

# Maroon And Gold

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 6, 1953

### A DATE WITH DESTINY

These years are hard years in our war-torn world. And the years which lie ahead will not be easy either. We are now in the midst of a bloody war in Korea which seems to be far from finished. The H-Bomb is being perfected in order that we will be able to kill thousands more than our now almost obsolete A-Bomb can kill. It seems that the emphasis is on kill and hate.

We are spending billions on war armaments. We are spending millions training young men to kill. And still the largest killer of Americans is disease, and how much are we spending to combat cancer and heart disease? It seems that we have a false value and that we are emphasizing the wrong things.

We are, indeed, in a precarious position. If we don't prepare for war, Russia will flood into our civilization and that would be the end of things as we now know them. If we do arm, we are only going to balance things, and this could go on for years. What is the solution? No one seems to know. Only time will tell about that.

Those of us who are in college today don't remember a single hour during our lifetimes when there was not talk of war if not real war itself. Many of our own classmates have seen military service in either World War II or the Korean War. And now we, the class of 1953, are preparing to graduate. We must realize that after graduation we have a date — a date with destiny. The future of our lives, of our nation, and of our world are now thrust upon our shoulders. They have really been there all along, but now we come to our senses and realize it.

The big question is: Have we been prepared to meet the challenge? The campus problems have seemed big to most of us during the past four years, and rightly so. But as we move on out into reality let us so move that those here at Elon and those who will come after us will be proud to be the part of Elon which we once were.

Today we have the greatest challenges since 1776. We must carve a world out of a wilderness of war, hat, greed. Our world needs men and women of real conviction. There is no place for the salamander type.

We have seen the awful hand of secularism all about us, and we know that this alone is one of the fights we must not ignore. The greatest problems today are not with Russia but with ourselves. Are we going to take the easy way out and become defeated before we even start? Are we going to compromise with ourselves? The answer must be NO. We must stand firm. We must stand and let the winds of life blow and not budge even one inch.

Those of us of the class of 1953 realize what Elon has meant to us. We will never forget her and the dream which is hers. That dream has now become a part of us. And to those whom we leave behind, may the world find peace so that when you graduate you will enter into a peaceful world which we must all help patch up. Yes, we have a date with destiny. We pray that we have been prepared to meet the test.

— CURRIN

## bullets in the bull's-eye

By TOM TARGETT



JOTTINGS: Prof. Cunningham, Dauleley and Hess to head up the SCA program next year... David Starr to continue studies at USC as assistant in Chem. Lab... Laurels for the outstanding student recital of year go to James Clyburn, who is auditioning for the Julliard School of Music... Red Cross is in urgent need for blood donors... Good fraternity and sorority project... Prof. Westmoreland and Jerry Smyre to study music in France this summer... High Finances: \$6 borrowed from SCA Loan Fund this year... Spec "Quarterback" Male to wed this June... Sweeping constitutional changes in the making... Needs watching... For Your Convenience: A pencil sharpener in the Student Government office... Dean Stadler engagements to Bob Coleman, of Burlington announced... Something fishy going on at the College Pond... SCA on the move to the basement of Mooney... miracles of Miracles: The clocks are working on the campus... However, one prof threatens to cover face of clock in his room with a sign reading: "Time will pass. Will You?"... Professional painters to paint SU... Also Alamanca Hall... John Truitt and Matt Currin to attend Princeton Seminary next fall... Thought it was International Night at the Player's Show, "Hasty Heart"... The dialects were excellent... B. O. B. dressed up the I.T.K. frat room with curtains... Messick Sportsmanship Trophy won by Guilford... Spanish Club climaxed Clean-Up Day with a picnic at Rockingham Lake, at which time Jimmy Dalton took an unpremeditated swim... Frank Tingley, '52, back on campus for a day... Johnny Bolt, wearing Army uniform, was in wreck enroute to Player rehearsal... after regaining consciousness was accused of being AWOL by a bystander... Bertie Lewis to continue studies at University of South Carolina... We had fine meals on Clean-Up Day... The boys in the chow hall made over 400 sandwiches for the picnic... Ministerial Association working on fellowship-chapel room in basement of Mooney... Predictions: That Pres. Stoffel will appoint co-chairmen for Freshman Orientation Committee... Doing so, he'll break a precedent... Also Phil Mann will be nominated for Speaker Pro-Tem of Student Legislature... Did you see the dwarfs in the May Day pageant?... The "shorties" were all over 6 feet 2 inches tall... Open House in Home Ec Department really was doing things in a big way... Charlie Atkins tying the knot at the end of the month... Many Elon boys packing their duds for Platoon Leaders' School this July at Quantico... A sign near the school house read: "Drive Slowly — Don't Kill The Children." To which a student added this: "Wait Until The Teacher Comes By..."

On and now a quote from UNC TAR HEEL on "Guidin' Bizness," by Walt Ernst... "What us students needs is somebody to take us over in the corner soon's we comes here our first year and tell us all 'bout the subjects we can git. Some kinda system so's we could look at the whole dang set-up and git advised as to what's best. Sorta like the discussions we usta git into back home at the general store — with our feet propped up on the wood stove and all."

"The only advisin' I got my first two years here wuz five minutes each quarter with some man up in South Buildin' and had to wait plumb near a hour to git that! Then he never told me nuthin." Why, I flunked freshman math two times 'fore I finally found out I coulda taken that there language the Romans usta talk and git the same credit. I'm purty good at that foreign talk too, even though I don't git this here American way.

"Course once you gits around to your third year here and gits into what you're gona major in, you sometimes git a little down-ta-earth advisin' — but then it's too late. And half the time you ain't learning what you started out to learn anyways."

"Jest yesterday I wuz talking to Ernie Hawfield. Ernie first come to the University to learn to be a doctor. He's startin' his sixth year now, and he's takin' a overload this quarter: Commerce 31, Geography 38, English 2, Embryology 103 and phys. ed. 5. Ernie's hopin' to git his degree in meteorology in March. Now you know that boy ain't been guided right!"

"I been told they's got 'bout 700 professors learning us students here. Why not give each one of them professors some advisin' to do. Instead of just a few like they's got now? That way each one would have 'bout ten of us students to guide and could take time to guide 'em right."

## STUDENTS BUILDING STAGE SETS FOR PLAYS



There's a lot of work that goes on behind the scenes before the Elon Players present one of their plays. A bit of such activity is shown in the above picture, which portrays a couple of the student workers busy with the construction of the stage set for "The Hasty Heart," most recent of the student dramatic productions. Graham Heath is the lad with the saw, cutting into a bamboo pole, while Cooper Walker wields a brush as he slings paint on one of the pieces of stage scenery.

## Building Of Stage Sets Is Real Art For Members Of Elon Player Group

"Now where can we find some real bamboo poles?"

That was the question that members of the Elon Players were asking each other a few days before last week's presentation of "The Hasty Heart," comedy-drama that had its setting in a bamboo hut in the heart of Burma, and the question was typical of Player gatherings just before the presentation of all their plays.

Mrs. Elizabeth R. Smith and her student workers, including both the actors and those who work behind the scenes, have long been known on the campus for the realistic character of their stage scenery and properties, and there's never a play given that doesn't call for something that's hard to arrange. They even had a live pig on the stage in the presentation of "January Thaw" last fall.

### Real Bamboo Is Found

Finding the bamboo poles here in the temperate climate of Alamance County was a task that might stump most people, but it failed to stop the young craftsmen who were building the Players' most recent stage set, so an inquiry was started by Graham Heath, of Elk Park, and Cooper Walker, of Elon College, who have produced the stage scenery for his year's shows.

They discovered that H. L. Tate, a Burlington printer, who resides at the Turrentine place on the Old Country Club Road, had for sometime been raising bamboo as a hobby, using it as a profitable sideline in supplying fishing poles or the fishing enthusiasts of Burlington and vicinity.

A visit to Tate's home produced

in ample supply of the tropical building material, and the real problem was solved for another set. Of course there had been another question of how to support the thatched roof, but Mrs. Smith herself solved that when she requested W. E. Butler, Jr., college business manager, to secure for her some green mesh bags from a government surplus depot.

### Construction Moves Ahead

The construction was still ahead, but that was not too big a problem for Heath and Walker, who had collaborated on the beautiful sets that featured the Player productions of "January Thaw" in November and "The Double Door" in February. They did, however, keep their bamboo supply securely hidden and a deep secret from the faculty and student anglers, else the slender poles might have found themselves yanking fish out of the college's Kyker Lake.

Hammers, saws and paint brushes began flying in the dexterous hand of the student stage carpenters, and in less time than it takes to draw a curtain a bamboo hut was in the making. The finished product, which was seen by campus play-goers last Thursday and Friday nights, was hailed by many as the best set of stage scenery in the history of the Elon Players.

### Other Beautiful Sets

There were others, however, who recalled a number of earlier sets that stood out in their memories for beauty and authenticity, for the Players have built some truly beautiful interior scenes,

some of them representing luxurious mansions, other portraying the simple rooms of a sturdy farm house.

Among the luxurious interiors have been the set for "Arsenic and Old Lace," presented some years ago against a background of the Victorian Age; or the living room of the old Van Bret family mansion in New York, which formed the setting for "The Double Door" this year.

True artistry was revealed too in the creation of the interior of a Mennonite farm house in Pennsylvania, which gave realism to the presentation of "Papa Is All" last spring; and clever brush work was necessary to create the knotty boards of a Connecticut farm house for "January Thaw" last fall.

### Greek Sets Recalled

Still other Player fans like to recall the beauty of the Greek sets that featured the presentation of "Antigone" three years ago and of "Medea", which was presented last spring, or the realism of the ship's salon that was the scene of "Outward Bound" two years ago.

But argument and reminiscence might go on forever, and still there would be no complete agreement as to which of all the Elon Player sets was the best. The only agreement lies in the fact that all of them have been beautiful and all of them have helped make the Player productions successful.



## the moving finger writes

By MATT CURRIN

### OUR COLLEGE DAYS ARE CLOSING

Our college days are closing now,  
The years have swiftly flown;  
I like to stop and think somehow  
Of friends whom I have known.

The books have meant a world to me,  
And all that learning lends;  
But more than books can ever be  
Is friendship of true friends.

In college halls, on campus green,  
In classroom, everywhere,  
I find that they have always been  
The fairest of the fair.

I cannot mention everyone  
Whom I hold in memory,  
But now that college days are done,  
I love them tenderly.

But here's to those who all along  
Have kept my heart in tune;  
And often filled my life with song,  
At morning, night, and noon!

GRADUATES

You've come at last, ho! everyone,  
Scholastic tests and lessons done;  
With friendships made of bonds of steel,  
And dreams of life becoming real.

Who knows but that today you start  
On roads that lead you far apart;  
Across the world to do your share,  
Across the lands in faith and prayer.

Where'er you go, what'er you be,  
A record make for all to see;  
A record fine and clean and true,  
For all our faith and hope in you.

You'll find a world that needs your hand,  
Needs youth like you in every land;  
Courageous youth for a time like this,  
When the weary fall, and the world's amiss.

You have a date with destiny,  
Yours is to help the world to free;  
As you go forth to do your task,  
May joy of service be all you ask.

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The above two poems were both written by Dr. John Truitt, our favorite poet, who could best express in poem what your editor wanted to say in this, our next-to-the-last issue of the 1952-1953 edition of the Maroon and Gold.

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We have just elected and inaugurated our new student government officers for the coming year. They are a good group, and all indications point to a successful year. Those of us who graduate this year give them our best wishes for much success and happiness in serving those whom they represent.

Student government has gone a long way since the Class of 1953 entered Elon back in 1949, but she still has a long, long way to go before it can be truly successful and effective. We have seen it grow from a dream into a working organization. There have been mistakes. There have been failures. But as a whole we have seen what is needed and where. It is most evident that it takes a real leader to make student government work. I am sure we have just that for next year. Those of us who leave Elon this year leave with the prayer that those who come after us will realize the great dream that is and has been Elon. Elon has a purpose and she stands tall and straight — let her students back her up. When we walk through her halls we hear the echo of the past and we see the dream of the future.

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It seems almost impossible that for many of us our college days are just about over. Elon has been more than good to us all, and we will most surely miss the old "halls of ivy." It seems quite sad to realize that in only a few short days many of us will never meet again. The paths of this life will lead us to many parts and our visits to the campus will be limited and we will never all be together here in one group again. So let these last few days be joyous. So until the next and final issue — be seeing you.



## A Line O' Type Or Two

By PATSY MELTON

And very much aware  
Of each and every germ and pill  
And minute of despair.  
Yet, when with health I glow and swell,

I know I'm fine but still —  
When I am well, I'm not as well  
As ill when I am ill.

### OH, MY ACHING VOID

The fact that I can't take it with me  
Is something I do not mind.  
What grieves me is this:  
It appears that I'll miss  
The chance to leave any behind!

### FOOT-IN-MOUTH DISEASE

Let 's hear no more self-criticism

From those who think up  
chitchat deft,  
Gay repartee and witticism  
After all the guests have left.

Take a tip from one old smarty  
Wiser far, though saddened,  
Who spouts bright sayings at a party,  
And later wishes that he hadn't.

### EPITAPH

Here lies the body of John P. Hill  
He had a mouth that no one could fill.  
Stranger, tread lightly over the sod.  
For, if he yawns, you're gone, by heck!

### BOX OF CHOCOLATES

R. Armour  
The thick are soft,  
The square are chewy  
The thin are crisp,  
The round are gooey,  
The rough are nuts,  
The smooth are creams,  
The tin-foil wrapped  
Are rum supremes.  
At least I think  
That I am right  
But am not sure  
Until I bite.

### COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS

T. Talman  
When I'm ill, I'm very ill