

St. John's Collegian

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Rigid Flux

From the platform of the Great Hall the most modern joined hands with the most ancient, to deny man's dream. Incommensurability becomes the declared ruler of the universe—upward and downward movements are identical—*ananke* is God, *Fire* is His Son, and Heraclitus is the prophet of God.

Analogy, as presented by Mr. Kieffer, is the fire of the myth of Prometheus, and it is this same fire that is the *all-universe* element in Heraclitus. The lecture combined both "fires," and analogy thus becomes the *all-universe* principal. Identity, or the literal, looses its meaning, so that it becomes merely the same understanding of an analogy. Thus, analogy, as the moving principle of all that is done, is strong in Poetry and Science.

The tendency in poetry is always towards a greater variety of analogy for the expression of a single idea; so that poetry is an embodiment of the principle of flux. Science tends toward the opposite pole; consequently rigidity, or the fixed and all-explaining analogy (as Aristotle's form and matter) is the extreme result. Yet in the traditional conception of these two opposite pursuits, there appears a strange identification; for as poetry is active and science contemplative, and conversely, science is maker, and poetry contemplator, each is both. From this it is possible to infer a science of poetry, and a poetry of science. Freedom in science is based on its poetry, or variety of analogy. With such a moving force always behind hypotheses and new methods of search, science is prevented from sinking into the lowest analogical level—that of copying.

Poetry is concerned with naming, for it makes *Oedipus* a name for rashness, and *Agamemnon* a name for pride. But to give its name-making a validity and stability, the rigidity of science must be placed to keep check on a tendency to wildness, and incredulity. Thus, the science of poetry.

Analogy, as used in poetry, and as used in the mathematics of science, has itself an analogous relationship. The lecturer presented a table of the various forms analogy takes; and despite the unfortunate fact that this table was merely presented, and not discussed or supported by the speaker, it remains worth stating.

Analogy	Proportion
comparison	measurement
paradigm	pattern
example	instance
simile	equation
metaphor	function
image	figure
Myth	Hypotheses
imitation	construction
irony	problem

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This is the list of the categories of analogy, as they are used by men (analogy-making animals).

Analogy is the principle of language as a vehicle of thought. It has a triple existence in language; and borrowing Mr. Scofield's Dialectical terms, the lecturer referred to three levels; intentional, impositional, and revelational. Naming by attributes, and making that name a symbol for all things with analogous attributes, is the intentional problem. Also intentional, is the naming of relations; for the analogy itself has a name. Thus we call by the appellation "change," that which includes action, time, and place; but each of those three are in turn the name of something—hence an analogy for something. This process extends *ad infinitum*. The impositional aspect was quite hazy in the lecturer's presentation, but I understood it to relate somehow to the rhetoric of signs. Included in the impositional is a great danger—the danger of playing a game. It is very easy to forget the relations implied by an analogy—to forget what the higher analogy is, and so fall into

the abyss of imitation, which is the poetry not of creating or contemplating, but of pretty words. It is not hard to see the similar danger in mathematics, and thus in the sciences, when the equation becomes the end instead of a higher analogy or the hypothesis. Concerning the revelational, all that was said, was, that the figures of speech comprise it; thus the simile equals the adjective, and the metaphor equals the verb, etc.

Before ending, it is necessary to return to the myth of Prometheus and the fire, and re-examine it as did Mr. Kieffer. Prometheus, the firegiver, was punished because he gave to Man that which was an incommensurable, and thus could never be handled accurately by Man. And to further confuse them, he added Hope, through which they could not see the ultimate failure of their fire-handling. Mr. Kieffer, however, has finally discovered the ruse, and with a slight admixture of that seemingly sincere idealist, Plato, we were presented with the universe in all its glory. The *ananke* of the *Timaeus* caused the lecturer to include Plato in this set-up; *anaka* which for Plato is that transcendental entity which runs wild unless persuaded by reason. But if all is analogy, then this reason itself is subservient to *ananke*; and thus *nous* never can prevail. In the eyes of the lecturer, as the Heraclitean "up" does not differ from "down," so the two Platonic realms are also identical.

All such metaphysical distinctions are tossed on the ash-heap in order to play the game of "analogizing madly," for Mr. Kieffer himself seemed to have fallen into the impositional chasm, and throughout the lecture and question period, merely toyed and dabbled, substituting for meaning and relevance the *divertissement*, "You give me something, and I'll make an analogy of it right before your eyes." Consequently, it became a lecture minus a thesis and lacking a necessary fluency
(Continued On Page Two)

and eloquence. All this because of a disregard and even fear on the part of the lecturer, of system, of metaphysical principles, or any fixed existence of ideas. Yet, whether knowingly or not, he has set forth, instead of a non-system with only relative notions because of a constant flux, the most rigid and infernal of all systems; for the pattern of all existence is irrationality—nothing can escape, nothing can be. No actual change can take place, for true change is from becoming to being, from flux to rest. Thus this rigidity holds all things in a single condition; that being the mortal disease that is absolute analogy. And along with the lecture's system, comes an inescapable paradox. For, as part of the entirety, blazing, and being consumed by the fire, is the lecture itself—only relative and comparative, and not of Truth.

E. V. T.

Backcampus

With one eye on public opinion and the other on last week's Backcampus column, we begin. Last Thursday, Randall finally uncovered their secret weapon. Pitching with robot-bomb fury and accuracy, Erich Nussbaum starred, as Randall defeated Chase-Stone, 8-5. Lobbing for Chase-Stone was William E. Harris, that noted volley-ball player. Harris replaced Durlach, the usual Chase-Stone pitcher, and Durlach took over shortstop. Randall's leading hitter was Henry Mack who whacked out two for two. Eissler and "the Dr." each got one for three to lead the Chase-Stone hitting attack. Thirty-six hours later "the Dr." did a little better for himself, getting two for two the first two times up, but unfortunately the third time he went down swinging.

On Friday, Randall continued its blitz and Nussbaum continued to fool the batters as Randall eked out a 2-1 score over Paca-Carroll. This was a good game from several standpoints. In the first place, the pitching was good, and in the second place, it was not a free-scoring game, as softball games usually are around here. Sher-

man held Randall to three hits and Nussbaum held Paca-Carroll to five. However, Randall bunched things properly and in the eighth put over a run to win. Mack again wielded a potent maple to share honors with Tucker, each getting one for three. Elliot, Paca-Carroll's catcher and lead-off man, got one for two.

Words cannot express our amazement, our joy, and in general, all our feelings, over East Pinkney's 9-8 defeat of West last Tuesday. East Pinkney unleashed a ten-hit attack as Van Sant pitched a sterling game, holding West Pinkney to only thirteen hits. The first two innings looked like the usual East Pinkney defeat, as West Pinkney scored three runs in each. In the third inning, however, East staged a rally, the second within a week, and almost caught up. Then in the fourth West Pinkney went ahead again. But in the fifth, the memorable fifth, East rallied again and won 9-8. Ross looked magnificent as he ended his batting slump, getting three for three. Tony Hammond was also brilliant with two for three. Wilson took honors for West, three for four. We won't mention the West Pinkney pitching.

Now our usual word about track: On Saturday there was a semblance of a track meet. It was better than the week before but still it was not up to any sort of standard for a good meet. Times were slow and distances were short, but this is not the real difficulty, since times, etc., are not expected to be too good as yet. The main failing of the track meet was the lack of participation. This had several results. It forced many men to participate in too many events, just to win the meet. And secondly, the meet between Chase-Stone and West Pinkney didn't even come off. Perhaps the summaries will help to illustrate this difficulty more than anything else, so they are herewith published.

TRACK SUMMARIES

Team Scoring: East Pinkney, 48; Paca-Carroll, 37; Randall, 3. Events: Hundred-yard dash: Epstein (PC), Hoxby (EP), Ray (EP). Time, 12.3 seconds. Shot Put: Epstein

(PC), Pumphrey (R), Ernst (EP). Distance, 43 feet 8 1-2 inches. Twenty Dash: Marine (EP), Bounds (PC), Ernst (EP). Time, 26.2 seconds. Running Broad Jump: Epstein (PC), Hoxby (EP), Bounds (PC). Distance, 15 feet 9 inches. 440-Yard Run: Marine (EP), Elliot (PC), Bounds (PC). Time, 64.5 seconds. 880-Yard Run: Wakefield (EP), Elliot (PC), Hoxby (EP). Time, 2 minutes 30.2 seconds. High Jump: Wakefield (EP), Marine (EP), Bounds (PC). Height, 4 feet 9 inches. Mile run: Wakefield (EP), Epstein (PC), Thomas (PC). Time, 5 minutes 43.2 seconds. 880 Relay: East Pinkney, Paca-Carroll. Time, 1 minute 52.8 seconds.

Lastly, a word of criticism: In our own happy way we have been showering awards on the athletic department, or rather on its individual members, for outstanding work in various spheres of activity. This holds true for the whole department—as individuals they are performing their duties properly and efficiently—but as a group, they are dead. We have never seen all five members together at any time; and we think that this indicates something. Can it be because of personal enmities, or is lack of interest the cause for the department's refusal to make decisions on policy, as a group? The question naturally arises: What good does it do if the Athletic Department works as a body? We can't answer that but we think that anybody will agree that the department's function extends beyond refereeing ball games.

S. C.

The St. John's Social Cooperative in a meeting on Monday night of this week elected a board of five directors to conduct the affairs of Cooperative for a term of one scholastic year.

Those named were Messrs. Mack, Cosgrove, Pumphrey, Van Sant, and Tristram Campbell. This group may place before the cooperative in the near future a program of tentative events for the coming term.

Pericles and the Temple of Progress

What might be called a meeting of double intention was held in the Great Hall on Thursday. We dealt, under the guidance of Mr. Barr, with relations affecting us and those with whom we are connected. The first of these relations concerns the problem traditionally known as *Town and Gown*; and specifically the averted collision of last week. This relationship was of an undesirable nature, and was avoided with commendable restraint by the members of the college. Following upon this an attempt was made by the administration to contact the town authorities to determine whether we are the intended victims of some cabalistic plot, which seems unlikely enough; and to enlist the aid of those authorities in preventing a recurring disturbance.

To prepare for any eventualities, we are also urged to equip ourselves with those bodily skills which will fortify our state of mind, and protect us, if the occasion should arise. The "manly art of self defense" has a two-fold utility in this instance: as a sport, and as a means of arbitration; as dueling is unfortunately forbidden by law.

We recognize here the paradox of learning to fight in order not to have to fight; and of a potential utilization of force to achieve what may be in the end, a distinctly actual lack of force. Here, the humor is obvious; but the practical application of gymnastics, or in this case a specific bodily skill, to control and strengthen rational, judgemetic operation is in the words of the speaker, "An occasion for rejoicing."

Mr. Barr's second relation also concerned the brave new world in which we are living. One of its necessities is an exchequer, and Mr. Barr took this occasion to give a report on ours.

The total income of St. John's College for the fiscal year ending this July first was \$222,000, of which 49% was gained in fees, 29% through State subsidy, and 22% by gifts. The expenditures were distributed as follows: 29% for instruction, 10% for amortization of the College debt, 9% on miscellaneous, 17% for administration, 16% for food, and 19% for upkeep

of plant and equipment; the sum total expenditures being \$220,000.

This, although it looks encouraging, is not at all void of difficulties. The State grant of \$63,000 covers primarily the state scholarships, so that when all the scholarships are filled, only one-third of it can be used by the College as active funds. Besides, there is an operating deficit of \$50,000 per annum, which can be made up only by provoking enough people into presenting donations.

Student fees are meant to cover only the actual operating costs, with all other matters, such as improvement of the real estate and the amortization of the debt, coming from outside sources.

As our second paradox, Mr. Barr would rather welcome a break of relations with the gentlemen in the State House. This is for two good reasons: By residing in this state, it is possible to secure a scholarship, when there is no real need for it. This defeats our system of student aid, since it is founded on the principle, that funds be distributed justly, i. e., where the necessity is most urgent. Non-residents of the State of Maryland do not enjoy these advantages, which results in an unfair over-all distribution of available Student Aid funds, since a large part of them has to be allocated to scholarships offered by the State.

Then there are the "three anonymous donors." These and others are easily discouraged by the presence of State funds, and direct the stream of their abundance in other channels. They are, however, quite essential to insure a heterogeneous social group in the College community, and also for minor improvements such as brick walls around the campus. They can immortalize themselves, too, by having a building named after them. Note: Coming back to a heterogeneous social group, co-education would be just the thing to make a thorough job of it. Mr. Barr stated that he would be glad to discuss that little problem—in private, however.

This is how it stands—the endowment system was near death for a while but now, it seems to have gotten a new lease on life. Donations are one way of survival, and obviously the easiest. Of course, we could always put Messrs. Standen and Pumphrey and the Jun-

ior Chem lab to work, produce something extra special, and have at least this in common with the Benedictine monks.

Arts

Since it will be two long weeks before the good St. Nicholas and the K.W. Kids put on their bang-up show, we thought a few people might like to know what the Durkee Enterprises are doing. Convoys to the Capitol will form at rendezvous x at 2045 hours on T-day. Our reconnaissance squadrons have informed us, that the passage to the Circle is cleansed of mines and relatively clear of raiders.

At the Circle this Saturday, you will just be able to catch one final glimpse of the poor dejected Mr. Skeffington (Claude Rains), in the film of the same name. This covers the old question of who wears the breeches in the establishment with Bette Davis as the missus. The show squirms through the life and rejected loves of Mrs. Skeffington for one and three-quarter hours, then in the last fifteen minutes we have the glorious metamorphosis through diphtheria, and the usual happy ending.

The next day, if you want to brave the gentlemen in white, you can behold a spectacle of sex and excitement at the same place. It is called *Marine Raiders*, with Pat O'Brien and a few explosions providing the excitement. Until you can meet Lou Daimond in person, Pat O'Brien will have to pass as a reasonable facsimile thereof.

On Wednesday night, we'll all join King Garis for a short movie, the show being, of course, *Step Lively*, with Frankie, the Voice With the Bow Tie. Also George Murphy of the lively steps. This finishes the Circle for the coming week.

Then for the healthy participants of the track program, the Republic offers *The Hairy Ape* (Sunday through Tuesday), which is doubtlessly the best specimen the local monopoly has come through with in a long time. For the muscle-conscious individuals, there is William Bendix, and for the body-conscious, Susan Hayward.

If your lab isn't very interesting the latter part of this week, you might drop down to see *Three Little Sisters*,

the alternative title of which might be, *Prop. 66, Newton's Principia*. Of course, if you're really desperate, there is always The Smartest Horse in the Movies (plus Roy Rogers), in *Song of Nevada*. Friday and Saturday.

If the new freshmen get through softball practise on time, they might dash to the Capitol sometime during the middle of the week, and see their *idos*. This participates in several reels of rot called the *Song of the Open Road*. *Step Lively* and *Marine Raiders* constitute the program for the beginning and end of the week.

Of course, if you want to stay right on your own back yard, still your movie-lust, and preserve your esthetic sense, too (at reduced prices), have a look at *Crime et Chatiment*. We still have faith in the Film Club, and endorse this heartily.

P. & B.

Film

On Saturday, the Film Club presents *Crime et Chatiment*, a French film taken from the novel; directed by Pierre Chenal. Harry Baur, as the police commissioner, with Pierre Blanchar, as the assassin Raskolnikov, portray the torturous psychological relationships with some success. The music is by Arthur Honegger; with English sub-titles.

*A feconde soudain ma memorie fertile,
Comme je traversais le nouveau Carrousel.
Le vieux Paris n'est plus (la forme d'une ville
Change plus vite, hélas! que le coeur d'un mortel);*

Baudelaire.

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CALENDAR

ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE

Fri., Aug. 25-Sat., Sept. 2, 1944

Friday, August 25:

3:00-5:00 P. M.

Athletics

Back Campus

4:00-6:00 P. M.

Recorded Concert

Music Studio

8:00 P. M.

Formal Lecture—*Beethoven*—Nicolas Nabokov

Great Hall

Saturday, August 26:

10:00 A. M.-12:00 M.

Athletics

Back Campus

8:30 P. M.

The Film Club Presents
—*Crime et Chatiment*

Iglehart Hall

Monday, August 28:

3:00-5:00 P. M.

Athletics

Back Campus

7:30 P. M.

Dormitory Managers Meeting

McDowell 21

Tuesday, August 29:

3:00-5:00 P. M.

Athletics

Back Campus

4:00-6:00 P. M.

Recorded Concert

Music Studio

Wednesday, August 30:

3:00-5:00 P. M.

Athletics

Back Campus

4:00-6:00 P. M.

Recorded Concert

Music Studio

Thursday, August 31:

3:00-5:00 P. M.

Athletics

Back Campus

7:30 P. M.

College Meeting

Great Hall

Friday, September 1:

3:00-5:00 P. M.

Athletics

Back Campus

4:00-6:00 P. M.

Recorded Concert

Music Studio

8:00 P. M.

Formal Lecture—*Abstraction*—Lewis M. Hammond

Great Hall

Saturday, September 2:

10:00 A. M.-12:00 M.

Athletics

Back Campus

10:30 A. M.

Faculty Meeting

McDowell 24