

Maroon And Gold

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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26, 1955

STUDENT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Elon's sixth annual "High School Day" is soon to be held upon the campus, and one hundred students are needed to volunteer as guides for the school groups that will be our guests. Students will be assigned to the various groups of seniors from the visiting high schools, and they will guide the tours of the Elon campus.

The student guides will begin their respective tours early in the afternoon, and they will continue with their guests groups until the basketball game between Elon and Lenoir Rhyne, the final game of the Elon schedule.

Careful planning has been done to move the seniors in the fastest possible manner over the campus, where they will witness various displays and demonstrations that will give the visitors a panoramic view of college life.

One of the outstanding events of the day's program will be the awarding of eight scholarships, which total \$6,000 in value. They include awards for both boys and girls, with top scholarships worth \$1,200 and with lesser awards of \$800, \$600 and \$400. Top winners in the contests will reign as "King" and "Queen" for the day, the winners to be announced at half-time of the basketball game that night.

With these facts in mind, we can readily see the need for complete cooperation on the part of Elon students in a display of campus hospitality. Your help in volunteering to serve as student guides will be appreciated, not only by the more than 1,500 guests, but by the college itself.

Those of us who cannot serve as guides because of other duties can impress those who are to visit the Elon campus by extending a hearty welcome to each of the high school students.—WAGGONER

MEVIUS SPEAKS IN CHAPEL

Horst Mevius, who has an interesting article in the feature section of this page, recently spoke in one of the chapel programs, giving us an interesting view of life in America, as contrasted to his native country.

Many of his thoughts have been put in print and our readers will surely get an insight as to the material given in that particular service.

We would do well to do something about the phases of campus life in which Mevius called "a bit of surprise." Other than referring to the trash on our campus and the extra-curricular noise in the dorms, he related his approval of most of the other phases of life on the Elon campus.

Mevius did explain that he did not want to form or express any definite opinions concerning America until he had gotten better acquainted with our ways and customs. Our actions will affect a great deal in his final speculations, so let's give him something really good to take back to Germany, something so we can be proud to say that we had some part in the forming of an opinion.—WAGGONER



jottings
from here
and there

By JAMES WAGGONER

SO YOU WANT TO BE A TEACHER

I recently read an interesting article intitled, "Teachers Must Eat," concerning one of America's biggest problems. With regard to this article let us consider in our column today some significant facts that might prove to be of interest to the potential teacher.

First, let us visit a Texan who had gone to the State of Washington during the war, and had liked it so well that he decided to return there in order to take up his chosen field. His name is Tyman Stephens, and he teaches biology and physical education at South Kitsan High School. Stephens works from five to nine o'clock in the evening as a cabinetmaker. He says, "As long as we have three children, I won't let my wife work. Her place is with them." In other words, to make ends meet, cabinetmaking supplements his teaching salary.

Next we venture up to New York City and meet an Industrial Arts teacher named Leslie Fernandez, who works week ends in a grocery store, teaches jewelry and leather working two nights weekly, attends college two other nights for his master's degree (which will mean \$200 a year more pay). The reason given was that his present pay as a school teacher would never permit him to buy a suburban home for his new baby to grow up in.

Our next trip takes us to Morrisville, Pa., where we are introduced to Joseph Matinas. Matinas has a rugged 91-hour-a-week schedule, teaching science and social studies at Morrisville High School, coaching football and baseball (without pay), and working until midnight at "Mike's Dog House." His reason lies in the fact that banks refused him a mortgage on the house he wants—his teacher's salary of \$5,100 is too low.

Leroy Houghton is another typical teacher holding an after-school job. Houghton teaches high-school math in "Scarsdale, N.Y.," which has one of the best paying school systems in the United States. He spends 40 1-2 hours a week as a waiter. His reason was that he had to replace his 1940 car, and he couldn't do that and bring up four children even with his relatively high salary.

Michael Elia spends Saturdays as a gas station attendant, while spending the other days teaching the sixth grade and art in Waldwick, N.J. Elia is also vice-president of the PTA. His reason was because his working wife had to have an expensive operation. With that almost paid for, and a pay raise in sight, Elia hopes to give up outside jobs "until the baby he wants comes along."

These might seem like exceptional cases, but they are not. Louis B. Schliek, who has recently spent three years looking into this national situation, found that out of a study made of 5,000 teachers, approximately half hold after-school jobs, even more working in summers.

These jobs ranged from grocery clerking to selling encyclopedias from door-to-door, the most common job in some parts of the nation being janitorial at the school itself, since it's simple for a woman to slip into a housecoat, or for a man to climb into work clothes and polish up their own classrooms.

Clothes and are gathered from other parts of the nation, but a survey in this section and state would reveal many similar instances of teaching working at extra jobs to piece out their incomes.

One has only to scout around in Burlington and neighboring cities to find teachers working in stores on weekends or house-to-house salesmen of encyclopedias and similar items.

The North Carolina legislature is in session now, and it is pretty definitely assured that no pay raise for teachers this session which regulates pay for the next biennial.

However, this article is not intended to present a poor picture of the teaching profession, but to give the reader a panoramic view of school-teaching, especially the side which most of us are not familiar with.

With both sides of the story in mind, one can be dead-sure about becoming a teacher. One of the greatest satisfactions in the teaching profession is the fact that the teacher gives to his country a service that will stand through thick or thin, in season, out of season.

RELAXED MOMENT FOR ELON'S GERMAN STUDENT



Pictured above in a relaxed moment at his desk in his Club House room is Horst Mevius, a Fulbright Scholar from Luebeck, Germany, who has made many friends since coming to Elon College this year. The German youth is attending Elon under the sponsorship of the Rotary Clubs, with the Burlington Rotary Club as his particular sponsor. In a feature story in this issue of the Maroon and Gold, Mevius has written of the differences he finds in America and his native Germany.

Schools And Life Are Different...

America And Germany Are Compared

By HORST MEVIUS

I have been asked to write something about my country for this paper. One way to do this is to show evident differences between my home country and yours. I shall try to do it before I forget what is distinct.

One thing is the very fact that I feel free to write for this paper. We had a school paper at home which was supposed to be run by the students themselves. But how badly did it work! The articles had to be of such a high standard that I and most of my classmates never dared write any contribution. The result was the majority of the articles was written by teachers. This is quite unusual at Elon. I got the impression that one who feels that he has something to say takes advantage of the chance offered by the Maroon and Gold.

Another difference is the amount of space your paper allows to sports. In the Maroon and Gold at least fifty per cent is devoted to football, basketball and other sports. In our school newspaper only a short statement about sports at our school appeared.

Emphasis On Sports

This may be another distinction for sport is not as important in German high schools as it seems to be in this country. This is due partly to the lack of gymnasiums and sportsfields, partly to a remainder of the old belief that languages and sciences rank much higher than physical training. So we do not have anything that might be compared with your intercollegiate competition in football and other sports.

BACKGROUND OF THE WRITER

Horst Mevius, Elon's Fulbright student from Germany this year, who writes in this issue his views of life in an American college and in his native country, was born May 26, 1934 in Luebeck, Germany, where he has spent most of his life.

His mother still lives in Luebeck, where she operates a grocery shop, but his father died in a Siberian prison camp as a victim of the Russians, after being captured while serving as a German soldier. He is the eldest of three children, having a 16-year-old brother and a 10-year-old sister at home.

Mevius attended primary school for four years and then attended the famous Katherineum High School, rated as one of the best schools in Germany. This school is over six hundred years old and operates today in the original building. He also attended the University of Kiel, a state institution, after his nine years of high school.

The only thing we had was a track meet between the three high schools of my home town each year. Again, there was never much interest in it on the side of the students, not nearly as high a percentage watched this annual event as supports your basketball team most audibly every night. An explanation for this may be that not the high schools or the universities (we do not have anything like colleges) are the cell of German sport, but sport clubs in various districts of a town. Sport fans give much more attachment to their sport clubs than to their schools.

Studies Important

So life in our schools is much more centered around good training in: foreign languages, history, science and music. We had an orchestra and a choir of astonishing perfection, as doubtful critics freely admitted. Performances of dramas or tragedies and comedies gave a good reputation to my old school. There were discussion evenings about political or education questions. Other discussions were carried out in a foreign language. In this case German words were strictly forbidden.

Another difference is the attachment that most students seem to have to Elon. They work in committees; they wear sweaters with a large "E" on them; they want to see the Fighting Christians win. This was not so at home. I went to school from 8 to 1 o'clock, made my home works out that was all I did for my school. After that I did what I wanted to do. Americans seem to be so devoted to their school that, in sport events, their primary

concern is to see their team win. I never heard them applaud to excellent play on the side of their opponents. Most Germans, however, are primarily interested in seeing beautiful play and try to take an impartial viewpoint.

Types Of Schools

Our school system is different. At an early age of six years, every child is required to go to a primary school. There they are taught how to read, to write and to reckon. At an age of ten years, a selection takes place. About fifty per cent of the children continue primary school to be given some additional training in one foreign language, history, geography, algebra and geometry. About forty per cent enter a so-called middle school. Two foreign languages and a more intensive study of the above-mentioned subjects are the characteristics of these schools. Only the most capable children—about ten per cent—are admitted to a high school.

In the course of nine high school years three foreign languages, the whole world history, German literature, biology, chemistry, geography, mathematics up to differential and integral calculus, physics, music, art and, in the higher classes, current events and philosophy are taught. Everybody has to take all these subjects. There is a firm schedule for each grade. In the beginning, you may have the choice of three languages out of English, French, Latin, Greek, Russian and Swedish, but never between a variety of courses as is taught in this country.

Vocational Training

Who cannot follow in class inevitably drops out and continues his studies in a middle school. For this reason, or because many want to enter an occupation at an earlier age, only about forty per cent of the high school students really graduate from their schools. Law requires everybody to complete eight school years. After that time primary schools send their children as apprentices to craftsmen. Middle schools include six years after primary school. Small business men and federal officers usually come from these schools.

Only a certificate saying that you have successfully accomplished nine years of high school entitles you to study at a German university. Universities continue high school and give final training to physicians, teachers, ministers and lawyers. At a German university you have complete freedom of choosing courses and cutting classes. The only requirement is that you know enough to pass when you apply for final graduation after at least four years. There are no tests every other week. All types of German schools

(Continued on Page Four)

curley's campus chatter



By CHARLIE OATES

Pearls to the cheerleaders for their outstanding hard work. They have done a lot to cheer our team on to victory in the basketball wars this winter. Each time these girls go to an out-of-town game, they lose one of their "off-campus" permissions and pay for the gas. Why not show your appreciation for their interest and come on out and join with them in the cheers that mean so much. . . . The Delta U girls are ordering sorority pins, the pins being similar to the original ones ordered back in 1935. . . . Tuffy Bowman, a former Elon student and member of the golf squad, visited the campus some days ago. . . . Bob "Sheepie" Peters, now a member of the U. S. Army and stationed at Fort Bragg, was also back on the campus last weekend, accompanied by Nat Burwell, who is teaching and coaching in Fayetteville. . . . Could it be that the Sigma Phi boys are thinking of buying the Plantation Supper Club for their fraternity house, since they have been seen there so often lately. . . . Members of the Sigma Phi party: Larry Barnes, Bubba Barnes, Clyde Boswell, Jim Reneau, Gary Thompson. . . . The girls' WRA basketball tournament starts next Thursday, and they begin practice this Thursday.

Architects cover their mistakes with ivy, doctors with sod, and brides with mayonnaise. . . . it is easy to stop smoking, some people quit dozens of times. . . . a bustle is like a historical romance; both are fictitious tales based on stern reality. . . . the cost to run an automobile is about six cents a mile, but past a red light the rate is slightly higher. . . . a General Motors publicist explains that it takes a woman longer to dress than a man because she has to slow down for curves. . . . the average motorist, after seeing a serious wreck, drives carefully for several blocks. . . . a gossip talks to you about other people, a bore talks to you about himself, and a brilliant conversationalist talks to you about yourself. . . . women inspire us with all the great things they prevent us from accomplishing. . . . the only way to fight a woman is with your hat, grab it and run!

I know that everybody who reads this column has had his full share of embarrassing moments, but I wonder if any of you found yourselves in a spot to compare to a friend of mine who met a lady at a concert recently and, between numbers, tapped her on the shoulder and murmured, "Beg pardon, but your stocking appears to be badly wrinkled." The lady shot him a look of unadulterated hatred and answered, "I'm not wearing stocking this evening."

Diary Of A Female

From the diary of a globe-trotting young cinema queen. . . .

Monday: The captain saw me on deck and was kind enough to ask me to sit at his table for the rest of the trip.

Tuesday: I spent the morning on the bridge with the captain. He took my picture leaning against the "Passengers not allowed on this bridge" sign.

Wednesday: The captain made proposals to me unbecoming an officer and a gentleman.

Thursday: The captain threatened to sink the ship unless I agreed to his proposals.

Friday: I save eight hundred lives today.

Not Thrifty, Stingy!

Zeke Poppin and his wife were the stingiest and orneriest couple in Ogunquit. Zeke died at the age of eighty-eight and a few years later it became apparent that his wife was about to join him somewhere or other in the beyond. Summoned her one friend and said weakly, "Hetty, bury me in my black taffeta dress, but afore you do, might as well cut the back out and make yourself a Sunday-go-to-meetin' gown out of it. It's fine material."

"Couldn't do that," demurred the friend. "When you and Zeke walk up them golden stairs what would them angels say if your dress ain't got no back in it?"

"They won't be looking at me," said Mrs. Poppin tartly. "I buried Zeke without his parts."

A Columnist's Mistake

A Hollywood columnist once circulated an erroneous report of W. C. Fields' death. The bulbous-nosed comedian called up the editor in a rage. "I hope you noticed," he roared, "that your foul newspaper announced my death this morning." "That I did," admitted the editor coolly, "May I ask where you're calling from?"