

# Maroon and Gold

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## WHAT DOES DEMOCRACY MEAN TO YOU?

Last week found the Education 47 class discussing and trying to find the answer to a question which every student should stop and think about. The question was "How can we make Elon a more democratic campus?" We have been made to think about democracy and its workings as a form of government for a nation due to the threat from the totalitarian countries. But do we ever stop to think that democracy is an every day every group principle which can be lived and practiced everywhere rather than just thought of as an ideal form of government for a nation.

This problem, democratizing Elon, brought out many interesting opinions and comparisons. And naturally it brought its amount of gripes as any question like this will. But disregarding those, it stimulated many students to think about a thing which too many of us don't know we have except at election time and when someone is being tried by the Student Senate. We mean the form of student government which we have. Is this the most workable and best type for our campus? Do we think it the best just because it is called "student" government and that name makes it the best for the students. Have we ever tried to find anything better? Has anyone ever compared its effectiveness with other forms? Maybe more democratic forms. Have we ever considered whether or not it has lost its usefulness? Perhaps it worked well ten years ago but don't most things change over a period of years and often become out-moded. We realize that student government isn't a faddish thing which should be changed every season, but it is something which should serve the needs of the group it is practiced by. It should be flexible enough to be the answer to a changing campus and changing student body. Is our present system of student government the answer to this? And if it isn't why haven't we done something about it? Democracy, to work at its best, must be practiced by intelligent, thinking persons. And for us to be intelligent and considerate in all our judgments after college, we must begin thinking now. In the majority of cases, we either accept or reject on the spur of the moment without thinking through and questioning all possibilities.

Drawing from the book "Educational Freedom and Democracy" published by the John Dewey Society, we find, "In a democratic social order, the schools have a distinctive obligation to provide for the continuous examination of traditional beliefs and practices, on the ground that 'time makes ancient good uncouth.'" This is what we should all be doing, constantly examining the old and accepted to find if it is still good. If it isn't, we should be ready to change it rather than clinging to a worn-out system because we haven't the initiative to try something new. If college teaches us nothing else, it should teach us to think and as thinking individuals seek the best for ourselves and for the group we live with. Why couldn't we start practicing this today? If our student government is not answering our needs, it should be changed. The time for just shrugging our shoulders and acquiescing is over. Either make the present system work or find a system that will work.

## OPEN FORUM

Dear Editor:

I think the student body would appreciate Dean Messick's cooperation in securing a better way of sending home the cuts of a student has on a class.

A person is allowed three excused cuts on each class. When a report is sent home concerning the number of cuts a person has, the excused and the unexcused cuts are put together. This leads the parents to believe the student has the number of unexcused cuts that are specified on the report, whereas three excused cuts should be taken off for each class.

I suggest that when a report is sent home the excused cuts be deducted from the unexcused and

this number be put on the report. If this method is unsatisfactory the report could be divided into two groups; the excused cuts on a class could be put under one group and the unexcused cuts could be put under another group. This would show the parents the exact number of cuts the student has on a class.

The students would appreciate the Dean sending the students a letter concerning the number of cuts they have before this number is sent home. This is supposed to be done, but this has been overlooked many times this year. I am sure the students will appreciate any adjustments that are made on the matters mentioned above.

yours truly,  
Boyd Clapp

## SNIP and SNOOP

### JUST IMAGINE

Elon College twenty years from now — a freshman girl arrives on the campus for the first time. As she enters West gate she sees a stately dormitory (known as New West). Going over the campus she is well impressed by the beautiful scenery and buildings. Flossie Freshman is "tickled pink" over the Elon gymnasium which is considered the best in the South.

Now comes registration day. Securing her card she approaches Dean Roger Inman and arranged her schedule for the year. After waiting in line an hour she is pushed into the business office where Mr. Charlie Parker anxiously awaits a student who can pay in full — he gets fooled again.

Flossie soon learns her teachers. For English she has a lovely old white-haired gentleman, Mr. Causey; for mathematics, Mr. Potter, slightly old but still young in some ways; for psychology she has a petite lady, Miss Martin (known to us as Roberta) Wonder why she never married? for French Flossie terms him as the "man with the soothing voice" — Mr. Jack Wilkinson.

An older student tells Flossie that the campus now has ten more lights installed. Flossie is well pleased when she thinks of how many evenings she can spend studying out-of-doors with a good lighting system.

Generally speaking, Flossie is well pleased with Elon, her only objection being — too many boys on the campus (imagine that)

**YES, HE ACTUALLY SAID IT.**

There was a little boy trying to sell an Elon College student some Christmas seals. The student wished to know what kind of seals; so he said, "What kind of seals are they — tuberculosis seals?" The little boy replied, "Yeah, but I think they should call them threeberculosis seals, 'cause there are three people on them."

### SNIPS

Betty's had a tough week, explaining to everyone on the campus that "Dopey" didn't give her the black eye. Some people still don't believe her. . . . Adomitis seems to have a technique that the other boys haven't acquired, so far as dating a number of girls is concerned. His roomies' really envy him. . . . For a funny sight you should have seen the

four lone girls at the volleyball game a few nights ago. Nope their names are not to be revealed. . . . Congrats to the S. C. A. Club for a swell square party. Even Judy enjoyed it, despite her sprained ankle. . . . What's Lila Eudd running around singing "The One O'clock Jump" for?!!!

### ALWAYS THAT OTHER GIRL

Imagine the surprise of a certain brown-eyed Junior girl on campus when her boy friend's "other girl" casually arrived on the campus one Sunday.

Of course Miss X., the off-campus girl, didn't know who her dashing hero went with on campus but she had suspicions of his doing so.

Miss X. was introduced to the Junior girl and being much impressed, decided to pay her a visit during the afternoon.

Can you picture the embarrassing situation of the two girls, one very bewildered — the other determined to find out whether or not the boy was being true to her? Can you picture the local girl's face when Miss X. suddenly burst forth with "Who does he date on campus?" The inevitable reply followed, "Nobody". Well, you can guess the rest!

Anyway, the sighs which escaped from the lips of the couple sounded strangely like ones of relief.

And if you ask the boy now why he doesn't visit Appalachian more often, he'll answer "Just CAUSEY."

### HOLIDAY CONFUSION

On the day before Thanksgiving, Prof. Hook announced that he would give an exam on the following Tuesday.

Now this Yankee was anxious to make a good grade. . . . around twelve p. m. Friday night he really began to burn the midnight oil. At five-thirty the light of dawn began to creep slowly into his room. Figuring he had studied enough for the night or should we say morning, he jumped into bed for a few minutes of shut-eye.

Up in time to eat with a head full of acronautics, he came to breakfast all smiles. Much to his dismay he was told that the day was Saturday. . . . A Thanksgiving holiday at Elon certainly can make the days hurry by. If you don't believe me, just ask Progar.

## INQUIRING REPORTER

**Question:** What are you going to do for Christmas?

**Bill Palantonio:** Go home to Pennsylvania, I guess. May drop in to see Bob Decker; he's promised to fix me up with a couple of cute girls.

**Peg Galloway:** I'm going home where I don't have to come in at 7:30 every night and where I can forget all my troubles — especially that dogfish.

**Bill O'Connor:** I'll go home for awhile, then I spec I'll drop over Portsmouth way.

**Edith Thomason:** Go home, of course. Work? Not if I can help it!

**Virginia Coone:** Well, I want to work, but my mamma says I can't work, so I guess I won't work, most hardly.

**Rose Whitfield:** Oh, I don't know — Sleep, I guess, and go shopping in Durham with my folks.

**Helen Yarborough:** Sit at home and wish I could be with Sal.

**Roberta Hamrick:** I'm going to have a big time and spend every minute I can with Mack. He's that boy in the picture over there on the dresser.

**Cora Worsley:** I'm going to eat, and eat, and eat some more.

**Eu'a Mae Monroe:** Everything! Hey, wait! What is this?

**Grace Bradshaw:** Go home, go to a few dances. Maude's coming down the last week, and we have lots of things planned.

**Maude Taylor:** Dance till my feet drop off, eat a lot, and sleep some.

**Gloria Barfield:** Wait for Santa Claus.

**Mary Frances Stamey:** I'm going to look forward to coming back to school.

**Jack Foushee:** Well I guess I will continue to jerk sodas in the drug store in Burlington. I will have plenty of practice after working at the Book Store so far this year.

**Claude Lawrence:** Well, I am going to work in Greensboro or Mount Airy during the holidays.

**John Pollard:** I plan to go on a tour with Jimmy Hamrick and the Collegiates. At present, the plans call for a tour of some of the Southeastern States. If I don't do that I shall either work in Greensboro or catch up on My Much Needed Sleep.

**Douglas Moss:** Coach says I had better study during the holidays. However, I think I will eat, sleep, and have a good time.

## BOYS' DORM GRADES GIRLS DORM GRADES

Club House	A	West Dormitory, second floor	B
Oak Lodge	C	plus	
East	B	West Dormitory, third floor	B
North	B	Ladies Hall, first floor	A
Carlton House	B	Ladies Hall, second floor	A
South	B	College Cottage	A

## WHAT CHRISTMAS REALLY IS

You've been looking forward to Christmas for weeks. Every time you've been tired, or hungry, or discouraged, you've thought, "When I get home it sure will be swell."

Then you go home, and at first everything is wonderful. Plenty of good food, the old gang back again, no classes to go to. But soon something seems to go wrong.

Maybe you're working and don't have time for loafing or a good time. You're rushed and hurried and dead tired by the time you get home at night. You think, "Holiday huh — some holiday I'm having!"

Or maybe you just stay around the house and eat and sleep and see your friends. But that isn't so perfect either. The family as its faults and they seem different after you've been away to school. Your kid sister is bratty, and your mother is still too old-fashioned. Your high-school pals have changed too — you feel almost like a stranger. You kind of miss the kids at school. Things aren't very interesting, it isn't as nice as you thought it would be. You wonder, "What's the point of Christmas anyway? It's so silly. Nothing but gabbing around and eating too much and getting presents. One day you're shopping and you see a tired mother with her little girl before a counter of dolls. The baby stares wide-eyed at a big expensive doll. "Oh, Mommy, I wish I could have that!" Later the woman comes back to buy the doll, and there's a glow on her face. You smile too because she looks so happy. Leaving the store you give the Salvation Army lass some money, and your smile grows bigger.

On Christmas morning the kid sister is delighted with the sweater you gave her. Mom's beaming at you too because she got her favorite perfume. At church you listen to the choir and a warm feeling spreads inside you. Suddenly you know that this is Christmas. Not food and getting presents, but the joy of giving and a friendly handclasp, and sacrificing a little so you can make somebody else happy. All because years ago someone called Christ said, "Love thy neighbor as thy self."

You decide Christmas is pretty nice after all.

## LIBRARY NEWS

Aesop may have had his fables but he doesn't have a thing on James Thurber. Mr. Thurber has just published a book called "Fables For Our Modern Times"—a very humorous book indeed. The following stories give typical examples of his fables found in this book:

### The Courtship Of Arthur and Al

Once upon a time there was a young beaver named Al and an older beaver named Arthur. They were both in love with a pretty little female. She looked with disfavor upon the young beaver because he had never done a gnaw of work in his life, for he preferred to eat, sleep, and play Now I'll Chase You with the girls. The older beaver had never done anything but work from the time he got his first teeth.

The female married Arthur, the older beaver, one day at lunch hour—he could never get away from work any other time. Now Arthur worked so hard supporting his wife and children that he wore his teeth down to the gum line. He soon died without ever having a vacation in his life. The young beaver continued to eat, sleep, and play Spider-In-The-Parlor with the girls. He never got anywhere, but he had a long life and Wonderful time.

**MORAL:** It is better to have loafed and lost than never to have loafed at all.

### The Little Girl and the Wolf

One afternoon a big wolf waited in a dark forest for a little girl to come along carrying a basket of food to her grandmother. Finally a little girl did come along and she was carrying food. "Are you carrying that basket to your grandmother?" asked the wolf. The little girl said yes and went on her way.

When the little girl opened the door of her grandmother's house she saw that there was somebody in bed with a nightcap and nightgown on. She had approached no nearer than twenty-five feet from the bed when she saw that it was not her grandmother but the wolf, for even in a nightcap a wolf does not look any more like your grandmother than the Metro-Goldwyn lion looks like Calvin Coolidge. So the little girl took an automatic out of her basket and shot the wolf dead.

**MORAL:** It is not so easy to fool little girls nowadays as it used to be.

## ODDS AND ENDS EXCHANGE NEWS

At last, the long-dreamed-of News comes from William & Mary College in Williamsburg, Va. that the National Labor Relations Board was in receipt of a violent complaint last week, from the barbers of Williamsburg. It seems that several students of a small college, meaning, The University of Richmond, about forty miles northwest of Williamsburg took it upon themselves to administer free haircuts to nineteen W & M students, thus doing the local tonsorial artists out of some \$7.60. It so happened that a large group of the local students, pleasure bent, invaded the campus of the University of Richmond. Finding the grounds apparently unguarded, they relaxed their caution, and consequently soon found themselves caught in the spider's web. Taken to the Richmond dormitories, the boys were given the benefit of free haircuts, the economic advantage of which was more than offset by their lack of beauty. Maybe the University of Richmond students hadn't heard that Indians are supposed to do the scalping business when these William and Mary boys visited the Richmond campus with the intention of kidnapping some of the Richmond boys, but instead, got scalped themselves.

Radio station WPTF in Raleigh is completing plans to operate at its increased 50,000-watts power for the approaching New Year. The new transmitter plant, located on U. S. Highway No. 1 near Cary, will approximately double the station's present coverage area.

**WISDOM OF THE WEEK** — If everybody knew what everybody would be mad at everybody and we would soon have a hell on earth ahead of schedule. . . . Advice is like castor oil — easy enough to give but dreadfully hard to take.