

Maroon And Gold

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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1952

IS VOTING A RIGHT OR DUTY?

The small number of people voting in the election of last week is no different from any other election here on campus. When a person is given the privilege of voting, why not exercise the right? Of course, there is no difference in the election here on campus and the national elections for president. In the 1948 national election only 52 per cent of the eligible voters in the United States exercised their right to vote. In the early thirties only a small number of the people of Germany went to the polls. They were the few who inaugurated Nazism with Hitler as its leader. If the majority of the population of Germany had voted, in all probability this would never have happened, and possibly the second World War would have been avoided.

In this country the majority rules. This is one of the main spokes in the wheel of Democracy. This spoke is needed just as much as freedom of religion or freedom of speech. The flat-sided wheel rides rough, so our government does not run smoothly when this privilege is disregarded.

There is also no room in voting in a democracy for frivolity. Such practical jokers as the ones who vote for non-existent candidates should have this privilege taken away from them. Our freedom has been too hard earned with "blood, sweat, and tears" for people to take lightly.

Then there are the sore-heads who refuse to cooperate if the candidate for whom they voted is not elected. They continually gripe and complain about how the country is going to the dogs and how much better off the nation would be if their man had come out on top.

When a boy becomes eighteen he is required by law to register with the Selective Service Board in his hometown. When he reaches nineteen he is eligible for draft. This means he is old enough to fight, and perhaps to make the supreme sacrifice for his country. Yet the majority of our country believes that he is too young to have enough judgment to vote in a national election. If a person is old enough to serve his country in the armed forces, why should he be denied the right to vote for his Commander-In-Chief?

Unity is achieved only through the sincere and wholehearted cooperation of every citizen of our country. Let's everybody back our new president for the betterment of our country and of the world.

"United, we stand. Divided, we fall."
—Rhodes.



cash
on the
spot

By LYNN CASHION

The most interesting thing that has happened on campus in the past two weeks was the Student Body Political Poll, which brought about much serious thought in the minds of our students as to the present political situation. Many of us thoroughly enjoyed discussing and debating past issues of our national government and giving campaign arguments for our favored candidate for President.

As you all know by now, Adlai Stevenson won in preference over Dwight D. Eisenhower by thirteen votes. Approximately 56 per cent of the student body actually voted, but there were many more who entered in the debates, and many of them are still debating the issues. Fifty-six percentage voting does not look too good, but we have to take into consideration that half of the students here are under twenty-one years of age. The percentage of citizens voting in the national election of 1948 was 52 per cent. Statisticians are predicting 56 per cent will vote in this year's election. Therefore, we at Elon College, by some coincidence, voted the exact percentage predicted for this year's election.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank the Student Body for the fine cooperation and interest in helping us to sponsor this election poll on our campus. But I wish to remind you that even though our political poll is over, we are not to drop national affairs and politics from our way of thinking. We are the ones who will in the very near future be playing an important part in our local, state, and national government. Now is the time for us to start preparing to be good citizens.

When I walk through our college campus, I not only take the time to notice the beauty of our college grounds and the stately old buildings that have been 'home' to our college generation, and many generations before, but I take the time to do a little eavesdropping on my fellow students to see how they are getting along here at Elon, and to what degree of satisfaction they are living with their fellow students. Thus far this year, I have found from observation that the school spirit of our student body is in a definite upward trend. Cooperation and interest of students in our Student Government is at a high peak, and is still in progress.

We have much to be thankful for here at Elon, including one of the finest well-rounded student bodies in the state. First, of all, we are a small college where everyone knows the other, and that in itself is an important factor in that we are close together, in work or in play. It is also an essential factor in the progress of our students as a whole, for we have found that by working together we can accomplish any goal we so desire.

Of course, there will be times that the going will be rough. Nothing worth while is ever easily gotten. There will be those who disagree with campus issues and campus movements, but that disagreement is to be expected. Does disagreement not arise from competition, and is competition not one of the basic factors of our democracy? Competition stands for progress and advancement. It is through differences of opinion and beliefs that we arise at new ideas. It is this method that we determine the right course for advancement. And it is through living and working together here on our campus that we have learned to respect each other's opinions without getting mad and holding childish grudges against those who disagree with our way of thinking. This training in sociology that we are now achieving daily will be one of the most important phases of our college education.

Whenever you feel that your life here on campus has become confused, or that we are a miserable failure, go to one of your Student Government officers and just let your hair down. Talk over your problem with him and he will do all he can to help you. He will be more than glad to have your ideas for what you think would better our environment. And too, if you feel that you are not getting to contribute your share to your Student Body's programs and progress, just go by the Student Government office and request something to do. There is plenty you could do, and even more for you to do. Who knows, your ideas may be just what we need. Each and every one of our contributions count up, just as it takes pennies to make dollars, and the more dollars we have the happier we will be. Knowing each other and living together with respect for one another is what makes our campus "just one big happy family."

Camping In The Carribean...

By LOUISE BEMIS

I shall never forget the experiences I had last summer while attending an Ecumenical Work Camp in Puerto Rico, a small but beautiful island that is often called the "Key to the Caribbean." The purpose of the camp, which was sponsored by the World Council of Churches in Geneva, was to give life, socially and economically, to a small, rural mountain community named Jerusalem.

The campers consisted of three girls from the United States, Kamy Williams, Virginia Bush and I; eight Puerto Ricans; and one boy from the Dominican Republic. Of course all except we three American girls spoke Spanish, but we all helped one another to learn both languages, and before the summer was over we got along very well.

Our living quarters consisted of an abandoned three-room house, like those in which the peasants live, located a mile and a half up the mountain. The kitchen was an old shed behind the house, it being raised four feet off the ground. There was no furniture, electricity, running water or refrigeration in either the house or the shed, and the walls were charcoal black from the smoke of primitive cooking fires.

Our first few days were spent in building furniture, cleaning the house, arranging a system of rain barrels as a source of water, constructing a porch with a roof of palm leaves and digging ditches so that the rain would not wash us off the mountain.

Cooking was our main problem at first, because we had to prepare our food as the peasants do. There was a sand-box on legs in the kitchen, topped off with three large stones, between which we built our fires and over which we cooked. Eventually we acquired a little two-burner oil stove, but it was never adequate for preparing meals for fifteen people.

Our daily diet consisted of Puerto Rican rice and beans, cafe



LOUISE BEMIS

con leche, bananas, coconuts, pineapples, oatmeal, Spam, powdered milk and various native fruits. The food did not appeal to me at first, but I learned to enjoy even the powdered milk.

Washing clothes was an experience that was actually fun. We carried our laundry down to the mountain stream and were taught by the Puerto Rican women how to twist and pound the clothes on the rocks. I thought my clothes would never survive, but they always turned out sparkling clean. We also bathed and swam in the cold, clear water of the river.

After breakfast we held worship services, which gave us courage to overcome the inconveniences and made us feel the importance of our work. We would read the Bible and sing hymns in both Spanish and English, and we had a feeling of closeness to God on our mountain top.

Following the devotions we would hike down the mountain, clad in dungarees, shirts and heavy shoes and carrying picks and shovels. Our job was to build a cobblestone road up the mountain to replace the donkey pass that had been there for many de-

ades, hoping thus to teach the mountain people that they could improve their community and mode of living.

We worked every morning on the road, and little by little we noticed a more friendly attitude on the part of the people. Women began bringing us refreshments while we worked, children helped us carry stones, and the men eventually started working with us on weekends when there was no work in the sugar cane fields.

We spent our afternoons in classes, where government agents, doctors and ministers spoke to us about the economic, social, religious and political problems of the island. The lectures were given in Spanish but were translated into English for us. We learned much and began to understand the people better.

We spent some of the afternoons in visiting homes and on tours. We called on families far back in the mountains and discussed their problems with them. The tours included visits to San Juan on the Fourth of July, to the tropical rain forest of El Yunki, to a sugar refinery, to a progressive prison farm, to Luquillo Beach and a three-day trip around the island to the larger cities and the denominational mission centers.

We attended church services six nights each week at a small church on top of the mountain, where the boys of our group took turns holding services. They were all seminary students, and this was excellent experience.

The close of each day found us exhausted and aching in body but happy in heart, and we tumbled into bed, tied up our mosquito nets and slept the sleep of contented people.

Being in Puerto Rico, and living with people of a different culture, race and tongue, was indeed a grand experience for us. We helped break down some of the ill feeling of the Puerto Rican people toward Americans and at the same time found a new spirit of Christianity and love of God in ourselves.

Elon Students Are Of Varying Origins

Figures from the office of Prof. A. L. Hook, Elon College registrar, reveal that there are seventeen states, one foreign country, and eighteen different religious denominations represented on the Elon campus this year. The states range from Connecticut, as far south as Florida, and as far west as Arkansas.

As might be expected, North Carolina leads all the states with 465 as compared with 365 last year. Virginia is second with 70 as compared with last year's 79 students. South Carolina has nine and Pennsylvania,

New Jersey, and Massachusetts a re next in line with seven

Other states represented by one or more students, listed in alphabetical order include Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, New York, and Washington, D. C. Luuk Grout is from Holland.

Despite the fact that Elon is operated under the auspices of the Congregational Christian Church, that denomination is third in the number of students here. The Methodists lead the way with 134 students compared with 94 last year. The Baptists,

who were first last year with 123, dropped into second place this year with 130 students. The Congregational Christian remain in third place with 121 students compared with 81 last year. The Presbyterians are in fourth place with 57, and the Catholics are fifth with 25 representatives.

Other religious organizations represented include the Church of Brethren, Church of Christ, Christian Science, Church of God, Disciples of Christ, Episcopal, Greek Orthodox, Lutheran, Mormon, Nazarene, Pilgrim Holiness, Reformed and Quakers.

A Line O' Type Or Two

By PATSY MELTON



Rhodes.

Well, the great election is over but not forgotten. Gone is the back-biting, the mud-slinging and the name-calling. Let's all get behind the winner, whether he's your candidate or not. The next four years are very important ones in all of our lives, and we can't afford to work against each other while outside forces are pounding away at us on all sides. Let's help each other by giving full cooperation and respecting the views of others. If you didn't get out and vote, I don't want to hear you mention politics. Personally, I went Pogo!

Aren't you proud of the Elon Band? Wouldn't you like to see it grow? Don't you think the uniforms are snazzy? Then for Pete's sake, if you can play an instrument, join the Bandwagon and fill up those extra uniforms. You'll be helping your school, you'll be getting a lot of valuable experience, and you'll have a lot of fun. The line forms to the right of Jimmy

it. Here 'tis:

STORM
Summer died last night
With a roll of Mighty drums
From a celestial symphony
In concert before God.

Summer died last night,
And angel's tears fell for her,
Spreading a grey velvet mantle
About her as she died.

Summer died last night,
And in tribute to her greatness
The elements all showered her
With opals, diamonds, and pearls.

Great was Earth's mourning,
And trees bowed low in grief
As the wind sang a dirge
Before her funeral pyre.

That story which appeared in this space last issue was not the work of yours truly. I heard it somewhere and just thought you might enjoy it. I think it is a positive masterpiece.

the
moving finger
writes

By MATT CURRIN



THE COLLEGE STUDENT AND AMERICAN POLITICS

By Hon. Clyde R. Hoey,

U. S. Senator From North Carolina
(Editor's Note: The following article was written especially for this column by United States Senator Clyde R. Hoey from North Carolina and former Governor of North Carolina.)

The college student occupies an increasingly important position in our whole economy. One reason for this is that there is a very greatly increased number of college students in North Carolina and the United States. Another reason is that college students are better informed today about general questions and have decidedly keener insight into our processes of government than obtained heretofore. This is made possible because of the broadened curriculum of our various colleges and universities and because of the means of communication available to college students such as radio and television added to newspapers and magazines which have been available over the years.

Politics is a subject of consuming interest. This is true especially in a democracy and applies to all people, but with special force to the college student by virtue of his superior opportunities and privileges. The college student should be a leader in his community when his college days are over, and therefore it is essential that he acquaint himself with the political philosophy of the various parties and that he adopt that philosophy which in his judgment would mean most for the development of our country and the guaranteeing of the perpetuity of our free institutions.

A great many college students get the idea that to be an intellectual and be considered free and independent that one must become an extreme liberal. Sometimes in colleges and universities this question of liberalism is completely overworked. I am in favor of liberalism which expresses itself in tolerance for the views and opinions of others as well as their action and conduct. I also believe in a liberalism which seeks to find and know the truth and is willing to make the necessary investigation in order to ascertain the real facts and then deal with the situation without prejudice or bias. That is commendable liberalism.

However, there is another form of liberalism which is rampant in this country, which is synonymous with radicalism and embraces every new theory and every wild scheme that is proposed and this tends to bolshevism, in that it undertakes to discredit the established order in every walk of life and has a cynical approach to all customs and traditions which have been honored and revered through the years. This extreme liberalism or radicalism is dangerous for the college student. Youth naturally looks for new things and is attracted by fantastic propositions. To discount the forms and methods which have ordinarily obtained is regarded some as an evidence of superior wisdom, whereas in many instances it amounts to disregard of the wisdom and experience of those who preceded us and established the great principles upon which our Republic was founded which have been responsible for its growth and power.

I have seen so much flaunting of so-called liberalism and radicalism that I feel that college students should weigh carefully the various philosophies which may be presented to them most attractively, because a radical is generally an enthusiast and usually is able to present plausibly his theories, however impractical they may be.

The country needs sound thinking on the part of the college students, college professors and the whole public. In this time of great crises we need to review the fundamentals of our government and to adhere to the true and tried policies which time and experience have proven to be wise. It is a mistake to accept every new proposition and hail it as a panacea for governmental ills, largely because it is something new. It is likewise unwise to reject constructive suggestions for changes merely because they are new. The college student, as well as the average citizen, needs to attain a balance in thinking, as the salvation of our nation in the future depends on the judgment, wisdom and patriotism of those participating in politics and those voting in elections. Every citizen, as well as every college student, should take a lively interest in politics and a wholesome interest in elections.