Nohow!

No objection can be made to any army, including our own, except that it takes men. And the military, in the middle blue uniform of the Air Force, is now to come to Kenyon, formerly known as a liberal arts college. Well, armies are for wars and colleges are for a difficult business called education. The two practices, while not mutually exclusive of each other, do not exactly go hand in hand. What shall we say of a college that proudly avers it represents liberal Christianity? There are at least two commandments against violence, and in the Bible there is a saying that goes: Let him who is without sin cast the first stone.

When you ask the question, “why?” you dig around for a while and come up with the answers something like this: 1. Kenyon must need, and badly need, money to have taken this step: 2. the big war, World War III, must be rapidly approaching; 3. there is no chance in this place and at this time of securing even a halfway balanced education. This leads to further probing, and further probing reveals no flexibility, no resources of even the crudest sort on the part of those furious realists who are responsible for the fact of Kenyon College. You can almost hear one of those gentlemen self-murming, ‘It’s a rotten time and we’ve got to keep up with it.’ Is this what Plato and Burke, Jefferson and Paine, Henry Adams and Marx, Confucius and Jesus — is this what they taught our fathers and the colleagues of their generation to believe.

No matter how you regard the oncoming presence of armed elitism to Kenyon, it is a depressing spectacle in a world where peace, at least at one time, was considered a worthwhile condition. There is no peace now, there is a possibility that a general may be our next national president; and Kenyon, buckling down to the job at hand, is waiting for the armed host to descend. Can’t you hear the dean rationalizing: ‘We must adjust ourselves to the pressing conditions as well as to the tensions of our time. There’s no better way to do it than to get the fundamentals of M.I.I into your heads.’ Unfortunately, there are some of us — patriotic Americans, of course — who oppose this complete compromise with evil, no matter how evil our time and our world may be. Of course it is silly as well as naive to make a comeback of two wrongs don’t make a right. But where will the line be drawn? Where and when will the colleges stop promoting and advocating merely military might? Fighting fire with fire causes, as everyone knows more havoc and devastation, not less.

Certainly it is no easy matter for a college to maintain its existence in a time of war. But to accept the fact and perhaps the meaning is one thing; and to encourage young men, in fact induce them, to enter the armed forces merely to be enabled to obtain a paper certificate, amounting to a pedigree, is another and extremely dangerous procedure. It is our dilemma as students, it is Kenyon’s dilemma as a so-called liberal arts institution of learning: it is part of the overwhelming dilemma of our time. The dilemma is a name. Confusion. The Bible offers us a question: ‘Men and brethren, what shall we do?’ The AFROTC is no answer. Let us hope a clear and reasonable one is forthcoming.—R. H.

Contrariwise!

The question as to whether we should have an A. F. R. O. T. C. unit at Kenyon is by no means as easily answered as the author of the above would have us believe. Therefore, it is the purpose of this editorial to bring out the other side of the issue, in order to provide an adequate discussion of the problem for those as yet undecided whether or not to join.

It is a foregone conclusion today that every able-bodied male citizen between the ages of 18 and approximately 28 will have to serve in some branch of the armed forces for at least two years. Although going to Graduate School may retard one’s induction, it can not abolish it. Thus, it seems reasonable to conclude that the more previous training a person has had, the better chance he will have of making a success of his brief tenure of duty, both in terms of advancement, and, infinitely more important, in terms of self-preservation. Whether or not Darwin’s law of natural selection, stressing the “survival of the fittest,” applies to ordinary civilian life, it obviously is applicable to any branch of military service. And certainly that person who has been exposed to military methods for several years is more master of the situation than someone buck private fresh from 6 weeks or 6 months concentrated, and speeded up, mass training.

In answer to the ideological argument posed in the above thesis concerning keeping up with a “rotten time,” we feel that any attempt to do otherwise would be inviting disaster. If Hitler or Hirohito had been sane, logical human beings, with whom a person or another nation could reason, there would have been no necessity for American youth to take up arms in 1941. But history has proved that such men as these, and such men as rule in the Kremlin today cannot be reasoned with. Thus, until our State Department can devise some means short of war to cope with situations arising because of their suppressive tendencies, we must hold them at arms length by a display of preparedness. The value of any R. O. T. C. unit should not be argued on theoretical grounds, but from the standpoint of whether or not it will prevent a third, and possibly last, world war.—T. M.
Farewell to Arms
Dear Mr. Mezey:
Regarding your poignant "Call to Arms" in the last issue of the Collegian: If your intent was to impress us with a literary talent and style you were quite successful. If, however, your intent was to impress us with your mind, you were substantially less successful.
—Joe Rotolo

On Paying The Piper
Dear Editor,
In response to the repeated queries as to why we can't afford a really big establishment band for Friday night formal dance of Dance Week-End, the Social Committee would like to publicly explain the situation one and for all.
Most of the really established "name" bands ask well above $1500.00 per engagement. (Example: Ray Anthony wants $3300.00. Really good bands that are just coming up in the business cost at least $1250.00 (Ralph Marterie this year and Ray Anthony when we got him 2 years ago when he wasn't established.)
We just don't have that kind of money! Take this semester for example: 351 of the 400 fellows have paid their $5.00 fee. Total $1755.00. Before we can even consider Dance Week-End, however, there are two informal dances at about $300 total. Then when it comes to Dance Week-End, the following must be considered before even talking about the bands for Friday:
Band for Saturday $175.00
Lighting $200.00
Beer and Food $120.00
Coffee Shop Help $110.00
Help at Door $40.00
Maintenance $170.00
(Removing and re-placing tables, piano etc.)
TOTAL $815.00
That's a pretty staggering figure, and though we are trying to cut down wherever we can, past experience shows, that its next to impossible. Our budget remains the same, while our costs go up. That leaves about $700 for a band for Friday. The only reason we can afford the $1200.00 this year is because we saved a little from last semester.

Blood Bank
To Kenyon Students,
We don't feel it necessary to remind you of the tremendous importance of the Red Cross Blood Bank. More especially during war, blood plasma is extremely important. The supply of Red Cross plasma often decides what a wounded fighter is to live or to die. You know we are at war today. Today we are asking you for a pint of blood.
To insure a larger percentage of students donations we requested the Red Cross to send their Bloodmobile to Kenyon for a day. We pledged the 150 pints of blood to justify sending a Bloodmobile to Hill and our request was granted.
The Blood Center will be established in the Private Dining Room of Penn Hall on Monday, April 7, from 10 o'clock until 4 o'clock.
If you wish to donate but have not yet filled out a donor card, you may still give by simply reporting to the Bloodmobile on Monday.
We want this blood drive to be for success for it will be the last one this year. To give blood will take about one hour of your time.
Giving blood is your privilege. You may get it back in the future.
Thank you.
—Senior Society

LETTERS

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Man at Work

Paradise Lost

Following the example of many colleges, large and small throughout the nation, Kenyon will soon add a touch of the military to its campus in the form of Air Force Reserve Officers Training Corp. Men (or boys as the case may be) who are between the ages of 14 and 22 and have three academic years left in school are eligible. This opportunity is usually offered only to undergraduates as it is a four-year course. However, Kenyon men will be able to make up for this lost year by attending a summer camp at Ohio Wesleyan from June 16 to August 2. Membership in the A.F.R.O.T.C. will automatically defer the cadet from selective service. Upon graduation from Kenyon, the cadet will enter the Air Force as second lieutenant in the U.S.A.F.

He will serve two years in the Air Force followed by six years in the reserves. If any desire further information about the A.F.R.O.T.C., mimeographed material may be obtained at the office of the dean.

One Way

The recruiting service of the U. S. Army and U. S. Air Force has simplified the processing procedure for admitting prospective Aviation Cadets. At present, there are openings for over 1500 cadets during the months of April and May in Ohio and Kentucky. The demand for cadets will taper off to 250 per month for the rest of 1952 for Ohio and Kentucky. The most important qualification for entrance into this training is the completion of two years of college. Aviation cadets will be expected to enlist for a two-year period only upon completion of their college education.

Men who are accepted for cadet training are granted automatic four-month deferment to await assignment to classes. At present, class assignments are made approximately one month after processing is completed.

Or Another

Representatives of the United States Recruiting Station will pay their second visit to the Kenyon campus during the month. It is their desire to interview graduating seniors concerning the possibilities for commissioned officers in the Navy and the Naval Reserve. They will discuss, in Peirce Hall lounge, the basic physical and educational requirements with potential candidates and literature dealing with the various aspects of the programs will be distributed. The interviewing hours will be from 9 - 12 A.M. and 1 - 3 P.M.

Paradise Lost

Edited by Mel Plotinsky

Officer Candidate Program of the Naval Reserve is a baccalaureate degree, conferred or to be conferred within 120 days. Trigonometry is still required for men exempt from the draft who are applying for a direct appointment for inactive duty in the Reserve; however, mathematics or trigonometry, at the secondary or the college level, is no longer required for eligibility in the Officer Candidate Program of the Reserve.

One of the several advantages of the Reserve program is that it offers a semi-deferment to allow college men to finish their education. If the Navy needs men, however, a Reserve unit might be called up to active duty, but this usually is not the case.

Brief Interlude

Although the great majority of Kenyon students left Gambier during the past spring vacation, a few boys, eleven in all, remained in the college for all or part of the holiday. Most of the boys who remained on the campus stayed at the infirmary, however a couple, who lived "off campus," while school was in session did move to the infirmary. Six students remained the entire vacation.

The boys were charged the usual rate of $10.00 per week or $1.00 per day for more or less than a week.

The Kenyonites had various reasons for remaining on campus. A few wished to complete some school work, a few lived too far away to make their training expression of affection. The Dean claimed she did not disapprove of the traditional custom, but was only trying to break up the half hour clinics. Wonder if the new rule will lead to half hour handshakes?

Getting same good chuckles out of the probably good-intentional gent currently advertising in a number of Ohio college newspapers (of all places). Typical ad goes "Two alone—Enjoy the perfect privacy of a cottage all your own, automatically heated with bath, at a secluded guest house deep in wooded hills."

Anyone interested can check with the Collegian for details and arrangements. Ohio University Sigma Nu's held a "suppressed desire" party last weekend—wonder how it would go over here. One could say there are some extremely suppressed desires on campus.

One helluvu rampus at the University of Michigan last week. Seems it all began when a student was practicing his trumpet and was answered by a trombonist. The two musicians engaged in a lengthy musical duel. Shouts of "knocked off" the addition of a fog horn and two tubas, and a loud phonograph playing "Slaughter on Tenth Avenue" prompted indignant dorm residents to rush out and sneer at each other. Fire crackers popped amid boisterous threats and soon the crowd had grown to 600 men. The arrival of a police drew theassembly mob who followed the retreating officers to their cars smashed the fenders and rocked the autos.

The mob then surged through the streets, stopping traffic, and swept into

(Continued on page 6)
SPORTS

Lords of Kenyon

On a sunny Saturday afternoon in September, 1959, Kenyon’s football fans sat back in preparation for the opening game with Wooster. The previous season the team had lost six in a row, so things didn’t appear too bright to the nevertheless hopeful Kenyon fans. But Kenyon surprised everyone by tying Wooster and went on to win six in a row that season, thanks to some outstanding freshman players. One of these was then Don Marsh from Geneva, Ohio.

In high school, Don played varsity football and basketball three years for Geneva, a school which had been known for its perennially poor athletic teams. They belonged to the tough Lake Shore League which included mainly class A teams, while Geneva itself was class B (class B high schools are those with under 150 boys). Don’s high school class and the one following it seemed to begin a new era for Geneva in athletics.

In his Sophomore year, Don won a letter in football, although he was not a regular. He was first string his final two seasons playing both offensively and defensively at end. In his Senior year, he was on the all-Lake Shore team. Geneva had winning seasons in both Don’s Sophomore and Junior years, compiling a five and four record his Sophomore year, and winning six while losing only three his Junior year.

In basketball, Don was outstanding. He played first-string at Geneva for three years, and the team’s record improved each season until it almost reached every high school basketball team’s ultimate goal—state championship. Throughout high school, Don played forward and in his Junior and Senior years he was named to the all-Lake Shore League team. During his Sophomore and Junior years he averaged about ten points a game for a team which finished fourth and then second in the Lake Shore League these two seasons. In Don’s Junior year, he was voted the most valuable player at Geneva.

Several colleges, such as New York University, Georgia and Tampa, showed interest in Don. Athletic ability was not the only reason for the interest. Marsh was a leader in high school activities and also the valedictorian of his class. Unlike many athletes in the larger “institutions of higher learning,” Don gets honors grades.

In defensive backfield, his three years in high school, he contributed 50 points a game. He didn’t play a game at Kenyon which he didn’t put up points with. He wasn’t a “tall” boy, but he had a good understanding of the game and was a perfect “throw back” field goal kicker. He was also a leader of the student body, winning the President’s Cup in 1959.

Against Case, Marsh scored eighteen points in what was probably his best all-around performance. When Don was “on” you could expect to see his set shots, and the regularity, and as he is only a sophomore he has the team’s offensive halfback future.

The Saturday game was scheduled for a three o’clock kickoff; but the weather was too bad. The game was moved up to a two o’clock kick and the game was played to completion.

March

When Don came to Kenyon, it wasn’t long until he played regular offensive end in football, but not defensive as he had in high school. He was the leader scoring his freshman year, chalk ing up six touchdowns, thanks to the magic arm of Don Cabriele. Probably the outstanding game for Don was when he scored three touchdowns in Kenyon’s 38-0 romp over Capital. In the Hobsit contest he also excelled, scoring one touchdown to help lead Kenyon to a 34-20 upset victory.

This season, Marsh contributed four more touchdowns to Kenyon’s cause and gained more than 400 yards on pass plays. This was good enough to make him sixth in the Ohio Conference in scoring, and it must be remembered that Kenyon only plays six games while most of the other Conference teams play eight or nine.

In basketball, Don’s freshman year was marred when he developed “water on the knee.” This kept him out of action most of the season, yet he finished with 74 points in the ten games he completed. This season, Coach Henderson moved Don to guard, a position which was new to him. Free from injuries all season, he averaged an even twelve points a game.

In football, Kenyon’s season ended, but not in victory. Kenyon lost to Oberlin, Ohio State and Cincinnati, and was making the transition to being a strong football team. Kenyon was a hard hitter, and in the future will make a strong effort to establish itself in the Ohio Conference. Kenyon fans should look forward to the future, and hope that Don Marsh will be a part of it.

Edited by Gene Schrier

Baseball

On March 14, fourteen players on the baseball team escorted by Coach Pasini and Mr. Trittipe, (of Village Inn fame) embarked on their long awaited trip to Florida. After traveling through the snow and rain of Kentucky, Tennessee and the rather cool state of Georgia, the boys swear that it didn’t get warm enough to reach the Florida state line.

A big worry for coach Pasini occurred when the station wagon of “Harpo” Williams of Florida State was not to be seen at the meeting place in Georgia.

Having spent the night in Macon, Mr. Trittipe and Coach Pasini steamed across the Florida State line Sunday morning finally coming to rest in Tallahassee, home of Florida State University, where they struck out like a fish in the water.

The wayward state men were found practicing on the ball field, wondering where Kenyon had been.

Monday the first game was played. After the baselines had been cleared of Florida State runners, the score was posted, 21-1. Hayden and McCowan were responsible for the lone Kenyon run. Tuesday Kenyon again played the hosts, and were leading 2-0, when in the last of the seventh the roof caved in on pitcher Pavlovich and teammates with seven Florida State runs crossing the plate. State added four more in the eighth to lead 11-2. Then the darkness and rain came and Kenyon missed their ninth inning bat.

Next stop was at Lakeland, home of Florida Southern. Friday night was Southern’s opening game and they held a celebration before it started. President Spivey of the College threw out the first and second balls. The stands in the Detroit-owned Henley field were well filled when the game proceeded with Kenyon, the affable visitors, losing their first game under the lights.

The next afternoon in 90 degree heat, the Fighting Scots took place with Florida Southern winning, 11-1, in a seven inning game. Bill Williams pitched and Ron Fraley and Dick Thomas led the hitting assault.

Rollins College, with its 31 baseball scholarships, was the next opponent (Rollins is also noted for its stars in track and field, and the Lake Shore League continued their policy of leaving every school on base every inning and were defeated around 18-11 in seven innings.

The team left immediately after the game and arrived home two days later in good condition and sunburned, but so much the better.

Soccer

The Ohio Collegiate Olympic Soccer tryouts were held last Saturday afternoon on a muddy Wehrteemer Field.

A selected All-Star aggregation comprised of Kenyon, Oberlin, Ohio State, and Cincinnati played the Mansfield Soccer Club in a series of exhibition games.

The Mansfield club was composed largely of German and Polish immigrants.

Representing Kenyon’s soccer team were the following men: Aurelius Cole, Mohr, Lynch, Azlett, Burrell, and Gerry Ferguson. The Mansfield club used to working as a team with point and form, was completely stifled by the spirit of the college team in the first half. Although Mansfield was down in enemy territory most of the time, they made numerous poorly aimed kicks at the net. Tottie Cole, a junior on the year’s Kenyon soccer team, was terrific on defense with long hard kicks constantly driving the foreign-born players back. The first half ended in a scoreless deadlock.

The second half opened with tight and rough playing on both sides. Suddenly the Mansfield Soccer Club struck like lightning with three rapid-fire goals in the last half. The only college all-star score was on a free-kick penalty shot by an Oberlin player.

The final score: Mansfield Soccer Club 1, Ohio College All-Stars 1. After the game, coaches of the college teams met and selected Dick Nichols of Ohio State, two players from Oberlin, Dick Miller and Pete Bellow, and Tottie Cole of Kenyon to play in the National Collegiate Olympic Soccer tryouts to be held in Chicago later this summer. A trip to the Olympic Games in Europe may be in sight for these men.

Intra-Murals

Intramurals at Kenyon are moving along rapidly with only three months spent yet to be played — track, softball, and tennis. The volleyball championship went to a firming Sigma Pi setex, who defeated Alpha Delta Phi for two consecutive games for the title. In volleyball, Middle Leonard shipped out a close 60-54 decision over Delta Phi with the other divisions rounding out the field.

The Collegian
**DIVISIONS**

Edited by Bruce Pennington

**Delta Tau Delta**

Good part of M. L. returned after the spring vacation looking like walking advertisements for suntan oil. Bill Williams, Bill Fralick, and Mike Hayden all got up the tan with the baseball team while Dick Miller, Carl Glaser, and Bill Ranney got theirs just "knocking around." The state must just have been something — one hears murmuring about a "quick weekend south." Who was she, men?

On the 15th of March Bert Craig took a spin of Dayton for his lawful purpose. The happy dayton is now living in Mount Vernen. Congratulations to Bert, and Jane.

It has now been established that Gaye Cody does not carry a pocket compass. It seems she rather unwillingly spent the night in Martinsburg not long ago. He is now building his own private library of Ohio road maps.

**Psi Upsilon**

North Leonard is pleased to announce the recent pledging of four men: John D. Fisch, Gamber F. Triguettner, V. Philippe Konradieff and Cameron H. Sanders, Jr.

Everyone has returned in good condition from the Mid-Winter Vacation, which the college administration wildly called a "Spring Vacation." Goodie gowns and Dave Levinson along with an unidentified Deke pledge, spent their eleven days with Battistas and his sisters in Havana, Cuba. While in Cuba they were greatly frowned upon by the natives for competing in the "Cuban National Game" of rolling rich American tourists.

Television is quite exciting, but there is nothing so discouraging for the fans as the old camp in Psi U. to walk into the Campbell-Meeker Room is gazed upon the intense countenances of the sober viewers.

We in Psi U. would like to publicly apologize here for failing to submit an entry to "Division News" since the first edition of the year, but we are busy American college students. America's youth, isn't it terrible?

**Beta Theta Pi**

The majority of the chapter joined the Florida Chamber of Commerce in revising the land of "Florida fords, noth bains, white sand, orange juice by-the-gallon, and those fondal beach companions from the University of Miami. Dick Harrison and his companion, who are of dubious distinction, decided that there was no room for Ben AFP with his car full of coconuts, Cuban fruits, old beer caps and Peter Kapp, Ben, was crated up and sent express collect to Gambier along with fifteen dozen oranges.

**Phi Kappa Sigma**

The Phi Kaps have by this time settled down to the books (?) and are preparing for the home stretch to June. Willie Beade was the last Phi K Kap to return from Hawaii to spring vacation having spent an extended vacation in Florida. As usual, Willie could be found almost any afternoon at the track. Also, during the vacation, Al Murphey, Leigh Bell, and Chuck Handel overshadowed Nick O'Nan's semester-break exploits by temporarily crashing Cincinnati society. Nick, who remained in Canton this vacation, was kind enough to act as guide and show John Gans and Ró Swigeri the more interesting attractions of that city.

Last weekend Tom McCarthy, Chuck Tranfield, Ron Patti, and Jerry Reese traveled to the University of Illinois to a regional Phi K cap conference held there. From the reports they brought back, they much prefer the Kenyon way of life to that found in Urbana, despite the presence of coeds there.

John Schlemmer and his wife Diana were in Gambier for several days at the beginning of the week.

**Archon**

The sixth year of the fraternity was ushered in on Saturday, March 29, with the initiation of Steve Fedele, Wilson Ferguson, Art Osako, Lew Portney, Ed Rhodes, Gene Schrier and Jim Yashin.

Following this, the annual banquet of the fraternity was held with Dr. Richard Salomon as guest of honor, and faculty members Harvey, Graham and Norton present. Dr. Salomon's after-dinner speech was the highlight of the evening. Following this the fraternity retired to the lounge of South Hanna for a Manhattan and highball party, the like of which has not rocked the halls of this division for several months. The return of alumnus Hal Duryee, Doug Stewart from Ohio State, and Dave Wakefield accounted for the consumption of a great fraction of the liquor.

On the same day transfer student Rod

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Inside Washington

Editor’s Note: Charlie Docter is studying Political Science on the co-operative plan at the American Institute in Washington this term. This is the second of a series of articles expressing his views of the political scene.

On February 18 I had the pleasure of interviewing “Mr. Republican.” The following are Senator Robert Taft’s answers to the questions I asked him during the interview.

Q. Senator Taft, how many votes do you think you will have on the first ballot at the Republican Convention?

A. That is hard to say right now, since most of the delegates have not been chosen yet. However, I am counting on 900 votes for the first ballot. (Only 600 votes are needed to win the Republican nomination.)

Q. If you win the nomination will you “barnstorm” or “whistle-stop” the country?

A. If I win I plan to conduct a rather complete campaign. But I don’t want to call it a “whistle-stop” campaign.

Q. There has been some mention that General MacArthur might make a good dark horse at the convention. Do you agree with this school of thought?

A. General MacArthur, like the other candidates, has a chance of becoming the dark horse. But I do not feel there will be any need for a dark horse at the Convention.

Q. What do you think about Mr. Stassen’s proposal for a gold-standard dollar?

A. Like many other people I find it hard to determine what Mr. Stassen means by a “gold-standard dollar.” We are on a partial gold standard at the present.

Q. Senator, what will you do if at the Republican Convention there is a movement to discipline or censure Senator McCarthy?

A. I will oppose such a movement. I don’t agree with everything Senator McCarthy has done, but I believe that basically he has performed a service for the country.

Q. Do you think that winning the nomination would give you the chance to run again which Democrat would you like to see win the Democratic nomination?

A. I do not like to tell the Democrats whom to nominate. The other day I came out for Mr. Truman only because he was so gracious as to favor me for the Republican gubernatorial nomination.

Q. Just one question on Ohio politics, do you think the Cincinnati Republican organization acted right in failing to endorse your brother for the Republican gubernatorial nomination?

A. I have no comment on that.

Ed Davis, Norm Nichols, and myself had a grand time at the Washington Alumni Dinner. At the Dinner we met such recent Alumni as Hank Kunhardt, Dick Karkow, and Barry Allen — all stationed at one of Uncle Sam’s many posts in this area. Jack Furniss was also there. He is working as an assistant of Congressman Jenkins (R-Ohio).

The Washington Semester Program is one that keeps Norm, Ed, and me busy. Each of us attended three evening classes at American University. This semester we have all in an American Government class. This Seminar is conducted among various administrative, legislative, judicial, embassies, and pressure groups in Washington. So far we have only attended Seminars with such distinguished guest as George Galloway, Senator Margaret Chase Smith, Jessup, Burton, and Mr. Fritz M. Marx. Regrettably, most of our time is spent preparing our individual research papers. As a result, Ed Davis is doing his project on the role of the House Foreign and Interstate Commerce Committee in the Legislative System. The Chairman of the Committee Ed is writing his project on, is Congressman Robert C. Byrd (D-W. Virginia). It is only fitting that we disregard little here and pay tribute to one of Kenyon’s most outstanding alumnus. Congressman Crosser is a Democrat from the 21st district in Cleveland, Ohio. He ranks fifth in seniority in the House of Representatives having been in Congress since 1953. When Breece, Prime Minister Winston Churchill finished his recent speech to a joint session of the House and Senate, shooed hands with three men at the leaving the House Floor: Vice-President, Barkley, Speaker of the House Rayburn, and Congressman Crosser. Congressman Crosser is a hard cultivated man. In the course of his conversation he may quote Spinosa, Bierce, The Holy Bible, Robert Burns, Henry George, and others. If you talk with him about the political science course you ever have a project calling for an extended speech in Congress indicating a broad general background, on the part of Congressman, any of Robert Cross, speeches would rate an A.

Concerning the present political situation Congressman Crosser classifies himself as an “extreme democrat” and favors the re-election of President Truman.

Returning back to our individual search projects, Norm Nichols was writing a case study of administrative discretion in relation to the legislative restrictions on the I.C.C. railroad rates for powers. In connection with this project he is working at the Senate Minority Policy Committee.

For my project I am working in the office of Senator Paul H. Douglas (D-Illin) on Presidential primaries.

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The College Paper
THE ARTS

Edited by Paul Matthews

Catcher In the Rye

The Catcher in the Rye reads like a horse race — and if you’re the kind that feels guilty watching a horse race, you’ll have the feeling. But really it’s more than that, because before the race is half over the feeling is all but gone and something has sneaked in which is undeniably important. There are plenty of amusing spins along the way, but their result is very much to the point. It is an almost honest cry from a generation that has been too silent — and this reader is very glad to see it.

A book’s first purpose is to be read: this must not be over-emphasized, but in this Era-of-Stupendous-Distraction (radio, TV, movies, college) you can’t just write a book and expect people to read it or something. But this is a compromise — a bad compromise? Sure. Best-seller novels that are just best-seller novels without much else to them don’t get anywhere. (Perhaps the tragedy of this time is that such a bad compromise — a best-seller that sells best because it looks good — is being accepted by us more and more.) But I don’t think Catcher in the Rye can be passed off as a bad compromise. Usually there has to be something that the writer feels must be said which is the only thing to drive him to do such a crazy thing as write a novel in the first place. I think J. D. Salinger, with Catcher in the Rye, accomplishes a most difficult and praiseworthy thing: the combining of a book that has something important to say.

The Catcher in the Rye has a dash of Mark Twain, a good stiff shot of Saroyan, and a fair amount of neither in its system. Mr. Salinger has very much the same ability as Mark Twain of writing so well that it looks easy and reads easily; it has all the ease of a bull session without the straggling or straying of a bull session — in fact not a word is wasted, but the reader isn’t aware of that. This perfect ease with an audience that Mr. Salinger seems to have is the most immediately striking thing about his writing. It is what public speakers call rapport. Mr. Salinger worked on The Catcher in the Rye "on and off for ten years." To labor this long on something without having the result look labored is proof of real work.

The Catcher in the Rye is a sad book. But somehow it is not a depressing novel. It is sad, something that needed releasing; it is a sadness that is very near humanity; it is a sadness that is a love for people, especially for children. A few stories by Saroyan have the same thing.

Holden Caulfield, the T of the book (who isn’t so terribly different from Huckleberry Finn in a sort of way) is no deeper than most human beings. He has the same shell-surface of cynicism, sarcasm, humor, and backing around that is peculiar to adolescent. The difference between him and most people is that he is a little more honest about what is below his shell-surface; he isn’t quite as ashamed of as he is most people are; he isn’t ashamed of being human — he’s sad about it. But the best statement that can be made about Holden, I think, has already been made: "Trancing his own vernacular, yet remaining marvelously faithful to it, he issues a perfectly articulated cry of mixed pain and pleasure. However, like more lovers and drinkers and sailors, if you least of the highest order, he keeps most of the pain to, and for, himself. The pleasure he gives away, or sets aside, with all his heart.

But the writer, J. D. Salinger, does he violate something very deep, and unexplainable, by telling too much, by getting too personal? Does he offend what people call ‘human dignity?’ (How many American humans are there that have dignity?) They attacked Huckleberry Finn, when it was published, on the grounds that it was immoral. Is it the same thing here? Well ... I don’t know. It is that the book has some of the great qualities of a photographic photograph that leaves nothing on the imagination? Maybe. But I think Mr. Salinger himself comes closest to what is wrong (he knows there is something wrong) when he writes at the end of the book: "... D. B. asked me what I thought about all this stuff I just finished telling you about. I didn’t know what the hell to say: If you want to know the truth, I don’t know what I think about it. I’m sorry I told so many people. I’m not a politician, and I haven’t been asked, but this is the way I feel: I don’t care what anybody thinks. If you do, you start missing everybody."

But what people won’t understand, is, if he was being honest here, why did he have to write the book. What people won’t understand is why he had to write it.

There is certainly a method in the madness of J. D. Salinger — a seriousness and a sadness in his humor; he is a true clown — (don’t misunderstand me). His book has done one very good thing: it has given the Younger Generation (which the Older Generation has been talking about so much lately) a chance to laugh at itself, which is perhaps not such a bad thing for an increasingly intense America.

—F. Matthews

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April 4, 1952

Innovation

This year, for the first time, there was a Robert Frost Poetry Prize Contest. It will continue as an annual poetry contest among Kenyon students, with the first and only prize an autographed copy of one of Robert Frost’s books. The judges (Professor Ransom, Professor Coates, and Mrs. Charles) has considered the complete group of submitted work unusually good. The final decision went to graduated James Wright, the winner of the contest. The title of his winning poem: Robert Sitting in My Hands.

Volpone

The Kenyon Movie Committee brings to Rossie Hall this weekend what promises to be the highlight of the current movie season. In the French screening of "Volpone," the ultimate in satire and slapstick pantomime is attained — at least since the films by Chaplin. Harry H. Corbett, Mr. John’s project director, described the high farce that he has spent the last three weeks bringing Britain to campus. The screening begins tomorrow night at 8 when British films are shown to a joint audience of students and faculty. The film was made in 1952. The film was produced and directed by Sydney McCarthy of the New Yorker as "... the most satisfactory Volpone, I have ever had eyes on."

Because the rental of this film was not more than twice the cost by the Committee, the adult admission has necessarily been raised to 60. This should not, however, discourage anyone from seeing what should be one of the most rewarding movie experiences at the College during this or any other year.

Playboy

The third play of the Dramatic Club’s subscription season, to be produced April 23rd, 24th, 25th and 26th, is The Playboy of the Western World, by John Millington Synge. It will be the first Irish play to be given since 1944.

The Playboy was first produced by the Abbey Players, the Abbey Theatre, in Dublin. It was not received. In fact, the audience a riot; a riot that was so violent the protest was that Synge had presented the Irish character in a way that was offensive. The play has since been produced in many parts of the world and acclaimed by critics as rich in both drama and poetry. However, at each premiere the Irish section of the audience has continued the tradition of rioting; the most memorable of these occasions was the premiere performance in New York.

The principle roles are to be played by Robert Miller, Betty Cooper, Edgar Doctorow, Sherrill Kominars, Christine Johnson, and Harvey Rabkin; the other minor roles are to be played by Sally Lynch, John Lyman, Walter Piel, Louis Everstine, David Hoffmann, Bert Duke, and the female roles by Margot House, Marjorie Johnson, Shirley Jackson, and Ann Chalmers; the production staff is: Director, James Michael; Producer, John Williams; Stage Manager, Roger Hecht, in charge of lights, Edward Winfrey, and stage designers, John Williams and Robert Hubbard.

Musical Matters

Plagued with last minute arrangements for the third concert of the season tonight in Peirce hall, featuring the students, professor Paul Schwartz appeared before the student council last night to plead for student assembly allocations for his financially pressed music department.

Arguing that music is as essential to the cultural edification of the liberal educated man as student publications and dramatics, Dr. Schwartz sought the same type of financial underwriting which the dramatic and athletic departments currently enjoy. For an as yet underdetermined portion of the student activity fee, students would be admitted free to all musical events instead of paying sixty cents as they must at this evening’s concert.

The council listened sympathetically to Dr. Schwartz’s plea and promised to recommend in June to the incoming council whose responsibility it is to draft the proposed budget for next year.

This evening’s concert, in which Dr. Schwartz will assist as pianist, features a well balanced selection ranging from the Bach sonata in G minor for solo violin through the droll sonata No. 2 in A major and includes the Beethoven “Spring” sonata and the Concerto in E minor by Vardiini.

The latter part of the program will consist of compositions by Stravinsky, Bartok as well as the Kenyon premiere of a violin composition by Paul Schwartz.
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