

The Daily Tar Heel

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Tuesday, February 2, 1932

Dictator Hoover And The Wickersham Report

Much has been said by those suspicious intellectuals who are of the opinion that President Hoover, zealous to secure his re-election, caused the notorious Wickersham Prohibition Report to be re-written to present exactly the opposite point of view than which the commission had intended to report.

George W. Wickersham, chairman of the now historic Wickersham report, was said at the time of the submission of this report to have done a similar job of garbling for another president. Another piece of evidence in favor of this view is the fact that the separate reports of the commission were at such variance with the combined report, that even by a majority vote the report would have, on the basis of being the sum of the individual opinions, been for modification of the present laws.

Having been in correspondence with eight of the eleven members of the commission on this subject, we are more than ever impressed with the fact that Hoover has them gagged and promised not to speak the truth as they found it.

Mr. Frank Loesch of Chicago is the only one of the eight who dared to consider expressing himself further. He says, "I have been awaiting day by day the leisure to write an article for your paper . . . It now seems plain . . . that it will not be impossible for me to prepare a satisfactory article."

However Judge William S. Kenyon claims, "I said everything I had to say on the subject in the Wickersham report." Newton D. Baker contributes this, "Beyond the statement made by me as a member of the Wickersham Commission on the Eighteenth Amendment and the Volstead Act, I have nothing to say." The Hon. Monte M. Lehmann of New Orleans reported that, "I have made it a consistent rule to make no statement on this subject beyond the official state-

ment which I made as a member of the so-called Wickersham Committee." Paul J. McCormick of Los Angeles said, "I have no further statement to make in the matter at this time." Henry W. Anderson, father of the Anderson Plan of liquor control, who is a resident of Richmond, replied to the DAILY TAR HEEL'S request in this fashion, "I . . . think there is nothing I would desire to add to what is there said" (his Wickersham report). Judge Kenneth Macintosh of Seattle said, "There is nothing further to be said." Miss Ada Comstock's secretary replied that "she (Miss Comstock) is unable to grant your request."

The replies are all startlingly the same, just as if they had been dictated by President Hoover in person. George Wickersham, the Hon. William S. Grubb, and Ezra Pound of Harvard declined to reply whatsoever.

The Finns evidently had a much more sincere committee or one which refused to be dictated to by their chief executive. They reported what they believed, and Finland repealed its prohibition by a majority of more than seventy per cent, the women taking proportionately the lead in the vote for repeal.

Militaristic Cliques In Japan

A close observer of the events transpiring of late in Manchuria will doubtlessly have noted a somewhat confused relationship between the promises and pronouncements of the civil government of Japan and the aggressive policy of the Japanese military forces on the field of action. Latest bulletins have disclosed the information that, in spite of China's acceptance of Japan's ultimatum, the Japanese naval forces have continued their aggression, occupying Shanghai and engaging in conflict with the Chinese troops within the city.

The truth of the situation has been indicated by recent writers on the subject. The civil and parliamentary rulers of Japan, usually pacifist and liberal in their efforts to govern their country and meet its overpopulation problems, share the reality of power with the rulers of the army and navy. The latter are a militaristic, imperialistic clique, intensely nationalistic, bent on aggrandizing Japan's position in China and unwilling to accept insults from China or interference from the Western Powers. This clique has contested the democratic, peacefully progressive policies of the Japanese parliamentarians and liberals for over a generation; it, rather than the popular, parliamentary leaders of the country, dictated the acquisition of Formosa, the subjugation of Korea, and the seizure of a foothold in Northern China. Often, in fact, it has pursued its imperialistic program in direct opposition to the protests, tacit or open, of the liberal leaders. At some time in the future the liberal elements of the Empire may wrest control of the army and navy from the military oligarchy. For the present, only when the militarists and chauvinists of Japan are in control of Parliament and of the Cabinet as well as of the military forces, can a consistent policy be expected from all the departments of the state.

At present the militarists, responsible neither to the government nor to the people, do not propose to abandon their traditional policies unless they are forced to do so, especially in view of the warlike, rapacious propensities of the independent Chinese warlords who dominate the neighborhood of the Japanese holdings in Manchuria. However pacific and enlightened their own intentions, the civil rulers and diplomats of the Oriental

Empire, who have been exchanging notes with and making explanations to the Western World, can do no more than justify actions already taken; they have in actuality little to do with the shaping of these policies pursued in Manchuria.—K.P.Y.

Anonymous

The chaste anonymity with which numerous periodicals and newspapers have draped the efforts of their columnists and feature writers has become of late in danger of the ire of government officials and public dignitaries. Anonymous writers such as the "Gentleman at the Keyhole", whose political notes have become an object of embarrassment at one time or another on Capitol Hill, have taken little pains in avoiding juicy tidbits of governmental gossip, hiding discreetly behind clever column captions or facetious bylines.

Most recently the afore mentioned column came under the barrage of gubernatorial guns at Albany, which salvaged with irate denials that a tirade against Governor Alfred E. Smith attributed by the "Gentleman at the Keyhole" to Governor Roosevelt was based on the truth. Roosevelt's denouncement of his party colleague was said to have taken place at last year's Governors Conference at French Lick, Indiana, in a conversation with a middle western Democrat, consisting of the remark "Smith was a rotten Governor. I did not know it until I got into the governorship myself."

This method of jacking up political leaders in print is one of the few weapons that may be utilized openly today by the press for this purpose. Such statements, whether true or not, inform the men behind the scenes that their movements are accessible to the public and to those who frame public opinion. The clever political articles of Jay Franklin, who contributes notably to *Vanity Fair*, is another example of an anonymous but powerful club wielded over political demagogues. The identity of Franklin is known to his publisher alone, and not even the prying of the celebrated Walter Winchell could ascertain his true identity. Neither the writings of Franklin nor the "Gentleman at the Keyhole" are unprecedented, however, for they are in the same vein as the famed Junius Letters of nearly two centuries ago which caused many a blush among the English politicians of the age. The true identity of the writer was never satisfactorily established and he continued to issue his brilliant political denouncements in spite of embarrassed murmurs that arose from the English capitol.

The identity of writers of this calibre is necessarily anonymous, for their information is often derived through inside channels which would be blocked to them should their oft-times unconscious informers learn of their identity. Practiced on a small scale, such writings, especially those which fall into the category of the requested anonymous "open letter to the editor" assume the proportions of journalistic pest. However, utilized in a sane manner, a well-informed bombastic treatise on some generally unheard of, but important political phase written by an anonymous journalist may do undreamed of service in holding in check the nefarious activities of political machines.—D.C.S.

Premier MacDonald says that the world's war debts are outrageous and unthinkable. But so was the war.—*Life*.

Getting ahead will be fashionable in 1932; it is the year of the Olympic races.—*Christian Science Monitor*.



ON FLIGHTS OF ORATORY

As a child I was dangled on the knees of would-be politicians in one of the most isolated of backwoods named for a man whose flaming courage resounded across "them thar hills" of old Virginia in that rousing demand—"Give me liberty or give me death!" As the twig is bent so is the tree inclined. With adolescence I acquired an almost morbid interest in the historic old court house with its quaint porico and bullet-ridden walls and listened avidly to the tales told by an ex-clerk of court who could repeat almost word for word the arguments of lawyers pro and con in many cases famous among the hills where dwelt the bold, bad sons of the mountains who styled themselves gentlemen and tried to emulate Lotharis in the Byronic manner approved in that day. Best of all did I like the tales clinging like traditions to the Allen gang, some members of which rode into Hillsville from the slate-roofed and many-turreted mansion of the elder Allen which perched on a mountain top and shot up the court, killing the judge and the commonwealth's attorney. And though the atmosphere which surrounded court week was saturated with dust and corn liquor I came to associate a profound and quotable knowledge of the Scriptures with oratorical outbursts; and I also learned that which is more important: He who would move his fellow men must appeal to their sympathies, must so draw them out of themselves that they transcend mortality.

These are stirring times! It was really a great pleasure to attend assembly the morning the President, with the aid of black boards, discussed the financial situation of the state and this particular institution of higher learning. Figures have a fascination all their own. And so do parables drawn from the philosophy of black folk Now I'll tell one. Perhaps the most beautiful building on the campus is that inspiring structure sometimes facetiously referred to as the "mausoleum of all good books." The care and cleaning of this building is entrusted to a certain janitor. Its spacious rooms, far-flung marble halls, and tier on tier of stacks afford ample opportunity for work. When the building department cut the janitors to an eight-hour schedule someone asked the library janitor how he was going to manage to get all of his work done in the allotted length of time. He answered that he'd just have to do the best he could. When questioned as to the former hour of his arrival for work he replied, "Sometimes I used to come at 6:00 in the morning to get everything done. I reckon I'll just have to keep on coming at 6:00 and call those two extra hours charity." With a spirit like that the library ought to be cleaner, and the grass greener this spring; and life will go on just the same (though it is doubtful if salaries do).

The dedicatory exercises Friday provided samples of several types of oratory: recitative, reading, and that calculated to hold the audience spellbound. Each served its purpose well, yet the hearts of men were more moved by a few well-chosen words quietly spoken than by panegyrics. Many great orators have departed this life. May they sleep in peace.

World News Bulletins

Japan Fires on Nanking
 Yesterday, Japanese warships shelled the Nanking waterfront and landed marines under cover of fire from their warships. Thirty thousand crack Chinese troops are in Nanking, and a major battle is expected. Machine gun bullets fell yesterday in the Texaco Oil plant in Shanghai, which has refused to sell gasoline for Japanese planes. A report states that Japan intends to send units of her regular army into Nanking.

France and Italy Protest
 France and Italy yesterday notified the United States that they were joining in the complaints against Japanese military tactics in China.

Cotton Injunction Denied
 The Texas law to curtail planting was held null and void yesterday, when district judge W. C. Davis denied an injunction sought to restrain the amount of cotton that could be planted.

Grist Scores Gardner
 Frank D. Grist, state commissioner of labor, yesterday condemned the new state salary list as being an outrageous ex-

OVERCOAT LOST
 Lost: Brown camel-hair overcoat. \$8.00 reward. Albert Simonds, 104 Mangum. (3)

R. R. Clark
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ample of discrimination, in an open letter to Governor O. Max Gardner.

The bonds of matrimony aren't worth much, either, if the interest isn't kept up.—*Publishers Syndicate*.

She prefers A PIPE (For you)

HER name is Ruth. She's a popular co-ed on a famous campus. Yes, she'll have a cigarette, thank you (and smoke it very prettily). But for you she likes a pipe.

That's one smoke that's still a man's smoke. (And that's why she likes to see YOU smoke a pipe.)

There's something companionable about a pipe. Friendly, cool, mellow . . . it clears your mind, puts a keen edge on your thinking.

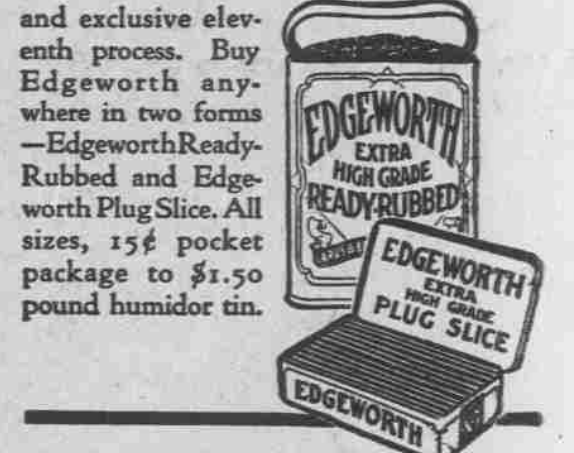
And you sound the depths of true smoking satisfaction when you fill up its

bowl with Edgeworth. There, men, is a REAL smoke. Choice mellow burleys, cut especially for pipes—blended for the man who knows his fine tobaccos. It's cool, dry, satisfying—and you'll find it first in sales, first choice of smokers, in 42 out of 54 leading colleges.

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A February Resolution

I will start the month right by eating at the **CAROLINA COFFEE SHOP**
 Home of exceptionally well cooked, tasty and healthfully balanced meals at surprisingly low prices.

Carolina Coffee Shop

CAROLINA THEATRE FRIDAY, FEB. 12
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 IN HEIDELBERG

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