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## The Ursinus Weekly, February 25, 1929

C. Richard Snyder  
*Ursinus College*

Malcolm E. Barr  
*Ursinus College*

Mary Oberlin  
*Ursinus College*

George Leslie Omwake  
*Ursinus College*

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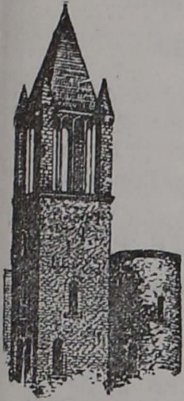
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**The Tower Window**



**C**RITICISM of education in America has been for some years a favorite indoor sport. It is a sport that both the critics and the public enter into with enjoyment. Otherwise the barrage would not keep up. The magazine that can announce a leading article on some educational topic occupies a prominent place on the news stand. Likewise the speaker that makes a sensational attack on the schools gets a good headline in next morning's paper.

Much of this popular criticism is without basis in actual fact and does little harm; other attacks are based on half-truths and are laden with mischief, while an increasing amount of discussion is by informed and penetrating critics and has constructive value. A state of healthy discontent on the part of educators themselves presages progress and better days ahead.

It is hardly fair to take statements out of their context, but at the risk of falling short in presenting their full meaning, I cull from recent writings a few extracts from men who are qualified to speak with authority. These shafts at our schools and colleges should give us pause.

Nicholas Murray Butler: "The ability to read has well-nigh disappeared if the reading be serious, instructive or ennobling; the ability to write, so far as it exists at all, delights to manifest itself in forms of exceptional crudeness and vulgarity; the ability to perform the simplest mathematical operations is, to all intents and purposes, confined to teachers of mathematics or to specialists in that subject."

Henry S. Pritchett: "The striking characteristic of our schools under the process of enrichment of the curriculum is superficially coupled with tremendously rising cost. Education in the elementary schools, instead of meaning a thorough grounding in fundamentals, means a smattering of many things, some of them mediocre and trivial. Intellectual discipline has been notably weakened, and the school system has come to be looked upon as the door by which every boy and girl is to enter into some kind of calling that may afford the means of making a living."

W. H. P. Faunce: "We have in America the largest public school system on earth, the most expensive campuses and college buildings, the most extensive curriculum. But nowhere else is education so pointless and aimless, so blind to its objectives, so indifferent to any specific outcome as in America."

Dean William M. Thornton of the University of Virginia, addressing the graduates, urged them "to restore the old predominance of standards of thoroughness and usefulness in the schools, to limit the field of study to the basic necessities of the literate human being, and to remember that in the schools, boys and girls should be taught not to choose but to obey."

Up until the last decade or two, the institutions of higher learning were influential in shaping high school curricula. The latter accepted the admission requirements of the colleges as standards for secondary school work. Then came the expansion of high schools with the aim of providing training for all youth. So "preparation for life" rather than "preparation for college" became the watchword of the secondary school leaders. The movement toward "vocational studies" received additional impetus because school boards and the tax-paying public responded more freely to this appeal than to that of the more cultural studies. On the "bread-winning" plea money for buildings and equipment could be gotten where on the traditional basis it could not. This has not had a good effect on education and has occasioned in large measure, the criticisms of the kind cited above.

There are indications, that a better understanding of the real aims of education is coming to prevail. Perhaps at length, the schools will come again to the position of President Eliot of Harvard a quarter century ago, namely, that "the best preparation for college is also the best preparation for life," especially since preparation for college has become somewhat broadened in the meantime.

Superficiality in school work could be overcome if the studies were to be arranged in groups of not more than six or eight subjects in a group, and

every pupil should be required to keep within his group for the entire high school period.

Intellectual achievement in the mastery of a few subjects is better than a scatter-brained attempt to learn a little of many subjects. G. L. O.

**WITH THE WITS**

An egg was found the other morning that had two yolks. We believe that hen must have been leading a double life.

Frosh—I know you.  
Soph—Who am I?  
Frosh—Nobody!

The meanest man in the world is the "guy" who takes his girl friend to dinner at the town's best cafe, then to an expensive play, and spends the intermission figuring the evening's expenditure on the back of his program.

A dear old lady was late at Church and entered as the congregation was rising to sing.  
"Dear me," she said with a smile, "don't get up on my account."

We heard the glee club boys had a good time in the coal regions. From all reports they visited more "places" than were on the schedule of events.

"And all the people said"—?

But then, if you can't be good, make a good job of it.

**Notice to Freshmen!**

Don't put your cocoa out on the dining hall roof to keep cool. It may not be there when you want it, as some very enterprising and wiser freshman know?

An irate father once said, "Daughter, I don't mind that sap coming to see you, and I don't care how long he stays, but I do object to his carrying out the morning paper with him as he leaves."

Frosh—Isn't that hair tonic in that green bottle?  
Soph—No that's mucilage.  
Frosh—I guess that's why I can't get my dink off!

Speaking of professors, who originated the expression, "a happy faculty?"

We once knew a man who returned a dictionary because it had no index.

"What are you scratching your head for?"  
"I'm looking for an inspiration."  
"Gee that's a new name for 'em."

We often wondered why they didn't play cards on Noah's ark; but then we concluded, it was because the elephant sat on the deck.

Even in the Biblical days it was customary to anoint the head with oil, but not by crawling under an automobile."



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BEARS BOW TO ANCIENT RIVALS ON THE COURT

(Continued from page 1)

Table with columns: Name, Fd.G., Fl.G., Fl.T., Pts. Lists scores for Ursinus vs Swarthmore.

Table with columns: Name, Fd.G., Fl.G., Fl.T., Pts. Lists scores for Ursinus vs Delaware.

Table with columns: Name, Fd.G., Fl.G., Fl.T., Pts. Lists scores for Ursinus vs Drexel.

Table with columns: Name, Fd.G., Fl.G., Fl.T., Pts. Lists scores for Ursinus vs Webster Forensic Club.

COEDS LOSE FIRST TO DREXEL

(Continued from page 1)

though Swarthmore recently lost a game for the first time in four years, the game will be nevertheless exciting.

Collegeville Coeds met defeat at the hands of the Drexel Damsels when they played at Philadelphia on Tuesday, February 19. It was a hard fought game which ended 29-26 in favor of the Drexel girls.

From the start the fracas was fast and furious and the Ursinus Shebas fought valiantly, but the Philadelphia lassies proved too much for them this time. Half time found the "Dragonettes" leading 22-14, but during the last few minutes of play, Ursinus rallied spurred on by the cheers of the spectators Fate was against them and the opposition was too great to overcome.

This marks the first defeat of the basketball season, for under the capable captaincy of Olive Sargeant, the team has been very successful and has every indication of continuing in that direction.

Line-up: Ursinus Drexel. Lists players and scores for Ursinus vs Drexel.

WEBSTER FORENSIC CLUB

Another intra-club debate featured the meeting of the Webster Forensic Club on Tuesday, February 19. The question for debate was "Resolved, that upper-classmen at Ursinus be allowed to carry twelve hours of class work per semester."

The question, although obviously involving many interesting points, seemed to have been rather unfortunately stated. There was, however, a stimulating clash of opinions as to whether extensive or intensive collegiate education is preferable.

In his criticism Mr. Carter pointed out what seemed to be the defects in the statement of the question, sug-

MEN'S GLEE CLUB PRESENTS

CONCERTS IN COAL REGION (Continued from page 1)

Church. In the afternoon a group of numbers was sung by the Club at the Frackville High School. The rest of the afternoon was spent by most of the members in making a careful and detailed examination of the Mahanoy Plane. In the evening the last concert of the tour was given in St. Peter's Church, the Rev. Adam E. Shellhase, '18, pastor, after which the Club bussed back to College. This concert was sponsored by Walter Scheirer under the auspices of the Ladies' Bible Class.

Enough credit cannot be given to the director of the Glee Club, Miss Jeannette Douglas Hartenstine, whose ability, skill and patience made possible the success of the tour. Credit is due to the soloists whose numbers formed one of the most popular features of the concerts. These were: William Saalman '29, Walter B. Scheirer '29, Paul R. Wagner '32, and the quartet whose members were Scott Covert '32, Walter Scheirer '29, Albert Thompson '31, and William Saalman '29. Finally, credit must be given to the faithful accompanists, C. Richard Snyder '29, and R. R. Miller '32.

The concerts were all well attended and the various expressions of pleasure and appreciation from the audiences indicate the excellence of the Glee Club's performance. The program follows:

- 1. Chorus of Peers" (Iolanthe) Sullivan
"The Blind Ploughman" Clarke
"Winter Song" Bullard
The Glee Club
2. "Scherzo" Opus 16, No. 2 Mendelssohn
Paul Wagner, Pianist
3. "Where'er You Walk" (Semele) Handel
"Song of The Marching Men" (New Earth) Hadley
"John Peel" (Old English Hunting Song) Andrews
Glee Club
4. "The Nomad" Hamblen
"The Clank of the Foeman's Steel" De Lazarre
William Saalman, Basso
5. "Who Sails With Drake" Candish
"Fireflies"
"At Father's Door"
Russian Folk Songs
"The Mulligan Musketeers" Atkinson
Glee Club
6. "Gypsy Trail" Galloway
Quartette
Scott Covert Albert Thompson
Walter Scheirer William Saalman
Robert Miller, at the piano
7. "A Song of Steel" Spross
"Song of the Jolly Roger"
"Land of Hope and Glory" Elgar
Glee Club
8. Canzonetta" d'Ambrosio
Walter Scheirer, Violinist
9. "Prayer of Thanksgiving"
Netherland Folk Song
"Pilgrim's Chorus (Tannhauser) Wagner
The Bells of St Mary's
"Recognition of Land" Grieg
Glee Club
Campus Song .. Ursinus College
C. Richard Snyder, Accompanist

WOMEN'S GLEE CLUB

SINGS IN YORK, PENNA. (Continued from page 1)

- Evelyn Glazier Anna Uhrich
Rosa Trout
"Boats of Mine" Miller
"Morning" Speaks
"The Harp of Winds" Spross
"The Three Cavaliers" Dragomsko
Soloists—Mary Conety, Roberta Frantz, Marion Kepler
Glee Club
Reading
Catherine Clarke
"Japanese Love Song" (in costume) Thomas
Ada Miller, Soloist
Margaret Strevig Helen Dealy
"Spanish Dance" Moszkoski
Alberta Jacobs Elizabeth Yeates
"How Summer Came" Clokey
"Blue Danube Waltz" Strauss
"Campus Song"
Glee Club

ALUMNI NOTES

Chester Robbins, '13 is superintendent of schools at Bridgeton, N. J. Robert Rensch, '24, is teacher of Social Science and athletic coach at the Bridgeton School. Helen Johnson, '25 is teaching Mathematics and Elizabeth Smith '27 French in the Bridgeton public schools.

"ST. ELMO" TO BE PRESENTED

FOR BENEFIT OF 1930 RUBY (Continued from page 1)

Hammond is killed in the encounter which ensues. Little Edna Earle, the granddaughter of the village blacksmith, witnesses the fight. St. Elmo, embittered, roams the world.

When St. Elmo returns the first person he sees is Edna, as an orphan firmly established in his home with his mother. He attempts unsuccessfully to have her put out. "Get rid of her," he says. "She is a woman and she is not to be trusted." He trusts no woman. So he plans to test her by leaving with her the key to Taj Mahal, a miniature temple among his oriental curios, in which he has the secret of his love tragedy. Then he watches her.

One night he sees Edna standing before the temple trying to fit the key into the lock. He is convinced that she has broken her promise, and goes away. But she didn't.

When he left he charged the lock with gunpowder so that he would know if she had opened it. When he returns he accuses her of having violated her promise. He opens the door of the little temple. There is an explosion, the proof of Edna's innocence. Then he is contrite. To her he says:

"I want to atone for my sins and be worthy of a good woman's love." "I believe you, dear," she replies. The role of St. Elmo Thornton is played cleverly by John Gilbert. Barbara La Marr plays the faithless fiancee with her usual fervor and her well known artistry.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS CLUB ORGANIZED

Thursday evening a group of twenty people met to organize a club in which national and international questions can be discussed. Rumors of such an organization, long afloat, are now to materialize in the formation of an International Relations Club to be affiliated with the national organization. Dr. White spoke of the activities of such organizations as she has known them. "Randy" Helfrich was elected temporary chairman. He appointed a committee to draw up a constitution which will be submitted to the faculty for recognition and approval. Discussion for the first few programs will be based upon the eighth Pan-American Conference recently held at Havana. Most of the meetings will be of the round table type it is hoped. An effort will be made to secure men prominent in the international field to speak and head discussion at different times. If it is possible the club expects to send delegates to conventions of the national organization which receives a great deal of backing from the Carnegie Foundation.

Membership in the club will not be limited and it is hoped the student body will give this new organization its most hearty support.

COLLEGE BROADCASTING INCREASING IN COUNTRY

Radio is rapidly gaining recognition in the colleges, both as a medium for broadcasting college activities and as a course of study for those who wish to make it their life work. Many of the larger stations are employing only college men in the capacity of announcer or director—men who have had microphone experience.

There are now sixty-three college radio stations in the United States. This is particularly remarkable, since it must be remembered that radio as a college institution is comparatively new. The colleges broadcast lectures, educational talks, talent recruited from the student body, etc. Some of the schools have large and beautiful studios with a staff of artists equal to any commercial station.

College Humor magazine has arranged, with the co-operation of one thousand or more colleges throughout the United States and Canada, a service called Collegeiate New Flashes, being a digest of all the college news of national import. The news flashes feature oddities in the news, such as the heaviest man in the United States playing football, or a student who has never received less than an "A" in any college study, or important medical discoveries by some professor, or unusual housing conditions, fraternity and sorority news, legislative moves that bear on scholastic matters, news about enrollments, athletics, etc. —The Targum.

If Pullman porters really want to abolish tipping, all they have to do is to take a decided stand on the matter; we can assure them of plenty of backing.—St. Joseph News-Press.

Intercollegiate Comment

One thousand years from now, Princeton University will have billions of dollars with which to improve its facilities. An alumnus has deposited in a bank \$100, which is to be compounded annually for a thousand years. The bank computes that five hundred years from now the fund will be more than \$9,000,000,000. No further calculations have been attempted.

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