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OFFICERS OF ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION ELECTED

Mary Audrey Stough, President for 1927-'28.

Monday afternoon, May 2, the Athletic Association held an important meeting for the purpose of electing the officers for the year 1927-'28. The following girls were elected:

- President: Mary Audrey Stough.
- Vice-President: Dorothy Frazier.
- Secretary: Janie Little.
- Treasurer: Elizabeth Rondhaler.
- The heads of sports for the fall season were elected at the same time.
- Head of Basket Ball—Anne Hairston.
- Head of Volley Ball—Dorothy Ragan.
- Head of Hockey—Virginia Welch.
- Head of Swimming—Rose Frazier.
- Head of Walking—Margaret Sells.

Chemistry Prof. "Name three articles containing starch."
Student "Two cuffs and a collar."

THEME

THE STORY THE TRAMP TOLD OF HIS LIFE

I caught glimpses of many vivid mental pictures as I listened eagerly to the rapid words of this bronze-skinned South American, whose dark, restless eyes hinted the colorful life of which he told us—smoking the white countless brown cigarettes.

So continuous a flow of swift, almost unintelligible speech has a bewildering effect upon the unaccustomed listener. The words seemed to reach my brain not until several seconds after Pablo had spoken them, and one image merged into another and still another in quick succession. He told us of the silver-haired violin master in the sunny city of Manceles; of the doves and pigeons near the cool, marble fountain in the great public square; of the gold-jeweled bracelets that his beautiful dancing mother wore; of the warm moonlight nights in his land of Chile, and the glad gay songs they sang in the streets.

Then he explained his being in America; the flaming heat of the furnace room; the hell of a stoker's life; the hours on the rolling deck; the smell of the sea; the green and white of the toiling waves; the intense blue of the sky above; the hot glare on the water. He was restless, he said, and in the country he could make much money. To avoid some immigration tax—unnecessary in his estimation—Pablo, with his clothes tied safely to the top of his head, swam a swift yellow river in which many mid-green alligators disported themselves daily.

In Brooklyn he played a piano in a dance-hall where there was a jovial retent manager who sold many gallons of good food to the numerous patrons; good fellows who wore striped sweaters and checked caps, and girls who wore plaid skirts and huge red earrings; seated nightly in the pretty painted chairs around the small yellow-covered tables. They liked his music and he was well paid and happy for a while. But soon he was ready to travel again.

What? Oh yes, he had a wife he left. He had forgotten to write to her though, so he really didn't know where she was. She had probably sold his piano to buy the big ivory comb from that Spanish merchant and to get the fine clothes she talked of so much.

—Lucille Hassel.

A RURAL GATHERING

The keen autumnal tinge in the air was dissipated by the first heavy rains, tumbling piles of corn. The large arms of the fire leaping up into the dark shadows illuminated a scene that was strange and fascinating to me, and I drew back among the shadows to watch it unobserved. It was a country corn-shucking—one of the favorite forms of diversion in this section. The combine for use was a combination of play and work, quite satisfactory to the thrifty Scotch and German settler. At first the scene was unattractively solemn, everyone applying himself to his work with zeal. For the most part there was a strict separation of sexes—the men working on one pile and the girls at the other. There was exchange of salutes, and indeed no words of greeting. New-comers arrived, and with merely a "howdy," found places around the corn piles. The men worked with almost mechanical perfection of motion. They placed the ear of corn against the side of the body and with one twisting motion of the hand stripped it of its stalks. Then while with one hand

they tossed it on the rapidly growing heap of shucked corn, they reached with the other hand for another ear. The girls were scarcely less adroit than the boys, but soon they began to talk in whispers to each other. The women did not help with the shucking but assisted the hostess in the kitchen; for no light refreshments were served on occasions like this but huge bowls of stewed chicken, hot biscuits, homemade light bread, pies, cakes, pickles and preserves of all kinds. The odors of the stewing chickens began to drift into the yard, and the scene began to present something of a festive appearance. The girls' whispers were interspersed with giggles, and occasionally there was a half-smothered "guffaw" from one of the men. Badinage began to be exchanged, the men twitting the girls on the smallness of their corn piles. Suddenly there was a burst of laughter from the men, and attention was fixed on a red-checked boy in overalls who was triumphantly holding up an ear of corn dotted with red grains. When the girls saw the red ear of corn it occasioned a fresh burst of giggles and nudges. The red-checked boy hesitated and started to throw the red ear with the others, but the men began to ridicule him, and told him to claim his rights. It appears that whoever finds an ear of corn with red grains on it may claim the right to kiss any girls he chooses. Then the grains are counted and if there is an even number the couple will be married in half that many years but if there is an uneven number no marriage between them will ever take place. The merriment increased and so did the number of red ears found. Indeed, it is suspected that the same ear was found more than once. An old crooked man appeared with something he called a home-made fiddle under his arm, and then the corn was shucked to the tunes of "Old Black Bear Went Over the Mountain" and "Turkey in the Straw."

—Margaret Spainhour.

Athletic Announcements

Come out for track! The twenty-third of May is almost here, and those who do not take part in Field Day activities will feel very much left out. There will be relay races, running and hand jumps, as well as discus, javelin, and baseball throws. Everyone is urged to come out to the practices.

There will be archery practice every afternoon, except Saturday, at five o'clock.

A gymnasium exhibition will be held on Friday, the thirtieth of May. The classes of both Miss Twiss and Mr. Long have been working with a great deal of enthusiasm and the exhibition promises to be a big success.

The swimming pool will be open every morning at seven o'clock to those who wish to take an early dip. Practice for the Red Cross life-saving has begun, and swimming instructions will be given during the morning periods to all who are interested. Miss Torbert's rhythmic class will perform dances during the intermissions of the MacDowell Club picture, on Saturday night, May 7.

Choose Delegates For Blue Ridge

All organizations that are sending delegates, and all persons wishing to attend the Student Conference at Blue Ridge, must hand in the names to Sara Lurlington before May 13th. Any student who is not immediately connected with an organization may also attend. In previous years Salem has been represented at this annual conference by a large number, and it is hoped that the same interest and enthusiasm will be shown again this year.

Meeting of Off-Campus Student Government

Bronnie Peacock Elected Secretary of Association

At a meeting of the Off-Campus Student Government Association on Monday, May 2, Bronnie Peacock was elected secretary of the Association to take the place of Lee Knecher, who was chosen in the first elections, but found it necessary to resign.

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