

# THE HILLTOP

"Plain Living and High Thinking"

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## Empty Places

Have you ever seen a huge tree growing in the forest and watched it wave majestically in the wind? Have you ever noticed how perfectly the tree fits into its surroundings? Looking at the other side of the picture, did you notice the empty place against the sky when the tree was cut down? Majestic splendor was removed when the tree was destroyed, and the appearance of the surroundings was changed.

So it is with the C-II's; they have nobly and splendidly advanced themselves and the institution toward successful attainment. We, the C-I's, are now to occupy the pews which will be vacated by the C-II's. The duty of following and the duty of leading are falling upon our shoulders. When we think of our mediocrity and inability, it appears to some of us that the mantle of the C-II's would make the C-I's a circus tent.

Ladies and Gentlemen of the C-I class: The big tree has fallen, and great is the crash thereof. We are the young saplings who must now constitute the forest. Will our magnitude increase and the empty place against the sky be filled? May we meet with perseverance the tasks before us and endeavor to attain to the work of leadership and fellowship.

C. R. G.

## A Simple Lesson

For the past week the classes meeting in the lower rooms of the administration building have seen a redbird trying desperately to enter the classrooms. During entire class periods this bird has flown against the window panes, sometimes as often as twice a minute, in an effort to get inside.

The perseverance of this bird having aroused the interest of the students, they have tried to discover the cause or object of attraction; but though this bird's desire to get inside, a desire that she is striving unceasingly to fulfill, is still unknown, her determination is known by all who have seen her.

Each of us as students has problems and tasks which require persistency and tenacity of purpose, which may represent the obstruction to our entering the "house of knowledge." The action of this bird, day after day beating against the obstinate window glass, has a lesson for us. Are we too great to learn from nature? What does this experience outside the classroom window teach those who watch from within? It teaches us that try-try-again spirit; it teaches us determination.

-P. M.

## Bon Voyage

As another school year draws to a close, the time approaches when the students must bid each other "bon voyage!" Many of them will never meet again, while some will always be associated in business or otherwise. All of them fall into one of three classes: those who will never attend school again, those who will return to Mars Hill, and those who will continue their studies at other institutions.

When each student graduated from high school, he was launched upon the sea of life. The period of college life is the period of testing and of building and completing the superstructure of one's ship after launching. Because of poorly constructed keels, too many boys and girls are junked during this time before even setting sail upon life's sea.

After college has been finished, the youth becomes skipper of his own ship. Then come the real tests. If the skipper has been well trained and if the ship has been sturdily built, he and the ship can establish permanent routes to carry valuable cargoes. If not, providing the ship does not sink at once, he must turn back for repairs and a fresh start.

Although at first the skipper may have smooth sailing, he must never relax his vigilance. He must remember that there are always storms, whirlpools of vice and temptation, jagged rocks, sunken logs, and enemy submarines and destroyers. Any one of these is capable

## NEWS and VIEWS

BY

BILL DENNIS

Well, here 'tis. At last the much talked about (family pride?) C-I edition of the **Hilltop** is out. While you are waiting for your street car, you might look it over and let us know sometime what you think. On second thought, maybe you should not do the latter; but please remember that we are rather green and inexperienced. First of all, it is only fair that we should acknowledge with sincere appreciation the indispensable assistance rendered by Bill Blaine, Orville Campbell, and Paul Early, of the regular staff. We hope you like it!

As we hear talk about such things as the C-I edition, C-I officers, commencement speakers, and the like, we are reminded that only five weeks are left in the school year. This stirs a mingled feeling of joy and sadness—joy because the year's work is nearly over and sadness because the time is nearly here when the C-II's and others will leave us forever. By their departure a terrible gap is created in Mars Hill as the C-I's see it, a gap that cannot be filled by the incoming class except in number. In the future the present C-I class will take on the duties and privileges of the seniors and will carry on. But it is easier to talk about such a thing than to do it. Nevertheless, to show our gratitude for innumerable services and favors, we of the C-I class pledge ourselves to carry on and to put forward always the ideals and principles for which Mars Hill stands.

It seemed for a while on our campus that "in the spring a young man's fancy turns away from love." The number of dating students decreased considerably and many couples ceased to be. All of this must have been the darkness before the dawn because things are picking up rapidly. The circle, Spilman porch, and Treat porch now are usually teeming with activity, especially during the half-hour after supper. And since we have remedied the situation, we shall move on.

Have you ever noticed the walls of the Montague library? If you have, you have seen nine pictures and, on top of the book shelves, two statuettes and two globes. Then, if you were interested in what you saw, perhaps you had difficulty in learning anything about the subject. Miss Gladys Johnson, librarian, is at present working to obtain suitable inscriptions for the pictures in order to supply the information. All of the pictures except one are in the room which was the original library.

As one enters the building, he sees a small frame on the opposite wall just under the edge of the upper floor. This is Judge Jeter Pritchard, one of the most powerful men and strongest forces in western North Carolina. Between Judge Pritchard and the clock is a likeness of W. C. Mc-

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of seriously damaging or sinking the vessel if the skipper fails to steer clear of it. Like the weak link in a chain, if just one rib of the ship's bottom gives away, the entire structure may be wrecked. If he has done a good job of piloting through the years, words cannot describe the satisfaction which the skipper experiences when the inevitable day comes to lay aside his uniform and give up his ship. Then only does he realize the importance of the original materials, construction and training. The students should realize that the materials, construction, and training of the present are going to determine the voyage of the future. Soon some of the new ships will be tried out, and so to those who are setting sail, bon voyage!

-B. D.

## Life's Vessel

Life is a beautiful vessel  
With tall, white sails, like wings.  
It carries a body made of dust  
And a silver soul that sings.

A swift wind carries the vessel  
In a channel straight and true,  
Where the dazzling light of happy  
Brings love and joy to view.

When the waves are high o'er the  
And the wind is harsh and cold,  
Those are the days there's no joy in  
When hearts grow sad and old.

Sometimes no breeze stirs the vessel  
But a still, grey, fog-like haze  
Wraps the ship in a gloomy shroud.  
Idleness rules those days.

Life is a beautiful vessel,  
Sailing we know not where,  
But there's a port for each ship of  
If only we pilot it there.

-Emil

## International Summary

By George Blackwell and George Culpepper

### The United States—

It looks as if President Franklin D. Roosevelt threw a bombshell into the already confused state of international affairs when he asked Hitler and Mussolini to adhere to ten years of peace. This suggestion was received in glee by Paris and London but was ignored by the Rome-Berlin axis. It seems that Roosevelt wants our country to play an important part in European affairs. Roosevelt, however, claims that his action was justified because the greatest nation on earth should rightly occupy a prominent place in world affairs. Just how far he intends to carry matters remains to be seen. Meanwhile, our fleet has been ordered to return immediately to its Pacific patrol without further orders.

### France—

When Mussolini took the Kingdom of Albania, France not only became alarmed at the growth of her Latin neighbor, but she called up nearly one million troops. If war comes, France may have to defend three frontiers. With the best trained army in Europe, France hopes to win on land while her English ally will hold to the seas. France also counts on the great Russian air force as well as the Soviet army consisting of fifteen million men. Today France is ready to fight at a moment's notice, and the chances are that she will bear the burden should war rear its ugly head in Europe.

### England—

Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain has promised armed aid to Poland, Greece, Rumania, and Turkey. His plan to encircle Germany with a band of steel has gone forward, and England's navy stands ready to close up the Baltic Sea, dealing with Germany as she did in the World War. Meanwhile she has 140 fighting ships around or near Italy. British forces stand at part-time mobilization and are ready to go into action immediately if necessary.

### Italy—

Italy momentarily took the

spotlight away from when she invaded the kingdom of Albania that a prolonged effort Italy's plans to annex Albanians eventually only in an Italian victory of Albanian nobles the Albanian crown the Albanian crown King Victor Emmanuel a dual monarchy. scattered over the at strategic points increased to well over men, Italy has issued forward and protect terests in the Mediter

### Germany—

By her refusal promptly the peace Fuehrer by President recently, Germany has while her Italian neighbor on the "dictator's policy." However, it gested by the German trolled by Minister of Goebbels, that Danzig sented to Hitler as present" when the die years old. But German Poland a "hard nut Poland decides she is tender the "birthday quietly as is now anti

### Russia—

As usual Russia is her plans for national her attitude toward her neighbors. Russia cains her silence whi mentators of London Italy, and Germany their plans to all despite her silen possesses the large army in Europe cou gigantic air force re years in advance of other nation in scient ment. It is hard to event of a general Russia would ally her dictator nations, but the question mark in affairs.

### The Next War—

Forecasts indicate war will find all of countries of Europe that these are the po Germany, Italy, Spain and Bulgaria as again England, Poland, Greece, Turkey, and Both sides will be w and scientifically equip is generally conceded land and her allies edge on Germany and by greater national a better access to world. As for the U entering the next war, a subject of debate, deal hinges on the Japan. Meanwhile, rush their rearmin averted and settled means.