

# ONLY FOUR GIRLS— AT CHAPEL HILL

DR. GORDIS WRITES INTEREST-  
ING LETTER OF COLLEGE LIFE.

Southern College Has Four Women  
Students Out of 600, and They  
are Excused From Compulsory  
Chapel Attendance.

Charles T. Battin is in receipt of a very interesting letter this week from Dr. W. S. Gordis, formerly head of the department of Ancient Languages at Ottawa, but this year holding a similar position in the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, N. C., There are many features of college life there quite different from those in this part of the country, not the least startling of which is the presence of four women in a student body of over 600. Omitting certain passages of a purely personal nature, Dr. Gordis' letter will be of great interest to all his friends, and is as follows:

You would be interested in comparing our Ottawa organizations with those of the University of North Carolina. There are quite a number of fraternities here with handsome homes but the fraternities and the literary societies occupy different fields and membership in one is no bar to membership in the other type of organization. The fraternities are small groups of fellows living together in their own club houses instead of the general dormitories. The two literary societies known as the "Phi" and the "Di" have large handsome halls in two of the old University buildings. These organizations are very old. The walls are adorned by numerous portraits of eminent men who were members in undergraduate days. This long history gives the societies dignity and prestige, at the same time the traditional ways of doing things are so fixed that even desirable changes are difficult to accomplish. The regular meetings are given to debates—after business is attended to. The aforesaid business receives the most punctiliously formal attention. A high officers platform extends across the greater part of one side of the room. There sit most of the officers. At the rear of this platform raised considerably above it is a second platform whereon sits the President in solitary state, holding a sort of scepter instead of a gavel. The membership is divided into classes, one of which must debate on a given night. They are assigned their sides and a question. Evidently without team work, after the fashion of a prelimin-

ary, the men speak as their names are called. Failure to appear or to speak more than three of the five minutes allowed subjects a man to a fine of \$25. There is a supplementary debating sessions for upper classmen on another evening, attended only by the participants and the judges. This large amount of debating experience develops many good debaters, and North Carolina's standing in debate is very high.

The Y. M C A. has a good building and a paid secretary. Two meetings are held each week On Tuesday evening a somewhat formal address is given by an invited speaker from the faculty or outside; and on Thursday for half an hour between supper time and time to go to the post office for the evening mail an informal meeting is held under the leadership of one of the students. Formerly these latter meetings have been very small, a dozen or so. This fall they are

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picking up and have been attended by as many as sixty.

Chapel is required of all undergraduates about six hundred men. The four, not four hundred, girls are excused. Monitors take the numbers of all unoccupied seats during its singing of the hymns, and chapel absences are treated precisely like class absences. It is a fine sight to see those six hundred fellows packing the old chapel, and this is a state institution.

I am following Ottawa's affairs through the Campus. It is a source of regret that I can not be back until the '13 class has left. The size of your class this year is really notable.

Will you kindly convey my greetings to your class and to the Y. M. C. A.

Yours very sincerely

W. S. GORDIS