

PROFESSORS FIND DISMISSAL OF DR. TAYLOR UNUSUAL

Association of University Professors Investigates Action of State College Trustees.

That the dismissal of Doctor Carl C. Taylor, dean of the graduate school at State college, on June 8, 1931, was "unusual" and caused by other motives than the officially announced necessity of reduced budget is the finding of the committee on academic freedom and tenure of the American Association of University Professors. This finding is published in a report in the February bulletin of the association.

Report by Chairman

The summary action of the trustees of State college in discharging "the most distinguished member of the faculty" is analyzed by Professor Holland Thompson, of the college of the City of New York, a native of North Carolina. Professor Thompson made the investigation at the request of the committee and describes the dismissal as arising from several possible causes. The determining factor, however, is declared to be the personal "tension which had developed" between President E. C. Brooks and Doctor Taylor during the course of several years. Such action is implied by the report as constituting a breach of the accepted principles of academic tenure.

The prominence of Doctor Taylor throughout the state has made the case widely discussed and newspapers of the state have condemned the dismissal. According to the report: "the

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STATE MAN GOES TO NEW POSITION

Research Projects at North Carolina School Discontinued to Meet Appropriations.

Simultaneous with the resignation of Dr. L. R. Wilson, University librarian, to accept a position in another state at a higher salary comes the report that Dr. J. H. Beaumont, head of the horticulture department at State college has resigned to go to the University of Maryland.

At the meeting of the executive board of trustees with Governor Gardner Friday to work out economies necessitated by the thirty per cent cut in state appropriations, Dr. E. C. Brooks, president of State college, made known the fact that Dr. Beaumont was resigning March 1 to go to the other school. Dr. Brooks was authorized to fill the vacancy on the horticulture staff for the remainder of the college year.

Numerous research projects have been discontinued at the institution in order to prevent the necessity of dropping any of the faculty. Agronomy, animal industry, entomology, horticulture, and some ninety-seven research studies, requiring about \$5,000 have been discontinued.

Hobbs in Florida

Dean A. W. Hobbs of the college of liberal arts, a member of the executive committee of the Southern Conference, attended a special committee meeting of that organization yesterday in Jacksonville, Fla. The main business of the meeting was the discussion of the proposal to appoint a supervising commissioner for the conference.

Same Basic Idea In College Humor

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following comment on current humor was written for the Daily Tar Heel by H. N. Swanson, editor of *College Humor*.

I really haven't very much to say on current humor. Young people think more or less the same things from year to year. Their slang may change somewhat, but the basic idea remains—that everything they have been told is grand can stand the searchlight of laughter. If there is any trend today which was not as visible ten years ago, I would say it is that humor commands more attention than it ever has in the history of American publishing.

University Known To Lead In Giving Freedom To Students

Freshmen Here Are Treated as Equals by Upperclassmen, Rather Than as Vassals and Servants in Case of First Year Men at Institutions Throughout Nation.

The prestige established by the University of North Carolina as the most liberal university of the South has been lost to some extent, especially since the establishment of strict compulsory attendance and like rules. Still members of the student body, especially the upperclassmen, have brought complete freedom to the University undergraduate.

For years first year men all over the world were looked upon as legitimate prey for the fun seeking sophomore. Hazing was the vogue and the upperclassmen reigned supreme. Among the first to change the old order and bring about personal liberty and freedom was the University, and this attitude has remained to the present day.

Hazing Disappears

First year men entering the University come with expectations of being hazed and being subservient to the former lord of the campus, the sophomore, and to their amazement and re-

lief, they have absolutely the same rights and privileges as any upperclassman.

When one reviews the rules governing freshmen at institutions over the country at large, even such schools as Purdue university, Dartmouth college, Carnegie Tech, Vanderbilt university, the University of Pennsylvania, Washington and Lee university, Duke university, and others throughout the nation, one wonders at the lack of personal liberty of these. In many of the larger universities of the country hazing of new men has been abolished and freshmen occupy the same place as any other member of the student body.

Queer Regulations

Among the regulations governing undergraduates the larger institutions are: Purdue—freshmen are required to wear the freshman cap. First year men are not allowed to smoke on the campus. Freshmen are re-

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Y. M. C. A. BACKS LECTURE SERIES

Woodhouse to Discuss Affairs of Congress in Connection With International Relations.

Edward J. Woodhouse, professor of government, will review the business calendar before the present session of Congress, particularly items related to world issues and international relations Tuesday night at 8:00 o'clock in Gerrard hall. This is the second of the series of lectures on world affairs, sponsored by the Y. M. C. A.

In reviewing this calendar he will indicate what seems to him the present opportunities of Congress to enact measures that will promote the purpose of the disarmament conference and assist in the speedy solution of the present political and economic problems of the world.

Dean B. F. Brown, of the North Carolina State college, will answer questions regarding the impending disarmament conference Thursday night, while Monday night the freshman cabinet will hear the first of the series on international relations.

BISHOP REMINGTON TO SPEAK FRIDAY EVENING

Friday night in the lounge of Graham Memorial, W. P. Remington, Episcopal Bishop of Eastern Oregon, will make an informal talk. Besides being prominent along educational and religious lines, he has distinguished himself in athletics by being a member of the United States Olympic team in 1900. While in Chapel Hill, Bishop Remington will be the guest of Tom Wright, assistant rector of the Chapel of the Cross.

STUDENTS FAVOR ARMAMENT CUTS IN UNITED STATES

Campus Poll Indicates Voters Opposed to Military Training in Colleges.

The Daily Tar Heel ballot on disarmament and military training indicates that, provided the poll is a true cross-section of campus opinion, slightly in excess of seventy-five per cent of the student body is in favor of the United States disarming itself from seventy-five to one hundred per cent, if the rest of the nations join in a similar movement. Forty-one per cent of those voting desire the governments of the world to disarm completely. More than thirty-four per cent desire at least seventy-five per cent disarmament by all nations. Eleven per cent should prefer at least fifty per cent in the reduction of arms. Ten per cent of the ballots cast on this question desire no disarmament whatsoever, and four percent at least twenty-five per cent disarmament.

American Lead Favored

On the question of the United States taking the lead in such matters forty-two per cent of the voters wanted the American delegates to take the lead toward disarmament. One half that number desired the United States to take the lead toward three-fourths disarmament. Thirteen per cent of the voters preferred at least fifty per cent disarmament under American leadership. Twenty per cent of the voters were in favor of the United States taking no leadership in the matter, and four per cent would go as far as the

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Obscene Humor In College Publications Must Be New And Clever To Get By, Say Student Editors

(EDITOR'S NOTE: These three articles on pornography and campus humor magazines were especially written for the Daily Tar Heel by the editors of three representative student publications.)

By Holley J. Smith
(Editor, *The Wisconsin Octopus*)

The production of copy for a college humor magazine is a task which is not appreciated by most outsiders, who have no idea of the difficulty which an editor and his staff labors under. It is especially difficult on a publication where the faculty rules the material which is printed with an iron hand, such as is the case at Wisconsin.

Here, all copy must be read by the Dean of Men, and anything which in his judgment is at all objectionable, is deleted. It is very exasperating at times to have some jokes or cartoon censored, which in the mind of the editor, is not obscene, but merely slightly off color. However, obscenity to be tolerated must be clever, and the censoring of purely unhumorous dirt is justified. Of course, in a school which is co-educational, the standard of humor should be higher than in one which is not. Schools such as Amherst and Princeton can print material which would be out of place in an institution where there are girls. Not that the modern American girl doesn't understand or laugh at obscenity, for they do.

As to whether obscenity is desired by the students—it is to a certain extent. Everyone likes a little dirt now and then, but not too much, and it must be clever dirt, for the college stu-

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By Robert E. Gorman
(Editor, *The Notre Dame Juggler*)

Back in the days when men flocked to the corner barber shop to get rid of their whiskers and to get a look at the latest police gazette, the college comic editors discovered that it's easier to fill a single page with copy that's both clean and funny. The police gazette went out when whiskers did, but some of the college wits are still grinding out the border-line variety of humor. At present they have gone beyond, or rather below, the border-line in an effort to meet new competition furnished by several professional publications which deal admittedly and exclusively in filth.

I think that the ease of creating smutty humor, rather than any popularity which it enjoys, explains its presence in college comic publications, and I expect the pendulum, given impetus by student reaction, to swing back to humor that's at least fairly respectable. The reaction is necessary, however, if the college humorists are to make the added effort which it takes to produce cleverness rather than risqué.

I'm not waving a lily in my hand or assuming a holier-than-thou attitude when I say that the *Juggler* prides itself upon the cleanliness of its humor. An editor is supposed to give his readers what they want. *Juggler* readers have shown generous

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By Henry Avery
(Editor, *The Illinois Siren*)

The egg or the chicken? Classes in the ethics of journalism are perennially asked to contemplate questions concerning whether or not despicable journalism is a process of giving the public what it demands, if it is the nurturing of a desire for such trash—or whether the public wants that sort of thing at all.

It is for the editor of the campus humor magazine to figure out, all of this. He sees magazines of questionable taste selling by the car-load one month, and going out of existence the next. He is regaled with travelling salesman and shotgun stories, and is regarded as subnormal if he sees nothing particularly funny in episodes involving the use of one or more of the nine unmentionable Anglo-Saxon words. Like Henry Mencken he feels that dirty stories are swell—if they are funny. The sad part of it all is that very few of them are funny, and all of them are dirty.

His board of publications does not always share this belief however, and if he is a very smart editor, he realizes it. He has two ways of doing things—as he damn pleases, and as the board would have him do. As a junior, the editor usually makes grand speeches about just what he would do if he were in the editorial chair. If

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CAPITALISM TOPIC OF DEBATE TEAM

Contests Arranged With Western Reserve and With New York University.

Capitalism will be the main topic of discussion for the University debate squad during the next two months. A number of debates have been arranged for the first weeks of March and April and tryouts for the debates will take place Thursday night.

The debate with New York university has been definitely arranged for April 6. The question is phrased "that socialism has more to offer the public than capitalism." The University team will defend the negative side of the question at that time, but will speak on the affirmative when the two teams met in New York later. The debate with Western Reserve, scheduled for March 31, will also involve some phase of capitalism.

Tryouts will take place Thursday night. The rules in effect are that all students are eligible, issues will be selected by the contestants, few notes will be used, and five minutes will be the time limit.

*Staff Meeting

The entire editorial staff of the Daily Tar Heel will gather at 5:00 o'clock this afternoon in room 213 of Graham Memorial. At this time Mayne Albright, Hamilton Hobgood, and Haywood Weeks will address the group.

Leacock Asserts Humor Is Made Flashy To Bring Sale To Masses

Magazine Writer Says Spread of Culture Has Led to Literature Which Sacrifices Excellence of Art For Appeal to Lowest.

By Stephen Leacock

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Dr. Stephen Leacock has written this article on trends of current humor especially for the Daily Tar Heel.)

For many centuries the great mass of the people were devoid of education and did not share in the advantages of letters and culture. In modern times, and overwhelmingly in our own day, education and the opportunities of culture have spread to all ranks and classes. This is wonderful in its general aspect, but like all good things it has of necessity the defects of its own merits. Chief among these is the fact that under such conditions all products of literature and art which are put forth for money,—which includes ninety-nine per cent decimal nine repeated,—attempt to appeal to all classes and must be levelled down to the lowest, since the dimes of the poor added up amount to more than the dollars of the rich. You will remember that Sir Walter Scott tells us that his aged minstrel,—the last fortunately of his race, the other boys having beaten out by the new Italian barrel organ,—was compelled to "tune to please a peasant's ear, the harp a king had loved to hear." If the old man had lived today, he would find that "everybody is doing it." Our magazines, our press, our stage, more and more are driven to sacrifice excellence of art to width of appeal. Our moving pictures were born into

this degradation.

This affects humorous literature as it does everything else. It has got to be intelligible to the humblest intelligence or it won't do commercially. This keeps it from being pedantic and academic, but it tends to tempt it to be showy, flashy and indecent.

To turn back to the larger aspect. If the culture of the world used to be fed from the top and is now fed from the bottom, what will be the result? The thought of the world is more and more being guided by the thoughts of the mass. On the other hand "mute inglorious millions" are no longer buried in country churchyards.

It is my opinion that the world is visibly changing from the greatest age in the history of permanent literature to the new age of the mass production of transitory thought.

With which I wish the Daily Tar Heel a Happy New Year and turn back to my morning's work of trying to think of something funny enough and cheap enough to sell. What I have written for you isn't worth a cent.

Journal Appears

The announcement of the \$6,000 Culver scholarship and an article concerning the federal side of education by Dean N. W. Walker of the University school of education were the lead stories in the current issue of the *High School Journal*.