

The Daily Tar Heel

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Sunday, March 30, 1930

A THOUGHT FOR TODAY

One life; a little gleam of time between two eternities.—Carlyle.

PURLOINED PARAGRAPHS

"U. S. Senate has many problems," the head-line suggests. To be exact, it has just ninety-six of them.—Peking (China) Leader.

Some of the wets talk as tho they had had several drinks and some of the dries talk as tho they needed them.—Detroit Free Press.

"Mr. Borah," says a Washington analyst of the political situation, "is himself again." But that doesn't make it much clearer.—Detroit News.

Some of the wets talk as though they had had several drinks and some of the dries talk as though they needed them.—Detroit Free Press.

Tar Heel Topics

Add to similies of the season: As good as the Chi Omega dance.

Thoughts of a senior at the beginning of the spring quarter: "Just three more courses to go—only forty-five more class days—how beautiful is life in the spring-time, tra-la!"

The Missouri prison mutiny is evidence of the fact that even prisoners will kick up a devil of a row when their "vittles" aren't up to par. Chapel Hill boarding house proprietors and Swain hall authorities please note.

News item from the Press and Standard, Waterloo, South Carolina: "The whole community was made sad last Friday night—old man Jack Hartshorn had breathed his last at the supper table just after he had drunk too much buttermilk and fell over on the floor and never said another word except 'where is my hat?'—he will leave a large family with two mules and a mortgage—his loss was expected as his blood pressure went up when cotton went down last fall." Moral: don't become a cotton farmer.

Making Shakespeare Interesting

Last night's performance by the Shakespeare Players marked the first appearance of a professional dramatic organization on the University campus in many years. And the audience was delighted with the players and with their presentation of *Julius Caesar*.

High school courses in the drama have produced in most of us a decided prejudice against Shakespeare. The traditional pedantic methods of dull analysis and dreary lecture have destroyed all the beauty of Shakespeare and other dramatists for us: in its rightful place lingers memories of long, boring hours of dispirited class room discussion by teachers without enthusiasm for their subject and of wearying reports by students to whom the disinterest of the instructors had been transmitted.

It is not unnatural that these memories should produce in us an actual abhorrence for Shakespeare and other literary figures studied in a similar manner. Likewise the beauty and stimulating intellectual qualities of the works of the great poets have been effectually destroyed for most of us by faulty methods of instruction and incompetent teachers.

The organization which appeared here last night is making a praiseworthy effort to present the vital, stimulating works of Shakespeare in all of their artistic beauty to the high schools and colleges of the country. Theirs is a rather thankless task. Receiving very little financial remuneration for their work, they have been appearing at high schools and colleges throughout the country for the past three years. Attendance at a single Shakespeare performance by competent actors is more beneficial to the student than innumerable classroom recitations and lectures of the dull, academic sort usually included in high school courses in the drama.

Students over the entire country would profit considerably if formation of other organizations similar to the Shakespeare Players were encouraged and performances presented frequently by the mat every high school and college. These performances would do much to supplement courses in the drama and make them interesting and stimulating, rather than the painfully listless periods of scholastic drudgery that most of them now represent.

Oh, Ye Delicious Fables!

That the affairs of men are today governed largely by a knowledge of cold and scientific facts, rather than by beliefs in such half-shadowy things as fables and legends, is no doubt fully realized by all of us. Yet there is a great deal of this myth stuff still figuring in our lives. Which of us did not take pleasure in hearing our local Dromgoole legend for the first time? What a delightful book Dr. Odum has written about the story of John Henry's driving the steam drill down! Such things are everywhere about us, in some way affecting the life and beliefs of even the most sceptic college man. They make life more livable.

They still help make history, too. It hasn't been many years since the Angels of Mons made history. If you don't remember their story you might take time to brush up your memory on it, one of the most sensational of all the World War traditions.

It goes like this: In the summer of 1914 the shattered British troops were falling back through Belgium and northern France before the invading Germans. The British were greatly outnumbered, there

was no relief in sight, their artillery couldn't begin to cope with the German artillery. It looked as if the whole Army would be chased into the English Channel.

Then a strange thing happened. The soldiers noticed that they had a new rear guard. Shadowy, gigantic figures appeared in the battle rack from nowhere to smite the advancing Germans with invisible arrows. The German pursuit was delayed. The ghostly defenders gave the British time to reform their lines, and a seemingly inevitable defeat was averted.

The story went all through the British army. The "Angels of Mons" were taken on faith by hundreds of Tommies, to say nothing of millions of people back home. Divine intervention was believed to have saved the British army.

Now Colonel Friedrich Herzenwirth, formerly of the Imperial German Intelligence Service, says it was only a trick of the German Intelligence Service, which miscalculated the results rather badly. He declares that German airplanes carrying movie projectors hovered over the British lines and projected their pictures on the cloud banks, in the hope that the ghostly apparitions would fill the British with terror and complete the route. The same stunt, says Colonel Herzenwirth, worked beautifully on the Russian front; but in Flanders it backfired, and instead of making the British run away it strengthened their morale enormously, making them feel that angels from above were fighting for them.

He may be right for all we know, and he may be wrong; but really, it doesn't matter very much. The truth of a legend, the mechanics of its origin, is never important. All that counts is the legend's effect. Men have lived by a great many strange stories; and we do not need to track these stories down to their starting points. Hard facts don't amount to so much as we suppose. It is what we believe that is important.

The Angels of Mons served their turn. It doesn't make the slightest difference whether they were caused by German movie cameras, simple hallucinations, or imaginative war correspondents. They lifted men's hearts for a while. That is all we need to know about them.

The Proposed Student Federation

For several months now the proposition of a North Carolina Federation of Students has been considered informally by the student body officials of Carolina, Duke, and State. Although no definite official action has been taken as yet in this or any other institution of the state, recent public statements made by the student body presidents of Duke and State indicate that these institutions are willing to cooperate with Carolina in organizing the federation in the near future.

The federation movement got underway definitely at an informal meeting Tuesday night, which was sponsored by Ray Farris, president of the student body, Ralph Greene, president of the senior class and John Lang, speaker of the Phi Assembly. The merits of the proposed intercollegiate organization were discussed at length, the decision being reached to call an organization meeting about April 28.

The proposed North Carolina Federation of Students grows out of a need which has been greatly enlarged by the phenomenal growth of the colleges and universities of the state in recent years. The federation will afford a medium for the discus-

sion of problems which are common to all the collegiate institutions of the state.

Owing to the fact that the colleges of North Carolina are close to each other, it is quite natural that rivalry between them should be very keen. This is especially true of Duke and Carolina, which are separated by the short space of twelve miles. Both are leaders not only in the state, but in southern and national circles. The proposed federation would enable leaders of these and the other colleges of the state to get together and "thrash out" problems which would otherwise develop into hard feelings and bitterness. This is the prime idea in the proposed organization.

The success of the recent Duke - Carolina conference at Chapel Hill, which was sponsored by the literary societies of the two institutions, has lent considerable impetus to the idea of the federation. Similar meetings at which all of the colleges of North Carolina will be represented will, it is believed, solve the problem of undesirable rivalry. "A family of colleges working for the betterment of educational conditions in North Carolina" is the motto of the sponsors of the federation movement.

We heartily endorse the movement for a North Carolina Federation of Students and anticipate a resultant betterment of intercollegiate relationships.

—J. C. W.

Readers' Opinions

OPPORTUNITIES IN THE PRISON SERVICE

Editor the Daily Tar Heel:

Plans are being made to professionalize the Federal prison service by enlisting high grade officers and by establishing a system of professional training and promotion on merit. In the belief that college-trained men may be interested in this type of work the leading colleges and universities in the country are being circularized. Any undergraduate or graduate who wishes to consider the possibility of entering the service is requested to write the Superintendent of Prisons, Department of Justice, Washington, D. C.

Prison work has long represented a career for college-trained men in European countries. It calls for intellectual and moral qualities of a high order. It offers opportunity for advancement to positions which are better paid than most college professorships. There are numerous other important positions to which a man of ability can rise with experience and training.

It is the purpose of our present training program to prepare men for these positions as well as for that of guard. An officers' training school has been established in New York City. All men enter the service as guards and are sent to the school for a four months' course. Here they receive instruction in such subjects as the mental and physical characteristics of the criminal, the causes of crime, the operation of probation and parole, the development of modern penology, etc. They are also instructed in the use of firearms, boxing and Japanese wrestling.

The aim of the course is not only to give officers a broad socialized viewpoint on the theoretical aspects of penology but also to prepare them for the actual problems which they will encounter in prison work. At the conclusion of the training course officers are assigned to one of the Federal penitentiaries at

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Campus Life



Pen Points



By H. J. Galland

Nowhere, said the professional troupe of Shakespearean Players after their performance of *Julius Caesar* here last night in the Playmakers Theatre, have they met a finer group of hisses, boosers, and general members of the crowd than the supers enlisted from the student body for the production here. The Carolina extras hissed, they said, almost professionally. Is that, we wonder, news for the Duke Chronicle?

According to the genial Dr. Collier Cobb, Chapel Hill weather is about as variable as any you are likely to find anywhere. Last week the violets warily peeped out, and finding the weather warm and favorable, pushed aside their much-vaunted shyness and appeared in profusion in many parts of the campus. And then along came snow during the early part of this week. It's a tough life the violets lead in Chapel Hill.

Just about now is the time when freshmen are looking over their goods and chattels in search of something pawnable with which to pay their fraternity initiation fees. Let them follow the worthy example of an ex-President of the United States. One Calvin Coolidge, citizen, was initiated into a fraternity at Amherst. When his son followed him there and into the same fraternity, Cal wrote the boy not to get a pin. The President had put his away for just such a purpose more than thirty years ago. We are informed that the rumor that Mr. Coolidge was in danger of being evicted from his college because of having been found tight is not true—at least not the kind of tight you mean.

Mr. Louis Graves records the fact that Mr. Madry of the News Bureau has two hats exactly alike, one to be worn while the other is at the cleaner's. We have an item more important even than that—Professor Howard Mumford Jones electrified the campus recently by appearing in a new hat.

Commenting on the alleged

hard-heartedness of Engineering professors, the Chapel Hill Weekly asks "Are these engineering teachers shot through with a cruel streak? Or is it that any young man, after becoming accustomed to the ordinary undergraduate course, which a half-wit can conquer with a fair degree of application, is overpowered by the discovery that when he enters a professional school he has got to buckle down to real work?"

No, Mr. Graves, it isn't that. Granted that any half-wit can conquer an undergraduate course, provided he isn't too half-witted, its the chain-carrying that breaks the engineer down. Ask any member of a chain-gang, Mr. Graves, whether he is working for University credit or "wukkin' fo' the State," and you'll find that the reason for the haggard looks lies there.

"Chapel Hillians Should Go To Bed Early," headlines this journal. If its early in the morning, we agree.

Lenten Season Daily Devotion

Sunday, March 30—Topic of the day: "The Quiet Place." (Read Matthew 4: 1-11) Key verse: "Then was Jesus led of the spirit up into the wilderness."

Meditation: "We are in our annual observance of the six weeks which Jesus spent in the wilderness. It has been called the period of temptation. But it was more than that; it was a period of preparation—a time of concentrated thought and calm meditation. Never were quiet hours more needed than they are today! 'Whirl is king,' is truer than when Aristophanes uttered the words. Our minds have been likened to a railway waiting-room where people bound hither and thither are assembled. It is hard for our distracted minds to attain unity of purpose and to select a destination. There is an old Russian custom according to which a person before starting on a journey sat down and spent half a minute in silence. We need daily quiet times that we may reduce life to order, and reflect on whither we are going."

Prayer: "Eternal God, who dost reveal thyself to those who earnestly seek thee, let our hearts be still that we may hear thee speak and may discern thy wise and holy counsel for our lives this day. Amen."