

# Maroon And Gold

Edited and printed by students of Elon College. Published bi-weekly during the college year under the auspices of the Board of Publication.

Entered as second class matter at the Post Office at Elon College, N. C., under the Act of March 8, 1879. Delivered by mail, \$1.50 the college year, 50c the quarter.

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WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1952

### EDUCATION, 1952

This year has found America with more students in schools and colleges than at any time in the history of American Education. The public schools of our nation are filled to capacity as well as most of the colleges and universities.

With our expanding educational program, our educational system is not keeping step in progress with the growth in size. Somewhere along the way we have failed. Just where that place is we are not sure.

Our schools were designed to provide EDUCATION, but in many cases schools have turned into country clubs rather than educational institutions. It altogether depends on what we want for an education and what we mean by education.

In a recent article in "Look Magazine," Colgate Darden, honorary alumnus of Elon College, former Governor of Virginia, and now president of the University of Virginia, stated his opinion about education at the present time. This article is very significant and worth commenting on.

Dr. Darden takes the point of view that we are ruining our educational system by gearing study for the masses rather than for the student. He holds that there are two classes of students, those who use their hands and those who use their brains. That is certainly true.

He points out that in high schools (and colleges, too?) Only too often the "hand students" monopolize the class and the teacher spends most of the time trying to present studies to reach them, thereby ignoring and boring the "book students."

Now we may well ask, "Why are we going to school?" Are we going to school for culture and book learning, or are we going to school just to pass time or to learn to use our hands. Dr. Darden feels that we should divide our educational system into two separate groups . . . those planning "book learning" and those planning "hand education."

There is no need to waste "book learning" on students who don't want it and who never plan to use it. And it is still worse to hold back the "book students" because of the other group.

Could it possibly be that Dr. Darden also was speaking of college? He did not mention "college" in his article. But it appears it should apply just as well.

Why are we here? Elon College was established to provide a Christian education for young men and young women, with emphasis on cultural attainment, literature, religion, history, the arts and sciences. Is that not the real purpose of Elon College?—M. C.



cash  
on the  
spot

By LYNN CASHLON

Boy, it's good to be home again! You can't beat this college life, no sir! Especially at Elon! The old campus has taken on a new look with all the freshmen that joined the bandwagon this year. In fact, the ol' place looks darn good anyway you look at her. From the way things are shaping up so far, this will be the biggest year the ol' Alma Mater has seen in years.

The Student Christian Association, Student Government Association, and the Fightin' Christians' football team, to say nothing of all the other organizations on campus, have really been in there pitching from the start. Unlike the old days, the place is just jumping and running over with spirit—the kind of spirit we've been wanting so long. You know the kind . . . that ol' time school spirit.

Yes sir, we're really going to step out in style this year, especially when OUR BAND struts out on the field with the new white uniforms that were ordered the beginning of the year. And wait until we register 100 per cent on the cheering meter at the games, yelling out the new cheers and putting a new life into the old ones! What a cheering section we'll turn out this season, with all those new and vigorous cheerleaders. That's right, Lenoir Rhyne, you've got a right to look a little (did I say little?) worried. We're pushing and pullin' for dear ol' Elon, and I mean hard, hard enough to roll a long way. We've had a transfusion, brother, and we're back on our feet, raring to go.

And while we're thinking about sports, let's give a thought to the games away as well as the home games. We have a good number of games away this year, and as you know, school spirit and student support goes a long ways toward winning scores. There are a lot of cars on campus this year. However, there are still not enough to provide rides for all the students who would like to attend these off games! How about chartering a bus for these games, and then we could really turn out the support needed for our team in mass production. A bus seats about forty-two, and that's a pretty good cheering section when you think about it. If those of us who don't have cars or rides would chip in together and charter a bus for the away games, we could really have some fun. It wouldn't be expensive for any of us, and yet, we could see the games and have a big time going to and from the games together on the bus. Brother, a decorated bus carrying forty cheering students would really add something to the game and the score. Ask any of the players, they'll tell you. Give it a thought, and if there are enough wanting to see these games, and you know there are, there's no reason why the Student Government couldn't take care of transportation arrangements, if we all chip in for our rides. Let's hear from you!

We really want and need a bigtime cheering section for all the games this year. There's no reason why we can't have some of that high-stepping collegiate cheering like one sees and hears at Carolina. You know what we mean . . . something like those card tricks that U.N.C. has become famous for. We don't have to copy them, but we can have something on that order with the fine group of cheerleaders we have this year. And pep rallies and bonfires! That's where the fun really starts. That's where we can hear from our potential All-Americans before the games—A chance to give our boys an opportunity to let off some of that winning steam before going out to bring home the bacon.

And then, when we all come back from the game, we ought to have a get-together to celebrate our victory. We could have a thirty-minute dance in the Student Union and let loose with the last of that fightin' spirit and gloat over the score. This, of course, will bring the Student Entertainment Committee into the plot, and this committee has already gotten off to a tremendous start with a full-time program for the whole year, but it would be more than anxious to work on events of this nature. Phil Mann and the committee have the spirit and the drive, but they'll need you in there pitching too. Yes sir, that's the way we are going to have our biggest year . . . all of us working together in having the most outstanding college year of our history. That's what we will have to do to hold true to our slogan, none other than . . . "We're just one big HAPPY family!"

# Thirty Nations In One Summer

BY MATT CURRIN

Dr. and Mrs. W. W. Sloan, Elon College faculty members, staked a new claim to the title of "World Travelers" this summer as they added numerous nations to the list of foreign countries they have visited. During the vacation they toured seventeen countries in Africa and the Near East, including tours of strife-ridden Egypt and Palestine, and swelled the list of nations they have visited to the ninety mark.

Dr. and Mrs. Sloan left New York via airplane on the evening of May 27th and awoke the next morning to find themselves flying over London. That afternoon their plane landed in Paris, where they stayed one day while awaiting a plane to carry them to Lisbon and on to French West Africa and Liberia.

One of the highlights of the entire trip was a visit with President Tubman of Liberia, which impressed Dr. Sloan to say that "on former trips we have visited Asia and felt with many that the future of the world lies in Asia, but now we wonder if the future may not lie in Africa. Africa has fewer traditions to throw off, fewer drastic changes to make to fit into the family of nations. Africa has the room for an expanding population, but India, China, Japan and Southeastern Asia are so thickly crowded that securing sufficient food will be always a pressing problem."

The Sloans visited the famous Gold Coast, and while there both of them addressed a rally of 4,000 Africans. They were the only "pale faces" there, and they declare that "it was a wonderful experience to stand before this crowd as its members raised their hands in unison and shouted for freedom and self-government."

Perhaps the most interesting part of Dr. and Mrs. Sloan's trip was a visit with Dr. Albert Schweitzer, one of the greatest men of modern civilization. But let Dr. Sloan tell you in his own words: "Our second mountain-top experience was our visit with the world's best-known physician, Dr. Albert Schweitzer, at his hospital 18 miles south of the equator. This man, who has been given the world's highest honors in music, philosophy and the theology, as well as tropical medicine, has been listed as one of the greatest men of the Twentieth Century. Of the four men who commonly head this list, Gandhi, Kagawa, Schweitzer and Einstein, we have now been guests of all except the last in their homes."

"We first met Dr. Schweitzer on a path, where, in mason's apron, he was directing the breaking of stones for use in the footings of a

## WORLD TRAVELERS



DR. W. W. SLOAN



MRS. BESSIE P. SLOAN

new building. We had lunch and dinner and spent the evening with him. After he had played Bach (about whom he is a world-known authority) and Mendelssohn on his famous moisture-proof piano with organ pedals, we bade the 77-year-old genius goodnight and goodbye in our best French and German."

"To our surprise, as we were eating breakfast, Dr. Schweitzer walked into the room. He wanted to see us off safely and went with us to the river bank, where we boarded a dugout canoe, whose three paddlers took us to town to meet the airlines motor launch. That again is Africa—the airplane and the dugout canoe, the witch-doctor and Dr. Schweitzer."

There were three governments the first three days the Sloans were in Egypt, and a fourth before they left kept America's Democratic Convention off the front pages. Dr. Sloan says that

while strolling down an ancient street in Alexandria one afternoon he noticed in the harbor a yacht, above which towered on the shore the palace of the king. Little did he know then that King Farouk would flee Egypt within two days aboard that same yacht that was anchored in front of the palace.

Dr. Sloan recalls that "the king and we left Egypt the same hour, but we had an advantage. He was forced to flee, and we were not. However, we did travel with royalty, for the only other passengers on the little plane that carried us to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan were a Jordan prince and his friend."

Leaving Cairo, the capital of Egypt, with its streets filled with tanks, military trucks, soldiers and guns, the Sloans flew over the Red Sea at the entrance of the Suez Canal, possibly within sight of the spot where Moses led the Israelites out of Egypt. To avoid flying over the Jewish state of Israel, the Sloans crossed the Sinai Desert to the northeast tip of the Red Sea, where Solomon once had his harbors and refineries. They then turned north to the northern end of the Dead Sea and then west to Jerusalem. Moses took forty years to go from the Red Sea to the Dead Sea. The Sloans did it in one hour.

Asked about the Russian situation, Dr. Sloan answered, "The political upheaval in which we lived while in Egypt is typical of all Africa. People are sure they do not want what they have, but they do not know what they do want. The finger of Russia can be noted at all times, but all Russia can do now is speed the revolution, making it come sooner with dangerously indefinite aims."

British control seemed to be declining, Dr. Sloan declared, saying that both he and Mrs. Sloan noticed it in India, Ceylon, Burma and Malaya in the past fifteen years and that now they found it so in Africa. Dr. Sloan says that "we in America could have taken Britain's place in leadership, but we have lost it. The void is an open invitation to Russia. While worrying about Russia in the Far East and Europe, we are inviting her into the Middle East."

He noted the growing need for missionaries to carry Christianity to the people of Africa and Asia. He says, "We have failed to be Christian in the very part of the world in which Christianity was born. This is one of history's tragedies."

The Sloans returned to Elon College August 29th, after spending ninety-four days in travel, of

(Continued On Page Four)

the  
moving finger  
writes

By MATT CURRIN



This column, of course, has to be written as all releases in our paper, several days prior to actual publication of the final edition. Therefore, as we take a few minutes out of the day in order to write a column, we realize that much of what we wish to say may seem "cold" by the time our paper reaches the student's hands. Nevertheless, I am glad to be back with you for another year. This year will be the last year "The Moving Finger" will write. Yes, the last, and we hope—the best!

This column, I might add, was written the day upperclassmen returned to the campus to join the already present freshman class. Once again we are returning to our citadel. We are away from the rest of the world. We are apart from the rush, confusion, and turmoil of our contemporary civilization. From our citadel we can watch Man in his never-ceasing effort to create a Utopia, we can observe the changing tide of human events as it breaks upon the shores of time.

If we but realized it, we could learn the greatest lesson of all by watching from here as life moves on and on and on. We might even ask the simple question, "Where are we going?"

Once again we are isolated from the "outer world." A college campus may well be described as a peaceful island within a troubled world, separated from the cares, heartaches and turmoil of this century which is ours. It is only through the grace of God that we are able to attend college when our nation is in the midst of war, a war which may well evolve into World War III.

Here in America we are free—physically, mentally, and spiritually. We all, freshmen, sophomores, juniors and seniors have a great opportunity in attending college, an opportunity to learn how to live a full and abundant life.

Here at Elon we will live for the next nine months. What we do with our time will be pretty much up to us. Whether our life here will be happy, successful, beneficial, and progressive will be, in a large part, up to us, the individual student.

Yes, we have one of the greatest opportunities known to Man: the pursuit of education and human knowledge. When we consider how little we know and how much there is to know, how many fields there are to conquer, and how little we can comprehend, we then, and only then, can make the most of this great opportunity that is ours.

Let us be thankful that we can study as we please, what we please, and where we please. Let us be thankful that we are free, and let us pray that when the class of 1956 passes out of the doors of this institution that this world will be free once more from war. Let us hope that some day and some way we may remove the shackles of oppression, fear and war from all the world.

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The following paragraph was in the "Philadelphia Evening Bulletin" recently: "We can do anything for one day. So just for today let us be unafraid of life, unafraid of death which is the shadow of life; unafraid to be happy, to enjoy the beautiful, to believe the best."

"Just for today let us live one day only, forgetting yesterday and tomorrow, and not trying to solve the whole problem of life at once. Lincoln said that a man is just as happy as he makes up his mind to be. Suppose we make up our mind to be happy just for today, to adjust ourselves to what is . . . To try to make the world over to suit us is a large order. If we cannot have what we like, maybe we can like what we have."

"So, just for today, let us be agreeable, responsive, cheerful, charitable, be our best, praise people for what they do, not criticize them for what they cannot do. And if we find fault, let us forgive and forget."

# Freshman Impressions . . . Third Generation

By JOANN NEWMAN

Unlike many freshmen, my first impressions of Elon College were made many years ago. Both of my parents and both of my maternal grand-parents were graduated from Elon, and my paternal grand-father taught here for half a century. Having thus been born into a family of Elon graduates, Elon College has always meant a great deal to me. However, entering Elon as a freshman and becoming a part of her has been an entirely new and thrilling experience.

On Tuesday, September 2, when I came to Elon, many of the freshmen had already arrived, so I immediately proceeded to West Dormitory. Between Alamance Building and West Dorm at least ten people greeted me with a warm "hello." It was then that I decided I would always love Elon and be proud of her.

At 2 o'clock that afternoon all freshmen had to take placement examinations in both English and Mathematics, thus launching Freshman orientation. That night a program of welcome was held in Whitley Auditorium, and the freshmen heard their first address by Dr. L. E. Smith. After that program there was a "get-acquainted hour" in Student Union at which fun was had by



JOANN NEWMAN

all and many friends were made. Wednesday and Thursday were filled with registration, getting classes lined up, and during that time it seemed that I stood in 100 lines and wrote my name 100 times.

Thursday night brought the annual Faculty Reception in West Dormitory parlor, and the faculty members and their wives and husbands so kind and gracious that I no longer felt like a green and lowly freshman. The reception

was followed by a dance in Society Hall, with a wonderful orchestra playing as we were whirled onto the dance floor. That lovely evening ended all too soon. Walking home under the ivy-covered colonnades and stopping at the old well for a drink of water ended a perfect evening.

Classes started on Friday of that first week, and what impressed me most was the personal interest that my professors showed in the students. Each one impressed upon his students that he would do everything he would to help them, a personal interest that is often lacking in larger schools.

Perhaps the thing that has impressed me most deeply is the friendly atmosphere found everywhere in the college. In all my life I've never found a friendlier place. There is no upper-class snobbery toward freshmen, quite the contrary, for the upper-classmen try to help the freshmen off to a good start in extra-curricular as well as academic activities.

My final and greatest impression of Elon College is the opportunity it gives each student to excel in any field, be it academic or extra-curricular. I know now, as I did from the very beginning, that I made a wise decision in coming to Elon, because I've found it a fine school in every respect. Here's to dear old Elon!