

## THE UNIVERSITY STUDENT (Lex et Veritas)

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### EDITORIAL COMMENT

#### HELP KEEP OUR CAMPUS BEAUTIFUL

The following editorial taken from The Hampton Script is worthy of being passed on. It was written to call attention to a situation existing at Hampton but it can be applied equally here at Smith. Let us consider what is said therein and apply it to our own case.

"Spring is in the air. And the worrisome round of poems, and 'spring' editorials begin again. But while we vibrate with gusto we forget that we owe a duty to this awakening life; we fail to see that Nature's verdure can be made or broken by man. And, so, while the grass is struggling to throw off the lethargy of hibernation we ruthlessly crush it under heel, as we rush pell-mell across the lawns.

No matter if new cement walks are laid every day. We prefer to subvert them with unsightly chords, for bee-like, we sense that a straight line is the shortest route from point to point.

It requires but little more energy, and considerably more appreciative thought to 'go around.' It may be hard at first, but will not habit scrupulously maintained be pleasant if we can preserve the beauty of our campus.

The grass, to use a provincialism, needs a break. The hedges do too. Let's treasure our natural beauties and seek to preserve them."

### OUR SOCIETY

The society of Smith includes various types of individuals: the faculty, the theologians and the collegians. These groups embody the fraternal, non-fraternal men, the social club group, and vice versa. How would you determine the standard of measurement? Some would say the frat man, social club member, and an upper classman would be the general standard of measuring the social circle of Smith, but those groups (although with respect to the ideals and standards which the fraternities try to uphold) include some that are not of the best type of individuals for standards. We are judged by the component parts that constitute the whole. We are watched from without by individuals who are very critical, by individuals whose criticisms have weight. How are we, then, to better our continued existence? We would suggest a general house cleaning, take down all of the webs from the high walls, remove the vague shrouds of falsehood. We admit that we want to be successful, we want to be popular, we want to be powerful, but what kind of ways and means do we condescend to attain such things? Some resort to the lowest ways of obtaining such. It will do you little good to make such attainments by these methods. One step toward the betterment of the Hellenic group is the establishment of the Pan-Hellenic council. We hope that this organization is successful in fostering the ideals of fraternalism.

With the advent of social clubs, numerous ones have been formed, of various types. We do not abhor social clubs, but we would advocate the abolition of some. It seems that the promotion of Proms has to be a neces-

sity rather than a relaxation at various intervals of our collegiate life.

Why squander such large amounts of money for what we call pleasure for a few hours? Can we not turn that into something that would be of more benefit to us, rather than nourish a headache and a lot of "ifs" the day after? Let us tax our minds with the burden of thought and devise some better means for the distribution of our finances.

It is the ambition of some men to get into social clubs and fraternities, to move around in those circles for social pleasure. To get into fraternities because it's something new, to be able to wear a frat pin because "les jolies femmes" admire it, but what contribution can a pin wearer, or a so-called frat man render to the group he enters? In the eyes of the world he places himself in the infant stage. A baby wants something because it's dazzling and pleasing to the eye, and if successful in obtaining such does not know what to do with it—in most cases he tries to crush or destroy it. The same way with pin wearers. The pin composed of diamonds, sapphires, rubies, pearls and what not is dazzling to his eyes. He seeks for and in most cases gets it. Then what does he do with it? He pins it on some fair lady's breast, she wears it for his sake and probably doesn't give a rap about him. They attend all of the social functions during the course of his college career, then he graduates, takes his pin and goes out into the world dependent on "Lady Luck," and has a tough break did you say? Then into the hock shop goes the pin, the fraternity is forgotten and such a man's name on the roster means weight borne by others. He is nothing but a parasite to the group or groups to which he belongs. If, as some one has said, these groups constitute the majority of our society, let us be more cautious in the selection of individuals to become members of our group.

It seems that fraternities are not all they are thought to be and they are not always persistent in putting over some program of beneficial achievement as they claim their foremost endeavors. We do notice, however, that they seem to be more intent in socializing, promoting house parties, annual banquets and proms which require an enormous expenditure. It is not only shown at local chapters, but at the national meetings. There is little achieved along business lines, only a national gathering for socializing, and the expenditure of moneys. For a people seeking economic independence, we believe they are taking a backward step. Unless steps forward are taken economic independence will never be obtained. Let us think on these things as college men who are to be the future leaders of America. Yours for achievement and economic development.

V. VASQUEZ.

#### WHO IS YOUR IDEAL?

All men, regardless of their strata in life, dream. They may be of low mentality, of low morals, nevertheless they visualize. There are things for which they hope. This person may wish for money, a limited or unlimited amount. That person may wish for distinction local or national, for one deed at another. Another individual might wish for a place in some social circle, either in the elite group or in the red light districts. There are various other types of individuals, hence various other ideals.

As students we all read, either books, newspapers, or magazines. To the reader, each book (referring to fiction) has its hero or heroine. Each magazine has its hero or heroine. Each newspaper represents a type of person who becomes our favorite.

In reading the newspaper one student will scan the first page to see what the politicians are doing in their different fields, and will long for the day to come that he can get in power and break down some of the corrupt practices that are going on in politics. Across the table, from reader number one, is his room mate who takes the sport section and glances at the baseball scores and other sports. But, he lingers on the picture of such men as Jack Sharkey, Risko, George Godfrey and similar carnalities. He reads the articles

bearing on their pugilistic activities and craves to be a real "he-man" that he might knock the world cold with his big gloved fist.

Magazine patrons cover a much larger scope than does both the newspaper and the book patrons combined. The cause of the popularity of the magazine is that the reading matter of the different magazines deals on every activity the world over. Each magazine company has its customers, from the "Forum" to the "Popular Science," and from the "True Story" to "Pep." Of course religious magazines have their customers and many of them.

Mr. A, a literary inclined student, anxiously awaits the date of the arrival of the "Bookman," the "Forum," "The Saturday Review of Literature," and other parallel magazines, that he might put himself to reading the works of such men as T. S. Eliott, Irving Babbitt, Van W. Brooks and Carl Van Doren. As the reader peruses each line written by the authors mentioned above and digests the substances of each word he envies the author and wishes that he himself could be a great philosopher and a recognized literary critic. This reader's friend, Mr. B, is no less conscious than Mr. A, but his inclination is somewhat different. He is bent toward the field of science. He is inquisitive to know if Dr. Carver, with his peculiar chemical technique, has made any new discoveries. He wants to know if Dr. Just has made any more contributions to the world in the field of biology. He reads of Marconi and Edison. He keeps up with all the minor and major inventions. Mr. B realizes that if he is to be one of the world's greatest physicists or chemists he must keep up with all current inventions and discoveries, to do so he must read the "Popular Science" and the "Scientific American."

In a third room are two more students. One of them is lying in bed with a cigarette in his mouth. He has just finished reading an article in a "True Story" which has aroused in him a selfish desire to be a "social king." He brushes back his hair, strokes his mustache, and wishes that he was a "smooth man" who, with gestures of the hands; with certain rolling of the eyes and raising and lowering of the eye lashes; with sternness of speech (symbolizing that of a cave man) could cause all desirable ones of the fair sex to come flocking to him. His room mate has similar aspirations for he is dreaming the dreams caused by reading the "Pep" magazine.

To balance the scale of moral existence (referring to such persons as the last two mentioned) is a group of students reading religious literature and magazines and discussing the polluted condition of the world and vowing that when they have prepared themselves thoroughly they will, like the disciples of Jesus, blot out completely all such conditions.

You have recognized the difference in the several students whom I have mentioned to you. Which of these students do you represent, and whose ideal is your ideal?

M. M. H.

#### DO YOU KNOW THAT—

By "Blabb"

Johnson C. Smith has the best equipped baseball team in the country?

Smith has one of the best debating teams in the country?

Smith University's campus has few equals in scenic beauty?

There are three undergraduate fraternity houses at Smith—Alpha, Kappa, and Omega?

Johnson C. Smith University has the largest enrollment of any Negro college in North Carolina?

Ladies all over the country adore Smith men?

Rev. Goring never misses a meal?

Messrs. Fiawoo and Osabutey never cut classes?

Nina Mae McKinney visited Charlotte in 1928 and attended one of the dances where she danced divinely with Smith men?

Rastus—What are yo' limping about, Sambo?

Sambo—Ise got water on the knee. Does yo' know anything I could do for it?

Rastus—Sure, wear pumps.—Green

"What makes you so hoarse, Stanback?"

"I've been talking through a screen door and strained my voice.—Bison.

## AMBROSIA

By "Van"

Heigh Ho! One would not necessarily have to spend eight long years (which now seems a brief period) on that memorable and glorious hill where upon is located Johnson C. Smith to be thinking of returning at Easter. After being in the environment for a short while, or rather attending one Smith-Livingstone Classic one receives a dynamic urge which actuates his witnessing the next, next and the next. Nor is the game all! One sees and meets old school mates and friends; old acquaintances renewed, new ones made. There assembled the creme de la creme of D. J. Sander's and J. C. Price's polit-homous brethren from Maine to Mexico, Carolinas to California. Do not forget either that the female species of this group invariably display the latest creations which are seen only at Palm Beach, South Hampton or Deauville. A galaxy of color which only a Negro group can present because of its heterogeneity, or is it miscegenation! A superb spectacle! Par excellent! The last word! Appropos, don't think I would forget about the foremath or aftermath when honor is done Terpsichore. "The night shall be filled with music,—Whoopee and how! In view of all this is there any wonder that ardent Smith and Livingstone followers turn their minds toward Charlotte as Lady Moon nears her initial fullness after the spring equinox.

Well all I know about the Alma Mater is what I see in the papers, especially the Student (I do see Coach Thomas quite often). It is with satisfaction that I perused the new staff of the Student. Of the staffs that have preceded I am certain none were more meritorious and efficient. Under the editorship of Thebaud Jeffers it should easily rank first among Negro college papers. The very first change, to a better grade of paper is alone commendable. To get it out on time will be your biggest task. Here's hoping you will get the cooperation of the printers. I wish you Bon Voyage.

Now to comply with your request Mr. Editor. "What are Smith alumni doing in your vicinity?" I shall proceed: We are planning the formation of a Tri-polis Smith Alumni Chapter. This will take in High Point, Winston-Salem and Greensboro. All within a radius of only thirty miles. I am sure with such an organization we could make ourselves felt more in our community, and more tantamount at our Alma Mater.

High Point boasts of Dr. H. H. LeMon, '22 and Rev. C. H. White, '26. Dr. LeMon is also a graduate of Meharry College of Pharmacy. He is the manager of the leading drug store in High Point. As evidence of his success, I suffice to state that he took for himself a beautiful bride last Christmas. "Nuf sed."

Believe it or not I have not seen Charlie, I mean Rev. C. H. White, this year, although I have been in High Point several times. Nevertheless, from all I can gather he is expostulating the gospel like a Moody. With his perseverance and patience he could make good in any field—cept courtship.

In the Camel City there are A. R. Dawson, '28; G. F. Newell, '29; W. B. Stinson, '27, and Dr. H. T. Allen. The first three are all members of the Columbian Heights High School (the largest in the state) Faculty. Mr. Dawson was recently appointed the head of the English Department; Dr. A. T. Allen is one of the leading physicians of the city. He also got weary of 'living alone and was married recently to one of the fair damsels of the Columbian Heights High School.

Rev. H. C. Miller, T. B. Jones, '21; N. L. Gregg, '27; W. L. McNair, '23; G. F. Franklin, '22, and V. H. Chavis, '29, are on the Greensboro roll. Rev. Miller is pastor of the St. James Presbyterian Church, which is one of the leading churches in Negro Presbyterianism. He is an able speaker, in my opinion—though meager—one of the best in Greensboro, and in the Atlantic Synod.

T. B. Jones is the Registrar of A. and T. College, and an active

(Continued on page 4)

## THE FORUM

Communications to this column must be signed and will not be considered unless the signature of the writer is appended thereto. If the writer does not wish to have his name published a fictitious name suggested by him will be used instead. Communications will be limited to 500 words. The University Student does not necessarily endorse or commend all of the views expressed here, neither does it take the responsibility for anything said herein.

### INTERFRATERNAL BASKETBALL

For the second time in the history of Smith the fraternities have attempted to engage in interfraternal basketball games and this time the whole affair was not as successful as it might have been. This was due to several reasons.

To my mind the ultimate aim of interfraternal basketball is to develop the student that has possibilities of being a player. In most Negro colleges and high schools, there are a limited amount of coaches; here at Smith we have one. Hence the coach does not have the time to put on those men who may not be fortunate enough to make the team. This group of men are in the majority; the coach must concentrate all of his time on the twelve or fifteen men who compose the varsity. Interfraternity games will enable the man to show his wares, show what he has learned from mere contact. This very thing has shown this year by some members of the frat teams. No one ever thought certain men could cage a basket if they used a stepladder.

Now we make the games interfraternal, because each fraternity man wants his team to win. This only serves as an incentive. But just to say Omega or Alpha are the champions does not mean much if that is all the good that will be derived.

The Pan-Hellenic council, composed of members of each fraternity, is doing a good work here at Smith. But I rather think the council fell down on the interfraternal games. In the first place there were no rules governing the eligibility of players, whether varsity members of Smith or graduate members of the various fraternities. The first three or four games were played with a small degree of success. After these, one or two of the fraternities were short of men and wanted to bring in the varsity men. Well, if they were allowed to play, there were no grounds to hinder the graduate members of another fraternity who desired to play. These men were staunch supporters of their fraternity to see them win. We had no rules governing this, so they were allowed to play.

Some of these moves resulted in ill-feeling between some members of the fraternities, which no doubt could have been averted if the men would have seen the thing in a different light.

The games were scheduled for certain nights; on the night of which one of the games was to have been played, one of the teams cancelled on account of shortage of men. The men had to go to work or make a social call or something of that sort. Such a thing should never happen among college men and, moreover, fraternity men.

All of the games were not played, due to some of the reasons mentioned, and lack of interest on everyone's part.

The final results were: Omega, playing three, won three; Alpha, playing four, won one, and one unsettled; and Kappa, playing three, lost two, and one unsettled. Omega, having the highest percentage, is the logical champions.

The old adage, "We live to learn." I trust that when the next season rolls around, the council will have worked out a set of rules governing the eligibility of players, a time limit for cancellation of games and everything that will tend to make interfraternal basketball a success here at Smith.

I wish to thank Mr. Arthur Clement of Alpha Phi Alpha for his efforts in trying to make the games a success. I also want to express my gratefulness to Professor Coleman for his services as an efficient referee.

This article is not meant for any particular person or persons, but for all who are concerned with the welfare of athletics here at Smith. I trust my criticism will be taken in the light in which it is given. My profound desire is to ameliorate the attitude between the various fraternities.

I would like to see all undergraduate men developed for future use in Smith's varsity teams, than for Omega to win all of the games. I might add that I am a wearer of the sacred shield of Omega and my love for Omega can not be measured.—J. W. Martin.

Frosh—You're so modest you wouldn't work improper fractions. Co-Ed—And you're so dumb you think a tutor carries a horn.—Witt.

## CULLED FROM THE EXCHANGES

### For Your Own Good

While at the university, for health's sake get stirred up about something. We are assured by members of the medical fraternity that this stirring up is most beneficial for the lives of the individual involved and it is our conviction that it will be for the good of the university in general if such takes place with every student at McGill. . . .

Form opinions, take some side and, if possible, express your conviction in talk and, if allowable, by action.

There are enough issues around the campus to get "het" up about something. If the issues presently do not seem to provoke some thought in your mind, "start something." If anywhere, we expect to see in a university some indications that there is a conflict of opinion. Conflict of opinion sharpens the wit. The wit sharpened is a ready instrument of defence or aggression in all walks of life. It may even, with the most ambitious, provide one with a means of livelihood, so for health's sake and economic reasons get stirred up about something.—McGill Daily.

### So True

Here are some of the reasons why students get gray: The professor who assigns three outside readings, two outlines, and throws in background reading for the next day's assignment, thinking his is the only class we are taking. The lady professor with the weak voice. The professor who is a "crank" in his field and tries to make us "swallow" his radical ideas. The prof who has that annoying habit of inspecting the scenery outside the window while he is lecturing. The pedagogue who assigns class of fifty to read a passage in a book, of which the library has only one copy. The professor who "plays" to the women in the class. The one who thinks co-eds are not needed in his course. The comma hound who knows that one swallow does not make a summer, but believes that one mistake should merit a flunk. The professor who thinks none but his ideas are correct.—Oregon Daily Herald.

Dr. Ray Lyman Wilbur states that "The American advance in economic status has given us too many youths who have never known hardship. That is why football teams are so largely made up of men who are working their way through college, facing adversity."

Physical brawn is not the only criterion by which the hardness of a man may be measured. Some of the most capable and self-reliant men we know are thin, wiry fellows who would be promptly killed in a line plunge on the gridiron; yet between classes they earn the wherewithal to keep themselves alive and in the path leading to industrial success.

They are not softies. Would that we had more of them—whether they be football heroes or confine their campus activities to dragging a lunch wagon around to twenty or thirty fraternities every night, wait on table, or sell jimcracks to classmates who are better off economically but less fortunate industrially.—The Michigan Daily.

### DOCTOR

Howdy "Doctor" seems to be in the course of my prominence a common title of salutation to individuals, when meeting one another. To my limited amount of knowledge it seems that certain individuals are misusing the title of Doctor. Webster gives his interpretation of the word: "A learned man; teacher; one who has received the highest degree conferred by a college or university; one licensed to practise medicine, etc." Now, after having the meaning of the word as elucidated by Webster, we don't see how men in college department seeking degrees can condescend to belittle the word "Doctor" cognizant of the dignity that such a word possesses. It appears that college men are bringing down the standards of English set by our predecessors.

We are here, as you know, to learn, but that in particular should have been known by every individual before his matriculation. We would loathe to believe that there is some one here that didn't have that knowledge

(Continue on page 3)