

# The Hilltop

"Plain Living and High Thinking"

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EDITOR'S NOTE: Our guest writer this week is Professor R. M. Lee.

## Opportunity

Opportunity is a word, which like so many others that are excellent, we get from the Romans. It means near port, close to haven. It is a favorable occasion, time, or place for learning or saying or doing a thing. Life itself is opportunity, and, therefore, its whole circumstance may be made to serve the purpose of those who are bent upon self-improvement.

Mars Hill college offers many excellent opportunities to the young people who enter its gates. If the student has a definite aim and purpose for his or her life and a determination to achieve, opportunities here and elsewhere for attaining that purpose will start forth like buds at the kiss of spring. There are found here opportunities for physical growth, through the physical education program, that will make their bodies glow with health and energy. There are opportunities for intellectual attainment not only through the classroom, but by association with the heroes of the past who have given to us the very best in philosophy, literature, and science. There are opportunities to establish friendships which will endure to the end of life, and which will be a blessing and an inspiration, not only to us but to those whose lives we touch. There are opportunities for spiritual growth through the B. T. U., the Y. W. A., the Sunday school and church services. We will find that the best moments of life are those in which we stay within ourselves, alone with God and all of His world of truth and beauty. To live for an hour alone with God gives us a more intimate sense of the values and sacredness of life than to dwell for years in the company of worldlings.

May we not take the stars and the mountains and all the enduring earth to minister to the tranquility of soul, to the elevation of mind and to patient striving? Have not the flowers and the human eye and the look of heaven when the sun first appears or departs, power to show us that God is beautiful and good? Opportunity is not wanting . . . There is a place and means for all, if we will only have faith, hope, and a burning desire. We can achieve, if we will establish a definite aim for our lives and strive earnestly, with all our powers, to reach the goal God has for each of us.—R. M. Lee.

## None But The Brave

"None but the brave, none but the brave, none but the brave deserve the fair," said John Dryden in the latter part of the seventeenth century, and from this writing may be gained a wealth of good advice.

As with other abstract characteristics, it is a difficult matter to discuss bravery. It is as elusive as a moonbeam; sometimes it is present, and sometimes it is not. The person who is always brave in the face of physical danger may be rendered helpless by a moral dilemma. Whatever the case may be, the person who lacks bravery is at a disadvantage. Therefore the person who has this defect and realizes it should strive to correct it.

The best way to accomplish this is to take every opportunity to face the thing which you fear. It may be a moral decision, it may be an unasserted conviction, or it may be an amorous request—whatever it is, the only solution to the problem is to plunge right into it and do the best you can. Even if the outcome be disappointing, the experience is valuable and may be useful later on.

So remember, an ounce of action is sometimes worth a pound of deliberation. It is usually the brave, and not the wise or the handsome, who get the fair.—T. C. W.

## What Does Easter Mean?

Mars Hill students will enjoy an additional pleasure during the spring holidays this year, for they will be at home during the Easter season.

This year Easter will come on March 24. Tailors are busy making new spring clothes, and women are shopping for a new top piece which has barely enough material, including ribbons and flowers, to be called a hat.

It is quite fitting that new clothes should be worn and spring styles come to life on Easter. But does this mean that Easter is merely a holiday for new suits and hats? In a certain sense, yes.

If clothes and new styles are the only thing for a person to look forward to on Easter, the occasion loses its sacredness. If such is true Easter is more pagan than Christian.

Easter for the Christian should be a day of thanksgiving, a time for one to think on the Resurrection of Christ—his life on earth, and his death on the Cross. Easter commemorates the Resurrection, and the Resurrection marks a new era for the entire world.

What does Easter mean to you?

—C.R.G.

## INTERNATIONAL SUMMARY

By GEORGE BLACKWELL

Across the mild Pacific ocean, thousands of miles from democratic America, lie imperial Japan and China. From China sprang the germ of culture which reached out and took root in the wild land of the Japs. That germ grew and has now reached its bounds. For today China lies sick and weak from the hands of militaristic Japan. War has left its mark, and again the fat lords of expansion have shaken their pouches, and men have marched. China's great Yellow river is red now, rich with the blood of China's weakness and Nippon's might.

### Japan

His Imperial Majesty, Emperor Hirohito, god of ninety million Japanese and ruler of many million more, finds that his little "fight" with China has taken just two years more than he would have liked for it to. He realizes that the Chinese can lose five times as many men as he can.

Japan has often been called the "England of the East." She has advanced in much the same fashion that England has. The empire once was only a few small islands off the coast of the great Chinese empire. Then one day the Japanese woke up and decided that they would like to be powerful. And, like any other nation, she began to seek expansion. The weak empire of Chosen was her first victim. Then came the war with China and Russia, which resulted in more territory. Today the Empire of Japan is great indeed.

The present war started in the last half of 1937. The Japanese expected to end the war in a short while with all of China in her grasp. But the government of Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek proved to be strong and was unwilling to allow the Japanese to proceed far. The Japanese have lost many thousands in the present war, and it has cost well over five million dollars every day.

Dark indeed are the clouds for success of mighty Nippon in this year of 1940: Nippon well knows that the wrath of America may come at any time and that her financial condition is standing on cracked crutches. And even if she wins the present war, she has years of work ahead with a hostile people. Hirohito's country may well pause now and look back over the fate of those other countries in history who took "just too much."

### China

His Excellency, Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek, president of Nationalistic China, has found that war has meant moving from one capital to another. For as soon as the Japanese take his capital, the shiny headed little general has taken his wife and government, and moved to another city. Thus the Japanese find his system of hide and seek annoying and quite contrary to "proper war."

Once, years ago, China was the greatest nation on earth and ruled over most of Asia. Her culture was the strongest in the world. But the great giant that was China began to crumble and melt with the rains of time. She entered the present century as a weak, failing nation, while her neighbor across the sea began to grow. China did not really wake up until the little upstart that was Japan soundly thrashed her in a war. Then a few Chinese tried to save what was left of the empire.

## From Spring to Spring

The sun shone as brightly—I'm sure that it did.  
 Flowers were growing, I know.  
 Warm breezes blew and ever so slightly  
 Melted the traces of snow.

I must have been happy—no sad thoughts remain.  
 My heart must have beat with new life.  
 Friends surely seemed dearer and days more worth  
 While peace overshadowed all strife.

Yet somehow I wonder—now spring's here again—  
 If it's ever been quite like this,  
 If ever before a springtime has come  
 So laden with warm-hearted bliss!

## CAMPUS PERSONALITIES

By T. C. WAGSTAFF



### "PEE WEE" BLACKWELL

Former vice-president of the Euthalian literary society and member of the I. R. C. Also author of "The International Summary," which appears regularly in this publication. With a hand in many pies he is frequently seen flitting from place to place on the campus. A habitual visitor, he frequently brightens the abodes of his friends with his presence. A Romeo in miniature, he has never been one to neglect the fairer sex. Rather exclusive in his choice of friends and acquaintances, he often convokes a meeting of them in his abode. His physique is three-quarter size and capped with blond hair.

### HENRY BROWN

Former president of the C-II class and outstanding player on the football squad. He is a member of the student council and a talented vocalist. A typical extrovert, he can be heard approaching from a considerable distance. He is a firm believer in strenuous exercise and does his share in enforcing it. In common with other football players, he could not consider spurning some of our beautiful co-eds. Short of stature but otherwise rather powerfully built. His surmounting glory is his red hair. He weighs 170 pounds and has a chest expansion of 44 inches.

### HAROLD SLUDER

Former vice-president of the Euthalian literary society, member of the pre-med club, and president of Die Deutschen Kameraden. He is a pre-med student with an inestimable yen for knowledge of all things medical.

China was well on her way to recovery when the present war broke out. Nippon well realized that if China was given a few more years that she would become strong. But China adopted a new policy. It was that of retreating warfare. She sent out pleas to the other nations of the world. Her hopes are today slim indeed, but then they were that way when the war began.

Though China lies prostrate in the hands of Nippon and her body is drained of blood by the armed might of the healthy sons of Mars, she fights on. 1940 finds her with her back to the wall, but with the determination to take her place among the mighty. She, like Rip van Winkle, awoke too late.

### Conclusion

It would not be wise for us to condemn the Japanese too strongly, and yet it would not be right for us to sit back and watch China be bled without mercy. Franklin Roosevelt's policy has so far been wise. Let us hope that this policy continues. Some day we may read our daily paper without news of war and dictator, but until that day comes (the chances are slim indeed), WATCH, THINK, and WAIT.

What he can't learn of finds out by experiment. He is romantically inclined, occasionally succumbs to a romantic inclination and is in the company of some beautiful women. He is distinguished by his ability at satire and his ing humor. He stands 60 inches in his sock feet and weighs 140 pounds.

### BRUCE BROWN

President of the Phi Kappa literary society and member of the I. R. C. Also an intercollegiate athlete on the forensics team. He is distinguished by his result of protracted study and intense concentration. He has become a very famous workaholic in the art of "projecting the bast." A member of the Phi Kappa and a pre-law student, he is to succeed in his chosen profession. His amorous action is steady and unsensational. He weighs 168 pounds—on a very solidly built specimen.

### MIRIAM PINNELL

Former censor of the Phi Kappa literary society, a member of the Youth Temperance Club. She is also a cheer leader and a class officer. The perfection of life itself, she can be heard on most any corner of the campus at regular intervals. She has a frank and sincere personality and is a very able conversationalist. There is no hope for more "beau" in her case, at least a snapping brown eyes, gleaming teeth, and wavy dark-brown hair, outstanding features. Who don't know she is 5 feet tall and weighs 126 pounds.

### MARY LOUISE HOWE

Anniversary president of the Phi Kappa literary society, a member of the science club, and a member of the B. S. U. She takes a prominent part in the phases of the campus. Nearly bursting with energy at times, she is marvelous to say the least. Her later run down. An acquaintance and a friend is she. Brown has vacuous brown eyes and ing features. For data, apply to the owner.

### HELEN TRENTHAM

Former secretary of the Phi Kappa literary society and a member of the college glee club. She is a very versatile pianist and a member of Die Deutschen Kameraden and is known as a "good Frau." Slender, so sensible, she is very popular on our campus and fits in everywhere. She is a decided lithe and graceful, flashing smile. An outgoing personality, a keen sense of humor, and a cheerful disposition make her well worth knowing. Any further information obtained from her professor and Mrs. S. O.