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The Church of the Holy Spirit
As a Tribute to Bishop Bedell

Consecrated 1871

Almost on the site of what is now the Church of the Holy Spirit were constructed the first buildings at Kenyon, a group of log cabins, a kitchen and a dining hall. The kitchen and bakery were re-used at an early date, but one of the cabins which had been improved upon from time to time served for some 85 years as a residence for professors. Dr. West was the last to use it for this purpose.

The site, then, had an early beginning of usefulness, but the Chapel as it is known today was not built until the early days of President Tallman's administration, when it was proposed to take the place of Roseau Chapel as a tribute to Bishop Bedell, active in Kenyon affairs for a great many years. The cornerstone was laid at Commencement in 1869, and the completed church was consecrated on Commencement Day, 1871.

The Church of the American in New York, as always, was a large contributor to the funds with which the building was financed. The Rev. Dr. Bedell, who supervised the work.

The Clock and Westminster chimes were placed in the tower in 1879. At first Gambier residence had difficulty in calibrating and adjusting the chiming mechanism, which sometimes balked punctually the stroke of the night.

The Church will be the scene of the Student choral which will take place this spring.

AROUND THE TOWN

FRED PALMER

THE MAN WHO CAME TO DINNER

A social event of such extreme importance occurred last Sunday that it seems only fair to devote most of this column to it and not bother with the trivia of what has happened to whom.

Sunday, March 25, 1945, dinner was served in the Howe Hall DORMER at the usual hour of 1:00 P.M. By 1:30 all students had nearly finished their meals. Dr. Chalmers and guests were present.

The Architect of Old Kenyon, Topic Of Assembly Lecture by Dr. Salomon

Dr. Richard Salomon was the speaker at the Assembly Tuesday, March 26. His topic was "The Architects of Old Kenyon."

For many years Dr. Salomon has done considerable research on this subject, and has uncovered much information relating to this unique building. His account of the planning and designing of Old Kenyon was made extremely vivid by his wealth of material.

One of the chief discoveries he revealed to his listeners was that Charles Bullfinch, most famous American architect of the 1800's who has long been accepted as the designer of Old Kenyon, was not responsible for the plans of the whole building, but merely of the spire. One due to this discovery was that Bullfinch had never built in the Gothic style, of which Old Kenyon is the oldest example among collegiate buildings in the United States.

Dr. Salomon has discovered that the names of the first two architects who, working in concert with Bishop Chase, drew up the first plans, of which an engraving was made. It was with pictures based on his designs that the Bishop first publicized the then non-existent Kenyon College. From a letter which he uncovered, Dr. Salomon showed that Bullfinch had designed the imposing tower rising from the Middle Division. It is to be supposed that Chase met Bullfinch in Washington, and showed him a copy of Nash's plans, at which time he noted the architect made up his mind to renounce his own graceful arbor and to replace the shorter, bulkier tower.
It is unfortunate that the Senior Council has seen fit to restore the undemocratic Commons seating arrangements of fraternity tables. Whatever the advantage of such an arrangement to Commons waiters may be, they are more than outweighed by the harm done to the Common democracy. They are defeating one of the chief purposes of the Commons. When Peirce Hall was built, those of our educators who feared the growing fraternity problem rejoiced; for now all students would take their meals together, eliminating much of the fraternity exclusiveness that has characterized the Greek organizations in many other institutions. Peirce Hall and the dormitory residence system prevented a fraternity problem from developing at Kenyon. Now the fraternities once again are eating by themselves at specially assigned tables.

It is interesting to note, in connection with this matter, that when Amherst’s Alumni Committee on Post War Amherst College recently weighed the assets and liabilities of the Greek letter societies at Amherst, fraternity dining arrangements were placed high on the liability side of fraternal organizations. To quote from their report: “In the recent past, the sense of exclusiveness and of too strong fraternity self-consciousness has undoubtedly been fostered...[in part by]...the arrangement of eating in the fraternity house or of eating at a special fraternity boarding house or at special reserved tables in the college dining hall.”

Thus it is to be seen that other institutions besides Kenyon lay heavy stress upon the value of a common dining hall, where friends may sit together irrespective of affiliation.

It may quite possibly be that unobstructed seating will result in a few minor inconveniences. But it is worth a few inconveniences to keep Kenyon free from the accusations of the anti-fraternity forces.

One Man's Meat
By B. Vogely

It looks as if the Dumbarton Oaks Plan, the Yalta agreements, and the San Francisco agreement will be accepted by the United States Senate. There are only 13 hard opponents in the Senate, and 13 others are doubtful. The Dumbarton Oaks Plan, as modified at Yalta, is not as powerful as the old League. Not only can any one of the Big Five block sanctions against itself (although it cannot block investigations), but it can also block consideration of disputes in which it is not involved. The isolationists will not be able to pick up much fury around an agreement like this.

The outlook on the economic fight is not so bright. Brenton Woods is under fierce attack in Congress. The tariffs will be the big question. The State Department is asking for more power under the Reciprocal Trade Agreement Act as coming up at recess very soon. If we cannot lower our tariff walls, we are going to run into real trouble when peace does come. The tariff question appears as though it will develop into a first-line party fight. However, I feel that Roosevelt will get what he wants with but slight concessions.

This is the last time I will ask you to digest my Meat—too often it has been your Poison. I have enjoyed writing these articles, even though I haven’t yet made a deadline. I do not know whom the editors have picked for my successor in One Man’s Meat, but I wish him all the luck in the world.

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