

Trinity College

Trinity College Digital Repository

Trinity College Bulletins and Catalogues (1824 - present) Trinity Publications (Newspapers, Yearbooks, Catalogs, etc.)

10-1-1933

Trinity College Bulletin, 1932-1933 (Reports of the President, the Dean, the Librarian, and the Treasurer)

Trinity College

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalrepository.trincoll.edu/bulletin>

Recommended Citation

Trinity College, "Trinity College Bulletin, 1932-1933 (Reports of the President, the Dean, the Librarian, and the Treasurer)" (1933). *Trinity College Bulletins and Catalogues (1824 - present)*. 176.

<https://digitalrepository.trincoll.edu/bulletin/176>

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Trinity Publications (Newspapers, Yearbooks, Catalogs, etc.) at Trinity College Digital Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in Trinity College Bulletins and Catalogues (1824 - present) by an authorized administrator of Trinity College Digital Repository.

Trinity College
HARTFORD CONNECTICUT

VOLUME XXX

NEW SERIES

NUMBER 4

Trinity College Bulletin



Reports of
The President, The Dean
The Librarian, and The Treasurer



Hartford, Connecticut
October, 1933

Trinity College Bulletin

Issued quarterly by the College. Entered January 12, 1904, at Hartford, Conn., as second class matter under the Act of Congress of July 16, 1894.

Accepted for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized March 3, 1919.

The Bulletin includes in its issues: the College Catalogue; Reports of the President, Treasurer, and Librarian; Announcements and Circulars of Information.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

October 28, 1933

To the Trustees of Trinity College:

Although the annual report of an educational institution should include consideration of the future as well as a chronicle of the year just passed, any executive in the year 1933 may well ask to be excused from discussion of anything in the nature of prediction. Events of major importance are following each other these days in such bewildering succession that keen-eyed prophecy has been reduced to the status of an indoor sport. The totally unexpected has happened so often of late that one is inclined to doubt whether the absolutely inevitable will ever occur.

There are however three major worries in my mind that I want to share with you. The first is the obvious one: what about the yield from the endowed funds of colleges and universities during the next few years? In the last quarter-century the privately operated institutions of higher learning have increased in size, in equipment and in effectiveness. Many of them, stimulated by wise and generous aid from the General Education Board, have built up endowment funds of some dimensions. We at Trinity should feel deep gratitude to those who at the time of our Centennial in 1923 increased our resources to enable us to make provision for raising the salaries of our teaching staff. So ably was this done that we have come through the past year without a deficit, without reducing stipends, and without withholding the annual increases expected under our existing salary scale. It is good to be able to report that our income from endowed funds for 1932-33 exceeded the budget expectation. Other colleges were not so fortunate. One wonders about the years that lie ahead.

Involving us in somewhat graver worry is my second point for consideration: there seems to be a growing disposition in legislative halls to pare away the exemptions from taxation granted to educational institutions. This is understandable. In order to meet recent enormous increases in the cost of government of city, state, or nation, tax commissioners and legislators have been looking frantically in every direction for new sources of revenue. For such purposes privately operated schools and colleges furnish an excellent target, especially in instances where recent generosity has made possible conspicuous additions to the plant. Up to this time there have not been wanting in New England men of judg-

ment and discernment, perhaps themselves indebted for a major portion of their education to a single Alma Mater, who have been able to point out the advantages accruing to a democracy from its educational institutions and the doubtful wisdom of crippling or handicapping some of them by encroaching on privileges granted by charter generations or centuries ago.

My third concern, the effect of currency inflation upon fixed salaries, affects not only college professors but also teachers throughout the land. Everyone recognizes that the combination of higher prices and cheaper dollars about which we hear so much today will work real hardship upon those who have been receiving stated salaries. In commercial and industrial enterprises it is to be expected that real inflation would necessitate salary increases all along the line. In the case of teachers however, both in school and college, the machinery for establishing salary schedules is slow-moving, perhaps dependent upon annual meetings of boards, agreement and adjustment between various groups, or perhaps even legislative assemblies. Most certainly many such authorities would find no immediate increase in revenue from currency manipulation, and would be loath to upset budgets established after years of consideration in an attempt to equalize rapidly fluctuating values. Dire distress might conceivably afflict the entire teaching profession—a group whose devotion has been none too well rewarded in past years.

So much for our worries. What should encourage us in the opposite direction is the evidence before us of continued confidence on the part of our people in the worth of education in general and college education in particular. The fact that we had this year a larger number of applications for admission to Trinity than ever before may be due in part to an economic and industrial situation that makes it well nigh impossible for a high-school graduate to get any position or job of permanent worth. On the other hand, when one considers the enormous sacrifice on the part of a family necessary to keep a young man in college after four years of distress have used up the savings of years, the increase of entrance applications all over the country is a tribute from people at large to the high value put upon college.

In that connection the action of our Board in establishing certain unendowed scholarships, temporary, out of general funds, is quite in keeping with the needs of the situation. It often is apparent that a grant of a half or a quarter of the college fees is enough to make the difference between the possibility or the impossibility of a college education for a worthy young man. At the present time 167 undergraduates are receiving some form of scholarship help, varying in amount from \$50 to the \$600 awarded

to the Holland scholars. Only 53, or less than a third, of these scholarships are from endowed funds, the remainder being taken from general receipts, partly on account of pledges made many years ago, and partly in accordance with votes of the Trustees in this present emergency.

It so happened that during the last academic year there were no members of our Faculty away for sabbatical leave. There will be very few changes for the coming year. Mr. Wendell Holmes Langdon, Instructor in Mathematics for two years, will continue his graduate work. His place is being taken by Dr. Munroe Martin of John Hopkins. The instructors appointed last year—Mr. Buell as Director in Extension, and Instructor in History, Mr. Means in the Philosophy Department, Mr. Miller in Physics, Mr. Jessee in Physical Education, and Mr. Taylor in Economics—have all been appointed for the coming year.

With the completion of the Chapel tower last December, the scaffolding was taken down, and the various stacks of building materials which have so long interfered with the view of the Chapel were cleared away. While the recent building operations on the campus have been a refreshing sign of growth, it has been a source of satisfaction to have, for a short time at least, the campus unencumbered by the mechanics of construction. Due to the fact that the Community Chest Unemployment Committee were able to keep a gang of men working on the college property for a number of months, a large amount of rough grading has been done, and the general appearance of the campus enormously improved, at very little cost to the college. The closing of the driveway to Vernon Street in front of the President's house has been a great gain, and the new entrance from Summit Street is already familiar to all, although no attempts have yet been made to beautify it. Before we go further with the planning of roads, paths and parking places, there must be a reasoned consideration of the landscaping of the entire campus. The Grounds Committee have this in mind, and I trust they will present a plan to the Trustees which when approved will enable us to work slowly and steadily towards a definite goal. A program of annual planting with something to be done every year would work wonders in bringing out the natural beauties of our college site. In this connection, the fencing of our Broad Street frontage is an essential improvement which must come before we can develop our playing fields.

After a full year of happy use of our new dining hall, it is hard to remember how we got along without it. Not only has it provided adequate and attractive opportunity for meals for students not boarding at fraternity houses, but it also gives us a chance to conduct various college functions in attractive surround-

ings, and to entertain individuals and groups as we could never do before.

Some indication of the usefulness of the dining hall for special functions, in addition to the regular meals served there, may be gained from the following record of social functions held during 1932-33:

- Freshman-Faculty Dinner at the opening of the College year
- Other Class Dinners at various times
- Dinner of the Hartford Alumni Association
- Dinner on St. Luke's Day for the doctors of Hartford
- Dinner of the Chapel workmen to celebrate the completion of the tower
- Sports Dinners at the close of each athletic season
- Annual Alumni Luncheon
- Dinner to Clayton Hamilton, Esq.
- Weekend entertainment for the Hi-Y Clubs of Connecticut
- The Junior Prom
- Various informal college dances
- Class Smokers
- Informal Faculty Teas.

It is difficult to chronicle the enormous interest that has been shown by people in Hartford, as well as from out of town, in our new Chapel. No record has been kept of the number of visitors, but they come in a constant stream. During the summer months especially, one notices automobiles with licenses from various States parked outside the Chapel.

It may be of interest to record that at the end of our last academic year, June 30, 1933, 639 services had been held in the new Chapel. Most of these are the regular daily services for the students, with, of course, the usual services on Sunday, when we have an early Communion Service at 8, a morning service at 11, and Vespers at 5. There have been various recitals on the organ and the carillon, the most notable of these being the two recitals played by Marcel Dupré, distinguished French organist on October 3rd and 4th. Memorial services were held on All Saints' Day, and on other occasions for individuals connected with the College; and the 12 Corporate Communion services for the different fraternities give proof of the entrance of the Chapel into the religious life of the student body. Special services were held for the following groups: The Newington Home for Crippled Children; the workmen who built the Chapel; the doctors of Hartford; students and alumni of Kent School; the workers in the Community Chest; the combined parishes of Trinity, the Good Shepherd, and St. James;

the Connecticut Alumni of the Episcopal Theological School; the annual Hi-Y Conference; Loomis School; the nurses of the Hartford Hospitals; the League of the Hard of Hearing; delegates to the Convention of the Diocese of Connecticut; and the Masons of Hartford. On one occasion there was a service with music with the combined choirs of Trinity and Wesleyan, and on another occasion the Junior League Glee Club sang with the Trinity choir. Baptisms, weddings and funerals were conducted at various times during the year.

As a result of the annual joint dinners of the Faculty and the Trustees has come from the Faculty the suggestion of a committee composed of members of each group to consider matters of common interest. The fact that the establishment of such a committee required on the part of the Trustees an alteration in the Standing Rules meant that no action could be taken until the June meeting of the Board, when sufficient members were present to approve the change. The necessary machinery has now been set up, with the component members appointed or elected by both groups. There is obviously no attempt here to duplicate the work of the Joint Educational Committee or to usurp its powers, but good may well come along other lines through this connection between the two governing bodies of the College. It is distinctly understood by the Faculty that their representatives on this committee are not plenipotentiary, but will report back to that body before action is taken or recommendations made to the Trustees or any standing committee. With the Board of Fellows meeting regularly and sending illuminating reports to the Trustees, and with the Senate increasing in prestige among the undergraduate body every year, any nexus established between Faculty, Trustees, Fellows and the Senate will be to advantage.

Perhaps the first problem to be discussed by this joint educational committee is the matter of class-room accommodations. It may be that sufficient adjustments can be made with the present plant to take care of the classes for a college of five hundred undergraduates, but we should not try to delude ourselves into imagining that we can continue with our present laboratories without grave detriment. Unless we can take soon some forward step to meet the needs of the Chemistry Department, retrogression is inevitable.

I append to my report as usual a list of publications of members of the Faculty during the past year, with also a brief abstract of research work done by some of them:

G. A. Kleene, Professor of Economics

"The Economic Situation" published in April issue of Metropolitan Hartford (the Chamber of Commerce publication).

C. E. Rogers, Professor of Civil Engineering

Preliminary Observations of Solar Radiation completed.

L. C. Barret, Professor of Latin

Continued labor on edition of the Kashmirian Atharva Veda.

O. Shepard, Professor of English Literature

In press, "English Prose and Poetry of the Eighteenth Century", in collaboration with Paul Wood, Acting Professor of English at Trinity College 1927-1929.

E. L. Troxwell, Professor of Geology

New Vertebrate Fossils in the Trinity Museum from last field season's collecting are:

1. A skeleton of *Eohippus*, which compares favorably with the well known specimens of the earliest horse to be seen at Amherst College and at the American Museum of Natural History. In preparation for exhibition the delicate bones have been left on the slab of Eocene stone as they were found.
2. A remarkably complete skeleton of *Coryphodon*—contemporary of *Eohippus*—a type known heretofore only from fragmentary parts and yet one so important it has been figured in many text-books.

V. K. Krieble, Professor of Chemistry

Paper published in collaboration with Dr. A. L. Peiker entitled "The Hydrolysis of Hydrogen Cyanide by Acids", part II in the Journal of the American Chemical Society.

S. B. Smith, Assistant Professor of Chemistry

With Mr. W. A. Sturm, "Equilibrium in the System, Sodium Phthalate, Phthalic Acid and Water", published in the Journal of the American Chemical Society.

Continuing work this year using Lithium Phthalate in place of Sodium Phthalate.

T. H. Bissonnette, Professor of Biology

Publications appearing in 1933:

1. Testis Activity in *Sturnus vulgaris*. Relation to Artificial Sunlight and to Electric Lights of Equal Heat and Luminous Intensities. *Bird Banding*, 6(1):8-18. January, 1933, (with A. P. R. Wadlund).
2. A Two-faced Kitten. *Journal of Heredity*, 24(3):102-104. March, 1933.
3. Light and Sexual Cycles in Starlings and Ferrets. (A lecture given by invitation to the Society for Experimental

Biology at its meetings at Oxford, England, April 15, 1932, in a symposium on "Light and Sexual Periodism"). *Quarterly Review of Biology*, 8(2):201-208. June, 1933.

In press for publication autumn of 1933.

4. Does Increased Light Absorption or Increased Food Consumption Cause the Increased Egg Production in Fowl? *Poultry Science*, in press.
5. Inhibition of the Stimulating Effect of Red Light on Testis Activity of *Sturnus vulgaris* (Starling) by a Restricted Diet. *Biological Bulletin* (of the Marine Biological Laboratory, Woods Hole). To appear in the December number, 1933.

Several Abstracts for Biological Abstracts have been made during the year which have appeared or are to appear in the near future. Studies going on here now:

The work on the general problem of the relation of light cycles to Sexual Cycles goes on as time is available, aided by continued grants from the Committee for Research in Problems of Sex of the National Research Council. The avenue of reception of the light stimulus in ferrets has been determined and the possible intermediation of the hypophysis in this reaction is being tested. The series of changes induced in male ferrets by increased daily lighting as given in this laboratory is being followed up at the present time. Professor P. E. Smith of the Anatomy Department of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Columbia University, is collaborating with us in the testing of the hypophysis problem.

Mr. Alphonse J. Zujko is beginning the study of the seasonal changes in the ovaries of the female Starlings as a basis for a series of studies on the female sexual cycle in relation to light cycles and is finding some very interesting facts in this regard. His thesis should be ready for publication some time next year.

R. B. W. Hutt, Professor of Psychology

The Tachistoscope, announced in the previous report, has been brought to an improved working-model stage and with it results have been got which seem to demonstrate that an instantaneous exposure is as brief as 1.5 millisecs instead of the 5 to 10 millisecs previously supposed. Further, at this instantaneous exposure, only a single numeral may be apprehended instead of a group of several numerals.

There has been no publication of these results chiefly because there are no further changes to be made in the apparatus and the

whole machine must be reconstructed in permanent form. Until funds are appropriated to this end, the research project must be abandoned.

E. L. Skau, Assistant Professor of Chemistry

A paper in conjunction with I. Laird Newell, of the Henry Souther Engineering Laboratory of Hartford, was presented at the national meeting of the American Chemical Society at Washington, D. C., in March. The paper, which was entitled "A Rapid Volumetric Method for the Determination of Sulfur in Coal and Coke", was published in the May issue of the Analytical Edition of the Journal of Industrial and Engineering Chemistry.

Four additional papers have appeared so far this year, three in the Journal of Physical Chemistry and the fourth in the Proceedings of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

During the past academic year Mr. Louis F. Rowe has been doing a Master's Degree research, the results of which were written up in a thesis entitled "Some Binary Freezing Point Diagrams".

During the month of August Mr. John R. Bose of the Senior Class carried out some research on the freezing point of certain binary systems.

Certain mathematical proofs having to do with the explanation of the shape of time-temperature curves have been worked out, with the cooperation of Mr. Wendell Langdon of the Mathematics Department.

T. L. Hood, Dean and Assistant Professor of English

Letters of Robert Browning Collected by Thomas J. Wise, edited with an Introduction and Notes by Thurman L. Hood, Yale University Press, 1933. Also issued by John Murray, London, 1933.

A. K. Mitchell, Assistant Professor of Mathematics

The Cayley-Hamilton Theorem, published in the American Mathematical Monthly, March, 1933.

Continued work at Library of Congress during the summer on parallelism in Finsler space.

I. A. Buell, Instructor in History

Biographies of Abel Buell and John Steel for "Founders and Leaders of Connecticut"—not yet published.

M. Martin, Instructor in Mathematics

1. On existence theorems concerning the analytical transformations of spaces of infinitely many dimensions into themselves.—American Journal of Mathematics.

2. On abstract surfaces of negative curvature.—*American Journal of Mathematics*.

3. On metrically transitive point transformations.—*Bulletin of the American Mathematical Society*.

4. On the ergodic function of Birkhoff,—submitted to the editor of the *Transactions of the American Mathematical Society*.

L. V. Roth, Instructor of History

Completed the manuscript and prepared for publication: "How the World Lives and Works", Book IV in the Brigham and McFarlane series of "Our World and Ourselves", American Book Co., 1933.

At present engaged on a text-book on "Geographic Influence in History".

REPORT OF THE DEAN

November 27, 1933

To the President of Trinity College:

In 1932-33, the number of students in the College was only slightly larger than in the preceding year, and the distribution of them by classes was better balanced, because the large entering classes of the two preceding years had moved forward into the Sophomore and Junior years, and the number of students entering as Freshmen was slightly reduced. The percentage of newcomers in the college body was therefore slightly lower, so that the problems of assimilation were not aggravated. Had it not been for the unusually large shrinkage of enrolments in each class caused by adverse economic conditions, satisfactory distribution of numbers in the four classes probably would have been an accomplished fact.

The shrinkage in the numbers in upper classes may be observed in the following tabulation.

SUMMARY OF ENROLMENTS

	1929-30	1930-31	1931-32	1932-33
Graduate Students	16	10	13	12
Seniors	46	57	63	60
Juniors	61	64	79	93
Sophomores	80	81	108	117
Freshmen	93	123	150	145
Non-Matriculated Students	16	16	13	12
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	312	351	426	439

For example, the Sophomores of 1932-33 numbered 33 fewer than the Freshmen of 1931-32; and the total diminution in the classes of 1933, 1934, and 1935, from the numbers in those classes in 1931-32 was 67. The corresponding diminution in the previous year was 18. It should be borne in mind that these shrinkages would have been larger except for the admission of students to advanced standing, and that students so admitted are also newcomers. It is obvious that economic conditions have acted to delay the establishment of even distribution by classes and to prevent the retention in the college body of the largest possible proportion of experienced students. In view of this new circumstance, it is advisable to admit more than the 125 Freshmen who, ordinarily, would provide upper classes averaging 100 men.

With a total enrolment of 427 undergraduates, the College found no serious handicaps in space or management, except for an increasingly acute situation in advanced courses in Chemistry. The College has been obliged to turn away desirable students because of overcrowding in the Pre-Medical and the Chemistry Groups.

Though the hard times have thus affected the welfare of the College in some respects unfavorably, in others they have brought advantages. The seriousness of purpose with which undergraduates have pursued their studies stands in sharp contrast to the lack of enthusiasm displayed by many students in the old days. How much the financial worries of individual students have interfered with their peace of mind and indirectly with their success in studies, can be only a matter of speculation. In general, however, the scholastic success of the undergraduates has been as great as in the year before, and much greater than would have been expected a few years ago. The number of men on probation in February, 1932, was 33, or 8.25% of the total number of undergraduates; the number in February, 1933, was 30, or 7.23%. The number of men entitled to unlimited absences in February, 1933, was 36, or 8.67% of the regular undergraduates. Since Freshmen are not allowed the privilege of unlimited absences, these figures show a gratifyingly large number of men with grades averaging above 85. It was noticeable that the number of men whose grades were high enough to make them eligible for scholarship awards was larger than in any previous year.

The neglect of adequate recognition of superior scholarship in the College should not pass without notice. It may be considered a matter of regret that the privilege of unlimited absences—of which superior students do not avail themselves; and should not, in any event—is the only tangible recognition given to superiority in academic work. Some means should be found to attach greater prestige to the successful scholarship of which the College has long been proud.

Instances of major disciplinary action were not numerous. There was one instance of dismissal from the College and one of suspension for a year.

Student activities prospered. In athletics, particularly, general improvement was apparent. In basketball, the team was the best the College has ever had, and the season was most successful; the team won ten games out of twelve on its schedule. The track team, likewise, was as good as any we have ever had. It won three out of four meets, with a schedule including unusually strong opponents. Members of the team broke two college records and tied one. The team made the highest score ever made by a Trinity College

team in the Eastern Intercollegiates. Swimming was recognized for the first time as a College sport; the swimming team won five out of its seven meets. The plan for organized swimming was maintained, though several good swimmers were to be lost to the team by graduation. In tennis, the team won five matches out of seven. It was the best in several years. Though soccer and cross-country running were not recognized as varsity sports, in informal schedules, each team in these sports had four matches with teams representing other colleges, and won three of its four matches. The baseball team had less success than in some other years, but won five games in a ten-game schedule. The football team won two games and lost four, but showed decided improvement over the year before. The foundation was laid for a superior team in 1933-34.

In athletics, the College would thrive better if there were available a field house or a new unit of the gymnasium, containing a special exercise room and a basketball court large enough to enable us to play basketball games on our own campus, and provide room for indoor practice often seriously needed in major sports.

Other student activities were conducted creditably. There is no need of special comment upon them.

Attendance at college exercises was in general satisfactory, despite the incidence of influenza, affecting more than half of the students in college, chiefly between January and the middle of March. This experience is attributable to the fact that influenza was widespread last year; the epidemic was second in severity only to that of 1929, which was the worst on record since that of 1918. There were twenty-five illnesses of ten or more days' duration: fourteen of which were of men living at home and eleven, of men resident at the College. Four of these involved operations. There was one instance of undulant fever (Malta fever), the first case of the kind on the records of the College. The victim was a resident of Hartford. The Medical Officer is to be particularly commended for the success of his efforts to restrict the epidemic of influenza and minimize its effects; and in general for keeping down the amount of illness of our students and preserving their health. The absences of men living at home were slightly more numerous than those of men living at the College, though the students living at the College outnumbered those living at home. There is no indication that the physical welfare of men residing at the College was less than that of men living at home.

On the basis of the academic and social experience of the undergraduate life of 1932-33, your Dean has no recommendations of improvements in provision of instruction, except a slight addi-

tion to the staffs in large Freshmen courses, particularly English A. In general, the undergraduate body has been allowed to flourish, by virtue of being shielded from circumstances which have caused losses of students and staff and impaired efficiency and standards in many institutions less well guarded.

T. L. Hood, Dean