

Maroon And Gold

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.

EDITORIAL BOARD

Bobby Lawson Editor-in-Chief
 Jimmy Elder Assistant Editor
 Doris Faircloth Assistant Editor
 H. Reid Alumni Editor
 George Best Staff Photographer
 Luther N. Byrd Faculty Advisor

TECHNICAL STAFF

Phillip Sexton Printing Advisor
 Carl Owen Printing Advisor
 Bobby Bennett Press Operator

REPORTERS

Jimmy Jones Lafayette Wilkins
 Michael Duncan Roger Suddith
 Carolyn French Sam White
 Keith Dennis Darrell Moser
 James DiPerna Rex Moser
 Robert Drum Kenneth Rogers
 Oliver Gilliam Richard Whittenton
 Cecil Wright

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 1959

EXTRAS ARE IMPORTANT

Many times here at Elon College and upon other campuses all over America, there are persons who kick and criticize extra-curricular activities, and there are others who just as strongly support and advocate such activities.

Many persons argue that the extra-curricular activities, while good and quite valuable, require too much student time and exert too much pressure on the student body. Still others argue that there are too many activities of a minor nature, but in most cases that should be left to students of each institution to decide.

An editorial from the DAILY KANSAS, the University of Kansas, treats the subject.

"Undeniably, there is a trend toward specialized learning and away from the liberal education which moulded our fathers. De-emphasis is one of the most popular words on college campuses today. College students concentrate on facts. Their knowledge is narrowed by specialization. Those activities, one considered essential, which help round students into broad, personable adults, are slipping from the scene," the editorial said.

"Likewise," it continued, "those courses which were the foundation of the liberal arts education no longer receive the attention they once did. Education is geared to the specialist who is only interested in devouring essential facts."

The result, at best, is unsatisfactory. Few educated men walk from the graduation stage these days—men whose knowledge entitled them to the respect and company of all classes of society.

Today, we produce men, narrow in scope, who function apart from the world. They are experts in their individual fields, but lack training in human understanding needed to establish rapport with other members of society.

We would reject, then, thinking behind a general movement to restrict students to academic pursuits.

Activities, certainly, have their place in an intellectual atmosphere. They perform a valued service in helping produce the well-rounded graduate who understands himself and his community as well as his profession.

GOOD ENGLISH HELPS

Most people in the United States speak the English language. Some of them do it superbly, others do it poorly. The fact that one cannot speak eloquently is no excuse for speaking slovenly, and without good grammar. It is sheer joy to hear one who uses the native language skillfully. The writer of ancient Proverbs said, "A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver." Not a bad sentence itself when beauty and imagination are considered, and it certainly carries literal truth.

To be able to say exactly the right word, to use the various parts of speech correctly, and to speak a sentence that can be understood by all listeners—that is something worth long and tedious effort.

It is useless to try to tell people the way that heaven in language that is so bungled that they do not know its meaning. A leader who does not take the pains to speak correctly need not be surprised if intelligent people do not listen. Kids figure that if a person does not know his language he may not know much else, and that if he does not care to learn he may not care much for people.



on campus

By BOBBY LAWSON

The average student, it has been said is usually on the look out for something for nothing. He goes to class and expects to be filled to capacity with enough ideas and answers (which he usually repeats in a parrot-like manner) to pull him through his courses.

Then he blames the instructors and professors if he fails to pass. In short, he becomes angry with someone else for his own failure.

If it rains and the ground in the parking lots and around the campus becomes muddy, he says, "Mr. Editor, why don't you write a piece in your paper?"

If he fails to find the choice parking space, he says, "Why don't you write a piece?" Of course, the parking problem is enough to drive anyone to distraction.

If he thinks that the Business Office is cheating him out of some money, he immediately says, "Why don't you write a piece?" Even though the paper is not the place for writing such, he still wants it printed; when what he should do is go talk to Mr. Butler. I am sure that he will be glad to tell you why each charge is made.

If the creamed potatoes served in the cafeteria happens to have lumps in them, he wants a piece written about the cafeteria.

If he oversleeps and misses a class and wakes up to the fact that a quality point will be deducted, he wants a piece written about the cut system. I think that we should be pleased with the system of just taking a quality point instead of getting an "F" on the course. Some colleges give F's for unexcused over-cuts.

If the school spirit wanes or the athletic teams flop, he wants a piece written about that. Yet, he may be the reason the school spirit and the teams are so poor. As a matter of fact, I am not saying that our football team is a flop, because I think we have a very good team. Even though our team's record is not a success in terms of winning, I still would like to say, "Good show, old sports!" We might not have won all the games, but our Fighting Christians have been in there battling all the way. I only wish the students could have made as good a showing in attendance as the team has on the field.

If he doesn't like the conditions of the dorms, he says, "Why don't you write a piece?" I would be glad to write a piece about it if he has already talked with the proper person and still nothing is done, then is the time to write a piece and not before.

The Best For Last

Not many months ago we had a very talented young lady to speak to us in chapel. I had heard so much about her that I actually was looking forward to a chapel program. When she was introduced, I knew that she was going to be an exceptionally good speaker. Then my hopes were shattered when she made such a bold statement in her opening paragraph. I can't remember her direct words, but the idea sticks out. She said something to the effect that she had saved the South to visit last, or until she could better understand, or was more educated on our problems. Man, I'm telling you, she really threw mud in the faces of some of us true Southerners. But what she meant to say was that she saved the best for last, and by this I mean the best part of the country. Apart from this statement her speech was very interesting and to the point.

I will agree that the South does have a few problems that are not found in the North, but that is only because some of the problems have come down here.

What's Cooking At Elon

Take about 400 pounds of potatoes, wash well and dump into a potato peeler. Remove from peeler, slice and cook in 18 gallon of boiling salted water until done. Add several pounds of butter and a gallon or so of cream, then beat to a smooth consistency. Sounds as if someone is going to eat a few creamed potatoes, doesn't it? Well, we do eat them at the rate of 400 pounds a day.

According to Mrs. Wooten, dietitian, creamed potatoes are Elon students' favorite vegetable. Her statement is not based on guesswork, but on the actual count of student servings each day. Some students are under the impression that there is a state law requiring the cafeteria to serve creamed potatoes once each day, but this is a misconception. She remarked that when over 50 per cent of the students who eat in the dining hall choose potatoes, it is only logical to assume that someone likes them. How about that!

The Story From the Beginning...

Of Plays And Playmaking At Elon

"All the world's a stage, and all men and women merely players; they have their exits and entrances; and one man in his time plays many parts, his acts being seven ages."

So said the Bard of Avon, and history proves that 'tis only human to love make-believe and to be interested in plays and the stage. Such interest dates back to the Greeks, and such interest has long been present at Elon College.

Few records have been found concerning dramatics at Elon College before the 1920's, but the students were interested in plays and the making of plays in that earlier period, although work in that field was usually referred to under the name of "Expression" and not "Dramatics."

As early as 1913 Miss Ethel Clements was listed on the faculty as "Director of Physical Culture and Expression," and there were ten members of the Expression Class. Two years later Miss Bessie Urquhart was instructor in "Expression and Physical Culture," and there was a Dramatic Club with no less than twenty-three members. One of the members was Oma Utey, now Mrs. Oma Johnson, who retired only last year as Elon librarian.

Societies Gave Plays

The first definite records as to plays date back to 1920, when the three literary societies sponsored plays. The Philologist Society, a men's group, presented "She Stoops To Conquer;" The Psephelian, a women's organization, presented "The Princess;" and Clio, another men's group, presented "Nathan Hale," a drama in four acts. The 1921 annual tells of the Phelia Dramatic Club, which sponsored dramatic activities. Its president was Essie Mae Truitt, who that year became Elon's first May Queen.

There is no record available for 1921-22, but the college year of 1922-23 again saw plays presented by the three literary groups for campus entertainment. "Betty's Last Bet," a farce comedy in three acts, was presented by the Psephelian Society; "Over Here," a drama of American patriotism was given by Clio; and "Driftwood," a drama in four acts, was presented by the Philologist

EDITOR'S NOTE

This is the first of a two-part feature on student dramatic activities on the Elon campus, compiled after extensive research by a former editor of the Maroon and Gold. It tells of the beginning of Elon stage plays nearly half a century ago and brings the story down to the late 1930's.

Society.

A new literary society was formed in 1924, called Psykalean, which staged a mystery comedy late in April of that year, entitled "Am I Entruding." During this same year the Psephelian Society presented "The Lady of the Library," and Clio offered "The Hut." The Philologist Society presented a variety show as its dramatic contribution for the year.

Four Plays In 1925

Four plays were presented during the 1924-25 college year. "Come Out of the Kitchen" was given by the Psephelian Entertainers; "The Charm School," a delightful comedy, was presented by the Psykaleans; "Dulcy," a three-act comedy, was given by Philologist Society; and "A Regular Scream" was the offering by Clio. It is interesting to note that William B. Terrell, later an editor of the Maroon and Gold and present-day president of the General Alumni Association, was a member of the cast for "Dulcy."

The season of 1925-26 brought four additional plays, all by the literary societies. The Philologists gave "A Marriage of Convenience" on November 26, 1925; the Psykaleans presented "The Whole Town's Talking," a three-act farce, on January 18, 1926; the Clios gave a drama, "The Dust of the Earth," on February 26, 1926; and the Psephelians presented "The New Poor," a three-act farce, on April 3, 1926.

During the 1926-27 term the four literary groups gave programs, but there was no record of real dramatic offerings. The Maroon and Gold for that period reveals that the Dramatic Ex-

pression Department, under the direction of Miss Emily Johnston, took over the stage activities, and partial files reveal that the only plays given were "The Patsy," presented on December 9, 1927, and "Second Childhood," presented May 23, 1928 to a large crowd.

The records for the seasons of 1929, 1930, 1931 and 1932 are scarce, and there is no definite record of student stage work, although there is a mention in the Maroon and Gold of the presentation of "Boomerang" by the Expression Department on March 1, 1929.

Dramatic Organizations

A newly organized dramatic club, the Playmakers of Elon College, made its appearance in 1932 and on December 6th of that year the group presented "You and I," a comedy in three acts, as its initial performance. This was under the direction of Miss Virginia Fitzhugh. Other offerings by the Playmakers that year included three one-act plays, "The Delicate Child," "Lima Beans," and "The Given that Year was 'Polly With A Past,'" but complete data was lacking.

The Playmakers failed to remain active for long, and the Maroon and Gold in the fall of 1934 carried a story of a reorganization for dramatic activities. The story stated that "realizing the need of an active dramatic organization on the campus, a group of students under the direction of Miss Floyd Childs met in September, 1934, to reorganize the inactive Playmakers of Elon College."

The story stated that "at the first meeting the name was changed to the Elon Players." First officers of the new Elon Players included Rebecca Smith, daughter of Dr. Leon E. Smith, who was named the first president of the group. Other officers of the Players that first year were Dick Kimball, of Manson, and Marcell Ackenhausen, of Cincinnati, Ohio.

On November 22nd that year the Elon Players gave their first performance. It was "Her Husband's Wife," which was presented in Whitley Auditorium. The second performance of 1934-35 came on March 21, 1935, when a bill of three one-act plays was presented. The bill included Christopher Morley's "Thursday Evening," Susan

(Continued on Page Four)

'twixt and between

By

JIMMY ELDER



Elon College is in the midst of preparations for an evaluation of all phases of the college's activities under an institutional self-study program, a program which is essential in the long-range planning and progress of the college.

The investigation and the solutions found in this self-study program will vitally affect every student and faculty member, indeed the entire college community. For this reason, it will be a good thing to make a brief examination of the institutional self-study programs which are conducted in so many colleges today.

First of all, what is a self-study program? Dr. John Forbis, of the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools, defines it as:

"A Cooperative venture which seeks to determine in a comprehensive way where an institution has been and is, in terms of its purposes and ways of achieving them; where it should go with new objectives and activities in order to serve more effectively those folk who have a stake in it; and how it can best get there."

Why, then, is the institutional self-study so important to Elon College at this time?

The reason is obvious, and the importance of the study cannot be exaggerated. Periodically, the accrediting committee of the Southern Association of Colleges and Universities visits all schools within its large area in order to evaluate the facilities and the academic structure of the various institutions. Needless to say that if Elon College, which presently is accredited, lost its accredited status, the results would be calamitous. The degrees which so many of us are struggling for would be virtually worthless, and it would be a great financial strain on the college, among numerous other serious consequences. Because institutional self-study is such an essential part of the preparation for accrediting, efforts on the part of the faculty, administration and students cannot be lightly regarded.

The members of the Student Affairs Committee, consisting of both students and faculty members, has been assigned the task of examining and evaluating the student personnel program on the campus. In this evaluation the committee must seek to answer such questions as follows:

What have been the significant achievements of the student personnel program in recent years? Describe and evaluate the facilities for supervision of student housing. Describe the provisions for health and medical care. Are they adequate for present and future needs? What organizations or activities draw public attention to the institution? How does each of these contribute to the development of the student in terms of the institution's purpose?

If the nature of the school permits, do student or student committees participate in the formulating of institutional policy decisions or in suggesting changes of modification? If so, what are these procedures? Describe the adequacy of the physical facilities for the student personnel program, such as gymnasium, health center, student activities building and playing fields. Evaluate the orientation program.

It's apparent from these questions that the task of the Student Affairs Committee is no easy one, that its responsibilities are not small. The students on the committee are expected to speak frankly and honestly. How does each of these contribute to recommend solutions and new ideas in the long range planning program. Indeed, it is an opportunity for the students to participate in the formulation of policy and in the evaluation of present conditions.

It speaks well for Elon College that it is examining itself in the light of present conditions and that it is preparing new plans and policies and programs which will serve the college for many years to come.

In the Centennial Edition of the Burlington Daily Times-News on 1949 appeared an article about Elon College setting forth a 20-year, 8-point long-range program for the college. Only ten years have elapsed since then, and all eight points in the program have come to fruition. New objectives must now be set and must be sought with renewed vigor and unflinching optimism.

BORROWED BRIEFS

The best way to save face is to keep the lower half shut.

Father—The parent who gets his daughter off his hands and then has to get his son-in-law on his feet.

The big noise at the office is the little squeak at home.



The Chatter Box

By DORIS FAIRCLOTH

make us much fonder of being absent from them.

There is one very homesick Northerner in West dormitory that we are praying will be able to go home for Thanksgiving. She seems to miss the sports that are common to her part of the world, and has been traipsing up and down the halls in her ice skates; I understand that she sometimes endeavors to sleep with these skates on. It has been suggested that all girls on the lower floors be wary, for if this person happens to walk in her sleep one night and cuts a figure-eight out in the hall, they may have a visitor dropping in.

The football game with Le-nor Rhyne on November 14 put an end to Elon's '59 football season. As we all know, the losses were many. But the football squad undoubtedly gave us a show for the money, and they were fighting at their very best every minute that they were on the field. The question as to why they lost may be answered by the fact that though the players are very good, they have had little experience in working together as a team. We may rest assured that this same team next year will still have and show forth its fighting spirit and will have the added experience to make them a winning team.

The Elon College Christmas dance, which is one of the biggest dances of the school year, is just around the corner. Plans

are being made for this dance, which is to be held on December 12 in McEwen. The dancing will be taking place on the second floor, and refreshments will be served on the first floor. Because of the success of the reception that followed the Homecoming dance, another is being planned for the Christmas dance. This dance is to be strictly formal, with the women wearing floor-length formal and the men wearing tuxedos (no dark suits).

It is hoped that everyone will participate in this event, and that it will turn out as well as did the Homecoming dance. So fellas and girls, drag out your tuxedos and formal and start working on that "special one!" It's up to you to see that we have a great Christmas dance!

It seems that the campus men's care about the parlors in West Dorm has begun to slip a little. Cigarette butts, some of them still burning, have been found scattered on the rugs in and right outside of the television room. Such as this is exactly what has caused the men to be kept out of the dorm before 5:00, and, if it continues, they will probably be prevented from coming in at all for any length of time. Let's hope that this won't continue, for the sake of the women as well as that of the men.

Best wishes to all for a safe trip home and a very happy Thanksgiving!