

The Daily Tar Heel

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Thursday, November 16, 1933

Ther's Gold in Them Thar Hills

A "Public Pulse" letter to the Greensboro Daily News and editorializing by the Salisbury Evening Post have brought up the long-dead question of gold mining in North Carolina. And in view of the prices now being paid for the yellow metal, the possibility of gold mining in this state is an exciting one.

The letter mentioned above argues that since the administration is paying these high prices for foreign gold, why should not North Carolina ask for money from the government to re-establish former gold mines in this state? This is an interesting possibility, no doubt, especially when we consider that before the great gold rush in 1849, this state produced more gold than any other state in the Union. And undoubtedly there is still gold in North Carolina.

But, we learn from authoritative sources, what ore there exists in North Carolina is extremely difficult and costly to extract. In the first place, there is not enough of it in any one place to make it profitable to set up modern stamping equipment, and in the second place, what gold would be gotten from these few localities would hardly pay enough to make mining an extensive industry, as it has been in the past.

The lure of gold is a romantic one, and its get-rich-quick possibilities are a temptation to anybody with enough capital to buy a pan, but gold mining in North Carolina on a large scale, it seems to us, is something that belongs to the past. And it is perhaps better that we let it remain in the past together with any hopes that might be aroused as to the possible rejuvenation of this industry.—A.T.D.

Faculty Meet Students

Faculty-student relations during a depression have been very hard to manage. It is difficult for the faculty to do those little things that would create a more friendly situation. Outside of the classroom most professors are not even casually acquainted with an additional student. Nor do many of them have time to see their class-members in conferences. The co-eds had one of those few socials Tuesday night that are an attempt at seeking out, meeting, and knowing the faculty.

Although it is said that there were probably more faculty members there than the year before, the attendance was not remarkable. The social seemed to offer to the co-eds a chance to meet those men whom they read and hear about every day. They, as have all students, had been told and lectured to that something should be done about the wide gulf that exists between faculty and students; and they were hoping to do their part in improving this situation.

There will be other attempts this year to assist students in meeting the faculty members they wish to know. It is realized that these new problems of the curricula-change, which are at present being seriously considered, can be worked out better if faculty and student ideas are combined. In order to understand better their respective angles on campus situation, both faculty and students should grasp every opportunity to become better acquainted.—J.S.C.

Our Old Friend Again

The administration at the present time is planning a drastic change in the curricula of the University. When any plans that they decide upon are put into effect, it will necessitate other re-adjustments.

One thing of primary importance should be considered by the faculty—a thing which has been tried here once and was not found too successful. Optional attendance should be practiced in the training of youths to enter into their places in the business of the world.

Surely the responsibility of going to classes is not too great a one to place on young men who, in a few years, will be confronted with the responsibility of governing and directing the affairs of the United States and, to some extent, the world.

It is our contention that the University administration consider changing the present system of attendance along with other changes they are planning to make.

Universities state as their purpose the training and education of youth for world affairs. This training is not successful unless that student has realized and experienced the duties and responsibilities which are to confront him. It is certain that a student, coming here for an education, will not ruthlessly throw aside his opportunities merely because he does not have to do a thing.—C.G.T.

Speaking The Campus Mind

Disarm, and Be Destroyed

Editor, the DAILY TAR HEEL:

With all this talk of disarmament in the air, we cannot help but feel the futility of this policy as a means to end war. Take for instance the case of Germany, a "disarmed" country, minus big guns, a large standing army, and fighting planes, she is, nevertheless, in a position to put up, at the very least, an excellent fight. Surely, if it is possible for a country such as Germany to wage a somewhat successful war, how can international peace be attained except through a highly altruistic universal disarmament, and who but the most hopeless Utopian could even dream of such a situation today?

The reason why disarmament except nominally is impossible is that our industrial equipment is such that it can be changed into war producing and even war material in an incredibly short time. For example, we have today over fifteen thousand commercial airplanes in this country. Surely, only one third of these are suitable for military purposes, and this being the case, they could be converted into bombing and pursuit ships almost over night. When one considers that our actual force of up-to-date fighting planes falls considerably short of two thousand, it becomes fairly obvious that our potential air strength is far greater than our actual strength, and that even if we scrapped our fighters this "disarmament" would actually remove not much more than one fourth of our fighting strength. This is, of course, but a single isolated example, but the same principle holds true in almost every branch of national "defense." The fast merchant steamers recently completed and in the process of construction can very easily be changed into fast, long-range light cruisers by the simple expedient of stiffening the decks and adding offensive weapons. Automobile paint factories, dye-plants, fertilizer-makers, and almost any branch of the coal tar or petroleum industries are equipped to be able to put aside their normal commercial pursuits and at a moment's notice turn out explosives and lethal gasses faster even than the stuff can be used to wipe out cannon fodder. Many more examples could be given, but these ought to suffice to show that in this day and age it is impossible for a nation to actually disarm even were she so minded.

With disarmament impossible as a means to prevent war it is logical to see what the other extreme—complete, up-to-the-hilt armament—holds as an expedient to safeguard peace. But before such a discussion is entered into, one or two explanations must be made. First of all, there is no longer such a thing as "defensive" warfare. There is no force on earth that can withstand a concentrated, determined, aerial attack. No matter how vigilant the defensive forces are, no matter how numerically or physically superior, a quick, well-concealed foray by an enemy (following, let us say, a surprise declaration of war—or even without that formality) will, of necessity, wreak incalculable damage. In other words a nation, in every way inferior to ours, under a disarmament pact, might secretly supply herself with war materials, until, feeling that she is in a position to make a successful attack, masses her forces and proceeds with her plans. It is conceivable that a well-organized plan following a skeleton outline similar to this might devastate the large cities of our eastern coast before we were aware of what was hap-

pening. Then, the blow having been so severe, our sweet security so rudely disturbed, it is possible that we might not regain our equanimity quickly enough to ward off the follow-up attacks that would be certain to ensue. America would be subjugated!

Now, one might ask that inasmuch as victory would seem to lie towards the country that attacked first, isn't it logical to assume that if a nation were well supplied with modern fighting materials she would not hesitate to wage war whenever the opportunity presented itself—that is, the opportunity, as mentioned above, of striking a quick decisive blow.—? The answer is no. Granted, that a quick attack would be almost bound to succeed, but in a war of the future, a nation that has been struck a severe blow will not confine her tactics to defense. No bulwark of trenches will be in the way of a swift counter-attack. While nation X is laying waste our coastal cities we could be wiping out her capital, her most important seaport. The deterrent toward aggression then would be not the possible loss of an army or a fleet of planes, but the certainty of a speedy reprisal in kind. In other words, the price of victory might very well be annihilation. Surely, no nation, however strong, will, in the light of this, go into battle, knowing full well that while her forces are away on their destructive mission, she in turn will be paid a visit by a few hundred bombing planes equipped with, besides the ordinary playthings, a few thousand test tubes chock full of, let us say, choice typhus cultures.

War, under these circumstances, is inconceivable. Where disarmament fails—and it must, with human nature as it is—armament will succeed. So let us come out in the open. Keep our standing armies up to adequate fighting strength; build up our air forces and our warships; prepare for any eventuality that the future might bring—and if the expense proves too great, we can use the money that is now being spent to send delegates to make "peace pacts," disarmament agreements and other "scraps of paper." Then, it will have been at least more sincerely, if not more wisely, used.

M. K. K.

Rankin and Lanier to Debate English Team

(Continued from first page) essay contest on "The Forsythe Saga," and played principal part in the production of Aristophanes' "The Frogs."

Two Carolina Men

F. A. Rankin, the first member of the Carolina team, has participated in inter-collegiate debates for the last three years. He is a member of the Tau Kappa Alpha, national honorary debating society, and he debated with George Washington University last year over the radio. Rankin also went on the northern tour of the debate squad last year. Ed Lanier of the Carolina team has been a very active member of the debate squad, having participated in many debates and gone on several of the trips.

Talks After Debate

Immediately following the debate, Dr. Meno Spann will speak on Hitler as a debater, and Dr. Archibald Henderson will speak on Bernard Shaw as a debater. These talks will be delivered in the Carolina Inn. All those identified with the debate group, and all faculty members who have assisted at the weekly discussions of the debate squad, are invited to attend.

The English team is making

a tour of the south at present. Tuesday, Nov. 14, they debated George Washington University. This is the only foreign debating team to come to this country this year through the National Student Federation.

Woollen's Talk at Rally Is His First to Students

(Continued from first page)

official mascot of the University. After official reception by Claiborn Carr in behalf of the student body, the ram was entrusted to two ceremoniously elected custodians, Chet Smith and Jack Watkins.

Opening the demonstrations, H. Grady Miller led the audience in singing the Tar Heel battle songs, "Split It For The Team" and "Tar Heels On Hand," "Hark The Sound" and "On To Victory." Riotous cheering was led by Ernest Hunt and his corps of cheerleaders.

The rally last night will be followed by a short one tonight

and a final pep gathering tomorrow night in preparation for the game.

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A bird's-eye view showed the way

Telephone engineers recently found the best route for a new telephone line by taking a bird's-eye view of their difficulties.

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