# The Howard University Record

Volume 15 | Issue 4

Article 1

1920

HU Record, Vol 15, No. 4

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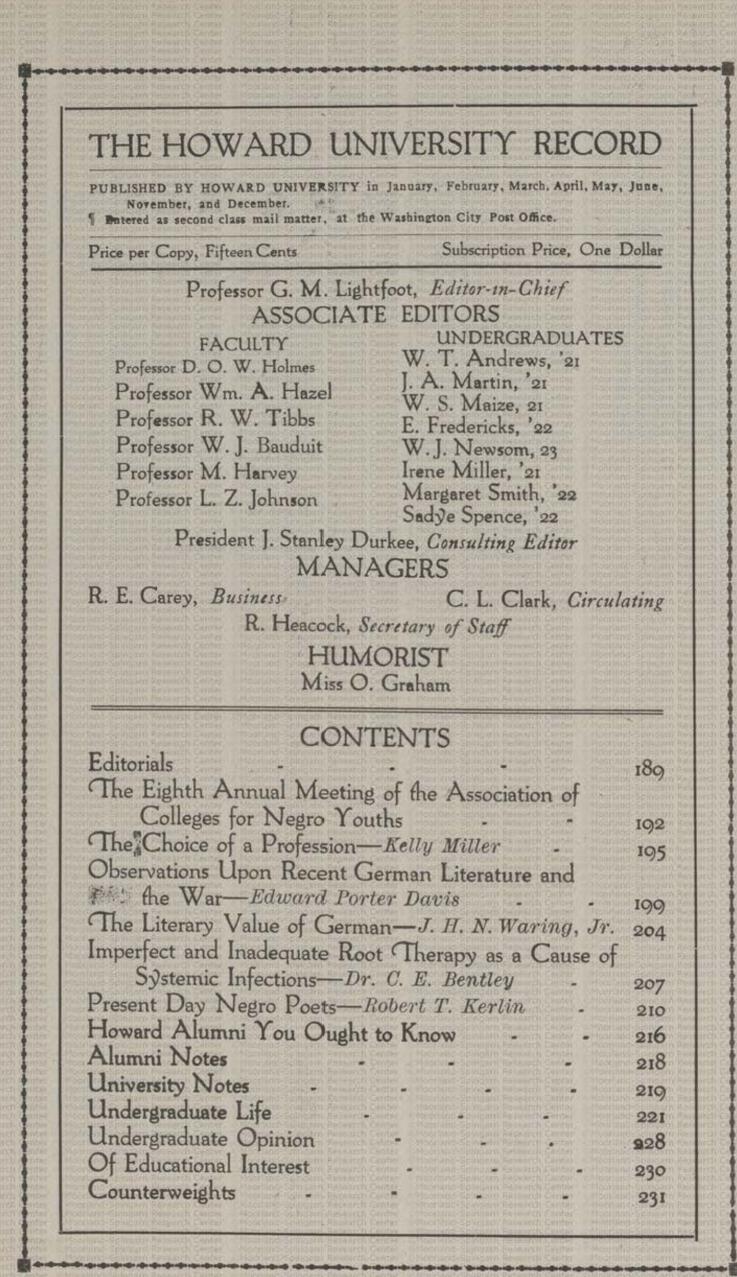
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(1920) "HU Record, Vol 15, No. 4," *The Howard University Record*: Vol. 15: Iss. 4, Article 1. Available at: https://dh.howard.edu/hurecord/vol15/iss4/1

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OR the week beginning Monday, January 21st, the Reverend Mordecai Johnson of Charleston, West Virginia, became the "College Pastor" of Howard University and in that capacity delivered addresses at the chapel hour on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.

On Thursday, the Day of Prayer for Colleges, Mr. Johnson preached the regular sermon for that occasion to a capacity audience of faculty, students, and friends of the University. In addition to



Rev. Mordecai Johnson

these efforts, he held with the undergraduates, during the week group and individual conferences which were of adecidedly inspirational character.

Mr. Johnson's activities were di tinctively impressive and resulted in a quickening of the serious side and the religious earnestness of University life.

His address indicated a deep insight into the vital social problems which confront us in the present day civilization as well as an abiding faith in the true Christian spirit as the most potent factor in the solution of these problems. In all of

these discussions the speaker showed that he possessed not only the power of penetrating analysis, but that of vivid presentation as well.

In the March issue of the RECORD, a more extended account will be published of his week of activities at the University.

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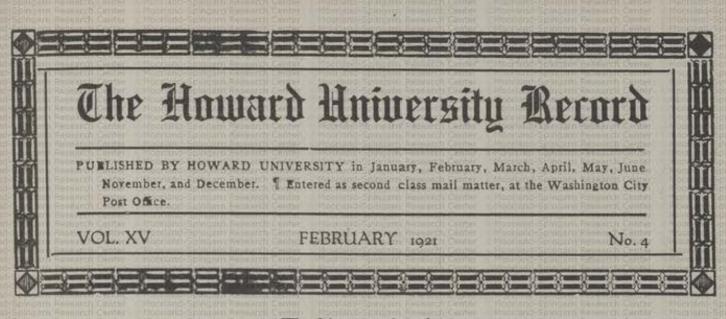
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# Editorials

THE WINTER QUARTER.

WITH students from practically every state in the Union and ten foreign countries enrolled, Howard University opened the Winter Quarter January 4, 1921, with a record-breaking registration. The large enrollment during the Autumn Quarter indicated a tidal wave of educational interest. This was traceable to two causes. In the first place, the war had ended and students who had dropped their books to take up arms were returning to complete their education; and in the second place, the experiences of the war had taught them the full value of training as nothing else could have done. As a result, many returned to the school room to resume their studies where they had been left off years before.

It is surprising, but gratifying, to find that this interest in education has not spent itself, but has proved to be more healthy and permanent than was anticipated. The enrollment at Howard shows an increase in every department over that of 1919. The enrollment follows:

College and Graduate Schools	. 878
School of Law	- / / -
School of Religion (including those taking certificate courses)	. 232
Schools of Medicine, Dentistry, and Pharmacy	. 459
Concerne Contract Centres	foor and Spin
Total enrollment	.1730
Night College Classes	. 45
A MASTAL CONCECT CONSTRUCTION AND CONTRACT OF THE STRUCTURE S	portand-Spin

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When it is remembered that Howard University has discontinued entirely all preparatory work and is now open only to students able to qualify for collegiate and professional courses, its record of attendance is an entirely new thing in the world of Negro education and is of definitely significant import.

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# THE SEMESTER VERSUS THE QUARTER SYSTEM.

THIS question considers whether a student will acquire more of a subject in a definite number of hours, when these hours are extended over eighteen weeks, or when the work is more intensive, and the time limited to twelve weeks. The question is an important one, and has well established facts upon which a judgment may be based.

In favor of the quarter system is the fact that, in turning from one study to another, some time is lost in getting attention concentrated upon the new subject. If it takes five minutes to really get down to work on the new subject, these five minutes each time will accumulate very rapidly, and soon make a formidable amount of time that could be saved by continuing with the one study. Carrying-along five studies instead of three would mean a loss of not two-fifths of the warming-up time, but yet a considerable amount of time through this changing of attention. Where research work is done, as in the case of a student doing graduate work, this factor becomes much more important. The time taken to secure reference books, to look up authorities, etc., is far from negligible; and when that is devoted to five instead of three studies, carried along at the same time, the difference is a matter of considerable moment.

On the other side of the question, it is well established now that for memory work more can be learned in the same number of minutes or hours, when the material is spread over several years, than when confined to one or two days. This time factor any one can establish for himself first hand. In learning a piece of poetry or prose he will find that he can accomplish more by taking ten minutes a day for two weeks than by taking twenty minutes a day for one week. The writer has noticed that he does not learn the names of the students in his classes as easily under the quarter system as under the semester system; that is, it takes more recitations to get them in hand.

Again, the time factor is involved in the plateaus which occur in many kinds of learning. In learning a language or telegraphy, for examples, especially that part of them where the thought is expressed by another and received by the learner, while at first rapid progress may be made, a point will by and by be reached where progress will be slower or there may be no apparent progress at all. The curve for speaking or sending goes far ahead of that for receiving. But after a lapse of time, if there is sufficient persistence, the ability to receive takes on a rapid improvement. It gains on the ability to speak or send, and its curve may later cross that of the other. Time is needed for assimilating, co-ordinating, and getting control of situations. Professor James said that we learn to skate in summer, and learn to swim in winter. In learning to ride a bicycle, or in any such activity, where unconscious adjustments are to be made, more will be accomplished in the same number of hours spread

over a considerable length of time, than when crowded into a short space of time.

In such a subject as mathematics, too, time for absorbing and getting perfectly familiar with the material is an item to be considered. Learning off so many propositions in geometry is one thing; having a practical use of them so as to be able to apply them in solving a new problem is another. To get such a command of them requires more time than is always given to the student. It is a question worthy of serious consideration whether it would not be better in the High School to have the usual year's work in Algebra, and in Geometry both spread over over the first two years, rather than the method usually followed of having all the Algebra given in the first year and all of the Geometry in the second. But whether that is true or not, it is certain that the average student requires that the ordinary branches of study be extended over a considerable period of time, if he is to get a permanent and practical grasp of them.

McL. H.



THE EIGHTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION OF COL-LEGES FOR NEGRO YOUTH, HELD AT FISK UNIVERSITY, NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE, DECEMBER 17th, 18th, 1920.

THE eighth annual meeting of the Association of Colleges for Negro Youth was held at Fisk University, Nashville, Tennessee, December 17th and 18th, 1920. The following representatives were present: College Represented Representative

Atlanta University.....J. P. Whittaker, Principal Academy.

Benedict College.....B. W. Valentine, President.

Bishop College ..... C. H. Maxson, President.

Fisk University......F. A. McKenzie, President.

Howard University.....D. O. W. Holmes, Dean of the School of Education.

Knoxville College.....J, Kelly Griffin, President, and H. M. Telford, Dean.

Morehouse College.....S. H. Archer, Dean.

Shaw University.....J. L. Peacock, President.

Talladega College......Wm. J. Clark, President.

Virginia Union Univ....J. T. Cater, Dean.

Wilberforce University...G. H. Jones, Dean.

The first session was called to order at 10 A. M. in the office of the President by President Maxson of Bishop College, as Acting President of the Association in place of President Brawley, withdrawn because of the severance of his connection with Morehouse College and hence with the Association.

After the usual felicitations, the following topical outline was adopted as an aid in directing the procedure:

- 1. Reports of committees.
- Reports of representatives of the Association who have visited the colleges applying for admission.
- 3. Consideration of these colleges.
- 4. Consideration of some details of school administration:
  - Possibility of combination courses between our colleges and professional schools.
  - b. A co-operative scheme for securing desirable lectures, concerts, motion pictures, etc.
  - c. Discussion of form and content of college and secondary courses.
  - d. Possibility of separate courses for men and women aside from agriculture and manual training courses.
  - e. Suggestive methods to keep candidates for degrees from failing just before graduation.

- f. Discussion of intercollegiate athletics and debating with especial consideration to lengthy stay of visitors, gambling, etc.
- 5. Future program of the Association:
  - a. Shall we make a more extended survey and study of High Schools for Negroes?
  - b. Shall we ally ourselves as an Association more definitely with the National Association of Teachers of Colored Schools, holding possibly a summer meeting in conjunction with the Association?
  - c. Shall we examine ourselves to find out whether we are progressing with reasonable speed to the goal of becoming standard colleges?
  - d. Shall we as a body ask for recognition from rating associations?

The first important question and one whose solution in effect determined the nature of the Association was raised when the exact definition of the standards of admission were taken up for consideration. After considerable discussion it developed as the unanimous opinion of the body that membership in the Association should be a guarantee that standard requirements have been fulfilled and that the Association should occupy a position similar to the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools, the Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools of the Middle States and Maryland and similar bodies so that in a short time it may have the same standing in the academic world as these organizations. A committee was appointed to modify our requirements for admission with these ideals in mind. Although a number of colleges seeking admission had been visited by representatives of the Association, no new members were admitted to the Association at this session.

Passing to the fourth topic of the outline, namely, "Consideration of some details of school administration," it is necessary to make only a brief comment except with reference to "f".

a. The matter of combination courses between different institutions with the object of shortening the total time for obtaining both an academic and a professional degree was discussed, but no action taken, since such an agreement must of necessity be left with the schools concerned.

b. The question of co-operative schemes for procuring concerts, lectures and motion pictures being raised, the representative of each institution told, for the benefit of the others, what was being done in that direction in his school. The final impression was that practically nothing of a co-operative nature is now in operation.

c. The discussion of form and content of college and secondary courses was involved in other discussions and did not form a separate topic.

# There was no discussion of topics "d" and "e".

Section "f," concerning intercollegiate athletics and debating, brought forth an animated and extended expression of opinion. The general feeling seemed to be that intercollegiate athletics are threatening very seriously the maintenance of discipline and the scholastic standards in a number of our colleges and are to that extent a menace. The dangers mentioned seemed to be corollary to several practices in connection with athletics. Those most prominently mentioned are absences from class during trips away from home, the professional spirit particularly found in baseball and in the professional coach for football, traveling on Sunday, the management of finances, gambling among the students and sympathizers, rowdyism at the games themselves and the holding of receptions in honor of the visiting team on the evening of the game. These objections seemed general. The representative of Howard University, where athletics is carried on to a much larger extent than in any of the schools of the Association, explained that there the management of all games is entirely in the hands of the officers of the University, that the schedule is arranged by the Physical Department, that rowdyism at games is practically unknown and that the reception held by students for the visiting team has been considered one of the attractive features in connection with intercollegiate athletics. He made it clear that we at Howard condemn gambling in no uncertain terms and that we do all that we can to discourage it.

The Association finally passed a vote condemning professionalism, gambling and the over-emphasis of athletics and endorsing an eligibility requirement, a schedule limiting each sport to six games, a restriction upon the number of days during which a student may be absent because of out-of-town games. The impression gained from this discussion was that in most of the colleges of the Association, athletics and the things that go with athletics have reached the stage where a more definite control by the college is needed. The evils mentioned may always be looked for when the thing has grown too large for the students, but has not yet been taken hold of by the authorities.

The question of fraternities, although not scheduled as a topic for discussion, was raised and considered at length. Considerable difference of opinion was expressed as to the desirability of such organizations in our colleges. These views varied from high endorsement to complete condemnation. It was deemed wise, however, to take no action on this subject, since, after all, each institution must handle this question in accordance with its own traditions and ideals. It should be mentioned here that the representative of Howard University expressed it as the general opinion of the faculty, after a number of years of experience with fraternities, both local and intercollegiate, that these organizations have not

affected the life of the college unfavorably, but, to the contrary, have rather exerted a distinct influence for good.

With reference to No. 5 of the outline, it is necessary to report that the Executive Committee of the Association was instructed to take under advisement the whole matter of accrediting secondary schools with a view of working out a comprehensive scheme for the performance of this most important task.

Consideration of sub-topic "b" under 5 brought out the almost unanimous opinion that this Association should more definitely co-operate with the National Association of Teachers in Colored Schools and that to this end we should arrange to meet with them in their summer session to be held at Muskogee, Oklahoma, during the month of September. Last year that body held its annual meeting in the city of Baltimore.

As a whole, the conference was very valuable because of the interchange of experiences and opinions and for the opportunity offered each of the representatives of appreciating the problems of the others and thereby understanding better the relation of his institution to the whole situation. It is only through such co-operation and exchange of opinion that many of the tangles involved in our peculiar system of schools can be unraveled. This Association should be the means of raising the standard of instruction throughout the entire group of colleges with which we are related. Quite as valuable is the movement toward the affiliation with the National Association of Teachers in Colored Schools. Through this relationship the best colleges of the country will be able to meet with those persons who direct the destinies of Negro education throughout the South and thereby exert the influence which by right of seniority belongs to them.

# THE CHOICE OF A PROFESSION. (Continued from last issue.)

THE remainder of this essay will be limited to youth of college preparation and purpose. It is to be assumed that those who for any reason fall short of this standard of acquirement will be forced by circumstances into manual vocations with immediate material reward.

The money motive is perhaps the strongest incentive which stimulates human endeavor. The ordinary man requires money for creature comforts to meet the prevailing standards of decent living; the benevolent acquire it as an instrument of social welfare; the self-indulgent covet it to promote their own ease and leisure and to insure social prestige; the ambitious accuraulate it to gratify their genius for enterprise and instinct for achievement; the miser revels in the unalloyed satisfaction of hoarding it. The dollar is deemed the highest common divisor of values. In terms of this standard we are wont to measure all things

material and immaterial. The final word concerning any human production is, "What is it worth?" The prize fighter, the baseball player. the poet, the preacher are quoted at a price in the market place. The whole world bows down and worships at the shrine of the almighty dollar. It must be conceded that money is mighty, albeit, not almighty. There are many values which are beyond price. The highest human reward consists in honor, esteem, and good will among men. No one has ever gained the highest level of contemporaneous or permanent esteem whose dominant motive was the love of gain. What amount of things material could compensate Moses or Darwin or Abraham Lincoln for their services to mankind? The choicest spirits have always professed to look upon the pursuit of wealth with a certain degree of disdain. That the love of money is the root of all evil expresses a general feeling which may be found under the various forms of statement among all languages and peoples. This motto is universally extolled as a doctrine, but discredited in deed. That profession is always better than practice is a sure guarantee of human progress. "Take no heed of what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink or where withal ye shall be clothed," is deemed an amiable maxim with idealistic intent, but too ethereal for practical import or sanction. How to break the power of the money motive without paralyzing the nerve of endeavor is still a consummation devoutly to be wished.

The chief energies of the human race are today engaged in some form of accumulation and distribution of wealth. No longer can the industrial welfare of society be relegated to men of untrained minds or selfish spirit. It demands the highest general culture and specific training. The best equipped in head and heart may well enter upon this pursuit without apology and without reproach. The young man who has a keen money sense and who is obsessed with the desire to exploit material values, may well enter upon the money-making pursuit as a field for the fulfillment of his desires and the exertion of his powers. Nor should he feel that his motives are base or his work unworthy. At best there is a mixture of motives on the part of those who must perforce choose a field of work. The laborer is worthy of his hire, whatever the field of his service may be. But in any field, the college man places a low estimate upon his services if he considers his hire the full and adequate measure of his work and of worth. The young man who enters the ministry for stipend, law or medicine for fees, or teaching for salary enters upon these pursuits unworthily. The world engages to furnish a comfortable living, while the high-minded worker renders service which money cannot buy. Merchandise in wisdom is still considered better than merchandise in silver and gold.

The time when the choice of a profession should be made is subject to the widest margin of variability. Much depends upon circumstances,

good or ill fortune and the personal equation. Social custom has adopted the age of twenty-one as that of responsibility and independent action. But there is nothing sacred about this criterion. In some the judgment is premature, in others it is belated. The pinch of circumstances may force a decision without waiting for reasoned considerations and deliberate judgment. The individual is sometimes rushed into his field of work by circumstances over which he has little or no control. The poet, Horace, tells us that bold poverty drove him to writing verses.

The psychologists tell us that the period of adolescence has an extreme range, in different individuals, from eighteen to twenty-four years of age. At this stage the nature is in a state of unstable equilibrium; the behavior is as capricious as a mathematical curve at a critical point; like a pyramid, on its apex life may be tuned in any direction by the slightest impressment of force. The "psychological moment" has become a rather trite and well worn phrase. There is doubtless such a period of greater or less duration in the experience of every individual. But unfortunately both for the individual and for society we are too often unaware of its time of arrival or length of duration. This illusive instant flits like the transit of a star across the meridian. This "psychological moment" possesses supreme pedagogical significance. At such a time, the maximum effect can be produced with the minimum of effort. We are wont to waste our strength in pounding cold metal instead of striking the iron while it is hot. When the axeman has cut through the trunk to the last chip, the passing gust causes the downfall of the mighty oak which for ages has withstood the fury of the storm. The stored up potential energy is suddenly transmuted into dynamic force. The observed effect transcends the apparent cause. The resulting act so far outweighs the producing agent that the observer is filled with a sense of sublimity and awe. The age of adolescence is the period when emotional decisions are apt to be made. At this period the youth is prone to indulge in the revelry of love making and the ecstasy of religious fervor. Suddenness of conversation and instantaneous transformations take place. If the decisions of the intellect could be reinforced by the emotions the result would be permanent and effective. On the other hand, intellectual decisions and purposs of will are of no effect without the propulsive power emotion. The prodigal son in the parable had reached a reasoned conclusion and the determination of will to appease offended paternal mercy, but it was the overwhelming flood of feeling that swept him into his father's bosom. Adolescence is the period when the emotions are most easily awakened and harnessed to lasting purposes of life ; but because of our psychological ignorance, most of our preachments are either premature or belated. The seed must be sown in due season. It is as fatal to be too early as too late. Science becomes a practical instrument only when we can control

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its methods and predict results. We still await the perfection of psychological knowledge to the point which will render the processes of decision controllable and the outcome predictable. This is the supreme service which psychology must yet render to pedagógy. Upon such consummation devoutly to be wished, the teacher, by wise control and properly imparted suggestion will be able to lead the student to make the right decision at the right time. But in our present state of ignorance of psychical action and reactions we are merely feeling after the right way, if happily we may find it. The student is left to flounder amid the perplexities of equally appealing pursuits, with the vague hope that by some inner impulse or outward compulsion, the right choice may be made.

Under favorable circumstances the college man is supposed to enter upon his professional career at about twenty-six or twenty-seven years of age. He can hardly hope to acquire the physical, intellectual and moral maturity to make him acceptable to the public before this time. The responsibilities of a professional life are too great and the interests involved are too serious to be entrusted to the immature judgment of a beardless youth. If we regard twenty-six as the minimum at which a student may hope to enter upon his profession, the final choice must be made at least four years in advance, or by the time he has finished his college course. Pre-medical and combination courses, which are finding much favor in many colleges, are calculated to shorten the period of preparation as well as to force back the age of decision by one or two years. This abridgment will probably prove of advantage mainly to the elder class of students whose maturity of judgment has outrun their belated scholastic opportunities. But the young man of normal scholastic advantages and advancement will find this short cut encourages a needless precocity.

There are two wide apart theories of education; the one claims that man should be educated for his worth, while the other contends that he should be trained for his work; the former avows that that education is of most worth that produces the best men, while the latter avers that the highest merit consists in producing the best workmen in the shortest time; one pleads that the metal should be toughened and tempered so as to hold keenness of edge and sharpness of point regardless of the use to which it may be put; the other holds that the crude metal should at once be shaped into the desired implements of use; on the one hand it is deemed the better part of wisdom to await the maturity of faculties before selecting the sphere in which they are to be exploited; on the other hand, the demand is for hasty focusing of faculties and choice of field; one school believes that acquired discipline and culture can be easily transferred to any task; the other denies that former discipline has any value. Harvard University proceeds on the theory of a generous liberal education as a basic preparation for any high and noble endeavor, whatever technical

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skill or specific training may afterward be required. West Point Military Academy demands immediate decision and specific training for the work in view. Does experience justify the wisdom of the institution on the Charles or of that on the Hudson? General Leonard Wood, who is conceded to be the outstanding military genius of the United States Army, is not a graduate of West Point, but of Harvard University. In the Civil War, officers from general life were not noticeably inferior to those from West Point. General Grant, who reached the highest fame for achievement, although himself a West Point graduate, had relinquished his army assignment for the broadening experience of practical life. In the World War young men with college preparation, after a few months of military training, were declared equal in efficiency to graduates of West Point with four years of hard and specific drill. Any calling which is recruited by premature decisions is apt to be filled with mediocres and misfits. Although numerous officers with West Point training resign from their army assignments on self-discovery of their military ineptitude, still the roster is crowded with officers who possess no more military talent than Shakespeare's arithmetician. Such officers never rise above the level of mechanical drudgery and the routine and stereotyped performance of formulated tasks.

Public school teachers constitute a restless, dissatisfied and rapidly shifting company whose ranks are constantly thinned by withdrawals. This disquietude is due not so much to the inadequacy of remuneration as to the fact that they were either drafted or drifted into this field at an immature age, and on reaching the period of self-understanding, they find themselves tethered to a tedious and tasteless routine. How different with the college professor, who chooses his profession with deliberation and purpose and adheres to it with stability notwithstanding scantiness of reward. In the choice of a profession, like the selecting of a helpmeet, it is better to choose wisely than early. In both cases, however, needless delay is unwise. The student should begin to think seriously about his profession about the middle of his college course, with a view to final decision before graduation. The motto of Milton still contains a wise philosophy: "I care not how late I enter life, since I enter fit."

(To be continued)

KELLEY MILLER, Professor of Sociology.

# OBSERVATIONS UPON RECENT GERMAN LITERATURE AND THE WAR.

**B** OOK and Magazine communication between this country and Germany, wholly suspended during participation by the United States in the war, has not yet been fully restored. The activity of the censor has made impossible any free expression of thought or opinion

dealing with the issues of the conflict. Liberal views could not be expressed at all. When these views are finally published they will probably be of great value in determining what permanent effect the war has had upon German literature. Writers have been inflamed by the passions and prejudices of war and it is doubtful that they are even now uttering the thoughts they wish for permanent record. Nor are the minds of their recent enemies restored to a capacity for impartial analysis of the motives and philosophy underlying their productions.

A start toward the resumption of friendly relations among scholars has been made through the letter addressed by Oxford University professors to the professors in German and Austrian universities. Some of the German intellectuals have replied in a more than friendly manner. Many of their respective nationals are protesting against this cordiality, but it is certain that before long scholars engaged in scientific and humanistic labors will join forces again for the advancement of learning and the enlightenment of mankind.

Before the outbreak of the war German was the most popular foreign language taught in the United States. Immediately after its beginning the pro-British element of the American public began the attack upon German studies, and after this country entered the struggle the school boards of most of the larger cities prohibited the teaching of German in public schools. Practically none of the reputable colleges and universities discontinued German, but the number of students electing the subject decreased. In England and France the study of German did not suffer during the war, nor in Germany the study of English and French. The heterogeneous character of the American citizenship made the danger of successful German propaganda greater here than among the allies in Europe, and our remoteness from Germany made the knowledge of German seem less necessary. On the other hand, there would have been little or no real danger if German were taught by American-born teachers. America, no less than England and France, was fighting Germany and needed to know the language and institutions of its enemy. Later it was going to be inevitable that a post-war rivalry would arise for German trade, and this no less than any other consideration was in the minds of England and France. And so it appears that the American public opinion toward German was short-sighted and unenlightened and served our allies' interests and not our own.

In connection with the strong American sentiment against the teaching of German in any public school it is interesting to notice the report of a committee appointed by the British prime minister to "inquire into the position of modern languages in the educational system of Great Britain." With reference to the German language the report of this committee, made in 1918, said:

"After the war the importance of German must correspond with the importance of Germany. If Germany is still enterprising, highly organized,

industrious, formidable no less in trade than in arms, we cannot afford to neglect or ignore it for a moment; we cannot afford to leave any of its activities unstudied. The knowledge of German by specialists will not suffice; it must be widespread throughout the people. A democracy cannot afford to be ignorant. We may indicate one point in particular which is likely to be of importance after the war. It will in any case be impossible to oust the use of German in commerce, even for our own purposes at home, apart from any question of competition in foreign countries. \* \* \* This is only one of the many considerations which lead us to the conclusion that it is of essential importance to the nation that the study of the German language should not only be maintained, but extended."

Not unrelated to the enthusiasm with which the German people undertook the war was the mighty volume of poetry and fiction produced in the latter part of 1913 and the early part of 1914 in commemoration of the Wars of Liberation. The whole land was in an ecstacy of patriotic fervor and proved ripe for the beginning of the great struggle. If the German emperor began the war, as most people including some Germans believe, he chose the psychological moment for doing so.

The effect of the war upon German literature expressed itself rather in the kind and quality of the output than in the quantity. After the shock of the first few weeks had passed, the Germans with their usual enterprise and energy resumed publishing and continued to run their presses throughout the conflict. After the entrance of the United States in 1917, it did seem that there was a slackening; but this was due to the interruption of trade with Germany. Such indirect communication as came through neutral countries indicated that the output was large. It is, however, only since the cessation of hostilities that the foreigner realizes what a flood of literature was turned out. The war, of course, was the inspiration and the subject of much of this.

Criticism and biography were the chief sufferers. The excitement of war and the consequent shift in the emphasis upon values are unfriendly to the critical and judicial attitude. When the individual life counts for so little and the national life for so much, the writing of biography is apt to decline. The critical works published covered all fields and all periods. It is interesting to note that, although several important Goethe publications appeared, less attention than usual was given this great literary figure. Of course, the reason is that Goethe's catholicity of spirit and human brotherhood were ill-suited to the exaggerated nationalism of war times. Schiller, too, received less than customary notice. It could not be expected that the author of *Wilhelm Tell* would command much attention under the iron-fisted sway of Hohenzollern imperialism.

Fiction and the drama were produced in quantity. A very large number of works were inspired directly or indirectly by the war. Among the novels are Arthur Schnitzler's Der blinde Geronino und sein Bruder, Dr. Grasler, Kurarzt, Casanova's Heimfahrt, Hermann Sudermann's

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Littauische Geschichten, Marie Ebner-Eschenbach's Stille Welt, Gerhart Hauptmann's Merlin, Clara Viebig's Die Praesidentin, Felix Philippi's Hotel Gigantic and Jugendliebe, G. Frennsen's Die Brueder, Jacob Wassermann's Christian Wahnschaffe, and Eduard Stilgebauer's Inferno. This latter book is a narrative exposé of the evils of militaristic Germany and was promptly suppressed by the censor. Carl Hauptmann's sixtieth birthday was celebrated in 1917 by the appearance of a new edition of his prose works. Among the recent notable dramas published are E. Ludwig's Friedrich, Kronprinz von Preussen, Carl Hauptmann's Aus dem grossen Kriege (a volume of one-act plays), Essig's Des Kaisers Soldaten, Philippi's Der Fall Ravelli, H. Sudermann's Die Entgoetterte Welt, and Die Freundin, Fulda's Der Lebens-Schueler, and Die Richtige, Wedekind's Bismarck, A. Schnitzler's Die Schwestern and Flink und Flederbusch, Dehmel's Menschenfreunde, Else Lasker-Schuler's Versammelte Gedichte, Stefan Zweig's Jeremias, and Hermann Bahr's Die Stimme.

The amount of poetry published during the first two years of the war was very large. It was nearly all of war type and ephemeral in character. All poets of all degrees of ability were singing. While most of the poetry is lyric, other kinds are represented, prominent among which is Frensen's ambitious epic, *Bismarck*.

While little history was written, there was a deluge of books, pamphlets, and special articles dealing with the war. Tirpitz, Ludendorff, Helfferich, and Bethman-Hollweg wrote books on war topics that are now being widely read and that no doubt will serve as excellent sources later on for real history.

Numerous translations from the classics and from nearly all the modern languages, including Turkish and Chinese, appeared. Among the works translated from English are the *Poems* of Edgar Allen Poe, the *House of a Thousand Candles* of Meredith Nicholson, and a work or two of Conan Doyle.

For the most part the literary and critical journals were active. The following appeared regularly: Litterarisches Echo, Weisse Blaetter, Strum (organ of the expressionists, artists, and poets), Aktion (organ of a group of young lyric poets), Die Jugend (organ of moderate Youngest Germany), Die Tuermer (organ of extreme Youngest Germany). Das Forum was suspended, but has reappeared. The Neue Rundschau, which was published regularly during the war, is interesting as the organ originally of Freie Buehne, where Hauptmann and other important dramatists began their career. The Freie Buehne (Free Theater) was founded in March, 1889, at the call of Theodor Wolff and Maximilian Harden, and at its beginning had nine members. Modeled after the Théâtre Libre of Paris, it had for its object the presentation of modern dramas, which had experienced difficulty in securing engagements at the established show houses. These were to be given under private auspices

and without commercial profit; consequently they were to enjoy freedom from censorship and official criticism. During this season only eight dates were available for them. Establishing Naturalism as the law of the theater, they used the performances for didactic purposes. Naturalism is the theory that literature should correspond to reality, to life. It stresses truth to nature and accuracy and vividness in narrative, even to the extent of picturing the plain and the sordid. It is opposed to Romanticism. The *Freie Buehne* produced such plays of the Norwegians Ibsen and Bjoernson, the Dane Strindberg, the French brothers Goncourt, and the Russian Tolstoi, as illustrating the naturalistic type. The large proportion of foreign dramas was intended for moral effect upon young German authors. Among the budding German writers favored were Hauptmann and Sudermann.

Of the living German writers, leading rank is generally conceded to Hauptmann and Sudermann. Gerhart Hauptmann was born in Silesia in 1862 and Hermann Sudermann in East Prussia in 1857. Both have achieved wealth and world-wide renown by their writings. Among the best known works of Hauptmann are Vor Sonnenaufgang, Die Versunkene Glocke, and Hanneles Himmelfahrt; of Sudermann, Frau Sorge, Katzensteg, Die Ehre, and Die Heimat.

Georg's *Blaetter fuer die Kunst* is one of the magazines that appeared intermittently during the war. Under the influence of Georg there is noticeable a reaction from the naturalistic school of Hauptmann and Sudermann.

Through German literature considerable influence has been exerted by small groups, clubs, and societies upon linguistic and literary development. The operation of some of these forces has been just referred to; others even more potent cannot be mentioned here.

Among the prominent German authors who have died since January, 1914, are Paul Heyse, one of the most brilliant of the writers of the short story and famous as the author of *L'Arrabbiata*; Marie Ebner-Eschenbach, in the opinion of many the best short story artist surviving Heyse, Detlev von Lilienkron, Otto Harnack, Fritz Marti, Richard Voss, Hermann Essig, Albert Geiger, Lily Braun, Richard Dehmel, and Peter Rosegger.

As to the immediate future of German literature one inquires whether the exhaustion and loss of war will crush artistic inspiration, or whether the emergence of a new and freer political system will foster it. After several years of reconstruction conditions will be more favorable for literary achievement than now. All can agree with Grillparzer that

> "Der Saum, von gruenen Palm und Lorbeerzweigen, Sprach, Ruhm und Frieden sinnig zart bezeichnend, Aus, was der Dichter braucht und was ihn lohnt."

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An important German critic predicts that German letters will be influenced not by schools of thought nor formal tendencies, but by independent personalities of big and free creative power. True art, whose teacher nature is, does not concern itself with pedantic and slavish imitation, but fits beauty of form to the truth it discovers and ennobles the whole with original thought and moral strength.

EDWARD PORTER DAVIS, Professor of German.

### THE LITERARY VALUE OF GERMAN.

THE writer would be guilty of a breach of pedagogical ethics were this article merely a plea designed to promote the popularity of some department of study in the University. It is being written, not for any "lobbying" purposes, but solely to check and, so far as possible, to correct the growing belief that the German language is one which appeals and is serviceable only to a limited group of college students *i. e.*, to those pursuing the pre-medical and professional courses. Such a belief is not only fallacious, but highly unfortunate, in view of the almost unexcelled character of the works produced by German writers in every field of literary endeavor. There will be no attempt to place any comparative values upon the literatures of the various languages. In a necessarily brief way, attention will be directed to a few of the predominant characteristics of German literature, which make the study of it so valuable to the student who is interested in dramatic, poetical and prose literature of a really high standard.

It is quite true—or was before the war—that German scientists were, as a group, head and shoulders above those of any other country—except perhaps those of the United States in the field of mechanical invention. From this fact has developed the rather widespread idea that the German literature is, to a great extent, confined mostly to scientific works. Naturally, a reading knowledge of German is necessary to one who expects to delve deep into the sciences; it is advisable for any professional student who desires to keep abreast of the times in his vocation,

It is in the field of purely literary creation, however, that the German literature is richest. In thinking of the productions of any one nationality, one is accustomed to think primarily of some one great, outstanding figure. The name of Shakespeare might be taken for instance, as the symbol of all that is excellent in English dramatic literature. Germany has produced many Shakespeares in practically every phase of writing. It would, of course, be impossible to enumerate all or most of the well known authors, or their best works; it will suffice to call a few of the great names, with brief comments upon the products which have made them famous.

In philosophy, we have but to think of Nietzsche, Kant and of Marx, the principles of whose socialistic theories are the basis of the present Soviet Russian Government. Marx' work are probably among the most widely read of all Socialist literature.

In the drama, we find the immortal Goethe, whose "Faust" contains the most beautiful prologue of any drama in any language and has been described as the greatest poem of the Germans, "the scenes of which glitter like a string of pearls." There are Lessing, whose "Emilia Galotti" is one of the most perfectly constructed dramas ever written; Schiller, whose "Wilhelm Tell," "Braut von Messina" and "Jungfrau von Orleans" are imperishable. Among the more modern dramatists, one need mention only Sudermann and Hauptmann. The former's most successful play is "Heimat," which has been called "one of those literary thunder clouds which are charged with the social and intellectual electricity of a whole age." It has been played by Sarah Bernhardt in France and by Dusé in this country, where it bears the title of its principal role, "Magda." Wildenbruch's "King Henry," Halbe's "Mother Earth" and Hauptmann's "The Weavers" are dramas which have left an indelible imprint upon the dramatic literature of the last quarter of the 19th century.

The Great German poets are so numerous that it is almost presumptuous to choose any half dozen as representative. However, Klopstoch by his "The Messias," Burger by his "Lenora," which is regarded as a "forerunner of all the exquisite literary ballads which enrich German literature," Goethe, who is "the lyrical poet of the world"; Schiller, a dramatic poet, "whose ballads have never been surpassed"; and Heine, "one of the most wonderful products of the good and evil forces in modern life, whose artistic power is supreme and whose mastery of language is little short of marvelous," are poets who have made wonderful contributions, not only to German literature, but to the world's literature.

In the short story, or *Novelle*, Keller has produced works which are classical in their structure and which mark him as *the* greatest short story writer of all time. His "Seldwyla" stories are very widely read. One of the most beautiful and well known productions is Storm's "Immensee." Heyse, Meyer, Foerster, Hoffman, who greatly influenced Poe, Ludwig, Kleist, Riehl and many others have enriched this field of German literature. Sudermann, while excelling in the drama, stands in the front rank of the novelists also. His novels, "Dame Care" and "Regina," have had a wide circulation in this country, while "Geschwister" and "Das hohe Lied" are two of the most widely read books in Germany.

Lessing, in his Litteraturbriefe and his Hamburgische Dramaturgie, showed himself to be a "master critic." Herder, by his Essay on Ossian and die Lieder alter Voelker, a "master interpreter of literary and poetical values." Freytag's "Technique of the Drama" is even today regarded as an authoritative work in the field of dramatic criticism.

How infinite is the list of great names which might be mentioned, and how superb are the beauties of these works, which have made these names immortal! Indeed, so infinite and so superb, that it were unforgivable, if one should permit the fallacious belief to persist that the German literature has value only for those scientifically inclined!

J. H. N. WARING, JR., Assistant Professor of German.

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# Manual Arts Building

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# IMPERFECT AND INADEQUATE ROOT THERAPY AS A CAUSE OF SYSTEMIC INFECTION.

Abstract of third lecture by Dr. C. E. Bentley.

NDER this subject we are to deal with the most dangerous, most frequent cause of systematic infections.

Any pathological, or diseased, condition that will interfere with the proper functioning of the tooth pulp and thereby cause its disintegration will ultimately, if neglected, give rise to a condition at its apex, the root end, that is fraught with more danger, so far as its becoming a focus or center of systematic infection is concerned than any other pathological condition in the mouth.

If a suppurating surface in any part of the body has drainage outlet, the defensive action of the tissues themselves will care for such a lesion. But if that pus be confined and walled off with a constant stream of nutrient material pouring into its area to feed the diseased organism, we are likely to have serious trouble. In so-called pyorrhea we have a suppurative surface which, in the main, drains into the mouth. It is only when the lymphatics, the lymph-carrying ducts of the membrane surrounding the tooth, attempts to do their work by carrying off the suppurative matter that free drainage is interfered with, with dire consequences likely. The lymphatics of the peridental membrane are more responsible for the carrying of infections in pyorrhea to other parts of the body than the swallowing of large quantities of pus organisms. Also when a tooth-pulp itself, for any cause, has undergone degeneration and a low degree of inflammation has become chronic without the patient being aware of it, and that condition has affected the tissues about the root end, not amounting to acute inflammation, it is then that the greatest danger of systemic infection occurs.

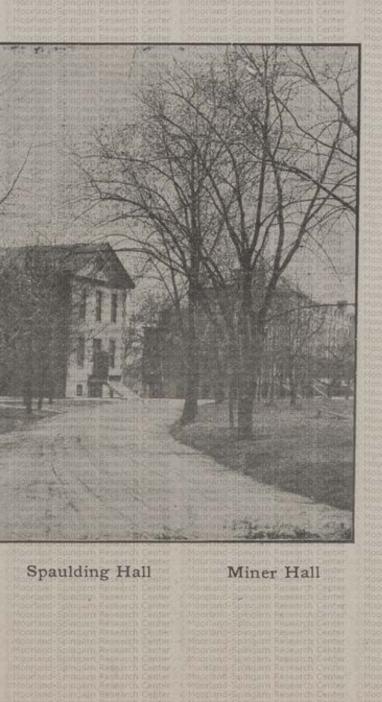
The condition referred to may be brought about either by a chronic alveolar abscess (a pus pocket in the tooth socket), or by improper treatment of the root.

Alveolar abscess is one of the most frequent and one of the primal causes of systematic infection. Dr. Arthur Black reports that an examination of six thousand radiographs of the mouths of six hundred adults showed fifty-five per cent of persons over twenty years of age afflicted with one or more areas of bone destroyed about root ends by chronic suppuration. The average was one and one-half abscesses per person.

Imperfect and inadequate root treatment (therapy), still practiced by the dental profession, continues to be another great cause of infectious mouth conditions. This is the principal subject for consideration here.

The challenge of Dr. C. H. Mayo to the dental profession to make their contribution to the preservation of public health, before the Illinois State Dental Society in 1914, resulted in the abandonment of old methods https://dh.howard.edu/hardcord/vol15/1334/1 root filling. In passing, it should be stated that

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there is no operation, outside of brain surgery, that requires the skill, patience and time that are required by proper treatment and filling of the roots of teeth. The scurry of the profession to find an adequate method of treatment evolved many that were new and startling, but the aim of each was to remove under asceptic (non-infecting) conditions the tooth pulps from their chambers, together with all pulp shreds from accessory foramina (extensions), and fill these chambers and their extensions to their ends or apices. No one method has been adopted universally in practice. Dr. Percy Howe, of Boston, is the advocate of root fillings with silver nitrate solution. Dr. M. L. Rhein, of New York, insists upon filling roots with chloropercha, a solution of gutta-percha in chloroform, and forcing a portion of the solution through the root end so as to encapsulate the apex. Dr. Elmer S. Best, of Minneapolis, has developed a technique founded upon asepsis and filling roots to but not beyond their apices. Dr. John R. Callahan advocated the enlargement of the root canals and used a resinous solution for filling. Dr. John T. Buckley, of Los Angeles, advocates formo-creosol for root sterilization and fills with euco-percha.

Objections more or less valid to any or all of these methods might be advanced by some practitioners, for various causes. Some general deductions are being made by the profession, however, as a result in part of a better understanding of conditions shown by the radiograph. The conclusion has been reached that the use of too powerful or destructive medicaments in the apical region is to be avoided upon the well-founded assumption that a vital apex (one that has not been devitalized) is necessary to a healthy tooth, and any agency that interferes with the root powers or their power of defense is to be avoided. Another conclusion is that unless root operations are performed under sterile conditions, they will create a condition worse than that they attempt to cure. Thorough asepsis or sterilization is essential, but not by agencies too destructive of tissues in their action where the life of the tissues is essential to defensive operation. The profession's position at the present moment is that root therapy is in a transitory state, but is rapidly approaching a condition of scientific security. During this period of transition, however, we must hold fast to what has been tried and approved-the following rules of treatment:

1. Roots must be cleansed of their debris.

2. The dentine of the root must be sterilized.

3. The root canals must be enlarged to give access to the apices or ends.

4. The filling must be at least to the apex and should be a blond substance that does no injury to apical fibres.

5. This procedure must be carried on under the rules of asepsis.

Procedure in general practice should be as follows: The contents of the root canal and its tubuli should be thoroughly disinfected before https://dh.howard.edu/hurecord/vol15/iss4/1

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any instrument is allowed to enter the canal for the reason that when a pulp has disintegrated, its products enter the tubuli. The pulp debris should then be romoved, at subsequent sitting, and an attempt made to enlarge the root by instruments designed for that purpose under antiseptic conditions. A mild antiseptic should then be sealed in the root canal, at its apical end, after which the root may be filled. If a root is thus filled, together with the observance of the rule of asepsis in its filling, all that is now known has been done in preventing this root from becoming a focus of systematic infection—though after all this has been done we can never be sure that subsequent trouble will not ensue.

Apices filled in the manner described, Dr. Black has shown, show but nine per cent of failures, while falling short of this method, we have failures running to sixty-three per cent. The high percentage of infections about the root thus recorded has stimulated the profession to the invention of removable appliances to take the place of permanent fixtures for the substitution of lost teeth, in order that subsequent treatment for infections may be given if necessary. These fixtures are usually dependent for their anchorage upon pulpless teeth, however, the use of these fixtures has made it possible to conserve rather than destroy tooth pulps. Fresh surgical exposure of normal pulps made through hard dentine in excavations after sterilization should be capped rather than devitalized, because of the uncertainty of thorough pulp removal and root filling, but with the understanding that upon the slightest untoward symptoms the pulp should be immediately removed.

Again, unless pulp symptoms arise in eroded or abraded teeth it is meddlesome practice to risk pulp devitalization and defective canal filling.

Dr. Noyes says: "There is some evidence for believing that remaining vessels and apical pulp-shreds lying in touch with surrounding vascularity, either become organized into fibrous tissue, or foramina are closed by deposits of cementum." This, however, can only occur in a vital apex. The vital apex is the crux of all canal operations. The reverse of this is, in my opinion, equally as significant. The denuted apex, necrotic by whatever means, no matter how thoroughly medicated or well filled, is an unsafe thing to have in the mouth. It is my firm belief that the reason that no greater calamity has befallen the human family than has, by the faulty technique of dentists of the past, is that in the majority of cases they unconsciously did not injure or destroy those tissues about the apices of the teeth, thereby giving the reparative processes about those roots an opportunity to function.

# A Correction.

IN last month's issue of the RECORD appeared the names of the new members of the Stylus. This list was incomplete. By mistake the name of Mr. E. D. Johnson was omitted.

## PRESENT-DAY NEGRO POETS.\* By Robert T. Kerlin, Author of "The Voice of the Negro."

Dr. Kerlin, head of the English department in the Virginia Military Institute at Lexington, Virginia, is declared by N. D. Brascher, editor-in-chiet of the Associated Negro Press, to be "the most eminent authority in America on Negro publications, and one whose absolute fairness of vision and unselfish sympathy for justice are acknowledged everywhere."—The Editors.

**P**OETRY, in the popular mind, is but the fringe of a people's solid achievement—merely decorative to railroads and factories, the products of mines and fields, big engineering feats and immense populations. Yet of ancient civilizations, not inferior to our own, there remains but poetry, or art in some of its forms, all their material wealth having returned to the dust whence it came. The fact should induce reflection.

"Where there is no vision, the people perish." Vision means not only prophecy, but all spiritual wealth—religion, art, poetry. Of all that the Hebrew people achieved in their great age, only this wealth—not the wealth of King Solomon's mines, not the merchandise of silver and gold —remains. To prophecy with its austere ideals, its unconquerable vision, its stern rebuke of things as they are, poetry is twin-sister. Prophecy was the ancient form, poetry is the modern form, for the expression of all that is of permanent worth in a people's life—dreams and ideals.

A people's poetry is therefore to be taken note of and reckoned with, yea, by statesmen (or politicians), by the foremen of industry, by the employers of labor. Nothing in this life of ours is more practical than poetry, more moving, more efficient, to use the word of the hour. It can build up, it can tear down, it can inspire and further revolutions. Nothing is more dangerous to institutions and customs that should not be.

The occasion of these reflections is the rise of a remarkable school of young Negro poets whose pens are ablaze with racial feeling, and whose productions evince a high degree of poetic excellence and a distinctive poetic quality. Dunbar seems to have been the fecundating genius to their muses, that Dunbar whom the white world wots not of. For there were two Dunbars: the poet of the "jingle in a broken tongue," whom Howels brought to the knowledge of the world; and the poet of the flaming "Ode to Ethiopia" and the pathetic lyric, "We Wear the Mask"—a Dunbar this latter whose significance Howells failed to discern. The first Dunbar was the artistic interpreter of the old-fashioned, vanishing generation of black folks; the second Dunbar was the prophet

\*The editors of The Howard University Record are deeply indebted to the editors of THE SOUTHERN WORKMAN, published at Hampton Institute, Hampton, Va., for their courtesy in granting permission to reproduce in The RECORD the above excellent article, which appeared in the December issue of the SOUTHERN WORKMAN.

of a new generation of his race, a generation that has now arrived. There has been a universal renaissance of the Negro soul, of which Dunbar was the herald. Of this renaissance, poetry is one of the expressions, a most potent and significant expression. And there are many voices in the chorus.

The Negro might well be expected to exhibit a gift for poetry. His gift for oratory has long been acknowledged. It has been accepted without reflection upon its significance. The same endowments that have made the Negro famous for eloquence are now bringing him into distinction for poetry. These endowments in the Negro are not far to seek. First of all, there is depth and fervor of feeling. No race equals or approaches his in the capacity of yielding to the control of rhythmic emotions. In all of the arts this rhythmic nature is necessary; in poetry it is half the equipment. Not merely a part of the Negro yields to his emotion, but his whole being. This fervor of feeling pre-supposes power of imagination, and this also the Negro has in a peculiar and pre-eminent degree. These two endowments make for the highest spiritual achievements—moral, religious, artistic. Negro poetry today, by virtue of these gifts, exhibits the priceless quality of inspiration.

It will also be conceded that the Negro has a gift of peculiarly graphic language. Whoever has listened to a colored preacher's sermon will recall perhaps more than one example of poetic phrasing, more than one wordpicture that rendered some idea vivid beyond vanishing.

Let the potential black bard be disciplined in the forms of poetryhis race is not deficient in the sense of form, but special training is required here—and he will make a distinct and invaluable contribution to our country's literature. As a foundation for his art and as indicating the lines of its development, there is that unique and precious body of religious plantation song, called the Spirituals-one of the most notable contributions of any people similarly circumstanced to the world's treasury of song, altogether the most appealing. I have not space here for a critical estimate of these strange, pathetic, haunting, affecting appeals in song, from man's inhumanities to God's mercies-the melodious wailings and hallelujahs of the religio-poetic soul in bondage. I can only say that their significance, not only for history, but for art, and especially for art, yet awaits an interpreter. The interpretation, I believe, will come, and is even now coming, in the form of the consciously artistic poetry of the Negro, a poetry which has striking reminiscences of the Spirituals. The Negro singer of today, the heir of those "black and unknown bards," has indeed a noble heritage of song. And if there is any shame-which there is-the shame is not the Negro's; but the glory is. Therefore, let him sing triumphantly the old song, and add to it a new one, like, but with other elements of power from a higher art.

The value to the colored people of a new achievement in poetry such Published by Digital Howard @ Howard University, 1920 be incalculable. That sympathetic, human ap-

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preciation of the Negro which has not as yet been manifested by the Caucasian will be one result, the great result. It will include much. It will be the basis, perhaps, of a new attitude and new behavior. For poetry makes the whole world kin. Witness Homer, witness Shakespeare, witness Burns, witness Dante, and witness—not unworthy to be put in the list—Dunbar. When the Macedonian Philip marched with conquering banners into Greece he gave orders that the house of Pindar, the writer of immortal odes, should be guarded from harm. In the day of true humanity the poet's songs will be a protection, not only to his own house, but to all his people.

To be famous as a singing people—such the Negroes of our Southland are—is something; it has gained them something; to be famous as a song-making people—as I believe they will be—will mean for them a new and higher and more humane consideration, a respect that will affect their entire life. This human appeal of the poetry under consideration indicates, then, the approach I wish to make to a brief and altogether inadequate presentation of it.

The high claims I have put forth for recent Negro poetry could be established only by copious quotations of entire poems from a considerable number of poets. But this could not be expected here. Were the space available, however, I have not the tinge of a doubt that I could give the reflecting reader a surprise in which delight and astonishment would mingle. I could easily make up an anthology of fifty or so poems from ten or a dozen black poets that would represent a poetic achievement of a high degree of excellence and of great significance. It is before me in newspapers and magazines and books.

Suppose, white reader, you should chance upon the following poem in your Atlantic or Harper's:

Through you, I entered heaven and hell, Knew rapture and despair;
I vaulted o'er the plains of earth And scaled each shining stair,
Drank deep the waters of content And drained the cup of gall,
Was regal and was impotent, Was suzerain and thrall.
Now, by reflection's placid pool, At evening's tranquil hour,
I smile across the backward way And pledge anew my vow.
For every glancing, golden gleam, I offer, gladly, Pain;

And I would give a thousand worlds To live it all again.

Mrs. Georgia Douglass Johnson has given us a small book of such https://dh.howard.edu/httecord/vointhiss/1 a subtle and profound and most artistic interpretation of 28

woman's heart. I cannot resist my desire to give you another poem from her, one of the perfect poems out of her precious little volume.

> The dreams of the dreamer Are life-drops that pass The break in the heart To the soul's hour-glass.

The songs of the singer Are tones that repeat The cry of the heart Till it ceases to beat.

Out in Missouri there is a colored man whose vocations are teaching and preaching and whose avocation is poetry. Fate tried to conceal him also under the name of Johnson. He has conquered fate and adverse circumstances, being loved by the muse of poetry. Mr. Charles Bertram Johnson's is the best poetry that reaches me from Missouri. I will give you two little poems from him:

#### HUMOR.

We have fashioned laughter Out of tears and pain, But the moment after— Pain and tears again.

MY PEOPLE.

My people laugh and sing And dance to death— None imagining The heartbreak under breath.

But I must give you proof that this maker of songs can prolong his note. Here is something that any poet from the Cavaliers down might be proud of having written:

#### A RAIN SONG.

Chill the rain falls, chill! Dull gray the world; the vale Rain-swept; wind-swept the hill; "But gloom and doubt prevail," My heart breaks forth to say.

Ere thus its sorrow note, "Cheer up! Cheer up! to-day, To-morrow is to be," Babbled from a joyous throat, A robin's, in a mist-gray tree.

Then off to keep a tryst— He preened his drabbled cloak— Doughty little optimist! As if in answer, broke

Published by Digital Howard @ Howard University, 1920 sunlight thru that oak.

The muse, to show despite to fate, has chosen the Johnsons. There are two more whom she has given to fame: Fenton, in Chicago, and James Weldon, in New York. But I must not give all my space to this family.

The Cotters, father and son, of Louisville, Kentucky, are two of the finest products of the Negro race. Genius in them is manifest, as manifest as it was in Keats, or their fellow-townsman, Cawein. The *Band of Gideon* by the son, Joseph S. Cotter, Jr., is too long for quotation here and it would be an injustice to the author to take a specimen. But this poem exhibits Negro genius working on the right lines with exactly that certainty of its field and materials which is an attribute of all genius. From the father, Joseph S. Cotter, Sr., I will give this one poem:

### THE PROPHET.

He saw Life masquerade in Babylon, He saw Life jaded by the mystic Nile,
While weaving tapestry of brick and stone To mesh its merriment and seal its smile.
He brought the fore-time to this after-time, He questioned workers, warriors, poets, sages,
Then whispered to himself: "Nor tribe, nor clime, Nor God, nor Devil can unwed the ages."
The Prophet felt the ache that we are feeling,

The Prophet saw the greed that bows us under; And heard the echo of our tense appealing

For brotherhood that dares not halt nor blunder.

The Past will be the Present. Let us make Today tomorrow for our children's sake.

To Mrs. Alice Dunbar-Nelson, the widow of the poet Dunbar, we are indebted for one of the most beautiful sonnets ever written.

I had not thought of violets of late,

The wild, shy kind that spring beneath your feet In wistful April days, when lovers mate

And wander through the fields in raptures sweet. The thoughts of violets meant florists' shops,

And bows and pins, and perfumed papers fine; And garish lights, and mincing little flops,

And cabarets and songs, and deadening wine.

So far from sweet real things my thoughts had strayed,

I had forgot wide fields, and clear brown streams;

The perfect loveliness that God has made-

Wild violets shy and Heaven-mounting dreams. And now—unwittingly, you've made me dream Of violets, and my soul's forgotten gleam.

That is poetry of the finest quality. Mrs. Browning could have acknowledged this lyric without apology.

It may appear from the specimens of Negro poetry adduced that the https://dh.howabledo/bubecord/sons/csapiping but minor notes on flutes. Such an inference would

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be a serious mistake. The trumpet also is theirs and blasts are blown from many lips. Instead, however, of presenting a representative poem of this class, I will submit one that, if less important, is more pleasing. It will have the further merit of leaving an artistic picture in the reader's mind. The author, Lucian B. Watkins, is sending out from a hospital in Baltimore some very notable poems to the Negro press. I trust they will soon reach the general public.

### EBON MAID AND GIRL OF MINE.

The sweetest charm of all the earth Came into being with her birth. All that without her we would lack She is in purity and black.

The pansy and the violet, The dark of all the flowers, met And gave their wealth of color in The sable beauty of her skin.

Glad winds of evening are her face, Gentle with love and rich in grace; The blazing splendors of her eyes Are jewels from the midnight skies.

Her hair—the darkness caught and curled— The ancient wonder of the world, Seems, in its strange, uncertain length A constant crown of queenly strength.

Her smile, it is the rising moon, The waking of a night in June; Her teeth are tips of white, they gleam Like starlight in a happy dream.

Her laughter is a Christmas bell Of "peace on earth and all is well!" Her voice—it is the dearest part Of all the glory in her heart.

The height of joy, the deep of tears, The surging passion of the years, The mystery and dark of things, We feel their meanings when she sings.

Her thoughts are pure, and every one But makes her good to look upon. Daughter of God! you are divine, O, Evon Maid and Girl of Mine!

This, reader, is no survey of present-day Negro poetry; it is but a few glimpses of it.

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### HOWARD ALUMNI, YOU OUGHT TO KNOW.

### LUCY DIGGS SLOWE

LUCY DIGGS SLOWE is a native of Clarke County, Virginia, but has lived in Baltimore since she was nine years of age. She received her elementary and secondary training in the public schools of the above mentioned city, having been graduated from the Baltimore High School in 1904. Miss Slowe won a scholarship to Howard University and attended that institution from September, 1904, to June, 1908, when she was graduated as valedictorian of her class, with the degree of Bachelor of Arts.



# Lucy Diggs Slowe

While in the university Miss Slowe was especially interested in the study of English literature and composition, and in her senior year became assistant to the late Professor Charles C. Cook. Miss Slowe was also interested in various student activities, having been one of the best tennis players in the university, and a charter member and first president of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority.

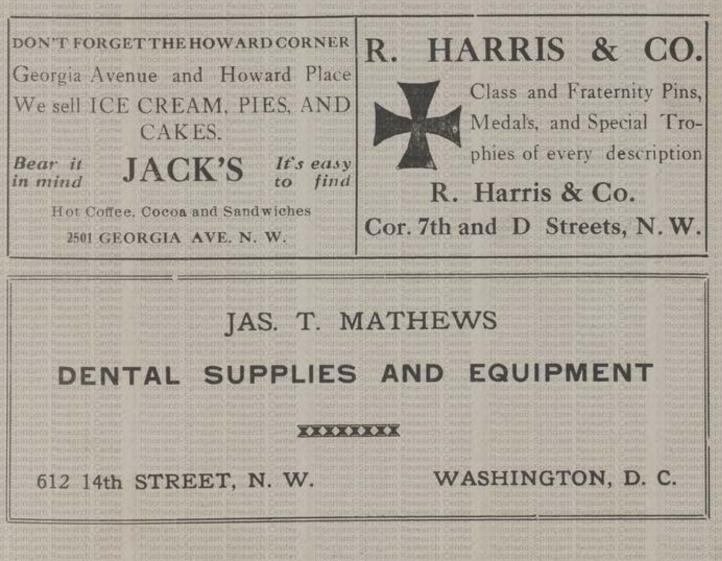
Miss Slowe began her teaching career in the Baltimore High School, where she was instructor in the English department for seven years. In November, 1915, she was appointed teacher of English in the Armstrong Manual Training School, Washington, D. C. Miss Slowe has made rapid advancement since coming to Washington. In 1918 she became assistant principal of the Armstrong Manual Training School, and in 1919 was made principal of the first Junior High School established in Washington, which position she now holds.

Since her graduation from Howard, Miss Slowe has done graduate work at Columbia University, New York City, from which institution she received the degree of Master of Arts in 1915. She is President of the College Alumnac Club of Washington, and first vice-president of the General Alumnae Association of Howard University.

### JAMES H. HARRISON.

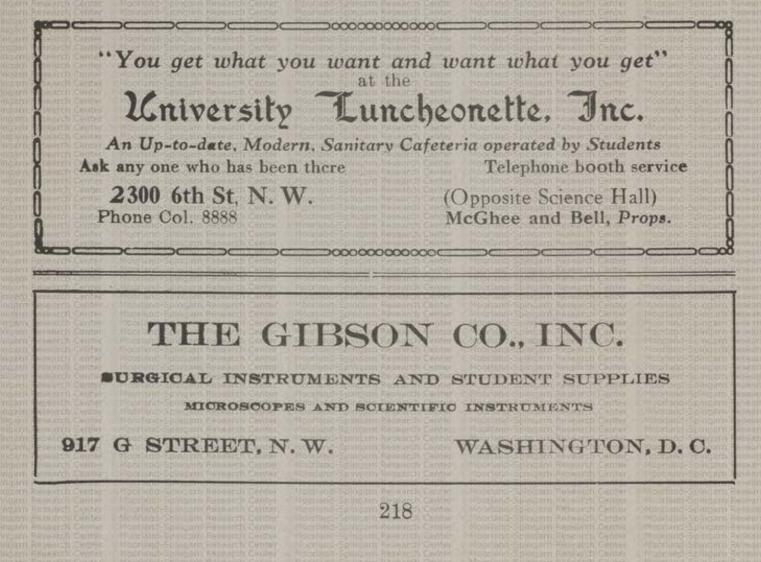
MR. JAMES H. HARRISON, 2906 Lawton Avenue, St. Louis, Mo., School of Pharmacy, 1901, has accomplished much of which his Alma Mater is proud. In 1903 Mr. Harrison graduated from the Renaurd Training School of Embalmers at New York, N. Y. Under the firm name of Harrison and Mc-Koin, he entered the undertaking business at St. Louis, Mo., in 1903.

He was married in October, 1913, to Miss Birdie M. Foster, of Kansas City, Mo. After seventeen years of success in the undertaking business, his holdings now represent \$20,000. Mr. Harrison holds the following positions: Secretary of the Wash. Met. A. M. E. Zion Church, Secretary of the St. Louis Negro Business League, Assistant G. K. R. and S., K. of P. of Missouri, Past Patron, Progressive Chapter O. E. S., and Past Master, Scott Lodge No. 150, U. B. F.



### ALUMNI NOTES.

- <sup>'12</sup> REV. E. THOMAS BROADUS, School of Religion, has for the past eight or nine years been pastor of the Zion Church at Deanwood, D. C., and during that time has built up the church very much. He has added 200 new members, had the church remodeled three times and finished paying for it. He organized and added 18 members to the Union Baptist Church at Caroline Co., Va., and then resigned as pastor to return to school. In addition to being pastor of the Zion Baptist Church at Deanwood, D. C., Rev. Broadus is pastoring the Zion Baptist Church at Hill Top, Charles Co., Md. In 22 months he has added 30 members, remodeled the church and put in a bell. He preaches an average of eight sermons a month.
- '14 DR. T. S. LANGSTON, School of Dentistry, is successfully practicing in Johnstown, Pa.
- <sup>115</sup> MR. LEONARD F. MORSE, Teachers' College, is teaching at Selma University, Selma, Ala.
- '16 DR. MOSES CLAYBORNE, School of Medicine, enjoys a lucrative practice in Johnstown, Pa., and being the only colored physician, is kept busy day and night.
- '18 CARDS are out announcing the marriage of Miss Talita Burnside. Teachers' College, to Dr. Guy A. Lord on Sunday, December 26, 1920. The Alumni extends its best wishes to this young couple.
- '20 REV. WILLIAM GORDON is pastor of the St. John Baptist Church of Norfolk, Va. We are informed that the work is growing and that he will soon enter a new church building. He solicits the prayers of the President, faculty and students of the University.
- <sup>20</sup> THE Registrar's office is in receipt of a copy of the "Kelly Miller Journal," a publication edited by the third-year class of the Kelly Miller High School of Clarksburg, W. Va., which was sent by Mr. William Reddix, Liberal Arts, who is one of the teachers at that school.



### UNIVERSITY NOTES.

# Dr. Just Attends Chicago Meeting.

DR. E. F. JUST, Professor of Zoology and Physiology, of the Howard University, was one of the speakers at the eighteenth annual meeting of the Society of American Zoologists held in the Zoological Building, the University of Chicago, December 28, 29, and 30, 1920. During the three days' session, there were discussions in Comparative and General Physiology, Embryology, Cytology, General Zoology, Comparative Anatomy, etc. For the symposium on "Fertilization," six biologists were invited to speak, including Dr. C. A. Kofoid, of the University of California; Dr. F. R. Lillie, of the University of Chicago; Dr. O. C. Glaser, of Amherst College; Dr. C. E. McClung, of the University of Pennsylvania; Dr. E. H. Tennet, of Bryn Mawr; and Dr. Just, who spoke on "The Primary Event in Fertilization."

Dr. Just's experiments during the past summer are reported to have brought him closer than any scientist in the world to the original sources of life, and it was at this meeting of the American Society of Zoologists that Dr. Just explained in detail some of the results he has obtained in the field of Experimental Embryology. Dr. Just also represented Howard University at the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science held in Chicago during the same week. Scientists representing every phase of original research attended these meetings.

# Valuable Gift of Photographs to Howard University.

PRESIDENT DURKEE announces a gift to the University of several hundreds of photographs of paintings, sculpture, and architecture. The collection is to be known as "The Leiper J. Hodge Collection" and is presented to the Architectural Department, School of Applied Sciences, by Mr. Thomas L. Hodge, of Philadelphia, in memory of his son who died in the late war.

The photographs are in themselves of the highest type of photographic art. In subject matter they include the work of many of the greatest painters and sculptors of the Proto-Renaissance, Early and High Renaissance periods; from Giotto to Raphael. They were acquired during a long term of residence and travel in Europe, by one of extensive information, rare judgment and ot cultured discriminating taste.

The periods covered by the collection mark the high-water in the development of the allied arts, in their ancient relationship before they became disassociated and practiced independently of each other. Consequently there are many examples of the famous frescoes and relief sculptures to be found in the great churches of Italy, as well as of oil paintings in Italian palaces and the museums of Western Europe. There are also many views of notable examples of church architecture in Italy, France and the Netherlands.

As the photographs have yet to be suitably mounted—which will require careful work—some time must elapse before the collection will be accessible to the public. W. A. HAZEL.

# Dr. Abraham Simon Visits Howard University.

DR ABRAHAM SIMON, President of the Board of Education of the District of Columbia, representing the European Child Relief Council of the District of Columbia, visited Howard University at the chapel hour, Monday, January 10, and by making a vivid portrayal of the deplorable conditions of the children in Russia deeply touched the hearts of the faculty and students.

#### The School of Religion.

IT will be of interest to many of the readers of the RECORD to learn that Rev. Charles H. Butler has been secured as teacher of Ethics in the School of Religion. Mr. Butler is the son of Dr. John G. Butler, D. D., who for twenty years gave instruction in the school (1871-1891). Mr. Butler himself taught here for eleven years (1893-1904). We are fortunate in having the assistance of one who, both in his scholarship and in his sympathies is so well qualified for the position. Five city pastors are now giving instruction in the department.

The annual Maynard prize debate of the School of Religion will be held in Rankin Memorial Chapel on Friday, February 4, 1921, at eight o'clock. The subject for the debate is "Resolved, that the United States should dissolve all connection with the League of Nations." The debaters on the affirmative are Mr. Charles H. Green and Mr. George A. Parker. The negative will be supported by Mr. Charles P. Harris and Mr. S. A. L. Norville. The public is invited.

The Fourth Annual Convocation of the School of Religion will be held on February 22-24. The subject around which the program for the convocation conferences is being prepared is "Brotherhood—The Gospel for Today."

The following speakers are expected to be present:

Rev. Frederick Lynch, D. D., Editor of Christian Work and Secretary of the Church Peace Union, New York.

Rev. William N. DeBerry, D. D., Assistant Moderator of the National Council of Congregational Churches.

Hon. Wayne B. Wheeler, Counsel for the Anti-Saloon League.

Bishop Charles S. Smith, D. D., Detroit, Mich.

Colonel Chaplain John T. Axton, Head Chaplain of the U. S. Army.

Dr. James H. Dillard, Charlottesville, Va.

Prof. Harry Emerson Fosdick, D. D., Union Theological Seminary, N. Y. The Rev. Drs. M. W. D. Norman, James D. Buhrer, and W. O. Carrington, of this city.

President J. Stanley Durkee, D. D., Howard University.

Mr. Arthur D. Call, Secretary of the American Peace Society.

Men prominent in the national Government have been invited to speak.

The convocation sermon on Tuesday evening will be preached by one of the eminent Baptist ministers in the country, Rev. William P. Hayes, D. D., Mount Olive Baptist Church, New York City.

Sub-topic for Tuesday, February 22nd: "The Social and Economic Aspects of Brotherhood." For Wednesday, "The International Aspects of Brotherhood," and for Thursday, "The Internacial and Interdenominational Aspects of Brotherhood."

Sessions daily at 9:45 A. M., 1:30 P. M. and 7:45 P. M.

#### UNDERGRADUATE LIFE.

#### Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity.

A ROUSING welcome was given Sunday afternoon, December 26, at the 12th Street Y. M. C. A. to the delegates of the Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, who held their second national convention with the Alpha Chapter at Howard University.

The public meeting was presided over by Dr. I. L. Scruggs, an honored member of the Tuskegee Alumni chapter. The audience sang, "O Come, All Ye Faithful," and Rev. Jas. W. Pace of Oberlin, Ohio, offered prayer. Mr. E. Milton Johnson sang in a very effective manner, "Invictus." Judge Robert H. Terrell, an honorary member of the Alpha Chapter, was the principal speaker, and his subject was "The Progress of the Negro." Judge Terrell brought a message that will be long remembered by all who heard him. He was followed by a violin solo rendered by Prof. R. D. Carleton Dorsey, of the Washington Alumni Chapter. Announcements of the program for the following days were made by A. L. Taylor, general secretary. A vocal solo by Mr. B. J. Ragsdale was beautifully rendered.

The business sessions were held on Monday and Tuesday. The meetings were presided over by R. A. Bailey of the Epsilon Chapter and W. A. Evans of the Eta Chapter. Minutes of the last meeting were read and greetings from various chapters and fraternities. Monday afternoon reports of the general secretary and other officers were heard. In the evening the conferences were presided over by Dr. A. L. Locke, an honorary member of the Alpha Chapter; addresses were made by Messrs. J. P. Bond, of the Standard Life Insurance, W. A. Stevenson, local secretary of the Y. M. C. A., and Prof. T. Montgomery Gregory. At the close of the evening session the Zeta Phi Beta sister sorority, which was in session at the same time, entertained in honor of their fraternity brothers and visiting sisters.

On Tuesday evening, December 28, the convention was closed with the formal dance in Spaulding Hall. The music, which was furnished by Le Roy Miles' orchestra, made the reception one of merriment. The hall was beautifully decorated with blue and white crepe papers and the fraternity banners draped in appropriate spaces. The guests were received by Messrs. Eugene T. Alexander and Horace W. Sparks, who headed the committee.

#### Alpha Phi Alpha in Annual Meeting at Kansas City.

FOR THE first time Negro college men gathered west of the Mississippi River in annual fraternity convention, held by the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity in the greater Kansas cities with forty-two delegates, with nearly seventy-five visiting members of the Fraternity present. This marks one of the mile-stones of progress among Negro college men who, in spite of the great distance from their local colleges, were not to be prevented from participation in the discussion of the important questions and the solving of difficult problems confronting the Negro in America.

On the evening of the first day, Monday, December 27th, a smoker and symposium was held at the Kansas City Community Center. Much interest was aroused through the discussion of the suggested subjects, "The Effects of the Migration Movement on the Political Status of the Negro" and "The Relation of Alpha Phi Alpha to Professional Fraternities." The public session of the convention was held at the Allen Chapel, A. M. E. Church, Tuesday evening, December 28th, to which a large number of citizens of the greater Kansas cities attended.

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At the last session of the convention, Friday, December 31st, the following national officers were elected for the year: Simeon S. Booker, President, Baltimore, Md.; Elmer J. Cheeks, Vice-President, Cleveland, Ohio; Norman L. McGhee, Secretary, Howard University, Washington, D. C.; Dr. Homer Cooper, Treasurer, Chicago, III.; Carl J. Murphy, Editor of the Official Organ, The Sphinx, Baltimore, Md. Members elected on the commission which has charge of Graduate Work and Public Affairs of the Fraternity are: Ex-General President, Lucius L. McGee, Chicago, III.; Daniel W. Bowles, St. Louis, Mo.; and Dr. Homer Cooper, Chicago, III. Members remaining on the commission from last year are: Dr. Roscoe C. Giles, Chairman, Chicago, III., and Ormond A. Forte, Cleveland, Ohio.

From the very first day, it was easily evident to the residents of the Greater Kansas Cities that there was gathered a group of young men with a definite purpose and, although there were many and various social events planned and given in honor of the visiting fraternity men by the hospitable citizens of the Greater Kansas Cities, nothing was permitted to interfere with the performance of the definite work of the Fraternity and the drawing up of plans for the large and important program to be followed during the present year. One of the important matters agreed upon was the continuance of the "Go to High School, Go to College Movement," which was inaugurated and conducted throughout the United States by the Fraternity last year. This year the Fraternity hopes to make the movement even more effective.

#### Boule-Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority.

THE annual convention of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority was held this year at Cleveland, Ohio, December 27, 28, 29. This beautiful city extended every courtesy to the delegates and visitors. The sessions of the Boulé were held in the Phyllis Wheatley Association building, corner Central Ave. and Fortieth St. The growth of this, the first Negro sorority, was apparent in the work of the able representatives from twelve chapters located in the leading universities of the country.

The open session was held Monday, December 27, 1920, at Lane Metropolitan Church (this is one of the largest colored churches of the city) and a large audience enjoyed the program of the evening. The meeting was presided over by Mrs. Lucretia Grant, President of the local chapter, who welcomed the members of the Boulé. Mr. Garrett Chavous of Pi Chapter, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, also welcomed the visitors to Cleveland. Mrs. L. Green, the national President, introduced Miss Hallie Q. Brown, who delivered the address of the evening. A solo was rendered by Mrs. C. Taylor of Cleveland. The meeting closed with all singing "America."

The delegates, among other hospitalities, were tendered a delightful luncheon at the beautiful home of Dr. Edwardina Grant, a member of Eta Chapter. The rooms were decorated with the sorority colors and covers laid for sixty. Caterer McNaughton served the sumptuous repast. Nothing of holiday spirit was lacking on this occasion.

The entire time spent in Cleveland was most profitable, for the accomplishments were great and the lines were laid for better work each year for Negro college women. Miss Gilpin, Misses Boyd and Quander were delegates from Washington.

#### Tau Delta Sigma Notes.

TAU DELTA SIGMA, Howard's Law Fraternity, has moved into its new home at 913 Rhode Island Ave., N. W. The home was purchased last summer at https://dh.howard.edu/hurecord/vol15/iss4/1 38

a price of \$10,000. It contains seven spacious dormitory rooms, a parlor, library, club room, dining room, kitchen and bath. Its location is very desirable for a Fraternity house; just two doors from the new home of the Y. W. C. A. and in the same block with other valuable property recently purchased by Colored people.

The men of Tau Delta Sigma have a peculiar distinction; they compose the only Fraternity exclusively for Negro law students in the world. The prime object of the organization is to establish a Negro Bar Association. Every member takes pride in the fact that he has the opportunity of becoming a charter member of the National Negro Bar Association in America. The Fraternity, together with its graduate members, expect to perfect the organization in the near future.

Under the leadership of Mr. Ray A. Clark, Chief Justice, the Fraternity has risen in high esteem of the University and the representative citizens of Washington. The Chief Justice submitted recommendations to the members containing plans to facilitate the meeting of all financial obligations, also an outline of all social and literary activities for the fiscal year. As a result of the adoption of the recommendations and of the hearty co-operation of the committees and members, the hopes of the Fraternity are being realized.

Messrs. C. Elliot Jones, W. B. Chandler, and John A. Davis compose the Social Committee. This committee is always active. Very recently this committee was instrumental in bringing to us in our regular meeting Attorney W. L. Houston of the District bar, who favored us with a very brilliant and instructive exposition on the "Trial of Cases." We regret, however, that we are unable to carry out all the recommendations of the committee for this scholastic year. The "At Home" on January 1 and the Annual Banquet in the spring will probably be the only social functions enjoyed.

We expect some good material from the Junior Class. The Membership Committee, Mr. D. B. Mason, Chairman, is in the reviewing stand and every member of the Junior Class is scrutinized closely as he passes in review, and his class work, literary ability, social standing, and general adaptability to fraternity life are taken into account. Applications will be received until February 1.

Messrs. H. V. Tucker, J. Wellman Smith and Chas. H. Wills compose the Executive Committee. This committee deserves much credit for the manner in which the business of the Fraternity is managed. Mr. John W. Rowe Treasurer, and Herbert F. McGirt, Secretary, are kept busy checking and balancing the enormous sums of money handled by this committee for the Fraternity.

The Fraternity is kept in touch with all the activities on the campus by Messrs. Gassoway and Haynes, designated the campus committee. These gentlemen can be seen on the campus at any time. Mr. William E. Jennifer, our Corresponding Secretary, is constantly in touch with the Alumni of the Law School and graduate members of the Fraternity.

Messrs. J. C. Jones, Associate Justice; F. S. Bledsoe, Parliamentarian; Harry M. Green, Accountant; T. E. Graves, Keeper of Records and Seal; G. W. Peterson, Sergeant-at-Arms; Berry H. Hill, G. J. Waiters, Richard W. Thompkins, constitute the machine which defends the Fraternity against corrupt politics. Attorney G. E. C. Hayes, Legal Adviser, is ever ready to defend our legal rights against outside aggression.

The house has taken on a home-like appearance, through the excellent business management of the Chairman of the House Committee, Mr. Fritz W. Alexander; every convenience and comfort is furnished the "Fraters" without reminding them of the high cost of living. The latest addition to the home

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is the Fraternity Cuisine. This department is under the immediate supervision of Mr. F. D. Calimore, Steward. With this addition, together with an excellent housekeeper, the home is complete.

"Fraters" in Facultate and Honorary Members: Judge Robt. H. Terrell, Attorneys Jas. A. Cobb, R. D. Evans, Wm. H. Richards, and W. L. Houston.

### Professor and Mrs. Tibbs Entertain the Phi Beta Sigma.

PROFESSOR AND MRS. TIBBS entertained the members of the Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity on December 11, 1920, from 8 to 12 P. M. This was one of the most brilliant affairs of the pre-Christmas season. Professor and Mrs. Tibbs proved themselves to be charming hosts. The most interesting part of the evening's entertainment was the rendition of a specially prepared program.

On this program appeared Miss Albriton, a dramatic soprano, who is now in the East studying in Boston, and who is formerly of Los Angeles, Calif. She sang two selections, "L'echo" and "Thank God for a Garden." She has an exquisite voice. Mr. Benjamin Ragsdale sang very delightfully "Thou Art Risen, My Beloved." Mr. Frank Harrison gave two Norwegian folk songs. In these songs the deeper tones of Mr. Harrison's voice were delightfully displayed, and also his subtle gift for characterization. By special request Mrs. Tibbs, the talented wife of our generous host, sang an original selection, "I Wish That You Would Always Smile." Mrs. Tibbs' voice was in rare form and her selection was received with great applause. This was a fitting climax to a very well rendered program.

The guests then assembled in the spacious dining-room where a delicious luncheon was served. Mr. J. O. Harris, President of Phi Beta Signa, made a few remarks in appreciation of the hospitality of the distinguished hosts. The guests then took their departure, carrying out to the letter as they went. and, in the sweet recollection of this ever-to-be-remembered delightful occasion, ever to carry out the desire of Mrs. Tibbs in her selection, "I Wish That You Would Always Smile."

#### Social Gossip.

"MARTHA has put one over on you, Captain; look out for Chauncey."

MR. BILLIE WETHERS says "Alpha Kappa Alpha" in his sleep. He thinks he is telephoning. "Save your nickels, Billie."

"WHY have you gone back to Percy, Martha? Does he fulfill 'the requirements of the much-desired husband?"

"WHY so changeable, Higginbottom? Won't Thelma take you back?"

BABE SHANNON is a real senior; she has at last found a man (who rules her actions).

"BEWARE of the Oklahoma vamps! They break your heart and then cast you aside. Ask Lawrence; he knows."

MR. NELSON lines his path with friend oysters and walks straight into Rosella's heart. "Try investing in oysters, Captain."

SAY, Sydney, wasn't it a little chilly down in Norfolk this Xmas? Poor "Vi" wonders why Sydney is so nice to her now.

Dors Miss Jackson have any convictions of her own?

WHY does Miss Miller hang around Miss Cooper when she wears a diamond ring on her third finger of the left hand?

DOESN'T "Bill" Thomas know the danger he is running when he runs with the widows?

WHAT preparations has Miss Phillips used on her hair? Most likely Black and White, which is guaranteed to grow hair on a door knob.

P. HARDWICK is rather fly for an old married man.

https://dh.howard.edu/hurecord/vol15/iss4/1

MISS O. HARRIS has brought the latest style from New York. She would be seen at a dance in Spaulding Hall with a hat and veil.

ARE women becoming scarce? It seemed that way when a letter was written to Howard by a single man who was in terrible need of a wife.

WHY do so many of the girls give handsome presents to male friends who give them nothing in return?

WHY doesn't W. Wethers tell Sadye Spence about his friend, E. W.?

ARE Ernest Jordon and "Fred" Dyett playing Damon and Pythias?

MISS INEZ GORDON has succumbed before a cave man; she's r real bolshevik dealing in "Red."

LISTEN, C. Blackman, are you still in love with S. M. S.?

MISS MAYME GREEN has changed her hair dress. Why? To show her Xmas present from Paul.

Is it customary for ladies to accept Xmas presents of expensive prices from men they have known only two weeks? Ask V. Brown.

#### A Bit of Comparison.

Man's savage forces in constant motion Spends his time in ceaseless strife; And on ambition's stormy ocean Wildly treads the paths of life.

While-

The soft soul of woman sighs breathes forth, too, At the sad tale of misery tenderly grieving; See all her bosom with sympathy heaving, Her melting eyes sparkling with heavenly dew.

S. M. SPENCE.

THE "TIDE WATER CLUB" was quite an inspiration to the communities of Norfolk and Portsmouth during the holiday. The club gave its second Christmas dansante December 27, 1920, at the Norfolk Auditorium and was commended for their good spirit and high-class fun. It is through this club that many of the members of Southeast Virginia learn of and turn to Howard. The officers are: President, Mr. Wm. Skinner; Vice President, E. A. Lightner; Secretary, Gladys Turner.

CHRISTMAS brought a new gift, "The Xmas Rose Club"-no officers, no particular purpose except the good old spirit.

THE boys of Clark Hall opened their doors for inspection New Year's Day and it is with pride we record the fact, that among the rooms there are model college rooms for which any hall might be pleased to boast; and their occupants proved to their visitors that they knew what it meant to be real hosts.

#### Welcome.

To those who enter our college walls this quarter we extend a heart; welcome and open our arms to aid you in fulfilling every want for higher and nobler accomplishments. May your New Year with the others of our University be one of real work, extensive, intensive and profitable. May you meet the Howard Challenge fully.

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#### Basket Ball.

The referee's whistle is being primed for Howard as fast as this season's basket throwers can be fitted and moulded into shape. The basket ball program for this scholastic year is somewhat slower in gathering its momentum than in former years, but surely as the mills of the gods grind, this season will be one of many victories.

Coach Morrison has a group of forty huskies training and struggling for the five positions on the team. Imagine the rivalry! In order to grasp the situation, dear alumni, recall the days when you contended for some 'Varsity position and then remember that the opposition was not relatively so large. The forty lads are being put through the mill every day. At the present time these aspirants are flounting their worth to the public on Saturdays when there are class and departmental games. The noticeable contest in this type game was that between the "Paenes" and Sophomores, at which time the "Paenes" again surprised and defeated the Sophs. So with daily training and Saturday exhibition, power and ability will be developed by the players, and enthusiasm and faith by the students. This combination assures all the opponents, which include Lincoln, Wilberforce, Hampton, that their plight is lost. The newly elected captain, Percy Richardson, says, "watch us."

Track.

"THEY'RE OFF, there they go." Such expressions are heard from track enthusiasts. And truly Howard is about to be off on her track work. The first call for those interested has been sounded and the response is to be made the very day we go to press, Jan. 10. Big things are promised the track men, including entrance in the big meets in New England and the Atlantic conferences.

We entered the Penn. Meet last year and made a decent showing considering all phases. This season we hope for a better showing and for a big meet to be held on our own Campus. W. T. ANDREWS, JR.



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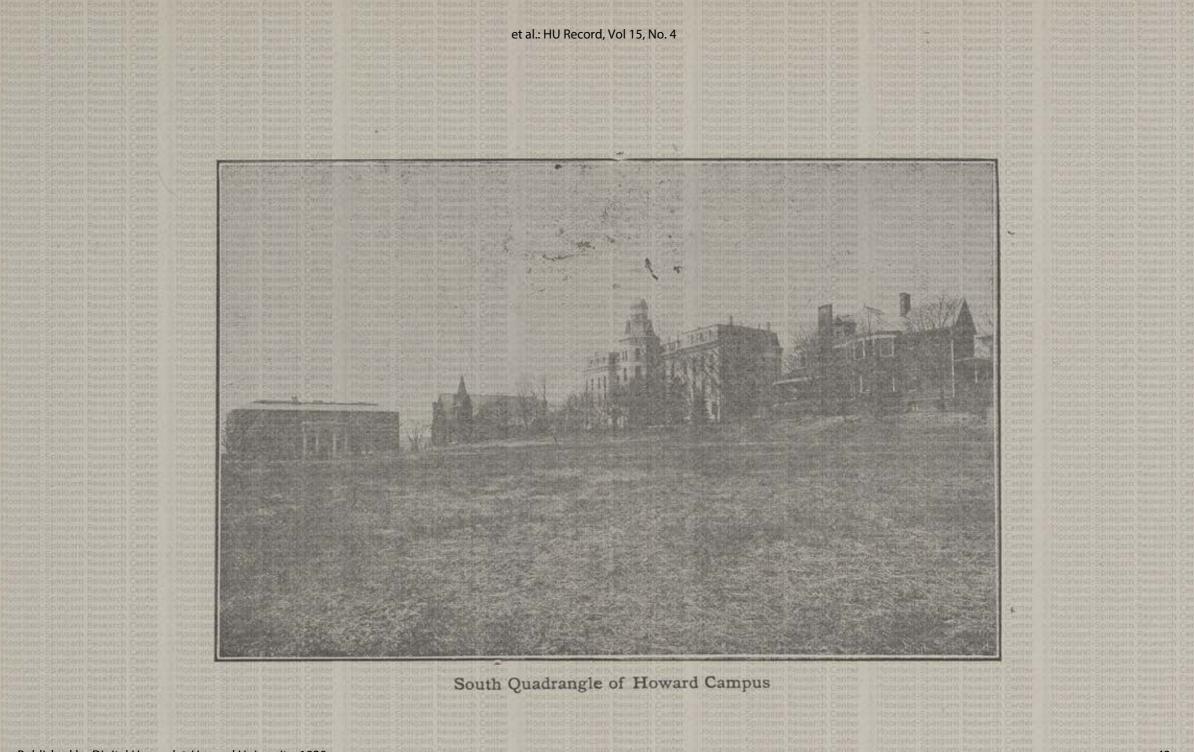
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#### UNDERGRADUATE OPINION

#### THE TRUE SPIRIT OF GIVING-A PRESSING NEED OF THE DAY.

At no time in the history of mankind has the opportunity for helping men been so great as it is today. Although the good things of life are finding their way into the homes of the common folk and into the farthest quarters of the earth, there is no doubt that there are more people destitute of the sheer necessities of life today than any previous time can record. That dreadful storm, which swept the earth in its entirety only a few days ago, has left tens of millions of men hungry, naked, and sad who were formerly happy and reasonably satisfied. The hardships of the day are increasing unhappiness in appalling proportions.

The weak, everywhere, are appealing to the strong for protection and assistance. The local institutions are receiving requests for help in a manner not thought of before. The Church, the Y. M. C. A., the Y. W. C. A., the Salvation Army, the Associated Charities are all being flooded with these petitions. Even the poor of far distant nations are appealing for succor. Armenians, Germans, Austrians, and Russians are all holding out empty and eager hands.

Along with this great human cry of the age, comes a challenge to the so-called giver. A challenge which was met by Christ in a most handsome manner. "In what manner," says the challenge, "are you answering this call? Is your giving done upon the basis of love or do you have some ulterior motive? Are you giving for the purpose of enlarging the lives of men or are you giving to imprison, to cramp, the very souls of men? Indeed, giving which is not upon the basis of love is not giving."

One is startled in observing the spirit in which much of the giving is done in our time. Indeed, too many men take it as a means of real investing. There is a marked tendency on the part of many of us to assist none other than friends. These, very often, are given gifts so that the giver may receive more in return than he gives.

It seems that lending, today, is done so that the lender may borrow; and he who cannot lend stands a poor chance of borrowing. That there is a real material gain in giving and lending, cannot be denied, even when it is done out of the cleanest and most sincere heart. Altruism, after all, is simply a means of self help and self defense. The more my neighbour has, the stronger and riches is my community. The more enlightenment that there is in my neighborhood, the better is the environment for my family, my friends and myself. This spirit of giving, however, which is forgetful of the interest of Humanity, looking purely upon selfish acquirements, is upon too low a level.

The age in which we live demands a change in the spirit of giving. Most people who seek our assistance today, can give no immediate return for what help they receive. It is, indeed, that extremely poor class of people who should be the objects of our charity. Besides, most of the poor are in far distant lands. Africans, Armenians, Austrians, Germans, and Russians are all dependents upon the charity of mankind, most of whom, those who assist will never see. The very ideals of the age demand that something which is higher than material ends should prompt men in succoring one another. There is an idealism in the world which is not out of harmony with the teaching of Jesus himself; according to which, the strong are to bear the burdens of the weak; and men are obligated to love all other men as they do their very selves.

The need for the true Spirit of Giving is felt on the two sides-on the side of the giver and on the side of the receiver. There are large numbers of men who

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are making both large and small contributions to suffering mankind. There are great indispensable institutions which, if they do not receive contributions from the people, must cease to function. There is even a demand for more than what is being given. Really, suffering humanity needs more than can be sacrificed at the present time. Giving, however, cannot be carried on indefinitely unless there is a stronger power at its very root than selfish interests. Those who are contributing need the true spirit of giving, so that as they give, they may develop a greater sense of love and sympathy for their fellowmen. In fact, this is the sole means of developing these powers. How much better would the world be a year from to day if all givers of gifts would allow this spirit to prompt their acts of charity.

On the other hand, it follows that there are great numbers of recipients of gifts. One needs only to think of the many ships which have been fitted out here in America for the poor of Northern and Central Europe and the near East to realize upon what a large scale these people have partaken of the charity of the American people.

In all of these acts of charity, it must be borne in mind at all times that people can receive gifts in the true spirit only when the very spirit itself prompts the giving of the gifts. Men must be given gifts out of hearts of love in order that they may be received in the right spirit. There is something in the heart of the most backward man that makes him feel a sense of indebtedness to the world for acts of love and true friendship. But why should a man feel indebted to the world for what he buys of the world? When the poor are given bread and clothes, but suffer exploitation, and domination, in turn, what has been given them more than what has been taken away from them? The conditions of the world afford one of the greatest opportunities for the spreading of the Kingdom of God that can be conceived of. There is an opportunity to make tens of millions of people feel a sense of indebtedness to humanity. At this moment, if men will only operate upon the right principles in helping one another, the hearts of all classes, groups, and races will be joined together by unbreakable ties.

The world is, indeed, in need of friendship, sympathy, and love. The spirit of the past has not been one of true friendship. Men have neither been forced to remain poor or dependent in other respects. In the past, too little opportunity has been given unfortunate members of society to develop any degree of individuality, for which the world is greatly suffering. The unsettled state of the world's affairs and the great cry which is made for assistance makes it possible to strengthen the ties of Brotherhood, by making all men feel mutually obligated. The spirit of the past cannot bring this about. L. K. McMILLAN, '22.

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#### OF EDUCATIONAL INTEREST.

#### The Twenty-fourth Annual Meeting of the American Negro Academy, Held at the Dunbar High School, Tuesday and Wednesday, December 28th and 29th, 1920.

THE American Negro Academy, which meets in Washington each December, this year held its twenty-fourth annual session, in the Dunbar High School, as the guest of the Dunbar Civic Central Council, of the Community Center Department, of the Washington Public Schools; and in addition to the usual papers, read by scholars of the race, a collection of rare prints, pictures, portraits, manuscripts, books and other evidences of the intellectual progress and achievements of the race, were on exhibition in the library of the school building, and open, free to the general public, each day from noon until 10 P. M.

This exhibit is an effort of the Academy to live up to its aims and objects and get others of the race interested in gathering and preserving similar bibliography and historical data. In addition to rare pictures, etc., of Toussaint L'Overture, the Dumas', Ira Aldridge, Benjamin Banneker, Phillis Wheatley, and other literary pioneers, members of the Academy xhibited historical data of the great Abolitionists, among them John Brown, Lloyd Garrison, Calvin Fairbanks, Thaddeus Stevens, Gerritt Smith, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Charles Sumner, Wendell Phillips, Albion Tourgee and others. The main portion of the exhibit consisted of selections from the celebrated collections of Mr. Arthur A. Schomburg, of Brooklyn, N. Y., Dr. Charles D. Martin, of New York City, and Mr. Henry P. Slaughter, of Washington, D. C., now the owner of the noted "Bolivar Collection," of the late Mr. Carl Bolivar, of Philadelphia.

The program for the sessions was as follows:

Tuesday.

11:00 A. M .- Business session.

7:30 P. M .- Annual address of the President, John W. Cromwell. Subject, "The Challenge of the Disfranchised." Paper: "The Negro's Part in the Spread of Christianity," Rev. Charles D. Martin, of Beth Tphillah Church, New York.

#### Wednesday.

11:00 A. M .- Business session. Election of officers.

7:30 P. M.-Address: "The Three-fold View of Character," Chaplain T. G. Steward, U. S. A., retired, Wilberforce University, Wilberforce, Ohio. Paper: "Some Phases of the Haitian Situation," J. Weldon Johnson, Secretary, N. A. A. C. P., New York. Address: Topic, "Einstein's Theory of Relativity," Robert T. Browne, Brooklyn, N. Y.



#### COUNTERWEIGHTS

SENIOR: "When I graduate I shall step into a position at \$20,000 per-"" TEACHER: "Per what?"

SENIOR: "Perhaps."

While little Dorothy was visiting, her hostess' dog came running up and stopped before her, panting. Seeing his tongue out, Dorothy said, "I's not a doctor, doggie."

#### How to Make a Million.

#### Invent:

A reinforced, concrete shoe lace. A whistling collar button. Soap with a handle to it. Lead pencil with unbreakable point.

A safety razor that cuts whiskers only.

"MK. STARR," said the business manager to his leading man, "you must not let your mind dwell so much on your new car. In the third act, when you should have said, 'Ye Gods I am statbed!' you shouted, 'I am punctured'."

"I can give you a cold bite," said the woman. "Why not warm it up?" asked the tramp. "There ain't any wood sawed." "So? Well, give it to me cold."

The darkest hour is when you can't find a match.

MOTHER: "Why don't you yawn when he stays too long? He'll take the hint and go."

DAUGHTERS "I did and he told me what beautiful teeth I had."

VISITOR (at Blind Asylum): "I thought this institution was for both sexes, but I see only men here. Have you no female inmates?"

MATR/N: "Oh, yes, but they have all been rented out for chaperones."

"I sang to my love a loud, sweet song,

Out there in the starlit night.

To wake her heart from its slumber long;

And I asked for a flower so white,

A flower which should express her love,

Gleaming with new fallen dew.

But why, oh why, from so far above,

Did she throw the flower pot too?"

"Laugh and the class laughs with you:

Laugh and you laugh alone;

The first, when the joke's the teacher's,

The last, when the joke is your own."

Oily to bed and oily to rise,

Is the fate of a man when an auto he buys.

FRESHIE: "In what course will you graduate?" SENIOR: "In the course of time."

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Boy: "Say, Jim, where are you in Sunday School?"

PAL: "We are in the middle of original sin."

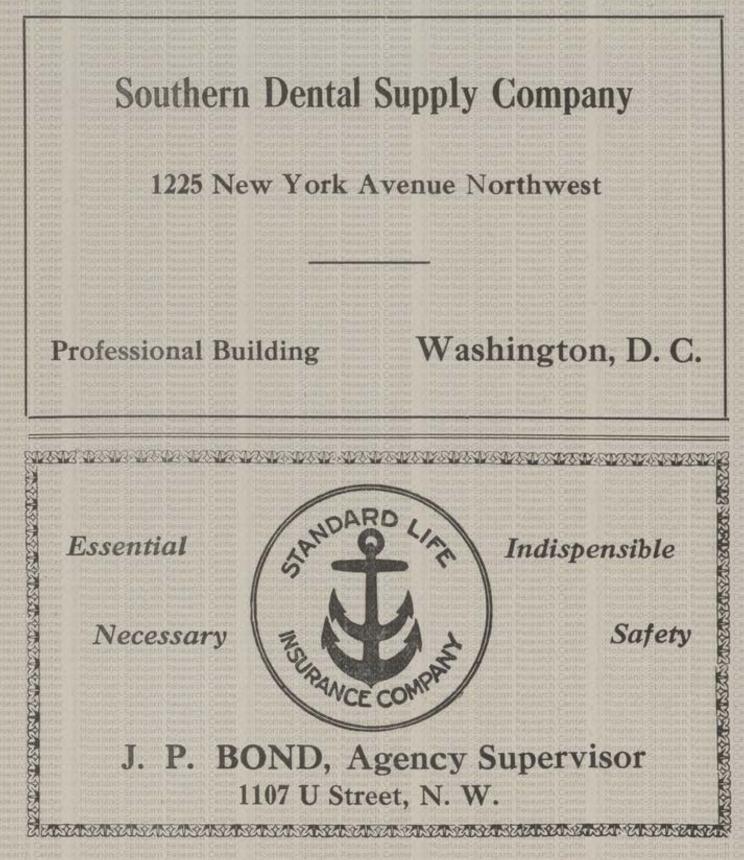
Boy: "Gee, that ain't much. We are past redemption."

"Silently, one by one, in the infinite books of the teachers, Blossom the little zeros, the forget-me-nots of the Seniors."

#### DISSERTATION ON GEORGE WASHINGTON. (By a French Lad.)

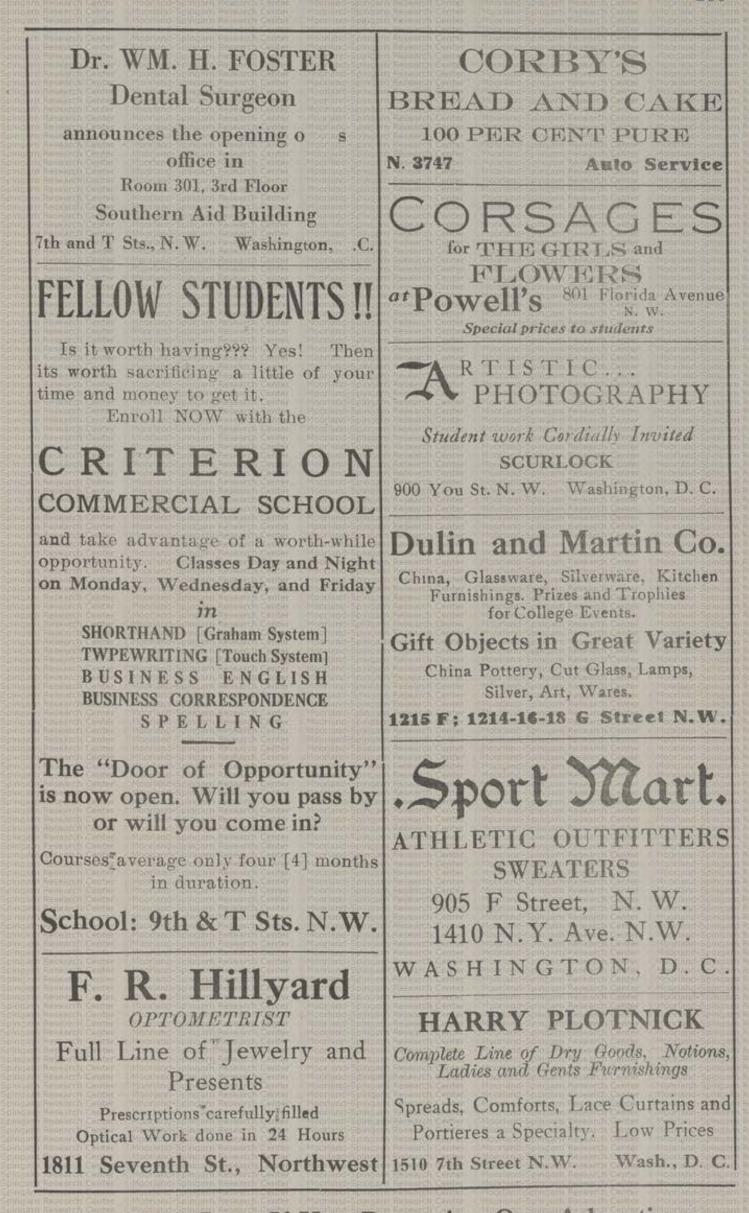
GEORGE WASHINGTON, so noble father of his great campagne, was the large hero to which we should look for inspiration to noble deed. He was born in 22 fevrier, 1. In these grande month we should not lie, because these noble father never did. Cherry trees are always attached to petite hatchets in these month because great George cut them down with those and tolde it with grand nobility of soul, while his soul touched him not through wideness of heart.

Also these great parent of America was in the wars and peace and hearts first and will never be always forget by his farmers.



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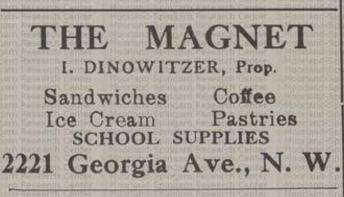
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