

The Ring-tum Phi

Washington and Lee University
Semi-Weekly

Published every Tuesday and Friday of the collegiate year. Entered at the Lexington, Virginia, postoffice as second-class mail matter. Member of the Associated Collegiate Press. National advertising representative: The National Advertising Service, Inc., 420 Madison Avenue, New York City.

Subscription \$3.00 per year, in advance

ROBERT A. NICHOLSON, Editor
ALLEN T. SNYDER, Business Manager

MANAGING EDITORS

Hamilton Hertz and Ernest Woodward II
NEWS EDITOR COPY EDITOR
Derrell Dickens Harold Gaddy

SPORTS EDITOR

Ward Archer

Editorial Associates

Bayard Berghaus, Bill Buchanan, James Cunningham, Fred Farrar, Alvin Fleishman, Herb Friedman, Bob Steele, Latham Thigpen, Ed Trice.

Columnists

David Maulsby, Sonny Heartwell, Tom Moses and Paul Muldoon.

Reporters

Brooke, Burgess, Burks, Campbell, Downie, Isenberg, Jasper, Peace, Ruffner, Rosenfeld, Turner, Young.

HAPPY LANDINGS

Tomorrow after nearly three months of study, Washington and Lee's student body departs for holidays at home far away from the trials and work that make up the university life.

There are some no doubt—particularly among the freshman class—who will take books home for study. We hope they do the same thing with the books that we did when we were freshmen: Let the damn things lie untouched while enjoying a life of relaxation. We need hardly say that they will be much better fixed for after holiday study if they do so.

Students as their homes call them will speed to north and south, to east and west, and, by the faculty's and board of trustees' decisions, will arrive home more than two days earlier than most students for the Christmas holidays.

Frankly we hope you're tired of school right now so that you'll have a really good time away from this life we call education. We hope that the whole holiday period will be filled with all the parties that you can squeeze in and that you get all those late mornings. Maybe it might not be bad to take your books home after all, so you can laugh at them when you get up.

But when January 4 rolls around, you should be feeling in the mood to get back into the study cycle for semester examinations, refreshed and tired by the exertions of the holidays.

Whatever you do, **The Ring-tum Phi** wishes to one and all the very best Christmas and a full bowl of egg-nog on the first day of a new year, which we hope will bring you success as it may to us all.

FOOTBALL FAVORITISM

Whatever else the student body poll on athletics may have shown, it is apparent to a greater or less degree that the students generally resent favoritism on the athletic teams—and particularly on the teams which are coached by Cy Young.

It was generally expected that the poll would be a reflection on the popularity of Tex Tilton as a football coach but the most vigorous comments concerned the coaching of Young and nearly all recommended that he be confined to the alumni office or be removed entirely.

Investigation of men who had been out for football in the past four years gave some truth to this report that Young was guilty of favoritism on the freshman squad to those men who are attending school under scholarships. But nearly all were unanimous in the belief that the freshman coach had an uncanny ability to fire his players with spirit.

The Ring-tum Phi would make this observation on the comments as they have been made: One of the greatest criticisms of the athletic set-up is the lack of football material. One cause for lack of material is failure of capable players in school—not on scholarships—to report for the team. The excuse of these players on the basis of their experience on the frosh team is that they are not given a chance—

We do not believe or even support the not even bothered with. This is the fault of Cy Young. idea that Young would have a different freshman team than he generally puts on the field, but numbers of men are never even given a chance to develop if they haven't a prior stamp of approval or don't catch the coach's eye. It's not a policy of playing every man but of giving every man his chance that it seems the student body wants. It is what **The Ring-tum Phi** wants.

Similar criticisms have been voiced against other coaches in this regard. The freshman basketball team up until the advent of Bill Ellis, who has shown unusual genius in developing material, was scoured by the playing of scholarship men before more capable non-scholarship men. Some have even gone so far as to say this situation exists on Cy Young's basketball teams, where, although he has enjoyed remarkable success, he has always used few men.

The present poll is confined to football, however, and commends itself to the attention of those who are the power and the glory. At least the attitude of the students toward favoritism should be a pleasant warning to coaches.

POLL OF OPINIONS

With this issue **The Ring-tum Phi** becomes affiliated with the Student Opinion Surveys of America in the polling and collection of student attitudes of important college, national, and international problems.

Significant of the type of questions which will be submitted to the student electorate is the problem of providing an American harbor for Jewish refugees discussed today. The results as reported in this article are the result of a nation-wide survey in which Washington and Lee students were contacted along with students in large and small colleges and universities all over America.

In the future polls on other controversial or important questions in the days news will be submitted to the students at Washington and Lee through **The Ring-tum Phi**. About sixty selected students, representing a cross-section of opinion, will be interviewed each month.

The Ring-tum Phi is proud to cooperate with other colleges in the country in such a poll and is glad to offer this new service and information to its readers.

Similar polls such as the Gallup poll in national affairs have found a mark in public interest. The present poll, while not so extensive, will be a direct insight into what young Americans of college age are thinking.

THE FORUM

Political Parties

"Politics is the life blood of democracy." Many times has this phrase been quoted and just as many times we have smugly patted ourselves on the back and said "And do we ever have politics" or something of the sort. But let us stop and consider if our politics are fair.

Just mention in the South that you are a Black Republican and those who know what it means to hear you say that, will lower your social standing nine times out of ten. Why? Because over seventy years ago a person of that political faith was also a Yankee and one of the most hated persons that could get near the South. This prejudice is not limited to the South, for it is very easy to find Republicans who wouldn't vote for a Democrat if he were the perfect man and perhaps a Robert Taylor to boot.

Can we consider this attitude fair? Especially now when there are old line Democrats and stand-pat Republicans who, except for party ties and prejudice, would unite against the New Deal Democrats and Progressive Republicans.

Shouldn't we consider changing our party names to Conservative and Liberal, thus denoting what they really stand for and doing away with the old party alignments? Wouldn't it be better to have all the people in one party think favorably of the platform and ideals of the party? Wouldn't it do away with a good deal of faction in the party? And in the long run wouldn't it be more democratic?—**Campus Comments.**

Personal OPINIONS

Tomorrow most of you will make an exodus from this town that will make Moses and the Israelites look like a bunch of chumps. There will be shouting and yelling, good wishes will be handed to and fro and the odor of the holiday will exude from the atmosphere like that which comes from the covering on the grass on the campus walk. Everyone will be gay and happy with lots of cherio, even to those to whom one has never been cherio to. Ah yes, my dear, dear fellows, you have been here a long time, and your families are looking forward to seeing you even more than you are looking forward to seeing them. And on Sunday, a quiet will settle on the town of Lexington.

Christmas, to me, is one of the saddest times of the year. Aside from being the birthday of Christ, it is a day which is supposed to be jolly and gay. Presents are opened—those which you have received and those that you have given. But in the midst of all this pleasure and jolly old yule delight, there is a shadow, a shadow that casts its pall upon the happiness of many, bringing a discord to the carols, ruining the taste of the wassail, and tinging the air with an invisible little cloud of gloom.

Oddly enough, this shadow is the spirit of Christmas itself. If you will analyze this statement, you will immediately see that this is true.

Far removed from our immediate spheres, there are those who do not know what Christmas is. What is more, they never have known, and doubtless they never will know. Sometimes a basket is left at their door with the stipulation that it has come from a certain charity—sometimes machines deliver bundles containing toys and a little food to long rows of houses—and sometimes no one comes at all. Those who do not know Christmas dwell in our midst. They are not in Europe or some distant clime, but right next door to us. We all know this, but we remember to forget. And there are many of those who do not know Christmas, and that is why it is so very sad.

Those thrillingly happy Christmases are only for children and the parents of children who live the whole business over a gain. We should cherish our Christmases of long ago and put them away very carefully. This is sad too, as are all happy memories. Most children are very cruel and extraordinarily selfish and they pay for being so onery by growing up. And then on the other hand, some children never grow up. These are the children who are rewarded for not being, may I say "brats."

And our ideas of charity are so inordinately ridiculous and absurd. Charity to us seems to revolve about the various sums of money which we give. Although this is a form (a necessary form) of charity, this is not true pure charity, unless we give all that we have—but then we run the danger of being rushed off to the nut house.

Suppose you meet a person who asks you for a cup of coffee. Suppose you take the person into a restaurant and buy him a meal, sit with him, talk with him as you would talk to a friend. That is real charity. Here instead of giving the person a dime and running off, you waste your good time by treating that person as human being. And do you waste your good time, I wonder?

Oh, well, there are too many people in this world who don't believe in Santa Claus—and some of them are fools enough to go out and preach that there is no such person as Mr. Claus. These people only make themselves ridiculous, for they are too wrapped up in the material things to notice. They tell of realism and stuff such as that of which dreams are made. These are the sillies that say that fairies trip along the streets instead of being everywhere, always near, with their happy little smiles and twinkling eyes.

So there you are. There is a Christmas column. And sincerely I wish to each and every one a very happy Christmas . . . be very joyful and ring the bells. But Christmas, to me, is one of the saddest seasons of the year.

DAVID MAULSBY.

University of Oklahoma—Coeds at the University of Oklahoma are ardent believers in the commercial philosophy of "insure and be sure." The girls have formed a Coed Protective league which issues insurance policies to protect stood-up girls from heart trouble.

For the small sum of a dime each week, the members are covered to the extent of one half dollar in case their heart throbs stands them up, with double indemnity if he is caught with another girl.

Campus Comment

By TOM MOSES and PAUL MULDOON

On Our Way . . .

We're going home, yippee. Not only are we going home, but you, she and it are also going home. It certainly is nice, too. A genial spirit prevails over the entire campus, and even the teachers are telling jokes in class and wishing us Merry Christmas.

Of course, all joy is not unadulterated. Some of us, including those poor cutless law students, are having quizzes today and tomorrow. The freshmen are working until the wee small hours and wondering why someone didn't tell them to write their long theme before the night before.

Personally, we like these last few days. As we said, a genial spirit prevails over the entire campus. Such spirits can be very genial.

Revolution . . .

Our colleague, Mr. David Maulsby, has come right near to starting a revolution. In case you ever get around to reading his column, you would have noticed in the last issue that he was fighting the Civil war all over again, and is hot on the trail of the Garrison tradition of freeing the slaves. All we can say, is that your advice to our good friend Mr. Maulsby is that he'd better not get ahold of that arch-rebel, Lea (Simon Legree) Booth, who still has two personal slaves, and is fighting under the flag of Stonewall Jackson. All this fighting by Booth occupies a good bit of his time, of course, but he insists that there is still, in this enlightened age, a good deal of misunderstanding as to who won the war.

Again We Nominate . . .

The Governor refuses to remain buried, it seems, in spite of the fact that we have repeatedly nominated him for oblivion. Usually, of course, we don't read what he has to say, but occasionally the rest of this dirty sheet is worse than he is, so we read it in self-defense. Every time we do, we're sorry. This time he has used the cloak of an ill-considered anonymity to make an insulting crack or two about Coach Cy Young.

Of course, everybody admits that we are about the best coaches that ever hit this school, and are thus qualified to talk about the subject at great length. And so, we see little reason in making a feeble attempt at humor at the expense of a man who has given and is still eager to give to this university the best that he has in him.

If the slighting cracks about the coach were intended to be funny, they succeeded about as well as most of the rest of the column. If they were sincere, whoever is responsible for them should go watch Washington and Lee play National Business college.

This Court Game . . .

The crop of girls so far at this year's basketball games have been very disappointing. When we played Bridgewater, Lupton Avery had two (count them) which were very pretty, we suppose, but they succeeded in ignoring Avery completely. Probably they were jealous of each other.

Last night the females were conspicuous by their absence. Probably everybody that could get a date had already gone home. But just the same, it denotes a bad trend of thought. Captain Dick had better be watching this date situation. Attendance may suffer.

Still Conferring . . .

Our daily bulletins, which a kindly disposed providence continue to send us from the bountiful outpourings of the Journalism Laboratory, a dignified name for the school print shop, informs us that in a short time after we return to school there's going to be another conference.

Well, we like conferences. Look at the Southern Interscholastic Press association. But this time it's going to be full of dignified people, and people who know their business. We're telling you this now, because when the convention actually starts you won't hear a peep out of us. We'll be too busy saloaming.

Candlelight Service . . .

Being so close to a man who is not only one of the finest gentlemen that every lived, but also certainly the best speaker that these ears have ever heard, makes us sort of take Dr. Gaines for granted.

But no one that attended the impressive candlelight service that was held last night could go away without the impression that they had heard in Dr. Gaines' very short talk a spiritual quality that was sincere and morally rejuvenating, in the truest sense of that phrase. We must almost apologize for mentioning such a fact in a column of this sort, but we could not let the opportunity pass to thank one of our friends for something that we will remember forever.

Rambling About the Suburb . . .

Paul Wile says his girl is not from Samoa, but is from Hawaii. Our mistake, and our regrets, Paul. It was awful dark that night. . . . Bobby Stein has, we understand, been elected house manager of the Awful Tough Omegas. This was because one month he spent only twenty cents of his allowance. There is no truth to the rumor that this is all he'll get to spend as house manager. . . . The ZBT's and the Lambda Chi's are all lined up opposite one another, and are fighting about which house has the best view from the front porch. The Zebe's say the Lambda Chi's do, and vice-versa. Such modesty. . . . In case you haven't bought your girl a present for Christmas, may we be the first to recommend an ermine coat. They're very stylish this year. . . . Mr. Riegel is going to clip the ends off his mustache and go to Germany. . . . Laird Thompson says there is no truth in the rumor, but that he'll give ten points, sight unseen. . . . Kit Carson is playing basketball for a pro team in Washington, and so far hasn't gone in under the basket once. . . . Fielden Woodward says he gets all the publicity on the front page, while his brother and press agent Ernie gets it on the inside pages. Well, he writes the column, doesn't he?

Newly Formed Student Survey Announces Opinion On Refugees

By JOE BELDEN, Editor
Student Opinion Surveys of America
Copyright, 1938

Austin, Texas, December 15. — Jewish refugees from Central Europe should not be allowed to come into the United States in great numbers, a large majority of the college youth of this country believes, the first national poll of the Student Opinion surveys of America reveals.

Slightly more than a month Germany has turned its Jews into a world problem, one that may have to be faced by leaders of tomorrow—college men and women of today. Should the United States offer a haven to the persecuted Jews? Although many think some should be admitted if other nations cooperate, seven out of ten are opposed to opening wide the doors of Ellis Island.

These figures are the first announced by the new Student Opinion surveys, organized with the **Ring-tum Phi** as one of the cooperating members among college newspapers over the nation. The Surveys, a non-commercial organization of campus editors, will publish weekly reports based on national referenda similar to those of other polls that recently have been proved highly reliable. The surveys are intended to add a "fourth dimension" to the college press by reporting scientifically national student thought.

Campus interviewers have ap-

proached students of every description, rich and poor, freshmen and seniors, in big schools like Columbia in New York and California at Los Angeles and in smaller schools like Luther in Iowa and Schreiner in Texas. They have asked, "Should the United States offer a haven in this country for Jewish refugees from Central Europe?"

Yes, said 31.2 per cent. No, said 68.8 per cent.

But it was clear from the coast-to-coast returns that students as a whole would like to see the United States help oppressed German minorities in some way, some suggesting the offering of homes in United States possessions.

"No country should turn away people who bring so much with them," said an Illinois senior. "But where would we put them?" asked a University of Minnesota sophomore. Others definitely believed none should be allowed admittance. Noticeable was the qualification, "If other nations help also."

American Jewish students, congregated in the East Central states, it appears, raised the "yes" answers in that particular section of the country, where 39.1 per cent were in favor. In the New England group 35.8 per cent were affirmative; Middle Atlantic 30.1; West Central 30.7; Southern 29.5; Far Western 23.2. Awareness of the problem and distribution of the population along racial lines are pointed out by these sectional figures.

Rent a New Car U Drive It Yourself
Chauffeurless Taxi Co., Inc. Phone 660

Come to see Us for Tailored Suits
Our
CLEANING, PRESSING and ALTERING
Superior to Others
Lyon's Tailoring Co.
PHONE 238
Clothes Called For and Delivered

SUBSCRIBERS!
Get All the University News

Enclosed find my check for \$1.50 to renew my subscription to **The Ring-tum Phi**.

Name

Address

Address all subscriptions to ALLEN T. SNYDER, business manager.

The Ring-tum Phi



IT is not
BALLYHOO — You can
TRUST the Merchants Who
Advertise in THE RING-
TUM PHI — Get the Habit
of READING All the Ads in

THE RING-TUM PHI