

The Daily Tar Heel



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Friday, December 6, 1929

Why Men Go To College

Why do men go to college? This question has been considered in scores of magazine articles and books, it has been the chief topic of numerous education conferences and the subject matter of innumerable campus "bull sessions" during the past year. College students seem to be developing a greater interest in problems of the curriculum; they are devoting more thought to a consideration of what constitutes the real benefits of a college education than ever before.

A few years ago most undergraduates had a hazy idea of the real purpose for which they were attending college. Vague indeed were the reasons assigned by the average undergraduate for his decision to secure a higher education. But the present-day college generation seems to have a fairly clear-cut idea of why it is in school, of what constitutes the real opportunities and the real benefits of the curriculum and of college life.

Surveys conducted by the Dean of Students office here recently indicate that most University of North Carolina undergraduates have a definite conception of their own problems and those of the institution. The enhancement of their cultural capabilities, with an attendant increase in happiness and satisfaction, and the development of an increased ability to make money are the chief reasons given by practically all of the University undergraduates for their decision to enter college.

In this connection the recently published "ten-year book" of the class of 1917 at Princeton is of interest. A decade after graduation, these successful business and professional men (all of them with the exception of one or two have already attained some degree of financial success) voted overwhelmingly that a "Princeton education helped." "In general," the editors report, "the alleged benefits of a Princeton education were fairly evenly distributed under the following heads: general culture background, mental discipline, increased ability to think clearly, awakened appre-

ciation of finer things in life, creation of a desire for further knowledge, friendships made and a better understanding of other men, technical equipment for professional life, self-confidence acquired, and a better scale of values established."

It is also of interest to note that the members of the class had an annual income of \$7,800 each after they had been out of college ten years. The average salary of members of the class is \$8,067, and the average total income \$13,127. The figure of \$6,000 is the median salary—the salary which is midway between the highest and the lowest. The distinction between the median salary and the average salary is explained by the editors of the book who point out that "a few abnormally high figures unduly inflate the general average"; thus, "if three men receive \$3,000, \$5,000 and \$70,000, the average jumps to \$26,000 but the median remains at \$5,000."

These statistics indicate that a college education is desirable from a financial standpoint, but the opinions of the members of the class as to what were the real benefits they secured from college are of greater significance. They are worthy of close study. The student who comes to college for four years of week-end pleasures and indolence are fortunately decreasing in numbers, and the new undergraduate generation is interested primarily in securing the greatest benefits possible from their four-year sojourns at institutions of higher learning.

Freshman Caps At N. C. State

Recently at N. C. State college a freshman was found guilty of not wearing his regulation red freshman cap for 13 days and condemned by the student council to wear a dress for 13 days and to pay a fine. Later the sentence was modified so that the boy was forced to wear a conspicuous head gear instead of a dress; the fine remained the same. Such action was taken as the result of the regulation of the student government constitution.

This incident brought to the forefront the whole question of freshman caps. After an extensive discussion the students of the college voted to continue the practice of forcing freshmen to wear caps.

To us the whole business seems utterly ridiculous and far too much like a prep school to be becoming to any college. When we entered the University Mr. Hibbard greeted our class with the admonition, "Remember you are college men and not college boys. Of course you will have your jokes and pranks, but you are no longer boys." Making men wear conspicuous and unbecoming caps is neither dignified nor justifiable. It is wholly out of harmony with the whole spirit of college training and college student government; it is a remnant of the old practices of hazing, initiations, and similar horse play.

In forcing the State boy to pay some penalty, the student council was only carrying out the duties of its office. But we submit it is a pretty sorry state of affairs when a college group, supposedly the most intelligent, the most enlightened, the most cultured group of young people to be found anywhere, finds it necessary to make its new members go through humiliating practices, wear unbecoming and conspicuous clothes, and stand branded as queer boys. When a college group becomes like a high school fraternity, a prep school organization, a thoroughly puerile and childish thing, then indeed the aims and ideals of the student group have been submerged for petty regula-

tions. How can a freshman ever come to feel that he is a real member of the group when always he is reminded by his cap that he is doing penal duty and is yet a sort of bastard son of the group?

Carolina is the only institution in the state not requiring the freshman cap; Carolina men have never felt it was in harmony with the system of student government and the general aspect of student life. Perhaps the other institutions of the state have not reached the point of development we have, or perhaps a tyrannical group is "lording it over" the members of the group. With the growth of all the educational institutions in size, we hope there will be a corresponding growth in the conduct of student affairs.

-J. D. M.

Readers' Opinions

AN OLD GRAD SPEAKS

For the past three years I have been deprived of the pleasure of seeing the Tar Heels play any football, since I have been living in the far South, where they have not played since 1922, when they met Tulane in New Orleans. Recently I returned to God's Country to live and saw Carolina play Georgia and Virginia. I am proud of this year's team. I have seen Tulane, Alabama, Vanderbilt, Kentucky, L. S. U., and several other prominent southern teams in action for the past three years, and I frankly say that this year's football team of Carolina can beat any of them when playing head-up football, such as they displayed against Georgia. Right now, Carolina stands an excellent chance to lead the nation in points scored. Most of the leaders have ended their seasons, while Carolina has yet to meet Duke. Here's hoping the Terrible Tar Heels can run up forty or more points on the (Awful Blue) Devils, to put them in the van of the nation's team in scoring.

Before I close, there's just one other thing I want to get off my chest. I know the students, coaches and players dislike to hear the alumni gripe about this thing and that thing, but with the best of spirit I want to say that I don't like those golden jerseys the team wears at times. To begin with, I can see no connection between the university and that color, and in the second place it is a very unattractive color. If the coaches must do something along these lines of psychology why not stick to the beautiful colors of Carolina and dress the team up in white jerseys, with light blue leather strips. The University of Alabama football team wear white jerseys with red leather strips and it makes a very pleasing appearance. I can think of no combination more pleasing to the eye than to see Carolina's Terrible Tar Heels strutting around in white jerseys with the light blue trimmings.

Here's hoping you will publish this in your Open Forum, and that Messrs. Woollen and Collins will adopt this type of jerseys next season.

Respectfully, R. H. CAIN, '26

HALLELUJAH, WE ARE SAVED!

Editor the Daily Tar Heel:

The soul-savers of Chapel Hill who are responsible for the law prohibiting the sale of all articles except food and drugs between 6:30 and 8:30 o'clock on Sunday evening have placed themselves in a class with the perverted blue-law makers of New Jersey and Pennsylvania,

The College Honor System

ARTICLE V.

Editor's Note: This series of articles on the Honor System is being printed simultaneously in all the college newspapers in the United States. A series of five short articles dealing with matters pertaining to the Honor System will follow. This release is being made by the committee on the Honor System for the National Student Federation of the United States of America, with a hope that the students of this country will give serious thought to the problem of student honesty in our colleges, and that they will send to the Fifth Annual Congress of the National Student Federation representatives who have well-thought-out ideas concerning this matter. The Fifth Congress will meet at Stanford University on January 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5, 1930.

These articles were prepared by James Theodore Jackson, chairman of the committee on the Honor System. The writer would be glad to hear from students concerning this problem. Please address him at P. O. Box 958, University, Alabama.

Hints on Organization of the Honor System

The term "Honor System" is used to connote the formal recognition and adoption by students and faculty of a system of mutual responsibility among students for honesty in scholastic work and other college activities. However, it has been said recently by an astute observer of students and a keen viewer of the trend of modern student thought that "the only way in which the problem of student government will ever be worked out successfully will be to perfect a joint organization among the students and faculty combined." This statement furnishes a challenge to American students. Is it correct? Cannot students now govern themselves successfully?

A majority of the students who discussed the Honor System at the Fourth Congress of the N. S. F. A. were of the opinion that the Honor System is more efficiently managed when the council is composed exclusively of students. However, in some institutions, a mixed committee functions successfully. The composition of honor councils ranges all the way from those composed entirely of students to those composed entirely of faculty members. Each institution must work out this problem for itself.

In order to be most effective, the Honor System should be somewhat limited in its scope. It should be made to apply to certain definite phases of student life, and it should be thoroughly understood by the students that, when the system is violated, punishment will follow swiftly and certainly. It is not the severity of the punishment that counts; it is its certainty. The penalty should be as severe as the exigencies of the conditions demand. In some colleges

the only punishment for the violation of the Honor System is permanent expulsion; in others, it consists of a deprivation of college credits; in still others it consists in a deprivation of social privileges or in a simple reprimand. Some institutions publish the names of the convicted students; however, a majority of them favor withholding the name of the offender.

Generally speaking experience has shown that the regular student body governing council can administer the Honor System better than a special honor committee. However, in some institutions the duties of the student officials are so heavy that a special committee is a necessity. There are a number of notable exceptions to the general rule state.

The system of organization should be simple. A simple process should be worked out whereby a student can be given a fair and impartial trial. Some institutions provide for a second trial on appeal, which is public. Few public trials have been held within the history of the Honor System, but, when they have occurred, they have been gruesome things. It is generally thought best to provide for a final appeal to the president of the college, or to some designated faculty committee, before a student is permanently expelled.

Many students think that the aim of the Honor System should be to exclude cheaters; many believe that an attempt should be made to rehabilitate offenders.

Secret student spies whose duty it is to report violators of the system have been found to be of little value.

Regardless of what individuals may think about the salutary influence of the Honor System, it is a fact that students are crying out against the wholesale cheating that is going on in some of our American colleges which rely wholly upon the cleverness of the instructors or proctors to detect cheaters. Many of these students came to the Congress of the N. S. F. A. last December searching for something to substitute for the faculty espionage system, while some came hunting methods and information that would enable them to improve their Honor Systems. It is high time that something definite be done toward solving this problem of student honesty.

The N. S. F. A. is deeply interested in this question and it urges serious thought, expression, and action upon it. The Association of American Colleges is also interested in it to the extent that they are now conducting a survey of the system as it exists in the United States.

ANENT RUSSELL'S LIBERALISM

Editor the Daily Tar Heel:

I see in an editorial in today's Tar Heel on Bertrand Russell's lecture here a reference to his liberalism, "so liberal that the faculty of the University of Wisconsin objected to his being allowed to speak before the Liberal Club of that institution."

If this is true, I have not heard of it happening in the last year. I think probably the event referred to was the ban two years ago, not on Bertrand Russell, but on his wife, Mrs. Dora Russell, who was advertised to speak on matters entirely different from those considered by Bertrand Russell in his addresses—I forget the exact title, but her address was advertised in a most sensational manner as dealing with sex relations. My present object is not to argue the merits of the action taken regarding Mrs. Russell, but to point out that in this case

REMINISCENSES

From the Tar Heel Files

By Howard M. Lee

Twenty-five Years Ago This Week—

Captain Stewart, manager of the football squad, was presented with a gold watch, and monograms were distributed to the players who earned them.

The first regular meeting of the Modern Literature Club was held.

The Advisory Committee announced that each department of athletics in the future would have a distinct sweater to differentiate it from the other departments.

Dr. A. S. Wheeler was elected a member of the Council of the American Chemical Society.

The football team ended the season with a surplus of \$1600.

Ten Years Ago This Week—

The following appeared in headlines across the whole top of the front page of the Tar Heel: "The Sweetest Story Ever Told; N. C., 6-Va., 0; Tar Heels Win Sixth Contest in Quarter Century From Virginia."

Directors of the Graham memorial fund announced that they had raised \$104,000.

The Foreign Immigration bill was defeated in the Di Society.

The Interclass Tennis tournament was cancelled.

The N. C. Club received official recognition from Governor Bickett as a vital organ of the University.

The freshman Cavaliers defeated the freshman Tar Babies 34 to 7 in football.

The sixth annual high school football contest between Chapel Hill and Greensboro was played on Emerson field.

Five Years Ago This Week—

Colonel Swan Pendergraft, Chapel Hill's pioneer bus man, died from cancer of the stomach.

Professor Frederick H. Koch's name was added to the board of associate editors of "The Little Theatre Monthly."

The pirate number of the "Buccaneer" received praise from some of the most outstanding magazine reviewers in the United States.

An announcement was made that Frederick Ward, one of the most noted living actors, would appear in Chapel Hill and tell some of his experiences in 50 years of acting.

Dr. James Finch Royster gave a reading of Rudyard Kipling in Gerrard hall under the auspices of the Carolina Playmakers.

Long dresses are again the fashion. The ladies had to do something about all those stockings with runners in them.

the conflict centered, not around freedom of speech or liberality, but the propriety of the public discussion of certain matters. I had the pleasure of hearing Bertrand Russell that same year, not only in the University of Wisconsin, but under University auspices.

Sincerely yours, W. F. FERGER.

SHE'S HERE!

ALICE WHITE in "THE GIRL FROM WOOLWORTHS"

Singing! Talking! Dancing! New Steps! Thrilling Romance!

Added TODAY Our Grand Comedy "Lazy Days" Pathe News

Monday George Arliss in "DISRAELI"