

The Guilfordian

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EDITORIAL

Will It Be As Good As "Clarence?"

"The play was good," or "the play was rotten." This is merely the verdict of an audience, but a verdict the Dramatic Council must anticipate two months before the final night of production. It is not an easy matter to choose a play, presentable before a Guilford audience, but a choice must be made, and the choice has been wise, as a rule, during the history of the present Dramatic organization.

But let us see just what problems the Council must fact in selecting a play.

First, the play must demand only one stage setting; there is to be no further tiresome waits during scene shifting; the wait is too boring to everybody concerned, even the stage manager.

Second, the cast must be balanced, with preference as to the starring role given to the woman or the man, depending on whether it is a fall or spring play, respectively.

Third, the plot cannot depend upon developments arising from smoking, swearing, or drinking as these almost necessary expressions must be reduced to a minimum.

Fourth, the play must conform to the tastes of the more conservative Quaker constituency of the College, and still be pointed enough to cause two hundred and twenty-five young college students who are not past their romantic days—or mirth loving days either for that matter—to sit up and laugh. In other words, the play must be tame and wild at the same time, or a happy blending, as it were. And where, OH, where are the happily blended plays?

Fifth, can we get it? When each member of the Dramatic Council has read fifteen to twenty plays with the above dominant rules of judgment, and the plays fall short, it's no wonder they tear their hair, and rave at the Conservatives who bar a most elegant drinking or ball room scene. When when they have done all this, the Council must say—"Will it be as good as Clarence?"

Students of Miss Byrd

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performers should be congratulated on the smoothness and ease which characterized the whole recital. Every member was well done. Miss Beatrice Byrd, piano instructor, should also be congratulated for making such a successful and attractive recital possible.

DR. PERISHO EXPLAINS GEOLOGY OF CLAY

In a short talk at chapel exercises, Wednesday, April 2, Dr. E. C. Perisho asked the question, "Why do we have red clay at Guilford College?"

In answer to this question, Dr. Perisho showed the students some small pieces of diorite rock. "Clay is the insoluble part of rock," said Dr. Perisho, "and the clay around Guilford College is the insoluble portion of diorite rock, which contains iron. The iron left in the clay after the disintegration of the rock causes the clay to be red. In other places where there was sandstone rock there is sand left instead of clay."

Dr. Perisho finished by saying, "We get out of a rock just what is in it and as diorite rock contains iron, which colors the clay red, we have red clay at Guilford."

Mlle. Hedwig Hoffmann, who has been untiring in her efforts to advance dramatics at Guilford. S. Gladstone Hodgkin as stage manager handled the stage direction ably. The scenery which remained the same for all three acts was effectively worked out, and together with the help of Elmer J. Linebach and Frank Crutchfield a system of heavy overhead lights was worked out that contributed much to the decorative success of the performance. Others to whom thanks are due, are Miss Elizabeth Parker, assistant coach, Thomas R. English, who acted as property manager, and J. W. White, advertising agent, and C. T. Robertson, who contributed the furniture.

During the interval between acts, the Virginia Robins gave several popular selections, which were very much enjoyed.

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Dr. Perisho's Address

Last year the United States produced 23 billion gallons of crude oil, and consumed 24 billion gallons, thus importing 2 billion gallons of oil.

David White, eminent geologist, estimated that the earth contains 60 billion barrels of oil. The world consumes 800 million barrels every year. The United States alone consumes 500 million barrels! so at the present rate of consumption there is oil for 75 years.

It was ascertained in 1906 that oil was the best fuel for the United States battleships. The same year witnessed the beginning of the Roosevelt-era conservation agitation. The events leading up to the leasing of Teapot Dome are: 1909, President Taft set aside certain areas of public lands suspected of containing oil; 1910, Congress specifically authorized presidential action of that character and the Supreme Court declared the act sound.

1912, Taft set aside areas in California.

1914, Daniels, secretary of the navy, reported to President Wilson that oil was the best fuel for ships and suggested that the best oil lands be set aside for the American Navy.

The Teapot Dome, area of 7000 acres, was then set aside by the executive order of President Wilson. Then came Mr. Harding's act of transferring this property from the Secretary of the Navy to the Secretary of the Interior, and Mr. Fall's private lease of this land to the Sinclair Oil Company.

Dr. Perisho says, "Let us create public sentiment sufficient to take care of the resources of the nation. Men dare not go against public sentiment. If the same sentiment that forced two cabinet members to resign had existed in 1920 the leases would have not occurred. This particular resource is not unlimited. Unless new deposits not now suspected are discovered, it is rather definitely limited."

Among the old students who were back for "The Dover Road," were Misses Lloyd Merriman, Hope Motley, Bertha Neal, Nellie Allen, Nelle Carroll, Pansy Dannell, Kathleen Riley and Messrs. L. Lyndon Williams, Jack Harrell, Frank McGee and Jack Ragsdale.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry White of High Point, spent Sunday with Prof. and Mrs. Robert Rann.

Miss Polly Trent was the guest of Miss Alven Stone.

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