GUILFORDIAN THE

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EDITORIAL COMMENT

the end of its eighth year of existence. For nearly four-fifths of a decade, it has been serving as the medium through which alumni, old tion manager is provided for. The students and friends of Guilford have its activities. How successful it has best way, we shall not discuss. What success or failures may have come to it, must be attributed to the four literary societies, which are its founders, and who, with the faculty representives, are responsible for its past history, its present status and future accomplishments.

For those society members and faculty representives, who founded the Guilfordian and who placed it upon a firm footing, we have nothing but the highest praise. Whatever may have been the literary contributions of the societies, to Guilford, none have equaled this one in importance to the institution.

With newspaper work, however, as well as other work there must necessarily be at least an occasional change, in order to get the most efficiency. It is quite obvious that a system which was efficient eight yeasr ago, will hardly work effectively in every detail today. But if the Guilfordian situation is investigated, it will be found that aside from few changes which have been made in the size and makeup of the paper and in the composition of the news articles, the system is the same as it was in the begin-

To the average society member, it may seem that the present system is adequate, but to those who are more intimately connected with the work of the Guilfordian it occurs that there are changes which ought to be made and which would make a more efficient system. To them it seems that the organization needs a general shake-up to rid it of some of the glaring defects that exist today. The purpose of this article is to call attention to some of the chiefest of these, with the hope that, with the suggestions of a possible solution, the societies may be able to work out some plan for more business-like methods.

Only rarely, if ever, does it occur to the majority of the students that publishing The Guilfordian each week calls for quite a bit of work. It does not even always occur to all members of the staff. This fact throws an undue amount of responsibility upon the Editor-in-Chief and Business Manager. The fact that affairs. Since the societies formulatthere is no managing editor of The Guilfordian has made it necessary for the Editor-in-Chief to assume many of the duties incumbent upon that office, leaving the remaining ones to faculty advisors. The work done. of managing editor is so important

The Guilfordian is now nearing that very few newspapers are without it.

Another weakness under the present constitution is that no circulafact is, The Guilfordian does not kept in touch with the institution and have a very wide circulation. Less than half the student body receives been in accomplishing this in the the paper. Members of the Alumni Association automatically become subscribers when they pay their Association fees. A small part of the alumni outside of the association and a few friends of Guilford subscribe. The total number amounts to less than five hundred. Why? Because at the time when the subscription list should be made up, the business manager has his time occupied with the advertising, which happens in The Guilfordian's case to be the chief and surest means of support. It can hardly be expected that the paper will have any appreciable increase in circulation so long as the business manager has a two-man job on his

> Besides these two defects, there another which in all probability is the most serious one in the whole system. That is the inefficient and antiquated method of selecting members of the staff. The constitution provides for the election of three members from each of the four literary societies, and these with the faculty advisors and the alumni editor constitute the Guilfordian staff. The society members' ideas of a person's ability as a newspaper reporter are based largely upon the lina. work which he does in society. This, of course, is not a sufficient basis for forming an opinion as to that person's ability to do newspaper that work. We mean by that, that the best debater is not necessarily the best writer of news articles, and that the most popular and likable person may not have the ability to gather news and present it in good newspaper style. Whatever we may say or imagine in regard to the selection of these members, most of them are elected without much consideration as to their real ability in newspaper work. As a result the Guilfordian has some good reporters and others bers which were very well rendered who do not care for the work and and enjoyed by all. who are not especially adapted to it.

The real question is, Can the situstion be remedied? The writer thinks that it can. But it is first necessary to know whether the societies consider a change necessary or if they are going to continue to be satisfied with the present state of ed the constitution under which the paper is now being published, and since the paper is still a product of the societies, they alone can change the system under which the work is

The idea in advocating these

changes is not to decentralize the societies' control of the Guilfordian. We believe the situation can be remedied without that. As a suggestion, the societies could elect representatives to confer as to possible solutions of these problems. This body of representatives might invite others to confer with them, possibly the faculty advisors. And since Guilford now has a class in journalism, certainly the department which has charge of this course should be consulted in whatever changes are made, for it seems that in the past, too little attention has been given to those who were particularly good in English, in the election of Guilfordian reporters.

We have not advocated these changes with the idea of depriving the societies of any of their powers as long as they assert them effectively. Neither has it been done merely for the sake of a change, but only that the Guilfordian may be made better. Nothing can be done, however, until the attitude of the societies toward these suggestions is known.

ALUMNI NEWS

The following announcement, of interest to all Guilfordian readers, appeared in a recent issue of the Greensboro Daily News:

"Mr. and Mrs. Richard V. Marshal of Westfield announces the engagement of their daughter, Miss Bertie Ellen Dix, to Hardy Abram Carroll of Mizpah. The wedding will take place in June."

Both Mr. Carroll and Miss Dix are graduates of Guilford, Mr. Carroll of the class of '14, and Miss Dix of the class of '15.

Miss Louise Osborne, on a recent trip north, visited in Woodbury, N. J. at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Allen, Jr., of the classes of 1899 and 1900.

Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Davis have returned to their home at Deep River. For the past year they have been in Germany, under the auspices of the Friends Service Committee, where they have been assisting in the organization of child feeding centers

Mr. R. W. McCulloch, '03. assistant professor of English at the University of Maine since 1920, will teach in the summer school of this university during the coming session.

Mr. Hugh Moore, 1920, was on the campus last week.

Mr. Harris Johnson, '14, is teach ing Chemistry in Washington College, Tenn., and is, in addition, director of Athletics in that institution. In a recent letter from Mr. Johnson he states that he finds both the work and the place very delightful. Washington College is the oldest seat of learning in the state of Tennessee, having been founded by Samuel Doals of this State while that territory was a part of North Caro-

On May 11, Mrs. Priscilla Hackney will be eighty-two years of No doubt all of us rejoice age. she is still spared to us despite her more than four score years. We hope everyone who reads this will take the time to send her a word of appreciation and of greeting upon this day. Tell your friends to do the same and let's give her a copious shower of good wishes.

BRANSON WINS CLAY ORATOR'S MEDAL

The judges for the evening were Messrs. E. H. McBane and Newton Farlowe of Greensboro, and Professor Mark Balderston of the Guilford College faculty. Mr. McBane awarded the medal.

Mrs. Raiford, Mrs. Perisho, Mrs. Anscombe, Mrs. Mager, and Misses Noles, Polk, and Robinson attended the meeting of the Women's Club in Greensboro Saturday afternoon.

Dr. and Mrs. McManus of Greensboro, Miss Irene Holt of N. C. C. W. and Miss Annice Underwood, of Mc Leansville, were the guests of Miiss Kathleen Riley Sunday.

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