4. It stimulates the teaching force to do superior work. The faculty of the Normal School is ready at all times to give any help and advice to any teacher, as well as to any child, in the system; and since they have had special preparation and training, our teachers are wont to put forth their best efforts to meet the standards set by those who know good schools and know when teaching is of a high order.

5. It solidifies community interest. The entire plant and equipment of the Normal School is offered to the city schools to be used just as if it were a part of the system. Similarly, the plants and the equipment of the city schools are used by the Normal School in every way desired. Each welcomes the widest possible use of the other's equipment, grounds, buildings, and libraries. Thus all are in position to get the benefit that is to be had at both places, with the result that much unnecessary actual expense and outlay of money and energy is saved. Harrisonburg feels that the Normal School is its own school, while the Normal School feels that the city school system is a part of that institution. If this arrangement did not exist, there would be a clear line between them and much that is now done could not possibly be accomplished because of rivalry, jealousy, and misunderstanding.

The question is often asked: "Is the arrangement of advantage to the city schools?" My reply is that it is. Reasons can not be given here beyond the fact that the teaching done by Normal students is done under the strictest supervision of the critic teacher, in charge, as well as under the supervisor of teacher training of the Normal School and under the general direction of the principals and the superintendent—and the further fact that these student teachers are graduates of the best four-year high schools and have had, in addition, nearly two years of special training at the Normal School, and are eagerly being sought to go out into the state to take the very best places as teachers—and the further fact that every lesson to be taught is thoroughly prepared and planned and submitted to the teacher in charge before it is presented to the class. These facts alone make it evident that every precaution is taken that each lesson shall be taught well and thoroughly. Much of this student teaching is far above that done in the majority of the schools in the State.

So far as Harrisonburg is concerned, the arrangement has been, and is, most satisfactory and helpful in every way. Both the Normal School and the city schools are being benefited, and neither would wish to see a change made in the situation.

William H. Keister

XI

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

The list of honor students for the first quarter 1919-20 is as follows: Those whose average grade is A: Degree students—Nellie M. Critzer, Afton; Dorothy McK. First Quarter, Spooner, Farmville; Postgraduate—Vergilia P. Sadder, Scottsville; Seniors—Linda S. Berrey, Criglersville; Iris Fay Glasscock, Buffalo Lithia Springs; Catharine Harrison, Harrisonburg; Nella S. Roark, Alta Vista; Juniors—Louise F. Coleman, Roanoke; Arline Cutshall, Roanoke; Lilian A. Miller, Baltimore; Specials—Mrs. Wm. G. LeHew, Harrisonburg.

Those whose average grade is nearer to A than to B: Degree student—Mary McK. Seebert, Lexington; Postgraduates—Sallie L. Browne, Stanardsville; Elise A. Loewner, Harrisonburg; Lena M. Reed, Penn-Laird; Seniors—Lelouise Edwards, Norfolk; Rosa P. Heidelberg, Rustburg; Marion B. Nesbitt, South Boston; Mary J. Phillips, Bedford; Allie Mae Brindel, Roanoke; Thelma Miller, Roseland; Juniors—Iona Wimbrough, Chincoteague; Louise Houston, Fairfield; Chloe Peck, Roanoke; Anne B. Gilliam, Petersburg; Charlotte Morris, Gaylord; Emily Round, Manassas; Preparatory students—Margaret McDonald, Roanoke; Mary C. Harris, Pendleton; Celia P. Swecker, Monterey; and Harriet W. James, Mobjack.

This list is made on the basis of the new grading system adopted this session: the grade A indicates "Excellent" and represents approximately the numerical grade of 94 to 100.

Matters move apace in the affairs of the Dramatic Club. On Tuesday, January 20, ten "dramatic goats" were initiated, but the latter word is a tame expression for the circus that went on under the
direction of Mr. Johnston, who acted as chief factotum and ringmaster. These “ten dramatic goats” entered the dining room dressed to represent famous actresses of the stage and screen. They were Coralease Bottom, Edna Draper, Grace Heyl, Elizabeth Daniel, Louise Coleman, Arline Cutshall, Ella Horloran, Kathryn Willson, Marie Painter and Virginia Mecartney.

Old members of the Stratford Dramatic Club, who have by their activities put so much qui vive into the affairs of the club, are Le-louise Edwards, Nancy Baker, Tita Bland, Gertrude Bowler, Mae Brindel, Grace Fisher, Mary Folliard, Hazel Haun, Pauline Johnson, Miriam Jones, Elise Loewner, Mer-la Matthews, Elizabeth Murphy, Mozelle Powell, Mary Phillips, Lena Reed, Louise Shumadine, Frances Stell, Dorothy Spooner, and Dorothy Williams.

We have an annual—The Schoolma'am. It followed rather logically—this being a woman's institution—that there should be an annual staff. It dawned upon us all soon after returning from the holidays—still more logically—that it was up to the students to elect the staff.

Meantime the faculty Committee on Student Publications considered and investigated—investigated and considered. Finally these investigations and considerations came to the students in a long list of nominations selected from each class. It was now their time to consider—not the color of the girl's eyes, or the number of her "specials," but the quality of her ability. For, as Miss Cleveland says, the girl to choose is the girl who will make the best "Schoolma'am."

There were meetings—and meetings. And they ended in the election of a most promising staff under the editorial guidance of Gertrude Bowler, who is a senior, of course, and also a student assistant in English. Elise Loewner, business manager of last year’s Schoolma'am, will again fill that position, having as her assistant Catherine Harrison. Other members of the Staff are Nell Critzer, Dorothy Spooner, and Merla Matthews, of the Degree class; Ruth Rodes, Vergilia Sadler, and Sallie Browne, of the Postgraduate class; Marion Nesbitt and Nella Roark, of the Senior class; Louise Coleman, of the Junior class; and Elkanah Powell, Special.

This is the annual staff. The best Schoolma'am is coming!

Harrisonburg was proud to take her place with the schools and colleges all over North America in sending her quota of delegates to the Des Moines Convention Student Volunteer Convention held in Des Moines, Iowa, December 31 to January 5. We were allowed three delegates and we sent three; our only regret was that we could not have more.

This, the Eighth International Convention of the Student Volunteer Movement, opened with the record-breaking attendance of 7000 students, who with the leaders of the Convention represented forty different nations. It was an index of a world movement that shall wield a world influence in the next twenty-five years. Where is the pessimist who mournfully asks, "What is the world coming to?" He would have changed his attitude if he could have seen revealed even in a small way what the 300,000 students of North America are standing for.

Our three delegates, Frances Sawyer, Marion Nesbitt and Sallie Browne, in their follow-up reports in chapel gave us a glimpse of the great world need that is a challenge to all and a responsibility that passes no one by.

The Convention under the leadership of John R. Mott, Robert E. Speer, Sherwood Eddy, Robert P. Wilder and others who are strong forces in our national life, did not fail to impress them with the greatness of the task which this generation faces. If the world is going to be a fit place to live, it is for the students of the world to make it so; and to America will fall the greater part of this task.

During January members of the faculty who spoke before groups of teachers and citizens interested in school affairs were President Duke, Dr. W. J. Gifford, and Conrad T. Logan. On January 5 Mr. Logan addressed the teachers of Page County at Luray on the “Fundamentals of English in the Elementary Schools.” On January 20 President Duke spoke before a patrons’ rally at New Market on “School Improvement.” Fifteen members of the Normal School Glee Club, under the direction of Miss Edna Shaeffer, were also present and
participated in the program. Dr. Gifford spoke January 22 before citizens of Manassas on “Adequate Finances” for the schools of that city.

The Harrisonburg Education Association, consisting of the teachers in the public school system and members of the Examinations Normal School faculty, at their regular January meeting discussed "Examinations and Promotion.” Talks and papers were contributed by Miss Zoe Porter, Miss Wehler and Norman E. Smith of the city schools; and by Dr. H. A. Converse, Conrad T. Logan, and Dr. W. J. Gifford of the Normal School. It was announced that the next two meetings would be spent in consideration and discussion of the report recently published following the Education Commission's survey of Virginia's public schools.

Among the speakers who occupied the rostrum at assembly periods during January were Dr. John W. The Wayland, who spoke on Assembly Period "Lee" on January 19; Ward C. Swank, Clerk of the City Council of Harrisonburg and attorney-at-law, who addressed the students on "Making Wills" January 21; Miss Sarah M. Wilson, of the Department of Home Economics, who gave a most interesting talk on "The Family Budget and the Personal Budget" January 23; Rev. B. F. Wilson, D.D. of the Presbyterian Church, Harrisonburg, who January 28 spoke on "Art in Life," encouraging the appreciation of the artistic and thus introducing students to the art exhibit sponsored by the Art Department; Milton M. Smith, Sec. of the New York Center English Folk Dance Society and instructor at the Horace Mann School for Boys, Teachers College, New York, who on January 30 spoke on "English Country Dancing."

That Normal School girls are apt pupils and that Mr. Smith is a skillful teacher were demonstrated by the smoothness with which the country dances were executed when they were shown to illustrate the talk on "English Country Dances." There were only three brief rehearsals, but the dances were given without a hitch. Dances illustrated included "Rufty Tufty," "The Butterfly," "Black Nag," and "Sellenger’s Round," and at the end of the program Mr. Smith showed us how the Morris Dance is done. Students assisting in the demonstration were Merla Matthews, Margaret Proctor, Frances Stell, Nella Roark, Clara Lambert, Katherine Pettus, Mozelle Powel, Pauline Johnson, and Marion Nesbitt.

Those wishing to purchase the music and notation for these and other of the country dances can obtain them from the H. W. Gray Co., 2 West 45th St., New York. The Country Dance Book, in four parts, edited by Cecil J. Sharp, and containing a description of the steps and figures of about 125 dances, can be obtained from the same source.

One of the most helpful and practical talks which it has been the privilege of Normal School students to hear this session was that by Family Budget Miss Sarah M. Wilson, of the Department of Household Arts. Miss Wilson’s talk came on Family Budget Day during Thrift Week, and was directed especially toward the personal budget, which is the more immediate concern of our students. All expenditures can be included under one of the following heads, and budget experts before the present high prices allowed these definite percentages: Food, 25 per cent; shelter, 20 per cent; operating expenses, 15 per cent; clothing, 15 per cent; and "higher life," 25 per cent. The last item is meant to include expenditures for education, recreation, religious, social welfare, health, and savings.

Miss Wilson made a plea with her audience, as a part of America’s educated womanhood, to help set up sensible standards that would prevent extravagance in the matter of dress. By this means there will be made available a large part of the individual’s income for the many important activities listed under "Higher Life" and regarded as cultural and enriching.

Charles Denoe Leedy, a former pupil of Harold Randolph, Peabody Conservatory of Baltimore, and now a student under the celebrated pianist, Harold Bauer, gave a piano recital in the auditorium Friday evening, January 9. Mr. Leedy gave recitals...
at Bridgewater College on the evening of January 8th and at Stuart Hall, Staunton, on the evening of the 10th. He is a cousin of Senator Robert F. Leedy, of Page County.

To aid in promoting the study and appreciation of art in the schools of the country the Elson Art Publication An Educational Company Inc., of Belmont, Art Exhibition Mass., lent us free of charge for four days its educational art exhibition consisting of about two hundred large pictures, each in mat frame with title and artist’s name, and about three hundred small prints, under the following plan:

(a) That a public exhibition of the pictures be held, with the co-operation of the school authorities.

(b) That the school children sell tickets to the exhibition in advance.

(c) That the entire net proceeds be used in purchasing pictures from the company for the walls of the school.

(d) That all transportation charges above $10 should be paid by the company.

(e) That in addition to the exhibit the company should furnish large advertising posters, handbills announcing the exhibit, tickets of admission, advertising copy, circulars, etc., free.

The exhibition consisted of large sepia carbon photographs and photogravures, many subjects in color, either printed in oil colors by skilled artist printers or hand-colored in oils after the original paintings. It contained only the very best reproductions of the masterpieces of art of different countries and periods. Nearly every famous art gallery in the world would have to be visited to see the originals of the pictures which were brought together for us in one collection.

The members of the Art Appreciation class were each given some famous picture or artist to study up and report on to the rest of the class and to the visitors at the Art Exhibit. They collected many interesting facts and stories concerning the pictures. Perhaps the greatest value of the exhibit is that it gives a chance to see at first hand pictures of which you have read all your life. Regardless of whether or not you make a definite study of the pictures, the exhibit must serve to broaden you both in heart and mind by their appeal to a sense of the artistic and the beautiful.

There have been two ventures so far in the campaign for raising a fund which will serve the English department in the same manner as the laboratory funds provide for the use of the sciences. A five-reel movie, shown through the kindness of Manager D. P. Wine, of the New Virginia Theater, brought into the coffers $27.49 and the Book Party given January 31 netted $45.66—a total to date of $73.15. The price of admission to the Book Party and its stunts was held down so as to encourage a large attendance. The various “sideshows” turned in the following amounts: General admissions, $21.42; Bookshelf, $1.69; Universal Library, $1.80; Art Gallery, $3.45; Literary Digest (Refreshments), $10.40; Circulating Library, $3.60; Maggie Zine’s Romance, $2.30.

Prizes in the guessing contests were awarded to Margaret Bear, who guessed twenty-eight books on the “Bookshelf”; to Marion Nesbitt, who guessed the names of twenty-nine out of thirty authors in the “Art Gallery”; and to Gladys Lee who won the draw from Dorothy Spooner and Martha Lassiter, for guessing the most charades. For the best costumes Nell Critzer and Dorothy Spooner as “Launcelot and Elaine” were awarded the prize, Gertrude Bowler as Babble in “The Little Minister” receiving honorable mention by the judges.

Although the night of January 23 was slick and slippery, the auditorium of Harrison Hall was packed and overflowing with a very appreciative audience which witnessed an old-time minstrel show presented by the Degree and Postgraduate classes.

When the curtains were parted, sixteen “niggers” bedecked in red swallow-tail coats, white trousers, and straw hats sang in unison “Oh Dem Golden Slippers.” The middle-man, Miss Ethel Parrott, looked like an Apollo in her (?) dress suit and silk hat. Suddenly four end-men jazzed from behind the
curtain, radiant in their green tuxedo coats, white trousers and felt hats. They were:

Pete, alias Elise Loewner.
Repeat, alias Dorothy Spooner.
Bones, alias Marguerite Whitney.
Sambo, alias Vergilia Sadler.

These "culled pussons" kept the audience in a continuous roar with their jokes and remarks concerning certain celebrities of the town as well as of the school. Miss Dorothy Williams, as Snowball, sang several solos quite effectively, while Jo Warren, as George Washington Johnston Brown, "took de cake" when she sang and played "Ah Got Mine."

Probably the biggest "hit" of the night was when Pete and Repeat sang "The Graveyard Blues," a clever parody, causing certain members of the faculty to sit up and take notice. Another song which caused a great deal of merriment was one entitled "Anything" by Repeat, accompanied by the playing of stringed instruments by Misses Fisher and Whitney.

Many new and old songs were sung by the chorus and the jokes were especially clever. The latter part of the program consisted of a playlet entitled, "The Booster Club of Blackville."

Although this was a dark night at the Normal, yet the darkness had a silver lining for the graduate classes made one hundred and forty dollars!

On the morning of January 19, Lee's birthday, the Lee Literary Society, under the auspices of the Daughters of the Confederacy gave at the New Virginia Theater a program entitled The March of Democracy. This was a pageant showing the ever present spirit of democracy and freedom in the hearts of the American people and the final triumph of democracy over autocracy in the great World War. The entire Lee membership took part. The girls taking the leading parts were Jo Warren, as Autocracy; Rosa Heidelberg, as Democracy; Louise Coleman, as Liberty; and Nell Critzer, as America.

The athletic season opened after the Christmas holidays with a great deal of enthusiasm. Work was begun immediately on Basketball, the chief winter sport—basketball. The teams were chosen with the following captains: Postgraduates—Merla Matthews; Seniors—Marion Nesbitt; Juniors—June Steele; Sophomores—Thelma Grasty.

Mr. Johnston refereed and the game was quick and clean with especially good passing—Miss Matthews starring for her stage throws and Miss Nesbitt for her field goals. Unfortunately the teams were not evenly matched the score being 18—6 in favor of the Seniors.

On January 30th the Junior-Sophomore game took place. Again the rooters were enthusiastic and some excellent playing was done on both sides. For the first few minutes the score ran close, but the Juniors came out victorious with a score of 30—7. The two teams consisted of:

Juniors
Faulkner Forwards McGehee
Steele
Reilly Guards James
Coleman
Mott Center Barlow
Morgan
Hodges Substitutes

Sophomores

Faulkner Forwards McGehee
Steele Deathbridge
Reilly Guards James
Coleman Tillman
Mott
Morgan
Hodges

Under the auspices of the American School Citizenship League, formerly called the American School Peace League, there has been conducted during the past ten years an annual contest for the best essay submitted on some subject dealing with international good feeling. From the secretary of the league, Mrs. Fannie Fern Edwards, 405 Marlborough St., Boston, comes announcement of the contest for the present year, with the offer to send literature to assist in the
writing of the essay. Prizes of seventy-five, fifty, and twenty-five dollars are offered for the best essays submitted by Normal School seniors before April 1, 1920, on the subject: "Education for Citizenship in the League of Nations." Essays must not exceed 5,000 words, but a length of 3,000 words is preferred. It is stated that essays were submitted last year from nearly three-quarters of all normal schools in the United States.

Dr. Henry A. Converse, Registrar, delightfully entertained the men of the faculty at his home on Paul Street, Tuesday night, January 27. Dr. Converse presided at the chafing dish and prepared a Welsh Rarebit for his guests, who were then called upon to speak on the following subjects: Dr. J. W. Wayland, "The History of the Welsh Rarebit"; Raymond C. Dingledine, "The Philosophy of the Welsh Rarebit"; James C. Johnston, "The Chemistry of the Welsh Rarebit," Conrad T. Logan, "The Orthography of the Welsh Rarebit," Dr. W. J. Gifford, "The Reactions of the Welsh Rarebit," and G. W. Chappelear, "The Biology of the Welsh Rarebit." As Dr. Converse had taken his guests by surprise, he in turn was called upon by Dr. Gifford to speak on "The Soul of the Welsh Rarebit.

Dr. Converse's plans included a toast by President Duke on "The Organization of the Welsh Rarebit," but a meeting of the State Normal School Board in Richmond made it necessary that President Duke be there—to speak in more serious vein.

Students who attend the Episcopal Church in Harrisonburg were entertained on the evening of January 28 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Sublett, on South Main Street. The Reverend and Mrs. Walter Williams, Mr. and Mrs. James C. Johnston, Dr. and Mrs. Henry A. Converse and Miss Mary Louise Seegar assisted Mr. and Mrs. Sublett. Students who were present included Edna Bonney, Mildredie Jackson, Esther Evans, Emily Round, Barker, Hazel Bellerby, Elizabeth Mott, Ma-Katherine Rouzie, Eleanor Pendleton, Mary Phillips, Frances Tabb, Virginia Drew, Margaret Lewis, Phyllis Eastham, Anne Gilliam, Ethel Lanier, Anna Cameron, Grace Heyl, Clare Harnberger, Ruth Royston, Edith Ward, Dorothy Williams, Marian Walton, and Isabel Wilkins.

The two latest additions to the faculty have possessed a vocal exuberance in strong contrast to their inability so far to make much of an impress upon the student body. But perhaps this is no time to pass judgment which time would certainly reverse. On December 27 young Robt. Gifford was received into the school family, and on January 8th Marshall Ward Duke became a resident of the President's home and ex-officio a member of the faculty.

In two recent contests, one statewide, the other covering five states, students of the city schools have been among the successful competitors. Miss Margaret Kemper, third year student in the Harrisonburg High School, was awarded the 2nd prize of $10 in the contest conducted by the Virginia Anti-Tuberculosis Association for the best rime illustrating the dangers of this disease.

Annie Grace Dickens, a pupil in the Training School, grade 4-A, was awarded first prize in the contest put on by the Junior Red Cross, Potomac Division for the best poster illustrating the work of the Junior Red Cross. The successful drawing appeared on the last page of a recent number of the bulletin issued by the American Red Cross, Potomac Division.

Raymond C. Dingledine, of the Department of History, was recently elected historian of Rockingham Post No. 27, American Legion.

AMBITION

If I knew what the poets know
And had a sea of ink,
On the broad expanse of the blue, blue sky
I'd write a rime, I think.

ERMA M. TIECHE