

Maroon And Gold

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FRIDAY, JANUARY 17, 1964

A YEAR IN REVIEW

The end of an old year and the coming of a new one is always a signal for taking stock, a time to look backward and evaluate the twelve months which have just ended and to recall at least a few of the high spots that have brought pleasure. It is a time, too, when one must think back to moments of tragedy or sorrow.

The twelve months that were 1963 have brought both joy and sadness to the campus community here at Elon College. There were highlights of accomplishment, and there were also moments of anguish and sorrow. However, all things considered, the year of 1963 was one of progress for the college.

It was during the year of 1963 that Elon reached its Diamond Birthday, the date which commemorated the seventy-fifth anniversary of its founding, and formal plans were completed to make this current 1963-64 college term the period of Diamond Anniversary observance.

The year of 1963 will long live in memories of the Elon people as the year in which the beautiful new presidential home at the northeast corner of the walled campus was planned, built and occupied. The plans for the new structure were announced in the spring with construction begun at once, and the home was ready for occupancy by the presidential family by the beginning of the fall term.

The new home, which has added much to the beauty of the Elon campus, has already proven to be of tremendous worth in work with students, faculty, alumni and friends of Elon College, and it has been the scene within a scant few months of a number of very enjoyable social gatherings for those various groups.

An event of less tangible presence than is the new presidential home was the launching of the new fund-raising campaign, designed to provide the financial resources that will make Elon College an ever better institution of higher learning. The campaign, which was launched in the autumn, is reported to be off to a fine start and showing prospects of complete success.

There were accomplishments recorded during 1963 by both individuals and groups among the Elon people, one of the most notable group accomplishments being the great effort by the Elon College football squad which brought to the campus the first conference football honors in more than a score of years. Along with this share in the gridiron title came the individual honors won by Elon football stars.

Other Elon students also won honors, some of them at the campus level and some of them in election of state or national offices and honors; and there were members of the Elon faculty, too, who gained fine recognitions for their accomplishments. All are to be congratulated.

Along with these pleasurable moments, there were also moments of anxiety and tragedy. A fire which struck the student apartments in March proved fortunately to have no deaths or injuries, but two Elon students met death in tragic accidents during the summer. However, it is always necessary to accept the bad with the good; and, all things considered, one must say that 1963 was a great year.

Short Sides

It is hard to realize today that this country was founded partly to avoid taxation.



a view
from
the oak

By
MELVIN SHREVES

The annual descent of the term paper crowd upon Carlton Library rose to a new peak last year amid the stacks there, and has now tapered off to nothing as the exams take the place of the term paper.

Many students who packed their bags for the holidays included among the toothbrush, socks, and underwear an average of two books per student, including those commuter students who didn't pack bags.

According to Prof. Guy R. Lambert, associate librarian at Carlton, the total circulation for the month of December and the first six days of January was 3348, almost four times the total for the same period in 1957.

Actually books were checked out before December for use in term papers. Lambert said that students began checking out books specifically for use in writing term papers as early as the last of October, almost as soon as some of the professors assigned them.

A lot of the "once-a-year researchers" made use of their hometown libraries and the libraries of their high school alma mater. A cousin of mine who teaches on the Shore said that a group occupied most of her school's library as soon as they got home, but that an even larger group took over the place after Christmas day.

The assistant librarian at our little one-room public library said that this year's crowd of college researchers was the largest ever, as it was here at Carlton Library.

Carlton's total circulation compares quite well with even the Library of Congress in Washington when the total number of working days and the number of volumes available at each one is compared. The Library of Congress reported that from December 14 until January 3, some 75,000 call slips for books was turned in by college students doing research work. The peak day there was on December 30 when 8171 slips were submitted—a new one-day record for them. Ordinary days for the people there run between 2000 and 5000.

But let's get back to Carlton. For the first semester this year, up until January 6, a total of 12,658 general circulation books, reserve books, and audio-visual aids were checked out by the Carlton staff. For the same period seven years ago, the total reached only 5773. Quite a difference!

But why the difference? Prof. Theodore E. Perkins, Carlton's librarian, attributes the fact that more courses are being offered the students by the College that require either outside reading, term papers, or both. Another thing that should be considered too is that the enrollment has increased steadily since 1957.

"About 97% of the books called for here are for research work," said Perkins. Very seldom do you see a student who checks out a book for recreational reading. Once in a while a student will check out a book that a professor has mentioned in class, not as a required book, but as one that might offer more intensive background to the subject at hand."

Perkins added, "There are just not enough students at Elon who take the time to read books for pleasure. Most of them claim they are too busy, but once a student is in the habit of reading good books, he finds the time. I also believe that if the reading-for-pleasure idea was pushed a little harder on campus, we would have more recreational readers."

"I think that one way to increase pleasure reading at Elon would be to offer more good paperback books for sale in the bookstore, and I am sure that there are a multitude of other ways," Perkins concluded.

When the new library is completed, pleasure reading will definitely have a better chance on our campus. From what I can understand, this new building will offer just about everything that a good library can. It will be a welcome addition indeed.

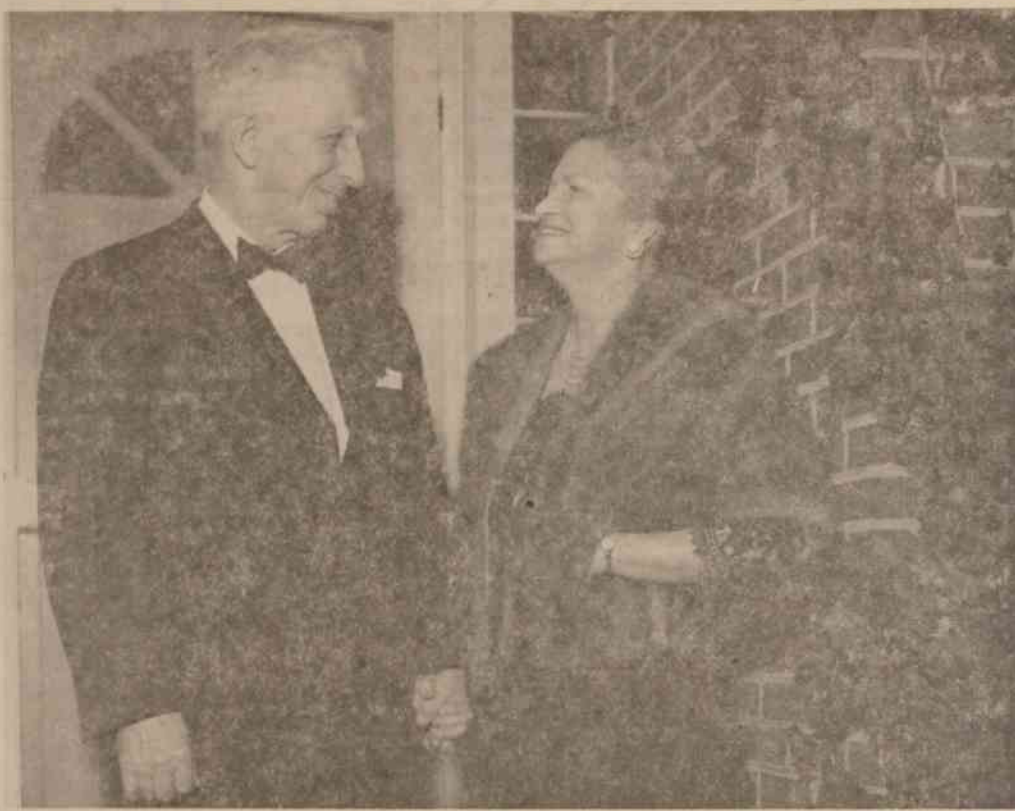
Of course the question remains as to what will become of the Carlton building. Many rumors are in circulation as to what will take the place of the books, but the best sounding one is one which I think should be passed along.

Carlton Building might, and I emphasize the word "might," become a Fine Arts Building which could house art studios, the music department, several seminar rooms, and quite possibly a new theatre for performances by the Elon Players and guest lecturers.

I'm sure that the heads of the three departments mentioned would agree that this would be another welcomed addition. The art department has been cramped up in these two little rooms on the third floor of Alameda for quite a while, and with the in-

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HOLDING BIG SPOT IN HEARTS OF ELON PEOPLE



Dr. A. L. Hook, who has played an outstanding role in Elon College life for more than half a century, is pictured above with his "First Love," a very charming lady who has shared his life and who shares with him a very large and warm spot in the hearts of all Elon people of both past and present.

Hook Has 50 Years Of Faculty Duty

The year into which we have just entered means more to some people than it does to others. To Dr. A. L. Hook, 1964 marks a half century with his two greatest loves, One is Mrs. Jessie Irene Dawson Hook, whom he fondly calls his "Business Manager," and the other is Elon College's teaching staff.

In August of 1914, Dr. Hook married the former Miss Dawson when he was fresh out of graduate school at Elon College. And shortly after that, in September, he came to his Alma Mater as a member of the faculty in the math and science departments.

Actually, Dr. Hook has been associated with both of these loves for more than fifty years. As a freshman, he entered Elon in 1909, straight out of Curry High School in Winchester, Virginia. He received his bachelor's degree in 1913, and then his Master's in the following year. So that's fifty-five years with Elon.

According to a poem entitled "The Courtship of Alonzo" which

appeared in the 1913 Phi Psi Club without his knowledge, Dr. Hook has been associated with his "Business Manager" as long as he has with the college. The poem read:

When he got into town,
As he stepped to the ground
Miss Irene he saw
Out walking with "Pa".
He at once sought her hand
As the fairest in the land.

The poem goes through their four year courtship from 1909 until the spring of 1913 when she displayed "their" diamond ring. It is quite evident that their fifty-five years together, first in courtship and then in marriage, have been very happy years.

Every since he first attended Elon as a student, Dr. Hook has had at least one finger in every pie that he can reach, and he's touched every pie plate he's touched to the envy of everyone who knows him.

As a student, he was president of the Self-Government Board, a fore-runner of our present-day Stu-

dent Government Association, both student manager and graduate manager of the major sports and was business manager of the college's first PhiPsi Club.

The way in which he became business manager is a good example of the type person Dr. Hook is. In 1913 the students wanted to put out an annual like most of the other colleges did. At the organizational meeting, he was elected by his fellow students to be the editor.

This was fine until it came time to elect a business manager. No one wanted the job. So Dr. Hook resigned his position as editor and accepted the job of business manager . . . to the good fortune of the Class of 1913.

As a teacher and administrator, Dr. Hook has held many positions at Elon. He taught math and science from 1914-22, was dean of the college for two different terms, from 1922 to 35 and again from 1956 to 57, has been profes-

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what
about
this?

By
BILL WHITTENTON



This week finds me just a little bit unorganized, and it may seem that I have allowed this fact to affect the organization of my column, for instead of treating one subject at length, I treat two subjects rather equally, at least in regard to length.

I have a topic which will require the full length of a coming column, but I preferred to write this one first. There are a lot of topics to cover only a limited amount of space to fill, so it is occasionally necessary to combine some of the topics.

What About This?

Sometimes it seems just about impossible to understand just what is going on, and this is often the case with some of the events happening in our governmental policies. For example, look at what is going on concerning the sale of wheat to Russia.

When the idea of selling wheat to Russia was first mentioned, there were several things that made the idea seem to be a good one. For one thing, we have immense stores of surplus wheat that we could well afford to cease storing by selling in large amounts to a cash customer. The plan for the sale provided that Russia would pay for these supplies with gold, a commodity that we are notably in need of, and with currencies immediately convertible to gold.

Then the changes began. It was decided that payment would be by credit, and that this credit would be guaranteed by U. S. taxpayers money. Somehow it also came about that the prices would not be world prices but lower ones.

Russia does not, apparently, have any credit to draw upon for purchases such as these. It is also a fact that Russia is notorious for not paying its bills to the U. N.

Yet we have sold badly needed food to this country at prices well below world prices and for credit that is just about worthless.

This is ridiculous, for we could have required them to pay cash for the wheat, and at our prices. After all, they needed to buy the wheat a lot more than we needed to sell it. I am sure that we could have stored the wheat a lot easier than they could have eaten their gold.

What About This

Have you ever stopped to think about May? I mean, have you ever really thought about that spring weekend which our school and so many other schools celebrate on or about the beginning of May each year?

Well, I have been thinking about it, and something about it just doesn't seem right. For instance, it seems rather odd that Elon College, a Christian school in the United States of America, should celebrate a holiday that originated in a pagan or Druid holiday which had as its outstanding feature a fertility rite that became the ancestor of our Maypole dance.

This sense of wrongness is further complicated by the fact that this May Day holiday is now best known as the most important holiday of international communism. Now I am not saying that the fact that we recognize this holiday makes us, or any other school, left wing, but it does seem a little strange that we should make a large production of it.

Actually, the production made out of May Day seems to me to be more open to critical analysis than the less than respectable origins of the celebration. While I must confess to never having participated in the planning and production of one of these pageants, I have been able to come to certain conclusions concerning them from the position of attendee and bystander.

It seems that an awful lot of time and money must go into one of these affairs. There are months of practicing for the dances that are put on, and a lot of money is spent on dresses by the girls in the Court. Yet, after all of this time and expense, the occasion seems to be rather poorly attended, with those in attendance consisting primarily of the parents and dates of those putting on the performance.

The dance, which should be the biggest event of the weekend, is also characterized by something less than all-out attendance. This is probably a result of its rather formal nature being incompatible with the warm and relaxed atmosphere of Spring.

It is really a little wasteful to put so much preparation into an event which is so unenthusiastically received, for apparently the concert is the only part of the weekend that receives the support and attendance of the majority of the student body. I think that the study and possible modification of this weekend so as to bring it to the entire student body would be a good project for our Student Government to assume. I feel sure that everyone would welcome an improvement concerning this occasion.

Syde Lines

By SY HALL



enjoyment. Resort areas are now doing business in winter as well as summer, because winter sports are becoming more and more popular.

In 1964 the government will decrease federal income taxes, resulting in more money for the consumer to spend. The income of Americans will reach about 500 billion dollars, 25 billion dollars more than last year. Because of this, the highly elated business men are looking forward to a highly profitable year. We are almost in the midst of the best financial situation ever.

The rest of the world will also reap dividends from our wealth. Millions of dollars will flow into foreign countries because of their tourist trade. The airline and steamship companies will provide larger, faster and more luxurious modes of transportation.

More American families will own two cars, and three cars in one driveway will not be uncommon. Men and women will spend millions of dollars for clothing and accessories. Already men spend almost as much in cologne as do women on their perfume. Women are looking forward to better and more expensive clothing, as indicated by a 60 per cent increase in fur importation.

Theaters, art museums and concert halls are reporting a great increase in their audiences. People now have more time to patronize the arts, and they seem to be taking advantage of it.

Recreational activities are on the upswing. The American public is drifting away from the boring spectator sports and is indulging in more

athletic activities of their own. The golf population has doubled since last year, and thousands of Americans are now participating for the first time in fishing, hunting, camping, skiing and boating. The boating population nearly doubles every year. This can be attested to by the Coast Guard, which is having great difficulty controlling water safety.

Still there are millions of Americans who are content to stay at home and read a good book or watch television. The future is bright for these people also. Since the reading capacity of the public has increased, publishers have been forced to manufacture good, cheap, soft-covered reprints in place of the more expensive hard-backed books.

This gives people the opportunity to read more for less. Manufacturers of television sets have stated that more color sets will be available in 1964 and that prices for them will finally sink below the \$500 mark.

Many more homes will have air-conditioning, new electrical appliances and hi-fi sets. It will not be uncommon to find wine at many dinner tables and caviar in every pantry. Nearly one-third of homes will have more than one phone, and the average family can now join a country club or have a small cabin near the lake.

All in all, 1964 should be a bountiful year. We, as Americans have a great deal to be thankful for. We have the most democratic of all governmental systems and the highest standard of living in the world. Behind all of those material things, we should never forget that it could only happen in America.

The year 1964 will be a period of great leisure for Americans. Lengthening of the vacation period from two to four weeks is becoming more widespread. Many new vacation areas will soon be added to the thousands that now exist. More Americans will now flock to the beaches and mountains for rest and