

# The Columns

OF WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY

Volume III

LEXINGTON, VIRGINIA, MARCH 29, 1946

Number 20

## Plans To Expand Instruction In Journalism Laid

### Program Will Comprise Press Scholarships, New Courses, More Teachers

Post-war journalism instruction at Washington and Lee University will be broadened in scope and strengthened, President Francis P. Gaines said today, as he announced new plans for the department of journalism.

The expansion program will include the establishment of journalism scholarships, an enlarged teaching staff, inauguration of a course in radio communication, and the revival of newspaper forums and the Southern Inter-scholastic Press Association, Dr. Gaines explained.

A group of special scholarships based on gifts made over a period of years by one of the leading Southern newspaper publishing corporations will soon be announced. As Washington College, the university awarded seven press scholarships in 1869 when, for the first time anywhere, General Robert E. Lee introduced journalism into the curriculum. Since the establishment of the Lee Memorial Foundation here in 1925 by the Southern Newspaper Publishers' Association, one departmental scholarship has been available annually to the upperclassman.

Prof. O. W. Riegel, head of the department since 1936, will resume his work in the fall. Prof. Riegel served during the war years with the Office of War Information and is now a special representative of the Department of State in Central Europe.

Lt. A. Lea Booth of Danville, Va., chief radio officer for the Third Fleet, has been appointed assistant professor of journalism. Lt. Booth, who was invited to join the faculty just as the war claimed him, will take up his duties about May 1. After being graduated from Washington and Lee in 1940, he was employed by the New York bureau of the United Press.

Assistant Professor Everett W. Withers, who last year served a three-month internship with the National Association of Broadcasters at Station WTIC, Hartford, has announced a course in radio news writing and editing.

Typography courses will continue to be taught by C. Harold Lauck, director of the Journalism Laboratory Press. Mr. Lauck, former president of the National Graphic Arts Education Association, is considered an authority on typographical design and layout.

Throughout the next session, Dr. Gaines added, a series of discussions will be led by some distinguished authorities in the field of journalism. A list of visiting lecturers will be announced shortly.

## Reid Wins With Classical Music

The debate at the regular Forensic Union meeting Monday night was in keeping with the highly controversial spirit demonstrated thus far in the semester by the members. The subject, Resolved: Classical music has contributed more to the enjoyment of life than popular music, was one that permitted of copious arguments on both sides; and the main speakers, Paul Yates and Bob Reid, were not slow to take advantage of the opportunity.

Reid, in supporting the affirmative, presented three strong points. He maintained that there are as many people who enjoy classical music today as enjoy popular, that classical music is much older and has therefore given pleasure to more generations, and finally that many popular pieces such as "Tonight We Love" are in reality classic.

Yates replied by pointing out the greater volume of sales in popular music and the fact that all classical music was, at some time in its existence, popular music.

After the main speakers were (Continued on Page Four)

## Representative Needed For Position as Junior On Executive Committee

All students who are interested in becoming candidates for the position of Junior Executive Committeeman for the remainder of this semester should submit their names to the Secretary of the Student Body, R. G. Patterson, by 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 9. Candidates should have had at least four and not more than six semesters of college work, either at Washington and Lee or at some other university.

The position is vacated by the resignation of Jon Rugel, who was elected Junior Representative at the beginning of this year. He was forced to resign because of his health. The executive committee will appoint the new committeeman from among the names submitted, in accordance with the constitution.

## Gene Santaella Presents View On Puerto Rico

(Ed.—This week, somewhat behind schedule, *The Columns* presents the third in a series of interviews on Washington and Lee students from without the United States proper. The first two interviewed were Tage Munthe-Kaas and Serif Mardin; and this week Bill Allen handled the interview with Eugenio Santaella.)

Among the students now attending Washington and Lee is Eugenio Santaella from Santurce, Puerto Rico.

Eugenio, on the recommendation of his cousin, a Washington and Lee alumnus, first came to Lexington in 1943. Shortly thereafter, however, his draft board held up a beckoning hand and back he went to Puerto Rico. Eugenio remained a civilian by good fortune though and returned to Washington and Lee this February.

He is presently a pre-med student and hopes after graduating from medical school to work with his uncle who has a hospital in Santurce.

The school system of Puerto Rico is very similar to our own. The Commission of Education has arranged the system so that children begin to learn English in the third grade and finally develop to the point where all text books are printed in English and only English is spoken in the classes.

Eugenio's father was an importer of American cigarettes and his brother who is nearly of college age, hopes, like Eugenio, to come to Washington and Lee for his higher education.

Santurce, Eugenio's home town, is to San Juan much as Queens or Manhattan is to New York City. Homes there tend largely toward futuristic design and buildings follow closely the modern European form of concrete structure.

The city boasts several night clubs, entertaining in that inimitable "South American way." They often feature Cuban or Mexican dance orchestras who play their music in sets of six pieces: one rumba, one American fox-trot, three "boleros," and one special or request number.

Also featured are many cinemas showing American and Mexican films. The movies operate on two systems so that both the English and Spanish speaking populace may understand them. One system shows a film with Spanish sound track at seven and at nine o'clock the same show may be seen with the cast speaking English. The other system is considerably more complicated; English is spoken on the screen but also flashed on the screen with the action are Spanish equivalent words.

Puerto Rico, within the year, is to hold a U.S. governed plebiscite to determine how the people of the island feel about independence. Our government, looking to the day when Puerto Rico will become independent, is trying to help the island become economically independent before that day. Eugenio, incidentally, is a confirmed "independentist," believing that under the present arrangement there is great possibility, or at

## PROGRAM

### UNIVERSITY RELIGIOUS CONFERENCE

April 9, 10, and 11, 1946

THEME: "A Day for Decision"

SPEAKERS: Dr. Russell C. Stroup, First Presbyterian Church, Lynchburg, Virginia. Col. (Chaplain) Martin C. Poch, Office of the Chief of Chaplains, Washington, D. C. Dr. J. Edwin Bethea, Lee Memorial Episcopal Church, Lexington.

Tuesday, April 9

9:55 a.m. Opening Assembly—Lee Chapel. "A Future of Fear or Faith"—Dr. Stroup.

4:30 p.m. Tea for Students and Faculty to meet Conference speakers—Student Union.

7:30 p.m. Discussion Groups—Student Union and Dormitory Reading Room. "A Politics of Power or Persons" Dr. Stroup, Col. Poch, Dr. Bethea.

Wednesday, April 10

9:55 a.m. Assembly—Lee Chapel. "A Faith of Frustration or Freedom"—Dr. Stroup.

4:30 p.m. Joint Meeting of Christian Council and Faculty Committee on Christian Work with Conference leaders—Student Union.

7:30 p.m. Discussion Groups—Student Union and Dormitory Reading Room. "A Morality of Mammals or Men"—Dr. Stroup, Col. Poch, Dr. Bethea.

Thursday, April 11

9:55 a.m. Assembly—Lee Chapel. "A Goal of Goods or God"—Dr. Stroup.

Student and faculty wives are invited to participate. Interviews with any of the Conference leaders may be arranged through the Christian Council.

## 478 Minks Threaten Outer World As Spring Holidays Draw Near

By Dick Hubbard

Comes the day of jubilation! Its March 30, 1946, and Washington and Lee has closed its doors for a few days of well earned rest. Here comes the Minks, 478 strong, walking and running down the streets of Lexington to the bus station, or standing in front of Steve's waiting for a ride to Washington or points north, or piling into cars already bulging with suitcases and humans, ready for that beautiful ride home. As Gabriel Heatter would say, "There's a happy bunch of men in Lexington today."

Homeward bound! Oh, what a glorious feeling. There'll be girls, and parties, and dances, and girls, and parties, and dances, and girls . . . etc. Hey, there goes a Mink with a suitcase in one hand and a copy of "The Economic Plan of William H. Twiddledee" in the other. What the hell's the matter with him? Better call Doc White down here right away. This fellow's in mighty bad shape.

Down at Steve's they're lined ten deep in the road. Frequent curses are mingled with shouts of hope as cars round the bend of old U.S. 11. Someone yells out, "Who was the fool who said that this was the main road to Washington?" He should have been there this winter on the day school closed for Christmas vacation. Fourteen above zero and a

least great opportunity, for exploiting by the United States.

The Puerto Rican girls, until the advent of the G.I., were always kept very strictly at home and heavily chaperoned when they ventured out into the streets. Many changes have taken place! But Puerto Rican girls are still very cautious with Americans.

The island's climate is very temperate, remaining around 75 degrees fahrenheit throughout the year and bathing is very naturally the favorite sport. The islands surrounding Puerto Rico become quite hot in the summertime but Puerto Rico itself is spared the experience by a prevailing gulf wind.

Eugenio feels that the average American has many misconceptions about Puerto Rico and wishes that he might clear them up. Anyone who believes, for instance, that Puerto Ricans don't wear shoes or that the entire island is one massive swamp should definitely see Mr. Santaella and get the "word," for he loves his island very much (second only to New York City) and finds these particular ideas especially vexing.

heck of a lot of snow on the ground.

At McCrum's, the "Crossroads of the Nation," the bus station is packed and the platform is piled high with luggage. Above the murmurings of the crowd we hear, at the ticket office, "Roanoke, Washington, Richmond, Lynchburg, Charleston," etc. Then the public address system, if it is working and if you can understand it, belches forth with, "3:05 to Staunton, Harrisonburg, New Market, Winchester, and Washington." The room explodes and there is a mad dash down the back stairs and on to the platform. Bags are grabbed and they pile on the bus. After the usual 30 to 40 minute delay there is a meshing of gears and the Washington Express (?) pulls out for points unknown.

But wait! What's this? Here are some more Minks roaming the streets. All the buses have gone as well as the private cars. What's up? Oh, yes, these must be lucky ones who are going to take the "Creeper" from Buena Vista tonight at 8:04 (The time-table says). How lucky they are. The 8:04 express just 200-00-00ms over the shining Norfolk and Western rails, stopping only at twenty four large and important cities (the proud inhabitants call them that, not us) between Buena Vista and Harrisburg.

Ah, its 9:00 p.m. and the streets of Lexington are empty, the Corner Store is dark and there is no mad scramble since the Minks have gone away.

## Opportunity for Rhodes Scholars

All students interested in applying for Rhodes Scholarships to Oxford should begin in the very near future making arrangements for it, according to a recent announcement by Dr. Fitzgerald Flournoy, Dr. Flournoy is chairman of the Virginia Committee for the selection of Rhodes Scholars.

Dr. Flournoy pointed out that forty-eight scholarships are being granted in the United States this year, instead of the usual thirty-two. The reason for this is that no scholarships have been granted since 1938, Britain having already entered the war when the time came to grant the scholarships in 1939. The accumulation of the funds during the war

## Southern Favorite



Above: Johnny Satterfield, well known band leader, who will play for the first night dance of the Washington and Lee 1946 Spring Dance Set.

## Scholarship By Mr. Bland Terry

### Scholarship Worth \$1250 To Qualifying Students

The establishment at Washington and Lee University of the Thomas Green Terry Memorial Scholarship in memory of the late Thomas Green Terry of Lynchburg was announced today by Frank J. Gilliam, dean of students. Funds for the scholarship which carries a stipend of \$1250 over a four-year period leading to a degree were provided by the Bland-Terry Shoe Corporation of Atlanta, Ga., the president of which is Bland Terry, brother of Thomas Green Terry.

Dean Gilliam says the scholarship will be awarded on the basis of character, need, scholarship, and capacity for leadership. Any resident of Virginia is eligible to receive the scholarship, but preference will be given to students from Lynchburg and its suburbs. Applications for it are to be received by May 15, 1946, he said.

The scholarship is payable at the rate of \$320 an academic session, which more than covers all fees for tuition and general university expenses, apart from board and lodging. Announcement of it is being made next week at E. C. Glass High School, Virginia Episcopal School, and at other preparatory schools throughout the state where there is any number of Lynchburg residents in attendance.

## 22 Dogwood Trees Added In Beautifying Program

Twenty-two dogwood trees have been planted along the walk to the right of the library. These shrubs are part of a campus beautifying plan that is paid for from a fund set up by an alumnus, Mr. John Atkins, of Shreveport, Louisiana.

This landscaping scheme was started several years ago. Those familiar with the campus can notice several spots, once bare, that now contain young oaks.

Mr. Charles F. Gillette, landscape architect, is in charge, and according to Mr. Mattingly, there will be other campus improvements from time to time, which are provided for in the fund.

makes the increased number possible.

A second change from the usual procedure is also due to the war, according to Dr. Flournoy, namely that veterans who passed their twenty-fifth birthday while in the service will be eligible for the scholarships. Ordinarily a Rhodes Scholar must be less than twenty-five years of age when he takes up residence at Oxford.

A Rhodes Scholar is given a two year scholarship to Oxford with all expenses paid, and the option of a third year if he needs it to complete some degree. Choice is made on the basis of college records, recommendations from friends, and a personal appearance before the committee. All students interested in securing further details should see Dr. Flournoy.

## McKinley May Furnish Music For Final Dance

### Prospects Include Randy Brooks, Vincent Lopez; May 30, 31 Dance Dates

Prospects for a real, pre-war dance set this year at Washington and Lee are definitely looking up, according to George Wood, President of Final Dances. Wood stated that the dance would be a two-night affair on May 30 and 31. The Thursday night dance, or Senior Ball as it is called, will last from 10 p.m. until 2 a.m. and the Final Ball Friday night will last from 11 p.m. until 6 a.m. with two intermissions.

### Possible Orchestra

At present, a suitable band for the occasion is the biggest problem, but Wood, who has been in contact with several New York booking agents, has several good ones in prospect. At the present, Ray McKinley seems to be the best bet. Former ace drummer and novelty singer with Will Bradley, McKinley organized his own band shortly before the war. When the war came he and his band toured the ETO playing to soldier audiences. His first appearance to the public this year received an excellent write-up in the March issue of "Downbeat." Also under consideration are such bands as Vincent Lopez, Randy Brooks, and "Shorty" Sherock.

## Randolf Trio Is Campus Favorite

### Romaine, Rattner, Boyd Form 'Collegians' Nucleus

The Washington and Lee campus is once more echoing to the strains of a student musical organization, namely the Bill Randolph Trio, a newly organized group consisting of Bill Romaine, Bill Rattner and Chap Boyd.

This trio, which is serving as the nucleus for the future re-organization of the Southern Collegians, the well known pre-war student band, has been playing for the last month and a half, and its plans are to keep playing until enough men are found to reform the Collegians, having the same number of musicians and producing the same quality of music which they produced before the war.

With Romaine on the drums, Rattner on the piano and Boyd on the trombone, the trio has held frequent rehearsals, lately at the Student Union where they have had a large and appreciative audience. Paul Thomas, the leader of the Collegians before the war, sometimes sits in with the boys, and with his saxophone adds to the trio's quality. Thomas, because of a heavy schedule has not been able to take an active part in the trio. Bernie Kaplan, the trio's business manager, has been making various contacts with neighboring schools, lining up jobs. The Trio's last job, the Monogram Club's party at the Pi Kappa Alpha house, was a great success.

Romaine, who hails from New York City, has been playing the drums for many years. He played with the Collegians before the war and with a service band during the war.

Rattner is from Detroit, Michigan where he is considered one of the ablest pianists in the business. Playing for the last eight years, he has worked with various outfits, and in high school he fronted his own fourteen piece band known as "Davy Jones and His Orchestra."

Boyd, who comes from Clifton, New Jersey, has been playing and fronting in various bands for the last nine years. In 1944 he won an audition with Tommy Tucker and had a chance to go to a musicians school, but he had to turn it down to finish his education.

With such a nucleus formed and with full enrollment expected next year, it is the hope of the trio to be able to form the Collegians at the beginning of next fall.

# The Columns

Serving the University Community

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Friday March 29, 1946

## A Letter to General Lee

In the March Atlantic Monthly appeared an article of the same name as this editorial by Dr. Branch Cabell. The article was mainly an expression of the surprise that historians have felt about General Lee's not having cashed in on his fame with a book of memoirs after the war; and a statement by Dr. Cabell of his realization that Lee had merely lived up to the precept which he had preached all his life, to the effect that "duty" is the most sublime word in the English language.

Dr. Cabell reminds General Lee of the many lucrative positions which were offered him, in which the extent of his duties would have been to lend his name to the organization with which he would have been connected. And he quotes Lee's answer to all these offers: "I am grateful, but I have a self-imposed task which I must accomplish. I have led the young men of the South in battle. I have seen many of them die on the field. I shall devote my remaining energies to training young men to do their duty in life."

Dr. Cabell goes on to say: "With that, General Lee, you took over the presidency of poverty-stricken and obscure and dilapidated Washington College, in the gaunt hill-town of Lexington, Virginia, at the gaunt salary of \$1,500 a year. . . . You went to what we, your successors and your inferiors in the present-day State of Virginia, cannot but regard as somewhat fantastic lengths, in order to prevent your celebrity from becoming a source of income."

An excellent article up to this point, it seems to us that Dr. Cabell misses the mark for the remainder of his letter. As we see it, the important question is whether or not Lee's decision was justified. Did he accomplish what he proposed to accomplish in this "obscure and delapidated" college? It is to answer this question that we have decided to add a post-script to Dr. Cabell's letter.

### THE LETTER

As students at the University which now bears your name, and with all the respect which has come to be yours through the years, we address you, General Lee. Much was the amazement, Sir, that you caused when you announced your decision to become the President of Washington College. Much has been the amazement ever since at that same decision. You could have made more money—much more money—in any one of a dozen different jobs offered to you. Historians have always delighted in assigning motives to the various decisions of your life, but they say little about this decision, for it perplexes them. As students of the college concerned, we believe you meant it when you said that you were doing what seemed right "for the benefit of mankind and the honor of God."

We feel that it is only fitting that a report should be made to you on how your ideals fared. You came here to "train young men to do their duty in life." Your military forces were defeated in the war, General Lee; but what about your ideals for the peace?

The honor System which your own character helped so much to establish—is it still here? That is what we have come to report to you, General Lee, and the answer is yes. The system, perhaps, has changed, but the Honor is here.

We have only come to appreciate the full extent of what you gave us in the last few years. It took a war to make us realize what a privilege it is to be associated with gentlemen who we know are gentlemen. You can feel it in the halls, General Lee; you can feel it in the class-rooms; and you can feel it a thousand miles from here, where Washington and Lee men meet.

In the event that you receive this letter, Sir, it might please you to know that you nowadays rank very highly among the military geniuses of historic record. Furthermore, there is a feeling which goes farther than mere respect for military genius. In the South which you led, there is almost reverence for the character of a great leader—a reverence which reaches its epitome in Virginia, where there is no true citizen who can convince himself that your career ever revealed any mistakes or short-comings. But on our campus, there is a feeling which is even different from this. For on our campus we can feel your presence, Sir; and the gratitude for the very spirit of a Gentleman which hovers over our lives here makes the other forms of respect and reverence fade into the background.

Eighty years have passed, General Lee, since you were last seen in our midst. But time melts into insignificance on our campus when we are considering The Spirit. Historians have wondered why you came here. We know the purpose for which you came; and we know that that purpose was accomplished.

## Reporter-at-Large

By Charley McDowell

If you've ever been around when **The Columns** is being made up, you must wonder, like we do, how the New York Times comes out oftener than once a month. There is more confusion in the printing of one issue of these four humble pages than words like "chaos" and "mad-house" can even begin to describe. It's not that the editors aren't efficient fellows with efficient plans—it's just that it never works out that way.

The first step in the preparation of one of these monsters is a meeting of the editorial "big guns" on Tuesday night. (We are not an editorial "big gun" by any means, but we go to the meetings just to watch the fun. In fact, in journalistic circles your reporter is regarded as a very small calibre editor.) At this meeting great and detailed plans are formulated, and stories are assigned to various reporters who have gone home for the week or withdrew from school last semester. At about the mid-point in the meeting someone brings up the problem of circulation. It seems that various people have paid their money but have never even seen **The Columns**; this, allegedly, is due to a regrettable drawer fire which burned a page of the circulation list. Each week it is decided to look up the unfortunates or at least post a copy of the paper on the bulletin board so they can see it. Next comes a harangue with the business manager, who has usually contracted for enough ads to fill the entire paper except the space reserved for **Man About Town**. However, by culling out the Bull Durham, Retonga (it cures everything from heart-burn to athletes' foot, and really tastes very nice), and snow-shoe ads, the editors make room for a little news and the traditional picture of Dr. Gaines.

Wednesday night is the deadline for reporters to turn in their stories, so Thursday afternoon they do. Thursday and most of Friday are spent reading proof, or not reading proof, as is often the case. (Notorious example: "While on the campus the Army School taught thousands of soldiers to perform various ditties deemed essential to the war effort.") We might mention, as we have before, that it should have read **duties**. Anyway, by Saturday morning we are ready to put the type in the forms. The confusion during this period is too fantastic to go into, but so far the paper has been printed right side up, which is the main thing. By about ten o'clock Saturday morning the paper is ready to go to press. This momentous occasion is marked by cries of "Roll 'em!"; "Put 'er to bed!"; "Let's go to press!" etc., on the part of the staff, which to a man has read Tom Jones' "Journalistic Parliance." Right at this point, as **The Columns** is about to be printed, the dormitory burns, a band is signed for Finals, election results come in, and a reporter brings in a great feature story to the effect that "W & L is getting back to pre-war standards."

After rewriting and revision, which invariably put the indignant Forensic Union on the back page, the presses actually begin to roll. This final ritual is worse than all the rest put together. The whole staff and a good part of the subscribers gather around the press to see **The Columns** happen. There is always one experimenter who wonders how the ink is dried on the paper and gets his eyebrows singed off finding out. There was one fellow who managed to get his foot caught in a flywheel, but he didn't even slow up the press.

Finally, in spite of itself, **The Columns** does get printed, and in three cases out of five, the subscribers get their copies by the following Tuesday. After the Spring holiday lay-off, we prophesy bigger and better ads and a paper for every reader, not to mention actual circulation on Fridays, like the date-line says.

## OUT ON A LIMB

By Bill Hart

The annual mecca of Washington and Lee students to the fairest metropolis of them all, will get into swing once again this week-end when New York City beckons holiday-makers to come forth and taste of its flavors. They are many and varied. Nightly carriage rides in Central Park; the Astor Bar where old friends meet; Broadway with its ticket scramblers for seats to "Showboat," "Harvey," "The Voice of the Turtle;" Billy the Oysterman's; Madison Square Garden; the Copacabana, Stork Club, Cafe Rouge; the Village with its endless entertainments; the Bowry if one feels like that. Some of these aforementioned spots may ever hear a spontaneous outburst of the "W and L Swing" ere next week rounds out the close of spring vacation.

For fair enough proof that spring can bring a subtle promise of better times to come, witness the recent re-opening of the Corner Store, long unoccupied but re-suming, from all appearances, its past glories with even greater gusto. The improvement on the place is miraculous, but you can't help wondering just how long its shiny new luster will last.

Even the campus smarter set is beginning to wonder why the excessive amount of exams forced together in one week's time. Answer to that could be the old

aphorism that freedom is doubly tasteful after one works hard to get it. And freedom in the form of seven days is coming up soon. At any rate most everyone is working hard to get it.

And after the glories of New York or the sunshine of Miami, what then? A continuation of studies interspersed with Spring Dances, fraternity rushing, preparations for Finals and the big fling itself. The solution to campus activities lies in the addition of two arms and two legs per individual. Why doesn't somebody invent a human octopus?

Aside from the fact that the Corner Store has re-opened, the flowers are blooming, and Lexington's doors are staying open, there are other obvious indications of spring, particularly the recent planting of dogwood trees on each side of one of the lesser campus walks. Lesser because it eventually leads to the library. These trees, as yet bare of everything but branches, will, it is hoped, blossom forth in regal splendor by the time of spring dances, for what better place to conduct a date than beneath an arbor of frothy white dogwood? Or will it be pink?

Last but not least is that certain look in everyone's eye when spring has come, which can be attributed to the weather or to other things. But any way you look at it, it's the effect of bon vivant.

## Men About Town . . .

By Roy D. Witte

With the usual crew at the Sem, and the usual at Hollins, nothing unusual at Lynchburg nor its Amherst annex, it seems rather useless to beat our heads closer to the bone dreaming up current atrocities that local lads have recently committed. So until some enterprising individual wanders in and presents something choice and current, we'll bore you with a tale about when it was rough. . . .

Reminiscent of the long, long ago was the announcement of the formation of a regular contingent of the Washington and Lee fire fighters. Some of the older men about town have taken this as an insult, though we can't figure out quite why, unless it has something to do with the activities of an irregular contingent of Washington and Lee fire fighters formed (with the fires practically at alma mater's doorstep) in the Spring of forty two. Quick to respond to the call to honor (especially after a stirring speech by Dr. Gaines) big minks, little minks, and minks of

all descriptions piled into some hastily furnished trucks and sped into the very teeth of the flame, with the EC leading the way. (By the teeth of the flame we mean that the whole army of Generals remained parked on the side of Highway eleven, somewhere North of Roanoke for the better part of ten hours, and the only flame noticeable was that provided by some wide awake boy scout who brought his flint and steel). Quite different was this expedition than the one the night before (Saturday to be specific, when all gentlemen are alone in bed) when the alarm sounded in the midst of our laddies' slumber—and the school was mobilized into action to fight a fire out near Mike's. Which reminds us that Mike's fire still carries historical significance at VMI. It seems that the entire corps had been delegated to start and control a back fire, for the purpose of halting the main blaze with burnt over land. The corps with prussian efficiency had started a beauty—but it was no match for our boys who came crashing through with their trusty axes and brooms, put out the back fire, and amid three choruses of the **Swing** hailed the arrival of the main fire with a resulting loss of twenty square miles of timber, one slightly worn hovel, and a mule—and quite a bit of W & L's prestige as master fire fighters. Small wonder that the expedition on Highway Eleven was halted until someone in authority could find some emergency for the hearty reserve of woodsmen to conquer. Finally the emergency was found, and our boys again roared into action—back up High-

(Continued on Page Four)

## Show Team Time

By Dave Guthrie

We doubt that next week's offering of movies, even **The Spiral Staircase**, are sufficiently attractive to induce anyone to stay in Lexington, so we shall dispense with our usual stuff and venture to editorialize a bit. As a matter of fact, as if anyone were really interested, we spent a lazy afternoon recently browsing through old copies of "Life" and "Time," movie sections attracting our attention mostly, of course. And it occurred to us, in an off moment, that the movie industry is distinctly on the down grade, and, inasmuch as we have nothing else to bull about this week, we decided to recall that off moment and elaborate.

There's nothing we hate worse than perpetual pessimists, lest it be perpetual optimists, but now and then it's a damned good thing to be pessimists, like we're fixing to be right now. We venture to say that in 1938, for instance, there were thrice as many first-rate movies as in 1945, or even more as in 1946, if what's current is any indication. Of course, we can't be objective about the thing and apply absolute standards, but by actual count, that's the way it panned out for us in purely subjective fashion. We don't pretend to be able to say why; it just is. There's nothing, however, to prevent us from suggesting a couple of things. In the first place, movies now are getting gaudier and have more tinsel, but, by the same token, they're getting cheaper and commoner trashier. That doesn't mean that they don't cost a lot more to produce or that they don't have plenty of box-office appeal, but those are no standards of the worth of a motion picture. We don't deny that there's a place for sparkle and glitter, much less that there are worthwhile movies being produced all the time, but the general trend is as we pointed out, on the downgrade. The very same thing holds true in regard to radio, only to a much greater extent. Why no more big historical movies, no more adaptations of classic plays and novels, why so few good, original scenarios? We don't know why, but, as we've said before, we certainly hope the imminent influx of British films will shake Hollywood out of its lethargy, out of its profit-mania, and back into something approaching 1938 standards.

## The Lighter Side

By Bill Romaine

Here's for gettin' caught up on a few records by way of compensating for a sad lack of "pop" music discussions in this column. T. Dorsey's newest album of eight "Showboat" tunes is one of the more recent collections of pressings which promises to be quite popular on sales lists, not so much because of the way the music is played, but rather because of the combination of Dorsey and Kern. Stuart Foster's vocals on "Make Believe," "Ol' Man River," "You Are Love," and "Nobody Else But Me" are unimpressive, and in fact show a definite imitative tendency on Foster's part to try a few Sinatra tricks. In short, they do Kern's excellent compositions entirely insufficient justice. On the other hand, Peggy Mann's work on "Bill" and "Can't Help Lovin' Dat Man" show experience, good taste, and some real feeling for the songs she's singing. "I Still Suits Me" and "Why Do I Love You?" showcase the Sentimentalists doing a pretty good job, with Sy Oliver's relaxed singing injecting an excellent beat into the first of the two. It goes without saying that the leader's fine trombone phrasing and tone prevent these sides from being relegated to the commonplace, but the overall spirited playing of the orchestra, Foster's rather forced and unrelaxed emoting, and the general dragging impression of the music played keep the collection from being anything out-of-the-ordinary. Try it, however, particularly if you're an avid Thomas Dorsey or Jerome Kern fan.

We are undoubtedly prejudiced, but we believe that Capitol's King Cole Trio has come up with an ex-

(Continued on Page Four)

## Excursion to Normandy . . . . . by Alfred Walter

(Ed.—This week **The Columns** prints the second installment of Al Walter's prize winning theme—a week behind schedule.)

The first installment of "Excursion to Normandy" told the story of a replacement packet's trip from England to Normandy only a few days after the initial Allied landings. This week Walters concludes the story of his landing via assault boat and the establishment of his outfit on French shores.)

This phase of the landing was executed without so much as a mishap as a broken leg, although most of us were certain we were going to cripple ourselves. I was cramped under the canopy housing the diesel engine, and was crushed so tightly against the engine, I could feel it gnawing at my back. Most of the men stood, while I

struggled to part a pair of knees in order to breathe. Someone smashed me in the face with a rifle butt. Whereupon I developed the most distressing case of seasickness I ever knew.

It seemed like hours before the rough grating of the shore on the bottom of the boat answered my prayer. The tiny craft verily disgorged its human cargo—a fantastic number. As instructed, everyone tossed his life jacket on the beach and trudged up the slope of the assigned bluff. We found that part of the coast was given the name "Omaha beach." After the landing, I reached the crest of the hill and sat in a field of poppies to wait for the rest of the party. Below and all around me were strewed evidences of the terrific bombardment that had taken place. What had been well concealed pillboxes were then

heads of twisted steel and blasted cement. Ingeniously camouflaged machine guns had once slaughtered American troops from the gaping craters that were blown out of the face and crevices of the cliffs. Most of the bodies had been removed or swallowed by the tide. Those remaining were German, so they didn't look too unbecoming.

The Lieutenant, far from being a mountain climber, finally crept over the top of the hill. His entire package was there waiting for him. After a brief rest, we began our long march inland amid promiscuous barrages of enemy shellfire. The master assured us that there was nothing to worry about; the front lines were still over four miles away.

Some of our training proved useful, we found, when we came to the thin, white tape. It was a

mine-sweeper's warning to bear close to the tape, for it marked the only safe path. The area on both sides of it was mined, heavily and cleverly mined. Shells landing a hundred yards away scared me half to death. This unseen peril didn't bolster my morale a bit.

After my first experience with the anti-personnel mine, the fear of it preyed on my mind the duration of the war. Our column had been moving along the tape for an approximate thirty minutes when a deafening explosion rocked the ground. Some unfortunate had stepped on an S-mine, the notorious "bouncing Betsy." Nearly a score of our boys lay dead or dying. My pinochle partner, who had been marching directly behind me, was on his hands and knees, choking, gasping desperately.

(Continued on Page Four)

# All-Star Intramural Team Named

## Sports

March 29, 1946 Page Three

### Generalizing . . .

By Don Moxham

Faellers have been extended to Sammy Sneed to come here and handle the golf team. Sneed's home is over at White Sulphur Springs just sixty miles from here, so the idea isn't at all ridiculous. "Slammy Sammy," one of the nation's top pros for many years, visited the W & L campus as Fred Perry's guest in 1942, and both he and Washington and Lee were much impressed with each other. It certainly isn't impossible by a long shot. Who knows—maybe next Spring Cap'n Dick will hand the ball club over to Joe McCarthy.

There will be no tears shed on Wilson Field with the word that the Norman brothers, Dyke and Ray, are expected to return to school next fall. Both, as sophomores, broke into the Generals' starting lineup in 1942. Husky Dyke anchored the line at center and was the outstanding member of that forward wall. He, along with Harry Harner, received honorable mention All-American that season. The factor which prevented Dyke from making all-state was a lad down at William and Mary named Tex Warrington, who later made first team All-American as a transfer at Auburn. After leaving here in the V-12 program, Dyke put in a season with the U. of Richmond. His brother Ray, better known as Pinky, held down an end post at W & L, but later at North Carolina Pre-Flight, he was converted into a wingback and gained some big headlines from this position. The end spots look a little weak right now, so maybe Art Lewis will have to use Pinky at end. Dyke's old center spot is another story though. Mark Saur's, Kentucky transfer is not going to relinquish his spot very easily, so Dyke may be moved to guard. All things taken equal, Saur's height would enable him to put up a better defense against passes while backing up the line.

Our best source of copy—the North Carolina basketball—team was defeated for the NCAA crown by Oklahoma A and M 43-40. Still it was a very creditable performance considering the tricky attack of the "okies" with seven foot Bob Kurland at center. That is just about the same as the two best running plays in football. Army has them both—Blanchard carries the ball and then Davis takes a turn.

### Perry Discloses Plans

Fred Perry stopped off in Lexington last weekend on his way west, and disclosed his plans for tennis at Washington and Lee.

The wooden structures behind the gym will be moved down near the ruins by the courts and converted into a club house. A porch is to be built around the club house and a terrace is to be planted. In addition, all the clay courts are to be resurfaced, while work will also be done on the asphalt courts.

Perry said he favored the idea of scheduling mainly neighboring tennis clubs, but the next Spring W & L's tennis teams would take their place with the nation's best.

Two matches have already been booked with Virginia, home and away.

### Phi Psi's Defeat ZBT's, 30-23, Win I-M Title

#### Victors Preserve Perfect Record, Lead 2nd Place Challengers Throughout

Outclassing the hard fighting ZBT's, a fast Phi Psi quintet annexed the intramural basketball title with a 30-23 victory last Friday.

The tip off in the first quarter started one of the best intramural games this season. Moxham tallied on a pass from West to begin the scoring for the Phi Psi's. Yankee dropped in a foul. Moxham scored again from mid court, and Puckett followed with another basket to put the Phi Psi's way ahead, but Romaley, Sullivan, and Bouldin came back with three quick baskets to make the score 7-6. Bruce West sank two free throws before the quarter ended to make the board read 9-6.

Crist converted a foul, and Sullivan sank one from side court to

BOX SCORE		
Phi Psi's		
Yankee	0	1
Moxham	6	4
West	2	2
Rowe	2	0
Puckett	1	1
ZBT		
Bouldin	5	0
Ramaley	1	0
Sullivan	2	0
Coyle	0	0
Crist	3	1
Pickett	0	0

tie up the game, but Moxham holed a free throw and two quick baskets to put the Phi Psi's five points ahead. Bouldin put in a long one hander, but Joe Rowe countered for the Phi Psi's. Moxham made a foul, and Bouldin came through with another sensational one hander to narrow the

### Moxham, Bouldin Lead Balloting of Captains, Officials

By Charley McDowell

As was expected, the undefeated Phi Psi's dominate the Intramural All-Star Basketball Team picked last night for **The Columns** by the seven team captains and two officials. Don Moxham and Bruce West represented the league champions on the first team, with Joe Rowe missing a berth by only a vote. Other first teamers are Buck Bouldin (ZBT), Bob Mahon (Redskins), and John Dorsey (Law School).

Don Moxham, the league's leading scorer, was named captain of the mythical five by virtue of eight first team votes out of the nine ballots submitted. Buck Bouldin of the ZBT outfit polled seven first team votes and was selected on one second team to finish close behind Moxham.

The second team is composed of Rhea, Crist, Rowe, Davis, and Humphrey, with Rea and Rowe missing the first five by narrow margins.

The first team, if it were to go up against an opponent (and it won't), would indeed be a potent aggregation. All five players have averaged better than ten points a game, with various ones getting completely out of hand upon occasion. Moxham is probably the most consistent of the scorers and this, in addition to his steady floor play, went a long way toward winning the championship for the Phi Psi's. Bouldin has just one shot, but it serves the purpose admirably; he makes a motion like a drowning man coming up for the last time which culminates in two points oftener than

margin to 17-13 at the halftime. Joe Rowe opened the second half with a long shot, but Jack Crist came back with one for the losers. The Phi Psi's held onto their lead as Moxham scored six more points and Puckett one, while Buck Bouldin sank three in a row from way out to keep the ZBT's in the game. Jack Crist broke away for four ZBT tallies, but Bruce West filtered through the ZBT's pressing defense for two layups to put the game on ice.

With sixteen points, Don Moxham was high man for the Phi Psi's. The entire championship team played well and hard. This victory was the Phi Psi's sixth without any defeats.

Buck Bouldin with his long tosses totaled ten counters, while Crist had seven.

not. Buck is a good man to have around on defense, also, and handles his share of the rebounds. Bob Mahon, the Redskins captain, is both a better-than-average point getter and better-than-average point preventer. He was well respected in the league, as shown by the fact that every opposing captain named him for the first team. John Dorsey, of the Legal Eagles, has been called by his coach, Mr. Gus Stomboch, "a g-r-r-r-eat basketeer—my most valuable performer," and those words were evidently the sentiments of the other voters, none of whom failed to mention Dorsey. (One even mentioned Stomboch.) Bruce West, who completes the first five, was named on every ballot but his own, and rightly so. He was always a dangerous man, and teamed with Moxham on a fast break, he was more than hard to handle. Besides his stellar defensive and offensive play, West proved himself a good floor man, deserving credit for assists on many baskets by team-mates.

The complete All-Star roster is listed below, with one first team vote or two second team votes being required for honorable mention.

**First Team**  
Don Moxham, g. (Capt.) Phi Psi  
Bob Mahon, g. Redskins  
Buck Bouldin, c. ZBT  
John Dorsey, f. Law School  
Bruce West, f. Phi Psi

**Second Team**  
Judd Rhea, g. SAE  
Jack Crist, g. ZBT  
Joe Rowe, c. Phi Psi  
Jeff Davis, f. Redskins  
Jim Humphrey, f. Lambda Chi

**Honorable Mention**  
Harper (SAE), Puckett (Phi Psi), Wright (SAE), Romaley (ZBT), Byrne (Lambda Chi), Blackbourne (Law School).

### Cap'n Dick Smith Names Starting Nine; Junior Varsity in Warmup Tilt

Culminating four weeks of practice, the baseball team opposes Buena Vista High in a Junior Varsity tilt on Wilson Field this afternoon.

Cap'n Dick Smith is pleased with the progress his club has made thus far, and the addition of several football players to the squad has strengthened it materially. On the pitching staff, Lindell has shown a definite improvement and will probably develop into a competent college hurler with more experience. Bob Zrike and Sugar Young comprises the remainder of the mound staff and will undoubtedly see service. The backstop department is perhaps better off than any other spot on the field being two deep with experience. Johnny Via and Bell are both fine catchers. Via will probably stay behind the plate most of the time with Bell patrolling the outfield along with McKenna and Humphrey. First base is a toss-up between Chamberlin and Booker, with Bob Tiechert holding down second. On shortstop Stu Smith is handling the ball and Ev Schneider is playing in the hot corner.

### Spring Football Ends

Coach Art Lewis's football charges brought their Spring practice to a close with last Saturday's scrimmage session.

Commenting on the final performance of the squad, Lewis asserted that the team shaped up well, and that he is well-satisfied with its performance prospects. "The main deficiency, at present," he added, "is the lack of strength in numbers."

With the resuming of practice in the summer, and again in September, however, the influx of new students to W & L will materially bolster the team, and the "Generals" should enter the 1946 competition in the fall with a full-strength, powerful aggregation.

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## Bucks Radio SERVICE

Men About Town  
(Continued from Page Two)

way Eleven. No one has been able to determine to this day why the W & L Brigade was forced to retire unless it was because the jerrybuilt troop kitchen that served the field that day was in desperate need of K.P.'s, and rumor had it that our side was it.... Needless to say, the veteran bloc on this campus can add untold experience to the problems of forestry. We hope that the forest rangers of the vicinity don't mind if we lag slightly to the rear....

Advice to all concerned, or to anyone that might not be concerned: We have it on good authority that the entire character of Mary Baldwin is changing for the worse. In fact, it's the very worst we've yet to hear. The dismal part of it is that it's neither the school's fault nor the girls' fault. In fact you can blame it all on the gate keeper who actually had the colossal bad taste to admit literally thousands of wahos into the sanctuary, this past weekend. The entire character of the school has changed, and the only compensating feature of the entire situation is the fantastic sight of watching the horde descend upon the police station en masse—forced by necessity to part with their mason jars for the nounce.... If the advice was well heeded, and you're looking for some place else to spend a delightful evening, follow the advice of Chittum and Watson, who followed the advice of Graham and joined him on his fortnightly trip to the Capital city. The evening had not progressed more than a very few hours when the three were found in the El Patio Club with three acquaintances of long standing (no, they didn't meet them on a bus). Watson was taking the easy way out (the door) after spending a trying time trying to elude a six foot master of paratrooper who had had designs on Watson's long standing acquaintance a few minutes before when they were freshly met, when the emcee (complete with guitar) cast some very disparaging re-

mark to the effect that Watson was in his way more than somewhat. Watson rejoindered in his usually shy manner, and the battle of repartee was on. The amazing part of the entire thing was that the Baltimore Bullet was getting more laughs than the emcee, which discomfited the emcee more than somewhat, as did Watson's insistence that the emcee be, "Quiet, you're crabbing my act!" Chittum was oblivious to the whole thing. It seems that he was rather engrossed in his old acquaintance, (come to think of it, she wasn't too young) and couldn't be bothered with such trivial happenings. Graham was still cheerfully remembering chasing an old lady down the sidewalk while in a Plymouth convertible, in order to tip his hat and prove that he was a gentleman. All three were lucky that they weren't thrown out of El Patio (we speak reverently when that name is mentioned) and Washington as well. In fact the very evidence that they have returned in some semblance to human form constitutes a near miracle. We don't say that they are hard on their cars and women—but a brand new engine is being installed in Chittum's car—and the United States Navy is today searching for three of its favorite daughters....

The Lighter Side  
(Continued from Page Two)

traordinary fine album, mainly because of the musicians, (although it must be conceded that the numbers chosen were of the best). From "Embraceable You," "Sweet Lorraine," "Body and Soul," and "The Man I Love" to "Prelude in C Sharp Minor," "What Is This Thing Called Love?," "Easy Listenin' Blues," and "It's Only a Paper Moon," not one selection can be singled out as the best of the group; each is in its own class as regards musical merit. As a group the Trio has won awards this last year, and Cole and Moore, pianist and guitarist respectively have been singled out in 1946 polls for recognition. What can be said, except that the album speaks for itself quite eloquently? Cole's relaxed vocals highlight "Embraceable," "Lorraine," and "Paper Moon," while the entire aggregation of records is one continuous flow of beautifully intricate patterns and figures, particularly by Cole and Moore, sometimes singly, sometimes in duet. The bass man makes little noise, the best compliment to his work being that he'd certainly be missed if he were not playing. You'll have to be one heck of a rock-bound classical purist not to appreciate the intrinsic musical worth of this album. My parting advice. See Nat Cole and colleagues if they're within a hundred miles of you.

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Excursion to Normandy  
(Continued from Page Two)

ly for breath. There was a horrible sucking sound for nearly a minute, until he died. Nothing could be done. His lungs were virtually shredded with shrapnel. I found a small, barbed, steel pellet had penetrated my pack and lodged itself in the last blanket layer next to my back.

We marched on into a mystifying maze of hedgerows as darkness approached. For the first time in our experience, we dug foxholes because we wanted them. In England we received mosquito netting and arctic hats. We lacked nothing but entrenching tools. I hope you never have to dig the holes I've dug with a knife, fork, and spoon.

That night, as I lay in my new environment, I wondered who the scoundrel was who assured mothers, of eighteen year old boys, that their sons would not go overseas until they reached their nineteenth birthday. I speculated too: would my next mission be my last? I was to think of this for many times to come.

Shortened Schedule

During the three-day University Religious Conference, April 9, 10, and 11, 1946, in the week immediately following spring holidays, classes will be shortened to permit students to attend the assemblies in Lee Chapel. The following schedule will be observed:

- A and B— 8:25- 9:10
- C and D— 9:10- 9:55
- 9:55-10:45
- Assemblies, Lee Chapel
- E and F—10:45-11:30
- G and H—11:30-12:15
- I and J—12:14- 1:00

Dining Hall Closes

Due to the fact that only a very small number of students will remain in Lexington on Saturday evening, March 30, the Dining Hall will serve its last meal before the vacation at noon of that day, according to an announcement made by Tom C. Wilson, Director of Student Services. The regular schedule will be resumed on Monday morning, April 8.

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Monogram Club Releases Results of Last Dance

The recent Monogram Club dance yielded to that organization approximately one hundred and thirty dollars, according to George Wood, secretary of the club.

"Due to the slow sale of tickets before the dance we were a little worried over how many would attend. The gate sale, however, went very fast, and we had about 250 people at the dance. We of the Monogram Club wish to thank all those who attended for their help in making the dance the success that it was, and because of its success, we plan to have another informal dance of this type at the beginning of the summer term," concluded Wood.

One of the highlights of the dance weekend was the private party which the Monogram Club held for its members and the spring football men, on Saturday afternoon in the Pi Kappa Alpha lounge. Music was supplied by the Bill Randolph Trio, a new musical organization on the campus, made up of Bill Romaine on drums, Bill Rattner on the piano, and Chap Boyd on the trombone.

The Monogram Club, which gives out the various varsity awards on the campus, plans to compile a list of all those awards due to varsity men, but which were not given out because of the war. Besides these awards the Club also plans to give out, providing they are available, varsity sweaters for the first year basketball, baseball, and golf players.

Forensic Union

Students are reminded that The Forensic Union meets on Monday night at 7:30 in the Student Union Building. Non-members are welcome to attend any discussion in which they care to participate without obligating themselves to become members.

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Better Response Needed To Variety Show's Call

The recent appeal for talent for the variety show which is being planned by Dick Walker and Bill Rattner has not been responded to as enthusiastically as it had been hoped and unless more students subscribe to this activity immediately, it will be impossible to carry the plans any further.

This is a student activity and failure to react if you have talent is failure to do your full part as a student of Washington and Lee.

If you can dance, sing, imitate, or play an instrument see Walker or Rattner immediately.

What To Do If You Aren't Getting Your Columns—

If you've paid for The Columns and haven't received it regularly, how about your putting your name and address on a slip of paper and slipping it in the print shop door, handing it into The Columns office at the Student Union, or mailing it to Box 153? If you haven't bought The Columns—clipping a dollar bill to your name and address will bring the paper to you for the rest of the semester. The Columns is bigger, and we hope, better—to pay for it we need all the subscriptions the student body can afford—maybe even more.

HAMRIC & SMITH

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Forensic Union Meeting  
(Continued from Page One)

through the floor was thrown open to the group and a spirited discussion ensued. So hot was the argument that nearly everyone in the assembly spoke at least once.

The discussion was terminated by the clock and when the vote was counted, Bob Reid of the Tory side was found to have a majority.

Mr. John A. Graham, guest expert on music, then proceeded to give the Union his views on the subject. He made some highly pertinent remarks in his short but interesting talk and was well received by the members.

Next week's meeting will be given over entirely to business connected with the Union and there will be no debate.

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