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Past Editors Discuss Fiery Editorials, Purpose of EYE, Fond Recollections

by **PLUCIA CHRIST**
Feature Editor



He was a daring young man in 1919, writing hot editorials opposing the introduction of social dancing in the college or calling athletes who played football "deserters."

Today this past COLLEGE EYE editor, Mr. Clifford Archer, trains Peace Corps volunteers for service in India and Pakistan and is a professor of education.

LIKE HIM, OTHER past editors have set the college thinking, buzzing, even fuming over their editorials before graduating from SCI and distinguishing themselves in society.

"We had a staff dedicated to getting into hot water over editorials," writes Mr. Tom Pettit, 1953 EYE editor and now an NBC news correspondent.

"We figured that if we didn't get into hot water, we

were not doing a good job stimulating student and faculty thought."

A CEDAR FALLS lawyer, Mr. S. C. Jacobsen, was editor in 1947 when the EYE was published without any faculty supervision or advice. He remembers once being reminded by the president that he was still running the college.

"An article we printed in the 'academic issues' nearly got us into deep water," recalls Mrs. Betty Bixler, 1929 editor and now head of the Betty Bixler Private School for youngsters. "We escaped, however, thanks to our kind and understanding president."

But such is the life of an editor, according to Mr. James Jordan, assistant to the president of Indiana University and editor in 1937. "Editors who have been fully oriented should be allowed to make their own decisions," he believes, "and then face the responsibility for good and or poor judgement."

ONE BY ONE, new editors have taken over the EYE, each shaping it with his decisions, character, goals.

"During my stint, I was especially interested in helping the students be representative of the fine school SCI was," writes Mr. Gerald Glas, assistant principal at Santa Maria High School, California, and the 1959 editor.

"**MY HOPK** was that someday SCI would no longer be a 'outcast' college. I was hoping that students would be proud to identify with the college on the weekends, as well as during the week."

For Mr. Pettit, the whole purpose of SCI's newspaper was "to challenge the status quo of how the college is operated." "We always tried to make the point that any institution

of higher learning (other than research organizations) should exist fundamentally for the educational benefit of the students—not for the convenience of the faculty, or the administration, or the athletic department, but for the students," he explains.

DURING THEIR editorship, each formed new philosophies. Mrs. Bixler, for example, discovered that "Most of the greatest people are the humblest."

"Interviews with celebrities on campus," she says, "helped me more than any other experience to form a philosophy of my own: regardless of a person's status in life, whether he be king or pauper, he is a human, too. Therefore, we should not be afraid of anyone because of his position."

Mr. Don Tompkins, a teacher of high school journalism and editor in his freshman year, 1949, claims his work on the paper taught him that "any new idea or activity can be interesting, even exciting, if we ignore our prejudices."

SOMEDAY, WHEN these past editors retire, they will probably follow Mrs. Bixler's plan.

"I'll pull up a rocking chair," she says, "and rock and reminisce about those 'good old days.' I'll get out the year's issues of the EYE that I edited. I have them in one of our trunks. Perusing through them would take a number of days, and I'll love every minute."

Memories of Mr. Jim Daman, 1950 editor and now an Eng-

lish and creative writing teacher, include "a letter of commendation from President J. W. Maulsby for presenting a stimulating and thought-provoking issue" and the staff pizza and coke parties."

BUT FINEST of all, he says, was the "feeling of worthwhile accomplishment."

Mr. Tompkins will always remember "waking up the paper in a restaurant on the Hill at 2 a.m.; getting acquainted with the mysteries of printing in the back room of Holt's; proof study; and meeting the new president. Dr. Malcolm Price, who reemphasized the importance of the paper and thus made us feel important."

His fondest memory, though, is the satisfaction he had from "watching the people actually reading the results of our labors."

OF A MORE romantic nature are Mr. Jordan's recollections, since he met his future wife while they were both EYE staff members.

Nevertheless, his wife remembers him "checking girls on the staff and organizing counter campaigns, not to mention putting up signs that a girl could find no humor in."

Most of the editors also recall working on professional newspapers after graduation. One who did become a newsman, Mr. Pettit, advises, "If you want to go into journalism, be prepared to work long hours for low pay and marry an understanding woman."

WHERE HAVE ALL the past EYE editors gone? To distinguished positions, one by one. The four pictured here, clockwise, Mrs. Betty Bixler, 1929 editor and now head of the Betty Bixler Private School for children; Mr. Tom Pettit, 1953 editor and now an NBC news correspondent; Mr. Clifford Archer, 1919 editor and now a Peace Corps trainer and professor of education; and Mr. S. C. Jacobsen, 1917 editor and now a Cedar Falls attorney.

Twenty Staff Members Elected to Faculty Senate

Twenty staff members have been elected to the SCI Faculty Senate and its various committees.

Elected for three year terms beginning September 1 on the Faculty Senate are: Dr. Wallace Anderson, associate dean of instruction; Mr. Kenneth Butzier, instructor in teaching; Leonard Keefe, professor of business education;

Students Dance To 24 Sonnets Read by Lentz

Selected sonnets from Shakespeare will be read by Mr. Merle Lentz, instructor of speech, and illustrated with dances at the poetry hour Tuesday at 6 p.m. in the Auditorium.

Mrs. Lynne Lentz, graduate assistant in speech, is the choreographer for the dances, which will be performed by Bob Anderson, Marcus Jolly, Sarah Leucht and Vickie Schultz.

The 24 sonnets are from many stages in the life of Shakespeare and have many different themes.

Dr. Margaret Nelson, associate professor of Education; Dr. Myron Russell, head of the music department; Dr. Leland Wilson, professor of chemistry.

Elected to the Graduate Council, a committee responsible for the curriculum matters at the graduate level, are: Dr. Marshall R. Beard, registrar; Dr. Clifford Bishop, head of the department of education; Dr. E. D. Hamilton, head of the department of mathematics; Dr. Clifford McCollum, head of the department of science.

THE NEW graduate council members serve two year terms beginning September 1.

New members serving two year terms on the Committee on the Administration of Faculty Personnel are: Mr. Len Proyer, instructor in education; Dr. George Poagy, associate professor of history; Dr. Edward Thorne, head of the department of speech; and Dr. Howard Vander Beek, professor of teaching.

Elected to the Education Policies Commission for three year terms beginning April 1 are James LaFue, assistant professor of industrial arts; Dr. Nelson; Dr. M. B. Smith, as-

sociate professor of speech, and Dr. William Thrall, associate professor of physical education for men.

ELECTED to serve three terms beginning April 1 on the Committee on Committees are Dr. John Cowley, professor of English; and Dr. Howard Knudson, assistant dean of instruction and director of the SCI summer session.

Dr. Harold Bernhard, professor of religion and director of the Bureau of Religious Activities, was elected for a three year term beginning September 1 on the Student Loan Fund Committee.



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