

Science Club Has Very Interesting Biology Program

New Members Admitted to the Club at Last Meeting.

The Science Club, at its regular meeting, March 11, listened to a very interesting program, given by the biology students.

The program, which was given in a very creditable manner, was as follows: "Do Plants Have a Heart-beat?" was given by Ray O'Brien. The speaker gave many interesting facts concerning plants, leaving the club wondering if plants really slept.

"Strange Ways of Feeding Among Plants" was given by Sibyl Pace. She discussed several plants which feed off other plants and animals, including the mistletoe, partnership plants, root parasites, toothwort plant, the climber, the pitcher plant, the fly trap, the dottle plant, and many others.

"Facts About Bacteria" was given by Gladys Farmer. From her discussion the club learned that bacteria appeared in swarms. She brought out the fact that some bacteria were very useful while other bacteria were harmful.

"Diseases From Clouds" was discussed in a very interesting way by Francis Mumford. He gave several instances where diseases had been rained down from the clouds, thus proving that disease germs floated in the clouds.

In the business meeting following the program the following students were initiated into the Science Club: Sibyl Pace, Hazel Braxton, Thelma Hoyle, Hubert Price, Ray O'Brien, Edgar Osborne, Burgess Leonard, John Johnson, and John Smith.

MARS HILL TRAGEDIES

V. Jordan Brown falls from a piano. Donnie Mae Norman loses her lipstick.

Dick Sutton breaks his pipe.

John Cain's singing.

Crip loses a bet.

Joe Webb stays in love.

Camnitz wearing one of his own shirts.

Tom Dysard is seen smiling.

Mid-term exams.

When a Mexican wants to die for his country all he has to do is to get elected President.

Bill Cox thinks vitaphones are what we get by eating spinach.

FORUM CAPS AND GOWNS

By Levi M. Dilday

Caps and gowns have created quite a bit of sentiment on the campus recently. Some have favored and others have opposed the conception of the Seniors wearing caps and gowns in their graduation exercises this spring. Caps and gowns are a commodity, or a luxury, we might say, that is rapidly gaining its place in graduations. A few years ago caps and gowns were used only by the graduating classes of senior colleges where degrees were conferred. Today this practice has increased to the extent that practically all schools, no matter what kind, are making them a part of the graduation. Some kindergartens even are using them. This, however, seems to be an abuse upon their respected dignity.

Some few weeks ago someone conceived the idea of the present Senior class of Mars Hill College graduating in the formal caps and gowns. This met with hearty approval on the part of a number of the students and faculty. The caps and gowns, it was seen, would add more dignity to the occasion. They would give many the opportunity of participating in such a graduation who would not otherwise, since many of the class will not graduate at a senior college. The use of caps and gowns in the graduation this spring would mark the beginning of a new custom at Mars Hill. And certainly all of us wish to be continually progressing. None of us are content to stand still always and let the rest of the world go by. Many also looked at the use of them from the economical standpoint and saw wherein they would be to the best economic advantage. The fact that caps and gowns lend dignity to the occasion must be accepted by all.

There was some opposition on the part of faculty and students in regard to the use of caps and gowns. Many saw where they would not be able to afford them. Others realized that it would be somewhat imposing upon the dignity of the caps and gowns should we use them in a junior college, since they have a specific meaning in regard to the conferring of a degree and are already abused to the utmost. We did not wish to be copycats, so to speak, and use them just because some high school or other did. We wished to reserve the pleasure of wearing the reverend attire when we receive our degree at some senior institution. Some have already used the caps and gowns once or twice before and are convinced that this is enough until they have completed their courses in some higher institution.

In the presence of all this, the matter was reconsidered by the Senior class, as a result of a petition submitted to the class by a committee of the faculty, appointed by the President, to confer with a committee from the class upon the subject. The petition requested that the class reconsider the use of caps and gowns in their graduation, since the faculty did not wish that the tradition of the school be broken in that manner, and since to forego the use of caps and gowns would be more economical on the part of both students and faculty. The conclusion upon the discussion was that the use of caps and gowns for this class was abandoned, since we deemed it the wisest thing to do after careful consideration and a realization of the defects in the use of such.

There are many arguments both pro and con on the cap and gown question. Perhaps one of the strongest arguments for them is the fact that they distinguish a person and acclaim his attainments. But if we are real men we will not need the caps

and gowns to acclaim us to the world as college graduates. We need not be heralded as such. It is not the external attire, or the cap and gown, that counts, but what is under it. If we have no aspiration, we will get nowhere, even with a cap and gown; but if we have the aspiration we will succeed regardless of the cap and gown. Let us step forward and show our true qualities. Let us be the type that needs no material offsets to reach the limelight. It is not the most elaborate who always receives the most recognition. We can be just as great in the eyes of the world and receive as much welcome in the simplest, even in graduations.

A Word in Defense of "Hitch-Hikers"

Why is it that so many people who do not travel widely, and who do not give boys a lift when they do travel, are so opposed to "hitch-hiking," commonly called "bumming" by the uninitiated? We hitch-hikers are not bums. A bum cannot hitch-hike, that is, not efficiently. There is an art in hitch-hiking which lifts it above bumming. There are rules of etiquette to follow in order to succeed in this novel, and modern form of travel. Comb your hair, dress neatly, don't frown, smile at the driver; he'll probably smile too—or laugh. Never hail a car in which there are ladies; if they stop anyway—well that is different. A kind-hearted motherly woman often makes her frowning husband stop. Thank God for old-fashioned mothers; they have saved the world this long. But one more rule, stand in a place where the motorist must drive slowly, so that he won't burn up his brakes in stopping. (Incidentally it will save you from frequent practicing of the fifty yard dash.)

But seriously, "bumming" has its good points as well as its bad ones. It is true that this practice may develop the idea that the world owes us a living, and we are out to collect; but a boy is not old enough to travel by himself until he has some idea of the purpose of life. I've an idea that college professors (in other colleges) think that boys waste too much time. "Thumbing"; whereas, if they had to pay for their trips, they wouldn't "migrate" so. That is quite true; I admit it. Boys would waste their time "shooting bull" if they were broke and couldn't bum. Anything can be carried to excess, even eating. Fifty per cent of the deaths in America are caused by eating, but try living without it.

"Bumming" is one way of getting an education. Isn't experience a great part of education? Well, if you don't think bumming gives all kinds of experience, try it yourself; you will meet people of every type in their own environment. Once I rode a hundred miles with a lawyer, a red-haired young giant. He was one of the most interesting men I have ever met. It was better than any novel just to hear him talk; and as I listened I thought of the phrase, "One of nature's noblemen." Having just returned from a two weeks trip to Florida, deep-sea fishing, he was still as thrilled as a boy, yet having the insight of a man. He told many interesting things about his trip, such as a two hour fight with a hundred pound tarpon which he finally landed. Then our conversation turned to college life.

He told me of college, and certainly opened my eyes to things I had not seen before. Later I found that my friend was a graduate of the University of North Carolina, a Phi Beta Kappa man, and one of the finest citizens of his city. I consider those three hours talking with him most profitably spent. Another time I rode with a senator (a former college professor), and as it was his first trip in this part of the country, I was able to save him much time by directing him. I could name numbers of men who have helped me and whom I have helped by driving while they rested. I have been known to repair punctured tires occasionally, too. Many are glad to pick up someone to ride with them especially men who must drive so much by themselves. Those are the men we are looking for; we are not angry when tourists pass us up. If we did become angry and allow thunder storms to settle on our brows, who would stop them?

So you see, "bumming" teaches us to smile in spite of difficulty. Pass us up, tourists, if you prefer travelling alone, but don't look at us as if we were criminals. We are not thieves as hobos are, although some of these abuse this form of travel.

While I admit that hitch-hiking may be injurious; it has good points too. Take your choice between them. I'll never hitch-hike when I'm a man, and I'll never be young again. Why condemn us? Why not let us have wholesome pleasure when spring sends young blood coursing through our veins.

When Spring Fever is in my bones, And the long road calls to me, I'm going to "bum" in spite of groans, So, hail, you happy tourists, make room, is my plea.

—T. C. B.

(One who would rather hitch than hike)

Seniors Take Vote on Class Superlatives

Pattie and Mack Moore Chosen Best All-Round Students in Class.

At the last regular meeting of the Senior class the superlatives for this year were chosen, and strange indeed were some of the results. Neck and neck results, walkaways and curious choices resulted in the contest. Many names were mentioned that failed to win; the majorities of nearly all the winners were very small. One or two names were mentioned for all of the subjects that were voted upon, testifying to the popularity of certain members.

Mr. W. Scott Buck, with his magnificent figure, curly locks and dominating personality, walked away with the honors of the "Prettiest Boy." Many feminine hearts missed a beat as Mr. Buck glanced coyly in their direction; in fact some of them were frank in admitting that Scott was quite the "prettiest" boy they had ever seen. Mr. Buck expressed sincere appreciation of the honor and modestly gave the credit to his parents.

Mr. Worth Eckerd won the title as the laziest boy with scarcely a vote against him. When notified of the result of the ballot Mr. Eckerd sighed and admitted that such popularity must be deserved.

Mr. "Sister" Poplin walked off with the title of the sissiest boy. Thomas Dysard, of Statesville, N. C., won the distinguished title of the most conceited boy in the class. Mr. Dysard could be seen at times after that trying to live up to the title, covertly glancing at his profile and practicing high-hatting vigorously before a mirror. He and Alice Beckwith, girl winner of that title, have been noted exchanging notes on the proper way to be conceited.

Mr. Yarborough was voted the most original on the grounds that he could invent more ways of evading study than Edison.

Many and strange were the results, but here is the tabulated list; look them over:

Best sport among boys, Graydon Jordan; prettiest boy, Scott Buck; best athlete among boys, Dick Anderson; best all-round boy, Mack Moore; most popular boy, Leonard England; biggest pest, Joe Cardenal; laziest boy, Worth Eckerd; woman hater, Bill Beal; most indifferent boy, Claude Royal; most conceited boy, Tom Dysard; best dressed boy, Bill Capel; biggest cake-eater, Steve Lee; sissiest, Crawford Poplin; prettiest girl, Donnie Mae Norman; best athlete among girls, Thelma Hoyle; best all-round girl, Pattie Moore; neatest, Mary Hudson House; man-hater, Louise Fowler; biggest stringer, Donnie Mae Norman; most striking, Jessie Owen; most conceited girl, Alice Beckwith; most indifferent girl, Belle Howell; sweetest girl, Neve McCoy; most attractive, Eva Stewart; most popular girl, Pattie Moore; biggest flirt, Jo Anders; most sincere, Frank Dale; most dignified, E. M. Leonard; most literary, V. Isenhour; most talented, Pearl Justice; biggest eater, Jim Cherry; most ambitious, Edith Roberts; most original, Harrison Yarborough; most accommodating, Sam Rich; biggest talker, Scott Buck; wittiest, Bessie Stevenson; most serious, T. L. Austin.

Dr. Richard is making good as a skin specialist at Columbia, S. C.

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