

# Maroon and Gold

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## LACK OF INITIATIVE

In our last two issues we expressed the opinion that many students were dissatisfied with our present student government and attempted to point out the faults and possible changes. This week we have given a number of students an opportunity to put their opinions before the Administration and the entire student body by printing their statements in our Inquiring Reporter column. We would have liked to have printed each student's opinion, but this was impossible to do. The number we are able to print is, however, enough to show what the general student attitude is. And from all indications it is not one of satisfaction.

Discouraging as it is to think that most students are dissatisfied with our student government, it is still more discouraging to think that the students don't have enough initiative and resourcefulness to try to better their condition. They seem to expect someone to do everything for them, even their thinking. If the truth were admitted, we would find that the administration and faculty are more concerned and do more for the students than they do for themselves.

The best example of this was the manner in which elections were carried on several years ago. The fraternities and sororities elected practically all their selections to the main offices because they were interested and organized. The remainder of the students didn't have much to say and didn't have the resourcefulness to organize themselves until, as we understand, a professor suggested it and then a Liberal party was formed. Then and then only did this large number of students who had been dissatisfied for so long begin to elect their men to offices. Why hadn't they thought about it before or done something? Well, that's something no one knows. They just hadn't thought about it enough or else were so indifferent that they hadn't tried to find a solution.

That seems to be the way they have reached to the present problem of better student government. We hope that we are wrong about this. But only student thinking, followed by student action, will be able to convince us.

## A NEW SEMESTER

We're starting a new semester this week. Of course, this isn't news to anyone on the campus, inasmuch as we have all had to re-register and line up new courses and so forth. To the majority of students on the campus this means just another chance to take their three allotted cuts on each class. But is this what a new semester should mean? Is that what you are here for — just to get by?

A new semester should mean the same as a new year, a chance to begin all over again and make something of your college days. Four years are so short, and there is so much to be done in that short time. For many of us, most of those four years are a thing of the past, but for many of you there's yet a great deal of time to make something of yourself, to prove yourself worthy of the money your parents are spending to give you a college education.

But whether you have over three years left until graduation or only one semester, you should try to make something of it, try to get something out of it that you've never gotten out of one before.

College is fun. You're here to enjoy yourself, but you're here mainly to learn something. And you can enjoy learning. You should think of your books as stepping stones to your career, the career that you've often dreamed of pursuing. There's so much of value that we can learn in college that it's a shame to assume the attitude of "just getting by".

Take a deep breath, resolving at the same time to make the most of this semester and of the future, whatever your future may be.

## LIBRARY NEWS

### "SELECTED POEMS" BY ALLEN TATE

Allen Tate, one of the most serious and mature poets among contemporary American poets, has selected the best of his poems and put them together in a volume which he calls "Selected Poems." Since his volume, "Poems, 1928-1930," he has revised many of the poems contained in that volume and includes some of them with their freshness of material and arrangement in his latest volume. The later poems contained in this volume catch Mr. Tate at his best, for they maintain a high standard of excellency throughout the volume. Some of the poems contained in this volume are: "Ode to the Confederate Dead"; "Mother and Son"; "The Cross"; and "Ignis Fatuus."

Mr. Tate is a Tennessean by birth. He graduated from Vanderbilt University in 1922 and did free lance literary work in New York from 1924 to 1928. Twice he has been awarded the Guggenheim Fellowship, in 1928 and again in 1930. From 1934-1936 he was lecturer in English Literature at Southwestern College. Two years ago he was teaching at the Women's College of the University of North Carolina where he was professor of English Literature. He is now teaching at Princeton University. He has written seven books, among them the two biographies, "Stonewall Jackson" and "Jefferson Davis", and four volumes of poetry. His wife is the novelist Caroline Gordon, author of "None Shall Look Back," "Pennally" and "Alec Maury: Sportsman."

Mr. Tate is mature and serious, a man of about 40 years who writes about anything from "The Subway" to "The Meaning of Life". That he possesses insight is apparent from the last poem of this volume, "Ignis Fatuus" in which he says;

"I have pondered it  
carefully, and asked; What is the riot  
When the pigeon moults his ease  
Or exile utters the creed of memory?"

## ODDS AND ENDS

A random suggestion and a desire for more good short features at the movies, such as the up to the minute, Army Air Corps short which was pictured here last week-end.

The precedent of precedents was broken last week when congress convened without an opening prayer. The confusion was due to a little matter of the speaker being a substitute for a substitute for a substitute. In the history of the house, never before has the prayer been omitted. Orchids to Catawba where you can call, a spade a spade, and a dance a dance.

### THE VANISHING AMERICAN

— a girl who is a social failure because she can't quote Browning!  
You can be taken to the cleaners in the book store now. Frank James has returned, but he is using used books as his racket this time.

The fraternity and dormitory wizards have begun to run and break with the basketball in a fast moving series which promises to be a real contest to the finish for lads, thrills, and spills come out and see some of these amateurs perform.

A hint to the night owls who prowled around west Dorm. Dean Oxford didn't get that dawg just because he is a beauty.

Johnny Carmichael seems to be getting around.

Water, water in the top of the tank, but not a drop to brush your teeth with was the frantic cry of several boys a few days ago after they had applied dental paste and found the faucette as dry as Alamance County.

At least three new young ladies entered our portals on registration day. From where were we standing they will certainly add much to the feminine pulchritude of the other 200 Lombards, Grables and what have you. Easy does it girls, nothing else will.

## REELING ALONG

For the week end of January 31st, "Remember" will be shown in our theatre.

This fine picture is taken from the book of the same name. Robert Taylor, Greer Garson and Lew Ayers work at what promises to be a 3 bell picture. The story is a roaring comedy concerning two very good friends of long standing and their girl friend. Greer Garson's bit of amnesia adds more amusement to the already hilarious affair.

On February 7-8 "Another Thin Man" will be presented, starring William Powell in a sensational Cinema comeback. He is co-starred with Myrna Loy. The facetious part of the whole thing is that instead of getting thinner the thin man gets fat.

In introducing a new type of wood favorites,

## OPEN FORUM

Dear Editor,  
Why don't we either do away with the mid-year exams here at Elon or have the regular three (3) hour exams. One can only expect luck anyway. I say luck because that is what they amount to. Oft times I have seen average students come from the exam with flying colors merely because they have been asked questions for which they crammed. On the other hand, I have seen good students leave behind only an average impression because they were not too familiar with the questions asked. Therefore, a student should not be too discouraged or encouraged by the marks. The greatest store of knowledge is undoubtedly the ultimate goal.

With the exams given as they have been this mid-year, there is a possibility for some students to have three and maybe four exams in one day, since there is no special day for the exam. Too, all of these exams might be continued two days hence, since the professors can draw out the exam during every class period during exam week. Could this method be of more advantage to the student or the professor than the regular three hour exam? No, I do not think so. One would have to spend as much time preparing for a one hour exam as he would for a three hour exam, and if he has two or maybe three other exams on that same day, it would be practically impossible for one to be well-prepared for any one of these exams. Isn't it better to be well-prepared for one or two exams than to be half-prepared for more than two?

Why not stop all of this false pretense about mid-term exams being abolished gradually. Either do away with it all together or make it fair for the student. I don't see why a method couldn't be drawn up so that there would not be more than two one hour exams for any one student on any one day. This could easily be done by extending exam week for probably another half-week. However, if this can't be worked out, why not go back to the original three hour exams? This would certainly be easier for the student and very logical, I should think.

Yours sincerely,  
Charles Parker

short subject to our movie-goers. In addition to the showing of "Remember," "A New Day" will come to you following successful showings at Radio City Music Hall and in first run theatres of many circuits, this short features Gilbert Emery of "Magnificent Obsession" and a cast of Hollywood favorites.

### --- TRUTH ABOUT WILLIE ---

Christmas holidays were over, and nearly all of the students were back at school going through their daily dozens, but Mrs. Reid's little boy Willie was like "Yehudi"—you know the little man who wasn't there. Students began to ask about the whereabouts of Bill and why he had not returned to school. Some said he had quit school, some said he was married. After much discussion among students and by the aid of a certain young bride's picture in several newspapers it was finally agreed by all that he really was married. He married Hope Patterson, also a former Elon student, some time during the Christmas holidays. He has quit school and is now working in the office of the Glen-Raven Cotton Mill. Oh well! It was Christmas. Every one was giving and taking so Bill just took himself a wife.

### --- DYNAMITE C. O. D. ---

Once when in his childhood, his first, it seems that a certain Elon Sophomore fell madly in love with a pretty red-headed freshman girl. They became so thick that they would have made Lila Budd and Peewee look like a couple of hermits. Things ran smoothly. Everyone expected them to become Mr. and Mrs. Suddenly the year ended and she returned home. Letters flew thick and fast between them. Finally his letters slowed to almost a stop for this Romeo had found a new Juliet. She suspected as much and decided to make sure. Here is the payoff: Both of these girls are planning to be the guests of Claude Lawrence during graduation week. Neither knows the plan of the other, and Claude hasn't the nerve to explain the situation to either. So if Mr. Lawrence is reported missing the Maroon and Gold will scoop the newspaper world with an obituary notice.

### --- BLITZKREITZ ---

The screwiest of all things among Elon students happened at our favorite hang-out, Correct Time Inn, not so many moons ago. It so happened that Bob Sellers and Lloyd Old had a German exam the day following, and these two brilliant students of the German Language find the C. T. I. most enticing and enlightening for such... along with the atmosphere of cherry pie "and so forth". Jimmie Elder was along to get in a little "psyc"-ology (as he calls it), but the main reason of Elder's presence was to coach the German-minded students with their vocabulary and grammar... only, Elder never passed a German Quiz in his life... those kids must have learned a lot of German... yes?

## Inquiring Reporter

Question: Do you think that there is a need for revision of Student Government here at Elon?

Roland Longest: I don't think the Student Senate has enough power as it now stands due to the rules of the faculty. I think that the Student Senate could very easily handle more power if it were granted to them.

Seymour Goldblum: I think it is infinitely better than last year. The Student Senate and the faculty are cooperating admirably but I still think the Senate could do with even more power.

Jimmy McDade: I certainly think there is room for improvement. I think the faculty tries to have too much power over the Student Senate and thereby defeats the present system.

Paul Secrest: I don't think the present set-up of the Senate has any power. If we are going to have student government, we just as well give them the power.

Marvin Phillips: The Senate has plenty of power but the faculty will not let them execute it to the best of their ability.

Howard Brown: I think the Administration exercises too much power over the student activities. The Senate could be run better if it had more power.

Jim Ferris: I think that the present situation is inadequate for the Administration has too much power in it and shows too much discrimination. It would be ideal to have an honor system but I don't feel as though it would work here. I also like the plan proposed in the last issue of the Maroon and Gold which was to have the power in the hands of a body made up of students and faculty members with the students having the majority of members.

Claude Lawrence: If the Administration would leave the Senate alone, I think it might accomplish something.

Charlie Parker: I feel that all of this is to no avail. The administration will still take charge and will never give in.

Helen Pace: I think the present organization is all right if it were carried on as it were meant to be. The trouble lies in the fact that there is too much partiality shown among

the students

Marjorie Copeland: I don't think any type of senate could do any better than the one we have until the attitude of the students changes.

Frances Frazier: The present organization is all right, except that I think the senate should have the final say so as to the punishment of individuals.

Lib Newton: I don't think any other type of senate could do anymore than the one we have at present.

Stanley Burgess: You know, I was a junior here in '36. I came back this year to graduate, having this lapse, I have been able to compare the attitudes of the students different years. This present Senate has made noticeable advances in gaining respect on the campus. I believe the Student Government is the best type of machinery in handling student problems.

Walt Schmidt: The Student Body the Administration, and the Senate should be of one front, working for the common cause. The Betterment of Elon College. If each division has its finger in the pie, it will be more active, more sympathetic, and constructive in making a better Elon. Since we are all working toward this goal why not work together? I would, and I think any of us would, respect the action of a student in reporting the identity of any person committing an act harmful to our institution.

Joel Scott: The students do not apparently want a stronger and more efficient Student Government bad enough to try and get it. They will not get it either, until they prove themselves ready, willing, and able.

Ivan Ollis: I will have to shake Dwight's hand.

Bill Hilliard: I think our student government really needs revision. I would suggest that a committee study of the government of the schools than have been successful in their student control idea.

Maurice Peebles: I think that the Senate should be composed of an equal number of members from each class and the faculty, and that each member should have one vote and no one any more power than the other, and that the decision of this Senate should be final.