

The Daily Tar Heel

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It's Time For A Change

"It's time for a change!"
 The Republicans used it and they had a winner. Why can't Carolina?

We do not mean a new administration, but a revised grading system, and we need it badly.

Unfairness has been monopolizing the University grading system too long and a mild tinge of corruption has done anything but add luster to the already faded picture.

Before the time of Methuselah Carolina has been working from an A to F letter grading system. From the outside it seems like a good setup and could possibly be if it were operated properly. But it is not.

For example, one which happens more times than otherwise. Two students are in the same class. At the beginning of the quarter the professor emphasizes the point that all students should be working not for grades but for an education, for knowledge.

During the quarter both students work from the prof's viewpoint that they are here at Carolina for a college education, not merely just a string of grades. The pair settle down and the midnight oil flows.

Toward the end of the quarter they total their averages and both have equal numerical grades, a solid 89, one point shy of a B.

Here is where the fallacy in the present grading system lies. Both men, call them John and Joe for clarity, balance in class work but it seems that John is much the superior in one extra-curricular activity.

The term "apple polishers" is far from Greek to college folks.

And so it goes when the professor is determining the final grades.

He checks down the list writing the grade that will remain forever on the student's transcript. There's Joe's 89. The prof calmly scribbles down a "C." According to the grading system, that is what he averaged and that is what he got.

A dozen spaces down the line, the professor crosses John's 89. He chuckles slightly to himself.

"Well," smiles the instructor, "John really only has 89, but that's just one point below a 'B'. And besides John is a fine boy. Yes sir, a mighty fine boy that John."

You have three chances to guess what John got and the first two do not count.

Perhaps that one 'C' did not hurt Joe. Perhaps it did. While Joe was making 'C's' John was perfecting his extra-curricular activity.

Three years later, the pair apply for an opening with a well-known chemical company. The interviewer surmised that both men were equally qualified for the job. But it seemed that John had a slight edge in the line of grades. The position was awarded "Honest John."

Had the professor followed the present grading system, Joe would have had an equal footing with John, but he did not. Joe followed the prof's viewpoint of working for knowledge, not grades.

A suggested revision of the backward grading system here at Carolina is to drop every phase of the present letter grading system and substitute a more definite and less impregnable numerical system. In other words, give the student what he earned, not what his personality learned a nice fellow he was, and we should follow the lead of the Republican party to a solid, undisputed victory.

—Charles Haskett

DAILY CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- Chief cook
 - Chafe
 - Sea eagle
 - Visionary
 - Hurl
 - Spicy
 - Anglo-Saxon letter
 - One of the Apostles
 - Mortify
 - Appearing as if eaten
 - Emmet
 - Sour
 - Frigid
 - Torrid
 - Pillar
 - Small explosion
 - Cushion
 - One of the senses
 - Willows
 - Merry
 - Elder
 - Constellation
 - Values
 - Immense
 - Flat-topped hill



Yesterday's Answer
 38. Short sleep
 39. Part of a locomotive
 40. Swiss canton

20. Owns
 21. Half an em
 22. Perform
 23. Attitudinize
 24. Lever
 25. Witty saying
 26. Short blast on a horn
 28. Fuel
 29. Therefore
 31. Viper
 32. Snake
 34. River (Chin.)
 35. Spring month
 36. Cuckoo
 37. Doctrine
 39. Article of virtue
 41. Rub out
 42. Gaseous element
 43. Resorts
 44. Coffin

DOWN

- Japanese name for Korea

On Other Campuses

From Hawaii, from Mexico City, Europe, Texas, and Yankee-land student newspapers are sent to THE DAILY TAR HEEL.

These papers report that beginning with pink elephants on New Year's eve, 1953 is slowly turning red in a number of aspects for a number of schools.

Iowa State Daily reports a financial loss for last quarter with a balance in the red.

Troubles are greater elsewhere for at Northwestern headlines this fall proclaimed, "The Daily Is Going Broke". A few months later the editor was fired and the majority of the staff resigned after a policy disagreement with the publications board.

The Daily Cardinal at the University of Wisconsin was forced to cut its issues to twice a week while the Daily Nebraskan reduced its publications to four times a week.

The University of Colorado took the positive approach by asking for increased student fees or boosted advertising rates.

The other source of red difficulties is turning a number of U.S. students crimson with righteous and unrighteous indignation.

Senator Joe McCarthy recently stated that, "We (the Senate committee on government operations) are going into the educational system. It seems that parts of the educational system are most unresponsive to his suggestion that it be investigated."

An editorial in the Western-Reserve University paper pleads, "In order to preserve what we have, please . . . please, leave us alone. Let the university function as it should. A light in the darkness."

The University of Michigan listed on Joe's new probe has promised full cooperation to the House Un-American Activities Committee. The Daily newspaper is running a series of articles describing the activities of the Communist Party and its front organizations in Ann Arbor and on the campus.

The article describes the activities of the Labor Youth League which is the "party" group on campus. It makes public secret directive and report of the LYL which warned the group that "We ourselves have to go through a transformation, ridding ourselves of capitalist ideology and values and remaking ourselves into the kind of people who can carry on Leninist work."

At Marshall College in West Virginia several names that appear on the records of the House investigating committee were schedule on the college-sponsored forum. The American Legion post in Huntington demanded an investigation. The College president immediately announced the cancellation of the series. The student senate and faculty just as promptly passed resolutions to reinstate the series. The forum will be held as scheduled with Max Lerner, Margaret White and Paul Engle still engaged as speakers.

Whether the situation includes imaginary pink elephants or articles of a deeper shade, students have an opinion, a criticism, and sometimes a solution for it.



John Taylor

Shadrach, Meshach

"John Brown's Body," which played here to great success on Friday and Saturday nights, brought to Chapel Hill a very fine group of actors, including Judith Anderson, Raymond Massey, and Tyrone Power. But as a surprise package—which disproves the old adage that the best things come in small packages—it also brought into our midst Charles Laughton, the fabulous actor, who adapted and staged the poem anew.

Mr. Laughton arrived here specifically to rehearse the cast on a few scenes, but graciously consented to speak to the members of the Dramatic Art department and friends in the Playmakers Theatre on Saturday afternoon. There followed the greatest tour de force that has been witnessed in Chapel Hill for quite some time.

Stating that he would not give a speech, but would answer any and all questions, Mr. Laughton proceeded to describe the manner in which his memorable presentation of "Don Juan in Hell" came to be produced, and the trials and tribulations concerning the staging of "John Brown's Body."

Stage space limitations caused Laughton a lot of trouble. The small area for stage movement made Laughton remember the nights after the early rehearsals when he would wake up in the middle of the night yelling, "They're bumping into each other."

Asked if he had chosen the simplified form of production that he has used for the two plays for economic reasons, he replied with a very emphatic no and then added with a painful smile, "These are not cheap people." There were three explanations for the style of presentation that he adopted. They were the following: (1) the script calls for many abrupt changes of mood and set,

A. Z. F. Wood, Jr.

Making History

Unless you have an insatiable curiosity about history, you will probably avoid Saunders Hall like a communist with leprosy. The stereotyped idea of a history professor is that of a dried-up, absent-minded, bespectacled old gent who spends his life in dusty old manuscripts and doesn't know what it is to watch the sun come up over the ocean. Unfortunately, in many cases, the idea isn't too far off.

Now, UNC has a good history department—one of the best, and many of its historians are as vivacious and interesting as they are erudite. But, even at UNC, the majority of historians or would-be-historians (instructors) fit into the stereotyped pattern very neatly.

Why is this? I believe part of the answer is that historians as a group are the louisiest writers on the face of the earth. They've got good vocabularies. They're not ungrammatical. And their sentences are clear enough.

But they're dry, repetitious, and trite. Their facts are cold and unadorned. There is no warmth, no freshness. Just dull naked facts. Thus, Richard the Lion-Hearted is a big, mean, courageous man who beats hell out of Moslem people. That's all. He's not a human being with emotional problems. No sense of humor. No appeal. Just a name—a man with a blank face.

One thing we do know about Richard, though. He "sacked and plundered" captured Moslem strongholds. The definition of "sacked" is "plundered"; so Richard "plundered and plundered" Moslem strongholds. I guess Richard did a lot of plundering.

Then, were the Crusaders on the way to the Holy Land? Oh, no! They were enroute to the Holy Land, and, not only that, they were enroute to the Holy Land nine times in one chapter of some eighteen pages.

About two years ago, I wrote a term paper on the Boxer Rebellion for Social Science Two. The paper was acceptable except for the choice of words. My fat little instructor changed: "figured" to "reasoned"; "fired" to "discharged"; "fired" to "removed"; "to do business" to "to engage in this traffic"; "idea" to "conception"; "badly whipped" to "won victory after victory"; and "had" to "were forced". In other words, the motto of most historians seems to be: "Always use a large word where a small one will do,

Dave Herbert

Inquiring Reporter

"Pardon me, but what is your opinion about the . . . ?"

If you haven't heard these words yet, your reporter has missed you. But don't go into hiding for this week your Inquiring Reporter will begin to feel out the campus pulse on matters which you readers think will be interesting and informative as well as humorous.

This week's question: "Who would you like to see as the next football coach?" stirred up an argument almost each time it was asked to a group of students, especially among the football players themselves.

While the reaction among the coeds was indifferent, most of the men asked had a definite person in mind and plenty of reasons to back up their candidate.

Outgoing coach Carl Snavely still has plenty of admirers and while most realized the futility of casting their vote for him, a few felt that they could not honestly vote otherwise.

Here are the results: Questioned: 252 students from all walks of life.

Opinion:
 Tatum, 36 per cent; University of Maryland.
 Barclay, 11 per cent; Assistant UNC.

Wilkinson, 10 per cent; U. of Oklahoma.

Holcombe, 8 per cent; Purdue.
 Gill, 6 per cent; Assistant, UNC.
 Vaught, 5 per cent; U. of Mississippi.

Guepe, 4 per cent; U. of Virginia.

Brown, 4 per cent; Cleveland Browns.

Undecided, 6 per cent.

Others receiving votes included: Snavely, Otto Graham, Waters, Bob Waterfield (with Jane Russell, of course).

A \$2.00 merchandise certificate will be given by the Sutton Drug Company for next week's winning question. It must be submitted by Tuesday, January 19, to Inquiring Reporter, Box 1080, Chapel Hill. Be seeing you around!

and never use a descriptive word. Be as dry as possible."

Among the few glaring exceptions to this morbid aridity is Will Cuppy, the most delightful historian of this century, and, incidentally, one of the most accurate. If history textbooks were written like "The Decline and Fall of Practically Everybody" you'd have to build five more history buildings at UNC.

\$1,500,000
in IRON LUNGS
LAST YEAR.

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 JANUARY 2 TO 31