

The Daily Tar Heel

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Thursday, April 28, 1932

All Imaginary— More's the Pity

One valuable contribution to posterity for which Voltaire was at least partly responsible was the origin and application of the idea of making history an interesting story of cause and effect from which could be drawn fairly accurate forecasts of future events rather than just a compilation of statistical data. Being trained in this type of historical analysis we can observe certain trends from which it is easy to predict the outcome. Let us then with full confidence in our ability snatch aside the filmy curtain of mystery and look on the University of North Carolina as it will be in 1980.

By that time the essential importance of athletics will be fully recognized. The coach and his numerous staff of assistants and sub-assistants will have the second floor of South building. The mentors of our highly trained and efficient teams will have offices with glass topped desks and floors with endless miles of rich plush carpet. These sanctums of sanctums will be protected by a series of outer offices, each of which will be equipped with its quota of glass-eyed guards. There will be elevators to save the priceless minutes of these valuable specialists and to conserve their energy.

By that time an enlarged and imposing Graham Memorial will be the center of student interest and activity. There will be one suite of offices where the main and allbright head of the student body will sit and stroke his beard in ponderous thought. One division of his numerous staff will receive and record the complaints of the faculty members concerning study and attendance on their classes. Of course, these complaints will be carefully phrased and lodged only after deep consideration. If the committee suspects that the instructor is to blame for lack of interest it will immediately refer his case to the student president who will automatically dismiss him from the faculty. Some exceptions will be made to this rigid rule if the teacher in question can prevail on some varsity man, on whom he has been particularly lenient, to stop by and say a word to the president. This board will seem useless at first sight, because one would think the professors would leave well enough alone and not lodge any complaints. A ruling passed by the Most High Council of Student Control will explain every-

thing. This rule will state that a teacher must pass 95% of his pupils. In certain technical and advanced courses teachers will find it impossible to make quizzes easy enough or general enough for the required number to average anything above zero. The active consciences of some new instructors will make them feel the necessity of calling this situation to the attention of the whole student body. Hence this board. If the complaint is found justifiable, the class will be given a short lecture by the personal representative of the president of the student body. This will be a great disgrace greatly dreaded by all students.

The game room will be greatly enlarged and improved both in variety and class of equipment. Along one side will be many small rooms where men can match their wits over the chess boards in quiet seclusion. Dumb waiters will be arranged so that refreshments can be had without the annoyance of interruption. Bets on all games will be limited to a hundred dollars. This will be the result of a concession that the Most High Council of Student Control will make to silence a protest against gambling that will be launched in 1978. Of course, there will be ways of getting around this obnoxious rule.

Toward the rear on one of the side halls of Graham Memorial will be a small soberly furnished room. Behind a miniature desk will sit a meticulously-groomed personage. He will be about middle aged. Everything will be in its proper place and carefully tabulated. On the glass of the door will be a sign "Fraternity Union." The duty of this man will be to receive and stall-off all persons presenting bills against any of the various Greek letter groups. His facility in this art will be remarkable. The assembled fraternities will hit on this idea about 1970. They will find he saves them a great deal. Fewer bills will have to be paid and house managers will have much more time for cards.

In the limited space of these columns a full picture is not possible. Brief glimpses, while necessarily sketchy, give some idea of the whole. It is to be hoped that someone can foresee as rosy a period from 1980 to 2032 with as much justification.—H.H.

A House Divided

A graduate student from Mississippi was talking to a student from Duke University and a student from the University of North Carolina: "The one criticism that I have to make of North Carolina's two great universities concerns the poor spirit that they show toward each other."

And the graduate student from Mississippi was not criticizing the spirit of the students in the football stadium and in the gymnasium bleachers. He was commenting upon the lack of cooperation between the faculty and administrative agencies of the two universities.

"Being only twelve miles apart," he continued, "Duke and Carolina have the opportunity of creating the greatest cultural and educational center in the country, if they will merge their resources."

The University of North Carolina does not resent the rise of Duke University nor envy its wealth, as is commonly supposed. We have simply not realized, here in Chapel Hill, that a great educational institution has suddenly grown up to replace tiny Trinity College. At Duke, they are having difficulty in adjusting themselves to the proper use of vast resources that have been unexpectedly bestowed upon them.

It will mean much to the intellectual renaissance of the state and the South when Carolina can

forget its surprise and Duke can shake off its bewilderment; when the two universities can be thoroughly awakened to their common purpose, and when they can concentrate their joint resources upon the attainment of their common ideal.—E. C. D.

Oh Wake Me Bright And Early, Mother

The crowning of May Queens, hazing, and other adolescent "carrying-ons" are well established features of many universities and colleges. Although the students look forward to such events and undertakings, the campus that is free from such is more to be esteemed than the one that has them.

The recent publication of the Booloo club lists stands as the only remnant of this adolescent type of behavior. This yearly custom of publishing these elections to the Booloo club has been in existence for quite a time and probably will continue in the future, but fortunately it is the only one of its sort on the campus at present.

The breaking-away from these more or less childish traits marks a big step forward in the advancement of the students and the University in general.

A few years ago it was quite common to hear the outlandish tales of how the sophomores hazed the oncoming freshman group. Fortunately (for the freshmen) it was seen fit to remove this evil practice and thus it has become non-existent today.

Although it is very unlikely, perhaps it would be quite a worthy idea for the fraternities to abolish the indignant practice of beating their pledges. Many of the fraternities have held national conventions and have made the absence of beating conspicuous in their constitutions.

These forward tendencies all combine to show that the mind of the student on the University campus is becoming more advanced and looks upon the problems that confront it from a more sane and rational viewpoint.—E.J.

With Contemporaries

Grades and Scholarship

Tuesday is the day. The great announcement will be made.

Tuesday Phi Beta Kappa will honor its newest selections at a convocation. There will be much joy and much sorrow. That august group will pick from one-sixth to one-tenth of the graduating class and admit to membership because they have the highest grades in the college. Scholarship is not considered.

For many years Phi Beta Kappa has been the butt of many attacks. It has been accused of poor selection, politics, and it has even been asked to justify its existence. Phi Beta Kappa has kept silence except in a few instances when it displayed bad judgment in an attempt at justification.

It is entirely obvious that Phi Beta Kappa, a society which has for its purpose the furthering of scholarship, needs no defenses. It is not the society which is wrong, it is the system.

Scholarship is an intangible quality. It is difficult to determine whether a person has it or not. Intellectuality and intelligence are qualities which are hard to discern. There is but one manifestation of scholarship possible in our present system and that is the grades in the courses taken. It is upon these grades which Phi Beta Kappa must base their membership. That is the reason for the accusations.

Bertrand Russell hit the nail on the head when he said, "the system of scholarships obtained by competition... makes students regard knowledge from the standpoint of what is useful in examinations rather than in the light of its intrinsic interest or importance; it places a premium on that sort of ability which is displayed precociously in glib answers to set questions rather than upon the kind that broods on difficulties and remains for a time rather dumb."

And there you have it. The grading system does not permit scholarship, although many scholars find their way into the ranks of Phi Beta Kappa. The fact of the matter is that those who are capable of cramming a number of facts into their heads and keeping them there just long enough to pass an examination are the very ones who are admitted into membership and classed as scholars.

Why should there be such a wide discrepancy between scholarship and activities? Why is it that every year the large majority of Phi Beta Kappa selections are never activity workers? Does work in activities signify a lack of brain power or does it mean that in order to make good grades one must do nothing but study? The answer, of course, is that one must do a certain amount of grinding to get consistently good grades and that the time required by activities is not conducive to great study.

Who is ahead then? The Phi Beta Kappa or the activity worker? Who has accomplished the most? Phi Beta Kappa means only that a student has made good grades, not that he is a scholar or a good worker.

To everything or everyone to whom even a measure of fame is attached comes criticism. The spotlight always brings friendships and hatreds. Phi Beta Kappas will be in the limelight Tuesday and they will be criticized. There is no help for it, it just is. There have even been instances in the not-so-distant past when students have turned down the opportunity to be members. The name has come to be almost a stigma.

That is the situation and it is to be deplored. Phi Beta Kappa is a fine organization. Its work and the work of a few of its exceptional members is recognized. But so long as they maintain that grades are anything but numbers and letters, and so long as they cling to the antiquated belief that good grades means scholarship, then just so long will they be criticized and attacked.—Daily Nebraskan.

Whattaman!...

If reports are correct, Columbia University has uncovered one of the outstanding professorial lights of the age. Conducting a course in family relations at Columbia, this oasis in a desert of dry pedagogy is declared to have occupied the class time in expounding the advantages of free love to his students.

Such a man intrigues the imagination. Students who enroll in his course must enjoy the pleasant sensation of drawing in a lottery, never certain of what will come forth. The subject assigned evidently means nothing whatever to this scintillating scholar. If he were scheduled to teach French literature, he might be expected to regale the hardy souls sitting under him with arguments proving the inferiority of Voltaire to Shaw and the consequent futility of considering the works of the great French writer. Or, perhaps, the unsuitability of the Gallic tongue for the higher forms of literary art would appeal to him as more pertinent to the subject.

Daily Sun Bath Becomes Popular Diversion On University Campus

Worshippers of Ultra-Violet Rays Form Near-Nudist Club for Purpose of Acquiring Tarzan Complexion; Meetings Are Conducted on Grass Plots Between Dormitories.

"Cloudy weather do not come, for out backs we wish to sun," chant the collegiate sun worshippers as they go forth to indulge in daily rites beneath the beneficent rays of the noonday sun. Believing ultra-violet rays to be a boon to mankind, members of the near-nudist club, which has sprung into being on the lower campus with the advent of warm weather, disport themselves daily in the sunshine, garbed in the scantiest of shorts. The cult has grown to such an extent, that often, the entire area between G and I dormitories is crowded with semi-nude, white bodies.

Membership Requirements

The requirements for membership in the club are simple. The aspirant must possess a pair of shorts and a desire for acquiring a Tarzan complexion. The activities of the club are re-

stricted to the labor of exposing as much of the human anatomy as feasible to the rays of the sun for as long a time each day as possible. Although many members spread blankets upon the ground others insist that the greatest benefit is to be derived only by stretching at full length upon the bare grass.

Experts agree that the best time of day for sun bathing is between 12:00 and 3:00 o'clock in the afternoon of any fair day. However, many converts to the order devote themselves to the business of acquiring a tanned skin during the morning hours.

Enthusiasts predict the growth of the cult during the summer school and even go so far as to assert the probable adoption by the student body at large of the sunshine ensemble as a hot weather costume for general wear.

At least, no Columbian ever need lack for novelty in studies while a gem of this water remains on the faculty. The Lord must have broken the mold when he made him, but, since no adequate successor may be expected, let us pray that he will not soon be lost to our intellectual firmament. Long may he live!—The Stanford Daily.

Opera in America

"What is going to become of opera in America?" people who care for this form of entertainment are beginning to ask themselves. Every year it has become increasingly difficult to finance opera, and only the largest of cities have been able to enjoy this luxury.

This year the Metropolitan Opera company faces a loss of \$550,000 for the current season, and unless something happens to make the rich contribute to keep it going, it is hard to say what may happen. Not only that, but the entire organization of the Metropolitan has become so dead and old-fashioned that those who once supported it have been growing more reluctant.

Just now the most wide awake opera company in America appears to be the Philadelphia Grand Opera company. It has behind it a most remarkable record of achievement considering its age, and it has demonstrated the fact that there is still an interest in opera. This company has been trying to work with the new Radio City, and it may be that we shall have to look to Leopold Stokowski

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and his organization for a new era in operatic productions. — Daily Kansan.

Sixty-five thousand dollars is the value put on a college education by William Atherton Dupuy, prominent statistician. The average high school graduate earns \$110,000 during his lifetime, while the average university graduate may expect to earn at least \$175,000. — Daily Nebraskan.

THRILL MAD!
She is an example of every girl who has too much — A warning to every girl who wants too much freedom!

**"Love
Affair"**

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