

To The Would-Be Columnist

By One Who Was

As one who is about to draw his writing cloak about him and steal away to greener pastures, I take my position before my faithful typewriter to peck off this last humble feature, which fact I am sure is the cause for a great sighing of relief on the part of many harassed individuals who opened each issue of The Hilltop with fear and trembling, wondering if their reputation will be further besmirched by some article contained therein.

This past year has reaped a rich harvest for the columnists. Deep and dirty has been the mud that they have slung; much of it hits us between the eyes but we like it and ask for more. Such is human nature. Many romances were blighted by the work of us so-called "scandal-mongers," yet on the other hand many predestined pairs were brought together through our efforts, which nets about a fifty-fifty break. Many of you have been captivated by the glamour (?) of "Wilter Wunchell." "Nosin' 'Round," and others have decided that the field of mud slinging is one of rich rewards. The result was that some score-odd would-be columnists have applied for space in next year's Hilltop.

But before you take the fatal step let me remind you that the road is narrow and the way is rough that leads to success in the field of a scandal-monger. In the first place, you will often find yourself staring at a blank piece of paper and will be no more able to cover it with scandal than to pass a trig test with your book open. Then later on you will find yourself writing something which you think is extremely clever, but you will find that the students do not laugh at it. Then you wonder why they do not laugh at it, and the answer is that they do not think it is funny. Then you will pull your hair because you feel that you have wasted all that time thinking up something which you thought was funny, but the students did not think so.

But there is even a more serious aspect than that. Suppose you make a statement which someone does not appreciate. What are you going to do if that person is larger than you? The answer is to probably take a physical culture course before you begin writing a column. For instance, if you make a statement that makes a laugh at the expense of Fox and his girl, everybody laughs at the statement, excepting Fox and his girl. Then one dark night you are walking past an alley and someone steps out and plays taps on your head with a section of gas pipe. Who would be the one to commit so dastardly an act? It will probably be Fox. Why should Fox hit you? Because he didn't like the statement you made about him and his girl. Why shouldn't he like it? Everyone else laughed at it. Apparently it was not humorous to Fox. Thus you will see that you can please some of the public some of the time; and some of the public some of the time; but you can't always please some of the public some of the time.

In fact, you might endanger yourself worse than this. You might make a statement that would cause you to be blacklisted by the girls on the third floor. It is a very terrible fate to be blacklisted by the girls on the third floor for they are very, very cruel and they always get their man.

Or you might say something that would irritate the heads of the college and it might irritate them to such an extent that they might send you home to be dealt with by your mother and father. And maybe your father might not appreciate your journalistic efforts and give you a sound thrashing.

These are only a very few of the reasons why most of us should not become columnists, but I think that they are sufficient to make us stop and count ten before we take the dangerous step. But what if you were able to become a successful scandal-monger? As one who has been fortunate to exist the entire year without being completely annihilated, I will state that the risk is not worth the reward. For in the end the dregs

Commencement Finals Begin; Contests And Recitals This Week

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torium. The following readers will participate in the contest: Evelyn Morgan (Non) will read "The Other Wise Man," by VanDyke; Agnes Stack (Clio) will read "Mary of Magdalene," by Turnbull; Louise Bowles (Non) will read "Daddy Doc," by Kimley; Janie Britt (Clio) will read selections from "Othello," by Shakespeare; Lily Bennet (Non) will read "Old Ace," by Anonymous; Virginia Ballard (Clio) will read "Cobra," by Hagerman.

Thursday morning at ten o'clock there will be a meeting of the Trustees of Mars Hill College, after which the girls' essay-orators' contest will be held in the college auditorium. Those who will enter this contest are: Mary Ella Newbrough (Clio) giving "Woman and the Depression"; Doris Gibbs (Non) giving "America's Detour"; Zelma Price (Clio) giving "Tomorrow's Promise"; Joyce Wellborn (Non) giving "The American Legion"; Margaret Hines (Clio) giving "The Fruition of Character"; Rubye Young (Non) giving "Peace of a Nation"; Miriam Early (Clio) giving "Are We Giving the Negro a Square Deal?"; and Ruth Keller (Non) giving "A Proved Armor."

A debate between the Euthalian and Philomathian debating teams, consisting of Woodrow Jones and Edison Picklesimer (Eus), negative, and Falk Johnson and C. B. Jones (Phis), affirmative, will feature the early afternoon.

At four o'clock in the afternoon, reunions of the graduating classes of 1903, 1908, 1913, and 1923, will be celebrated in the society halls, in the art room, and in the library.

Promptly at 5:30 the alumni supper will begin. After this meal, the alumni address will be given in the college auditorium by W. A. Chambers, Marion attorney and a Mars Hill graduate of 1911.

The final feature of the day's full program will be the annual entertainment by Music and Expression Departments.

Friday morning, May 6, will be occupied in the presentation of the diplomas and medals, and by Mr. Moore's "Farewell Address to the Seniors."

Marshals for these programs will be: John Bailey, chief; Doris Gibbs, William Edwards, Sarah Corpening, Robert Scruggs, and Frances Burnett.

School will be recessed Friday at noon.

New Student Leaders

(Continued from page 1)

ning was given over to special numbers in honor of the sister society, the Clios, who paid their annual visit to the brother society. The program was given with selections by both Clios and Phis, and was pronounced by many of those present as the best program of the year. Most of the selections were of a light nature, and the occupants of the hall were kept in an uproar throughout the entire time. At the conclusion of the program, several of the Clios and Phis spoke, and the society spirit ran high. At the close of the meeting, "Clio-Phi," the society song, was sung in what was termed by many as the most enthusiastic manner it has been sung in many a day.

are bitter and tasteth like wormwood (however that tastes) and he that drinketh thereof will surely suffer thereby. Mark it down! Or in modern parlance: Don't become a columnist unless the doctors have given you only one year to live, and you don't care how soon it is finished.

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C. B. Jones Wins Oratorical Medal

Winner Gave Oration Entitled: "Is the World Safe For Democracy?"

The Philomathian Literary Society held its annual Jones Oratorical Contest with the medal going to C. B. Jones, who gave "Is the World Safe for Democracy?"

Roland Gant captured second place with an oration on "A Challenge to Young America"; third honors went to S. J. Justice, who gave "Some Guide Posts to Prosperity"; while Billy Wright took the alternate position with "The Heritage of America."

Mr. Jones, however, will not enter the oratorical contest as he was chosen to represent the society in the commencement debate. Each of the other speakers will be moved up one position, with the alternate filling the third place.

Others who gave orations were: Billy Peek, "The Drama of the Ages"; Thomas Speed, "The First American"; William Chambers, "Which Way Out?"; Emmet Francis, "Imagination, the Fundamental of Success"; Charles Fisher,

Those chosen for anniversary representatives are: Billy Wright and Charles Fisher, with Billy Peek as alternate.

The judges for the contest were: The Reverend L. B. Olive, Mrs. Fleetwood, and Miss Allen.

Alumni News

During commencement we are expecting a number of alumni members to return. The officers of the Alumni Association are: Rev. J. B. Eller, of Statesville, president; Rev. P. C. Stringfield, of Mars Hill, vice-president; and Miss Mattie Woodward, of Asheville, secretary. The officers of Marion County Alumni Association are: Mr. W. R. Chambers, president; and Rev. J. E. Hill, secretary. Mr. Ellis C. Jones is president of the Buncombe County Association. In Rutherford County, J. S. Dockerey, an attorney, is the president; and Cread Nanney, of Union Mills, is secretary. Rev. W. R. Griggs is president of the Mecklenburg County Division. Mr. Moore expects a number of these old friends to be back with us for the last few days of the semester.

In looking through the Alumni records it was interesting to find that there were only three members in the first graduating class of Mars Hill. They received their diplomas in 1903. The members were: Miss Cornelia Bryan, now Mrs. John Hobby, of Raleigh; Burgess P. Marshbanks, now vice-president of Campbell College; and Lester Redden, now of Philadelphia, Pa.

The class ten years ago in the Junior College Department graduated three members also. These were: Hubert H. Lance, now a prominent radio expert in Jefferson City, Mo.; Miss Thelma Allyne Gudger, now Mrs. Lucius Morgan; and Miss Jessie Huff, now teaching at Grace, N. C.

The class just two years before, 1908, had three members, who are now in "Who's Who in America." They are: H. I. Hunter, of Cullowhee; Curtis Reese, dean of Lincoln Center, in Chicago; and Dr. Marvin Scruggs, a prominent physician in Charlotte, N. C.

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Tennis Men Lose To Carson-Newman Team

Mars Hill racqueteers lost their first tilt in two seasons when the Carson-Newman net team defeated them several weeks ago with a count of 4-3; consequently, the Lion aggregation was seeing blood-thirsty red at the return engagement here on May 6. Mars Hill was avenged with a merciless trouncing of 7-0 over Carson-Newman. The Jefferson City team were allowed to win only two sets in the whole meet.

Perhaps the biggest upset came when Wilkins, Mars Hill Number 1 ace, defeated Roberts, brilliant star of the visitors, in two straight sets, 6-2, 6-1. This trouncing came somewhat as a surprise, since Roberts has an excellent record, having defeated the University of Tennessee top man twice last year, and having lost no college matches in two seasons of playing. Wilkins was in top form, and he played his usual deliberate game, consistently placing his drives away from his opponent, whose failure was due largely to double faults and inconsistent returns.

The tightest match of the tilt was the contest between Jarvis Lawrence, rising Whelp star, and Conway Sams, Carson-Newman number 2 man. Lawrence won out in this hotly contested fray with a tally of 5-7, 6-2, 6-4. Sams and Fox, of the opposing team, are former Mars Hillians.

Results of match were:

Singles

F. Wilkins, Mars Hill, defeated Roberts, 6-2, 6-1.

Chandler, Mars Hill, defeated Fox, 6-3, 6-0.

J. Lawrence, Mars Hill, defeated Sams, 5-7, 6-2, 6-4.

R. Burnette, Mars Hill, defeated Underwood, 6-3, 6-1.

S. Wall, Mars Hill, defeated Oates, 6-2, 6-1.

Doubles

R. Burnette and S. Wall, Mars

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WELLS MARKET

Mars Hill R Lose to E.

The Mars Hill closely contested by the Eastern T College at Tenn ago. Perhaps the day came with Wilkins and Sidna most powerful tennis aggregation matches were the the Whelps c these were wor R. Burnette, and matches play Chandler, and by were both decide Teachers. At the meet, the Teacher their credit again Lions.

Joe Eads, who Hill, was married ers on April 30, 1

Hill, defeated Fox 6-4, 6-2.

Wilkins and Ch defeated Sams and 6-2.

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