

# The Columns

Volume I

LEXINGTON, VIRGINIA, MONDAY, JUNE 5, 1944

Number 27

## EC Uses New Plan to Elect Committeeman

### Flournoy Voices Faculty Stand at Forensic Union

#### Thinks No Change Will Be Made Without Students' Opinion

At the second Forensic Union meeting of the quarter, Dr. Flournoy, the Union's faculty adviser, took part in the discussion, and unofficially expressed the belief that there would be no change in the University's fraternity plan without first learning the students' opinions on the subject.

Tom Wright led the discussion and urged that the faculty's reasons for wanting certain changes should be heard and weighed before the students formulate any set of opinions. He said that he felt freshmen should live together for one semester before breaking up into fraternities rather than delaying a whole year. Bob Jones said he believed it would not be desirable to extend Rush Week throughout the year. Dodson spoke of the advantages of freshmen living together the first year to cement the W&L spirit among freshmen.

Dr. Flournoy then expressed his opinion. He said that the other great universities have either no fraternities at all or the faculty regulates them closely. Harvard, Princeton, and the English universities, he pointed out, have social clubs instead of fraternities. These clubs provide a center where the members may go to have fun and relax, but not to live.

Continuing to discuss informally and unofficially, Dr. Flournoy commented on the social disadvantage in which non-fraternity men find themselves, and hence, the chief undesirability of a fraternity-university. In reference to an aforementioned possibility that there was corruption in the management of the W&L fraternities, Dr. Flournoy said that he thought there was little or none. He also said that he did not think that fraternities hampered scholastic achievement, but rather enhanced it through the older brothers' following up the freshmen in their studies. He concluded by saying that the fraternities would probably be better off with fewer members and social functions.

### Ki Williams, '15, Elected President Of Washington and Lee Alumni

Ki Williams, class of 1915, was elected president of Washington and Lee Alumni, Inc., at a recent meeting of that organization.

The new president has been connected with E. I. Dupont since his graduation from the University. At present he is the manager of DuPont's Waynesboro plant, a member of that city's school board, and is on the War Finance Committee of Virginia. While at Washington and Lee, Williams was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon and Omicron Delta Kappa leadership fraternity. He is from Morristown, Tennessee, and received a BS in Chemistry.

Williams, a member of the alumni board of directors before

his election, succeeds Roger Bear of Cincinnati, Ohio, as president. The vacancy left by this new move will be filled by P. C. Whitlock of Covington, Virginia. Whitlock, general manager of the West Virginia Pulp and Paper Company, was an outstanding halfback for the 1926 varsity football team.

The other members of the alumni board of directors are John L. Crist, president of the Southern Dyestuffs Corporation, Charlotte, North Carolina; Robert P. Hobson, lawyer, Louisville, Kentucky; J. W. Milner, mayor of Gulfport, Mississippi; John W. Drye, lawyer, New York City; and Richard T. Edwards, Lt. (j.g.) USN, of Roanoke, Virginia.

### A Mink's-Eye View

George, I've come to believe that there's only a string holding us up as real college men, or rather, a piece of rope. I don't know about you, but to me there are five real background ropes which mean college life. Go down the list with me as I cut 'em off.

Rope 1: Wilson Stadium doesn't echo to the thump of the pigskin anymore. Yep, the crushed grass, mud and perspiration doesn't hit anyone's nostrils now. No more yelling crowds. No more damn Wahoo riots. The moleskin sport was cut out and college life sagged a bit.

Rope 2: Fraternities and Rope 3 were sliced together. One of our more questionable characters showed me a book yesterday—George Fitch's "At Good Old Siwash." From the book: "Rushing a man for a fraternity is trying to make him believe that to belong to it is joy and inspiration, and to belong to any other means misery and an early tomb; that all the best men in college either belong to your fraternity or couldn't get in." Yes, you love him and you'll bash his head in if he doesn't join. This is his last chance, besides he isn't the only prospect. He is the most wonderful guy in the world. He's not so hot and there are plenty of others. We'll

(Continued on page four)

### New Candidate Must Apply to Secretary Before 6 p.m. Tuesday

In a move to fill the position of Executive Committeeman left vacant by Charles Hedges, the Executive Committee will hold an election this Tuesday evening. The procedure will differ from that in the past when the EC nominated several candidates, and then selected one to fill the vacancy. The Committee decided at their last meeting to let any student desirous of becoming a candidate, submit his name for the position. All names must be turned in to Secretary Bob McNeil by 6 p.m., Tuesday night. McNeil may be reached at the Phi Kappa Psi House.

Hedges leaves this week for his home in Vallejo, California. He will probably be assigned to the Naval V-12 unit at the University of California. At Washington and Lee, he was a member of Phi Eta Sigma, honorary freshman scholastic fraternity, and winner of the German departmental scholarship.

The present members of the Executive Committee are Tom Lee, president; Wise Kelly, vice-president; Bob McNeil, secretary; and Bill Davidson, Don Marsh, Bill Wilcox, and Bill Pifer, committeemen. Hedges, prior to his induction in the Naval program, was filling an unexpired term as are Pifer, Wilcox, and Marsh.

### Students Invited To Take Part in Baptist Union

All students of the Baptist faith are urged to take part in the activities of the Baptist Student Union on the University campus. This organization has been meeting at the Phi Kappa Psi House on alternate Thursdays since last September.

The officers of the Washington and Lee chapter are T. Ryland Dodson, president, Herbert Hamric, vice-president, and J. Harris Sammons, secretary. The Reverend William L. Lumpkin acts as Pastor adviser for the group. This past year the Union has been represented at the State Convention in Lynchburg, Virginia, at which time Dodson was elected as vice-president for the State Baptist Student Union. The group also participated at the Spring Retreat at Salem, Virginia.

Although the BSU is a Baptist organization, everyone is invited to attend the meetings and share in Christian fellowship.

### Army to Lease Left Wing Of the University Library

In order to accommodate larger classes, conferences, and lectures, the left wing of the University Library has been leased to the School for Special and Morale Services. It is estimated that the former reading room will hold approximately a half company of men. Singing or the playing of musical instruments in the Library will be strictly forbidden.

Included in the SSMS program is the plan to use the former AST dining hall as mess hall for the enlisted personnel. The Dutch Inn, which has been used for this purpose is now a dormitory for enlisted WACs. The University dining hall, undergoing the addition of a new wing, will seat officers of approximately double the former seating capacity.

In addition, offices used by the AST are to become SSMS Finance offices releasing the old Finance Office for use as a classroom. The electrical laboratory in Reid Hall will be used as an SSMS exhibit room.

### Governor Darden to Speak

To commemorate the opening of the Fifth War Loan, Governor Colgate W. Darden, Jr., will make an address at the State Theatre this Wednesday afternoon.

Governor Darden will be introduced by Dr. Francis P. Gaines, President of the University and State Chairman of the War Finance Committee.

Wartime successor to The Ring-tum Phi

# The Columns

Serving the University Community

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Monday, June 5, 1944

## Are We Negligent?

There appeared in this paper a few weeks ago an editorial concerning the problems of wartime education at Washington and Lee. The article inferred that students were becoming careless and negligent; that valuable time was being squandered and grades were correspondingly low.

It is true that today we are faced with a crisis, a crisis which can be solved only by the educated minority of which we are an integral part. But is it fair to contend that we are unimpressed with the situation or indifferent to its outcome? We, at Washington and Lee, have suffered a loss by the war. Our students have disappeared, our power has been broken, our former rights have been usurped. We are strictly on a war diet. Our school terms are thickly concentrated, our vacations have been shortened, our working hours have been increased, and our leisure time has been lessened. Even so, we are still conscious of our duty.

We do work. Evidences of this are on every side. Could a student conceivably remain in school if he didn't, at the very least, maintain a minimum amount of effort? Many of us study far into the night and far into the morning and not because, as has been suggested, we squander our afternoons. Let it be understood that the ratio of leisure time to efficient study is dependent upon the individual temperament.

There are those who, though knowing these things, are reluctant to acknowledge the fact that we have rightfully earned and necessarily need the privilege of spending our leisure time as we see fit. They have conceived the idea that other human lives may be directed by their will and by their adamant desires. They have, perhaps unknowingly, created the impression that leisure in these troublesome times is negligence. They may have forgotten that it is in just such times as these that leisure is most necessary to maintain the desired equilibrium.

Is it any wonder that we seek relaxation on the week-ends? Isn't it undeniable that the human body demands a certain amount of leisure? Isn't it only fair that we be unquestioned for seeing one or two movies a week? These are not unreasonable questions nor absurd requests. They are the rights of a hard-working, hard fighting student body looking to the future with the minds and hearts of free men.

## Show Team Time

by David Guthrie

Well, here we go again with all the dope on "what's at the show" for the next two weeks. So let's truck on down to the State right now, where on SunMon we catch **Swing Fever** from K. Kyser, H. James, T. Dorsey, and Lena Horne—same old plot, but lots of music and songs. TuesWed brings **The Purple Heart**, the story of the brutality the Japs inflicted on our airmen forced down behind enemy lines after the Tokyo bombing—with Dana Andrews and Trudy Marshall; don't go if you don't want to get mad. The Lyric having disposed of the "women" last week, the State this week plays host to the "ladies", a little more class, you know). Ginger Rogers as **Lady in the Dark** shows up in technicolor ThursSat. A good parallel movie for Psychology 101, it involves psychoses, fixations, and dreams inside a good story. Make it a point to get this one in. Next SunMon, **Ladies Courageous**, starring Loretta Young in a story about the Wasps, is on the bill. If you liked Bogart in **Marseille**, here's another "toughie," Edward G. Robinson in **Tampico**; needless to say, it's got torpedoed ships, mutiny and spy rings, all, however, making up a stiff dose of exciting adventure. One of these rare things—a good Western—is booked for 15-16-17th; Joel McCrea plays opposite Maureen O'Hara in the title role of **Buffalo Bill**, in color, too.

The Lyric, also, has its attractions. For instance, on MonTues, **The Navy Way**, a story about a lad who learns discipline the hard way, set at Great Lakes, plus Chapter 3 of **Tiger Woman**. Arthur ("Dagwood") Lake, minus Blondie, tries to show how a radio sounds effect man would go about solving a murder mystery Wed. in **The Ghosts that Walks Alone**. **Shantytown** (Thurs) and **Wild Horse Stampede** (FriSat) are shows you shouldn't fail to miss. Next MonTues Rosemary Lane sings in **Trocadero**, while a couple of last fall's good shows turn up for a mid-week run, Bob Hope and Betty Hutton in **Let's Face It** on Wed; Cary Grant and John Garfield in **Destination Tokyo** on Thurs.

The campus movies shown in Washington Chapel Thursday a week ago turned out to be really good. Nearly all the student body was out to see the show; all 45 thought that Mr. Withers had done a nice job in both taking and editing the films. Included were shots of the AST, SSMS, and shots of the professors and a few W&L classes, some of the shots being in technicolor. Especially striking was the one of Washington and Lee just before dark.

## THE PITCHER'S BOX

by Ned Brooks

With the signing of Bob Carpenter as President of the ball club, and the signing of Herb Pennock as General Manager, the Philadelphia Phillies, now known as the Blue Jays, began remodeling their team, and through tireless efforts have at last composed a squad of which they can be proud. The Phils are now solidly entrenched in fourth place (or at least they were when this column was written), and although hopes of rising any higher in the league are dim, they still have a good chance of hitting third place.

However, disaster hit the club last week when it was learned that ace outfielder Ron Northey will probably be re-classified 1A. The loss of Northey, strong man of the team, will hurt Freddy Fitzsimmons no end, and although Coaker Triplett, a former Cardinal, will take place in right field, Triplett has neither the arm nor the hitting punch that Ron possesses. However, Fitz's big worry now, besides the Northey headache, is his pitching. With Lefty Al Gerhauser, Dick "Kewpie" Barrett, Ken Raffensberger (who is also susceptible to draft call), and Charlie Schanz and Bill Lee going fairly well now, Fat Freddy has no immediate worry, but when pressure starts bearing down on the club, and when the hot August heat starts melting rookies, then will be the time for Fitz to begin worrying. His infield as it stands now is compact, sure and hard-hitting. With Tony Lupien, former Bosox, on first, Ford Mullen, a rookie, on second, Ray Hamrick on short and sensation Ted Cieslak on the hot corner, the Philly infield bears no problem. As the outfield stands today it has Jimmy Wasdell in left, Buster Adams in center and the sure-fire Northey in right. A better outfield has not been seen in Philly in many a year, and Shibe Park is resounding to lusty base clouts as it has never resounded before. Rookie Bob Finley is handling a majority of the catching chores, and all in all the Phillie squad shapes up as a potentially strong club on paper. However, whether they are as strong on the diamond will have to be proven in results. My prediction for the Phillies, therefore, is that they will end up no lower than sixth place, and it looks as if we will see the Phils out of the cellar for the first time in years. I have a slight suspicion that they won't feel right being anywhere but in last place, but I'm pretty sure that it will agree with them.

Continuing with my coverage of the softball league, I will devote this week's repertoire to the picking apart of each team. Let us first scour the team captained by Bill "Two-Ton" Brotherton, who plays first. On second we find none other than old "Grin" himself, while on shortstop, pondering weak and weary, is little "Teeny Weeny" Doswell. Big Steve Edwards plays the hot corner and is plenty busy kickin' balls around out there too. The outfield set-up has D. Stuart Hillman in left (need we say more), Bob "Lover" McNeil in center, and Al "Hopalong Cassidy" Woodruff in right. Ah, and now to the phenomenal battery. Pitching we can barely make out Harrison "Shuffle-along" Eacho, he of the high "hi" voice, and the soft, melodramatic sneer, and his comforting, oh so "reliable" battery mat is none other than that robust, perfect physical "specimen," "Lard" Merrin. So much for that.

The other team has Wes "Hit-em-and-bust" Todd on first, Jimmy "Oh So Handy" Clower on second, Art "You-Drive-It" Anderson on short and Bob "de Bum" Zrike on "toid." In the outer pastures we find Jawn "Beetles-and-Bugs" Funkhouser in center flanked by Bob Axtell and Harris "Woman-Grabber" Sammons grazing around. The hot-totsy battery in this case is made up of T. Ryland Dodson on the slab (again no pun) and Henry "Boy, I'm not conceited? much!" Oder doing the backstopping. Not bad for amateurs, eh?

**Men About Town . . .**

One campus bull session ended in an avalanche of chuckles several nights ago, when the speech made by a well-known college president at the University assembly that was held on December 8, 1942, was brought into the discussion. It seems that the distinguished educator, the head of the South's finest University, said something about the absence of "marching feet at Washington and Lee." A sophomore pointed out that it was unkind to talk about the SSS in this fashion, for they do try to march.

With beer still scarce in Lexington and the hard stuff an unobtainable luxury, J. P. Mingioli, the University morale officer, was in a quandary as to how to prevent the civilians from going insane. Mr. Mingioli, a graduate of the SSS (School for Super-Morons and Simpletons), tried the army system of organized squattag and tonette bands, but this failed. Finally he decided to take a group of the poor unfortunate boys on an enlightening expedition to the river cave. When the motley crew

was assembled it was noted that they came in all assorted sizes from Wright to Merrin. When they returned, plastered with mud, blood, and unassorted debris, it was noted that Wright had lost so much weight and was so covered with mud that no one could distinguish him from Funkhouser. Unable to undergo such disgrace before the townfolk, Tom immediately washed himself in the river to prevent any such mistakes. Add to rumor reports: Did that student really see Dr. Gaines striding down the collonnade cheerfully humming that popular ballad

of the day, "Have I Been Away too Long?"

Hearts on the campus were filled with grief. The inevitable had happened. Why continue to live when all was lost? Sweet Briar had closed for the summer. Not only that, but Hollins and all the rest as well. Realizing that something must be done, **The Columns** immediately sent out spies to find the solution to the problem. Quite a few solutions were found in the

chemistry building where our agent wasted most of his time, but they all turned out to be the  
(Continued on page four)

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**Men About Town**

(Continued from page two)

wrong kind. The unknowns that we seek are quite different from Mr. Morrison's. We did, however, succeed in picking up one interesting rumor: Roanoke College is reported to have quite a few coeds enrolled for summer school. If worse comes to worse... (Next week we plan to interview several WACs to find their attitude toward dating civilians.)

The faculty back to the farm movement is still rapidly gaining momentum. "Cap'n Dick" seems to have cornered all potential A students in the math department

and put them to work pitching hay. Hochstim prays every night that Mr. Morrison will buy a farm that he can work on. That character building organization, "Swindle, Incorporated," has a fine one to sell to any unsuspecting but ambitious instructor. It is five acres long and stretches from bank to bank out on the North River. If the sucker finds underwater plowing difficult, he can always grow oysters. "Cy" Twombly has established his residence on the local golf course for the duration of the summer. His divots and deeper plowed furrows—are better than any yet accomplished by the members of the agrarian element.

This week's wisdom-filled quotation that might have come from the deans' office: "I'll bet you don't have a drop of whiskey in your room, and here you are wasting your money on books."

**A Mink's-Eye View**

(Continued from page one)

give you wine, women, songs, grades, offices—what else could you want? (Read Fitch—you'll like him).

Rope 3: Every college had its "Southern Collegian" or "Lit," or what have you. That went out and the life developed Gapolis.

Rope 4: Every college also had its Corner Store. Yep, seems as if one James Hamilton (W&L '26)

ran outa brew. As a strand under this main heading, "Rope," I'd like to say that the art of pipe smoking is passing out in favor of weeds. In the good old days of umpt-teen you'd go up to the checkered cloth, stuff the bowl with La Tabac, order a beer, and spout that wonderful stuff (or sing it) that Jawn von Beaverdam would probably call "College Americanese." I'd like to call it "Minkian" with its "Needles, Charges Tubes, and Teams." The Philosophy of University life is bulled over much better, believe me, with a beer and a pipe rather than with an "ice clinker" and a "weed."

Rope 5: "In the spring a young man's fancy..." This whole rope (excepting fraternity pin aspect) is still here, along with an occasional pipe and beer when it's in town. Nope, girls are not drafted and most Minks are almost (not quite) as smooth as they always were. There's a member of the Sem team who knows all about spring, Naval Academy miniatures, ensigns, phone calls, AND the Pacific ocean (when Stolid Bill Davidson heard the tale even he be-

came a worrier about fidelity of the gals on the hill).\*

\*A minority in our midst insist on being bold, and talk sh--- with L.H.S. glamor girls.

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