

# The Daily Tar Heel

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## THE THEATER

By ADRIAN SPIES

Combining a pleasantly excessive amount of good George Abbott horse play with the sweet-sad nostalgia of high school sentimentality, Clifford Goldsmith's "What A Life" presented a sure fire formula of Broadway success to a disappointing crowd last night at Memorial Hall.

After an unusually long run upon Broadway this play has been taken upon the road and bolstered in its box office by the still magic name of Jackie Coogan. Mr. Coogan is to be praised for the splendid manner in which he adjusted himself to the part created by Ezra Stone and for his ability to catch the "pudgy Penrod" air that is the most charming characteristic of Henry Aldrich. It is undeniable that Coogan charmed the crowd—which was a good one from the point of view of reaction—and succeeded in establishing himself as something besides a former baby movie star.

But the real credit—and the real reason—for the permanent success of this play is its high entertainment quality. In the vernacular of Broadway, "it's got it, sweet and simple like they eat up in Hoboken." Concerned with the none too important misadventures of Henry Aldrich, it is the sweeter side of the story of young high school kids having a hard time getting used to adolescence. Henry is the victim of his own predisposition to do the wrong thing in school without really meaning to be bad. His various troubles range from drawing uncomplimentary pictures of the faculty to being wrongly accused of cheating.

But the playwright was able to make more than one gentle crack at the follies of Henry's elders by laughing at their reactions to his various little troubles. Henry is surrounded by a web of agitated elders who cavort around the stage in fantastic funnyness as the result of his strange departures from "upstanding high school decorum." From this Mr. Goldsmith has managed to include enough of a plot to serve as an excuse for the constant flow of laugh lines. The lovable character of Henry himself serves as an interest focus. And the action combines into a pleasing combination of good humor and occasional nostalgia of the better sort.

Falling into the usual smoothing that accompanies an already established success, and profiting by the work of the Broadway troupe, the cast was almost entirely a commendable one. It was Mr. Coogan's show of course. That is the way the part is written and he was able to keep it that way. But it would be difficult to pass over such workmanlike performances as those of Frank McGlynn, Henry Lascoe, Virginia Reilly, Norman Williams, and Mack Williams. They all played the comedy lines for their full worth and demonstrated how real performers can adjust themselves to even such wide open spaces as our own Memorial Hall.

"What A Life" is a good example of the Broadway formula comedy. Or at least the George Abbott formula. It never attempts to reach in its seriousness further than an occasional practical thought which is immediately over-riden by a good belly-laugh. Gag lines stick out all over the place and action sequences follow each other in crisp order. The total effect is what is often called "wholesome" entertainment which endeavors to tell some sort of a story. It would be preposterous to deny that such type of theatre is not completely valid and even necessary. Indeed, it has almost always proved the most profitable. It makes no pretension to Art and most certainly is not Art. But, as the boys say, it is "commercial."

There are, however, a few places in this play where some apt remarks about the educational system are presented. Although pointedly meant for the hamburger education of a large city, some of the heavy satire could apply to certain phases of our collegiate activities. It is certainly a good thing for all of us connected with the academic life to get together once in a while and enjoy a good laugh at our own expense. It is regrettable that many more of us were not there last night.

An occasional dose of sentimentality or smiling remembrances of our former mistakes is always good. Mr. Goldsmith is to be thanked for at least not having been patronizing in his characters, and for having admitted that the problems of the half-year are severe to them at least. It is of course necessary to admit that there are many more problems that Mr. Goldsmith did not even insinuate. But that is distinctly his own business. And he is making money on Broadway while a lot of us are chasing art down here in Chapel Hill.

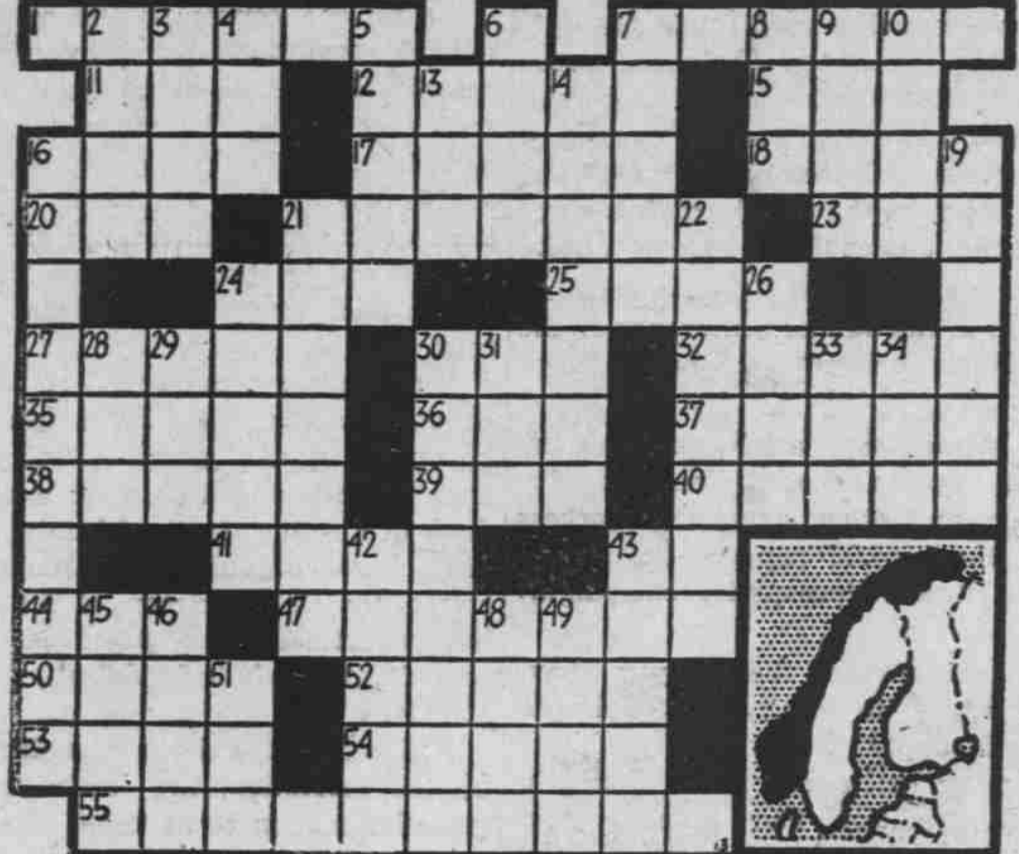
Send the DAILY TAR HEEL home.

## MAP PUZZLE

**Answer to Previous Puzzle**

**HORIZONTAL**  
1 Pictured is the map of the kingdom of —. **CHINA**  
7 Fisheries and — are its important industries. **FISH**  
11 Grief. **MOURN**  
12 Molding. **CAST**  
15 Resembling ore. **IRON**  
16 Racial type. **NEGRO**  
17 Ate. **ROSE**  
18 To polish. **WAX**  
20 Piece of poetry. **SONNET**  
21 Gathered after the reaper. **WHEAT**  
23 To remark. **REMARK**  
24 Gold quart. **QUART**  
25 Cow-headed goddess. **COW**  
27 To wash away. **WASH**  
30 Fish eggs. **EGGS**  
32 End of coat collar. **COAT**  
35 Part of palate. **PALATE**  
36 Sea eagle. **EAGLE**  
37 Similar. **SIMILAR**  
38 Disables. **DISABLES**  
39 Obese. **OBESITY**  
40 Dogma. **DOGMA**  
41 Roll of film. **FILM**  
43 Note in scale. **NOTE**  
44 Salamander. **SALAMANDER**  
47 Pried about. **PRIED**  
50 Chestnut. **CHESTNUT**  
52 Native. **NATIVE**  
53 Long ago. **LONG AGO**  
54 Practical. **PRACTICAL**

**VERTICAL**  
2 Due. **DUE**  
3 Function assumed by anyone. **FUNCTION**  
4 Humid. **HUMID**  
5 To warble. **WARBLE**  
6 Spanish lady. **SPANISH LADY**  
7 Styles. **STYLES**  
8 At this time. **AT THIS TIME**  
9 Eye part. **EYE PART**  
10 Genus of palms. **GENUS OF PALMS**  
13 To emulate. **EMULATE**  
14 Merciful. **MERCIFUL**  
16 Education is — in this kingdom. **EDUCATION IS — IN THIS KINGDOM**  
19 Shoe lace hole. **SHOE LACE HOLE**  
21 Lubricates. **LUBRICATES**  
22 Extended. **EXTENDED**  
24 One who ogles. **OGLES**  
26 Auction. **AUCTION**  
28 Pulpy fruit. **PULPY FRUIT**  
29 Queer. **QUEER**  
30 Floats again. **FLOATS AGAIN**  
31 Coin. **COIN**  
33 Peg. **PEG**  
34 To piece out. **TO PIECE OUT**  
42 Tedium. **TEDIUM**  
43 To rent again. **TO RENT AGAIN**  
45 A staple. **A STAPLE**  
46 Fertilizer. **FERTILIZER**  
48 Auditory. **AUDITORY**  
49 Sanskrit dialect. **SANSKRIT DIALECT**  
51 Born. **BORN**



## APPLE-A-DAY

### Budget Passing Still Messy

Apple passing, frantic antics by class presidents, and the general furore surrounding the annual passing of class budgets is over until next September, when a new group of successful politicians will have to worry over teasing a quorum of lethargic class members into Gerrard, Memorial or Hill halls.

Freshmen haven't been initiated yet but they've seen the struggle.

Bill Alexander, sophomore, and Gates Kimball, junior, had pretty fair luck getting their constituency out, but Benny Hunter and his workers failed twice. Final resort was the practical method of postcard balloting. The favorable vote was secured.

Repeating, the problem is still with us.

The Student Legislature could do the campus, almost every student, a great favor by setting up a regular procedure for passing budgets. It is the custom for most communities, clubs, and organizations to eliminate red tape when it is proved that red tape is merely cumbersome, boasting no particular redeeming feature.

Experiences this year show a meeting or convocation is advisable to invite discussion on any detestable features of budgeting.

The procedure authorized by the Student Council in the case of the senior class might well be adopted: a class meeting to discuss the budget; a second meeting should the number be less than a quorum; finally, the postcard method.

The Ways and Means committee of the legislature has been instructed to draw up a bill regarding budget-passing and it will probably be presented at the next meeting, January 23.

Such a measure would be a high-speed accelerator to the student governmental process. And time-savers are what we're seeking.

## YOUR CHANCE

### Celebration Of FDR's Birthday

As familiar to the villages and cities spread across our nation as the turn of the new year is President Roosevelt's apparently perpetual birthday celebration which rolls around with new enthusiasm each January 30.

Plans for the local observance were announced several days ago by E. Carrington Smith, general chairman and by any standards the local entertainment should turn out to be unusually successful. A varied program is shaping up including such old-time ever popular brands of amusements as the square dance and the string band supplemented, of course, by a regular orchestra, modern dancing and a number of skits.

As usual proceeds from the party will be devoted to the fund for persons suffering from infantile paralysis. The noble cause behind the nationwide celebration has come to be well known everywhere and should particularly strike a responsive chord in the hearts of all of us who are fortunate enough to make our home in the village amid its quiet of peace and freedom.

## today

- 3:30—Inter-squad swimming, Bowman Gray pool.
- Varsity fencing Winston-Salem at Woolen gym.
- 5:00—Wooten-Moulton closes last chance for sophomores to have their pictures taken for the Yackety Yack.
- 8:00—Boxing match with the Citadel in Woolen gym.

### Chemistry Class At Toledo Finds Need For Hankies

Boo-Hoo Item: An entire chemistry class at University of Toledo was hurriedly dismissed recently when a student put some chemicals together to inadvertently make tear gas.

Now, if there's an epidemic of this sort of thing, we'll know all mistakes of this nature are not just plain errors!

## HELLO SUCKER!

By ED RANKIN

### DRAMMER

The Place: The Hill.  
The Time: Now.  
The Characters: Two seniors, kneedeep in slush.  
Senior Number 1: (Bleakly) "Hello."  
Senior Number 2: (ditto) "Hi ya."  
"Terrible weather, ain't it?"



"You said it."  
"Got a job yet?"  
"Naw. You?"  
"Nope. I saw old man Zileh last weekend but he said college graduates were a dime a dozen and at that the price was too high."  
"What you going to do?"  
"Don't ask me. I've been thinking of suicide or the South Sea Islands."  
"Both thoughts ain't strangers to me."  
"Well, so long."  
"See ya."

Such a heart-breaking scene is happening around here every day under your very noses. Fourth-year men are awakening these cold, cruel mornings to wonder what will happen after the Governor's benediction in June. Fourth-year women are just wondering.

Like W. Whitman (Eng. 82, Adams), the seniors have discovered no fat any sweeter than the flesh girdling their own torsos. Accordingly, they have come to the conclusion that since this is true, it would not be pleasant to starve.

The poor creatures of the class of 1940, except those whose poppas own a mill, are beginning to look with envious eyes on the filling station operator, the grocery clerk, the hash-slinger. These people have work, funds to eat on. What does the senior have? A headache.

Do something somebody!! Call out the Marines, call out the Mounted Police, or the Democratic machine, but the seniors are scared.

We ain't foolin'.

## BIRTHDAYS

Bridgers, Ray Harris  
Cunningham, Charles Dixon  
Feldman, Bertram Beryl  
Gragg, Wilford Harris  
Hubbard, Edwin Archibald  
Hunter, Henry Blount  
Martin, Harry Corpening  
Parrish, Eloise  
Rolnick, Meyer Harvey  
Shaw, James Murdock, Jr.  
Slagle, Charles Albert  
Waldrop, Grayson Spencer  
Young, Hannah Gilliam

## TAR HEEL DEAD

By MACK HOBSON

Since it's leap year, why don't they go at this thing whole hog or just leave it alone? For instance, why don't the women seize control of the government and put up Eleanor Roosevelt for a third term?

Just think how thrilling it would be to listen to Mrs. Paul V. McNutt speak for the CPU. Maybe she, like her husband, would be known as "the handsome candidate." If Mrs. Roosevelt were her only opponent, she most certainly would be.

I bet it would be a relief for the boys to see the girls get out on the gridiron next fall and batter themselves pink for the glory of dear old alma mater. What great fun it would be to see the lasses get smeared for losses, and to see them penalized 15 yards for pulling hair and scratching. Maybe some would even break their necks.

The girls would get a kick out of it too. They could whistle beneath their breaths and raise their eyebrows sharply when some handsome young male walked down the street. Some of the bolder ones could even call out subtly: "Hello, toots!" On Saturdays, the lassies could bum over to Durham and see a movie. They would like that.

Last but not least, I bet the gals could put out a Buccaneer what would be a Buccaneer.

My great grandfather had nothing on me when he trudged three miles through the snow to school. I live in K and have a class in Peabody.

Speaking of K Dorm, it seems certain that it will be named for Kay Kyser. Unofficially, it is already being called "Kyser Dorm." Why not honor the maestro and at the same time preserve the original pronunciation of the dormitory calling it "Kay Dorm?"

## Squeaks

And

## Squawks

By You

I see by the papers that the "committee to investigate un-Americanism" is going to meet tonight to draw up a definition of the word "un-Americanism" and from that to formulate a policy to follow.

If it comes out with a minimum of words, I'll have more faith in its usefulness, but I doubt that that is possible.

Here's my suggestion: "Anything is un-American which is intolerant. The policy of this committee shall be to combat any individual or organization which seeks to advance or enforce intolerance."

But then I'm just a lowly freshman.

Philip Carden

## COEDITS :::

By DOT COBLE and DORIS GOERCH

### Political Notes

To the unsuspecting coed who has been wondering about the cordiality of certain campus big shots since the opening of the winter quarter, we hereby issue the following information—spring elections are just around the corner.

We heard one feminine old-timer, left over from last year remark, "I double-dated with that boy at least six times last spring and he never said five words to me and now he bonds over backwards speaking to me."

It's the same old story with all the "politicians." The peculiar thing about the whole affair is that they wait so late to get started with their "politicking." The average coed isn't so dumb that she can't see through the sudden friendliness which springs up after Christmas in the "campaigning boys."

Last year one coed said to a friend at the polls, "I'm voting for this boy with me in the Book Ex. His friendliness hasn't been this last-minute stuff; he's been nice all year."

Most coeds like subtle campaigning. To come right out and tell a girl to vote for so-and-so because "he's a good boy" is suicide to the office seeker. By carefully introducing in casual conversation the reasons why Bill Doe would make a good president of the student body, her vote may more likely be influenced.

Many coeds would rather the office seeker frankly admit that he was running and would appreciate her vote instead of all this gum beating, back slapping, and last-minute dances that seem to be common practices among campus politicians.

In other words, we ain't so dumb. Give us credit for having a slight degree of intelligence when you boys start campaigning this spring.

—Doris Goerch.

because he's always been friendly, danced with me at dances, and chatted

## With The Churches

Sunday worship services at the Chapel Hill churches this week will be as follows: at the Methodist church 11 o'clock service the Rev. J. Marvin Culbreth will speak on "The Origin of Jesus," the first in a series of sermons on "The Person of Jesus." A delegation of Woman's college students from Greensboro will lead Student Forum at 7 o'clock, and Mr. Culbreth, assisted by Mrs. Ray Funderbirk at the organ, will conduct an organ-hymn service at 8 o'clock.

At the Baptist church, the Rev. Gaylord P. Albaugh will talk on "Wise Men Worship" at the morning service. Student forum at 7 o'clock will be followed by a social hour. Fred Smith BYPU will meet at 7 o'clock.

At the Presbyterian church, Dr. Donald H. Stewart will speak on "Our Father" at 11 o'clock. Student forum will meet at 7 o'clock.

At the United church, Dr. W. J. McKee will talk on "No Alibis, Please" at the morning service. Rev. A. S. Lawrence will conduct the service and sermon at the Episcopal church at 11 o'clock.

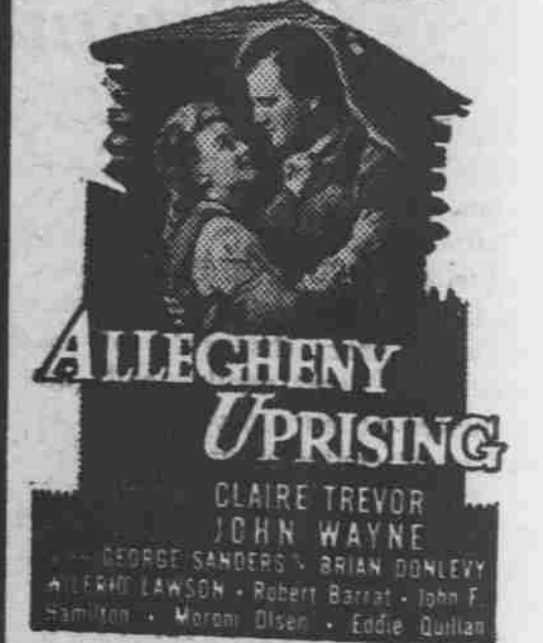
Gerrard hall, Father Francis Morrissey will conduct Catholic services at 10 o'clock. A Friends' meeting will be held in the Grail room of Graham Memorial at 11 o'clock.

Send the DAILY TAR HEEL home.

## CAROLINA

NOW PLAYING

THE SCREEN'S BIGGEST SHOW OF PIONEER DAYS!  
The romance of America's first Rebel and his blonde in buckskin



Also  
NEWS PICTURES  
Orange, Cotton, Sugar and Rose Bowl Games