

### The Daily Tar Heel

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#### Editorial

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Saturday, September 24, 1932

#### Public Administration Students to the Rescue

With the establishment of the school of public administration here, the University of North Carolina acquires another master tool with which it will help to shape the future governmental advancement of this state. For years has this school been a dream in the minds of loyal North Carolinians. But only until recently were they able to see their cherished vision realized.

Not only will this school aid in educating the future public administrators of this state to the duties which they will be expected to perform, but more important will it open the eyes of North Carolina's coming citizens to the responsibilities which their parents have in too many cases completely ignored.

The lack of this type of education heretofore is, no doubt, one of the causes for the present deplorable condition of a great many of the counties and municipalities in this state today. Rather than develop the plan of government from year to year, the majority of public officials have been content to leave the system the same as they found it.

When former President E. K. Graham established the department of rural social economics, he made the statement, "Its business is to teach North Carolina to North Carolinians; not the North Carolina of day before yesterday but the North Carolina of day after tomorrow." That same might be said of this new school. These public officials have been satisfied with the North Carolina of day before yesterday, and have worried not the least about the state day after tomorrow.

With the school of public administration here at the University now, there should be little fear for the State's government ten or fifteen years hence. But the problem now is to persuade the Legislature to pass a law requiring all public officials to secure a degree from the school of administration of the University in order to hold office.

If something of this sort is not done immediately there is little doubt but what the towns, cities, and counties, and, yea, even the State itself, will be bankrupt before students from this new school can take over the reigns—judging from the recent deficits reported in these different divisions of government.

#### Mental Hygiene In High Places

Three hundred leading citizens of the state of North Carolina became cumulatively alarmed at the Paganism and Communism—that is regularly being dispensed from professorial seats of wisdom in their beloved University. This alarm became articulate in a manifesto to the Governor demanding measures of correction. So bitter and unqualified were certain portions of the document that leading papers throughout the nation carried AP reports of

the movement.

The tone of the protest is reminiscent of a portion of Menninger's brilliant work on the Human Mind. To quote: "This is not the first time that the Reds and Socialists, Pacifists, and their college professor allies have attempted to prevent, and have actually prevented murderers and other violators of the law from getting their just deserts. . . . I find that this bold, resourceful and able gang of enemies with ample funds are . . . instilling subversive doctrines into the minds. . . . A widespread assault is now being made on the sanctity of marriage and sacred family relations . . . with great success in leading colleges for women. . . . etc. . . ."

Menninger describes this excited statement as being the delusion of persecution under the head of dissociation, where the main consciousness is aware of one of several ideas but mislabels and misunderstands it. It is symptomatic of mental disease.

Paganism and Communism are terms used vaguely and comprehensively to cover all forces which terrify and mystify because they are not understood. The terms have been used in the same sense all over the world, in England, on the Continent, in the Orient, and, of course, throughout this nation. Attacks employing a vocabulary of this sort must be regarded as the expression of those who are in need of mental hygienic attention. Clear truthful information will quickly dissipate the terrifying delusions which have come to exist in their brains.

New students who come with preconceptions of Chapel Hill's being a vicious, terrifying, distorted place where insidious forces are at work playing upon their innocence will be quickly disappointed. The very fact that students can talk freely and without restraint of currents ethical and philosophical ideas appears to contradict the claim that "insidious forces," bought and well paid for, are at work. —R.W.B.

#### King Football For the Student

On the premises that University football contests are staged primarily for the athletes participating and students witnessing the half-dozen or so struggles featured in the Kenan Memorial Stadium this year, the student body and the DAILY TAR HEEL are led to wonder whether some satisfactory arrangement can be devised to prevent conflicts in seating arrangements of out-of-town patrons and students. The new federal tax levy, which stretches to permit students exemption from taxation on tickets, if they occupy a special section, may be misunderstood by patrons. Last year tickets were sold for student spaces and many were evicted by irate alumni and interested patrons of the University who sought privileges over the student body.

In order that such a situation may be avoided this year, it is asked that the actual tickets for the spaces be issued students, so that other spectators may not move into the student section and take over seats which may be more choice than theirs. Students were virtually herded from section to section in some games last year and then tickets were sold even for the sections their pass books were supposed to cover.

If tickets are, not provided, many interlopers who have payed the ticket tariff plus tax will seek places in the student section and may only be evicted if the student can show his ticket to the seat. The tax requirement will eliminate some of the difficulty confronting the student, but the addition of a ticket

### OUR TIMES

By Don Shoemaker

#### Words and Music

Mahatma Gandhi, who would see India free of her British oppressors, is at it again this week. The world press was full of Mr. Gandhi's gastronomical rebellion against the English this week and many readers opened their urban chronicles to discover startling streamers "GANDHI BEGINS DEATH FAST" and similar messages. With Jimmy Walker and the ferry boat disaster forgotten, the Mahatma steps forth again to champion the cause of bigger and better news. The "Mahatma," which is not a given name, but means one of a class of sages or adepts reputed to have knowledge and powers of a higher order than those of ordinary men, is as his title indicates, no man's fool. Educated in England in conformation to the very principles of civilization which he is alleged to detest, he is easily able to re-assume his native habitat and attract sympathy of the virtually ignorant. The latest Gandhi show doesn't give the British authorities any qualms for Mother India. Gandhi, as long as he adheres to his early principles, is a feather in the viceroy's cap. He pacifies his millions of followers and the government in return gives him ample opportunity to stage his show. It should be interesting.

#### A New Era

An item provided by the Associated Press in the mid-week's news reveals some illuminating facts on how they lived in "the good old days." Filed in Spartanburg, S. C., the story tells us of an old record book dating back to 1817 kept by a merchant in a Transylvania (N. C.) county store. Common entries were: "to Walter Hogshead, one pint of rum, 18 3/4 cents; Lambert Clayton, one-half gallon of whiskey, seventy-five cents, one dozen round of buttons, twenty-five cents."

Such an item should provide meat for some Anecdota Americana. But more than all else, it reveals the startling lack of luxuries which our forefathers possessed, and the amazing amount of money expended in those days for spirits, then thought a necessity. We wonder if times have changed. Today the agricultural frontiers are made more attractive with radios, patented stoves, phonographs, factory-made furniture and vehicles to enable the incumbent to keep in touch with the cinema, the circulating library in the nearby village, and the day's news in his suburban newspaper. Alcohol has no place on the farm. Every ounce of energy must be exerted to properly manage vast areas of cotton, grain, and tobacco. The farmer's mind must be alert to the problem of taking scientific care of his livestock. Today he spends his money for these little necessities that give him relaxation from his strenuous labors; yesterday he indulged in alcohol.

#### For the Frosh

Education for college freshmen advances even over a period of months. Freshmen this year were given placement tests in English, mathematics, Spanish, French, and an examination on general I. Q. Various tests in high school preceded those taken on the Hill. Tests were more difficult, sections more strictly limited, and every effort made to insure good ground work in the essentials. Several years ago such placement requirements were virtually unheard of.

Designating his special seat will further clarify the situation.—D.C.S.

Dr. T. J. Wilson, dean of admissions, and Dr. Francis F. Bradshaw, dean of students, announce that "freshmen this year are apparently better prepared for University work than usual." Educators are rapidly ascertaining curricular needs of the first year men and the latter strive to equip themselves to cope with requirements. Advancement is rapid.

#### Phillips Russell Says North Carolina Rich In Literary Promise

(Continued from first page)

beauty to counteract the routine dullness into which our lives have tended to fall in the past years."

Having built for himself a reputation for writing, Phillips Russell, or Charlie, as he is known by his friends, speaks with authority on the subject nearest his heart. For he came back here last fall and took the man-sized job of teaching the fundamentals of writing, not until he was master of many of the principles, to the students in the University.

In a sunny cottage here, where between classes and official duties he may study, read and continue to write, the biographer, author and teacher, born in Rockingham, North Carolina, has prepared to live. Upon entering his home one is impressed with its simpleness. In a single corner of the reception room is his work-shop. There standing near the window is a small table and above it are shelves and pigeon holes wherein letters, manuscripts and the writer's personal records are kept. There is nothing pretentious about the place nor the owner, and no visitor needs complain about the hospitality he is certain to be accorded there. Informally he entertains all guests and informally he greets the passers-by.

It was with some difficulty when the time came for this interview, however, that facts concerning the author became available, for despite his courteousness he frankly refuses to talk of himself or his accomplishments. In an attempt to learn more of this North Carolinian who has traveled much and written more, there was only one available source from which to gather information concerning him personally. A visit to the library revealed that Louis Graves, March 1929, had this to say concerning "Charlie" in *The Alumni Review* of that date:

"Phillips Russell opened his eyes upon this big world on August 5, 1885, decided then and there that he was going to be a writer; shut his eyes and sank into a sound sleep. When he awoke and considered the matter of his career again, he was still of the same mind, and from that day on he never wandered.

#### Born in Rockingham

"His first published work was a report of a visit to an orphan asylum. It came out in the newspaper in his native town of Rockingham, North Carolina. The most discerning of his fellow citizens saw in it a quality that marked it as quite different from the ordinary school boy composition. The orphans that Charlie Russell had in the story were not the inmates of an asylum; they were creatures of the flesh and blood. Thus early he revealed the beginnings of talent that was to blossom forth, thirty years later, in a biography that won praise of critics the world over for its vividness and insight.

"When he wrote the piece about the orphans, and for a long time afterward, he was Charles Phillips Russell, or C. P. Russell, or to his friends Charlie Russell. The name of Phillips Russell was adopted when the young writer, coming

to be well known, found that he was sometimes confused with another celebrated writer Charles Edward Russell."

As a student in the University Phillips Russell was editor of THE DAILY TAR HEEL. He contributed much material to campus magazines and publications and was always keenly interested in literary subjects and pursuits.

#### Worked on Observer

In 1904 he plunged into reportorial work on the Charlotte *Observer*. After two years there he went to New York where he was given a trial on the staff of the *Press*. His duties with the *Press* multiplied and he served in many capacities: as assignment man, special writer, reporter, on make-up, copy reading, and at times he did literary reviews.

Not having been in New York long Russell yearned to visit other cities and learn more of the work on metropolitan newspapers. This desire led him to accept work both in Philadelphia and Chicago.

Ten years later, in 1914, Russell, always adventurous, with practically no funds and accompanied by a friend in the same condition, left for Europe. Constantly on the move, they did whatever jobs presented themselves to them in the places where they stopped. In July they began hiking from Paris to the English channel. They reached England on the day after America had entered the World War. Russell was detained as a German spy but was soon released after proving that he was only a wandering American.

#### Begins Writing Biographies

It was during this visit abroad, which lasted for four and one-half years, that material was discovered which led to writing the biography of Benjamin Franklin. While in Paris a number of letters and documents were found and from these *The First Civilized American* was written. It was published in 1925. One year later Russell's second biography *John Paul Jones: Man of Action* came off the press. A novel, *The Fumbler* was published in 1928.

About the time of the appearance of *Ben Franklin* biographies came into conspicuous prominence in the United States. Previously America's presidents and notables had been moulded into perfect characters by American authors. No faults, or flaws, if any, had ever before shown up in the work of biographers.

"At first sight," one reviewer said, "it might seem that Phillips Russell's remarkable biography of Benjamin Franklin belonged to this class of "destructive" biography, and was a product of this new movement. This is far from the case. Rus-

sell's *Franklin* is what so many of the new biographies are not: a deep and scholarly production, the result of long years of patient research reaching back to the time when the author, as a boy in Rockingham, North Carolina, ran on a school biography of Franklin and conceived an admiration for the statesman which resulted in the biography of Franklin becoming in a way, a life-work. If it seems to belong to the new character of biographies, it is because the North Carolinian has patiently gathered a vast amount of material never before published, and to this rich harvest of facts has brought an unusually human and humorous insight into the problems of life."

This, you will understand, does not keep Russell from being a warm admirer of Benjamin Franklin, who, he holds was not an unconventional character, but probably the greatest man, all round, the United States ever produced. "Whatever line of science or industry you follow," says Russell, "you will find that Benjamin Franklin bulged large in it. In politics, invention, electricity, music and even in such subjects as ventilation and printing, he was not only the greatest man of his time, but one of the greatest men of all time."

So, as his friend has written, Russell "never wandered" from his field of work and has devoted his entire life to it. He has contributed to magazines both in America and abroad and has done several short stories, the first of which was *The Troubador* and another notable story, *One Day*. He has written two small volumes of verse, *Flowings* and *Meal and Honey*, and a one-act play named, *A Course in Piracy*. He is author of *Roads of Doubt, American Literature in France, The Best Epigrammatist Since Oscar Wilde, The Chimney, Red Tiger*, and other articles and stories.

**Polo Spills—**  
**Heart Thrills!**  
**JACK HOLT**  
in  
**"THIS SPORTING AGE"**

—Also—  
Andy Clyde Comedy—"This Sporting Age"  
Paramount Pictorial  
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Special Morning Show—10 A.M.

## THE BULL'S HEAD

Announces

The following additions to the shelves of its rental library:

- The Sheltered Life* ..... Ellen Glasgow
- The Laughing Pioneer* ..... Paul Green
- Peking Picnic* ..... Ann Bridge
- The Gods Arrive* ..... Edith Warton

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