, it will probably be over the watch deal we put over on the Red soldiers," is the opinion of Sgt. Jud Kinberg, former University of North Carolina student and managing editor of the Tar Heel in 1943. He was in the thick of the European war and possessor now of the Purple Heart, Bronze Star Medal and three campaign stars.

"But that watch deal was really something," Jud writes friends here. "The Russians, when they arrived in this city which we are just leaving, were filthy with money, having just been paid for three years' service."

"The one luxury they most wanted was a watch and a Mickey Mouse wrist watch which would have sold for \$100. The average \$25 watch would have sold for \$200. Prices for such a black-face-sweep-second-hand watches went up to \$500. The trade was brisk and profitable."

"It had been going on for many days wherever our units were in contact with the Red Army and I knew of men who made several thousand dollars buying watches in the rear areas for \$75 and re-selling them to the Russians. I don't know why the Reds didn't have German watches, considering all the Wehrmacht boys they've killed or captured, but whatever the reason, they were the most willing customers I've ever seen."

"Some of our boys put over rickety old watches that ran only when banged vigorously against the nearest wall, and then only for 10 minutes."

## Music Program Tonight In Forest Theater

The second program of "Music Under the Stars" will be given in the Forest theater tonight. The entertainment is presented by the YMCA in conjunction with Graham Memorial. Request numbers will be played as far as possible. Bulletins for making these requests are being placed in the "Y" lobby and in the Graham Memorial office.

**REHDER'S CHAPEL HILL FLOWER SHOP**  
 Opposite Post Office Corner

## OPA Releases Story On Food Ceiling Prices

These are the hot August dog-days in which Carolina students consume gallons of soft drinks. The greater one's liquid capacity, the more important it is to know what are the OPA ceiling prices on drinks of various descriptions. Otherwise, in wetting down the inner man, one is likely to dry up one's pocket book.

OPA protects the consumer of soft drinks against overcharges by requiring a ceiling price poster. Failure to display this poster in a readable position constitutes a violation and should be reported immediately to the price clerk of the local War Price and Rationing Board at the Town Hall.

### Price Posters

Soft drinks and milk shakes are sold in various sizes and with various ingredients. In ordering a drink it is best to specify the exact size and ingredients as indicated on the ceiling price poster. This guards against being obliged to pay for a more expensive drink than one intended to order.

Dispensers of beer are also obliged to post mimeographed copies of their ceiling prices which vary with the classification of the establishment. All retailers of beer for on-premises consumption in Chapel Hill belong to the classification 3B. For this class of establishment, the ceiling price of most brands of beer and ale is 17c per 12 ounce bottle. This price includes the North Carolina retail sales tax which may not be collected again.

### Ceiling Price

Certain brands of beer and ale, notable Ruppert Beer, have a ceiling price of only 13c, including the state sales tax. To protect themselves, consumers should order beer by brand, should refuse to accept bottles from which the brand label has been removed, and should check the price charged against the ceiling price for that brand as shown on the ceiling price poster.

There the consumer suspects an overcharge, he should, if possible, obtain a signed receipt from the proprietor or manager. In any event, he should report the suspected violation immediately to the price clerk of the local rationing board.



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