

# THE WEAVER PEP

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## PARAGRAPHS

For quite some time past most of the students, especially the "rats" and "rattees," have been checking off the time before Christmas, and many have already doped out just what classes they will cut and what train they catch and just exactly what time they will get home. What they will do when they get there is another question, but it would be safe to bet most of them will be longing for old Weaver campus ere the holidays shall have been spent. However, just the thought of getting back to home sweet home is sufficient for the present.

We wonder how many of the "rats" will be absent-minded enough to come down to breakfast the first morning after they get home, with their green caps on. We'll venture to say no, not one; no, not one.

The football season has come and gone and although we did not win all the games on the schedule—we did not expect to do that—it was great while it lasted. Now, let's all together for a successful basketball season during the next two months and for baseball in the spring.

There is a movement in some of the larger institutions of the country to abolish compulsory class attendance. This question was discussed in the literary societies at Carolina recently and it was unanimously agreed that whatever good arguments there might be in favor of it, these were more than offset by the fact that few Freshmen and Sophomores are capable of being their own judge regarding class attendance. Since Weaver does not go any further than the completion of the Sophomore year in a standard four year A grade college, this question is not likely to be an issue here. Certainly it is not wise to foster the growth of a bunch of loafers!

## AN APPRECIATION

It was a source of great pleasure to the faculty and student body of Weaver College to observe the splendid support given the Weaver football team by the people of Weaverville during the past football season, especially at the Thanksgiving game. There is a warm spot in the heart of each football man for this manifested loyalty, and particularly do the team feel ingrained to those who were responsible for spreading the sumptuous and delightful banquet for the team at the conclusion of the season. Such support consistently given by local citizens is of inestimable value to the college and it is through such support that the greatest success of the college is attained. We thank you, people of Weaverville!

## HOW TO CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS

Christmas comes but once a year, Let us then be bright and glad, Send forth sunshine hope and cheer, Never think of being sad.

Christmas, the greatest season of the whole year, with all its cheer and happiness. Yet how often we misinterpret the real meaning! This is the season when we celebrate the advent of our blessed Lord and Savior. I wonder how many children in the homes of America are taught the real significance of this day. Too often their parents are filling their young minds with fairy tales of Santa Claus who comes with his sleigh and reindeer to see all the good little boys and girls; yet there are some little girls and boys who are very good that Santa Claus passes by. Their childish hearts ache, while their playmates across the street have all the goodies that any child could wish for. This is a mystery that is seldom revealed to the childish mind. Christ was once a child himself, and no doubt He is glad when we give the children such playthings as they love, and simple, wholesome viands that children relish. But in our plans for Christmas, the great principle that Christ taught should be foremost in our minds, "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

Christmas can be made a blessing or curse; when plans for the holiday celebration encourages selfishness, then it is a curse. Oftimes at community Christmas trees friends give expensive presents to each other, and parents to their children; in the meantime they fail to remember the less fortunate. This brings sadness and unhappiness to many, and Christ may say in the judgment, "In as much as ye did it not unto the least of these, ye did it unto Me."

Let us make Christmas mean

more than merely an exchange of gifts. True happiness comes only through serving others. Oftimes we give, expecting something in return. What an un-Christ-like spirit. It is not so much the gift but the love that is in our hearts that makes the gift so greatly appreciated. When people have sacrificed things that they really need, in order to give to their friends, or perhaps spent many hours of time and labor trying to create with their own hands some gift for a loved one; this is the real spirit that brings joy to the heart. Our gifts should be lasting; or, in other words, bring happiness throughout the entire year. We might give some needy one a Christmas dinner; but if we stop there, without looking into conditions that bring about want and hunger, and trying to alleviate suffering, we have done only half the work that Christ would have us do.

Suppose that God should come to our large cities, and walk through the streets for the purpose of seeing how man celebrated the season when He gave His only Son. He would be very much grieved as He gazed into the shop windows at the glittering display of vanities such as snow covered houses, sleighs and reindeer, and the figure of Santa Claus conspicuously bedecked with tinsel and bright flowing ribbons. "What do these strange things mean?" He might ask, "I see no sign of the Christ child. What has man done with My great gift? Cast it aside and put in its stead these idols." Still heavier would grief press upon Him if He knew the spirit of the man who owned these stores was not to serve or help others at this season but to gain riches for themselves. Our Lord does not have to come to earth in order to learn these things, for through the windows of heaven He views the vain idols of men with a sad and pitying eye.

Give us again the spirit that was present on the night long years ago, when lowly shepherds watched their flocks on the plains of Judea, when a Savior's birth was proclaimed by angels from above. How the sound of redemption burst forth on that clear night, filling the hearts of men with a hope that they had never before experienced.

"Glory to God in the highest, Peace on earth, good will toward men."

And on that night a dying world was saved.

## "RATS"

For some time the subject of "to be or not to be" was quite a lively issue on the campus, but finally all the new students agreed to accept certain rules laid down by the old students and to wear distinctive insignias

as befitting their relative standing on the campus. This custom of setting off the freshmen or new men from the balance of the student-body is becoming the thing in all the colleges and universities of the country. The purpose in thus drawing a "line of demarcation" is not to show any kind of superiority or bulliness of upper-classmen over new men but, to quote the Trinity Chronicle, it is a "plan that has gone a long way toward an agreeable adjustment of the freshmen in relation to the upper-classmen."

In the schools where this sort of dead line has been established it has been proven that the disgraceful hazing parties of former years have been done away with because a better and more pleasant way of making the new man feel that he is a new man has been adopted. It is true that the new men are made to acknowledge the fact that they are "new" by wearing some sort of insignia, badge, cap or something, but likewise they have been made to feel that they were a vital part of the college as an integral unit. They have been appealed to as "rats" and they have at all times counted as an active group in the college life.

When the system of green caps with a red F was first put into force at Weaver, there were some who predicted utter failure of the movement and a rebellion on the part of the new men. But such has not been the case. On the other hand, the new men have pulled together with the old students in every task and the harmony of action has been almost perfect. The upper-classmen feel proud of the "rats," and there is not an old student on Weaver campus who would not do a favor for a new man just as quickly and just as cheerfully as for a fellow old man. Indeed, if it were not for the green caps, no one could tell the difference between an old man and a new man—that is the chief reason some "marker" was decided upon for the "rats." The skeptical had only to see how every student yelled our team to victory against Mars Hill on Thanksgiving and what a cordial relationship existed between old men and new men in uniform on the field to be convinced that these so-called "rats" do not resent in the least their position as to seniority standing on the campus.

The "rat" system has many things in its favor and some things in its disfavor, but the "pros" so far out-strip the "cons" that there is no use arguing the matter. There need be no "cons" if the system is handled in the right way, and we have heard no kick from any quarter of the way it is handled at Weaver College.