

Alumnus Thomas Wolfe Dies

(Continued from first page)
youth was too young to enlist in the army; so he was one of the few men attending classes. Playwriter "The Return of Buck Gavin," included in the second volume of Carolina Folk Plays, was the first play he submitted. Wolfe took his own lead and everything went fine until someone offered some adverse criticism.

Wolfe wept behind the scenes. He wrote several other folk plays and collaborated with Paul Green in working with the Playmakers. The young author also found time to write for the Tar Baby, first humorous publication on the campus, and the Carolina Magazine. In 1919 he became assistant editor of the Magazine, and the following year was editor of the Tar Heel, then a weekly paper. The editor made a practice of staying up the night before the deadline and writing all

his copy then journeying to Durham to have it printed. **Attended Harvard** After graduating from University of North Carolina in 1920, Thomas Wolfe went to Harvard. He received his M.A. there in 1923 and taught English at New York university until January, 1930. "Look Homeward, Angel," his first novel, was published in 1929. He was awarded the Guggenheim Fellowship in 1930 for creative writing. After that he wrote and traveled widely in Europe.

you're sitting down, you have to get up so often to walk around." One visitor, on finding table, desk, chairs, couch covered with papers, said, "But, Tom, where do you write?" Tom replied, "You see that Frigidaire? Well, that's where I write."

Numerous Short Stories Besides his two famous novels, Thomas Wolfe published "From Death To Morning," a collection of imagistic stories, essays, comments, and reflections, and numerous short stories for Scribner's and American Mercury such as "Web of Earth," "Boom Town," and "The Sun and The Rain."

Wolfe was discovered by Maxwell Perciuss, editor of Charles Scribner's Sons. His first novel was received enthusiastically in this country, and in England, Germany, Czechoslovakia, and the Scandinavian countries.

Sinclair Lewis said of Wolfe's first book, "He may have a chance to be the greatest American writer . . . In fact I don't see why he should not be one of the greatest world writers." The London Times said Wolfe "is genuinely extending the boundaries of the novel," and Carl Van Doren called the author "The Walt Whitman of the novelists." Robert Penn Warren, critic, said he possessed the "instinct of the poet as well as on a large scale many of the gifts of the novelist." In 1936 he was selected as one of the 12 outstanding young men of America by Durward Howes, editor of "America's Young Men," a national "Who's Who of men 45 years of age or under."

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Last January when Wolfe visited Dean C. P. Spruill, his fraternity brother, the author said, "The University and Chapel Hill have grown so much it's difficult to realize it's the same place. I felt like I was coming into West Philadelphia. But the village atmosphere still predominates and I'm mighty glad. Some day, maybe soon, I plan to come back here to settle down and I'll probably be married then."

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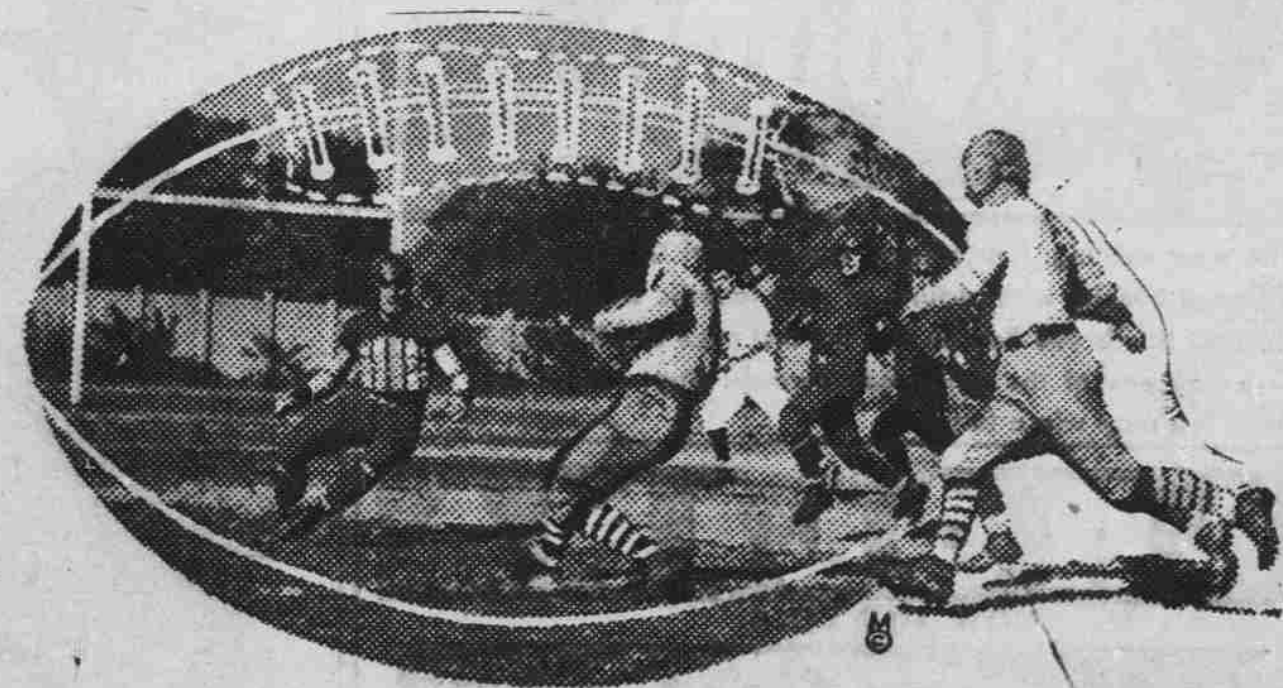
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