

The Daily Tar Heel



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Friday, December 13, 1929

PURLOINED PARAGRAPHS

Marines en route southward have at least the satisfaction of knowing that they will be making Haiti while the sun shines.—Norfolk Virginian-Pilot.

There are fewer bathtubs in the United States than there are automobiles. But then of course Saturday night comes only once a week.—High Point Enterprise.

The final standing was that the Athletics lost one game, the Cubs four, and the Pennsylvania Railroad the sixth and seventh.—Detroit News.

An editor says the old-fashioned family doctor has disappeared. He has gone to look for the old-fashioned family, which probably owed him an old-fashioned bill.—LaFayette Journal and Courier.

The question of ownership of Antarctic areas has been sidestepped by Washington, says a report, obviously inspired by those who think the Federal government does not cut any ice.—Norfolk Virginian-Pilot.

Tar Heel Topics

Friday the 13th, fires and rumors of fires. Better cut out smoking today!

Three down and four to go! Looks like the fire demon is playing a great game on Fraternity Row.

Now if someone would start an investigation of the senate lobby investigating committee somebody might get investigated after all.

New York movie directors evidently are not as enterprising as their Hollywood brethren. Not one of them took advantage of the Harlem movie studio blaze to take a big fire scene.

The buildings department has erected a safety fence around Memorial hall, but it doesn't hide the darn thing in the least. A mammoth shroud to completely cover the monstrosity would be much more desirable, to our way of thinking.

We hear from reliable sources that certain of the faculty are highly wrought up over the fact that the Tar Heel will not be issued during exam week. And yet they frequently remind the staff that we are going to have to get down to work on our courses if we expect to pass any of them.

A Problem And A Duty For Undergraduates

America is the richest nation in the world. Other nations are inclined to look upon this country as the golden land of opportunity and wealth, of luxury and comfort for everyone. Even we collegians, familiar as most of us are, with the deplorable conditions existing in many of the nation's industries, presumably possessed of the intelligence and liberality of thought to recognize the fundamental injustices perpetrated every day upon workers in many of our industries and agricultural occupations, are inclined to regard these conditions as natural and inevitable, to sing the praises of our "perfect" economic system in true Rotarian fashion.

Economists have incontrovertibly established, with statistics and entirely logical deduction, that the income of the United States is more than adequate for the comfort of everybody, but it is so unevenly distributed that a large proportion of our population is in poverty. Gastonia, Marion, Elizabethton—these recent and tragic chapters in our economic history represent a natural but ill-advised attempt to correct the fundamental inequality of incomes.

A tragically large proportion of the nation's leaders toward the warfare now raging between the forces of capital and labor. In both camps are thousands of influential persons, intellectual and civic leaders, who are exhibiting colossal intolerance, an unwillingness to approach the basic problems in the light of sane, unprejudiced reasoning, that is nothing short of criminal. With today's undergraduate generations, who will be the nation's leaders of tomorrow, lies the greatest hope of a satisfactory solution for the problems which are threatening to wreck our economic system, to send our entire national industrial and economic structure crashing into a pile of ruins.

As thinking men and future leaders of the nation, the present undergraduate generation should familiarize themselves with the true state of affairs in this country, develop a liberal and rational attitude toward and knowledge of the fundamental problems underneath the ominous portents of national unrest which are sweeping the country, and prepare to cope with them. This problem of unequal distribution of wealth is, in our opinion, the basis of all our industrial unrest, and should merit the close attention of every college man.

The New Matrimonial Outlook

Along with numerous developments in recent years which go to make up what we call progress have come important shifts of thought in the field of matrimony. The institution which the writer has in mind is that of companionate marriage.

The principle of real companionate marriage is as old as matrimony itself. Many lovers in the porch-swing talks and evening strolls which precede every normal wedlock have preferred companionship, with its resultant individual and professional freedom, to parenthood. But in the years following, criminal ignorance of medicinal facts has done much to wreck these early plans. The modern girl, however, will seldom let ignorance of these facts cause her to unwillingly "replenish the earth." The problem, therefore, takes on a different aspect in this modern age in which we are now living.

The only thing new about companionate marriage is its recent admission to the limelight of discussion and subsequent practice. Advertisement of companionate marriage as a legiti-

mate substitute for family-life is, however, a bit unusual as yet. As the situation stands today this development in the realm of matrimony is hardly reputable enough to be termed a fad, yet it has become a real issue and one which demands careful scrutiny by conservatives and progressives alike.

One feature of the companionate marriage institution (if it may be so termed) warrants special consideration. We refer to the mutual independence of each party to the matrimonial contract. Many contend that it is high time for young men to cast aside their obsolete notions that they must support their wives in order to command respect from them. The statement that "all gentlemen support their wives" seems to be losing ground rapidly in this present age. Regardless of any opinions concerning the matter, everybody must agree that all marriages are properly partnerships. No thoughtful husband will lay claim to supporting his wife merely because he pays grocery bills and house rent. He is rather forced to conclude that she earns his protection by her domestic labors of which he himself is a beneficiary. This fairly recent change of attitude on the part of husbands toward their wives is a product of a changing civilization, the final result of which can hardly be prophesied. Interestingly enough, this phase of the new matrimonial outlook is strikingly akin to the underlying principle of companionate marriage.

Although we are inclined to doubt the general feasibility of companionate marriage, we feel that it does deserve a favorable eye. Although a worthy son cannot afford to say that his mother's type was not wisely chosen by his father, he should think long and carefully before choosing a support-me type of wife in this present age. Now that the average woman knows she can work and thereby pay her own bills the support-me type will often withdraw from the ties of wedlock, unless she is fabulously supported and treated as though she were a queen. This fact we believe to be worthy of very exacting consideration.

Although companionate marriage may never gain any very widespread acceptance, it is a real issue at present and one which is not to be looked upon in the light of a mere passing fad.—J. C. W.

Readers' Opinions

WILL DURANT AND HIS SCHEME FOR BROADENING OF THE MIND

Editor Daily Tar Heel:

On less than two typewritten pages Will Durant has compiled for the December American magazine a list of books that he promises will make of one a scholar and a philosopher if read in accordance with his scheme. If one is to become a scholar and a philosopher according to his dictates one is to read from the books that he has chosen one hour a day for four years. Durant calls his list "The Road to Freedom."

It is not my idea to go into detail concerning this movement—it is well worthy of being called a movement, since it is such a well concocted scheme for the advancement of literature and broadening of the mind—for it is easy enough, and well worth the while, for anyone to secure an American magazine where the project is explained much better than I could explain it. My idea is merely to bring Durant's idea more fully to the eye of the undergraduates of the University in order that they may all see the significance of such a movement. After per-

sonally calling this article to the attention of several students I find that I am not the only one that has wished for such guidance as Durant gives. It is quite evident that the most of us are eager to learn in a systematic way but have not up to this time found that way. With the exception of the different writers, scientists, biologists, poets, and philosophers that we run across while pursuing our varied courses here, we read or hear very little of them. For what student is going to the library and read from Sophocles' Oedipus Tyrannus, Schopenhauer's works, or La Rochefoucauld's Reflection? It just isn't done by the average person. But with Durant's compilation before that person there is more than likely to be some heavy thinking done.

Mr. Durant states in part:

"Will you sit down with me? Perhaps you are a college graduate and are ready, then, to begin your education. Perhaps you have never had a chance to go to college and have considered what else our children learn there except the latest morals. They might learn many fine things if they came to it old enough; but our youngsters take so long to grow up in these hurried days that they are too immature, when they enter college, to absorb or understand the treasures offered them there so lavishly. If you have studied with life rather than with courses, it may be as well; the rough tutelage of reality has ripened you into some readiness to know men. Here at this spacious table you shall prepare yourself for membership in the International of the Mind; you shall be friends with Plato and Leonardo, with Bacon and Montague; and when you have passed through that goodly company and you shall be fit for the fellowship of the finest leaders of your time and place.

Can you spare an hour a day? Or, if some days are too crowded with life and duty to give you leisure for these subtler things, can you atone for such bookless evenings by an extra hour or two on those Sunday mornings when the endless newspaper consumes you to no end? Let me have seven hours a week, and I will make a scholar and philosopher out of you; in four years you shall be better educated than any new-fledged Doctor of Philosophy in the land.

But let us understand each other: You must not expect any material gain from this intimacy with great men. Some lucre may flow incidentally in later years from the maturity and background that you will win; but these dividends, like those of the insurance companies are not in any way guaranteed; you take your chance. Indeed, you will be "losing time" from your professions or business; if you long for millions, you had better lay aside this map of the City of God, and keep your nose to the earth. And there will be blocks along the line: occasionally you will come to an obscure or lengthy book, a bad up-grade; and all your strength will have to be subpoenaed to your task. Remember that we are not making a list of the absolutely best one hundred books, no list merely of the masterpieces of belles lettres; we are choosing those volumes that will do most to give a man education, civilization and culture.

Since we wish to have orderly minds and to avoid the chaos of desultory reading, we shall want to begin at the beginning—even with the distant stars and the antique earth—and these beginnings will be the worst obstructions in our path. *Initium oimidium facti*, said the Romans; the start is half the deed. Let us gird up our loins and screw our courage to the sticking point for these

initial hills, and the rest will be level road, with wisdom or sublimity at every milestone and pleasant riches of beauty everywhere. We want here not entertainment only, but education; and we want it in such order that the knowledge we win may fall into logical sequence in our memories and give us at last that full perspective which is the source and summit of understanding."

In this commentation on Durant's scheme for the broadening of the mind I have possibly quoted too much, yet it is justifiable in that one should learn more of this modern philosopher; learn more of his views, and learn to think with a better knowledge of humanity. Durant makes an honest effort to humanize knowledge by centering speculative thought around certain personalities. He thinks that epistemology has about ruined modern philosophy and awaits the time when the study of the knowledge process will be recognized as the business of the science of psychology, and when philosophy will again be understood as the synthetic interpretation of all experience rather than the analytic description of the mode and process of

experience itself.

Paul Michael

PAYMENT OF "Y" PLEDGES URGED

Editor the Daily Tar Heel:

I wish again to remind those students who have not taken up their "Y" pledges that we would be mighty glad to get it before the holidays. For those who find it impossible to part with cash at this time, for your convenience we remind you of the opportunity to apply your laundry refund on the pledge as a number of students are doing. Arrangement has been made with the laundry whereby students sign a laundry refund release card at the "Y" office, and upon the instruction of the card the laundry delivers that refund check to the "Y" office. If your refund is more than your pledge the difference will be returned to the student, when the refund is less than the pledge it is simply credited on your card for whatever the amount may be. This method for payment of pledges is a convenience to the student and will enable the "Y" to get a larger amount of cash for December obligations. We thank you heartily for your cooperation.

ED HAMER, Treas.

Advertisement for Wooten-Moulton featuring the text 'Your PHOTO AS A Gift' and 'The Gift That YOU ALONE Can Give'. It includes a small illustration of a woman and a man.

Advertisement for Columbia Records featuring the text 'Here's a new stepper in the right direction!' and listing various records such as 'My Fate is in Your Hands' and 'A Little Kiss Each Morning'.

Advertisement for Columbia Products featuring the text 'Exclusive Dealers for COLUMBIA PRODUCTS IN CHAPEL HILL UNIVERSITY BOOK & STATIONERY CO.' and 'Viva-tonal Recording - The Records without Scratch'.