

The Daily Tar Heel



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Sunday, November 24, 1929

Ford the Modern Prometheus

The benefactor of the American civilization, Henry Ford, now comes forth with his own prescription for improving business conditions, which prescription is the immediate general increase of wages of his several thousand employees.

The great economist goes even farther, saying, "Nearly everything in this country is too highly priced. The only thing that should be high priced in this country is the man who works. Even the raising of wages is not sufficient in itself—we must see to it that increased wages are not taken away from our people by increased prices."

Excellent! But like so many idealists who believe that they have a panacea for the country's ills, the gentleman from Michigan overlooks the fact that as fast as wages are raised the wholesalers and retailers, not bothered with any very strong altruistic motives, will raise their prices correspondingly. There is no power, including the august one of the United States congress, which is strong enough to regulate wage levels.

No matter how much Henry Ford increases his employees' salaries, however, he will never be able to pay them adequately. Mr. Ford was the first important manufacturer to introduce mass production to this country, and as such should receive no praise whatsoever for any attempts of his to increase wages. Mass production and its many attendant evils is slowly but inevitably causing the stultifying of the American soul and its appreciation of the artistic. There is little incentive to be individual. The false god worshipped in modern industrialism is Efficiency. It matters not how good; how many and how fast are the chief considerations. And in this process the struggling individual fits like a cog in a machine which soon wears out.

Each man is inately proud of his ego—his self—his individuality. He would strive to be different were he left to himself. This he cannot do in modern industrialism. Working for Mr. Ford, he bends a fender in a certain way year in and year out, or perhaps he screws three bolts into place in exactly the same way for twenty years. We are

personally acquainted with a man reared upon a farm, in Berrien county, Michigan, who, being attracted to Detroit by the miraculous wages offered by Ford, has worked for him for fifteen years putting fan belts upon the machines as they come down the assembly line. All day long for five days a week he works in perfect clock-like order which is splendid from the viewpoint of the employer, but when his working day is over he finds himself incapable of getting back to normal. He even eats in a mechanical manner. He little appreciates or notices any change in the seasons, or his family's appearance, and has little joy whatsoever in living. Accustomed to a comparatively happy life on a farm he has become another atomaton, marching in the service of His Majesty Henry Ford, the benefactor of American civilization.—J. E. D.

Let There Be Light!

(H. J. G.)
A crying need of this town has received little notice from the city fathers, and some action should be forthcoming before they become city grandfathers. It is a matter of light, and light on any subject is, or should be, welcome.

Fraternity men whose houses are situated on Rosemary street, Tar Heel men whose work takes them to the print shop daily, and numerous others whose business is in the alley in back of the drug stores on Franklin street, stumble and curse, and stumble and curse again, every night.

Two lights, placed at strategic points in this alley, would alleviate the trouble. The expense is not great, and at least one member of the Board of Aldermen has realized the need and promises to cooperate.

The weather the past few days has made the alley a treacherous place. Just now, it is more than ordinarily dangerous at night. At the cost of a few dollars, Mayor Council and Manager Foushee would, if they installed the lights in the alley where needed, find themselves blessed by many citizens of Chapel Hill, and mentioned in the prayers of not a few students. And even aside from that, it would be worth it!

Chicago Undertakes An Experiment

Among the seven major objectives outlined by President Hutchins of the University of Chicago in his recent inaugural address is the reform of the undergraduate school so that the more intelligent pupils will not be retarded in their work by the "dumber" or more mediocre ones. We may suppose that his plan will be in the form of an experiment along the lines of those now being carried out at Wisconsin, Swarthmore, Princeton, Harvard and various other institutions.

Classification of students as to ability to go forward in their work has been tried to some extent in this and other universities, but as a whole has not been successful. The chaos created by having to make schedules for three different sections of each subject at different hours of the day is more than can be handled. The only solution of the problem seems to be complete segregation of the brighter and slower students into different colleges.

Nothing is more disheartening to one who is really in earnest about his work and able to go ahead than to be with a class, the majority of which are slower, duller, and less enthusiastic than he. While the "dumb" student may gain from his association with the brighter, the bright one is the loser in time and energy wasted.

We wish President Hutchins every success in the solution of

this problem. Chicago being a private institution can afford to conduct experiments, while the state universities must cater to the average student, and the modern university satisfies the average student.—J. D. M.

Religion Unbothered By Week-Ends

Far be it from the intentions of this editorial writer to condemn the prevailing practice of urging students of the University to attend the church services of the village at any and all times. There are, however, several factors relevant to the religious situation which warrant more than casual consideration.

In a recent issue of this paper there appeared an article reprimanding students for leaving the Hill on week-ends in preference to remaining in Chapel Hill and thereby availing themselves of the opportunity to attend church services. When considered aside from the deeply rooted and conflicting inclinations of the various elements of the student body, such a viewpoint is a sound one. Upon careful examination, however, it will be found that those students who make a practice of attending religious functions will do so regardless of whether they are in Chapel Hill on week-ends, or not. Although it is undeniably true that the habitual practice of spending week-ends away from the University campus is a bad one, it is equally as much in accord with the fact that these same students would not go to church even though they spent every Sunday in Chapel Hill.

The writer is inclined to think that religious attitudes are so well established before students come to college that subsequent efforts to make radical changes in such matters as church attendance are useless. This apparently accounts for the varying degree to which students respond to the numerous campaigns of religious organizations. In almost every case principles governing such matters as church attendance were drilled into the present students of the University long before they even contemplated coming to Chapel Hill.

Although we sincerely endorse the contention that the Bible is a masterpiece in point of literary and historical excellence, we cannot overlook the fact that people are loathe to read anything which reprimands them for wrong doing. Investigations in this connection show, none the less, that the Bible is read more than any other single book. Yet it is unquestionably true that these readers comprise the just rather than the unjust.

After having considered the situation from every possible angle, we are inclined to believe that all efforts which figure in shaping the attitudes of students toward religious matters should be aimed at those who are not yet of college age.—J. C. W.

Pen Points
By H. J. Galland

Dear Mr. Paulsen:

You and I have had some correspondence in the past, but we were limited to purely business matters and phrases. In your capacity as Director of the University Laundry, I know you hear many, many complaints, some faint and grudging praise, and a lot of hooey. Far be it from me to add to the last. Yet, there are several things I should like to say to you, and this seems as good a time as any to say them.

You have, I understand (you have told me so yourself) the very finest and most modern equipment in your plant. This is as it should be, since your laundry was installed by and serves one of the most progressive universities in the South.

The South, I hear, is stagnant—or is it unstagnant? Still, there are the tobacco and cotton crops, and as long as the South... Excuse me, Mr. Paulsen—I didn't mean to digress, but one hears so much of stagnancy, Lee, Appomatox, and crops, that I'm afraid I'm getting incoherent too. Not that you are incoherent, Mr. Paulsen—it's these writers in the Tar Heel. I hope you don't read 'em. The Laundry needs your time too much for that.

Well, as I started out to say a while back, you have modern machinery installed in your laundry. They tell us that machinery has no soul, that it is cold, uncalculating, and unthinking. Don't you believe it, Mr. Paulsen. Many a time, after you have made a delivery, I have thought of your machines. I know them, and I know they are almost human. I have even seen them laughing, in fiendish glee, after they have turned out a shirt, or what once was a shirt, of mine. They are calculating, or how else would they rip a towel up the exact center, not a hairsbreadth out of line?

Next time you take a walk around your laundry, Mr. Paulsen, take a look at those machines, and see if I am right. Watch them take a sock and neatly enlarge holes, while they whisper and sneer to themselves. You've got to hand it to them, Mr. Paulsen—they certainly do know how to wreak their private vengeance on the student body.

You understand, Mr. Paulsen, that I put no share of the blame for the mishaps to articles of our apparel on your shoulders. It isn't your fault—it's those machines of yours. You will re-

Campus Life

Can you beat it?—another player injured! Isn't the game getting monotonous?

member that I wrote you last year and thanked you for returning two towels when I had only sent in one, and that I overlooked the fact that the two had been one when the parcel was sent to you. Last week you sent my shirt back—only the back. I know those machines got hold of the front and sleeves, and there's no telling what they'll do, is there?

Still, Mr. Paulsen, I'm not kicking. I'm only wondering why, when you put a few rags in the package to be returned to students, in place of the shirt that was sent you, the matter is thereupon dropped. Don't you think it would be much nicer to write a little note and explain what refund is possible? Or, if this is too much trouble, get a little slip printed, which you could insert when and as needed. It would make us all feel a lot better to know that you cared. And it even might help us to get some kind of refund. Every little bit helps, Mr. Paulsen.

Please give this little matter your serious attention, and believe me, as always, your friend,
The Pointer.

MRS. JOHNSON IN TEXAS

Mrs. Guy B. Johnson of Chapel Hill left this week to remain until January with her family in Greenville, Texas. Dr. Johnson, of the University institute for research in social science, will join her there for the Christmas holidays.

SENIOR NOTICE
All seniors are requested to have their photographs made before Thanksgiving, if possible. Please cooperate.
WOOTTEN - MOULTON

KANSAS HEALTH BOARD ISSUES KISSING RULES

The Kansas board of health in conjunction with the United States public health service has recently issued a group of rules for the guidance of kissers. Some of these rules are:

1. Avoid sudden changes in temperature when kissing. For example, it is extremely dangerous to kiss in a coon-skin coat one minute and then to immediately try it in some lighter attire. The reason for this is of course obvious to any one who has tried it.
2. Gargle frequently at parties where postoffice is played.
3. Try a hot mustard foot bath immediately afterwards if you are "all in."
4. Do not kiss in a draft or in a poorly ventilated room.
5. Be careful about kissing in crowded places.
6. Do not kiss a person who is subject to chills or fever.

ELIZABETH ARDEN
Announces that her exquisite VENETIAN TOILET PREPARATIONS for preserving and enhancing the beauty of the skin, may always be had at
Eubanks Drug Co.

Readers' Opinion

TIN CAN PERFORMANCES PANNED

Editor the Daily Tar Heel: I have attended my first public performance in the "new" Tin Can, and, incidentally, it will be my last one. My attendance at the marionette performance given there Thursday night has made me a hearty supporter of any movement in favor of the construction of a University auditorium.

If the acoustics of the building have been improved I was not aware of the fact. The blowers which are used to help heat the building also added to the difficulty of hearing. Furthermore, it is quite probable that the type of performance which was given on the recent evening is not suited to the mammoth

size of the "indoor athletic field."

Of the show itself I cannot give a fair estimate, because I was unable to see, hear, or sit through it in comfort. But after all, credit must be given the University officials for making the best of a bad situation. And as for the Tin Can, it will serve admirably if every performance will be a music program, such as the recent Marine Band concert. But then there would be the disadvantage of having all the students sit on the ground about the building or even up in the dormitories to hear the program for which the Can serves as a kind of amplifier. Such an occurrence might result in a slight deficit in the gate receipts.
PAUL VON MILGRAM.

A Panacea for Itch

Linoil will absolutely cure all skin diseases. Just the thing for toe itch, ringworm, irritations and jock itch. To prove our faith we GUARANTEE SATISFACTION!

TRY LINOIL FIRST
The Improved Remedy
A Chapel Hill Product

Sutton's Drug Store
The Students' Drug Store