

The Daily Tar Heel

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Sunday, January 25, 1931

Athletics And Politics

Results of the survey conducted by the Richmond News Leader of the role played by politics in the selection of athletic captains in Southern educational institutions show that political influence is seldom felt and that in relatively very few schools is this influence a serious problem. After all, these findings are not revelations, for, judged in the light of our own situation and experience, they are merely what we expected.

Here on our campus—as far as we are able to ascertain—we are not confronted, to any considerable extent, by the problem of control of athletic honors by campus political machines. The University has been fortunate in the past in that it has had so little trouble with politics in athletics.

We must be proud that the University was not named among those institutions in which drastic reform is needed.—B. M.

Not in Order

Several days ago newspapers all over the country carried front page headlines stating that Wickersham's committee had reported to Congress in favor of the Eighteenth Amendment. It was, of course, big news, and the papers wrote it up as such. The people also read the article with great interest. But with how much more delight, rather than mere interest, would this story have been read had it said: "Congress passes bill in aid of famine sufferers"—a thing which is absolutely necessary at the present time.

While the congressmen were discussing the over-discussed question of prohibition, hunger-stricken persons in Oklahoma were raiding a grocery store in search of food; The New England bread lines were steadily increasing; the State of Arkan-

sas was (and still is) suffering from lack of food as never before in its history. Yet these great statesmen, elected by some of the people who were probably at that very time dying of hunger, were receiving money to talk of such a question at such a critical time.

The senators, having passed a bill appropriating \$25,000,000 to the Red Cross, were going on about their business with clear consciences. By passing this bill, which it is said will be vetoed by President Hoover, the Senate unconsciously cut down the contributions of the public to the Red Cross. The bill, of course, has not yet passed, but until it is killed, or, if it goes into effect, until it is repealed, the people, when asked to contribute to the Red Cross famine fund, will refuse saying that the senate has already given a big part of their money. Why should they be made to give twice?

Instead of helping the cause the senate has, on the other hand, cut down the funds which would have been gladly contributed. Yet they, having apparently unknowingly done more harm than good, sit back and discuss the Eighteenth Amendment.—C. G. R.

A Challenge!

A professor some time ago said that one of Carolina's greatest curses was the number of unnecessary and uncalled for organizations on the campus. Indeed it might be said that any organization is to a certain extent either a blessing or a curse. There are over four hundred organizations of various types on the campus, but as to what useful functions each of them performs even their members would be at a loss to state. Students seem to have the idea that if they do not affiliate themselves with a number of organizations (whether detrimental or beneficial) their college career is a failure. It is no disgrace not to belong to an organization. On the contrary it is a disgrace to belong to some of them.

However, after a student has joined an organization it is his duty to aid in carrying out its purpose, of course, assuming it has a purpose, and presumably every one of any consequence has. If he discovers that the organization has no useful function and has no constructive aims, then it is his duty himself to waste none of his time with such an aimless body. And by so doing he will perform a valuable service to the campus and future students by aiding in the discontinuance of another of those "orders" which had no reason for beginning and has less reason for continuing.

But if the student should be so fortunate as to find himself a member of one of those few organizations which is striving to obtain a goal and which has a reason for being, then if he doesn't take an active interest in its work, he ought to be kicked out in order to make room for those endowed with more energy and judgment.—J. C. S.

With Contemporaries

Honor Among Thieves

Coming almost on the heels of President Coffman's decision to appoint a committee of five to discover methods of preventing the theft of final examinations before the examinations are held, is the news of numerous students at the University who were suspended for cheating in the fall quarter final examinations. The students have been reinstated with a grade of failure in the affected courses,

but, since the courses in question were required in the students' major sequences, their graduation will be delayed for the space of a year.

Precisely what is to be gained from trickery and deceit in the business of widening and enriching an individual's knowledge? No harm was done the University in the case of these students, for the University's chief concern is not to forestall and to prosecute knavery in its classrooms, but to provide these classrooms, and man them with able and capable instructors. This done, it is clear that the University's mission has been fulfilled.

What gain might have come to these students, had their deception escaped detection? They would have been no richer in learning, for they attempted to circumvent the labors of study by their preconcerted action. They would have added nothing to their name, but they have suffered grievously in the safeguarding of their honor. Their action, if successful, would have made them nothing more than intellectual poseurs. The mastery of a craft or profession does not necessarily accompany a certificate of graduation.

In fine, these students, as in the case of those who stole the examination papers in sociology, gained nothing and lost nearly everything. It is one thing to complete a course with a satisfactory grade which has been awarded as the recompense for study and mastery of the course. It is something else again to complete a course with a satisfactory grade which has been gained only through chicanery and fraud. One represents a distinct achievement, even though the import of that achievement may be small. The other is nothing more than an empty shell; a false front.

The existence of fraud in examinations at a modern University is deplorable enough, but the folly and the futility of that fraud is worse. Even a highwayman, if successful, gains a tangible thing. But he who cheats in examinations gains nothing whatever. Where is the profit? —The Minnesota Daily.

Activity Efficiency

On the University of Washington campus, a group of student efficiency experts have devised a revolutionary plan for the handling of student activities. It seems that the modern trend which demands the right man for the right job has impressed these students with the idea that a college campus should be run on the scale of a big business. In short, they want to have a centralized bureau that will handle all appointments to various staffs and committees.

Their motive is to see that no basketball managers turn out to be journalists, and that no writing talent is lost in the mud of some sub-football manager's job. It sounds good. It has all the earmarks of a very efficient system, but like a lot of theoretical things, it only looks good on paper.

In the first place, how is an ambitious freshman to know whether he is a star reporter in disguise, or a dominating political boss not yet developed when he first comes to college? It is recognized that if a person is to rise to any great prominence in an activity, he must start in on that work as a freshman or at least the early part of his sophomore year.

And then there is a lot of human nature that must be contended with, including the desire of fraternities to perpetuate their control of certain campus jobs and positions.

The University of Washington Daily admits that the idea is a good one, but that it might be a very bad one if politics become

an essential part of it. We are waiting, as the Washington Daily is to see just what will happen to this efficiency scheme. If it works, we'll change our minds about efficiency as a campus institution.—Oregon State Barometer.

AT THE CAROLINA

The theatrical bill for this week starts off with "Sunny," Marilyn Miller's second screen production since the musical comedy star deserted the stage for Hollywood. She earned a reputation for herself in "Sally," the first effort, which assured her of a long term contract. The star's dancing in the latter picture attracted great attention, and her dancing in this latest picture is one of its many features, for she does not only dancing with her partner but also a number of solos. Lawrence Gray plays opposite Marilyn Miller, and O. P. Heggie and Barbara Bedford are also in the cast.

John Barrymore in "Moby Dick," the talkie revival of the old silent version of Herman Melville's book then called "The Sea Beast," comes to the theatre Tuesday. This book should need no introduction to a college audience, since it is one of the classics of American literature. At the same time John Barrymore needs no introduction either to screen or stage audiences for the famous star was on Broadway and in touring companies for years before he went over to Hollywood. "Moby Dick" contains many realistic shots, among which might be mentioned the chase and conflict with the great white whale, and later the crude amputation of Ahab's (Barrymore) leg which the whale has mutilated. There is a big cast including Joan Bennett, Lloyd Hughes, and Walter Long.

Wednesday sees another of the sophisticated comedies of modern life that have been so popular since the advent of the talkies. This one is "The Boudoir Diplomat," starring Betty Compson. Other comely stars in the feature are Mary Duncan and Jeanette Loff.

Jack Oakie, who has played opposite so many different heroines in the number of pictures made to his credit since he reached the heights of a star, now comes in his latest release, "The Gang Buster," with another new lady (for him) to play opposite—Jean Arthur. In this production the "big chin and grin boy," as he has been called, "takes a crack" at American racketeering.

"Free Love," the feature Friday, brings back to screen audiences the well-known work of Conrad Nagel and introduces for the second time a petite and charming new star, Genevieve Tobin, as the heroine. This lady is one of the distinctive newcomers to the films and even critical Hollywood has been quick to applaud her talent and to predict a brilliant future for her.

The week closes with the showing Saturday of "Top Speed," in which Joe E. Brown and Bernice Claire head the cast. This is another one of those active, fast-moving comedies which have taught movie audiences to appreciate and look forward to the comedy antics of Joe Brown.

Coming at the close of the last Saturday night show, and start-

ing at 10:45 will come the fourth of the pictures brought here in connection with the modern language series. This one will be "The Sea God," a picture laid in the south seas. The feature will be in Spanish and contains an all-Spanish cast.

With The Churches

Methodist Church

9:45 a. m.—Sunday School Student classes.

11:00 a. m.—"The Old Time Religion." Sermon by Mr. Rozelle.

6:45 p. m.—Student Fellowship Hour. Topic, "Religion as a Challenge."

7:30 p. m.—"The Man from Missouri." Sermon by Mr. Rozelle.

Lutheran

5:00 p. m.—Rev. Paul C. Sigmon of Durham will conduct services for the Lutheran students in Gerrard hall.

The Chapel of the Cross 8:00 a. m.—Holy Communion. 11:00 a. m.—Service with Sermon.

7:00 p. m.—Y. P. S. L.

8:00 p. m.—Special Musical Service under the direction of N. O. Kennedy.

4:30 to 6:00 p. m.—Tea in the parish house.

Monday, 7:30 p. m.—Lecture on the source of the Gospels.

Catholic

8:30 a. m.—Mass conducted by Father Manly in Gerrard hall.

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COMING George Arliss in "Old English"

Tuesday JOHN BARRYMORE in "Moby Dick"

Wednesday BETTY COMPSON in "Boudoir Diplomat"

Thursday JACK OAKIE in "Gang Buster"

Friday CONRAD NAGEL in "Free Love"

Saturday JOE E. BROWN in "Top Speed"