

The Trinity Tripod

VOL. II. No. 44.

HARTFORD, CONN., TUESDAY, APRIL 3, 1906.

PRICE, FIVE CENTS.

DR. LUTHER ON EDUCATION.

Article in the New York Herald.

In last Sunday's issue of the New York "Herald," a whole page is devoted to an article about "Educated Loafers and how Education should be Used." This article is the result of an interview last week with a Herald reporter in Dr. Luther's office. The President says that an educated loafer is about as sad and as discouraging a spectacle as can be found. Furthermore, he emphasizes the fact that education to-day costs so much time and money that no man has the right to waste it. As for the man who graduates from college and does not put to use some of what he has learned there, in the President's own words "he is a blemish to the community."

Dr. Luther compares the college student to either locomotives or parlor cars, that is, he advises the college man to be a locomotive, and not a parlor car, so that when he goes out in life after completing his studies he will be a pulling factor and not a drag. He says "be the energetic, puffing, advancing, possibly noisy locomotive, rather than the easy-going, indolent, and fine looking parlor car." The man who is the locomotive accomplishes something in the world's work, he does not live in vain, but gets ahead and furthers the progress of civilization. The parlor car man, on the other hand, will possibly enjoy life, be comfortable, and an agreeable convenience to some of his friends, but that is all. His career will amount to nothing, as far as being a factor in the world. He will be the load which the engine fellow has to pull along to keep the world moving—that is, a drag on the community.

In answer to the reporter's question, "Are Americans inclined to be too strenuous?" Dr. Luther says "that work and plenty of it is the best outlook for our naturally exuberant spirits." He declares it is the drone, the indolent man who is more likely to go wrong. Dr. Luther believes in activity, hustle, and strenuousness. As for the strenuous life shortening an educated man's period of life and depriving him of many of its pleasures, the president says, to quote one of his forcible epigrams, "Very few men ever died from overwork." Worry and cocktails have killed a good many, but not work.

The accumulation of great fortunes, as a result of the strenuous life, is next touched upon by the president. He believes that every man is entitled to as much money as he can earn. If he earns it honestly and uprightly, the general public should not condemn him for accumulating it, no matter how vast it is. He says it is the pirates of high finance that the public should string up to the yard arm, but not the honest merchantman. It is the spirit of fair play that is crying out against the present condition. American fortunes are accumulated in two ways—by earning them honestly, or by taking them from someone else. A thief is always a despicable person, no matter whether he

steals your watch or whether he steals a railroad. Dr. Luther has no fear in the vast accumulation of wealth; although in certain cases it is deplorable, he can see no practical way of preventing it. If it is an evil, it will doubtless right itself in time. Wealth will limit itself or rather the individual who controls it will be limited by it—legislation can never do it. Dr. Luther cannot countenance the existence of the leisure class in America.

Comparing the college man of to-day and the college man of twenty-five years ago he believes that the former is mentally superior to the other and that he is better equipped for his life's work. Physically, the President believes, that the college man to-day is not as strong as he was twenty-five years ago, although there are exceptions. He says mental superiority is due to the broadening of the courses and the training for some line of usefulness in which he is best suited. He believes it to be the duty of college authorities to steer the students' talents in the way they should go.

In these days a college education is no longer considered merely as an accomplishment or training for professional life. Nearly every man graduating from college has planned out his campaign for future endeavor. Doctor Luther further believes that the businessman's prejudice against a college education is fast dying away, principally because he is a college man himself and realizes that an educated man is more competent than one who is not.

In regard to the present system of education going too high without sufficient rudimentary education, Doctor Luther gave a very interesting test, proving that the boys and girls of to-day can spell better than could their grandfathers. He said that in Springfield the educational authorities discovered some old examination papers in spelling and arithmetic with their answers, dating sixty years ago. These same questions were submitted to the boys and girls of to-day and then the answers were compared. The result was astounding—the improvement was found to be nearly twenty-five per cent. This all tends to show that the educational foundation of to-day is better than it ever was.

This question seemed to suggest to the reporter the recent agitation toward spelling reform. The president believes it takes too long to learn to spell the new way and begin all over again. We are used to the old way and in the doctor's own words, "It would be like saying good-by forever to very warm and dear old friends to abandon them." The president, though, does heartily endorse the adoption of the metric system in this country. He believes it will not be long before its adoption because it is so practical.

As for athletics, the president thoroughly approves of them with the element of brutality eliminated, taking a prominent part himself while attending college. He says, "I believe in exercise, I believe in hustle, I believe in endeavor, I believe in locomotives and not parlor cars." In answer to the query "Are there many

parlor cars among the college graduates of to-day?" Dr. Luther says, "No. I am an enthusiastic admirer of the young American. I stand for him everytime and I believe that the great majority of college graduates are men who 'get there,' that they are locomotives. The wonderful development and the progress of this country proves that in itself. I would like to see the whole railroad system of progress made up of locomotives and leave the deadweights, the parlor cars, the men to be pulled, far behind. It was only with this idea that I made the simile, 'Education costs too much of both time and money not to be made use of after the man leaves college.'"

MUSICAL CLUBS.

It was hoped that a complete account of the Easter trip of the musical clubs could have been published in this issue, but as yet the negotiations are still being carried on in regard to a concert in Philadelphia. The arrangement of this concert will make possible a trip to Pottsville, Pa., where a concert will be given under the auspices of the High School Athletic Association. The entire trip would then consist of two concerts in Brooklyn, April 17th and 18th, one in Philadelphia, April 19th, and one in Pottsville, April 20th. The exact date of the joint concert with Wesleyan has not as yet been settled. The manager expects to see the Wesleyan manager within a few days and make the necessary arrangements. This concert will be given in Foot Guard Hall and will be followed by dancing. A trip is being arranged for the week of May 21st to include Northampton, Pittsfield, and Albany. A concert is contemplated in New London and also Norfolk, but as yet nothing definite has been arranged. The season will be concluded by a large alumni concert during commencement week.

Manager Rehr wishes to announce that a deposit of \$5.00 will be required from each man before going on the Easter trip, in order to assure attendance and promptness at concerts.

TRINITY MEN FOR HONEST ELECTION.

A movement has been started in Hartford city for an honest election and has met with support in all directions. At a citizens' meeting held in the Common Council chamber recently, a committee of twenty-four was appointed to further the project. Trinity men are much in evidence in this work. Professor John J. McCook has been elected as chairman and Attorney Walter S. Schutz as secretary of the committee. President Luther is also a member, representing the eighth ward.

Every means is being taken to prevent any corrupt practices in to-day's election.

Yesterday's "Courant" contains an address to the people of Hartford by Professor McCook, Captain Chas. W. Burpee, and Walter S. Schutz, representing the committee, appealing for a clean election.

THE SOPHOMORE SMOKER.

Favorable Comment by the Press.

Norris G. Osborne says in his weekly article on Connecticut, in "New York Herald":

The most interesting news that has come from Trinity during the week has been that which has to do with the gathering of the faculty and well known alumni as the guests of the sophomore class at a smoker. The event was exactly what its name implies. It was informal in its character and was successfully designed to bring about a larger measure of social intimacy between those three divisions of the college world. The president of the college was there with other representatives of the teaching force, as were also graduates who are still active in the undergraduate life as athletic advisers. The exchange of ideas was free and informal, with the result that all returned to their work better prepared than ever to uphold the honor of Trinity. This, it may be said, represents one of the advantages the small institution of learning has over the big one. Such a gathering would be impossible at Yale, for example, which has been forced to make a careful study of the tutorial system in use in the German universities as a means of bringing students into more intimate social contact. It is the successful achievement of this purpose that one college forges ahead faster than another.

DEATH OF FORMER TRINITY TRUSTEE.

Dr. G. H. Clark, D.D., former rector of Christ Church in this city, died on Saturday last, at the age of 87 years. He retired from the active ministry about twenty-five years ago, and for many years has been in broken health. He was born in Newburyport, Mass., in 1819, was graduated from Yale in 1845, and entered the ministry three years later. His first work was in Worcester, Mass. The failing health of his wife compelled him to move to the South, where he had charge of parishes in Darien, Ga., and later in Savannah. The Civil War put an end to his ministerial activities in the South, and he came North, soon sailing for England. In 1865 he returned to America and came to Hartford, where he became rector of Christ Church, and a trustee of Trinity College. He was an earnest friend of the college, and long retained his interest in its affairs.

TRACK.

Track practice as usual during the week. By Wednesday a schedule will be posted of the daily work to be carried on by each man in his several events. This will be posted on the "Gym" bulletin. If the men will work with each other, sprinters with sprinters, distance men with distance men, etc., the practice will be more beneficial and pleasant. After Easter we shall have a coach.

The Trinity Tripod

Published Tuesdays and Fridays
in each week of the college year by
students of Trinity College.

The columns of THE TRIPOD are at all times open to Alumni, Undergraduates and others for the free discussion of matters of interest to Trinity men. To aid in this purpose THE TRIPOD mail box has been placed in the section entrance of Middle Jarvis.

All communications, or material of any sort for Tuesday's issue must be in the Tripod box before 10 p.m. on Sunday; for Friday's issue before 10 a.m. on Thursday.

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TO ALUMNI.

THE TRIPOD is published for the Alumni even more than for the Undergraduates. With this in mind we are striving to produce a paper which shall be interesting and necessary to Graduates, and also to reach as large a number as possible. We are very largely dependent on the Alumni both for our moral and financial support. If you are not already a subscriber will you kindly give this matter your attention?

"NOW THEN—TRINITY!"

EDITORIAL.

The appeal for a clean election addressed to Hartford people by Prof. McCook, Captain Burpee, and Walter Schutz, for the committee, is an earnest, broad appeal, expressed in English that can be understood by any man. Students will profit by reading the whole of it as it appeared in yesterday's papers.

President Luther's striking epigram "Be a locomotive, not a parlor car" brings to our mind a thought which we once gleaned from a book addressed to young men about to enter college. It was expressed somewhat on this fashion: "You will find after a few months that the members of your class will divide themselves into two categories, those who lead and those who follow." We can all bear witness to the truth of this statement. It goes to show that the locomotive and the parlor car types are to be found in the undergraduate world as well as in the wider fields of life.

Now, another thought. Dr. Luther at the recent Sophomore smoker voiced a sentiment which many of us felt to be true ever since coming to Trinity. We refer to the statement that there are perhaps too many undergraduate activities in our small college to warrant eminent success in any particular line. There is a great deal of truth in this and we might suggest one or two organizations which could be dispensed with to the advantage of other lines of activity.

We believe, however, that the fault lies in another quarter. In short, there are too many parlor cars and not enough locomotives. There are too many capable men who are content to sit by and let the others pull. They say they have no desire to "get there." To us it seems that a man has no right to say "I do not care to be a locomotive, I will choose the parlor car life while I am in college." It is not a question of choice, but of duty. Our duty to our college demands that we make use of our capabilities. (Our duty to ourselves demands it even more—but we are not discussing that here.) There is not a man in college but possesses ability of some sort,—in scholastic lines, in athletics, in music, in literary work,—some one thing, if not more he is able to do well. There are too many men in college who fail to cultivate their abilities for the sake of the common good. It does not indicate modesty; it indicates either selfishness—devoting our energies to amusing or dissipating ourselves, or sheer laziness—devoting our energies to doing absolutely nothing.

Stop and think, fellow Trinity man, are you content to be a parlor car and watch the other man perspire in the effort to win glory which will partly reflect upon you, or are you making some use of that talent which you possess, becoming an active man, a leader, in short a locomotive?

When the engines of the Ark were shut down and Noah was sitting out on the after deck in the evening at the conclusion of a hard day's work enjoying a pipe and the society of Mrs. Noah, he must have often thought what a hardship it was to carry all those animals and probably would have liked to throw the obnoxious ones overboard. But he couldn't.

It was suggested at the Sophomore smoker that perhaps the undergraduates of the college were carrying along too many lines of endeavor and that it might be well to throw one or two institutions overboard. One of the speakers mentioned in particular an institution that this year had been unsuccessful and it is this institution, the basketball team, that we think might be dispensed with as a college activity.

The basket ball team, though it had, as the economists would say, an era of prosperity during the season of 1905, has not evidenced even fair ability during the other three years in the experience of the senior class. The team of the season of 1904 did not win a single game. There have been a few loyal enthusiasts who have kept the game alive, but we venture to say that a very large majority of the undergraduates take no interest in the 'varsity team whatever.

Basket ball is a comparatively new sport and has not stood the test. It was invented at the Springfield training school for an indoor game, was taken eagerly up by the Y. M. C. A., and then by the colleges. But it is not a college game as is shown by its abandonment in several New England institutions, after faithful attempts to establish it as a winter sport.

A Y. M. C. A. has practically no other game, since their work is done in the gymnasium, but a college has many, and basket ball since it was added last, is the least important and should be the first to go.

The game itself is actually harmful to the basket ball men, because in a small college they go into other sports as well. Aside from keeping them

trained down all winter, it stiffens their muscles and affords only impure and dusty air, for them to breathe when they are working their hardest. Thus the other teams would benefit by its abolishment.

Now that the basket ball team is under the auspices of the Athletic Association it costs one hundred and ninety (190) dollars over the receipts to keep up to the schedule. This seems like a large sum for a five-man team that plays but eight or ten games and at any rate it is something that the Athletic Association cannot afford.

So that, with the evidence of lack of enthusiasm, not only here, but in other New England colleges, lack of good teams, the jeopardizing of the chances of the other teams, and the lack of money, basket ball should be abolished. This the undergraduates can do and they should.

NOTICE.

The first of a course of three lectures by Prof. Charles Harrington, secretary of the Massachusetts State Board of Health and professor in the Harvard Medical School, will be given in Alumni Hall this evening at eight o'clock.

The subject is, "The Movement for Pure Food." Dr. Harrington is a recognized authority upon hygienic matters. He lectures here by reason of his interest in our proposed course in Sanitary Science and Engineering.

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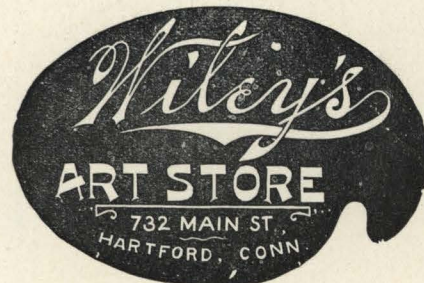
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ALUMNI DEPARTMENT.

'73—The Rev. Clarence E. Woodman, Ph.D., of the Paulist Order, has published a perpetual ecclesiastical calendar based on mathematical calculations.

'97—The Rev. H. B. Palsifer is special preacher in Milwaukee Cathedral for the month of April.

'04—Theodore North Denslow, who has just returned from Paramaribo, Central America, is a visitor at the college.

JOSEPH W. SHANNON '87.

Wins Case of Employee Against Baldwin Locomotive Works.

The following appeared in "The New York Mercantile and Financial Times" of March 17:

One of the most important civil cases tried in the Philadelphia courts during recent years was that of William Jones against the Baldwin Locomotive Works to recover damages for the loss of one of his eyes while operating a tool known as a flatter, on January 20, 1904. A splinter from the flatter entered his right eye and destroyed its sight. The case was bitterly contested from beginning to end, a mass of evidence being presented on both sides, but at its conclusion the jury brought in a verdict for \$5,500 in favor of Jones. On all sides are heard expressions of admiration at the brilliant manner in which the interests of the plaintiff were presented to court and jury by Attorney Joseph W. Shannon, and the large verdict obtained is generally regarded in the light of a signal personal triumph for this able and talented advocate.

Mr. Shannon, who has his offices at 1476 South Penn Square, has been engaged in active legal practice for the past sixteen years. He was born in Bloomsburg, Columbia County, Pa., but has resided in Philadelphia since 1889. He graduated from Trinity College, Hartford, Conn., in 1887, and then studied law for two years in the offices of William Hamersley, Judge of the Supreme Court. This excellent instruction was supplemented by a further course of study for a year at the law department of the University of Pennsylvania, and it was upon leaving this institution that he was admitted to the Philadelphia Bar and began active professional practice.


Mr. Shannon is a member of the Art Club, the Orpheus Club, the Melody Club and other organizations, especially those of a musical character, and he enjoys a wide and extended acquaintance in the various walks of public and private life. He is held in high esteem by members of the bench and bar, while his social attributes of character have won for him a friendship as wide as his practice secured by energy and legal ability.

PRESIDENT WILSON ENTERTAINED.

Professors Martin and Urban were among those who participated in a luncheon at the Hartford Club in honor of President Woodrow Wilson of Princeton, during his recent visit in Hartford, as one of the speakers of the Student Conference. Professor Martin was one of the speakers and discussed, with others, the advisability and feasibility of forming the Connecticut Valley Princeton Alumni Association.

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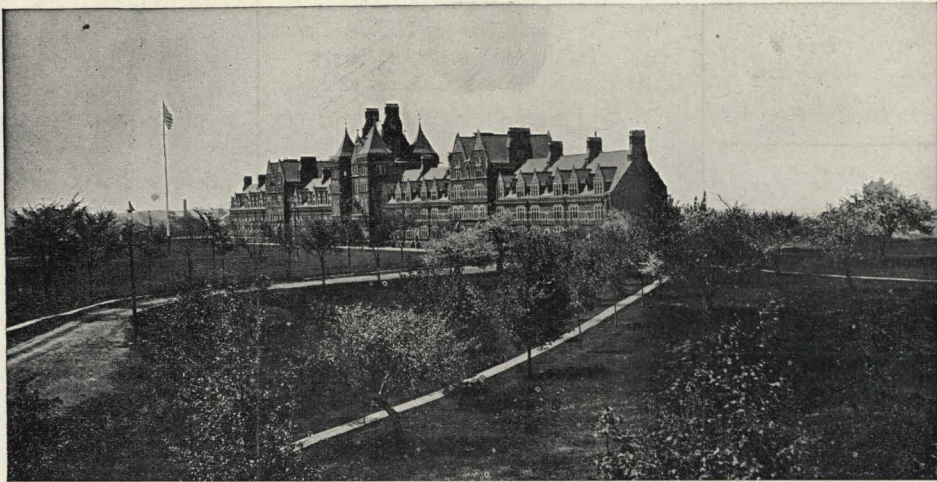
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