

The Daily Tar Heel

Published daily during the college year except Mondays and except Thanksgiving, Christmas and Spring Holidays.

The official newspaper of the Publications Union of the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, N. C. Subscription price, \$4.00 for the college year.

Offices in the basement of Alumni Building.

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Tuesday, January 20, 1931

Student Interest In Civic Affairs

The complaint is often heard that college students evince too little interest in civic affairs. This complaint bears weight when political questions, especially questions of international importance, demand attention. But permit a crisis in the management of the state's affairs arise and one discovers an amazing amount of interest in what is going on.

At present the state institutions face drastic cuts in appropriations. Every student newspaper connected with an institution dependent on the state for support has expressed vigorous opposition to any such cut. This opposition seems directed against any cut in appropriations for any department of the state and not just against the cut for the educational institutions.

The present crisis has focused student opinion on the methods of taxation and on the system of government. Undoubtedly it is educating North Carolina's undergraduate citizenry in government. But it is also serving to bring to the front student opinion on the subject of taxation. And student opinion is not likely to reflect the effects of lobbying. It is unbiased and although based partly on theory we think the legislature could do worse than consider some of the proposals submitted by student writers.

But above all things the present controversy in regard to appropriations is serving to prove that students are interested in the conduct of the state and that students have definite opinions as to the means of correcting the causes of the present ills.

Congratulations

When an idea is at the same time very clever, very expedient, and very happy, then by all means and for heaven's sake congratulate those who had the idea. And by all means and for

Readers' Opinions

Here's The Man

To the Editor:

I read with great pleasure the proposal of J. C. S. in Friday's issue of the Tar Heel to publish a prospectus of the University's courses. I wish to state that if he or his friends would like to see such a prospectus in print, I would be glad to contribute enough money to start the printing and would also be willing to contribute as much of my time to the venture as I could spare.

Yours sincerely,
JACKSON OLIVE.

heaven's sake remember that the more extravagant the praise the better. It won't be extravagant enough.

We don't know just whose idea the Movie Guild was. But it was clever because it took advantage of a nice distinction between selling tickets on Sunday and tearing off tickets on Sunday. One is illegal. The other isn't. Our consciences don't balk at our congratulating an evasion of a ridiculous law.

The idea was expedient because if Chapel Hill was to have Sunday movies for charity, she was to have them for charity, and not for those pikers who out of the generosity they felt toward the other half of the world contributed two cents.

The idea was happy because it arranged to provide pictures for some reason unusual. And, it arranged to give some point to the most utterly useless three hours in the week.—V. A. D.

Editors On World Peace

We were quite interested to see an announcement the other day made by the department of journalism at the University of Tennessee regarding editorials to further World Peace. This surely is a most excellent time to start printing editorials dealing with this matter, but we are fully expecting to see a bunch of the usual blah appear advocating love feasts and functions of similar nature. Our pacifist agitators always want to start at the end instead of at the beginning of a venture.

We are hoping a great deal to see some of the more enlightened editors of the South come out with some sensible plan to unify the youth of the world which is practical. The only way in which the world can enjoy permanent peace is to get the youth of the various nations to understand each other and do away with all suspicions of the others' motives. This is truly a colossal task and one which cannot be done by the love feasts. It seems to us that the most logical starting point is for the respective nations to send their youth to all parts of the world for at least part of their education. Travel is the greatest aid for international peace, and education and understanding will run it a close second. When the two are combined some lasting results should be forthcoming.

The student youth of the world is growing up in most cases in a stiffened atmosphere of formality. It is being narrowed by local contacts and feelings and by the reading of local text-books to see what other men, who usually have had no better international experience than they, have to say on the various subjects. This is naturally to be deplored, but how can it be helped when most of the students of the nation have very limited means and foreign travel is so expensive? If the governments were to cooperate with the students in this matter of foreign travel and study, invaluable gains would result. A task of this magnitude would call for a great deal of money as subsidies and partial payments from the vari-

ous governments, but would surely be worth it to the nations cooperating. Our war debt in 1919 was over twenty billions of dollars.

What sane German boy would come near sending a ten inch shell into the Rheims cathedral if he could have seen it in its quiet, age-old beauty? What Frenchman would have used dum-dum bullets to shoot at boys with whom he had gone to school? War is the most futile thing possible. Our youth can see its futility if it is given a chance to understand and appreciate.

Southern editors can further a great cause if they so desire.—O. W. D.

Over-Emphasis Of Football

The football season of 1930, with its victories, its defeats, and incidentally, its ties, is fast fading into the land of memory while a new sport season—basketball—holds the spotlight. Recently much has been said concerning professionalism in college sports, evidently referring to football in particular. College football has achieved such popularity, merited or unmerited, that there seems to be a tendency toward professionalism, a characteristic which will do much harm to the sport. This professionalism does not apply strictly to the players themselves, the majority of whom are bona-fide students, but it does apply to the methods used by some institutions in securing promising high school or prep school athletes and to the practice of ballyhooing the big games. While they have aided in the building of a strong team for the glory of the coach, these practices have been harmful to the school itself. Cries for championship teams have caused football to become over-emphasized as a college activity.

Remunerations in the form of money are few, but in many schools players are given tuition, room, and board free plus an easy job. Some schools actually bid against one another in recruiting athletes. These practices are illegal and heavy penalties should be imposed for such infractions of collegiate football rules. Discriminations in favor of athletes in awarding scholarships should not be made, for more deserving students may be deprived of opportunities of a college education so that dear old Alma Mater can have a good team. However, athletes should not be discriminated against, but all such awards should be made on the basis of scholarship and not on athletic prowess. After all, colleges are—or should be—educational institutions and not mere groups of buildings around a football stadium.

Colleges should dominate football, not allowing the sport to become the prime motive of their existence. Publicity has placed football on a plane with prizefighting as a sort of ballyhooed circus. Colleges are often rated according to the strength of their football teams and their records. Scholastic standards of measurement are ignored. Thus, both school and students are injured by this tendency to

Amaze a Minute Scientifacts — by Arnold

Arranged in order of frequency

the	for	not	which	their
of	be	at	will	there
and	was	this	from	were
to	as	are	had	so
a	you	we	has	my
in	with	his	one	if
that	he	but	our	me
it	on	they	an	what
is	have	all	been	would
i	by	or	no	who

10 words — 25% 40 words — 25%
50 words — 50%

OUR SPEECH, to an extraordinary amount, is composed of a few simple words. One-quarter is contained in ten words, a second quarter in forty more words, the remaining half being distributed over the 500,000 other words in the English language.

DO MICE EAT MORE THAN MEN?

It takes 5000 mice to weigh the same as a man and they would eat 17 times as much. To keep warm a mouse requires food each day equal to one-quarter his weight. Since his weight is far out of proportion to his body exposed to cooling.



POPOCATAPETL, MEXICO 17,520 ft.

FUJIYAMA - JAPAN 12,395 ft.

MT. ETNA 10,755 ft.

LASSEN PEAK CALIFORNIA 10,437 ft.

MAYON, PHILIPPINES 8,274 ft.

MT. VESUVIUS 4,360 ft.

KILAUEA, HAWAII 4,400 ft.

350 ACTIVE VOLCANOS — are known on the earth. Many of these, as Mt. Vesuvius and Mt. Etna (Italy), Kilauea (Hawaii), Mayon (Philippines), Fujiyama (Japan), and Popocatepetl (Mexico), menace the lives of nearby inhabitants daily. Lassen Peak in California is the only active volcano in the United States.

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overshadow the prime objective of the institution—the instruction of youth. Athletics should not be honored and scholarship ignored.—B. H. N.

RADIO SPEECHES DEAL WITH TWO PROPOSED BILLS

(Continued from first page) a view to presenting a feasible alternative. He commended Governor Gardner's efforts in behalf of the citizens of the state, but he called attention to the Governor's failure to propose placing a tax on luxuries in order to supplement the meager funds of the state treasury. The speaker commented on the profits which are being realized by such corporations as R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company and the Duke Power Trust. He was of the opinion that a scheme of taxation on luxuries would be better than a reduction of salaries. Concluding, he said, "I predict a bright educational future for North Carolina only in the case that our leaders of the state determine to distribute justly the burden of taxation rather than to impede progress by decreasing taxes to too small a quotient."

RED CROSS AIDS MANY SUFFERERS IN MIDDLE WEST

(Continued from first page) are being met rapidly by the national organization and its chapters. A Red Cross field director describes men crying when they come to ask aid of the organization after describing pitiable scenes of want and privation. They beg work in order that they may buy supplies, for they are reluctant to ask for charity. The cold weather in Oklahoma is complicating the relief work and making distress more acute. The lack of sufficient food and clothing has made the situation critical.

SOCIAL WELFARE THEME TAKEN BY J. STITT WILSON

(Continued from first page) quainted with many of the great leaders, including Ramsey Mc-

Donald; he says that these men were hated by the upper class when they first undertook their task. The British had clung to their two parties so loyally that it was difficult to form the party. When they finally had enough followers they were faced with the problem of educating the low society that made up the Labor party. This was done, the speaker added, by tens of thousands of pamphlets circulated to the homes of every voter.

In the course of a quarter of a century a party had been organized that knew the problems of the country, through the circulated pamphlets, and a party that held tremendous power in its hands. With this power, continued Mr. Wilson, the laborites set to work to restore social welfare. He enumerated the changes brought about: The old age pension was allowed to women; the city milk supplies were in some cases controlled by the government; the working hours of the miners were decreased by half an hour, and the mining conditions made better; the government began a program of building houses for the workers and renting them at low rates. Thousands of houses were built in every city, and enormous numbers were removed from the slums. The slogan was to rid England of her slums. Mr. Wilson assured the audience that even with these aids the conditions are still severe.

Wages in that country are low. As the Religious Reformation made the world safe for religion, and as the governmental revolution made the world safe for democracy, there must be an economic revolution to insure the social institutions of property, believes Mr. Wilson.



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