

The Columns

Volume I

LEXINGTON, VIRGINIA, SATURDAY, MARCH 11, 1944

Number 19

Sweet Briar Date Set

As announced last week, the girls at Sweet Briar college have invited forty Washington and Lee men to attend a dance at their school. The date has been set, according to a letter from Catherine Tift, chairman of the SB social committee, for April 1st. All those interested in attending, both civilians and AST who think to be here then, may give their names to Coover, McNeil, or Quayle, or drop them plainly marked for the Sweet Briar dance into any of the yellow assimilation committee boxes.

Union Upholds Birth Control; Dance Discussed

Taylor Is Elected New FU Sergeant-at-Arms

Topic for debate at the Monday evening Forensic meeting was the controversial subject, "Resolved that compulsory birth control should be adopted by the federal government."

Speaker for the affirmative, Julian Frank, held that the only way to arrest the deterioration of our race was by a system of compulsory birth control under Federal supervision among the degenerate peoples of the country. In one generation, he stated, birth control would reduce the number of ineffectives in America by 36 per cent.

Lester Wallerstein, negative speaker, argued that birth control was not only undemocratic, but that it would also tend to cause an increase in sex delinquency by interfering with the normal human habit pattern.

Affirmative Wins

Following an open discussion of the topic by union members, an affirmative vote was registered for the Whigs. Since this was the third straight debate loss for the opposing or Tory party, they automatically received control of the government by the rules of the Constitution of the organization.

As topic for next Monday's debate, the Tory party chose "Resolved that the Van Sittart plan should be adopted for post-war Europe." John Clarke will represent the affirmative side of the question against Rex Criminale for the negative.

During the business portion of the meeting, Forester Taylor was

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Mahan Writing Award Entries Deadline Near

Must Be In by April 1; Contest Rules Listed

All entries for the George A. Mahan awards in creative writing must be submitted on or before April 1, Dr. James Moffatt, English department head, announced this week as the deadline draws near.

George A. Mahan

These awards were established under the will of George A. Mahan, of Hannibal, Missouri, a "Lee student," who died in 1936. The income from the fund of \$10,000 is used for scholarship awards for excellence in the field of creative writing.

Contest Rules

Extracts from the rules, complete details of which may be found posted on the English department bulletin board in Payne Hall, are as follows:

A. The awards consist of a \$100 exemption from college fees during the year following the award year; or the winner may take \$60 in cash.

B. Prose entries may be short stories, literary criticisms, one act or longer plays, biographical studies, or informal essays.

C. For the poetry award, open to all university men, a minimum of 42 lines of verse is required. An entry may consist of more than one poem.

D. For the prose entry, a minimum of 1500 words is required, which may consist of several shorter selections totaling 1500 words.

E. Prose entries may be submitted by any men below the Senior class. Those applying for the Freshman award must be taking English 1-2, and those for the Sophomore award must be registered for English 151-152.

F. No student may submit more than two prose and one poetry entry.

G. No entries will be accepted after April 1. They should be given to Dr. Moffatt or to the student's instructor.

See Complete Rules

Complete details regarding the form of entry and the mechanics of the paper may be had from the Payne Hall bulletin board. It is suggested that all entrants consult these rules before submitting their papers.

Crowder at Conference

Jack A. Crowder, freshman class E. C. member from Charleston, West Virginia, is representing W&L University this week-end at a regional conference of the International Relations Club meeting at the Women's College of the University of North Carolina in Greensboro. The delegates to this conference come from the whole of the southeastern United States.

In connection with Crowder's attendance of the IRC conference, Dean R. N. Latture stated that he hoped interest might be reawakened in the Washington and Lee chapter of the International Relations Club, which was for many years a popular student activity.

On the 11th of April, Mr. Votja Benes, brother of the Czechoslovakian President, will address a University assembly under the auspices of the Virginia section of the International Relations Club, Dean Latture announced this week. The topic of Mr. Benes' talk will be announced at a later date.

Dr. Allen Moger Joins SSS Staff

Will Do Work With Research Section In Capacity As Civilian

Dr. Allen W. Moger, Washington and Lee Professor of History, has recently been engaged as head of the Research Section of the School for Special Service. In a civilian capacity, Dr. Moger will supervise the important work of this section, where the SSS tests are cleared, given, and graded, and the results made known to the students and staff. His duties will include also work on student surveys in an effort to discover desired changes in curriculum and attendance at SSS classes to familiarize himself with the courses of study.

Dr. Moger is off duty this term from his work in the History Department, due to the return of Mr. Crenshaw, and has accepted this position for an indefinite period. He will probably return to the faculty at some future date.

Change of Address

Beginning Monday, March 13, the editorial and business offices of **The Columns** will be located on the third floor of Newcomb Hall.

SSS Graduates Nineteenth Class PXers Expected

ASTP Time Limited as Unit Here Awaits Call

The graduation of the latest class of the School for Special Service, the expected arrival at Washington and Lee of the Army Post Exchange School and the uncertainty of the status of the Army Specialized Training Unit on the campus combined to make this week a strictly army show.

The 19th Athletics and Recreation and Education class of the SSS completed their work at 9:00 a.m. Wednesday morning when they were addressed in Lee Chapel by President Francis P. Gaines of the University. In the absence of Col. Wm. H. Quarterman, Commandant of the School, Major F. I. Godschalk, the Assistant Commandant introduced the speaker and presented the graduating class with the certificates signifying completion of their work here.

Enlisted Men in Class

For the first time since the Orientation and Education course became a part of the SSS curriculum, enlisted men were among the students in the O&E group. This program which began with the 16th class on October 27 of last year, covers the various problems of army orientation and education, as well as the dissemination of information involved.

In the next class of the SSS, scheduled to begin next Tuesday enlisted WACS will be included in the 20th A&R group as part of an expansion of the training program. Until this time, only Army officers, enlisted men and WAC officers have been students of the School for Special Service. The enlisted WACs now on the campus are a part of the Tucker Hall staff.

PX School Expected

Although definite confirmation was lacking from Army officials, it is expected that the Army Post Exchange School, now winding up its present class at Princeton University, will be transferred to Lexington as a branch of the Special Service. Arrangements are now being made by University officials to provide facilities in Payne Hall and on the second floor of the Service Club for the PX unit. The first class of the PX group will not begin until at

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The Columns

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R. B. Quayle.....Editor
J. K. Davidson.....Business Manager

Saturday, March 11, 1944

Spring Is Here

IT'S SPRING. Despite the cold blasts of the morning and the slight snowfall on Wednesday, spring has come to Virginia.

"IN THE SPRING the birdies sing. Pepsicola, hey ding, ding." This is not a commercial advertisement, but the birds have definitely been seen about the campus. The grass is getting green and the air is getting purer—with the smell of fertilizer.

OVER THE MOUNTAINS toward the sea, the fair maidens of Sweet Briar have come out of their winter shell and are smoothing the grass in the Dell and trimming the boxwoods, hoping for a W&L invasion sometime soon. All the girls' schools are airing out the cheese cloth for their annual May Day festivities.

IN FORMER YEARS, W&L in the Spring was a scene of activity. Over on Wilson Field the Blue baseball and track teams would be going through warm up paces, and the crew would be trying out their shell down on the James. Spring dances would be in the air, and the Easter holidays held the place of honor. Students sprawled languidly over the grass and the dog woods bloomed in the court of the freshmen dorm. Spring at W&L was the best season of the year.

NOW AGAIN IT'S SPRING. No baseball or track teams across Woods Creek or Spring Dances or holidays. Not many students, but the grass is turning green. This spring at W&L may not be like others, but, as we said before, IT IS SPRING.

Hats Off

SINCE THE U.S. ARMY arrived in Lexington and at W&L, many changes have come to our school, and many of our peacetime facilities have been given over to the men of the Armed Forces. One of the primary things which the students gave up was our Student Union, formerly a center of undergraduate activity.

THE STUDENT UNION was changed by the ladies of Lexington into a Service Club for the enlisted men of the School for Special Service, and the AST Cadets of W&L and VMI. These army men came to Lexington and had no other place in which to spend their few moments of daily leisure. The Service Club offered them games, music, magazines, writing facilities, female companionship, and even a sock-darning service. On Saturday evenings the club sponsors get-together dances for the men in uniform. Despite the fact that we have lost the use of our Student Union, we take off our

(Continued in third column)

Show Team Time

by Bill Romaine

Take a dash of Edward G. Robinson, a touch of Betty Field, a bit of Thomas Mitchell, a snuff o' Barbara Stanwyck, some quantities more of such excellent seasoning and you've got **Flesh and Fantasy** on SunMonTues at the State. The three different plots are given continuity by intermittent shots of Bob Benchley sipping Scotch and soda, and indulging in his usually humorous remarks. The result, a must.

Wednesday offers Pierre Aumont in **The Cross of Lorraine** with Gene Kelly and Sir Cedric Hardwicke. The plot is familiar anti-Nazi propaganda, but the acting is excellent, and if you like excitement, well . . . ?

Thursday—Saturday **The Gangs All Here** so lets have a nice refined brawl with Carmen Miranda, Alice Faye, and Benny Goodman plus entourage, who makes with the music when Alice Faye and Jim Allison aren't embroiled in straightening out their romance troubles.

Musical highlights of TGAH are "Eyes" Faye's renderings of "No Love, No Nuthin" and "A Journey to a Star" . . . Also catch the BG warbling on a little novelty number called "Paducah." And for comedy hold your sombreros when La Senorita Miranda and Everett Edward Horton tangle as the wolf and the wolfess. This time it won't cost you a war bond to see "The Gang" so traispe on down some afternoon.

How's fer some grippin' meler-dramer at the Lyric?

MonTues, **Women in Bondage** takes another crack at the already riddled "social system" of the Nazis. Wednesday comes along and Ted Lewis is still querying plaintively, **Is Everybody Happy?** Well, on with the old boy's life story, 'cause that's what it is. Hypnosis, whodunnit, and Warner Baxter attempt a performance on Thursday in **Crime Doctor's Strangest Case** and Johnnie Mack Brown is still trying to get some of that fat off, (want to join 'im, Brotherton?), in **The Outlaws of Stampede Pass** for the week-end. It's tried and true buckeroo stuff, boys.

Freshman Pictures

The University asks all freshmen to be in front of Washington Hall at 12 noon, Monday, March 13, to have a class picture made. Freshmen are first-year students who entered in June, September, and February.

Hats Off

(Continued from first column)

hats to the service club sponsors for the fine work that they are doing.

We THINK that one of the grandest jobs they have done so far came recently when the 35th Infantry Division passed through Lexington on Sunday after months on gruelling maneuvers. These men had been long in the field with little or no amusement or entertainment of any kind. We know what Lexington is like, and on a Sunday, it is even worse, as far as amusements go. Had it not been for the Service Club, these mud-covered men would have had little enjoyment from their stopover in town.

AS IT WAS they were able to dance, have a coke, and relax for a short while in a place where they were welcome. The almost inch deep of dried mud that covered the floor of the building the following Monday was a quiet testimony of a few happy moments that those soldiers knew in the everyday dreariness of war. Let us hope that our friends find the same friendly spirit when they come to a strange town for a few hours of relaxation.

SO, we take off our hats to the women of Lexington for their fine Service Club. We've lost our Student Union, but do so willingly when it serves such a worthy purpose. It is the least we can do.

ON and OFF

Sports facts and oddities on and off the campus

by Ned Brooks

WITH THE CRY of "play ball" not far distant, and the sandlot kids churning dust as they go whizzing around the basepaths, one doesn't need to be reminded that the 1944 baseball season is coming 'round the corner. This year, more than ever before, the National Pastime is faced with numerous problems, the first and foremost being the draft. There are now 400 Major Leaguers in active service with more being inducted every day, and the 16 Major League ball clubs are draining the Minors dry in the desperate need of ball players to fill the gaps left in the squads. However, reassured by Commissioner Landis that baseball will continue this season, the 16 big-league clubs are straining every ounce of strength in preparation for what they hope will be a good season.

LATEST BIG-LEAGUERS to be formally inducted are Joe Gordon, the Yankee flash, and Johnny "double-no-hit" VanderMeer of the Reds. The departure of both men will prove to be great losses to their respective outfits, and it should be difficult to find ample replacements for them. Those are only two examples of what is happening throughout the entire Big League syndicate just prior to Spring training. Hundreds of top-notchers have been lost by all of the clubs. Sufficient substitutions have been found in some cases, but in many there haven't been any ball-players who can fill the gaping holes.

WITH BASEBALL continuing on its merry way, and the Big-League mentors having difficulty in organizing their squads, 1944 looks like the craziest season baseball has ever or will ever experience. The teams that have suffered the worst manhandling due to service inductions are the New York Giants and the Detroit Tigers. Probably the best heeled team in regard to player wealth for this coming season is the Chicago Cub outfit who have most all their aces returning to active duty, and Big Bill Nicholson's bat to help matters along.

1944 IN BASEBALL should prove just as exciting as any season past. The Junior Loop has planned

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Men About Town . . .

According to the story making the rounds this week, Ole Bill Hart pulled a snappy double play last weekend and caught a couple of the "Fairyland" boys off base. The way the tall tale goes, Big Bill was celebrating—nobody know what—just celebrating, with a little root beer or Father John's medicine or something, and when his ever agile brain got to clicking, decided to have some fun. Now Little "My Name is Lester But You May Call Me Les" Wallerstein had put the big pressure on and gotten a date with a local queen for the Saturday night soiree. Grin Brooks, W&L's own Bill Stern, had gotten a date with one of the local princesses—not quite a queen, you understand. Our Hero Hart picks up the phone and calls Wallerstein's queen and says "Look Betsy, I've got a real nice Joe who's passionate about you and must drag you to this brawl. Now I'll get Lester out, and you date this Joe." What can a girl do against Hart? (No cracks). Then Curly gets the princess on the wire and croons "Look sis, I've got a real nice . . . etc." Come the night of the dance, Brooks and Wallerstein couldn't dope the set-up Hart talked them into. . . Wallerstein is still wondering; Brooks is satisfied. The queen and the princess had no comment. . . .

Tales They Tell: Seems C. W. Pinnell, local coke magnate, got taken for the small sum of seven bucks plus by his sweet and innocent date in a black jack game at the Finger. S'matter, Buck, use her deck?—Big Spank Harman brought one of the West Virginia dolls back to town for the Formal, and she had a bang-up time, especially with Drooley Cooley's medical literature.—Swoose "On the Loose" Walker gets the weekend's orchids for chaperoning the mob of Macon girls who dated the Cadets. "Mother" Walker declares he never spent a more hectic time.—J. A. Crowder pulled the wool over the White House lads this weekend when he hopped down to that IRC taffy pull. Seems the big boy pulled out Thursday night, supposedly to get an early start, and then it comes out that he's dating at Macon that night. Shook dropped a brick!—Zrike and Quayle are crying (or laugh-

ing) on each oher's shoulders these days, after the end of the Pleasant times BQ had spent at Sem.—Speaking of Shook, as we were a minute ago, somebody just ask the little man what he means by going around spitting on the faculty, just ask him once! This ain't Missouri, Chuck.—And did you see Seminary's Gift to Russell Drake?—And talk about your smooth ops; Funkhouser went out and bought himself one of those ascot ties that "all the boys are wearing" and trotted down town with it. Some mean old upper-classman, without even a windsor knot in his neck cloth, didn't approve and turned Funkie in for unconventional dress. Upon learning that Killer Kelly's mob frowned on such apparel, Jawn brushed the thing off, pressed it up, repackaged said tie, and returned it for credit—and got it, be George.—Now before we go, Kim White wants his name mentioned. . . .

But not to get away without mentioning it, we'd like to tip our respective lids and wish hearty congratulations to M. Hale Dennis. . . if he isn't kidding us.

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ON and OFF
(Continued from page two)

106 arc-light affairs while the Senior Circuit will sponsor 91. Washington, always the team that asks for and receives special night game privileges, will cater to night-game enthusiasts with 43 nocturnal contests, and to make matters worse, owner Clark Griffith is still begging for more.

YES INDEED, the American national sport is here again. It's no use picking the probable league champs so early in the season, because rosters are not nearly completed as yet, but in coming columns I will endeavor to pick each team apart and delve into their finer points, man by man. However, quoting the daily papers we would say "as of today" the best bets are the Chicago Cubs and the revamped Yankee nine although the Yankees have lost Keller and Gordon. That's only "as of today."

Alumni records to date show that there have been 32 Washington and Lee men killed in the present war.

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Army Story

(Continued from page one)

least the completion of the incoming SSS class about the middle of May, but in all probability the faculty of the PX group will

be in Lexington arranging a curriculum.

Fully a month has passed since first word of the intended closing down of the major part of the AST program was released, but as yet no announcement has been made as to when the W&L unit will be dissolved. It is also unknown whether or not the present W&L pre-medical unit will carry on here or elsewhere. The pre-meds are not scheduled for dissolution. Any time between now and April 1 is the period during which the Cadets are believed to be leaving. Whether they will leave all at once or in smaller units is unknown.

The future of the present platoon houses occupied by the AST depends upon how many, if any, pre-medics remain at W&L. The PX school will occupy part of the housing facilities now used by the unit.

Phi Psi's Quint I-M Champions As Race Closes

Lambda Chi Loses as Breedin and Company Take Title by 48 to 23

Playing the final intramural basketball game of the season last Thursday night, the Phi Psi five had little difficulty in trouncing Lambda Chi's league-leading quintet, 48-23, for the intramural championship. In two contests during the last semester each team had defeated the other one.

George Bowers, of the losers, gave his team an early lead by scoring in the first period, but field goals by Wes Todd, Kim White, and Brent Breedin in quick succession enabled the Phi Psi's to secure a lead which was never threatened throughout the conflict.

Phi Psis on the Ball

The Phi Psi's played their best game of the season—the entire team cooperating beautifully in passing the ball to the right man at the right time. Breedin, White and Todd led the scoring with 16, 15 and 11 points respectively, while Eacho and Wright, also of the winners, handled the ball well and played excellent defensive ball.

Bowers was high man for the Lambda Chi's with 8 points. Fred Coover, Bill Pifer, and Ned Brooks played a hard game, but could not match the efforts set forth by the winners.

Birth Control

(Continued from page one)

appointed Sergeant-at-Arms to fill the vacancy left by the withdrawal from school of Robert Worms. Plans were also discussed on the possibility of holding a Forensic Union sponsored dance sometime within the near future. A committee comprising Speaker John McWhorter, Ray English, and Forester Taylor was named to investigate the matter, and a more definite announcement will be forthcoming within the near future.

Alumni in Service

Cpl. Clarence F. Johnson, Jr., '44, has been transferred to the 327th Engineering Sqdn. at the Walker Army Air Field, Victoria, Kansas. Johnson was assigned to the Air Corps after induction with the AERC. He underwent basic training at St. Petersburg and was transferred to Chanute Field Illinois, for Link Training. Before going to the Victoria, Kansas post, Cpl. Johnson was stationed at Kelly Field, Texas.

In Yesteryear

With a nod to the present freshman dominated student body, we quote with a smile from the Freshman rules as contained in the 1932-33 W&L Handbook.

"Rule 2. Freshmen will be permitted to attend University social functions prior to the Easter dances only when authorized by the Freshman Council."

"Rule 3. Freshmen will be in their rooms by 10:00 P. M. except on Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays."

"Rule 4. Freshmen will be permitted to have social engagements prior to Easter only when accompanied by an upperclassman, or on an occasion authorized by the Freshmen Council."

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News Events
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Tips or Trips

WEDNESDAY

IT LAST ON THE SCREEN!



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