

The Daily Tar Heel



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Thursday, October 3, 1929

Tar Heel Topics

Here is an excellent illustration of the undergraduate attitude in both high schools and colleges: A member of the Chapel Hill high school grid squad was asked yesterday morning why he was not at school. "Aw, it's too wet for football practice," was his rejoinder.

A Burlington man went to sleep with his head on a rail and was struck by a passing train, according to a dispatch from the Alamance metropolis. The story states that he escaped with nothing more serious than a scalp wound. Evidently they produce mighty durable heads in Alamance.

"Governor Gardner Smiles at New York Times Interview"—headline in the Greensboro Daily News. So did a great many other people when they saw the governor quoted as favoring drastic reductions in working hours, higher wages and abolition of the tenement houses in the textile industry. The governor owns interests in several textile mills himself.

A Double Service
By Swain Hall

After a lengthy discussion of the Swain hall situation with authorities, our opinion that conversion of one-half of the big dining hall into a cafeteria is practicable as well as highly desirable has not been altered. Just where the money is coming from to purchase the necessary equipment and to renovate the building is another question.

Unlike other state-supported institutions in North Carolina, the university does not provide funds for the operation of a student dining hall. The administration's attitude is that private capital is providing eating establishments which care for the majority of the students, and that as long as this is the case the limited funds at the university's disposal should be employed in meeting more pressing needs. Swain hall is being operated on a self-supporting basis for the benefit of students who cannot afford to eat at the higher priced private establishments. In other words, the university is maintaining Swain hall as a weapon to keep the boarding houses and cafes from extorting exorbitant rates from the students who patronize them.

Without doubt Swain hall is fulfilling an important obligation now by providing food for the students whose finances do not permit them to eat at the more desirable but higher-priced private establishments. But a still more important service would be performed by the university if it supplied at cost food

of as great variety and delectability as that dispensed at the better private boarding houses here. Of necessity the prices would be somewhat higher than those charged for board at Swain hall now, but they might be considerably less than those prevailing at Chapel Hill cafeterias and boarding houses.

The Daily Tar Heel believes that funds should be secured for conversion of part of Swain hall into a cafeteria as soon as possible. Contributions from private sources would be the most desirable method for obtaining these funds, but such donations are not easily secured. Probably state appropriations offer the only means of securing the necessary money.

Swain hall would perform a double service to the campus if a cafeteria were operated in conjunction with the regular dining hall. Every effort should be exerted by the powers that be to make this double service possible.

Dispassionate
Collegians

Dean Hibbard in a recent address before the junior class made the statement that there is not one intellectual issue of which the undergraduate campus is aware. Howard Mumford Jones in his address before the freshman class last year asked why it is that one year of college takes all the passion and fire out of a student. Editor Holder of the Tar Heel in an editorial last year characterized the typical student as a "lazy collegian" who spends most of his time playing bridge and recuperating from wild parties.

All these statements negate the common conception of college life as the period of highest intellectual activity. Far from being a place of enthusiastic learning, college often becomes a refuge for banality.

The fashionable policy among professors is to blame this state of affairs upon the "dumb" student who is more interested in social activity than learning; perhaps he is, and who wouldn't be when knowledge is shown to be so "dull, flat, and unprofitable" while social life is so attractive? Yet it is not upon the students that we can lay the greater part of the blame. Upon the shoulders of the professors, professional dispensers of knowledge, must rest the responsibility for the low ebb of intellectual activity.

As a typical example of the deadening influence an instructor exerts, we cite a recent occurrence which came to our notice. In a class of English poetry the instructor prefaced his remarks on the first day with the statement that "we shall not go into this study with any of the good old eighteenth century lyrical enthusiasm." Immediately after the class a number of students paid fifty cents to the business office for the privilege of dropping the course and taking up something else. Many are still sleeping under the droning lectures of an instructor who talks about English poetry with about as much enthusiasm as we are prone to exhibit for the present rainy weather.

Many professors openly declare their profound contempt for the undergraduate mind and all that is accomplished by the undergraduate student. Such as these are responsible for the low ebb of intellectual enthusiasm.

Before the students are blamed too much we should investigate the intellectual stimulus offered by the professors, we should attend a class conducted by a man who is more interested in some research problem he is studying than in the class, we should see what is the challenge and example thrown

out by the professors. Then we will understand in some way the dispassionate collegian whose ranks are enlarging every day.—J. D. M.

Carolina-Virginia
Radio Debate

Last spring the university of North Carolina and the university of Virginia participated in the first radio debate ever to be held in the south. Resultant of this is the proposition that this contest be made an annual affair.

For forty years Carolina and Virginia have been vying with each other for supremacy in every phase of activity. It seems to us only fitting that these ancient and honorable rivals should be linked up annually in a battle of the air. We feel that the proposition is worthy of the consideration of the student body of the university.

Radio debating has definite advantages which are not to be overlooked in this connection. In the first place, many more people can be reached. Since the purpose of intercollegiate debating is coming more and more to be that of educating the public on subjects of national and international importance, radio debating should be of great advantage by virtue of reaching more people.

Regardless of arguments for and against an annual Carolina-Virginia radio debate, such an affair would create a great interest in intercollegiate debating not only on the campus of the university but in statewide circles also.

The purpose of the writer in this editorial is that of bringing the proposition to the attention of the student body with a view to arousing an interest in Carolina-Virginia forensic relations.—J. C. W.

Intercollegiate

Professor E. D. Hay of the mechanical engineering department at Kansas university announces that the K. U. flying course is almost under way. Arrangements have been made with a Kansas City flying school to handle the students and as soon as 15 students can be signed up definitely for the course a school will be established. At a recent meeting over 20 enthusiastic students were all ready to start conquering the air and fifteen said they would take the course. All interested persons were asked to deposit their down payments of \$200. Instruction will be given morning and evening at the field.

Because they violated the rules against "padding" of new recruits, the two pep organizations of the university of Oklahoma were abolished recently, at a meeting of the board of regents, and 59 male members were suspended.

The organizations were known as the "Ruf-Neks" and the "Jazz Hounds." The action came as a result of recent paddings administered to freshmen. The regents were called into special session to consider the action.

Movies taken of sleepers indicate that the greatest possible relaxation occurs when the individual coils himself like a kitten and when he sprawls out like a swimmer. This new evidence on sleep is announced by Professor S. R. Hathaway of Ohio university and Dr. H. M. Johnson of the Mellon institute, who are conducting a lengthy investigation of sleep at the institute.

Sleepers who took part in the experiment were blindfolded to avoid disturbance from light and were photographed in vari-

ous poses by a motion picture camera. A typical subject took nine different poses in the course of about eight hours sleep and shifted from one position to another 33 times. All of the preferred positions required some supporting strain and the experimenters discovered that about half the time is spent in postures which are minor-images of others, thus resting the muscles that have been strained in previous poses.

After a thorough test made under actual playing conditions, officials at Oklahoma A. and M. college are convinced that night football will be a success.

Two weeks before the opening game the giant flood lights were turned on Lewis field after dark and a dozen players dressed in uniform held a light informal workout while the coaches and several hundred fans looked on.

The amount of light shed on the field from the dozen lamps was a distinct surprise to most of the spectators. Every punt and forward pass stayed within the lighted region and players agreed that the light did not hurt their eyes.

Even the stands on Lewis field were well lighted and spectators seated on the top rows were able to read newspapers.

The giant poles which support the flood lights are set 14 feet out from the sides of the field so there is no danger of players colliding with them when a play goes out of bounds.

The fossil skeleton of a giant hog which stood seven feet tall has just been mounted in Morrill hall at the university of Nebraska. The terrible pig in his prehistoric day was as high as the tallest modern automobile

and had a wheel base of about 140 inches.

The fossil was dug up in Sioux county Nebraska. Only two of the giants have ever been discovered, the other being smaller than the university specimen. The pig, scientifically termed *Dinohyus hollandi*, lived during the late oligocene or the early Miocene age, which would give him an antiquity of some twelve million years.

NORMAN FOERSTER'S NEW
BOOK IS NOW AVAILABLE

Those looking forward to Professor Norman Foerster's new book, *American Scholar*, will be glad to know that it is now on sale. It may be obtained from the university of North Carolina press, by whom it is published, or from the Bull's Head book shop.

"Have our literary scholars lost sight of their proper objects of study by an all but complete surrender to the mechanical age and to the sensational and commercial spirit of America?" This is the question faced frankly in the *American Scholar*.

In his criticism of the modern types of educators and their systems of education, Professor Foerster writes trenchantly yet moderately. His book closes with a plan of education calculated to attract rather than repel promising young scholars and to train them rather than to misshape them.

Professor Foerster is a well known scholar and author of today. His recent books are the *Reinterpretation of American Literature* which he edited for the modern language association, and *American Criticism* which was included in the League of Nations list of 1928.

ARBORETUM WEATHERS
RAIN WITHOUT MISHAP

Chapel Hill's beautiful arboretum was put through a crucial test during the week's heavy rainstorm, and has emerged triumphantly from the natural forces which tried again to reclaim the picturesque area as a swamp.

Landscape architects who first converted the lowlands into a versatile garden, were inspired into the placing of proper drainage in the arboretum which would meet just such tests of water as the section has just withstood.

For the most part, the bulk of the floodwater which gathered during the two-day period of several inches of rainfall, was properly and quickly drained out of the arboretum before its action damaged the property. However, the sides of some of the slightly elevated sand walks in the garden were washed away. Yet at only one place was it noticed where water flowed across a sand walk and the pedestrian had to ford the resulting little stream. This branch was caused by a stoppage of leaves in a drain culvert.



LAST TIMES TODAY
JOAN CRAWFORD
in
"Our
Modern Maidens"
Added Features
"FARO NELL"
All Talking Comedy
Paramount Sound News



From an engraving of the time in Harper's Weekly

Autumn of '79

While Yale and Princeton were battling to a tie at Hoboken, New Jersey, a small group of scientists, directed by Thomas A. Edison, was busy at Menlo Park, only a few miles away. On October 21, their work resulted in the first practical incandescent lamp.

Few realized what fifty years would mean to both electric lighting and football. The handful who watched Yale and Princeton then has grown to tens of thousands to-day. And the lamp that glowed for forty hours in Edison's little laboratory made possible to-day's billions of candle power of electric light. In honor of the pioneer achievement, and of lighting progress, the nation this year observes Light's Golden Jubilee.

Much of this progress in lighting has been the achievement of college-trained men employed by General Electric.



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