

# Thanksgiving is Observed By The Real American

It is late November; the air is clean; the leaves have fallen; the harvest is past.

A large group of pilgrims is gathering near my home, bringing many baskets of food and spreading them on long tables. Everywhere I see "thanks" upon their lips.

There are several men over to one side talking. One of them suggests that they should give thanks for their new homes and their new land. One is thankful for the bounteous harvest, another for his family and yet another for life itself. Things play a big part in their lives.

At the other end of the table I see some women. They are happy, but they are serene. There is a glow about them that I have not seen before. Wait, I hear one of them say that thanks should be given for rain, sunshine and life. I had never considered that the rain and sunshine were given by someone. Rain just is. Life just happens. These are simple occurrences, everyday things.

The children are frolicking about a pile of old corn shucks. Their joy is contagious, for the town gossip is leading them in games. It is good to see them all together sharing their happiness.

I see a young couple, married since they have been here, clasping hands, speaking, without words, saying thanks for their love. It is evident in their eyes; their prospect of a new home and a family leaps into expression. Then he speaks to her. I catch something about "thanks" for freedom, privilege, opportunity, happiness, prayer, and other things which I do not entirely understand.

Now a large man, the governor of the colony, steps forward: "Let us bow our heads in a prayer of thanksgiving . . ."

Thanksgiving! If it makes all people as happy as these, I must find out how it is made; I must tell my people. I must return to the village and seek the chief. "Thanks" must be given.

## Pat's Corner

By PAT PHELPS

Everyone around campus seems to be in a gay mood since Thanksgiving holidays are only a few short days away. After asking some students, I have found that quite a few of us have not been home since the Bells of Knowledge welcomed us in September. This is certainly an especially exciting time.

Congratulations are in order for the newly elected freshman class officers. I know they will strive to do their best.

Let us support our music faculty by attending the recitals that they present for us. It is embarrassing to give a recital to an almost empty auditorium. Mr. Cole will be giving a recital on Tuesday, Nov. 21, at 8 p. m. and everyone is invited.

Congratulations to Mr. Hoffman and his wife, who became the doting parents of a son last week. In addition to getting accustomed to being a father, Mr. Hoffman also will have to get used to adding the suffix "Sr." to his name.

### "Going Steady"

You reduce your fun  
And your fascination  
When you put yourself  
Out of Circulation.

—Post



Members of all four literary societies have begun work on sets and decorations and programs for their Anniversary and Reception events, which are scheduled Dec. 1-2 for Euthalia-Nonpareil and Dec. 8-9 for Philomathia-Clio.

Casts for both the serious and the humorous plays have been chosen and rehearsals have begun.

The Clios are working on their sets and props in the attic of Stroup; Nons are using the attic of Edna Moore. Officers of each Society, who are in charge of these tasks, are asking members to devote as much time as possible to the job of preparing the scenery.

The four presidents urge their respective members not to reveal the theme or any details of their anticipated programs before the big events are staged.

## Lesson

My parents taught me not to smoke,  
Nor listen to a naughty joke.  
I don't.  
They make it clear that I must not wink  
At pretty girls or even think  
About intoxicating drink  
I don't.  
To dance or flirt is very wrong.  
I don't.  
While youth love women, wine and song,  
I don't.  
I kiss no girl, not even one;  
I do not know how it is done.  
You wouldn't think I have much fun.  
I don't.

—Tusculum Pioneer

# Like Dinosaur, Man May Be Extinct If He Keeps Growing

The tallest man ever recorded by medical science — 8 feet 11 inches — died when he was only 22, and his death may have grave consequences for the entire human race.

Evidence is overwhelming; men and women are growing taller, and the simple truth of the matter is that giant human beings usually don't live long. Further, in the past those species that suddenly showed a great increase in size quickly went extinct. Man may be following in the path of the dinosaur.

One of the first scientific studies of human stature was made by the Columbia University anthropologist, Franz Boas. Back in 1908, he found that American-born children grew taller than their foreign-born parents. Other studies have underscored this finding and made it more general. In 1906, the average student at Harvard University was 5 feet 7½; a recent study showed that the average student is now 5 feet 10. A survey of Northeastern colleges has uncovered these statistics; in 1860, students were 5 feet 7; in 1910 they were 5 feet 9; and in 1930 they were 5 feet 11.

Men and women aren't just growing taller: their entire shapes are changing. Modern women are slenderer than their grandmothers, though they weigh more and their waists are larger. Their hips, measured from bone to bone, are narrower, though the hips themselves are bigger. Their chest expansion is larger and so are their feet—it's been estimated that the average woman's foot grows half a size every 10 years.

As for modern men and boys, they have broader shoulders than their ancestors, deeper and broader chests, longer legs, and narrower hips. The average American, it is said, is 4 inches taller today than the average American of Colonial times.

Where is all this leading to? Experts maintain that American women, now 5 feet 4, will be an average of 5 feet 10 by the end of the century. And men, according to Dr. Henry L. Shapiro of the New York Museum of Natural History, will be between 6 feet and 6 feet 6 by the end of the century, if the present growth remains constant.

On the other hand, the sobering fact is that sudden extreme tallness according to Dr. Laurence Farmer, who has studied the subject extensively, is a sign that a species is going extinct.

Furthermore, most giants dies fairly young, probably because their hearts and skeletons have more work to do.

Robert Wadlow of Alton, Ill., was the tallest man ever recorded by medical science, a staggering 8 feet 11 inches. When he died, in 1940 at the age of 22, he was still growing. And a study of seven other men over 7 feet six showed that the average age of death was 34.

Fortunately, scientists think that man will begin tapering off in size. In fact, some recommend that people stop wanting to grow taller and that the virtues of shortness be praised, in hope that this will have a slowing effect on the increasing size of men and women.

Man is getting too big for his britches. We can only hope he will slow down in time.

## Cole Gives Recital

Three recitals—two by members of the music faculty — are on schedule during the next three weeks.

T. J. Cole, director of the Touring Choir and the College Chorus and voice instructor, will give the second in a series of faculty recitals in the auditorium at 8 p.m. Tuesday.

The following Tuesday night, Nov. 28, will bring a visiting pianist, Miss Katherine Bacon, to the campus for a musical program. The third performance will be given the following Tuesday night, Dec. 5, by Robert Rich, a new member of the music faculty.

A tenor, Mr. Cole will sing a pastorella from "Song of Songs" composed by Mrs. Joe Robertson, who will accompany him on the piano.

Other selections will include a solo motet by Bernier, a sacred number which Mr. Cole edited and realized; an aria from Puccini's opera "La Boheme"; some Gypsy songs by Brahms, a song cycle by Ravel and a selection by Massenet; "It Must Make the Good Lord Sad" by Floyd; "It Was a Lover and His Lass" by Quilter, "Nancy Hanks" by Kathrine Davis; and "Old Mother Hubbard" by Hely-Hutchinson, set in the manner of Handel.

Miss Bacon has appeared in New York's Town Hall and performed in the Schubert Centennial the Schubert and Beethoven sonatas. She will be on campus all day Wednesday, Nov. 29, to conduct master piano classes.

## Vernon Accepts Role

Glenn L. Vernon of the Speech and Dramatic Art Department will play the role of Deputy-Governor Danforth in the Asheville Community Theatre's production of "The Crucible," December 7, 8, and 9.

Arthur Miller's tale of Salem Witchcraft is not new with Mr. Vernon since he portrayed the role of The Reverend Parris in the Tribal Players production during his undergraduate days at Mississippi College, Clinton, Miss.

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