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KENYON

Rudy Kutler

COLLEGIAN

Founded 1856

Vol. LXIX No. 8

Gambier, Ohio.

September 8, 1944.

THE SITUATION IN COTTONS

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RUDY KUTLER ON TRAINING

The Kenyon Collegian

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Recently there has been a unison of whines such as, "Kenyon certainly isn't what it used to be; it's going to the dogs; we never have any good times."

Why don't we have any of the college spirit we had two years ago? Many would say because the college and the individual fraternities were larger then and more activity was stirring everywhere. What a sloppy excuse! The college wasn't any larger than the 78 we are today when the student body experienced some of its golden days under Pat Peirce's administration. Those days were rich with Kenyon spirit, as is proved by the colorful testimonies of scores of alumni.

Today our situation is strikingly parallel, and the Administration has shown itself anxious to cooperate with us by undertaking to maintain the good old tradition of singing through the Kenyon singers and similar organizations, and even by discreetly withholding comment on our sickly "Peep Night" of last week.

But let's not be content to sit back and wait for the College to find activities for us. Let's get out and create our own and restore a Kenyon Spirit that 900 alumni will respect and be proud of.

IS KENYON A POLITICAL ANIMAL?

Interest concerning such vital factors as economic and political lies dormant on our campus. An aggressive, enthusiastic curiosity about these activities must be resurrected. There are many causes for the death. There are many cures.

Until last semester the International Relations Club was a thing of the past. Now it is here once again with new leadership. We are firmly convinced that once its president, William Vogley, is given a free hand to organize programs (for

discussion and perhaps mock conventions and elections) a definite interest will follow. The I.R.C., with student leadership and subtle faculty sponsorship, can forge ahead to success.

It might be an extremely healthy move to make political discussion and debate a part of all clubs and classes in order to broaden our outlook. Another suggestion would be to import a crack-pot-or-more-from certain Eastern schools of learning. The latter would at any rate stimulate discussion. But its action we need- the faculty, the I.R.C. and you, the students, can satisfy this want.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

To the editor:

In the last issue of the COLLEGIAN I read with interest the article suggesting elimination of finals. I've heard little comment on this idea on campus, but suppose the apparent lack of interest stems from the presumption that such an innovation would be impossible.

Actually there is no reason why it should be. Couldn't the matter be brought up at a meeting of the Senior Council for discussion? I think, too, it would be well to find out just how the faculty feels about it.

After all, we're all here at Kenyon to learn, and the fact of the matter is that final examinations contribute little to the process. It's a well known fact that the midnight oil is burned continually at the end of the term, and it is equally lost blink-i that knowledge thus gained is lost soon after the final examination is completed.

As the writer of the editorial proposed, weekly quizzes would give the instructor of the course a much better estimate of what the student has learned than would the final examination, and would help the student retain more permanently the knowledge he is trying to acquire.

Oliver Campeau

Dear Editor:

... how about a COLLEGIAN Poll to determine student opinion concerning their attitude toward food in the Commons...

Sincerely yours,
Olet Cable

Editors note: The above reader's request has been answered. See news article, "Students Criticize Food."

Elimination of Finals

In the last issue of the Collegian an article appeared suggesting the elimination of final examinations. It was offered as a possible solution to the problem of cheating at Kenyon, and was seriously written and intended. The staff of the COLLEGIAN, taking their stand against the Honor System, hoped that the student body would seriously consider this alternative; this latter being somewhat radical at first glance, we expected it at least to cause considerable comment. Even comment was lacking. Therefore, if the students' inertia is to be overcome on the matter, it must again be brought to their notice as a serious possibility.

The final examination is an ancient tradition, handed down to us from ancient foreign universities, where, even at the present time, a student's grade depends entirely on his mark in this test. It therefore serves two purposes; it gives the instructor an easy basis for grading, and it shows the over-all grasp of the subject attained by the student. These are its advantages, and in theory they are strong.

In practice, however, we see them fall to pieces. The average student, taking a certain course, thinks of the "final" as a nebulous horror, but one that is fortunately a long way off. As a result, he lets things slide, and finds himself in a dangerous situation when exam week arrives. He crams frantically, and often cribs, for a lot is at stake. When he enters the exam room he is suffering from loss of sleep, too much recent concentration, and often an unreasoning terror that may easily wreck his weakened chances completely. He is positively demoralized.

Now let us see how this student would act if he knew that there was no final to be faced. His professor tells him that there will be an exam every week over the immediate work covered. The average of these tests will be his final grade in the course. The student must be alert and study carefully, for even the most stupid can see that each week's work helps determine his ultimate grade. Yet a bad showing on one test does not ruin him, and he is not unnerved by the ordeal, nor is he forced to cram or cheat, and in the end, he probably has a better grasp of the subject than he would otherwise have.

Here, then, is the solution. Consider it and criticize it, but at least

The Situation at Commons

In war time it is only normal that the food situation in the college should become bad, as it has in many other places. Due to rationing and to many other war-time necessities, the Commons at Kenyon can not keep up its former standards and cannot be operated as it was in peace times. We, here at Kenyon should realize that starks and delicious rarities are strictly a post-war project, that we will have to take what we get.....to a certain extent.

The art of griping about the food is no doubt an old and sacred tradition of all Kenyon men, in fact, of all men. Griping is healthy and is a satisfying outlet for excess energy and many of us will gripe for the derived pleasure. But griping can be carried too far and become obnoxious, just as much as the Commons can go too far in lowering its standards.

There have been a few instances in the near past where the food in the Commons has been disappointing not only from a quantitative aspect but also from a qualitative one. Perhaps the Kenyon man of today eats more than his cousin of yesterday, but the fact remains that many times, many men have not enough to eat, and have had to supplement themselves by a quick dash to the Coffee Shop. Also, occasionally new concoctions will appear on the menu, and if, as in one instance, this new concoction fails to please, it will be served over in order to avoid waste. Now dishes are pleasant things to have....IF they please. Frequently, there are such things as the food being underdone, being too salty, and very frequently the very life of the food is boiled out of it. Also, at times the waiters aren't exactly interested in service of the best type.

These are but a few of the items which have been noticed and commented upon--frequently in a very strong manner. In order that the above unpleasantness be eliminated as far as possible, and to make "gripes" a harmless and healthy extra-curricular activity of the students, the Commons committee should be restructured, and should again take an active interest in pleasing the stomachs of Kenyonites.

take it seriously, for your vigorous insistence can bring Kenyon to a new era of educational thought, and can rid you of your southern, the final exam. Your insistence can take the form of petitions to the Senior Council, letters to the administration and marked display. Opportunity is within your grasp.

Pre-theologs Christened

After speculating for a period of three weeks over a title for their newly created group, the pre-theos finally decided to call themselves The Speculators.

The steering committee of Bertrum Stoddard, Oliver Campeau and Allan Hauck developed a general program for the club. Plans include outside speakers who will cover various topics particularly concerning the Church. It is hoped, however, that such a group as the Speculators will at future meetings widen their perspective, including for instance the all-important correlation of the work of the Church with the economic, political and social aspects of life. Such an organization as The Speculators can be highly effective, let's hope so.

Fuzzies Exposed

On the night of September 5th, the Freshman class held a clandestine meeting in the bowels of old Kenyon. The purpose of the gathering was, first, to decide on policy concerning hazing. William Marshall, Bruce Bell and Oliver Campeau were selected president, vice-president and secretary respectively. The Fuzzies formulated a Gandhian policy of "passive resistance". From the results of the first two encounters, we judge that it is the Sophs who need to organize. Or is it the Klan? Or is it the Junior class? Say, by the way, who is running hazing?

Klan Organizes

The Kenyon Klan, lusty demons of the athletic field, held elections of officers during the past week. Those honorees included: Richard Roberts of football fame, president; Ernie H. Leopold, vice-president; Charles J. Mathony, football, and baseball flash, secretary. Apparently the Klan decided to engage in a bit of Hazing. But now, rumors have it that this decision has been radically altered.

I.R.C. Elections

Without any fuss or flurry the International Relations Club elected the following men for the remainder of the quarter: William Vogley, president; Bertrum Stoddard, vice-president; and

John Keichen, secretary-treasurer. It is hoped that with the inauguration of the new leaders a more far-reaching program will be developed.

This Friday, September 8th, 1944 at 7:30 PM in Pierce Hall Lounge there will be a meeting concerning the Good Neighbor policy of the Americans. The entire question of the relationship between North and South America is an important one about which little or nothing is known by the students. Here is an opportunity for us to learn something.

Kenyon Singers Revived by Senior Council

Under the stimulus of the Senior Council, the Kenyon Singers have been revived. The first results of the membership drive re-satisfactory. If quantity is a sign of quality, the Kenyon Singers should be first-rate.

Students Criticize Food

On September 7, a student poll was taken by the Collegian; the subject was the Commons' fare. The question was, in General, do you consider the quantity and quality of food served in the Commons to be: excellent, satisfactory, or unsatisfactory?

Forty-six of the students polled answered, Unsatisfactory, six replied satisfactory, and two believed the food to be excellent. Thus, 85% of the students polled insisted that the food served at the Commons was not satisfactory. Almost unanimously, they agreed that the quantity was quite sufficient, and all insisted that it was quality that was lacking. Some went even further, and based their dissatisfaction on the fact that, with the enrollment so small, the food should be better than elsewhere.

Assembly Speaker

On Tuesday September 5th, Mr. Julian Bryan held the undivided attention of the assembly by a fascinating address. His topic was, the philosophy behind photography. He spoke for a length of time on the filming of Bolivia describing the social conditions of this country. Collages of America took a brow beating from Mr. Bryan for failure to recognize the extreme importance of visual education. Mr. Bryan said that greater understanding between nations may be had through the camera is an excellent one.

Dewey by Landslide!

Last Tuesday, September 5th, Franklin D. Roosevelt was dethroned by the student-body of Kenyon College. Asked by the Collegian Poll whom their favorite would be if the election were held that day, the students replied, "Dewey", by a vote of four to one.

Several obvious factors can be attributed to the results of the straw vote. A great percentage of the student-body comes from homes of the middle class economic bracket. A decisive number are from Ohio, a state which, although Democratic at the last election (because of labor vote), is a strong hold of Republicanism in to middle and upper classes. Obviously the students are a result of their home environment. A factor worthy of vote in connection with the aforesaid is that most of the student-body are very new Freshmen, and have not had as yet the necessary exposure to the more liberal approach to the fine art of politics under the tutelage of certain faculty members.

Although Mr. Dewey was favored several incurable malcontents demanded that Earl Browder and his communist party be given a chance to run the country. Others mentioned included: Norman Thomas, Eleanor Roosevelt and a new group under the name, The 4th Reich.

Collegian Poll Figures

"If the presidential election took place today, who would receive your vote?"

Roosevelt-13

Dewey-49

Germans to quit in three months-Japan doomed to defeat by-45!

In answer to the Collegian Poll's question, "When do you think that World War II will end?" 40% of the student-body was convinced that by the end of Dec. Herr Hitler's hordes would be no more. Some members of the school were quite optimistic and believed that Dance-week-end would be celebrated with the downfall of Germany.

When queried about Japan's chances, Kenyon men expressed the belief that Japan will be a tough nut to crack. One gloomy chap was firmly convinced that we would never defeat Hirohito!

Collegian Poll Results

"When do you think that World War II will end?"

a-with Germany

3 months- 20

6 months- 11

1 year - 1

b-with Japan

6 months- 6

1 year - 29

2 years - 5

The Collegian received this ditty "Late in the Night". The author received his inspiration from a dubious source. However, we believe him to be a follower of one Gertrude Steine.

Late in the night

madly we fight

our numbers are legion

the KENYON COLLEGIAN.

early the next day

the new issue's on display

throughout Gambier region

the KENYON COLLEGIAN

Our readers are frantic

editorials pedantic

arguments stygian

the KENYON COLLEGIAN

e.c.c.

Letters are already coming in from men stationed in the various parts of the world requesting information about the present football team and its prospects for a successful season. Likewise, as football scores begin to appear on the sports pages of the newspapers and are included in the sports reports over the air the many friends and alumni of the college will be anxious to learn how their team, the Kenyon team, fared on that particular day. The faculty and the students are watching with interest the development of the team and its individual members. Being in close contact with the men, they are in a better position to weigh and observe the potential possibilities as demonstrated by their intellect, strength of character, and technical make-up.

It is obvious that a football team is a unit of call a life with definite responsibilities to the college and to those connected with it. The team cannot consider itself as a group of men playing purely for the sake of playing and for the exercise derived from it. That type of play is confined to the intramural field and to the purely recreational phase of sport. Intercollegiate athletics require that the players through hard work and self discipline get into excellent condition to play the game. In a sense, the football player is really a college servant, a college entertainer, a college figure. He is the object of admiration or criticism, according to the way he plays. Not only his form as a player is noted but his habits, morals, and vices are of college interest.

The football teams of today recognize and accept the responsibility they automatically assume. True, now and then one or two members of a team will consider it smart to break training, consider themselves so good that they do not have to keep training, or are so selfishly individualistic that they do not care to conform to actions and behaviors consistent with the best interests of the team and its responsibilities. These men, however, are soon found out and are either dropped by the wayside or are corrected by the members of the team whose efforts they are sabotaging. Since the success of a football team, of any team, is dependent upon the behavior and actions of every member of that team, the antics of

those nonconformists are deplored by the members of the team as well as by every man who is in any way connected with the college.

I sincerely hope that we have no men of that type on our team, but that we all do everything possible to demonstrate that Kenyon is a college for MEN. The results we will thus accomplish will be commensurate with our efforts and the pleasure we will derive from a job well done.

SPORTS, BY HARTMAN

The Kenyon football squad of the 1944 season has been practicing diligently for the past four weeks; in a rather hectic manner, however. There are as yet numerous rough spots in the squad's manipulations which should be smoothed and precisioned as the days of practice lengthen.

An outstanding quality characteristic of every man on the squad is, no matter how inexperienced he may be, his willingness to want to learn. Some of the men have never donned football togs before the fall grid sessions, and even more are light-- that is, they are not exactly reminiscent of the gigantic Minnesota lines of pre-war days. However, although they have weaknesses these are compensated for by that relatively rare quality in human nature-- the ability to admit an error and the desire to attempt a formation once more.

The line itself is tall, rangy, and rugged. From end to end the Lords average 6 foot and tip the scales at 170. The forward wall is sparked by holdover material such as towering Dick Roberts and Fred Palmer. The remainder of the line is fresh material which is showing up well to date.

The backfield-- the ploughman of the squad-- is slightly smaller and lighter. Its main asset is speed and maneuverability. In fact, to a bystander, it must appear as a four-engined P-30 pursuing air assignments.

Although Coach Kutler must still be suffering from nocturnal nightmares in which the Kenyon aggregation vies with Otterbein, Capital, and Rio Grande; the outlook is brightening.

It seems logical, however, to predict that Kenyon will be the underdog this fall; yet, although they may be outplayed, they will never be outfought.