



# HILL TOPICS

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(NOTE: Cadets are requested to submit articles for publication; due credit for contributions will be given each week).

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STAUNTON, VA., FEBRUARY 26, 1916

As sad as it is, we must call the attention of the corps to a matter concerning School Spirit, which has been brought to our notice.

It is said that some of our would-be-patriotic members have taken a critical attitude relative to the basketball team. These men probably have a purpose in view, at least we'll grant them that much, and in their efforts to arouse the men to their best playing have antagonized them.

The corps expects the basketball men to work their hardest and all the members have a right to expect the different players to keep training. So long as the players are doing these things, they should be encouraged.

No one should ever say, or even think, "We are not going to win this game." A man who believes that would do well for his own part to keep silent. He is not the A No. 1 supporter we want, and we are proud to say that we have not many.

Undesirable ones are bound to creep in, though, and also those who have a mistaken idea of School Spirit. For the present, we shall try to think that the latter is the case.

Take this to heart, you who would tear down rather than build up. So long as you do not have evidence of the first order to the effect that the men are not keeping training, it would be the manly part to root for the team; to rejoice in its victories; and accept defeats gracefully. This is the proper School Spirit. Anyone can cheer a winning team. We want the corps to develop into enthusiasm which is all the

stronger when the team is not winning.

Furthermore, there are coaches in this school whose business it to attend to the criticism of the players. Do not make the basketball team, which is a school organization, a medium for any personal feeling you may have against any of the players. To do so does not help matters, and discredits everyone concerned—yourselves included.

So far, perhaps, our season has been of ups and downs—and some may say, mostly downs. Consider, please, the makeup of our team. Kingsbury, at center, has not had much experience at the game. Can you not see improvement in him from game to game: are you not satisfied with the progress he is making? For a beginner, it seems that he has made a remarkable showing.

Hinz and Bridges are new among us. Each of them has done work on a par with their splendid football accomplishments. Have you forgotten so soon—you knockers—that these are two heroes of Thanksgiving?

Of Teabo, we expect great things, and truly he has thrown many a field goal. Lawlor is a first year participant, are you ready to cheer for such a peppery, snappy lad? Didn't you feel the life come into the game in the Elon College game?

Prather, far be it from anyone with a spark of memory, not to say pride or School Spirit, to criticize him. The Old Horse, who played—starred—in every game of the football season just closed; who captained, and, as quarterback, general, in the last three games with a fractured nose, and a twisted hand and foot, the dependable Prather, on whose broad shoulders fell the brunt of the football fighting. Are we so prone to forget!

Consider, please, the games we have lost—all by close scores; and the teams we have met—good ones. Perhaps recollection is not so short as to forget that much in this elapse of time. Also, knockers, notice: two of our opponents—Richmond and Elon Colleges—are out of our class. The latter won a decision over us, at that, by one point only.

Of the three remaining contests, Fishburnes, Rollers, and W. & L. Scrubs, we won one, lost two. It required an extra period to win from us in one case, and the other was lost by not more than three field goals. We defeated W. & L. Scrubs by a large majority.

Have you kept up with our team enough to know that Teabo and Bridges have had slight attacks of

the grip at different times? Do you know that trouble of that sort is trying on the wind?

Are you aware that Hinz has just returned from the Hospital where he has been confined for a week or so with tonsillitis?

Do you know that you are far from helping matters by your knocking; that you are helping to make a dunce out of yourself; that the team is doing good work under hardships of which you probably are not aware; that you are not the one to criticize; that it would be the manly thing for you to try to change your attitude, or at least keep still—because you are making yourself obnoxious; because you have not the proper idea of School Spirit; and because it is not right.

Be a big man, do not let trivial and personal things affect your opinion of the team. Don't be a busybody—sometimes we say women ought not to gossip—but we say to you, "Cut out that mouthing. Get that!"

## MILITARY STRATEGY

During a sham battle which constituted part of an infantry battalion's training in a certain military school, a company was told to follow up the retreating enemy. For this purpose the pursuers, who had been having a strenuous time, had to cross a fairly wide river and were marched to the nearest bridge a half mile distant. Imagine their disappointment on arriving to find this notice attached to the bridge by the enemy, "This bridge is blown up." But the commanding officer of the pursuers was a man of action and immediately attached another notice to his guide and proceeded to march them across a bridge. They had almost crossed it when an umpire suddenly appeared and waving his hand, he exclaimed, "This bridge is blown up, and all these men are drowned." The Commanding Officer made no reply but simply pointed to his notice on the right guide which read, "This company is swimming across." Here endeth the first lesson.—Ex.

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## Y. M. C. A. DEPARTMENT

LT. S. C. CHANDLER, Secretary

Because of the severe weather the corps was not required to attend church last Sunday, but instead, held services of its own in the Study Hall. This has been done several times this year. It has been a source of much pleasure to the Y. M. C. A. Secretary, and to the other members of the faculty as well, to see the splendid spirit with which the cadets have entered into these services. It is a grand sight to look upon a body of fine young men wearing uniforms—one that warms the heart of every true man. It is a grander sight to see them assembled, united with one purpose. But it is more than this, it is an inspiring sight to see them conducting religious exercises with the soberness and earnestness that should characterize such exercises.

We were very fortunate in having Maj. Acker, our Assistant Commandant, speak to us Sunday morning. Taking as the subject of his remarks "Honor," the speaker gave a splendid talk on the worth of this great virtue in the building of character. The hushed attention given Maj. Acker was sufficient proof of the power and force of his remarks. We thank you, Maj. Acker, from the bottom of our hearts. We hope to hear you again soon.

At the Y. M. C. A. meeting Sunday night the matter of electing officers of the Association for the coming year was discussed. A brief outline of the requirements necessary to qualify one for these very important positions was given. It is hoped that each cabinet officer will attend the Student Conference at Blue Ridge, N. C., June 16th to 25th. Also that S. M. A. will have a delegation of not less than fifteen men at this conference.

A nominating committee consisting of the retiring cabinet and Maj. H. G. Acker, of the faculty was appointed to nominate candidates for the offices of President, Vice-Presi-

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dent, Secretary and Treasurer. The election will be held the last Sunday of this month.

### Dr. C. K. Kent Coming

The Y. M. C. A. officials are glad to announce that Dr. Chas. K. Kent, from the University of Virginia, will make an address before the Cadet Corps at our banquet in the Mess Hall on the night of February twenty-second. We are indeed fortunate in securing Dr. Kent for this address.

### Notice to All Members of the Ditty Box Mouthing Club

There will be a meeting of the Ditty Box Mouthing Club immediately after the next basketball game. All old members are urged to be present as the Committee on "What's Wrong with Our Basketball Team" will tell just how the game should have been played, and will give other interesting discourses on the fine points of the game.

Old members, of brassy endurance, are requested to bring along some new ones, as the membership is rather small.

### BRIEF DECISIONS

- 1 Sin doesn't find one out until they're all in.
- 2 It takes a real man to stick to a task he's not stuck on.
- 3 It sometimes requires a good bit of energy to keep still.
- 4 Silence is often of unspeakable value.
- 5 A man is known by the company he keeps. (And keeps him).
- 6 A woman never does her thinking until her mind is made up.
- 7 Faith in one's self will remove mountains of difficulties.
- 8 Most honesty is for sale.
- 9 Many a man who prides himself of physical strength can't hold his tongue.
- 10 The optimist bottles up sunshine, the pessimist cans it.
- 11 The egotist with all his I's can't see behind himself.
- 12 Some people don't believe honesty pays unless it pays them first.
- 13 The less some people have to say the more they let you know it.
- 14 The man of winning ways has many ways of winning.

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## OTHER INFORMALS

The Social Club wishes to express their sincere appreciation to Mrs. Timberlake for the interest she has taken and for these enjoyable Monday afternoon dances. Mrs. Timberlake will leave this week for a trip north and we all sincerely wish her a most enjoyable trip.

**C**rash the cymbals, bang the lyre,  
**H**ere's a merry call,  
**I**n a girlie's eye hangs fire,  
**C**an a man but fall?  
**K**nees are made to sit on,  
**E**yes are made to flirt,  
**N**ab your manly mitt on,  
**S**ome good looking skirt.

## BOOKS WE ALL KNOW

"Little Men" (Rats).  
"The Reign of Terror" (This week).  
"Great Expectations" (Exam. days).  
"The Disaster" (When we hear our grades).  
"The Common Lot" (Flunkers).  
"Paradise Lost" (When you can't see her).  
"A Comedy of Errors" (Exam. papers).

*Dalki Journal.*

Did it ever occur to you that a one-lunged Ford with its cut-out noising, could create more disturbance than five Pierce Arrows? The unfortunate feature about the Ford is that it costs money for gasolene to make this noise. What a pity they can't run on hot air.

## An Unfortunate Accident

"Goodness, little boy!" exclaimed the kindly old gentleman to the weeping McClure. "What on earth is the matter?"

"I had a turrible accident," bawled McClure.

"Gracious! What was it?"

"I met pop when I was a-playin' hookey."

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The Washington Birthday Hop, which as held in the Mess Hall the night of 21st proved to be a very delightful and brilliant affair. The Mess Hall was beautifully decorated with red, white and blue colors and palms. The Beverley Orchestra was seated in the middle of the floor and surrounded by palms. Red, white and blue decorations hung from every window and scattered along the walls. Punch was served at the punch booth at the end of the hall, which was also decorated with red, white and blue colors. The National colors and Battalion standard were placed over the "North Entrance." Those attending were: Col. and Mrs. T. G. Russell, Col. and Mrs. L. D. Greene, Mrs. W. G. Kable, Maj. and Mrs. R. W. Wonson, Maj. and Mrs. L. L. Sutherland, Maj. and Mrs. F. M. Sizer; Lieut. and Mrs. J. C. Cook, Miss Della Anderson, of Clearfield, Pa., Lieut. and Mrs. G. H. McLean, Mr. and Mrs. S. D. Timberlake; Mr. and Mrs. Sumpter Sublett, Dr. and Mrs. R. E. Allen, Mrs. L. K. Mooers, Mrs. E. K. Mercereau, Mrs. J. M. Spotts and Mrs. L. O. Logan, Miss Jane Allen with Lt. L. L. Lykes; Miss Helen Mooers with Cadet Captain George W. Hager, Miss Elsie Morris with Cadet Captain Bayard C. Low, Miss Margaret Enslow, of Richmond with Cadet Lt. Blizzard, Miss Page Hughes with Cadet Lt. E. Z. Peters, Miss Evangeline Harman with Cadet Lt. Boone Armentrout, Miss Mary Preston Hanger with Cadet Sergt. Simmons, Miss Laura Ward Wise with Cadet Lt. Otis Prather, Miss Corinne Kibbe, of Springfield, Mass., with Cadet Sergt. Adams, Miss Katherine Holt with Cadet Sergt. Roos, Miss Dorathy Kibbe, of Springfield, Mass., with Cadet Kibbe, Miss Dorothy Mercereau with Cadet Jackson, Miss Bowman with Cadet Eagles; Miss Charlotte Spotts with Cadet Croft, Miss Virginia Eddie with Cadet Howe. Miss Hawkes with Cadet Waltz.

The stags were: Capt. Kyle, Capt. Pitcher, Lt. Wallace, Walton Opie, Edgar Jobe, Cadets Gardwell, Westgate, McRoberts, Frazier, Laws, Wright, S., Carter, W.

## ACADEMY CLUB GIVES DANCE

The Academy Club gave a very delightful informal dance in the gymnasium Saturday evening, February 6. The hall was very artistically decorated with pennants and banners. Punch was served at one end of the hall and all those attend-

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ing enjoyed what was without a doubt the best informal dance given this year.

Music was furnished by the colored orchestra.

Among those present were Lt. Col. and Mrs. T. G. Russell, Dr. Kable and Mrs. W. G. Kable, Mrs. Logan, Mr. Thos. Hogeshead, Mr. Jas. Rosenberger, Mr. Edgar Jobe, Mr. Thos. Holt; Cadets, McRoberts, Adams, and Buckley of the Triangle Club. Young ladies: Miss Helen Moores with Cadet Capt. Hager; Miss Margaret Enslow with Cadet

Lieut. Blizzard; Miss Cathryne Holt with Cadet Lieut. Frazier; Miss Mary Preston Hanger with Cadet Sgt. Major. Simmons; Miss Elsie Morris with Cadet Sgt. Prather; Miss Page Hughes with Cadet Lieut. E. Petters; Miss Mary Sue Bowman with Cadet Mosley; Miss Margaret Hawks with Cadet 1st. Sgt. Waltz. Stags were: Cadets, Low, B., Billingsly, Emde, Westgate, Ranshaw, Moses, Hooker, Smith, C., Lomo., A., Cardwell, McCallister, Capt. Pitcher, Maj. Sizer, Lieut. Cooke, Lieut. Lykes, Lieut. McLean.

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