

Maroon and Gold

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Starting Something

The editors of this issue of your newspaper have dedicated themselves to doing some hard thinking on a hard problem. They feel that cheating on examinations is as necessary to wipe out as war or unemployment, and that it is as widespread in American schools and colleges.

Their conclusions as individuals are printed on this page. The editors would be the last to think that their words are final, or that by writing them the problem has been solved. If each student at Elon college would, however, do an equal amount of hard thinking on this problem, the solution would be nearly automatic.

Cheaters Classified

With examinations only a few days off, many of us are beginning to wonder whether or not it is possible to know six hundred and twenty-one pages of history, read ten parallel books, read five hundred pages of literature, and, in addition, have daily assignments and quizzes. Maybe we should have done some studying all along. Yet, what is going to study something when we can't easily get by without it, or when he doesn't like the subject? Now it is too late. Thus those ten parallel books are reported on, but never read. Some may call it justifiable dishonesty. That is, if they even realize that it is dishonesty. Perhaps telling the girl friend that you like her new hat, when the two-foot feather on the back of it hits you in the eye every time she moves her head is justifiable dishonesty. There are dozens of time when dishonesty is justifiable, but cheating is one dishonesty which can never be excused or forgiven.

There seem to be three schools of thought on this subject at Elon. There are some students who think that it is absolutely wrong, and who would not under any circumstances, think of doing it. They are in the right, but their number is few. We wonder how many seniors can say, "I have not cheated since I've been at Elon."

Then there are those who believe in cheating only in a pinch. When there is no other way out. They think it is too risky a business to practice, but will take a chance on getting by just this one time. A startling number of students belong to this class.

Last, but not least in number, are those who cheat every chance they get, and who will do any work if cheating is possible. They are lazy, or they haven't the time. Is any student proud of belonging to this group?

The solution? Let the students of Elon decide that. If every student who does not belong to the first group would realize just how much harm cheating is doing him or her, all cheating would be stopped. Why do not Elon students wake up?

Punish the Cheaters

Cheating on examinations at Elon College is supposed to be a "shipping offense," but how many students have been dismissed because of it?

Twice a year Elon students are seen with anguished eyes and furrowed brows. Bad dispositions and ready expressions of temper are the order of the day. "No Admission" signs are tacked up on doors, and disturbers of the "peace" are considered public enemies of the first order.

There is no need for some of the students to worry about examinations at mid-years, and in May. They have no compunctions about carrying their textbooks into the examination room, and confidently opening them in the middle of the test period. These students almost invariably receive a good grade on their paper. It is the conscientious student who suffers; he has studied diligently, and faithfully leaves his text in his room. He comes to the exam ready to do or die, and usually he is considerably nonplussed by the test, despite his previous preparation. Behind him, a fel-

low student, with one eye on the professor, ventures a glimpse into his text. In front of him, a classmate contemplates an open textbook, apparently having no concern for the "No Cheating" rule. The conscientious one grates his teeth and attacks the examination.

When grades come out, and the cheater has a higher grade than that of the one who has been honorable, there is much grumbling and considerable discontent. The professor is accused of being both blind and partial. The studying student is called a "prude" for complaining. The cheater blithely continues on his way.

We are not going to repeat the old adage about cheating harming no one but the cheater. Personally we don't care if students do cheat. The only thing is, it is rather difficult for the one whose grade is low, and who actually has worked hard to attain the knowledge required. We will not argue with the present system of grading. It seems that this system cannot be changed without yards and yards of red tape and years and years of roundabout discussion. If a student cheats on an examination, let him be punished, if caught. At least this will give the working student opportunity to maintain his self-respect, and also an evidence that his work is not entirely in vain.

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Bring Back The Honor System

We at Elon College today are faced with the problem of cheating on examinations. We cannot point to any one definite thing and say that it is the cause for this looseness in our code of ethics for there are undoubtedly many causes which have attributed their share to bring about this condition. As we think about this problem and wonder what causes it, we wonder what we can do to bring about a moral renaissance in our student body. Elon College is not the only college in the United States which is confronted with this same problem; colleges and universities all over the country are confronted with this same problem of eliminating dishonesty on examinations.

The honor system is the best possible solution that has been found so far. No matter what type of system is used, every student is strictly on his honor when he goes to an examination. The attitude of the student body as a whole has more to do with the individual conception of honesty than any other one thing. If a student goes on examination and finds other students cheating, it is much easier for him to reconcile himself to cheating also than it is for him when he is on a class where no one else is trying to obtain information dishonestly. When a student finds that cheating is not going on among the other students and that it is frowned upon by them, he quickly receives the idea that he is not wanted if he continues in his underhand manner.

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Do Away With Grades

Aren't we ever going to grow up? Do we always have to be scolded or rewarded when we do something bad or good? That is just about the present situation in America colleges. We are graded for everything we do. If we are able to make the instructor believe that we are doing our work well, we receive an A. If we fail to impress him well, we receive a failing mark. If we are just so-so, we receive a mark somewhere between A and F. A system like this does more harm than good, for it makes students aim for marks alone and not for what they should be getting from the course in which they are enrolled, and for which they are paying money.

In the business world today, does the employer grade his employees? He does not. It doesn't take an employer long to recognize the abilities of his employees. When a student leaves the college world, that is the situation into which he is projected. He has to do his work along with other workers just as he did in college—but he is not told every few weeks that he is doing A work while his fellow workmen are doing only average or C work. He has to know for himself if he is doing his work well. And if he is not, he had better change his attitude and instill some more energy in himself or else. Is the college system of grades training us for such a world?

Perhaps there is nothing more in a college students life that causes him to cheat on examinations than his desire to get high grades so that he may be able to

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The Cheater Cheated

Cheating is an evil that originated somewhere back in the distant past, and has continued to run the gamut of subtle endeavor among men and women, boys and girls, for many centuries. It is an evident fact that it not only was an active thing in the past but is prevalent today among all classes and in every clime. It can be found attempting to do works of trickery in almost, if not every, phase of human activity. In business cheating is practiced to gain a few more pieces of "filthy lucre". In politics the act of cunning distortion of words and phrases, and often the distortion of the truth pertaining to the opponent's character, is used for the purpose of exalting the cheater to the topmost rung in the political ladder, while the cheated, who may be a superior individual, is pushed to the bottom. In the realm of sports, cheating has often times been seen to raise its slimy head in unfair tactics only to disgrace the cheater and his associates. The cheater is the loser in the end.

As one attempts to arrive at truth and verity, one soon discovers that in this high and noble pursuit, cheating again looms up before the seeker after truth. In the realm of learning the ambition of every student should be to arrive at ultimate truth. This is not achieved by unfair practices. The greatest Teacher of all time said, "You shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free". This freedom is the innate desire of every human being whether he is conscious or not.

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DO GOLFERS APPRECIATE CAMEL'S COSTLIER TOBACCOS?



FAMOUS golfers like Gene Sarazen, Helen Hicks, Lawson Little, and Ralph Guldahl prefer Camels. They have found that costlier tobaccos do place Camels in a class apart. Listen to Ralph Guldahl, National Open Champion: "I've stuck to Camels for 10 years," he says. "I smoke lots of Camels and they never jangle my nerves."

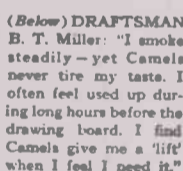
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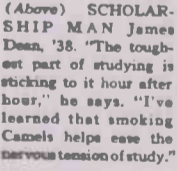
(Below) SALESGIRL Elsie Schumacher works in a department store. She says: "When the rush gets me worn out—it's me for a Camel, and I get a quick 'lift.' Practically all of us girls in the store prefer Camels."



(Above) SPORTS WRITER Stuart Cameron: "I know many great athletes intimately. It's mighty impressive how the champions agree on smoking Camels. Camels don't get on my nerves."



(Below) DRAFTSMAN B. T. Miller: "I smoke steadily—yet Camels never tire my taste. I often feel used up during long hours before the drawing board. I find Camels give me a 'lift' when I feel I need it."



(Above) SCHOLARSHIP MAN James Dean, '38. "The toughest part of studying is sticking to it hour after hour," he says. "I've learned that smoking Camels helps ease the nervous tension of study."



(Above) SPORTS WRITER Stuart Cameron: "I know many great athletes intimately. It's mighty impressive how the champions agree on smoking Camels. Camels don't get on my nerves."



WATCHMAKER I. C. Corkin says: "Camels? Say, every Camel I smoke seems to be tastier than the last one."

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