

THE ROAD TO YESTERDAY

Edited by
G. C. DONOVAN, '17
Alumni General Secretary

ALUMNI LEADERS FOR A GREATER ELON By President W. A. Harper

THE alumni of a college are its hope and also its fate. Elon has graduated with bachelors' degrees four hundred and forty-one in thirty-two years. She has enrolled several thousand who studied for a greater or less time. We were planning to make a complete list of all students who had ever enrolled here and print it in a special bulletin, but the fire has destroyed our records. We are endeavoring now to collect catalogues and bulletins from the beginning and hope from them to construct the list. Anyone who reads this article and has an Elon Catalogue of any date is requested to mail it to me.

But I set out to tell in what splendid manner the Elon Alumni have rallied to Mother Elon in the misfortune which overtook her on January 18. On that day Mr. G. C. Donovan, the Alumni General Secretary, addressed the saddest letter ever mailed from the college to its alumni, telling of the destruction of the hallowed old Administration building. He did not ask the Alumni for money, but they knew it would be needed and immediately cash and pledges began to arrive. Only a relative few have contributed, but their contribution is an inspiration and an earnest of what the united Alumni can and will accomplish. The gifts have ranged from \$5.00 to \$10,000, and all of them have registered the donor's love and devotion to the college.

Aside from the Alamance county Alumni and aside from the Faculty members who are Alumni, the following persons have thus far volunteered their assistance to their stricken Alma Mater: Havilah Babcock, J. W. Barney, J. C. Barrett, W. J. Ballentine, Miss Curtis Beam, P. J. Carlton, B. J. Earp, Miss Bettie Ellis, Mrs. J. B. Gay, Mrs. S. R. Gay, H. S. Hardcastle, C. C. Howell, J. D. Messick, Miss Gertrude Minniear, D. F. Parsons, Mrs. J. D. Proctor, Jas. C. Reid, B. H. Rainey, Mrs. J. C. Robertson, Miss Annie Staley, Mrs. J. B. Stephenson, Mrs. M. A. Van Billiard, H. Shelton Smith, R. O. Smith, Miss Hattie E. Brown, R. C. Causey, R. P. Crumpler, Miss Margaret Iseley, E. S. Johnson, Frederic T. Jones, W. L. Maness, G. C. Mann, C. P. McNally, Rev. "Jerry" McCauley, Miss Bertha Paschall, Miss Margie Perry, Miss Susie Perry, Miss Annie Raper, J. Wallace Rawles, Miss Ethel Royster, Miss Irene Stephens, Miss Maggie S. Taylor, Miss Fanny Mae Wellons.

The total of these gifts in cash and subscriptions is \$13,030. The Faculty gifts were more than this total by \$220, and the Alumni in Alamance gave very liberally. This is but a beginning, but it is a good one and promises larger things for the future.

Before this is printed the Alamance county gift of \$100,000 for the Administration building will have been provided for in cash and subscriptions.

SOLDIERING IN A FRENCH UNIVERSITY

By R. S. Rainey, '22

After our successful presentation of "Je M'en Fiche" the Franco-American military comedy, which I told you about in the first two installments of this narrative, the authorities became of the opinion that we might take it to other parts of the country. Accordingly, traveling orders were issued to us stating that we were to take our production to Grenoble.

The trip took us through some most interesting country. First we had to pass through Nimes, a city as old and even older than Caesar's invasion of Gaul. Being near the Mediterranean, it was some of the first territory annexed by the great Roman leader who tells us so thrillingly into how many parts Gaul is divided. In this city are the ruins of two old Greek temples built by Greek settlers long before the coming of the Romans. One of them, Le Maison Carree, is in a fair state of preservation. To glorify the conquered Gauls, Philip Agrippa had built in the city one of the most wonderful arenas ever built by the ancients. It is startlingly well preserved. The only scars of consequence are those made by the invading Mohammedans just before they were defeated to the north of here by Charles Martel. The arena is used by the French for bull fights, and having witnessed one of these moo cow scraps, I am of the opinion that the old Roman gladiators must have given a thrill indeed if they were in excitement what I witnessed a thousand years later. The Pont du Gard is only a few miles from here. It is one of the greatest aqueducts ever

built. Up until the coming of the Turks it supplied water for the city of Nimes.

After leaving Nimes—and mind you our train gave us plenty of time to inspect the towns as we passed through—we arrived next at Tarrascon. This quaint old red-topped city was just beginning to awake in the early morning. I call it red-topped because all the roofs are of red tile and we arrived on an elevated track. We startled this poor town out of its wits, but I think we entertained the people in so doing. Our band, our glee club, and our orchestra detoured and marched through the streets serenading with the latest pieces of American jazz. This serenading became the custom from then on as we passed through the different cities.

From Tarrascon we traveled up the Rhone valley stopping off at Avignon for a short while. Avignon is the city in which the French kept their Pope after capturing him from the Italians. The period during which the French kept the popes is known to good Catholics as the "Babylonian Captivity." We visited the old palace in which these old ecclesiastics were incarcerated.

We did not get off at Lyons, and soon after passing this city of silks we turned eastward toward the Alps. One morning in June we stopped at Valences. I shall never forget this city. We got off the train about sunrise. My curiosity always led me to explore a French city, and this time in my explorations I discovered a thing of beauty that is beyond description—a "Jardin de Plants," garden of plants. Flowers are my hobby, and here I found them in an overwhelming abundance. Did beauty ever overcome you? I can't tell about it, but

my eyes filled, and I felt chokey. And to give it a perfect setting, an old peacock strutted about spreading at least six feet of tail feathers, while his neighbor, a swan, glided neatly on a pond set as a jewel in the middle of the garden. The beauties of Eden may have surpass this, but I doubt it.

Toward night we approached Grenoble. This city is located in the heart of the French Alps. The Alps justify all that has been said of them. We were traveling the same valley up with Hannibal took his barbaric army to invade Rome, the same valley down which Caesar led his centurions with Labienus as his right hand man, the same valley down which Caesar built in the last century before Christ some of his famous hard surface road, the same valley up which Napoleon marched to the St. Bernard pass when he invaded Italy, and the same valley if you please up which Chaplain Smith led his corps of soldier dramatists to entertain a French audience.

(To be continued.)

WERE YOU HERE WHEN—

Lloyd March, '16, missed his trunk but finally located it on the back porch of the Ladies' Hall?

RICHMOND ALUMNI ACTIVE

Richmond alumni at a preliminary meeting held last week decided to organize their Elon club. Notices have been sent to all known graduates and former students in and around Richmond, inviting them to the organization meeting which takes place tonight.

WHO AND WHERE

B. M. Elliott (in school about 1907) was on the Hill several days ago. He is salesman for the Commercial Shirt company of New York. Address him in care of the above-named firm at 627 Broadway.

'14—C. C. Johnson, former Elon coach, is physical instructor at the University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson (nee Oma Utley, '15) plan a motor trip to North Carolina next summer. Mrs. Johnson has promised the alumni column an article on Colorado.

'18—Havilah Babcock plans a trip to the Hill in the near future.

Vance Vaughan spent Sunday and Monday visiting his brother, L. W. Vaughan, and renewing acquaintances here.

Mrs. Corra McPherson, wife of Dr. Charles W. McPherson, (student '05 and '06) died Monday at her home in Burlington, N. C. Mrs. McPherson had been in ill health for some years. Many alumni were present at the funeral Tuesday afternoon.

'21—Lonnie Ezell may now be addressed at Hope Mills, N. C.

Elon during her 32 years has graduated an average of about 14 students per year.

ELON CAMPAIGN MOVING RAPIDLY TOWARD GOAL (Continued from page one)

Already the emergency fund, according to figures issued by the treasurer, Dr. T. C. Amick, has passed the \$200,000 mark, and the work did not begin until the board of trustees met on January 24. This is felt to be a most satisfying situation and promises success for the entire movement.

Announcement was made today of a gift of \$25,000 from one man, this being the second gift of \$25,000 counting toward this fund. The donor of this second \$25,000 prefers for the present to remain anonymous.

The work on the Alamance Hall under the contract awarded Joe W. Stout and company, Sanford, N. C., has already begun, and this building, it is expected, will be completed, unless there should be unforeseen handicaps, by September 1. It is also expected that the auditorium building will be completed at that time. Tentative plans for these two buildings have already been prepared and will no doubt be accepted by the building committee with minor changes.

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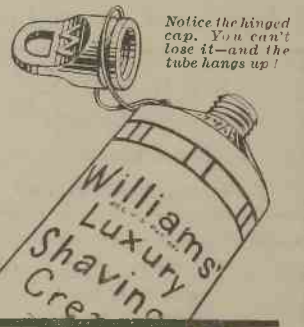
Style Headquarters

BURLINGTON - - - - - NORTH CAROLINA

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