

THE KEY REPORTER

THE PHI BETA KAPPA NEWS MAGAZINE

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WINTER • 1947-8

College Presidents Organize to Aid Negro Students

The College Scholarship Fund for Negro Students, with offices at 360 West 122nd Street, New York, has recently been organized by seven college presidents who felt that the great need for Negro leadership and inter-racial harmony demanded an organized effort to encourage and enable Negro students to attend college. One hundred and sixty-five leading college presidents now serve on the fund's Advisory Board. Harry J. Carman, dean, Columbia College, Columbia University, is chairman of the Board of Trustees.

In addition to raising money for scholarships, the fund advises Negro high school students of the existing scholarship and employment opportunities at each of the country's 968 non-segregated colleges. The fund's staff has also compiled a file of over ten thousand scholarships offered by business corporations and philanthropic organizations and individuals, for use in advising Negro high school students throughout the country of available financial assistance. Through general publicity and correspondence with high school principals and students, the fund is also acquainting Negro students with those colleges which have in the past received few or no applications from Negro students, although they are anxious to have Negroes represented in their student bodies.

Placement Division

Recognizing the widespread prejudice against employing Negroes in responsible positions, the fund maintains a placement division to help Negro college graduates find employment in which they may put their education to use. The fund's placement bureau is able to furnish prospective employers with information about the scholastic and extracurricular activities of Negro college graduates seeking employment, and will arrange for interviews with qualified applicants in any part of the country.

The fund encourages members of

Committee to Report on University of Texas; Klein Asks President for Confidence Vote

Senate Will Convene

The Phi Beta Kappa Senate will hold its annual meeting at the Princeton Inn, Princeton, New Jersey, on December 5-6.

Prior to the convening of the Senate, the Committee on Qualifications will meet under the chairmanship of William T. Hastings, professor of English at Brown University. Professor Hastings was appointed chairman of the committee upon the resignation of Theodore H. Jack, president of Randolph-Macon Woman's College, who remains a member of the committee. Others serving include Philip G. Davidson, dean of the Senior College and Graduate School, Vanderbilt University; Frederick Hard, president, Scripps College; John E. Pomfret, president, the College of William and Mary; Raymond Walters, president, the University of Cincinnati, and Carl F. Wittke, dean, College of Arts and Sciences, Oberlin College.

The Senate will elect a member to fill the unexpired term of Arthur T. Vanderbilt, who has been a senator since 1942 and who has presented his resignation because of reasons of his health. Mr. Vanderbilt has also resigned from the Board of Directors of the Phi Beta Kappa Associates, of which he was a founder and its first president.

Phi Beta Kappa desiring to help the College Scholarship Fund for Negro Students achieve its objectives to make contributions to its scholarship fund, to notify it of unusually well-qualified Negro students, and to suggest to it the names of businessmen and corporations which might be interested in employing Negro college graduates.

When the Phi Beta Kappa Senate meets in Princeton, New Jersey, December 5-6, the first annual report, ordered by the Phi Beta Kappa Council at its 1946 meeting, by the Committee on Qualifications will be presented on the University of Texas.

The Council adopted the following resolutions at its last meeting:

- (1) That the Committee on Qualifications keep in close touch with the situation, securing at least annually for three years from the Alpha of Texas and from other sources, information as to educational conditions;
- (2) That if at any time within the triennium serious deterioration be found, the Senate may suspend until the next meeting of the Council the privilege of the chapter to elect members. Such action shall be effective until the next meeting of the Council, unless previously revoked by the Senate, either at a regular meeting or at one called especially for the consideration of such action. Such action shall require approval by two-thirds of the senators present, provided such two-thirds shall constitute a majority of the total membership of the Senate;
- (3) That the Senate report again on this matter at the next Council meeting.

Painter Challenged

Meanwhile, T. S. Painter, president of the University of Texas, has been challenged to take a secret vote of confidence among the faculty for himself and Dudley K. Woodward, chairman of the Board of Regents. As THE KEY REPORTER goes to press, no information is available as to President Painter's response to the challenge, which was issued in an open letter by D. B. Klein, who resigned his position as head of the Department of Psychology at the University of Texas last summer.

Dr. Klein's challenge was precipitated, he indicated, by the dismissal of J. Frank Dobie from the University of Texas faculty, which became official with the acceptance by the Board of Regents at its October 25-26 meeting of section 14 of the docket which read, "Delete the name of Mr. J. Frank Dobie as professor of English . . . since he refused to resume his duties, as required

(continued on page 6)

Universal Training: An Unnecessary Evil

By Harold Taylor

If military conscription is necessary for the national security of the United States, we should have it, as we had it during the war. If military conscription is not necessary, we should not have it, since it is bound to have damaging effects on the life of the country. Until now, no writer, educator, military leader, or politician has made a convincing argument to prove that without military conscription our national security is in danger.

Until this necessity of conscription for national security has been shown, many of us will remain unconvinced by requests from the military for conscripted manpower, and will remain strongly opposed to any but voluntary methods of recruiting boys for the army and navy.

Necessities for National Security

The need of the army, navy, air, and marine corps during the last war was for boys who were healthy, strong, emotionally stable, intelligent, educable, and devoted to civic ideals. These were the qualities which we tried to discover in our high school and college students when the military services came to us to recruit their manpower. The fact that we had this kind of boy in great numbers was the basic reason we were able to win the war. For the high quality of our young manhood made possible the scientific and technical superiority of our weapons, and the physical and mental superiority of our officers and men.

On the other hand, the qualities of our military leaders which were crucial in the war were boldness of planning, initiative, and executive good sense in using all our industrial, scientific, and human resources to the full.

These personal qualities represent the genuine strength of American life. They are the qualities necessary for our national security, whether we are at war or at peace. They are qualities which are not enhanced by six months of military training, but are created slowly and carefully in the homes, schools, and colleges of the country.

It is therefore a fair question to ask what positive effects of military significance are achieved by the proposed training. I think a careful answer would reveal that little more than the classification, registration, and identification of those boys most suitable for the various jobs of war would result from the enterprise. Improvement of national health, fitness, discipline, and social adjustment are all matters which can be

achieved in ways other than the military, with less waste of time, money, and human values. Even the military registration can be handled by schools and colleges if a total inventory of American youth is needed for military purposes.

It is certainly legitimate to argue that the psychological effect upon other nations of the existence of a powerful and large American army would be great, and that the recognition by Russia of the strength of our forces would be immediate. We cannot be very clear as to whether Russia's reaction would be one of caution about annoying us further, or one of suspicion about our offensive intentions. But in view of the fact that we already possess the greatest force of destruction in the world today, both for atomic and bacterial warfare, the greatest air force, the greatest navy, and the greatest production plant, we can hardly expect to increase the fear which other nations hold for our strength by the addition of some very young and slightly trained infantrymen.

From what one can gather from talking with Europeans, the effect of military conscription in America would be for Europe to assume that America has now decided to abandon faith in international security, prepare for an offensive, defensive, or delimiting war, and solve her problems by military rather than political, economic, or moral means.

We need worry to an equal extent about the psychological effect of military conscription upon ourselves. What those effects would be, one cannot foresee exactly, but there is considerable danger, in this increase of military manpower, to the development of full-bodied democratic values in our youth and in the life of the country, danger of increased smugness and pride in our military strength, and most of all, greater danger of our turning towards an acceptance of war as the only solution to our problems with Russia.

I believe these dangers to our society are real, and I do not believe that it has yet been demonstrated that the results to be achieved by taking the risk of conscripting youth will justify our taking it.

American and Russian Aims

Those who try to think honestly and morally about the future of our relations with Russia are faced with the complicated question of Russia's aims and the conflict with our own. Amongst other things, we have to decide whether Russia is arming, or intends to arm for an offensive war and world domination. That is a question upon which the best students of world affairs and those most familiar with Russian history, economics, and politics, disagree, and which can only be answered by continuous and careful scientific research by those most closely in touch with relevant facts. Our military intelligence forces know what these facts are. They involve the preparation or the existence of a large force of strategic bombers, long-range submarines, large battleships, and the weapons of long distance. Those of us without the resources of a military intelligence staff can make only guesses and express judgments, but until now the people have had no evidence other than the maintenance of a regular Russian army, that Russia is making offensive military preparations. Until evidence of actual Russian preparation for offensive war comes, our faith can and must rest with the efforts toward international cooperation of our leaders in the United Nations, and with the possibilities of our own positive action to unite the world in democratic ideals. Until then, the question of military conscription must be answered by reference to its effects upon the life of American boys.

When HAROLD TAYLOR was inaugurated in 1945 at Sarah Lawrence College, at the age of 30, he was one of the youngest men ever to become president of an American college. With Josephus Daniels, Robert M. Hutchins, Robert Gordis, Dorothy Maynor, Philip Morrison, and others, he was an author of *An Analysis of the Report of the President's Advisory Commission on Universal Training*, recently published as an expression of disagreement with the commission's recommendations.

THE KEY REPORTER

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Book Committee

Religious, Racial Issues Rise in Prominence in Current Educational Scene of Nation

Over the United States there is increasing evidence of the rising prominence of religious and racial issues in the educational world. THE KEY REPORTER "spot reports" some of the events mirrored in the national press:

Now before the United States Supreme Court is the case of Paul Connell, a Pennsylvania parent who is trying to compel a local school board to use public funds to finance transportation of his daughter to a non-public school. Mr. Connell, whose daughter attends St. Patrick's Parochial School in Kennett Square, Pennsylvania, says that the township school board provides free bus service for pupils attending public schools, but refuses to transport his daughter to the parochial school. The school board contends that use of public funds to transport his daughter would violate the Pennsylvania constitutional provision that "no money raised for support of the public schools shall be used for support for any sectarian school." Pennsylvania's Supreme Court upheld the school board.

The U. S. Supreme Court, in a New Jersey case, ruled that a state may permit expenditure of public funds to finance transportation of children to non-public schools.

A group of 60 Protestant leaders, headed by G. Bromley Oxnam, bishop of the New York area of the Methodist Church, plans to organize nationally "to insure the separation of church and state." In announcing plans for a St. Louis meeting to consider a constitution, J. M. Dawson, secretary, formulated the group's aim as an attempt to resist "efforts to get public money for sectarian purposes such as free textbooks for parochial schools."

The Catholic Parent Association, formed recently in St. Louis to oppose admission of Negro pupils to white Catholic parochial schools, has disbanded. The group took this action when Archbishop Joseph E. Ritter threatened excommunication of those planning court action to uphold segregation. The Catholic Parents Association, numbering 500 people, was formed after Archbishop Ritter ruled that Negroes should be admitted to the white schools of his diocese because of overcrowded conditions at an all-Negro Catholic high school.

Anti-Semitism, characterized by Bruce Bliven in a recent issue of *The New Republic* as "a powerful force in the United States today and one which is daily growing more serious," is on the rise in professional and graduate schools, according to two recent surveys. B'nai B'rith reports that the percentage of Jewish students in graduate and professional schools dropped from 14.2 in 1935 to 10.6 in 1946, and in dental schools from 28.2 to 18.9. Reporting on discrimination against Jewish and Italian students, the Commission on Law and Social Action of the American Jewish Congress says, "Findings of an enrollment study of the five approved medical schools in New York City show that both the number and proportion of [Jewish] students have been systematically reduced at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons, Cornell Medical College, Long Island College of Medicine, and the New York Medical College. Covering a 24-year span for the classes of 1921 to 1944 inclusive, the survey showed that only New York University College of Medicine had not reduced its percentage of Jewish students admitted. Combined totals for the five medical colleges in New York revealed that, of 2,439 students admitted from 1921 to 1925, 1,094 or 44.9 per cent were Jewish. By the period 1941-44, when 2,809 students were admitted, the figures had dropped steadily to 24.2 per cent Jewish."

In Gary, Indiana, in September white students again went on strike against attending school with Negro students. The school board, which last year announced that segregation would be abolished in grammar schools then and later in all schools, threatened legal action against the 800 strikers' parents under Indiana's new anti-hate law and against the students under truancy laws. When one arrest was made and subpoenas issued to other parents, students began to return and attendance was normal within two weeks. Discussing the causes of the strike, in a recent issue of *The Nation*, Paul L. Klein says, "It is interesting to note that at no time was there any violence against colored pupils; this reinforces the conviction of most observers that fear of property devaluation, not of classroom association, motivated the strikers and their parents."

Historian, Senator Die



OSCAR M. VOORHEES MARY E. WOOLLEY

Oscar M. Voorhees and Mary E. Woolley, both long active in the affairs of Phi Beta Kappa, have died since the publication of the last issue of THE KEY REPORTER.

Dr. Voorhees, who died on August 29, was elected secretary and senator of the United Chapters of Phi Beta Kappa in 1901. When he retired from the secretaryship in 1931, he was chosen Phi Beta Kappa historian, and in this capacity wrote *The History of Phi Beta Kappa*, issued by Crown Publishers in 1946. His long service spanned the formative years of the United Chapters, and he edited the first Phi Beta Kappa publication, *The Phi Beta Kappa Key*.

Miss Woolley, who died on September 5, was one of the two women first chosen to serve on the Phi Beta Kappa Senate. Named to that post in 1907, she was elected a senator for life in 1937. Miss Woolley, president of Mount Holyoke College for 37 years, was instrumental in the granting of a charter of Phi Beta Kappa to that institution in 1905. Widely active in religious and world peace movements in addition to her educational services, she was named by a nation-wide poll in 1932 as "one of the 12 greatest American women."

Directors Elect Christian

Henry Asbury Christian, of Brookline, Massachusetts, Phi Beta Kappa Randolph-Macon College, was elected to membership in the Phi Beta Kappa Associates at the October 16 meeting of the Board of Directors.

The House of Delegates of the American Medical Association designated Dr. Christian this year as the recipient of the AMA's Distinguished Service Medal for scientific advancement in the field of medicine. A former president of Peter Bent Brigham Hospital, Dr. Christian is professor emeritus of medicine at Harvard University.

Texas and Human Faith

THE RING AND THE CROSS. By Robert Rylee. New York: Alfred A. Knopf. \$3.

Reviewed by JOHN W. BOWYER

In Robert Rylee's novel the ring and the cross are the symbols for the "two age-old opposing rivers of human faith." The ring, once the possession of Louis XVI and the symbol of the love of power, is the property of U. S. Senator Adam Denbow, who bestows it, along with his humble submission, on Wesley Clayton. The simple Lorraine cross of hand-carved ivory, the symbol of the "love of human life and respect for man's dignity," belongs to the McEacherns. On Vaiden McEachern's death, it goes to a man named Michaeloff, who is the only one left to wear it.

The Ring and the Cross is set in Texas in the mushrooming city of Congreave (perhaps Houston) during World War II. The shipyard, into which, with a little forcing, Mr. Rylee works his main characters, comes alive under the novelist's hand. The story contains a superabundance of plot and incident, which is compressed into a week and is told against the backdrop of a gathering Gulf hurricane. With deceptive classical thrift, an industrial economy has been transposed upon an agricultural society. The reader is fascinated even when his feelings are untouched by the scenes of riot, murder, love, and fear, but he finds no dramatics and no tears.

A few years ago, Southwesterners talked much about regionalism in literature. Now that Texas books, harshly realistic, like Hart Stillwell's *Uncovered Wagon*, Claud Garner's *Wetback*, and *The Ring and the Cross*, are flowing from the presses, there is less need to talk about an abstraction. But, in the best sense, *The Ring and the Cross* is a regional novel. It is true that the professors — "notoriously inquisitive people," Mr. Rylee says — will try to penetrate the disguises of the characters and to identify incidents. Certainly the incident of the people's forum, involving two instructors from the University of Congreave, seems familiar — as does the reference to the subsequent interference by "those subversive and radical groups, the American Association of University Professors and the Phi Beta Kappa Society."

Yet the meaning of the novel is universal. Mr. Rylee has created a fable rather than written a journalistic feature. Since Texas has not had much time for industrial landscaping, the setting at no time interferes with his study of characters — Denbow, the opportunist, Wesley Clayton, the Fascist, Vaiden McEachern, the apostle of "the love of life, the way of truth and justice, the need of tolerance and mercy," and Michaeloff, the radical, humanized only by his association with Vaiden.

Mr. Rylee's women are as extraordinary and as bloodless as the women of a Western movie. His men quote Plato and Shakespeare like nineteenth-century scholars. And Vaiden McEachern gets on my nerves. For example, he borrows a pretty speech from one girl to make to another. But, more than that, I conceive of the democratic faith as a fighting faith, and Vaiden lets me down. Has democracy gone soft, or can democracy exist only in an agricultural society, so that inevitably with industrialization the Claytons and the Michaeloffs are left to contest for the spoils? That, apparently, is what Mr. Rylee wants the reader to think about.

The Whys of Antebellum Chaos

ORDEAL OF THE UNION. By Allan Nevins. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. 2 Vols., \$10 per set.

Reviewed by REINHARD H. LUTHIN

The dozen years preceding the Civil War, 1848-1860 — among the most crucial in the Republic's annals — have been treated by hosts of historians, who endeavored to explain the causes of this greatest of American tragedies. Lyon G. Tyler's anti-Yankee interpretation of abolitionist agitation against the South, Hermann Von Holst's anti-southern tale of a slaveholder plot to rule or destroy the Union, Charles A. and Mary R. Beard's economic determinist theory of an "irrespressible conflict" between an industrial-commercial—"free" farming North and a slave-plantation South, George Fort Milton's pro-Stephen A. Douglas "wicked politico" viewpoint, Avery Craven's emphasis on the anti-slavery impulse and emotionalism — none of these by itself explains the chaos that preceded the war of 1861-1865, according to Allan Nevins in his two-volume *Ordeal of the Union*. Rather, he gives a synthesis of those multitudinous and varied interpretations and tellingly demonstrates how complex was the

series of events that made the American states resort to arms against each other. His account by inference demonstrates that causation in history cannot be oversimplified.

Professor Nevins' first volume covers the period from the Mexicans' surrender in 1847 to the period of "armed truce" in 1851; included is a highly exhaustive account of the mid-century sectional crisis and the debates which rocked congressional halls as the Union hung in the balance. The second volume opens with the backstage maneuvering of the king-makers in the preliminaries of the presidential contest of 1852 and ends with the election of James Buchanan as chief executive in 1856.

Professor Nevins, however, presents not merely a political panorama; that was the salient weakness of James Ford Rhodes' multi-volume *History of the United States from the Compromise of 1850*. *Ordeal of the Union* tells also the literary, social, and economic story of the years following the Mexican War. In addition to the politicians, we learn about the poets, the poverty-stricken, and the plutocrats; besides the fierce fights in Congress, we are familiarized with the controversy over transcendentalism, the crusade to reform society, and the struggle to exploit the natural resources. Not only does Professor Nevins fully treat the statesmanlike achievements of Henry Clay, but he likewise presents accounts of the literary contribution of Ralph Waldo Emerson, the humanitarian work of Dorothea L. Dix, and the acquisitive fortune-building of such lords of the loom as the Lawrences of Massachusetts.

Ordeal of the Union is truly a major historical work. It will find an enviable place among the most significant dozen works on the history of the United States that have come from the presses since the turn of the century. The amazingly prolific Professor Nevins promises to follow these two volumes with others of the same gigantic scope, carrying the story of America up to and through the Civil War, and then beyond. This is glad news to the professional historian and intelligent lay reader alike. The judges of Scribner's centennial prize-essay contest have made no mistake in selecting this monumental work by the premier American historian.

REINHARD H. LUTHIN, associate in history and biographer of American history at Columbia University, is author of *The First Lincoln Campaign*, and co-author of *Lincoln and the Patronage*. He is now preparing a biography of Abraham Lincoln.

JOHN W. BOWYER, a Life Member of the Phi Beta Kappa Associates, is professor of modern languages at Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas.

Recommended Reading

THE SCIENTISTS SPEAK. Edited by Warren Weaver. New York: Boni & Gaer. \$3.75.

A collection of the "science talks" broadcast weekly during the intermission of the New York Philharmonic Sunday afternoon concerts.

THE JAMES FAMILY. By F. O. Matthiessen. New York: Alfred A. Knopf. \$6.

A family biography, with selections from the writings of Henry James, Sr., William, Henry, and Alice.

POSTSCRIPT TO YESTERDAY. By Lloyd Morris. New York: Random House. \$5.

The changing world of America during the past 50 years.

WHERE I STAND. By Harold E. Stassen. Garden City: Doubleday. \$2.50.

One of the candidates for the 1948 Republican presidential nomination speaking for the record.

OUR CHILDREN ARE CHEATED. By Benjamin Fine. New York: Henry Holt. \$3.

What's wrong with American education, and what can be done about it — by the education editor of the *New York Times*.

THE PURITAN OLIGARCHY. By Thomas J. Wertenbaker. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. \$5.

Third in the series on *The Founding of American Civilization* — a study of the Massachusetts Bible State, its origin, development, and gradual decline.

END OF A BERLIN DIARY. By William A. Shirer. New York: Alfred A. Knopf. \$3.50.

The prelude to V-E day, the San Francisco conference, and once-secret data on the German strategy — the final volume in Shirer's diary series.

SUN, STAND THOU STILL. By Angus Armitage. New York: Henry Schuman. \$3.

A biography of Copernicus, giving concurrently a history of the development of astronomy.

PORTRAIT OF EDITH WHARTON. By Percy Lubbock. New York: Appleton-Century. \$3.

Personal recollections of the distinguished American novelist.

OUR EMERGENT CIVILIZATION. Edited by Ruth Anshen. New York: Harper. \$4.50.

Fifteen authorities attempt to outline the unified culture of the future.

Marjorie H. Nicolson Wins British Academy Award

Marjorie Hope Nicolson has been awarded the Rose Mary Crawshay Prize of the British Academy, in recognition of her book, *Newton Demands the Muse*.

The award of £100 is given "to a woman of any nationality who, in the judgment of the Council of the British Academy, has written or published within three years next preceding the date of the award, an historical, or critical work of sufficient value on any subject connected with English literature, preference being given to a work regarding one of the poets Byron, Shelley, and Keats." *Newton Demands the Muse*, published by the Princeton University Press, is a study of Newton's *Opticks* and the eighteenth-century poets. It is the second volume in Princeton's History of Ideas Series, which is being directed by the *Journal of the History of Ideas*.

Miss Nicolson, professor of English in the Graduate School of Columbia University, is a Phi Beta Kappa senator and served as president of the United Chapters from 1940-1946.

THE MIDDLE OF THE JOURNEY. By Lionel Trilling. New York: Viking. \$3.

The ideological crisis of modern times, portrayed by a mature American liberal — Trilling's first novel.

THE TIMES OF MELVILLE AND WHITMAN. By Van Wyck Brooks. New York: E. P. Dutton. \$5.

The fourth volume of the author's literary history of America, covering roughly the period from 1850 to 1890.

DAUMIER. By Jacques Lassaigue. New York: Crown. \$7.50.

Sixteen full-color plates and 128 half-tones, illustrating Daumier's story of the various aspects of the life of France's working people.

THE VICTORY. By Vincent McHugh. New York: Random House. \$3.50.

The lives and thoughts of Merchant Mariners on a voyage to a South Pacific island — a new novel by the author of *I Am Thinking of My Darling*.

Know of an Opening?

Rates for items in the "Know of an Opening?" column are ten cents per word for a single insertion, seven cents per word for two or more consecutive insertions. Replies should be addressed to Member No. —, care of THE KEY REPORTER. They will be forwarded promptly to the advertiser.

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Thomas Desmond Becomes President of Associates

Thomas C. Desmond, of Newburgh, New York, Phi Beta Kappa Harvard, will serve as president of the Phi Beta



THOMAS C. DESMOND

Kappa Associates for the 1947-1948 term. Elected to office by the Board of Directors at the annual dinner meeting of the Associates held on November 20, Mr. Desmond is president of T. C. Desmond & Company, engineers and contractors, and has been a member of the New York State Senate since 1930. A Founding Member of the Associates, he was elected to the Board of Directors in 1945 and vice-president in 1946.

Principal speaker at the annual dinner meeting was Robert I. Gannon, president of Fordham University. Guy E. Snavelly, retiring vice-president of the Associates, served as toastmaster for the gathering, which was held at the Cosmopolitan Club, New York. He substituted for Lincoln Cromwell, retiring president, who was recovering from an illness and unable to be present.

Announcement was made of the election by the Associates of the following directors to serve from 1947-1950: John C. Cooper, former vice-president of Pan-American Airways, now a member of the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, New Jersey; Lincoln Cromwell, member of the firm of William Iselin & Company, New York; Mrs. Charles E. Heming, president of the New York State League of Women Voters, New York; Charles McCamic, lawyer, member of the Supreme Court of the United States Bar, Wheeling, West Virginia, and Marion Lofton Smith, president, Millsaps College, Jackson, Mississippi. George E. Roosevelt, investment banker, member of the firm of Roosevelt & Son, New York, has been elected to fill the unexpired term of Arthur T. Vanderbilt.

Other officers designated by the directors to serve for the coming year are Frank Aydelotte, who is now retiring from the directorship of the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton; Edwin H. Burgess, vice-president and general counsel, Baltimore & Ohio Railroad

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by the revised rule on leaves of absence." Mr. Dobie, who began teaching at the university in 1914 and since 1933 had been a full professor, is a cultural historian of the southwest United States and a writer, his latest published work being *A Texan in England*.

On September 23 President Painter issued a statement concerning Mr. Dobie: "I am informed officially that Mr. J. Frank Dobie, professor of English, has refused to report for duty this current semester. By this action, his connection with the University of Texas has terminated as of September 15, 1947, and I am accordingly, notifying the auditor to drop his name from the payroll of this institution." Action was legalized, President Painter said, in accordance with the rule restricting leaves of absence adopted by the Board of Regents in 1946, which reads in part:

Because prolonged absences from the campus tend to impair the teaching efficiency of the department concerned, leaves of absence without pay for members of the teaching staff ordinarily shall not be extended beyond one academic year. Except in very unusual circumstances, such as military service or prolonged illness, a leave of absence for a member of the teaching staff will not be extended beyond two consecutive academic years. After a year or more of active duty following a leave of absence period, a member of the teaching staff will again be eligible for a leave of absence without pay for good cause shown.

On April 22, Mr. Dobie addressed the Budget Council of the Department of English requesting a leave of absence for the first semester of the 1947-48 academic year, saying, "One [reason] is that I want to work some for myself — writing. The one that seems to me valid in view of the rules on absences passed by the Board of Regents is that staying in Austin during the latter part of December and all through January simply devastates me, on account of hay fever."

Dobie's Leave Refused

Mr. Dobie's request was approved by the Budget Council of the Department of English and by the dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. President Painter then rejected the request, giving as his reasons:

First, Mr. Dobie is a senior professor in an important field of English and at the present time the department has large enrollments of upper division and graduate students who want and would profit by the training which Mr. Dobie can give so well. As long as Mr. Dobie is on leave, the position which he occupies must be held open or filled by a temporary appointee who cannot give the work nearly as effectively as Mr. Dobie. The best interests of the university require that a well established man give this work and it is unfair to the department and students alike for us to delay longer. Second, Mr. Dobie has been continuously on leave of absence from the university since September, 1943, a period of four calendar years. Third, Mr. Dobie's reasons for requesting a further extension of his four-year leave of absence did not, in my judgment, represent either military service or prolonged illness.

From 1943-44, Mr. Dobie was visiting professor of American history at Cambridge University. In England he also did work for the Office of War Information. In September, 1945, he returned to England with the Information and Education Division of the U. S. Army to teach at the GI university in Shrivenham and to lecture to troops in Germany and Austria. Leave was granted to him for 1946-47 for research and writing.

The October 18, 1946, issue of the *Texas Spectator* contained an article by Mr. Dobie in which he said:

The function of any university, however, is to train and exercise the intellect. Under a policy that restricts freedom of speech, the University of Texas cannot possibly make progress from the point of view of that "cultivated mind" which is "the guardian genius of Democracy." . . . The cold facts are that he [President Painter] was not picked as president of the University of Texas by a Board of Regents ignorant of their own minds and out in search of a Solomon to guide them. He was picked because he is compliant and would serve in the Laval capacity that he has been serving. . . . They can not only fire, they can starve out. The process of starving out is already in progress. Dr. Painter says that divergencies of opinion and participation in the controversy on the part of faculty members have not entered into his recommendations for salary advancement and promotion. I can name a very superior man who was recommended for promotion by his department, who has been forthright in his opposition to the administration, who has been more than loyal to the university, and whose promotion was refused by the administration. The starving out process is an old one. . . .

Klein's Resignation

Dr. Klein's resignation as head of the Department of Psychology has necessitated dropping all graduate courses in that department until a successor to him is chosen, according to a statement in the *Daily Texan* attributed to Hugh

(continued on page 7)

(continued from page 6)

Blodgett, present chairman of the department. Three other members of the Department of Psychology, Henry Wunderlich, Kenneth McCutchen, and Wilson Walthall, resigned this year.

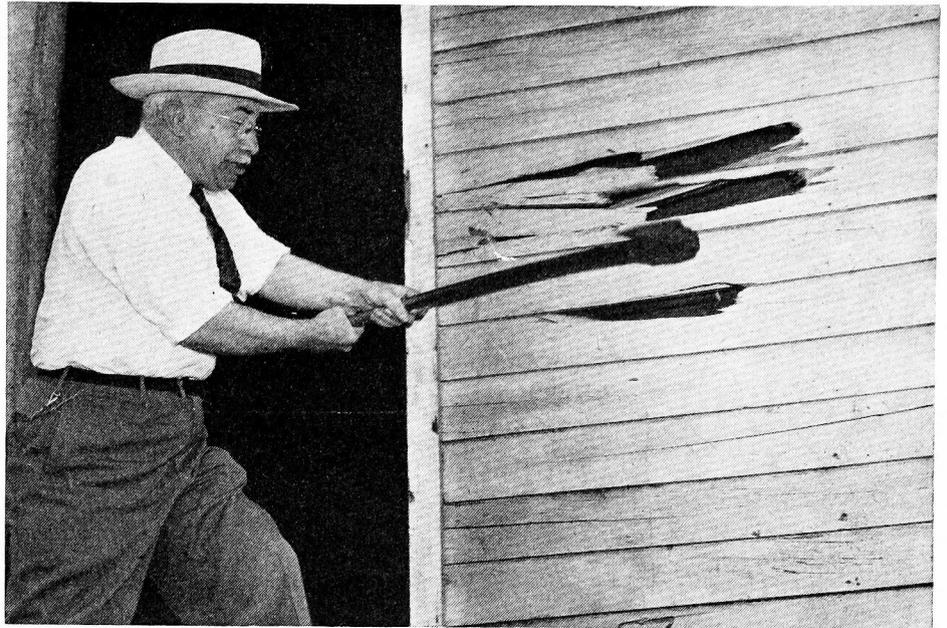
Dr. Klein's open letter was a reply to one President Painter sent to Dr. Klein last summer which precipitated his resignation. Dr. Painter indicated that the university would be sympathetic toward Dr. Klein's research projects if he would meet the challenge of "productive research." Dr. Klein said, "I refrained from replying to your letter at the time of its arrival because I was disinclined to engage in protracted and possibly futile controversy. In addition, I nursed the hope that conditions might improve this semester and wished to avoid interfering with such improvement by feeding the flames of controversy. I was more interested in the welfare of the institution I had grown to love than I was in trying to persuade you of the warped and dubious nature of your criticism of my services to that institution over a period of almost 25 years. However, in view of what I have just learned with respect to the treatment to which Professor Dobie was subjected, I feel that I can no longer keep silent. The improvement I had hoped for has not come to pass."

He gave evidence of what he termed a growing "contemptuous attitude" toward the university on the part of scholars in other parts of the country, accused President Painter of "arbitrary administrative interference" in passing judgment on the research work of several professors, and questioned the accuracy of President Painter's appraisal of "productive research" in view of his "relief" at the resignation of Hermann J. Muller from the staff of what was then President Painter's own department. (Dr. Muller, Phi Beta Kappa Columbia University, now professor of zoology at Indiana University, was awarded the Nobel Prize in 1946 in recognition of his studies on the influence of X-rays on genes and chromosomes.)

Concluded Dr. Klein:

At the conclusion of your letter to me you said something about my remaining at the university to "meet this challenge" to engage in "productive research." I think one good challenge deserves another. If you will agree to have the faculty vote by secret ballot on the question of its unqualified confidence in you and Mr. Woodward, I shall be delighted to return to Texas and accept your challenge provided a majority of the voting members of the faculty grant you the vote of confidence they refused to grant you at the time you shocked them by violating your original pledge. [Presi-

Calm, judicious, dignified . . .



The Emory Alumnus

. . . Goodrich C. White appears publicly for the first time — to the Phi Beta Kappa staff's knowledge — minus a coat. The president of Emory University is performing his duties as chief assistant to the tearer-down of buildings. Judging from the facial contortions, he's enjoying putting an end to Emory's old gymnasium and employing the same diligence he uses as a Phi Beta Kappa senator and member of its Executive Committee. Informed of THE KEY REPORTER's desire to reproduce the picture, Mrs. White said, "If you can stand it, I can." We can.

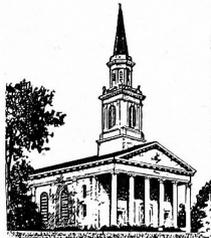
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dent Painter, when he accepted the acting presidency of the university upon the dismissal of Homer P. Rainey, indicated that he would not accept the permanent presidency.] No president can be a successful administrator unless his faculty believes in him. Before I give up a post where genuine tranquility prevails in order to accept your challenge, I shall require the assurance that the bulk of the administrative evils pointed out in this letter have been corrected. Are you willing to meet this challenge?

Dr. Klein, a Rorschach psychologist, was chosen as one of 25 professors for a fellowship by the Social Science Research Council in 1930 and sent to study in Europe. His latest published book is *Mental Hygiene*.

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