

tinguishing characteristics are thoroughness and scientific accuracy coupled with clearness and conciseness of expression. Then too it is a readable book, one that is hard to put aside. Anyone who reads this book will like botany better and will teach it better. The illustrations number 173 and suggest many experiments that should be interesting to superior students to supplement the required work.

G. W. CHAPPELEAR.

SPEAKING AND WRITING ENGLISH. By Max J. Herzberg and William Lewin. Boston: Allyn and Bacon. Pp. 399. \$1.50.

The main object of *Speaking and Writing English* is the same as that of other texts in composition: "to attain greater power of self-expression," but the method differs in points of emphasis. The authors stress the use of words, sentence structure, and the paragraph as theme elements, and then take up the subject of story telling. A section of the book is given to an exhaustive study of letters and letter writing which is called "Composition in Practical Life." A large number of exercises is provided, affording opportunity for technical drill.

GRAMMAR AT WORK. By Jessie L. Wheeler. Boston: Allyn and Bacon. Pp. 286. \$1.00.

The title suggests the intention of the book—to make the study of grammar practical. It rounds out the knowledge of grammar previously gained and then aims to apply it to everyday use.

The arrangement of the material is flexible, in that the book may be used in various ways and for different years. It is valuable for its abundant exercises.

PROGRESSIVE COMPOSITION. By Frances M. Perry. Yonkers-on-Hudson, New York: World Book Company. Pp. 358. \$1.44.

A prerequisite for good, clear, writing is the ability to think clearly and accurately. *Progressive Composition*, having as its aim the training in this ability, offers practice in collecting and organizing material and in thoughtful consideration of the facts or ideas to be presented in oral or written expression.

The work is progressive, giving the student a sense of achievement from one day to another, since he is required to use today that which he learned yesterday.

EXERCISES AND TESTS ON ENGLISH CLASSICS. By Mary Louise Harris. Boston: Ginn and Company. 1928. Pp. 269.

Utilizing the contract method, Miss Harris has assembled abundant exercises for use in the teaching of six high school "classics": *Ivanhoe*, *Treasure Island*, *Julius Caesar*, *Merchant of Venice*, *Lady of the Lake*, and the *Odyssey*. Another unit for the short story is also included.

Each group of exercises follows pretty much the same scheme, giving attention to fundamental tasks, theme topics, drawings, study of background material, etc. For each classic there are also a completion test and a true-false test.

The pad includes what many readers will regard as unimportant assignments, but this defect is often found in lessons planned for the contract method. An intelligent teacher will be able to make good use of the pad.

C. T. L.

NEWS OF THE COLLEGE

The hockey season has been most successful for the Harrisonburg team. The season opened on November 3, with the local players facing the strong team from Westhampton College. Although H. T. C. lost by the small margin of 4-3, the Harrisonburg team showed strong possibilities, which they more than lived up to in the following games. H. T. C. took the long end of a 11-0 score when she met Fredericksburg on November 17, and the winning end of a 3-1 score from George Washington University. The college players likewise were victorious over the Alumnæ team on December 1, by the score of 6-1.

Kappa Delta Pi has admitted four new members to her ranks: Mina Thomas, of Richmond; Mary Brown Allgood, of Petersburg; and Elizabeth Knight, of New Jersey, all Juniors in the College; and Louise W. Elliott, of Norfolk, a former member of Pi Kappa Omega, who received her degree here in 1926. Initiation services were held Friday, November 30, at which time Louise Elliott returned to the College to be initiated.

The week of November 11 was observed in chapel as Children's Book Week. A group of readings and a play were appropriate programs for this observance.

The presidential election was echoed on the campus by the college straw vote, in which Hoover won by the small majority of seventeen votes.

The college answered the national call for support to the Red Cross and contributed a neat sum of money to this fund. Interest was stimulated in this movement through chapel talks and programs.

The college began extension courses here on November 3. These courses are being given on successive Saturdays, running for fifteen weeks, two hours a week, and carrying three quarter-hours credit. The courses offered are: English Literature, taught by Miss Margaret Hoffman; Inter-

national Relations, by Mr. R. C. Dingle-dine, and Public Education in Virginia, by Dr. Walter J. Gifford.

The student body participated in the Armistice day parade, held annually in Harrisonburg. A pretty float and attractive costumes helped H. T. C. make a most creditable appearance.

The Freshmen class has organized and chosen its leaders for the year. Sally Bishop Jones, of Cape Charles, is president; Frances Rolston, of Mt. Clinton, vice-president; Margaret Beck, of Winchester, secretary; Julia Duke, of Harrisonburg, treasurer; Mary Farinholt, of Petersburg, business manager; and Anna Mendel, of Arlington, sergeant-at-arms.

On Friday evening, November 23, the Stratford Dramatic Club presented its fall production, "You Never Can Tell," a sparkling four-act comedy by George Bernard Shaw. A large audience received this play most appreciatively, and it is considered by many as one of the best productions ever offered by the Stratfords.

The Y. W. C. A., under the leadership of Mary Boone Murphy, has developed wonderfully this year, and excellent programs have featured all meetings. Ministers of Harrisonburg and members of the college faculty have delivered talks to the students through the Y. W.

Chapel programs have been varied and quite attractive. A number of delightful speakers have entertained the chapel audiences. Several organizations have also furnished chapel programs. The Page Literary Society and Kappa Delta Pi have both given excellent programs in chapel this first quarter. Several ministers of the local churches have given inspiring talks to the faculty and student body at these times.

The College library is fortunate in having many new books added to its shelves. Educational textbooks and fiction make up the bulk of this new supply and are proving quite valuable.

The social science faculty of the college is inaugurating a new feature this year by offering a group of lectures to be given during the present session for the benefit of all students and teachers in the department. Each member of the social science faculty will deliver one of these addresses during the year. Mr. Hanson gave the first of the series, on Tuesday evening, November 20. He chose as his subject "The Making of Commercial Maps and Globes," and delivered an instructive talk. Other addresses will follow at other dates to be announced later.

Dr. Wayland has been elected to honorary membership in the Kansas State Historical Society, the largest historical society in the United States.

Miss Virginia Harnsberger, College librarian, has been elected president of the Virginia State Library Association, at the meeting held in Norfolk several weeks ago.

Mrs. W. B. Varner spent the week-end of November 17 at a meeting of deans of women, held in Washington. She reports a beneficial and pleasant trip.

Mr. Logan was elected auditor of the National Council of Teachers of English at its recent meeting in Baltimore, and was also appointed to represent the Council as an advisory editor of the *Elementary English Review*.

Numbers in the entertainment course have included this fall not only two pleasing performances by the Sprague Players, who presented "Rip Van Winkle" and "Lightnin'" on November 26, but also two movies: Mary Pickford in Kathleen Norris's "My Best Girl," on November 31, and Lewis Stone in "The Prince of Head Waiters," on November 9.

Examinations are close at hand and everyone's thoughts are turning to the completion of the fall quarter's work. Everyone is quite busy, and from all indications will continue so until the morning of December 18, when the "final reckoning"

comes and the college closes its doors from then until January 2 for the longest and most pleasant holiday of the year, Christmas.

ALUMNÆ NOTES

A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT DUKE TO THE ALUMNÆ

Dear Alumnæ:

I wish to take this means of expressing to you my deepest appreciation of the beautiful watch you gave me at the annual alumnæ banquet last June. While the gift was entirely unexpected, it was nevertheless wholly in keeping with that fine spirit of loyalty and sympathetic co-operation that the alumnæ have always accorded the president of our college. This gift will ever remain to me a priceless token of your splendid devotion to the college and to me personally. I am writing this note because at the banquet I was so overwhelmed by the thought of your kind and generous feelings that I neglected to express my appreciation.

Sincerely yours,

SAMUEL P. DUKE

ALUMNÆ ASSOCIATION OF H. T. C. HOLDS ANNUAL BANQUET

The Alumnæ Association of the Harrisonburg State Teachers College held its annual banquet in Friddle's Grill Room on Tuesday, November 13, at six o'clock. Around the two long tables decorated with clever Thanksgiving favors, sat most of the town alumnæ with the members of the college Committee on Alumnæ Relations.

Between courses, Mr. S. P. Duke, president of the college and guest of honor, made a short address on "Some Trends of College Life as Seen from the Administrative Standpoint." He brought out the point that though H. T. C.'s enrollment excelled that of other state colleges (in percent of increase), it was not up to his expectation. He spoke of his plans for readjusting the

course of study to attract more mature students working for their degrees, especially during the summer months. He also gave a description of the new buildings already completed on the campus. In conclusion he stated that he wanted guidance from the teachers and alumnæ in organizing the summer school and their help in directing new students to their Alma Mater.

The nine new members or "goats" were next called upon to tell in rhyme some of the things they were thankful for and to give their "stunt." The stunt brought down the house.

The election of officers resulted as follows: Florence Fray, president; Agnes Stribling Dingledine, vice-president; Bertha McCollum, secretary; Edna Dechert, treasurer. Other business of the local chapter was then discussed and the meeting closed with all Alumnæ holding hands and singing Auld Lang Syne.

The Alumnæ present were: Mrs. Harry Garber, Mrs. Tom Brock, Mrs. Edgar Howard, Mrs. Charles Beck, Mrs. Sheff Devier, Mrs. Henry, Mrs. W. T. Wolfrey, Mrs. Raymond Webster, Mrs. Ward Swank, Mrs. Arthur Hamaker, Mrs. Herbert Hawkins, Mrs. Johnston Fristoe, Mrs. Wert Wise, Misses Lucy Faulkner, Lucille McGlaughlin, Inez Morgan, Cameron Phillips, Wilmot Doan, Gladys Goodman, Ruth Harris, Vada Whitesel, Kate Wilmoth, Virginia Beverage, Betty Jones, Mary Walters, Mary Bosserman, Virginia Buchanan, Sylvia Myers, Madeline English, Hallie Copper, Ruth Hill, Mary Forest, Florence Fray, Constance Henry, Lois Yancey, Sarah Elizabeth Thompson, Bertha McCollom, Mamie Omohundro, Ruth Miller, Dr. Weems, Miss Hoffman, Miss Cleveland, Dr. Wayland, and Mr. Duke.

NEWS FROM ROCKINGHAM COUNTY ALUMNÆ

Helen Jackson, who taught last year at Timberville, was married to Randolph