

The Daily Tar Heel

The official newspaper of the Publications Union Board of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill where it is printed daily except Mondays, and the Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Spring Holidays. Entered as second class matter at the post office of Chapel Hill, N. C., under act of March 3, 1879. Subscription price, \$4.00 for the college year.

Offices on the second floor of the Graham Memorial Building.

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Friday, March 17, 1933

Slavery In 1933

One of the most abominable and vicious consequences of the present depression is the tremendous increase in the so-called sweat shops where women and children slave day after day in poorly lighted, poorly ventilated rooms for wages far too small to live on. Workers in some small dress making and millinery establishments are today working at dull laborious tasks under most unfavorable and unhealthy conditions for sums as low as three dollars a week.

The results of conditions such as these are undernourished, overworked girls and women who have no hope, nothing for which to live but existence itself. The best that can befall them is that they will collapse at their work and be removed for a time to the free ward of a hospital to recover and return to the grind. This happens to many of them and the hospitals are increasingly taxed with their care. Many of them after buying food and clothing have no funds left to obtain a room and spend their nights on the park bench or in subways. In our advanced civilization this is indeed a handsome way to treat our women and children.

In the slavery days when the north was constantly berating the south for the institution of slavery the negro was usually well treated. He was clothed and fed and when night came he was given some place warm to sleep. Today in the north which three quarters of a century ago decried the enslavement of the African, women and children are worked and starved to collapse and death because the citizen is unwilling or afraid to lift his voice against such conditions. As a result the human leeches prosper, legitimate business suffers, wages fall all around, and the morgue and Potters field are more populous than ever.

This may be true the college reader will say, but how are we concerned? It is the duty of every citizen of the country to be concerned. This condition is the result of sloppy social planning, of lax laws, and the apathy of public interest. We are the coming civilization, it is upon us that devolves the duty of eradicating this sort of inhumanity, of preventing human sharks from capitalizing on the blood and sweat of our women and children.

And perhaps it might not be amiss for the college man or woman as he or she breezes gaily across the campus to a square meal or a warm bed to think for a moment of the human drudges not so far away who are slaves without the comforts that were given slaves. Perhaps if more people did more thinking such disgraces would disappear from our superior "American civilization."—J.F.A.

Concentrated Genuefaction— The Way Up

A new quarter has now started, and practically everyone on the campus knows his grades for the preceding quarter. All over the campus one hears remarks about how different people received higher grades than they deserved, principally, because they went to their professors a day or two before the examination and talked to them about class work. In vulgar language they resorted to a little "booting" to boost their class standing.

It is only natural that in a school where grade earning is so important a part of a quarter's work

that some individuals prefer to work the professor rather than the course. The University requires that the student who holds a scholarship for his tuition maintain an average of at least C in order to retain this aid to continuing in his work. The College of Liberal Arts requires that the student have an average of at least C on half his courses in order to graduate. Also the posting of an honor roll and the pressure of Phi Beta Kappa are other rewards of a high scholastic standing. All these should be an added incentive for the student to study in order to get good grades, but it does not always mean that the student studies.

Too many students are prone to take the easiest way out by trying to talk the professors into grades which they do not deserve. This method is unnecessary and is also unfair to the student who studies for his marks. It means that many students keep scholarships that they do not deserve; many students graduate without really having the necessary knowledge, and many students are kept from attaining the honor roll because others have taken advantages of professors' weaknesses to further their own ends and in some degree lower the grades of others, for grading must almost always be done upon a comparative basis.

Nearly all of this underhanded custom can be traced to the grading system which is in use here at the University. If there were but two grades, pass and fail, there would be less booting on the campus, and the system of grading would be much fairer for the student and easier for the professors than it is at present. It would be much simpler if the University were to adopt two mark system of grading which would eliminate many of the evils attendant upon that system now in use.—F.P.G.

Tar Heelia To the Fore

It is always an occasion for music and rejoicings among the lowly Tar Heels when one of their fellow-moaners rises up to show the world that something may, after all, come from the "valley of humility between two mountains of conceit." Our two neighbors have admitted, though grudgingly to be sure, that we can perhaps produce something worth-while in the field of literature and arts, but North Carolinians in national or world affairs have too often been looked at askance.

One western paper, commenting on the appointments of Josephus Daniels and Robert W. Bingham to diplomatic posts, said: "It is indeed gratifying to see North Carolinians with their liberality stepping forth into the political arena." Although the italics are our own, we may easily gather the tone of this kindly pen which meant well but was unfortunately misguided.

North Carolina is not just stepping forth into the political arena. Besides having had a hand in the rearing and educating of three presidents, Andrew Johnson, James Polk, and Woodrow Wilson, many North Carolinians have taken an active part in national politics. Thomas J. Jarvis left the chair of the governor to become, under President Cleveland, the United States Minister to Brazil. Senator Ransom under the same administration held the post now offered to the Raleigh editor, and Daniel M. Barringer of Charlotte once represented the United States at the Spanish court.

One of the most prominent men of North Carolina's diplomatic sons, however, was Walter Hines Page, who gave his native state more reasons to boast of him than any other man of his time. It was he who was the Tar Heel forerunner of Robert Bingham as ambassador to the court of St. James. At present John Motley Morehead presides over American interests at Sweden.

But the fields of international diplomacy are not the only ones in which North Carolinians have left their marks. Many instances might be cited where Tar Heels have wielded a great influence in national politics, not the least of whom was the former Senator Furnifold M. Simmons. Whatever people may say or however much Virginia tries to steal our Wilsons and our Battles, North Carolina is not just beginning to step forth into the political arena.—V.C.R.

Currency Inflation And Aspirin

In one respect, currency inflation and aspirin are strikingly similar—they both bring relief without effecting a permanent cure. Inflating the currency may bring relief from the crushing deflation of the past few years, but it gives no guarantee against repeated depressions.

To return to normal price levels and still have an unequal distribution of wealth is to take an aspirin just before the next attack of chills and fever. An economic set-up that concentrates so much wealth in the hands of a few that it cannot possibly be used as purchasing power, while at the same time millions cannot buy even the necessities of life, is not to be adjusted by currency inflation.

No doubt the inflation is a good thing at the present time. So is an aspirin a good thing, provided the root of the trouble is dug out before the results of the drug wear off. By the same

token, economic reform must not stop until the root of the trouble is removed. And there is reason to believe that what Henry Pratt Fairchild calls "the fallacy of profits" is an important cause of the present chills and fever.—D.B.

With Contemporaries

What Do They Think They Are?

Flaunt the word "publicity" before a real newspaperman and he'll see red. There are very few of those really true journalists left these days, what with the advent of chain competition and the trend toward "canned" copy bought through syndicates. These advanced stages of the commercialized press have not yet hit the college campuses to any great extent. We are therefore still confronted with those budding young journalists who are imbued with the old time spirit of the old time newspapers.

At the same time the new fangled anachronism (call it publicity or what you will) has become just as popular on the college campus as it has elsewhere. And the opposition to it on the campus has been more bloody, more heated and more insistent. Various campus organizations appoint or elect their publicity chairmen, whose duties it is to see that the doings of the groups are given adequate and usually too much space in the columns of the campus daily and who make Herculean efforts to keep the undesirable off the front page.

Usually the very idea of these publicity chairmen enrages the alleged true journalist. He resents every forward move they make. They are nil, as far as he is concerned. For didn't the old time newspapers conduct their editorial policies on a fearless basis of impartiality, with malice toward none except those who engendered the wrath of the editor? Ah yes, 'twas a great day and long may its renown be the call to colors for future fearless editors and aspiring and courageous young reporters.

We thus have this trying condition prevalent on most college campuses and very apparent on the Syracuse campus. Brazen publicity chairmen are pitting their wits against the college journalists, who demand at least a part of the right to take whatever editorial policy they think is called for. Some young editors totally ignore the publicity hounds and send reporters around to personally handle the news. The indignant organizations, afraid lest their activities be painted too realistically, put a ban on reporters and conduct closed meetings, thereby hoping to force upon the papers the inevitable publicity chairmen.

This can and will go only so far. If it comes down to a final test, the newspaper can deal the telling blow simply by refusing to include any of the doings of a "blacklisted" organization in its columns. The latter quickly comes around to terms. However, the editors should not totally ignore the assistance and the benefit to be derived from the help of publicity agents. First and foremost, there definitely should be an understanding that the publicity seekers are expected to handle only one thing—factual material. As to its form of presentation, that's none of their business and the sooner they learn that the better off they'll be.

For it too often occurs that some publicity chairman will get the idea that his or her organization should receive a six-column spread for a two-paragraph

story. They even become nasty about it. They seem to think that they are running the paper and that what they say matters. This is the point at which they should take a tip, this is where they should be told where to get off. If they could only realize that, through their own brainless effrontery, their entire organizations were riding for a fall, they would do a little checking up on their attitude. Who do they think they are? Frankly, we don't know and don't care.—Syracuse Daily Orange.

OUTSTANDING RADIO BROADCASTS

Friday, March 17

7:00 Newton D. Baker, "The Inflexibility of Democratic Institutions," WEAH—NBC.

8:30 The March of Time, dramatized news events, WABC—CBS.

9:00 Jane Frohman, songs, WABC.

9:30 The Inside Story, sketch with Edwin C. Hill interviewing Ely Culbertson, WABC.

10:00 Jack Benny, comedian and Ted Black's orch., WEAH.

10:30 Zona Gale, dramatic sketch, WEAH.

10:45 Professor Jack McLallen with Sara and Sassafras, comedy, WJZ—NBC.

11:00 Vincent Lopez, orchestra, WEAH.

11:15 Welcome Lewis, songs, WJZ.

12:05 Don Bestor, orchestra, WEAH.

12:45 Hal Kemp orchestra, WABC.

Jack Benny, of Canada Dry Gingerale fame, is back on the air, this time with the Chevrolet program. "Mary" is with him and Ted Black's orchestra furnishes the music.

Don't miss "The March of Time."—D.C.S.

EHRINGHAUS WILL SPEAK AT GOLDEN FLEECE TAPPING

(Continued from first page)

men, and the formal initiation is administered secretly sometime later.

The order, established in 1903, was originally formed in order to assist in welding the student body of the University into a homogeneous, idealistic body. The advancement of efficiency, fair play, altruism, and loyalty has formed the basis of its program. Prospective members of the order are subjected to a rigorous scrutiny in all their campus relations. Since its establishment it has taken in approximately three hundred members. Next to Skul and Bones of Yale it is the oldest honorary college society of its type in the United States.

Last Year's Initiates

Men admitted to the order last year in recognition of their high character and unselfish devotion to the University were Archie Davis, Haywood Weeks, Stuart Chandler, Wilmer Hines, Charlie Rose, Lenoir Wright, D. C. (Spec) McClure, Tom Watkins, Bill McKee, Holmes Davis, and Tom Alexander. The 1932 selection was representative of all types on the campus, embracing self-help, fraternity, non-fraternity, social, literary, athletics, religion, and organization men.

Members of the society have in numbers of cases become prominently established in their fields. Among the faculty they include Charles T. Woolen, Frank P. Graham, Francis F. Bradshaw, R. B. House, J. B. Linker, E. L. Mackie, C. P. Spruill, H. G. Baity, Phillips Russell, J. Maryon Saunders, E. R. Rankin, Albert Coates, and Mayne Albright.

SUBSTITUTE BILL CONTAINS SLASH FOR UNIVERSITY

(Continued from first page)

ly \$330,000 or \$186,000 less than it is receiving for the present year.

The Bowie-Cherry substitute bill reduces the measure introduced by the joint appropriation committee from approximately \$83,000,000 to seventy-two odd millions for the biennium. It would cut state salaries thirty per cent below the present basis, reduce the \$13,375,000 school recommendation to \$12,500,000, make no retirement for the current \$12,500,000 deficit, and abolish funds for charity in addition to cutting appropriations for institutions of higher learning.

It was reported in Raleigh yesterday that Chairman Harriss Newman of the appropriations committee would offer a three million dollar slash in the committee bill. Whether this would stop the drastic slashes, carrying with them prospects that no sales tax would be necessary, was a matter of conjecture.

Harris Speaks

During the hot fight in the session yesterday, Speaker Harriss left the chair and said the house should not arbitrarily accept any substitute bill that does not deal out justice to everybody.

"I am not advocating passage of the committee bill nor any other bill, but we must preserve our good faith with our institutions and we must keep our contracts with our bondholders and with those poor afflicted people out at Dix Hill, at Goldsboro and at Morganton," he said.

"But," he added, "our obligations to the afflicted and the underprivileged are more sacred than to any banker in the world."

Cherry's Ideas

Cherry, in speaking for the substitute bill, said that the measure "will wreck no institutions, nor will it impair them. It contains drastic cuts to cut out the folderols and keep only the essentials."

He demanded the cut in Greater University appropriations so that the consolidation of the three divisions "may become a fact, with the duplications having to be eliminated." He added that the University at Chapel Hill, N. C. State College in Raleigh, and the Woman's College at Greensboro, though "merged," in 1931, still "each bid against the other for appropriations, for students and for favor."

Later, after paying his respects to the University, he said, "when there are three state institutions being fed out of the same spoon and bottle, they ought not to bid against each other."

Beauty Of Spring On Campus Decreased By Deforestation

(Continued from first page)

oaks between South building and Graham Memorial. These will probably be placed about fifty feet in from the trees bordering the walks. This will leave a clear open space over 100 feet wide stretching down from the center of the south campus, offering an unobstructed view of the length of the campus.

Prior to the Civil War this section of University property was heavily laden with trees. However, when the carpet-bag administration came to Chapel Hill, it proceeded to practically denude this area by chopping the trees down for kindling wood. The few trees which now remain escaped only because lack of funds to maintain the University forced the vandals to leave Chapel Hill.