

# The Hilltop

"Plain Living and High Thinking"

Published by the Students of Mars Hill College, Mars Hill, North Carolina

Entered as second-class matter February 20, 1926, at the postoffice at Mars Hill, North Carolina, under the Act of March 3, 1879. Issued semi-monthly during the college year.

Subscription Rate: Year, \$1; Issue, 5c.

MEMBER ASSOCIATED COLLEGIATE PRESS  
DISTRIBUTOR OF COLLEGIATE DIGEST

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Vol. VX. February 8, 1941. No. 9.

## Enhancing the Beauty of the Earth

In the Bible we are told that "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth," but we are all aware of the great transformation which has taken place on the earth since that time. Who is responsible for this transformation? Surely man has had an important part in intensifying and augmenting the natural beauty of the earth. Every man who has lived has either added to or detracted from the beauty of the earth. Every day someone by his conduct intensifies the loveliness of the earth, and every day someone else by his misconduct withdraws some of the grandeur of the world from the reach of his fellowmen.

Every man has a place to fill on this earth. If he fills this place wisely and to the utmost of his ability, he will unquestionably add to the beauty in the harmonious workings of such a complicated and involved mechanism as is human life on the earth. By properly filling his place in the scheme of living, each individual will augment the rich heritage of the new generation, and he will thus add to the beauty of the earth he is forced to leave.

The improvement of the earth is a daily process. All our daily actions should contribute, directly or indirectly, to the beautification of our earthly dwelling place. This places upon the individual the responsibility of exercising extreme care in all his actions. A slight indiscretion might cause the entire human race to suffer by decreasing the beauty of its property.

Beautiful lives add beauty to their surroundings. If our lives are truly filled with the splendor of God, they will surely enhance the beauty of the part of the world in which we dwell. A beautiful life lives forever; it becomes a part of the grandeur of the earth and uplifts the nature of countless thousands of its posterity. Are you fashioning a life of such beauty that you will be willing to leave it as a heritage to those who follow you on this earth? Are you adding daily to the beauty of the glorious dwelling place of mankind? Will you resolve today to apply yourself more vigorously to the task of further beautifying the earth?

"... And departing, leaves behind you  
Footprints on the sands of time?"

—W. H.

## Those Who Follow

Mars Hill is proud of the leaders that she has produced in the past, and she is equally proud of the leaders that she is producing today. But what of all those people who aren't leaders although they work just as hard for the success of the things that are right and good? Milton once said, "They also serve who only stand and wait." These words are just as true today as they were the day they were written. It takes followers who are successful to make a successful leader. Last year the student body selected an editor for the school yearbook. The fact that this editor is very capable and has a very capable staff will not make the LAUREL a success. It is going to take the co-operation of ALL the students—yes, EVERYONE of them. When your time for service comes are you going to "stand and wait"? That isn't what Milton said or meant. The time for service has arrived, and everyone is watching you to see the type of work and success that you produce. The success of the LAUREL depends upon you just as much as it does upon the editor—if it is a failure are you going to accept your part of the responsibility? It isn't going to fail, for we are going to support it. Why? Because it is OUR annual.

—G. D.

## Family Album



On this page, children, we have one of our tutors when he was a scholar here. Wasn't he goodlooking? He sat in front of a Clio, he being a Phi, in most of his classes. It just worked out like that. Now they are married and have a little Clio. But she makes him hang out the washing after lunch, and then he is so fatigued he has to drive his car across the road to his Bible class. Can you guess who he is?

## International Summary

(Washington)—February 5, 1940—On all sides comes defense and denouncement of the President's Lend-Lease Bill for aid to Great Britain. Administration leaders predict a margin of at least 100 votes in the House. The Isolationist Bloc in the House are opposing the bill with a sense of futility, and yet with a determination of unheard-of dogmatism. The bill is open for amendments this morning, closing a three-day debate on the matter.

(Havana)—February 5, 1940—Order has been restored in Cuba since President Fulgenio Batista took over personal command of the army, navy, and national police forces. Army guards threw up sandbags at strategic points inside the presidential palace and mounted machine guns at the entrances. Batista announced that he had formally accepted the resignations of Col. Angel A. Gonzalez, navy commander-in-chief; Col. Jose E. Pedraza, chief of the army; and Col. Bernardo Garcia, former national police chief.

(London)—February 5, 1941... Wendell Willkie, former GOP Presidential candidate, tours the British Isles daily in an effort to determine the actual military standing of the British Empire. Dining with the former queen of Holland, he questioned the empress on a possible rebuilding of Holland. Short jaunts to Ireland are on his record for the week. King Edward and Winston Churchill often are his companions if Multiple duties of office permit.

## Honor Rolls Posted

(Continued from page 1) working toward a liberal arts degree and hopes to work in the field of Christian education. Melvin Webb of Bakersville, a pre-med student, has forty-eight quality credits.

## POETS' CORNER

"Poetry comes fine spun from a mind at peace."  
Ovid—Trisitica.

### SONNET

In pensive mood I look upon my hands.  
Big, blue-veined, tanned, and strong they are,  
Unadorned by decorative bands—  
So plain, and all unblest by Talent's star.  
To create masterpieces of the plume  
My hands were not intended to aspire.  
Ah yes, it would be folly to presume  
Them able to disclose my soul's desire.  
To copy on a canvas God's great earth  
These awkward hands most surely have no turn;  
For rippling o'er the keys they have no worth  
To sound the melodies for which I yearn.  
One thing alone I find in them to laud—  
For tho' they can't perform, they can applaud.  
Mary Nell Hardin.

### VALENTINE

I looked at all the valentines,  
Wondering which to buy,  
Puzzled by the variety  
Each one caught my eye.

Some were made of cellophane,  
Some of lacy stuff;  
Others boasted ribbon bows  
All were sweet enough!

Verses were accordingly  
Some mushy, some just nice.  
Another factor entered, too—  
The ranging of the price.

Oh, it was quite a problem! I was  
Puzzled more and more—  
But then I saw the very thing  
That I was looking for.

It read: "To the ONLY one I love—"  
Oh, my search was done!  
I gave it to the clerk and said,  
"I'll take FIVE of this one."

Dorothy Click.

(From the Catawba College Pioneer).

## Helpful Hints: Building a Room

It's only a shanty—one of the college cottages—but it's "Paradise" to them. It is equipped with venetian blinds, portable radio, and more contraptions than a new airplane. All this is in reference to the room of Quentin Harper and Jack and Wally Miller. If you haven't visited these fellows—you've no idea what you've missed. When you start up you might drop by and see Rains and Hale who room together on the first floor.

If you want an education in one visit come on up and see this "Paradise Regained" (Pardon us Mr. Milton) made from a room no one wanted to live in. You are always welcome!

## Creative Writing

(Continued from page 1)

the various employees of both the Citizen and the Times. We saw them getting the news "hot off the wire" by means of the Associated Press and the United Press machines. One of the students commented on the fact that he didn't see why we studied so hard to become writers when we had machines that could do it for us.

After visiting the radio station and safely surviving the Morgue, we entered the adjoining building where the actual printing took place. We observed each step in the making of a newspaper. The most interesting spectacle was that of seeing the presses actually at work. Then we were taken into the room in which the newspapers were assorted and prepared for delivery. Each of us received a copy. Thus ended this Utopian type of class.



Bits by a Bookworm  
William J. Clarke, Jr.

## The Good Old Days

By David L. Cohn

David L. Cohn, a native Greenville, Mississippi, has written one of the most readable books of modern social history your reviewer has read—barring none. Humanizing history is an art pursued by too few historians.

Mr. Cohn, in his book "The Good Old Days", gives us a broad view of what our ancestors from 1905 to 1935 had a need of and bought. He uses as reference one of the most reliable sources of the information required—Sears, Roebuck catalogue.

In his preface to this book Sinclair Lewis writes, "By your eyebrow pencils, your encyclopedias, and your alarm clocks shall ye be known." This statement expresses exactly the reason for the writing of the book: to know exactly what those of the past five decades were like and the type of merchandizing needed to satisfy their wants. In what other comprehensive volume would these facts be recorded other than a mail-order catalogue? As a fraction less than half of our population live on farms, the backbone of any civilization, the mail-order catalogue is probably the best available index to the tastes and habits of something like forty-seven per cent of our people.

In a charming and engaging manner "The Good Old Days" tells us what books were read, what length buggy whips were used, what color underclothes

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