

## The Daily Tar Heel

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Wednesday, May 23, 1934

### Suggestion

#### To Seniors

THE marked improvement in the acoustics of Memorial hall could hardly have failed to be apparent to anyone who sat in the audience while Josephus Daniels spoke yesterday. The remedy for the situation was extremely simple—a portable amplifying apparatus, lent by Archie Davis and his orchestra, was installed for the occasion, and the speaker's every word was clearly understood by the audience.

It is an unfortunate state of affairs when we consider the number of interesting speakers that the University has been host to this year and the apparent lack of provision to insure that they were heard.

The use of portable amplifiers has proved that the situation can be remedied at least temporarily without the installation of cloth-covered seats or expensive sounding boards, and we are strongly in favor of seeing some action taken that will make Memorial hall a place where speakers and entertainment programs can be heard.

We suggested in these columns that the senior class gift committee which, according to F. A. Rankin, class treasurer, will have over \$200 at its disposal for its annual gift, put this money in a trust fund where it could eventually be used in favor of Memorial hall's acoustics. Apparently the senior class was averse to losing its individuality in the accumulation of funds from other future classes, and the suggestion missed fire. Now, however, the senior class has the opportunity of purchasing amplifiers such as were used in Memorial hall yesterday, and with no loss of the credit that should go directly to it. Such an amplifying apparatus would cost little, if any, more than the amount the seniors now have on hand, and if they were willing to take the initiative, some definite action could be taken on the matter.

In our opinion, this would be a worthwhile investment of the senior gift fund and one that would be appreciated by future classes.

### The Little Brothers

#### Have Grown Up

IN his address in Memorial hall yesterday morning, Josephus Daniels drew a parallel between Mexico's great problem and the great problem of the south: the system of tenant-farming, which has retarded progress in both countries.

Mexico, said Mr. Daniels, is attempting to solve its problem of tenancy by giving land to the peons, who, as tenants, have done the farming in Mexico for 500 years.

In the south and particularly in North Carolina, which is slipping into the tenant system of farming faster than any other state except Texas, the problem has no apparent solution. Tenant farmers have not the money to buy land, and the system itself nourishes poverty and abnegates the pride of home ownership that is necessary to prosperity. When we consider that 45 per cent of North Carolina's farms are worked by tenants, which decreases the state's per capita income enormously, it is easy to see why the problem is further than ever from solution.

Culture and a feeling of independence cannot be had by men who are almost slaves; they do not own the land they work, they are in continual migration, which decreases church membership and public school attendance, and they become little more than vassals. As long as this hang-over of feudalism exists in the south and continues to grow in North Carolina, it will remain a tremendous handicap to progress.

During his speech, Mr. Daniels declared that

Latin Americans disliked the attitude taken by the United States that they were our "little brothers" and that we should let them benefit from our knowledge. In the case of Mexico and its attempt to solve the tenant problem, the United States appears more like a little brother who can profit from an elder's lesson.—T.H.W.

### New Machinery

#### For National Elections

FOR years before the New Deal arrived in the form of practical reconstruction of American economic and social ideals and practices, certain political reforms had been advocated by liberals and progressives throughout the country as requisite to more efficient legislation and administration. Foremost among these reforms were those proposed for our national elective machinery.

First fruits of the movement were realized last year in the passage of the famous "Lame Duck" amendment which eliminated our "hang-over" Congressmen. The blossoms of second fruits have sprung forth this spring and, despite the vicious bites of the never-say-try hard-shells incumbent within our Capitol grounds, seem about to ripen into maturity and drop upon a beneficial populace. Only an intelligent and unselfish vote from two-thirds of our Senators is required to secure the disbandment of an obsolete electoral college in favor of a direct popular vote for our president and vice-president.

The advantages to be derived from such an amendment which was introduced (as was the "Lame Duck") by that veteran progressive leader Senator Norris are apparent. Not only would it do away with cumbersome, unnecessary election machinery, but it would in addition dissolve the omnipresent financial barrier to independent presidential candidates.

Although defeated by a narrow margin in its Senate vote in the absence of some of its staunchest adherents, the amendment is virtually assured of ultimate passage. That august body, the upper house, has much to profit from an abandonment of its customary pokiness, entailed by a somewhat sedentary show of dignity, which would result in immediately placing this plan for popular presidential election before the states for ratification.—E.R.O.

### Sees Nothing,

#### Knows Nothing

THE crime wave in the movies has, to a certain extent at least, been replaced by the photostatic copy of the Broadway musical comedy. And however dull and dirty these pseudo-musicals are, they are incentives to nothing worse than sex. They do not, as a rule, deify ruthless criminals, or leave on plastic minds the impression that a criminal career is glamorous, exciting and even very noble. The sight and sound of the first crooner of the nation warbling sweet nothings to a tiny blonde baggage does not stir the hearts of movie-goers all over the country with the desire to forsake the well-regulated ruts of their lives and go forth in search of fortune and a kind of fame which does not derive from the straight and narrow paths of useful, honest living.

Sociologists, psychologists, and even churchmen have been quick to point out the probable evil effects on the minds of the people of making heroes out of racketeers and public enemies. But the furor they have raised has subsided somewhat since the ballet set has replaced the dime-a-dance hall, and the crooner and his lady-love have taken the place of the gangster and his moll.

But that which certainly exerts as bad an influence as the full-length gangster movie is the newsreel which shows how a crime was committed. These reconstructions of kidnappings and other crimes are dangerously suggestive—they show a practical means of accomplishing an undesirable and unworthy purpose. The significance of the methods revealed in such sensational photography can, and undoubtedly does, make a double impression on the mind of an embryonic criminal—for one thing, it is a method for accomplishing a given criminal act, and for another, it is a method which has been tried and found successful.

An actual newsreel of a kidnaping might be excused on the grounds that it has news value and truth, but these reconstructions which undoubtedly over-dramatize the act portrayed we can find no excuse for. They are probably not altogether true to the facts, they are cheap sensationalism, and they are dangerous incentives to crime.—H.N.L.

London newspapers reporting the Dillinger man-hunt, according to the Minnesota Daily, stated that Indians armed with bows and arrows were out beating the brush for America's first-ranking outlaw. As soon as he finds out about this, Dillinger will probably see to it that there'll be a few more vanishing Americans.

Dust clouds from soil erosion through the middle west remind us of an appropriate variant on that ancient agricultural theme song: "How're you gonna keep it down on the farm?"

## With Contemporaries

### Education for The Individual

Last Spring Prof. Stephen H. Bush, head of the Romance languages department announced the inauguration of a new system of teaching French in the University of Iowa—a system based upon individual abilities and desires of each student.

Iowa was by no means the first institution in which a liberal educational policy had been substituted for traditional narrow classroom ties; several colleges and universities had already put a large share of their courses on a similar basis. But Iowa's plan was certainly unique in allowing freedom of study to freshmen, for wherever else the plan had been used, it had been applied only to upperclassmen.

... A plan was developed which has not only given to freshmen almost complete freedom, but at the same time has given instructors a comparatively accurate check upon the work accomplished by each student.

The first year of operation of the individualized study plan has been followed with a great deal of interest—and not a little skepticism—by educators throughout the country. For here at Iowa, for the first time, the feasibility of trusting undergraduate students to their own resources was being determined.

In general, the class averages have in all instances been raised. Students who might ordinarily have failed have been given a chance at some credit for their work. But this is by no means the most important accomplishment. Iowa's real triumph has been summed up in these words: "There is a unanimous feeling on the part of the instructors in the department that they have been more nearly able to serve the needs of the individual student, helping him to develop in himself thoroughness and independence of scholarship."

For that, after all, should be the aim of true education—to develop scholarly independence of thought. Iowa's French study plan, in accomplishing this result in some degree, has won the first goal toward a liberal policy of higher education.—The Daily Iowan.

### DANIELS REVIEWS AMERICAN POLICY IN LATIN STATES

(Continued from page one)  
to Mr. Daniels.

The United States ambassador said that Wilson was in favor of the attempts in Mexico to give the 85 per cent of the people, who had no part in government affairs, a chance to participate in the management of the state.

Before Wilson's administration the old policy of this country was one of "enforcing the claims of the United States in Mexico," said Ambassador Daniels.

"Today under Roosevelt, we have a new Monroe Doctrine, based on the policy of the good Samaritan." The United States today is not acting as a big brother, nor is she interested in patronizing Mexico, but she is just applying the ideals of the Golden Rule in her relations with nations to the south, said the speaker.

Bringing out the contrast between the way Latin American states formerly looked towards the United States with suspicion with conditions today, Mr. Daniels stated, "Men of vision are looking today for a republic in Mexico based on education, jus-

tice, and equality."

"The curse of the southern states in this country is that the people who till the land do not own it," said the ambassador, comparing the land situation of Mexico with that of the south.

"Mexicans are seeking to build their ancient civilization on a sound modern basis. They realize that public education is the only foundation for a real democracy and are establishing school systems."

Road building, irrigation projects, and the distribution of land are among the "new deal" reforms in Mexico, according to the federal official.

Discussing the new idea for division and distribution of land in Mexico, Mr. Daniels told how large estates were being broken up to give the ownership of farms to the people who cultivate them.

Ambassador Daniels was introduced by Robert B. House, executive secretary, who described him as a University alumnus and the "grand old man of the University of North Carolina—except in age." Ralph Gardner, president of the Foreign Policy League, presided.

Mr. Daniels spoke informally at a banquet in Graham Memorial at 12:00 o'clock before his departure for Mexico.

### Exam Schedule

(Continued from page one)

afternoon tests will be held for all 3:00 and 4:00 o'clock classes and all sections of history 2 and 3 meeting at 9:30 o'clock.

Wednesday morning, June 6, at 9:00 o'clock all 8:30 o'clock classes except English 2 and 3 will hold examinations, and in the afternoon all English 2 and 3 sessions meeting at 8:30 o'clock are scheduled to be quizzed.

All 9:30 o'clock classes except history 2 and 3 will hold examinations Thursday morning, June 7, at 9:00 o'clock. Thursday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock all other examinations which cannot be otherwise arranged will be held.

### STUDENT LEAGUE DEFERS MEETING

(Continued from page one)

with it in this instance and in directing their force.

Since the campus group has become interested in the problem of international disarmament, some action has already been taken by the national administration with regard to the Geneva conference in delegating Norman Davis, United States ambassador at large in Europe, to represent the United States at the gathering.

The league expects to dispense with some very important business which will confront it at the meeting next week. This will include the final preparation of the petition to the President and the making of more elaborate plans for the procedure of the organization next year.

### SUMMER COURSES OFFERED IN MATH

Students May Take Required, Graduate, or Degree Work.

The University of North Carolina, through the department of mathematics, offers three groups of courses for the summer session of 1934.

The first group of courses consists of the usually required first year subjects and requisite courses in analytic geometry and differential and integral calculus. The required courses for University students and visitors will be available.


The next group is designed primarily for first year graduate students in mathematics. It should prove particularly attractive to teachers of mathematics in elementary schools who plan to begin upon graduate study in this subject.

The third is mainly for advanced students who have done graduate work in mathematics, and wish to continue toward a degree.

The following faculty members will instruct in these various courses: J. W. Lasley, Jr., E. T. Browne, E. L. Mackie, H. F. Munch, A. S. Winsor, M. A. Hill, J. B. Linker, and V. A. Hoyle.

### THE YOUNG MEN'S SHOP DURHAM, N. C.

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