

Famous Magician To Perform Here Tomorrow Night

Christopher To Talk on Magic History In Assembly Arranged by Dr. Farinholt

By BOB CAMPBELL

The mystifying stunts performed by magicians through the centuries will be discussed by Milbourne Christopher, world-famous magician, in an illustrated lecture tomorrow night at 8 o'clock in Doremus gymnasium. Christopher's talk on "The History of Magic" is sponsored by the University as a voluntary assembly.

The magician is a friend of Dr. Larkin H. Farinholt, professor of chemistry, and arrangements for his talk at Washington and Lee were made through Dr. Farinholt.

Christopher has devoted the major part of his life to the study and performance of magic, and has written a number of articles on the finer phases of his profession. He has appeared at the White House as well as in numerous theatres and before prominent persons all over the world.

He became interested in magic at the age of six when his father, not a magician, showed him a string trick. At 12 with the aid of a Christmas present—a box of conjuring tricks—he gave his first professional show. His application for membership in the Society of American Magicians was endorsed by Howard Thurston.

On Easter Monday, 1935, he produced a rabbit on the White House lawn much to the amazement of Mrs. Roosevelt and her grandchildren. The country was in the midst of a nation-wide depression when Christopher drove up to the White House door to make arrangements for his Easter Monday appear-

ance. One of the attaches opened the car door.

"Who are you and what's your business?" he inquired.

Christopher grinned and pulled a silver dollar from the air. "I'm Milbourne Christopher, the magician," he said.

The attaché threw his hands in the air and exclaimed, "Thank God. At last!"

Besides performing magic tricks Christopher invents them, and his trick in which a short length of rope is apparently stretched 20 times its original size is internationally famous.

One of his most remarkable feats was changing the spots on a playing card while flying in an airplane between Chicago and Washington. At one time he produced a bowl of goldfish while clad only in a bathing suit waist-deep in the center of a swimming pool.

Christopher lives in a world of magic. He never buys even a newspaper without producing the pennies from the amazed newsboy's ears, and seldom eats in a restaurant without breaking open a roll to extract the waitress' tip. He never hails a friend without producing something or making something vanish. It has been said that "everybody is his guinea pig for some new idea."

Articles by Christopher on magic and magicians have appeared in the Baltimore Sun, the Washington Post, and the London Mirror. A book on his experiences entitled "Now You See It" is now being prepared for publication.



Lazarev, Dancing Cossack, Describes Origin of Chorus, Tells of Adventures on Tour

By PAT WARFIELD

I am Lazarev. I am a Russian. I am a Don Cossack. They are out there singing now, the rest of them. Soon I dance; but I am not nervous. I just smoke this cigarette because I like to smoke cigarettes. It is not a Russian cigarette. While they sing out there, I wait in here. There are many "in here's"—a German hotel room, a back room in some Chicago balcony, the littered dressing room beneath Frisco's cheering feet, the hygiene lecture room of a Southern college.

Our business manager sits far across the aisle. He smokes a Russian cigarette. They are clapping again. I must go out and limber my legs. They feel good tonight and stretch well. I steady myself on the stair newel post—up, down—one, two. It is time!

Whirling, whirling, writhing, leaping. The platform is small. Short, swift—to them, a single mad glimpse of Russia. The open eyes and hollow mouths sail into a blur. I am gone. They and I, breathless. Then the clapping again. Someone comes to fetch me back, but not again tonight shall I go back. What is scarce is dear. And they will come back to see us another time. It is a big audience, a small audience. We have sung for two people, for eighty thousand.

I am different from my colleagues. I wear bright boots, a blue hat. I am a flash, an agony, I am gone. Mine, a moustache and nimble feet!

But with the others I live in every city of every country. Names, people, places are telegraph poles along my road. Where I am eating, where I am sleeping, where dancing, where singing—the manager, not I, knows. And he sits silent far across the aisle.

I am cool; my breath is come again, and I smoke another cigarette. Big men and small. Music. It is far away. In another room. Buses, trains, airplanes, ships; fatigue, sleep; night, day; life, death.

Once I was in a prison camp. One of 80,000. One of the Cossack regiment. It was long ago. Tchelech, near the Bulgarian-Turkish border. Like the others I had little food, no shelter, scanty clothing, small hope; but I had youth. Flies died slower. The cholera was everywhere. There was no help, no privacy, no comfort, 80,000 of us. We sang to keep warm. One little man, Serge Jaroff, had

once some music lessons. No walls, only barbed wire; on a post he tottered to lead us. Singing warmed our souls and bodies. I liked to sing. I could even dance a little.

Soon there are a dozen of us. We are the nucleus group to teach the rest. Then there are thirty-five. The sun shines. We do not know why. Maybe because we are in "neutral" Bulgarian territory. The guards open the gates and we are free. Those who cannot walk are carried or left to die. But thirty-five of us are brothers. We get jobs in Sophia and meet at night. Boettine, he is my closest friend.

We all sing together. In the church of the Russian embassy in Sophia, I sing with the rest. I am very lucky. All of us, we are very lucky. The king hears, the concert master hears. Soon I, Boettine, all of us—we have contract to sing. All the time we train. Then they make me dancer.

One time we go very fast through Germany at night. There are many trees on each side of the road. Suddenly, Boettine is on top of me and my breath is gone like after I dance. A sharp pain in my wrist. I am crushed furiously down and forward. The bus has cut in half a big tree. Many men are hurt—17 of us. My wrist is broken and I have a cut on my head. Boettine is wounded in the leg.

1920—first we sing: 1922—we come to the America. Two months in each summer we practice, usually in Berlin. I do not know where we shall be this summer coming. When I was young there was war. Now I am 37 and there is war again. The other men are old, from 35 to 50. We never forget the war.

Sometimes there is a Russian woman dancer to dance with me on a big stage. The manager decides.

Tonight, many nights, many people talk with me. There are so many different kinds and they talk in all languages. Always I try to say what they ask for, but it is often hard to understand. One picture can tell so much more. I have drawn two of myself for a student just now. They are on the glass-covered bulletin board in front of your Payne hall. You may go and see me right away if you wish.

We leave Lexington now. Where then? But it is a good living that I, Lazarev, have with the Don Cossacks.

Kyser Gone, Girls Gone; Fancy Dress Remains 'Tops' to W&L Students

Debaters Set For Journey To Florida

Will Meet 5 Foes During Long Tour

The complete schedule for the debate team's Florida trip was announced yesterday by Manager Bill Burner. Names of men who will go on the trip are expected to be announced this week by Coach George S. Jackson.

On Monday, February 19, a debate has been scheduled with Florida State College for Women at Tallahassee, and on the following day the speakers will meet a team representing the University of Florida at Gainesville.

A contest with Florida Southern college at Lakeland is set for Wednesday, February 21, and one with Rollins college at Winter Park for the 23rd. The trip will end on the 24th when there will be a debate with The Citadel at Charleston, S. C.

The first home debate of the 1940 season will be held on February 15 as an informal debate with Westminster college, Fulton, Mo., open to the squads and to students interested in forensic work. It will be held in the Forensic union room of the Student Union.

The annual debate in Lee chapel will take place this year on March 26 with Johns Hopkins college, Burner said yesterday. The subject and further plans for the contest will be announced later.

Most of the debates this season will be on the Pi Kappa Delta national topic for 1940 concerning the question of military and economic isolation for the United States.

Automatic Rule Hits Thirty-One Students

Dean Frank J. Gilliam announced yesterday that 31 students fell under the University automatic rule on the semester reports. This number represents a small decrease in comparison with those of the past few years. Thirty-eight were hit last year, and 39 in 1938.

The majority of those failing this year were freshmen. Several probation students who failed to make the required C average were included among those who fell under the rule.

The automatic rule committee met yesterday afternoon to decide upon appeals for reinstatement.

CBS Nation-Wide Broadcast Highlights Fancy Dress Ball As Kyser Cavorts for Crowd

The biggest of the year's big week-ends is history.

Kay Kyser and his gang have left town. Nearly 700 girls have left town, too. But the memory lingers on, and a miniature Gallop pole reveals that Washington and Lee is of the opinion that the 1940 Fancy Dress set was just about tops.

Everybody — with the possible exception of Mr. Mattingly — fell in love with Kyser at first sight, and that affection grew, in most cases, as time passed on. The old professor gave forth a steady stream of wise cracks and daffy antics during his three appearances in Doremus gym, and whenever he let up for a minute others of his company took up the entertainment burden. Ginny Simms was her usual good self in vocal efforts, and Harry Babbitt more than held his own end up. Sully Mason and Ish Kabibble, of course, chipped in with their share of the fun.

Friday night's Fancy Dress ball opened in colorful fashion with a brilliant figure, featuring leading participants in the reception at the estate of Colonel and Mrs. John Rowan following the running of the first Kentucky Derby in 1875. Next high spot of the evening came at 12:30, when the proceedings were aired on a coast-to-coast hook-up by the Columbia Broadcasting System. Kyser was generous in his comments during the broadcast, and Dr. Gaines extended an inspired word of greeting to listeners. Dancing was stopped during the half-hour program, and approximately 1,500 students, dates, and guests camped on the gym floor to watch and listen to the broadcast.

Saturday afternoon brought a session of Kyser's "College of Musical Knowledge." Dick Boisseau, captain of W&L's football team and an all-Southern conference tackle; "Bosh" Pritchard, VMI grid luminary; and Riley Smith, W&L backfield coach, lined

up against representatives of three neighboring girls' schools in the quiz session. Arlene Simmons, of Pelham, N. Y., carried Sweet Briar colors to victory in the second round, outpointing both Lyda Belle Coyer, of Memphis, Tenn., a student at Randolph-Macon, and Mary Jane Lyles, of San Antonio, Texas, a student at Mary Baldwin. Miss Simmons vied with Boisseau in the final round, and both wound up with identical point scores. An effort to drag Registrar Earl S. Mattingly up to the platform as the faculty entry met with failure.

Kyser climaxed his two-day stand with a fitting performance at Saturday night's finale. Tossing aside their wild antics, the band wound up with a series of slow, sweet numbers.

Special praise went to the Kyser company for its execution of Washington and Lee songs. Besides giving out on the five-way arrangement of the "Swing" which it has aired numerous times, the band presented a special edition of it in waltz time on the final night. A choral rendition of "College Friendships" was also received with enthusiasm, and a new song, "At the Fancy Dress Ball" was introduced at Saturday afternoon's concert.

Kyser was tapped for ODK by Steve Stephenson, president of the Alpha circle, Saturday afternoon.

Numerous parties and a wedding rounded out the week-end's doings. Paul Skillman, freshman from Newark, Del., was married to Marion Ward, of Palm Beach, Fla., in Lee chapel Friday afternoon. Members of the groom's social fraternity, Lambda Chi Alpha, and their dates attended the ceremony, which was performed by Dr. J. J. Murray, of the Lexington Presbyterian church. Bert Nelson, Skillman's roommate, served as best man. The groom was a member of W&L's freshman football team last fall, and was named to a center position on the all-State yearling outfit.

'At the Fancy Dress Ball' Written By a Personal Friend for Hertz

What's the story behind the song, "At the Fancy Dress Ball," which Kay Kyser featured Saturday afternoon and night during Fancy Dress?

In brief the facts are as follows: Carl Sigman, New York and Hollywood song writer, who turned out "Please Come Out of Your Dream" of Hit Parade fame, wrote the song.

Currently working on the score of the new Judy Garland-Mickey Rooney picture, Sigman wrote the words and music of "At the Fancy Dress Ball" for his friend, Buddy Hertz, W&L senior. During the Christmas holidays he presented the song to Hertz, who is a member of the 1940 Fancy Dress committee.

Hertz, however, insisted that Sigman keep the rights to the song but brought it on down to Lexington with him when he returned from his vacation.

After he had showed it to the

Fancy Dress committee, who were pleased with the song, it was decided to ask Maestro Kyser to play the song from the bandstand. Kyser not only complied; he liked the tune, said it ought to be published. From time to time during the dance he and the band featured the new number, which had been arranged only that morning from a piano score in less than a half hour. The Washington and Lee student body gave it a howling reception.

At present Hertz and Jack Watson, Fancy Dress president, are undecided as to their course with reference to "At the Fancy Dress Ball." Watson would like to obtain the ownership of it and present it to the University, to be played every year at Fancy Dress.

That's the story so far.

All members of the band please meet in the gymnasium at 7:15 Thursday night to play for the basketball game.

Cossacks Encored Twice By Enthusiastic Audience

The concert by the Don Cossacks, sponsored by the Glee club last night in Doremus gymnasium, was today declared a success by Professor J. G. Varner, club director.

The gym was well filled for the concert, and the Glee club's share of the receipts will help to finance its New York trip.

The chorus sang a program of fifteen Russian songs, with two intermissions. The audience was enthusiastic from the first moment that the men marched onto the stage in their black tunics, red trimmed breeches, and black soft boots. Serge Jaroff, the half-size conductor, was called for additional bows following at least half the songs on the program. As encores, there was a Cossack dance by Mr. Lazarev and the chorus sang the Volga Boatmen.

The songs on last night's program were as follows: "Who is a God Beside Thee, Oh Lord" by Bortnjansky, "In Church" by Tchalovsky, "Hospody, Pomiluy" by Lvovsky, "Responsorium" Old

Tune, "Save Thy People, Oh Lord" by Tchesnokoff, "History of the Don Cossack Chorus" by Shvedoff, "The Evening Bells" by Jaroff, "The Sun Had Not Yet Risen" — Cossack song, "The Kama Song" by Gogotzky, "Kuban-Song and the Smithy," arranged by Jaroff, "Two White Russian Songs" Folk tunes, "The Red Sarafan" by Varlamoff, "Two Comical Peasant Songs" arranged by Shvedoff, "Two Guitars" arranged by Shvedoff, "Cossack Song" arranged by Jaroff.

New Language Courses

New courses in conversation and composition in French, Spanish, and German were authorized by the faculty at their meeting on Monday. The courses are strictly optional and are open to a limited number of students having two years of college French and a B average.

These courses will first be offered next year and will be six-hour courses.



KAY KYSER, THE OL' PROFESSOR HIMSELF, introduces President Gaines to a national radio audience during the Fancy Dress broadcast over a coast-to-coast network of the Columbia Broadcasting System. (Courtesy The Roanoke Times)



KAY WISECRACKS AS HE INTRODUCES the ladies and gentlemen of Old Kentucky at Fancy Dress figure practice in the gym. (Courtesy The Roanoke Times)

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February 6, 1940

THE TUMULT AND THE SHOUTING DIE

Another Fancy Dress has passed into history. This particular set, however, is one that will stand as a mark for the later years to shoot at.

The outstanding aspect of the dances was, of course, Kay Kyser. A consummate showman, he completely captivated the hearts of all who saw him: the students, the faculty, the girls, and the chaperones. Kyser is certainly to be ranked among the great entertainers of the present day.

In fact, being such a great showman, he almost makes us forget what an excellent musician he is. When Kyser is on the platform, even an orchestra as great as his sort of fades into the background. But Kay is not the figurehead for the band, but its leader and director, and he has got where he is in the musical world because of a knowledge and love of music which has communicated itself to those people whom he has carefully picked as members of his orchestra. When he was directing, he never had to call for a man's attention, and the meticulous care which was given him by his musicians, even when he was apparently not even listening to the music, was a real tribute to the esteem and respect in which he is held by some of the best instrumentalists and vocalists in the field of popular music.

Jack Watson, as you know, probably did as good a job as could be done on a dance set. He had able assistants, which in itself is a testimonial of his efficiency, but he also did personally at least a part of everything that was done. He was not only a master executive, but also found time to attend to a mass of detail.

Especially deserving of mention is the work of Lea Booth, on the publicity and on the College Saturday afternoon. Buddy Hertz did an excellent job on the program. Dobbins and Brodie made the costuming the best ever.

It is true that these boys were following in the lines of a noble tradition. Every year Fancy Dress gets better and better. Last year the set was the best it had ever been. This year topped, we believe, even that one. Next year 1941 will top 1940.

We thank you, boys, and Kay, and especially you, Jack, for the best time we have had at Washington and Lee.

FOOTBALL HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH THE HONOR SYSTEM

In the editorial "Football—Wrecker of Honor Systems" quoted in the Forum, the Times-Dispatch lists Washington and Lee, along with the rest of the Southern conference schools, as a violator (by connotation) of the conference amateur re-

quirements.

Since this editorial has appeared the columns of the Times-Dispatch letter section have fairly roasted with comments on both sides.

But to us it is more important than in most of the other schools, since Washington and Lee prides itself particularly on its honor system.

Plenty of alumni saw that editorial. It is safe to warrant that many of them were worried, and many others considerably disappointed.

Although no one has come out in the open to say exactly to what degree Washington and Lee subsidizes its athletes, everyone realizes that it is done.

The student body has voted to "do something" about the situation. Captain Dick has ceased to talk about the "middle of the road." We see football players working in the Co-op, eating and washing dishes at the beanery and living at the Old Blue. And there is nothing wrong with that.

But the Times-Dispatch contends that all these boys are violating the honor system.

The University of Richmond Collegian tried to clear up the situation, pointing out that the answer to all the questions posed by the conference eligibility blank need not be "no." They contend that only four questions require that answer. These are:

1. Have you ever been a student in any other college?

2. Have you ever been paid for your athletic skill or knowledge?

3. Have you any arrangement under which you pay less to the institution than is prescribed in the catalogue or paid by other students?

4. Have you ever entered into any agreement under which you were expected to engage in professional or paid athletics?

As a matter of fact, not all of these questions require an unqualified "no."

The answer to the first is obvious, except in the case of transfers, and special rules as to their eligibility are arranged for in the conference rule book.

The second, as it stands, is a bit vague, but the rule book further clarifies it. Boys who spend their summers as life guards, or instructors in summer camps are obviously hired for their athletic skill and knowledge. So are semi-professional baseball players, but both special exemptions are made in the rule book for all such cases.

The third is a bit more difficult. Most athletes do pay less than other students. But it is a matter of fact that only a small minority of students here and elsewhere pay anything at all. Their fathers do. And what is the difference if the student himself, his father, a friend, an alumni association, or a scholarship endowment is responsible for his tuition?

Does every holder of a scholarship automatically become ineligible for athletics? The answer is of course in the negative.

So the answer of the third question may be an outright no, or a yes, with a list of scholarships following. All athletes at Washington and Lee who receive scholarships do so on the same basis as other students.

They get president's scholarships, which require approval of the president of the board of trustees and a C average on the part of the student. This is perfectly legitimate.

The fourth question applies at present only to baseball players, but may in the future have gridiron implications. It outlaws the practice of big league ball teams, whereby they farmed players out to colleges. The fourth question means, in terms of baseball, "Is the player a 'free agent'?"

And the answer, in this case too, is "no" where all W&L players are concerned.

It appears from the explanation above, that the Times-Dispatch, in an effort to improve the present state of athletics has misconstrued the Southern conference eligibility blank.

While much can be said against subsidized athletics, it is a relief to find that at Washington and Lee, at least, it has nothing to do with the honor system.

THE FORUM

College Football—

Wrecker of Honor Systems

Intercollegiate football in Virginia and throughout the nation is a racket which is shot through with hypocrisy, deceit and deliberate misrepresentation. Students are signing solemn statements concerning their eligibility to compete in amateur athletics, al-

though they must know those statements are untrue. The consequence is that the ethical standards and concepts of honor of both athletes and non-athletes are being undermined, not only in this state, but in every other state in the union.

Those are harsh words, but they are based on fact. The Times-Dispatch naturally is not charging all, or anything like all, football players with dishonesty, but it does say with the utmost earnestness that some institutions with honor systems are apt to have great difficulty in preventing the collapse of those systems, if present practices continue.

The average citizen does not know that amateur athletes are required to sign written statements as to their eligibility. Every such athlete in the Southern conference signs such a statement on his honor. The Southern conference questionnaire is an elaborate document which asks, among other things:

"Have you ever been paid for your athletic skill or knowledge?"

If the answer to this question is "Yes" the applicant is ineligible to compete in the Southern conference—except in cases where he has merely played semi-professional baseball. The applicant is also asked whether he has "borrowed money from any loan fund"; if he holds "any scholarship"; if he has any arrangement under which he pays "less to the institution than is prescribed in the catalogue or paid by other students"; if he has "any remunerative job or employment in the institution during the academic year"; if he has "ever entered into any agreement under which you were expected to engage in professional or paid athletics," and if he has "ever participated in any athletic contest or meet other than as the representative of an educational institution."

Let it be emphasized again that every young man in a Southern conference institution who desires to participate in football or any other form of intercollegiate athletics, must answer the foregoing detailed list of questions in writing, and "on my honor" the language of the application. This is the fact we are primarily endeavoring to get across to the public. Every one who knows anything at all about intercollegiate football knows that players are being brought up wholesale by colleges and universities throughout the United States, but few know that the system is making perjurers out of many of these young men.

Collegiate Perjurers

Not only so, but they are perjuring themselves with the connivance, if not the active assistance, of alumni groups which raise the money to secure their services. We grant that many alumni do not know that the signing of a written statement concerning eligibility is required, and we are sure that they would immediately see the pernicious aspects of the system which has gradually been built up, if adequately informed. We are also sure that some alumni who do know of the eligibility blanks have somehow persuaded themselves that it is all right, since "everybody else is doing it" and it is an accepted practice to pay boys to play football, and then to have them sign statements that they are not being paid for "athletic skill or knowledge."

But the Times-Dispatch is unwilling to remain silent while the ethical standards of thousands of young men are undermined, through organized deceit and hypocrisy. It hopes that when the facts as to the written documents signed by Southern conference students, are made public, there will be a sufficient reaction among faculty, alumni, and students of the colleges and universities concerned, for progress to be made toward abolition of the system.

The following institutions belong to the Southern conference: The Citadel, Clemson, Davidson, Duke, Furman, Maryland, North Carolina, North Carolina State, Richmond, South Carolina, Virginia Military Institute, Virginia Polytechnic Institute, Wake Forest, Washington and Lee, and William and Mary.

When the University of Virginia decided to award scholarships openly to athletes, it resigned from the conference, rather than have its students sign statements on their honor which were of a dubious character. But athletes at the 15 remaining conference institutions have to sign these elaborate eligibility blanks. In many instances they do so conscientiously and honestly, but is there any question that in altogether too many others they stretch the truth to the breaking point and beyond?

There is so much obvious evidence that alumni all over the United States are deliberately going out and buying up athletes for their athletic ability, that it is impossible to take seriously the contention that none of these boys is being paid for "athletic skill or knowledge." It may well be that at one or more of the institutions in the Southern conference, and in other conferences, these matters are handled on such a high plane that the eligibility requirements are being enforced with a genuine regard for the spirit, as well as the letter, of the regulations. But there are altogether too many examples of shady practice for any one to feel other than alarmed at the trend which matters are taking.

This is the most disturbing thing about the whole racket. Everybody knows, in a general way, what is going on, and the hypocrisy and deceit and misrepresentation which too often accompany intercollegiate football are accepted as a matter of course. True, few seem to know that the participating athletes in the Southern conference, and in most other conferences, sign statements declaring that they are bona fide amateurs, when in many instances they know perfectly well that they are not bona fide amateurs, their fellow-students know it, and the alumni know it. Do the faculty know it? That is an interesting point. If they don't know it, they are in many instances incredibly naive.

The Times-Dispatch is hopeful that something can be done to smash this high-powered professionalism which is masquerading under the guise of amateurism, and which is gradually undermining the moral fibre of educational institutions, not only in Virginia but elsewhere. Do the faculties, students, and alumni of the colleges and universities concerned intend to let this sort of thing go on indefinitely, to the moral detriment of themselves, the institutions they represent, and the cause of education?—Richmond Times-Dispatch.

PERSONAL OPINIONS

By WILLIAM BUXTON

Some Thoughts Toward the Future . . .

Beyond the horizon most of us can probably see the rising sun which signifies the dawn of a new day—and specifically, the beginning of a new semester. For some of us this will be merely a continuation of the ordinary, hum-drum life of the average student who sees before him a number of semesters with which to contend. But for others who call themselves seniors, this semester means a climax to the college days and the accompanying, relatively care-free life of a student.

Then when June takes us by surprise we, like our predecessors, will undoubtedly feel extremely sad when the realization comes to us that no longer are we active members of the student body. But perhaps such a realization (or revelation) will actually be the advent of a new era—an era of supreme effort having a very definite goal in the distance toward which we strive. It has been said that the world is cold and merciless in its dealings with the individual so we should realize that what we are to accomplish and what honors we are to obtain will in all probability be the result of hard work and a proper grasp of the true meaning of a well-balanced and useful life throughout the years to come.

These seniors surely realize that life is only beginning as far as they are concerned. The training you receive throughout the educational endeavors is not a cure-all for any and all things. Instead, it is at best the foundation for the accumulation of much more knowledge and ideas as you wind your way down the path of life—though it be a long or short one. Your most valuable knowledge will be that obtained through actual and first-hand experiences of various types and it is through education that you are given the ability to recognize and profit by these experiences, whether they be good or bad.

Then, too, education at Washington and Lee gives one the opportunity that isn't easily found elsewhere. This opportunity is that of association and friendship, and it should enable each boy to study his fellow students and learn something of human nature. This is also an important phase of education that is sadly neglected elsewhere in many other institutions of learning. It is important because life, when you consider it basely, is little more than a struggle to obtain the essentials and luxuries of a highly productive world, and undoubtedly the best way to go about this is with the least amount of conflict between individuals and classes.

Things We Could Use . . .

This past week-end should have demonstrated to many of us that what we need here on the campus is an auditorium big enough in which to hold our dances. The gym is okay in its way but it is very similar to a sardine can when you have twelve or fifteen hundred gathered on the dance floor. And, too, think how much nicer would be the compulsory assemblies on those days when we are forced to attend. Perhaps the University has such a plan in mind for the future and let's hope they have. But, if they have not, such a project would be very valuable to the student body as a whole and also to the appearance of the campus.

People and Places . . .

The campus was honored this past week-end by the return of Tom Moses who was taking a few days off from his legal endeavors at Yale. Last year Tom wrote the Comments but managed to stay in fairly good graces. Although at times he admits he found it difficult to strike up a conversation or even to get in on one. This time he was accompanied as usual by the same charming young lady, Laura Trent of Lynchburg.

A Little Silliness . . .

The following is a poem dedicated to Henry Braun by his Kappa Sigma fraternity brothers. Try humming it to the tune of South of the Border.

North of the border, he came to play
Under a library light to weep
mid-night
He studied with dismay.
The chapel bell told him
If he wanted to stay
North of the border he couldn't play.

The 1940 Fancy Dress . . .

A vote of thanks should certainly be given Jack Watson for his management of Fancy Dress. It was (we believe) both a financial and social success and such a combination is rarely found. His selection of bands was very good and they put on a grand show. Of course we should not forget the work of the Committee and the invaluable aid of Mrs. Desha and Mr. Barnes.

By-Gone Headlines

By BOB CAMPBELL

1939—

Fancy Dress-dazed student body awakens amid fond memories. . . . W&L to be represented at New York World Fair. . . . Joe Ruffner addresses Lexington Woman's club. . . . Debaters to meet University of Georgia next week. . . . Wrestlers, victorious over Tarheels, to meet Northwesterners here. . . . Lacrosse team to face 11 foes this year. Six games are with Dixie league members. . . . New Nelson street bridge is opened to traffic. . . . Bunny Berigan's band to play at VMI mid-winters. . . . Christoph Keller heads PIKAs. . . . Homer Weidmann new SAE president. . . . Ross Schlabach elected Phi Psi head.

1935—

Students strongly favor use of John Barton Payne bequest for renovating college. Many faculty members want money applied to endowment. . . . Troubs appeal for money to renovate theatre. . . . Christian council to secure no more speakers for compulsory assemblies. . . . Two skating rinks opened in Lexington. . . . Paddle market better as resurrected VC supplements hell week. . . . Coach Forest Fletcher to hold track tourney to pick team. . . . W&L students favor U. S. entrance into League of Nations, Literary Digest poll reveals. . . . Plans completed for new law building as alumni drive for funds continues.

1931—

Top of Kappa Sigma house is badly burned. Defective wiring blamed. . . . Dr. Gaines is making good-will tour of south for University. . . . One-third of students are on academic probation at end of first semester. . . . Remodeling of Lyric theatre completed. Seats are now comfortable. . . . Rabbi M. M. Berman speaks in Lee chapel on "Why I Am a Jew." . . . Boxers to meet Virginia Tech in feud bouts. . . . Southern Collegians to furnish dinner music at R. E. Lee hotel Saturdays and Sundays.

1920—

President Henry Louis Smith addresses student body on "Development of Our Alma Mater." . . . Generals defeat Auburn cagers, 34-7. . . . Troubadours, Glee club and orchestra present concert at

Southern seminary. . . . Barnard Herman seriously injured on pickets in attempt to leap fence around Episcopal church. . . . Lawyers defeat academics in basketball game. . . . Recent meeting shows that old "pep" is returning to literary societies here.

1905—

Notwithstanding the dreary weather and the condition of the walks, which have been made a slush by the melting snow, the Lee chapel was well filled Wednesday evening when the hour for the opening exercises of the Washington society's 93rd anniversary celebration arrived. The Washington society has held the reputation for high-grade literary work, and it was not the least below the standard in the program for the evening.

LETTERS TO EDITOR

The Truth Comes Out
Kappa Alpha House,
Lexington, Va.

Dear Sir:

Having read in the February 2nd issue of The Ring-tum Phi the amusing story of "the biggest swindle in the annals of Fancy Dress," I think I have the solution of the mystery of the missing Scott Smitherman. He is a student in The Fine Arts School of the University of Pennsylvania, and his home is in Shreveport, La. It seems that Miss Mays formerly lived in Shreveport and knew the real Scott Smitherman there. The young lady evidently had been misinformed as to the whereabouts of her former acquaintance. This, no doubt, led to the "great swindle."

I have forwarded a copy of that issue of The Ring-tum Phi to the Smitherman at Penn, and I am sure that he will be greatly amused at the incident. Being one of Smitherman's close friends, I wish to assure Smither not to get in a dither over the possibility of Smitherman vs. Smither.

Yours truly,
Lane Sartor, '42,
Jack Murrell, '43.

Washington and Lee University THE CALENDAR 1939-1940

Monday, February 5—Saturday, March 2

Monday, February 5

Walter Buckingham Swan
Water Color Exhibit, February 3 to February 20—Art Gallery of Carnegie Library

3:45 P. M.

8:00 P. M.

Faculty Meeting

Don Cossack Chorus—Doremus Gymnasium

Tuesday, February 6

7:30 P. M.

Glee Club Rehearsal—Troubadour Theatre

Wednesday, February 7

8:00 P. M.

Lecture: "The History of Magic," by Mr. Milbourne Christopher, illustrated with experiments performed by the speaker—Doremus Gymnasium

Thursday, February 8

7:30 P. M.

Glee Club Rehearsal—Troubadour Theatre

7:30 P. M.

Societas Praemedia—Room 8, Newcomb Hall

7:45 P. M.

Varsity Basketball

Maryland vs. Washington and Lee

Saturday, February 10

7:30 P. M.

Varsity Wrestling

Apprentice vs. Washington and Lee

Monday, February 12

7:45 P. M.

Freshman Basketball

South Carolina vs. Washington and Lee

Tuesday, February 13

7:30 P. M.

Glee Club Rehearsal—Troubadour Theatre

7:45 P. M.

Varsity Basketball

Richmond vs. Washington and Lee

Wednesday, February 14

7:45 P. M.

Freshman Basketball

William and Mary (Norfolk Division) vs. Washington and Lee

8:00 P. M.

A. A. U. F. Meeting—Student Union

Thursday, February 15

7:30 P. M.

Glee Club Rehearsal—Troubadour Theatre

7:45 P. M.

Varsity Basketball

William and Mary vs. Washington and Lee

Tuesday, February 20

7:30 P. M.

Glee Club Rehearsal—Troubadour Theatre

Thursday, February 22

George Washington's Birthday

No classes scheduled

Friday, February 23

7:45 P. M.

Freshman Basketball

Fork Union M. A. vs. Washington and Lee

Saturday, February 24

Varsity and Freshman Wrestling

V. P. I. vs. Washington and Lee

Varsity Basketball

North Carolina State vs. Washington and Lee

Monday, February 26

2:00 P. M.

Illustrated Lecture: "Opportunities Leading to a Commission and a Career in the United States Coast Guard," by Lieutenant C. A. Anderson—Reid Hall, Room 26

Tuesday, February 27

7:30 P. M.

Glee Club Rehearsal—Troubadour Theatre

Thursday, March 1

7:30 P. M.

Glee Club Rehearsal—Troubadour Theatre



ON THE TRAIL OF VICTORY AND GLORY AGAIN, these seven veteran basketball players will carry Washington and Lee's state and conference title hopes into the second half of the season after a two weeks examination layoff. The Blue Comets engage Maryland here Thursday in a feature conference clash. Reading from left to right: Bob Gary and Dick Pinck, forwards; Howard Dobbins, center; Captain Leo Reinartz and Ronnie Thompson, guards; Bob Hobson and Syd Lewis, utility men.

Mat Team Grapples Apprentices Friday

Loss of Reed Weakens Blue Wrestlers For Tough Battle with Shipbuilders

After successive wins over the Richmond YMCA, West Virginia, and North Carolina State, the Washington and Lee grappling team will play host to the Apprentice school of Newport News Friday night, with high hopes of making it four straight.

The team's chances were severely handicapped last week when it was learned that Harold Reed, Coach Mathis' undefeated 121-pounder, would not return to school for the second semester. John Morgan, a member of last year's freshman team, will probably start at the initial weight division. Morgan is inexperienced and the loss of Reed doesn't exactly enhance the chances for a victory Friday.

Newport News will present a team that lost to VPI by only two points, 18 to 16. The "Shipbuilders" are strong each year, and defeated the Richmond YMCA by the same score that the Generals won their first victory of the current campaign, which is some indication of the relative strength of both teams.

After his amazing win in the North Carolina State match, Dick Boisseau has decided to give up wrestling for the year much to the disappointment of Coach Mathis. Boisseau was filling in for the injured Bob Schellenberg, and wrestled only as a favor to Coach Mathis. Schellenberg will start in the unlimited weight division against the Apprentice school.

The starting line-up will include the following from the 121-pound class to the heavyweight division: Morgan, Hammett, McInerney, Fuller, Lanier, Farrier, Captain Braun, and Schellenberg.

Call for Batterymen

Cap'n Dick Smith, varsity baseball coach, today called for all varsity batterymen to report to the gymnasium tomorrow afternoon at 3:15. This will begin the year's baseball workouts for the varsity squad. Practice will take place indoors until early spring.

Blue Comets Back in Action Thursday Against Terps; Tied for Third in League

Exams Leave W&L Team Unharmed

By RAY WHITAKER

The Washington and Lee varsity basketball team will swing back into action after an examination lull by opposing the crack University of Maryland quintet in Doremus gym Thursday evening. The opening tip-off is slated for 7:45.

Lodged somewhat precariously in third place in Southern conference standings along with the University of Richmond, the Generals will need to decision the Terps or drop down into the second division of the circuit. Their record going into the ball game Thursday will read three victories against one loss in conference play.

The Generals hold a one-sided 44-25 decision over the Marylanders this season, but the probability of their repeating such a conquest appears extremely doubtful. Maryland has beaten Clemson, the defending conference kingpins, Duke, Richmond, and Princeton.

Meanwhile, Washington and Lee, after getting off to a poor start, has surged upward recently with a four-game winning streak, including beating Maryland, which should send them into the contest Thursday as the favorites, however slight they may be. They have licked Virginia Tech, Maryland, Randolph-Macon, and Virginia Tech—in that order.

The examinations missed its usual quota of casualties, and none of the Big Blue courtmen fell by the scholastic wayside. The Generals went through a brief workout yesterday to put them back on edge after their rest. Then this afternoon Coach Cunningham drove them through a lengthy scrimmage.

The Comets were seeking to penetrate the well-known Maryland zone defense during the practice session this afternoon. The team looked a trifle ragged after the layoff last week, but Coach Cunningham drove them hard today and intends to taper them off with a light drill tomorrow.

Four starters are certain for Thursday's contest—Captain Reinartz, Bob Gary, Dick Pinck, and Howard Dobbins. The fifth berth lies between Ronnie Thompson, Syd Lewis, and Bob Hobson. All three boys have shown about the same stuff this year, with first one and then another playing outstanding ball. Thompson, in his third year of varsity ball at Washington and Lee, has been handicapped by an injured knee which has mended slowly. The recent rest appears to have been the tonic it needed, however.

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Eight Fraternity Quintets Renew I-M Court Rivalries

Eight fraternity basketball teams were preparing today to resume action in the important quarter-final round of the intramural tournament after a two-week intermission for examinations.

With every one of the contestants boasting strong teams, predictions as to the final outcome seemed impossible today and each of the four games scheduled for tonight and Thursday appear virtual toss-ups.

Kappa Alpha and Alpha Tau Omega open tonight's doubleheader at 8:30. Both teams won their opening round tilts with ease, crushing Sigma Nu and SPE respectively, and a fast, close game seems imminent.

At 9:30 Beta Theta Pi's strong quintet will be a slight favorite over the Sigma Alpha Epsilon

team. The Betas, victors over Sigma Chi in a close tussle, are expecting a tight battle with their speedy rivals who took the Kappa Sigs in the first round.

Thursday's opening game will bring together Phi Delta Theta and Lambda Chi Alpha. The Phi Deltas, conquerors of the defending champions, Delta Tau Delta, will rule favorites but the Lambda Chis, after whipping a big, rough Non-fraternity team, promise to give them trouble.

Phi Kappa Sigma's big outfit, victors over PIKA in a thrilling opening round game, will tackle the small, fast Pi Kappa Phi team in the second game of Thursday's doubleheader. The Pi Phis defeated Phi Gamma Delta in their first round test and a close game appears in prospect.

Wahoos Stop Blue Trackmen

University of Virginia's track team outscored Washington and Lee in nearly every event to win last night's dual meet 56½ to 33½. Chis, after whipping a big, rough although several W&L runners turned in first-rate performances.

Co-captains Charlie Curl and Mike Crocker were outstanding for the Blue tracksters. Curl placed first in the 50-yard dash, the 440, and ran anchor man on the relay team which won. Crocker took an easy first in the two-mile run.

Bill Gwynn took first spot in the high jump and third place in both the high and low hurdles. Charlie Gilbert tied for first place in the pole vault, while Russ Browning finished third in the 50-yard dash.

Cliff Muller and George Murray filled the other two spots on the relay squad, and took second places in the half-mile and mile, respectively.

Coach Jack Hennemer carried a small squad of freshmen to Charlottesville, more for practice than with the idea of serious competition, since the yearlings have had such a short time to get in shape.

Brigs Reopen Court Tussles

Coach Bill Ellis' freshman basketballers, victorious in five of their first six engagements, will open a busy week's activity tonight when they stack up against Jefferson high, of Roanoke, in Doremus gym.

The Brigadiers will swing back into action Thursday night when they take to the road for a tussle with Shenandoah college, then will travel to Lynchburg Saturday to meet the University of Virginia's yearlings in a preliminary to the varsity tilt between the Wahoos and Generals.

Ellis' charges saw action for the last time a week ago last Saturday night when they routed VPI's freshmen, 51-41, to gain revenge for a previous setback at the hands of the Techmen. The Brigs, who have registered 121 points in their last two games, also hold decisions over Shenandoah, Massanutten, Greenbrier, and Roanoke's freshmen.

Leo Signaigo, Dick Ellis, Jeff Hudson, Captain Luger Ligon, and either Chan Whipple or Gordon Gary will probably start for the Brigs tonight, while those ready for reserve duty will be John Kirkpatrick, Jug Nelson, and Bob Myers.

FOLLOWING THE BIG BLUE

With BAYARD BERGHAUS

It has always been about this time of the year that the student body in general and the basketball players in particular begin to get that disturbing disease, tournament fever. And within the next three weeks the Washington and Lee epidemic will reach its crisis.

In the past several years the Generals' outfit has proved an unusually healthy patient; it has managed to crash the select group every year, and last winter went to Raleigh with the No. 3 seeding, even though it has not brought home the bacon since 1937.

This year W&L's cagers have reached the anxious stage with a good "so-far" rating—a tie for second place in the conference with three victories and one win, but the woods are just beginning to get thick and dark.

Take a look at the schedule, which closes on the 24th of this month. Of the eight games remaining, seven are with conference foes, and it would be something of an understatement to say that only four of these will be crucial tests. In other words, if we drop more than two or three of these, our chances of seeing Raleigh will be a little on the lean side.

Staring us in the face, tomorrow night, is a quintet of Maryland Terrapins who are doubtless a trifle bitter at the thought of the slide our Generals treated them to up at College Park. If DuVall and the boys don't make a bona-fide effort to tear up the floorboards of Doremus gym and

snow under the Generals we're going to sign up with the Finns the next day.

A win over non-conference Virginia Saturday night would be a highly desirable morsel when we reflect how they took us into camp twice last year; but on to the conference games. From Saturday on in its loop contests all the way. Two games with our friends, the Spiders of Richmond, one with current co-first-place Duke, a pair against an ambitious William and Mary five, and the finale with N. C. State, who hasn't been troublesome to date but could cause plenty.

Facing such a schedule in the all-important month of February puts a strain on even the blithest optimists, and Coach Cunningham, while not given to over-gloominess, is still not sporting an F. D. R. smile. At least we don't have to contend with Giammack and the White Phantoms—yet.

On the bright side, however, is the fact that the team has apparently been improving steadily since the beginning of the season, and with the chips on the table they can really play ball. And last year's two games with Duke made it look as if we have the Indian sign on the Blue Devils. Similarly, the Generals last winter stopped Richmond twice, and in spite of our scarcity of spares it is doubtful if these two opponents will be cocky looking forward to their meetings with us. You don't count the Generals out until they carry them off the floor.

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ARROW SHIRTS

Eleven Men Accept Bids From Sigma

Eleven new men were pledged to Sigma, honorary society, last week, and the goats participated in a special "Sigma" figure at Junior Prom. The new men are: Bob Gary, Dick Smith, Steve Hanasik, Jack Mangan, Junie Bishop, Dan Justice, Terry Blandford, Cameron Dean, Arthur Mann, Sims Trueheart, and Slugger Sugrue.

Each new man displayed a Greek letter, "sigma," on his forehead in the "figure," during which the "Sigma song" was rendered by all members.



LEFT TO RIGHT ARE BOB CHESTER, whose music proved popular at Thursday night's dance; Ginny Simms, Kay Kyser's featured vocalist; and Jack Watson, who is being praised for a swell Fancy Dress set. All three pictured above were instrumental in giving Washington and Lee its best Fancy Dress set in the history of the school.

Coast Guard Lieutenant To Speak Here Feb. 26

Lieutenant C. A. Anderson of the United States Coast Guard will talk on "Opportunities leading to a commission and a career in the U. S. Coast Guard" on Monday, February 26, in Reid hall.

Following his talk, he will interview interested students presenting to them a picture of the Coast Guard and preliminary training necessary to receive a commission.

"Gone With the Wind" Comes to State March 11; Ticket Sale Begins Feb. 26

"Gone With the Wind" will reach the screen of the State theatre on March 11.

The management of the theatre announced that advance ticket sales will begin February 26 for the show which opens on Monday, March 11, and continues through the following Saturday.

Due to the fact that the picture runs for three hours and 45 minutes, with a short intermission between parts one and two, there will be only two showings a day, one in the afternoon and one in the evening.

Ticket prices have been set at 75 cents for the matinee, and \$1.10 at night.

Camera Club Will Hear Riegel at Meeting Friday

The Camera club will hold its first meeting since the Christmas holidays on Friday night at 8:30 o'clock in the lecture room of Payne hall.

Professor Riegel, faculty adviser of the club, will give a lecture entitled "Photography at Work." The lecture will include the presentation of a number of slides loaned by the Eastman Kodak company.

Plans for the annual spring salon will also be discussed at the meeting. The details of programs which will be presented in the near future will be announced.

IRC CONFERENCE

A conference of delegates of International Relations clubs from Virginia colleges will be held February 9 and 10 at Mary Washington college in Fredericksburg.

The general topic for discussion will be means towards permanent world peace.

About five delegates will be sent from the Washington and Lee chapter, according to Charlie Hobson, president.

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Council To Fill Committee Openings In Friday Session

Election of two executive committeemen to fill vacancies caused by resignations will take place at a meeting of the Christian council Friday night at 7:30 in the Student Union, the council's executive committee decided last night.

The council, which was expanded last year to include about 75 students, will also discuss plans for entertainment of a deputation team from the Woman's college of the University of North Carolina, which will visit W&L the week-end of February 24.

A social hour will follow the meeting and refreshments will be served, President Bill Read announced.

PHOTOGRAPHY

The first meeting of Professor Riegel's new photography class will convene tonight at 7:30 in the journalism lecture room. All members of the class are requested to bring the camera which they will use for the semester.

Swan Watercolor Exhibit Now Displayed in Library For Two-Week Period

An exhibition of watercolors by Walter Buckingham Swan, including 31 landscapes, marines, and still lifes, will be on display in the gallery of the library until February 20.

Born in Boston, the artist studied at the Lowell School of Design, M. I. T., and the Boston Museum of Fine Arts. He was a pupil of Sargent, Colcord, and Kingsbury, and did independent work in London and Paris prior to the first World war.

Professor F. S. Walls, in charge of the exhibit, said the pictures by Swan were "probably the finest to appear in Lexington."

Hospital Notes

Monday was one of the first days during the school year that there were no students registered as patients in Jackson Memorial hospital. George Foote, Alexander, La., was a patient on Sunday, but he was released early Monday morning.

Folklore Club To Meet Here Next Month

The Southeastern Folklore society, an organization of university professors interested in the folklore of the South, will hold its annual meeting at Washington and Lee on March 29 and 30.

The meeting will be held under the sponsorship of the English department, Professor Rowland Nelson and Harry Philpott being active on the committee on arrangements. Professor Edwin C. Kirkland, of the University of Tennessee, is president of the group.

The program will consist of papers on songs, ballads, dances, and related folklore subjects. Among the speakers will be Dr. Arthur Kyle Davis, of the University of Virginia, well known for his work in collecting songs of the Blue Ridge mountain region.

The meeting will be open to the public, and it is hoped that many local persons will attend the sessions.

FRESHMAN REPORTERS

There will be new tryouts for freshman reporters for The Ring-tum Phi staff Thursday afternoon at two o'clock in the paper's office in the Student Union building.

Seats at Virginia Game Reserved for W&L

One side of the Lynchburg Armory will be reserved for Washington and Lee students at the W&L-Virginia game in Lynchburg Saturday, the Lynchburg chamber of commerce notified Cecil Taylor today.

The other side of the floor will be saved for University students and the chamber of commerce has been assured that 700 students will be in attendance for the game which may settle the Big Six championship.

PEP Date Burns Dress, Spends Night in Infirmary

A fire at the PEP house over the week-end destroyed a dress and sent its occupant to the hospital. Miss Dorothy Stewart was warming herself before a gas grate Thursday night when her dress caught fire. Her host, Stan Goldstein, and Bob Pinck put it out with rugs, and the victim was rushed to the hospital and treated for superficial burns.

She was allowed to leave the next night in time for Fancy Dress.

Young and Jackson List Special Issue Of Alumni Magazine

A special edition of the Washington and Lee Alumni Magazine will be issued this month for distribution to approximately 8,500 alumni.

The organ, of which Harry K. (Cy) Young, alumni secretary, is editor and Professor George S. Jackson is managing editor, will contain, aside from the regular features, numerous reproductions of campus scenes taken from old copies of the Calyx and Ring-tum Phi.

Also included in the magazine will be President Francis P. Gaines' regular message, an article on the Fancy Dress dance set, a winter sports story, and the usual section of class notes.

Prof. Williams Returns After Death of Father

Professor John Higgins Williams, who has been in Kentucky attending the funeral of his father, is scheduled to return to Lexington tomorrow morning. He is expected to resume his teaching duties immediately upon his return. Semester grades of members of his classes will be ready later in the week.

WARNER BROS. STATE

LAST TIMES WED.

Balalaika
ILONA MASSEY
NELSON EDDY

THURSDAY-FRIDAY

Douglas Fairbanks, Jr.
Margaret Lockwood
Will Fyfe

Rulers Of The Sea

WARNER BROS. LYRIC

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