

The Columns

Volume II

LEXINGTON, VIRGINIA, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1944

Number 14

Administration To Change Grading System

Glee Club Is Scheduled To Sing at Tuesday Service

The Glee Club is scheduled to make its first public appearance on the Candlelight Service program at the R. E. Lee Episcopal Church, Tuesday night, December 19, at 11 p.m.

Dr. F. P. Gaines will deliver a Christmas Meditation at this service, which is a revival of a custom which originated in the second year of Dr. Gaines' presidency.

ODK Will Hold Tapping Service On January 16

Leadership Fraternity Was Founded at W&L

Students selected for Omicron Delta Kappa, national honorary leadership fraternity, will be tapped at an assembly to be held in Lee Chapel on Tuesday, January 16 at 4:30 p.m., according to Dean Frank J. Gilliam.

Dr. F. P. Gaines will speak to the assembly on "Democracy."

There are no ODK student members on the campus now, and the Washington and Lee chapter, which is the Alpha chapter, was supposedly dormant for the duration, as are the rest of the fraternities on the campus, Dean Gilliam said he saw no reason why the faculty members should not initiate several new student members into the organization in keeping with the University's program of more extra-curricular activities.

ODK was founded on the Washington and Lee campus in 1914 and Mr. R. N. Latture, present registrar, is one of the student founders. Members are selected on the basis of their leadership abilities, campus activities, and a fairly high scholastic standing is required. Under the pre-war qualifications, membership was limited to members of the Junior and Senior classes.

Faculty members on the campus are: R. N. Latture, F. J. Gilliam, E. S. Mattingly, J. H. Williams, R. A. Smith, J. A. Graham, H. K. Young, E. P. Twombly, Dr. F. P. Gaines, Dr. Robert H. Tucker, Dr. Jas. Lewis Hows, Dr. L. J. Desha, Dr. R. W. Dickey, Dr. F. Flournoy, and Mr. C. E. Williams.

Phi Beta Kappa Chooses Seven For Membership

Most Have Completed Requirements While in Army & Navy Programs

The Washington and Lee chapter of Phi Beta Kappa elected to its membership seven students who have been graduated from the University recently. All received their degrees in absentia, having completed the requirements while in the armed forces or elsewhere. These include:

William Cuninghame Crittenden, Birmingham, Alabama (B.A., July, 1944), was a member of the Phi Delta Theta, Phi Eta Sigma, and Chi Gamma Theta fraternities while at Washington and Lee.

Robert Sidney Irons, Washington, D. C. (B.A., July, 1944), was a member of the Kappa Alpha and Phi Eta Sigma fraternities and on the staff of The Ring-tum Phi and the Debating Team.

Charles Mabin Johnson, Birmingham, Alabama (B.A., November, 1944), was a member of the Phi Eta Sigma fraternity, the Debating Team, and was a dormitory counselor.

Robert Bruce Quayle, Freeport, New York (B.S. in Commerce, November, 1944), was on the staff of The Ring-tum Phi, The Southern Collegian, The Calyx, and was editor of *The Columns*. He was also a member of Phi Eta Sigma and the Cross Country Team.

David Hamilton, Arlington, Virginia (B.A., July, 1944), was a member of Phi Eta Sigma and a manager at Freshman Camp.

William Benjamin Van Buren, III, Plainfield, New Jersey (B.A., July, 1944), was a member of the Glee Club and Baseball Team and also served as a dormitory counselor.

Lloyd Holingsworth Smith, Jr., Easley, South Carolina (B.A., November, 1944), was a member of the Lee Dinner Forum, the Freshman Wrestling Team, the Cotillion Club, and the Omicron Delta Kappa and Chi Gamma Theta fraternities. He was also President of the Sophomore Class and the Freshman Council.

Next issue, Tuesday, December 19

Shorter Classes Announced For Wednesday, Dec. 20

Of special interest to students is the decision of the faculty at its meeting last Monday, December 4, authorizing a shortening of class periods Wednesday, December 20, the final day before the Christmas recess. Beginning at 8:00 a.m., instead of the usual 8:25 a.m., class periods will be only 45 minutes duration. The final class period will end at 11:45 a.m. This action was taken in order to permit students to make earlier bus and train reservations.

The schedule will be as follows:

Block A—8:00-8:45

Block C—8:45-9:30

Block E—9:30-10:15

Block G—10:15-11:00

Block I—11:00-11:45

Dr. Gaines Silent On Rice Offer

Has Refused Positions At Cornell and Tulane

Dr. Francis Pendleton Gaines said Friday that any information concerning the report that Rice Institute, Houston, Texas, has tendered him an offer to become its president "quite naturally should come from Rice Institute," according to an article in the Saturday issue of the Richmond Times Dispatch. There has been no word from Rice as to Dr. Gaines' decision, the article continued.

Dr. Gaines could not be reached by this reporter for *The Columns*, since he was in New York at the time attending a meeting of the trustees of the Carnegie Foundation for World Peace.

Offers to become president of Tulane University, New Orleans, La., and of Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y., have been turned down by Dr. Gaines in the past.

Prominent in the State, Dr. Gaines is head of the Virginia State Planning Board, State chairman of the Virginia's War Finance Committee, and has been mentioned as a possible candidate for Governor under the banner of the educational forces. He is the thirteenth president of Washington and Lee, coming from the presidency of Wake Forest, in 1930, to accept his present position here.

Faculty Makes Known Plan Effective in Fall; Languages to Have Labs

The faculty of the University authorized important changes in the modern language courses and in the grading system of Washington and Lee, effective in September, 1945, at their meeting on Monday, December 4.

Beginning with the 1945-46 session, all students enrolled in modern language courses, including French, Spanish, and German, will be required to take two hours of laboratory work weekly in the language pursued, in addition to the three hours of class recitation. This will apply, however, only to the first year of the language for which credit is obtained at Washington and Lee, regardless of how advanced the course may be. For this extra work, which will consist of drills designed to improve mastery and comprehension of the language, the student will be given an additional semester hour of credit per semester.

Dr. Tucker, dean of the University, stated in making announcement of the change that it was an interesting reflection on college programs of the progressive language instruction methods used by the armed forces. Many schools throughout the country have already adopted the system.

Also effective next September, the grading system of the University will be changed as follows: A, 93-100; B, 84-92; C, 75-83; D, 65-74; E, 50-64; F, below 50.

C. Harold Lauck Praised In 'The American Printer'

The November issue of *The American Printer*, just published, contains an article about the work of C. Harold Lauck at the Journalism Laboratory Press, entitled "America's Baskerville Printer." The article was written by Richard N. McArthur of Atlanta and relates the story of how Mr. Lauck has won national recognition through the use of a single type face—Baskerville.

The cover of this particular issue was designed by Mr. Lauck and the type used is, naturally, Baskerville. It is in the traditional classic style, with italics used to give variation and just one small ornament. Already Mr. Lauck is receiving letters of congratulation from various parts of the country.

Wartime successor to The Ring-tum Phi

The Columns

Serving the University Community

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Tuesday, December 12, 1944

Back to Normalcy

REVERSION to the semester system and a regular summer school is but one indication that we have at least started on the road back to normalcy; make no mistake—it will be a very long time before conditions will even resemble those of 1939. But there are encouraging factors.

We were favorably impressed by the administration's statement that "the University is planning no great changes in academic programs but simply a restoration of pre-war programs." Not a few well-intentioned people look forward to the post-war period as an opportunity to try out radical changes, in education as well as in economics and politics. It is as it should be that Washington and Lee, with its heritage, should stick by those tried-and-true principles which have made it great. This is not to say that there are no changes whatsoever in order; far from it. We are not perfect; all of us see some conditions which are unfavorable (e.g., subsidized football), but in comparison those constitute details which, in time, will be worked out. The slow, sure process of change, within our group, is a sign of health. But in the broad scope of university activities we desire no great change.

Most of us here now are not familiar, first-hand, with the peace-time activities on the campus. We know of them only through old Washington and Lee men and through what remains of them at the present. But that which we do not know is more than sufficient to make us want a return to normalcy as soon as possible.

The small, liberal arts college, such as we are, has a primary function which is incompatible with war, a function something like that stated in Cardinal Newman's "Idea of a University" or in Woodrow Wilson's definition of a university. It will not be easy to forget the war, even long after it is over; this applies particularly to veterans who return from hard fighting overseas, to this campus. But the University is a place where they should forget the horrors of war and learn what peace has to bring.

Show Team Time

By "Bama"

Now playing at the State Sunday through Thursday is one of the greatest pictures of the year, **Since You Went Away** with Claudette Colbert and Jennifer Jones. This story of an American home and the trials which the war has brought to it bring to us, in a delightful picture, the typical American way that they are met and dealt with. **Since You Went Away** combines comedy and tragedy in a way that you will never forget. Shirley Temple and Monty Woolley turn in excellent performances along with a great supporting cast. Jennifer Jones—Academy Award winner—turns in a brilliant performance. **DON'T MISS.**

Radio's most beloved comedians, Lum and Abner, will be here in **Going to Town** on Friday and Saturday. Another in their line of good rich comedies. The usual story of the two philosophizing old gentlemen from Pine Ridge in a how-to-get-rich-quick plot that doesn't get rich. Even with the weak plot the pic should provide two hours of real relaxation. **SEE.**

Sunday and Monday and that—Oh! that woman—Marie Montez and Jon Hall (of the late fighting Halls) in **Gypsy Wildcat**. Photographed in Technicolor this pic provides good music, fair comedy. Hall and others thrown in for good measure. The story of a band of Gypsies in the "good old days" of about the 16th century, provides good music, fair comedy, and a new find to the movie world. For those of us who remember her others, **SEE.**

Announcement of the Week: Monday, December 18, Joan Fontaine and Arturo de Cordova in **Frenchman's Creek** will be the center of attraction. The War Bond Premier will begin at 8:30 and admission will be by bond only.

Time Schedule of the Week: Because of the length of **Since You Went Away**, there will only be two shows per day at the State. The matinee at three and the evening show at 8:30.

Tuesday and Wednesday. **Kid from Spain** with Eddie Cantor. We all know Cantor and his comedy from the radio and this pic presents possibilities of being good. **TRY IT.**

Another week at the Lyric and more Don't. Starting the week off Monday and Tuesday, Constance Moore and Bradford Taylor in **Atlantic City**. A not-too-good musical. Taking place before, during, and after the First World War. Story of a Broadway producer who loses his holdings after the First War and ends up with the girl responsible for getting them back for him. **DON'T.**

(Continued on page four)

Men About Town...

Fond farewells were in the offing this past weekend as the girls prepared to take advantage of their superior Christmas vacations and return to their homes. Southern Seminary and Radolph-Macon went all the way with Christmas formals, rare animals since the outbreak of war, and W&L sent several representatives to each of them. According to the testimony of one sleepy traveler who was shaken out of bed this morning soon after his return from Lynchburg in order to meet the deadline, the Methodists provided a very uneventful week-end, just another formal, but this might indicate that our source, one John Clarke, is attempting to hide something. His travelling companions, Jack Crowder, Bob Jones, and Bill Wilcox, were reportedly well behaved, although judging by Crowder's past there might be some room for doubt on that point.

Several taxis filled with our loyal men made the expedition to the Sem, and they have threatened the freedom of the press seriously by their predictions of the fate of any reporter who should happen to make too deep a study of their love life. Noted floating about the dance floor with members of the fair sex were Steve Edwards, Seaman Williams, Arthur Joseph, Bob Mosbacher, Bill Hart, Bill Davidson, Ray English, Bill Bernard, and Bernard Kaplan. Funkhouser, with all the appropriate flourishes, presented a locket to the lucky Miss Meredith. Said our silken haired hero, "I would send it to her later when it's closer to Christmas, but this is the last time I'll see her until after then, and I want to be present when she gets it to cash in on the dividends." So, that's what they teach them in Phi Eta Sigma! That dashing sheik of the Lambda Chi house, the unequaled "Junior" had trouble concentrating on his blind date when he was sure that Sue Hussar was devoting all of her charms toward vamping him.

All was quiet on the Lexington front with McMullen celebrating his birthday by appearing in the company of his roommate and two young ladies at the R.E. Lee, not to mention the four mammoth steaks. No other local activity has been reported, except Doswell and Lucy, and that affair has reached the minimum of three dates a week, thereby becoming commonplace.

Several other students dropped over to Hollins and Sweetbriar to bid their inamoratas adieu, with McNeil getting his baptism of fire at the Roanoke institution. In the meantime, Johnstone was spurning the invitation of the daughter of the Senator from Missouri to attend her Christmas formal. It is doubted, however, that Miss Bell shed many tears.

Additions to Alumni Casualties

The Alumni Office has recently received the following additions to the list of alumni who have been killed in action in the service of their Country:

Lt. Frederick Edwin Fisher, '43, Army Air Force, reported killed in action over Romania. As a P-51 Mustang pilot attached to the 15th Air Force, he was protecting bombers over the Ploesti oil fields last June and had shot down an enemy fighter when he ran out of gas.

Lt. George Horner Melville, Jr., '40, Naval Air Corps, killed in action in the Pacific area, December, 1944.

Jack Jay Dreyer, '45, Army Air Force, killed in action in American area, August 28, 1944.

Robert Lewis Jones, '39, Army Air Force, killed in action in Italy, November, 1944.

Lt. John T. Kibler, Jr., '45, Army Air Force, killed in action in Belgium, October 15, 1944.

Sport Sidelines

By Warren G. Merrin

Upsetting the dope sheets, the Lambda Chi basketball team took a one-point decision from the Phi Psi's on Friday afternoon to put themselves definitely in the running for the intramural championship after dropping an earlier encounter to their latest victims in their first meeting.

Close all the way, the lead fell into the hands of the Phi Psi's for a brief period during the close of the third quarter and the opening moments of the final quarter, but the victors staged a determined rally that could not be denied, and, just as the last whistle blew, Bernard fouled Joseph who climaxed his brilliant individual performance by dropping through the deciding free throw without touching the rim after the actual playing time had expired.

Little Billy Doswell was again the Phi Psi sparkplug, leading the

scoring of his team and driving his comrades on to greater effort. The most outstanding feature of his play was the way in which he overcame the disadvantage of his lack of altitude to be the dominant figure underneath the basket.

Southern Conference Meeting

Meeting in Greensboro, North Carolina, the Southern Conference passed some rather pleasing rules concerning eligibility that should make such accusations as those we have heard made about such schools as William and Mary, both before and after Carl Voyle's pirating players, out of the question.

The conference will no longer permit the transfer of civilians

from one school to another. However, the allowance of four additional years of eligibility to V-12 participants dating from the time of discharge adds an alarming note. This is another tendency to
(Continued on page four)

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Sport Sidelines

(Continued from page three)

place the game on a professional basis. The participants will no longer be college students playing football to add recreation to their undergraduate careers, but merely hired hands staying in school after graduation to pick up extra money by playing.

8 more days til Christmas holidays

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A UNIVERSAL PICTURE 1F

W&L Host to Prep Schools

Washington and Lee University was host to the planning committee of the Southern Area Preparatory School Conference, held here on December 9. Thirty representatives from leading preparatory schools in the Virginia-Carolina-West Virginia region attended.

The purpose of the conference was to assist in the development of the student Christian association movement in preparatory schools. Also plans were made for the regular annual meeting of the conference to be held in February. Capt. George M. McGuire of the Greenbrier Military School, was chairman of the conference.

Dr. Walter A. Flick, Professor of Psychology and Education at the University, and a member of the National Preparatory School Committee, was a special guest.

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Show Team Time

(Continued from page two)

On Wednesday, Buster Crabbe and Arline Judge in **The Contender**. Pic deals with a father's love for a son who wants to go to military school. Father quits job (driving truck) to go into the ring. DON'T.

Robert Paige and Louise Allbritton in **Her Primitive Man** on Thursday. The story is thin, and despite the fine staging, stretches at times to the breaking point. DON'T.

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