ANNUAL REPORT OF COLLEGE PRESIDENT

Record Shows Great Progress of Local Institution--Continued Progress Assured.

The President's report will be only the usual brief summary of the work of the year and a glance at the future.

One of the first matters to notice is the size of the year's senior class which numbers 31—the largest graduating group in the history of the College. Its quality, we feel, is on a par with its quantity. One year from this time we shall, in all probability, graduate fifty young men and young women.

We all miss Dean Jones from the platform. It is the first Commencement at Washington College he has missed in thirty-five years. His friends are glad to know that he and Washington are being honored today by his receiving from Franklin and Marshall College this morning the honorary degree of Doctor of Letters. We congratulate him most sincerely.

The year now coming to a close has been quietly eventful and, I think, highly successful. The moral tone of the institution has been good. A splendid spirit of cooperation between admistration and faculty on the one hand and these two and the student body on the other has existed.

As President, I want to express my profound appreciation to all those who have given notable assistance in making things go this year; to Mr. Willard, who has taken valuable time out of an ultra-busy life, to give us the solid, stimulating address we have listened to this morning; to Dean Jones for his loyal help and for his vigorous and resourceful handling of his adminisrative dutes; to the members of the Student Council and of the Blue Key Fraternity for their continuous and constructive support; to the members of the College Orchestra and Glee Club, and to their respective leaders, Dr. Livingood and Prof. Kilpatrick for their valued contribution to musical life at the College, particularly in their Sunday afternoon concerts; to the Y. M. C. A.—now less than a year old,—under the leadership of Dean Boland and Dr. Dole.

It is sometimes said cynically that college students want everything and give nothing. That statement has been definitely disproved this year, for our young men and women have given generously of time, energy, and money in order that Washington College may carry on more and more abundantly. Realizing that this institution is not a finished college but one which is growing ever more complete, and accepting as a glorious adventure the fight the institution is making for its rightful place of service, our students have gladly cooperated with college ideals to create larger educational opportunities for themselves and for others and to make college atmosphere more stimulating.

I believe that this cooperation and the application of their own resourcefulness to the solution of common campus problems has developed them and will prove one of the best parts of their education.

The list of my obligations to students is a long one. I shall mention a few of the outstanding advances which they have promoted this year.

They have carried debating to a new level of achievement. College dramatics directed by Prof. Makosky, under the aegis of the Washington Players, has staged with success considerably more difficult and subtle plays this year and a larger number of them then before. The Orchestra and the Glee Club have set substantial standards of musical performance at the College. All in all the year has been marked by an abundance of stimulating student activity.

The largest student contribution of the year is the thousand dollar gift toward new bleachers which are to cost around $3500. The Executive Committee of the Alumni Association has voted an additional thousand which will later be supplemented by other gifts from alumni and friends until the fund is completed. The girls at Reid Hall have donated a fine victrola and the junior girls a beautiful lamp to the College.

I can not fail to record my gratitude to Mrs. J. H. Dorsey of the State D. A. R. and to Old Kent Chapter for the gift of the baby elm, the grandson of the tree under which Washington 150 years ago took command of the Continental Army. We shall treasure it as another tangible bond uniting the College with George Washington. Thus our traditions gradually become more real, more objectivized.

The past twelve months have been a period of quiet but effective forwarding and perfecting of college organization. With the help of W. Coulbourn Brown, of Philadelphia, and E. A. Howard, of Wilmington, the President has been filling in several heretofore observe lines of history of Washington College. A cerification of the legal structure of the institution and better organization of Board operations in now under way which will be completed during the summer. Through the generosity of Marion de Kalb Smith, who has made an up-to-date record of the tangled lease situation of the College, we now have a complete, business like statement of holdings and lease accounts.

Another achievement of the year is the completion of the financial and managerial reorganization begun last year. Thanks to Business Manager Johns the College will come down to the end of its current fiscal year having lived within its income for the first time in many years.

A year ago I predicted that at this time I should be able to announce that Washington College was out of debt. I find myself in the happy situating today of being able to tell you that the $100,000 gift of the State last year enabled us to more than pay off oustanding indebtedness. Washington, therefore, enjoys today a clean slate.

Joys come usually intermingled with sorrow. The College during the year just coming to a close has suffered the loss of three competent and interesed officials. Col. Hodson, who had been on the Board of Visitors and Governors since about 1922, who had been a generous and intelligent friend of the institution, died suddenly of a heart attack on January 13, 1928. Senator Orlando Harrison, likewise a member of the Board and supporter of the College in legislative halls, was stricken March 25. Miss Anna R. Brown, matron at Reid Hall, who had served the College with unusual competence for several years, died April 5 in Baltimore. We miss all these friends sorely.

Two changes in staff should be announced at this time.

Professor Lawrence Ford, assistant professor in modern languages for the past two years at the College, has requested a leave of absence of a year to complete, at the University of Toronto, his work for the Doctorate. We shall miss him, but we congratulate him on his opportunity for advanced study.

To fill his place on the faculty we have been fortunate in securing Dr. Thomas H. Fowler, a graduate of Washington College in the class of 1897, a Doctor of Philosophy in German from the Johns Hopkins University. His experience includes secondary school teaching in North Carolina and college positions at Williams and at Wells. He has travelled and studied much abroad. Washington is glad to welcome this son of its own to its faculty.

Because of a doubling of registration in the Department of Education and because of the drive which the State Department is making to improve its high school teachers training facilities, Washington finds itself required to add for next year a full-time assistant in Education who shall have charge of supervising the work of college students who are practicing teachers carrying on their work at the Chestertown high school.

Accordingly, the resident has secured for this new position of assistant professor of Education, Miss Florence T. Snodgrass, an honor graduate of the University of New Brunswick, Canada, and a Master of Education from Harvard who has had two years of teaching experience in Michigan and a year in the school system of New York State. She is a young woman who will be a decided addition to the instructional staff of the college.

I can not close this report without referring to some of the urgent needs of the institution. Like preachers, college presidens are incorrigible and unabased beggars. The whole clan of us has rather disproved the old statement about a man's not being heard for his much speaking. We thoroughly believe he will be. Hence we talk.

Washington College needs at least two new pianos. To describe adequately the instruments we possess, I should have to go beyond the limits of speech prescribed for polite society. With the increasing interest in music, new pianos are imperaive in the very near future, and I see no place for them in our next year's budget.

We need, too, funds for books and for laboratory equipment, especially for the department of physics. Here is an opportunity for any generous friends of the College to make a vital contribution to our permanent equipment. Until our needs are met, we are hampered in a vital service to our patrons.

The Y. M. C. A. has started a quiet campaign for a social hall on this campus. At the present time there is no place at the College where the students may entertain their parents and friends; no place for the various societies to hold their social meetings; no place for men and women students to meet, under proper conditions, for friendly conversation, when their work is over; no place for our day students to rest except in the overcrowded libary. A building such as the Y. M. C. A. has in mind, to be dedicated to the social and religious service of Washington College students, would, in itself, constitute a tangible evidence of a progressive social and religious program here and be an education in wholesome social and religious attitudes. Who will help?

A field house containing a basketball foor and space adequate for the increasing crowds attending our games is a prime necessity if the athletic life at the College is to grow with the institution's increase. Our gymnasium, which is large enough only for a college of seventy-five or one hundred students, is not ample, either for our sports or for our physical training classes, particularly now that we have a separate section of the department of physical education for women students.

Most of all we need a dormitory. The demand that this be our next advance is practically a unanimous one voiced by friends, alumni, and most of all by students. Our boys deserve better quarters than these old buildings, constructed around the middle of last century, which are venerable but can not be venerated. If every friend and alumus will give us support we should be able to prove to the State next winter that Washingon College, which has had no new consruction on its campus in thirteen years, deserves consideration if the institution is not to be condemned to a mediocrity of physical equipment quite out of keeping with its faculty, its student body, is ideals, its spirit, and its required service to the commonwealth of Maryland.

Four caskets rested in the Oak Grove M. P. Church, Salisbury, Saturday morning when funeral services were held over the remains of Capt. Everett Insley, his wife and two children, of Baltimore, who were drowned when his barge sank about two weeks ago. The body of the fifth victim a six weeks old infant has not been recovered.

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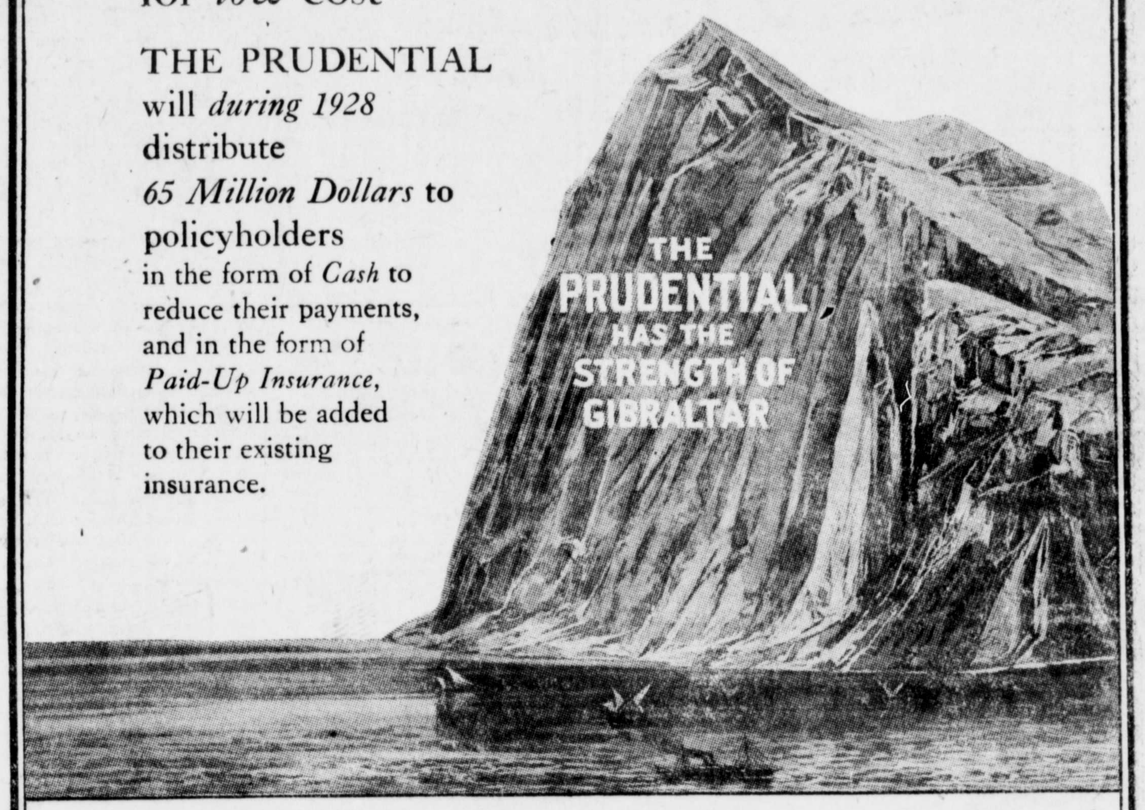

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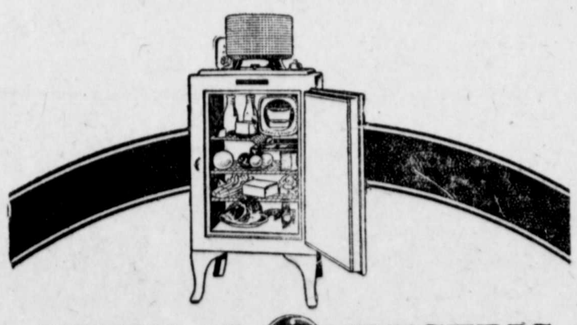

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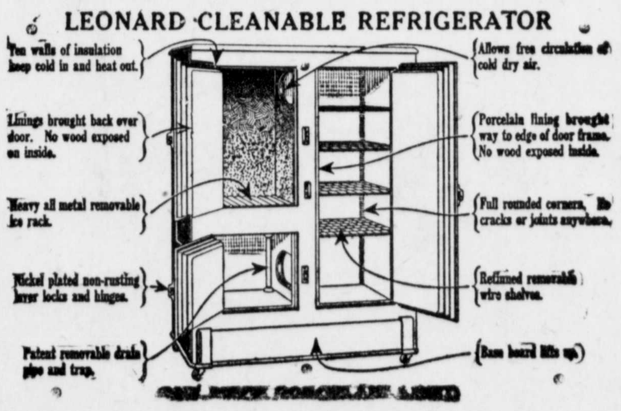

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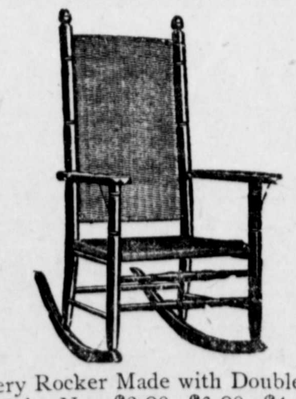

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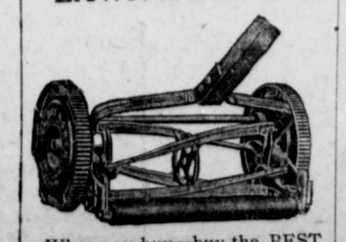

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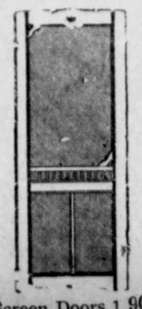

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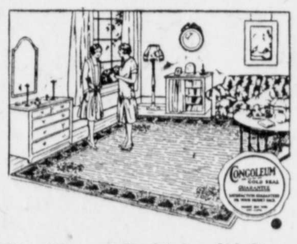

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