

## The Daily Tar Heel

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Wednesday, February 24, 1932

### Dictators, Bar Excellence

In an era such as this when conditions are worse than deplorable and our governmental institutions and methods being critically scrutinized one hears a constant talk of the virtues attending an intelligent dictatorship. These are the times which enable powerful and ruthless men to obtain the guiding position of nations and shape history to their own selfish and willful ends. The great war that we fought "to make the world safe for democracy" resulted in the replacing of liberal monarchies by numerous dictatorships who ruled many of the countries of Europe. Mussolini, Mustapha Kemal, De Rivera, Lenin, and Horthy were men who were able to climb to power by aid of the great reaction from the chaos of war to the stability of a peace at the price of democracy.

Dictators have always been the product of confusion and misery, the blind chance of a people driven to desperation and beyond reason. Crushed, impoverished and in the depths of discouragement, otherwise sensible folk are led by the vain promises of wild schemers to sacrifice age old traditions of liberty, and as a last resort to throw the burden upon any man ambitious enough to desire it and unscrupulous enough to get it. The dictator is installed and several millions or more people have tacitly confessed that they are incapable and unworthy of the rights of freemen to govern themselves.

Often the dictator seems necessary to avert disaster, but it has often been the truth that greater disaster follows in his wake. While providing a temporary stability this form of government is laying up a serious problem for the near future. The man who is powerful and ambitious enough to place himself at the head of a nation is usually spurred on when he finds such tremendous power at his control. It is here that the trouble starts, and the powers for evil of an unchecked and absolute ruler has been demonstrated at the cost of millions in men, money, and misery.

Should the dictator prove content with the heights he has reached and satisfied not to seek international strife, there is the outstanding threat in the general failure to pick a successor. During the period of the dictatorship the people are stagnate and all forms and usages of self government are permitted to rot. Hence the death of the man at the top often finds a nation totally unprepared to manage its own affairs. Though it is felt that the people are not always competent of self government the only means of developing them to that point is by practice. This is obviously barred by a dictatorship. The dictator is a barrier in the way of self determination of peoples, democracy, and often peace. He serves only to recreate the agony that created him and is in reality a dangerous anachronism in a world moving on to peace, tolerance, and liberty.—J.F.A.

### 3,153 For War; 268 For Peace

Is the love for mortal combat an inherent quality of man? One would be led to respond "yea" if any credence is to be placed in the report of the Society of International Law, which appeared in the news dispatches from Warsaw yesterday. The society's findings after a meticulous investigation of world history over a period of 3,421 years reveals the startling fact that 3,153 of these years of this period have been "war years." The society is "reasonably certain" that a state of peace has existed in only 268 of these several thousands years, though incomplete records of the evolutions of nations incurs doubt as to the absolute peacefulness of this short period. Other findings of the statistical report of this august body showed that 8,000 peace treaties have been concluded in the elapsed period of history mentioned above, and that each of these has lasted an average of two years.

On the basis of this data, it is inconceivable that one nation can be accused as an habitual perpetrator of war, or that two nations can be wholly censured as indefatigably militant. The Anglo-Saxon people are not aliens to the chip-on-shoulder provocation for war, no less than the Orientals or any other race of people who have wielded the sword as a scepter of power. War is a natural sin which assumes normal proportions only as long as it involves warriors, but let a decade draw the life and property of the defenseless bystander into its bellicose tentacles, and then it becomes a link in the chain of retrogression.

It is doubtful whether all these 8,000 peace treaties were the culmination of physical combat involving the attempted extinction of innocents, though they must suffer indirectly. Civilization has managed to progress through these aeons of almost constant combat and will continue to forge ahead as long as armed and avowed dissenters are permitted to fight their battles out by themselves. But when their struggle involves the onlooker with consequent loss of innocent lives, the movement is in a backward direction.—D.C.S.

### Conservation And Mr. Hyde

The majority of Americans think of conservation as an old man's delusion. They are told that England has exploited her coal resources further than any other nation and yet the coal will not be depleted for at least another two thousand years. They look upon measures for the restriction of oil consumption as poppycock and restriction of agricultural production as downright foolishness.

There is an aspect of conservation which belongs to the field

of price economy and is not concerned primarily with the longevity of resources. Too much of any commodity simply means that demand cannot keep up with supply and price competition will drive unit return on the commodity below a reasonable return. Conservation in this sense is by no means a sentimental theory but a pragmatic step toward social welfare.

In our modern civilization resource exploitation has been determined by corporation heads. It is perfectly sound that from their rather limited point of view it is safest to exploit a resource quickly and completely. They have capitalized their business on the basis of price estimates which they realize will not be permanent. Technological changes are likely to throw their estimates completely out of whack.

It is to the advantage of the capitalist to produce on an enormous scale even at the risk of glutting the market. This is shortsighted. Conservation in the sense of limiting supply so as to maintain reasonable prices is economically sound.

Secretary Hyde of the department of agriculture sounded a significant note in our national conservation policy when he up-raided certain army engineers for proposing to construct a power and irrigation project in the Columbia valley at the cost of \$400,000,000. Mr. Hyde points out that the need is not for more arable land at present but for less agricultural produce. Farmers cannot get a fair return for their labor. Rather than trying to stumble along and increase, increase, and increase still more our farm products with an idea that maybe luck might turn and the farmer get a little something out of his labor, the nation should realize that demand for food is inelastic and the need is limitation on food supplies so the farmers as individuals can get a decent living for their labor.—R.W.B.

### The German Club Turns Dictator

The sudden termination of the Law School Ball Friday night leads one to believe that the complaint at the excess power of the German club which was voiced last spring was certainly not unfounded. In the controversy that arose concerning the German club it was pointed out that that organization has complete and undisputed control of all social activities on the campus. Its power extends to all dances, regardless of whom the sponsor might be. The German club furthermore virtually governs every house-party and every social affair, whether it be supposedly under the direction of a fraternity, one of the professional schools, one of the classes, or the German club itself. The regulations and by-laws of the German club go into minute detail, including such petty matters as the serving of a cup of coffee after a dance in a fraternity house.

The impregnable position of this organization is unfair to the rank and file of the student body upon several grounds. Chief among these is the fact that the German club membership is limited to that small minority of students who are so fortunate as to be financially able to join, whereas the rules which are laid down by this group apply to every student on the campus. As a matter of principle, it is legislation without representation! Moreover, the source of this autocratic power is rather obscure. It is true that the faculty long years ago gave the German club certain powers as to the general regulation of dances as a means of temporarily mending certain bad qualities that were present in Carolina dances at that time, but the greater part of the as-

sumed. The experience which the law school-association had last Friday night with the German club concretely illustrates the iron-clad manner with which that so-called dance organization rules. The law school dance was booked with the understanding that it was to take place from 10:00 until 2:00 o'clock. Having received permission to allow the dance to last until 2:00 o'clock, representatives of the law school engaged an orchestra to play until that hour. After all arrangements had been made accordingly, in fact, after the dance had begun, it was announced by an official of the German club that the dance must stop promptly at 1:00 o'clock. The law school was gracious enough to submit to the last minute decree, but not without righteous indignation. The least that can be said about the whole affair is that it was very unfair to the law school association, and that it appeared to be a flaunting of the German club banner of authority.

That the German club is one of the most powerful of the campus organizations is obvious. On two occasions the authority of this select group has been challenged, but in both instances it maintained its status quo. This is not another challenge, but a clear declaration that the German club's position is not based fundamentally upon the democratic principles which are supposedly the backbone of this organized campus life, and its power is by no means unassailable. If the German club is to continue in its undisputed reign it behooves that organization to refrain from abusing its authority. The German club may well profit by the fact that destruction has ever been the fate of those who achieve too much power and use it abusively.—W.E.U.

least measure up, in the matter of good form, to our city dailies. It seems to me that you should take the first opportunity to apologize to your readers for having published this letter uncensored.

I may add that I sincerely hope the honor system may be saved. It has been a part of our university life and a valuable part. Something must be very wrong with it just now or there would not be such an outcry. Examinations of one kind or another are practical necessities, inside and outside the college world, and people must learn to make suitable arrangement for their conduct. In this matter every teacher is aware that student thinking and propositions are of the first importance.

H. V. WILSON.

### SPEAKING the CAMPUS MIND

#### Faculty Speaks

In one of your last week's issues (Feb. 18) Robert Berryman spoke of "The professor who slimes his way about during a quiz" etc. And again "His actions insinuate that I, myself, may cheat if unobserved, so to hell with him. I wouldn't report a violation of the system to save his nouseous soul." I have waited for some one more concerned with journalism to call your attention to the fact that this is low and disgusting language, such as is not printed in reputable newspapers. It would get no farther than the waste basket, I am sure, in the office of *The Raleigh News and Observer* or *The Greensboro Daily News*, to select two of our neighboring papers. Education includes instruction and something else, and a college paper should at

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## Leslie Weil Is Noted For Efforts To Finish Graham Memorial Work

Prominent Trustee of University Has Served for Long Time as Chairman of Alumni Loyalty Fund Council and Director of Alumni Association.

As advisor, benefactor and constructor, Leslie Weil of Goldsboro, closely approaches the ideal alumnus active in the affairs of the University. A member of the board of trustees since 1915, he has been actively associated with the finance and executive committees of that body since 1920 and 1923 respectively. The General Alumni association counts him as one of its staunchest supporters, pointing to his long chairmanship of the Alumni Loyalty Fund council and his services as a director of the association.

Weil was a prominent figure of the Graham Memorial committee during the several drives for funds. He assisted in the founding of the University press and has been a participant in the Weil lecture foundation on American citizenship.

No less does he exemplify the University man in community life. As a member of H. Weil & Bros., one of the largest retail department stores in the state, he has conspicuously aided in making the firm a commercial

asset and a civic agency. He has been president of both the Rotary club and Chamber of Commerce of Goldsboro. Under Weil's leadership the synagogue and Hebrew congregation of his city took rank as a worthy social institution.

He was the recipient of the 1926 *Yackety Yack* which gracefully paid tribute to him with the statement that "his love of alma mater has been not so much a phrase on his lips as a fact in his life."

Though a modest and retiring man, Leslie Weil is one of the most widely known alumni of the University. His frequent visits to the campus are manifestations of his interest in the University and his close ties with students and faculty alike.

He is a member of the class of 1895, at which time he received his Ph.B. degree. During his student days, Weil was a member of the Phi Gamma Delta fraternity, the Philanthropic Assembly, and assistant editor of *The Carolina Magazine*.

has recently discovered a four thousand year old fortress at Homolka, Bohemia.

Instead of dying out, as popularly believed, the Indian population is gradually increasing in the United States.

### With Contemporaries

#### The Siren Calls

A man and a woman live companionately and it isn't called marriage; Japan and China mangle each other "protectively" and it isn't called war, but what's the difference?

Names applied to situations mean something equivalent to nothing.

China has not declared war on Japan, nor has Japan declared war on China, but the cannon confetti that is raining on Shanghai annihilates individuals just as effectively as in wartime.

After a well-placed and perfectly-intended bomb has greeted you Good Morning, your concern isn't whether it was a wartime or a peace-time bomb, but did I live a clean life?—*University of Washington Daily*.

#### Brief Facts

The University of Paris was founded by King Philip II, about the year 1200.

In 1928 there were 513 persons who received \$1,000,000 or more income, according to their sworn statements to the income tax bureau.

Dr. V. J. Fewkes, of the University of Pennsylvania,

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