

# Maroon and Gold

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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1950

## AN ANSWER

(Editor's Note: The following letter comes in answer to a recent guest editorial.)

Editor, Maroon and Gold,  
Elon College, N. C.

Dear Bob:

Our college paper recently carried a letter to you from our president of the student body. I feel that I should answer this letter, as indications are that part of this misunderstanding is my fault.

Building the new gymnasium has been the biggest thing done on this campus in the past twenty-five years. It could never have been built this soon if the students had not gotten behind the project and given the support that they have given. As matters stand now, the job is only half done. Over half of the cash paid on the gymnasium has had to be borrowed. Present indications are that we will have to borrow at least \$130,000 when all bills are paid and the building has been equipped. At the present time we have only \$70,000 in unpaid pledges to cover this amount. This means that the alumni have to raise an additional \$60,000 if the gymnasium is to be truly an alumni building. The college board of trustees authorized the borrowing of the money, but with the understanding that the alumni would assume the obligation of repaying the loan.

The executive committee of our alumni association knew that money would have to be borrowed if the building was to be completed. They also knew that it would be up to them to repay the loan. They knew that the building, when completed, would be a source of revenue. At their meeting last July they voted unanimously that all profits received from the building would be turned over to the alumni office to be applied to helping pay off the loan. This was to include the concessions. They realized that there would be cost to operating the building and concession, but left the details of this to the college officials. Knowing that the student body had as large a stake in the gymnasium as any other group, the members of the committee felt that they would go along with any agreement that would help finish paying for the gymnasium. I feel sure that, if this had been known, a great deal of this misunderstanding would have been avoided.

I understand that the "E" Men's Club is receiving 10 per cent of the net profits from the concession and that this is to be applied to paying for their sweaters. I feel sure that if they do not make enough to pay for the sweaters that the difference can be made up from the amount received from the concession by the alumni association.

If you should see fit to print this letter, I'd like to take the opportunity to express,

## the yankee peddler

By BOB WRIGHT



### Early A. M. Serenade

Let me stay in the arms of Morpheus;  
Let me keep his sweet repose,  
Let me revel here in this luxury,  
Let me shie from weal and woe,  
Let me—aw nutz, lemme sleep!

\*\*\*

Headline: "Orient Wonders What Soviet Gets In Pact." One of these days a fellow will show up singing, "I Came Here to Talk For Joe," then they'll find out.

\*\*\*

The classified section of the Springfield, Mass., newspapers carried an ad for a "delinquent and ambitious young lady." It is reported that several applicants were on hand for the job. Of course the ad should have read "diligent" but it just goes to show you.

We are certainly in a hurry to reach the ultimate in destruction. We have gone from the A-Bomb to the H-Bomb, completely ignoring B, C, D, E, F, and G. It is to be hoped that our scientists do not choose to disregard the rest of the alphabet.

\*\*\*

On the day the weather turned cold we saw our first robin. That little harbinger of Spring certainly looked foolish as he shivered and shook in the chilly breezes.

\*\*\*

In all probability Nash Parker's next public appearance will be sponsored by the E.V.D. company. Paraphrasing the girde advertisements, we can imagine something like this: "Look what I can do in my new E.V.D. shorts." At the risk of remaining on the subject too long, we must report that there are rumors to the effect that Nash is to be named "Mr. Scivvies of 1949-50."

\*\*\*

If the implication of the proceeding paragraph escapes you, it's your own fault. You should have been "Out of the Frying Pan."

\*\*\*

Ah yes, Income Tax time is here. It's the only time of year we enjoy our lowly rung on the financial ladder.

Headline: "Spud Props Hit Twice In Senate." If they knock those props out around here, our bill of fare will collapse.

\*\*\*

Headline: "Republicans Insult U. S. Intelligence, Truman Declares." Perhaps Harry thinks his taxes are a compliment to the U. S. income.

\*\*\*

It might be well to increase the fire insurance on the Mooney Building. Dr. Reynolds' flaming rhetoric might start a blaze similar to the one which burned the Southern Pines church after his sermon there. Holocaustic homiletics!

North Dorm's new theme song: "Baby, It's Cold Inside."

\*\*\*

South Dormitory has been made the garden spot of the Carolinas. Its inhabitants would have appreciated a load or two of fill in front and to the side of the building more than the bushes, however.

on behalf of the entire alumni association, my sincere appreciation to students for their support for the past two years. There is no doubt in the minds of anyone connected with the project, that, if the students of Elon College had not supported this project as they have, the gymnasium would not be standing on our campus today. They have reason to be proud of what they have done.

Sincerely,  
JIMMY DARDEN.

## browsing around

with

BILL SINCLAIR



Coy Eaves invited me to take a tour of the dormitories with him, but I frankly could see no reason to do such. It seems that the complaint dealt with the bid week or bid night parties. Oh well! All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy.

\*\*\*

It seems that interest in the Elon Players' productions has fallen off a great deal. When the curtain went up on opening night, thirty people were in the auditorium. This may be due to the fact that too many attractions were against the student players. Among the rival attractions were such things as the basketball game, a good show in Greensboro and an excellent movie in Burlington. On the second night of the play there were about 250 present, and the play was much better. I think the play was excellent, and say, "Orchids to Carolyn Poythress who played the part of Dottie, and to Gardner Underhill who played the part of Norman." My reason for picking these two in particular is that they have not been in a previous play this year, and their acting was of top rank. To the other players I would like to say that they did a wonderful job and I am looking forward to some more good acting.

\*\*\*

Tentative plans call for the production of "Antigone" by the Elon Players. This is a Greek drama which has been translated into common, every-day language. There will be none of the highbrow in this play. It should be very good and of interest to all students. The students of the high schools in the surrounding areas should make this play a must on their list of activities.

\*\*\*

Dr. Reynolds preached at the Wide Fellowship Christian Church in Southern Pines last Sunday. A few days after that, the Greensboro paper noted that the church had burned. We wonder if it was because of a faulty sermon

—Contributed . . .

\*\*\*

The time is drawing nearer and nearer! It's only one more week! Examinations will start on March 1st! Everyone will be singing the exam blues!

\*\*\*

In a few weeks, the mobile X-ray unit from Burlington will be on the campus. It should be the desire of everyone to have an X-ray made, it is the only sure way we have to determine our immunity or susceptibility to that nasty old TB germ. Don't delay! Get your chest X-rayed. It's better to be safe than sorry!

\*\*\*

Heard on the campus the other day: the definition of Messiah is—a group of people who believe in Communism.

\*\*\*

### Taken from the GREENSBORO DAILY NEWS:

The first earth-Venus encounter occurred about 3,500 years ago. That was the period when the Israelites fled from Egypt and the Red Sea parted to let them through. Dr. Velikovsky explains how gravitational and electromagnetic disturbances from the two planets getting close might have accounted for the Red Sea parting and many other events of that period.

Forty years later, a similar approach of Venus and Earth, he says, may account for the sun standing still as reported in Joshua. He says the earth's rotation virtually stopped for a while.

That is a good argument for the professors of theology and the scientists. Some of the professors of theology maintain that the illustrations or incidents are purely figures of speech, others say that it is a literal happening. Who's right?

"That strip-tease artist had a hot time last night."

"Was she toasted by the customers?"  
"No; grilled by the police."

The only thing about coal contracting is the pile.

Between shortages of coal and water, New York's really being shown no quarter.

# Behind Scenes With Elon Players..

By EDWARD ENGLER

You can always tell by the haggard look on the face of Mrs. Elizabeth Smith that she is producing a play; for Mrs. Smith (or, as she is affectionately called by the Players, "Mrs. Smith"), like almost everyone else, tends to crack up under the strain of thinking of sixty different things at once.

The routine of producing these plays is pretty much the same—if you can overlook the chaos that each play involves in itself. After a respectable period of time has elapsed, and the the corpse of the last play is quite cold—usually about two days—there is heard in Mooney Chapel the weeping and wailing and gnashing of teeth which is the signal for a new cast to assemble. Not only is it the signal for a new cast, but it is also the underlying theme song of all rehearsals; and it grows in intensity in direct ratio to the length of time left before opening night.

### How They Start

If anyone doubts that the making of a play is a trial to all concerned, let me give you a quick run-down of the facts. I guess the logical place to start would be at the beginning.

For a few days after a play has been shown, the

Players either walk proudly through the corridors with happy smiles on their weary faces, or sulk along the least-travelled paths to their classes depending on the success of the play. Then the notice is posted that a cast is going to be assembled for a new play. All the work starts over again.

Each prospective actor and actress has to decide whether or not he or she wants to be in the play. This requires a little consideration, because once someone gets a part in a play he must put out a lot of time working on it. There are those who do not realize just how much time they will have to spend when they try out for a part; consequently there are a few who find, after they have begun rehearsing, that it requires too much of their time. The problem of replacing them in the cast can

be quite vexing, and the replacement has to put in a little overtime to get his lines. That happened to Jerry Allen in this last show. One of the boys realized that he could not play basketball and attend rehearsals too, so he had to drop his part in "Out Of The Frying Pan." Jerry came in late and had quite a time learning his part in time for the performance.

### Experience Helps

The cast is usually made up largely of people who have previously acted in one of the plays. These people know what will be required of them. Of those who have played in a successful play there are usually two types: first,

process which takes an hour or so the director removes the clothes pin from her nose, shuts her eyes says "eenie, meenie, mine, mo," and the cast has been selected. Sometimes the boys wind up with women's parts, and vice-versa, but after a few rehearsals this error is usually discovered and rectified. Naturally, everyone came in with the idea of playing the lead, and much diplomacy on the part of the director is required as she assures each member of the cast that his part is indeed the most important in the whole play. Once this is done, almost everyone gets a book from which to memorize his lines (for some obscure reason, there are never enough books to go around), and the machinery is set into wobbly motion.

### Making Scenery

Meanwhile, committees have been organized to take care of the properties, the set, the publicity, and all the details that are a part of a production. Everyone in the Players, whether he is in the play or not, is assigned a task, which he solemnly swears to carry out to the best of his ability. Mrs. Smith never fails to be fooled by these earnest avowals of



One of the busiest groups behind the scenes with the Elon Players is the one which prepares the scenery for the staging of the plays. The big "flats" must be repainted and redecorated for each play, and then there is always the furniture and other "props" to be secured. Shown above (left to right) are Robert Wright, Louise Spence and Walker Fesmire, all busily engaged in the job of painting part of the scenery.

there is the type that doesn't care to risk losing what prestige he may have gained (he doesn't show up for this one); then there is the type that had such a good time doing a good play that he wants to be in the next one. Of those who have just been in a turkey (and I don't mean the kind you see in a delicatessen), there are also two types: the one who doesn't think the result was worth all the work will not come back, of course; but there are a few determined souls around who act in an unsuccessful play and come back more determined than ever to get another part. Add to all this the sadistic type that comes to rehearsals to revel in the agony pictured on the director's face, and you have recruited a small army for the next sanguinary attack on the theatre.

After everyone present reads the various parts to be played, a

the result is a last-minute discovery that the committees have been waiting until the eleventh hour to get things done. This can be very disconcerting, as you can well imagine. It happens, however, and it is not difficult to understand why. Until the play is almost ready to open, nobody seems to have time to think of such dreary things as props, sets, and production details in general. There are a few notable exceptions to this rule, hard-working Bob Walker being one.

### Rehearsal Time

Most of the time is spent in rehearsals. As you would expect, the main trouble is the memorizing of lines. Everyone has his own system of learning lines, and from the looks of the first few rehearsals, not one worthwhile system has ever been devised. Some

(Continued On Page Four)



"AW C'MON - TRY SOME OF MY FACE CREAM."