1905 ★ The Duke Chronicle ★ 1938

Published Every Tuesday and Friday of the University Year by the Undergraduate Students of Duke University, Durham, N. C.

Entered as second class matter at the Post Office at Durham, N. C., under the act of March 3, 1879. Delivered by mail, $2 the university year, $1 the semester, cost of postage to enrolled undergraduates not in residence on the Duke university campus.

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Subscriptions should be addressed to the Co-Ed Business Manager, College Station, Durham.

Government And Fraternities

Real believers in the future of student government and of fraternities will be glad this week to help un-saddle the political combine.

Dr. Ray Lyman Wilbur, noted American educator and president of Stanford university, when asked why he believed in student government at all, recently replied, in a radio address sponsored by the National Student Federation of American and broadcast over the National Broadcasting system:

> "In this country we have a people who believe in democracy, and who are determined to make it work. Democracy can succeed only if the student has a sense of responsibility. Our student bodies contain many of our future leaders. If we can develop in them at an early age a clear-cut sense of responsibility to student government, we can give a considerable part of the answer to those who think that democracies are too inefficient to succeed in the present world. Student government, therefore, is vital to our conceptions of democratic government."

Another authority who believes that the justification for student government lies in its ability to train college students in the practice of democracy spoke recently in New Orleans to the National Education association. The authority, Federal Commissioner of Education John W. Studebaker, said:

> "I submit two proposals for practical action in meeting the crucial issue of strengthening American democracy through education. First, our schools and colleges should more clearly approach democratic societies in their own fundamental organization and operation."

It should be apparent to all, regardless of the personal capabilities of those elected to Duke student body and student government offices—and they are undoubtedly good men all—that the method of their selection completely defeats the purpose of student government as it is defined by two of America's foremost educators. The most naive Duke student would not pretend that "we can develop many of our future leaders" by what is virtually a lottery method of nomination, nor would he say in all fairness that the organization of elections on the Duke campus gives any part of the answer at all "to those who think that democracies are too inefficient to succeed. . ."

Fraternity men, who will do the real voting this week and next, have a special interest in the plan. They have a chance to de-emphasize the fraternity as a political club which rests on the fallacious theory that a fraternity is enhanced by political offices. On this matter, Dr. M. G. Fraser has written, on page 389 in his *College of the Future*:

> "Can the undesirable tendencies in fraternities be reduced or eliminated without the abolition of fraternities themselves? One very desirable plan in an intelligent program to raise fraternity standards is *eliminating opportunities for cliquish voting and activities in campus affairs.*"

There can be little doubt that the amendment, if passed, would be a progressive step in the conduct of student affairs. There has been no open opposition or public argument against it, but the plan will not have easy sailing. There are selfish groups who like political combines, either for what they get out of them or for the sheer fun of playing at big-time politics a few weeks out of the year. It remains to be seen whether these groups can prevail. —G. T. F.

Some Points Of View

Interesting classroom phenomenon: Professors never give "A's" and "B's", students make them; and on the other hand, students never make "D's" and "E's", professors give them. As for the gentleman's grade of "C", it is simply got out of the course, presumably without any work on the part of the student or any interest on the part of the professor.

That fine photograph in last week's *Life* of the Duke Chapel and its ghost, has given rise to considerable consternation about the Duke campus. One rumor, obviously a false one, reports that the *Life* photo was the first many Duke students had seen of the Chapel. Be that as it, just to be sure we all know what *Life* is talking about next time, the Chapel can be roughly located by walking down the campus towards the hospital and turning sharp left at the Union. The Chapel can then be seen squarely between two campus landmarks, Quadrangle Pictures and Dr. Spence's religious drama classroom. —E. T. B.

As Others See It

Duke Students And War

"The Duke Chronicle, newspaper of Duke university, has just revealed results of a survey on student attitudes towards war and international relations with the following results:

1—Duke students will refuse to fight or support a war abroad. They voted six to one on this issue.

2—They are not sure as to whether students should support an "international decency" program by engaging in boycotts and economic measures. Voting was evenly divided.

3—They agreed, by a two to one majority, that American isolationism is impossible.

This poll, taken from a student body of exceptionally high income attending an aristocratic and heavily endowed Southern university, should represent the opinions of a very conservative portion of U. S. college students.

Supporters of ROTC and the pro-military portion of our daily press may well wonder at the striking similarity of pacifistic opinion expressed in this poll when compared with the ROTC polls taken here by The Californian and the ASUC at various times.

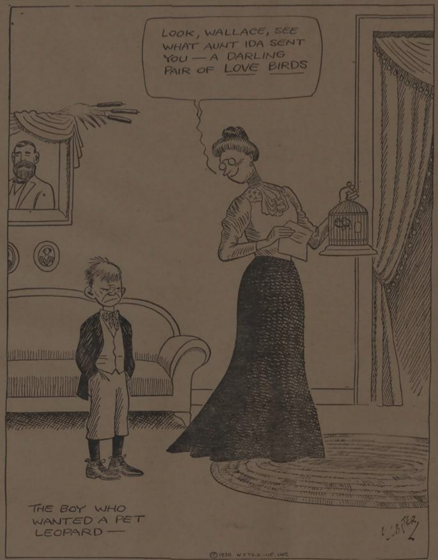
Does the Duke questionnaire, demonstrating as it does that Duke men and women would refuse to fight or support a war abroad, indicate that those students are "dangerous Communists" or that "subversive influences" have undermined their morale?

Or does the questionnaire indicate that college students realize the futility, uselessness and horror of war and are determined to keep their country at peace?

The Duke poll showed what college students think of war. The California poll on ROTC showed what students think of war preparation.

No, American college students aren't "going soft." They're just becoming sensible." —*The Daily Californian.*

Life's Darkest Moment : : : : : : BY WEBSTER



Music in the Air . . .

Diary . . . 8:00 a.m. Arise and eat breakfast. 8:30 a.m. Light cigarette and read *Bull Durham's column.* 9:00 a.m. Light another cigarette. Then light Bull's column.

JOHNNY LONG . . . Not one but two requests from our Mr. Upchurch of the Quadrangle to give Johnny Long and his orchestra, a former band of Duke, a boost. . . Mr. Upchurch's item contains the news that Johnny has recently cut four sides for Vocalion records. . . All sweet numbers with a strong Kemp flavor. . . This bunch of boys left Duke a few years ago, and, although they did not attain the success of another Duke band, Les Brown, they have risen slowly but surely. Their latest engagement was at the Copley-Plaza hotel in Boston and ended about two weeks ago (if I am not wrong). The band is now located in the DeWitt Clinton hotel in Albany and is evidently proving quite popular. However much those who heard Johnny's band *while he was here may like him, I cannot summon up* much enthusiasm concerning their future.

ON THE LOOSE . . . Pan-Hel may have big news for you soon. . . Goodman (who really shows great swing potentialities) goes back into the Penn hotel in two or three more weeks. . . Bob Crosby's Dixieland dispensers are there now. . . Fats Waller, the traitor, says Hawaiian music will be the next craze after swing. . . Showing the courage of his convictions, he has put a guitar in his recording group, and believe me, it sounds out of place with Fats' guttural voice. . . To return to Goodman, he made 'em roll in the aisles again in his recent Paramount theatre appearance. . . For the morning show, they gathered in the streets at 5 a.m. and built bonfires to keep warm. By 7:30 they were mobbing the theatre, despite all the efforts of the police. . . Scribner's music critic, Gilbert, has some fine ideas on music. He too detests many of the sloppily sentimental and tricky songs of the day and really goes for unadulterated jazz. . . Mr. Gilbert also is a critic of classical music. All of which shows that all swing enthusiasts are not of the masses. Are you blushing, Bull?. . . For those who care, Andy Kirk and his bunch of jitter bugs are in Durham tonight for a return engagement. . . Run down and grab an earful of that piano and tenor sax. . . Ja Garber (the Idol of the Airlanes) will be in Raleigh soon. . . That's all I want to know. . . *Down Beat* recently conducted a poll among musicians as to their favorites. The results may surprise you. Goodman, with a two to one lead over Dorsey, was chosen as their favorite band. . . Choo Berry, of Cab Calloway, was chosen as tenor sax man along with Bob Crosby's Eddie Miller and Dorsey's Freeman. . . Harry James of Goodman, took top honors among trumpeters leading Berigan and Louis Armstrong. . . Dorsey and Teagarden are number one and two choice for slip horn men. Teddy Wilson, they poll, plays the best piano, along with Crosby's Zurke. Gene Krupa must be the best drummer, according to them. Bob Haggart, a Crosby man, will beat the bass fiddle. And our boy Goodman will lead the band with his clarinet and double on sax. . . . *I hope this column will not strike you as being* rather stale in news value, although these items are the latest thing in *Metronome* and *Down Beat.* Finis. . .

Thus . . . . . by ROBERT WILSON

On Fun

(Being the first of a series treating aspects of social life at Duke.)

What a person does for fun, how he amuses himself, how he prevents himself from becoming a dull lad, is as personal a matter as the food he eats, the books he reads, and the color of feminine hair he prefers. Quite simply, it is a matter of taste. But in the question of choice, as in the price of shredded wheat where the price is some kind of proportion to the demand, the supply is also a consideration; in this case, the opportunities for fun at Duke and in Durham.

A little thought upon this aspect of the question reveals a variation that depends upon the season. Of course it is always dance season at Duke, from September to June. But then, dances are fun only for the girls whose low natures welcome the barbarisms of this sport. And then, there are two sorts of dances, those for the masses and those open only to the fraternal *brotherhoods. But,* as a major source of enjoyment to members of both sexes, of all classes, the dance must be allotted first position.

The popularity of this sport is understandable. In the first place, it brings members of the opposite sexes into socially sanctioned proximity, and the pleasure to be derived from this aspect of the dance is permissable by virtue of its being primitive, instinctive, and natural. In the second place, it ministers to the ego of the one sex, in allowing it to undress with decent indecency, and in letting it be chased rhythmically—with no chance of it being caught, at least not in the Woman's college gym. Ah, there is the rub! In the third place, it ministers to the ego of the male sex in allowing him to don the garb of the leisure class, (we mean tails), and he, himself, is pleased with the opportunity to chase the opposite sex rhythmically—with the added stimulation of a few drops of potent aphrodisiac cunningly placed upon the lobes of the *female ear. Yes, there is no doubt but that the* dance is interesting. It could be exciting too—but, then, what are chaperon lines for?

There are no grades given for excellencies in this game. Not even any letters. But there does stand shining as a goal for the diligent participant in this phase of Duke life, positions of honor and leadership, and the chance to lead what are curiously known as "figures." We would urge those seriously interested in advancing themselves in this sport to first join a fraternity or sorority. If you cannot afford this, though you cannot hope to rise to a position in which you can guide the destinies of this activity, you can, with a little serious application, assure yourself of regular attendance at these "hunts" by cultivating the acquaintance of members of these organizations. It is possible, if you are seriously interested, to go through Duke without missing a single dance. But if you set out on this long road upward, you must consider the difficulties, the hazards; ie., care in avoidance of offensive odors, flat *feet, broken arches, and,* since the *advent of the Big* Apple, broken backs. Ponder carefully before you make this your career at Duke.

Duke's Mixture

The weeping and wailing and gnashing of teeth has gradually subsided. With sighs of relief the campus has settled back to that uneventful existence which consists of making the rounds of movies, dances, basketball games, and reading Maxine Watson's column in the local paper for quips about Duke Doings. All those resolutions made during the late unpleasantness have been effectively forgotten, not to be recalled until the far distant May Massacre is upon us. Several good boys, and possibly a few good girls, have checked out into what has been described by anti-New Deal economists as "a hard cruel world." We have been unable to ascertain the truth of a malicious rumor circulating the West campus to the effect that that light-hearted fellow, Jack Stamaton, intends to beat his drums in some other section of the country this semester.

Joe Brunansky and Plez Williams are succeeding in keeping things fairly well in hand at the Tavern these nights. . . Johnny Carpenter and Grace find that a little relaxation at the Goody Shop is just the thing. . . Dick Clarke and Costagain, or rather Costigan also find that this is a happy spot for a little chat. . . Clover, in a Homberg, finds the Tavern more to his taste. . . "Stinky" Davis was rather embarrassed when one of the visiting chorus girls at the Rialto identified him as a five year man for the edification of the audience. . . What ever happened to Terry Harris?. . . Hoffman's latest stunt consists of breaking light bulbs behind unsuspecting victims. . . Boeker in his farewell said that the thing he was going to miss most about leaving Duke were Hollmeyer's jokes. . . MacDonald isn't going to have anyone on the catching end much longer. . . Our nomination for the best waiter in the Coffee Shop, where good waiters are as scarce as good meals, is Thurston. . . Barrett is featuring an original version of that current earsore "Bei Mir Bist Du Shoen". . . Al Ingham, at the halfway mark, still has a comfortable lead in the race for Alpha Sigma Sigma honors. . . Oak has a highly capable tutor. . . Frank Tripp is back in circulation, which is merely a statement of fact and not a plug. . . Brewer is enjoying a well merited social success. . . Dorn has well demonstrated that old gag about mice being away. . . Pulley, with a sense of the dramatic, modeled a few women's hats the other night. . . Don't forget the Andy Kirk dance at the Armory tonight. . .

—B. DURHAM.

: Voices :

'Such . . . Pictures'

Editor Chronicle:

Our exchange desk has clipped from your paper a picture of Queen Margaret and posted it on our bulletin board. As a result our staff has been most inefficient of late, and utter breakdown of morale is expected. Please refrain from printing such disturbing pictures in the future.

But, more seriously, I am writing you to request a mat of Queen Margaret's picture to run in our paper. Several factions have agitated for more friendly relations between Duke and this University. I believe publishing Queen Margaret's picture would be a step towards such relations.

We are equipped to handle any *effects of inefficiency or decreased* morale upon our student body if the picture is printed by the *Daily Tar Heel.*

Hoping that some day Carolina will produce a beautiful co-ed, in which event we will send you a mat of her, I remain, hoping for bigger and better November Thirteens, I am,

Sincerely yours,
J. MAC SMITH, *Editor,*
Daily Tar Heel.

'At Last'

Editor Chronicle:

The Archive, that prematurely weaned and bedridden literary magazine, has managed at last to shine through its counterpane of scorn.

Editor Wilson's four page contribution to the January issue is the most refreshing indication of intellectual honesty permeated with intestinal fortitude I have been fortunate enough to see during my stay at Duke. Although Plato was not wholly Plato, his factual argumentation was poignant enough to make at least one student reader wonder what any real LL.D. would use as successful refutation.

It is indeed tragic that a thing of this nature can make the eight ball grow into an insurmountable obstacle which overshadows all possible counter-attack. A counter-attack would be interesting to behold, don't you think?

I wonder whether Editor Wilson will go so far as to express himself on the commercialization of higher "larnin'," sacrificing the scope of undergraduate curriculum in favor of the more-possible-fame-giving graduate curriculum, etc.

P. W. J.

The Collegiate Review

At an annual veterinarians conference at Cornell University listeners heard that science is seeking to aid dogs suffering from a malady that hits their backs in the hardest place to scratch. The ailment, called "contact allergy" makes dogs sensitive to something they touch. And city pups as well as country dogs are affected.

* * *

Singing, shouting college students in Denver hired their driver to stay sober for them. When a police officer *questioned him he said, "They hired* me to drive as long as the party lasted. I'm working my way through college for fellow students who like to drink."

* * *

Castor oil, long a cause for ugly juvenile faces, now is an aid to feminine beauty, Dr. George W. Fiero, University of Buffalo scientist, announced after 3 years of research. He discovered the new beauty aid by passing hydrogen through castor oil in the presence of a catalyst and thus obtaining "hydrogenized castor oil."

* * *

Syracuse University school of journalism students passed a petition among fellow students in a "guillibility test." They found 115 seniors would sign a paper that at the start read like a proposal to eliminate exams for seniors but ended up with a promise to serve five years in a chain gang. Said the journalism students: "They'll sign anything."

* * *

The schoolboy's dream that someday he will be president is a thing of the past. A coed in the University of Chicago school of business in a survey of 1,980 public school children in Kansas City found that the attitude that money is hard to earn is common to all groups. Forty per cent of the pupils feared they would be unable to get jobs of any kind when they get through school.

* * *

President Roosevelt and Norman Thomas were rated highest as American statesmen in a mock election held by a politics class at Reed College. The balloting was held to show the method of counting votes under proportional representation.

* * *

The pleasing personality that influences people is born, not made, in the opinion of Dr. Howard W. Haggard, professor of applied psychology at Yale university. Personality and genius are inborn, he says.

* * *

College men who are able to apply abstract knowledge to a concrete problem are in demand at the New York police academy. Three of the 143 rookies let loose from the academy have college degrees and more than 10 per cent have attended college for some length of time.

* * *

An official bulletin of the San Jose State college ranks love as one of the ten commonest causes for students flunking out in their examinations. Time is given as the only cure. "Petting" is classed as another common cause.

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