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LYRE TREE

Vol. 6 No. 3 November 4, 1927

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President Read from Three Modern Poets

Masters, Masefield and Tagore Presented in Lecture to Students and Guests

In view of the recent discussion which has been carried on in this paper concerning the inability of the St. Stephen's student body to enjoy the more "classical" Monday night recitals, it was very interesting to notice the close and genuine attention paid by the audience to the poetry reading by Dr. Bell on Monday night, October 24th. The purpose of the reading was, as Dr. Bell said, to start an interest among students for the reading of modern poetry. To this end he chose three poets from which to take selections. The first was an American, Mr. Edgar Lee Masters, a Chicago attorney, who writes chiefly in "free verse." The second was an Englishman, Mr. John Masefield, whose occupations have varied from being a ship's officer to performing menial tasks in English public houses. The third poet was Rabindranath Tagore, a Hindu scholar, teacher and mystic. Both Masefield and Tagore adhere strictly to classic poetic form.

Mr. Masters' "Spoon River Anthology" from which Dr. Bell chose selections, is a collection of imaginary (Continued on page 3)

Coach Phalen's Men Are Showing Up Well

Fleet-footed Athletes Are Prepared for Intercollegiate Matches

The cross country organization is beginning to function in a manner that reflects the personality and personal power of the man who has seen fit to take a part of his own time to devote to the students. The co-operation that has been given to him shows what can be done with a bunch of fellows when approached in a manner of good fellowship.

Daily the size of the squad has been increasing and the day's practice has been done with vim and vigor. A call went out a few days ago for managers and assistant managers. Immediately there was a general rush to arms and the following men were selected: Juniors, C. Smith and C. Enzian; Sophomores, Gallucci, Graham and Snell; Freshmen, Kingman, Hammond and Bradner. They all got together one afternoon and (Continued on page 4)

Courtmen Get Ready for Eastman College

18 Men Answer Initial Call in Preparation for Home Game on December 1

Coach Bank's first call for basketball candidates last week in preparation for the opening game of the season with Eastman College on December 1 brought forth eighteen men. Eastman is expected to bring to Annandale a fast and shifty quintet eager to avenge the stinging defeat administered to them last year by the Scarlet and White basketballers. The Saints, however, are equally ready to start the season off with a victory as evidenced by eleven veterans turning out on the first day of practice.

Of those who have returned, Captain Keen, MacKean, Lemley, Given and Kroll seem to have first choice and will probably take the floor at the initial whistle. These men have worked together for one year and have shown promise of developing into a five that will launch the Saints off on another successful season. However, Heuss, Ricciardi and others are pushing this first group and should see service in many tilts this winter.

(Continued on page 4)

Dr. Cummins Preaches Forceful Sermon

Emphasizes "Character of Christ"

Dr. Cummins, of Christ Church, Poughkeepsie, preached in chapel on Sunday, October 23. As the text "Who think ye, I am?" indicates, his talk dealt with the interpretation of Christ. In order to make Christianity a dynamic force in our daily lives, we must understand Christ in terms that are familiar to us. Dr. Cummins cited the marked tendency of modern biographers to discover the PERSONALITY of men as an illustration of a very desirable method of attaining some idea of Christ's character. We can gain an adequate understanding and sympathy with the truths of Christianity only by learning to know and love the character of Christ. The bestowal of "Kinship, not Kingship" was Christ's purpose in revealing himself to men. Insofar as Christ's human kinship with men is obscured by exaggeration of ritual or commercialization of religious influences—so the true meaning of Christ's message fails to become effective.

German Students Sponsor Active Organization

Der Verein ist schon über zwei Wochen unterwegs

Ach, du lieber Augustein. . . has been heard issuing from the windows of the Student's Recreation room in Albee. The German Club has now had two meetings, elected officers, and acquired a tentative program of activities. The club was organized under the supervision of Dr. Krummelmann, who is directing its career and acting as its Faculty Advisor. In the near future he will deliver a lecture on German university life, compared with American university life. Through this he hopes to awaken interest in German life and civilization.

Der Verein already includes 28 members. They have elected the following officers: Morril '28, president; Lodter '28, vice-president; Zisch '28, secretary, and Wallace '30 treasurer. While it is obvious that the main function will be to give the members increased acquaintance with German culture, at the same time the club will fill a number of large social functions ("big time") for the members. The entertainment, being almost entirely German, will include hilarious singing of well known German songs and indulging in pretzels and beer. (It is not known yet whether it will be Bock beer or mock beer.) The members hope to put on a Germah play sometime during the year. If possible it will be presented for the delectation of the entire college.

Tennis Comes On as College Sport

Lemley Wins Fall Tournament

There is much to indicate a rising interest in tennis as a collegiate sport among the student body this year. An unusually large number of contestants entered the race for the Fall championship and from present appearances there is every reason to believe that the hopes for next Spring will be better than ever before.

Walter H. Lemley, who it will be remembered was judged the most valuable man on last year's Varsity team, worked his way through the semi-final by beating such contenders as Brewer and Brunot and met Dillin in the finals for the championship. Much must be said in praise of Dil-

Economic Aspects of Christianity

Dean Urges Application of Economic Interpretation of Our Religion

On Sunday, October 30th, Dr. Lyford P. Edwards, Dean of the College, preached in chapel after the text "Be instant out of season." The Dean prefaced his message with a brief analysis of our modern economic system. "There are two classes of men: the worker and the owner. The only real fight in the world today is the struggle on the part of men to remove themselves from the condition of servitude to the estate of ownership. Although this latter class is small (two out of a hundred becoming independent), the worker struggles all his life to become one of the few who enjoy the prize of independence. Doctor Edwards maintained that a condition in which one man is subservient to another is degrading. No man excels over another man to a degree that warrants him to be trusted with his brother's chances or ideals in life.

Since the modern social order is notable because of the fact of the rule by the few, it is notable for its lack of a sense of sin; for sin exists only where there is responsibility. All religious systems today are concerned with the soul of the individual. The individual sits complacently in church and enjoys selfishly all the accoutrements of flattering ritual. But such monotonous ceremony becomes boresome to some, and they cease to occupy the church pews."

The Dean was firmly assured that such persons could be won back, if one were to preach the economic interpretation of the gospel of Jesus Christ. "There is enough dynamite in Christ's teaching to cause the whole structure of our modern civilization to crumble into bits. Some day Christ will create a new civilization which will transcend all that have gone before."

lin's excellent showing this Fall. He has in the short space of six months worked himself from a minor position on the Junior Varsity squad up to an important place among the best on Campus. There is no doubt that he will be able to make a strong bid for a Varsity berth next Spring.

Lemley's game was much the same as usual and his characteristic steadiness never seems to fail him when (Continued on page 4)

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."

Previous editors of the "Lyre Tree" have toyed with the idea of creating a system whereby scholastic credit would be given for work on the "Lyre Tree" staff. Since no such system has been adopted, the editor wishes to propose a few reasonable suggestions. In the first place, the actual amount of work done during the year by some members of the staff approximately equals the amount of work required for a regular three hour course. In the second place, the nature of "Lyre Tree" work is singularly in harmony with the general plan of collegiate training—it is training in writing clear and concise English. Finally, there is the example of other colleges. The editor regrets that he cannot point to specific instances where such a system has been adopted. However, it is true of our larger colleges that regular salaries are paid to the editorial staff. (Lafayette, for instance, pays members of its staff from \$450 to \$10 a year.) This illustration is introduced not because the same desirable practice could be installed here, but to demonstrate that it has become generally recognized that newspaper work requires a very considerable fraction of the student's time and that compensation for this time is a reasonable adjustment. The editor does not submit any definite plan for such a system here because he has no indication of the opinion or reactions of the authorities to such a project. Communications regarding this proposal will receive attention in future issues of the paper.

College Choir Will Perform in Public

Work of Organization Improves in Anticipation of Concerts

While there has not been a corresponding increase in Chapel attendance, there has been a decided improvement in the work of the choir this year. On four consecutive Thursday evenings the choir has rendered anthems, and the prospects for continuance of the practice are quite bright. In presenting two of the anthems, President Bell has introduced two solo voices to the college. The first was Staubach's fine tenor, which was accompanied by the choir, in the first performance of the organization this semester. More recently, Mr. Warren's baritone charmed the audience. With these soloists to supplement the work of Mr. Prowse, and an interested group composing the body of the choir, there is material for a good musical unit.

The anthems which have been sung thus far have included T. Tertius Noble's setting of Euroclydon, Beethoven's "Praise God in Nature," and Shaw's setting for the well-known hymn, "Ten Thousand Times Ten Thousand." Noble has been for many years one of the leading organists of the country. The scene of much of his work has been in St. Thomas's, New York. Beethoven is known by practically everyone, especially by those who live in Albee, where the halls often re-echo with the famous Ninth Symphony. Dr. Shero secured the Shaw arrangement when he was abroad.

The fame of the choir is not limited to Annandale for it has already secured three engagements off campus. The first date is to be kept at Christ Church in Hudson on November 13th. Two weeks later the outfit will appear in the Church of the Messiah in Rhinebeck. On December 4th, the organization will be heard in Christ Church, Poughkeepsie.

Cast Chosen for Plays

Staubach Will Direct "The Net"

On Tuesday evening, October 25, a play reading was held in the Albee recreation room. Candidates for parts in the plays to be given November 22 were given a tryout and the leading roles were assigned. The cast of characters for "Napoleon's Barber" is as follows: Napoleon, (undetermined); Barber, Robert Shissler; Josephine, Wilcock; Pierre, Andrews. In the second play, "The Valiant," Nicholson was chosen for the leading role in the character of James Dyke. The rest of the cast is as follows: Father Daly, Edwin Hague; Josephine Paris, Arthur Willis; Dan, Bob Settle; Warden Holt, Edward Lodter; an Attendant, Meissner. The third play, "A Night at an Inn," which is under the direction of Mr. Vogt, will have Staubach heading the cast in the character of The Toff. The importance of the minor parts in this play

THE INTERCAMPUS

The professor who comes in ten minutes late is very scarce. In fact, he is in a class by himself.

The Offer of the College: To be at home in all lands and ages, to count nature a familiar acquaintance, and art an intimate friend; to gain a standard for the appreciation of other men's work and the criticism of your own; to carry the keys of the world's library in your pocket, and feel its resources behind you in whatever task you undertake; to make hosts of friends among men of your own age who are to be the leaders in all walks of life; to lose yourself in generous enthusiasm and co-operate with others for common ends; to learn manners from students who are gentlemen, and form character under professors who are Christians:—this is the offer of the college for the best four years of your life.—The late President William Dewitt Hyde of Bowdoin.

A scientist attending the recent annual meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science put in a question to the clerk assigned for that purpose. When the answer was delivered to him he returned to inquire what the question was that he had asked.

College etiquette, like college math, is compulsory for the freshmen, and optional for the upperclassmen.

President Lewis of Lafayette has publicly attacked the Vestal Bill before Congress which would restrict the importation of copyrighted books into this country. Such a bill would prove to be very detrimental to scholarship and science in this country.

According to Dean Palmer of Haverford a college diploma is worth \$72,000. If it is as hard to collect that as it is to cash a check around here, its market value does not agree with its worth.

Physical examinations of the freshmen at the University of Rochester shows that a large number of them have high left shoulders. It has been suggested that this is due to resting the elbow on the door while driving a car.

is almost equal to that of the leading part. The character of William Jones (Bill) will be played by Ned Kroll; Luther Burbank will appear as Albert Thomas and Douglas McKean will have the part of Jacob Smith (Sniggers).

The fourth play of the series, "The Net," is under the direction of Mr. Staubach. The cast of characters for this play has not, as yet, been determined. However, there is little question that Mr. Staubach's experience and ability in amateur theatricals will be evident both in the choice of characters and in the finished production.

COMMUNICATIONS

"OUT OF SEASON"?

We are reflecting upon a sermon recently preached in chapel, in which the characteristic emphasis of the selfish individualism of modern religion was condemned. We are wondering whether the dogmatic, disjointed manner with which facts, not suited to the text, were delivered did not smack of individualism of the preacher. Of course one would like to be liberal and broad-minded; but one also desires, for the sake of consistency, to place a line of demarcation between the preacher and the pedagogue. Perhaps someone will argue that even the preacher must draw his source of knowledge from the pedagogue. Indeed . . . but not his inspiration! Should not the vision of the prophet carry his thoughts to a level far remote from the ruts of life? Should not the vision carry his personality to such realms of zeal as will inflame him with real ambition to produce a purposeful, but at the same time, consistent message? Consistent, we mean, with the limitations under which it is delivered. "Let everything be done decently, and in order."

"IN SEASON"?

It is seldom that we have short sermons preached to us. So seldom is it, in fact, that when a preacher delivers a sermon which is incisive, very much to the point and soon over, many who have been in the habit of passively drowsing through more lengthy sermons feel unconsciously jolted and almost insulted. Such seems to have been the case last Sunday morning, October 30th, when Dr. Edwards preached brilliantly for scarcely more than ten minutes on the practical application of Christianity today. (Certainly this is a subject on which not enough practical things can be said.) The sermon did not contain an unnecessary word.* As a result, many gave expression to their inward discomfort in all sorts of strange and insolent criticisms. It shows that there is a painfully large number of us who really enjoy being lulled into a comfortable torpor by a flow of milky discourse.

*How about the text? (Ed. note.)

You can spend five thousand dollars educating a donkey, but when you get through his ears will be just as long.

Some people feel that the average college student is one who knows less and less about more and more. There are also those who feel that the individual just mentioned knows less and less about less and less.

PRESIDENT READS FROM THREE MODERN POETS

(Continued from page 1)
epitaphs written by persons lying in a cemetery near a small town on the Spoon River, somewhere in the Middle West. Each epitaph expresses the most complete disillusionment on the part of the dead man for the life he has lived. There is not a ray of hope to be found in the book, for the author seems to take a gloomy pleasure in picturing with veracity the sordidness, the meanness, the filth, and the despair to be found in so many lives. Dr. Bell explained that although much of Mr. Masters' work gives expression to such ghastly truths, still, because of the very fact that it does express deep and piercing truth, it may be called poetry.

Mr. Masefield's work expresses the revolting side of life equally well, but there is hope in it besides—it rises out of the slime. Dr. Bell read portions of "The Everlasting Mercy," a long poem, describing incidents in the existence of a certain low type of ne'er-do-well. It describes the cheating murder he commits, his drunkenness and then his blind and wild revolt at his own vileness, and finally, after some fruitless attempts at relief, his accidental discovery of God in the symbolic beauty of a man ploughing a field in the early morning.

This leads directly to Tagore, the mystic. All of Tagore's poems are addressed directly to God. They describe God as seen in nature, in the beauty of the morning in Spring, in the peace of the brooding evening, in the mystery of the storm at night. This was excellently shown in the three poems which were read.

With Tagore the lecture ended. Besides being a reading of fine verse, the lecture was also exceedingly helpful in that it showed the possible evolution of realistic poetry into spiritual poetry. That is exactly what is happening in America today, for as Miss Wilkinson the poetess has said, there are three stages to poetry: the sentimental, the realistic and the spiritual. American poetry has attained only the first two stages.

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COACH PHALEN'S MEN ARE SHOWING UP WELL

(Continued from page 1)

amid many stakes, string, pieces of colored cloth and mathematical calculations, three courses were plotted—two miles, three miles and about five miles. The latter course is to be used for intercollegiate meets.

The Varsity Club has backed Dr. Phalen by offering a Trophy Cup to the best cross-country runner. The winner is to be determined by a series of three races, one of which has already been run, and the other two to be held in the near future. The man turning in the lowest time average for these three events is to be rewarded the cup. However, in order to retain the prize it must be won three years successively.

Coach Phalen has divided his charges into two groups which have been called the Red and White teams. The first of the three races to determine the cup winner was held last Wednesday, October 25. The Whites won with a score of 72 to 64.

The runners finished in the following order: Staubach (white), time 13:03 minutes; Nobis (red), Brewer (white), Fite (red), Townsend (red), Weber (white), Gilreath (white), Andrews (red), Willis (white), Aeschbach (white), Lodter (red), Brunot (white), Meissner (white), Kellogg (red), Dahms (red). Also ran: Page (red).

THIRTY-THREE NEW MEN MATRICULATE

Thirty-three new students presented themselves at the altar for formal matriculation in the chapel on November 1.

At the beginning of the church service the names of candidates were called by the marshall and each man, after responding orally to the required pledge, signed his name in a book which contains the names of all former students of the college. After the service, a holiday was observed by students and faculty. The following is a list of the matriculants:

Alexander Abramowitz, Charles Weaver Andrews, Reuben Thomas Blomquist, William Henry Gatzmen Bradner, George Francis Brewer, Frank Mary Caldiero, John Henry Dahms, Elton Morrow Davies, James Peter Fuscas, Francis Norsworthy Gilreath, Ralph Morrell Griswold, Harry Edgar Hammon, Eugene Kenneth Harter, Edgar Wakeman Hatfield, Forrester Hoag, Charles Flint Kellogg, John Harold Kelly, John Richard Kingman, William Aldrich Meissner, Noel Lewis Murray.

Charles Sydney Nicolai, Dominick Charles Oddo, Gardner Maurice Riley, George Gordon Schmuck, Joseph Courtneil Settle, Howard Allyn Seymour (did not matriculate due to confinement in hospital following operation), Willard Renwick Seymour, Walter Hirsch Siegel, Harrison Cole-

man Snyder, Carleton William Sprague, Joseph Norman Staubach, William J. Vassilli, William Mulford Weber, Arthur Ronald Willis.

Staubach Takes First in Second Race

By winning the second heat of the Varsity Cup Race last Wednesday in 19:35, Staubach earned the right to have his name engraved on the cup as he also led the pack last week in the first run of the series of three. The winner's time was excellent, considering the condition of the course, which was a fraction over three miles. Nobis finished a close second, altho Fite pushed him strongly. Brewer brought up a poor third while Weber and Gilreath sprinted across the line in the order mentioned to take fourth and fifth places.

The other five places were taken care of by Lodter, Brunot, Andrews, Kelly and Willis, which gave the White team the honors for the afternoon over the Red, 50-55.

COURTMEN GET READY FOR EASTMAN COLLEGE

(Continued from page 1)

Fuscas Shows Promise

Among the new men, Fuscas, who starred on his preparatory school team in New York City last season, stands out as being one of the most promising bits of material that St. Stephens has had for some time. This diminutive courtman knows basketball to the core and has quickly worked himself into the second string combination by his speed and everlasting fight. Siegle, Robinson and Oddo are quickly rounding into condition. Settle, a transfer from the University of Pennsylvania, is coming along slowly but surely.

Practice has been confined to letting the men get their eye for the basket and to coaching them to develop the habit of passing quickly and accurately. Few scrimmages have been held to date as Coach Banks wants to bring his men around slowly to prevent any early season let-down. However, the few scrimmages which have been held have brought forth spirited and speedy basketball.

TENNIS COMES ON AS COLLEGE SPORT

(Continued from page 1)

it is most needed. The Varsity will lose a good man if he decides to take up lacrosse next Spring. A plan for winter practice is being considered at present, and all signs point to a good season next year.

Score for semi-finals and finals:

Semi-finals	Finals
Brunot	
Lemley	Lemley 6-4, 6-1
Dillin	
Settle	Dillin 4-6, 6-2, 9-7
	Lemley 6-4, 6-2, 8-6

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