

CAROLINA PROFESSORS ENGAGE IN EXTRA-CURRICULAR PURSUITS

Nearly One-Half Engaged In Some Activity Outside of Teaching; Literary Pursuits Head the List of Extra-Curricular Activities; Reveal Why They Work Overtime.

(By John Mebane)

Nearly half the faculty of the University of North Carolina engage in some activity outside of teaching. Some of them write books, others conduct newspaper columns, still others devote their time to extensive research work. At the present time literary pursuits head the list of extra-curricular activities to which many professorial gentlemen are wont to devote their spare hours.

For divers reasons the professors turn their attention to these activities outside of the classroom. Addison Hibbard, dean of the college of liberal arts, who dubbed these savants engrossed both in teaching and literary activities "truant professors," upon being questioned why he wrote, replied that there were three main reasons, the first and most important being that he was in sympathy with southern literature. He declared that he wished to accept the challenge flaunted in the face of the south when H. L. Mencken entitled it the "Sahara of the Bozart." "Then, again," he stated, "most of my writing grows out of my classroom work in American literature. And, my last reason is that I write to earn money." Mr. Hibbard has recently edited "The Lyric South," an anthology of verse by southern poets. He has also written "Studies in Southern Literature," and he was formerly editor of "The Literary Lantern." Mr. Hibbard's latest work is "The Book of Poe." The dean has discovered an adequate escape from the appellation of "truant professor"—his writing is done during vacations.

What Jones Says

Howard Mumford Jones who, in addition to being a professor in the department of English, is a literary critic, an author, a poet and a playwright, upon being questioned as to why he writes, declared that he enjoys it, that he believes it the duty of a man who has acquired knowledge to share it with others. "Then, too," said Mr. Jones, "you know one derives money from literature occupations." Mr. Jones has recently published "America and French Culture," a book lauded by the critics; and he has since collaborated with Philip Allen in writing "The Romanesque Lyric." Some years ago he wrote his first book of verse, "Gargoyles," and he has also written and published a number of plays. In addition to contributing to many of the prominent magazines in the country, he edits "The Literary Lantern," a weekly book review column appearing in southern papers.

Why Henderson Writes

Archibald Henderson, internationally-known dramatic critic and biographer of George Bernard Shaw, first tackled writing when he found that it was an economic necessity and so secured a firm foothold in the world of literature. Dr. Henderson says that his preliminary work got him interested and that he soon found himself constantly engaged in writing. "I continue to write," said Dr. Henderson, "because I find myself asked to do so by the various publications to which I have contributed." This scientist and man of letters, in addition to contributing to magazines the world over, is the biographer of George Bernard Shaw and has written such books on the drama as "Changing Drama" and "European Dramatists" and he has

also published "The Conquest of the Old Southwest," "Mark Twain" and "Table Talk of George Bernard Shaw." One of his outstanding scientific works is "Relativity, a Romance of Science."

John M. Booker, also a professor in the department of English, who has written for many of the outstanding publications, states that he writes only spasmodically and then only because of his interest in a particular subject. Teaching, he maintains, interferes with the author. Mr. Booker has compiled "A Middle English Bibliography" and has contributed to numerous magazines and newspapers.

Collier Cobb's Views

Collier Cobb, head of the geology department and world-renowned geologist, states that his writings cannot be considered outside literary activities as they relate to geography and are the outgrowth of field or laboratory investigation. Among his best known publications are: "Where the Wind Does the Work" and "Some Human Habitations"—both printed in the "National Geographic Magazine"; "Early English Survivals on Hatteras Island," reviewed at length in the "Geographic Journal" of the Royal Geographic Society and already reprinted seven times; "Lands and Dunes of Sacony"; and recently a paper on the "Loess of the Yellow River Valley" that has already been taken into the new geographies such as Tarr and Von Engeln. Dr. Cobb states that his globe-trotting has to do directly with his teaching and is not for use in literary work.

Paul Green is probably more widely-known as a playwright than as a professor of philosophy. Mr. Green has written plays which have been produced in London and at the Provincetown Theatre in New York City. He received in 1927 the Pulitzer Prize for his play, "In Abraham's Bosom." He has also written "The Field God," "Lonesome Road," "The Lord's Will," "Wide Fields," and many other plays. Mr. Green has also written for many magazines and has a wide literary reputation.

Keeps Wolf from Door

Edgar Knight of the school of education and a recognized authority on the subject which he teaches, writes first to help make a living. Dr. Knight says that he cannot support a professorship and a family in respectability without doing outside work. "My second reason," he declared, "is that I enjoy doing literary work—especially if it is published. And my third reason is that writing is good discipline. It makes for accuracy and carefulness. My books on educational history were written because there appeared to me to be a need for such work."

Among Dr. Knight's books on education are: "Public School Education in the South," and "Notes on Education." Others of his works are "Among the Danes," "The Making of Citizens," (done in collaboration with J. G. deR. Hamilton), and "Our State Government." Mr. Knight also contributes to such magazines as "Current History," "Sewanee Review," "Atlantic Quarterly," and "Outlook."

Norman Foerster's Views

Norman Foerster of the English and Comparative Literature departments is recognized as a critic of eminence throughout the country. Mr. Foerster has written a number of books and

Four Literary Men



DR. ARCHIBALD HENDERSON



DR. COLLIER COBB



DR. HOWARD W. ODUM



DR. EDGAR W. KNIGHT

Pictured above are left to right top: Dr. Archibald Henderson and Collier Cobb. Bottom: Dr. Howard W. Odum and Dr. Edgar W. Knight, four professors, representative of the Carolina literary group.

A recent canvass of the faculty tends to prove that professors engage in many activities outside of the regular class work. The greater part of their work is editorial and creative writing.

articles dealing with literary criticism. He has contributed to the "Dial," "The Nation," "North American Review," "New Republic," and a number of scholarly publications. Mr. Foerster declares that he is interested in problems connected with the subject and teaching of literary criticism. "Both teaching and writing," he said, "have a common ancestor. Being interested in literature critically, I endeavor to be at once scholarly and critical." His subjects, he stated, were in part suggested by his teaching. "My textbooks in college English have definitely grown out of my teaching."

Afraid of Going Native

O. J. Coffin, head of the department of journalism at the University and former editor of the Raleigh Times, is the conductor of "Shucks and Nubbins," a tri-weekly column appearing in the Greensboro Daily News. Mr. Coffin swears that he writes his column because the Daily News is willing to pay for it, to keep from "going native," and because some of his home-folks seem to like it. He also states that through this means he has been able to pay the last installment on his 1927 model Chevrolet. Mr. Coffin has also published a book of verse, "State House Anthology," at his own expense (\$50).

Numerous Other Writers

There are numerous other writers in the various fields of literature at the University. J. G. deR. Hamilton of the history department has published a number of books dealing with government and history. M. C. S. Noble, dean of the school of education, is preparing a book for the press. Howard W. Odum, head of the school of public welfare, has published a number of articles concerned with the study of the negro, and his book, "Rainbow Round My Shoulder," has already received wide praise. G. C. Taylor has published many articles in such magazines as "Studies in Philology."

There is practically no field in

writing which has been left untouched by professors in the University faculty. The list of authors and their works might be extended for many pages without telling the complete story. This article suffices only to point out a few examples.

Playmaker's Practical Joke Falls Through

(Continued from first page)

usually small crowd.

At practically every place Professor Heffner was told that this was the best showing that the Playmakers had ever given. Professor Elba Hennington, head of the department of dramatics at Greensboro College, stated that this was the best bill of plays that she had ever seen the Playmakers produce. The various news reviews were extremely flattering in their praise of the productions. Nearly all said that this was the best that they had ever seen the Playmakers do.

Greensboro was especially impressed with "The No 'Count Boy," which, according to the Daily News, was "outstanding."

Many places were very much pleased with "Black Water," while the sure fire play was Gertrude Wilson Coffin's "Magnaolia's Man." The Gastonia Gazette says that that play was the choice of the bill and that Mrs. Coffin's acting was especially commendable.

They were given banquets by the Gastonia high school, the Rock Hill alumnae, and Greensboro College.

They had only one mishap on the trip, which was a puncture. At every place that they appeared they were asked to return next year and in a number of places the contracts have already been agreed upon.

This is the first time in the history of the Playmakers that Professor Koch has missed a tour. He stayed in order that the rehearsals of Romeo and Juliet, in which he takes a prominent part, might go on smoothly.

GIFT OF \$1,500 TO SCHOOL LIBRARY

Board Decides to Set Amount Aside As Nucleus for Permanent Endowment

GIVEN BY WILLIAM BAYLEY

Checks amounting to fifteen hundred dollars have been received by the executive board of the Mary Bayley Pratt Library for children here from William Bayley, of Springfield, Ohio. Mr. Bayley is a brother of the late Mrs. Joseph Hyde Pratt, of Chapel Hill, in whose memory the children's library is named.

The checks represent gifts from Mr. Bayley and his father and Mrs. Bayley. In his letter he speaks of his affection for Chapel Hill, and of his appreciation of the desire here to create a permanent memorial to Mrs. Pratt. During a visit to Chapel Hill not long ago he saw something of the work of the library, and became convinced that it is already playing an important part in the life of the village.

Mr. Bayley made no suggestions as to the use of his generous gift, but left its disposal entirely to the judgment of the directors. The executive board, composed of Mrs. R. H. Wetach, chairman, Mrs. D. D. Carroll, Mrs. W. E. Caldwell, Miss Nora Beust, Mrs. N. B. Adams, Miss Evans, C. S. Shields, A. S. Lawrence, and Frank Graham, met on Monday night. They decided to set aside the fifteen hundred dollars as a nucleus for an endowment fund, which it is hoped will grow. The interest will be devoted to repairs and replacements. The need for such a permanent fund is evident; it guarantees as nothing else can the continued existence of the library. Mr. Bayley's gift is very genuinely a gift to the whole village, since it is a means of enriching the lives of its children.

Two other gifts from personal friends of Mrs. Pratt have been received recently. Frank Compton, of Chicago, publisher of Compton's Pictured Encyclopedia, has donated a set of his books, one of the best known juvenile encyclopedias. William Armstrong, of Buffalo, sent two boxes of books which had formed the childhood library of his daughters.

The library room in the northeast corner of the school building is a pleasant place, with its new draperies and glass balls trailing ivy in each window. Recent acquisitions are a screen which will also serve as a bulletin board, and a filing case for a collection of pictures. The circulation increased from 877 volumes in October to over fif-

teen hundred in February. Much of this increase is due to the interesting accession of books in the George Bryan Logan collection. The children enjoy the pretty room, and though they call it "the little library," Miss Evans' records show that the high school boys and girls use it quite as much as the younger children.

The library will be kept open in its present quarters all summer. The hours and days of opening will be announced later. The story hour, which was so successful last summer, will also be continued.

Newspaper Man Has Faculty Interview

Allen Raymond, staff representative of the New York Herald-Tribune, was in Chapel Hill yesterday interviewing members of the University faculty in regard to the textile situation in the south.

He was representing the League of the New England States, an organization studying the industrial problem in the New England States. He is traveling over the southern states to see if such a league is possible in the south, and to determine what should be its plans and policies.

He came south as a result of Governor Gardner's proposed organization. He leaves for Raleigh today to discuss plans with Governor Gardner. From there he goes to Hartsville, S. C., where he will see Dr. E. R. Coker, a member of the National Agricultural Commission to Europe in 1918, secretary of the South Carolina Land Settlement Commission, and prominently connected with the University of South Carolina and Coker College.

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