

The Daily Tar Heel

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Thursday, March 24, 1932

Soup's On!

The weekly publication of Loyola university, down in New Orleans, has sent this humble contemporary a detailed unemployment relief plan designed to lift the U. S. A. and its vast army of the industrially disinclined out of the deep depths of depression and hunger. The plan calls for the establishing of soup kitchens, presumably just around every corner, until the pangs of untenanted interiors are appeased by prosperity. Strangely enough, the plan enlists the financial backing of students from some 650 universities and colleges throughout the country who would each contribute a penny for each meal every day, dropping the coppers into boxes stationed conveniently in every lunch room. Figuring this on the basis of 500 students per university, the staggering sum of \$6,500.00 would be realized each day in the collegiate year.

Application of Math One then brings this figure to the sum of \$1,750,000.00 a year to be spent in soup for the unemployed, all contributed by what the Loyola organ quoted President MacCracken (?) as saying, "university students are not people because they do not function as people should." Another of their associates, who is a member of the American Legion, stated that "ten dollars a day (from each university) would buy a lot of soup." Our conservative staff mathematician estimates that the million odd dollars contributed by these 650 student bodies would even buy a devil of a lot more soup, enough to float the entire Asiatic fleet with two airplane carriers thrown in.

The spirit behind the movement is undoubtedly excellent, but nevertheless it is typical of the current landslide of schemes to assist the needy. It is questionable whether soup alone could sustain our ten or twelve millions of unemployed (another conservative estimate) or that the novelty of the plan will not wear off before it is carried to completion.

As for us, when we lose our job in a few weeks, soup would hardly be suitable to our delicate palate. Maybe the Collegiate Unemployment Relief would con-

sent in establishing a caviar kitchen for us and the stock market crash victims.—D.C.S.

Bowing To

The Gangster

The kidnaping of Charles Lindbergh, Jr., the sufferings of his agonized parents, and the fruitless efforts towards the recovery of the child have held the attention of the American people for several weeks. Morbidly sentimental and easily led by the press, they have centered their attention upon pathetically helpless and clumsy police activity while a war which threatens the peace of the world is relegated to a place of minor importance. In one way, however, it is an excellent thing that the incident is receiving such a great share of publicity as the case demonstrates to thinking persons the complete and repulsive rottenness of our present condition.

The sorrow of frantic parents makes the incident highly regrettable but of minor importance. The manner in which the situation is handled is indicative of an age which for pure shame and putrescence exceeds any era in our history. Weeks of work on the part of policemen, detectives and secret service agents have resulted in complete failure to find the child or even a trace of him. These are the forces upon which the American people depend for their safety and protection, and which would be far from bending the same efforts, futile though they be, on the behalf of the average citizen.

Far worse than the miserable inefficiency of our police forces is the bargaining with the underworld which has been a feature of the case. Offers of sympathy and help from men whose hands reek with the blood of their victims and whose pockets are lined with money filched and torn from honest citizens are an insult to the Lindberghs and to the nation. When a man of Lindbergh's influence stoops to dicker with criminals to aid him in the recovery of his child we have a dangerous precedent. The step is excusable from the outlook of sorrowful parents, but it is a tacit admission of a man in a position to know what conditions really are that the law is helpless and the gangster rules.

The weakness of our laws, the indifference of our people, and the corruption of politicians and officials who have betrayed us, have exalted to supremacy the thug and the cut-throat. Murder and all the lesser crimes go unpunished in the circle of rackets and gangs which rule our cities. The laws for which generations of Americans have given their lives and labor are now scoffed at and ignored. The present plight of the country is due in no small measure to the greed and corruption of a few maintained in power by the laxity and indifference of the masses. The kidnaping serves to focus attention on our deplorable condition. If we fail to profit from the lesson the results will be far more tragic than the sorrow of the parents, great though it be.—J.F.A.

Still

Dillydallying

The Student Council has been conspicuously inefficient in its handling of the recently aroused interest in the honor system. This can be viewed as nothing less than a betrayal of its responsibilities.

Various organizations, including THE DAILY TAR HEEL and the Y. M. C. A., vocalized their desires to assist the council in whatever they might decide to do. This offer of assistance has been virtually ignored and the council has allowed interest in the matter to wane.

In view of the wide-spread desire expressed on the campus

last quarter to bring about a renewal of the spirit of the honor system and a strengthening of its machinery, nothing less than a definite and immediate program initiated by the council can satisfy the student body.

Regrettable as it is that the council lets the logical moment for decisive steps slip by, it is emphatically necessary that they act quickly and thoughtfully to present a program for reinforcing the honor system.—R.W.B.

SPEAKING the CAMPUS MIND

Reply To

Mr. Tatum

May I make a few brief notes on your letter which appeared in THE DAILY TAR HEEL of March 22.

Just how far we are from a "Socialist Soviet Republic" in America" is obviously unpredictable, but we are most certainly approaching such a state. The wealthy class is unable and unfit to be the ruling class of society. It is unfit to rule, because it cannot any longer assure an existence to its slave, for it cannot, due to the fact that further expansion is almost impossible, and since much more efficiency is fatal, help letting him sink into such a state that it has to support him, instead of being supported by him. What Marx said in 1848 was never more true than today, that "the development of Modern Industry cuts from under its feet the very foundation on which the bourgeoisie produces and appropriates products. What the bourgeoisie therefore produces, above all, are its own grave diggers. Its fall and the victory of the proletariat are equally inevitable."

Belief in God as part of the law of the United States is just one evidence of the falsehood of religious freedom which is freedom only to those professing religion, and oppression and denial of civil and legal rights of those who have no religion.

Are Communists assailing the written (not the practical) "precepts of our government" when they lead the working class in its struggle against wage-cuts, starvation, slavery, lynching, and war? Is not our own government violating some of its precepts in the cases of oppression such as are represented by Mooney-Billings, Sacco-Vanzetti, Centralia, Imperial Valley, Scottsboro, Harlan, Gastonia, and Dearborn?

Mr. Tatum, please comfort and assure your reactionary mind. Nothing will ever come from the move of liberal ministers into the ranks of those betrayers of the working class, the "Socialists," except the strengthening of the ruling class and a smoke-screening of its activities.

The Christian religion upholds and strengthens chiefly that powerful institution of Capitalism which makes men live as slaves, without individuality, with wars and threats of war continually at hand. This great institution destroys the family like a black plague. How about our thousands of divorces? How about the families of the ten million who have no work? The increase in prostitution in times of stress? The exploitation of women and children? Perhaps things would fare much better if founded upon Communism than upon religion. Don't you really think so, Mr. Tatum?

W. H. DAVIS, JR.
John Reed Club

On December 1 Secretary Mellon's son went to work in a Pennsylvania bank as a clerk, and in January he was made a director. America still offers opportunity to a young man who has the stuff.—Southern Lumberman.

With Contemporaries

A Place For Everything

Prohibition is like a good man—you can't keep it down. It's all to the front again. The wets, defeated in the House of Representatives by a 277-187 vote, announce that just one more election and the soda-pop companies will be filling bottles with light wine; the student council already has intimated that just a few more dances, and it hopes to deal a body blow to public drinking at Louisiana State.

It is not our purpose here to discuss pro and con the evils and advantages of drinking and not drinking. Without any statement of opinion, without any desire for argument, we shall, to keep the peace, admit as granted the theory that what a man does when alone with himself and his bottle is his own business. But we cannot too strongly commend the student council or any other body in its efforts to stamp out drunkenness at dances and other public functions.

It is not a question of drinking per se, not a question of cause, but of effect—what effect a few drinks and a tuxedo will have on a usually perfectly sensible man. The two don't mix as well as you may fancy they do. Nor do drink and football mix, nor drink and the theatre—or anything else, if you've had too much.

The Greeks had a word for it—the Golden Mean. Happy state! A place for everything, a time for everything, a measure for everything, including drinking. Moderation in all points, intelligent behavior at all times.

And if a man's sober self could meet his drunken self at a football game or a dance, he would soon know that the Golden Mean in drinking did not lie where he thought it did. The two would come to blows through the former's disgust at the latter's infantile actions.—Reveille.

The Liberal University

A university which is truly liberal teaches students to think. It makes them alert intellectually, and graduates them mature and conscious individuals into a new, interesting and intricate life.—Daily Illini.

Mind Over Matter

Professors tell us at the beginning of each new semester that it is not subject matter that is important, but that it is the creation of attitudes and ideals, but in the end, when mid-terms and final exams are over, it is the subject matter that is reckoned.

Are students ever to be held to account for anything but subject matter on tests, be they daily, mid-term or final? Daily tests are on subject matter. Mid-semester grades are based on subject matter. Final examinations are only check-ups on sub-

(Continued on last page)

It Is Worth Knowing That—

The invention of chariots and the manner of harnessing horses to draw them occurred as early as 1486 B.C.

There are 100 different species of singing birds in the United States.

The potato is a native of Chile and Peru.

Switzerland exported nine million watches to various parts of the world last year.

Total fire losses in Great Britain and Ireland in 1931 was nearly \$28,000.00.

Fire arms were manufactured at Perugia, Italy, as early as 1364.

More than \$3,200,000,000 was spent for education in the United States during 1931.

The Peking News, the oldest newspaper in the world, has been published continuously for 1400 years.

Gambling was introduced into England by the Saxons; the loser was often made a slave to the winner, and sold in traffic, like other merchandise.

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Jim Pittman, Student Rep.

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Industry takes a hint from the kitchen

The domestic art of baking is closely paralleled in telephone manufacture at Western Electric, where plastic molding is an exact science.

Telephone bell boxes, for instance, are no longer formed of metal. They are molded from a phenol plastic compound—containing carbolic acid, formaldehyde and other ingredients—because Western Electric manufacturing engineers saw the way to make a better

product at lower cost. These men developed a new and exceptionally efficient type of plastic molding press—and determined precisely how long to bake the mixture and the exact temperature to use.

In quickly taking advantage of the new art of plastic molding, Bell System engineers once more showed that they have the kind of imagination that keeps American industry forging ahead.

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