

The Daily Tar Heel

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For This Issue

News: Morris Rosenberg Sports: Shelley Rolfe

Noel Houston, graduate student and former dramatic editor of the Oklahoma City "Oklahoman," writes a perspective of the accomplishments of the Carolina playmakers:

Less Twaddle, More Plays by Sam Green and Sam Hirsch

I would be the last to dampen the ardor of anyone with a growing social consciousness. The criticism of the University's student playwrights made by Sam Hirsch and Sam Green in Saturday's TAR HEEL speaks well for their awareness of the injustices of the world and their eagerness that somebody do something about it. Writers occasionally need to be prodded with such stimulating stuff.

Let's overlook for the moment that Mr. Hirsch and Mr. Green have not seen fit to write any plays whatsoever but instead have confined their activities as Playmakers to acting before the public in plays which Playmaker writers toiled over in solitary mental hell. Possibly it is because they are actors that Mr. Hirsch and Mr. Green are restless with playwrights who have not given them sufficient opportunity to shout their personal beliefs from the stage. We'll leave that to the psychology department.

But one discovers that the main complaint of their letter is that Playmaker playwrights deal with "twaddle" instead of coming to grips with the vital things in life, such as raising the living standards of the sharecropper and solving the Negro racial problem. When they do this Mr. Hirsch and Mr. Green show themselves to be so unbelievably misinformed on the history of the Playmakers as to seem almost deliberately misinforming.

Mr. Green and Mr. Hirsch were not yet born when a Playmaker student playwright wrote, in 1919, the play "Peggy," the first play in American literature to deal with the condition of the tenant farmer.

Mr. Green and Mr. Hirsch were in rompers when Paul Green stormed New York with his plays of the Negro and the decaying Old South.

Mr. Green and Mr. Hirsch were high school students when "Tobacco Road," a play growing out of the pathfinding of the Playmakers, began its eternal run.

Now Mr. Green and Mr. Hirsch coming upon the Carolina scene as undergraduates, see Fred Howard's "Sharecropper" and exclaim in naive wonder that here is a Playmaker interesting himself in the problems of the South.

Green probably doesn't know, but Hirsch does: that a group of twelve Playmaker playwrights studied three different drafts of Howard's play in a series of meetings last fall, and gave him enthusiastic and earnest help. The Playmakers' faculty selected Howard's play from a long list as the most worthy of production.

It seems inconceivable that neither Mr. Green nor Mr. Hirsch knows that since December a group of about six Playmaker playwrights have, at the request of the Federal Theater, spent each day in the library, in the field, and at typewriters, writing a Living Newspaper dramatizing the condition of cotton and tobacco farming in the South. It is no hymn of hate they are making, but a thorough and fair picture of the situation. It is confusing that the Playmakers' Living Newspaper group, tortured as it is with the problem of how to give humanity and emotion to economic facts, should have been ignored by Mr. Hirsch and Mr. Green.

If anything has been left unsaid about the plight of the sharecropper, in books, plays and

With The Churches

Baptist
10:00—Sunday school. Student class taught by Dr. A. C. Howell, coed class by Mrs. O. T. Binkley.
11:00—Worship service. Sermon "The Living Christ," by Dr. O. T. Binkley.
7:00—Student forum.

Presbyterian
10:00—Sunday school.
11:00—Worship service. Sermon, "Christian Faith a Veto of Death," by Rev. Donald Stewart.
7:30—Vespers.

Methodist
10:00—Sunday school. Student class taught by Philip L. Shore.
11:00—Morning worship. Sermon by the Rev. A. P. Brantley.
7:00—Student forum.

Episcopal
11:00—Holy communion and sermon.
7:00—Young People's Service league.

8:00—Prayers and short organ recital.

United
10:00—Student class.
11:00—Church service.
7:00—Student forum.

Lutheran
5:00—Worship service in Methodist church parlor.

Catholic
11:00—Meeting in the art studio, Peabody.

Friends
11:00—Meeting for worship in the YMCA.

BIRTHDAYS TODAY

(Please call by the ticket office of the Carolina theater for a complimentary pass.)

- Lewis Belton Doggett
- John Robert Frye
- Neal Herring
- Howard Carlton Patterson
- James Fred Rippey, Jr.
- Harold Luck Soger
- Adrian Charles Spies
- Charles Baynes Wilkerson, Jr.

articles, I don't know what it is. If there is an American citizen old enough to wear long pants who hasn't read and heard so much about living conditions in the South's rural regions that he couldn't write a 5,000-word paper on the subject at the drop of the hat, he must be deaf, dumb and blind.

I do not know why Mr. Hirsch and Mr. Green, who evidently think the theater, at this late date, should be reserved strictly for propaganda to raise living standards, have not seen fit to write a play dealing with the subject which happens to be closest to their hearts. No doubt before they leave the University they will decide to enroll in the playwriting course, and there discover for themselves that while it is pretty easy to cry out in sermon or article about social injustices, it is fairly difficult to work it out on the stage.

We can look forward in anticipation to the manner in which they approach the subject of what is wrong and what should be done about it. But they should be warned perhaps that most people who go to the theater are about as sick of the same old talk about the Southern farmer and Negro—with nothing done about it—as Mr. Hirsch and Mr. Green are tired of subjects and themes which seem futile and unimportant to them.

It may be that Mr. Hirsch and Mr. Green will say they have no talent for playwriting. That could easily be true; the odds are that it is. Most of us know that we may have no talent for playwriting. A playwright is a rare bird. Twenty years from now one or two persons from successive classes totalling 1,000 students, may be a fairly decent playwright. If the Playmakers turned out one decent playwright every five years it would be a world's miracle—an all time record anywhere. We can only stumble along, decide for ourselves what the purpose and opportunity of the theater is, make the best use of the Playmakers' facilities we can, and hope.

As such as I should like to say that, before Mr. Hirsch and Mr. Green criticize us student playwrights for writing "twaddle," they should try to write a play themselves, I know they would simply come back with the critic's old standby: "I may not be able to lay an egg but I know a good one from a bad one." One wonders if they do. After all, they must have re-read their letter before permitting it to be published.

NOEL HOUSTON.

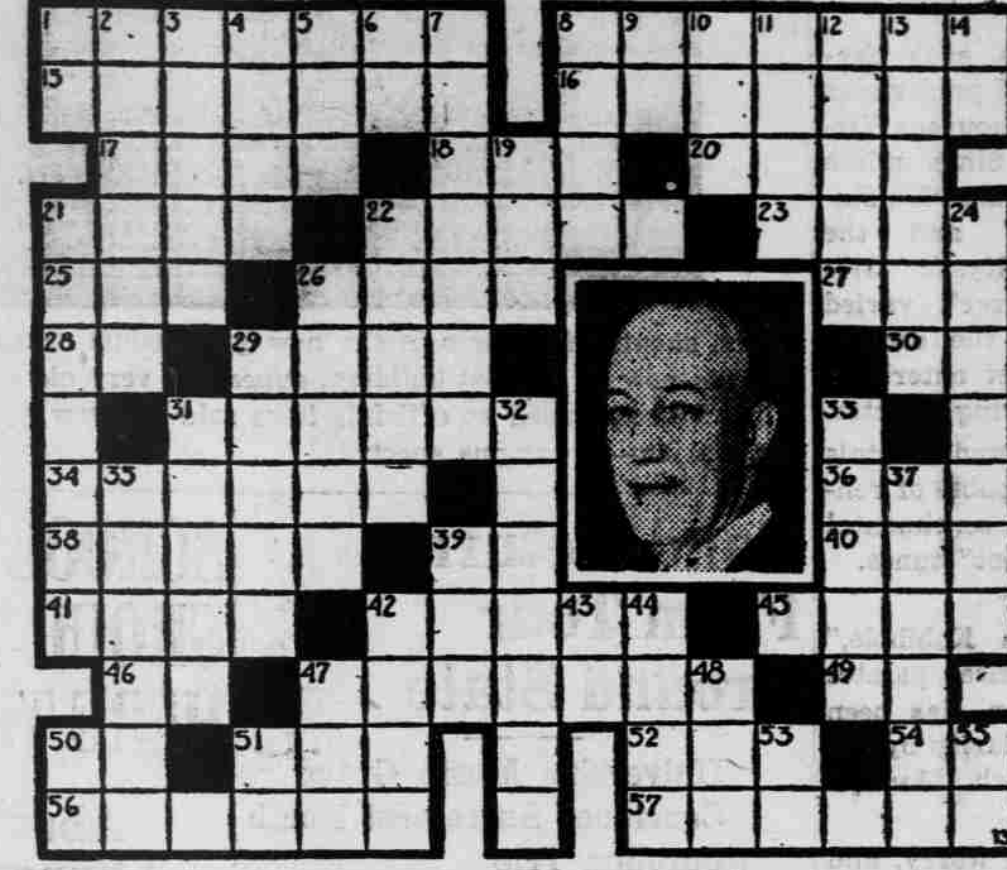
University Head

HORIZONTAL
1. 8 The new president of Yale University.
15 To paint again
16 Inexpensively.
17 Tardy.
18 Striped fabric.
20 Local position.
21 Male ancestor.
22 To expend money.
23 Lacking stiffness.)
25 Child.
26 Cavity.
27 Auto.
28 You and me.
29 Artifice.
30 In that manner.
31 Church group.
34 Eluded.
36 Card game.
38 Short letters.
39 Postscript.
40 Being.
41 Digits of the foot.

Answer to Previous Puzzle
ESTELLE PAGE
TERRA VESTELLE
WED PAC PAGE
ID FASTI T SR
R SENT S STOW E
SPORT BUM OPERA
TELA TAPER ITEM
T LOUD TALC V
CUP OS A GO HEN
ONUS GARAT PANE
RINK ALIMA ALGA
NATIONAL GOLFER

colleges:
14 Railway.
19 Honey gatherer.
21 He was a at Yale.
22 Compact.
24 He was formerly at Yale.
26 Employ.
29 Walks through water.
31 Father.
32 He specialized in
33 To glow.
35 To bewitch.
37 A coming on.
39 Soft food.
42 Prophet.
43 Electric unit.
44 Slender prickle.
47 Duet.
48 To put on.
50 Natural power.
51 Street.
53 King of Bashan.
55 Dye.

VERTICAL
2 The sun god.
3 Aside.
4 To value.
5 Falsehood.
6 Half an em.
7 Chief commodities.
8 To scrutinize.
9 Sound of inquiry.
10 Affirmative.
11 Correspondence.
12 Ocular.
13 Turkish.



Carolina League For International Cooperation

By Adrian Charles Spies

For years, in fact ever since the United States senate voted against American participation in the League of Nations, the worth of that international body has been a bone of contention. Recent European developments have thrown the League into the ugly light of impotence, and many consider it a failure. But there is at least one active group—and it is here on this campus—which believes in the aims and potentialities of the League of Nations.

Two years ago an organization was founded which decided to call itself the League of Nations committee. As such it functioned largely as a study of the actions of the League and for suggestions of possible improvements.

Last year Alex Heard was appointed chairman, but his CPU duties forced him to resign early this year. Henry Nigrelli was then chosen, and under his active leadership the organization has expanded to 30 members.

Recently, when the fate of the League of Nations was dubious, the local group decided to become the Carolina League for International Cooperation. At present this league is making a study of international conditions and planning world-wide peace organizations.

The group still is convinced of the powers that the League of Nations might have in a revised form. Plans are being laid for a Southeastern International Relations conference to be held at Chapel Hill next month. If the project is successful conferences will become a bi-annual affair, to be held on alternate years with the Human Relations Institute conference.

Officers of the organization are: president, Henry Nigrelli; vice-president, Anne Perry; secretary-treasurer, Mary McKee; scribe, John Thibaut. Speaking of the League and of its aims President Nigrelli declared: "Our purpose is to educate ourselves and others into realizing a logical and constructive approach to the establishment of international peace and security. We believe that this approach lies in international cooperation through an international order, and are doing our best to establish a headquarters which will facilitate these ideals."

On The Air

- 8:30—Easter Sunrise service from the "Garden of the Gods" in Colorado. Organ music and vibratoharp from the Will Rogers "Shrine of the Sun" (WSB or WEF).
- 1:00—The Easter parade described from mobile broadcasting units in New York, Washington, and Sandwich, Ill., a typical small town (WEAF or WSB).
- 2:00—Lauritz Melchior sings as guest of the Magic Key, Frank Black conducting (WPTF).
- 6:00—Constance Talmadge makes a return appearance as guest of George Jessel (WGN); Joe Penner with Ben Pollack's orchestra (WBT).
- 7:00—The Jell-O program, starring Jack Benny (WSB).
- 7:30—The Baker's Broadcast, featuring Peg Murray (WPTF).
- 8:00—Tommy Kelly, star of Mark Twain's "Tom Sawyer," is the guest of Don Ameche, and will probably get an introduction to Charley McCarthy (WSB).
- 9:00—Gladys Swarthout will appear as guest of the Ford Sunday Evening Hour (WBT).
- 10:30—"The Hollywood Playhouse," starring Tyrone Power (WSB).
- 11:00—Dramatization of South America's struggle for learning by "Brave New World" (WBT).

Norman Cordon In Operas

(Continued from first page)
supplied a "swing bass" for the group.

Advised To Study
One night he attended a party given by a prominent musical authority who heard him sing. He was advised to study for opera under Hadley Outland, one of Chicago's outstanding voice teachers.

Several years later Cordon made his debut with the Chicago Grand Opera. He was hailed as a singer of promise. Today he is considered one of the most versatile and frequently called upon singers at the Metropolitan, singing an average of four performances a week during the entire season.

On Radio
On the radio he has been starred on such hours as the Lucky Strike, Magic Key of RCA, Chase and Sanborn, and Kraft Music Hall, and the Shell Chateau.

Cordon's classmate, Hal Kemp, has risen to the top in the field of jazz, just as Cordon has in "serious" music. Their friendship still continues and they often reminisce about the days when Cordon hopefully tooted his saxophone on Kemp's doorstep.

Man O' War, considered the greatest horse who ever lived, did not run in the Kentucky Derby when he was a three-year-old.

Weekly Forum

DAVID JAY JACOBSON

The cause

Adolph Hitler, conqueror of Austria, strode forth on the eve of the country's plebesite, in order to verbally decorate himself with the "laurel of victory." The plebesite was for the purpose of presenting the Austrians with the choice of either voting in favor of a union with Germany or a German union—it was all to be very democratic, according to "Hoyle."

Thousands of gaping, bewildered people assembled to hear the prodigal son speak.

Hitler delivered one of those "extra special" fiery speeches. He told the people that his return to his native Austria was by the will of God; Hitler and God in the same breath.

He concluded his speech by saying, "I stand before you because I am convinced that I know more than Herr Schushnigg (deposed Austrian Chancellor Kurt Schushnigg). I have proved that I am more capable than all those who attempted to rule you. I doubt whether history will remember their names a century hence, but my name will stand as that of a great son of this country."

"And all Germans must vote to-morrow for Germany must be strong and united, a country of social justice, proud and happy. I am convinced that it will stand for centuries. To-morrow all of you must bear witness that you share my pride in the creation of a new Germany."

The speech was ended and all the bells tolled. A song came from the lips of the spectators. It was the Netherlands "Thanksgiving hymn," which ends, "Lord make us free!"

Advertisement—the thought

The advertisement of the World Peaceways displays a picture of a cherubic infant lying on a butcher's block, underneath there is the caption, "Nice fresh babies . . . 79 cents a pound!" Below the picture it goes on to say, "So breed for Mothers, breed for the glory of your heroic leaders. Take good care of that cuddly baby, Mother, so he'll grow up big and strong and the butchers will be pleased with him. And be thankful, Mother, for your great privilege of producing a son whose destiny it is to be blown to hell!"

Comment

Herbert Hoover returned, recently, from Europe. In Germany he'd been the guest of Herr (Continued on last page)

THE 1:30 CLASS

By Bob Perkins

Around The World With E. C. Smith

By Adrian Spies

(Newest guest columnist)

Chinese history—as conceived of by Sam Goldwyn and Robert Sherwood—comes to the Carolina Theatre today and tomorrow with Gary Cooper's new starring vehicle, "Marco Polo." The last of Producer Goldwyn's yearly film program (others including "Stella Dallas," "Dead End," "Hurricane," and "Goldwyn Follies") is a lavish combination of dubious history, big names, and melodrama.

China

Marco Polo is supposed to have been the first white man to make a written record of travels in the Orient. But Director Archie Mayo's Polo is a rather overwhelming combination of traveller, lover and liar. Gary Cooper, mainly by playing Gary Cooper, goes through this succession of characterizations beneath a background of intrigue, Chinese warfare, and general assault and battery.

Norway-Brooklyn

One of the most publicised films of the current season, it is worth seeing for the color and reported glamor—and for the lovely importation, Sigrid Gurie. Miss Gurie, whom STAGE calls "Beautiful enough to start a civil war in any country" is that lovely lady heralded as Samuel Goldwyn's discovery from "Norway." Some smart scribe exploded the story by proving that she was born in the comparatively American streets of Brooklyn. In all fairness to Miss Gurie it should be noted that although born in Brooklyn, she was taken to Norway when only six weeks old.

Reports from the various reviews differ as to the worth of the production, but almost all are in accord as to the fine acting of the supporting cast. But any picture combining such proven performers as Basil Rathbone—a villain again, Ernest Truex, Binnie Barnes, H. B. Warner, George Barbier, and Alan Hale must have something on the ball.

Washington

"Jurge Hardy's Children," (Tuesday) third in the "Hardy Family" series, is a continuation of the adventures of that delightfully human crew. This time they are in Washington, where the judge (Lewis Stone) has been summoned upon some sort of official business. His children, Ce- (Continued On Last Page)