


1930

UA68/6/2 Dreamer, Designer & Builder

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Congress Debating Club

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Recommended Citation

Hays, Franklin P., "UA68/6/2 Dreamer, Designer & Builder" (1930). *Student Organizations*. Paper 73.
http://digitalcommons.wku.edu/stu_org/73

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Dreamer, Designer and Builder.

by

Frank P. Hays.

cherry

Sixty-five years ago there was a boy born in Warren County, Kentucky. His early life was that of the typical backwoodsman, a conqueror of the wilderness, a tiller of the soil. Nature was harsh and demanded a vast expenditure of labor for the returns received. In fact many times Nature seemed to be the master.

Some men said that he was handicapped. But no handicap could thwart that son of Nature, for he was a dreamer. That honest toil served as a purifying fire wherein all poison was burnt up. As he followed the plow, he was dreaming, he was seeing into the future and ever becoming more and more convinced that a man should not be trodden under foot by his fellowmen nor by the powers of Nature. Trees, fields, ~~and~~ streams and flowers all told him to strive forward and upward in order that he might be the means of unloosing the shackles of ignorance from his fellowmen. Handicapped--no--there was within his breast a surging power which stimulated him to work as few men have ever worked for an education. But during the development he never lost his sympathetic nature nor bartered his honor. Handicapped--no--those dreams did not end within themselves. Though cast in an unfavorable environment according to the beliefs of many people it was that rugged life which grounded into his very being the stamina and endurance necessary for success. Plans were designed for the carrying of the visionary into execution. They were accurate practical and optimistic and were outlined to cover a period of many years; they could be fulfilled, for they were the

natural development of worthwhile dreams.

The third and final step in an integrated process is the building into visible form the designs and dreams. Whether it be (buildings) edifices or human character that is to be shapened it requires always dynamic energy to build that which will endure.

Everything of essential value in the world has resulted from someone dreaming, designing, and building. A beautiful masterpiece of art is not accidental nor did it result from one single process. Often the steps in production have been apportioned among different individuals. Although they may be experts in their separate fields, the best final result can be accomplished only when one individual has the directing hand in the entire process. Often we fail to appreciate the importance of the individual. However, it is only through the channel of individuality that new thought and new art can come into the world. "If I see nothing to admire in a unit," said Emerson, "shall I admire a million units?"

Interesting facts concerning this institution have been related to you. Something of its history, its work, and its worth have been told. But it is the personality behind all this who is the most interesting. It is he who possesses in the correct proportions both a subjective and an objective personality. This morning we direct our attention and our respect to the individual who had the power of conception and the power of execution, to the ~~man~~ one who has developed College Heights into a thing of beauty and a joy forever. To the one who has stood by his institution in times of financial distress, as well as, in times of prosperity, praise and success. Thousands of our young men

and women, trained for the job of good citizenship in this institution will, by their lives, and deeds transform many of our backward communities into progressive ones. Trained right themselves, it will be their ideal and privilege to inculcate methods for right thinking among boys and girls who must some day carry on the work of our country. Thus College Heights, the spirit of the Hill, and purposeful lives, today and tomorrow ~~xxx~~ through uncounted generations become monuments to that forward looking Kentuckyan--the fertile dreamer, that designer, of the beautiful, and that builder of more stately mansions, Our President H. H. Cherry.