

Complete "student government" is impossible, then, because students cannot be held strictly responsible for what happens.

But there is such a thing as student participation in the government of the school. There are many activities in our school which the students could handle very capably. Most of us would like to have a hand in planning the life of the school and in carrying out that plan.

Take these for examples. The school controls a rather profitable monopoly in the privilege of selling drinks and candy at athletic contests. This year that monopoly was turned over to the Junior Class in order that it might raise money for the Junior-Senior banquet. This is in no way a criticism of the decision to give the Juniors this privilege, but under a form of student participation the representatives of the student body might have had a voice in the granting of this concession. Perhaps the students should have the right to express their opinion each year in the choice of a manager of the book store. The clubs we already have should probably be broadly supervised by the student body.

These problems would, of course, be taken care of by the elected representatives of the student body. As was stated above, the principal would in each case have the power to veto any proposal he considered unwise. It is our belief, however, that in the majority of instances any idea which an intelligent, conscientious student group endorses will also meet with the approval of the principal.

The Student Patrol is the first step in this direction. It is an experiment in student participation. Misconduct in the halls is an offense not against the faculty, but against the student body. No teachers are ever run over in the corridors. In every case the victim is a student. The movement of traffic, then, is essentially a student problem. It ought, as such, to be handled by students. We have turned it over to you. We intend to give you every opportunity to make it a distinct success. If the students of Albemarle High School demonstrate in this experiment their ability to govern themselves efficiently and honestly, you may rest assured broader opportunities for participation will certainly be offered.

- H. C. McFadyen

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#### ST. VALENTINE'S DAY

St. Valentine's Day is generally observed by the sending of missives especially by young people. Its origin is uncertain, but it was celebrated as early as the fourteenth century, and probably earlier.

Saint Valentine was a Roman catholic bishop who was martyred in Rome in A. D. 270, on the fourteenth of February. Some say that it was the custom for Saint Valentine to go around from house to house, leaving food on the doorsteps of the poor, and that the custom of sending Valentine greetings developed from that. Another explanation connects the modern celebration of the day with the observance of the Roman festival Lupercalia, which occurred on February 15. At this time each young man drew from a box the name of a lady, to whom he was to be faithful for the ensuing year. - Geraldine Rogers

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