

St. John's Collegian

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Isle of Beauty, Fare Thee Well!

The King William Players' presentation of *The Tempest* on Friday night seems to have pleased everyone. This is not, I think, merely a way of saying that the audience was friendly. The production had all the merits that could reasonably be expected and enough more to cause real surprise and pleasure.

The Tempest is full of difficulties for director, designer, and actor. In the absence of the more obvious elements of dramatic interest—excitement, suspense, intensity—a spell must be cast. On Friday night, in spite of the mechanical plot, the emphatic symbolism, and the dull farce, a rich and strange life was lived before us under the stars and against the trees of the back campus. The brilliant, many-colored vision, born out of the darkness and dying into it, the mournful cadences of Prospero's voice and his motions away from the earth, the charm of the lovers, the sadness of the monster, and the shrill wildness of the fool, all emphasized in the poem a mysterious loss and renunciation. The art that raised the storm is abjured in the calm that follows—Prospero breaks his staff and drowns his book. Ariel finds the freedom so long desired in the severing of every tie and is dispersed in air. The island with its music is already a memory. And the world itself and all which it inherit shall dissolve and leave not a rack behind. The curiously ambiguous and poignant words of the epilogue as spoken by Prospero, not only asked for the audience's applause, but pointed the moral of the play: romance at its best is close to tragedy.

It is evidence of the coherence of the production that one is not moved to particular praise. But that is to say that praise should go to all who for the occasion practised the arts of the theater, and especially to the direc-

tors, practitioners of the architectonic art, the Prospero and the Ariel behind this insubstantial pageant.

R. S.

College Meeting

Mr. W. Kyle Smith began college meeting with an announcement regarding arrangements for students who wish to remain on the campus during vacation. One dormitory will be kept open and the charge will be one dollar a week. Students who remain will be asked to work around the College and will be paid; about fifteen jobs will be available. The dining hall will be closed but arrangements may be made (if the coffee shop's ration points stretch) so that students will be able to have breakfast and lunch there. All applications for remaining must be made by September 1 to the Assistant Dean.

In the remaining period, Mr. Hammond spoke on athletics. He requested that people using the tennis courts wear tennis shoes or play barefoot, for shoes have been used to the discomfort of those players who would like to have decent courts. Dormitory team managers will be chosen by their respective teams and will meet with the staff and athletic director to decide on the athletic awards.

Regarding these awards there are three types given: plaques, medals, and blazers. Plaques are given to the winning team.

Medals are given to all members of the winning team who have played two-thirds of the games. In swimming and track, the medals are awarded to the holders of the first three places in events. No medals are awarded in individual sports.

Blazers are awarded to the champion team.

The point system is as follows: Ten points, 1 place; 8 for 2nd place, 4 for 3rd place, 3 for last place. In swimming and track, the high point winner receives a blazer. In individual sports, the blazers are awarded to the tournament winner.

Student Employment Co-operative

At the second meeting of the Student Employment membership the group elected the following five persons to the Board of Directors:

Robert Campbell—Junior.
Thomas Cosgrove—Sophomore.
Thomas Fulton—Sophomore.
Robert Novak—Sophomore.
Ch'ao-Li Chi—Freshman.

The Board met for the first time last Sunday afternoon. Fulton was elected Chairman; Novak, Secretary, and Campbell, Treasurer. The following rates of pay were decided upon:

1. Minding babies:
 - a. During the day until 6 p. m.—.35 hour.
 - b. After 6 p. m.—.30 hour.
2. Manual labor:
 - a. Light—.50 hour.
 - b. Heavy—.60 hour.
3. Clerical work—.75 hour.
4. Chauffeur—.50 hour.
5. Tutoring—\$1.00 hour.
6. Driving lessons—.75 hour.
7. Guiding—1.00 hour.

Membership fees were set at \$3.00 per year, payable in advance or in three installments of \$1.00 per term, to be paid at the beginning of each term. In addition to this fee all members who earn over \$50.00 per year shall pay 5% of all earnings over that amount to the Bureau until the year has elapsed.

Any non-member shall remit 10% of his earnings to the Bureau. However, non-members will not receive jobs unless there are more jobs than the Bureau can fill from its membership.

Further, it was decided that, should a member fail to fulfill a job contracted for, he shall be barred for at least one week from all other Bureau jobs.

Last night the Board of Directors met again to consider applications for Managership. Messrs. Pfeiffer and Weiss were elected.

The Sacrifice of Iphigenia

Then with a prayer the father bade them lift her
Like priests that lay a kid upon the altar
And have it over.
Bade them lift the drooping head, the flowing garments,
And check the cry upon the lovely lips
Whose sound might bring a curse upon the hours—
By force forbid and muffle them.

Her robe was saffron like the first fresh flower of spring:
But all her saffron
Slid in pools upon the ground
As she lay upon their arms.

Then one last glance she cast at each of them
Who slew her,
A little dart that etched upon their hearts
The pity of it,
A memory they'd not forget
Of her fresh beauty, the sweet sound of her voice,
As she would form the eucharist that ended their libations,
In her father's house where they so often feasted,
Her charity holding, as a libation cup its wine,
Her offering of grace.

And what came after that I did not see or hear:
But the prophecies were fulfilled.

—from Aeschylus' *Agamemnon*.

Translated by C. P.

The Lobster-Quadrille.

The Knave insisted that it was because the coca-cola ran out. The White Knight sighed and said he had a remedy for *that*. Just then the Dormouse offered to cool febrile temples with chances at mah-jong and fan-tan. But the Cheshire-cat said no use, it was just too, too sad and sombre. (The Red Queen was absent, but there was Reeling and Writhing for sport.) The end, he remarked, always justifying the means, seems to have been forgotten: the Hatter agreed that he didn't know but what that was true, and pushed the argument a little further by reciting with baroque subtilty of emphasis certain phrases from Anatole France, an ancient French celibate: "A woman is a work of art and the most marvelous that man's industry has ever produced. She is an enchanting artifice, resulting from the conjunction of all the mechanical arts and all the liberal arts; she is their common production, and she is the common good. Her duty is to show

herself." Of course, I have all this by hearsay.

THE DUCHESS.

Ghoul

This morning, when not a creature was stirring, not even an air raid warden, the powers being decided to cure us all of our slug-a-bed habits, pulled the appropriate switches, and had an air raid. Some minor campus heroics were performed by those who staggered blindly about turning out the lights. Mr. Plunder arrived in an arm-band to find all his staff of air raid wardens, but one, asleep, or perhaps dreaming fitfully. Several civilian defense people accumulated by the gym which remained locked. If editorial comment is appropriate, and if we are not washing dirty laundry in public, we might say all was not well. But then, too, the whims of authority are both incomprehensible and morbid.

Sometime later, the all-clear blew, and the dawn, like a frightened nurse's aide crept down the street. And Annapolis and the *Collegian* went to bed.

War Meeting

If anyone believes with Plato that philosophers should administer the affairs of state, that person would have been cured of the opinion had he heard the Dean on "War as Peacemaker" last Sunday night. We ordinary mortals felt in the presence of a noble contagion—as powerful and intriguing as the worst of diseases. We felt like the Polar explorer standing on an arctic plateau on a sunny day everything so white and clear and luminated (and a little cold, too) and yet so unknown, such a mystery that it seemed hazardous, but infinitely worth-while to explore. Outwardly at least, the Dean seemed to stand in an emotional vacuum; he was having an intellectual argument with "Mr. Hitler"—among other people (such thing as a fight to the finish).

Mr. Buchanan started with a prediction and a crack. He predicted the hardest period of the war was now starting both for those working and fighting—including the men in Washington "whichever they are doing." Then we were given clear and concise definitions: "peace is the tranquility of order" (St. Augustine) which was finally moulded into "a common life based on knowledge—reflection and choice—and consent." Conversely war is "a breakdown of peace" (this can hardly be improved upon) or "a failure in knowledge" or simply the reign of "ignorance." It was made perfectly clear there could be no ideological war since ideas are "instruments of knowledge" and obviously cannot flourish in a "breakdown of knowledge."

The question then arises as to what kind of war this is—is it to gain the knowledge which has broken down. Clearly not; and part of the tragedy is that some kinds of knowledge—geography, technology, etc.—are being used (or rather misused) in the waging of war. The rest of the evening was spent in the Dean's analyzing and defending his analysis (not, of course the opinions of his analysis) five different views of what kind of war this is. Some people think there is a bad man, like Hitler, or a bad nation, like Germany or Japan, who is incurably diabolical and therefore the only remedy is vengeance brought

to its logical conclusion by extermination. Others think that certain nations have broken international law (whatever that is) and must be brought to a world court (still to be instituted): such people wish an expansion of the arm of the law.

A third group has a faith that God's way of settling affairs is war and that war is what to the Medievals was trial-by-combat: the settling of a necessary conflict by God's will. A fourth group, the Pacifists, start out with refusing to accept that there is such a thing as war; they choose to meet evil with suffering on the theory that the evil-doer will see his wrong and repent: these people have faith in the persuasability of all men. The Dean called this position "perhaps the highest way," whether realistic or not ("naivete is not necessarily foolishness") as persuasion, if possible, is no doubt preferable to extermination. The fifth and last way of looking at the war which Mr. Buchanan described is the liberal's view that this fight is the defense of a faith as, for example, democracy. The danger here is that faith become idolatry, and these people think they have the faith—with somewhat inadequate reasons. Such a war usually turns into a crusade "to make the world safe for democracy" or "to perpetuate the American Way."

Significantly enough the Dean did not tell us what kind of a war this is. Also, his five possibilities did not seem exhaustive: for example, there are some who think this is an imperialist war, started not by the will of individual capitalists, but by the inevitability of an economic system; or that this war—like all wars—is nature's way of eliminating excess population, apart from and outside of the will of God.

The discussion was not very spirited. The Dean told how he was getting terribly concerned about "all this." We are indebted to Mr. Klein for having said "that" was good. Afterwards someone's girl friend found that "it had been very interesting—though slightly confusing." Mrs. Gorman said, "I don't use reason in these things—just plain woman's intuition is enough." And the Dean roared with laughter.

K. E.

A Summer's Tale

What has been passed on to us, we pass on to you, unto the seventh generation. Mr. Gorman, who is interested in exciting further discussion about the Hebraic tradition around the campus, told a profound little story which he heard from a continental friend.

The time is vaguely contemporary; the scene, an unknown Russian town. A Hebrew parent is reading his newspaper at the breakfast, possibly lunch, table. A small item reported from a distant Russian town catches his eye and, saying nothing, he hands the paper across the table to his son, pointing to the article. The son reads that a Jewish boy has killed his father. He hands the paper back saying, "Such things happen." A heavy silence for a few minutes. Then the father: "Some ideas you got."

Some call it revelation, some call it intuition, we think so.

Announcement

Mr. Max Dehn is offering an extra-curricular course in Projective Geometry to all those, even Sophomores, knowing something about conic sections. The class will meet Wednesday at 7:30 P. M., in McDowell.

Circulation Department

The COLLEGIAN has sent cards to St. Johnnies who are no longer here, offering subscriptions. Responses are coming in slowly, but those received have been very enthusiastic.

The feelings conveyed by most of the letters is one of resignation to a job to be done with a good deal of nostalgia for St. John's. The Mount Saint Mary's contingent informs us that they have formed a seminar and are now planning to read *Science and Hypothesis* by Poincare.

The circulation department would like to take this opportunity (since this is the first issue to be mailed out) to ask those receiving the COLLEGIAN to report changes of addresses.

Note: Subscriptions are \$2 for four terms; \$1 for two terms. All those interested should contact John Gilbert.

Backcampus

Last week, theatricals practically killed intramurals on the Backcampus (this, not only by getting a third of the school involved but by Elfenbein's constant blasting over the mike, "Sam, wanted on set"). And beside all this, there was the shouting of Messrs. Nabokov and Ambramson instructing Sharp's grotto which way to sway in the first scene.

Nevertheless, two games were played on the last two Fridays. In a game filled with errors, Pinkney defeated Paca-Carroll 18-6. The following week in one of the best games of the season, Pinkney beat Randall in the ninth inning when Israel and Powder hit home runs. The final score was 20-17.

And now to the big news of the week—Randall and Pinkney played again on Tuesday. After the close game that preceded, excitement was anticipated. In an upset, Randall beat Pinkney by the score of 16-8 (the first defeat Pinkney has had this season). Now that Pinkney has been defeated perhaps there will be a little more excitement through competition in intramurals.

Today Pinkney plays Paca-Carroll. To be perfectly honest, though, we don't want to discourage Paca, we don't expect any devastating reversals.

To the amazement and gratification of everyone concerned the first round and quarter-finals of the tennis matches came off as scheduled despite the last minute rush involved, and the semi-finals are now in progress.

The ping-pong tournament is moving along slowly and the athletic department hopes that the shortage of ping-pong balls will be relieved soon, so that the series can be continued.

Track Meet

A trackmeet will be held this Saturday, August 28. The track events will be 100, 220, and 440 yard dashes, relays, the 60-100-200 yard medley and a marathon around the College property boundaries; the field events, the high jump and broad jump, discus, javelin, and shotput, the soft ball throw, and tug-of-war.

Arts

Since every other department has made mention of *The Tempest*, we feel obliged to whisper our comment to the wind. Everyone, including ourselves, was surprised and delighted that concentrated effort yielded what it did as it did. We have certain reservations about the whole affair, but then we're told that we're prejudiced. Now that the house divided has pulled itself together again, we wish to thank the administration.

There is a whole long list of movies coming to town, and we wish we could be encouraging. Among them are *Above Suspicion* and *Heaven Can Wait*. What these films deal with is a problem for everyone concerned. *Above Suspicion* is about Nazis and stuff. Included are Joan Crawford, whose absence has not been noticeable, and Fred MacMurry, whose presence has been. This takes place in Germany. Then again, we feel about Don Ameche the same way he does about Heaven. *The Leopard Man* (at the Republic next Wednesday) just about exhausts the animal kingdom as far as death and transfiguration goes. Our suggestion for the final gasp of this series is a picture titled *The Spiny Ant-Eater Woman*. We could get excited about that.

On Monday at the Maryland in Baltimore, Elmer Rice's latest play, *A New Life*, opens. The cast is headed by Betty Field (one Mrs. Rice). Nothing anyone has said has been able to deter *Arsenic and Old Lace* from survival. On it goes, for weeks and weeks, at the National in Washington.

At Loew's Columbia in Washington is Walt Disney's version of De-Seversky's *Victory Through Air Power*. An interest in men and machines and production should lead you here. The quarter-page ad for this picture has, in large print, a phrase that puzzles us. It goes, "Never before! never again!"

At the Little in Washington is *I Was A Spy* with Madeleine Carroll and Conrad Veidt. This was directed by Victor Saville and can have no possible interest to students of the film medium, or anyone else for that matter. At the Little in Baltimore is *They Died With Their Boots On*—Errol Flynn—also of minimal interest.

CALENDAR

ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE

Fri., Aug. 27-Sat., Sept. 4, 194

Friday, August 27:

3:00-5:00 P. M.

Athletics

Back Campus

5:00 P. M.

Vesper Service

Great Hall

6:30-8:00 P. M.

Music Seminar

Humphreys Hall

7:00 P. M.

Bible Class

McDowell 22

8:00 P. M.

Formal Lecture—Music
—Nicholas Nabokov

Great Hall

Saturday, August 28:

10:30 A. M.-12:00 M.

Athletics

Back Campus

Sunday, August 29:

7:00-8:00 P. M.

Recorded Concert

McDowell Plaza

Monday, August 30:

3:00-5:00 P. M.

Athletics

Back Campus

5:00 P. M.

Vesper Service

Great Hall

7:00-8:00 P. M.

Recorded Concert

McDowell Plaza

Tuesday, August 31:

3:00-5:00 P. M.

Athletics

Back Campus

5:00 P. M.

Vesper Service

Great Hall

7:00 P. M.

Bible Class

McDowell 22

7:00-8:30 P. M.

Meeting of the Madrigal
Group

Humphreys Hall

Wednesday, September 1:

3:00-5:00 P. M.

Athletics

Back Campus

5:00 P. M.

Vesper Service

Great Hall

7:00-8:00 P. M.

Recorded Concert

McDowell Plaza

Thursday, September 2:

3:00-5:00 P. M.

Athletics

Back Campus

5:00 P. M.

Vesper Service

Great Hall

7:30 P. M.

College Meeting

Great Hall

Friday, September 3:

3:00-5:00 P. M.

Athletics

Back Campus

5:00 P. M.

Vesper Service

Great Hall

6:30-8:00 P. M.

Music Seminar

Humphreys Hall

7:00 P. M.

Bible Class

McDowell 22

8:00 P. M.

Formal Lecture—to be
announced

Great Hall

Saturday, September 4:

10:30 A. M.-12:00 M.

Athletics

Back Campus

8:30 P. M.

The Film Club Presents
—Alexander Nevsky

Great Hall