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LYRE TREE

Vol. 5 No. 2 October 8, 1926

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PUBLIC SPEAKING DEPARTMENT TO GIVE PLAYS

Three Will Be Presented in December

Due to the fact that in the past The Mimmers failed to produce the bills that they had planned, dramatics at St. Stephen's has been taken over as a semi-official endeavor of the Department of Public Speaking. Under this direction it is hoped that the keen interest of former years that was taken in dramatics will be revived and furthered.

As a result of the tryouts held last Saturday evening, the casts of the three plays to be given during the first week of December are as follows:

For "The Love Letters of Falstaff": Sir John Falstaff, Richter; Dame Quickly, Stevens; Bardolph, Snell; Dame Sylvia Vernon, Shissler.

For "Lovers' Meeting": Bro. Giles, Lodter; Bro. Rufus, Willcock; Beggar, Rapolla; Bro. Humble, de Valinger; Bro. Juniper, Aeschbach; King Louis of France, Fyte; His squire, Wallace; Prior, Volmer; Brother One, E. Hague; Brother Two, Smith, C. W.

For "The Man Who Married a Dumb Wife": Judge, Meyer; wife of judge, Mentzer; Attorney, Moller; Client (young lady), Watkinson; Manservant, Elton; Maidservant, S. Hague; Doctor, Crandall; Apothecary, Homan; Surgeon, Brown; Fiddler, Prouse. Minor parts for this play will be assigned later.

Coaches for this bill are Dr. de Jonge and President Bell.

It is interesting to note that in the various casts as given above the names of a good number of Freshmen appear, indicating a hearty desire to co-operate on their part.

Frosh Debates Being Organized

Last week the "Lyre Tree" asked for men of the freshman class who would be interested in forming a Freshman Debating Society. Five Frosh responded. They are Robert Shissler, John Thornton, Robert Tumble, Harvey Fite, and Reginald Wilcox.

With these as a nucleus a Debating Society is to be organized in the forthcoming weeks. They will give a debate here early in the winter, and try to arrange for debates with high schools in Poughkeepsie, Kingston, Hudson, and other large towns.

SOPHS TRIM FROSH

Class of '30 Fights Gamely to End

The long awaited clash between the sophomore and freshman football teams took place last Friday on the Zabriski field, with a 6-0 victory for the sophomores. The student body favored the class of '30 to win, basing the prediction on the results of such contests in the past, and the previous practice game between the two teams, in which, although it ended in a 6-6 tie, the frosh flashed a superior brand of teamwork. Lack of experience, together with nervousness on the part of some of the frosh, spelled defeat although they fought gamely to the end in a vain attempt to win.

Lemley kicked off to open the game and Keen ran the ball back twenty yards. A series of successful line bucks and a completed pass (Keen to Richardi) brought the ball to the frosh ten yard line. Bud Wilson tore off six yards through center and on the next play Nobis carried the ball over the line for what later proved to be the only score in the game. For remainder of the half both teams battled near the center of the field, the sophs being unable to gain substantially against a rejuvenated frosh defense.

The second half was almost a repetition of the first. The feeble and ineffective attack of the freshmen kept them constantly on the defensive and only a dogged resistance and able punting by Lemley kept the score low.

The line-up:

Freshman		Sophomore
Shissler.....	L. E.	Parsell
Miller.....	L. T.	Reynolds
Pulcifer.....	L. G.	Burbank
Smith.....	C.	Watkinson
Given.....	R. G.	Treder
Empsall.....	R. T.	Enzian
Gamble.....	R. E.	Gellert
Fite.....	R. H.	Nobis
Stancliffe.....	L. H.	Richardi
Lemley.....	F. B.	Wilson
Dolan.....	Q. B.	Keen

Substitutes for the freshmen: M. Wallace, De Valenger, D. Wallace, Averill, Wilcox.

Referee: Armstrong.

Umpire: Kunkle.

Head Linesman: Millington.

MORRILL WINS TENNIS TOURNAMENT

Defeats Brunot in Finals

The tennis tournament came to an end today when Morrill defeated Brunot 6-4, 5-7, 6-3, 6-3 in the finals. This match was one of the best of the tournament because each of the contestants played his hardest to win the honor of holding the championship of the college and the cup offered by President Bell. Morrill took the first set, Brunot the second, and then Morrill came back taking the next two, thereby winning the honors.

Thirty-two men entered the tournament. Those who reached the third round were: Ferber, Heuss, Rapolla, Brunot, Nobis, Lemley, Young, and Morrill. Ferber reached the semi-finals by beating Heuss 6-4, 6-4; Brunot by defeating Rapolla 6-3, 6-3; Lemley by conquering Nobis 6-1, 6-0; and Morrill by subduing Young 6-0, 6-0.

Brunot and Ferber fought it out for a place in the finals and Brunot won 3-7, 6-4, 6-4. Morrill met Lemley and after a close match won 3-6, (Continued on page 3)

PRESIDENT SPEAKS ON ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

Finds Similarity Between His Age and Ours

On Sunday, October 3, Fr. Bell preached one of the finest sermons that we have heard in the college chapel. As it was the day before the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the President took for his topic the life of the Saint and the meaning it has for our own age.

"Your heart shall rejoice, and your joy no man taketh from you."—St. John XVI:22.

After the Dark Ages had passed, the Middle Ages were ushered in by a period of intellectual unrest—of energy, luxury and ease. The church seemed formal, old, musty, and worn out; and the world, the flesh and the devil had a new, shining vitality. It was into such crass surroundings as this that St. Francis came as a bright, shining light.

Francis was the son of a wealthy cloth merchant. He had a good education, was probably athletic, and enjoyed life in a normal, youthful (Continued on page 3)

LECTURER SEES CULTURAL POSSIBILITIES IN AMERICAN PEOPLE

Calls Early Culture Inheritance from Europe

Dr. Boynton, of the University of Chicago, opened the series of Monday evening lectures with a discussion of Democracy and Public taste. Recent original work of this subject gave the lecturer a varied assortment of material from which he chose significant and appropriate topics. By an apt comparison of American culture and tastes with that of England and the European countries, Dr. Boynton demonstrated that America is not culturally hopeless. He pointed out that the original aristocratic culture of America was an extension of the cultural tradition of Europe; that is, American thought and interests were so closely associated with the culture and thought of these other nations that an original or very different culture could not be expected.

America passed through a period of this aristocratic culture (which still survives in the undemocratic grand opera), and then experienced

a period of decadence before any original cultural traditions were formed. To illustrate this point, the lecturer traced the progress of architecture, the theatre and music. In each case the real democratic culture is seen to be an original contribution which has advanced greatly in mechanical improvements even when its artistic expression has failed to keep pace.

A cultural distinction was made between the show-going and the theatre-going classes of people. The application of this analogy to other phases of art was implied. Dr. Boynton closed his lecture by urging that American culture should not be underrated nor over praised. "The public is always pleased to accept something better, even though it chooses the commonplace when a choice is offered." Demosthenes saw no reason for losing hope when confronted with a cultural problem similar to our own. Dr. Boynton expressed the same opinion for the present age.

The Lyre Tree

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The Lyre Tree is published semi-monthly during the college year, by the students of St. Stephen's College.

Subscriptions and business communications pertaining to other than advertising should be addressed to the Business Manager. All advertising matter should be addressed to the Advertising Manager.

All over-due subscriptions will be discontinued.

Price of Subscription
The Lyre Tree.....\$2.00

"Entered as second-class matter October 26, 1922, at the post office at Annandale-on-Hudson, N. Y., under the Act of March 3, 1879."

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Part of the constructive policy of this paper is the promotion of extra curricula activities. We realize that in the last two years, this important aspect of college life has been sadly neglected at St. Stephen's. Look about you. What student groups are there, organized and managed by students? You may say, Dramatics, but the autumn plays this year are an eloquent witness of the lack of interest and responsibility on the students in their own dramatic organization in the past. The Mimmers has become completely disorganized, and if it had not been for the initiative of the Public Speaking Department in putting on these plays, at present being prepared, dramatics would have been a nonentity at St. Stephen's.

Yet who can question the supreme importance of not only dramatics, but all extra curricula activity among students. To take part in this is one of the most valuable opportunities given to a student in his college career, and if he fails to seize it, he loses, we venture to say fifty per cent of college training. One of the greatest values of a college education is that it helps the youth to find himself, and consequently his place in society. And no part of his life at college is so important in this, as his participation in student activities. It is in his dramatic clubs, his literary and debating societies, in his contact with fellow students in solving for himself problems of management of organization, that capacity for creative work, of the combination of old ideas in new ways which it is the function of education to foster and

stimulate, is given the greatest possible advantage for exercise and development.

Now being practically the only active student organization left, the "Lyre Tree," with a deep sense of not only its opportunity, but also its responsibility has taken the initiative in starting student activity along these lines. We wish to bring the student's attention to the Freshman Debating Society and the Forum, both at present being organized.

The organization of this Debating Society is based on the belief that there is no activity more important in the formation of habits of careful and straightforward thinking, in the acquisition of a background and method of study of current affairs. Moreover, debating is rapidly coming to the front as an intercollegiate activity. We hear more and more each year of debates between leading universities, not only at home, but also abroad. It is part of the college's responsibility to society at large that it take its place in this worldwide activity. This Freshman Debating Society will be in a few years, a college debating society, and we hope, a participant in intercollegiate debates.

The Forum which is being given under our auspices, is another very important form of student organizations. We, being secluded from actual contact with world affairs, are apt to forget too easily their existence. However, our contact with the past that we make in our classes, is not only enriched in meaning by a contact with the present, but is only justified from a social point of view by our ultimate participation in current affairs.

We will not stop here, if in the future we see any activity that is not receiving its rightful part in our college life, we will do all in our power to stimulate its organization. But further than that we cannot go. We are but a very few. We cannot BE these activities. We leave that part for you to take.

We wish to take this opportunity to thank the President for his sermon last Sunday morning. We know by testing student opinions, that it touched the fundamental desires, wants and dilemmas of the students' life, and we feel certain that if there were more of that kind of sermon up here, religion would come to mean much more to all of us.

CONCERNING THE "MESSENGER"

We regret to announce that due to financial difficulties, we have been forced to discontinue the publication of our literary quarterly, the "Messenger," at least temporarily. We realize the importance of such a magazine in a college as a stimulus to student creative works in general and literary activity in particular, and we hope that by next spring we may be in such a position as to recontinue its publication.

TO THE ALUMNI

Since this is your paper as well as ours, we will do all in our power to make it useful and interesting to you. We are willing to have an "Alumni Notes" column, whereby each of you may know what the others are doing. Therefore, any contributions from you will be gladly received.

This being a journal of student opinions in general, we urge you to communicate to us any suggestions or criticisms, both of us and of student affairs in general, that you may have. They may be printed unsigned if you so desire, although the writer's name must be known to the editor.

KAPPA GAMMA CHI ENTERTAINS

Kappa Gamma Chi held a reception for the faculty and students at the fraternity house on the evening of September 24. Mrs. B. I. Bell, Mrs. K. O. Crosby, Mrs. Courtland Prowse, and Mrs. Springstead were the hostesses. The Rev. Mr. A. Richey and the Rev. Mr. Springstead were the alumni guests.

SOPHS TO SUPPORT JUNIORS IN FALL DANCE

At a meeting of the Sophomore class last week, it was agreed that they should pledge themselves to support the Juniors in their prom. This is very timely as the Juniors had about decided to give up their dance for this year, the students having refused to pledge their support in convocation.

A joint meeting of the two classes will be held shortly for their committees to arrange the dance.

SKATING RINK TO BE BUILT

A new ice skating rink is soon to be built north of the present athletic field. The creek will be dammed and the level valley flooded. This will afford a rink for ice hockey as well as for other skating. It is hoped that under the direction of Mr. Banks, the new athletic coach, an ice hockey team will be developed. Nothing can be said yet as to whether St. Stephens has any ice hockey players with previous experience but the new recreation will certainly provide a real outdoor sport for the long winter at Annandale.

VERSE

YOUTH

You wonder at your Youth.
Fool. How you blunder.
You pack them tight in cities,
Hedge them with noise and stone.

You know—
Your human spirit is a wanderer
Gourmet of paths and flavors,
A communing spirit.

Not a common soul.
Gregarious monkey.
Ape of nothing.

Dare yourself.
Childlike take your turn.
Be Fair. Follow finely in your time
Or they'll leave you to roast toast,
shiver and freeze
In your city of tar, walls and twisted
geese.

Envy's YOUR spirit, not Pride.
You boast of your mammoth Town,
Your narrow, thousand windowed
alleys.
Selfish egoist!
Delighting in your copybook, multi-
plicate.
"Progress," you say. Yes. Arithme-
tical.

Youth flies hard and fast to the open
land, the sea.

Ah you are Bitter!
For you have forgotten
The early evening sickle moon,
Night hours — shadowed, cool, star-
lighted.
Warm sunrise along a drowsy open
road.

Envious. Selfish. Bitter.
Fool! Wake Up!
—W. C. L.

TO HER

I am the trellis
On which you climb
The vine,
Bursting in fragrant blossoms,
Adorning my ugliness
With loveliness.
—Contributed.

Beginning with the coming week, the choir will sing a hymn at Evensong on each Thursday evening. The first of them will be given, on October 7, will be "Worship God in Nature."

SENIORS ELECT OFFICERS

Propose Senior Ball Instead of Spring Dance

On Tuesday evening, September 28, a meeting of the senior class was called by Harold Bartley, president, for the purpose of electing men to the offices made vacant by those who did not return this year. The newly elected officers are as follows: Frank S. Patterson, vice-president; Frederick Richter, treasurer; and Kenneth Urquhart, secretary.

At this meeting it was decided to bring before the Convocation of Undergraduates the proposition of changing the name of the annual "Spring Dance" to the "Senior Ball," the seniors assuming complete responsibility for all arrangements, but supported by the students as has been the custom in the past.

It was also decided to have a class banquet sometime shortly before Commencement in order to enable the fellows to get together for probably the last time in many years. A committee consisting of King, chairman; Patterson and Shrigley, was appointed by the president to make arrangements for this final "get together."

CHANGE IN BASKET-BALL SCHEDULE

The varsity basketball schedule, it has been learned, is slightly changed from that printed in the last "Lyre Tree." The games definitely scheduled are with Fordham, Union, Dartmouth, Yale, Amherst, Clarkson, R. P. I., West Point, Williams, Middlebury and St. Lawrence. In addition to these there are eight other games which our manager is trying to get on our schedule. They are: Albany State, Brooklyn Poly, St. Francis, St. Johns, Hobart, Springfield, Rutgers, and St. Josephs. If these teams can be booked six of the eight games will be played at Annandale. Practice will start on October 15th, and the first game is scheduled with Fordham at Fordham on December 8th. The manager is attempting to get a game with Albany State on December 4.

Mr. Banks has issued a call for those interested in handball to sign up for the tournament which he hopes to get under way soon for the championship of the college. Then later, when the winter season comes, he plans on having interclass basketball games.

MORRILL WINS TENNIS TOURNAMENT

(Continued from page 1)
6-3, 6-3. This left Brunot and Morrill to play it out for the championship. Brunot was the victor. The match was a hard one. After four continuous sets Morrill came out the victor.

The ceded players were: Morrill, Brunot, Dodd, Heuss, Rapolla, Lemley, and Tilton.

PRESIDENT SPEAKS ON ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

(Continued from page 1)

way. An illness of long duration came upon him, however, during which he grew impatient for the resuming of his fun. When he had recovered, he looked about him, and saw—nothing. The old frivolities; the pursuit of happiness in material things; tawdriness; sugar-coating—he pierced through all of it, and saw sheer blackness.

This is an experience which comes to all of us. In eras like ours and his, we make a compromise with reality. Life seems dull and monotonous, and we become cynical. We are not happy. Francis was like us up to this point, but unlike us he couldn't acquiesce. He had to love, and love passionately, not love in the abstract—but something real. His senses were a barrier between him and love. He had known women but he found he couldn't love them. He tried to make his country the object of his love, but found it impossible. Then he saw that he was pursuing the easiest, most obvious way; and came to realize that he must choose the difficult one. Therefore, he went out to the poor, the unfortunate, the lepers, and give up his life to them; and he found real life in loving his fellows in a true Christ-like manner.

Francis' father thought him demented. He had him imprisoned, and finally brought before the Bishop's court. There in the presence of the crowd Francis stripped himself of his fine clothes and placed them at his father's feet, saying, "All this you have given me, now I give it back." And asking a beggar for his shift he donned it, and went forth avowedly to be poor.

Francis was supremely happy. The world took on a beauty which he could see but others couldn't. He saw nature in God, Whom now he could love as he had never loved Him before.

He knew his limitations. He honored the priesthood, but didn't feel that he was called to enter it. He was not an orator, neither was he an administrator. But he sang, he laughed, and found fun in living. He had a sense of humor and called himself "le jongleur de Dieu"—"God's little funny man." People stopped ridiculing him, and began to see that he had found something. Then they began to respect him. And later two rich men and a farmer lad followed and formed a nucleus for the great Franciscan Order, which grew rapidly and spread all over Europe. Wherever Francis went, the lives of the people were changed; the church lost its formality; and many became "little brothers of the poor."

We today have much. We may have great material possessions, but we haven't grasped reality; and our souls are hungry for it. We seek it in the easy and obvious ways. We seek it in wisdom. But "God has hidden these things from the wise

and prudent, and has revealed them unto babes." St. Francis tells us to choose the hard way and to love; to break through the barriers and become "jongleurs de Dieu."

President Bell reports that he enjoyed a very interesting and beneficial trip to Europe this summer. Four weeks of his trip were spent in England, during which time Dr. Bell sought merely amusement. The president included in his tour pilgrimages to Glastonbury; the shrine of Saint Albans, at Saint Albans; the shrine of Saint Edward, the Confessor, at Westminster; the shrine of Saint Thomas a Becket at Canterbury; and the scene of the martyrdom of Saint Jean d'Arc at Rouan.

President Bell met a number of his old friends, and had the pleasure of visiting G. Chesterton at Beaconsfield.

NEW DEPARTMENT CREATED AT U. OF P. TO CARE FOR CLASS LAGGARDS

Expert Psychologist Chosen for Personnel Officer

In an article published recently in the New York "Herald-Tribune," Dr. Robert H. Brotemarkle, a well known psychologist, was appointed as personnel officer in the newly formed "College Department."

The function of the department is to eliminate educational waste represented by the time and effort spent on students who ultimately drop out of college because of deficient scholarship or other causes that can be eliminated by "starting the student right."

The function of the Personnel Officer is to serve as both student advisor and technician to the dean of the college. It will be his duty to find out the defects and special abilities of students needing attention and treat each individual case.

•News clipping follows:

"Members of the faculty, as well as administrative officers, realize that there is a certain proportion of failures on the part of students to maintain normal standing in class work, and a committee was appointed some months ago to work out suggestions that might be expected to result in improvement in college work," said Dr. McClelland. "Among students who fail, a large proportion give every evidence of possessing all the capacities of intelligence and intellect necessary to profit by a college education.

"They fail for other reasons. Lack of application, lack of knowledge of how to study, ill-health, financial difficulties, social mal-adjustment and excess time devoted to extra-curricular activities are among the factors.

"In many cases, these difficulties are such as may be corrected when the trouble has been located, and the committee felt that some plan should be worked out whereby, at the very first occurrence of class-room deficiency, the case might be thoroughly investigated.

"It was then decided that this could be accomplished best through the selection of a capable man to serve as personnel officer, and to whom all cases, particularly those of the freshman class, could be referred for analysis, diagnosis and advice. Because of the psychological aspects presented in many cases, it was felt that a man combining both experience in personnel work and in practical psychology with a personality that would enable him to win the confidence of students should be selected as personnel officer."

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