

THE GUILFORDIAN

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CUSSIN'

We are told that by the selection of virile adjectives our powers of expression are measured. Regrettable to say, there are those who confine themselves to a paltry half dozen words so that the same few expressions serve to describe everything within the realm of their knowledge from a dead cat to the season's snappiest game of basketball.

There are some who upon entering college, in order to show a cosmopolitan training with its implied experience, seem to feel that one must immediately give up his entire vocabulary of usable descriptive terms and limit himself to a few cuss words that have probably been in use since Noah issued forth from the ark and went on a spree. If childish attempts at "Wicked cussin'" would work an example in college algebra then one could well afford to cultivate the practice until it became an art, but when one must work the problems as well as swear about it, it rather seems as if the energy wasted in the latter effort might better have been expended on the former, so that perchance failures would be less plentiful.

It is quite generally conceded that morons and often those who class as low as imbeciles become the most adept, artistic, and picturesque of "cussers," so that after all swearing is not an accomplishment that would indicate an extraordinarily high I. Q. Why then are some so proud of their shrunken vocabularies? There is a distinction between the parrot-like cursing as those who indulge experience it, and the appearance of the same practice in the eyes of other people. Almost everyone finally tires of hearing those without originality ring the changes on the same hackneyed expressions. After all, a strong and effective vocabulary, unhampered and unretarded in its growth by reliance upon a few worn out cuss words sometimes proves a strong asset in life.

HELL

Just what is meant by this word "Hell?"
They say sometimes, "It's a cold as Hell;"
Sometimes they say, "It's hot as Hell;"
When it rains hard, "It's Hell they cry;"
It's also Hell to see it snow;
It's a Hell of a wind when it starts to blow.
Now how in the Hell can anyone tell what in the Hell they mean by "Hell."

This married life is Hell they say;
When he comes in late there is Hell to pay.
It's Hell when the kid you have to tote.
When he starts to yell, it's a Hell of a note.
It's Hell when the Doctor send his bills
For a Hell of a lot of trips and pills.

When you get these words you will know real well,
Just what it meant by this word "Hell."

"Hell, yes" "Hell, No," and "Oh! Hell" too,
"The Hell you don't" and "The Hell you do,"
And "What in Hell" and "The Hell it is,"
"To Hell with you," and "To Hell with his,"
Now "Who in the Hell do you think or care,"
But, "The Hell of it is," "It's sure as Hell,"
We don't know "What in the HELL is HELL."

—College Humor.

George Ade said, "Walt Mason is the high priest of horse sense." And in turn the latter said, "And men whose language is decayed, who make profanity a trade, are like the jackal of the wild, that hunts around for things defiled. In all your rounds you'll never find a healthy, clean and gentle mind possessed by any son of wrath whose language needs a Turkish bath. On great occasion there's excuse for turning ring-tailed cuss words loose—Great men, beneath some awful stroke let loose remarks that fairly smoke, and we forgive them as we write the story of their deeds of might. But little men, who swear, and swear, and thus pollute our common air, are foul and foolish as the frogs that trumpet in their native bogs."

Guard your influence. After it goes out, you can never catch up with it.

"The reckless untamed tongue is like a runaway horse or a rudderless ship."

Cussin' de weather, is mighty po' farmin'.

—American Negro Adage.

General Washington, in an order issued August 3, 1776, said, "The General is sorry to be informed that the foolish and wicked practice of profane cursing and swearing—is growing—Every man of sense and character detests and despises it."

Habits of speech are wonderfully sullen and stubborn. The man can scarcely unlearn the oaths he learned as a youth.

—James Wells.

LOYALTY

When "Hail Dear Old Guilford" is sung any truly loyal alumnus or student of Guilford rises. However, it seems that some of our alumni do not wish to stand in respect to Guilford.

The Glee Club in its initial concerts has closed its program with "Hail Dear Old Guilford." The alumni and students in the audience rather placidly retained their seats, or in a few instances, with an unsteady effort, got to their feet by grasping the seat in front of them (after looking around to see if they would be alone), then stood on one leg and sank back into their seats at the conclusion with an air of humiliation. Alumni of Guilford are always so loyal supporting it other times that it is hard to discern the reason for this apparent laxity.

If our own alumni do not have enough respect and pride in their college to stand when "Hail Dear Old Guilford" is sung, what kind of an impression must it give to the remainder of the audience—probably containing prospective Guilford students? The average high school has enough school spirit and enthusiastic loyalty to rise when their school song is played or sung. When ex-students of a college, a type of institution that is supposed to function largely on school spirit and the loyalty of its alumni, do not show their loyalty to the extent of rising and standing for a few moments with a sense of pride, not duty, for their alma mater, what right have we to expect these high school students to be interested in Guilford even though it is the best small college in the state.

J. J. C.

CAN YOU SPELL

Can you spell? How well can you spell? Are students, as a whole, poorer spellers now than they were twenty years ago?

A few years ago it was one of the prime requisites of a scholar to be able to spell well. His range had to extend over all fields of knowledge and even into a smattering of foreign languages. He must know how to spell "incomprehensibility," the longest word in Webster's old "blue back" spelling book and he could not be short on knowledge when he had to do orthographical gymnastics with the two letter words that have caused cross word puzzle friends to tear their hair. In short, a mastery of the choice of letters and their sequence in words was a sort of "Open Sesame" to that semi-exclusive few in society styled the well read. These remarks apply especially to the rural communities.

At present, since attention has been turned to other branches of study, the art of spelling has had a chance to go down among students. Whether it has or not is an open question. Certainly there are instances enough to be seen in every periodical and every book that would indicate that either, the public is a poorer speller, or it does more spelling and consequently makes more errors. The weight of evidence seems to be on the side of the former assumption.

An interesting movement has been launched by The Charlotte Observer in which it is evident that much interest is going to be shown. The Observer is sending out information about its proposition describing it as a competitive Spelling Bee in which all the schools in the state are invited to take a part. The winner will receive a considerable cash prize while runners up will also receive smaller sums. It ought to be an interesting affair.

ALUMNI NOTES

1909.

Mrs. Agness King Hassler '09 has moved from Port Neches, Texas, to Dayton, Texas. Her husband, W. E. Hassler is a Methodist minister and at the annual conference of the Methodist Church held last November at Jacksonville, Texas, he and Mrs. Hassler were appointed to go to Dayton and build a parsonage and a \$30,000.00 church.

1911.

Annie B. Benbow '11 underwent an operation for appendicitis at the Clinic Hospital in Greensboro about two weeks ago. Miss Benbow has been for several years connected with the office of Huntley-Stockton-Hill Co., of Greensboro.

1921.

Dovie H. Worth '21 is teaching Geography in the Grammar Grade Department of the White Oak School, Greensboro, N. C. She has held this position since her graduation from Guilford College in 1921.

Miss Hayworth took the western trip to California during the summer of 1925.

1921.

Berry Lee White '21 principal of the Newland High School, Elizabeth City, N. C. R. No. 4 Mr. White has held this position since the fall of 1923.

Willie Lee Rudd '22 is teaching Science and coaching athletics in the public schools at Inverness, Fla.

Everette Holladay '22 is located in the same town. He and his father are doing construction work there.

1923.

Helen Bostick '23 is teaching French and Science in the high school at Wilkesboro, N. C. Miss Bostick's home address is 613 Park Ave., Greensboro, N. C.

1924.

Elizabeth Brooks recently had an operation for appendicitis at the clinic Hospital, Greensboro, N. C. Miss Brooks is a member of the teaching staff of the South Buffalo High School, near Greensboro.

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