

4-19-1958

Kenyon Collegian - April 19, 1958

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KENYON COLLEGIAN

A Journal of Student Opinion

Vol. LXXXIV

Gambier, Ohio — April 19, 1958

A Note On Camus

by Bruce Freed

This note is being written with the assumption that for most people Camus' fiction is something of a problem. The problem takes on different forms, but it is always there, so that the reply to most questions about Camus' work is, "I'm not sure," or even more emphatically, "I don't know." What I want to suggest is that the question asked is usually the wrong one, or at least wrongly worded. For example, the question usually asked about *The Stranger* goes something like this: "Why do you think Meursault killed the Arab?" What we should ask is more like this: "What reason was there for Meursault not to kill the Arab?" I don't mean that it is necessary to be indifferent to murder to appreciate *The Stranger*, but rather that this indifference is the answer to the first question and that Camus' preoccupation is to find an answer to the second.

Now, assuming the acceptance of this point (a fatuous assumption, perhaps), it is quite easy to imagine another dubious question, such as: "How does Camus prove or disprove indifference to murder?" This question is clearly legitimate if we think of Camus as a philosopher. It is not so obvious if we think of him as a novelist, or even more narrowly, as a story-teller. It is not essential to story-telling to prove or disprove anything, although it may be done.

I think that the question in the last paragraph is not completely wrong, but wrongly worded. If we word the question this way, "What examples of indifference does Camus present?" we can permit Camus the title of both novelist and philosopher with the weight correctly put on novelist. It is too easy an out to dismiss the problem by saying that Camus is a novelist and all questions should be esthetic ones. However, I think it is also a mistake if we let his failure to solve philosophic problems depreciate our enjoyment of his fiction.

The subject of Camus' philosophy has been called, and rightly I think, *l'expérience vécue*. One can easily see how such a subject is susceptible to fiction, and also how it resists presentation in individual problems that are already for solution. It is too big and amorphous for conventional philosophy. But, perhaps, if it is thought of too philosophically, it is also not suited to fiction. I think this last is most often what happens when Camus' fiction fails to satisfy us as fiction.

What I mean may be clearer if I point to two examples where the philosophic content is there, but not too much there. The feat seems to have accomplished quite well by Graham Greene in *The Heart of the Matter* and *The End of the Affair* (although the diary here is an example of Camus' tendency and Francois Mauriac in *Thérèse*. And Camus is by no means alone in his predicament. The much overrated novels of Andre Gide are all blatant examples of the too pseudo-philosophic. But the comparison is unfair to Camus; while Gide writes only of *l'expérience vécue*, Camus has an unselfish and sympathetic concern for the most general of human problems.

To return to *The Stranger* and examples of Meursault's indifference, the annoyance with the work seems to stem from the fact that the indifference endures although we are sure that Camus in no way agrees with this indifference — it is because of this that

we tend to think of the book as a proof incompletely worked out. Camus' intention is clear enough from a reading of his other works: given the utter absurdity of life he wants to establish something that has value. But because we are aware of the premiss and fail to find a Q.E.D. we are unsatisfied. But perhaps this is only a more involved way of demanding a happy ending. Perhaps we have been looking for the wrong thing, and as a consequence have missed what Camus the novelist-philosopher had to say through example about *l'expérience vécue* — and that seems to be, that if we live with the morality of indifference, our life will be as vapid as Meursault's.

In *The Adulterous Woman*, a story in many ways similar to *The Stranger*, Camus puts it this way: "Since the beginning of time, on the dry earth of this limitless land scraped to the bone, a few men had been ceaselessly trudging, possessing nothing but serving no one, poverty-stricken but free lords of a strange kingdom. Janine did not know why this thought filled her with such a sweet, vast melancholy that it closed her eyes. She knew that this kingdom had been eternally promised her and yet that it would never be hers." The point seems to be that we should never accept exile from this kingdom.

Are We Educating For Peace?

by Joseph Murray

With the launching of the Russian Sputnik, the West sat back stunned and astonished, not readily able to believe that a totalitarian government was capable of such a scientific achievement. Until that time it was thought in the West that Communism was doomed to fall from some inherent evil which it supposedly contained, and that all we needed to do was to wait for the people of Russia to rise and overthrow their cruel masters. Such was not the case, however, and when the sputniks began to appear in the sky, Congress and the nation needed a scapegoat, and settled upon American education as the place to put the blame.

Newspapers, magazines, radio, all carry the same theme and pound it with effectiveness into our brains that what we need to combat Communism are more and more scientists. A natural outgrowth of this plea was the attack that American secondary education was too occupied with "Deweyism" and the personality development of the student, rather

than the teaching of "fundamentals."

GOAL AS A NATION

This drive for more scientists and high-school graduates more acquainted with "fundamentals" is all well and good. There is much truth in this attack, especially as to the latter argument, but more important to us is the goal we are striving to achieve as a nation. Is it bigger and better bombs? Is it more effective long-range missiles capable of hitting a target thousands of miles away? If we pick up any major news magazine or newspaper this seems to be the case.

If our goal is to stop Communism, then we have two alternatives. In the first, we can continue our policy of containment and continue to match and even surpass Russian advancements in nuclear weapons, strengthen and aid the anti-communist countries around the world, and send economic assistance to important neutral nations such as India and Egypt. What essentially is wrong with this policy is that it leaves the initiative in the hands of Communism, and besides that, Communism is but one of the major problems in the trouble areas of the world. To be sure, Communism stirs up the nascent nationalistic feelings of the underdeveloped nations of the world, but for the most part, Communism does not cause the reasons for this nationalism. Communism does not account for the poverty in Egypt, and the Communist government of Kerala in India came after, not before, the devastating conditions of unemployment and economic stagnation.

The answer to world peace does not lie in bigger and better bombs and continual strivings to merely stop communism. This will only result in the aligning of power bloc against power bloc and an eventual World War III of incomprehensible devastation. It is time for the West to regain the initiative, and I should hope that we have more to offer the world than bigger atomic weapons and inevitable war.

REAL DANGERS

The real dangers are older than communism, the first and worst being the total anarchy of national sovereignty. Every nation claims in the end to be the judge of its own actions and force is the final arbiter. This is even more dangerous as more and more nations possess atomic weapons, and the Middle East states stand ominously remindful of the Balkans of pre-World War I.

Rocket for rocket the West can catch up with the Russians, but this does not ease the tension. What is needed, and indeed will become a reality in the future, is international control of some sort. Our hope is that we will not need a Third World War to prove to the nations of the world the necessity of an organization that will guarantee the abolition of the right to violence and that will establish procedures for the peaceful methods of settling disputes. This is bound to mean a police force with complete access to the

(Continued on page four)

An Elusive Flight

The best place to begin a review is at the beginning. I have not figured this out for myself but merely take the word of such authorities as Polonius and the King in *Alice*

in *Wonderland*. However I would not recommend that you read *Hika* (.) in the same manner. The cover is really deplorable despite it being in two colors, and so I would suggest that you begin at the back where there is a really charming cigarette ad, ("Winston tastes good! Like a cigarette should!"). Then thumb quickly back through, without peeking, to the table of contents. Glance at the Editorial Assistants who are rarely noticed and feel neglected, and turn immediately to the Contributors list. She is really the best part of the magazine and cocktail conversationalists need read no further.

FLIGHT'S FLIGHT

Mr. Smith's story is entitled *Decision in Flight*. That is a nice title but it is best to disregard it as it apparently has nothing to do with the work at hand. In fact I would say that it was actually misleading. What this flight business is, is never fully explained. It must certainly be from something that is inconceivably bad if

the present situation is better. Also there is some confusion in my mind as to what the decision is, let alone the flight. The only thing the hitchhiker decides is not to give the money home to the girl because he needs it more anyway. If this is the paramount conflict in the story, I would say, at the risk of being labeled insensitive, that it's pretty shallow. Assuming that it is not the point, and I hope it isn't, I think there are valid grounds for questioning whether it's a story at all. Nothing is resolved, and the reader feels nothing but a defensive form of apathy at the conclusion.

In piling on sordid detail after sordid detail, the author's point of view seems to oscillate between something like desire and disgust. The aversion apparent in the ending seems more like an escape than a judgement. The writing as such is generally consistent, and despite a few cliches and overwritten passages, the style is rather well handled. Occasionally there are parts where the setting is confused or confusing and at one point physically unfeasible. The author describes, through the hitchhiker's eyes, a girl in the front seat of a car from her dingy hair to "leather strap shoes" while he himself is in the back seat. A minor point, but an amateurish mistake.

A BURST OF VERSE

Perhaps the best word for the poetry of this issue is "elusive." The meaning eludes me, the meter eludes me occasionally, and even words and metaphors escape my closest scrutiny. Mr. Clark's poetry is pleasant and impressionistic, although leaving you with a rather uneasy feeling, without doubt intended, about nothing in particular. Mr. Ward's poetry has a meter which is unscannable, but fluid. There are frequently lines which are exciting and seem full of suggestion until you realize that they were inserted apparently merely because they were nice lines. It seems I've read Mr. Parson's poems somewhere before.

HAREY STOREY

Mr. Donovan's story is good but somewhat badly proportioned. Much of the first part seems ineffectually repetitious and consequently drags a little. Since it is always more difficult to comment on a good story than on a bad, I will simply conclude by saying that this is the first story around here that I've seen where the author got the best of his material, rather than the other way around.

B.C.

My Three Angels



A few more than three angels gather around for some purpose, no doubt to have their pictures taken. Hill Players will present the Sam and Ella Sewack comedy on April 24, 25 and 26. *My Three Angels* is being directed by James Michael and produced by Hugué Gage. From left to right (up or down, etc.): Robert Seymour, Keith Anderson, Dave Johnson, Pete Phillips, Linda Devon, Arthur Pellman, John Stanley, and Hilda First.

THE SPOKESMAN

Dropped Names Speak, Too:

That the state can be only a reflection of the individuals in it has been well stated by Plato. And John Dewey has added the imperative that a democracy should be a constant reflection of the participating conscious wills of its inhabitants. And so it is with society. But, is it not true that certain individuals, classes, or, to use that more connotative word, groups control or exact a dominant influence in a particular society?

Dewey also remarked in his address, *Democracy*, that "... it is the main business of the family and the school to influence directly the formation and growth of attitudes and dispositions, emotional, intellectual and moral." It might be continued that these attitudes and dispositions, properly formed, should be the most powerful contributory forces in the society, products of an unnatural aristocracy: an aristocracy whose leadership would spring from knowledge and intellectual prowess. Unfortunately, as Dewey stated, there will be little sense of political responsibility where there is little or no power granted. And this, apparently, is part of the situation today in America.

It is the university or academy, if such an institution exists in our country, which contains within it the foundations of knowledge and the first elements of positive responsibility, the sense of liberalism and worldliness, which, no matter how dormant it lies in the academic world, is so sought after, is pleaded for by politicians, critics, statesmen and the whole medley of talkers. However, little power is thrust upon the academy, little power to take the legislative, the executive or the judicial step. As a matter of fact, it is interesting to note that we seem to be regressing in this direction: Several years ago in Britain, when the Labor Party came to power, the university seats in Parliament were abolished.

Recently we saw the sputnik explosion erupt into the education exploitation program, a program in which the emphasis seems to be on competition rather than values. It is a vague attempt at introspection which is obscured by feelings of material competition and loss of cultural values. One of the few good things to come of it is the rash of appointments of educators to governmental positions — and this seems to be a temporary publicity stunt.

In 1952 Allen Tate published an essay entitled *The Man of Letters in the Modern World*, concerning the literary man. This literary man, for the most part, has retired into the university. Tate's concern is with the language; but underlying the essay is the idea of the literary man's responsibility to the culture, that element which the language should always be cultivating. He desires the literary communication to achieve a communion between man and men, rather than only a communication. And he speaks, too, of the withdrawal of the men of letters which has become as mental as it is physical.

Yeats wrote as the concluding lines of the prefatory poem to his 1914 book, *Responsibilities*:

I have no child, I nothing but a book,
Nothing but that to prove your blood and mine.

But Yeats was a public man; he offered his creative talents, and, then, he offered his political talents. And his "book" was the symbol, not of a withdrawal from society, of the apathetic man or observer, but of the actor, in the full sense of the word. The poet's life contributed things to his contemporary society, perhaps not as lasting as his poetry, but things which contributed towards a future of which his poetry asked questions and speculated, to a present on which his poetry commented and philosophized. We say that Yeats' poetry is the comment of the poet's own mental and physical actions of his life.

The academy must not only contribute ideas, must not only contribute the formulas, but must also be first — and most powerful — in acting, in participating, both its individual members and as a unit of power on the scene.

We have waited over 175 years for the moneyed interests that control our foreign and domestic policy to be replaced: time for the academy to express itself, to override the interests representing present day ignorance, shortsightedness, interests that are perpetuating cultural decadence. Time for the university, for educated and scholarly forces, as they exist, to assert themselves. It is all too significant that the act of withdrawal into the university or school should be rather an act of advancement, of a step towards positive action.

This means that the university and its inhabitants — students, instructors, literary men, historians, etc. — must assume political leadership, the power of ideas, the power of action. They must work actively, and in public, for a new definition of social, moral and cultural values. And they must, as Gide said, "Take upon oneself as much humanity as possible."

Kenyon Collegian

— Since 1856 —

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Represented for national advertising by National Advertising Services, Inc. College Publishers Rep., 420 Madison Ave., N. Y.

Subscriptions are \$3.50 a year. Send requests for subscriptions and/or inquiries for advertising rates to: Business Manager, Kenyon Collegian, Box 308, Gambier, Ohio.

Dear John

Dear Sir:

More and better teachers we simply must have. How? Simple — more money, more respect, more prestige for the teaching profession. To achieve these goals will not be easy. On the contrary it will take new bold imaginative thinking and courageous action.

Here, for a start, is an explosive idea. Have Congress amend the income tax laws to read "No income tax shall be collected on any teaching salary."

I can think of no other single action that would so shock our present state of vacillating do-nothingness into an acute awareness of what education means today in defense of country.

Favoritism? Of course. Isn't it about time? How else can we so quickly demonstrate that today teachers are a class apart — the shock troops who are destined to lead us to victory or defeat in that modern arena of conflict — the classroom. Education (as the Soviet Union has so helpfully shown us) is today the greatest weapon in a nation's foreign policy. Lets put ours in order.

Julian Jack
11 W. 69 St.
New York, N. Y.

To The Editor:

Many modern thinkers place much of the blame for man's insecurity in his private and social world upon a sex "instinct" or some other such intangible drive. There seems to be great merit to this as a psychological basis for man's activities. One may say that sex plays an important and distinctive (if not dominant) part in our world, in the cultural and social as well as personal senses.

With this important relationship in mind, one must say that Mark Bricklin's review of Moravia's "The Sterility of Suffering" is interesting and demands attention. The article is, on the whole, well written and sensible, if indeed rather disturbing. However, the sensibility ends when Mr. Bricklin's digression starts. With the introduction of the debate on hipsterism, the essay loses its air of literary erudition and collapses into a more common place vulgarity, itself common to hipsters and other proponents of the social stigma Naturalism.

My criticism must not lie entirely with Mr. Bricklin or the staff of the Collegian, though they are partly responsible for what I believe to be an opprobrious and uncalled for betrayal of the reader. Most of the credit must go to society in general. Yet obscenity should have little or no part in any literature. The remarks quoted from this "debate" and attributed to Ned Polsky and Norman Mailer have no place in print. If, because of some ostensible plot value, such words are printed, it should be in the muddy pages of the two-bit sex novel and not in the pages of The Collegian.

Granted, the intellectuals, including Mr. Bricklin, must search ever onward for the interesting and the important; it seems to be in their natures. A study of the role of sex in our lives is important and certainly relevant to our times. A report of one's findings is interesting to those of us who are unfamiliar with the intimacies of the area studied. We must all thank Mr. Bricklin for his exhaustive research and scintillating analysis. But certainly there was no need for vulgarity, even in a quotation from someone else's statements. Journalism is one thing, literature another; and trash may constitute a third realm. Into which category do the remarks of Messrs Polsky and Mailer fall?

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Kenyon Sees Deficiencies

by Ross Gelbspan

Staring grimly out from behind the mountain of deficiency reports that covered his desk, Dean Bailey announced that this semester 228 students received a total of 369 "downs." This semester 48.5% of the college received "downs." For the first semester of this year, 46.9% of the school received them, and during the second semester of last year 39.8% of the students were sent deficiency reports.

However, Mr. Bailey hesitates to attribute the trend to a different intellectually-timbered student body. He blames, instead, the fraternities for their devastating "hell weeks," the calendar for the long periods of work during which morale becomes so low, and the recent scourge of measles which incapacitated so many students.

ACADEMIC APATHY?

Many professors, however, attribute the increase in "downs" to an increase in academic apathy among the students. One particular teacher, denying that a stricter academic policy was being established, mentioned that the amount and quality of work done by the student body is declining. He emphasized the fact that many professors are getting sick and tired of seeing the same blank

faces and empty desks day after day. "The students here," he said, "are paying \$2000 for an education and using about fifty cents of it. We (the faculty) should go out and get jobs at service stations; we'd be doing more good."

RAPID TURNOVER

Previously, owing to its financial straits, the college kept many students in Kenyon who did not belong. Now, however, with the great increase in applications for admission the college will be able to discard deadwood. For example, last year the college processed 350 complete applications. This year already they have processed 500, most of which, according to Tracy Scudder, are from "top-notch" students.

All of this adds up to the fact that unless there is much more interest shown in academics the student body will soon experience a rapid turn-over.

Les Elgart: More Gould

by Christopher Speeth

On the 2nd of May, a musician will pull up to Pierce Hall in his white Cadillac.

It could be Isaac Stern, Leonard Rose, Nathan Millstein, Eugene Istomin, Glen Gould, etc. — but no — they are too inexpensive. Besides, who at Kenyon wants to hear their music?

It could be George Szell and his boys, but who wants to dance to a symphony orchestra — to say nothing of listening to it. Anyway, George Szell rides a black Cadillac.

On the 2nd of May, this chrome-plated man will lead his innocuous crew of "musicians" through another cursory performance, then pack and drive away with \$2,200 of Kenyon's money.

DEFALCATION FOR DEFECTION

According to one of our music professors, the best band ever to have played at Kenyon cost \$200. (best is used here only in a musical sense)

Why? Just as the Dorsets need paper flowers, do we, at Kenyon, need a name. Kenyon, the small school with an inferiority complex. We are in competition with Dartmouth.

Les Elgart. The Les Elgart. We have captured Lester for a \$2,200 evening.

On the 2nd of May, when you are holding your fine-bosomed friends close to you on the dimly lighted dance floor, remember, you have sacrificed \$2,200 for a name.

HANDY PRICE LIST FOR MUSIC LOVERS

The String Quartet \$500 to \$2000
(Including the Budapest, Hungarian, Julliard, and Curtis cuts)
The Chamber Orchestra \$750 to \$1500
(Including I Musici and the Virtuosi di Roma, they're the most!)
The Symphony Orchestra \$2000 to \$4000
(Cleveland with Szell, Philadelphia with Ormandy on sticks)
Incidentally, Les Elgart ordinarily charges \$3,500. Congratulations to B. Hoexter for our \$2,200 bargain.

Dean Asks "What Is It?" Goes And Makes His Visit

Flavoring his comments with some degree of enthusiasm and a great deal of earnestness, Dean Edwards related the details of his trip to five Eastern colleges. The trip included visits to Amherst, Dartmouth, Williams, Wesleyan, and Trinity. The primary purpose of the trip was to meet with deans of these colleges to discuss student problems.

KENYON LEADERSHIP?

The main point of discussion with the other deans was the problem of student leadership, which, according to Mr. Edwards, is lacking at Kenyon. One of the primary causes of this apathy seems to be the fraternity system at Kenyon. At the other colleges visited, the fraternities or clubs lived in separate houses. At Kenyon the fraternities are pushed together into dormitories. The fraternity "house" at the other schools gives the students more pride in their own group. This is reflected in their college life by intra-fraternity competition for high student offices, various prizes, etc.

WEAK PAN-HELL

Also under the fraternity system at Kenyon, the Pan-Hellenic Council, according to Mr. Edwards, is not strong enough to solve many problems provoked by the fraternities. Instead the

council turns those problems over to other groups on campus, most of which are as much, if not more, ineffectual.

A second area of concern of Dean Edwards is the decline of the Student Council. At those schools where student government occupies and responds to its place of responsibility, the Councils, being representative bodies, act in purely legislative capacities. At Kenyon the council has been attempting to act as both a legislative and judicial body. It has not met with success.

COUNCIL, LEGISLATIVE

The dean suggested that if the judicial branch of government on campus was vested in the administration and the legislative left to the students, then a much more effective form of government would result.

Beside the problem of student leadership, the dean also discussed

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A Death In the Family

Reviewed by Brian Carlson

Last summer, amid fanfare from most of the magazine critics, including a *Time* cover story, the great American novel of the year, *By Love Possessed*, appeared. The reception of it, with the fact that the book was soon at the top of the best seller lists, marked the long overdue recognition of Cozzens as a major American writer. Later in the year another novel, James Agee's *A Death In the Family*, was released and received by almost all the serious critics with reviews at least as laudatory as those for *By Love Possessed* and without the reservations some felt toward Cozzens' book. Yet *A Death In the Family*, despite Saturday Review's statement "If there is still a large audience for fiction that is suffused with truth and beauty, this novel must have a host of readers," has not topped many best seller lists nor aroused general controversy and acclaim, even in this literary community (I bought my copy at the Bookshop, on sale beside the latest novels of Taylor Caldwell and Ayn Rand, while *By Love Possessed* sold at its regular price).

James Agee died, after the completion of this book, relatively young, although at forty-five perhaps too old to be the cause of a cult of "How unfortunate that he should die before he accomplished his real works of art." For this novel is not one of burning, violent promise, but a mature achievement of a developed writer. *A Death In the Family* is a fine, rich and complete novel with a finished style which seems faultless.

The eternal book-jacket says that Agee was "essentially a poet," and there are many instances of what is generally called "poetic" in prose writing. "We are talking now of summer evenings in Knoxville, Tennessee in the time that I lived there so successfully disguised to myself as a child." "The sweet pale streamings in the light lift out their pallors and their voices all together, mothers hushing their children, the hushing unnaturally prolonged, the men gently and silent and each small-like withdrawn into the quietude of what he singly is doing, the urination of huge children stood loosely military against an invisible wall, and gentle happy and peaceful, tasting the mean goodness of their living like the last of their suppers in their mouths; while locusts carry on this noise of hoses in their much higher and sharper key."

Lines such as these, extracted at random for any part of the book, although they have their elegance and music, are not its real beauty. The finest parts are those essentially prose qualities—detailed descriptions and precise conversation pieces. "They walked downtown in the light of mother-of-pearl, to the Majestic, and found their way to seats by the light of the screen, in the exhilarating smell of stale tobacco, rank sweat, perfume and dirty drawers, while the piano played fast music and galloping horses raised a grandiose flag of dust." Some of the conversations remind one of Robert Frost's dialogues.

"What you up to?"
"Why, your breakfast," she said, switching on the light. "Sakes alive!" she said, seeing the clock.
"Oh Mary. Get on back to bed. I can pick up something downtown."

Agee wrote of things past without romantic nostalgia and of death and life in the wake of death without sentimentality, but with deep feeling and an approach to understanding them. He wrote about living, and the result is not a platitude, but an intellectual and moral experience.

THE SWEETS OF LIFE

All those interested in student employment for next year 1958-1959, pick up application forms in the office of the director of scholarships and student aid by April 25. This also applies to those who are employed at the present time and wish to retain employment next year.

Feels Fraternity Force

by John M. Anderson

Often in the present day we are called upon to consider re-evaluations of our former institutional standards and traditions. The public eye lately has been focused upon the academic side of higher education, and the social side has not been investigated to any extent. The strongest single institutional force which has maintained a thread of continuity in university social life is the fraternity. The American fraternity has been the subject of much public misunderstanding in both the positive and negative sense. I would like to chart the development and flux of this segment of university social life. We are to chart the origins, changes and products which have placed the American college fraternity in its present position.

ROMANTICS TO REALISTS

To survey the question properly we must go into the origins of the fraternities and the circumstances which effected their formation. The scene was the early quarter of the nineteenth century which was filled with the youthful vigor of Romanticism; every adolescent had read the adventuresome tales of knights and kings and chivalric brotherhoods. The mystic and ritualistic aspect of the early fraternity was embedded in the times. Also those young men who entered the colleges and universities enrolled at an earlier age than today's undergraduates. Many youths of 14, 15, and 16 were beginning their college careers at the time in which the fraternity system was born. Many an immortal founder was himself in this situation. He was a mid-adolescent, lonely and away from his home, steeped in romantic, youthfully ritualistic and mystic lore; he was a youth seeking companionship in order to make his life away from his family seem more pleasant. It seems almost inevitable that such a group of youth would attempt to form such a brotherhood or formal organization.

Once the young men had reached a more advanced age in their college life, they readily realized the importance of such a communal organization. The fraternity could provide many material as well as nebulous spiritual comforts. The group could provide quarters and additional facilities for its members and these increased in wealth and power as the fraternity expanded. The spirit became somewhat altered, but the original forms of the fraternity remained virtually unchanged. With their more materialistic approach to the nature of the fraternity the attitudes became quite hardened. The expansion of the college fraternity is seen in contemporary businessmen's animal fraternities as organized social influence.

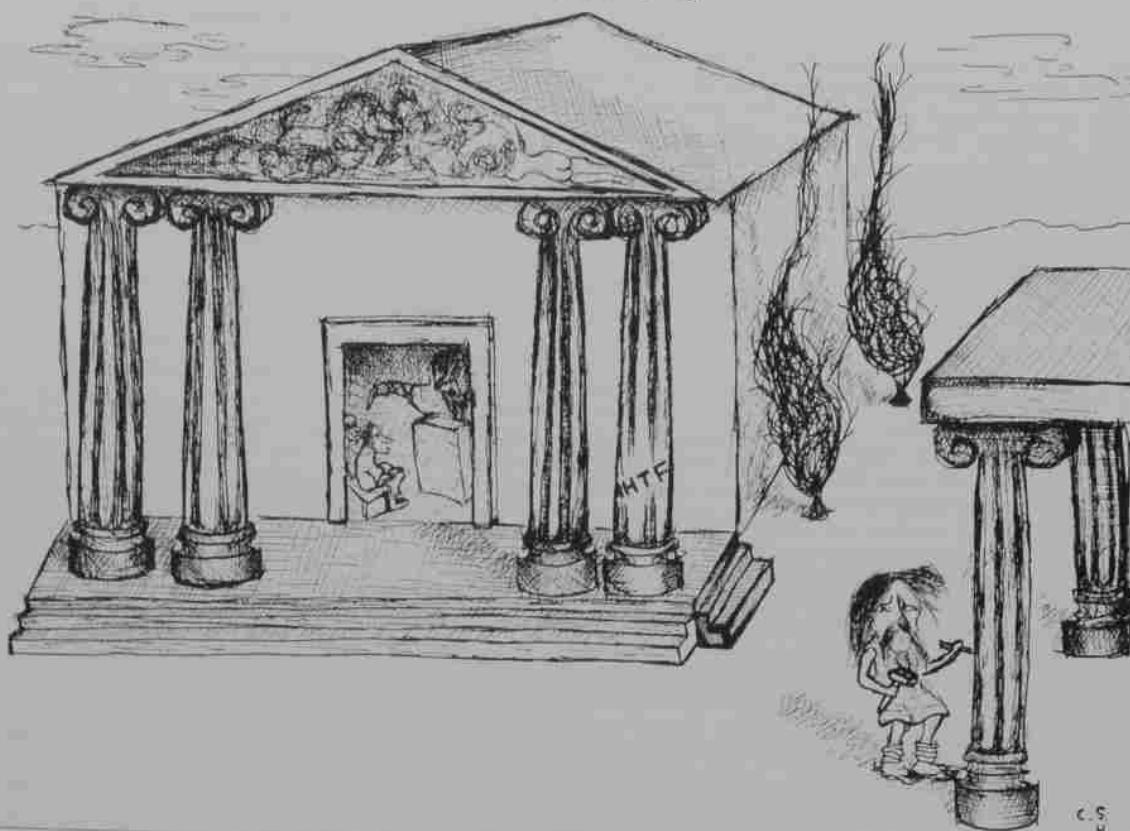
SUSTAINED AND STATIC FACTORS

The nationalization of the fraternity resulted from similar interests arising. Certain social fraternities were, in their earlier stages, groups of special interests. The nationalization merely added social strength to the organizations on an extended basis.

Once the fraternities were incorporated by the states and began to hold property, their power as an economic force began to be felt. We shall mention this economic factor later in regard to situations today. Another significant factor in accounting for the continuance of the fraternity system was the existence and growth of the alumni associations from each individual college chapter

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The Academy



Zionist Movement Investigated

by Mark Bricklin

The political tensions in the Middle East are so complicated that it is impossible to decide clearly who is right and who is wrong. For every criticism made of Israel, another, equally as damning, can be leveled at the Arab World. However, a unique criticism is often made of Israel which appears to refute the righteousness or validity of its very existence. It is said that Zionism is either a religious movement which is dealing unwarrantedly in politics, or it is a political movement using religion as a guise for its aggressiveness.

POLITICAL NATURE

It is clear that whatever may have motivated the Zionist movement, its ultimate goal, from the very beginning, was political. Theodore Herzl pointed out in *The Jewish State*, the most important book in the history of Zionism, that only when the Jews purchased or were given a definite portion of land for their very own would an emancipation movement be effective. In his own words, "Let sovereignty be granted us over some portion of the globe."

NATIONAL BOND

At this point the critic will cry, "Then why do the Israelis justify this obviously political cause with religious reasons and appeal to world Jewry to join them and fulfill their religious destiny?" The answer to this is that to the Jew, religion and nationality, and hence politics, are almost inseparable.

Dean Asks

(Continued from page two)

sed various social problems with his hosts. Such matters as the use of liquor on campus, the hours during which women will be allowed in the dormitories, and the organization of Dance Week-Ends were topics of discussion.

NEW CAMPUS COMMITTEE

From this Eastern trip emerges the Student-Faculty Committee, a 10-man group which will attempt to pick up where the Student Council never quite left off.

Their long association with the land of Israel has remained strong in their minds during the many years of the Dispersion, and Hebrew prayers consistently refer to the Jews as "the Children of Israel" or "Thy People Zion." The Jews have been a people without a country for so long that their religion has taken many of the aspects of a national bond. Although many American Jews do not consciously consider themselves exiled citizens of Zion, in time of crisis or great tension they feel a sympathy and brotherhood with their fellow Jews throughout the world which is closely akin to nationalism.

UNIQUE NATIONALISM

Zionism must therefore be judged as a unique form of nationalism, but not essentially different from the nationalism of America during the Mexican War or Rome during the Gallic Wars. Its integrity will be acknowledged, and its excesses forgiven as were the crimes of other countries of the world in their attempts to make life a bit more glorious.

The committee will consist of five students, Dave Adams, Dick Duke, Sam Hough, Bruce Kennedy, and John Titchener, Deans Bailey and Edwards, and Professors English, Finkbeiner, and Haywood. The committee will hold several meetings during the rest of the semester, all of which except the first organizational one will be open. It will discuss such problems as: the desirability of Student Council at Kenyon, the powers, if any, of Student Council, the existing parietal rules, and many other pressing questions of the day. The meetings will be open. R.G.

A Long Sentence On Italian, Etc.

Irregularly, intensely, meet five of our fellow students and a teacher, in an extraordinary example of the fact that there still remains at Kenyon a trace of the spirit of learning that is indifferent to tangible rewards. At odd hours of the day and night there can be heard intoned such mellifluousities as "Le fontane di Roma sono molto belle. L'Italia è un paese."

The textbook which is used is *Epoca*, a learned Italian journal which contains special stimulants to help the student learn fast the language quite successfully used by Gina Lollobrigida, Sophia Loren, and Oniria Gutierrez. This unusual pedagogical device is the result of the professor's extensive researches into student interests. The results have been edifying as indicated by the class's rapid progress. The most recent lesson, for instance, was devoted to the relationship between the kind of Italian spoken in Sicily and the Torg dialect of Albania.

Along with learning the Italian language, the class also investigates the various aspects of Italian daily life including the ingredients of Grappa. Culture is looked for too. The libretto of "Cosi Fan Tutti" by Mozart was read by the class accompanied by a pleasant rendition of "Mi chiamo Mimi" sung by the professor.

Often the class is interrupted by a lively discussion of political issues because of the diverse political orientations of the members. One member, Christoforo Principality is on the Far Left and Employs skillful quotations in his arguments; another, Giacomo Senforno represents the Sinn Fein and shouts "Eire uber alles" in response to Mr. Principality's quotations. Brucia Librato has National Socialist tendencies as a result of his study of German and practices their well-known salutatory rhetorical devices. The professor, a member of the Franco-American Saint-Laurent - for - President Party, moderates the discussions.

A LONG SENTENCE

Other young undergraduates at Kenyon as can possibly manage to imagine a similar project should, for then, they too, will discover the rewards that can easily be derived from efforts to obtain learning which does not necessarily carry along with it any tangible rewards such as credit, because if this sort of edifying endeavor becomes common

(Continued on page four)

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Are We Educating for Peace?

(Continued from page one)

facts concerning atomic stockpiling, or some other effective method of control. There is little need to delve into the complexities of such an organization. What is important is to note that peace will only be achieved when national self-determination is eliminated, and not before.

PLAYING THE GAME

The pity is that the United States has chosen to join the same game the Russians play and continue to abide by the same rule of "might makes right." No longer does the United States challenge the thinking of the underprivileged nations. We need to break down barriers — linguistic, social, and cultural — so that we can understand norms of conduct and correlate actions to achieve a balance between what we think of as right and what is so regarded by others. This is what will lead to world peace.

It is indeed worthwhile to increase our corps of engineers and scientists, for they have a great deal to offer the world in increased living standards, etc. But we don't need more weapons. What we need at the present is an appreciation of the outside world. We have wonderful human material — but so much of it is wasted.

The story circulates that American soldiers during the Second World War, having grown up surrounded by machines and fancy gadgets usually measured the intelligence and national stature of other peoples by their plumbing facilities. This is perhaps an exaggeration, but nothing else better exemplifies the fact that national progress and efficiency seem to be the chief gods of the products of our educational system.

AMERICAN NATIONALISM

From this belief can only emanate the feeling that "everything American is best" and results in a complete breakdown in human relations. We see little good in any other nation's way of life, and any nationalism that is arrogantly self-assertive and scornful of other peoples' way of life is a

mental conditioning to war. American nationalism whipped us into war with Spain, applauded the "big Stick" effusions of Teddy Roosevelt, and gives scant credit to our allies of World War II.

It seems to me we shall begin to build a better and more mature United States only when Americanism is taught in our schools with a frank enumeration of our national handicaps. But how often — if ever — have you heard of a classroom where America was presented in a human cross-section of qualities and shortcomings? (Some high schools refuse to even include in their curriculum the basic doctrines of communist ideology).

So long as the high school graduate is unable to comprehend the world situation and make some effort to cope with it, he will remain insecure and will attempt to escape from it by either ignoring it or by expounding highly nationalistic half-truths. We must differentiate between patriotism and jingoism, and we should teach that knowledge leads to cooperation, ignorance to disaster.

THE WRONG EMPHASIS

After Sputnik it is not wrong to hunt for remedies to alleviate our fears, but we are emphasizing what we already have too much of — science, particularly nuclear science. The scientists are a long way ahead of human conduct and until human conduct catches up with science we are in a precarious position. What is even more important to keep in mind is that science is not going to retard its progress in order to allow human conduct to attain an equivalent stage of development.

UNDERSTANDING

Therefore let us not forget that we have a tremendous job before us and that we have more strength than atomic missiles in our traditional ideals of equality and cooperation. Through these, linked with a continued and strengthened humility, we must try to achieve world peace through understanding, rather than war.

J. T. Moore, '60

To the Editor:

(Continued from page two)

Books dealing with sex are certainly not taboo and should be reviewed. Such reviews are generally honest and significant, and such is the one by Mr. Bricklin. But a little discretion is always safe. Realism or exemplification must not be substituted for good

A Long Sentence

(Continued from page three)

at Kenyon we will probably be able to notice without too much difficulty an appreciable increase in the overall atmosphere of our campus which we all realize is in need of refurbishing so that it too, along with other American institutions of higher learning, can attain a new height in stimulation to advanced and private learning, the kind which we are told over and over again by psychologists and educators of all sorts is the best possible preparation for a young man who wishes to undergo learning in proportion to his ability and should this be the case at Kenyon at some future date there will be, I am sure, a noticeable decrease in the devotion of advanced students to the stimulations without any reward at all which they obtain at a local establishment which shall remain unnamed at this time, a fact which has recently even brought to the attention of many members of the faculty and the administration who have made several suggestions for the solution of this serious and thought-provoking problem which is, perhaps more intense here at Kenyon than at

other American schools and they have suggested among other things that all students with a #3.5 average or better should be put on permanent social probation or that, if these students persist in their performances more drastic measures should be taken such as expulsion or, more subtly that these people should be removed to an off-campus location such as Douglas House where they would be placed under armed guard, a measure used once before by the Kenyon administration but, unfortunately, it was unsuccessful as those students continued these same practices and in later life turned out to be professionally unsuccessful and had to catch as catch could somewhere upon the periphery of the average American man.

EDWARDS' AQUA SHOW

On Saturday, May 3, Edwards' Productions will present the annual Aqua Show. Entrepreneurs Edwards & Hoexter have promised us that one act will even feature an all-girl water ballet. The one-hour show will also include a comedy: "Don't Give Up The Ship," starring the IHTFP Kenyon.

Reform Group

by Samuel J. Hough

The Student Council has chosen a "Joint Student and Faculty — administration committee to study changes and improvements in the student government and Parietal Rules of Kenyon." Since the conclusions adopted by the committee will affect all of us, it may be appropriate to examine some considerations that come to mind in this situation of reform.

At such a moment, the topic of the desirability of introducing an academic honor system seems to warrant discussion. The development and expression of integrity as a positive act by each student should stimulate, I think, an inquiry into the possibilities of successfully inaugurating one. We must ask, then, "Will it work at Kenyon?" If the students do not accept the duty to expose those who betray their trust, an honor system cannot function. We must decide whether we want one badly enough to support it rigorously, for only a unified body of students, anxious for its success, can make academic honor a significant part of Kenyon.

The Chicago Daily News, after revealing how a professor at Northwestern University found that 30% of his students cheated on a test, said that an honor system only helps the thieves in the class. Is Honor worth taking the chance of competing with cheaters? I think it worthwhile to ask ourselves these questions.

Recent discussion of the topic of student government is focused upon a suggested set-up contemplating 1) the Dean's office regulating Automobile permits and types of problems for which the school bears direct responsibility, and enforcing revised, compacted Parietal Rules, 2) the Student Council, continuing its structure, but retaining only its legislative function and handling the lesser student problems, and 3) a newly formed judicial body of perhaps 5 or 7 people, chosen from the entire school by either the students as a whole or an electoral board, which would dispose of many cases now under Council jurisdiction.

I should not wish to determine the merits of the proposal. The big difficulty that might arise is that of determining who will control cases that are not clearly in the realm of the dean or the new judiciary. If there is no procedure established to settle this problem the situation will have hardly been altered.

Trinity College, as I understand it, has a body with a secret code, ritual, and the like which can apprehend, try, and suspend an offender before the dean there is informed of the matter. I think that such a body would certainly not be adopted to our tradition. We must find a balance between the feebleness of Council and the military of the tribunal of our Connecticut friends.

There is much to be thought out and much to be done before a proper solution is found. However, if the active portion of this college community will contribute their thought and their support to the reform efforts, perhaps something can be worked out.

LEMASTERS

Mount Vernon's
College Shop

Feels Fraternity Force

(Continued from page three)

and from the national organization as a whole.

An alumnus wishes to return to his college and to his fraternity in order to recollect pleasant university days or meet some of his friends who will gather at the college. A continuing fraternity provides the rallying point for the returning alumnus and give him a closer social tie with both the institution and the past. The fraternity for the alumnus focuses his past and gives his memories a fulcrum from which his other turns are made. The attitude of the returning alumnus is often attacked and misunderstood by the cynical young undergraduate. But the alumni associations fulfill a necessary psychological need of the greying alumnus. These factors have created the continued existence of the fraternity system in this country.

ELEMENTS OF CHANGE

As the colleges and universities gained a closer contact with the world surrounding them, the fraternity began to alter. Expansion was made at the expense of close knit relationships and the intimacy of an 1880 group was lost by 1930. There have been some attempts to maintain the small intimate organizations, but the general picture is large and highly organized. As size and speed have altered the colleges from which the fraternities gained their existence, so then, have the fraternities themselves altered.

When women entered the collegiate atmosphere the fraternity geared its social planning at a different and increased rate. As soon as the sorority or ladies aid of the older men's organization arose a compromise of social arrangement was necessary. The internal social emphasis of the fraternity began to be altered. And many former all male social functions became heterosexual in nature. This change dismayed many alumni, but has gradually become accepted as younger alumni join the ranks of the old timers. The fraternities are not in spirit as close to their original intent as they once were. This change is the result of size increase and the shifting of today's social values.

In the past one hundred years the American collegiate fraternity has changed internally. Many maintain their old rituals and others have altered them considerably. The expansive national character of these fraternities at times has cemented relationships, and at other times has driven the individual chapters into local clubs. At present this balance is even more precarious. These organizations are large scaled institutions with rather far reaching social importance whether we like it or not.

We wonder about the strength, endurance and influence of the fraternity today. These questions have both a tangible and intangible form about them. We must consider several factors relevant to the former point, that of tangible strength. The economic factor seems paramount. Fraternities and alumni associations control a great deal of physical property and millions of dollars in holdings. The pressures of the alumni associations either by withholding or donating benefits to the chapters maintain great influence over the entire system. These fraternities also form an economic block in local areas and national markets through communal purchasing and the style influence of fashion and fads.

The tangible powers of the present day fraternity are evident in the psychological effect they have upon individuals lives either through exclusion from a fraternity or the effect such an organization may have upon the youthful mind.

Here we are also touching upon the intangible powers of the American fraternity which are quite important to the young minds which enter their collegiate careers with eyes and mouths agape. Social standards are effected and formed by fraternities and sororities and the conduct and behavior of college people are often channeled by the indirect influence of the fraternity.

In this study we are not judging the effects of these massed powers but only attempting to chart the course of the influence of the fraternity. Public opinion is divided upon the

question of fraternities in general but a general misunderstanding of practices has guided this opinion. One group dislikes the obvious discrimination and apparently "undemocratic" activities of these organizations. Another group believes that the fraternity system is a definite asset which develops character, cooperation, understanding among people and is a large segment of a college student's maturation.

Neither view can be completely representative of the whole picture of the American fraternity system, and the lack of factual understanding has clouded both visions. The influence is definitely relative: a small male college does not emphasize the fraternity as an institution nearly as much as a large co-educational university in a social sense. But influence is evident in both cases. Even the clubs and local fraternities exercise many social dictates over the college or university as a whole. Although a part of the educational institution the bounds of the fraternity have expanded far past the original scope of its influence.

THE FOCUS OF THE FRATERNITY

The fraternity although its spirit has been altered in the present day, retains its form and strong hand upon the collegiate social life. As a result of external and internal pressures the system will undoubtedly remain as an increasingly powerful force.

The intangible influence of the fraternity as well as those revealed strengths it possesses serve to illustrate how ingrained it has become within the university scene.

The public eye which is looking into higher education to discover the formula for a guided missile or to see why Johnnie can or can't have overlooked this social element. And the eye has not clearly investigated the mainspring of this social influence in its higher education. We have attempted to point out some of the factors which are inherent within the fraternity system itself, and ask that the public eye focus on this system and judge the relative merits the system may contain.

An Editorial View:

Although Mr. Anderson stated his intent not to draw conclusions, we are still of the opinion that fraternities are obsolete for this country and that they have no place on the campus of the liberal arts college, especially when there is discrimination as to membership qualifications for reasons other than character or scholastic standing. Hence, we may draw the conclusion that if we must have fraternities at Kenyon, if we are stuck with this evidence of democratic hypocrisy, of the "words and not deeds" mannerisms of the liberal arts college's ideals, at least we should compromise and eliminate those organizations that practice discrimination or allow themselves to be associated or connected with parent organizations that incorporate discrimination into their rules and practices. This, we suppose, would eliminate most of Kenyon's fraternities, anyhow.

PRE-FRESHMAN DAYS

160 Sub-humans will melt into the Kenyon scene this weekend as Tracy Scudder presents another KENYON DAY. Highlight of the extravaganza will be the Pan-Hellenic Smoker in North Hanna Hall between 9:00-11:00 P. M. presented by the Class of 1961. During Saturday, Shaffer Pool will be open, President Lund will speak, baseball, lacrosse and tennis debacles will be furnished and an informal singing will be sung. On Sunday, breakfast will be served, after which there will be a Service of Morning Prayer with Sermon. In the event of inclement weather, swim trunks, gym shoes and shorts will be used.

Gambier is five miles east of Mount Vernon, in the Center of Ohio. Bus lines connect Mount Vernon with Mansfield.

KENYON COUNT

Almost All the News

Classics scholar, Moses Hadas will be the speaker at the June 2 Commencement. Dr. Hadas is the author of *A History of Greek Literature*, *Aristeas to Philocrates*, *A History of Latin Literature*, and *Ancilla to Classical Readings*. He has edited the complete works of Tacitus, *The Basic Works of Cicero* and *The Greek Poets*. As a translator, he has published *Constantine the Great*, by Burckhardt; *Goethe the Poet*, by Carl Victor; *The Homeric Gods*, by W. E. Otto; and *Three Greek Roman-ces*.

Aside from these accomplishments, President Lund reports that Dr. Hadas is "extremely witty." He became a full professor at Columbia in 1953 where, in 1926, he received his degree. He should be very witty. The topic of Dr. Hadas's talk has not as yet been revealed.

OXFORD FELLOW SYMPOSIUM SPEAKER

W. H. Walsh, Fellow of Merton College, Oxford, will speak at the ninth and final meeting, for this year, of the KENYON SYMPOSIUM, Sunday, April 27 at 3:00 P. M., in the lounge, South Hanna Hall.

Mr. Walsh will talk on *The Nature of Metaphysics*. All members and friends of the Kenyon-Gambier Community are invited.

The Rev. William Foster Peirce, president of Kenyon from 1896-1937, will return to the Hill for this year's Commencement. On Saturday, May 31, he will speak to the Alumni Council. Those who wish to attend Mr. Peirce's talk are invited. Mr. Peirce is 90 and lives in Maryland. The

publicity department of Kenyon refers to him as "The grand old man of Kenyon."

VIOLA RECITAL

William Wilson, viola, and James Robinson, piano, will give a recital in Rosse Hall, Sunday, April 20 at 4:00 P. M. The program will include Vitali's *Chaconne*, Schubert's *Sonata in A minor (Arpeggione)*, Jean Rivier's *Concertino* and Hindemith's *Sonata*, op. 11, number 4.

Mr. Wilson has been a member of the Columbus Philharmonic, the Louisville Orchestra and the Houston Symphony Orchestra. He is, in addition, a member of the Peninsula Festival Orchestra in Wisconsin which Thor Johnson conducts each August. Currently, Mr. Wilson is a member of the music staff at the University of Texas.

James Robinson, when he is not assisting Mr. Wilson, is organist for the Wilshire Presbyterian Church in Austin, Texas. He studied piano with Jeanette Tillet and organ with Dora Potiet. While in the Navy, he directed the chorus at the San Diego Naval Training Center. On his re-instatement Mr. Robinson accompanied William Hargraves of the Metropolitan Opera.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: "I took advantage of having a professor up for Wednesday night." A coed in *The Denisonian*. My, what is this academic world coming too?

An Interesting Point: Seven Kenyon students attended the Eighth Meeting of the Kenyon Symposium.

Lords Nurse Bruised Cheeks

by Chuck Bronson

Kenyon's overly pious Lords, in keeping with the Easter season, turned the other cheek six times during the vacation in dropping six baseball games while salvaging only one contest. The Lords atoned for this inadvertent win as they bowed to the University of Cincinnati by 20 runs. The Southern trip, while disastrous victory-wise, should give the Lords a running start in league competition. It was evident on the Southern swing that the cure-all for the Lords is a couple of strong pitchers. Wilson Roane, Herb Blake and Al Frost, with the advent of warm weather, should soon begin breaking them off, and this, combined with the slugging of Al Blake, Captain Ron Bennington, Chub Holmes, Ray (Skeeter) Brown, and Joe Babb should insure the Lords a profitable season. With the exception of pitching, the Lords look strong through the middle with Holmes and Brown, the fine keystone combination, covering their positions, and Lenny Whiteman and Al Blake performing workmanly behind the plate. With such a fine collection of proven lettermen, we look for Coach Falkenstine to conjure some surprises this season.

SEASONAL STARTS

Optimism characterizes Spring and, with this thought in mind, the Ohio Conference crown is yours for the taking, racket squad. Big John Templeton, Frank Coleman, and the stylish Eric Pantzer lead a formidable array of returning lettermen. Monk Muir, John Romero, Guy Gibbon, Dave Taber, and George Russell figure to provide the depth for the squad. In glancing over the roster of netmen, one finds a favorable mixture of youthful enthusiasm, skill, and experience. Coach McAdele may be counted on to provide the work necessary to whip this awesome potential into an equally awesome force. In the process of placing the hat, one must point the finger at Captain John Templeton. Big John has the know-how, the experience, and the skill. There is a nebulous "something" between possibility and realization; John is almost there. Mr. Shaw Edmons move over! The netmen open April 15 with Capital on home grounds.

Hello sunshine, goodbye rain-lacrosse gonna put us on that victory train. Despite the loss of key men such as Dick Menninger, Larry Schneider, and Brad Johnson, the "Kenyon Avengers" figure to rule the Midwest again this year. Captained by dandy Don Peppers, the team figures to score early and often this year with

easy Ed Parr, Bob Mulholland, and the smooth operating Bruce Hobler firing. At midfield, the scrappy trio of Banning, Buffalin, and Meyerhardt will do the giving and taking for the men.

Defending the goalie will be the "swinging" trio of Hutch Hodgson, Mark Powdermaker and Tom Mason. Under the capable tutelage of Bill Stiles, one may expect the same aggressive play and teamwork which has characterized past Kenyon teams. To novices at the game of lacrosse: watch Messrs. Peppers and Anderson. Peppers the epitome of determined skill, and Anderson a slashing, graceful dancer on the lacrosse field should provide 100 aspirins worth of headaches for Kenyon lacrosse opponents. Many thanks to Jim Riddle and Bob Weidenkopf for competitive spirit and persistence which give invaluable tone to an athletic team, and which plants worthwhile pride in the student body.

COOL, NOT FRIGID

At the present time the golf team roster is infinite but look for sweet swinging Jim Cut and Bill Swing to give a good account of themselves. Swing, who qualifies hands down as the Kenyon athletic "Mr. Cool," figures to augment the talents of Keith Brown, Will Reed, and John Snow.

FELLOWSHIP FOR FINKBEINER

Dr. Dean Dan Finkbeiner is one of 54 recipients of the National Science Foundation's science faculty fellowships for the academic year 1958-59. Professor Finkbeiner will transfer to Princeton for the year where he intends to do research in lattice theory and other aspects of abstract algebra, and to familiarize himself with modern computational techniques and the effect of high speed computers on the undergraduates.

NOTICE

All faculty members are requested to report to the maintenance office within the next week. Bring with you schedules of your classes and of time spent in preparation for them. I believe I can help you use your time more effectively. Also state your preference of additional work (i.e. leaf raking, door sanding, urinal scrubbing, etc.)

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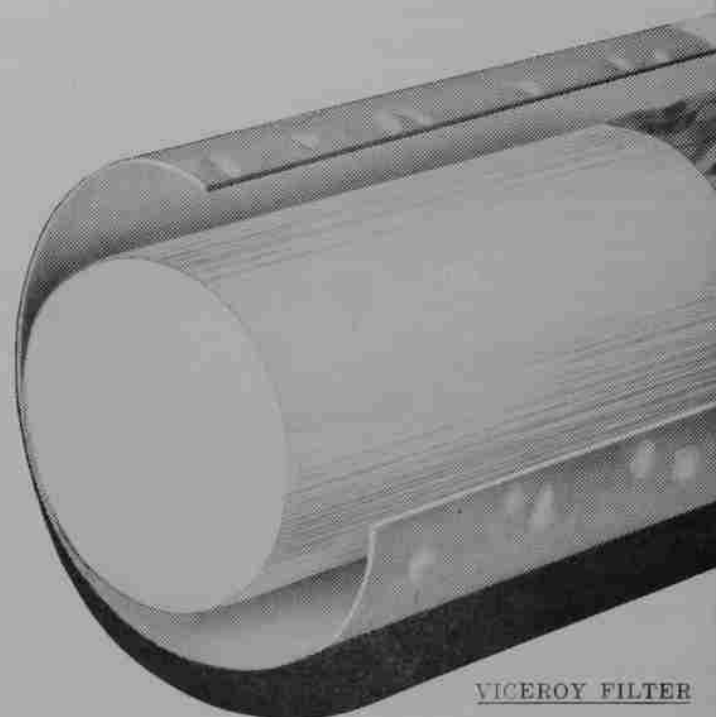
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