

MAROON AND GOLD

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IS IT REALLY A HOLIDAY?

Most of the students are eager and over anxious for the Christmas holidays to come. Stop and think, is it really a holiday for most students?

When this vacation begins most of you go home flat broke, and Dad, even though able to, doesn't exactly relish the idea of just handing out about ten bucks for your shopping and holiday sodas. So usually it is up to the individual whether he hunts down a job or does without that cash. Usually one ends up by working and so begins the "helter skelter" of the holiday rush.

Most likely the job requires you to be at work early and during your hour for lunch you bolt down your lunch in about fifteen minutes then spend the remaining forty-five minutes chasing all over town looking for presents for Dad, Mother and the Girl friend. You just can't seem to find the right present for either one, that is, one that doesn't cost too much, so you put off buying and chase all over again the next day.

The night comes you go home tired and mad because you had to stay and work overtime to get the stock straight for tomorrow. Instead of resting then most likely you look up the "old gang" and make the rounds of the night life group. Gosh! it's sure good to see all of the old gang again, first time since last summer.

This is somewhat the sum total of what goes on in your life every night during the Christmas vacation, and you return to school after the holidays glad to be back so you will get a little sleep and rest. Again I ask is it really a holiday or just a change of atmosphere?

ARE COMPREHENSIVES AND THESE WORTHWHILE?

Which are you doing, writing a thesis, or taking a comprehensive? This is the well known chatter this time every year among the seniors. From the beginning of November when the thesis topics are due until that fatal day of reckoning, the seniors live more or less haunted lives. Therefore, we have a question: Is a thesis or a comprehensive exam beneficial to the student? Personally I don't think so. In the first place, it makes the student worry and concentrate on that one thing in particular and neglect his or her current courses. In the case of the comprehensive, a student who comes to college for four years and hasn't learned all of the essentials for a college degree can't cram four years work into one and then pass the exam.

In the case of a thesis: what good are they anyway? The student picks a subject in his field and then hunts material over a period of time and nine times out of ten copies the sayings and ideas of some author. Most anyone can do this.

Personally, I believe if the professors of the department in which the student is getting a major would meet with the student and summarize the work, this would be more successful than either a comprehensive, or a thesis.

At any rate something should be done about it. What do you suggest?

A Student

THE GREAT INDOOR SPORT

To apple-polish or not to apple-polish, that is the question. There's no getting around the fact that a college student will probably must occasionally bump into a professor. Professors seem to be an unavoidable part of college traditions, and since they are unavoidable it is best to decide how to handle them.

The decision as to which line to hand them depends upon the particular student's purpose in coming to college. Only the student who wishes an invitation to leave can overlook the professor entirely.

For the vast majority of men who come to get a diploma as quickly as possible, a little discreet apple-polishing is not a bad policy. There's always a certain amount of apple-polishing necessary in the business world to get a raise; practice in college will determine the right amount which does not arouse the victim's suspicions or the dislike of fellow-workers.

The dig had better just stick to his studies and get an A by hard labor. It takes a sense of humor to know the finer points of the golfing art.

The seeker-after-valuable-contacts should polish up a breeze. Professors are handy people to know. Get interested in their hobbies read the same books, ask for advice. An intelligent question will make them jump through hoops. Practice an animated expression to hide boredom.

But watch that apple-polishing doesn't boomerang. When you find that you really are interested in a professor's boring subject, you may know that—horrors—you are actually growing up.

—The Duke Chronicle.

Dormitory Sweepings

The residents of the Trollinger Avenue Apartments, the palatial mansion "across the tracks" come to the front in the sweepings of the week.

Act I

Scene I: Trollinger Avenue Apartments (Publishing House to youse guys).

Time: Most any time.

Sound effects: Chaos in general. (As the curtain rises voices of people stumbling and milling in the smoke, are heard) "Which way did they go?" "Who's hurt?" "It's the furnace again." "Rogers, Rogers." (From the black comes a mournful, choking reply) "Gee whiz, fellows, cantcho behave?" (Voice from above) "Hold the water, Rogers, it was only the smoke wagon slipping through the night." (The tall, stalwart Rogers musters up his courage and with malice toward none (we hope) begins his round of investigation. He pushes his smoke-filled way to the door of the Mallard brothers.)

(Knock, knock) Voices from within: "They've found us we're saved." The brothers Syl and Walter are seen picking cinders from each other's eyes.

Rogers: "Is every thing all right?"

Mallards (in chorus) "How did we get in Pittsburg?"

Rogers is seen now pushing off to Askew's room; he knocks but no response. With alarm he scampers (sans dignity) to the door of Askins and Zyvith (again Knock, Knock)

Askins: "Hey Zyvith, get out of bed the joint's raided." (they make for the door only to be confronted by Rogers)

Rogers: "Have you seen Les Askew?"

Zyvith: "No, Say, what's that guy got, everybody seems to be looking for him?"

Rogers: "A swell egg like him is always in demand."

(Along the way Rogers picks up Joe Bagley as a guide to the upstairs section.)

(The door to room of the members of the Rip Van Winkle Club is open) (shh, shh—Bagley speaks) "Ford and Roberts keep steady competition to see which can take deepest root to his mattress."

Rogers: "In this department Boudoir Barnett is no slouch, except during his lectures of aquatics. And when it comes to Jumpin' Jive, Father Hubbard and his disciples, Gaydawn McCotter, Yock Malloy, Saecker the Elder, Hotlips Stevenson, and J. H. Piece set a mellow pace for the swing-cats. In fact they keep me running of a Sunday afternoon. There's one boy up here who really cleans up; for reference see the local laundry."

Bagley: "A new passing combination has been unearthed in our midst. Apple and Bass take turns passing and receiving, using Whitaker and Tulchinsky as pigskins, (pardon the reference to pigs, Tulks). You know, Rogers, Mansfield and Krukin are a couple of sociable guys who really deserve a spot on your "orchids to you" list.

(Rogers thinks aloud) "Matchell and Old still remain our deep mystery. All we know is that one is a fiddler and the other drowns him out with the radio, perhaps he should become a fluter".

Rogers: "How about Jones and Rollins? They'd seem lost without their records and I don't mean Accounting records. A voice from afar: "Hey Rogers, how about saving this joint fumigated? Zolly Bowden must have forgotten to put those moth-balls in his hair last summer; the moths have done a rather complete job. He should have a talk with "Kremil" Hall, when Hall has a little free time from under his vintage car."

Bagley: "I see Ray Cessna, our promoter, is getting his boy Fonville in shape for the annual meeting of the Mattress Rosters League."

Voice from the Smoke: "No wonder Progar, Visokey, Tomancheck, and Castura have never really been home-sick for atmosphere since leaving Pittsburg and vicinity. The old Southern R. R.

Fraternities Discuss Themselves

We're going to find out whether a fraternity pin is good for something besides a present, when a group of fraternity, non-fraternity, and anti-fraternity men get together on the CBS Bull Session this Saturday at 10 a. m., EST. The boys are going to discuss "Are College Fraternities Worthwhile?"—with no holds barred.

Because of the recent magazine articles stressing the hi-de-ho side of fraternity life, the paddle and the cold spaghetti are certain to be dragged out of the closet and given a good going-over. The Boys from the Chapter Houses say they're ready for it, and are going to prove that all the stories about what happens to pledges are just cooked up for the benefit of high school readers.

Giving the fraternity side of the picture will be Walter Loman, Delta U from Bowdoin; Bob Siviter, Beta from Florida; Julian Blodgett, Deke from U. C. L. A.; and Jack Ryan, Phi Delt from Northwestern. G. Herbert Smith, chairman of the undergraduate inter-fraternity council, will speak for the alumni; while Sidney Wood-Cabusac representing Princeton, a non-fraternity campus, and a Columbia student and a Dartmouth alumnus are expected to maintain that you don't have to be a Greek to get a diploma that's written in Latin.

The Bull Session isn't rehearsed, of course, and a hot discussion is expected. Lyman Bryson, Adult Education prof at Columbia University's Teachers College, will referee and try to keep out of the line of fire.

LIBRARY COLUMN BUT WE'LL HAVE SANTA CLAUS

By Jane Keane

In Virginia one of the most interesting and newest forms of Library service is the Circulating Library. There is an article in November's Wilson Library Bulletin about how it was started in Appomattox County for the benefit of the public schools there. The library is financed on a cooperative basis. This story telling how it was first started, how it is operated and the aid it gives to both the White and Negro schools was written by Violet Ramsey. Miss Ramsey is the librarian at present.

In the same magazine, Ruth Mishun has taken a few notes from Library Literature (of which she is a member of the editorial staff) and tells about library exhibits in Germany and Poland. It is interesting to note how literature has changed in these two countries during the course of the war. German libraries reflect Germany's war attitude and Polish libraries now reflect Germany.

The preface to William Sarayan's yet unpublished "The Time of Your Life" is printed in the December issue of Theater Arts. Mr. Sarayan talks about the lack of imagination and creative ability in the world today. He says this is because we are all influenced by someone in history before us, and because most of us are afraid to be anything but realistic. Even art, despite its surrealism, sometimes is too everyday like. This piece is typical of William Sarayan who likes anything fantastic and different. The novel will be on sale soon by Harcourt, Brace. On the cover is a picture of Alfred Lunt and Lynn Fontanne as they appear in "The Taming of the Shrew."

Maybe some of you want something light to read while you're spending your idle moments in the library. If so there's a cute story of college football life in the November issue of Woman's Home Companion, written by Alberta Hughes Wahl. It bears the wide-awake title, "Keep Your Eyes Open."

and our own furnace create a wonderful effect."

Rogers: (changing the subject) "I wish someone would take time out to throw a bunch of orchids to Molly Craft. He's a real lad who made good his freshman year and of whom we expect big things this year."

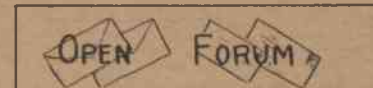
(For his real jolts Rogers slipped into Suite No. 6, where he sat in for a session between Geechy Bryan and Craveithroat Wilkinson. These boys really gave him a jolting time.)

Rogers: (to Bryan): "Paul "jitterbug" Willard, so far as a roommate is concerned spends many weekends alone. I hear that his roommate, Earl Bell, is negotiating with the Southern R. R. for a cut-rate commutation ticket between here and Portsmouth."

As the curtain falls we find "Dupont" Rawls and "Arsenal" Saecker blowing themselves to bits with the latest result of their combined creative genius.

As for us — well, if you wait till Noon time to Reid this it will be okay with us.

THE END



Dear Editor:

Some time ago you published a letter from a student regarding the telephone situation here at Elon. What has been done about it? As far as we know, nothing has been done to remedy the deplorable situation. We still have to run from Publishing House to North Dorm or occasionally to West to take our phone calls, and we still don't enjoy it.

If you have any influence with the administration, please have a telephone installed in each dormitory.

A Student

We would like to assure the writer that whatever influence we can use would be behind such a situation. The rub of the situation is the utter disregard of some of the students for public property, its safeguard and proper use.

If the administration were assured of such proper respect and appreciation for such, we are certain they would consider this matter seriously.

Dear Editor:

I'm getting good and tired of being told to put my shirt on the inside, to wear a collar and tie to dinner and being told on every occasion to "look neat and gentlemanly." Why should we dress in our Sunday best for dinner, and polish our shoes when the girls on this campus go as sloppy as we? No shirt on the outside looks worse than these droopy sweaters with pushed up sleeves. I think a boy without a tie looks a darn sight better than a girl with all the bangles and silly jewelry around her neck. If we have to wear coats to dinner why can't the girls be made to wear dresses and hose? I wouldn't mind — in fact, I'd enjoy dressing for dinner if I knew that the girls at our table would appear dressed like ladies, but until they do I won't.

B. A. C.

We wonder if the writer has considered the fact that if he were to properly attire himself he might cause many feminine hearts to flutter, thereby creating the occasion for their primping themselves up for his benefit.

Dear Editor:

Recently one of the chapel speakers mentioned a course taught in almost every college except our own, a course which is of vital importance and interest to every young man and woman. A course in marriage relations is what I am speaking of.

I was led to believe that this college would broaden up and prepare us for life as well as for a profession. I have noticed a phrase in the school catalogue which says that opportunities are given the students to gain a human understanding of ourselves and other people as well as of books. Isn't such a course necessary for a human understanding?

A happy marriage is one of the major objectives of College students. I have discussed this objective with a number of students and many share my opinion.

Why couldn't we have such a course? It would not necessarily have to be a credit course. I would suggest that the editor inquire how many students are interested in such a course.

Sincerely,

A student

Human relations cannot be gathered from textbooks nor can human understanding. "Experience is the best teacher." This adage has been handed down through time and so far as we know has been very successful. We have here courses which broaden our knowledge. They give us creative and sound thinking, not only practical but as incentives. The ability to live with your roommate, the aptitude for making friends, the ability to become leaders, all these and more are afforded you as an individual in a world apart from that in which you have been living.

However, when such a course is needed we feel sure that you as a group can do much more than we as a voice.

— Ed.

I've seen only one magazine yet that makes me think of Christmas—the Scientific American. On page 325 it tells what millions of Americans want for Christmas this year. Read it!