

## PIONEERS OVERCOME POTOMAC STATE IN LIFELESS CONTEST

Visiting Team Wrests Lead  
From Glenville Boys in  
First Half of Game

### G.N.S. RALLIES IN 2nd PERIOD

Hines is Individual High Scorer for  
Locals—Swartz Stars for  
Opponents

Playing a lifeless game the Pioneers got into the lead the second half and defeated Potomac State 27-24 here Saturday night. This was the sixth straight victory this season.

After overcoming Glenville's 4-2 lead in the first few minutes of play, Potomac State, with better floor work, lead 16-13 at the end of the half. The guarding was close and both teams shot poorly. Only a few long shots were tried and the percentage of good ones was low.

With the opening of the second half the Glenville cheering section, aroused from what had previously been its silence of contentment, felt uneasy, and made some noise. Hines soon sunk a field goal and enough fouls were looped to put the Pioneers in the lead.

Most of this period was consumed with the assembling of defenses and the shooting of fouls. For Glenville, Rogers and Vass went out on fouls. Rafferty who had been replaced at guard by Harrison, went to center. Swartz and Miers of Potomac were also forced to leave the game early in this period on account of fouls. This somewhat weakened the Parrish outfit.

Four minutes before the end the Pioneers were ahead six points. This was almost a safe lead because both teams were having difficulty to score.

Although the play was not particularly rough, thirty-three fouls were called. Twenty-one were on Potomac.

Summary:

Glenville	Potomac State
Hines	F. Thomas
Lindell	F. Gower
Vass	C. Swartz
Rogers	G. Miers
Rafferty	G. Moline
Substitutions:	Glenville, Burk, Harrison; Potomac State, Wills, Gus- thy, Shriver. Field goals, Hines 4, Lindell 1, Vass 2, Burk 1; Thomas 1, Swartz 3, Miers 2, Moline 1, Wills 1. Referee, Kelce Ross, Wesleyan.

### SPEECH CLUB KEEPS OFFICERS

Attendance at Meeting Reduced by  
Final Examinations

Better Speech Club met Tuesday, with a greatly reduced attendance. The approach of final examinations, apparently was sufficient to keep many of the more faithful away. Conversation was led by Mahala Botic and Marie Taylor. Miss Botic's topic was "New Year's Resolutions." Miss Taylor talked on the subject of "Short Skirts."

This meeting was the regular night for the election of officers. On the motion of Miss Wills Brand, club sponsor, the old officers were retained without an election.

The officers will remain as follows: Warren Blackhurst, president; Virginia Brannon, vice-president; Fred Eberle, secretary-treasurer.

The next meeting will be led by Virginia Brannon and Helen Snodgrass.

### EXERCISE IS THEME OF TALK

President Rohrbough Gives Examination Instructions

"Bodily exercise and spiritual exercise may and should go together," said President E. G. Rohrbough in commenting upon Paul's letter to Timothy in his convocation talk Wednesday. Paul thinks that physical exercise may be of little benefit but spiritual exercise is worth much more.

President Rohrbough began his talk by mentioning that President A. Lawrence Lowell of Harvard University in his address to the Board of Overseers said that the Greek idea of physical training looked toward the welfare of the individual while the Roman idea was to make a show for the spectator.

Following the devotional exercise, President Rohrbough gave some instructions concerning the examinations, stating that one's neighbors are treacherous people in examination time and should not be depended upon. He also said that a student who has done good work throughout the semester has little to fear.

### NINE EMPLOYED IN G. N. S. KITCHEN

Five Cooks Begin Their Day at  
5:30 A. M.—Ten Students  
Wait Tables

How many of you who eat at the dining-room of Kanawha Hall have ever stopped to think how much time and food are necessary for the preparation of a meal?

At present there are five cooks and four dishwashers employed in the kitchen, besides ten student waiters and waitresses who work in the dining hall. In most instances the cooks start preparing the breakfast at 5:30 or 6 o'clock, so one can readily see how hard and quickly they have to work in order to get breakfast prepared by 7:15.

It is rather difficult to conceive how much food is required for one single meal. Some idea may be gained by some of the following statistics: It requires 90 loaves of bread a day, 65 pounds of sausage, 165 pounds of roast steak, 2 bushels of potatoes a meal, and from 8 to 9 gallons of vegetables, besides the fruits. The fruits are substituted for one another so as to afford a variety. Lately President E. G. Rohrbough has been buying a beef and pig at the same time in order to afford a change of meats.

### MAKING RECORD IN FRENCH

Mr. Whiting Reports Fewest Failures  
in Many Years

There have been fewer failures in the first year French class at the Glenville State Normal School this first semester than during any previous one, according to a statement of Hunter Whiting, teacher in the foreign language department. As a whole the first-year French students, so far, have done very satisfactory work and are somewhat above the average of other years.

Mr. Whiting also intimated that there would probably be a few failures among the advanced foreign language students but that there would be a few new enrollments in this department to make up for this loss.

There will not be any new courses in foreign language offered the next semester since all the regular courses would continue throughout the school year.

## ROTARY ENTERTAINS GRID SQUAD WITH DINNER AND DANCE

100 Club Members, their Wives  
and Football Men Are  
Present

### SEN. KIDD IS TOASTMASTER

School Quartet, Mrs. Arbuckle, and  
Lionel Fell Are on  
Program

The Glenville State Normal School football squad were guests of the Glenville Rotary Club at the Ladies' Night Banquet, which more than one hundred attended, at the Methodist Episcopal Church last Monday evening.

Senator Robert F. Kidd acting as toastmaster, called the meeting to order after the dinner had been served, and made the address of welcome to the guests. His fun and jokes were of such a nature as to bear directly on his praise of the football team and to furnish plenty of laughter throughout the evening.

Call's Squad "Conglomeration"  
The Senator was not sparing in his praise of the good record made by the Glenville team during the past season, and highly complimented Coach Natus Rohrbough on his successful handling of the football squad which he called "Nate's Conglomeration."

Coach Rohrbough responded in behalf of his "conglomeration" and thanked the Rotarians for the entertainment. He introduced each player, telling the position and number of years that he has played. He concluded by saying that he would do his best to make the 1930 team deserve even a bigger and better entertainment than ever.

Next was introduced the "Magic Man from Hindustan," Lionel Fell. He demonstrated his magic powers by handing out slips of paper to several of the guests and letting them write several words on them. Then by placing these slips across his forehead he told his audience what was on each slip.

Musical Numbers Given  
Mrs. Ernest Arbuckle sang two selections, using as her first number, "Smiling Through," and the second, "In Lilac Time." She was accompanied on the piano by Miss Barnett.

Edward Orr, who is supposed to have attended schools all over the United States, told how Glenville's State Normal football team had attracted him back to Glenville when they defeated Potomac State last season.

The Glenville Normal School quartet composed of Fred Wilson, Seldon Brannon, Howard Rhea, and H. Y. Clark sang "Goodnight," accompanied by Miss Wilma West. After this selection the entire group sang the customary closing song of the Rotary Club and went to the gymnasium where the rest of the evening was spent in dancing.

A local three-piece orchestra consisting of Louise Cain, Royce Miles, and Maynard Young furnished the music for both the banquet and dance.

Mrs. Haumann Teaches for Mrs. Beall

The second grade pupils of Mrs. John Wilbur Beall were taught by Mrs. H. A. Haumann Thursday because Mrs. Beall was ill.

### DANCE MAY BE GIVEN FRIDAY

Miss Arbuckle Says That Plans  
for Social Hour Not Made

Definite plans for the regular social hour of this week have not been made, Miss Alma Arbuckle, chairman of the social committee, said. It is probable, however, that a short dance will be given Friday night.

Miss Arbuckle thinks that the members of the social committee for the spring semester may be appointed by President E. G. Rohrbough at the next convocation.

### SCHOOL PARTIES PAY THEIR WAY

Committee Treasurer Reports  
Balance of \$8.10 at End  
of First Semester

Financially, at least, the social committee for the first semester has been successful in its work. Warren Blackhurst, treasurer of the committee, reports all bills paid and a balance of \$8.10 on hand at the end of the semester. Finances have been cared for by the admission fees at dances and parties. The usual price of admission to the weekly dance has been held down to 10 cents throughout the semester while 25 cents for the more elaborate socials has been the highest price charged.

The chief expenditure has been for refreshments, music and decorations. Each week, when no other affair prevented, a two to three hour dance was given, and four more elaborate dances and parties with a few mid week recreation periods were given during the semester.

### DEPT. OF HISTORY TO GET 23 BOOKS

"Lorenzo The Magnificent"  
and "The Tragic Era" are  
Among the Newest

The history department is going to be supplied with several new books for next semester. They are an assortment of biographies, autobiographies, histories, and one play, and will be here within the next few days.

The biographies are "Abraham Lincoln" by Charnwood, "Attila: The Scourge of God" by Brian, "Catherine the Great" by Strachey, "Joseph Pulitzer" by Seitz, "Mark Hanna" by Beer, "The Life of Thomas Marshall" by Beveridge, "Mad Anthony Wayne" by Boyd, "Jefferson and Hamilton" by Bowers, "The Stormy Life of Mirabeau" by De Gouvenal, "Abraham Lincoln" by Beveridge, "Queen Elizabeth" by Anthony, "Andrew Jackson—An Epic in Homespun" by Johnson, "Lorenzo the Magnificent" by Loth, "Lives of the Painters, Sculptors, and Architects" by Vasari, "Cleveland" by McElroy. The autobiographies are those of Calvin Coolidge and Benvenuto Cellini.

The histories are "The Fabulous Forties" by Minnigerode, "Belgium" by Whitlock, "The Tragic Era" by Bowers, "Life and Labors in the Old South" by Philipps, "Finding Ourselves" by Sullivan, "The American Adventurer" by Muzey, "Tariff History of the United States" by Tausig, "The Pageant of America" by Gabrieli.

The novels are "Grandmother Brown's Hundred Years' War" by Brown, and "The Mauve Decade" by Beer. One play will also be received "Cyrano de Bergerac" by Rostand.

## DEBATE SQUAD TO HAVE TWO MEETS WITH SALEM FEB. 24

Question Is, That Attempt to  
Direct Conscience by Law  
Is Futile

### FOUR COLLEGES ON SCHEDULE

Brannon, Hickman, Blackhurst, and  
Wilson Will Represent  
G. N. S.

A "battle of words" will be fought Feb. 24 when the Glenville State Normal School debating team meets the Salem College team in the first contest on this season's schedule. The Glenville affirmative team will meet the Salem negative in the auditorium here and, at the same time, the Glenville negative team will meet the Salem affirmative team at Salem. Both contests must be won to score a victory.

Departing somewhat from the custom of former years, Miss Vinco Moore, debate coach, has selected her team without a general tryout. Only those previously selected for the squad were asked to begin preparation for the season's debates.

Those selected to meet Glenville's opponents are: affirmative, Seldon Brannon and Linn Hickman; negative, Warren Blackhurst and Fred Wilson; alternate, Roland Butcher.

One New Member on Squad  
All of the regular team are veterans of former years. Roland Butcher is the only new member of the squad.

The question for this year was selected by the West Virginia Intercollegiate Forensic Association at its annual meeting which was held in the fall. The debate coaches from the different colleges and normal schools presented questions at the meeting and then voted for selection. The question selected for this year is, "Resolved, That the attempt to direct the public conscience by legislation is futile." The public conscience is defined as the public attitude.

No reason for the selection of this question was given. In general it revolves around the public's tendency to disobey laws which are not in accord with its sympathies or moral convictions.

### Preparations Rapidly Continue

Miss Moore has secured a number of magazine articles and other material on the subject and put the team to work reading about and studying the question. From reports of the individual members at the weekly meetings of the squad, their preparations seem to be going forward rapidly and from all indications the team will be ably ready for the first meet.

Last year the team went through the season undefeated.

The schedule, which is still probably incomplete, will provide stiff opposition. Salem College, West Virginia Wesleyan, Fairmont Teachers College, and Broadus College are already scheduled and it is thought that more meets will be arranged later.

### Floyd is Recovered From Smallpox

Troy Floyd, of Kanawha Hall, after being ill at his home in Burch, W. Va. for four weeks with smallpox, returned to school Jan. 19. Floyd became ill soon after arriving at his home for the Christmas holidays.



## WORDS

Following is an exchange of comment between the St. Louis Post-Dispatch and Prof. Robert L. Ramsay of the English department of the University on the subject of "Words."

From the Post-Dispatch

## Words

Prof. Ramsay, head of the English department at Missouri University, says the vocabulary of the average university student runs from 50,000 to 70,000 words. One can appreciate this extraordinary equipment by recalling that Shakespeare did all his stuff with 28,000 words, that Homer charmed the Hellenic world with a much skimpier allowance and that George M. Cohan, lineal descendant, perhaps, of Aristophanes, probably never has had 1000 words in the bank in his life. If Prof. Ramsay is right the current collegian has the raw material for masterpieces to blow the hardy sublime out of the picture. One may wonder, however, how many of those dashing thesaurians carry in their portmanteaus what Mr. Hoover has just described as "the good old word—work." If they have, there's no stopping them. If they haven't, there's no starting them. Meantime, we are accepting Prof. Ramsay's figures with thousands of reservations.

To this editorial Prof. Ramsay made reply in the following letter, a part of which was published in the Post-Dispatch:

"To the Editor of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch:  
Dear Sir:

"I do not wonder that you expressed considerable reservation, in your editorial of December 6, about accepting an alleged statement from me to the effect that the average university student's vocabulary is two or three times as large as Shakespeare's. As Mark Twain said about a premature newspaper account of his death, the report is considerably exaggerated.

"It is perfectly true that we have found, by a series of tests conducted in a large university course over a period of nearly ten years, that most of our better students are acquainted with at least 30,000 words. Indeed, the figure of 100,000 is not at all uncommon, and an occasional assiduous reader turns up who knows 120,000 or 127,000. It is also true that Shakespeare used in his plays something less than 18,000 words. Your figure of 28,000 for Shakespeare is much too large; a careful count of the standard concordances of Shakespeare gives the following totals for his distinct and separate words: 17,271; 17,303; and 17,499. Shakespeare's vocabulary, by the way, was by no means the largest among English authors; the new concordance of Browning which was completed only two years ago puts the Victorian poet in the lead with a vocabulary of no fewer than 29,209 words.

"But these figures need to be handled with a certain amount of intelligence, as is often the case with statistics. The total for the University student refers to his passive vocabulary; that of Shakespeare, to his active vocabulary. A man's passive vocabulary includes the words he can recognize and understand; his active vocabulary includes only the words he actually uses. The former may be compared to one's acquaintances, the people one knows by sight; the latter to one's friends, who may be depended upon to respond to a call for help. Anyone who is in doubt about the proportion his friends bear to his acquaintances might try raising a small loan among them. He will thus obtain a rough idea of the proportion his passive vocabulary bears to

## Romantic Love

By Elsie McCormick in The World.

The decline of romantic love is one of the interesting psychological features of this day and generation.

By "romantic love" I mean the sort that highly idealizes its object, rides up and down a florid gamut of emotions, and sometimes cherishes and exhibits its wounds throughout an entire life.

Once the pale lover, moving slowly through society, was wafted about by the sighs of the observers. Once the graves of those who committed suicide because of thwarted romance

his active.

"Furthermore, the figures for Shakespeare does not indicate the total even of his active vocabulary. It gives us merely his total active written vocabulary. Any man, even a Shakespeare, talks a great deal more than he writes; and if we only had a stenographic report on the dialogues at the Mermaid Tavern, or even an Elizabethan Boswell to report the cream of Shakespeare's daily conversation, undoubtedly his total of words actually used would be immensely swollen. A Swedish investigator who made a careful study of the active spoken vocabulary of a typical Swedish farmer has reported that 26,000 is probably too small a figure for the total number of distinct words at his command.

"Such an investigation of the active vocabulary is extremely difficult, and the result is problematic. But it is really quite easy for any one to make a rough estimate of his own passive vocabulary. The method we use at the University of Missouri is as follows: The student is instructed to take an unabridged dictionary and a notched card; with this he examines from ten to twenty pages at regular intervals, and finds out how many words he knows the meaning of; then he counts the total number of words on these pages, and figures out the percentage. He takes this percentage of 250,000, the approximate total number of words in the English language, and the result is somewhere near his passive vocabulary. Thus if he finds that he can define reasonably well one-fifth of the words on the selected pages, his passive vocabulary is about 50,000. Of course the larger the number of pages examined, and the more evenly they are distributed through the dictionary, the more nearly reliable will be his results.

"It would be very interesting to find out in some such way the doubtless gigantic vocabularies possessed by some editors and journalists. I do not believe their actual modesty should deter them from making the experiment on account of any apprehension lest their totals should turn out to surpass Shakespeare's.

Respectfully yours,  
ROBERT L. RAMSAY

From the Post-Dispatch

Mr. Ramsay of the University of Missouri, in the letter column, says a passive vocabulary of 100,000 words is not at all uncommon among the better students at that school. We marvel at this intellectual attainment.

A small lexicon, Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, contains 97,000 words and phrases. According to Mr. Ramsay some Missouri University students have slipped this little book in their mental vest pockets. That would mean these prodigies would be acquainted with such terms as: krypton, fremescent, pedicular, xyl-yl, guitguit, rufous papaveraceous, delitescant, psora, ghazal, sludge, quipu, rynd, antrusion, litiscontestation, culet, ctenoid, pseudographous, xenophobia, gantry, quitch and hulk.

were visited regularly by other couples and piled high with home-made garlands.

Nothing of the sort seems to occur today. A young swain sighing like a Turnage is considered just a bit gaga by his friends and in need of advice on mental hygiene. People who commit suicide for love are looked upon as psychically abnormal, and their graves receive no primroses from people to whom they had not been previously introduced.

In place of this flamboyance one finds sex attraction and a comradeship that is both mental and emotional. If some of the great lovers of the past could come back they would undoubtedly be surprised to learn that the emotion that caused them so much suffering was only a passing fashion which the world could do very nicely without.

According to the "Critique of Love," which is Vienna's latest pronouncement on the subject, romantic passion is a comparatively new development in the world's history. The ancients knew little or nothing about it—their ideas on the subject being confined to the sex attractiveness offered by mistresses and the routine devotion due to faithful wives.

Romantic passion, say the psychologists, did not appear until after Christianity had taught that sex love was a sin. Repression gave it strength, and the real or supposed moral inaccessibility of the beloved was responsible for its glamour.

Of course, romantic love never did exist in as many cases as was generally supposed. A large number of swains who went about sighing over Phyllida really wanted a good excuse to read their verses. A great number of ladies who seemed wrapped in sentimental passion really desired a good stone manor house and a knight to bring them emeralds.

It has been said that a moonlit rose-garden is a woman's business office, and that she generally remains as cool and sharp in such surroundings as ever a man did among tickers and buzzers.

Still, in many cases such love did exist, and its pains and tremors were as real as chelera morbus.

It is to Russia that we must look to discover whether or not romance can really be put out of business. The land of the Soviets has sponsored a drive against romantic love, declared it bourgeois, and marked it with the seal of state disapproval. A young man who moons about a damsel is regarded as one who raises counter-revolutionary bees beneath his astrakhan cap.

A Communist girl declared proudly: "We know nothing about love; we

know only sex relations." While, of course, such statements may be merely the smart remarks of the younger set, there is evidence to show that romance of the idealizing type is becoming highly passe.

One of the strongest indications is that Russian women seem to have lost nearly all interest in their personal appearance. Photographs from Moscow show unkempt girls wearing shapeless coverings that were apparently designed to make them as unattractive as possible. They look, indeed, somewhat as American girls do when they stay too long in a feminine camp.

This raises at least one very painful question. Nearly all Russian women nowadays are economically independent. They have nothing material to gain by marriage; as wives they would have to work anyway, and bear in addition the burden of caring for a family. Does this complete lack of interest in appearance indicate that when the economic need for attracting the male is gone all effort to be attractive goes overboard?

Of course, Russians are too poor for finery, but they can surely afford combs and hair-pins, and even dresses of cheap cloth can be made in becoming patterns. Would American women become equally careless if marriage had as little to offer as it has in Russia? You can have this to ponder over in case you are looking for something new in the way of mordant thoughts.

However, America has not as yet reached the point of being materialistic in matters of the heart, even though old-fashioned grandiose love is taking its place with wax flowers and white muslin wedding gowns.

Probably this decline of florid emotion is related to the changing standards of morals. There is less denial and repression today, and therefore less need to idealize and sublimate. Besides, human energy has its limits, and a young woman with a job or career at hand is not likely to fling herself into an old-fashioned grand amour. One cannot keep a position if one pines with the waning moon at night and suffers melodramatic agony by day.

Also, the psychologists have gone their share by taking poetic emotions apart and showing some of the surprising complexes that lie in their fibres.

I do not believe, however, that the passing of high romance is very

greatly to be deplored. The emotionist comradeship that has taken its place—in America at least—possesses many advantages. It is more honest, for one thing; its wounds heal more quickly; it is not likely to attach itself to an unattainable object, and it does not make a virtue out of suffering.

For the first time in history, affection is finding a place in love. The romantic lover had little real affection for his sweet, and but a small amount of what we might call loving kindness. He might protest his willingness to die ten thousand deaths for a glance from Phyllida's eyes, but if Phyllida caught the small-pox, he would probably be found running madly for the next county.

Afflicted by jealousy, the fervid gallant of other days was likely to kill his lady or shut her up in a high stone keep. The modern swain has, in quite a few cases, enough affection mixed with his sentiment to want his beloved to be happy, even if it means giving her up.

Still, one cannot help being sorry for the pale lovers' ghosts who have come to know that the grandiose emotion they thought so real is now almost as archaic as the clothes they were buried in.

## Post to Give Illustrated Lecture

C. W. Post, instructor in geography, will give an illustrated lecture early next semester to the students of his geography classes as a part of their regular class work. The Rocky Mountains and Yellowstone National Park will be the subject of his talk. This is the second of a series of such lectures being given by Mr. Post.

Miss Ethel Foster of Veron Maple Hall has been ill with influenza but she returned to school Wednesday.

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Glenville, W. Va.

As this semester is drawing to a close, we want to thank the faculty and the students for the generous patronage you have given us during the past months.

We hope this will continue in the future, and we promise to give the best service possible.

Glenville Midland Co.



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## "MORE EARNEST AND LESS SHRILL"

It is often a very difficult thing for people to keep from being conceited. Each person has his circle of friends and admirers. No matter how small that circle may be, there are always those in it who flatter, whether justly or unwarrantedly, so that it becomes extremely difficult for one to see himself as he really is.

Now, whether or not it would be advisable for people to see themselves as they really are, not even necessarily as others see them, is a problem for the psychologists and character analysts. But, be that as it may, many there are who overestimate their individual and collective importance. You have seen the athlete who plays off just before the big game of the season waiting to be begged to play. Or perhaps he didn't play off, but wilfully broke training or missed practice or did some other thing just to show people that because of his importance he could "get away with it." And not often enough do those in power show him his proper place and insignificance.

Sometimes speakers with unusual ability have to be begged to be on the college debating team or a good public speaker requires special attention and inducement before he can be prevailed upon to speak at a meeting not quite (he thinks) cognizant of his worth.

Then there is the student who thinks he has such a "pull" and such a resourcefulness that he does not need to study or even attend classes regularly. He comes to class day after day with unprepared lessons and no reason why they are unprepared. Then it is a "howl" if he does not get an A or, worse still, if he gets an F.

As a general thing, there is not much injustice in the world, and people usually get about what is coming to them. And usually the fellow who talks the loudest about not getting a "square deal" and about being unappreciated is the one who has something in excess of self-confidence (a most worthy attribute in any character) in his system.

## EINSTEIN, A NOVEL, AND HAPPINESS

On the last day of 1929 there appeared a new theory of the dynamic universe that will make life more interesting for professors and harder for students. It is heralded as replacing relativity and restoring the laws in nature. James MacKaye, professor of philosophy at Dartmouth, spent twenty minutes in reading it and four years in directly preparing it.

A few years ago Albert Einstein amazed the world with a theory contradicting Newton's. Because it was reported that only six men understood Einstein, the astonishment grew by leaps and bounds. The publicity of this report made his name a household word just as Steinmetz' deformity brought him fame that he would not otherwise have had. Now comes MacKaye.

To begin at the beginning, it seems that Newton held that time and space were always the same and that the motion of moving bodies had no effect upon them. This space was filled with a motionless or static substance called ether. It never moved although the material world did. So, a minute was always a minute and a yard always a yard.

Two hundred fifty years later Fitzgerald discovered and proved his law of contraction which means that a yard is not always a yard. A. S. Eldington in his "The Nature of the Physical Universe" states it: "Suppose you have a rod moving at a very high speed. Let it first be pointing transverse to the line of motion. Now turn it through a right angle so that it is along the line of motion. The rod contracts. It is shorter when it is along the line of motion than when it is across the line of motion."

Then other experimenters labored. They proved that in order to measure motion it was necessary to have certain fixed points, or to measure "absolute" motion it was necessary to assume a stationary ether.

From Einstein came the denial of absolute space and the placing of it along with time as the function of the relative motion of bodies. The clock illustration was used. If, for example, an observer standing still is watching a clock rapidly receding from him, this clock will appear to him to run slow. In fact, time will seem longer to him than to a stationary observer watching a stationary clock.

This example, it is said, proves the core of Einstein's theory which discards the three-dimensional Newtonian physics and substitutes a four dimensional physics for it. Measurements were made by four "curved" measurements of a space-time composition time being the fourth dimension. There was no ether but just empty space and this was static. It meant "that if we sufficiently extend our range, we should

find that nature is intrinsically and in its element neither understandable nor subject to law."

MacKaye now assumes that ether does exist, but that it is dynamic, radiant, and moving in all directions with the speed of light. This proves, according to him, that Einstein's theory fits the universe but does not explain it.

Now that we have these theories, and granted that they are all true as nearly as can be without contradicting one another, what shall we do about them? There remain as acutely as ever the problems of trying to run an automobile without gasoline and of trying to memorize a sonnet at 8:55 for a 9 o'clock class.

To the most of us the problems of food, shelter, and happiness are not solved by merely using a four-dimensional yard-stick. And we regard these theories with all of the respect that our knowledge permits.

In the light of MacKaye's theory we more fully recognize the littleness and unimportance of man in this universe and wonder whether a powerful novel or a great play might not contribute more to the happiness of man and mean more to him.

## HATS OFF! YOU'RE IN THE "GYM"

"Flee the abundance of the sterile critics" is one of the well-known and truthful lines of Boileau. While we feel that the admonition we are about to give may be sterile because no one really cares, sometimes we are downright troubled and must gush forth. And why?

Oswald goes to the gymnasium—here it is not a field-house—to see a basketball game. Inside the doors he doffs his Dobbs, looks round for a seat, then settles himself on a hard pine board ten inches wide. His knees fit neatly into the middle of the fat woman's back who sits in front of him; while the bony knees of the tall man behind shove like an osteopath beneath his shoulder blades. Firmly wedged in, he balances his hat on his knees. There it remains until the newcomer, going past in the narrow aisle, crushes it with his overcoat. Next, the fat woman, in a moment of excitement, mashes it almost flat. After a third catastrophe, Oswald, with blood in his eye, puts on his hat, determined never again to juggle it on his lap.

We think that Oswald should have left it on in the first place. Etiquette of the gymnasium does not demand hatless men. Nor is the view of the person behind endangered. It is to be hoped that the recent feminine emancipation is not a counter-blow to that freedom men are supposed to enjoy.

## WHAT OTHERS SAY

### ATAVISM

Little Penelope  
Boothby Rose  
Has a natural love for furbelows.  
She is fond of ruffles, and fluted "panties,"  
Garments adored by her Mother and aunts.  
These latter ladies are heard to say,  
"How does Penelope get that way?"  
They often discuss in accents wild  
The prim-prissy ways of this curious child,  
And they feel disgraced, in an age uproar,  
By a girl who acts like a little Victorian.

For Penelope's Pop is a half-hour egg;  
And among the first to display a leg  
In society portraits and Pen's own mother;  
And a great center-rush is Bill, her brother,  
Her father's mother was Dorothy Dennis  
A Gibson Girl, and a shark at tennis,  
And her mother's father was Peter Branch  
Who branded steers at the Y-Cross ranch.

But some people whisper that they have heard  
It said by a gossip/lytle bird  
That her father's father when a boy  
Wore suits like Little Lord Fauntleroy!  
And her mother's mother on a day  
Was dressed like the prints by Kate Greenaway!  
So of course the poor child's blood-stream squirms  
With some deadly correct Victorian germs,  
And it's bound to occur, with this heritage shady,  
Penelope often will act like a lady!

—Anchusa in The Conning Tower.

"Motherhood is an art, a rarer art than is commonly supposed."—Havelock Ellis.

"England still remains a man's country—in spite of votes for women and flappers and the Lord-knows what."—Michael Arlen.

"When the universe no longer holds any amusement for a man, it is time for him to die."—Professor Albert A. Michelson.

"Some women apply mixtures to their faces that would take paint off an automobile."—Dr. Charles W. Pabst.

"Preserving mediocrity is much more respectable, and unspcakably more useful, than talented inconstancy."—Dr. James Hamilton.

## The Open Column

### FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Editor, The Mercury:

And now that the five thousand have been bountifully fed and several "Jonahs" have been swallowed, let us remember that Rebecca had a distinct fondness for one of nature's greatest gifts, water, and that a simple few have followed in her footsteps to have the same remarkable taste. Water, I understand, has been served as a fitting accompaniment to puffy snowballs of popcorn and refreshing peppermint ices as an appropriate Christmas banquet.

The school parties must try to find a happy medium between a dance and a dinner-party because they are given for the school as a whole instead of the few who enjoy dancing, and anyone in public service will find that it is impossible to satisfy everyone every time one tries.

If the critic who suggests that punch at a dance "is not only in perfect taste, but completely satisfying," were to squeeze lemons and oranges from one-thirty until five o'clock each Friday, that person might find that popcorn and candy have the same remarkable attributes of delicious flavor and genuine nourishment as did the Apple in the Garden of Eden.

A Casual Observer.

## AMERICA PURCHASES FEWER BOOKS THAN SMALLER NATIONS

Magazines and Newspapers are Preferred Because They Require Less Time

## COST PERHAPS RESPONSIBLE

Bulk of Reading Done From Required List—Use of Tests May Better Conditions

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.—That the American mind is not deeply studious but takes its reading in intermittent and small doses is indicated by statistics in the hands of the Department of Commerce and the Office of Education, and by the experience of the publishing companies and booksellers. In spite of the fact that one constantly is confronted by advertisements of books, by offers to send whole sets of books without immediate obligation on the part of the recipient to remit money, by book of the month clubs, and the fact that every drug store and filling station offers books for sale, yet the American nation has fallen below its peak in book buying and its book consumption falls short of that of less populous and less wealthy nations.

The reason seems to be that the magazines and newspapers take the place of books to a large extent. The short story was ever an American favorite and reading still is looked upon in this country as something a man should take in his stride and not as a matter for serious attention. Anything which requires more than seventeen minutes forty-two and one-half seconds to read seems to repel a vast number of people. Relatively few people have developed the art of reading and listening to the radio at the same time, although, so far as newspapers are concerned, reading and listening to the wife's conversation has been developed to the highest proficiency from end to end of the land.

Prices of books in this country have something to do with the situation. Costs of production here are high for books of the usual type displayed in bookstore windows. True, reprints are to be had as low as five cents but not until the books are sold, printed from plates used over

and over again, or until copyrights have expired. The American people do not care very much for a book which has been off the press more than a few days. It no longer is a new book.

**Copies Increase, Titles Decrease**  
In 1925 books published numbered 200,997,249 and in 1927 they had increased to 227,495,544. Numbers of copies are on the increase but numbers of titles are far below the peak which came in 1910, practically two decades ago. Then 13,470 different books were published but in 1928 only 10,345 titles were offered.

As might be imagined from the attitude toward reading displayed by the American people, the largest sale of books is of those the reading of which is compulsory. Text books for school use lead all with the imposing total of 83,849,664 copies according to the last census of manufacturers in 1927. That is much more than twice the number of any other class. Perhaps these text books will teach enough students to read to bring about an increase in sets in other classes.

Fiction comes next with 36,553,507 and then juveniles with 31,047,094 copies. A very large class, as might be expected for a nation of puritanically-minded people, is made up of books on religion and philosophy, which numbered 22,220,536. Poetry and the drama produced 6,281,165 (many doubtless published at the authors' expense) and biography 3,075,121.

Europeans, it appears, are more catholic in their reading. Editions abroad are enormous, many books appearing for the first time. Not in the expensive bindings purchased by the American public, but in paper covered editions.

**Americans Are Disinclined to Read**  
One reason attributed to the lack of expansion in the American publishing industry is its lack of organization. Another, and perhaps sounder one, is the disinclination of the American people to read. Some of the large publishers, in an effort to bring about greatest distribution, have set up retail stores in various cities. But one difficulty of this system is that no single publisher puts out a sufficiently large and varied list to maintain a store. He must use his own selling outpost to sell the books of his competitors as well, for the public is never sufficiently accommodating to confine its purchases to the outpourings of one publisher.

The actual out-of-pocket cost of a \$2 novel is \$1.15 on the average. But retail bookstores must be given a 40 per cent discount from the retail price and the book clubs have forced a seventy per cent discount. Thus the publisher is left a pretty small margin of profit. Some publishers and booksellers are fighting the book clubs and will not sell to them on any but regular terms, if at all.

Every book a publisher puts out is a gamble. It is never absolutely certain that a book, even though by a popular writer, will be a success. The public verdict must be awaited. Most books sell to the maximum in their first year. A few of lasting merit which have been slow to sink in will increase their sales as years pass. When Webster's Speller first came out just before 1800 the sales did not amount to very much but by the time it had been superseded in 1890 more than 35,000,000 copies of this one book had been sold.

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WE HAVE INSTALLED  
NEW EQUIPMENT  
IN OUR SHOP

GIVE US A CALL

Gilbert Rhoades

BARBER



## "Dr." Hurst Is Convicted of Cruelty to "Joco" and Must Take Him as Gift

Hugh Hurst, convicted of giving inhuman treatment to his room-mate "Joco" (Fred Eberle) was sentenced to accept him as a permanent gift and to be responsible for him henceforth and from now on. The trial was held before the newly organized Holy Roller Court at Kanawha Hall, Friday night at 10 o'clock.

Some time ago complaints from "Joco" were made about the rough treatment given him by his room-mate, and the court officials were busy with the case trying to gain final evidence that might be convincing when the trial should come about. With Judge Seldon Brannon on the bench, the court began its long and tedious trial, and the sum and substance follows herein: According to prosecuting attorney Roland Butcher, Hurst locked "Joco" in his wardrobe several times and has been known to leave him in this dungeon for half a day at a time. He also starved "Joco" for days, not even allowing him to partake of the bread that he had slipped from the table in the lunch room.

### Cruel Treatment is the Main Charge

Prosecutor Roland Butcher stated that several times he had been awakened (his bed is in the room adjoining that of Hurst) by the shrill and agonized cries of "Joco" who was being beaten by Hurst, and that during one whole day the defendant had walked in a fit of terror, and that "Joco" had been forced to remain in the room and listen to the terrible groans and language used by Hurst while in this condition.

Warren Blackhurst, defense attorney, now took the floor and stated that although these charges were true and that the defense admitted the evidence already stated, the cruel punishment that had been inflicted upon "Joco" was merely the result of his gnawing a huge hole in the wall allowing the cold air to come in from the other room and making it impossible for Hurst to concentrate upon his lessons at night because of the terrible noise which thundered through the hole. Blackhurst also stated that "Joco," while wearing his room-mate's shirts, had been known to have crawled through the exit and had several times torn Hurst's shirts until they were past mending.

In reply to the statement about the hole being gnawed in the wall, Prosecutor Butcher stated that "Joco" had torn this hole there in order that he might have some means of escape from the fangs of Hurst when he took one of his mad spells and that since the opening led directly into Prosecuting Attorney Butcher and Sheriff Clavel Smith's room he felt perfectly safe.

### Court Brings About Reconciliation

The evidence thus having been concluded, Judge Seldon Brannon immediately pronounced the sentence. It is said that Hurst and "Joco" left the court room arm in arm and that they are now perfect buddies and are planning to take the same classes in school during the coming semester so that they might be together more and might continue to enjoy their heartfelt friendship.

For the benefit of those who do not know of the Holy Roller Court it might be wise to outline the history, purpose, functions and names of officers of this newly formed fountain of justice. For several months there has been a plan on hand to merging the Holy Roller organization and the Buttermilk Court into one which should be known as the Holy Roller Court. This was accomplished at a recent meeting and the members of both organizations agreed that the officers now in charge should continue during the coming semester and that they should serve without compensation since the court was formed in order that the wrongs of Kanawha Hall might be righted and that the power of justice might be exercised with a lower overhead thus

making student life at Glenville State Normal School richer and better.

Following is a list of the acting officers according to Sheriff Clavel Smith: Judge, Seldon Brannon; prosecuting attorney, Roland Butcher; defense attorney, Warren Blackhurst; sheriff, Clavel Smith; deputies, Trell Reger and Cray Callahan.

Sheriff Smith also said that several cases are scheduled for the next docket, including thefts, misdemeanors, and love affairs, and that they would be taken care of as soon as possible. The trials will all be held in the downstairs parlor of Kanawha Hall and only those who belong and reside in the hall will be admitted to the hearings.

### Service Station Badge Brings Vass, Pioneers' Center, to Glenville

The Pioneer football team of 1928 along with Coach "Nate" Rohrbough was on its way to Athens to play Concord. They stopped at a Standard Service Station in Beckley to get gas and oil. A tall slim youth stepped out to check the oil. The Standard Oil Company requires that each of its service station employees wear a badge with his name on it. While paying for the service, "Nate" was naturally curious as to the youth's name. He looked at the badge and thereon was inscribed a name he had seen and heard before.

Mr. Rohrbough asked the youth if he had not played basketball while in high school and he received an affirmative answer. In as short time as possible he tried to induce him to attend Glenville State Normal School. The boy was unable to decide and told the Coach he would talk to him after the team returned from Concord.

Glenville was defeated by Concord, 6-7, and on the return trip the bus stopped at the same service station. The same boy who served them on the trip to Athens again stepped out, to be at their service. The tank was filled with gas and the discussion of Glenville was again started between Mr. Rohrbough and the service station employee. The youth was slowly consenting and finally decided to telephone about the matter in the future. The team departed, and the tall slim youth went back to his work.

Within the next few days telephone calls were numerous between the two men and the youngster finally consented to leave the Standard Oil Company and depart for Glenville State Normal School.

He left the service station Jan. 1, and arrived in Glenville Jan. 2 at 8. He lounged round that day at the "Ark" and went into the center position against the World Famous Indians the same night. The tall lad held up his end of the game and when the final whistle had blown, he was high-point man for his team.

After the game, everyone was asking, "Who was that tall boy shooting 'em in tonight?"

One well-informed student replied with much enthusiasm, "Why that's Frank Vass, from Beckley."

J. Arthur Butcher after missing several days of school because of illness, resumed his studies Wednesday.

WHETHER YOUR ACCOUNT BE LARGE OR SMALL, WE WELCOME THE OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE YOU.

KANAWHA UNION BANK

### PIONEERS MAY PLAY PLEBES

Freshmen or Wreckers to be Met at Clarksburg Saturday

The work of the Pioneer basketball squad this week will be done in preparation for the game Saturday night with the West Virginia Freshmen, or the Clarksburg Wreckers that were met and defeated on the local floor early in the season.

Coach "Nate" Rohrbough stated that he was trying to schedule a game with the Plebes of the university to be played in Clarksburg, but if he could not arrange for this contest, the Clarksburg Wreckers would be met on their court.

The Pioneers, to date, have played all their games at home with the exception of one.

### IS REWARDED FOR HEROISM

Former Student Rescues Man From Top of Oil Derrick

Hall Wilson, a former student of G. N. S., living at Tanner, was awarded a gold watch and chain for rescuing a fellow workman, Perry Cunningham, from the top of an oil derrick. Cunningham was working on top of the derrick, while a string of casing was being pulled. His left arm was caught between the crown pulley and steel cable and almost cut off. He hung to the rigging until Wilson climbed to the top and extricated him. Wilson slowly descended with the injured man on his shoulders and brought him safely to the ground.

Wilson, while attending the Normal, pitched two years on the baseball team.

Clifford Clem, who was called home January 17 because of his mother being ill, returned to school Wednesday.

FRIENDLY—  
TO YOUR  
FEET AND  
PURSE



HUB CLOTHING  
COMPANY  
GLENVILLE'S  
YOUNG MEN'S  
SHOP

GUARD  
AGAINST  
HUNGER  
WITH  
OUR CAKES  
AND  
PASTRIES  
Glenville  
Home Bakery

### Boys' Halls to Meet on Court

There will be a basketball game in the gymnasium Tuesday night at 7:30 o'clock, between the boys of the Annex and the boys of Kanawha Hall. The teams are to be chosen from the boys who are not out for the regular basketball team.

### KANAWHA HALL TEAM WINS

Hatfield Stars in Game Against Troy —To Play Tanner

The Pioneer basketball team may be the class of the school but they are not the only ones who can win games, or at least that's the opinion of "Bob" Dayton and his Kanawha Hall team. They mean every word of it too for last week they played and defeated the Troy Independent team.

The score which was 31-21 also proves that these boys can at least shoot. Hatfield former Williamson star and center of the Hall team, contributed greatly to his team's victory, by scoring eight field goals and one foul. He cannot have all the glory, however; for Brannon and Dayton at guards, Siak and Lewis at forwards, have a little to say concerning the matter. They played right along with Hatfield.

The next appearance of this team will be Friday night, when they play "Pete" Rogers' boys from Tanner High School.

A New International Dictionary has been purchased and placed at the end of the hallway on the second floor of Kanawha Hall.

GLENVILLE  
BANKING  
AND TRUST  
COMPANY

THE BANK OF  
SATISFACTORY  
SERVICE

For a  
"Between-Meals"

EARLE BENNETT  
Meats and  
Groceries  
Has Just What  
You Want

Delicious Drinks, Sandwiches, and Candies,  
and the Crowd You Know Will Make That  
Hour from Six Until Seven a Delight,  
At The

B. & B. SODA SHOP  
"Where The College Crowd Goes"

### Some Dirty Faces At "Ark" as King Winter Enjoys a Horselaugh

King Winter, with his cold breezes, was responsible for a few dirty faces at the "Ark" last week when he worked havoc on the water pipes. The mercury went to four below.

On Jan. 18, about 11:30 p. m. it was discovered that water was frozen solidly in the pipes. This of course was felt more keenly on Sunday morning, when the boys assembled for their morning clean-up, and found that the supply of water was very limited. In fact on numerous occasions between then and Monday afternoon, three or four of the "Ark" inhabitants were known to have completed their toilets with one quart of water. This scanty water supply really made the "Ark" seem to be a relic of some arid region, rather than a remembrance of the flood.

Another blow was received late Sunday afternoon when the pipes were thawed out. The general rejoicing about an abundant supply of water was checked by the discovery that one of the pipes had burst, and the water would have to be turned off until the pipe was repaired. This was done Monday afternoon.

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Candy

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FIVE CENT BARS 10¢

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Tried the Rest,  
Try The Best

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"Drug Store"  
Say

"THOMPSON'S  
Drug Store