

May Day Ceremonies Reach Climax At Coronation As Queen Foster Rules Court At Mosque Dance



RPI Works Flood Local Art Showing

School Places Third Of Aggregate Works Selected For Exhibit

RPI art students, faculty members, and alumni contributed over a third of the art pieces selected for the 1953 Virginia Artists exhibition at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, May 1-June 2.

The exhibition has been called the most important of its kind held in the state and the work selected for showing has been referred to as the "cream of the professional art in Virginia."

The art work was selected for exhibition by a three-member jury of recognized professional artists. Edward Hopper, one of America's well known painters; Jacques Lipchitz, an internationally known sculptor; and Gordon Washburn, director of the fine arts department of the Carnegie Institute, selected the work to be shown in this year's exhibition.

Of the 317 artists that sent work to the exhibition, 96 had their work chosen for showing by the jury of selection. Thirty-eight of these artists are students, former students, or faculty members of RPI. Mr. Bonds, of RPI's fine arts department, said, "We believe this is an excellent scale for measuring the professional standard of our art school." Of 11 works which were recommended by the jury for purchase by the museum, five were by RPI representatives.

Faculty members represented in the exhibition are Maurice Bonds, Jewell Campbell, John Hilton, Milton Hull, Theresa Pollak, Joseph Kidd, and Wolfgang Behl. Of the work submitted by faculty members "Rainy Day" by Mr. Hilton, head of the commercial art department; and "Feast of the Gods" by Mr. Bonds, head of the fine arts department; were recommended for purchase.

These students presently enrolled at RPI whose work is being exhibited are Richard Carlyon, Edward Wood, Elizabeth Jean Smith, Wanda Kidd, Lila Winn Fiddler, and Lee Van Sicken Lloyd.



—Photo by Bill Matheny

BEAUTY ENTHRONED—Was the biggest feature of the May Day ceremonies held at the Mosque last Friday. Top photo left: Miss June Foster carrying her armful of roses goes forward to be crowned. Top photo right: Handclasp couples move to join the butterfly figure. Leading is newly-inaugurated SGA Secretary Peggy Fowler, escorted by John Lambert. In order behind her are Kitty Christian, Mrs. Lee Lloyd, and Mrs. Bill Fitzgerald.

Bottom photo: May Queen is surrounded by her Court. (L-R) Carol Erdman, Sharleen Pearson, Alice Blazek, Louise Fulton; freshman, sophomore, junior, and senior attendants. Maid of Honor Lois Gustkey, Miss Foster, and Crown-bearer Monica Fitzgerald share the limelight. The Class Sweethearts smile their pleasure: (L-R) Senior Barbara Wooldridge, Junior Jean Edmonston, Sophomore Meredith Moon, and Freshman Jill Meske.

Students Sport Their 'Sunday Best' To Usher In May Day Celebration

RPI donned its best lace and tails to welcome the arrival of May and crown its 26th Queen last week end.

The setting was the annual May Day Formal in the Mosque ballroom attended by some 600 RPItes and complete with all the pomp surrounding such an occasion.

Actually the activities began on Thursday with art exhibits in the School Galleries and continued Friday afternoon with the junior-senior class tea dance, the first of its kind here, in Founders Hall. The Friday night formal provided the climactic icing for the weekend cake.

From nine to twelve all thoughts of classes and impending final examinations were supplanted by the music, dancing and coronation in the appropriately decorated hall.

Coronation Ceremonies

During intermission, coronation ceremonies accompanied by the traditional figure dance provided the attraction. Dr. H. H. Hibbs, officiating at his 26th coronation, placed the crown on the head of Miss June Foster, Brookneal, Va., senior, and this year's May Queen.

Promptly at ten o'clock class sweethearts, who were attendants in Queen Foster's court, and their escorts danced to the coronation site while the guests looked on. The sweethearts, one from each class and their attendants were: Barbara Wooldridge, senior sweetheart; Louise Fulton, attendant; Jean Edmonston, junior sweetheart; Alice Blazek, attendant; Meredith Moon, sophomore sweetheart; Sharleen Pearson, attend-

ant; Jill Meske, freshman sweetheart; Carol Erdman, attendant.

Monica Fitzgerald, six-year old daughter of art student Bill Fitzgerald and Mrs. Fitzgerald, was crown bearer for the occasion.

Following the sweethearts and attendants Queen Foster proceeded to the throne to receive her coronet. After the ceremonies the attendants and their escorts formed a butterfly figure and then climaxed the event by dancing off to the strains of "Apple Blossom Time."

Tom Monahan, president of the sponsoring freshman class, commenting on the festivities said: "We are highly pleased with the way the activities proceeded. I think it was a successful dance and was well attended."

Board Vetoes Future Exam Reading Date

Dean Says Misuse Occasioned Removal Of Year-Old Plan

The two-day reading period preceding final examinations will be abolished next semester because of misuse, Dr. H. Tudor Westover, dean of instruction, announced last week.

Introduced last year to aid students in reviewing for their finals, the reading period was deemed impractical by the Committee on Grades and Examinations.

The action to discontinue the period was taken following a study made by the committee and was originally planned to be effective this semester. The completed final exam schedule, however, forced postponement until February, 1954.

In citing the committee's reasons for eliminating the period, Dr. Westover said: "A study of the system demonstrated clearly that it was not used for review as was intended. A large percentage of the students were using the period for a vacation."

He also noted that lack of student use of the library during pre-examination time indicated the period was a "waste."

He added that the faculty in general agreed with the decision, and while it would probably be unpopular with the students many had admitted they preferred to review before exam.

The reading period, in use in many colleges, permits student time to consult with instructors for review. Classes are on a voluntary basis and no roll is taken in academic courses. The system does not apply to art classes which meet as scheduled.

A feature of last year's SCA President Brooks Traweck's regime, the reading period was favorably received by the majority of students here.

Dr. Westover said the committee would conduct similar periodic evaluations in the future.

Counterweight

This is an open letter to the newly-inaugurated SGA officers and Honor Council:

Six days ago twenty-four of you raised your right hands to be sworn into office. You have assumed a thankless task, one that will present a lot of problems and a lot of authority. The authority is what this newspaper is concerned with.

Last week the PROSCRIPT printed an editorial on the responsibility of the press. Like a pendulum, responsibility now swings to you. As duly-elected officials of the student body, you have sworn to uphold the best interests of your fellow classmates, and to put their welfare above all else. You, in an official capacity, are no longer an individual, for by that oath you must submit to the will of the student body.

Loyalty is an admirable virtue, but in your present position it is a vice if it adheres to any individuals or faction. You may have some close friends that will color your decision upon a given issue. That is human, but it is something you must try to avoid. Too much of it has occurred in the past and will probably recur in the future.

It is difficult to say "No!" to a friend's request in or outside of SGA Council meetings. It is even more difficult to hear cases involving a companion. Any former Honor Council member will tell you that. That oath you took may, or may not, lie heavily upon your conscience, but at least remember that you took it!

In the past, information concerning certain cases has been circulated among the student body. At times, its origin was traced to a defendant. In other instances, the word reputedly came from an unidentified council member. Any information concerning a hearing is absolutely confidential, and the revelation of details by a council member is a breach of the Honor Code.

Authority is a wonderful thing to have, but it must be balanced with responsibility. Your position was not given as your due right. You are holding it because your classmates placed you there. Any continuance in office is dependent upon your responsibility to the people who elected you. Don't lose sight of that, and don't lose sight of them!

Investment In Intellect!

Bethlehem Steel Company recently announced that they are offering 45 private colleges \$3,000 for each graduate hired for their training course who stays with the company four months, an April issue of the Wall Street Journal reported.

Giving the school a free-ride, the nation's second largest steelmakers say the colleges can "use the money any way they want to—for scholarships, or any other purpose which best meets their needs." According to the Journal, the reason is a scarcity of high-caliber graduates.

That one of the nation's major industries would take this step is an apt commentary on the times. Although many claim the overall value of a college education has been lessened by the increasing number of graduates in recent years, an intellectual labor shortage is apparent, for the moment. Industry needs fresh blood.

Bethlehem should be congratulated for its honesty and business acumen, because they recognize that they are receiving worthwhile goods and are willing to pay for them. Their clairvoyance in instituting such a plan is self-evident. It not only aids the company, but bolsters the financially sagging frame of a number of private colleges, who are daily meeting more expenses than income.

Much has been said concerning a firm's expectations of a college-trained employee. Much more has been said regarding their value to the employer for the first year. Some criticism has been leveled at many institutions for their insistence upon teaching a strict academic program. The businessmen claim they should place emphasis on practical application, as well.

Regardless of its curricula complaints, industry needs education, and the converse is true. Without one there would be no other. Enterprise supplies the jobs, and education fills them. It's a fifty-fifty proposition, but Bessemer is the first, to our knowledge, to recognize that fact with tangible evidence. May there be more of them!

Proscript

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Letters To The Editor

Dear Editor:

Your newspaper will probably carry an editorial, or something, on the Day Students League obtaining the new furniture for the "Slop Shop," but I would like to add my two cents worth, if I may.

As I am not a member of the league, I am not sure who obtained the furniture. Nameless though he or she be, may I congratulate them on an excellent job. The entire outlook of the place has improved, and I am sure it will impress any visitors to RPI.

The DSL well deserves the recognition it will achieve, I am sure.

Thank you.

—A Dorm Student.

(Ed. Note: Previously written editorials and a time element prevented editorial comment. The Proscript adds its congratulations to those of the writer.)

Campus Sketches

Maryland Twins Display Diversified Interests, Ambitions

No, your sight is all right and we did not print the same picture twice by mistake. This week's profile subject is double—the Brown twins, Jean and Jane.

An active interest in sports is shared by the girls, both of whom are officers of the Women's Athletic Association. Jean and Jane, who were born and raised in Westminster, Md., are on the varsity hockey team, while Jean also plays varsity basketball and tennis. She was co-captain of the hockey squad last fall, and was basketball co-captain as well as manager.

A sophomore occupational therapy major, Jane plans to work as an OT



aid in a mental hospital this summer and in a mental children's hospital after graduation. She said, "I like college because it gives a person a chance to learn how to get along with others as well as give him an education in the field he plans to enter."

A member of the OT Club, Jane likes ice skating, swimming, tennis and cooking and sewing when she has time.

Jean is a sophomore physical education major who likes people to keep their promises and to be on time. Her hobby besides sports is woodcraft, and her future plans include camp work and teaching physical education.

In the musical line, Jean says she goes for all music in general, while Jane has specific favorites including "Once in Love With Amy," by Ray Bolger and Dave Roe's orchestra, Marches by the Cities Service Band of America and the TV Hit Parade are also tops with this half of the Brown twins.

Social Lite

By Carol Terrell

Jones-Bowman

Mrs. Clarence Eugene Jones announces the engagement of her daughter, Jeanne Turner, to Lieutenant Richard Dietz Bowman, United States Marine Corps Reserve, son of Mr. and Mrs. Donald W. Bowman, of Western Springs, Ill.

Miss Jones, daughter of the late Mr. Jones, is a student at RPI. Lieutenant Bowman is a graduate of the University of Colorado.

The wedding will take place in the summer.

• • •

Wilson-Stuart

Mr. and Mrs. George Weir Wilson announce the engagement of their

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THIS WEEK

By Robert Halsted

THIS WEEK we are rather confused. Probably the explanation for it all is quite simple, but we can't see quite to the bottom of it yet. Linger in the back of our confused mind is the idea that the whole affair got involved because Mac told us that he was going to have a six-page paper last week and therefore would need a larger column, which we did, but instead, it turned out to be four pages, or something; anyhow, somebody cut six paragraphs off Murfis last time, and we have to tack them onto this one. Confusing business, this.

Also, something that was left off of the week-before-last's issue, something of large importance, was the birth announcement. Our cat has once more had quadruplets (she always has quadruplets) and we are offering them to foster parents of the proper qualifications at the usual fifteen and twenty-five bucks per each, females being cheaper than males, which is not the case with people as it is with cats.

For those who do not know our cat, we offer the information that she and her husband are both pedigreed and registered seal-point Siamese. Excellent cats, well worth the small asking price. Worth more, in fact. Should be charging \$35 and \$50 for them. Oh, well.

(Ed. Note: Free advertising, huh? Turn in your pencil!)

Being unable to think of any other

way of filling up space, we now feel a sort of obligation to get down to brass Murfises. Our synopsis is likely to be rather confused on account of Mac's having sliced it right down the middle last time, but you will have to bear with us.

Slave-Driving Readers

Incidentally, some day we are going to write a book on this business of getting started on something that people won't let you stop. We have come to hate Murfis, but still the blood-thirsty public cries out for more. Some day we are going to revolt.

Synopsis: Murfis regains consciousness after failing in his suicide attempt. Analyzing his problems, he decides that he ought to have a hobby. Since there are so many detectives who have hobbies, he decides that the only one that would not be plagiaristic is collecting Chinese pottery. After doing research on the subject, he decided to go to a local museum to get the only existing specimen of a rare ceremonial gu (pronounced goo) from the upper Yangtze valley. On the way, he decides that he needs feminine companionship, so he picks up a dame. They are now in her apartment, and she has just mixed a washtub full of Purple Passion.

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AROUND THE WORLD

By Marian Gatley

Last week we started out on a quiet weekend trip, not "Around the World" but around the Virginia countryside with four friends and a baby-blue Ford. From the beginning the little trip took on adventurous proportions.

Two hours after leaving Shafer Street, we finally were on the way with a tour of areas of Richmond we never knew existed behind us.

With the unexpected arrival of three more acquaintances, the weekend became quite gay and turned out to be a field trip in world population. Eight extra people added to a town consisting of a post office, several houses and a creek can cause quite a bit of excitement to the natives.

Plenty of good food, many laughs, a party at which we foreigners were the only ones not partying, and a view of the Skyline Drive's beauties were only a few of the highlights of a never-to-be-forgotten weekend.

Big Celebration

Speaking of weekends, the recent celebration of May Day was perhaps the biggest in the history of RPI, starting with the junior-senior tea

dance, the formal and the May court, parties, the Cotton-Ball, and continuing on to the Sunday picnics. The old school will never be the same again, though it is gradually settling down with thoughts of exams coming too close for comfort and work piling up.

We hear that the Wigwam is scheduled to appear around the 20th and would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the hard-working staff on a job well done. The only way to describe the annual is to employ an old cliché, "a bigger and better book" as you will see when it is issued. A year's supply of midnight oil, brains, and effort lie between the covers of the 1953 Wigwam.

Just seeing the picture of the new Slop Shop which appears in this issue is not enough, you have to see it in person to appreciate the recent improvements made by the Day Students' League. Attractive, comfortable furniture and a new floor have given the hang-out the appearance of a magazine illustration, as well as providing a good atmosphere for free-time.

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Absence Board Dons Gear For Coming Session

The Registrar's office was reading notices to the faculty this week in preparation for the next meeting of the Absence Committee, May 22.

Faculty members are advised of committee meetings well in advance in order that there will be ample opportunity for them to check their roll books and process student absence excuses.

Students who have failed to present satisfactory excuses are turned in to the committee, as well as, students who have missed more than one-fourth of the number of times that the class meets.

Although the number dropped at the committee's last meeting for overcutting was small, a slight increase was expected at the next session because of the increased length of time in the semester. Six students were dropped at the meeting held April 20, all for overcutting.

The committee is adhering to a general "tightening up" policy during the remainder of the term on un-

(Continued on page 6)



WIN OR LOSE?—Newly-elected DSL officers seem undecided whether they are glad or sad over election results. Seated (L-R) are Secretary Natalie Nadel, President Pat Bowry, Corresponding Secretary Ann Lindsey, standing are (L-R) Treasurer John Frawner, SGA Representative Earl Locklear, and Vice-President Ted Hamre.

—Photo by Bill Matheny

Craftwork Goes On Display At Local Museum

The second annual exhibit of the Crafts Department will be at the Valentine Museum May 10-26, according to Mr. Allan A. Eastman, crafts instructor.

Works in jewelry, weaving, metal, and pottery are some of the major forms which will be on display. Weaving will display rugs, scarves, table covers, and scatter rugs. Jewelry will consist of lapidary enameling, and chain work, while metal work will include various works in brass, bronze, aluminum, nickel silver, and silver.

Mr. Eastman pointed out that the exhibit was the only way students could present their yearly projects and hoped that high school students would be attracted to RPI by the exhibit.

Cooperating with Mr. Eastman will be Mr. Maurice Bonds, Art Department head, whose class will display prints and painting projects.

The Crafts Department serves as a service department in that it offers divergent interests to other departments to complete their curriculum.



—Photo by Bill Matheny

SOUND OFF!—High-stepping drum majorettes lead the Emporia High School Band in an impromptu parade last Friday as dazed spectators watched political rallies reach ear-splitting heights at RPI. The following day party rivals, not to be outdone, brought a combo and speeches on campus as the bitterly-contested Junior Class elections swept closer to the voting deadline.

Junior Class Campaigning Begins With Marching Band Accompaniment

Campaigning for the top offices of the junior class got under way last Friday with a demonstration by the "Procrat" party, and it was considered by some students to be "unparalleled in the history of the school."

Staged shortly after one p.m., the parade was witnessed by a crowd that SGA President Bill Perdue estimated to be over 300 people. Practically all those who saw it applauded both its purposes and the demonstration itself.

Frank Marchione, a junior from Norfolk, said, "It's what RPI needs. It brings gusto and enthusiasm." Pat Riley and Earl Childress were equally enthusiastic, along with Perdue. "It's an all-time high here," said Childress, and Riley stated, "We need more of the same." President Perdue said, "I was surprised and pleased to see it."

Participating in the colorful ceremony was the Emporia High School band, 45 members strong, which marched along Shafter Street for a half hour. The band was in Richmond to take part in the RPI Music Festival. Previously, they took top honors in the Petersburg Christmas parade last December in competition with high school bands from Hopewell and Petersburg.

Festival Participant

Their director, Mr. Mazza, is an RPI alumnus and a former music major here. He was invited to bring

his student band here by the Music School Director, Mr. Volney Shepard, in order to hold a concert in the new gym as a part of the spring Music Festival. Last Saturday, they marched in the American Automobile Association's "School Safety" parade in Washington, D. C.

Tom Witten, "Procrat" party leader, and candidate for president of the junior class, said that the demonstration was part of his campaign to increase student enthusiasm in student elections. He also stated that his main goal as class president was enthusiasm and unity.

Meanwhile, rival candidates planned comebacks to gain the favor of the electorate before the voting which ended yesterday. Cliff Belcher, leader of the opposition and presidential candidate for the "harmony" slate, said that he enjoyed the parade and was "win or lose" with Witten all the way. He stated his aims as being an improvement of "Rat Week" next year, which he wants to last only four days and terminate with a "get acquainted outing for the whole student body."

"I want the laxity of past 'Rat Week' to end. I think we should start a 'get tough' policy with the incoming freshman." His other plans include a better midwinters ring figure, and the attainment of an increase in class attendance at meetings.

Pat Bowry Tops Roster Of New DSL Executives

Pat Bowry, a junior physical education major, from Richmond, was chosen to lead the Day Students League in its second year on campus in the recently held election.

Present vice-president of the League, Miss Bowry, stated that she was thrilled over winning, and added that she hoped to create better relations between the dorm and day students.

"We do not want the dorm students here to feel that the DSL is here to defeat them," she said. "Our organization was formed with the purpose of representing the day students, and to benefit all the students of the college."

Other officers elected for the 1953-54 term were: Ted Hamre, vice-president; Natalie Nadel, secretary; Ann Lindsey, corresponding secretary; Earl Locklear, treasurer; John Frawner, SGA representative and Betty Seabright, historian.

Asked about the League's plans for next year Miss Bowry replied that they were uncertain as yet, but that a social function early in the year was being considered to familiarize new students with the school.

She added that she was pleased with the elections in general, and called for the cooperation of all the day students.

"I think," she commented, "the DSL has been highly successful in its first year. We have 70 paid up members at present, 52 of whom voted in the election. I think it was a very good showing."

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Miss Lancaster Fills Staff Vacancy In Reference Room

Miss Susan Lancaster has been appointed to the library staff as reference librarian, Miss Rosamond McCannless, RPI librarian, announced last week.

A native of Virginia, she received her early training at New York Public Library. Miss Lancaster has lived in Richmond for some time.

Former librarian for four years at the Women's College of the American University, Istanbul, Turkey, Miss Lancaster was for several years acting librarian at the American Library in Paris. She was at Washington and Lee University library and has been connected with Poe's Shrine.

Miss Lancaster, who lives at Monroe Terrace, replaces Miss Mary Fleet, who resigned to accept a position as reference librarian at Fort Belvoir.

Unseen Cast Backs Tonight's Production Of Prize-Winning 'Death Of A Salesman'

By Faye Webb

Lights! Camera! Action! That's what they say in the movies, and tonight when the curtain rises on "Death of a Salesman" in the Shafter Street Playhouse, the stage crew will echo similar cries.

Behind that curtain and in the wings the crew will be busy with the lights, sound, props, makeup and other behind-the-scenes paraphernalia that makes a production complete. Nervous and excited, they will probably utter silent prayers for a successful performance. One hundred and two hand props are enough to keep them busy, for each must be set up at the proper time.

Jo Lowenthal, who is responsible for the lighting, shudders to think that he might throw the wrong switch and leave John Hurdle, who plays the salesman, in darkness at a moment when the audience should be concentrating on the mood the actor is trying to create. By Lowenthal's side are Tommie Wilson and Vance Abshire, who assist in lighting eight areas of the stage.

Right On Cue

Elizabeth Taylor and Maury Schwartz, working with the sound effects, know that their job demands perfect timing. The theme heard on records throughout the performance was in the original play on Broadway and was ordered especially for the show.

In obtaining props for the play, Mr. Raymond Hodges, head of the drama department, stated that the students were faced with the problem

of locating a football. It seems that sport is unknown around this campus.

Actors with attentive ears listen for their cues in the wings, while Jane Thompson, the stage manager, is dashing around behind the set overseeing backstage operations. She is trying to be in five places at one time, and believe it or not, she is doing a good job of it.

Waiting to go on are Joan Faw, the salesman's wife, and her two sons, who are played by Don Carter and Bill Eacho. Hurriedly they are reciting their lines and hoping that if they falter, someone will prompt them and they can pick up as if nothing had happened.

The play will be over soon, and it will be the end of many rehearsals and much hard work. However, tomorrow's another day and another performance.

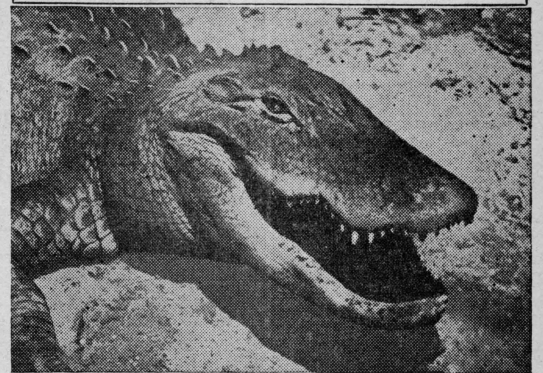
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Featuring this week

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'Slop Shop' Renovations Unearth Odd Mementos Of Past Years

By John Yeatts

It was finally revealed here last week that the old tables and booths in the "Slop Shop" were being held together entirely by wads of chewing gum deposited by students during the past three decades.

Workmen spent more than a day, scraping, hacking, and gouging. It is estimated that the salvage value of the chicle may go a long way towards footing the bill for the re-decorating and new furniture in the day room.

One thing that is puzzling the workers is a perfectly good pair of store teeth they found cemented by gum to the bottom of one table. There was no identifying marks, just a sizeable hunk of stale dentine.

Detective Robert Halstead is working on the case and says, "I believe I'm safe in saying the teeth were left there by an Evening College student, who was completely unnerved by forthcoming exams."

Someone has suggested that since the room has taken on such a resemblance to a night club that cigarette girls and entertainers should be engaged. Carl (Chick) Larsen was quick to volunteer his services as "Swivel Hips Gertie," the Midway Queen. He flunked out though on the try. He had the hips all right, but his swivel was rusty.

Students were locked out until the

room was completed, and when the doors were opened, about two hundred students flocked in to find seats. I wouldn't say it was crowded, but one student ate five ice cream cones, one from his hand and four from his seatmates. Another student playing bridge went for a drink of water when he became the dummy. When he got back five other students were playing his hand at the same time.

Teachers are worried. They say that cuts have never been so numerous. The students just won't leave. One teacher found her entire class of human relations playing parchesi. She changed the course to "Day-Room Relations" and joined them.

Some of the students are worried that so many University of Richmond students coming to 901 W. Franklin St., to lounge that the campuses will be reversed.

Dean Pinchbeck reportedly sent a

scout down and he immediately enrolled in fine arts. Some of the Evening College students were so well pleased they refused to leave. Mr. Starns locked them up and they were found sound asleep in the booths next morning.

This could go on and on, except there's a limit to how silly you can get, so to add a note of seriousness: special credit must go to Bill Fitzgerald for his magnificent planning job and furniture selection. James McKee exceeded the call of duty with his superb job of painting the beautiful mural that so aptly depicts the college.

To Business Manager Robert English for his co-operation and funds, RPI Collegians thank you. And to the Day Students League, for getting things done, you're unsurpassed so far.

THIS WEEK
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Murfs quaffed a dipperful of the beverage, and liked it. He had a few more dipperfuls. He liked it even better as the evening wore on. After a while he decided that he had better not drink any more, so he took his socks off and soaked his feet in the potent purple potable. He looked at the woman.

"By the way, Baby. In case I didn't mention it, my name's Al."

"Al. That's a nice name. Mine's Ermintrude."

Hilarious Relaxation

"Enough of this idle chatter." So saying, he bit the lobe of her left ear. She bit the lobe of his left ear. He bit the lobe of her right ear. She bit the lobe of his right ear. He bit her chin. She bit his chin.

"Aaaaagh!" she said. "Don't you ever shave?"

"Oh, shut up!"

By now Murfs was getting tired of Ermintrude. At first she had seemed exciting, but their affair seemed exciting, but their affair destined to dwindle away. He was going to tell her it was all over be-

tween them, but, being merciful, he reconsidered. Deciding that it would be cruel to tell her, he shot her instead.

"Now to get that ceremonial goo from the upper Yangtze. Shouldn't have let women divert me from my new-found purpose in life." He walked out of the apartment and toward the museum.

(To Be Continued)

ABSENCE BOARD
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excused absences, and faculty members are being asked to keep a close check, particularly on students who are close to missing one-fourth of the total class meetings.

"It isn't fair," said a committee spokesman, "to rigidly enforce the ruling regarding mandatory drops on students who are sick and in the hospital and then let notorious 'cutters' exceed the maximum and receive credit in the course."

"We are going to do everything in our power to see that such a situation does not exist and request that all faculty members co-operate to that end."

College Receives Curricula Plaudits From Association

RPI and its "unique" education received plaudits from Southern educators during the past year, Dean H. H. Hibbs reported at the SGA Inaugural Convocation last week.

Citing excerpts from a report by the Southern Association of Colleges and Universities, he quoted a passage stating that the institution is fulfilling a definite need in education today.

Explaining the "unique" qualification, Dr. Hibbs mentioned that at RPI courses in a freshman's particular field are required upon entrance, a reversal of standard practices in which the student's major is not taken until the final two years.

Turning the ceremonial reins over to retiring President Bill Perdue a few moments later, the dean complimented him on his administration, and called Perdue "one of the best presidents the school has ever had."

In an informal speech to the student body, Perdue thanked the assemblage for their cooperation and support during his tenure of office, and Mens' Honor Council Speaker Richard McCaffrey then administered the oath to the new executives.

Library Improvements Complete; First Floor Made Reserve Room

The new improvements in the RPI library have now been completed, and the entire lower floor has been transformed into a new reserve room and general reading room. Also the library has taken over the supervision of the lounge.

Now the library building has on the first floor a study lounge where smoking is permitted, a reserve room, and a new general room, and a reading room. The reading room is equipped with locked cases where the more valuable art books are kept. The art, woodcut, and photography collections are shelved in this room.

On the second floor, the reserve room has been transformed into a periodical and card catalog room. The old general reading room, which formerly housed the art collection, is now used as a reference room. On both floors a new modern fluorescent lighting system has been installed.

The library, which now numbers around 30,000 volumes, has purchased hundreds of new reference books for every department, especially in the field of science. Among the most important additions is the complete Oxford English Dictionary, which consists of 13 volumes. During the past few months the library has acquired new equipment from Remington Rand. An appropriation of \$12,000 made this possible.

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