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The New Look

As the world-wide controversy over the question of longer skirts ebbs to a suppressed murmur — we look about us and what do we behold? It appears that every girl's hemline has gone down, down. Never had the effect been so noticeable as after the return from Xmas vacation. We suspect that many parents were faced with the plea "But that is what they are all wearing." It is quite a revolution, indeed, for now tall, short, slender and round are fastly succumbing to the new vogue. The new vogue, we prophesy, is here to stay.

Now that shorter skirts are beginning to look obsolete, many a Bennett girl has been ingenious enough to let that hemline down as far as possible. The faint creases we see adorning the lower extremities of many skirts, dresses and coats are reminders of last year's style and a painful attempt to acquire at least an imitation of the new look.

We remember, a few months ago hearing many comments like this one: "I positively refuse to wear my dresses that horrid length." Women of all walks of life — from Nellie O'Grady to Lana Turner rebuked the fashion. The male population groaned. Remember the L.B.T.K. (Little Below The Knee) Club? It gathered hundreds of feminine members who had a great determination to boycott the new styles.

Yes, women were skeptical, at first, then a daring few ventured forth in the conspicuous longer skirts. So it went, until now it is the short skirt that is fast becoming conspicuous. The question, "What is your opinion of longer skirts?" has lost its controversy. One no longer has an opinion. One buys, wears, and likes what the fashion moguls have decreed.

We wonder what became of the head-line making L.B.T.K. Club. Like all changes the New Look was first met with rebellion. It is only human nature to resent change. Yet, as the course of human nature runs, changes are finally accepted eagerly and willingly.

The Inquiring Reporter

QUESTION: Is Petrillo justified in ordering the termination of recorded music?

ANSWERS: The recordings have become a necessity to those of us who live in smaller cities and are unable to see and hear the popular musicians. I don't think Petrillo is justified in his ban on recorded music.—RUTH MORGAN, '50.

No, I don't feel that Petrillo is justified in such an order. I agree that more personal appearances of our orchestras and bands are needed; however, this would create an economic problem among many. The recording studios' work stoppage is prolonged, the turn-table will be spinning at less giddy speed. This shadow will be thrown over those that have enjoyed radios and juke boxes. Why make so many unhappy just to satisfy a few?
 —URCELLE LUNNON, '48.

I don't think Petrillo is justified in ordering the termination of recorded music because such a form of music is the only way that a vast majority of people hear well-known singers and bands. The absence of orchestras, bands, vocalists, etc., has made people turn to records as a means of an enjoyable and educational past time.—FELICIA FOSTER, '49.

Petrillo is doing a very foolish thing in trying to ban recorded music. In taking recorded music from the nation he destroys the pleasure of being able to relax at home and have the music of famous orchestras within one's own walls. Records are educational as well as entertaining, and their discontinuation should be viewed from this point as well. Orchestras are wonderful to listen to in person, but the opportunities for this are not as numerous as are those of hearing recordings which are available on the air practically any hour of the day. Not only should musical recordings be continued, but they should not be limited. Such an order is unfair to the people at large.—ERMA WEATHERS, '50.

SYLVIA VIEWS THE NEWS

Palestine holds the eyes of the world today. All Europe, all Asia, and all the Western Hemisphere watches the developments in that small country with fascinated eyes. So much is to be decided by the fate of the Jewish and Arab people in their struggle for a future. Just about the most important thing that will come out of this affair is the power of the U. N. O. After May, there will be no more British troops in Palestine. They are being slowly drawn out daily. What the U. N. O. does when the Palestine situation is left completely in their hands is only a matter for speculation. One thing is certain, if the the United Nations Assembly cannot control the troubles there, then what will it do later when even more threatening situations arise? It is to be noted, along with other things in the Palestinian affair that if the U. N. O. does not settle the trouble, then some other power will have to be asked to do so. Then the question is sure to present itself as to whom shall be asked. The Democratic countries, namely, America, do not wish to have the Russian troops in Palestine. Nor do the Communistic countries, headed of course, by Russia, desire the United States to have any reason for putting troops in Palestine, instead of being known as the Holy Land, may soon claim the right to a new and extremely shameful title, that of the seat of the "Third World War." Let us hope and pray that Palestine will live up to its present name of holiness, perhaps another miracle of peace will occur there as happened in the days of Christ. It seems now that a miracle is the only thing left to try to again cause the Holy Land to become a land of Peace.

Eyes across the Atlantic and Pacific will be turning toward America soon. This is the year 1948, the year of the much discussed Presidential election. Of course, there is a great deal of speculation as to whom the Republican party will nominate as its candidate. There doesn't seem to me to be too much choice in the matter. With men like Senator Taft of Ohio, Governor Dewey of New York, General Eisenhower and General MacArthur in the running, it would seem to me that the Republicans have little to offer in any form.

If the G. O. P. has little to offer, then the Democratic donkeys have less. President Truman, at the moment, seems to actually be their best bet. This is really a case where the "best is none too good." And then, if there was a chance that the Democrats decided not to nominate the President for a second term, they would still lose prestige, since it is the usual policy for the Presidential party to back its President for a second term.

I wonder if anyone was really surprised when Wallace announced that he would run for the Presidency on a free ticket? Of course, the Donkeys and Elephants may have been, but even they couldn't be that short-sighted. It seems doubtful to me whether or not Wallace will win the elections. In fact, it seems to be an almost hopeless attempt to establish a third party. The real significance of this third party will be the scare it will probably give the two major parties. Wallace will probably give the Republicans and the Democrats a hard way to go. When these parties realize that they are not expendable, they will be forced to cater more to the common people once more to keep their strength. A cheer for Henry Wallace! He does have the courage not only to stand up for his convictions, but to fight to gain the recognition due them.

With the entrance of the new year of 1948, it would be a capital time
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A DAY FOR A STUDENT

There are too many students who play with vigor but work too little; there are enough of those students who are busy workers but shun the act of play too often; but there are too few students who play hard and work just as well. Take no one's word, but look on any campus and its students as they live their regularly scheduled day, and your eyes will immediately set upon three different patterns of study habit.

Moving within the first pattern are those jovial student images that maintain stereotyped impressions which people now have of college students. These campus epicureans are so blissful in their walk and enjoy college to such an extent that they dare not study too much nor too often, lest by some achievement their college days be shortened. Hence, they utterly tire themselves with play, pass major courses with C's, the rest with D's or less, and so maintain their stay in college without interrupting gay times. We are at odds with this group.

Nevertheless, the students who form the second study pattern are, perhaps not more worthy of praise. These are the hermits who live between the bookends. They write formulas on their napkins while dining, or recite poetry in their sleep. They sneer at social affairs and skillfully shun extra-curricula activities. Always their studies are thoroughly and promptly completed. But we insist that education should be an overall preparation for life. This study pattern provides the tools for living, but problems concerning the application of these tools are left unsolved. Do we salute this pattern? Therein stands the four-point student.

Let us study the third pattern. Work habits which lie within this circle are shaped by habits of play and associations with extra-curricula concerns. This necessitates a day which contains many interests, and while some students are able to apply these work habits and mount the honor roll, others must bow to lower averages. For in this circle, class averages are frequently determined by the ability to plan a day so efficiently that there will be time in which to play hard and work hard as well. Only as many extra curricula activities must receive attention in this program as will not impede the progress of more essential work. It is only the differences between the methods of weaving such interests into the schedule which cause the active honor student to be looked upon as a campus demigod, while the active under-average student is deemed a pitiful fool by his peers. However, it appears inevitable that this third study pattern should have two possible outcomes. Either high classroom achievements will stand on a par with other accomplishments, or the student will prove an excellent campus leader and produce poorly in class. But, regardless of possible disadvantages, there lies within this group the most potential educational success.

In order to vindicate such a statement, let us measure the value of each of these study habits according to the modern concept of education. Present day consensus holds that education is life; therefore, technical training, the careful pursuing of the text, is a mere fundamental. The individual is educated only when he has been trained to apply technical training to life situations. Which of the three study patterns is the most likely to afford such an end? Campus epicureans are willing to associate, but the unwillingness to study denies them cultural and technical training. The hermits who live between the bookends do not have the time with which to practice reading knowledge on human rela-

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FACULTY CLOSEUPS

Mr. Paul Adams, born of artisan parents in Broken Bow, Oklahoma, is on the spot for the close-up of the month. He was born during January, in the year 1924. On a typical Kentucky farm, Mr. Adams spent his early childhood days alone with his mother — his father having died very soon after Mr. Adams' birth. School? A "hog-school" was what Mr. Adams called it, this too was situated in the hills of Kentucky. Then to Centre College of Kentucky, a school for Presbyterians and rich people — and oh, how-out-of place Mr. Adams felt for four and a half years — he was neither Presbyterian nor rich.

Do you like Fisk University? Yes. Well, so did Mr. Adams, for he continued his education there until he was drafted into a camp for conscientious objectors in 1945. This did not stop his intellectual progress for he studied during these years in service and when he was discharged he received a scholarship to Columbia University, which was soon followed by a Julius Rosenwald fellowship fund. What's his degree? Why, Ph.D., which was received from Columbia University — well, that is, all except for his thesis.

Like most people, Mr. Adams does not care for some southern characteristics, but he came here because this is the place in which he wanted to work. When selecting Bennett as a place to work, he overlooked or rather did not send in an application to any colleges that segregated Negroes. After having a conference with President Jones, he was impressed with both our president and our way of life — and so he signed the contract to teach here at Bennett.

Mr. Adam's interests lie in all human beings of diverse descriptions and in most animals and plants. He also possesses considerable interest in folk songs, art, songs, cooking, farming, Andre Gide, E. E. Cummings, "Margie" and socialism. Surprise! He has a hidden interest, or talent. He is also interested in "creative writing." Why doesn't he write? He doesn't have the inspiration.

Experiences of interest are many and varied in the life of Mr. Adams: One of the most interesting experiences was his school life at Fisk University, where he was accepted and regarded as one of the crowd — that is what Mr. Adam calls being a Negro "Sociologically." Mr. Adams really enjoyed his wedding — was married to Marjorie Quackenbos — without a preacher. Nantucket Island, is where they spent their honeymoon — all of which was an interesting experience to him. Have you ever toured with an interracial group and violated all Jimcrow laws? Well Mr. Adams has, and named it as another one of his most interesting experiences. Why did he consider this most interesting? Well you would too if you were run out of a town because of these practices, after writing them up in a journal, and had to spend the night in a monastery. Last, in the listing of interesting experiences, comes the incident that happened one bright school day morning, here at Bennett. Mr. Adam came to class late, and found all his beloved students still waiting for him.

"I am a socialist," says Mr. Adams, "But I am a left-wing socialist; consequently, my comrades accuse me of being an anarchist."

"I believe in sitting down, finding out what you are, and then being that person. I believe in living your own life. I believe in friendliness, joy, love, wit, and I abhor capitalism, sadness, strictness, and hate."

"I believe in doing all I can, if I am so inclined at the moment. But I know that through silence I can often achieve more than is genuine than I can achieve by bumping my gums. So I like quietness. I like what is good for me, and that is what I take. I admire and practice selfishness. I believe that life is filled with problems, to all of which, love is the simple solution."