FIAT LUX

The Story of ALFRED UNIVERSITY

WITH ITS CONSTITUENT AND AFFILIATED SCHOOLS

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DEDICATED TO ALFRED UNIVERSITY S STUDENTS,

PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE

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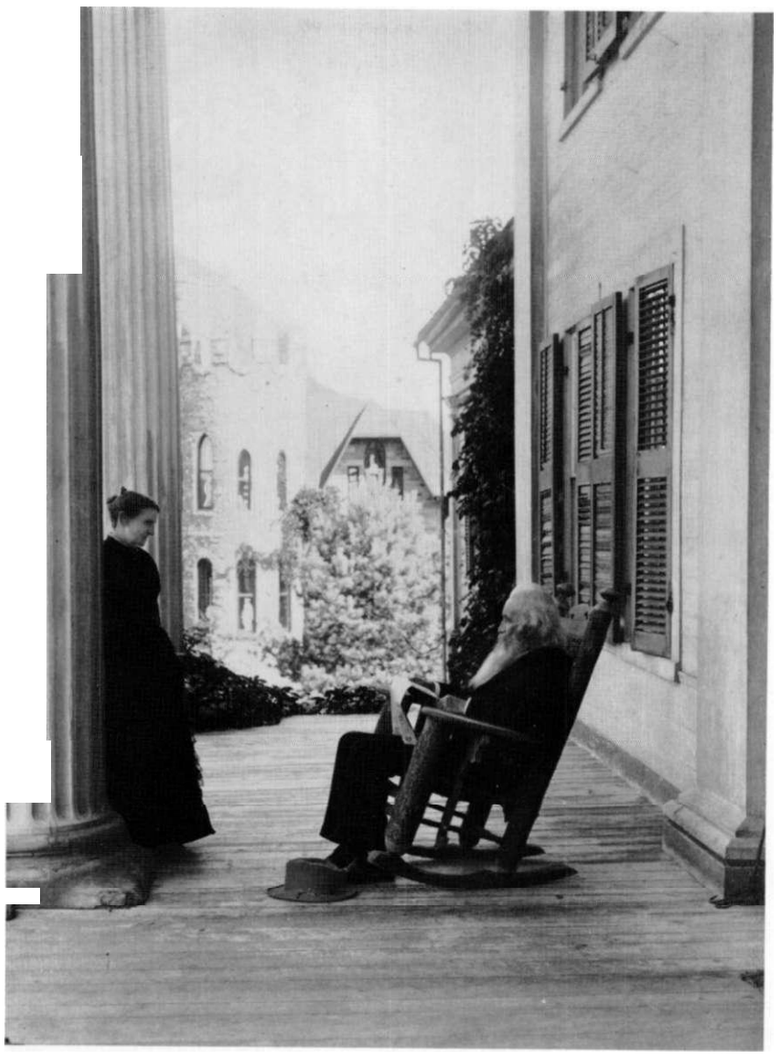

President and Mrs. Allen

Preface

Here is presented the story of the rise and growth of higher education centering at Alfred University in its hill-circled Southwestern New York valley. The late Boothe Colwell Davis planned to tell the tale himself after his thirty-eight year presidency. This, however, he found to be physically impossible and asked me to assume the task. Trained in historical research and experienced as a history teacher, I felt that the work would be a pleasure. Moreover, I have known this Alfred during half of its 120 year evolution from a little Select School, through an Academy, into a University. The story is a moving mixture of devotion, love, despair, sacrifice, and triumph.

While all phases of the University's history have, I hope, been fairly presented, perhaps a little special emphasis has been given to the campus life of the students—the changing regulations which governed them, their organizations, campus institutions, traditions, and sports.

Every variety of available source material has been pressed into use from fugitive clippings to volumes of solid official records. Friends have contributed recollections. New material is still coming in allowing corrections to be made, but if a manuscript is ever to be dressed in print that process must now stop.

A few of the many who have contributed time and talent to the preparation of this story must be mentioned by name. In the early research Miss Lucile B. Knapp, my chief secretary while I was President, did excellent work in supervising copyists, and in classifying material. Another secretary, Katharine Titsworth (Mrs. Harold E.) Riegger, also gave valuable aid. After my retirement Ruth Whitford (Mrs. W. C.) Russell served most competently as part-time assistant. Latterly Margaret Wingate (Mrs. Daniel E.) Rase has given intelligent help.

Five members of the University faculty read an earlier draft contributing many, many improvements. To these men: Dr. Melvin Bernstein, Dr. Ernest B. Finch, Fred H. Gertz, David Leach, and Dr. Willis C. Russell, I owe a heavy debt of gratitude. Mr. Gertz has since done much additional detail work on the manuscript. Edward K. Lebohner, and James A. McLane read and reread, with useful comment the later chapters or sections on finance and athletics. My wife has thrice read

the manuscript suggesting many improvements. Miss Marion L. Fosdick contributed the campus map.

While these and other willing workers have been indispensable to whatever value the work has achieved, I alone must accept responsibility for errors or faulty interpretations which inevitably creep into such a book. Judge leniently, please.

Finally, as the past gives birth to the present and to the future, the students of today are educated by the students of yesterday. Hence in casting our thoughts now to the future, in the light of this Alfred story, and in the light of the vigor and maturity of Alfred University as shown in the story can it not be safely affirmed that better and better educated Alfred graduates are assured in the decades to come? I believe that.

J. NELSON NORWOOD
Alfred, New York
May, 1957

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CHAPTER I

The Pioneers and Their Select School 1836-37

THREE PIONEER BOYS AND A TAPER

"IT'S A BOY!" Neighbors had been on the *qui vive* for some time that May morning of 1817 in the pioneer settlement of Alfred, New York. The George S. Coons were "expecting," and now word passed from cabin to cabin that they had a bouncing boy. Thus began the long and useful life of Amos West Coon who was destined to take the first recorded action by a local resident toward the founding of institutions of higher education in the valley.

Barely six years later in another part of town a similar bit of news spread about the birth of another pioneer boy. The home was that of Abram Allen and Dorcas, his wife. The first born of the young couple was Jonathan Macomber Allen, and the time January 26, 1823. Young Jonathan was to spend most of his seventy summers and winters in this valley and play a brilliant part in the first half of the story here beginning.

The hill-circled hamlet of Alfred occupies the junction of two valleys and was the site of a prehistoric lake which geologists called "Lake Alfred." The valley's northern outlet had been blocked by the ice and debris of an ice age. The rocks picked up by the creeping ice, representing various areas and epochs, and dumped there made the section a geologists' paradise. The heights offered views of hilltop beyond hilltop into the blue haze of the horizon. These features early captured the imagination of young Allen. A brace of traditions purports to explain the name Alfred. One says that the town was named for the would-be scholar, King Alfred of England, by the English nobleman who bought the area from the Phelps and Gorham land company. The other tradition credits the name to a group of English travelers who fancied seeing some resemblance between the local scenery and that about King Alfred's old capital, Winchester, and so christened the spot, Alfred. Two

meanings for the word are offered—"bright, beautiful," and "wise counsellor."

The early settlers were mostly Seventh Day Baptists from Rhode Island and Eastern New York State, and sturdy, morally strict, God-fearing folk they were too, by-products of the Protestant Reformation in England. The Crandalls, Greens, Maxsons, Stillmans, Burdicks, Langworthys, Coons, Aliens, Saunders, and others came with ox teams or afoot. Best known of the first trio to appear in Alfred was the leader Judge Clark Crandall (1807). During his long life he held almost every public office from town clerk to member of assembly. Strong, resolute, honest, public-spirited, he long served his adopted community.

Other early arrivals included Maxson Green, free contributor to the chief educational enterprise of the little settlement—Alfred Academy. Another was David Stillman who built the rambling house on the later Agricultural and Technical Institute farm, and mystified his neighbors by the quaint innovation of doing his haying without the aid of liquor. Next came Luke Green who later opened a general store on the present site of Greene Hall, named for the family (which subsequently added the final "e"). In the same year as Green came Maxson Stillman, Jr., who scouted the area and returned the next year with his father's family. During a life-time covering almost a century he built, or planned and supervised construction of churches, grist mills, and homes, as well as several of the early structures of the Academy and University. These men stood out in the pioneer days. Their names recur in our story as key figures in civic, church, and school affairs.

Just before little Amos was born came the terrible starving year—the year without a summer (1816). The settlers suffered grievously. Had not the Land Company office provided help, it was said, many would have died. But food was scarce even when it did not snow every summer month. The grandfather Aliens had moved to Alfred in 1817 and built a home west of the village. While it was under construction the father and grown sons, one of whom was Abram, went daily from a temporary residence to the work of building. One morning after they had gone not a crust was left for the little ones at home. Nothing daunted, the brave Scottish mother saddled her horse and rode eight or ten miles to Karr Valley where earlier settlers had abundance. She brought back flax to spin and food as pay for her work. Supper was ready when the builders returned at night. Nor was that her last trip to the friendly Karrs and Lockharts of Karr Valley.

While pioneer life was often hard, it had its lighter sides. Numerous

"bees"—such as house-raisings, quiltings, and apple parings—brought groups of families together. In 1811 a local militia company was formed, and prospered for many years as did similar companies elsewhere. "General Trainings" were social events. Dinner was served in the lower tavern (David Stillman's house), while in the evening came the grand ball which always followed the day's drill. Wives and sweethearts watched the marching and counter-marching and joined in the merrymaking. "Waking up officers" at night was one of the amusements of the young bloods. In quieter mood happy restful evenings were spent around the big fire-cheered hearthstone, while winds howled and snow drifted outside. Doubtless young Coon and Allen listened wide-eyed to tales of the Revolutionary War told by relatives who had been soldiers in it.

True to their New England heritage the settlers had brought to their new homes the church and the school—twin symbols of their culture. In due time district schools were instructing the numerous progeny of the area. Barely five years after the arrival of the first comers they had organized a Seventh Day Baptist religious society, July 4, 1812. Twenty-four persons formed that association for the maintenance of religious services and for mutual watch care and admonition. After spending three years (1813-16) as a branch of another church of the same faith back east, the group became an independent body as "The first Sabaterian Babtist [sic] Church in Alfred." Its first house of worship, after meeting for nearly two decades in homes and school houses, was built and occupied near the north boundary of the later State Agricultural and Technical Institute farm (1828).

The intellectual thirst of the citizens was quenched by the early acquisition (1823) of the "Alfred Union Library." The Library flourished until competition from the state-created district school libraries provided something better. Most likely Coon profited by it, but certainly Allen, among other material, read and reread in it the *Life of King A If red* until many pages were memorized.

Religion and temperament made most early Alfred settlers energetic reformers. Temperance, woman's rights, and anti-slavery were vigorously espoused. The first arrivals were not as a whole drinking people, yet some did overdo at times. An unusual illustration of this comes from the journey to Alfred of David Stillman and his family in their covered wagon. A little toddy was believed necessary to keep up the company's spirits. Even four-year-old Amanda got her share, and once became dead drunk; so ill indeed was she that her life was despaired of. How-

ever fresh milk was suggested which being taken caused her to throw up both liquor and milk. When asked soon after if she wanted some whiskey, Amanda answered faintly "Yes." For long it had been assumed that no house- or barn-raising could be successful without liquor. An early rebel against that time-honored practice was Esther, wife of Maxson Stillman, Sr. As a substitute at a "raising" she offered a meal fit for a wedding. Up went the frame and proved as strong as any. The men enjoyed the supper, and for once all went home sober. The cause of temperance was aided also by those sympathetic but futile sessions with weak brethren in the Church whose tumbles under temptation brought God's people into bad repute.

Mixed with their discussions of temperance, crops, state and national affairs were undoubtedly questions about the destiny of their own valley. In that connection they were reading an early Seventh Day Baptist weekly, *The Protestant Sentinel*, with its debates on the need of an educated ministry for their churches and the desirability of a college under the auspices of the denomination. In that thought climate certain seeds were swelling.

There they were then—Alfred's pioneers—hardy, intelligent, upright folk, busy with the axe, the rifle, the plow, the grocer's scales, the spinning wheel, and their pewter plates. Amid virgin forests, the howl of the wolf not yet fully silenced, they had built their cabins, lifted their church spires, filled their district schools, read the prose and poetry of their library, and kept their Sabbaths. But however fully those pioneers kept touch with State and denominational movements, the firm fact remains that the idea of a select school, slowly growing in a few minds was a strictly local product and the school was launched without benefit of either official State or denominational aid. Alfred people dreamed it. Alfred people fashioned it.

MR. CHURCH CALLS SCHOOL

Now where is the third of the Three Pioneer Boys? We haven't found him yet, and we must before this local school can get a start. That" requires a 300 mile journey to what is now Washington County, New York, and the village of Shushan. In that little semi-pioneer community Bethuel Cooley Church saw the light of an early spring day—March 28, 1813. Baby Bethuel's family was active Baptist, and in due time he adopted the same faith. In his young manhood Church encountered Seventh Day Baptists and decided to join them. After prolonged discussions the Shushan Baptist Church voted (January 31, 1835) to give

him a letter of dismissal, certifying to his moral and Christian character, but denying any acceptance of his sentiments on the Sabbath. Soon after that Church joined the Petersburg (Berlin) Seventh Day Baptist Church, where clothed with its license to preach, he exercised his talents on his new associates. About that time also he was acquiring some education beyond the common schools. He studied at Cortland Academy, Homer, New York, and at the Oneida Conference Seminary (Methodist) at Cazenovia, New York (1836). Here, therefore, was a likely young man, newly inducted into the denomination, possessed of a bit of academic education and anxious to try his talents as a teacher.

Hence our story back tracks to Alfred. The boy, Amos Coon, after a considerable stay with his parents in the ancestral area on the Hudson, moved back to Alfred in 1831. There the stimulus of the library, and the educational ideas incubating in the town developed in him a thirst for more education. Coon now found a chance to do something about it. Eighteen years of age, in the fall of 1835, he paid a visit to his grandparents in Rensselaer County and whom did he encounter? Why, Bethuel C. Church, of course, who became a firm friend of the Alfred youth. Bethuel Church quizzed his new friend about Alfred's suitability as a seat for a select school.

The upshot of these conversations was (doubtless with other influences added) that while Mr. Church was attending the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference at Alfred in the early fall of 1836 the two friends made an agreement: if Coon could get twenty students to pledge attendance at $3.00 each, Church would return and open a school that autumn. If Coon succeeded, he need not notify his friend; but if he failed, he must let the prospective teacher know. The local enthusiast failed. As always, there were those ready to pour the ice water. One resident told the canvasser, "Young man, I guess you can learn in a district school yet." Coon wrote Church of his failure and regretfully dropped the project. To his utter surprise, however, Church, failing to receive the letter, appeared in Alfred. A new canvass aided by Church added some names, and Church said if suitable quarters could be found he would hold school.

In his part of the solicitation, Church called on the Abram Allen family. After a pleasant "Good morning," he told of the projected school and expressed the hope that young Jonathan would attend. "I can't afford it," said father Allen. "We shall need wood, and I will take that for tuition," encouraged Mr. Church. How the lad's heart bounded when the father agreed. "If he will chop it, he can go." But that evening

when parents noted the lack of suitable clothes, again it was felt that the boy must give it up. Jonathan could not press back the tears of disappointment. "If he feels like that," said his father, "he must go." His mother put his clothes in the best possible repair, and go Jonathan did.

So far so good. What of Mr. Church's other condition: suitable quarters? Where in the village of some thirteen buildings of various uses could a school meet? In the spring of 1836 Orson Sheldon and his family moved to Alfred, the father entering into partnership with Luke Green in his general store. The Sheldons occupied a good-sized house just north of the store, and graciously offered the upper chamber for the select school. A controversy arose between the later Sheldons and Greens over the ownership of that house, but careful search by a son of Green revealed a deed conveying the property to his father. County records moreover failed to show any real estate owned by Sheldon in that area. It seems certain, therefore, that the home of the Select School was owned by Green and occupied by Sheldon—enough honor for both families.

Now a room was available, but unfinished and therefore unsuitable as it stood. But soon a remarkable transformation took place. "Look there, Brother Burdick, what can be going on at Sheldons, chopping, sawing, hammering day after day?" "Oh, haven't you heard? We are to have a select school, and it will meet in their chamber." Such might well have been a snatch of conversation between villagers when those changes were under way. As Amos Coon remembered it, again he had taken the lead and procured the contribution of all needed material. Two Stillmans helped with the woodwork, and Orsemus Palmiter did the plastering, while under their direction Coon mixed the mortar and manned the hod. In a short time the room was in order.

On Monday morning, December 5, 1836, Mr. Church was about to call school. Tradition says that it snowed. Benches had not yet been provided, so the young folks came carrying chairs and stools. Let us look in at that epoch-making little group of some 20 youth as they take their seats. A solemn moment of devotions; brief introductory remarks by the teacher; pupils with books and slates held on laps until rough boards could be provided. There stood Church, the teacher, a little under medium height, well proportioned, and of a pleasant appearance generally. Then our eyes turn to the stove fueled with cord wood chopped by the youngest student, and worked into stove size by the teacher. The room while fresh and clean was bare of any attempt at

ornamentation, nor did any draperies set off the windows. A busy season of conferences determined students' attainments and made lesson assignments possible. We leave with the little venture in full activity.

Had we returned later for a visit or two a real innovation would have been noted—a long blackboard hung on the wall. The use of this was very embarrassing to some and to none more than to Alfred University's future president—young Allen. Later when a pupil of Church's tried a similar device in a district school it was said that the scholars arose in rebellion, and tarred and feathered—not the teacher but the blackboard. Subjects taught were mostly the common branches, e.g., reading, writing, and arithmetic. Natural philosophy (almost any aspect of nature) was one of the very few higher studies attempted. "Rhetoricals," as they called such exercises, soon put in their dread appearance—writing compositions and speaking pieces. Those biweekly exercises were times that tried juvenile souls.

Thus Church, Coon, and Allen, the three Pioneer Boys, were together for the first time in the task which caused their introduction in our narrative. In different capacities they were lighting the *Taper,* the little *Light* which was the start of higher education in Alfred—the Light which has never failed to shine more and more brilliantly through the passing decades.

Among Mr. Church's extracurricular activities was the organization of the Alfred Debating Society; a cooperative task with Charles F. Hartshorn, the alert teacher of the "Coontown" district school south of the hamlet. This group specialized in essays, orations, the reading of a manuscript newspaper, and debating. At its bi-weekly sessions in that packed schoolhouse, old and young participated. Some came several miles to attend. The next winter (1838), it was said that nearly every district school in the area boasted a debating society. The local organization merged later into others like it and became the literary ancestor of those four lyceums (Alleghanian, Orophilian, Alfriedian, Athenaean) which through more than 60 years played so prominent a role in the educational life of the Academy and University.

Before that first twelve-week term of the Select School ended, 37 young men and women had enrolled. All but three came from Alfred. Their average age was 18.8 years. Of the 15 boys four became ministers, one a justice of the peace, two high school teachers, three high school principals, four physicians and one a college president. Most of the 22 young women taught school at least for a time.

After that term Mr. Church left with the good will, even the gratitude, of his pupils and older associates. The Three Pioneer Boys never met again. The teacher spent several years at DeRuyter, New York, studying part of the time at the Institute newly opened there (1837). He wandered off to the Seventh Day Baptist churches in Ohio, was ordained to the ministry, and preached and evangelized. In 1844 Mr. Church was called to Milton, Wisconsin, to open the Select School there which later became Milton College. Disagreements developed and he soon joined the Congregationalists. He served with his new co-religionists in various capacities in the Middle West and in Texas. He died in Michigan at the age of 76.

The Reverend Bethuel Cooley Church was a rover. The pioneer in him was dominant. A successful, inspiring teacher when he applied himself to that art, a man of varied interests and talents, a reformer devoted to human uplift, much prized as a friend and counselor in his mature years, a self-sacrificing servant of God, he was not unworthy to have been the pioneering teacher, if accidentally such, of those pioneer schools out of which have grown Alfred University and Milton College.

CHAPTER II

Principal J. K. Irish, 1837-39

AN UNCONSECRATED KISS

THIS LOCAL venture, this little Select School, had held its first session. Interest and enthusiasm had mounted under the impulse of initial success. Grateful as its sponsors were for the generosity of the Sheldons who had with real sacrifice provided embryo Alfred University's first home, the new school desired a home of its own.

Another circumstance in the cultural life of the community aided greatly in the realization of that desire. Alfred people enjoyed singing, and singing schools were numerous. While the Select School was in session, a singing school had practiced in the meeting house below the village. Permission had been given the singers to use the Church house, but many doubted the propriety of such secular use of a dedicated building. As the term neared its end, the singing group was practicing one evening as usual, in the Church. It was in mid-session recess. The singers broke up into little knots of conversation. This offered a fine opportunity for the young Johns and Amandas to form brief tete-a-tetes. One of the Johns, a bit more romantic, or a bit less inhibited than others, and heedless of propriety's behests, took the liberty to kiss his young lady in the meeting house in the presence of other young people —an unconsecrated kiss in a consecrated edifice! This act raised the official doubts to blazing certainty. It could never be condoned. The wrathful explosion of near atomic intensity blew the singing school out of the Church forever.

Thus two lusty schools, academic and musical, were in the market for a place to meet without inconvenience to any family or worry over dedicated churches. Cogitating on the woes of singing schools Maxson Stillman, Jr., wrote out a call for a meeting to discuss the problem. He and his cousin, John Stillman signed it. A half-sheet of foolscap, it was nailed to the door of Luke Green's store. The notice read: All "persons

interested in having a place in which we can have a singing school, and for other purposes, are requested to meet in this store the evening after the Sabbath."

Soon after the close of the Select School the local Church had invited Halsey H. Baker, an aspirant to the ministry, to supply the Church for a time. Baker was entertained at the home of influential Maxson Green and accompanied his host to the meeting. He has given us a vivid account of the crucial session.

Some eighteen people were present in the dimly lighted store. They sat on the counter, nail kegs, or other improvised seats. Phineas Stillman moved that "Uncle" David Stillman be moderator, and directed, "All in favor say, 'Aye.' " No nays were called for. Anyway, Uncle David was already seated in the one chair the place afforded. Maxson Stillman on request outlined the purpose of the meeting. Aside from the explosion at the Church, he noted that the meeting house was away off on one side, and he wanted a house at the Center for any kind of meetings desired. While the singing school was uppermost in their minds, the Select School was in the near background. After general discussion it was agreed to proceed to build a suitable house estimated to cost $600-$800. Maxson Green promised an appropriate lot for it. As to raising the money, young Baker was gratuitously saddled with the task on suggestion of his host. Soon the canvasser was able to report over $600 pledged. His list was like a roll call of the parish, many subscribing their shares in labor and material.

At subsequent meetings plans for the edifice were perfected. A board of trustees was chosen with David Stillman as president; Luke Green, treasurer; and Maxson Stillman, managing agent. "Uncle" David, whose slowness of speech drew some banter at his expense, acted as auctioneer, and the contract was knocked down to Luke Green and Maxson Stillman for $554. The next best bid was $1000. As was usual in such situations, subscriptions were received on the stock plan. Yearly dividends, while never declared in the local case at least, were supposed to be paid from the excess of income over outgo in the operation of the school. To cover indebtedness, books, and apparatus, the stock was soon raised to $720. Evidently too interest was now centering on the Select School, while the singing school need was dropping into second place. Differences which developed in the preliminaries quickly evaporated when the decisions were made. Observers agreed that the credit for the enterprise belonged to all—in fact nearly the whole community worked as one man for its completion. In assigning individual credit Mr. Baker

awarded the palm in the educational interest to David Stillman, and in the building phase to Maxson Stillman. Luke Green was praised as the financial agent.

The new building stood on what is now Church Street near the site of the present community house. One teacher described it thus: "It sported in the grandeur of a ground plan of 28 feet by 36 feet with an elevation of 10 feet to the top of the plate. The entrance hall in the center of one end was twelve feet by eight feet flanked on either side by rooms eight feet by eight feet from one of which a stairway ascended. . . to a room serving as Bellroom, Office, and Dormitory for the Principal. The school room was arched, giving a fair central height." The house was given the Greek name of "Cadmus." Less classically-minded folk nicknamed it the "Horned Bug."

And that is how a kiss produced a Cadmus!

JAMES READ IRISH

Now there was a building, but with Mr. Church gone, there was no teacher. Mr. Baker, unable to accept the proffered principalship himself, recommended a man in Rhode Island whom David Stillman visited and employed. "I have contracted with James R. Irish to teach the School for twenty-five dollars per month and board at one place...." Thus wrote Stillman to his Alfred colleagues in September, 1837.

If we count James R. Irish as another pioneer boy, we must say now "Four Pioneer Boys." Born a week before Christmas 1811, in North Stonington, Connecticut, his early years were a time of hardship, work, and attending and later teaching district school. Aiming at the ministry he strove for more education. When 23 years old he entered Phillips Academy, Andover, Massachusetts. After more teaching he matriculated at Union College, Schenectady, New York. Two short years later lack of funds forced him to the arrangement with David Stillman just described. His college work was continued undiminished between terms at Alfred, but the course was never completed. Nevertheless, Union College conferred on him the honorary degree of Master of Arts in 1848.

Irish's trip to Alfred in late November, 1837 was a most disagreeable one. Railroads were unknown west of Utica. There was first a night ride on a locomotive facing a snow storm; next a canal boat journey in severe frost; and a night spent in Penn Yan. A lumber wagon landed him safely in Almond, and he tramped to Alfred through snow reduced to slush by drizzling fog. There he first encountered Allegany county

mud which drew from him the fervent exclamation: "O, such mud."

Soon the new Principal visited the Cadmus where workers were installing temporary seats in the school room, and where the debris left by the plasterers was yet thick on the floor. He was somewhat abashed by the consciousness of being sized up by those around him. After a restful Thanksgiving at a private home Irish returned to the Cadmus, further to assist in preparing the place for occupancy.

Commenting on the Alfred community as it impressed him he noted that the leaven of progress pervaded many of the people. The Scriptures molded their morals. Rude amusements were generally discountenanced. Good schools had taught the young a love of learning. His friend Baker had given him a tip on getting along with those strong-minded Alfred leaders. "Now, Brother Irish," he had cautioned, "if you have tact to make certain individuals. . .believe that they have their way while you retain command. . .and have yours, you will succeed." To the realization of that "if" Irish attributed whatever success he had.

December 4, 1837, all was in rough readiness. Let us in imagination join the groups that Monday morning as they converged on the house, the pride of that venturesome community. Would-be students, officers, and townsfolk were assembling. Soon all were packed into the little hall —forty-four students and some visiting townspeople. Like its homespun creators the structure inside was unadorned like the Sheldon's chamber before it, and with the seats of unplaned boards. True, but it was fresh and clean, and it was their own. An appropriate service of dedication took place with fitting preliminaries. Mr. Irish responded graciously to the welcome of the trustees and made his bow to the students.

Only a college sophomore, he was terrified as subject after subject to which he was a stranger was listed on the program. And in subjects with which he was familiar, the texts suggested were strange to him. Though the battle was one of fearful odds, he was determined to conquer. The signs of good will beaming from every eye encouraged him. As the term progressed he admitted ignorance when he lacked answers. No one was over critical, and he kept well ahead of the pupils in most subjects. The curriculum was several notches higher than that of Mr. Church's. Beside the common branches—-natural philosophy, astronomy, Latin, Greek, and some other advanced disciplines were tackled.

Beyond his preparation for sixteen classes daily, the teacher gave occasional evening lectures on topics affecting the welfare of the School or community. A sample was an address before the "Alfred Total Ab-

stinence Society." A notable course of lectures on chemistry, well illustrated with apparatus, was given by a versatile teacher from a local district school. Tuition per term was $2.50 for elementary subjects, the higher branches costing fifty cents more. Homes were small, but friendly doors were opened to the seekers after wisdom. Rooms could be had for students to board themselves, or board could be bought for $1.00 to $1.25 per week.

An early reference to this Alfred enterprise in the generally circulating literature of the Seventh Day Baptist denomination appeared in the weekly, *Protestant Sentinel.* This was an advertisement announcing that the term had opened with flattering prospects and noting that a few more students could be accepted.

The four-month session closed with a general oral review. This climaxed the briefer weekly reviews, and was attended by parents and friends in gratifying numbers. These final tests drew high praise from both trustees and public. The actual term-end exercise was called an "exhibition." "While," said Irish, "the addresses were not Ciceronian, nor the colloquies Shakespearian, they were the wonder of the crowded house."

A RELIGIOUS REVIVAL ENDS A PRINCIPALSHIP

Mr. Irish, re-employed to teach two terms beginning in September 1838, spent the interim in further study at Union. While in Schenectady he called on the editor of the *Protestant Sentinel,* a man interested for a long time in denominational higher education. Irish reported the bright prospects at Alfred, which led to the editor's remark that the spirit with which our friends in that section have engaged in affording facilities for education is indeed a happy omen. In numerous issues of the *Protestant Sentinel* were advertisements of the Alfred School featuring Mr. Irish of Union College, promising the employment of assistant teachers as needed, and special attention to young men and women designing to teach—thus early intimating the place the School was to fill in training teachers.

September 10, 1838 found the rugged featured Mr. Irish back for his last terms of the Select School, or "Academy," as it was popularly being called. It was the third academic "year," and was planned to consist of two twelve-week terms divided by a recess at Christmas time. Eighty different individuals attended during the two terms, and from a wider area than ever before. Academically these months proceeded on the whole smoothly and successfully with one unhappy exception. In the

second term unusual disinclination developed to the inevitable composition writing and public speaking. Some of the best students objected, while antagonism among the weaker ones flared to the verge of rebellion. Fortunately the disturbance was brief for when the leaders saw the grief they had caused Mr. Irish, they reversed their attitude, backed him loyally, and more than restored what they had torn down.

From the opening days of Mr. Church's term the principals in succession had shown great interest in the spiritual welfare of their students. Mr. Irish confessed that he had become aroused early in behalf of the spiritual life of his charges, and while at Union had kept up a correspondence with students at Alfred similarly concerned. During the fall term, religious interest gradually increased. After the brief Christmas recess religious zeal, despite some opposition assumed progressive intensity, until there burst forth one of those fervid religious revivals so characteristic of the times. It spread from school to church. Packed meetings filled the Church and the Cadmus. By a nearly unanimous vote the students approved the suspension of school for a week to concentrate on the revival.

The forests were vocal with prayer. Private chat turned to the all-pervading topic. Social visits were largely seasons of prayer. In late January ice a foot thick was broken in the creek, and the newly baptized emerged rejoicing from the wintry waters. In all 200 appear to have been baptized. Religious stimulus, it was testified, had improved rather than hindered academic progress, and increasingly Mr. Irish was being pushed into leadership of the revival with the result that he yielded to new pressure from the local Church to become its pastor. April 3, 1839, he was ordained—a day observed by the church with fasting and prayer. Pastor Irish served the Church for six fruitful years, and filled in at times as extra teacher or supply in the School. Thus a religious revival deprived the School of its honored principal.

Mr. Irish was of a genial, smiling, fatherly nature. His teaching inspired young folks "both to know and to be." In keeping with his times and his spiritual heritage, his management of schools was benevolently paternalistic. This fourth Pioneer Boy left the *Taper,* the little *Light* burning a bit more steadily.

CHAPTER III

William C. Kenyon and Alfred Academy, 1839-46

WHEN Principal Irish became Pastor Irish, the school trustees had again to select a leader—the third. On recommendation of the retiring principal they chose his Union College roommate—William Colegrove Kenyon. Mr. Kenyon must figure as the fifth and last of these Five "Pioneer Boys." He became the real founder of Alfred University. Promoting, fostering, undergoing unbelievable sacrifices for it, he led the promising craft through 28 trying years—first as the Select School, then gaining it chartered recognition as "Alfred Academy," and later statutory sanction and dignity as "Alfred University." Four of our "Five Pioneer Boys"—Church, Irish, Kenyon, Allen—guided this Alfred experiment for 56 years, Kenyon for half of the period.

KENYON THE MAN

What manner of man was this third leader? What influences had shaped his life? Back east we must go for his origins as with two others of these Pioneers. In Richmond, Rhode Island, October 23, 1812, an unfortunate little fellow was born into surroundings neither congenial nor happy. A certain fogginess or mystery surrounded his parentage. It was understood that for a time he bore the name William Collins, or Colegrove. At age five he was bound out to a guardian who apparently supplied him with plenty of kicks and cuffs and little else. When old enough he was hired out to local farmers. In winter he did chores for his board and went to school. There at first he was savagely punished for uninterested and awkward attempts at spelling—a melancholy, heart-stricken little fellow.

Then something happened—the advent of a well-trained, large-hearted teacher, who won the lad's confidence. As a result Kenyon soon led the school in arithmetic. Life really began for him. He joined a

church, obtained more schooling and studied, studied, studied every free moment. At 19 he bought his time from his guardian. Learning the machinist's trade, he worked at it in Westerly, Rhode Island and Schenectady, New York. A friend once saw him filing away on a piece of iron, a Latin grammar on the bench, as he memorized "bonus, bona, bonum." He spent his spare time in study and running to fires with a fire company he had joined. In 1836, though poorly prepared, he entered Union College. Despite that handicap he made good and so, working at his trade, teaching for a time and again advancing in college, he pushed ahead. Kenyon, like Irish, continued his college studies after starting his career at Alfred. Later Union College honored him with the degree of Master of Arts.

Such had been his ups and downs when he arrived to guide the fortunes of the Select School. Kenyon was cordially greeted by Principal Irish who was really glad to see his college chum. The day of his arrival was the last of the term (March, 1839). Hence he could watch the closing exercises. Many youngsters impressed him as excellent material. Noting the continuing religious revival, he exclaimed: ". . .the Lord is graciously moving forward the chariot of salvation."

KENYON TAKES OVER

When his first term opened and William C. "Boss" Kenyon stood before his students he was described as medium in stature with a wiry build, and having a high forehead, reddish curly hair, blue eyes, and a frank, open face. Students called his teaching suggestive and inspiring. Merely seeing Kenyon and hearing his first address thrilled Pioneer Boy Allen to his depths.

A not unusual fate was to overtake the young Principal. After Miss Melissa B. Ward matriculated at the School, she joined the faculty as an assistant in the so-called primary department. Then in August 1840 she was united with Kenyon in holy matrimony. Long revered as "Mother" Kenyon, she devoted her life to the welfare of students, and her untimely death in 1863 was attributed to overdoing in the case of a sick student.

For two years after Kenyon's arrival the Academy operated in the Cadmus, but increased patronage demanded additional facilities and teachers. During a two year period enrollment doubled, increasing from 74 to 161 students. The chief item of these new facilities came in the form of an addition to the Cadmus—so described although maps of the period show the new and larger structure located some distance south-

west of the Cadmus, and nearer the later West University Street. In dimensions it was 42 feet by 30 feet and two stories high. The first floor was fitted up as a chapel, while the upper floor provided rooms for students. Doubtless it furnished class rooms too. When this advanced step was completed, the Principal took on himself chief, if not sole, responsibility for the School, paying all bills and the debt. In fact, for years it was not easy to say whether the Academy was a personal or a corporate enterprise. In a sense it was both at times.

With the acquisition of the new hall we can speak of the two buildings and grounds as Alfred's first "campus." Maxson Green had kept his promise to provide a lot for the Cadmus. In 1842, he deeded to the Academy trustees an acre of land the west line of which ran roughly along the later Mill Street, the north line along the later Church Street, while the south boundary followed West Universty Street.

At this time, Kenyon took on a new task. He became Co-superintendent of the Common Schools of Allegany County and gave the winter and part of the summer of 1842 to his county work. Wherever he went, he stimulated new interest in education. He proved to be an outstanding leader and was credited with the sponsoring of new methods, better teacher training, pushing the teachers' institute movement, and the organization of a county teachers' association. After six months' experience in the position, Kenyon left the field convinced that he could do more for county education by intensifying teacher training at Alfred than by further discharging his official duties as Superintendent. Former Principal Irish had doubled for him in the Academy. Back at his Academy desk Kenyon was well established at home and in his widening area of influence. He was "Boss," and none doubted it. But the nickname stemmed more from his natural ability to lead than from any offensive aggressiveness. It was said that even as a youth he never aided at a task but he soon directed it.

ALFRED ACADEMY CHARTERED

The expansion of the facilities, the faculty, and the offerings was compelling State attention. Was a charter in the offing? It was and not far off either. Anyhow in August 1842, Samuel Russell and fourteen other men certified to the Board of Regents of the University of the State of New York that they had complied with all the stipulations for such recognition and requested that an Academy Charter be granted them as the Academy's board of trustees. The Regents agreed; hence January 31, 1843, became a red letter day to that six-year-old Select School, for

on that day the Regents fixed their Common Seal to the charter of "Alfred Academy."

In looking at the Academy, now legally so designated, to see a bit more closely what it was like, let us consider the School under these phases: general administration, academic organization and courses, educational philosophy and methods, and increased denominational applause. This plan will carry our tale to the end of the School's first decade, 1846.

WITH THE ADMINISTRATORS

Direction, management, and finance were vested in the trustees. Eleven of these resided in Alfred, while Almond, Friendship, and Genesee had representation. The "Boss" was not a trustee but was listed as "Register" and Treasurer. Ever mindful of the moral training of youth, officials pointed out the value of the quiet and secluded location of their School and assured parents that no efforts would be spared "to secure the correct moral deportment of students."

A top responsibility of the trustees was the ever-present problem of finance. To provide the funds for the "addition" built in 1841 new stock subscriptions were taken to the amount of $1,979. A debt of $219. was assumed for books and apparatus making that first of Alfred's "development" programs cost $2,198. The subscribers of 1837 with a few others provided the new funds. Two years later (1843) the School's total assets, mostly land and buildings, were valued at $3,277. The Academy shared in the distribution of certain State funds alloted to education. The public was informed that for the three fifteen-week terms of 1843-44, the cost including tuition, rooms, board, lights, and fuel need not exceed $70. A financial summary for the first decade of the little Institution published much later showed total receipts of $16,363, and that that sum had equalled the expenses.

The trustees had responsibilities also for the teaching staff and its activities. With expansion of facilities and enrollment new teachers were employed proportionately. Before the end of the first decade the one-man faculty-principal had annexed Mrs. Kenyon and Miss Caroline B. Maxson to the staff. The latter was a most lovable character, and while her stay and her life were short she left the stamp of her character on the School. Also employed were two well-known local men John R. Hartshorn, and John D. Collins. Ira Sayles a former student joined Kenyon as Associate Principal.

Six departments of instruction were organized. The first called

primary had scant affinity for departments so named in the twentieth century. Heavy texts in history were listed, and certainly the algebra and geometry would not be called milk for primary babes in the later sense. In the Department of Moral Science and Belles Lettres were included, logic, government, political economy, moral science, and natural theology. In Mathematics, three brands of geometry appeared through which the student climbed to calculus and surveying. In languages large doses of Latin and Greek were prescribed with much work on the New Testament in the latter. Ambitious learners of French had grammar, and biographical and historical information both French and American. In their department prospective scientists studied geography of the heavens, natural history, geology, and so on. Special lectures were promised in phrenology and physiognomy!

A separate Ladies Department was listed but was not really separate, as the ladies recited with the gentlemen when pursuing the same branches. The feminine element was guaranteed facilities for acquiring a knowledge of the polite and ornamental branches of education, an assurance often reiterated. A new feature was the appointment of an accomplished pianist to whom it was promised, parents could entrust their daughters with entire confidence.

In 1844 an ambitious three year Teachers' Course appeared. The first year was devoted chiefly to drill in elementary school subjects. Latin ran throughout the triennium. In the third year came agricultural chemistry (!), magnetism and electricity, history, and teaching methods. French and Italian were prescribed for the ladies, but they could substitute Latin if they preferred it. Teachers' classes did practice work under supervision, combining "all the facilities of a Normal School." Students succeeding in the Teachers' Course and possessing a good character received an appropriate diploma. In 1844-45 the authorities boasted that they had sent out 150 teachers during each of the previous two years, "a number much larger than any other institution in the State." This stress on its specialty of that day induced the trustees to advertise their school, extra-legally perhaps, as "Alfred Academy and Teachers Seminary," a practice which continued until the University Charter was won (1857). Despite this teacher training emphasis, the public was assured that young people could prepare at Alfred for entrance to any college.

As courses multiplied and the faculty increased, so too was new equipment obtained. In 1845-46 it was proudly announced that a manikin of the most approved structure and other apparatus illus-

trative of human physiology had been imported expressly for the Academy. Such facilities, it was said, enabled students to work with advantages nearly equal to the dissecting of the actual subject and without "those revolting circumstances ever attendant on the dissecting room."

FACULTY: METHODS AND AIMS

In all work, for prospective teachers or others, mere committing to memory of words was guarded against. Ideas not words were emphasized. Analysis of the lesson in the student's own words was demanded. In history map-making was frequent. Wider reading than just the text was encouraged, and familiar lectures illuminated the more striking events. In rhetoric critical examination of selections was required. Independence of thought was expected in accepting or rejecting principles laid down by text writers but sound reasons must be offered for such judgments. Lectures to all choosing to attend were given on teaching, astronomy, and natural philosophy accompanied by experiments where appropriate.

Summarizing their educational aims, the Alfred leaders put it thus: "The plan of instruction aims at a complete development of all moral, intellectual and physical powers of students in a manner to render them thorough and practical scholars, prepared to meet the great responsibilities of active life." These aims and practices speak volumes for the vigor, vision, and progressive leadership of the young Academy.

The editor of the Seventh Day Baptist *Register* paid a visit to Alfred in 1843. He found the instructional methods admirable, and the whole situation good, morally and otherwise. He predicted that the churches would reap great advantages from the School. The benevolent editor craved for all youth at least a thorough English education.

CHAPTER IV

Mounting Prosperity, 1846-56

NEW BUILDINGS AND LANDS

THE LOCAL educational enterprise, prospering as it did, caused an acute housing shortage—Alfred's first. Village homes bulged with the aspiring throng. When houses were packed full, rooms in woodsheds and even barns were fitted up for use. Some students roomed outside the village while a few hardy fellows commuted from more remote places. Despite these inconveniences, complaint was negligible.

Nevertheless something had to be done, and a bold move was determined upon. So bold and costly was it that the trustees quailed, not daring to assume the responsibility. At this Kenyon and Sayles rented the plant from the Trustees (1845) and shouldered the burden.

We have noted that Alfred's first campus was west of the present Church building. Now a migration began to the site of the present campus on the east hillside—a story almost unknown to present day Alfred. This is the way it came about. Maxson Green had acquired a considerable block of land in and near the village. One piece of this is important in our tale, and was bounded roughly by the later Terrace Street on the south and a parallel line along Church Street on the north, which ran just north of the Carnegie Library up Pine Hill above the Steinheim. The east limit was well up that hill and the parallel line west of South Main Street.

A citizen of 1845 standing on Main Street near the present site of the bank and looking east would see a part of that lot. Examining the hill he would note the grain fields and meadows of Green's farm, divided by the creek, and beyond them the virgin forest. In the summer of 1845 Kenyon and Sayles acquired from Green by gift or purchase 6.4 acres of that land. Except for a reserved northwest acre, this purchased rectangle extended from the present Greene Hall to the south side of University Place and east to a line above the present Steinheim.

The Co-principals then set about erecting three halls on the new site. Mrs. Sayles' father, Samuel S. White of Whitesville, offered a $10,000 loan. Land was cleared and plans pencilled. Workmen were drawn in from other towns for this major construction job. Heavy spending caused a veritable boom and widely advertised the Academy. In due course the three buildings were finished—North Hall and South Hall, each three floors above the basement, and Middle Hall, its main part equal in height to the other two, was flanked on each side by wings two stories high. There is a hint that these halls were heated by "warmed air"—some sort of central heating? August 11, 1846, came the dedication to "Science and Religion"—a great day for Alfred. A bumper crop of students ready for the opening term, parents, friends, and local citizens gathered. The exercises included a complete religious service, the local minister, N. V. Hull, preaching the dedicatory sermon.

There was plenty of use for the "elegant" new facilities. North Hall housed the men supervised by Allen. His future wife, Abigail Maxson, just graduated from a female seminary, chaperoned the women in South Hall, the top floor of which was the chapel room reached by an outside stairway. Middle Hall was the residence of Kenyon and Sayles. Its basement contained the dining department, and the kitchens, with the capacious ovens in which were baked those turtle-shaped loaves of bread, later so nostalgically remembered by former students. The resident faculty members on the hill were responsible for the quality of the board and for the strict table decorum considered proper for the family of 120 or 130 persons served there. All the three buildings provided classrooms. West Hall, the name then given to the larger structure on the old campus, was allocated to students boarding themselves, with a supervisor in charge. No further reference is made to the Cadmus.

The purchase of the hillside seemed to whet the appetites of the "Boss" and his associates for more and more land. Almost immediately they acquired 80 acres which included all the east and central parts of Green's 100 acres with a good sized bite out of the Great Lot to the east. Its north boundary was the six acres previously acquired. A copartnership called "Kenyon, Sayles and Company" bought 150 acres south of the village and deeded it with the 80 acre purchase to the Academy. But since the last purchase was never a part of the campus, it does not belong in this story. Of the 80 acre piece we shall hear much as its north and central portion within the purview of the mythical observer on Main Street became the heart of the nineteenth century campus.

Meantime other developments were taking place. Young Allen was preparing to assume a more prominent part in Alfred's affairs. He had taught at the Academy and elsewhere and had served as local town Superintendent of Schools—a part-time position. He spent part of the academic year 1848-49 at Oberlin College, where he encountered the work of the "Underground Railroad" whisking runaway slaves off to Canada, the strict Sunday-keeping of the College, the limitations on women students, and had been nettled by an opponent's remark in a bitter debate on the Sabbath question (Saturday *vs* Sunday) to which he and his two co-religionists had been challenged. That pointed barb to the effect that Allen belonged to a denomination so minute that it could not train even its own clergy rankled, and it may have had some effect on the movement, then in the talking stage, for a denominational college and seminary. In 1852 Allen, our second Pioneer Boy, got a bachelor's degree from Oberlin, and three years later a master of arts diploma, the latter probably *in absentia.*

While at the Ohio college he had kept in touch with Kenyon in Alfred and had pledged energetic aid in realizing Kenyon's plans. He was back home for the Commencement of 1849. When that oratorical marathon ended in the grove above the three buildings, Jonathan Allen and Abigail A. Maxson were united in marriage (July 12).

A few days before that romantic moment a new shake-up had occurred in the Academy's management, the results of which would concern Allen. The School's prosperity, academically at least, was obvious to all. In the two years before 1849 enrollment had risen from 392 to 450. The need for more teachers was pressing. After much consultation the famed "Compact" of July 4, 1849, was formed. Kenyon and Sayles, the Co-principals, wishing to spread the responsibility took into the management five of the faculty members: Allen, Darius R. Ford, James Marvin, Darwin E. Maxson, and Daniel D. Pickett. Still recognizing the supremacy of the Regents Charter these Compactors agreed to share in the teaching, government, and financial management of the Institution. They would work together to build up a high class, non-sectarian Academy. Each would labor for seven years for a stipulated annual sum—probably not over $300. In spare time they would repair or fit up rooms, open up and work on the Academy farm or do other needful service.

The enthusiasm generated locally and denominationally by this arrangement gave a distinct fillip to the School. The lands already noted were secured, and the possibility of assuming University status was broached.

FINANCE

Before we can follow through with the building and land programs, consideration must be given to the chronic cash shortage. Through much of Alfred's story scholastic skies have been bright and sunny, while financial skies have been murky. That second decade was no exception.

The trio of hillside halls had cost some $17,000 including lands, outbuildings, and furnishings. No general appeal had been made for funds. The burden was great even though the management had been favored with a gift or grant of $5,000 from the State in 1845. In 1850, despite the activities of the Compactors, matters were no better. The White loan of 1845 had not been liquidated. Mounting patronage made further expansion imperative. Thoughts turned again to the State. Private schools were getting help on such broad grounds as providing general education for an area. Why shouldn't Alfred try—for a loan at least? She did and got it.

Doubtless here we see the thinking of the Compactors again. The State agreed to loan $10,000 to the Town of Alfred to be reloaned to the Academy. Would the town do its part? March 5, 1850, was the big day locally. Kenyon made such an enthusiastic and pathetic appeal to the voters on Main Street in behalf of aspiring youth that a couple of feminine hearers were bathed in tears. When it came to the formal town meeting vote, the verdict was favorable by a generous margin. The State legislature ratified the arrangement, and the loan was made in the summer.

For a time that fund relieved the financial distress; and helped in paving the way for another large building, Chapel Hall (later Alumni Hall), the chief tangible result of the Compact. It provided the added facilities so badly needed. Maxson Stillman, Jr., took more direct leadership as designer and builder of this hall than in the earlier ones, although he had helped with them. The massive timbers were hewn out of the surrounding forests. June 24, 1851, the cornerstone was laid. The vocal part of the ceremonies was mostly in South Hall Chapel. The story of the town and the educational enterprise was rehearsed and deserved bouquets passed around. Then the audience moved to the building site a few rods to the southwest. A box enclosed in a mass of solid masonry was filled with a wide variety of documents and the whole set in place.

There is a story connected with the raising of the heavy timbers to

the effect that on one occasion when the men after a heave or two got discouraged as to their ability to raise them, Stillman cried, "It can be done, all together, boys, yo heavo!" and up the timbers went. Another story relates that when the bell came, plans for installing it were incomplete, but Samson-like Hiram P. Burdick put the bell over his head, thrust the clapper in his pocket, stalked up the ladder and hung the bell. Then sounding its first note, he descended amid the plaudits of the crowd. Above the bell was and still is the weather vane in the form of a quill pen. Designed by D. R. Ford it was hewn out of a twelve-foot pine fence rail and symbolized the adage, "The pen is mightier than the sword."

The Chapel Hall is 100 feet by 52 and three stories high. It contained a chapel-auditorium accommodating 500 people, and 20 lecture, recitation, library, and lyceum rooms. An observer spoke of this structure as having a Spanish steeple whose polished minarets reflected the first rays of Phoebus and added that the building was handsomely finished in imitation of old sandstone. The trustees boldly boasted of it as "one of the largest, most commodious and best furnished school structures in Western New York."

Now to return to monetary matters. When the Hall, costing $12,500, was finished, debts were spoken of as heavy but not embarrassing. Some voluntary contributions had been secured. One admires the official boldness which rejoiced some but staggered others. They seemed to gamble and win if only at times by the slimmest of margins.

Unfortunately debts come due. By 1855 when the State loan came due there were no funds. In fact, interest at seven per cent had been paid for the first year only. An attempt was made to get the loan extended. Would the town do its part? A special town meeting voted a thumping No! (66 to 151). Failing dismally at home the School authorities tested the tender mercies of the legislature with a plea for the forgiveness of the debt. They presented a strong case and did excellent lobbying at the capital. Petitions from the Alfred area bombarded the legislators, and friendly members did yeoman service in the Academy's cause. The chairman of the assembly committee considering the plea recited in his report the fine work the Institution was doing. He noted the extensive teacher training program, the sizeable sum invested in apparatus, including the "largest and best equipped laboratories in the State. . . on experimental agriculture. . .which with a small farm.. .furnished the means to impart agricultural knowledge." The committee head recommended partial relief, which was granted by the legislature on

certain conditions. About $7,800 were thus forgiven. A later Alfred president (Boothe C. Davis) understood that Alfred Academy was the only such school in the State to repay any part of those State loans. The trustees published a card of thanks to all who had aided in winning the generous State decision.

The summary of the Academy's finances for 1846-56 showed that total expenses exceeded total income by $22,046. These expenses included the cost of the four buildings built within the decade and involving in themselves over $30,000. The reporter commented with respect to the deficit, that the legitimate income exceeded legitimate operating expenses by $5,880, which sum had been applied on other matters.

Before this, however, that hopeful Compact had blown up. It had done some real good as we have seen, but on the whole it was a distinct disappointment. Marvin had been dubious from the start. He thought the non-sectarian idea a delusion in practice (three of the seven were Seventh Day Baptists). One after another the members quit, and the rosy dream vanished.

THE TEACHER'S TASK PROSPERS

Thus it is clear that the mounting prosperity was not found in the treasurer's office. No, the prosperity was located in the academic work. So rapid was the Academy's development scholastically that an impressed onlooker declared that the course of instruction (1852) was quite equal to the average of college courses.

In 1856 the faculty numbered thirteen. Beside Principal Kenyon (than sole principal) the chief members included D. D. Pickett, D. E. Maxson, J. Allen, D. R. Ford, and E. P. Larkin, all masters of arts. Their teaching fields revealed some surprising versatility. Such a combination as "Greek and Agriculture", or "French and Engineering" seems to fit better among page-end quips in the *Readers Digest* than in a serious academic document. Some startling electives were allowed too, e.g., "Surveying" or "The Legal Rights of Women." An impression of heavy solidity in the offerings is relieved a bit when it is noted that the drawing teacher also taught "Embroidery." But their work was real. They were thorough. They did better than it sounds.

By 1850 the Teachers Course had been expanded to four years, but with emphasis on more time rather than more subjects. A model class picked at random from the five- to ten-year old children of the locality was used for observation and practice. Informal lectures on teaching were given with frequent remarks by students interrupting them. A

permanently organized teachers' club flourished and owned a collection of commonly used text books.

Despite the traditional classical emphasis, Alfred was evidently giving surprising attention to professional and vocational courses. Aside from the high place the School took in scientific farming, as noted above, it was also pointing out the intimate relation between science and productive labor. Due attention was promised to the use of chemistry in medicine and the arts. More surprising perhaps for those long ago days was the offer of a *commercial testing service:* "Soils analyzed and chemical tests performed at the usual prices and at short notice."

Prophetic of the future was the organization (1853) of a tentative two year course in theology and kindred fields, organically independent of the Academy except that it would use courses already offered there. Reverend N. V. Hull, pastor of the local Church, arranged the new departure. Included were such subjects as Hebrew, Greek, Exegesis, and Natural Theology, with plenty of field work promised in the pastor's large parish. This ministerial offering also reminds us that in the middle 1850's the bitter general controversy over Science *versus* the Bible stirred the Alfred campus. D. E. Maxson boldly championed a vast extent of time for creation rather than the widely accepted six natural days. His opponents in the denominational *Sabbath Recorder* hammered at his articles, aiming to protect the young, as they said, "from blind credulity in the unfounded pretensions of science."

Whatever the controversies, the trustees of Alfred Academy had no doubt about the quality of their Institution. They gloried in the romantic and retired location and in its enlightened religious policy illustrated by the diversity of faiths represented on its faculty. They proclaimed that it held rank among the first class seminaries of the Empire State.

ANNIVERSARIES: TEMPESTS OF TALK

All the efforts of trustees and teachers were aimed at the end product, educated young people. The symbol of their completed task was the anniversary or commencement. In Alfred those events were held at first in the school room. Rising enrollment drove them next to the church building below the village, then to the grove sometimes above, sometimes below the three hillside halls. When Chapel Hall was built and used for anniversaries many people appreciated the change, especially the protection from the burning sun.

Diversions being relatively few, people flocked to these talkathons

in crowds. They came also to enjoy the sparkling back and forth of the public oral examinations which preceded Commencement. The numbers are unbelievable, "thousands" being mentioned. Before daybreak people began pouring in from every entering road; the one hotel was crowded; and the main street was one long row of carriages. At 8:30 the faculty, students, citizens, and relatives formed a procession and under the command of marshals marched up to the hillside "Prospect Grove." Both citizens and scenery were in their best summer dress.

Then the long program began. In 1850 as many as 70 three-to-five-minute essays or orations were counted beside music. Probably the all-time high had been reached in 1848 when 77 speeches and 20 musical numbers bombarded the audience. Sample topics were: Ancient Chivalry; Phrenology; Haste, the Character of the Day; and What Can Teach Beauty Like Woman's Eye. Occasional productions were pronounced in Latin or Italian. Thirty-nine towns were represented on the roll of speakers. After this Principal Kenyon delivered an affecting address to the graduating class of five ladies and three gentlemen. A recess for the midday meal brought opportunity for speakers and hearers to relax. That is it did until they began to burden the recess with a long list of toasts. The musical program was expanded by the custom of inviting bands from nearby towns to participate. Still another custom was crystallizing in these culture fests, i.e., an oration by a visiting speaker. Heads of neighbor schools provided this feature at first, but soon truly national figures, increasingly sponsored by the literary societies, occupied the platform. The visiting orators were scheduled on the day of the oral examinations.

In 1854 nationally known Elizabeth Oakes Smith was the special Anniversary (Commencement) speaker. She was much impressed by the co-educational equality of the place. Also, pleasing her, was a cantata, "The Flower Queen," by fifty young ladies all dressed in white, crowned with flowers, and with hair sweeping their shoulders in long curls. Moreover she felt that the location of the Academy made it a gem among the hills. The visitor admired the low, white homes of the village as they peered with their green blinds from the surrounding foliage. In 1852 two national celebrities graced the closing festivities—Thomas K. Beecher and Frederick Douglass, the negro orator. A critic was glad when the exercises were reduced to four hours. Another praised the all-round quality of Alfred's curricula and hoped that education in general would come to include the "whole man."

But cutting down the hours did not help much. In 1856 as at all

the anniversaries, numbers of former students forgathered. Meeting informally that year in a lyceum room they had such a grand time that they decided to organize, and thus was formed Alfred's first alumni association. Plans were made to meet annually and provide a program. Two years later their plan called for afternoon and evening sessions. No wonder reducing hours failed to reduce total anniversary time. Actually more days were added.

By the summer of 1856 the Academy was certainly prospering on the scholastic side. Before tracing its imminent achievement of University status, let us see how all this appeared when seen through student eyes.

CHAPTER V

As Students Saw It

VARIOUS ANGLES OF VISION

THUS FAR we have seen the Academy from the side of administration and faculty. How did it impress students? Who were they? Where did they come from? How did they react to school life at Alfred? For a sample answer to the question of their origins the catalogue of 1847-48 will help. During that year 455 different individuals tasted campus life for one or more of the three terms. That was the peak year of the forties. In fact only three times in the Institution's first half century did the annual student population exceed that figure. That absolute top was 478 the year following the gaining of the University charter. Surprisingly perhaps in one term in 1847, only four academies of the 150 in New York State had enrollments exceeding Alfred's.

Of those seeking Alfred's light and leading that year, 94 called the town of Alfred home. Hornellsville was claimed as home by 25; but nearly every community in the area had made a contribution. Sixteen had enrolled from States other than New York, and one had braved salt water to come from the island of Cuba. The records show that during the year 1848-49 two students died, six married, two suffered expulsion, and four left disgraced, to avoid the restraints of the Institution. Snap shots of student life will not only illuminate the student scene but will throw added light on phases of Alfred's story already depicted.

The first snapshot was that of a term-end exhibition, the time a busy day in November, 1840, and the place the Church below the village. The chief character was a slightly cocky, very red-faced, very disgusted young man named Luke Maxson. Our source of information—a letter to his lady friend, Cordelia Hartshorn. There were twelve or fourteen orations, a dialogue, and the choir sang hymns written for the occasion. Young Maxson had composed a long poem in blank verse with which to charm his audience. Late in the afternoon, as weary as his hearers, he rose to pronounce his masterpiece. He failed dismally. Just as he started, some boys ran clattering down the gallery stairs. The noise so

disconcerted him that after a stumbling sentence or two he made his apologies and sat down. No wonder he was displeased as he wrote Cordelia about that term-terminating event. But he was really a capable fellow, was graduated at Alfred in 1844, and attended other schools. He did marry the young lady.

An early hint of the School's thinking along physical education lines came when the "Boss" urged students to take proper exercise, not the violent kind that might endanger life and limb, No, No, but a brisk walk in the morning which would strengthen every muscle in the body. Further to attain his objective, Kenyon apparently instituted marching about in chapel to the accompaniment of music, ladies and gentlemen together. With the then current ideas about the association of ladies and gentlemen, it is not surprising that those exercises were much enjoyed. By the same token, it is not surprising either that a generous supporter of the young Academy, who was also a staunch defender of the moral *status quo,* threatened to withdraw his cash as this exercise seemed to him too much like dancing. However, a bit of persuasion convinced him that surely Principal Kenyon of all men would never allow anything harmful.

As that glimpse reflected student life and some current notions of proper amusements, so the next mirrored the Institution's reforming zeal. This event occurred in a term-end exercise (1841). The recapture of runaway slaves was a common occurrence in the North. A case of the kind had just happened with more than the usual atrocities. Jonathan Allen, eighteen and a leading student, proposed to dramatize that scene by means of an original dialogue as a part of the closing programs. Allen represented the good Quaker who had befriended the fugitives. The slaves, slaveholders, officers, and assisting citizens were represented fittingly attired. The seizure of the slaves at the Quaker's house was reenacted. As the Quaker, Allen at first was entirely submissive, but talked with the captors about their brutality, then raised his voice in a climax surprising even to himself. He predicted with unbelievable accuracy the events of the next twenty years which brought about the abolition of slavery; and which, in 1861, Mrs. Allen rehearsed in Chapel Hall at a meeting to consider President Lincoln's call to arms. It was said that the narrative acted like magic and greatly aided in recruiting.

Turning to an entirely different scene, we see a cloud of dust shrouding Five Corners hill west of the village. In its midst moved a double team and a lumber wagon (1845). Uncomfortably distributed among the boxes, household effects, kitchen utensils and provisions were five

young explorers seeking the wisdom available in the valley below. In due time they reached the hamlet. Judged by later experiences the School building and its appointments were cheap, unattractive, even forbidding. But there was something inspiring in the very motion, the look, and the voice of the man at the gate, which told the quintet that it had come to the right place.

The new student providing us these touches settled himself in suitable quarters. Let us watch through his impressionable eyes the opening of a new term. The bell called. Old students took their seats and winked at each other as the new ones a bit timid came in. On the minute the Principal opened his Bible, read a short lesson, offered a fervent prayer, and delivered a brief address. Workers were welcome, Principal Kenyon said, and "the honey was waiting in every flower." New students were examined and advised about studies. The charming Miss Maxson mingled with the girls encouraging timid strangers and warmly greeting familiar faces. Mrs. Kenyon was on hand also for her classes. Almost at once the fall term of 1845-46 was in full swing.

The same observer takes us with him into classes and gives us glimpses of teaching methods as students saw them. The learners were liable to be called on at any moment to pick up the recitation from the lips of another. This kept attention fixed. "That tense, 'next, next, next,' that would sometimes seat a dozen pupils before one could catch breath enough to reply was deemed somewhat excessive, but students prepared for it and learned like the expert ball players, to strike quick [sic]...." At least it worked well for this young man (James Marvin) whom we have already met as a member of the Compact and who later became Chancellor of the University of Kansas.

THE STUDENT-RULED LYCEUMS

While most early academies and colleges had flourishing literary societies, often called lyceums, that phase of student life at Alfred was specially strong. And those groups, while containing a few selected citizens and faculty members, were thoroughgoing student democracies. From 1836 to 1842 the Alfred Debating Society, founded soon after B. C. Church first called school, filled the needs of writers and orators. In June of the latter year that Society adopted a more formal organization under the name the "Franklin Academic Lyceum of Alfred." Stating its chief objective as improving the mind, it proposed to do that by mutual interchange of ideas in debates, lectures, the reading of home-made manuscript periodicals, and other means.

Some sample subjects debated and listed so as to show the decisions reached were: Monarchy Better than a Republic; Phrenology, not a Science; Tea and Coffee Physically and Mentally Injurious; World Created in Six Natural Days; Military Academies a National Curse; Female Suffrage (negatived by a jury of three ladies); and Extravagant Religious Excitement Deleterious. Such topics debated by the fiery orators of the day must have provided lively verbal fireworks. For several years the new society filled the needs indicated, but then increasing enrollment brought new demands and changes to fit more varied interests.

In 1846 the monopolistic reign of the Franklinites was ended by a new competitor and for the next three or four years rapid comings and goings of variously named organizations confused the scene. One of those groups made its walls resound as it thrashed for six long months at the question: "Is man responsible for the unforseen consequences of his acts?" In September, 1849, one of the newer societies adopted a revised constitution and the name "Alleghanian Lyceum," which means "Head of the Mighty," suggested by Jonathan Allen. Its Latin motto translated was "Perseverance conquers all things." In September, 1850, the Orophilian Lyceum was founded. A member thumbed through his Greek lexicon and came up with the synthetic appellation signifying "Lovers of Oratory." That and its Latin motto, "Eloquence rules the world," showed its proposed emphasis. That society's name was adopted by similar groups in two other colleges.

Also in 1850 came the revival by the ladies of one of the newer societies as the "Ladies Literary Society." A room in the top story of South Hall housed its sessions. "Excelsior" was its motto. In 1864 this society became the "Alfriedian Lyceum" a name built from two German words and signifying "All Friends." The fourth of these permanent organizations came into being in 1858. At first called the "Ladies Athenaeum," after minor variations in name it became the "Athenaean Lyceum" (1870).

An example of the educational services of these lyceums was the provision of high class speakers for important campus occasions. The Alleghanians were specially prominent in this task. Like the modern dance committees, those student leaders wanted and secured big name people. Thomas K. Beecher spoke for the Alleghanians in 1855 and 1857; and Joshua R. Giddings lectured under Oro sponsorship the former year—both about as big names in their fields as could be found. At that time the lectures were offered to the public by the young people

without charge. Another service of all the lyceums was the collecting of society libraries. These four literary societies became the chief campus student organizations. Their influence educationally and in campus politics cannot be overestimated. They enjoyed generally good but varying success into the second decade of the 20th Century.

"UNPERMITTED ASSOCIATION"

Later times have heard strange traditions about social regulations enforced a hundred years ago. An old student looking back in 1911 remarked with some feeling that discipline then was something "fierce." Another remarked more specifically on echoes of punishment in the fifties for dancing and card-playing.

Aside from the published determination of the school authorities to maintain correct moral deportment, no rules appeared in the catalogues until 1844-45. Then passing from room to room during study hours was prohibited. No excuse to leave town except to go home could be given without expressed parental consent, and punctual attendance at all academic exercises was required. The next year use of tobacco for chewing or smoking in or about the buildings, games of chance and profanity were forbidden. Candidates for admission must present testimonials of good character and promise to comply unreservedly with the School's rules. After the migration to the hillside campus and the boom in enrollment, stricter rules were deemed necessary. The "Thou shalt not" emphasis became heavier. Students were not to visit taverns without permission, must maintain good order in rooms and halls, retire and rise at the ringing of the bell, and must not give or receive tutorial aid without leave. Moreover, student rooms must be open at all times to visitation by the teachers. Aside from the regular classes students were required to attend daily chapel, the exercises in composition and declamation, certain scientific and moral lectures by the principals, and church services on Saturday or Sunday according to their habit of keeping Sabbath on the seventh or the first day of the week. Incorrigibles were expelled, and parents were cautioned against allowing students unnecessary funds.

Sometimes semi-punitive changes in the daily program were used. The "Boss" drove himself without mercy and hated laziness in anyone. The rising bell pealed at 5 a.m., and Kenyon suspected some slumbered on despite its clamor. So (1848) he ordered chapel at 5:30 a.m. to which all must come for roll call. From all directions students and faculty stumbled their sleepy ways to the top floor of South Hall. No street

lights, no real sidewalks, no snowplows aided their ascent. The gentlemen gallantly "shuffled" paths in the snow for the ladies living downtown. This drastic order lasted but one term. Chapel returned to its usual eight o'clock hour. The earlier time was too hard on students boarding themselves, and perhaps the faculty did not fully appreciate that predawn walk. However, time was precious, days were long. During one term a class in calculus met before dawn with no lights, solutions being done mentally.

Nothing galled Alfred students of those days more than a regulation which read thus: Ladies and gentlemen attending this Institution "are not allowed to ride or walk with any persons of the opposite sex...." Said one who had smarted under such a restriction: "Unpermitted Association," as this was called, was the student's horror. It glared at him from the little book of regulations; it was launched at him at Chapel until the walls echoed it, the skeleton gibbered it, and the black snake in the science cabinet hissed it. Apropos of these Alfred rules it is of interest to note sample rules and regulations of contemporary schools. For example the University of the City of New York threatened: "Any student who frequents billiard rooms, taverns, or other places of corrupting influence" will be expelled. And at St. John's College, Fordham, one read the grave warning: "Immorality, intemperance, and insubordination" were to be punished at the first fault by expulsion.

It was in the irritated atmosphere of the Alfred regulations that there occurred a student uprising called "Kinney's Rebellion." Just prior to the anniversaries (Commencement) of 1852, William Kinney and Dell Anderson "went wrong." Kinney was expelled. Now he was an active Orophilian, and those boys never seemed allergic to a scrap. To complicate the issue the culprit had been assigned an important speaking part in the anniversaries. The Oros started an agitation for his reinstatement. Other societies joined in the demand. The faculty refused their near ultimatum that Kinney be re-admitted. Then the rebels demanded that he at least be permitted to fill his part on the program. Again the faculty refused. Indignant student mass meetings were held in the grove and "virtually" decided to break up the School! Still the obdurate teachers didn't scare worth a copper, and promptly suspended thirty of the malcontents. Fortunately, however, more moderate counsels prevailed, and all were finally taken back except Kinney. However, tradition says that Kinney had sweet revenge. Nationally known Horace Greeley of the New York *Tribune* was the designated anniversary

orator. Kinney telegraphed Greeley not to come as the event had been postponed. When the hoax could be explained to Greeley, it was too late for him to come; and the exercises thus were short two addresses—Greeley's and Kinney's.

Glimpses of dormitory life in those days enable us further to see as students saw. Professor Pickett and wife were the guardians of the men in North Hall. The lady patrolled the precincts with pencil and paper noting those who were absent from their rooms in study hours. At 9:15 p.m., the professor himself went the rounds to be sure that all were abed. Still, "ghosts" walked at unseemly hours, occasionally meeting the guardian on his second tour. South Hall, "Home of the Nymphs" as it was sometimes called, was shielded from harm by the kindly Fords. That home was *terra incognita* to masculine eyes, except those of the fortunate student janitors who kept the individual wood stove fuel boxes filled and whose financial reward was near the vanishing point due to the lively competition for the post.

In the basement of Middle Hall the long dining tables stretched away to the south. The men filed in under the front steps; the women entered from the south. Men and women sat opposite each other at the tables offering a type of "permitted association" which was much appreciated, but etiquette was enforced. Once an unlucky diner took a second piece of pie, and received a heavy reprimand "in keeping with the gravity and magnitude of the offense." Mention has been made of the nostalgia felt by former students for the big loaves of bread from the kitchen of Middle Hall. Browned in those vast ovens, and frequently left around all night to cool, their aroma tempted the insatiable denizens of North Hall to nocturnal raids.

Also there were the harmless tricks with the skeleton, doubtless one of the prized parts of the ample facilities noted in the advertising. This grinning relic of human frailty seemed to change his mind every night as to his position with respect to the next day's lesson. One of his most entertaining poses was when, with cigar in mouth and foot extended toward the class, he included the manikin in a fervent embrace.

"i BORROWED A PISTOL"

Students and faculty were inevitably influenced by and drawn into village happenings. A memorable event around which much tradition has collected was the so-called Irish raid. After "mountainous" difficulties, the Erie Railroad had climbed into Allegany County. The longest "fill" on the road was at Bakers Bridge (Alfred Station). A small army

of Irish laborers was housed in shanties just below that hamlet. Three factions from the "Ould Sod" existed among those knights of the pick and shovel. A bit too much liquor, or almost anything unusual would set off ructions.

In June, 1850, a Protestant Irishman, named Pardon, who with his family was passing through, was attacked by opposing compatriots, but soon rescued. The rescue enraged his assailants who were set on stopping him at all costs. The outbreak developed such proportions that the militia units of three towns were called out. One company safeguarded Pardon, while the Alfred unit arrested some ringleaders and took them to Alfred Center for trial. As the case was being heard, it was learned that the friends of the prisoners were coming armed with picks and bars to effect a rescue.

Students of the Academy, along with other citizens, were called on to help deal with the excited raiders. A Rhode Island student borrowed a formidable looking horse pistol and served as ordered. A six-pounder brass cannon owned by the local militia was ordered out and loaded with scrap iron as missiles. A chalk line was drawn across the street below the tavern (the Wingate residence of 1956) where the trial was held. Armed guards defended the line and the mobsters were told that the first to cross that line would be a dead man. The field piece was drawn around the curve in the road in full view. Looking into the muzzle of that frowning weapon the Irish decided it was time to quit and broke into retreat. Thus the riot was quelled without bloodshed. However, fatal brawls continued among the road builders and tradition says that dead sons of Erin form a fractional bit of that fill over which the Erie Limited rumbles.

A much happier event was the completion of the present Seventh Day Baptist Church house, a Church attended by most teachers and students of the Academy of that period. Begun in 1853, it was dedicated in an elaborate ceremony, February 16, 1854. Its tall, heaven-beckoning spire still dominates the valley. An admiring worshipper declared that it combined greater taste, neatness, simple spaciousness, and adaptability than any other of the kind he had ever seen. A quaint deed in proper legal terms conveyed to David R. Stillman for f 50. "fifty seventy-eighths of slip [pew] Number 56" in said Church, to have and to hold, and so on—a method of raising money for Church purposes.

CHAPTER VI

Alfred University Founded, 1857

STEPS TOWARD THE CHARTER

UP TO this time, 1856, Alfred Academy was very largely a local product; and a most remarkable achievement it was too—the fruit of sacrifice unbelievable and faith unquenchable. It had attracted wide attention, and the denomination looked appreciatively at its services to the churches. Now a rising tide of denominational desires joined with local ambitions and opened a new chapter in its story.

For 20 years a debate, rising and falling in intensity, on the value of education and especially the value of an educated ministry, was reflected in the denominational press. The friends of schooling triumphed. The *Protestant Sentinel,* one of the first Seventh Day Baptist weeklies, was edited by two brothers, William and John Maxson, part of the time in DeRuyter, New York. These men should receive credit for a share in this victory. Using the then popular device of the *nom de plume,* the warriors of the pen clashed in the pages of the *Sentinel.* In 1834 "Concilitor" asked if it wouldn't be to the glory of God if the denomination had a theological and literary institution under its own supervision. He won quick support, but was tilted at by "Economy" who argued that funds were lacking, and that the denomination was trying to support too many interests already. Moreover a seminary represented a departure from the primitive way of making ministers. Without directly advocating a seminary the *Sentinel* editor repelled an implied slander that ignorance was the mother of devotion. He also cited some examples of ludicrous ignorance by earnest but ill-informed preachers,—e.g., the one who expounded eloquently on a text "Acknowledge my mite" assuming that "mite" meant "might."

With variations in vigor the arguments continued. The denominational General Conference authorized a series of articles on education which the *Sentinel* published. In 1835 and again in 1849-50 short-lived

education societies were set up by the General Conference to foster a college. In 1849 the Conference appointed an Education Committee to take steps toward the founding of a college and seminary. Doubts and delays occurred again, but success was coming. In 1854 the Education Committee got a constitution adopted for the third and permanent society. Some $20,000 were raised within a year. A poll of the churches was taken in 1855, and, while the total vote was small considering the issue, a decisive majority of the votes cast favored Alfred as the site of the proposed institutions. This vote settled the issues of college or no college and its site. In September 1855 the Seventh Day Baptist Education Society was organized under the constitution of 1854. The final step came in October 1856 when the new body was incorporated under the laws of New York. Its office was soon moved to Alfred where the headquarters have remained for a century.

That new Society set about its primary task—the founding of a college and seminary at Alfred. The action was enthusiastically received. One resolution lauding it reached almost lyrical elevation. "Has a Divine. . .Providence honored us of the present with the privilege of laying the Foundation of so noble a structure?. . .Shall we prove recreant to the task?. . .No, never!"—a typical expression of vision, faith, and determination.

A charter for a college and seminary was to be asked of the next session of the New York State legislature. At the early January (1857) meeting of the executive board of the Society, Professor Allen presented to it from the proposed board of trustees of the University "A Charter for a University." The Society's board adopted it after raising the number of trustees from 24 to 33. That document proved to be almost identical with the legislature's enactment. Mr. Allen was delegated to go to Albany and secure its passage. When presented that winter, the document met with some opposition. The Board of Regents of the University of the State of New York was not happy about this legislative venture. Four years earlier the Regents had helped to prepare a general law for chartering colleges, which the law-makers passed. This fixed certain legal standards for schools wishing to carry the college or university name. Despite this the legislature now proposed to grant a special charter.

In getting backing for his bill Allen had good help from former students then in the legislative chambers. These figuratively threw off their coats and fought for his charter. Of course it was urged by the opposition that Alfred should comply with the general law. That

opened the way for a further point, the inevitable cry of unconstitutionality. To the first objection friends of the special bill showed that under that general law three desirable actions for which Alfred people had asked authority could not be granted: (1) the incorporation of the stockholders instead of the trustees; (2) the establishment of a separate theological department; and (3) the empowering of Alfred Academy to make over its property to the University. To the objection that a special act would violate the constitution, it was shown that the constitution itself provided that when a desired object of incorporation could not be attained under the general law a specific act could legally be passed. There were claims also that for rural areas the general law put the financial standard for college incorporation discriminatingly high.

THE CHARTER WON AND INTERPRETED

The bill seemed to progress a bit slowly, and Mrs. Allen reports that her husband had to assure some members that there was no money available to smooth the way to the bill's passage. On that assurance it moved to a vote. The votes in the lower chamber astonished the State Education authorities: 87 to 2 for the bill. When the same body voted on concurrence with certain senate amendments the vote was 78 to 0. Regents' minutes show no sign of opposition and the head of the State's educational affairs became a close friend of Allen. Governor John A. King signed the bill March 28, 1857. Allen had spent the winter in the capital city with considerable leisure. Never disposed to idling away his time he had attended law lectures and been admitted to the bar.

This statute created "Alfred University." "All persons," it read, "who have or shall hereafter become subscribers in the sum of one hundred dollars to the permanent fund. . .are hereby constituted a body corporate, by the name of the 'Alfred University' and by that name shall have perpetual succession for the purpose of promoting education...." The business was to be administered by a board of 33 trustees with power to make rules for their guidance regarding meetings, elections, and related matters. The board was authorized to form academic, college, theological, and other departments as seemed wise. Authority rested in the board to appoint officers and professors, and to confer diplomas, honorary testimonials, and so on.

Some State officials were not the only people who took a dim view of this statute or charter. Editor Greeley of the New York *Tribune* complained that there were too many colleges, that the only reason for turning the Seventh Day Baptists' excellent Academy into a feeble and

starveling college was to have a pretext for knocking at the door of the State treasury. The Alfred leadership retorted that the Academy would still exist, that Alfred was not after State cash, that their observance of a different day as a Sabbath made it desirable for Seventh Day Baptists to have a college of their own, and that the University would be run in a way to afford equal educational facilities to both sexes and to all creeds.

With the charter secured we can turn to Professor Allen for an explanation of one particular thing he thought the charter had done. Writing soon after Governor King signed the Alfred bill, Allen pointed out that instead of the usual procedure of incorporating trustees as a corporation self-perpetuating and responsible to none but the law, in this case the trustees were elected by the contributors to the permanent funds who were made the corporation and the trustees their agents for doing their business. Furthermore, the subscribers (stockholders) had been incorporated as the Seventh Day Baptist Education Society.

So! The subsequent boasts about the broadmindedness of the founders in omitting any reference to church control in the charter are merely boasts. They are not in fact true. Those good men believed that through the Education Society the University was tied with double-knotted security to the denomination. With such ideas in the minds of the officers of the Education Society it is no surprise to find them (1856) already electing faculty members, nominating a president, and laying out a curriculum with permission for the faculty-to-be to change it in details only.

However, it soon developed that despite Allen's words, the University trustees once elected stood on an independent statute and largely out of the reach of the parent Society. At the Society's annual meeting in 1857 its committee reported rather ruefully that in its opinion the Society had no power over the trustees other than advisory and recommendatory in the premises. Futile attempts were made by the Society to effect a consolidated organization out of the University trustees and the Society without destroying their respective identities. Nothing came of this, and the plan for control Allen described soon became a dead letter.

Several factors contributed to this result. One was a gradual differentiation between the members of the corporation and those of the Society. Another factor was the legally independent status of the trustees under the charter when elected. The trustees were all mem-

bers of the corporation whether contributors or not; which with the absence of any rules for corporation meeting times or notice of the same, made for independence. The trustees themselves came more and more to be the corporation. Certain it is that the control of Alfred University by Seventh Day Baptists was never due to any effective legal tie, but to the simple fact that until near the middle of the 20th century its top leadership and much other administrative and teaching personnel were of that faith.

ORGANIZING THE COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

The little "Light" lighted at the first session of the Select School and as a figure of speech often used by Jonathan Allen to symbolize education was selected doubtless under his influence to be the University Motto as *Fiat Lux.* Thus the light of education has shone forth symbolically from Alfred University's seal for a century.

The charter obtained, two institutions graced the Alfred hillside: a twenty-year old Academy, and a shiny, new University. For a while each kept its separate board of trustees, but they soon met together with a common president. The College of Liberal Arts was organized in the spring of 1857 ready for fall operations as the chief unit of the University. The catalogue of 1857 (spring) stressed the Academy, but displayed in detail the courses planned for the College. As Alfred's first official college curriculum this merits attention.

The four-year courses were three in number: classical, scientific, and intermediate (for ladies). In the classical course Latin and Greek ran solidly through all three terms of the first two years. Some mathematics, bits of surveying, and geology offered the only relief from the classics. By the end of the junior year it was thought that the Latin and Greek were mastered or nearly so, and students had worked a term each on history, chemistry, and three other sciences. A few more clinches with Greek were optional in the senior year. If the student had had enough Greek, he must tangle with Hebrew—one or the other he must study all the final year. The proper mental discipline thus having been acquired, seniors broadened out amid the wonders of logic, astronomy, constitutional law, political economy, intellectual and moral philosophy, history of civilization, history of literature, ecclesiastical history, and the inevitable evidences of Christianity.

In the scientific course no classics were required but could be had, as could more modern language, when desired. Anglo Saxon was included. Three levels of mathematics were required as was mathematical philosophy, with an array of sciences, social studies, and natural the-

ology. In the ladies' course neither Greek nor Latin was required, nor much science. The ladies were supposed to enjoy modern language, including Italian. They studied the social sciences as listed in the other courses, English Literature and its history, and read critically old favorites like "Young's Night Thoughts" and the thoughts of Cowper and Milton. Modern languages not listed could be elected as could music, painting, and penciling. Perspective drawing was required. Such was the rounded academic program with which Alfred University started its career. Minor changes came as experience grew and educational philosophy changed. To be sure, there was a gradual melting of that hard classical core and in almost all phases of the educational picture more electives were permitted.

FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS

Other developments, mostly academic and administrative, in the decade following the gaining of the University charter must be noticed. In 1863-64 came an early reference to active physical training: a gymnasium was established in the Boarding Hall (The Brick) where all young ladies boarding there were expected to take daily exercise. Just previously a more spectacular development came. An observer standing near Middle Hall May 28, 1863, would inevitably have joined a crowd gathered just south of him. That throng was celebrating the laying of the capstone on which would rest the 9.5 foot telescope of the Rogers Observatory. Appropriate ceremonies marked the event. Funds amounting to $500 raised by students and citizens had built the first section of the structure. The astronomical instruments were provided by the promoter, Professor William A. Rogers, A.A. 1854.

Rogers left for a tour in the United States Navy. So it was not until 1865-66 that the building and equipping were completed. When finished the Observatory consisted of several rooms, with the large telescope and an array of other pertinent apparatus. Before Rogers finally left Alfred, he had done research the results of which were noticed in astronomical publications in the United States, Britain, France, and Germany.

Another advance was the step taken to found a theological department—the second of the chief urges in getting a university charter. Brief mention has already been made of the courses in this field set up by Reverend N. V. Hull. In 1861 the denominational General Conference asked for the appointment of Jonathan Allen as professor of theology. This was done, and church leaders kept prodding the school

authorities to develop that department faster. Allen evidently did some good work for two years later the public was invited as a special treat to visit the final oral examinations of the theological class. In 1864 for the first time the annual catalogue listed a full three-year curriculum in theology—but no reference was made respecting either entrance requirements or degrees. In 1866-67 five theological students were registered.

The catalogue showed what the Alfred leadership considered the aims and purposes of the college courses. The philosophical, or teachers' course (called also the English, or normal course), aside from continuing the long-time teacher training aim was to provide a shorter preparation for men and women as efficient laborers and influential members of society. The scientific course was for those looking toward scientific pursuits. Higher levels demanded for women's education were met by the ladies course inculcating among other items elegant taste, high moral principles, and pure religious sentiments. The classical curriculum, the apex of the whole structure, was aimed at those destined for the learned professions.

With the Institution on a college level, degrees were available for students of appropriate academic success and good moral character. By 1864-65 there were four degree courses listed: the normal or teachers, the scientific, the ladies, and the classical. The first led to the degree of bachelor of education for men or laureate of education for women. This was a very elementary course with less in it than is found in modern high schools. It covered two years. The other three courses covered four years each, and won the degree of bachelor or laureate of arts. The masters degree could be earned by maintaining a good character and engaging for three years in scientific or literary pursuits, a general practice then and later. Alfred originated the laureate degree for women which was adopted by some other colleges. Some used that terminology for men too. At first these special degrees, including the bachelor of philosophy degree, required much less work than did the four year degrees, but in most colleges they gradually became equalized as was the case at Alfred. This Institution kept the laureate degree for 24 years then dropped it on request of the women. Far from being unique in offering these courses and granting these degrees, Alfred had the company of other respectable colleges.

A glance at the annual commencements of the middle sixties showed a steady crystallization of the programs. A feature then developing was an annual Sunday evening sermon. On Monday and Tuesday came the separate anniversary sessions of the four literary societies, with the

regular lecture before them jointly the second evening. Wednesday was Commencement Day with degrees conferred on thirteen seniors (1864), and an honorary doctor of divinity degree, on a well-known minister. Wednesday evening came the well-attended alumni reunion.

During that same period, the mid-sixties, things were happening to faculty members and through them to the University. In 1863 "Mother" Kenyon's death cast a shadow over the anniversaries of that year. Meantime the "Boss" had published an English grammar. To modern eyes it seems a rather drab affair in type and format. Although it was criticized as too detailed and too analytical, it had a considerable circulation. But Kenyon's activities were by no means merely local. He attended the first Convocation of the University of the State of New York in 1863. Then, or soon after, he served on a Convocation committee on college entrance requirements. Professor D. E. Maxson, a member of the State Legislature, was showering his colleagues with his typical oratory, not on slavery just then but on the iniquities of the property qualification for voting or office-holding and on the crying need for the personal liberties bill.

Kenyon and Allen with the popular preceptress, Miss E. E. Kenyon, were about all that were left of the old guard faculty. Academic work suffered and not only from these circumstances. For nearly two years President Kenyon's health had necessitated his almost continuous absence from Alfred. While Allen was president *ad interim,* the ever present hope for Kenyon's recovery left the presidency in uncertainty. Rogers' absence made the condition of his classes a matter of concerned comment. A typhus epidemic laid students low and pushed one faculty member to the very brink of the tomb. Then Miss Kenyon left. Changes prescribed by the Regents, and necessary modification in the academic calendar all aided in confusing the situation.

A Commencement visitor raised questions and sounded an alarm about Alfred's scholastic standards. He rejoiced that the number of graduates was small and that those had actually gone through the courses. He had heard no recent criticism, as he had occasionally earlier, that certain students had graduated by "special favors." Not liking the considerable list of masters degrees conferred he half warned and half pleaded: "Gentlemen—Trustees, be not lavish of your honors." All this illustrated the difficulty of elevating a top level academy into a passable college—a task which took more than a generation. On the reassuring side the broad shouldered Allen had accepted the presidency though still with a string to it in favor of Kenyon should he recover his health.

CHAPTER VII

Rounding Out the University"s First Decade, 1857-67

LIGHTS AND SHADOWS OF CIVIL WAR

THE POLITICAL storms over slavery and then secession lashed the Alfred campus. The winds of angry reaction in the North against the Fugitive Slave Law of 1850 struck Alfred with tornadic force and brought the campus to the brink of out and out nullification. The trigger-tongued Maxson had shrieked, "The enactment *is not law* and we will not obey it." In 1861 this traditional radicalism left little sympathy for the conservatives. Sharp altercations occurred in all the lyceums. The protagonists with pale faces, often coatless, heatedly shouted at each other their respective slogans. Chapel speakers kept the kettle boiling. Students and alumni heeded the call to help keep "bleeding Kansas" free. That was done, and several Alfred men remained to become prominent in the later story of the state.

The bombardment of Fort Sumter, the first attack on the Union, became the signal for thirteen Alfred students to enlist. All but one were accepted. Then came that never-to-be-forgotten chapel hour, April 26, 1861. Students and local citizens jammed the hall. Eleven seniors voiced their reasons for enlisting. Two of them agreed: "We give our all—our lives—and never expect to return." But within a year they did return—in their coffins. Said a third, "I see the end of human slavery," then considered a very radical remark, as Lincoln had just promised that he would not interfere with slavery. Even in Alfred the boy's remark was hissed. Another daring lad braved the campus wearing the copperhead emblem of the South. But the offender and his trinket were soon parted. Friends walked the campus with bated breath, impromptu companies drilled, and praying circles were formed. A flag was raised on a 116 foot pole on Main Street amid cheers, the burning of powder, and the ever-ready speeches.

Some Alfred volunteers were disappointed at the long delay in get-

ting to the front. Professor Maxson went in as a chaplain, and trustees had to cool Allen's ardor to keep him from following. However, as soon as the anniversaries were behind him, Allen hot-footed it into Virginia. His boys were delighted to see him and were encouraged and comforted by his presence. He sent home humorous word pictures of his experiences and anything but humorous details of the wild panic and disorderly retreat from Bull Run.

During the early years of the war student enrollment declined, and lyceum work was much curtailed by reduced membership and the frequent adjournments to hear patriotic addresses or join in war work. Orophilian Lyceum membership fell from a high of 66 to a low of 21. When these societies could hold their regular sessions, their essays, orations, and debates took on a strongly patriotic tinge. A solemn war duty was the frequent necessity of passing resolutions of sorrow on the death of soldier members. A woman's lyceum voted to forego all the luxuries of life for country's sake, and, if necessary, take the field. Also they would wear only plain calico graduation dresses. By the winter of 1862, however, the campus was well sprinkled with blue coats discharged on account of sickness. Chaplain Maxson, discharged for the same reason, was verbally fighting the Nation's battles from the home front.

Summarizing beautifully the shadow side of that fratricidal war were certain feeling words of Professor Jonathan Allen. "Starred Names" he called the piece:

> Year after year adds to the 'starred' names of our triennial catalogue. Hands clasped in youthful friendship and love are unclasped forever;. . .hearts palpitating with all the generous enthusiasms of youth, beat nevermore; young lives rich with the varied and generous culture of the schools. . .with only a prophecy of how their lives would have blessed the world. . .are lost to the world.. . . This Institution has its representatives. . .engaged in nearly all campaigns, languishing in hospitals, mingling their blood. . .upon nearly all battlefields. We lament their fall, yet, mingled with our sorrow, is a solemn joy, that we can act, and offer life through such noble representatives, for human brotherhood, and law, and government.

Fitting well with Allen's words was a later scene in Alfred as the war ended. When the black news of Lincoln's assassination reached town, it was announced to the Church congregation from the pulpit. Then for some minutes there was stunned silence except for the sounds of weeping.

BUILDINGS, GROUNDS, AND FINANCE

Leaving for the present war's dark shadows we view another sector of Alfred's life as it rounded out the first decade with University status and consider the business side of the decade. The first problem arose from a disastrous fire. "South Hall is afire; there goes the new dress I had planned!" Thus, according to tradition, spoke a loyal Alfred supporter as her sleigh topped the west hill that mid-winter morning in 1858. The Aliens were in charge of South Hall, the women's dormitory, and had gone to breakfast in Middle Hall. Mrs. Allen went back to care for her little daughter. The child was almost stifled with smoke. Professor Allen returning found the fire above them and certain that the structure was doomed ordered the girls out. They went, some in stocking feet, in deep snow to Chapel Hall. A heroic battle was waged by students, teachers, and townspeople' to save Middle Hall. A score of young men on its roof led by Allen and Hull stuck it through despite burned faces and clothes and kept the building wetted down. A westering wind helped to turn the scale and the Middle and North Halls were saved. The Ladies Literary Society housed in the ruined structure lost much of its property. Furniture removed received some damage. There was some insurance on the building. The ousted roomers were lodged with sympathetic friends in the village.

With typical Kcnyonesquc speed plans were making inside a week for a larger and more substantial building—"The Brick" of today. Letters of sympathy and help came in from individuals and the denomination. By September 13, 1858, the basement was far enough along to allow the laying of the cornerstone—a ceremony conducted amid the piles of sand, lime, lumber and debris of construction. It was a joyous, early autumn occasion. Crowds had gathered. A hymn by the choir opened the program, then a prayer, the address of the day by the energetic "Boss," the stone-laying ceremony, and briefer remarks by several leaders. Miss Grace L. Lyman representing the Ladies Literary Society made a marked impression. Not only did she carry her part as well as her masculine associates, but she eulogized Alfred's share in emancipating women from all current discriminatory restrictions, putting them on a plane of equality with men, as, for example, in allowing her to read that paper. She said that Alfred University was the only collegiate institution in the country to have done so.

The Panic of 1857 created fund-raising difficulties; hence progress on the building was slow. By the fall of 1859 the edifice was ready for its roof, but cash for wages was non-existent. There it stood, an Alle-

gany winter in the offing. What could be done? A building bee was called for; a hundred local men responded, and the roof went on in short order. Not to be outdone, the ladies provided the volunteers with groaning tables of refreshments, solid and liquid. Grateful thanks were bestowed on all these generous helpers.

By the fall of 1860 the basement and two stories were ready for use. All needed rooms were provided, and the boarding department migrated from Middle Hall to the basement. Not given a definite name at first the new acquisition was known variously as the Boarding Hall, University Hall, and Ladies Hall. Built in the form of a cross, it measured 120 feet in length, 95 feet in depth and towered 80 feet to the observatory (cupola). Five stories high, it could house 100 women and provided dining facilities for twice the number. Each occupant had a separate sleeping room adjoining the study room which was handsomely furnished and carpeted, making it one of the best school dormitories in the State.

The Chapel Hall and the Brick have now been built. In due time all land and buildings owned by Alfred Academy were transferred to the University, including those two buildings. In 1864 the Aliens and William A. Rogers obtained joint ownership of Middle Hall and three surrounding acres. A decade later the Rogers sold out to the Aliens. Also in 1864 Kenyon and Allen bought the area now known as the "Park" on Main Street and the present University Place. Eleven years afterward it was sold to the Institution.

During these years the financial flame flickered fitfully. Crisis followed crisis especially from 1861 to 1866. In 1861 the faculty adopted a self-denying ordinance which drew high commendation from the trustees. Those loyal men and women offered to take what was left after bills and debt service were provided for. Despite this it was necessary to let key faculty members go as an economy measure. In 1862 there were 400 outstanding claims listed against the School and no funds to meet them. The new Brick Hall was far from completed. To relieve the new pressure the Education Society with some questioning loaned on mortgage part of its endowment to the University trustees. It was vainly hoped that the rentals of the new dormitory would finance the loan.

In 1863-64 a special canvass brought $6,000 in endowment, but only one-third of the subscriptions was paid at once in cash. While this gave momentary relief by 1866 the situation was again critical and was intensified by the increasing difficulties with the perpetual Ten Per

Cent scholarships founded a decade earlier. Those sums in cash or notes gave the donors the right to assign annually ten per cent of the amounts donated to students who paid their tuition therewith. A report in 1866 showed that since the University's chartering approximately $12,000 had been paid as interest on those scholarship endowments. But during that time the School had allowed some $10,500 in free tuition on the scholarships, which in effect had been door prizes for contributing the principal. Only $1,500 had accrued to the University as free endowment income. In other words the *student* had been endowed not Alfred University.

Moreover the scholarship system had been tragically abused. It was intended for needy students, but a dozen husky youth swarmed into the community before the term opened and canvassed systematically for aid. Why was this tolerated? For one thing, refusal bred friction in influential quarters. Attempts were made to close the loopholes in the plan. Many owners were induced to turn in their scholarship certificates. Perhaps the system had been necessary to start such an institution as Alfred University, but leaders turned more and more toward seeking endowment without the scholarship handicap.

In the fall of 1866 church and educational leaders came to Alfred to the denominational General Conference oscillating between fear of impending ruin and hope of relief. The University valued at $50,000 was some $30,000 in debt. At an informal gathering these burdened men with tense faces exclaimed, "We must have help!" An evening meeting was organized by the Education Society. No one coming to that meeting could have foreseen the bright burst of enthusiasm which the hour produced—one of the most memorable in Alfred's epic. The pleas had sunk in. Relief shone forth. A subscription was opened. Everybody gave. When the tally was made $10,000 had been pledged. Again the clouds lifted and the crisis passed.

A quick effect of the monetary relief was the marked improvement in the condition and attractiveness of the plant. For example, the dirty brown of North Hall disappeared under a bright coat of white paint. Glass was restored to its dilapidated windows. Inside, the work of mischievous boys was obliterated and rooms, halls, and stairs were papered and "grained." The whole place became pleasant and inviting. Again the flickering flame was steadied.

STUDENT LIFE SHADOWED BY WAR

The tale of this decade, 1857-67, must include the student viewpoint.

The students, too, were hard pressed for money. Many practiced severe austerity to gain culture. Board at Middle Hall cost $1.50 per week—a new high. Students living in the village organized clubs, hired a cook and ate for half that price. Brothers and sisters joined, bringing food from home. Occasionally a boy would bring one of the family's cows, hire pasturage, and pay school expenses from the sale of the milk.

As to the lyceums, a few illuminating items may be culled from their record books reflecting the lyceum life of the time. One entry showed that in what must have been a winter series of lectures nationally known orators ornamented Alfred's platform. One society was investigating frauds in the election of its officers. Another entry showed a vote condemning hissing in chapel, and reprimanding a member for indecorous language in debate with ladies present. One women's society, within a period of four months, voted to expel two of its members for misconduct. A debate question posed by one lyceum read cynically: "Resolved that the medical practice as it now exists is a humbug."

A student episode which lived long in tradition was the "Burial of Zumpt." Zumpt was the German author of a widely used Latin Grammar. The Latin teacher had become increasingly unpopular so just prior to the Commencement of 1858 the burial took place. A most elaborate printed program was used. All sorts of classical and pseudo-classical characters were involved some *multum cum lachrymis* (with much weeping.) A stanza from one of the lugubrious songs will help with the setting and the psychology:

We'll pore no more for the hidden lore
Within the old Zumpt's pages,
But let it rest in the earth's cold breast,
To slumber there for ages.

It was said that the angry President burst among the "mourners" just as the obsequies ended and shook the fluent orator until his teeth rattled.

But Zumpt, the unpopular Latin pedagogue, was not the only one to excite deep resentment among the students. Tense, nervous, ailing from overwork, Kenyon himself became more irritable and quick at scolding. About 1860 a young woman enrolled in a class, then changed her mind and took a different one—both taught by the "Boss." Things got mixed. Going to explain to him, "He cut me short," she wrote later. . ."called me a fool for thinking I could change classes" like that. "I was disgusted at his 'unnecessary violence. .. .' I said 'Good Morn-

ing' and walked out. . .burning indignation in my heart." At a later time he gave her a "terrible word lashing. ..making himself quite ridiculous." In after years she came to realize Kenyon's noble self-sacrifice, his illness and fatigue. But because of his violence and his tendency to grudge them any pleasure, they loved him less than any other teacher.

Dropping from grievances against particular teachers to grievances against rules, a new wrinkle, says tradition, developed in the famous unpermitted association ban. This rule was said to have been elaborated by making a specific number of feet the required distance in "association." Hence the boys cut sticks the legal length, to be carried, boy and girl each holding an end, to assure safe observance of the rule.

Thus while Alfred's soldiers were winning wounds and citations, students and home folks saw some of the lighter side of life amid their deep heartaches and dreads. So students pranked students and got fun from faculty happenings. Let us glance at a certain grievance students long remembered against other students. In that never-to-be forgotten sample the girls got sweet revenge against the boys. A clever letter (1864) by a young fellow not involved tells the story apeing the style of the Old Testament chroniclers, beginning thus: "It came to pass in the twenty-fifth year of the reign of William the Great..., George and certain other sons of Belial, being full of the evil spirit. . .wrote letters to certain of the daughters of Gad. . .and they imitated the hand-writing of the King...and commanded them to appear before the King in his royal chamber, and they signed. . .the King's name" (President Kenyon).

The girls, deciding in their terror what violations of rules they would confess, "bowed themselves into the dreaded presence." After a period of friendly conversation, they timidly inquired the reason for their summons and the President denied inviting them. All agreed that the boys were guilty of the dastardly act. After secret consultations, they smiled innocently on the boys, who suspected nothing, and invited the miscreants to a party at the home of one John Penny, a papa with several fair daughters at "Squintville" several miles away over the western hills. The coeds would be there and, best of all, after the merry-making the boys could ride home with the girls. The boys fell for it. Mid-winter weather was at its worst. Roads frozen, thawed, and frozen again were nearly impassable. After offering fabulous sums to the reluctant livery man, the boys secured a capacious carriage. The girls went ahead, and quickly doubled back to Alfred by a parallel route.

Reaching Penny's home chilled to the bone and sore from the bumpy trip, the boys found John and his fair family abed! "Behold, how we have been taken in," they whispered. Returning as best they could, and failing utterly to bribe laughing stay-at-home pals to keep the juicy morsel secret, they recalled a certain proverb about the female of the species.

Just before Kenyon's health broke this same facile imitator of the Old Hebrew chronicler paid similar respect to the marriage of the President to Mrs. Ida Sallan Long. A Prussian by birth, she was to marry Alfred's leader, September 4, 1864. The modern chronicler penned a vivid story of the faculty and friends in Sabbath best riding to nearby Almond, the bride's home, and their return when it was seen that the President was not alone. There was much cheering along the route and burning of powder, with loud ringing of the chapel bell. Pranksters deprived that bell of its tongue so that an axe had to be used the next morning to ring for Chapel. But at that chapel hour came another enthusiastic demonstration for the new groom and his bride. As he signaled dismissal cheers broke out and cries of "Speech! Speech!" Kenyon reminded his hearers of the regular German teacher's illness which distressed him greatly for the students of that tongue, so much so indeed that he had been constrained to offer himself a sacrifice on the altar of Hymen to provide in his new German-speaking wife a teacher for them!

Before this decade ended Alfred had a taste of something quite new, namely athletics. There appeared "The Alfred University Baseball Club," all equipped with officers and directors. In June, 1866, the club trekked to Hornellsville and met defeat by the Canacadea Baseball Club of that village, 14 to 17. In October it tackled Hornellsville's Independent Baseball Club and won 52 to 24. Umpires and scorers were duly listed. Nine days later these rivals clashed again, Alfred topping its previous victory with a score of 72 to 26. The campus men scored 25 runs in one inning. In June, 1867, they tangled once more with similar results. A new era was thus prophesied in college life at Alfred. The next year, however, owing to the number of broken fingers and other anatomical damage from this manly sport, baseball without gloves and guards was deemed a bit too manly. The students apparently settled for croquet which had also the prime advantage that the girls could participate.

In a mood quite different can we visualize these scenes? It is morning in Alfred. The sun shines over the pine trees; dew drops glisten on the

grass; birds make the valley vocal with songs; and the young orator awakes the echoes of the grove, rehearsing his commencement oration. Chapel bell rings; Alfred's sons and daughters throng into the hall. A chapter read from the Bible, an anthem, thanksgiving and prayer go up to the Sovereign Ruler, Chapel ends and the work of the day goes on. Latin, Greek, and math rule the day.

The hour bell rings, and the scene changes. Classes are over. A distant piano complains of its ceaseless tortures; waves of song float in from a rehearsing choir punctuated by the wild shouts of distant ball players. On the green young men and maidens make "innovation" on the habits of other days with a game of croquet, while in the street a rabble of boys finds boisterous amusement with football. Then the rising moon floods the valley; bouquet hangers are out, and serenaders are heard in the distance.

THE FIERY KENYON BURNS OUT

At the time of that haunting word picture the overworked energy of President Kenyon was burning out. He worked when he could scarcely move. Unable to sit up he would lie on a bench and conduct classes. In the spring of 1865 Kenyon resigned and Allen was elected President but did not accept. Kenyon spent some time for his health in Missouri and returned in November a bit improved. It was about this time that he was offered a most lucrative and tempting position in connection with the new State normal schools which he declined. He could not teach in the winter term as he had hoped and spent some time in a New York sanitarium.

In the fall of 1866 Kenyon and his German wife arranged for an extensive tour of Europe and Palestine. There was sightseeing in Europe, time spent with Mrs. Kenyon's relatives, a brave attempt to reach the Holy Land, but a relapse vetoed that effort; then by way of Paris, he returned to London where church friends were shocked at his haggard appearance. Amid hopeful arrangements to start home he died in the British capital, June 7, 1867 at the age of 54. His death cast a gloom over the Commencement that year. An eloquent and touching tribute was paid him by his pupil, friend, and yokefellow, Allen.

Kenyon found the Institution with 74 students and under him it reached its 19th century peak with 478. He found it with one small building and left it with five. As a select school he found it, as a University he left it. Worth but a few hundred dollars in 1839 it was valued at over $50,000 in 1867. He had his faults, but they were either

the fruit of an ailing body unable to curb a near atomic temper, or the abnormal explosions of right forces as when he descended like a thunderbolt upon the frivolous and rowdy. Many, disgusted at his ridiculous outbursts or bored by his endless moralizing, lived to recognize his sterling worth. Among his colleagues were those who outstripped him in general culture, scholarship, and insight, but he topped them all in inspiring students with a desire for learning and with a belief in themselves. There lay his greatest strength and influence.

President Kenyon's remains, first buried in England, were later removed to Schenectady, New York, and laid beside his beloved Melissa. This had been his last request and prevented burial in Alfred as so many desired. Thus passed Alfred University's founder-president, making him, too, the first of the five Pioneer Boys whose career was ended.

CHAPTER VIII

President Jonathan Allen: Vigorous and Versatile, 1867-92

TALL, broadshouldered, versatile, eloquent—all that was Jonathan Allen, and now reluctantly he found himself President of Alfred University. We have followed him through the infant Academy, winning degrees from Oberlin, gaining administrative experience as local town superintendent of schools, teaching in the Academy and elsewhere, and absorbing varied wisdom in collaborating with the vivid "Boss."

Added culture came from several trips. With wife and a jolly party of students he geologized along the Allegheny River, exploring some coal mines along the route. A longer tour followed the river to its mouth. All such trips netted boxes of specimens for the science cabinets. Allen varied that professional recreation by part of a year of graduate study at Harvard, 1852-53, and in 1860 by special work at Andover Theological Seminary. On the trip to Andover he toured the Thousand Islands, visited Montreal, and in New Hampshire spent a thrilling moonlit night atop Mount Washington, where, as he put it, he felt the presence of the Diety as never before. Thus with broad preparation and the full confidence of his public our second Pioneer Boy began his quarter century struggle to make Alfred University fit its proud name.

EDUCATIONAL CONTROVERSY: GENERAL AND LOCAL

Dynamic American life assured change. Education found itself deeply stirred by that force. One of the current controversies was that between the classicists and the scientists. The Regents of the University of the State of New York argued that while Greek and Latin must continue opening the treasures of ancient learning, the older courses were not the only disciplinary ones; science and art developed the

intellect and disciplined its powers. An Alfred writer attributed the decline of the classics to the dry as dust style of teaching and the infinite attention to minutiae. A local faculty man defended the ancient studies before the campus "Science and Art Club." Greek and Latin were essential, he claimed, to scientific studies because of the technical terms derived from them and that students of the classics won more lucrative positions than did science graduates.

Another warmly debated educational policy was required courses *versus* electives. In the early 1870's Alfred experimented somewhat with a plan of free electives which later produced a reaction. Professor D. E. Maxson condemned the wishy-washy results of the wide open elective system and favored the group system of choices long used by the University of Virginia. Even then he felt that there was danger of lowered standards and over specialization.

But coming nearer home criticism against the University in the churches and among the young people referred to its alleged inefficiency and the questionable quality of its offerings. One signing himself "Student" defended young men for refusing to attend Alfred. The sacred calling they aimed at, the ministry, demanded the best, better than Alfred offered. Growing more specific the critic continued: organize clearly three departments—preparatory, collegiate, and theological. Stiffen the courses; demand the passing of rigid entrance examinations; separate college and seminary; and provide teachers of culture and experience. Such policies the critic felt would restore confidence, and youth would cease to shun Alfred. In similar key another plain talker called for the lifting of Alfred's level of scholarship and asked officials to cease lending their influence to a mongrel indefiniteness in regard to *college* work. While the more sympathetic of those critics recognized mitigating circumstances in the pitiful poverty of the University and urged more effort in remedying the financial lack, the charges could not be just brushed off. The targets of the pointed darts were the President, the trustees and the faculty.

ACCELERATED ACADEMIC ADVANCE

In 1873 that faculty numbered 24 full or parttime members and the students for whom all this solicitude was poured out numbered 445 different individuals for the school year. The curriculum of the Academy included two courses—normal, or teachers', and classical. The former occupied three years, and the latter two years. A few unusual subjects appeared such as psychology and industrial and inventive

drawing. The classical course was still heavy with Latin and Greek. In college the first two years catalogued a classical course and offerings in science and literature. The junior and senior college years topped these off with a combined course in which the student could choose either emphasis seen in the work of the first two years. A liberal list of electives was permitted in college.

The young Conservatory of Music agreed that if the students were graduates of any arts college, and had mastered the formidable list of courses a degree of bachelor of music would be forthcoming. In 1876 there were seven undergraduate and five graduate degrees listed in the catalogue.

Urged on by criticisms and their own progressive spirit, the faculty brought about marked changes during Allen's presidency. New departments were added, old ones expanded or revamped, and curricular revisions experimented with. Some of these struck a vocational note. One of the strangest changes and one which scarcely added to the University's prestige was its marriage to the new Union Free School District. Academic changes so far noted in Alfred's story have been such as were familiar to the eyes of college people. This new connection surely must have been the "white crow" among school relationships. It put little five-year old pupils and the grade school teachers into the University catalogue and clothed the school board members with the status of University trustees.

In 1868 such an agreement was made between the University and the Union Free School District partially combining the two. An acre of land was acquired, the site of the later Kanakadea Hall, and to that lot North Hall was moved. Each institution, School district and University, took an undivided half interest in the real estate. The graded school was divided into three departments: primary, intermediate, and upper, or third department. The upper was taught by teachers provided by the University, while the district furnished the teachers for the two lower divisions. A reciprocal arrangement was made to care for the cases where students in the upper department took studies in a lower department or vice versa. Periodically financial balances were struck and payments made accordingly. The new union was hailed in Alfred as securing unity of management and supplying a long-felt want. For some time that morganatic union seemed to have been as happy as such unequal connections could be.

In 1883 however a motion by the district to break the connection failed to pass but showed how the breezes blew. The chief difficulty

lay with the management of the top department of the graded school. A peremptory vote by the school board ordered that no more money be paid the University for instruction in that department until the teachers obeyed board rules. Conditions must have become bad for a writer in the Alfred *Sun* called the existing public school facilities a reproach to the village. The University offered to quitclaim its interest in the joint property. The district agreed. The old building was pushed aside and a new public school building erected on the site. The former North Hall was sold to W. C. Burdick, a prominent local business man, moved down to the creek and later became the University's Burdick Hall. Thus that unequal union of convenience became inconvenient and was duly dissolved by mutual dissent.

A happier development had come when an invasion by the newer education scaled Alfred's classical ramparts (1867). This arrived in the form of endowment for the "George B. Rogers Professorship of Industrial Mechanics." The good angel of this invasion was Mrs. Ann Marie Rogers Lyon and the gift was born of a tragedy. By her first marriage the lady was Mrs. B. W. Rogers. The couple had six children, all of whom except the youngest died before maturity. The survivor was George B., a lovable lad who at the age of 21 when just ready for marriage and an engineering career, too, was struck down.

To create a memorial for him Mrs. Lyon presented to Alfred University the son's legacy from his father, a tidy $10,000. Among numerous conditions which she laid down were the income from the principal alone was to be used; the University must add $5,000 to the principal of the gift; the courses must parallel those of Yale's Sheffield Scientific School; and eight scholarships must be provided for earnest Sabbath-keeping young men. If possible, the department should open in the fall of 1869. In due time the conditions were fully met, and the new department began successful operation.

Another vocational project which bloomed into flourishing if temporary existence was the business department. That was the brain child of Terrence M. Davis, '81, who obtained graduate study in business and some experience in a position in his native West Virginia. Then feeling that his Alma Mater should have such a department he presented the idea which took at once, and business education started (1883). The usual subjects from fancy penmanship to commercial correspondence and commercial law were offered. The next year the booming six month course added telegraphy and "phonography (short hand)." These courses opened up new occupations for young men and

women as secretaries and assistants to business and professional men. The department was successful until 1888 when Davis opened a business school in Hornellsville and despite his prophecy that the move would help rather than harm his campus program, the latter evaporated in 1890.

The Department of Theology came into fuller maturity in the early years of the Allen presidency. His own work in theology had made a landmark with a new start in 1861. There had been a decade of careful building. We have noticed the coming of Reverend T. R. Williams in the mid-sixties. Reverend A. H. Lewis, a man of outstanding ability and great personal force, became professor of church history, and Reverend L. R. Swinney was added, 1870, as professor of Hebrew and cognate tongues. Local Pastor Hull was also on the staff.

Heavy financial problems were overcome. Enthusiasm ran high. The Education Society pushed the evolution of the department. The plans and changes reached fulfillment in 1871. The department had a separate organization and faculty and funds of its own. Now it was able to offer a full, three-year intellectual and spiritual training program for the class of ten would-be ministers of the Gospel. How rosy it all appeared. But like so much of Alfred's story in those days there were downs as well as ups. During the next two decades the Seminary went into sad eclipse. Support fell off. Students pleaded for better financial backing. By 1879 it became clear that there would be no theological class for a time. Professors took other work.

In an acrimonious correspondence (1889) between the University authorities and Professor Lewis he expressed himself in no flattering terms about the Seminary. Its situation, he said, gave cause for great anxiety. Never since 1870 had it received unanimous support. In failing to build up that department the University had lost its chance to gain a hold on the denomination. There were eight prospective Seventh Day Baptist ministers in other seminaries; and so on according to the emphatic Lewis. This criticism sounded like an echo of other criticisms in the period we have already chronicled. There were other ups and downs of a milder sort but the Seminary had to wait for the twentieth century before it really became firmly established.

A department which took on new life in the 1880's was that of the artists. A loaned exhibit of pictures in the new Kenyon Memorial Hall (see below) was a revelation to all, as were the graduating pieces exhibited by the art seniors. Under Miss Amelia Stillman's excellent leadership the new studio in the basement of that hall made a fine

impression. At the same time President Allen was encouraging art by hanging hundreds of dollars worth of paintings in the halls and reception rooms of Ladies Hall. After special preparation, J. J. Merrill, '84, a life-long Alfred supporter, opened a new department of applied art.

The year 1883-84 saw an independent department of natural history set off under the direction of the much traveled Ethan P. Larkin. Beside the usual run of courses in which, by the way, students might elect "microscopical" work, Larkin rejuvenated an earlier (and later) Alfred specialty, i.e., agriculture: studies of soils, fertilizers, and insects injurious to vegetation. Then an inspired dreamer looked ahead suggesting a department of agriculture at Alfred University, funds to be raised for it in the surrounding rural areas. Noting that while it could not be denominational it would help the farmer and benefit the University—another practical emphasis.

An epochal event of the period was the endowment of a new department of history and political science. Charles Potter, the financial sponsor of that venture, was a manufacturer and inventor in the printing field. He had built up the best-equipped factory of its kind for that day. In May, 1888, this generous gentleman deposited with the Trustees of the Seventh Day Baptist Memorial Fund $20,000 in securities to endow the professorship which would bear his name. Detailed conditions were set down to govern the gift. Reverend Lester Cortland Rogers, brother-in-law of the donor, was elected to the professorship. He was a former student of Alfred Academy, and a graduate of Williams College and Rutgers Theological Seminary: a man of learning and culture. The department was opened in the fall of 1888, the new head presenting an interesting inaugural address. Professor Rogers made much of the Bible as a source for ancient history—the deluge, the wanderings of Noah's children, and their alleged relation to the ancient peoples and the peoples of today.

The latter part of President Allen's period of leadership saw the preparatory and normal departments undergo some changes. The normal department created in 1882 revitalized an earlier Alfred specialty—teacher training. In 1888 the December term opened with a class running six months under State supervision and using subject matter and methods dictated by the State. Fifteen minutes weekly were generously set aside for current events. Soon after this the department put out its banner as the "Normal School of Alfred University," with a four-year course leading to the bachelor of education degree. The work of its first two years was identical with that of the State Normal College.

Another step gave a nudge toward the complete separation of College and Academy. In 1890 students were encouraged to complete the preparatory school course with not more than one year's work in College. Mastery of either of the three Academy courses won a diploma admitting the holder to college. As in most secondary schools in the State, the Regents examinations were the accepted tests in all preparatory studies in the Academy.

A radical, if somewhat cumbersome, reorganization of the College remains to be noticed. It was divided into seven departments, e.g., theology, liberal arts, fine arts, music, etc. These units were sub-divided into ten "Schools," namely Latin, Greek, mathematics and through the familiar list. A complicated system of requisitions for diplomas from the departments and certificates from the "Schools" was required to determine whether degrees had been earned.

With regard to honorary degrees a lively conflict exploded among the University trustees respecting the 22 such honors which President Allen had conferred at the Semi-centennial Commencement (1886). Tradition says that when chided for such liberality Allen retorted: "Well, they are conferred; what can you do about it?" This picturesque bit of alleged bossism is inconsistent with the record that on the day before that dark deed was done Alfred's trustees had authorized Allen's action. Possibly the President had created a situation which forced the hands of the gentlemen of the board. Whatever the facts in the case, a post-commencement trustee meeting proved that hypertension had developed over honorary degrees. There was much discussion and a whimsical motion by Allen that no more honorary degrees be conferred for fifty years. Then a decision was made that no degrees be conferred except upon such persons as had been recommended and acted upon by the trustees not less than two weeks before such degrees were to be conferred. For a time at least these rules were observed; the degree question died down; and blood pressures returned to normal.

Further improvement academically speaking showed in newly invented, or imported, methods of instruction. For the first time (1882), chemistry students must perform experiments themselves, not just watch demonstrations. Field trips were intensified. Better equipment was being secured: a new compass and tripod for the surveyors; adjustable drafting tables designed and built by the "School" of industrial mechanics; physics got a new microscope projector, as did biology, the latter instrument throwing a circular, fifteen-foot picture. The better to illustrate their work, international law students organized an "Inter-

national Congress," with each class member representing a different country in the sessions. Significantly, too, military tactics were part of the curriculum in 1885; there was talk of experimenting with extension courses; a clay company was organized to exploit the local shale deposits—an early Alfred ceramic interest; and the President was lecturing on ceramics.

ACTIVE ACADEMIC AUXILIARIES

In addition to the first line personnel, courses and equipment which bore the brunt of the educating process, there were several associated institutions which supplemented the regular classroom and laboratory work. Such were the embryonic summer schools, the lyceums, the commencements, the libraries, and more indirectly the alumni.

First the summer school. Apparently the earliest prediction of that auxiliary came in 1877 and 1878. The former year the art teacher offered courses in painting, while President Allen and his gifted daughter, Miss Eva Allen, instructed in elocution. A fourth teacher taught Latin. The following summer the two Aliens taught again, but President Allen instructed in geology. Again in 1881 Miss Allen, then Mrs. Alberti, announced a five week "Summer School in Elocution and Vocal Gymnastics." Music was also offered. Similar opportunities were available for several years. In 1884 a "Summer School of Business" was added, and three years later a "Summer Art School."

It requires no argument to show that the lyceums were real aids in the campus educational process. They served as laboratories where young people applied the teachings of the classroom and added further accomplishments. Writing, speaking, debate, parliamentary procedure, and business management were all on the session's agenda. Twice a year came the public sessions before large audiences. "Very solid fare" would be the verdict of the collegian of today if he listened to orations, or essays on "Siberia" and "Governmental Development" given in 1882. But it was not all so solid. The manuscript lyceum newspapers had pointed personals sprinkled in, and music was a feature. The heavier literary diet was followed with increasing frequency by a social time and refreshments. Sometimes the regular program was set aside for a drama, as when the Alfriedians put on the very amusing play "Wilfullness."

To be sure in 1888 the Athenaeans bit into a piece of thick intellectual beef-steak when they laid out a course in very ancient history tackling such topics as "Creation," "Nebula Flypothesis," and "Extent

of the Deluge." When digested they voted their course equal to a term's work in classes. The Alleghanians won variety with a mock trial in Kenyon Hall, when Charles P. Rogers was accused of assault and battery against Phil S. Place. The Oros courted variety by operating a miniature United States Congress.

In June 1871 Julia Ward Howe was engaged by the lyceums to lecture in Alfred on feminine equality with men. Reaching Hornellsville she was surprised to find that her lecture was to be delivered there. A hot controversy had arisen in the college town. The selection of the famous feminist for the annual commencement lecture before the societies had aroused opposition which spread until students, teachers and townsfolk were hotly involved. The antagonisms reached into social activities and love affairs. One man declared heroically that if the lady spoke in Alfred it would be over his dead body. Another threatened to withdraw his financial support from the College if the dangerous radical lectured. Hence the change of venue. A good crowd heard Mrs. Howe and cheered lustily, President Allen and family among them. She did come to Alfred, and the Aliens held a well-attended reception for her. The fine impression she had made the previous evening was increased, and the battle ended in a draw.

Libraries and reading rooms are as collegiate as laboratories. The Alfred community had a library before it created the Select School. The bell room of the Cadmus was for a time a storage place for newspapers and magazines. President Allen said that a library was once housed in his residence—Middle Hall. Thence it migrated to Chapel Hall and fell asleep in an upper room.

Criticism of the quality of the Jubilee sessions of the societies, due to lack of library facilities, again energized student interest (1874). Students wondered why several thousand volumes, old but useful, were stuck in a cold, dismal, dirty garret hard to reach and unpleasant to occupy. So vigorous a complaint brought action. A room in Chapel Hall was connected by a wide arch to the west end of the central hallway, carpeted, provided with sofas and spring-bottomed chairs, tables and desks, the latter covered with papers, magazines, dictionaries, and other reference books. Various libraries on the campus totalling some 4,100 volumes were pooled in the attractive new home. A librarian was in charge, order maintained, and the place open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Off it went to a fine start. How long did it prosper? Was it a local disease, or just human nature? Soon a creeping paralysis developed, and the deterioration of the fine new project took place. It was com-

plained that the library was becoming a reception room and that the command, "Thou shalt not steal," was not always rigidly obeyed. After three years, the promising facility was crowded into the west end of that hallway, closed and awakened for only a few minutes twice a week for the withdrawal and return of books.

Nearly a decade passed before the vitalism of the 1880's brought permanent success to the previous fitful efforts. Again students in the lyceums provided the push (1885). They got the trustees to heat and light the tower room in the newly occupied Kenyon Memorial Hall, and in the spring of the semi-centennial year (1886) a fairly well stocked reading room was in use there, supported by a small self-imposed tax on the lyceum members. But a storm was a-brewing. Professor Larkin could not bear to see his precious science museum space so unbearably cramped. So by the morning after the opening day that irate gentleman had thrown the periodicals out of the window, set the furniture in the hallway and locked the door. Both sides appealed to the trustees, a majority of whom backed the students. As a result the trustees dedicated *all* the second floor of Kenyon Hall to reading room and *library* purposes. Business was at once resumed in the tower room.

Bigger things were cooking. The time had come for the library to reawaken. Dr. Daniel Lewis, an active alumnus, and Hon. Melville Dewey, a former student, were leaders in the plans. Corliss F. Randolph, though a student, took a prominent part. The new alumni association heartily backed the enterprise. At Commencement 1887 a meeting of the University trustees, and representatives of the faculty, alumni, and the lyceums, agreed to a reconsolidation of the libraries and the reading room to be housed in that pleasant area on Kenyon Hall's second floor.

The first day of the winter term saw the "Alfred University Library" open for its cultural business (1887). The next summer a pair of expert catalogers from Columbia College listed the books under the Dewey (Melville) system. A board of directors representing all the interests involved governed the library under the University trustees. What a joy it was to enter a warm, well-lighted room, with courteous attendants ready to aid, and to study so comfortably. The library was popular from the start.

A mixture of classroom work, libraries, and other applicable ingredients result in graduation. A religious revival near the start of Allen's presidency colored the annual Commencement event in 1868. One fruit of it was the "Young Peoples' Christian Union." It sponsored

a Commencement sermon by Reverend A. H. Lewis. Religious services had been regular term- and year-end features from the first. That so-called sermon before the Union in 1868 may have been but a modified form of that practice; it may have been the baccalaureate without the name, or it may have been a precursor of the later annual sermons before the Christian Associations. The first sermon officially called "baccalaureate" was presented by the President in 1874. Since that date such a service has been a regular feature of Commencement.

"Class Day," for many decades a typical graduation event, appeared in Alfred with the class of 1877. After futile proddings of previous classes, the campus monthly, "The Alfred Student," got the '77'ers interested. The program ran true to the later standard form. Some outdoor activity on the campus; toasts like one to their honored selves, and to "The Ladies," were duly presented; then came a program in the Chapel Hall including the class history, oration, and prophecy, with suitable musical interludes. The planting of class trees or more frequently class ivies began in 1879 and 1880. By 1889 had come the long popular annual Commencement concert and the brimful meetings of the new Alumni Association.

Other glimpses at those colorful Commencement days showed early risers still treated to the tradition-laden senior rehearsals conducted by the President seated on his White House (Middle Hall) porch in the grove with his orator performing from a point across the valley near the Castle. But perhaps the greatest accession of color came with the partial introduction of the academic cap and gown in 1890. Other colleges were beginning to use those accessories. The class (1890) of which the late President B. C. Davis was a leading figure decided to present Allen with this new insignia. The class agreed to go part way itself, and wear the academic cap. So while the organ voluntary was playing for the baccalaureate Sunday evening, members of the class of '90 some 50 strong, wearing their mortar-board hats of purple and gold and headed by President Allen in his long gown filed into their assigned seats. Applause was loud and long. However, a few years passed before this apparel became standard at Alfred, and normally it took the hoods to provide the color.

In the line of revived alumni organization J. J. Merrill, '84, had scarcely let the ink of his sheepskin dry before he had organized the "New England Alumni Association"—with 30 constituent members, and an ambitious list of aims. With such a lusty limb, it seemed essential to provide it with a mother tree. This came and was christened

"The Alumni Association of Alfred University." A preliminary meeting of prominent alumni was held immediately after Commencement, 1886, the semi-centennial year. Later meetings attended to a constitution, officers, objectives, and incorporation. The first annual session in June, 1887, fixed membership as the holders of Alfred degrees, faculty members, and all students who had attended one year. The meeting that year and later was split into three different sessions, the last, the evening banquet, was devoted to the usual trilogy of business, boost, and banter.

As the mother association was off on such a soul-warming start, the coming of another branch seemed natural. That was the "Alfred Alumni Association of New York," which has played so honorable a role in the University's life for many years. In May 75 loyal folk greeted President Allen, the guest of honor at the first general meeting, when, after banquet and oratory, the organization was completed (1891).

Alfred's sons and daughters were not only organizing at home but were making their marks in the world of affairs outside. Here is a partial list collected in the late 1880's: Hon. Seymour Dexter, former member of the New York legislature, then Judge of Chemung County, New York; Weston Flint of the United States Civil Service Commission; James Marvin, Chancellor of the University of Kansas; Judge N. M. Hubbard, Judge J. B. Cassidy, and Judge S. O. Thacher of the supreme courts of Iowa, Wisconsin, and Kansas respectively; Henry M. Teller, United States Senator from Colorado, and United States Secretary of the Interior; W. W. Brown, Assistant United States Attorney General; Dr. Galusha Anderson, President of Denison University; S. R. Thayer, United States Minister to Holland; and Melville Dewey, Secretary of the New York State Board of Regents, and Director of the State Library. These and others were upholding Alma Mater's honor; while younger alumni were doing their part for example in winning admission to graduate schools like Johns Hopkins, Cornell, Yale, and Harvard Universities without examinations.

Alfred's students thus were making history as well as organizing for greater service to the Old School. The general association has ever enjoyed a high level of alumni interest, and branches have proliferated profusely.

CHAPTER IX

Buildings, Beautification, and Bills, 1867-92

BUILDINGS

SIGNIFICANT developments took place during President Allen's leadership, not only academically, but in buildings, grounds, and finance. To study these items will compel a return to the beginning of his presidency. Note has already been made of the moving, sale, and use of North Hall in an experiment linking the University with the new Union Free School District, and the change to private ownership of Middle Hall. Three new buildings appeared on the campus: the briefly used gymnasium, the Allen Steinheim Museum, and the Kenyon Memorial Hall. Also the Gothic, a private home, became University property. Besides the buildings which were neither bought nor sold, some were greatly improved. This was particularly true of Chapel Hall, as Alumni Hall was then called. It underwent a drastic metamorphosis. In 1872 people were congratulating the dear old Chapel on her new brown dress. But in 1878 having bravely withstood the tramp of leathered feet, it had become a bit dilapidated inside. Citizens for whom the pen-topped edifice was also a sort of town auditorium subscribed liberally toward its rehabilitation. So changed was it that returning students scarcely recognized the hall.

The dangerous spiral stairway at the north end had given place to a hallway providing the two wide criss-cross stairways of today. The ceiling above the stairs was arched, calcimined a sky blue tint, with cloud effects, and the walls hung with pictures. The walls of the auditorium were finished in sunshine bronze blending nicely with the pale blue of the arched ceiling. The stage was enlarged and moved to the south end. The first floor classrooms were thoroughly renovated. Town and gown were both proud of their respective parts in the improvement. All could the better enjoy the lectures and concerts common there, and the surroundings of the daily student chapel service

were made more aesthetic. Seven years later rumor took air that negotiations were on foot to provide a pipe organ for the Chapel, a two-manual affair from Boston. In due time it came—tons of it and was duly set up at the east end of the platform. The famous virtuoso, Dudley Buck, came to dedicate the new instrument.

In Allegany's six months winter, lack of exercise, so they said, brought students to spring time soft and flabby. Exercise was an essential. Cornell students had just built a gymnasium; couldn't Alfred students do as well? Who would start it? Thus spoke the campus publication (spring 1874). In the fall trustees were consulted, plans drawn, costs canvassed, and bubbling enthusiasm generated. A gymnasium association was formed with recently graduated Alpheus B. Kenyon, then a faculty freshman, as president. A building 24 x 50 feet with high ceiling was projected and by the next spring the structure located at the present site of Physics Hall was a reality, a dream come true, equipped and ready to offer that desired product—exercise. A beautiful blue banner presented by one of the lyceums and a long red streamer, bearing the University motto, "Fiat Lux," were flung to the breeze from the gymnasium flag pole (1875). In addition to that bunting the newly painted structure carried a debt of $125.

All very fine and in use. But what did three or four years do to the enthusiasm and to the exercise center itself? Enthusiasm evaporated. The gay building was left lonely and desolate. The debt was not all paid. Vainly the *Student* urged that something be done about the debt at least. Life members of the Association were urged to visit the gymnasium. The door was open but anyone could crawl through any of the broken windows. Nothing was done to restore it. The University trustees took possession. It changed hands two or more times, was moved to the creek bank and variously used as storehouse, blacksmith's shop, and carpenter's shop. In 1953 it was taken down and the material used in a camp on Hartsville Hill (Camp Harley).

The ephemeral character of the gymnasium was in striking contrast to the alleged prospects of a building planned by President Allen which, it was said, would still be in its infancy a thousand years hence. That was the Steinheim. And while it was private property, it served for University classes and other institutional purposes. Allen, an enthusiastic geologist, acquired collections from his own geologizing and that of friends. Display space was needed. He and his interested wife loaned parts of their collections to geology classes but mourned the tragic losses due to ignorance or carelessness. Happening into a class one day

Mrs. Allen found a lead ore specimen, rare for the beauty and perfection of its crystals, ruined with not a perfect crystal left. Lovingly she carried it home, not without a few tears on the way.

Something had to be done, and the opportunity came. Professor Ida F. Kenyon had started a stone home at the site of North Hall, but abandoned the project. President Allen bought her out and greatly enlarged and modified the plans (1876). By the summer of 1878 the walls were up and the southwest battlemented tower finished. The President said that his plan just grew. The construction work went on for years. The walls became a geological museum in themselves, being composed of thousands of varieties of rock collected from the ice ages' debris, and all drawn from within a few miles of the site. The interior was finished chiefly in native wood.

Three significant stones are built into the wall above the front entrance. The window cap is a mill stone from an old mill which stood at the foot of the old glen road to Andover. On that stone rests another dated "1876," the year the Steinheim was begun and is also a memorial to that year's graduating class. Capping those stones is the other millstone bearing the date "23"—the year the old mill was built and President Allen's birth year. In 1880 the higher tower was erected in front and more rooms added in the rear. At its full dimensions the building was 49 x 84 feet on the ground, and 66 feet from the foundation to the peak of the taller tower. It was long before Allen's stone house could be labeled finished.

But the President had not waited until it was finished to put it in service. Celebrating his birthday in 1879, he accepted a cash gift from his admirers and invited them to a house-warming a bit later. That occurred March 3, when students, faculty, and townspeople spent a delightful evening in his new study with its cabinets. He told them that the cash gift with some later additions would be used to buy statuary for the building. Classes first met there April 8, 1879. Many names were tried on the unique structure such as "Stone Castelet of Archeology," and the less grandiose, "Stone Home," and "Steinheim." Finally it settled under the present title, "Allen Steinheim Museum."

The third addition to Alfred's plant during the Allen presidency was Kenyon Memorial Hall. Like its companion, the Steinheim, this Hall was expected still to be in its prime centuries hence, so solid was the type of construction used—thick stone walls from foundation to attic, faced with brick. Immediately after President Kenyon's death his admiring successor suggested some sort of memorial. For several years the

idea incubated. A few subscriptions dribbled in. The site east of the later Kanakadea Hall was suggested. The University trustees sanctioned the site and set September 13, 1875 for as many of their number as possible to assemble there each with a man and a team to break ground. Several appeared and at least a dent was made on the selected spot.

The peripatetic Professor E. P. Larkin was made the enticer of cash for the purpose; and among his first victims were the delegates to the denominational General Conference, meeting in Alfred that fall. They succumbed to his blandishments to the extent of $3,800. Progress was discouragingly slow. A year to a day passed after the trustees had dented the site before a contractor began laying the foundations—four feet thick and set deep in Allegany hard pan. Slowly those brick walls arose—with corner trim, window caps and sills of blue sandstone neatly cut and bush-hammered at a Canisteo quarry.

Some bricks contracted for could not be delivered, and Larkin had his worst attack of the blues. At his bluest the express man brought him a single brick and with it word from Thacher Brothers of nearby Hornellsville (several of the family were former and later students) that such bricks could be furnished in quantity at once and on good terms. Those men not only sold the University bricks but donated 10,000 bricks to the enterprise. The Godly Larkin decided that the brick coming so opportunely should be preserved as the "providential brick." In 1880 when cash gave out, the decree of no cash no construction brought the builders to a standstill.

However construction was duly resumed and some time before the hall was finished it was dedicated. October 25, 1882 was chosen—a bright and beautiful fall day. It took two sessions to perform the ceremony. Judge S. O. Thacher, an alumnus, was the orator of the first session, held in the hall. Re-convening after lunch the speakers went at it again with several addresses ripe and masterly from minds which had received inspiration, impetus, and culture from President Kenyon. Thus the dedication was completed. Kenyon Memorial Hall was long looked upon by many as the most beautiful building on the campus. The cost of construction was some $18,000 which did not include the financial field work of Larkin ($9,000).

Although dedicated, it was April 23, 1884, before classes met there. Then President Allen's ambition was realized. Before long the building housed industrial mechanics, history and political science, natural history, theology, and the consolidated library and reading room. Kenyon Hall also received the long-slumbering scientific specimens of

Professor Larkin. In a way these collections of Allen and Larkin were competitors—a competition not always free from bitterness between their respective owners.

The last building to come into University ownership in the Allen epoch was the Gothic. About 1851 Samuel S. White, a financial friend of the Institution and father of Mrs. Serena Sayles, built as a home for her and her teacher-husband the building named the Gothic. On leaving a little later they sold the property. After passing through several ownerships, the Gothic was sold to the University in January, 1876, and provided needed classroom space for many years.

BEAUTIFICATION

Interested as President Allen was in the new buildings he was almost equally interested in campus beautification. Before looking into his accomplishments in that phase of his work, let us say that the campus area shrunk in the quarter century, so much that from an extent of dozens of acres it reached its smallest size since the Institution moved to the hillside site—i.e., to 14.4 acres.

While considerable beautification had been done at times since the opening up of the hillside, pictures in the middle 1860's showed opportunity for much more improvement. Under the beauty-loving President rubbish was slowly cleared away, roads and paths extended and gravelled, and trees and shrubbery planted. Progress was being made toward the tree-decked grounds of the next generation. "Let us beautify this bit of God's footstool," urged the President in a characteristic chapel talk in June, 1868. Nothing loath, with classes suspended, the students led by Allen cleared off the stones, barrels, boxes, other rubbish, and repaired the side-walks. Then, standing the bewhiskered leader in a lumber wagon, they hilariously hauled him around the village square, colors flying and musical instruments blaring. Citizens caught the fever and did a masterly job about town, each group claiming it had done its part the best. A visitor the next day found them still titillated about it.

At that time the park space was an offensive spot full of weeds and rubbish putting scars and bruises on any who braved it. In the early 1870's this was cleared and made into a park with a fountain fed by hillside springs. Shrubs and flowers turned the spot into a summer garden of varied colors. Referring to the fountain a while later, a writer almost rhapsodized over its "tireless energy, its ever-changing lines of beauty, its...pearls sparkling in the sun and its refreshing

spray." In all this beautifying, Ida Kenyon had no little part. Her hobby was growing and tending flowers, and the park and campus were her garden. Her immeasurable love of flowers together with her inimitable German accent, her winning smile and friendly greeting made her an unforgettable campus personality. Mrs. Kenyon is credited with bringing to campus and village those European daisies and sweet violets which now spring up on many Alfred lawns. Students noted with approval village improvements as well as those on their campus.

Another planting bee occurred in May, 1874. Trees bought by the students and others had just come from the green houses. All helped to plant them, some of the fair ones even using their own hands in placing the earth around the roots! A result of the interest thus manifest was the designation of an annual "University Tree Day," on which for several years this sort of beautification went on.

In 1874 sarcastic jocularity was aimed at the rickety footbridge on Chapel Street (University Place) which still tremblingly sustained its daily burden. But four years later this defect was remedied by the construction of a substantial stone arch bridge said to be the first in the area. It carried the roadway and two sidewalks and was not without ornamental qualities either. This was soon followed by a stone footbridge at the southeast corner of the Park, which excelled the street bridge in appearance. The following year the creek banks were graded and willow stakes driven which soon provided a green hedge, and protection against erosion.

BILLS, BILLS, BILLS

But with buildings and beautification there were bills—bills which if unpaid spelled bigger and bigger debts and these in turn, if unliquidated, could crush out the very life of the School. Again we return for this survey to the start of the Allen regime. By the fall of 1867 new endowment funds, and those Ten Per Cent Tuition scholarships turned in, gave the University a total endowment of $35,500. Falling back on the findings of that careful critic of Alfred's finances, Professor William A. Rogers, we find him complaining (1871) that the denominational schools were in nearly or quite as critical condition again as in 1866. What was the remedy? Prosperity would come, said he, when the schools got financial support, intelligent public interest and were conducted so as to command public confidence. By his vigorous criticism and suggestions he opened the way for a new upturn in the University's finances.

A suggestion by another denominational educator was quickly picked up and pushed by Alfred's President. Yes, Allen said, let us signalize the bicentenary of Sabbathism (1671-1871), by raising a fund of $100,000 for all our schools. Let universal fault-finding be laid aside until the fund is raised. The objective was broadened to include all the denomination's common interests. The geographical associations, especially the Western Association including Alfred, pitched in with enthusiasm and began a canvass for funds. The General Conference got behind the bicentenary plan and helped to crystalize ideas about it. A large board was selected and directed to incorporate in New Jersey at its earliest convenience. The board lost no time and in October, 1872, the "Trustees of the Seventh Day Baptist Memorial Fund" were granted a charter signed by the Governor of New Jersey March 21, 1873. By the next autumn the Fund held $55,000 in one form or another.

If financial records of the early day seemed puzzling and inconsistent to Professor Rogers, as they did, it may be guessed how those same records confuse treasurers in the 1950's. Probably the various statements on finances before 1886 are beyond exact reconciliation. They must be taken for whatever they may be worth. President Allen's decennial summary for 1866-76 showed total income to be above total expenses by $2,926, which lowered the accumulated debt by that sum to $26,159. Operating income had exceeded operating expenses by $15,713 and the excess as usual had been applied to other needs. Alfred's total property value was reported to the State Board of Regents (1881) as $215,000. At the same time other small colleges of the State reported total property as follows: Colgate, $478,000; Wells, $383,000; Hobart, $374,000; Elmira, $276,000; St. Stephens, $140,000; and St. Lawrence, $125,000.

A significant event took place at the Commencement of 1881 when the trustees passed grateful resolutions thanking Mr. George H. Babcock for a generous gift of $20,000 to endow the chair of physics, the name of which they changed to the "George H. Babcock Professorship of Physics in Alfred University." At the same time Mr. Babcock contributed $10,000 toward endowing the Greek chair. Thus a nice roll was added through the Memorial Fund to the University's endowment and greatly brightened the picture. The gifts lifted the total property value of the School to $245,000 (1886). An index of the Institution's credit was seen in the advantageous sale of $9,000 in ten-year bonds.

We have called this section *Bills.* Let that stand also for debt, a debt with a capital D. As the public and the churches learned of the debt,

many were inclined to criticize a management which had permitted it. For those out of touch with University affairs that was natural. In his first report asked for by the trustees (1887), the President gave a half-century summary of the School's financial history. Some use of that document has been made in earlier phases of this story.

The end of the first decade of the School (1836-46) showed a microscopic deficit. The second (1846-56) heavy with the cost of four buildings listed a total deficit of $22,046. The third decade added $7,340 more, or a total debt of $29,386. No red ink was needed in the fourth period, as a surplus of $2,926 chipped the debt, leaving $26,460 in red numerals. The golden anniversary year ending the fifth decade added a red splotch—$12,408, fixing the total debt at $38,868. In his comments the President showed that the legitimate operating income had on the average met the teaching expenses; that the debt had arisen from the impossible attempt to pay for new buildings out of operating income; that for his term the debt was largely an inheritance with interest payments the chief factor in debt increase. He warned critics that without the debt Alfred University would never have been. Perhaps a criticism of the President's comments, on the basis of more recent accounting practice, was his apparent assumption that maintenance of buildings and purchase and upkeep of ordinary apparatus were not proper charges against operating income.

However accumulated, the debt had grown too heavy to carry. So for a year before the commencement season of 1887 the trustees had been cogitating ways of liquidating it. At a meeting in early June of that year a strong working committee was selected to report two days later, when solicitors were appointed. At a meeting that same night the trustees began canvassing each other and raised $6,600. Packed mass meetings were held in the Seventh Day Baptist Church. The public was aroused by factual and emotional appeals. By the 26th the button-holers were able to report $33,440 pledged. The climax came at the final mass meeting on the evening of the 27th. More work, feverish work had been done outside. In the Church excitement intensified. Subscriptions came in. The dollar total inched up. Then, the exclamation: "That's the last needed dollar." The total debt was pledged, and the effect was electric. Such "a scene of wild excitement we never before witnessed in a church," reported an eye witness.

A messenger was dispatched to the commencement audience at a lyceum public session just ending in Chapel Hall. There the news was greeted by another wild burst of applause. Such was the universal

interest, and such the universal joy at the result. Fireworks and band music helped to express the popular happiness. The trustees held a session of both prayer and mirth after the mass meeting. An entirely serious meeting of thanksgiving was held at the Church early in July conducted by the Pastor and President Allen. President Allen tacked on what had been a naturally depressing annual report an addendum noting that a grand rally of the citizens had resulted "in the entire debt being lifted from the shoulders of the Institution onto the shoulders mostly of this community and the skies never darker have been lighted by a dawn of promise never brighter." That the little town could have done it seems incredible, but it was largely true. Illustrating the spread of the appeal, it can be noted that at one extreme was President Allen who had subscribed $5,000; while at the other was the $10 raised by little children in sums of 10 and 25 cents each.

Perhaps it was too much to expect that pledges secured by such intense pressures would all be converted into debt-cancelling cash. The rosy picture present in the midst of those celebrations was bound to fade at the edges. How could President Allen raise $5,000? There is evidence that he attempted to pay it by turning Middle Hall over to the University. In 1892, the year of Allen's death, the debt was still $19,000, and steps were being taken to negotiate a refunding loan. Awkward deficits continued to plague the administration.

In 1890 a careful study was made on how to cut expenses and increase income. Could endowment be boosted? Could rebates be obtained on purchases of fuel and other supplies? Could tuition be increased, or enrollment improved? How about a campaign for $1000 scholarships? Thus the search continued for means to enable the University to pay its way.

Such was the story of buildings, beautification, and finance during the Allen leadership. Despite many discouragements, in the year 1892 Alfred University seemed prospering and progressing academically; while gifts of more than $120,000 over some years made a bright spot in her mixed financial record.

CHAPTER X

Campus Capers in Allen's Day, 1867-92

JOHN AND MARY THEMSELVES

WHAT DETERMINES the tone of a college campus? Right: the student. We have discussed the Institution around him—academic life, the buildings and grounds he inhabits, and the men who worried over finance. In the present chapter we propose to chronicle the student's life—his play, his reactions to the sayings and doings of his elders, his praise and his criticism of Alfred's campus.

He was a busy person. He attended public lectures; breathed the abundant religious life of the place; ran his lyceum; organized and fostered or neglected his clubs; offered social and other entertainments for pleasure, instruction, and cash for some campus interest. He blew quickly hot and cold in his budding athletic activities then slowly invading the scholarly precincts; kicked vigorously against the pricks of faculty regulations, and clandestinely flouted them; said his happy goodbys and cheery greetings as vacations came and went; and participated in other activities too miscellaneous to classify. In the later years of the quarter century he enjoyed expanded athletic opportunities, a richer social life, the roller-skating rink which came and went, and the relaxing rules. In his experience also were the heated political campaigns, a disastrous conflagration, and the more varied academic fare.

ENTERTAINMENT

Entertainment in the broad sense varied all the way from a very serious lecture to several varieties of real fun. When balmy breezes and new maple sugar announced spring we found all four lyceums uniting to offer a mock lecture on "Woman's Status," "elucidated historically, bombastically and completely by a political enthusiast from Wyoming" —all followed of course by the new maple sugar (1871).

Through several years in the 1870's the University Conservatory of Music provided excellent entertainment. Two well-received examples were a New Year's Eve Cantata and a Winter Exposition. A typical musical entertainment was one of Professor J. M. Stillman's Musical Conventions (1880). Word went throughout the Alfred area for all music lovers to meet, listen, and sing under the banners of Handel and Hayden. The harmonic spree lasted several days and gave birth to a county musical association. The kind of music offered at the Convention, it was said, honored "God and religion." Near the same time an Italian Orchestra from Hornellsville brought some high-type music to the college town. Presenting a concert on one occasion it turned in a tidy sum for that ever-financially famished campus organ, *The Alfred Student.*

In the lecture field students heard a local orator on "Courtship and Marriage," and "Evil Effects of Tobacco." A widely known temperance lecturer so stirred students and residents that hundreds signed the pledge, and a temperance society was formed (1877). "Lincoln" was the popular theme of a lecture series by Mrs. Caroline W. H. Dall, the lady who at that time received from Alfred the first honorary Doctor of Laws degree conferred on a woman in modern times. She was spoken of as the foremost woman-of-letters of her day.

Hornellsville was providing this unusual community a type of entertainment often looked on a bit askance. Several local citizens visited that village and saw the drama "Two Orphans," which so strained their emotions that the Alfredites shed floods of tears. A long article in the *Student* took a shot at the existing opposition to the drama: "No art," said the writer, "has suffered more at the hands of bigots." "Yet see," said he, "what influence *Uncle Tom's Cabin* exerted toward the freeing of the slaves." In the next few years dramatic production became locally more fully accepted. The Alfriedian Lyceum put on several plays in the next five years. About the same time the "Alfred Dramatic Society" was organized in the village. In 1885 it offered a temperance play, "Asleep and Awake." The President's son, Alfred, a student at the time, directed the performance which packed Chapel Hall.

Frequent regret was expressed that outstanding programs were poorly attended. In defense it was pointed out that there were too many. True it was that in 1888-89 by actual count 44 definitely reported special occasions were listed all the way from political rallies and church activities to socials. Through it all, however, it was clear that Alfred's social code was improving; correct social practice and refine-

merit were increasing. Much credit for these advances was freely given to the influence of Mrs. William C. Burdick, a social leader in the village.

In the mid-1880's a recreation institution arose, flourished for a few months, then succumbed to a storm of adverse criticism. This was the roller skating rink. A wave of general popular interest boomed this sport. The local sample erected west of the "flatiron" formed by the junction of Church and West University Streets opened in September, 1884. Assurance had been given that it would operate in full accord with University regulations. Many prospective skaters had prepared for its advent by practicing on the treacherous footwear, some getting their first lessons—and bumps—in the presidential dining room.

After a brilliant opening night, the sport was increasingly enjoyed. Polo was a favorite twin sport with the rink, and match games were played against out-of-town teams. Another feature was a masquerade carnival at the rink. Also master printer, Frank A. Crumb, and a fellow citizen staged a three evening race. It was 16 laps to the mile, and Crumb did 85 laps. Then three evenings and five miles after the start the young printer-sprinter was declared the victor by *2½* laps. But official opposition was mounting. The objections were cost, waste of time, unfavorable associations, injury to health, taking people away from home, and students from their lyceums. Moreover, eyebrows were lifting in students' home towns, undermining confidence in the University—a matter bad for school and town. No recreation could breast that sort of opposition in the Alfred of the 1880's. So the busy rink melted away with the snows of winter.

Another source of campus interest which came to town at the same time as the evanescent rink flourished for a while and faded away was the Agricultural Fair. In 1884 after a successful stock show enthusiasm developed for an organization to perpetuate the show. Hence "The Canacadea Agricultural Association of Alfred Center, New York" was born. Among its listed objectives was the sponsoring of a fair in addition to the stock show. Land was secured and buildings erected on the "old fair ground" as it came to be called. That autumn the first fair was held—an undoubted success with beautiful weather, thousands of visitors, many exhibits and prizes. The fourth, best and last edition of the fair, came three years later (1887). All fairs have excellent educational features. But perhaps the amusement side had most appeal, especially with the campus folk. Some quite spectacular entertainment was offered. One day a sham battle was fought without the bloodshed,

but the tingling thriller was a clever tight-rope walker, a student in the University. Part of the time blindfolded, he walked, lay down, and kneeled on the dizzying wire, encumbered with rubber boots, a cheese box rim, and a bag. Beside exhibiting other breath-taking stunts he performed tied to a chair, and sat down in it.

Good as that fair was rated, criticisms abounded: the grounds were still unattractive, and advertising had been inadequate and late. Moreover the fair had ceased to pay its way. Hence a winter meeting voted to give it up and the fair went the way of the skating rink.

ORGANIZATIONS

The most stable and influential organizations on the Alfred campus were still the lyceums. Their characteristic programs changed little. For a number of years the societies played with the idea of a lyceum-owned hall, but nothing came of their scheming. Perhaps one reason for the failure of the proposal was the gradual improvements the societies had made in their existing quarters in the Chapel and Ladies Hall. The shabbiness of the 1860's had vanished before the handsomely papered and carpeted session rooms, with their hat and coat racks, pictures, chandeliers, new bookcases, and the spectacular, locally executed water color paintings, or "banners," which displayed their mottoes and symbolic figures. In their programs they relieved the literary and debate routines with miniature United States Congresses and bizarre mock trials. In one of the latter the officers of an imaginary secret society were tried on a charge of assault and battery against a candidate for membership. Blood curdling testimony was taken, but the jury disagreed, and the trial came to a lame conclusion.

While conventionally friendly, the men's lyceums were definitely rivals, and at times the clashes generated hot anger. At such crises their divisive influence on the campus was quite as great as the later fraternities ever produced. Toward the end of the period (1891) the Oros invented a yell, memorized it, visited their rivals in the adjoining session room and shook the wall pictures and other hangings, as they boomed out their modest:

Hiko! Hiko! (pronounced heko)
Zip boom bo
We are the leaders
O - R - O

From lyceums to clubs is a short step. Bitter official antagonism to secret societies was rampant at Alfred in Allen's day. Faculty and

students generally shared it. Much was made (1874) of the melancholy death of a Cornell student in some fraternity fracas. In an address at a woman's congress in New York Mrs. Allen accused the "Greeks" of polluting like leprosy and eating like cancer into the student life. Nor was this feeling merely an Alfred foible. Among an imposing list of 32 college heads denouncing fraternities, one testified that as long as fraternities were permitted to exist at his college they were a serious evil socially, intellectually, and morally.

Yet Alfred's campus after the earliest years spawned clubs with surprising fecundity. Some had long lives of usefulness, more died at birth or in infancy. Using the term club with some elasticity we merely note in passing the Student Association which published the *Student* and the organization which managed a short-lived reading room. More appropos were the "Harmonic Society," "Ye Pedestrian Club," and two eating clubs, one of which admitted that it lived to eat, while the other quietly ate to live. One of the most active and substantial was the "Science and Art Club" (1874) aiming to cultivate interest in science, a refined taste in art, and good habits of research. At one session a theological professor read an essay on the "Influence of Darwinism on Theology"—apparently an illuminating survey of the status of that controversial subject. The science interest, especially strong under President Allen, brought to the campus an "Agassiz Association," a national society founded in 1875 and by 1888 boasting 1200 chapters. The Alfred chapter was formed early the latter year. Weekly sessions were devoted to discussion of field observations.

RELIGION

Typical of student experience in religion of that day were the so-called "protracted" meetings which flourished. At the concluding service of one of these held in 1874 two score members were added to the roll of the Seventh Day Baptist Church. Six months later spiritual fervor was such that students at their own expense installed chandeliers in a class room to enable them to hold evening prayer meetings. Church attendance was still a requirement, with religious services provided as earlier for the Sunday-keeping students and faculty.

Toward the end of the period another illustration of student religious interest appeared. At a regular meeting of the young men's prayer group President Allen gave a brief but very earnest address in which he urged each to choose then what master he would serve. At the same time the seniors decided to hold a weekly class prayer hour "in accord-

ance with the custom in the best colleges...." Amid all these ups and downs of religious fervor ran the quiet influence of the daily chapel service. Let us look in at one. It is 8 o'clock on a winter morning. We take seats on the west side of Chapel Hall auditorium. Yonder is the platform with numerous chairs and a lectern. Allen's chair centers the stage. On the stage is the new pipe organ. At the observer's right of center in front of the stage sit the choir and orchestra; to the left stands the piano. The hall seats are double desks. Students are seated according to some academic standard—women in the east half, men in the west half of the auditorium. A huge wood-burning stove stands on each side midway of the hall.

The President takes his chair. The strains of the voluntary die away. Hymns are announced and sung to the accompaniment of organ, piano, and orchestra! Scripture and prayer follow; then notices and pointed references to rules infractions or careless campus manners, with the citation of certain suspects to a private interview with the President. The bearded leader was presenting a series of talks on "Aesthetical Gymnastics," i.e., etiquette: rules by which one could attain grace in walking, sitting, or standing. Usually it was a mixture of the serious and the humorous. Finally a closing hymn, the benediction, and the audience pours out to classes.

ATHLETICS

As athletic sports received increased emphasis in colleges, Alfred reflected the trend. By 1874 baseball was again a busy game. In June a most exciting and scientific game was batted out between the Tremont Boys (roomers in the inn) and the Bricks (at times sections of that hall were occupied by men students). The score was 35 to 30 in favor of the Inn. A few days later two eating clubs clashed on the diamond. A mixed crowd of rooters watched the game. All academic levels were represented from graded school to graduate theology, ages from 12 to 38, heights from 4 feet 6 to 6 feet 4. A lopsided score favored the Fly Papers Club. Surprisingly the faculty allowed two games with outsiders. The University Baseball Club beat Almond, but Friendship overwhelmed it. That University Club had six nines with the players and their respective playing positions duly listed. Outside that mystic circle flourished four more nines—doubtless an all-time Alfred record.

The fall of 1875 saw waning interest in the diamond game. The faculty put down its collective foot on games with outsiders, and part of the playing field was preempted by the first hints of future Kenyon

Memorial Hall. The authorities felt that the craze had gone too far, as they clung to the quaint notion that a student should attend to his studies and use sports as recreation. And our later ideas about sports seasons are shocked by the spring exclamation: "and now for football and bloody shins." However, sports interest fell so low that not a single reference to the subject appeared in the *Student* for the next two years (1877-79). The subsidence of that interest paralleled an increasing interest in systematic physical training, so that in the early 1880's a new activity in calisthenics appeared. A special instructor led in the work and public exhibitions of trained prowess were presented.

However by 1890 sports at Alfred had crested again to a new high of enthusiasm. In the spring of 1889 the University team crossed bats with the Hornells in that community. Alfred was leading until alleged inhuman and rank decisions of the umpire changed the score. Close observers (Alfred fans?) comfortingly opined that the Alfred nine was by far the better. That autumn a few students haunted the post office eager for news as the Spiders and the Giants struggled for the championship of the world.

The seniors (1890) decided to have a soccer team, and other classes evinced similar intentions. Thus the classes of '91 and '92 ganged up to challenge the seniors who accepted with alacrity. The playing was delayed because the ball was ailing—lung trouble doubtless! At last the issue was joined. It was a great day for soccer at Alfred. Kickoff time was a pleasant May afternoon. The play was on the newer field between the tennis courts and Terrace Street. Park Street porches groaned under their load of enthusiastic young ladies, while goal posts were pressed by hordes of students eager for a clear view of the game. The seniors won the toss-up and the game exploded into violent activity. Now the '90's would have the ball near their adversaries' goal, driving the goalie close to apoplexy. The blue and white caps of '92 bobbed everywhere, with small boys always getting precariously in the way. Thus it went pell mell for an hour and a half. The challenging classes won by 1 goal to 0.

Just before that game some 40 men met in Kenyon Hall to fuse the athletic interest into an organization (1890). Officers and a constitution were provided. Two evenly matched elevens were selected which entertained the campus with games. After the summer vacation, soccer enthusiasm easily revived; and on pleasant afternoons the Park Street field was populated with howling crowds of kickers. Class rivalry was transferred to those chronic rivals the men's lyceums. The Oros challenged

the Allies (Alleghanians) and soon the first game of the Inter-Lyceum Football Contest was kicked to a conclusion. Watching were the same crowds at the same vantage points—porches and sidewalks—but with different loyalties, all cheering madly as the fortunes of the game shifted. The Allies won 2 goals to 0.

The women were not satisfied to waste all their energies cheering the men, A lively game of baseball was run off by them the day after the lyceum soccer game in front of Ladies Hall. The hall damsels had taken on the village maidens. A cheering crowd urged them on from five o'clock to the supper bell. The villagers won by a close score. A Field Day was rapidly becoming a regular spring event. In 1891 it occurred in mid-June. Sometimes it was held in Commencement week. After a forenoon baseball game, the afternoon saw a tennis tournament and 15 field events of the usual sort plus potato and banana races. At that time, or soon after, clowns all bedecked in their bizarre costumes and paint came to be a feature of field days.

While sports flourished, either the association created in 1890 flopped, or it was deemed wise to have two organizations with different aims. At any rate, in 1891 the men formed a new athletic association to set up means and material for the physical culture of its members. It provided for outdoor spring sports, and visualized a room with apparatus for pleasure and the development of physical well-being.

POLITICAL HYPERTENSION

From athletic contests to political conflicts is not an abrupt change. Alfred's abolitionist background and its rugged Republicanism assured plenty of heat in local or national elections. In 1868 a uniformed company of Boys in Blue was formed co-captained by Civil War veterans, classmates of '69, Isaac Brown and Daniel Lewis, later influential trustees of the University. After a political rally at the "Bridge" (Alfred Station) the company, 60 torch lights strong, was parading back to the Center while a student copperhead tolled the chapel bell. Putting too much effort into his task, he cracked and spoiled the bell. But these earlier political temperature readings weren't a circumstance to those registered in the 1880's. Alfred was as strong on temperance as it was on the precepts of the GOP. Many Republicans disliked James G. Blaine, the party presidential nominee (1884). Some voters objected to both Blaine and Grover Cleveland, the Democratic standard bearer. These decided to support St. John, the presidential candidate on the Prohibition ticket.

Thus the war was on—a war characterized by heated personalities, even personal hatreds. Naturally such a free-for-all split the campus. Allen and several teachers declared for St. John. Seventeen students from other parts of the State claimed legal residence and the right to vote. Seven of them voted with the hated "Prohis." When it was found that Cleveland had won the presidency and that the election had turned on the slim 1,200 plurality in New York State, the floodgates of Republican wrath opened wide. That wrath was fanned by Democratic celebrations and the obvious absence of displeasure on the part of the Prohis. A group of the Old Guard burned St. John in effigy.

Led by a political stalwart, the super Republicans decided to prosecute the student voters, who were in due time summoned to face the United States Commissioner in Wellsville. They went accompanied by Allen and a group of fellow students. An adjournment was taken to allow the absentees to appear later as it was spring vacation (1885). At the adjourned session one of the earlier absentees handled his own case so expertly that he was released, but not before he had successfully insisted that as a federal prisoner the United States Marshal must buy him his dinner. Meantime a campus mass meeting had asserted that the men had voted in good faith, that the prosecution grew out of bad blood in a hot political struggle, and demanded the withdrawal of the suit. Some cooler heads led by level-headed Almond E. Crandall interposed with the result that word came from the United States District Attorney that no action would be taken against the men under arrest.

The presidential campaign of 1888 was as heated at Alfred as any former one. Members of the same family allegedly refused to speak to each other, while a prominent faculty member and a leading stalwart engaged in a public street brawl. In that unpleasantness students were not involved except as entranced on-lookers.

After that campaign, a refreshing note of sanity was injected into post-election thinking when the local pastor, Wardner C. Titsworth, deplored the unfairness of the party pleader. Truth was too large, he said, to be seen from just one viewpoint. He and most of his hearers believed in total abstinence, but there were many, many honest people who differed, and he and his flock, he said, had no right to question their motives.

THE "UN" LEAVES "UNPERMITTED ASSOCIATION"

The spirit of the restrictive campus rules in the 1870's was much the same as through previous decades. Less emphasis on them appeared

in the annual catalogues, but full texts were printed separately for student use. "Unpermitted association," the walking or riding together of young men and women, was included in the catalogues in so many words instead of descriptively as earlier. The use of tobacco, alcoholic liquors, games of chance, and profane or obscene language were among the prohibitions. Rules in similar institutions were not much different. Students at times felt that Alfred's alleged deficiency in social culture came from the "unpermitted association" rule. Claiming the value of social association in co-education, the authorities, it was said, feared nothing so much as that very association. The decade of the 1880's showed further corrosion of the strict rules. The "unpermitted association" was slowly losing its "un."

Whether this softening process which was general among colleges had any causal relation to the fact, it was true that college rowdyism was on the increase. Never wholly absent, it was growing fast enough to provoke a paper on the subject at the annual University Convocation in Albany in 1878. In it a Hamilton College professor deplored the fact and called on colleges to deal vigorously with it. Alfred did not wholly escape the rowdyism. A complaint was recorded about some disgraceful actions at a visiting Symphony Club concert when catcalls, beating of time with hands and feet, whistling and loud talk were reported, and the opinion expressed that the disturbers should have been arrested. More local faculty trouble was brewed when fire escapes were installed on Ladies Hall. Tested by competent student judges the new installations were pronounced a first class arrangement! President Allen on the other hand reported discouragingly to his trustees that the building could not be controlled any longer as the boys could go in and out at any time of day or night.

MISCELLANEOUS

Tradition and the records provide touches of things small and not so small, which add appreciably to the picture of campus capers. Tradition remembers some of the too-weighty wordage with which the President sometimes overdid his denunciations of students' misdeeds. When some boy had carved a chapel desk the angry executive thundered, "You would carve the judgment bar of God." Students criticized the similar extravagance of some faculty members. One teacher intimated that he might be permitted to use profanity to express his contempt for the delinquents under his supervision.

Other bits of variety were added to student life when at times Indians

from the Salamanca reservation came to the Academy; and after the War Between the States an occasional ex-slave came as a student and settled in the area as farmer or craftsman.

Alfred students naturally wanted all the frills enjoyed on other campuses. An attempt to provide a college song to express loyalty failed, but the student body did get a flag. June 16, 1874, a student meeting adopted "Royal Purple and Gold" as the University's colors. It took 14 years more to get a college yell. That event happened when a score of assembled students adopted a "College cry for A.U." (December 19, 1888). Selected from several offerings, the winning stanza ran

Rah! Rah! Rah!
Zip! Rah! Boom!
Alfred University
Give her room.

This was considered very musical and the embodiment of harmony. After its adoption, the men went out into the rainy night and practiced their new cry about town. It remained the standard Alfred yell for two decades or more.

Yells did not shake the community, but half a decade before the period ended it was cruelly shaken by one of its most disastrous fires. Early on July 5, 1887, a little blaze started in a combination residence and meat market just north of the hotel. Volunteers worked feverishly with the new fire company to quell the raging flames, but handicapped by lack of water they failed until pitiful destruction was done. No one was seriously hurt but the little house where the fire began, the hotel, and to the north the Greene and Shaw stores, and the Randolph residence were reduced to ashes and smoking rubbish. At one time the entire village was threatened, and the scarcely-heeded agitation of the Alfred *Sun* for proper fire protection had received hot and lurid emphasis.

If readers will recall a bit of chronology based on earlier chapters, it will be seen that Alfred experienced three big events within 10 days: a successful Commencement; the raising of the $40,000 University debt; and the $30,000 fire. A service of thanksgiving to God was held in the Church for what the fire had not done. The blaze did accelerate the movement for better fire protection; and a parallel agitation for street lighting bore fruit in January, 1889, when the first gasoline or kerosene lamps were installed.

CHAPTER XI

Sunset for the Allen Regime, 1892

THE PRESIDENT'S HEALTH

"YES, I think you better go home." Thus recommended a physician to President Allen, who was in Albany attending the annual Convocation of the University of the State of New York (1879). So home he went, not dreaming that his indisposition was smallpox. The patient spent five weeks quarantined, a prisoner in his own stone castle.

The malady was duly conquered, and no new cases developed. Three years later, after specially hard work, it was felt by Mrs. Allen that her husband had never fully thrown off the effects of the pox. Associates, worried by his impaired vigor, persuaded him to accept the invitation of wealthy friends to spend the summer of 1882 with them in Europe. Charles Potter and George H. Babcock of Plainfield, New Jersey, financial supporters of the University, had invited the President and Reverend Abram H. Lewis for such a tour. After appropriate send-offs at one of which a purse of $200 was presented to the President, the quartet settled down aboard the S. S. Arizona. There the famous "Cram Club" was organized and selfnamed because the literary members particularly expected to return cram-full of varied information. However, the ship's stewards seemed to put a different interpretation on the name as the quartet *sans mal de met* crammed themselves appallingly thrice a day at meal time.

Tarrying just long enough in Queenstown, Ireland, to cable home their safe arrival, the travelers moved inland. In short order they "did" Ireland, Scotland and England, then Paris, and Italy, and passed on into Switzerland. On a rural hillside Allen and Lewis took scythes from an old man and a buxom young girl and cut clean swaths along the steep meadow. Loud applause and joyous laughter followed them as they walked away. The one very anxious moment of the summer came in Italy when the party went down the rim of Mt. Vesuvius. Allen

went a bit too far, the lava crust broke throwing him against hard lava and cutting a head wound showing at one point the bone of his skull. His friends quickly bound up the wound and the guides helped him back to Naples. There they met their friend Dr. Daniel Lewis, an alumnus, who complimented the amateur nurses on the bandaging job and redressed the wound. On they went: Germany, Holland, Liverpool, and soon the home papers announced Allen's safe arrival and improved health.

However, during the next three or four years, the President's health caused alternate rejoicing at his vigor and worrying when he was less than robust. But all the time he was strenuously busy in the classroom, in his study, or at his favorite outdoor sport of wielding rake or spade in improving the campus.

ALFRED'S GOLDEN JUBILEE, 1886

Perhaps the two most spectacular events of President Allen's quarter century as leader were the raising of the $40,000 debt in 1887, and the semi-centennial celebration in June 1886. The former was discussed in Chapter IX so to the latter we now turn.

In the spring of 1886 people might well have asked: "What on earth is happening in Alfred!" Such shampooing, such tree trimming, such walk laying, massive flagstones replacing the plank walks which gave off splinters dangerous to careless shoes; what shearing of the crop of coarse grass. But what is that babel of sounds? Oh, they come from the rehearsals—the chorus, the band, the orchestra, the Thespians, all mixed with the crackle of final examination papers. Happening? Why, Alfred University was preparing for its Golden Jubilee. A joint committee of the University trustees and the partly-organized alumni body had begun making plans the previous year. A program to last almost a week was worked out and in late June leading alumni began arriving in town for the festivities. No less than 20 scheduled events both musical and oratorical became Alfred's all-time record talkathon.

On the first evening of the hectic but happy week came the University Orchestra in the musical entertainment, "The Doctor of Alcantara," which was repeated later in the celebration. Sabbath night the University Band presented its fourth annual concert. Sunday evening came the President's baccalaureate sermon. For this event the walls of Chapel Hall were hung with hemlock and pine branches. Every picture had a frame of green, and long festoons of evergreen were swung across the auditorium and twined about the chandeliers. The hall had seldom looked so regally festive.

Using the Institution's motto as a text, "Let there be Light," the President declared that a college should be a light. It must stand for spontaneity, freshness, freedom, originality, and independent thought. It should rest on old truths as a permanent sub-stratum for the new. A historical session filled Monday forenoon. Special lyceum programs were presented from Monday afternoon through Tuesday evening. The Athenaeans illustrated the history of the University. To a packed house, corridors and all, the ladies presented in pageantry: 1. The University Motto; 2. The opening of the Select School (a) Allen at the blackboard, and (b) his first halting, awkward declamation. These, it was said, were laughable to the last degree and even more so because scarcely anyone believed that Allen could have been so stupid and awkward.

Then followed other scenes: A session of "The Franklin Lyceum," an oyster supper, which, when Principal Kenyon had granted permission for it, the permission was withdrawn by Sayles, the Co-principal; the patriotism of 1861, and so on, all very well staged under the direction of the President's daughter, Madame Alberti. That was Tuesday, and the celebration was at its height. Lemonade booths and shooting galleries sprang up like mushrooms at shady corners of village and campus, and hurrying crowds were beset by newsboys selling the daily semi-centennial edition of the Alfred *Sun.*

Early the next morning people were wending their ways for good seats at the graduation exercises. By nine o'clock even standing room was gone. On the stage sat the 70 members of the Chorus. President Allen in his accustomed white linen Commencement suit announced the numbers. These included the Jubilee hymn composed by Ida F. Kenyon and thirteen essays or orations full of the usual moralizing. Twenty-two honorary degrees were conferred. The alumni held forth at a dinner in the afternoon with many toasts; while in the evening a grand concert featuring the imported harpist, Miss Maude Morgan, was hailed a magnificent success. Thursday offered two so-called semi-centennial sessions, after which all adjourned to the campus where they joined the citizens in a jolly basket picnic.

The afternoon session was given up to what the President called "a free fight"—speakers called on at random for impromptu remarks. Several spoke. Then a leading alumnus took Allen from the room while a cash testimonial to the President was collected from a willing audience. When Allen returned Judge Nathaniel M. Hubbard held out to him Allen's own felt hat with four hundred dollars in it. The

President's surprise was obvious. He looked silently at it after the first burst of applause, then said in a low voice with a big choke in it, "I don't know what to do with it. I never had so much money before at a time in my life." Amid roars of renewed applause he sat down and called for the next item on the program. So ended the long, wearying but memory-filled week.

HEART DISEASE'S FATAL WORK

President Allen went about his usual duties as the second half century opened, but the gradual trend of his health was downward. In those last years he suffered from shaking palsy which exaggerated his appearance of feebleness. In the spring of 1891 Judge N. M. Hubbard and wife invited the Aliens to spend the summer as their guests on a tour of the far Northwest—a health and pleasure trip. Outstanding in the summer's pleasures was a week spent in Yellowstone Park, and it can be imagined how that scientific fairyland rekindled all the aging scientist's old enthusiasms. The flora, fauna, and rocks of that vast natural science museum which was the Park were all taken in. Home was reached in time for the fall term.

That last year President Allen spent his spare time in arranging and rearranging his precious specimens new and old. He told Commencement visitors in 1892 that he was doing his best work, but when the guests had gone and the excitement was over he was very weary. As the new school year opened (1892-93) he had to turn his classes over to his son-in-law, George Champlin. Hopes rose and fell, but he grew rapidly worse. Gifts and messages from anxious friends brightened even the sunshine for him. Unable to lie down, he sat at a window watching his "children" as they passed to and from classes.

The night before the end it was necessary to get volunteers to take turns supporting the President's head as he sat in a chair. Friends about the dying man showed their sympathy for his intense suffering. "I am happy," he said. "Why cannot you be so?" About nine o'clock that autumn morning (September 21) the weary heart ceased its labored beating and Jonathan Allen in the 70th year of his age joined his ancestors. The old Chapel bell tolled out the mournful tidings. No classes were held from that Wednesday forenoon to Monday morning. A brief funeral service was held in Middle Hall, his longtime home. Willing fingers had decorated it profusely, veranda and all. The house and the campus in front were packed with friends come to pay their last tribute.

The following day a memorial service was held in his Church which again was beautified by autumn leaves and flowers, and a large portrait of the President was suspended in front of the organ. Addresses were spoken in behalf of students, faculty, alumni, and several other interests interspersed with comforting music. The President's ashes came back from the crematory where at his own direction that disposition of his body had been made. The ashes were placed in an urn in the Steinheim. The urn, it was said, had once held the ashes of a king of the Island of Cos, 1200 B.C., and came into President Allen's possession in typical fashion. On a certain trip to New York he was given cash for a new suit or overcoat, but seeing that beautiful urn, well, he came home with the urn but without any new apparel.

WHAT MANNER OF MAN?

One cannot say that President Jonathan Allen was a great administrator. Definitely he was not. When his term of office ended the University showed signs of weakness despite some real evidences of health. The plant had deteriorated, and enrollment had fallen in four years from 370 students to 270. But he was a big man physically, mentally, morally, and spiritually. He was a reformer. His moral fervor showed early. He became a total abstainer from intoxicants at the age of 13 when liquor was in every home, even his own. While not so outspoken as D. E. Maxson he was a sturdy warrior in the fight against negro slavery; and, seconded by his wife, did yeoman service for the emancipation of women from the educational and other limitations of the time.

During the more than half century in which he was so largely associated with the University he backed his revered predecessor W. C. Kenyon in the emphasis on teacher training as a means of service to the State and Nation; and fostered the broad idea of education not merely for scholarship but also for usefulness to society. He championed the richer curricula, the excellent work in agriculture, and the mechanical engineering in mid-century and later. All through the years he led in or fostered theological education at Alfred, adopted advanced methods of instruction in all fields, and kept in touch with scientific developments bringing prompt knowledge of them to his campus. While loyal to his denomination he was too "catholic to be bound by any mere creed of any particular church...." Above all else, however, alumni and associates thought of President Allen as a teacher. Whether he taught Greek or Latin, science or rhetoric, he impressed students. He was called an unforgettable experience for those who were trying

to think things through. His broad outlook made him pre-eminent in the classroom. To make the scholar is one thing; to make the man is another. It was in the higher realm of grasping truth, of utilizing knowledge, of inspiring life that he shone most brilliantly as teacher. There it was that his impact on student life was felt most.

Such a man was President Allen, the second of those Five Pioneer Boys with whom so much of Alfred's story has been tangled. He was also the last of that quintet to be active in the University's affairs. As he left, despite the weaknesses noted, the little Taper at the lighting of which in 1836 he was an active participant burned more securely than ever before. *Fiat Lux,* the University motto, embodied a command more and more fully obeyed by the Institution for which it was chosen.

CHAPTER XII

Alfred Escapes Extinction, 1892-95

ALPHEUS B. KENYON ACTING PRESIDENT

AFTER the general vitality and progress in most phases of University life, including the reception of three exhilarating pieces of endowment, there came a certain let-down as the sun of the Allen regime sank toward its setting. Illustrative of this was the reaction of a young woman who came to take a teacher's examination. Noticing that her desk was propped up with stove wood, she changed her mind about matriculating at Alfred and continued her education elsewhere.

Certain it is that the tenth decade of the nineteenth century saw the nadir of the University's fortunes. Two of its largest financial backers died; four chief executives ruled from the presidential chair; differences on fundamental policy and consequent personal bickering shadowed part of the period; and the financial depression with the growth of free community high schools all united to hurt the student enrollment which sank to its lowest level. Discouragement abounded among all interested groups, some fearing that the University would be forced to close. Happily, however, the last part of the decade found the clouds breaking as harbingers of a brighter day pierced the gloom.

After the death of President Allen, the trustees turned to Professor Alpheus Burdick Kenyon, '74, to fill in as temporary executive. As the acting head viewed his domain, what did he see? He found himself presiding over a part- or full-time faculty of 20 men and women—a dozen or so of whom rated as professors. The gross enrollment of the year 1891-92 was 270. Four 10 week terms formed the academic year (1892-93). There were six divisions making up the University—preparatory (the Academy), the College of Liberal Arts, the Schools of Theology, Industrial Mechanics, Normal, and Fine Arts. Six buildings were available—Kenyon Memorial Hall, Ladies Hall, the Gothic, the Chapel, the Observatory, and the Steinheim. The four lyceums were

still the chief student organizations, but the Young Peoples' Society of Christian Endeavor in the local Church with a hundred members included many students. Kenyon saw a campus called retired and healthful and having delightful scenery.

ARTHUR ELWIN MAIN ELECTED PRESIDENT

But as was natural, the scant seven months of Professor Kenyon's tenure of office were largely a matter of holding the fort, and the thoughts of trustees and all Alfred, near and far, turned to the question of a permanent president. The University trustees decided to shift the sifting of candidates to the shoulders of a weighty trustee committee. The comings and goings of prominent trustees during the fall and winter kept Dame Rumor busy. Tongues wagged when in March, 1893, the special committee announced its readiness to report. At the trustee meeting the committee recommended that Arthur Elwin Main, D.D., be elected president. The recommendation was unanimously adopted, the salary fixed, and the opening of the spring term April 12, 1893 the time at which he should take office. A week later, after some minor negotiations, Dr. Main accepted the leadership of the University. This action of the trustees was hailed as sure to secure the most hearty approval of Alfred's friends. Main was a graduate of the University of Rochester and of its Seminary; and well known for his scholarship, breadth of mind, originality of thought, and persistence in carrying out his plans and convictions. A dozen years traveling the denomination as field agent for the Missionary Society had made him familiar to the churches.

During the period of his candidacy and on taking office President Main had expressed his ideas on University policy and related matters in various connections. He believed that the School should be thoroughly Christian in spirit and methods, sending out students trained in scholarly habits. It should be known as a denominational college offering the best in liberal arts education—denominational without sectarianism or proselyting; denominational also in the sense that it was not founded for local or personal interests. The churches were the natural constituency of the Seminary surely, and more or less of the entire University. He frequently expressed the hope that faculty and trustees would cooperate with him.

In a formal inaugural during Commencement (1893) he noted the beauty of Alfred's location in a rich geological area and in a prosperous community. He wished the School to stay one for poor and middle class

youth and be Bible guided. The University name should be dropped for the more modest and appropriate name of college. He asked area communities to send their sons and daughters to Alfred. He deprecated the trend toward practical as contrasted with liberal education. People were lifted by his vigor, earnestness, and enthusiasm. Recognizing the afflictions which had befallen the School, he assured his associates that he had not left his former work to officiate at the funeral services of the University.

NORMAL DEVELOPMENTS

While the trend of this brief period was generally downward, as already noted, let us first canvass its more normal features. On the matter of college status in place of the School's more pretentious charter name the pros and cons were earnestly discussed generally and locally, especially at the commencement alumni meeting in 1894. As a result, a plan was drawn up calling for the chartering of three entirely independent schools at Alfred: an academy, a college, and a seminary. However, legal counsel pointed out that the State Board of Regents could not charter a degree-granting institution unless it had at least $500,000 in resources. Thus for a college and a seminary as proposed $1,000,000 would be needed. The writer of the brief advised therefore that Alfred University keep its present charter. President Main commented that at least Alfred could *be* a good college but not really a university "yet."

Another issue much against President Main's principles was raised when a group within the denomination demanded that the University proselyte non-Sabbath keepers among its students. But a whole chorus of opposition quickly overwhelmed such a misuse of education.

A perennial subject of discussion on and off the campus was the University's needs. Various suggestions were made—the division of departments, a more fully manned seminary, more and better teachers with better pay, more endowment, and better equipment. A more radical proposal was the consolidation of all three denominational colleges Alfred; Milton, Wisconsin; and Salem, West Virginia into one institution near Chicago. But suggestions weren't all; there were real changes forced by higher authority, or brought about by local initiative. By order of the Regents the academic year (1892-93) was to be four terms, which cutting the year in two in the middle looked like a prophecy of the later semester plan. The next year Alfred's curriculum was arranged to offer three courses leading to the three degrees of

bachelor of arts (B.A.), strong in classics and mathematics; bachelor of philosophy (Ph.B), minus Greek; and bachelor of science (B.S.) omitting the speech of both Greeks and Romans. These changes, the President said made Alfred a good college. About the same time Alfred d-ibbled in the new and popular University Extension movement.

Rapid turnover of the faculty was dramatized by the fact that the information circular of 1892-93 listed for the last time President and Mrs. Allen and seven others. The next year's announcement showed seven new members including William C. Whitford in biblical languages who remained for a generation. Leading teachers, as earlier, often made useful professional contacts. In 1892 Professor Henry C. Coon attended the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science; and the following summer Main, Kenyon, and Tomlinson sought inspiration at the Convocation of the University of the State of New York in Albany. Kenyon remained a month in State employ enjoying what was often supposed to be a teacher's happiest recreation—blue-penciling examination papers.

While rapidly alternating leadership in the preparatory and normal departments bedeviled that work, it didn't ruin it. By a not entirely new arrangement with the public school the normal class could observe demonstrations of good teaching and do practice teaching with the children.

The boom in physical education continued throughout the 90's. Indian club swinging was so popular that day and evening classes had to be provided for it. A supplement to this exercise was the more strenuous hare and hound runs over the rough hilly terrain. The intensified interest in physical culture revived an earlier plan by which a gymnasium was provided in the Brick, with a lady instructor for the women and a man for the men. A slight shock of surprise comes when we learn that by November, 1893, physical examinations of a number of the men had been completed and with the data gained each was given a report in the form of an "anthropometric chart." While on health matters, it can be recorded that in 1895 a suggestion was made of a medical college for Alfred University to be located in Buffalo, New York. Fortunately or unfortunately the State authorities punctured that boomlet with six devastating words—such a plan was "expressly prohibited by the State law."

Beginning in 1889 the physics department took regular weather observations and offered a course in meteorology. A standard Weather Bureau shelter and a full set of weather instruments were put in use.

In 1894 Lawrence LaForge built and fully equipped a fine private astronomical observatory and weather station named "Starview" standing where in later years the tennis courts are. A momentary tempest in a telescope over who owned "Starview" and who could use it arose from an erroneous news report. As this little difference ended, Mr. LaForge was made instructor in astronomy using both the University (Rogers) observatory and his own in the work. The enterprising physics department also brought to the campus an innovation in the form of a telephone connecting Chapel and Kenyon Halls.

For various reasons the Department of Theology showed the most marked advance of all Alfred's divisions in the triennium under consideration. A committee of the General Conference in 1892, discussed the Seminary's perennial needs. Three resident teachers were necessary it was decided. More income was essential but annual gifts for six years were pledged enabling it to carry on pending the collection of new endowment. The three chairs—church history, homiletics, and biblical languages were satisfactorily manned, young W. C. Whitford, being one of them as already noted. Also the coming to Alfred's presidency of a man of Dr. Main's calibre almost automatically added strength to the Seminary's program.

Early in 1893, however, a serious loss befell the Seminary when Dr. Thomas R. Williams was carried off by a brief illness. Dr. Williams was a graduate of Alfred Academy (1853). He studied at Brown University and came to Alfred's Greek Department in 1863. Not altogether happy there he took courses at Union Theological Seminary and after some teaching and pulpit experience began his long service in the Alfred theological department (1871). By the end of 1894 it could be stated with satisfaction that the Seminary was fully equipped to do a good work in the training of ministers. What the department needed it was said, as always included wide denominational appreciation, the attendance of its young men, the sympathy and support of the people, and endowment to assure its permanence.

The Commencements remained as brilliant and at least as jam-packed with things to listen to as ever. In 1893 came the new President's inaugural, the memorial service for the late President Allen, and an innovation in the first annual sermon before the newly organized Christian Associations—this one delivered by Reverend Boothe C. Davis, polished young minister of the local church. The festivities of June, 1894 witnessed the first of the long line of president's receptions as the concluding events of the busy closing weeks.

Leaving now the primarily academic side of Alfred's life we move into the equally important but less happy area of University finance. Noting the state of disrepair of the campus buildings President Main began at once an appeal for funds to effect repairs. A few days before Christmas (1893) Alfred lost her financial friend and chairman of her board of trustees, George H. Babcock. It was a great loss even though he had dealt generously with Alfred in his will. Using the Memorial Board as trustee a rich bequest of $50,000 was provided for general endowment; and a fund of $20,000 to be a memorial to his wife, E. Lua Babcock, was given for the care and improvement of campus and buildings.

A really critical side of Alfred's financial picture not unrelated to the financial depression (1893-96), was the series of annual operational deficits. To meet the situation a committee recommended such drastic economies (1894) as stopping all extra pay for teaching extra classes; eliminating the work in elocution, physical culture, and the services of the college physician, unless these, especially physical culture, could be financed by special gifts. The part-time treasurer's salary was cut off, and other economies foreshadowed. An effort was made to raise more endowment. Mrs. George H. Babcock generously came forward with an annual gift to keep the physical culture work going. Also making the University library a public library enabled it under a new law to participate annually in the State public library fund. The Seventh Day Baptist Education Society put a man in the field to win financial support for all three of the denomination's colleges. Serious as the situation was, the measuring rod marking the down, down, down of Alfred's fortunes was the badly depopulated campus. But before we can fully understand those bad omens we must back-track and follow a most unfortunate series of parallel happenings which with trends already studied threatened Alfred's existence.

BITTER PERSONAL DIFFERENCES

Amid the chorus of praise and hope when Dr. Main came to Alfred it was easy to sense an undercurrent of an opposite sort. Some had received him with definitely frosty feelings. His reiterated references to the importance of cooperation indicate that he had not come to any bed of roses. Only by tracing these developments can we see why the presidency of this really great and good man was so painful and so brief.

Early in his term the President secured positions for relatives on the

University pay-roll—one as director of music, one in charge of buildings, boarding department and grounds. The music appointment led at once to the resignation of the leading faculty member from the music committee. A few weeks after taking office the President was convinced that there had been a serious misunderstanding as to the financial terms of his employment, and listed the conditions on which he would continue. These were accepted by the trustees, Mr. Babcock providing the additional funds. At the end of that first trying year Dr. Main privately summed up the situation as he saw it thus: the financial question institutional or personal was not fundamental. He was not really called to Alfred by faculty or trustees, but was accepted as one sent by Mr. G. H. Babcock, Dr. Daniel Lewis, and quite a strong public sentiment. He was received with suspicion and jealousy. He would be unable he felt to build up the School unless he could personally and officially stand for some general policy as to its internal life and work. If he got that, it must be against the opposition of leading members of the faculty and trustees who did not intend that he should have such a chance.

Still, he decided to go on. To force acceptance of his plans he felt that he must have extraordinary powers. Hence a trustee rule adopted at his instance read (June, 1894): "His concurrence should be necessary to every act of the faculty unless after his non-concurrence the act or resolution shall be again passed by a two-thirds vote of that entire faculty, exclusive of the President." On the strength of that rule the President later declared a motion opposed by a majority of the faculty as carried by virtue of his peculiar interpretation of the veto power. According to that interpretation the President and a minority of the faculty could pass any resolution or motion. An attorney-trustee said that such an interpretation was not in accord with the letter or intent of the veto by-law. President Main asked the trustees for an early decision on the rule. Obviously a crisis was brewing.

While President Main was waiting for the trustees to answer his request for a ruling, we shall go back again for further light on the inside story of these differences, which may be caught from faculty records, some private correspondence, and other documents.

A chief bone of contention between the President and his faculty was an item in a carefully worked out and forward-looking curriculum which he desired to introduce. That item was whether the English Bible should be a required or an elective course for graduation. To the President it seemed crucial that it be required, while the leading

teachers thinking doubtless of Roman Catholic and other students who objected to such compulsory Bible study felt that to make it a requirement for everybody would harm the University. The faculty preferred strongly to encourage Bible study during some part of the college course. That discussion continued through the fall of 1893 in the faculty sessions. Still the President was balked. In November he wrote the trustees that he could not carry on against opposition, coldness, and lack of moral support. The next day he read the letter with this and other comment to the faculty. Two days later the faculty addressed to Dr. Main a letter containing their unanimous reaction to his statement to them and to the trustees. Referring to his charge of coldness and opposition they assured him that he had entirely misunderstood their attitude and spirit. They had no feeling of opposition toward him personally, nor to his measures except where those failed to commend themselves to their judgment. Otherwise they had given him support and expected to continue thus to do. This was signed by the twelve chief members of the teaching staff.

Early in December Dr. Main penned a circular letter to ten teachers, (Professors A. B. Kenyon and E. M. Tomlinson omitted) stating that Kenyon's views of fundamental matters and his own were radically unlike; that Kenyon had persistently led both faculty and trustees in opposition to him. He had no expectation of their working harmoniously. Expressing good will to the ten he asked that the letter pass along the group and be destroyed by the last reader. Feeling sorry for Kenyon the eleven of the leading group wrote him that in view of a circular note from the President expressing good-will toward the faculty but excepting Kenyon by name from such profession of goodwill, they took pleasure in assuring Kenyon of their continued confidence in and regard for him as a staunch friend of the University.

Thus correspondence, discussions, and votes in the frequent faculty meetings went on through the winter and resulted in the veto rule of June, 1894, as noted above. President Main asked a decision of the trustees on his unusual application of the veto rule. Delay on the part of the trustees caused the harried executive to present them with an ultimatum. "Gentlemen," he wrote, November 1894 "unless you shall see fit to explain or alter the rule relating to the veto-power.. .so that it shall work both ways, positively and negatively as was plainly agreed to by the Committee that. . .recommended it, I hereby resign...as President of the University...."

PRESIDENT MAIN RESIGNS

After further exchanges of views at the trustees' meeting (late autumn, 1894) a motion to amend the by-law "to require two-thirds vote of the faculty to *reject* and a one-third vote to *carry* any recommendation of the President was voted down." Then the trustees voted unanimously to accept the President's resignation, effective at the end of the academic year. A plan to have President Main stay as a teacher fell through. In stating the reasons for his resignation Dr. Main listed the lack of confidence, moral support, and authority proportioned to his responsibility as the general reason. The specific reasons were the refusal of the faculty to accept the crucial parts of his plan of academic reorganization with the accompanying curriculum which asked required work in Bible and the failure of the trustees to sanction his understanding of his veto power.

As if the discouraged and disappointed President had not suffered enough, a grave disciplinary case came up in March, 1895, which cruelly wrung his kindly heart and shocked the community. So deeply was he touched that he could confide to a senior student that gladly would he have sacrificed his good right arm if that could have set straight the life of the wayward one.

As one ponders those trying years, fugitive wisps of testimony come to notice, and may be hints of another basic influence at work. Seventh Day Baptist students came to Alfred chiefly from rural areas, and found the School and town fulfilling their highest expectations—a sort of New Jerusalem of Seventh Day Baptists. To more sophisticated folk like new faculty members not to the "manor born," both town and gown sometimes seemed shut-in, stuffy, self-satisfied, and showing a bit of a vested rights complex about the University. Into this situation came Dr. Main well schooled for that time and widely traveled, bringing possibly some zephyrs of needed fresh air too heavily charged with ozone to be quickly assimilated locally. Looking back through six decades one wonders. Are those controversies yet quite fully understood?

The school year ended, and a pleasanter atmosphere manifested itself at a thoroughly enjoyable reception tendered the ex-President and his family as they left Alfred. Be it remembered too that the bitterness of those unfortunate years moderated and in 1901 the same Dr. Main returned to Alfred as Dean of the Seminary, where honored, revered, and successful he served the remainder of his long life.

ALFRED'S PLIGHT IN 1895

The straits to which the University had been reduced by 1895 are best measured by the enrollment slump as noted above. The highest gross enrollment figure in the 1880's after quitting the curious arrangement with the public school (1886) was 370 (1887-88)—that meant the greatest number of different individuals attending College and Academy at any time during the academic year. In Allen's last year the figure was 270, and in 1894-95, 159, or a loss of 211 students in seven years. Putting it another way records showed that in two terms of 1894-95 the average attendance per term was 127. Of these 49 were pre-academic, 50 academic, 26 college, and 2 in theology. In other words, regular college and academy enrollment totaled 76. Another barometer of enrollment is the fact that while in 1890 there were some 50 recipients of degrees in course there were 24 in 1893, and *five* in 1895.

One disastrous financial effect of this precipitous drop in enrollment is shown in the minutes of the trustees in the spring of 1895. There were 10 classes with only one student each, 8 with two each, and four with three each, or 22 classes with four students each or less. Costs per pupil were enormously extravagant and such small classes lacked proper intellectual stimulus. The situation was growing worse instead of better, and was the chief cause of an expected $5,000 deficit for the year.

Possible extinction? Decidedly! The *Ligfit* sputtered, and wavered, and almost flickered out—almost, but not quite.

CHAPTER XIII

President Davis Begins the Climb, 1895-1933

DAVIS ELECTED PRESIDENT

MAIN having resigned, a strong committee of the University trustees was appointed to ponder the selection of a successor. Its chairman was Reverend Boothe C. Davis, Pastor of the local Church. To draw suggestions from as wide a denominational constituency as possible the committee mailed a questionnaire asking for three names: first, second, and third choices of men desirable and available as candidates. The Church press also was used to get returns from friends not reached by the letters.

At the June trustee meeting the committee's tabulated returns showed Davis and Kenyon far ahead in the scattered field. An informal ballot gave Davis 15 votes, Kenyon 4, Main 2, and Tomlinson 1. On formal ballot Davis was unanimously elected President of Alfred University. When this result was announced, the scene in the room was one of the most deeply solemn and impressive in Alfred's history. Strong men were in tears. Davis was overwhelmed with emotion. The warm hand clasp, the choked utterance told the depths of feeling and the joy of the heart. "Rarely," jubilated a witness, "do we find a young man of the qualifications and popularity of brother Davis."

The one exception to all this joy was the cause of it—Davis himself. As chairman of the president-stalking committee, he saw the snowballing sentiment and used every reasonable effort to avoid this result. He urged his preparation as parson not pedagogue, but he was assured that no one else could pull the School out of the doldrums. Surely, enough has been said in these pages to show that Alfred University had touched bottom. Deficits, debts, buildings in disrepair, pitiful salaries, tumbling enrollment were typical of the black spots. But Davis and his young wife, being alumni, were aware of certain countervailing facts. The Institution had a continuous history of sixty years. It had a university charter and was advantageously located. There were loyal

alumni and a tradition of high purpose and self-sacrifice. Raised and schooled to hardship, even privation, the Davises, more easily than most equally-qualified persons could adjust to the small salary. Such reflections made it a bit easier for the President-elect to leave his beloved church work and, if possible, save the dear old College. Finally, overcome by his own second thoughts, and the pressures from all sides, Boothe Colwell Davis, 32 years old, tall, spare, dignified, distinguished looking, wrote his fellow trustees that having carefully and prayerfully considered the matter, especially their insistence that he was the only man who could secure the results needed, he accepted the call to Alfred's presidency. His term of office was to start September 1. So, nostalgically he moved out of the spacious parsonage home into three rooms in Ladies Hall. Those free quarters and a $1,000 salary minus a ten per cent cut, just as for the faculty, were to be his material reward for the first year of the great adventure.

Now what influences had molded this young cleric beginning his 38 year term as head of his Alma Mater? Of Welsh ancestry, he was born in West Virginia, July 12, 1863. A school started and taught by his mother for her brood marked his earliest efforts in education. Next came short winter terms in public schools, farm work a-plenty, lumbering, a bit of book canvassing, store-clerking, study at a normal school, and school teaching. He entered Alfred Academy in 1885. Working his way he graduated from the College in 1890. A college romance resulted three years later in marriage to Miss Estelle Hoffman, '88. After Alfred came Yale Divinity School, a master's degree, pulpit supply work, election as minister of the large Alfred Seventh Day Baptist Church, and the Presidency of Alfred University.

The trustees thanked all who had aided in the selection of President Davis and listed some recent actions of their board. Mentioned were the salary cut, the new annual budget, a ladies advisory committee to consider the social interests of the women students, committees on buildings and grounds, on teaching force, and on supplies and janitors. Moreover a vigorous campaign for students was conducted during the summer.

THE PRESIDENT GOES TO WORK

Increasingly aware of the almost superhuman task before him, and with the undaunted spirit which characterized him through his long presidency, Davis girded himself for the work. Beside the changes noted above further advances came. Buildings were being dressed up in new

coats of paint. Interiors were being renovated. Grounds were being put in order, trees and shrubs trimmed, and lawns provided with better care. The new ladies' committee put Ladies Hall in more attractive condition. It had become so run down as to be almost deserted. Up to that time Alfred's President and the Registrar had never enjoyed an "office." Home or classroom had done duty for it. Now master carpenter Kenyon and farmer Davis with their own hands provided a joint office in the east-west hallway of Chapel Hall. They sawed and hammered, cleaned, installed files, and in a minor way opened a new epoch in executive administration at the University. In 1895 for the first time in nine years a regular University catalogue was published. The President and one of the trustees did the bulk of the work on it.

Before 1896 little or no definite class organization existed in the College below the senior year. When a fall term opened the men and women finding that they had acquired somewhat haphazardly enough credits to permit graduation in the spring got together and formed a senior class organization. Under Davis all three lower college classes began to organize. Moreover, a system of partial student self-government was set up which functioned through a representative student committee with President Davis as chairman.

An alumni winter lecture course brought prominent graduates to the campus as speakers with tidings of what was going on away from the College. In the first year's second term, the student body had increased by 30 more individuals than the all-time low of the previous year. The 60th anniversary Commencement (1896) was a notable one, and focused and intensified the new optimism which had been accumulating. A unanimity of effort among trustees, faculty, and alumni so recently lacking had been achieved with results quite apparent. The columns of the Alfred *Sun* were evidence enough of the new spirit while an outside voice joined the chorus of rejoicing when the Friendship *Register* testified: "Under President Davis the School is winning back its old prosperity."

The list of Davis' varied activities that starting year is a bit staggering. He taught courses in three fields, acted as dean, conducted many of the daily Chapel services, and preached for the University Sunday congregation. The publicity, student solicitation, preparation of circulars and catalogue were his duty. He supervised the care of the grounds, often with clippers in hand, seeking a bit of open air exercise barbering shrubbery himself. Selection of teachers, wooing funds, and any other project not otherwise provided for landed in his lap. Energy

like that backed by his associates could not fail to bring results. Moreover, important faculty changes were taking place or being projected (1896). Dr. Albert R. Crandall, a well-known natural scientist, took over that department; and Otho P. Fairfield, specially recommended by President W. R. Harper of Chicago University, came into the Latin department. Behind the curtain moves were making to recall internationally known W. A. Rogers to the scenes of his student and early teaching days.

Many felt that it was highly important to provide separate dormitories for men and women. The College authorities had decreed this more than once through the years, but necessity seemed to require setting off certain floors or sections of Ladies Hall for young men. In 1896 the trustees tackled the problem anew. Mr. W. C. Burdick, a local business man, answered an appeal for the use of his apartment house for a men's residence, by loaning that structure under liberal terms. His offer was eagerly accepted and the donor thanked for his generosity. The edifice in question will be recognized as "Burdick Hall," the wandering structure which began as old North Hall in 1846 and ended up on the edge of Kanakadea creek. Described as a handsome frame building of three stories, and an attic with rooms nicely finished, it was fitted up to house about 40 men. A faculty man was named "Head" of the hall and with his wife occupied rooms therein. There was local and general rejoicing over this solution of the separate dormitory puzzle.

However, this new student home away from home did not at once prove popular with the men. One cause was the primitive nature of its equipment. We learn, for instance, that the second year a drain and sink were installed with water connection. Still its popularity failed to rise. The President reported that it had attracted few occupants and had not been satisfactorily useful or remunerative. Then a boarding club was organized, gas heat and light, and other betterments introduced, and these, with the steady rise in enrollment, enabled the dormitory to become and remain for many years a satisfactory rooming place.

ALLEN STEINHEIM MUSEUM

The picturesque stone house was the property of the Aliens; but they probably intended that it should sometime belong to the University. In December, 1896, Mrs. Allen offered to deed it to the trustees in return for the cancelled $5,000 note which the optimistic President

had given in that debt-lifting effort of 1887, and on which he had been unable to pay either principal or interest.

Sometime before Allen's demise friction had arisen between him and the trustees which produced delay in getting anything done in settling the estate through Mrs. Allen. However the trustees accepted her offer, the deed was given and the note cancelled. Thus the Steinheim became University property. As it was really a gift, the trustees named it the "Allen Steinheim Museum" as a memorial to the self-sacrificing couple. A back room was finished off and in 1897 the Steinheim became the home of the natural history work. With a competent head, a good home and adequate equipment, that department was on a level with Alfred's competitors.

COLLEGE AND ACADEMY DIVORCED

A reform long overdue at Alfred was the clear separation of College and Academy. Gestures in that direction had been made earlier, but in 1897 the movement got a vigorous push not only from Davis' thinking but also from a new ruling of the State Board of Regents. In this the State's top educational authority decreed that to be a "minimum college," among other requirements, an institution must have at least six full-time professors doing college work exclusively. Faculty assignments were readjusted to meet the situation. Earl P. Saunders, '80, became principal of the Academy, with a competent corps of supporting teachers. At the first Chapel or Assembly in the fall of 1897 with the usual happy greetings among the old students, President Davis welcomed them to the joint session and explained the new plans. The next morning the preparatory students met at a chapel of their own in Academy Hall, as the Chapel Hall came to be known, and which was now assigned to that School. The collegians took the smaller chapel quarters in Kenyon Memorial Hall with President Davis presiding. Both groups showed a gratifying growth in numbers, and both developed a new *esprit-de-corps.*

Of the 70 college students that year 20 entered as regular freshmen. Fifteen came from high schools prepared or nearly prepared for college —a hint of the most promising source of future patronage for the College.

ABOUT CURRICULA

With the two schools thus started on their separate paths, it is an appropriate time to notice some academic and other changes taking place in the half-decade. Administration remained much as before.

The trustees, faculty members, and students still were predominantly Seventh Day Baptists. In the College curriculum for the first time, there appeared in 1897-98 the shape of things destined to stand in outline through the first half of the 20th century. Freshman and sophomore studies were mostly required, and only gradually shed their heavy loads of Greek and Latin, especially in the classical course. Three years of foreign language were required in the philosophical course—the particular language depending in part on the languages studied in the preparatory school. For the scientific curriculum French and German were specifically required. The junior and senior years were elective with a group system of subjects from which major and minor studies were selected. Physical culture was required through the first two years. Masters degrees might be earned in one year's residence, or, in the case of Alfred graduates, in two years of non-resident, faculty-directed study. Elocution, fine arts, and music offered substantial courses.

The newly reborn Academy started off with a faculty of seven. Its special province was college preparatory. Its three courses were named classical-academic, Latin-academic, and scientific-academic and led normally to the three college courses, classical, philosophical, and scientific. A State-financed Teacher Training Class formed part of the Academy program. About a year's study beyond the grades won entrance, and successful completion of the two-semester training course earned a three year, renewable teacher's certificate.

BABCOCK HALL OF PHYSICS

As the President passed the earlier rungs of the climb, he came to feel that two rather drastic changes must be made in the general policy of the University. One of these was that too narrowly-restricted a liberal arts program would not suffice for the threshold of the new century. As he had visited other campuses, President Davis had been much impressed by a debate between the heads of Hamilton College and Cornell University. Cracks by the former such as "You can't put an edge on pot-metal" had won the laughs, but the latter's emphasis on a philosophy of education which included the new technologies with their contributions to the practical needs of ordinary men was more convincing to Alfred's leader. He felt that his University must join in those trends to serve its area properly and draw essential student patronage. Nor had Alfred's educational philosophy ever been exclusively classical. The old Academy, as we have seen, long had vocational strands like teacher training, agriculture, and industrial mechanics in

its offerings. Perhaps as much a cause as a result of the new ideas hatching in the presidential mind were the new moves to strengthen the physics department. The late George H. Babcock long interested in that field had hinted at more expansion including a new building for it.

Having learned that Professor W. A. Rogers, early Alfred student and teacher, had said that under certain conditions he would be glad to return to Alfred, President Davis visited him at Colby College. This set the wheels turning. At the annual trustee meeting in 1896, a strong committee was set up to formulate plans thoroughly to equip the department. Rogers, described in a Syracuse daily as a top authority in this country on micrometrics, agreed to come. A building was planned, and a separate endowment projected. Total cost was estimated at $28,000, half of which was already subscribed. Rogers would bring his special equipment valued at $10,000 and supervise the reorganization. The new structure to be named appropriately Babcock Hall of Physics was to stand north of the present Kanakadea Hall. Mrs. Babcock loyally followed out the intent of her late husband.

In the early spring of 1897 the President announced the plans in chapel amid cheers and yells. About June 1st L. W. H. Gibbs, a prominent student, with a local farmer held the plow as ground was broken for the new hall. Three weeks later as the corner stone was laid, Dr. Rogers warned against over specialization, demanded high standards in the work of the department, and suggested fruitful fields for research. Bricklaying started in the fall; Davis spent months visiting schools, and asking alumni for cash, which came in with painful slowness. Then, as the climax of misfortune, Dr. Rogers died March 1, 1898. A year after the setting of the cornerstone the Babcock Hall of Physics was dedicated. Beside the usual ceremonies two addresses delivered illustrated the newer thinking. One was the "Importance of Scientific and Industrial Education" and the other discussed the "World's Debt to Laboratories." Dedicated to the physical sciences, the red brick building fronted the new street 116 feet and had a depth of 90 feet. It housed a variety of interests beside physics, and included a small gymnasium. The hall cost $11,500 which the equipment lifted to a total of $18,600. With its unique Rogers apparatus for micrometrics, and other appropriate paraphernalia Alfred now had an adequate physics department.

In the fall of 1898 thirty students were enjoying the new building, when men's physical culture and industrial mechanics had moved in. Popular and ingenious Edward S. Babcock succeeded Dr. Rogers' as-

sistant from Colby College who had filled in for a year after Dr. Rogers' unexpected death. Meantime President Davis, the tireless leader in all these enterprises, was swinging still further to the academic left. In his annual report to the trustees in 1899 he suggested engineering courses, cooperation with the local D. H. Rogers machine shop, and courses in *clay-working,* artificial ice, and refrigeration!

STATE SCHOOL OF CLAY-WORKING AND CERAMICS

Clay-working! That subject calls for a discussion of the second of those sharp turns in University policy which Davis was considering, i.e., the School's relation to the Seventh Day Baptist denomination. There is evidence that at first Davis had no thought of modifying this inherited partnership, but the difficulties of the situation thickened. To compete Alfred must have higher standards. That took cash. So did interest on a big debt, bigger salaries paid promptly, buildings and endowment. So far no important gifts had come to Alfred from non-Seventh Day Baptists. Moreover, Alfred's old territory had been cut into by the rise of two newer colleges looking to the same small denomination for support and students. Alfred must work out a solution on denominational lines, or launch out on a wider appeal, and the rendering of more widely appealing services. To break at all with the past relationship would be hard for the Sabbatarian Minister-President.

Thus before actually looking outside he decided to lay the problem and a plan before his co-religionists. This was embodied in an address in 1898 before the General Conference of the Churches, entitled "An Educational Program for Seventh Day Baptists." Believing that the denomination could not support three higher schools he advocated the designation of Alfred University as its leading institution, to be adequately equipped for specialized training while the other two became in effect tributary or junior colleges. Delivered almost under the eaves of one of the schools to be demoted the address was not well received. Local pride, alumni patriotism, flecks of mutual jealousy among the friends of the colleges were too much. It should not have surprised Alfred's head (if it did) that there was no sale for his ideas. Therefore, he felt that for his College to live it must supplement church support with aid from regional gifts, philanthropic individuals and foundations, public funds,—friends, and alumni outside his church. These would permit the widening services he believed necessary for winning student patronage and the favor of the moneyed public. The University would become a regional and State agent for

education, as well as a better denominational instrument for higher education.

The first fruit of this modified orientation was the "New York State School of Clayworking and Ceramics at Alfred University," the present College of Ceramics. It is possible, as some have remembered, that the first public suggestion of a ceramic school came in an address by the head of the local Celadon Terra Cotta Company plant, Charles T. Harris, in a campus literary society address in 1897. Certainly one of the earlier suggestions came from Hon. John J. Merrill, who broached the possibility of a State school. One cannot believe that like ideas were absent from the fertile mind of Davis. In 1899 he got the trustees to consider the clay school idea. Merrill, Dr. Daniel Lewis, and Davis were on the committee to do so. A State school was wanted.

Things were soon moving. In February, 1900, the State Board of Regents resolved in favor of the project. A Buffalo daily approved the plan and complimented the University on its progressive spirit. In February, 1900, identical bills were introduced into the two houses of the State legislature. A perfect storm of arguments favoring and recommendations to pass the bill struck the capital from former students and friends. Tactful lobbying by President Davis, J. J. Merrill, and others helped. The bill passed both chambers with only eight negative votes in the senate and none in the assembly. Before the Governor signed the bill a lively mass meeting in Alfred's Firemen's Hall celebrated the bill's passage. It was there too that the new Alfred song "Hail to Thee, Alfred," later to become the alma mater, was first heard in public. The University trustees promptly accepted the honor and trust, went about selecting a site, and appointed the first board of managers—namely trustees Boothe C. Davis, William H. Crandall, William R. Clarke, John J. Merrill, and Elwood E. Hamilton. The new law only 26 lines long established the School, and appropriated $15,000 for a building and equipment, and $5,000 for the first year's maintenance. It was to be State property and tuition was to be free to New Yorkers.

The next task was to find a director. Hence President Davis paid visits to Trenton, New Jersey to see a certain Charles Fergus Binns, an Englishman who had grown up with the Royal Worcester Porcelain Works in England and was currently head of a technical school. He was also adviser to certain potteries and Vice President of the infant American Ceramic Society. Sure that Binns was his choice—a man of wide reading, artistic tastes and training, and possessed "of the finest mental and spiritual excellence"—Davis offered him the leadership

of the venture. After full discussion of the pros and cons, the Britisher put his hand affectionately on his wife's head and asked if they should go to Alfred. Quoth cooperative Mary, ". . .you should go there. . . then, if you like it, I am willing to go." And go they did. With their brood of bright youngsters they settled in Alfred, and for a generation "Daddy" Binns, as he came affectionately to be known, directed the School, and with Mrs. Binns exerted a fine influence on school, campus, and community.

Land was purchased just north of the new hall of physics. At the laying of the corner stone at Commencement (1900), the local legislative representatives related their experiences in shepherding the bills through the legislature. In the closing address by Director Binns he ventured this remarkable prophecy:

> I see the school thronged with busy workers. I feel the throb of the engines, and I hear the roar of the kilns. I see clay from all parts of the State. . .being wrought here into all sorts of wares. I see those who dream of graceful form and glowing colors realizing by work of the hands the creations of the brain. I see issuing from these walls a succession of students who shall be called to take charge of clay-working establishments in all parts of the country. I see technical and training schools arise. . . their professors are men from Alfred.. . . There are times, and. . .this is one of them, when young men may be pardoned if they see visions, the old men if they dream dreams.... I say that there lie hidden here vast possibilities, and that all things are possible to those who believe.

With Director Binns were associated an instructor in drawing and the decorative arts, and an assistant to operate machinery and aid in the laboratories. Thus the Ceramic School became a fact. There was no building to house it yet, and that baby institution destined to become the world's leading College of Ceramics was cradled mainly in Alfred University's Kenyon Memorial Hall.

GLIMPSES OF BUILDINGS, GROUNDS, AND FINANCE

Before concluding this chapter on the beginning of the climb, a little more should be said about finance and the plant. Scholarships were greatly needed in the competition with richer colleges, and a plan for such scholarships had been launched in 1894 under President Main. In 1899 the One Hundred Thousand Dollar Centennial Fund was begun and vigorously pushed. It aimed to be part of a Million Dollar Fund to be completed for the Institution's centennial in 1936. In 1898 a $35,000 six per cent bond issue was floated to liquidate an

issue of 1894 and for other purposes. With great trepidation the trustees also agreed to a small increase in tuition for the new century. A bequest in the middle 90's by Peter Wooden added some $20,000 to the University's endowment.

A few financial facts for 1899-1900 are of value for purposes of comparison. The University's property of all kinds was listed at $390,-000. Of this amount $65,784 was called endowment. The debt stood at $42,000 and included the bond issue of 1898. The budget for 1900-01 estimated income at $17,698 and expenses at $19,935.

Among the improvements campus visitors would note that the Brick had acquired a bath plus a sink on each floor all supplied with hot and cold running water—luxuries much appreciated by the occupants of the hall. In 1899 that dormitory got also a two story porch filling the width of the north face. The previous year the Brick dining room had been electrically lighted for the Commencement occasion from the new University dynamos. In 1899 natural gas just arrived over Pine Hill was piped into Academy, Gothic, and Brick Halls; and the first pieces of wide cement walks were laid on the campus.

PAST THE FIRST RUNGS OF THE CLIMB

The Preacher-President thus rounded out his self-imposed probationary five years. It seemed a wonderful success and was universally so hailed. Universally? Almost. A few wondered a bit about where the new technological trends might lead, and what unforseen goblins might hatch out of the new connection with the State. More strange were certain doubts still lurking in the heads of some trustees. Surely, however, much more in harmony with the visible evidence was an enthusiastic remark in the Alfred *Sun* whose writer reported that there should be the most cordial appreciation of the unparalleled progress which Dr. Davis and the trustees were bringing to the University.

The "gallant young leader" of the new Alfred song felt that both he and the School had turned the corner. He would not quit, as he had said he might if that half decade had not turned out well. For him professionally the College thus won the battle against the Church.

CHAPTER XIV

Student Notions in the Ninettes

STUDENT LIFE in that decade was much less perturbed than might have been expected by the differences among the harassed Alfred authorities. The present chapter chronicles the activities of the students under such subdivisions as organizations, entertainment, class spirit, publications, religion, and war. A section also is devoted to the beginnings of modern intercollegiate sports at Alfred.

ORGANIZATIONS AND ENTERTAINMENT

The types of organizations through which students expressed themselves were becoming more varied and numerous, but it was still the heyday of the old lyceums. Most of the campus population belonged to one or other of the four; and the comings and goings of students were often listed not as John Jones, '93, but as John Jones, Oro (Orophilian Lyceum).

The ladies societies were housed on the top floor of Ladies Hall; quite a climb, but the rooms were pleasant and memory-filled. After a long agitation for more accessible quarters, they were newly established in 1892 on the second floor. Five years later increasing enrollment demanded the second floor rooms again for dormitory use, and the trustees offering some financial aid asked the girls to move up again. After a full academic year, they were again aloft (1899). There they gathered as long as their societies survived. During the year the girls were without a home an arrangement was made with the men's societies to let the ousted ones meet in their session rooms on alternate Saturday evenings. While the men graciously allowed this use of their rooms, they themselves practiced parliamentary procedure, debated public questions, and got a bit of insight into government through the organization once more of a joint miniature house of representatives based on the institution at Washington, D. C. Some serious work

was done but after a stormy life of only three months the mock legislature expired in the throes of a speakership contest.

Inter-lyceum ball games and debates enlivened campus life as earlier. A close, tense baseball game in May, 1892, was a good sample. Park street porches creaked again under the weight of co-eds and citizens. Lyceum colors fluttered everywhere. Limbs and lungs were busy. The Oros won by a hair (22 to 21) and a happier set of boys never went from the field. A debate focused the lyceum competition the next spring when the societies tangled on the question: "Is the Prohibition of Chinese Immigration Justifiable?" For three hectic hours five speakers on each side talked it out on the familiar platform in Chapel Hall. Their respective partisans were keyed up to the highest pitch. Hope rose and fell as one side or the other got in a telling punch. When the verbal cascade ceased, the judges voted. What an unbearable minute when the judges' spokesman leisurely arose, commented on the excellence of the debate and the difficulty of reaching a decision, and so on, then announced to the breathless crowd that the negative championed by the Oros had won. Oh, the roar of joy that came from the victors and their partisans! What a night!

It was five years before those rivals took another chance at each other, this time on the diamond again. A series of three games was scheduled, the best two out of three to win. In them the Alleghanians repaid in full measure the various defeats heaped on them by the Oros. The scenes were a repetition of the previous series. Old lyceum members, some of them on the faculty, were moved to dance up and down at critical plays, enthusiastically wave hats, and yell lustily with the boys. In one of the games the Alleghanians overwhelmed the Oros 31-14.

While much of the old detailed list of "thou shalt nots" was wearing thin, there still were rules, and definite faculty and, indeed, student ideas about certain kinds of organizations, especially secret societies. For instance in the fall of 1893 some men organized the Theta Beta Kappa. Members attended Chapel wearing stove pipe hats. They were entertained also by a new student women's group at an enjoyable reception. A faculty examination of the Theta Beta Kappa constitution brought an ultimatum that all members withdraw from it immediately on pain of suspension. Thus ended an early attempt to introduce a fraternity on the Alfred campus. A lyceum debated the question of the existence of fraternities at Alfred, and returned a favorable verdict on them. A faculty member with fraternity experience discussed the sub-

ject objectively in the Alfred University *Monthly* and advised against them at Alfred, where unifying not dividing forces were needed in such a democratic community. Although secret societies were taboo, other organizations flourished. Between 1893 and 1899 came such new groups as the student-faculty "University Science Club," the "Shakespeare Club," a mandolin-guitar club, and the "Alfred Dramatics Club."

Perhaps the best evidence of the milder spirit of campus rules was the suggestion of future self-government—a plan started in 1896. We have mentioned it already. While the new committee was not burdened with duties, it is significant that every recommendation on discipline or other matters it presented to the faculty was approved. The experiment was believed to have promoted a tone of dignity and honor not otherwise attained. The official attitude along another line was indicated when President Davis and his faculty declared that cigarette smokers were not considered desirable candidates for admission to college.

Using the term entertainment with some latitude we may note first the increase in the number of socials offered by townspeople, faculty members, and campus organizations. Students welcomed these as opportunities to learn social etiquette, develop affability, and ease in conversation. A sample of the socials enjoyed showed interesting elements of novelty. Guests paid admission according to their physical stature, or bid for the veiled young ladies who became the refreshment companions of the successful bidders. Then college departments held open house, which in a sense were social occasions, e.g., fine arts and mechanics did so with brief programs, showing pictures, chinaware, mounted birds, and demonstrations artistic and mechanical. Not without entertainment value in the best sense were some of the chapel talks: such as Professor A. R. Crandall's discussions on evolution using the development of fishes for illustration. He defined evolution as a method of creation. Perhaps more properly falling under the general topic of entertainment were the stereopticon lectures on astronomy by Mr. Lawrence LaForge, lectures called instructive and sprinkled with wit and humor.

PHASES OF CAMPUS LIFE

The class of 1901, freshmen in 1897, numbered some 20 youngsters. In its sophomore year it became the first Alfred class to post "Procs" (Proclamations) in conspicuous locations about town and campus. Flaming red sheets, they were, full of mock advice and exaggerated

warning to the new comers of the class of 1902. The freshmen were warned against wearing silk hats, carrying canes, or flaunting class colors. Of course, the freshmen tore down the offending posters, and straightway appeared in chapel carrying canes. The air was tense, but hostilities did not break out just then. A series of rushes soon did occur—hot scrimmages over hats and canes. Good temper prevailed, and the chief damage was to the canes.

Apparently the first class contest in the form of a banquet was staged by those same freshmen as sophomores (in 1898). The bountiful repast was stealthily prepared and eaten at the home of a local member. The viands disposed of, there were toasts to the professors, college algebra, and other "enemies." The trepidation of the banqueters was relieved when the affair ended without discovery by their rivals which was the crux of such contests. Then they could go out and awaken the echoes and the startled sophs with their victorious yells. By the end of 1899 class spirit had spurted to the degree that a mass meeting was called to consider means of encouraging more *college* spirit and *college* loyalty. The winter of 1899 saw a system of class counselors instituted by the faculty aiming at closer, confidential contacts between teachers and taught. By this time the seniors were appearing in academic attire more frequently and earlier in the school year. Their first chapel appearance in cap and gown always brought words of congratulation from the University President.

Before 1898 there were several publications which chronicled campus happenings under various auspices, student or other. About 1855 the *Literary Star* shone a while and in 1860 the *New Era* came and flourished briefly. Next appeared the queerly named *Pantantriad.* For two years or so around 1867 *The Mentor,* a semi-annual sheet, interestingly recorded campus events. The lyceums were its chief sponsors. The Alfred *Student* reflected six years of student-faculty journalistic effort in monthly issues beginning in 1874. From 1883 until the present time The Alfred *Sun,* a private, non-campus enterprise, printed campus news week by week. It was a prime source of University information and chitchat. The official University quarterlies, The Alfred *University,* and the *Quarterly Bulletin,* contained campus news between 1888 and 1899 with a three-year interval between the two media, 1892-95.

In June, 1898, a student mass meeting determined to begin in the fall a strictly student project in the form of the Alfred *Monthly.* Walter S. Brown, '99 became editor-in-chief, and the objectives of the new

venture were to describe college life at Alfred University, bring a message of interest to alumni, and portray Alfred to the outside world. The *Monthly* won considerable patronage from local advertisers, but judging from the frequent appeals for benefit affairs and subscribers it led at first a rather hand-to-mouth existence. Its name was changed the second year to *The Alfred University Monthly.* The student interest in world affairs and the religious emphasis of the time are seen in the first number of its second volume which featured a sympathetic article on the grievances of the Boers in South Africa and a deeply religious essay titled, "In Touch with the Divine." Despite its early difficulties it survived for a decade and a half, and was replaced by *Fiat Lux* (1913).

Preaching at the first fall meeting of the Sunday congregation President Main reported that a fully staffed Sunday School had been organized and assured his hearers that as in the past the University aimed to provide equal religious opportunities for all. At the Commencement of 1894 came the first annual sermon before the newly formed Young Men's and Young Women's Christian Associations. These Alfred groups also soon began attending freely and in numbers the State and regional conferences. In 1894 Alfred sent the largest college delegation present at one of those conventions. President Main accompanied the students and spoke twice to the delegates.

As time went on, the Christian Associations played an increasingly influential role on Alfred's campus. In 1897 they published the student handbook of campus information for freshmen and others. The next year the men equipped a YMCA room in Burdick Hall providing reading matter, games, and a directory for room and board seekers. By 1899 the long-sustained Association fall receptions had appeared, aimed at introducing new students to Alfred social life. At these opening social events, promising friendships budded, then blossomed, and often fruited in life-long alliances which confirmed to Alfred one of its nicknames—"The Match Factory."

As the decade ended, the chapel program was modified somewhat allowing for formal addresses by faculty members at intervals. A sharp decline in chapel attendance, however, about that time led to the suggestion of missionary work by the Christian Associations to increase it again. This failed to fill vacant seats so chapel was made compulsory (1899-1900) which improved attendance for a time, and with the larger numbers brought a better interest and spirit in the daily service.

The on-going of campus life was but slightly affected by the little war. When the report of the blowing up of the battleship *Maine* in

Havana harbor electrified the campus, excited discussion exploded too. A freshman student member of the National Guard unit in Hornellsville, John D. Groves, began drilling some interested men. Soon several students enlisted. Groves went as sergeant. At Camp Black on Long Island the recruits had lively times, humorous and serious. Stealing a pie vendor's whole stock in trade was supposed to be funny. Sundays brought welcome guests. Less pleasant were the drills and long guard duty in cold and rain. It wasn't funny to sit in a YMCA tent so flooded that the organ was hoisted upon a table by the boys, a chair on another table, and the organ top used as a writing desk!

So it went from camp to camp: "embalmed beef" to eat, typhoid fever to endure. The Alfred boys saw no whites of Spanish eyes, but several were hospitalized with fever. Groves, back in school, was laid low with it but recovered. In due time their Hornellsville unit was mustered out. Lingering war influence on the campus was felt when Dr. Dwight Galloupe, '90, wounded in the battle of Santiago, lectured in Alfred on his war experiences. It was felt also when a patriotic young lady graduate spoke on "War as a Factor in Progress," arguing that the greatest steps in human advance had come only through the sacrifices of war.

RISE OF INTERCOLLEGIATE SPORTS AT ALFRED

"Play ball," and "There's the kickoff" were not new cries on Alfred's campus in the early 189()'s, but it was not until that decade that there appeared the present pattern of intercollegiate sports. Sports at Alfred had been chiefly the irregular, semi-private affairs already chronicled. The autumn of 1895 saw Alfred's first real football team, even though it played not a single college game. The entry of baseball into the intercollegiate field was equally tardy and informal. Basketball was an outdoor sport; tennis had times of popularity; croquet occasionally; and golf momentarily, once.

Let us glance at the unpromising chaos on which the creative word of modern sport was to fall and compel order. During the first half of the decade Alfred was playing baseball with various school or nondescript groups. On the whole the campus boys won a fair proportion of such contests. In the fall of 1892 they took on the Almonds, reputedly champions of neighboring "Squintville" (Phillips Creek) and "Five Corners," trouncing them roundly. Then the victors were toppled by the sturdy challengers from "Purdy Creek." In mid-October 1892, a scribe wrote that now is the time for football when the weather is cool and comfortable. A debate arose over the brand of football Alfred

should play. Then it was recalled that the School had a Rugby-type ball which seemed to clinch the trend that way. It was hoped that many would enter the "beautiful exercise." Yet little seems to have been done.

As spring warmed up in 1894, considerable baseball activity developed. By fall six games had been played—one with Hornellsville Free Academy which Alfred won 6 to 5. Of the six games the campus team won four. That fall Rugby was confirmed as the type of football to be played. The instructor in physical culture favored it, had had some experience with it, and offered to coach—probably the first hint of sports coaching at Alfred. Tennis gained some attention and tournaments were run. In the spring of 1895 sports were so quiet as almost to appear dead. Yet that fall saw what can be called the first fully-organized Alfred football team. The team got a late start and played but three games, all with high schools. The first was with Wellsville. President Davis, a couple of faculty members, and a corps of citizen and student rooters accompanied the team. Wellsville won a clean sweep of 24 to 0, but Alfred fans felt that it was not bad for a starter. The second game against the same opponent was lost but by a smaller score. The final attack was against Bradford, Pennsylvania, High School on the opponent's field, when the Pennsylvanians were held to a 10 to 0 score. The visitors were well treated, and it was a happy Alfred crowd which boarded the train for home.

The football season of 1896 also marked an epoch in that for the first time Alfred met an antagonist above the secondary school level. The players had the benefit of a few days of coaching by an expert. Four school games were played, beside *the* game, in which the Purple and Gold won two, tied one, and lost one. Past mid-season it was noised about that the Geneseo State Normal School team would invade the campus for a Thanksgiving Day trial of skill. Came the great day, November 26, fair, mild and without snow. The scene was a meadow on the south section of the present State farm, where the Belmont road now cuts through. A crowd both local and from the area gathered to the see the fine game! The Teachers had a great record behind them and expected a clean sweep, so the 4 to 4 tie was a great disappointment. The University trustees appropriated "not over $7" for a dinner for the Alfred teams. This was prepared by a local church group and served in Firemen's Hall "by young ladies of the University." Success created interest, finances were adequate, and players plentiful. A faculty committee was set up to supervise football, and stricter rules were enforced to keep up the class work of the players.

In 1897 there was no coach, but in two noteworthy tussles with the University of Rochester and Geneseo State Normal School, Alfred lost the former by a score of 8 to 12, and played the latter to a scoreless tie. Professor A. B. Kenyon cleverly listed the seasons' debits and credits thus: debited were sprained ankles, broken noses, pieces of cuticle, and slightly slighted lessons. Credited were courage, self-control, strength, discipline, determination, a lot of enthusiasm and wide advertising for Alfred University. Kenyon was heartily cheered and the football men were happy. In 1898 the football season opened with lassitude and delay. In a practice game the Academy youngsters defeated the collegians. A bit of special coaching by an ex-Buffalo University man pepped things up somewhat. The best game was well played against the University of Rochester but resulted in Alfred's defeat 0 to 5. Then, contrary to appearances, Alfred did not lower its sights any in playing Jamestown High School and getting snowed under by a score of 0 to 34. There was no disgrace in that as those lads from Jamestown had clipped Allegheny College and Thiel College 32 to 0 and 23 to 0 respectively. Thus ended the season of 1898.

Great plans were made for the season of 1899. Athletic Association rules described standard athletic sweaters of purple and gold, and all emoluments of honor were to be old gold letters on those sweaters. In the fall a schedule of football games was already signed up and a coach employed for part of the season. After some defeatist doldrums, a game with Rochester encouraged the team and fans and all looked forward to a fine time with Hobart. Three teams practicing at once made some think the field looked like that of one of the bigger colleges. Hopes were high but the Hobart contest proved a dashing disappointment—an 11 to 30 rout. Weak spots repaired, the boys fared better against Niagara University. The team, four subs, and a few happy rooters hied to Niagara. A small boy, the Alfred team's mascot, dressed up in miniature team uniform and a larger lad feathered and blanketed like a full-blooded Comanche Indian captivated the grandstands. The score was 5-0 in Alfred's favor at the half, but the Catholic boys won by a narrow 6-5 margin.

Nevertheless the season ended in a blaze of glory with a Thanksgiving Day triumph over its first post-high school rival, Geneseo State Normal. It produced a clean sweep of 39 to 0. Hence Alfred's fifth season at interschool football was hailed as its most successful. Expenses of $600 were paid, the athletic debt was liquidated, and there was a nest-egg for 1900.

CHAPTER XV

Administrators and Teachers, 1900-1915

His SELF-IMPOSED probationary half-decade finished and counted a success, Alfred's leader moved forward. The decade and a half after 1900 proved quite as fruitful proportionally in the University's growth in plant, personnel, and prestige as did the first five years of the Davis regime. Among the topics treated in this chapter are the reorganization of the Seminary, the beginning of secondary school teacher training, the progress in the Ceramic School, various academic developments, the founding of the New York State School of Agriculture, the closing of Alfred Academy, and some verbal snapshots of teachers who came and went. It should be noted too that the method of organization used in this and some other chapters involves some minor repetition.

SEMINARY REORGANIZATION

The first task of the second period grew out of another sinking spell on the part of the Theological Department. After revival and new life in the early 1890's it suffered a new attack of anemia which called forth the solicitous attention of the academic and denominational doctors. Endowment and current support had not met expectations; the University was running deficits for the Seminary, until but one full time man was teaching; and prospective ministers were running off to Chicago for training. The situation was unsatisfactory to all concerned. Immediate prescriptions to strengthen the department included again the raising of permanent endowment and temporary annual gifts to pay current expenses meanwhile.

During the General Conference at Alfred in 1901 it was planned to turn on the financial pressure in a big way. At the psychological moment D. E. Titsworth, the denomination's popular and skilled pocketbook pilferer, started the oratory. Others did the less spectacular

button-holing. The result, over $10,000, was an unexpected success. Academically also success was assured when Dr. Arthur E. Main was called to become dean of the Seminary and its professor of doctrinal theology. Dr. James L. Gamble took the chair of church history, while William C. Whitford continued in his field of biblical languages. With these, plus the part-time use of College teachers and special lecturers the department set bravely off as the "Alfred Theological Seminary."

At the same time the Seminary was given by the University trustees a still more nearly independent status than it had before enjoyed. "While affiliated with Alfred University," it was declared, "enjoying its rights and powers under the charter. . .and administered by Alfred's trustees it shall. . .be an independent school, maintained by special funds contributed for the purpose...." It should also have a separate faculty, separate management, and a separate building—the Gothic. A little later it was agreed by the Seventh Day Baptist Education Society and the University that 25% of the income of funds held by the former for the benefit of Alfred University but not designated for any particular department should be allocated to the Seminary and 75% to the general funds of the University.

SECONDARY SCHOOL TEACHER TRAINING

Just as the authorities got the Theological Seminary on its feet again, a type of work in the College was gaining a new orientation. While Alfred Academy continued the training of elementary school teachers, now, by a new arrangement established by the State, liberal arts colleges were enabled to train secondary school teachers. In 1902 Alfred was duly certified for that program and Charles Beed Clark, fresh from the University of Michigan, began offering State-specified work in pedagogy. Students successfully negotiating those requirements received on graduation the "College Graduates Professional Certificate." Thus Alfred offered another field of professional training which was to continue long as an important segment of its total service.

"PREXY" TAKES A VACATION

Gratifying as these sample progressive measures were, they came at the cost of the impaired health of President Davis. Rest and change were imperative. A Mediterranean cruise was planned, a leave of absence granted with pay, and Davis' classes turned over to Clark and Main. Kenyon was designated as acting president. Three friends accompanied the President, including President Gardiner of Salem College, Salem, West Virginia. What a send-off the teacher-president got! Teach-

ers and students spontaneously took over (February 1902). A mass meeting echoed good wishes, and a hundred students escorted him to the train. The horses were unhitched at depot hill (Alfred Station), and the boys drew the vehicle triumphantly up to the tracks. Aboard the "Celtic," the world's biggest ship, a reading and entertainment club was organized. Davis' letters told the story as do his "Memoirs", the indescribable beauty of the tropical vegetation in the Madeira Islands; health-giving days astride a spirited Arabian horse; Bible lore recalled at Nazareth, Gethsemane, Calvary, and Mars Hill where he read Paul's "Men of Athens." Then there was gondola-ing in Venice, and a lot more.

All very fine the patriotic Davis agreed, but best of all was the home-coming which duplicated the scenes of the send-off. Brought to a platform in front of the University Bank, amid deafening cheers he expressed his thanks for the welcome, and received the keys of the "city" from the acting president.

CERAMIC SCHOOL AT WORK

The completion of the Ceramic School building was delayed for lack of union masons, but the spring of 1901 found it about ready. The most modern machinery was installed, and the work of ceramic education ventured from its temporary quarters and set up house-keeping in its own home. The hall was dedicated in a quiet ceremony at Commencement (1901). Beside the two full-time teachers, seven part-time teachers were listed, the latter being those in whose departments in the College of Liberal Arts the fundamental mathematics, science, and languages were taught to future engineers and artists. At first the State reimbursed the University for such "accessory" instruction by paying parts of the salaries for those instructors.

The four year ceramic course led to the degree of bachelor of science in ceramics. For a time a two-year course was offered for practical ceramists who wished more technical training. A complete service of professional examination and testing of clays was provided. In the summer of 1901 the ceramists conducted a successful summer school. Reporting on the results the national periodical, *Keramic Studio,* noted the splendidly equipped building, spoke of the lectures, the steps in pottery production, and the need of unusual restraint at the weekly kiln burning lest one break impatiently into the hot receptacle prematurely and spoil it all. Other summer sessions came and went and then for a time the project died out.

In the fall of 1901 the "Alfred Ceramic Society" was organized by the students to discuss artistic and practical problems. As an adjunct to the Commencement of 1902, came the first of those ceramic exhibits which have enriched Alfred's June festivities ever since. Visitors inspected the various kinds of work. *Keramic Studio* had offered prizes for modern design. Occasionally little storms stirred the ceramic group, some funny, some oozing a dash of vinegar, as when Director Binns unwrapped his pronunciation of *v-a-s-e,* making it rime with *laws.* Competing fashions rimed it with *base* or *stars*—mostly a good natured difference. In the fall of 1906 came one of those earliest observation trips to ceramic plants. Eight upperclass men with Director Binns travelled *de luxe* in a special railroad car provided by University trustee and top official of the Shawmut Railroad, Hon. Frank Sullivan Smith, and visited plants along its route. In more plebeian style the next fall plants in the Buffalo and Niagara area came under directed student gaze.

Of course the daily business of the students was in the laboratories and classrooms of the College and the Clay School. Had a visitor wandered about the three stories of the State building, he would have found the young men and women of the little family-style student body busy everywhere. In the basement they would be among the brick- and tile-making machines, the slip-mixing plant, or the glaze cylinders, or busy at mold-making. Or they might be watching caretaker (or engineer) Del Whitford nursing along the temperamental power plant—an engine living on natural gas. Main floor students might be in consultation with Director Binns in his little office or in his experimental laboratory. The top floor had would-be artists at their drawing boards. One student might even drop her pencil and show the guest the objects in the little museum housed there.

By 1912 the School needed more space. The legislature agreed and an addition 50' x 30', two stories high was provided and attached to the rear of the existing building. Construction was slow but completion was celebrated April 30, 1914, at a largely-attended house warming. Lectures and demonstrations were offered, and the whole structure, older and newer parts, was carefully dressed up for inspection. In the spring of that year Professor E. T. Montgomery, a new teacher, had journeyed to the meeting of the lusty American Ceramic Society where he presented six papers, one for himself, the rest for students and alumni. Among them were such later well-knowns as C. F. Tefft, Joseph Kruson, and Gordon Phillips.

OTHER ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENTS

In 1900-01 was inaugurated a system of student honors applicable in both liberal arts and ceramics. Freshmen and sophomore honors were earned by winning a 90% average or more in the year's work. Senior honors, really departmental honors, and soon so named, were won by the attainment of a 90% average in the junior and senior years, plus the completion of at least eight hours in the chosen department. For seniors also there were the traditional valedictory, salutatory, and third honor Commencement awards for those achieving first, second, and third highest grades respectively for the entire college course. In 1906 it was ruled that seniors earning a 90% rating for the full course would receive their diplomas *cum laude;* those reaching 93%, *magna cum laude;* and those academic aristocrats attaining 95%, *summa cum laude.*

Opening up new opportunities for Alfred graduates interested in engineering was an arrangement with Cornell University whereby those who had covered certain subjects in Alfred could enter the junior year in engineering at Cornell without condition or examination. Such an arrangement as that with Cornell was clearly in line with the Davis thinking. Nor is it surprising that he was already hinting at more educational opportunities in agriculture, to increase, as he said, the prosperity and happiness of the farm home.

NEW YORK STATE SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE

Agriculture? Davis was thinking about education for farmers? Exactly that. Serving that occupation was nothing new to Alfred. Hence a movement developed which, it was hoped, would result in the creation of a fully equipped department of agriculture in the University. Pressure from the farm population called for such a service. Could a start be made in 1903? It was hoped to do this and at first there was no thought of involving the State. Then Judge Peter B. McLennan, a former student and an influential Alfred trustee, broke into the picture. In early 1903 he had lectured in Syracuse advocating State agricultural schools in connection with small colleges, and listing some appropriate courses. An attempt to get the legislature interested failed but only momentarily chilled the University's plan. That autumn an appropriately trained young man, Claude I. Lewis, appointed to the College department of biology began offering some subjects listed in McLennan's address. At the end of the academic year President Davis felt

that the experiment had succeeded, and that there was a big and enthusiastic demand. He now joined in the hope for State funds. But the local private effort continued. For 1904-05 the catalogue outlined a two year course offered in Agriculture.

The effort to gain State support kept up and with increasing prospect of success. The Davises visited the McLennan's at their Machias, New York, farm. All the talk was about the proposed school. Hon. Charles E. Hughes was campaigning for the State governorship, and spoke at Cuba, New York where Davis and the Judge met and sat with him on the platform. Result, with other influences, in his first message to the legislature (1908) the newly elected executive recommended an agricultural school at Alfred. The proposal was backed by Jesse S. Phillips, Allegany County's assemblyman—a forceful leader. Davis by eloquent addresses won for the project the support of the County and State Granges.

A bill was prepared and presented in both houses of the Albany law making body. It appropriated $75,000 for three buildings, a farm, live stock, and machinery. Alfred University was authorized to appoint teachers, other officers, and employees. Five thousand dollars were included for the first year's maintenance, beginning October 1, 1908. With apparently no opposing vote in either house the bill passed and so sure were its supporters of the Governor's signature that on news of its passage by the Senate pandemonium broke loose at Alfred. "Praise the Lord and Prexie" chortled the campus *Monthly*. "Reh, Reh, Reh!" burst from numberless throats. "Honk, honk, honk!" screamed the horns. Other activities added to the noisy rejoicing. The University trustees at their annual meeting, after plenty of self-congratulation, voted to accept this second trust handed them by the State in locating here the "New York State School of Agriculture at Alfred University" (the later State University Agricultural and Technical Institute.) A board of managers was selected composed of three ex-officio members with eleven trustees.

During the Commencement of 1908 ground was broken for the main hall of the new School on State Street. A local minister, Reverend Lester C. Randolph, had on request written a song for the occasion which he rendered himself as a solo with three other lusty singers to help swell the chorus. Ear splitting applause provoked a well-prepared encore, a rollicking lilt which became a sort of sub-alma mater for decades of aggies. Its chorus ran:

Good-by, good-by to the oxcart and the mule;
Hurrah! Hurrah! for farming now by rule;
So we sing the chorus at the Agricultural School
When Prexy calls the cows home from pasture.

After these amenities, Judge McLennan and President Davis in shirt sleeves held the plow and drove the team of gaily decorated horses. That furrow became the first tangible evidence of the new School coming to Alfred's hillside. No time was lost in getting the School organized. For Director Dr. O. S. Morgan of Cornell University was selected—an excellent choice. He gave the experiment its early shape and tone, and with his accomplished wife exerted a high cultural influence on campus and community. The Charles Stillman farm northwest of the village with some additional land and buildings was acquired. Plans for agricultural hall, the dairy building, and the model barn were drawn and in due time contracts let. A few students were admitted in the fall of 1908 and instructed by the director in his temporary quarters in the University's newly acquired Kanakadea Hall.

An advertisement (1908-09) spoke of six specialists on the faculty and noted the School's general aim as successful, happy farm life. The course, at the secondary school level, covered three six month "years" —early October to April. Tuition was free, and a "year" need not cost a student over $100. Two lines of study were available: (1) the fundamental English, civics, mathematics, and so on. (2) In the practical offerings quite different courses were available for boys and girls. For the boys carpentry, blacksmithing, dairying, poultry, and the like were offered; while the girls busied themselves with cooking, laundering, accounts, nursing, and gardening. All must work on farms in the summer and report on problems met.

October 18, 1909, the New York State School of Agriculture opened for its first full year, though still temporarily housed in College buildings and a Main Street store building. Some 68 students enrolled! The big day came that winter (January) when the variously located pieces of the School emerged and united in Agricultural Hall, which was appropriately dedicated the following June. In April, 1911, the climax came when President Davis handed the coveted diplomas to the ten members of its first graduating class. The previous year twenty boys had formed the "Boys' Agricultural Club," to discuss further and evaluate the class work. That year too Dr. Morgan went to Columbia University, and Charles O. DuBois, a faculty member, served in the interim under Morgan's general supervision. In 1912 William J. Wright assumed the

directorship. In 1914 the School calendar was revised to permit a spring term of work, which enabled students to finish the three six-month "years" in two years. That summer the School sponsored a "Conference on Country Life" when experts lectured on the more intangible aspects of rural living—educational, social, and religious.

Thus, as clouds of the first world war enveloped Europe, Alfred's State Agricultural School venture was successfully finding a place in New York's educational program.

SOME LATER UNIVERSITY DEVELOPMENTS 1908-15

When President Davis first took over it seemed as if he was directly responsible for everything from the formulation of general policy to the care of campus shrubbery. True, before his day the President had ceased to be Registrar. In 1908 the deanship, which, in effect had been his duty, was set off as a distinct office, Professor A. B. Kenyon becoming Alfred's first College Dean.

Industrial mechanics was reorganized. Instead of having merely part-time instructors, a full-time man with appropriate assistants was assigned to it. The department's aims were restated, and new equipment added—some made in its own shops. In another field it was announced (1908) that Greek would no longer be required for the classical degree; large amounts of modern language both for entrance and in college replacing the older requirement. About the same time Alfred's degrees were re-examined by the State education authorities and approval continued. The teacher training curriculum was approved as a "School of Education," and a pre-law course sanctioned by the same authority. In that same year the music department was strengthened by the accession to it of Mrs. O. S. Morgan, musically-trained wife of the New York State School of Agriculture's Director.

ALFRED ACADEMY BOWS OUT, 1915

Although separated academically from the College in 1897, Alfred Academy issued no separate catalogue until 1900. In that pamphlet the teachers' training class was featured and students were assured of the value to them of access to certain University facilities including the well known literary societies—lyceums. General tuition was $32 per year with certain fees for specialties. After a failure or two, plans were perfected through the efforts of Principal E. P. Saunders which allowed the Academy to function as a free local high school. The arrangement (1901) between the local school district and the University provided

that for a district contribution of $1000 for that year district students could enjoy free tuition in the Academy. This placed the Alfred community on a par with other communities which had acquired free high schools. In 1904 Silas G. Burdick succeeded Saunders as Principal. In 1907-08 an Academy lyceum was organized imitating on its own level the aims and methods of the older college societies. In two respects, however, it differed: it was co-educational, and it took a Greek letter name—Alpha Kappa Tau. In 1909 George M. Ellis, '01, became principal, followed in 1912 by Hugh L. Gillis.

But the days of Alfred Academy were numbered. The University was blacking the Academy's red ink at the rate of $1,500 to $2,000 annually. Between 1903-04 and 1913-14 the student roll sagged irregularly from 161 to 89. Finally an agreement was reached between the University and the Union Free School District by which the latter would maintain a full four-year high school in its Park Street building and grant practice teaching privileges to students of the College department of education—all for an annual payment from the University of $500. In June, 1915 the Academy closed its doors for good. Thus, 78 years after its birth in the little select school, Alfred Academy passed into history. It had served long and well, and bequeathed its heritage to its daughter—Alfred University.

THE SUMMER SCHOOL FOUNDED

While Alfred had earlier enjoyed sporadic summer classes, as we know, the time had come (1914) in the judgment of two or three faculty folks to start a permanent summer school. The leader in that enterprise was Dr. Paul E. Titsworth of the Modern Language Department. Cautious consent was vouchsafed by the University authorities who required that no financial obligation for the venture be put upon the University.

Therefore July 6, 1914, Director Titsworth with a faculty of nine, and an enrollment of 23 students launched Alfred's new venture in an experimental four-week term. A reception at the Brick welcomed the teachers and students. Beside the regular class work evening lectures, readings and concerts added to the educational opportunities, while picnics and trips helped with the recreation. At the session's close all felt that the venture had succeeded and announcement was made of a six week Summer School in 1915.

SNAP SHOTS AS TEACHERS CAME AND WENT, 1900-15

All the faculty members of the period were well known to the present writer. Turnover was rapid. In the first eight years most of the key chairs changed occupants. We pause but a moment with soft-spoken Dr. Albert R. Crandall (1896-1903) and prankster Professor Edward S. Babcock (1899-1905) noted earlier. In 1907 and 1908 three other men, real leaders accepted positions elsewhere and one retired. We will call them the Big Four. Two old timers familiar to our readers died. In October 1902 Mrs. Jonathan Allen passed away and seventeen months later the colorful and eccentric Ida Kenyon died.

The Big Four just referred to were Bates, Clark, Fairfield, and Tomlinson. Their departure reduced the faculty calibre considerably. Dr. Frank Greene Bates entered the Department of History and Political Science in 1897 and became at once an educational and social factor. Away for two years (1901-03) he returned and during four more fruitful years sent off a group of students well prepared for graduate school and fellowships. Finally a call from the University of Kansas proved too strong and away he went (1907) taking the young wife he had found in Hornell, New York.

When President Davis took that health-giving cruise he was, to use a favorite phrase of his, "singularly and peculiarly fortunate" in getting Charles Beed Clark to do part of his teaching and in addition develop the State-prescribed courses in education. Clark proved to be one of the mellowest and most stimulating of Alfred's teachers. Rumple-haired, heedless of the niceties of dress, with a round, pleasant face lighted by piercing blue eyes he treated his subject matter in a most thought-provoking way. In 1908, called to a college presidency, student petitions failed to stop him and off he went to the West Virginia hills.

Otho Peare Fairfield, quiet, smiling, poised, artistic—not only did excellent teaching in his assigned fields, but forty years later former students still recalled with pleasure a famous course named simply "Classical Culture." But again Alfred could not hold him, and after a dozen years (1896-1908) he served long at a Wisconsin college, and then enjoyed a long retirement in Florida.

Last of the big four was Edward Mulford Tomlinson—"Dear Old Tommy." Back in 1868, aged 25 years, he first smiled a friendly greeting from the chapel platform. Greek was his field. Wisdom from Bucknell and a pair of German universities was his, and with that he brought scholarship and prestige to Alfred. A slight touch of the ivory tower clung to him in that he was allergic to the use of hammers and saws.

He retired in 1908 on a pension under the old non-contributory Carnegie plan—the first pension in Alfred. Two years later he died.

While those older men were thus leaving several younger teachers were drawn to the campus and began working their ways toward later prominent roles. First came Paul Emerson Titsworth ('04) in modern languages. Climbing through Academy and College he accepted an instructorship on graduation. He took time out (1907-09) to get work done for the doctorate at the University of Wisconsin. We shall perforce have more to say later in this story about that slightly built, bronze haired, square faced young man.

Not long after Dr. Crandall forsook the Steinheim, James De Sette Bennehoff, '02, entered it. "Jimmy" as he was popularly called, was solidly built, red-headed, and the jolliest of the teaching staff. His Teuton-tinctured name with that of his Steinheim quarters got humorously confounded sometimes as when a visitor inquired, "Are you Mr. Benneheim, curator of the Steinhoff?" Bennehoff later quit the campus to become a veterinary surgeon.

Regarding another campus character, successive summers of excessive rain in Old England bankrupted his capitalist-farmer father and sent the son across the Atlantic to an uncle in Alfred. Thus John Nelson Norwood began his progress toward American citizenship and a lifetime of varied activities as student, teacher, and administrator on the Alfred campus.

After a freshman year at Alfred, Waldo Alberti Titsworth returned to Rutgers and finished his college course where his father was a prominent teacher. In 1900 he began teaching in Alfred Academy and College. Away for five years in graduate work, teaching, and administration he returned in 1912 as head of the physics department and transferred later to mathematics. An excellent teacher in several fields he added the registrar's duties to his teaching when he succeeded Professor Kenyon in that office in 1915. Honors and influence increased for him as the years rolled on.

In 1912 another young man, a New England Yankee, and product of a famous conservatory of music joined Alfred's faculty. Vivacious and friendly he became at once a popular resident, destined to more than a four decades' stay in the music department. Who? None other than Ray Winthrop Wingate. Then there was stocky good-natured Walter Lackey Greene, '02, alumnus of College and Seminary, athlete, physical education instructor, and for a quarter of a century a Seminary

teacher, at the same time winning popularity in two simultaneous rural church pastorates.

Other fine younger men whose stays were brief but effective can be merely mentioned such as Alonzo Neil Annas, music, the two Clarkes, Clarence Leon and Ford Stillman, education, and Wayland Delano Wilcox, English. Because of the impact which Ford S. Clarke made on the campus and wider community, tragedy-stained by his long losing fight against the white plague and untimely death, a further word can appropriately be devoted to his influence. The Class of 1921 called him "an example of high manhood, a wise counselor, a loyal helper, a true friend," and dedicated a new fountain in the park to Clarke, "our great-souled teacher."

Snapshots of trustees who worked for Alfred with untiring zeal should be headed by D. Sherman Burdick, '82, a native Alfredian, businessman, and Allegany County treasurer, who in 1915 had served thirteen years as trustee, and who was destined to serve forty more self-giving years before his retirement in 1956, all forty of which were as Secretary to the Board.

While dealing with snapshots let us turn our imaginary camera on a couple of Alfred leaders who received honors in the period. In 1909 A. B. Kenyon's associates honored him on his new deanship. A presentation speech by Director Binns in Chapel and "A. B." was presented with a handsome doctor of science hood. He had received the degree in 1905. In 1915 Davis, the "Gallant Young Leader," had been "climbing" in that position for twenty strenuous years. The Commencement exercises were over, and President Davis was ready for the benediction when a University trustee unexpectedly interrupted with a splendid tribute to that surprised official. Colonel William W. Brown led the pliant President forward, and the honorary degree of doctor of laws was conferred on him in recognition of his unremitting and self-sacrificing services to the University. When the tumult of approbation calmed down, another official handed Dr. Davis a very substantial sum of money. Then all that the President's easily aroused emotions would let him say was, "I am overwhelmed with honors, money, and love."

CHAPTER XVI

Plant and Pocketbook, 1900-1915

MUCH WAS doing under the leadership of the President beside the academic developments just chronicled. Under this chapter title will be considered certain modernizations, the gaining of Kanakadea Hall, the destruction of the White House, the coming of Andrew Carnegie's gift, the sad story of a treasurer in trouble, and another fire which cleared a building area.

SOME MODERNIZATIONS

Before plunging into the more striking of these happenings let us glance at some lesser, but cumulatively noteworthy, modernizations which occurred in buildings and grounds in those early years of the century. Some changed the face of the campus, some increased the comfort and convenience of the buildings. Illustrated by some of them, too, was the semi-proprietary attitude of students and townsfolk toward the University. Then, as from its infant days, they pitched in from time to time and did things for it. In 1900 the Alfred ladies completely renovated the Brick reception room, had it papered, partitions re-arranged, and hardwood floors and rugs added.

About the same time the University trustees asked that the east-west street on the campus be named "University Place." Also, there are glimpses of more concrete sidewalks, gas heating and illumination for Kenyon Hall, campus beautification by more small flower beds at walk intersections, and ivy decorating the buildings. The big "sentinel pines" on Pine Hill were all cut down for lumber, which called forth a sad soliloquy in the campus *Monthly* from sophomore L. R. Watson. A nuisance was the occasional gas shortage which plagued college and village, causing postponement of classes and intensifying the fire hazard.

We learn of junior class members, still responsible for the decoration

of Academy Hall for Commencements, giving an entertainment to raise cash for the refurbishing of that somewhat dilapidated structure. The juniors proposed to calcimine the walls, remove the decrepit pipe organ, carpet the stage, and buy decorative bunting. Professor J. D. Bennehoff rejuvenated the old observatory, reset its telescopes, and had students taking astronomical observations. Lawns also were regularly mowed, "Keep-Our-Campus-Clean" receptacles were tied to trees, and green-painted benches distributed about the grounds.

As these accumulating advances changed the face of the hillside, a business deal brought into University ownership the contents of the Steinheim not previously acquired. The consideration was $2,000 to be paid in installments to the owner, Mrs. Allen. The purchase enabled the new curator, Claude I. Lewis, under the temporary tutelage of Dr. A. R. Crandall, to rearrange the specimens and familiarize himself with the museum management. New show cases made available the resources of the Steinheim to the department of natural history and to the public. Burdick Hall, previously loaned to the University for dormitory purposes, became University property in 1903. Mr. W. C. Burdick, the owner, died in 1902, and a few months later his widow, Mrs. Amanda Burdick, and daughter, Miss Susan M. Burdick, presented a deed of the property to treasurer W. H. Crandall.

KANAKADEA HALL AND THE WHITE HOUSE

It was midnight. The last bus from the Erie Railroad Station turned the corner toward the old livery barn back of Greene Hall. Glancing toward Pine Hill the driver, W. W. Sheldon, was startled to see flames belching from the tower and attic of the graded school building. The public school was to open for the school year the next morning (1907). Firemen fought vigorously, but several tons of water and three hours later the tower and most of the second story were gone. Discussion at once arose as to rebuilding on the old site wholly surrounded as it was by University property. The University trustees offered to exchange the south part of the Park Street lot for the fire-ruined building and site. Committees were appointed by both the University and the local school district to consider the proposal. At a district meeting the joint committee reported favorably on the suggested exchange, a separate agreement to be negotiated as to the material on the old site. The plan was adopted and the exchange made.

A University committee was formed to raise funds for rebuilding the wrecked edifice. The restoration with some changes in detail was

pushed to completion, and on President Davis' suggestion the building was named "Kanakadea Hall" for the stream which usually trickles, but sometimes roars nearby. Davis was much pleased at the outcome—a most economical provision for a pressing need, at a cost of some f3,400. He had had to buck some influential opposition to the project from trustees who feared that it would became a white elephant. In late November, 1908, recitations began in Kanakadea Hall. History and Political Science moved in from its narrow quarters under the east entrance of Ladies Hall. Professor Kenyon with his right angles, triangles, and perpendiculars took a lower room and set up his registrar's office in a cubicle just off that room. Moreover, the building was ready just in time to cradle temporarily the infant NYSA.

While one fire brought Kanakadea Hall into University ownership, another fire prevented a second building from returning to its possession. The White House (old Middle Hall) stood on the site of the later carillon tower. Built in 1845-46 for the Academy it later became the property of the President Aliens. After the death of Mrs. Allen it fell into serious decay. In 1909-10 with its four acres of land bounded on three sides by campus the old hall was acquired from the Allen estate by the Allegany Realty Company, a group of alumni and University trustees.

The new owners put it in order for student roomers. In 1911 the renovated relic was leased to the University for that purpose. Not quite ready for occupancy when college opened it was, fortunately, rather thinly populated, as on the early morning of January 17, 1912, it took fire and in a brief time, the story-laden White House was smoldering debris. The few students lost practically everything but when the funny side of the disaster could be looked at, some humorous doggerel described their personal destitution. In a totally different mood came a long poem from a grief-stricken, nostalgic, blind poetess, Mrs. M. E. Everett. That talented lady, a one-time resident of the White House wrote (last stanza):

> Apollo keep thy lyre—no mortal hand
> Can with the sweetest strain
> Evoke the inspiration and delight
> Of Allen House again.

Aside from its sentimental value, the burned building had economic importance as a men's dormitory. The insurance met most of the obligations. The stockholders of the Realty Company paid their debts,

kissed their stock certificates goodby, deeded the land to the University, and committed corporate hara kiri.

IN SEARCH OF A GYMNASIUM

While buildings were coming and going, the demand for more adequate gymnasium space was pressing. Increased enrollment and stiffer physical training requirements were to blame. Complaints were multiplying. Teams could not get needed indoor practice for basketball which was thought by some to be the best intercollegiate sport for Alfred. Many suggestions and experiments were made but until the very end of the period no satisfactory solution was found. Partial relief was provided in 1908 when students obtained use of the University owned upper floor room over the local bank, and "Harmony Hall," as it was called, became a basketball court for University and Academy teams. Fine, but two years later, "Harmony Hall" changed owners, and the sport was again on the street.

New help came when the college authorities put the little gymnasium in Physics Hall in a fair state of repair and made it a basketball court. A couple of other projects failed to materialize, but President Davis could not be forever foiled in his efforts to house satisfactorily the ball and basket sport. Success came in 1915 when Alfred Academy closed. At an earlier time, 1905, basketball had been played in that building but alumni objection to the so-called desecration of the sacred edifice stopped the sacrilege. Now trustee sanction was won to making the large chapel room in the Academy building (Alumni Hall) into a basketball court again.

THE POCKETBOOK AND THE CARNEGIE LIBRARY

The story of the Carnegie Library is so entangled with pocketbook cramps and their cure that it colored this whole period (1900-15). Alfred's financiers seemed to be forever getting into and out of debt. The first few years of the century saw deficits continue and the debt mount. In 1901 Davis felt that this process should be stopped. Efforts to do so only partially succeeded. On the other side of the financial picture it is true that, while the debt was crowding $60,000 during those first six years of the Davis presidency, an equal value had been added as physical plant or endowment. In 1904 the popular treasurer, William H. Crandall, came in for a wave of happy congratulation on having completed 25 years in that office. Four treasurers had preceded Crandall: Luke Green 1837-41, W. C. Kenyon 1841-57, Clark Crandall

1857-59, and Elisha Potter 1859-79. The incumbent had a right to feel that he had done a fine philanthropic service, as well as having done it longer than had any predecessor. The roly-poly, cherub-faced optimist had seen the University's assets rise from just over $200,000 to well over half a million. A well-attended reception in his honor was given at the President's home when Mr. Crandall was heartily congratulated.

Thus Alfred's financial life proceeded receiving almost yearly solid additions to endowment, and for other purposes, but steadily sagging under the debt. It was under these circumstances that the President and trustees were confronted with Andrew Carnegie's staggering demand that before he would give Alfred any help that debt must be lifted. For several years efforts had been made to induce the steel king to give Alfred one of the libraries which were then his favorite form of benevolence. By every means, correspondence, and the intercession of Alfred friends known to the capitalist, the gift had been solicited. But to no avail. It was feared that the prepared forms repeatedly asked for and provided giving full information about the University never got past his influential secretary dealing with benevolences.

Such being the case, and despite warnings that applicants must not do it, President Davis put on a bold front and knocked at the door of the philanthropic Carnegie's New York mansion. A servant admitted him to a tiled hallway. It was mid-March (1906), and Alfred's leader cooled his feet there until Mr. Carnegie's secretary, appeared to inquire the meaning of this forbidden intrusion. Davis replied that there must have been a misunderstanding on some items in the latest application, and asked him some questions. For answer these required the secretary to go into the house for some papers. While he was gone Mr. Carnegie came out for his morning walk. When the secretary returned, Davis told him that he had not taken the unexpected opportunity to speak to Mr. Carnegie directly as he felt that once the official understood the facts he would give the request his personal attention. Under this happy diplomacy Mr. Carnegie's secretary for benevolences warmed up and assured Davis that he would hear from him in a few days. Sure enough, a letter came at once stating that Mr. Carnegie would give $25,000 for a library on condition that Alfred would liquidate the University's debt.

Elated at the offer, Prexy was appalled by the condition. How could it ever be met? Davis' rather emotional appeal failed to change the adamant benefactor. So president and trustees swallowed their dis-

appointment and buckled down to the task of complying with the requirement. A committee of alumni and trustees was appointed to cooperate with Dr. Davis in soliciting the "One Hundred Thousand Dollar Betterment Fund," or $75,000 beside the philanthropist's gift. The campaign opened at once. The Town of Alfred accepted a quota of $12,000. Imitating the procedure of 20 years earlier, a mass-meeting was called in the Church, New Year's Evening, 1907, when over half the local quota was promised. It was desired that a good showing be made on the home front before pushing the solicitation outside. A report in April showed $30,000 definitely pledged or promised. The largest gift beside Carnegie's up to that date was by George L. Babcock —nearly $7,500 to erase the debt remaining on the hall named for his father.

For two years the general business recession, 1907-09, bogged down the Alfred solicitation and otherwise unfavorably affected University finances. When national financial clouds cleared, the Alfred campaign took on renewed energy, and came to a brilliant climax in 1910. The Alfred *Sun* boomed the drive reporting progress week by week. With but two months to go before the Commencement dead line nearly $22,000 were needed to reach the $75,000 goal. The county press caught the enthusiasm and urged support. June 1, and still $4,800 to go. June 8 the *Sun's* "Victory Rooster," usually reserved for Republican party conquests, was a-crowing on the front page, while big headlines told what its crowing meant—the success of the campaign. Success? Yes, it was over the top. On Alumni Day that Commencement Davis reviewed the long struggle, and listed $69,000 as obtained. In a supplementary report preacher L. C. Randolph added $5,000 more. Then Orra S. Rogers, a veteran money-raiser for Alfred, threw in another collected $1,100. Thus the total was over $75,000. Beside helping on the Randolph side-play, Mrs. W. C. Burdick and daughter had already given the Main Street site for the now assured library.

That evening saw another of those hilarious celebrations which the successes of the Davis regime made so familiar. In his annual report to the trustees Davis said that no words could fully convey the gratitude he felt for the generous and loyal help of that large body of alumni and friends who had made possible a new era of freedom from debt and of enlarged growth and prosperity for our Alma Mater. In another connection he said the results would pay the debts and the interest thereon, assure the library, finish payments on Kanakadea Hall, and permit other betterments. By the fall of 1911 sufficient cash had accu-

mulated from the pledges to permit an underwriting committee to take over the remainder of the pledges and advance the money on them. In December President Davis certified to Mr. Carnegie that his condition had been more than satisfied. On the strength of that over-subscription the donor was asked to add $15,000 more for the library. He did generously add $5,000, but the "Laird of Skibo Castle" would heed Davis' pleadings no further.

When college opened in the fall of 1912 the cornerstone ceremony packed with speeches took place. A section of the open first floor served as platform. Appropriate addresses were delivered and Miss Susan M. Burdick deftly spread the cement, guided the document-filled cornerstone to its place, and declared it truly and correctly laid. Sufficiently near to completion by Commencement, 1913, the library was dedicated on Commencement day. The handsome edifice was 90 feet long and 42 feet wide. A fire resistant basement provided a stackroom and administrative offices for president and treasurer. The reading room occupied the main floor. The upper floor and attic furnished seminar rooms and general utility space. Busy men with horse and wagon transferred the thousands of books to the Carnegie Library. So effectively did Librarian Cortez R. Clawson and his staff use the brief time allowed that when college opened the new facility was in complete readiness. What a relief to have so much room! And townspeople enjoyed Carnegie's gift along with the campus folk.

Some after-effects of the benevolent Mr. Carnegie's gifts may be noted. No sooner had the vast task he set Alfred's leaders been successfully accomplished than those gentlemen set out on a new enterprise. A new Finance Committee of Seventeen was charged to raise additional endowment—obtain $100,000 in fact. Salary increases and new equipment would be its chief uses. The indefatigable O. S. Rogers was chairman of course. One of the happiest results of Carnegie's hard conditions beside raising the debt showed at the end of the year 1910-11. President Davis reported that for the first time in many, many years, Alfred University had lived within its income—a glad refrain reiterated June after June for over two decades—no operating deficits.

A TREASURER IN TROUBLE

"In the autumn of 1909 Mr. Crandall came to my office. . .in 'deep trouble.' " So wrote President Davis. It was distressingly true. The business depression had floored Alfred's treasurer as he was finishing his 30th year in that capacity. Loss followed loss in the cloudy financial

weather. Anxious to recover he plunged. The trustees had left him too much responsibility. His associates, not being experts, had passed lightly over his recommendations having full faith in their neighbor's judgment and integrity. It was easy therefore for him to avail himself of the University's credit and temporarily of its cash. While there were real differences of opinion, and men like Judge P. B. McLennan and Attorney H. G. Whipple were doubtful, most of Crandall's associates believed that he had had no intent to defraud. A special trustee meeting was assembled, an investigating committee appointed, and an accountant employed to collect data. December 14, 1909, Mr. Crandall resigned as treasurer of the University. Eighteen months later the committee reported. Still unsatisfied were personal obligations and claims growing out of "wasteful improvident and unauthorized loans" amounting to $4,500. But finally the obligations were fully covered by acceptable collateral. A certificate of satisfactory settlement was voted him. It was a fortunate termination to an unhappy episode. The nature of its settlement enabled Mr. Crandall to resume business in the area with a clean financial slate.

The Crandall debacle stabbed president and trustees wide awake to some of their neglected responsibilities. Doubtless with some sly recollections of a fabled door and lock after dobbin had disappeared, they set about an overdue revamping of the financial administration. Regular audits were ordered, the treasurer was bonded, and investments required to conform to State Law. The new system was enforced and ever since that revolution the repossessed financial dobbin has been safe with the door thus tardily locked and bolted.

FIRE CLEARS THE LIBRARY SITE

As soon as the University trustees decided on the old hotel site opposite the business block for the library, generous friends tried in vain to secure the corner store at the south end of that site. But in 1905 it was obtained by the trustees directly and continued as a store and residence for several years. Then one July night in 1913, a woman glancing from an upper apartment in the present Greene Hall, saw flames licking at the ancient store. Buildings across the street were saved, but the store was totally consumed. In a short time the ruins were cleared, and the cellar filled in by terracing the center of the larger lot, creating a sunken pool garden soon stocked with gold fish and lilies. Inevitably the pool was christened "Prexy's Bath Tub." Lawn building followed, and the elm tree back of the store site scorched by

the heat of the fire still bears evidence of a tree surgeon's attentions.

Thus fifteen years of financial up and down and of plant development were negotiated. There were mountinous difficulties and happy victories. Tense personal situations arose and were more or less happily resolved. Alumni and friends were drawn into closer cooperation with alma mater. An internationally known philanthropist had perpetuated his name on the campus with high advertising value to the University and had galvanized the leadership into doing financially the seemingly impossible. The plant had been expanded and improved. In fact, "expansion" would be a good one-word characterization of the period. Alfred University was healthy and growing, and a growing school has growing needs.

CHAPTER XVII

Student Life Intensifies, 1900-1915

CAMPUS LIFE in this period showed rapid change and several new features. Class rivalry waxed hotter. Social regulations were further liberalized. Observances like a founders' day, a moving-up day, and institutions like the Footlight Club, the *Fiat Lux,* and the honor system came in. Debating developed an almost hectic activity. New organizations multiplied, some coming briefly, some tarrying longer, a few finding permanent support. The promise of future fraternities and sororities was implicit in certain eating clubs. Religious life continued influential through instrumentalities already familiar. Increasing shares of campus affairs came under student control; dancing became an accepted aspect of student recreation; and a variety of influences combined to destroy the lyceums. In athletics Alfred was still struggling to win recognition as an equal contender with neighbor colleges.

INCREASING CLASS CONFLICT

Class rivalry rising in the late 1890's intensified. In the fall of 1901 the freshmen decorated a young pig with the crudely painted sophomore numerals on its greased sides and released it on the campus. The excited running and squealing of the little porker and the shouts of its chasers created a lively morning diversion. The sophomores captured and confiscated piggy, and the freshmen were commiserated on the loss of so charming a class member.

In the fall of 1903 an impromptu flag rush atop the Brick had serious consequences. Emerging from chapel the sophomores saw red as they noted the banner of 1907 floating triumphantly on the old cupola of that dormitory. Defending it were sundry huskies of 1907. A promising plan of attack involved setting fire company ladders on top of the Brick porch. By such aid it was hoped to assail the ramparts of the foe and

dislodge him from his elevated fortress. The embattled freshmen had armed themselves with heavy ammunition in the form of stones and brickbats. The attackers did likewise. Brave shock troops scaled the ladders, while fellow warriors firmly held the ladders below. As missiles flew to and fro, a loose brick on a chimney at the edge of the roof was displaced and fell striking a glancing blow on the head of a sophomore ladder-steadier below, inflicting a gory scalp wound. This casualty called to the front a member of the medical corps in the person of good old Dr. Mark Sheppard. Busy with his repair task, the indignant medico expressed himself in no uncertain terms about crazy students and supine college officials.

Their frontal attack failing the sophomores withdrew, redeployed their forces to try an infiltration behind enemy lines. Stairs being safer to climb than ladders, sophomore forces soon arrived in the rear of the cupola garrison. Just as the battle rejoined President Davis, excited and breathless from his hurried four-story climb appeared on the scene. "Boys! Boys!" he begged between gasps, "don't wreck the hall; we've rented it to the girls!" Under his guidance negotiations were opened, an armistice agreed to, and at the stipulated time the offending banner came down. Both sides claimed victory, and the dove of peace roosted uneasily again where bloody battle had been joined.

So far, those class contests had been free-for-alls with little regulation. Need for rules was increasingly felt, and in 1905 an experimental list was agreed upon by the four classes. Contest banquets must occur between Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. "Procs" (proclamations to the freshmen from the sophomores) must be removed by 6:30 a.m. for a freshman victory. Freshmen caps of a specified color and type must be worn through the fall, and freshman men must answer calls for campus service, e.g., marking the athletic field. The rules prohibited the wearing of preparatory school pins or monograms and smoking in public. Legitimate class contests were listed. Rule making, once started, developed rapidly for controlling contests. The process was greatly helped by the establishment of the student senate as a campus governing body (1906).

In 1906 the 1909ers enjoyed a typical, successful banquet in Angelica. Sneaking out of Alfred, the sophomores boarded trains in three groups at three different stations, then went on by stage to their destination. When all were assembled, the feast proceeded from consomme by way of braised chicken to fruit and *cafe noir.* Shouting their class yell (denoting victory—as they had been undiscovered by the freshmen)

they then enjoyed that unforgettable ride home—thirteen hours of hilarious merriment in all. Unfortunately the event had cracked two sabbaths, and a new rule was listed to keep such jaunts out of the weekends. Before the period ended some doubts were finding voice as to the propriety of the banquet contests. A faculty member pointed out the dangers of such affairs and suggested a different way of using banquets.

MANY NEW BEGINNINGS

While this stepped-up class consciousness and conflict were new to Alfred, they were but typical of several new developments which foreshadowed common features of the Alfred of the 1950's. Another new one was Founders' Day. Doubtless as the date, December 5, (1836) the day of the opening of the Select School out of which the University grew, rolled around year by year, passing reference in chapel was made to its significance. In 1900 definite note was made of the anniversary. Visitors as well as teachers spoke of it briefly—a very informal celebration surely. Four years later a historical address was presented at chapel by Professor E. M. Tomlinson, the students of the Academy being present as guests for the occasion. In 1906 the seniors in cap and gown marched into chapel as class and college songs were sung by students and visitors. The next year it was recognized that Founders' Day was the occasion for seniors to make their first official appearance in academic garb, an innovation for which that class claimed credit.

Alfred's 75th anniversary was marked in 1911 and the observance was still more formal. For the first time an outside speaker, President A. C. McKenzie of Elmira College, was welcomed. In 1913 President Davis escorted the speaker of the day, leading faculty and seniors in the first full Founders' Day academic procession. The audience voted to send congratulations to 93-year-old E. Roger Crandall, the sole survivor of the first session of the Select School. In 1914, Hon. W. W. Brown, '61, one of the most loyal of Alfred's sons, was the Founders' Day speaker. Thus by 1915, Founders' Day had become a well-settled feature of early winter campus life.

The decade and a half saw two new campus publications make their debut at Alfred. In the winter of 1903-04 the question was posed, "Should Alfred have a student *Year Book?*" The answer was decidedly, "Yes." An editorial group headed by C. L. Elliott published "The Alfred Book." In 1906 a second effort was made. The juniors shouldered the task with class president H. W. Langworthy, as editor-in-chief.

What about a name? Promise of a free copy brought the winning suggestion by T. G. Davis of *Kanakadea,* the name of the campus creek. Hence *Kanakadea* it became and *Kanakadea* it has remained. That book ran to 110 pages beside the extensive advertising, and Professor A. B. Kenyon was the honored dedicatee. A joyous banquet came to be for a time the occasion for presenting the special copy to the dedicatee.

In 1913 the weekly, *Fiat Lux,* selected the Alfred campus as its home. It supplanted the fifteen year old Alfred University *Monthly.* When the *Monthly's* new editorial board was elected that spring it was understood that it should experiment in the fall with a newspaper. The first issue tumbled from the *Sun* press October 21, 1913, under a temporary title. Students eagerly devoured the lively, newsy sheet. Again there was a campus baby to be named. A year's subscription bought the accepted suggestion from Donald C. Clark: *Fiat Lux* ("Let There Be Light"), the University motto.

Another stranger soon acclimated was the Student Senate. A student committee to formulate rules for class contests, came up also with a proposition for a senate. The project was unanimously approved by the students and accepted by the faculty. Spade work on organizing the senate was done by the class of 1907. The senate's aims as listed were to mediate between faculty and students, to act as a court of last resort for class contests, and to cooperate variously with the athletic association. The first senate consisted of three seniors, two juniors, and one each from the two lower classes. H. W. Langworthy was its first president. In 1908 it was vigorously enforcing rules on the wearing of the little green caps by freshmen. It called for further abbreviation of the banquet contest season.

Another step in student self-direction was taken when in 1910 the honor system in examinations was established. Cheating in examinations was a problem from time to time in many colleges and honor systems were being examined. An article in the *Monthly* (1903) and an address later by a chapel speaker had stimulated local discussion. In the mid-year examinations in 1910 a student was suspended for cheating. This brought matters to a head. A committee-proposed plan was adopted. Among the rules were: the student must affix a sticker at the end of his examination paper declaring that he had neither given nor received aid; the teacher could either remain in the room during the examination or be absent. The heart of the system was the requirement that if a student saw suspicious actions on the part of another, and questioning brought no satisfactory explanation, the case

must be reported to the student senate. That body would then hold a trial and, if guilt were proven, set a penalty—public apology, suspension, or expulsion from college. The honor system constitution was overwhelmingly adopted February 13, 1910. Senate president Ford S. Clarke, a later faculty member, was the leader in this development.

The most dubious item of the plan was the reporting of one student by another. Some students felt that they could not tattle. A few absolutists felt that to make it a real honor system it should let students write their examinations in their own rooms! Most students, however, seemed willing to try the system as it was. Hence it was launched and lasted with minor changes for many years. Meantime the senate, and the student life committee continued to share in campus government. Stricter rules appeared from time to time emanating from the senate on proclamations, banquets, and the longtime campus anti-smoking rule. In 1912 the Brick enjoyed a senate of its own for a time. In the spring of 1913 the College Women's Organization, CWO, was established which governed all the co-eds on the campus. Student criticisms of the general senate continued. In the spring of 1914 a blistering attack on it occurred after a wildcat flag rush in which a student was seriously injured. A jelly fish senate, it was said, did worse than nothing, as a senator had aided and abetted the flagrant violation of rides. The melee was stopped by a police officer. The critic pointed out that senators complained of their lack of authority, but weakly failed to exercise the authority which they undoubtedly possessed.

In another area of student life the period ended with a touch of interschool sweetness appreciated by all. Good feeling had been lacking for various reasons between the students of the College and those of NYSA. In 1913-14 such relations had been much kindlier. The Aggies had finished their always short year in March. In reviewing that year a *Fiat* writer commented on it as one of the most wholesome good feeling between the two units that had ever been enjoyed and that the former useless and foolish antagonisms had been overcome.

The observance of an informal moving-up day which has passed through several phases, wise and otherwise, was originated at Alfred by the class of 1909. At commencement time in 1906, that group celebrated its demise as a freshman class. A moving-up procession was formed featuring inspiring (?) music, curious costumes, and ludicrous antics which kept spectators in continuous laughter. The effigy of the "dead" class was carried in a cart or baby "cab" and cremated in front of Ladies Hall, after which the class members adjourned to the hall porch and

enjoyed refreshments. Alfred had seen its first Moving-Up celebration. For some years it remained a lively informal feature of Commencement. Midnight became the favorite hour. Variously garbed, carrying torches, and clattering tin pans, members wrecked all hope of sleep for campus or village. Many gave up, came out and enjoyed the fun. Teachers were serenaded, a roaring bonfire lighted, and straw "men" representing certain unpopular studies were taken from their hearse and cremated.

A number of groups may be glanced at which came, died, or went quickly into suspended animation, to be revived again—in some cases more than once. Often their names sufficiently indicate their objectives. A serious natural history club profitably discussed its field for a time. A club of Hornell high school graduates aimed to draw more of their fellow alumni Alfredward. There were a theological club, a girls hockey club, and a snowshoe club which actually "snowshoed" extensively in early May, 1908.

A country life club in NYSA (1909) was a sort of lyceum with emphasis on agriculture. Quite different was a dopesters' society which under President Davis' guidance became for a time the Alfred University Press Club. After much talk, a Glee Club was launched in 1915 sponsored by the University trustees, and managed by the Director of Music R. W. Wingate. It represented the University with concerts in a wide area. Such clubs became active from time to time through the years. For some time a University Club (1903-04), managed by faculty members, had its ups and downs. Interested students attended. A wide range of topics was learnedly discussed in literature, art, science, and religion. Its usual rendezvous was in Dean A. E. Main's theological sanctum, the Gothic.

During the last years of the Academy, its students won pleasure and training from a dramatic association founded in 1910. It staged at least one play a year and sponsored an annual speaking contest. Under various names, clubs to foster German culture flourished. And the versatility of an English department seminar may be judged by a session at which the head of the classical department was to complete her most scholarly treatment of Greek plays and take up some Roman theatrical productions.

THE GREEKS: POTENTIAL FRATERNITIES

In this decade and a half there were three organizations which later left an intermediate stage and emerged as social fraternities local or

national. An eating club was operated in Burdick Hall soon after it came back into Institutional use. The club went under several names, but by 1906 it was "The Clan Alpine." A notable event in its story happened that year when Mrs. William King came to preside over its kitchen, and gradually became its good angel. In 1913 Clan entertained "Mother" King at a banquet, and the next year held a successful "coming out party." This was a gala social event in Firemen's Hall—its first annual banquet. With a fine meal a la "King," plenty of toasting, yells, and a two-hour dance a new milestone had been passed.

Ku Klux Klan, which much later broke its local chrysalis and emerged as the Alpha Zeta chapter of Delta Sigma Phi, dated its birth as 1902. It copied in part some features (not the more undesirable ones) of the similarly-named post-Civil War institution. Mutual assistance was its stated *raison d'etre.* The club's first home was the *Sun* office apartment (1905). Two years later it showed the public some of its initiatory practices. Ten members marched to a dismal dirge. From their breasts stared the magic letters K K K, on their hoods a single K. Five novitiates in grotesque garb, tied together with ropes around their necks, throatily serenaded the Brick girls. After a lusty yell, all retired to the gymnasium where the mysterious initiatory rites were worked on the trembling candidates.

Having moved to a house on West University Street the boys were ousted by fire near New Year's, 1910. For a time they occupied a house down North Main Street. Difficulties multiplied, and there was talk of disbanding. After a time skies cleared again for them when they settled in the "Castle" on the hill. The "K" Klan boys beat the "C" Clan (Clan Alpine) boys to a first annual dinner-dance—a Christmas affair it was with orchestra concealed behind palms, their new quarters fittingly decorated, and a menu proceeding from oyster cocktail *via* roast pig to almonds and *demi tasse.* The new *Fiat* called it a brilliant affair, and the "K" Klan now seemed due for happier times. The third of these clubs with fraternity futures in their horoscopes was Eta Phi Gamma, due in time to become Kappa Zeta chapter of the present Lambda Chi Alpha. In the fall of 1910 a group of youths eating at a Park Street residence organized under the former name. Aims were social and fraternal, and the securing of the "blessings of good food to ourselves and posterity." Three years later with fifteen members, and a location on South Main Street, Eta Phi stated its objectives more soberly, as intellectual and moral development.

VARIETIES OF ENTERTAINMENT—DANCING

A wide variety of entertainment provided relaxation and some food for mind and emotions. Dramatic production increased. The Footlight Club dates from 1905 and is the oldest club now on the campus. Organized in the Christmas month with T. G. Davis, '06, as president the new group fostered and unified Alfred dramatics. It presented two well-known plays that school year: *Under Two Flags,* and *Second in Command.* The cast of the former play provided the charter membership of the club. Many of the old types of recreation and entertainment were still enjoyed. The campus was fortunate to get during the period such national figures as Elbert Hubbard, Edwin R. Weeks, Senator J. P. Dolliver of Iowa, Dr. Charles M. Sheldon, Albert E. Wiggam, Will Carleton, Shailer Matthews of the University of Chicago, and others. Among the musical feasts was one presented by the Temple Quartet of Boston. A unique offering was a series of lectures by Sheik Joseph Audi (1903), cultured Arabian guide to President Davis when in Palestine.

In 1910 the Brick girls asked, "Why not a maypole dance?" It was a custom in several colleges. So there would be one in Alfred. Tags were sold for the lawn dance and for grandstand seats on the Brick porch to enjoy what was described as the prettiest sight Alfred had ever seen. Perfect weather, a lighted lawn, fair maidens decked out to represent dandelions, purple phlox, and other flowers, tripping out to crown their queen; soft music, mellow light, the surrounding evergreens, stars in the blue above, maidens dancing and winding the maypole with many colored ribbons almost to the ground, all making a perfect half hour. Then into the hall trailed the performers and guests, there to enjoy candy, ice cream, and games, and the pleasant evening ended. The years 1913 and 1914 saw the first competitions under "The Doctor Thomas World's Peace Prize Contest;" the successful staging by the classics department of *Phormio,* a drama first shown in Rome in 161 B. C, and done in Alfred in racy 20th century English; and the first annual dramatic effort (1914), *Home Ties,* by the students of NYSA.

A special phase of campus life in this period was the dance. In describing student life dancing has been mentioned occasionally as if it had been the most usual and natural pleasure imaginable at Alfred. But its coming marked a veritable revolution. Alfred was not alone in its troubles over the controversial pleasure. At Cortland State Normal, for instance (1902), some 30 students faced expulsion for persisting in dancing. A former Alfred student believed that he had un-

wittingly attended the first dance at an Alfred college function (about 1905). It was at the home of a prominent faculty member. The student was embarrassed when the dancing suddenly began, whether with or without premeditation he could not tell. The first officially recognized dances given by Alfred students were held between the beginnings and ends of vacations. The first of these occurred between semesters in 1906. The dances were held off-campus. A dance conducted in May, 1911, was called the third college dance of that school year. Thus when the barriers broke, dancing rather quickly acclimated itself on the sacred soil of those grand old stalwarts, "Kenyon and Allen and Main." Let no one imagine, however, that the revolution was effected without bitter opposition from the churches. Letters in the denominational press opposed dancing, and personal letters were showered on President Davis—many in good temper, some anything but that.

In defense the President pointed out that clandestine dances had occurred during past decades, that only about ten per cent of parents had asked to have their youth denied the privilege of attending dances, and that dances were amply supervised. These comments failed to mollify some of the critics, one of whom demanded that Alfred University be returned to its original "puritanic virtue." As usual, Davis won his point, and the supervised off-campus dance had come to stay. Campus controversy on the subject soon shifted from dance or no dance to what kinds of dances. Should the new "ragtimes" and similar new steps be permitted? In 1914 a campus writer said that anyone who had failed to see a certain post-vacation dance was lucky, that criticisms of it were valid. He deplored the selfishness of the few which gave grounds for the refusal of more dances. The senate itself prohibited the objectionable steps and set about enforcing its order.

RELIGIOUS LIFE—COMMENCEMENTS

The spiritual life of the campus still gathered around the daily chapel service, the Christian Associations, the Sunday services, and the services and vigorous organizations of the Seventh Day Baptist Church. President Davis as University Chaplain preached for the Sunday congregation in Kenyon Hall Chapel. As attendance increased a still more formal organization developed. Later a fully organized and flourishing Sunday School was again in existence. The Christian Associations had their ups and downs. A slump in the YMCA led to heart-searching and the discovery of new modes of serving the campus. Its usual activities included cooperating with its sister association in

various enterprises, its own Sunday evening devotional services, and the publication of the annual student handbooks of campus information.

A bit later the YMCA opened a "Bureau of Industry" where students earned cash in effecting various kinds of repairs on furniture and other articles or doing scissor and knife sharpening. It also developed an employment bureau for students wishing parttime work. In 1906 a room was re-opened in Burdick Hall for regular meetings, and it was to be kept open at all times for study and social purposes. The slogan, "to know, to grow, to glow, and to go," was used. Worthwhile lectures by faculty members were part of the program. A later development of YMCA work was the forming (1911) of the Country Life Christian Association in NYSA. The YWCA found a comfortable room for itself in the Brick; and, beside its own meetings and other special work, aided notably in the management of the college-opening receptions at which new students and faculty members got their first tastes of Alfred social life. Doubts were again expressed about the value of the traditional daily chapel service as then conducted. To improve attendance a small amount of academic credit was allowed for regular attendance. Later as a further concession to continuing discontent, a separate, secular, weekly assembly was instituted (1910) which allowed time for addresses, college songs, and class meetings. Under that plan the chapel period became purely a worship service.

In 1911 a diversion occurred which almost blacked out one chapel service. Some staid members of the senior class "borrowed" a human corpse being used experimentally by a local undertaker and stood it stiffly beside the chapel piano. Music Director A. Neil Annas, first in the room, was horrified to see the apparition as he approached the instrument. Blanched as the corpse itself, Annas returned to the entry and whispered the ghastly news to other faculty men. Onlookers were motioned back from the entrance while a couple of teachers smuggled the odoriferous cadaver into the basement, and students who may not have been wholly ignorant about the affair enjoyed the excitement. Then chapel proceeded according to custom.

The Commencements were slowly changing with the times. In 1900 a visiting speaker replaced in part the efforts of seniors. That year Dr. Moses Coit Tyler of Cornell University discussed "The Problem of a National Name" noting that our present name claimed too much. That "Doctor's Oration" with the senior valedictory and salutatory efforts were the chief items on the speaking program. Good music was taken for granted.

A feature in the closing festivities of 1901 was Alfred's participation in the recognition of the millenary of the death of King Alfred the Great, observed throughout the English-speaking world. Alfred being presumably the only college on earth bearing the versatile Saxon Ruler's name, President Davis was made an honorary member of the American committee. A play by Director C. F. Binns was staged dealing with episodes in the King's life. In 1912 the Doctor's Oration was a striking one. Delivered in that heyday of Theodore Roosevelt progressivism, by the Reverend W. H. Van Allen, the address was humorous and daring, and seemed a bit too iconoclastic for some local and visiting conservatives.

LYCEUMS DECAY

The period saw the doom of Alfred's oldest student organizations—the lyceums or literary societies. At the turn of the century those societies were as prosperous as ever. The men's lyceums also continued to show their affection for each other by uncomplimentary remarks and by such amenities as throwing a hen through an open window to participate vociferously in the rival society's debate. Mock trials, too, could still sentence a man to "punishment" for blowing up Burdick Hall with liquid oxygen. A chief interest of these societies was debating, which in the first half of this period enjoyed an unprecedented boom. Debating spread to the Academy, to English classes, and flowered into intramural and intercollegiate contests. In 1901 the men's societies planned a trio of debates a year apart. The Oro's won two, the middle one was not staged. Vainglorious boasting after the usual tension in such bouts did not add to campus sweetness.

The Alleghanians won two out of three debates with a society of neighboring Keuka Seminary, the later Keuka College. After these interschool debates a pleasant feature often was a social time in Ladies Hall. The spring of 1904 was a busy one in forensics. The Oros won a debate with a society of Syracuse University, and an all-Alfred team arranged a debate with the Cornell University Congress. The Alfred boys were well entertained at Ithaca, but with set speeches against Cornell's extempore freedom and the awe at being at a great campus, they won but one of the three judges to their contention. By 1908 the boom collapsed and debating at Alfred suffered an eclipse.

While the longtime specialty of the societies, i.e., debating enjoyed a boom, these societies, themselves, were not faring so well, and this tragically enough was due in part to that boom, especially to the new organizations which arose to foster debate. These tended to reduce

interest in the older forums. Different writers analysed the varied changes which allegedly undermined the lyceums. Dramatics, spreads (refreshments), the greater diversity of academic and professional interests among the students—science and engineering for instance—more specialization, these it was said drew away from the more generalized outlook of the lyceum programs.

The weakening societies did not take all this lying down. They protested against the frequent use of their longtime monopoly of Saturday evenings for other student functions. Moreover a real effort was made to remodel their programs to fit the new temper. In 1910-11 the Athenaeans decided to hold one traditional session a month, one on current events, one on dramatics, and one on social usage. Typical of the last was a replica of an afternoon reception held in honor of a mythical "Mrs. LaSalle" and "daughter" just back from Italy. The proper social procedures were interestingly and instructively exemplified. But for the lyceums it was too late. At the end of 1914 resuscitation seemed hopeless. True it was they had had their day. The actual finale came in the next period, when their rooms, furniture, and trophies were turned over to the University. Brief note of those transactions will be made in the appropriate context.

CHAPTER XVIII

Athletics: Intercollegiate and Intramural, 1900-1915

SOME GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

DURING the fifteen years of athletic activity portrayed in this chapter Alfred still struggled to improve her sports record. Isolated, small in enrollment, and lacking adequate funds for athletic competition, progress was slow. It took time to break away from playing schools below her academic level. While the regularizing of intercollegiate sports contests as to rules, eligibility, and so on, was coming gradually, particularly among smaller colleges, Alfred's special handicaps kept her behind most of the procession.

As the period opened, the Athletic Association which had slowly evolved through the 1890's appeared as a joint stock corporation with a board of directors representing campus and village. Village representation had come from serious discontents among the local business men over the laxity of student financial management of campus organizations, especially of the Athletic Association. One prime object of those century-end reorganizations was the acquisition of a better athletic field than the one on Park Street. In the spring of 1900 with the cooperation of University trustees, the Athletic Association, and local business men the present playing field on North Main Street was obtained. Life memberships in the Association were sold which entitled buyers to a certain amount of free admission to games. These passes have been honored down to the middle of the century.

May 3, 1901, the field was in order and officially opened characteristically enough with a baseball game between the Varsity and a high school which Alfred rather easily won. President Davis referred to the new facility as offering excellent opportunities for track, baseball, and football. But soon the same old difficulties showed. Financial deficits arose. Gate receipts lacked much of meeting game costs. A proposal for a small voluntary tax was presented to the students (1901), but

nothing came of it. In 1903 a typical Alfred mode of raising cash for campus enterprises was successfully tried—i.e., one of those colorful athletic fairs in Firemen's Hall running four evenings with all sorts of attractions, such as suppers, minstrels, and candy booths. Its net of $700 put athletics temporarily on easy street.

In the winter of 1906 Alfred's athletic rules were sharpened considerably by the joint action of the different campus schools. Among the rules were college and academy students must play only on their own teams; the Academy should play only secondary schools and was advised to form its own Athletic Association; the College should not play secondary school teams; playing outside teams by Alfred classes or departments was discouraged. All acts of the general association were to be subject to the approval of the Faculty Committee on Athletics. As will be quite obvious, these rules were not always observed.

Acute financial shortages led again (1906) to the use of the financially fruitful fair. Due to the same anemia the suggestion of a student athletic tax was tossed into the verbal arena again. A minute minority of individuals who cared little for sports had so far succeeded in fighting off the proposal. But this time the voluntary tax was sanctioned by student vote. Payments entitled contributors to attend all games on the field. It was not until 1912, however, that the University trustees allowed a compulsory $2.00 per semester athletic tax to be placed on the tuition bills.

In the winter of 1911-12 came a culmination of the recurring criticisms of the Athletic Association and indirectly of the Athletic Committee and the faculty. A couple of articles in the *Monthly* by one signing himself "A Mutt," and the answer by Graduate Manager, J. D. Bennehoff, tell the story. According to the student critic all past sports failures were chargeable to the system of governing athletics. Delay and neglect were evidenced by the failure to award "A's" earned two years before. The Association had allowed itself to be robbed of its legitimate powers by the faculty. Another grievance was that townspeople and faculty members had part in the administration of athletics. Trying to enlighten "A Mutt," Bennehoff agreed that undoubtedly there were corrections needing to be made, but the remedy was in the students' hands. As to the teachers and business men on the Association board, he reminded "Mutt" of the cause as noted above and assured the critic that business men had not the slightest idea of relinquishing those positions until student financial responsibility warranted a change. The faculty Athletic Committee grew from the same student

irresponsibility. The discussion did clear the air somewhat and produced improvements in business methods.

At the period closed, two significant happenings took place. The first was the further tightening of Alfred's athletic rules. These set a scholastic standing which team men must maintain and the maximum number of games was fixed which should constitute the season's schedule in each sport. The second happening came when, after full discussion, separate meetings were held (February 10, 1915), and the University Athletic Association and the association recently formed by NYSA voted enthusiastically to merge. The new council was elected and work begun on preparation for the fall sports season.

WITH THE DIFFERENT SPORTS

During the period the different sports were competing informally to determine which ones would emerge as the "majors." Football showed as the top contender, and was gradually recognized as campus sport king. Baseball, track, and basketball were runners up with changing status among themselves. In this discussion we shall consider the four as the leaders, and all others as minor sports.

Minor sports were quite numerous, but only a few held interest for long. In the middle years of the period interest in tennis which had been rising flamed hotter than ever. The Tennis Association flourished mightily. Well kept courts were busy every pleasant day. In 1905 a tournament was arranged with Geneseo State Normal at which Alfred scored a complete victory winning every set against the would-be teachers.

In the fall of 1907 a new head of the history department, Professor N. M. Pletcher, brought with him a number of games many of them unfamiliar ones. Cross country was one game; handball enjoyed a boom. The Babcock Hall courts were crowded. A tournament held enthusiastic interest. Nine teams wished to compete. The game's popularity was demonstrated when the victors received in chapel their pennants at the hands of Professor Pletcher.

Field hockey was popular with the girls, and aside from a few who felt that it was not quite ladylike people were happy to see the girls having the time of their lives. Those who weren't playing basketball were laughing at their hockey bruises. Boxing, which was called an amusement for gentlemen, had some devotees. A popular type of midwinter entertainment and exercise was the indoor athletic contests, when Indian club swinging, high jumps, high kicks, turns, high flips,

backward somersaults, and other stunts were shown. Tumbling brought the most laughs.

Considering now what we have listed as major sports track played an increasing role in the athletic life of those days. In 1900 a track team was organized with captain and manager. Although track work had existed on the campus in one form or another, e.g., the field days at Commencement time, this was probably the first fully organized team. But outside meets were but a hope that year. Next year a clash, called one of the most interesting athletic events Alfred ever held, was run off with Geneseo State Normal. Alfred made a good showing, which, it was commented, assured a successful field day at Commencement. Track continued to grow in popularity intramurally, getting some intercollegiate experience too. A new era in the sport opened in 1908 when the first annual Interclass Field Day was held, and won by the freshmen led by John W. Jacox, an athlete of high ability.

A rumor afloat at that track meet crystallized into reality as it was learned that the New York City Alumni Club of Alfred University, or some of its members, had suggested an Interscholastic (high school) Track Meet at the University. At the club's next meeting (1909) it was decided to go ahead with the project. Members provided the prize silk banner for the winning high school and the various individual medals needed. Every preparation was made for the event. A track was prepared and equipment secured. Ten schools participated. Warsaw High School's mature, well-trained athletes took the handsome silk banner. Olean High School and Alfred Academy came second and third. At the prize speaking contest in the evening, a feature of the meet, President Davis praising the generosity of the New York alumni and, congratulating all the participants, awarded the prizes won in the day's trials of athletic prowess and eloquence.

The next spring Alfred again hung out its latchstring, put on its holiday garb and welcomed the troops of youth to the second meet. The meet presented a typical picture. Long before noon the streets held throngs of people, autos, and carriages. By two o'clock benches, hillside, and the field swarmed with contestants and spectators. The YWCA turned honest nickels selling ice cream and lemonade. Printed programs aided all. The crack of the starting pistol, the rush of spiked shoes on the cinder track, the "heads up" warning for the hammer throw, cheers for the victors, the budding trees, the colors of dresses and sweaters, and all the other sights and sounds of a busy track meet filled the hours. Then the last event was negotiated, the results announced, and another big campus effort was history.

There was lively intramural activity in basketball in the first part of the period and some outside games by the Ceramic School and the Academy. The season of 1906-07 brought two firsts to the campus: the first Varsity teams in that sport and the first women's intercollegiate team. The men met defeat at the basket of a University of Buffalo team, the women were defeated by University of Rochester women. Alfred's co-eds were royally entertained at Rochester by their rivals, and, being a feminine group, there was of necessity a shopping tour. The chief difficulty in the period was to find a basketball court. In 1905 Academy Hall auditorium was assigned to that sport. Soon, however, former students, nostalgic over such desecrating use of their old chapel room, persuaded the University authorities to withdraw consent. Perhaps it was natural, too that while the auditorium was thus jointly used some differences arose between college and academy students over their respective rights. In the campus *Monthly* came a clever, tell-tale bit of compressed and versified history apropos of that unhappiness:

Basketball,	Scheduled games,	Faculties meet,
Solicitation;	Exploitation;	Explanation;
Academy Hall,	Dirty names,	Resolutions,
Jubilation.	Vituperation.	Separation.

Although the little gymnasium in Babcock Hall was tried in a rather irregular and uncertain fashion, the so-called "Harmony Hall" in the Main Street business block witnessed most of the basketball activity. The two seasons 1908-09 and 1909-10 were the best of the fifteen year span. The Varsity won 8 out of 11 games with a variety of rivals in the first season. The defeat of Hobart at Geneva was announced to the home campus by a midnight bonfire and the ringing of the Chapel bell. The Academy also made a fine season's record. Intramural games flourished. A class championship series packed Harmony Hall with excited crowds—professors and seniors as noisy as children let out for recess. In 1909-10 an eleven game schedule listed rivals all the way from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology to something called a Horseheads fraternity. Alfred won six. During the rest of the period, still with an inadequate court, while there was some intramural activity, and an occasional outside contest involving the women, there was no Varsity basketball from 1910-15. However, Academy Hall auditorium was promised as a court for the next period.

In baseball, also, Alfred's record was not a happy one although men devoted themselves sacrificially to their favorite sport. Everything seemed against them, including the weather and the ever earlier com-

mencements which shortened the seasons. Playing all sorts of schools the Purple and Gold men apparently won but two games against a four-year college which in each case defeated Alfred the same season.

The first ten seasons simply illustrate the general statements in the preceding paragraph. Not noted there was the happening in 1903 when only three outside tilts were tried with two lost to St. Bonaventure. In one of those games Alfred played an ineligible man and the faculty cancelled two remaining games. The 1904 season stood out above most in that Alfred won four, tied one, and lost two. In 1911 the season opened and closed the same day—a colorful freshman-sophomore contest. Sure, there was a fine schedule of games ready, but Varsity games were cancelled because several team men were suspended for playing an unscheduled game with a group in Wellsville on a Saturday (Sabbath at Alfred). Some high blood pressure developed out of that game and its aftermath—but no baseball games.

The next two years there was something of a boom in baseball—but not chiefly on the intercollegiate level. The first two games were heavy defeats, St. Bonaventure, and Keuka at that time co-educational, although the latter school was defeated later. But intramurally the campus was almost drunk on the sport. For example, there was a class game on a Monday, an interfraternity game on Tuesday, and an outside Varsity game on Wednesday. Baseball clothed as humor came in a faculty-senior test which presented the seniors a grand opportunity for revenge for their four years of torment. The pedagogues played with a vim, one teacher allegedly in three languages; and the cheering was led by two faculty women. But despite such heroic efforts of voice and muscle, vengeance carried the day—the seniors won. The boom continued into 1913 and was likened to a disease—"Baseballitis." But it was an intramural disease only in effect, since out of six outside games King Alfred's royal sons won but one. In 1914 the boom collapsed, but there was one success—a pitiless battle called the greatest ever played on the Alfred diamond and fought to a victorious finish with Mansfield State Normal, Pennsylvania. No college games were played the final year (1915). Baseball could not surmount its local drawbacks, and football was destined to push the ball and glove game off the Saxon sports program.

Naturally football suffered from some of the same ills which afflicted other sports discussed in this story. However, unlike baseball, it did have encouraging high points. There was not only an upward trend in the standing of the institutions played but also in the quality and

amount of coaching provided. The last season of the century (1900) was hailed as Alfred's best so far. L. W. H. Gibbs, former Alfred star, came as coach. The toughest struggle was an 18 to 5 victory over Niagara University. The final was a contest with an old rival, Geneseo State Normal School. It was featured by two spectacular 30 and 70 yard runs but ended in a scoreless tie. Six games netted 105 points for Alfred and only five for the opposing teams. Regret was expressed that more games had not been with college teams.

The fall of 1902 proved to be a red letter season for Alfred sports when she claimed her first championship. Gibbs again coached. A 6 to 11 defeat by Hobart was redressed later by a 12 to 6 victory over those same Episcopalians. In a memorable game at Alfred, Buffalo bowed 12 to 0, and soon Mansfield State Normal School was forced to a scoreless tie. In a series of intricate comparisons on who defeated or lost to whom in Western New York the "experts" came up with Alfred's claim to the intercollegiate football championship of that area.

The seasons 1905 to 1908 inclusive were all disappointing from the standpoint of scores. In 1909 there came an upturn. A snappy rally, lung power turned on *fortissimo,* optimistic speeches by team men and faculty football fans raised spirits to a high pitch. Result: Mansfield 12 to 0, Hobart a tie 0 to 0, Chamberlain 10 to 0, and a second Mansfield game—a scoreless tie. Note the zeros: *Alfred had gone through her first football season unscored on!* It was the best season in many a year. The 1910 brand of Alfred football was a lively one. The faculty allowed coach "Monty" Cottrell to play the quarterback position if he resigned as paid coach! With his aid a score of 83 to 0 was made against a mechanical institute team. Up and down went the morale. Came a resounding defeat by Hobart; then again Cottrell allowed to play. On Thanksgiving day under his generalship the team turned and conquered the ever-powerful St. Bonaventure boys 6 to 5. At the season's end the team enjoyed a turkey dinner in Hornell. Snow and mud, it was said, and a playing coach it may be added, had created quite a football machine after all.

In those years too, Alfred Academy made a fine record in football. It claimed area championships in several seasons. NYSA had some marked successes also in the sport.

The next four autumns which ended the fifteen year period were unimpressive with the trend down, down, down. In 1911 Lester P. Dittimore became the first full-time director of athletics and coach. But after a victory and two defeats the team disbanded. So it went

defeat after defeat in 1912. Lack of opportunity to celebrate victories had made the campus so hungry for one, just one, please. An excuse at least came in 1913. The University and NYSA had each won a slim victory and a typical celebration broke out, a bonfire which consumed all the storekeepers' discarded boxes, barrels, and casks, and as usual some not discarded. But that was their only chance that autumn for there came the very nadir of football success—a stunning defeat by Allegheny College whose team rolled up the biggest score ever tallied against Alfred, 7-93. The final fall was even worse. With a new coach again, an assistant coach, good material, a good schedule, complete equipment, and excellent spirit Alfred failed ingloriously in all but the first two of a seven game schedule.

Bad as the season and indeed the period as a whole had been, there was some pride that there had been high points, and that later games had been more largely with teams in Alfred's class. It was doubted whether campus opinion would ever tolerate a return to the mongrel schedules of the earlier years. Also the imminent merging of the University and the Agricultural School Athletic Associations promised a wider choice of team material in the future.

CHAPTER XIX

Mars Invades the Campus, 1915-1920

THE ASSASSINATION of the heir to the Austro-Hungarian throne in 1914 lighted the tinder box that was Europe. To Alfred's campus that seemed a tragic but very remote event. Campus discussions considered various scientific aspects of the war, or objectively canvassed the pros and cons of the conflict. The country's official attitude was neutral, but a preparedness program was started against eventualities. It took a little time to assess the amazing characteristics of the war. We denounced the plunder of defenseless Belgium. We gradually came to feel that there was a death struggle for principles which are the foundation of our country; and from the time war was declared (April, 1917), a different spirit pervaded the campus and the class rooms.

From Easter, military drill superseded gymnasium work. Plattsburg-trained Ivan L. Fiske was made drill-master and later was named by the University trustees captain of the "Alfred University New York State Military Cadet Corps." Students asked that funds be turned from campus improvements to more patriotic purposes. One student was quite distressed that while the country had been at war nearly two weeks the picture of the Kaiser still disgraced the walls of a modern language room. War-aimed activities were increasing. The faculty voted to tender the use of the University to the State and National Governments for any services it could appropriately render. Men were leaving for hoe or gun, and State-approved arrangements were made to allow students who enlisted to receive semester credit if they had finished half a semester and had a grade of at least C. When College opened in 1917 enrollment was off seventeen per cent. A freshman class of 40 contained but 15 men. By Thanksgiving the two campus service flags, University and NYSA, showed nearly 100 names. In January, 1918, conservation struck town and gown from every quarter. "Wheatless days," "meat-

less days," "porkless days" worried Mrs. Housewife in village and dormitory. She was asked also to save sugar and white flour. Another fuel economizer was daylight saving, instituted in the spring of 1918.

In the fall of 1918 came the Students Army Training Corps (SATC). Its purpose was to supply the services with officers, engineers, doctors, and other specialists. Enlistees were uniformed and equipped but on furlough without pay. True to her traditions, Alfred asked for and received a unit. The Brick became a barracks, the co-eds being shunted off to the "Castle" and the formerly exclusive masculine haunt—Burdick Hall. Scarcely had the boys settled in their barracks when a terrible epidemic of Spanish Influenza laid low some fifty of the student-soldiers. The anxiety, dread, and worry were awful. Many a midnight with a prayer on his lips Alfred's anxious President closed his daily rounds to see the sick. After many disappointments, he found Clarence Haskell of Almond to come to aid in the emergency. Busy day and night that devoted nurse served for weeks forgetting sleep and rest for himself. A young woman nurse at St. James Mercy Hospital in Hornell was spirited away by President Davis with the conniving knowledge but without the explicit consent of the Mother Superior. That nurse worked with the sick and dying like an angel of mercy. Two young men of the corps died, as did two young women students and two faculty members.

At last, relatively normal health conditions returned to the country and the Alfred campus, so life went on but not as usual. The government required the adoption of the three term school year. Corps members took many of the standard liberal arts subjects plus meteorology, sanitation, military law, and others. A special course on "War Issues" was required. In the Brick barracks was an army fitted out with canteen, mess hall, and hospital. The YMCA fitted up a "Hut" in Firemen's Hall. There regular "Y" meetings were held and a reading room, free movies, and lectures planned with the SATC in mind. A Corps jazz orchestra played for the dances. A plan was adopted for a tea or dance each Saturday afternoon, an institution which, using the Corps' familiar initials, became the "Saturday Afternoon Tea Club." Saturday mornings were inspection times at the barracks which entailed much careful sweeping and dusting as well as fancy bedmaking. No plans had been made for football that fall. There was no coach but the officers pooled their pigskin lore and SATC had a team. It played five games, and won four against assorted teams but suffered defeat when it met the SATC at Mansfield State Normal School.

Robert D. Garwood '14, and co-founder of *Fiat Lux,* became Alfred's first graduate war casualty. After a harrowing experience from being torpedoed while serving in the merchant marine, he joined the Canadian Flying Corps. Finishing training in Texas, he was killed in his falling plane in 1918. Burr D. Straight, '11, became Alfred's second graduate war casualty. Straight had written President Davis interestingly of army life. He expressed grief that the sacrifices of his parents in bringing him to a trained manhood might come to naught, but took comfort in the belief that all would come right in God's plan no matter what befell him. Three months after penning those solemn sentiments 2nd Lieutenant Burr D. Straight was killed while leading his command in action.

Six weeks later "The Great War" ended. Germany was on her knees. Peace rumors had been flying. Early on November 11 with the clamor of ringing bells came the real thing. Punched wide awake by the sudden racket and rubbing his sleep-laden eyes with wonder, one of the Brick rookies yelled, "Gosh, I know...I bet a five the armistice is signed and the war is over." The local commandant declared a holiday at the Post. After helping in the noisy celebration in Hornell, and joining in the city's peace parade, all hands—SATC, other students, faculty, and citizens returned home and lighted the previously-prepared inflammables as the Kaiser's funeral pyre in a second celebration of peace and victory. Higher and higher mounted the flames; louder and louder roared the rejoicing. Then the flames died down to fitful embers like the conflagration "over there."

Feelings among the rookies were mixed. Uniforms and demobilization orders came about the same time. After little more than two months of army life, the men were mustered out. About one third of the Alfred unit stayed in College. Counting the SATC, some 400 Alfred men including alumni had served in the armed forces. In 1921 the Twentieth Century Club of Alfred University Alumni placed a tablet in the University Library listing the eight collegians who died in the war, namely: Elmer William Bass, Arthur Montrose Cottrell, Robert Daniel Garwood, Harry Andrew Hemphill, James Clyde Preston, Franklin Fitz Randolph, Burr Dexter Straight, and John Crawford Thomas.

Girls ousted from the Brick when the soldiers came enjoyed the year in their substitute quarters. Those in the "Castle" were quite affectionate toward their college home. The underclass girls were equally lush in praise of ancient Burdick Hall. They loved every inch of it.

What! Frosh and soph girls lived harmoniously together! They did. "Why even during banquet contests we were the very dearest enemies."

A few lines of revealing verse touched a different chord.

Time was when girlish laughter sweet
Trilled through these halls abandoned now and drear
Still nursing scars of wounds from hobnailed feet.
Time will be when there'll burst a glad refrain
From Brick and Burdick Hall in measures clear
For one shall have her laughing girls—
the other claim her romping boys again.

ADMINISTRATORS AND EDUCATORS

During the half decade (1915-20) obviously much time and strength of faculty and administrators were spent in war-related services. Few changes were made in teaching methods and curricula. In 1916 a combination liberal arts and medical course was arranged with Yale Medical College by which Alfred provided the pre-medical work followed by Yale's four years of medicine. Alfred conferred the baccalaureate degree at the end of the student's satisfactory first year at Yale. This plan allowed the usual eight year arts and medical combination to be finished in seven years. In the period, too, President Davis was exploring the possibility of Alfred's theologs doing their third years at the Colgate seminary.

In 1915 the newly founded Association of American Colleges defined what it called the "efficient college" and the "minimum college." Alfred seemed to have all requirements for the latter rating except the seven full-time professors salaried at $1,500 or more each. Ultimately full rating by the Association was achieved.

While the war-time day to day program of the School of Ceramics proceeded much as in previous years, it was a very lively and dynamic place. Director Binns and his staff were prime promoters (1915) of the wordily named "New York State Ceramic Products Manufacturers Association." Late in 1917 that association merged with the newly forming "New York State Branch of the American Ceramic Society." In December, 1915, the local school's ceramic society of 1914 was transformed into a Student Branch of the American Ceramic Society. President Richard B. Hice of the national body honored the event with his presence. The Binnses gave a dinner at their home. President Hice addressed the members, presented the charter and congratulated them

on becoming the second unit of the kind in the world. With varying fortunes the Branch has functioned almost continuously since.

Now it would never do with the boys thus organizing professionally for the girls to be left out. So to balance accounts the co-ed majority of the Applied Art Department organized the Ceramic Guild (1917). Under department sponsorship the Guild aimed to improve pottery decoration and foster exhibits. These exhibits and sales and the continuing Christmas festivals became notable features of the yuletide seasons. Director Binns of the Ceramic School was winning honors with his individual art work. In 1915 he was invited to exhibit his unique, once-fired stone ware vases at the Panama Pacific Exposition. The next year he exhibited pottery pieces at the Chicago Art Institute. A different type of honor came to Director Binns, when in 1918 he was elected secretary of the American Ceramic Society. Among faculty changes of the period it may be recorded that Miss Marion L. Fosdick began in 1915 her nearly 40 years of service in the School—a record unique up to the mid-1950's.

Progress marked the third member of the campus school family, the School of Agriculture, in this period. Special courses for high school graduates were started. A poultry department was added in 1915 reflecting the importance of the poultry industry in the area at that time. The subject was treated from egg production to egg-crated shipment, and from incubator chick to dressed, packed, and marketed broiler. In 1916 the School owned an aristocratic bit of cow flesh. Her name was Vikina Johanna. This lady Holstein held a world's record; in a 30 day test Vikina manufactured and poured forth over 2,200 pounds of milk good for 112 pounds of butter.

At the June Commencement of NYSA in 1916 there was featured an elaborate pageant of farm and home. It showed a century of agricultural progress. President Davis, an experienced ox-team engineer, drove an ox-float in the preliminary street parade. The pageant itself was staged near the dairy building. The first scene exhibited the interior of a farm home—the cord bed, the old stone fireplace, and Dutch oven. A mother was carding wool, a young girl spinning it, while another daughter was molding candles. In the midst of the scene a neighbor boy characteristically breezed in to borrow a bit of fire. So the scenes went—flails and sickles, kerosene lamps, the advent of a Methodist circuit rider, sewing machines—on to the up-to-date farm and home of 1916. As a finale to the pageant, all the cast gathered around the car

bearing the President, the Director, and their wives and sang lustily, "Freemen of the Lord."

Soon after NYSA was thus celebrating its past, the New York legislature (1917) placed it with all similar schools, more fully under the direction of the State Education Department. Hence some of the extensive local supervision which had resided in the trustees and officers of Alfred University was transferred to Albany. Courses, budgets, voucher approval and the like, and the carrying out of the purposes for which the agricultural schools were founded were from then on determined at the State capital. During the half decade, several changes took place in faculty personnel. In 1918 Director Wright closed his six years of leadership and, after a brief acting directorship, was succeeded by Dr. Carl E. Ladd. In the autumn of 1918 George W. Robinson began his long service with NYSA.

Alfred's yearling Summer School entered the new period with enrollment more than double that of its initial session. Aside from the basic work in liberal arts, ceramics, and teacher education it fostered concerts, courses of lectures, and other cultural opportunities of interest to students and townsfolk. In 1917 a timely feature was a series of summer lectures on "Why the United States Fights." A model school was an important element in the teacher training work. The summer school urge stirred the Theological Seminary where the Dean and his fellow teachers ran a two-week school of religion, with college credit available. But summer time is vacation time also, so the summer session activities were by no means all of a serious order. There was a "bacon bat" at Pine Crest, and weekly dances on the campus. Also came that memorable chicken roast at the "Ledges" in nearby Almond. Said the cautious announcement: "if rain does not interfere." With his usual cunning, Pluvius waited until the picnickers were well established; then in vengeful glee he let go. Food and furniture were hurriedly collected and a grand dash made for Alfred. Filmy dresses received heart-breaking damage. Crossing the suddenly-swollen stream provided unintended duckings. But no irreparable harm resulted, and the episode garnered vivid recollections for quieter moments.

KENYON AND DAVIS HONORED

At the annual alumni day session in 1920 two notable events were celebrated: the retirement of Dean A. B. Kenyon and the 25th anniversary of President Davis' election to the University presidency. Said Dr. Corliss F. Randolph in a fine eulogy of his life-long friend: "Professor

Kenyon, close your eyes for a moment, and with me gaze on this throng as it files past you—two score and six years in length—all with shining faces, and laying upon your altar a sacrifice of affectionate regard; and as we depart, hear us as with one mighty tumultuous voice joyfully shout 'Hail, Professor Kenyon, but not farewell, only *au revoir.' "* Then the speaker handed him tangible evidence of their regard—a purse of $850. Thus into honored retirement went "A. B."—professor, trustee, acting president, registrar, and dean.

The struggles of B. C. Davis, the young parson, in 1895 over a decision between church and college, and his 25 years of amazing success since, were beautifully celebrated in the address on the same occasion by an alumna, Leona Burdick Merrill. Said she: "I think the angel of the Lord must have been sitting under the sacred pine trees of Alfred University" while President Davis thrashed out that decision. He, "a young man,. . .began the superhuman task of breathing new life into that from which the vital spark had almost departed. . . ." He has since successfully labored using his energy and vitality without stint. Dr. Randolph, who had just spoken the appreciation of Dean Kenyon, had a similarly appropriate address for the President. At its close, invested with the authority lent by the University trustees, he conferred on the honored leader the degree of doctor of sacred theology.

WITH THE ALUMNI

Alumni activities in this half-decade were featured by the formation of added geographical branches of the parent body, a New England group was formed in 1884. The New York City area group was founded in 1893. A branch was in existence in Syracuse in 1915. Branch meetings usually included a good dinner, brief addresses, a guest from the University campus, songs, cheers and a business session. Early in 1916 was the birth of the Chicago, or Western branch which drew attendance from three states. In 1919 the Western New York or Buffalo group held its sixth annual powwow. Those mentioned made with the Chemung Valley branch at least five branches active in the middle of the period 1915-20.

For a few years summer reunions at Alfred, particularly of the younger graduates, became the fashion. A good sample was that of the class of 1915 which celebrated its first anniversary of achieving sheepskins. An out of town "feed," then a climb up Pine Hill to continue the festivities with songs, a roaring fire, and ending with hot dogs, hot marshmallows, cold lemonade, and individual apple pies.

BUILDINGS, GROUNDS, AND FINANCE

The period now under discussion, while not without achievements in plant and finance, was in general one of hopes dashed and of suggestions failing to fruit. The one big exception was the winning of the central heating plant.

Despite the use of old Chapel for a gymnasium and basketball court the search for more adequate physical education and sports facilities continued. The Buffalo alumni group led by the Hon. L. W. H. Gibbs started a fund for the "Davis Gymnasium" (1915), raising about $2,000. The following year the University trustees launched a campaign for a $50,000 "Gymnasium and Improvement Fund." These moves bore fruit in the purchase of the brick livery barn near Burdick Hall to be remodelled into a gymnasium. But nothing came of it. The barn was later considered as a possible dormitory, still later as a chemistry laboratory, and finally was demolished. Thus the period ended with no new gymnasium achieved. In a similar way bright hopes, elaborate drawings, new enthusiasm had come for a field house on the playing field, but again a dream went a-glimmering.

However, as intimated, one very critically-needed building and its appurtenances did get to the campus, i.e., the central heating plant. Land which had been purchased with the livery barn was chosen as the site. An appropriate building, and a tall smoke stack were erected, the latter becoming a campus landmark. The bitter storms and sub-zero cold of that worst of winters (1917-18) delayed all work on the plant structures and the pipe laying. The Christmas vacation was stretched to almost double its normal length because campus buildings could not be heated. Three times the co-eds in the Brick dormitory had to leave their frosty quarters and seek refuge in welcoming village homes. Damage from frozen water pipes worried the authorities. Finally, all obstacles were overcome; the heating system was ready, and in mid-February steam snapped and crackled through the pipe lines and into radiators. By spring several of the campus buildings were enjoying the warmth. Total outlay for the system amounted to about $40,000.

The committee commissioned to implement that $50,000 drive lost no time in starting. But despite hard work, by June 1917, only $30,000 of the goal, now raised to $55,000, had been obtained. This left $25,000 still to be raised. By that time application had been made to the General Education Board (Rockefeller Foundation) for $25,000 conditioned on the University's raising $75,000. That would lift the

proposed Improvement Fund objective to $100,000 and entail the raising of $45,000 additional instead of the sum previously lacking.

After a vigorous three month drive with a new and experienced staff, amounts hoped for had not been won, but Alfred's canvassers plowed doggedly on. By June, 1918, results continued to be disappointing. Through the next year the retarded drive struggled on, as new needs and the intensification of old ones pressed Alfred officials. Higher salaries and the level of a "minimum" college must be reached for accreditation and to keep the best teachers. Still undaunted by the slow-moving drive, the University trustees met in the fall of 1919 to plan yet bigger things. Possibly hypnotized by their sumptuous surroundings in a New York insurance company office they were moved to expand the modest $100,000 Improvement Fund plan into the "Million Dollar Improvement Fund." So off they went again, employing a new expert to captain the canvassers. Governor Alfred E. Smith of New York accepted membership on the national committee and praised Alfred's low-cost education which provided safeguards against agitators who would destroy our institutions. Also acting on the wishes of the campaign leaders, a student anti-bolshevik (anti-communist) organization was formed on the campus and doughtily defended "true Americanism."

By March 1920 a total of $200,000 had been reached, but June brought disappointment that the captain had garnered so little from new friends. The trustees then lowered their sights and slowed to a "Five Year Program" for raising the Million. With that the drive went into the next period, 1920-33, for continuation, modification, and success.

Now appropriately a word may be said about the debt obviously entangled with the campaign efforts. After that debt-lifting success in 1910, cash came in freely and opened the way for the Carnegie Library (1912). By 1918, however, the collections of the underwriting committee handling that cash dwindled to a trickle barely carrying the interest on the remaining debt ($11,200). Responsibility for finishing that liquidation was then placed on the new Improvement Fund, but unfortunately again that Fund also failed to get cash fast enough from its pledges for its own projects. Hence by 1920 it had borrowed $25,200 on temporary loans. Thus stood the debt as our period ended.

Several related matters remain to be noted. The Carnegie Corporation looked to for funds had objected to the use of the word "stockholders" in the University charter. Stockholders may do many undesir-

able things, e.g., declare dividends. So for safe certainty the New York State legislature (1917) was persuaded to change that offending word to "subscribers"—people who had no such dangerous powers.

About that time too, the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching modified its non-contributory annuities plan to one provided by the joint contributions of the colleges and the teachers, and named "The Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association of America." After careful study, Alfred University joined the new organization effective July 1, 1920. In that year an item of $5,000 per year for five years for Alfred University was included in the new Seventh Day Baptist "Forward Movement" budget. Proceeds were allocated to University operating expenses. Also President Davis was planning a new salary scale for his teachers—a maximum of $1,400 for instructors up through the academic grades to $2,400 for "major" professors, all to be achieved by annual increases. In 1915 a University Loan Fund was set up for students who needed not gifts but a bit of credit to enable them to continue in college. In 1916 Alfred came in sight of the second largest bequest it had then received—$50,000 from the estate of Stephen Babcock, a University trustee. In 1920 a tedious lawsuit brought into the treasury a large part of the $16,000 estate of Lydia Bridgeman, a former student, who had been a resident of Belfast, New York.

Tuition at the University in 1920 was $60 per year with a rather extensive list of laboratory and miscellaneous fees. Board could be had at from $4.50 to $6.00 per week. The cost of a year at the College varied between $350 and $450. Total assets of the University in 1920 were $815,000 of which $509,000 was endowment. Total income for 1919-20 was $66,723 of which $23,000 came from endowment and $16,000 from tuition and fees. Total receipts from the Improvement Fund from its inception in 1916 in cash, securities, and pledges was $163,700.

CHAPTER XX

Student Joys and Sorrows, 1915-1920

VARIOUS MATTERS

THE PREVIOUS chapter indicated some of the war's effects on student life. Descriptions of the changes which came about in student activities, entertainment, organizations, and athletics will more fully picture the student scene.

The period was an open season for pranksters, due no doubt to the presence of a few competent specialists in their craft. In 1915 there appeared a pair of itinerant raincoat peddlers. In the men's dormitory, Burdick Hall, coats were being tried on when suddenly there echoed through the building the fake cry of "Fire!" Instantly the raincoated students rushed for an *upper* floor. The distracted salesmen claimed that coats were lost, and that they themselves had been dowsed with water and bombarded with magazines. After a warrant had been sworn out for one of the students, a day was set for the trial. Jampacked Firemen's Hall was the scene. When counsel and witnesses had said their say, the jury returned a verdict of "Guilty." The justice imposed a fine of $25. The verdict was sustained by the county court on appeal. Perhaps the local paper correctly gauged public sentiment when it agreed that while matters had been carried too far in Burdick Hall, an innocent man should not have been made an example when so many were guilty.

The faculty had become so disgusted with the long series of pranks that it forced the resignation of the president of the student senate and the "head" of Burdick Hall, a student, because of their connection with irregularities in that dormitory. Other punishments were applied and pledges taken for future good conduct. Much pleasanter was an unusually clever series of moving-up-day ceremonies by the Class of 1918. As freshmen, they came out late at night in fantastic costumes and paraded with floats or impersonations representing the year's campus events, e.g., peddlers, the Kaiser, and "Gumshoe," the students' pet name

for a local policeman, all realistically acted out. Buried symbolically as freshmen in Prexy's "bathtub," they arose again as sophomores, welcomed by an affecting oration by Harold Nash. A cap-burning bonfire, "music" by a band of tin pans, and horns, and a picnic feast on Pine Hill in the small hours brought the ceremonies to a close.

In the fall (1915) an event took place influencing the other end of a freshman year. An early assembly was turned over to students to stage a freshman orientation program. Student officers enlightened and warned the new comers on rules of the Senate and the College Women's Organization. Of course a bid was included for support of the football team. That spring saw the conferring of the first Twentieth Century Club-sponsored Loyalty Medal. The honor was awarded to the senior deemed by student vote to have done the most for Alfred. The recipient, Ford Barnard, had an unusual record of service.

In the same year the financially anemic *Fiat Lux* received an invigorating shot in the arm. Previously a specially sharp twinge of distress drew from the editor a blackletter SOS editorial upbraiding delinquent subscribers and hinting the possible demise of the suffering sheet. At just that painful juncture, NYSA asked a special issue for its spring Commencement. The harried editor slapped back with the query whether the mere twenty subscriptions from NYSA's whole student body warranted such recognition. However it is pleasant to relate that in the fall of 1916 that shot in the arm came when a student vote ratified by the University trustees permitted its subscription price to be placed on the tuition bills. Be it said also for the NYSA students that they responded bountifully to a drive for subscribers.

Local citizens got a shock of pleasant surprise that year when they read the traditional sophomore proclamation to the freshmen. "Comrades!" The "New Spirit salutes you." (Imagine that!) Then "That your burdens may be lighter, that your pathway may be more pleasant, we rise to our better selves in extending the hand of fellowship and good will to you." Also casting out hostile tradition the sophomore women at the Brick cordially entertained their rival freshmen co-eds. What a revolution! A *Fiat* reporter jeered at such pink tea performances. Well, the New Spirit proved too angelic to survive long in a college atmosphere.

While war fever prevented the holding of some peace prize speaking contests in other parts of the state, the Alfred contest was held as usual. That enabled Mrs. Vandelia Varnum Thomas, '81, the founder of the local contest, to boast in *Unity* magazine that war's clamor and glamor

had not suppressed talk on peace in Alfred. Yet war interests continued to color and darken campus life. The sorrows of student life were illustrated when Alfred's first undergraduate student war victim died in camp. Franklin F. Randolph, '20, had been drafted in 1917. His two sisters, also students at Alfred, were called home and carried with them the deep sympathy of all for themselves and the family.

A noteworthy campus event that spring, 1918, was the return by unanimous student vote to "Nestled away 'mid the Empire State Hills," as the alma mater song. It had held that honor for some time after its authorship in 1900, but had given way to the widely used "Where the hills of Allegany"—which was in no sense "Alfred" in words or music.

A curious development in student life at Alfred, found also in other college communities, was the *camaraderie* of students with some villager who appealed to them in a special way often from generation to generation of students. Such a man in the late teens was Bert W. Peck who operated a restaurant which became a congenial student "hang out." When he left, many spoke their appreciation of his friendship and their regret at his departure. Others will think of Fred H. Ellis, the druggist; William "Bill" Brown, the tailor, chronic punster, and Alfred sports fan, as well as others of later days.

FINAL FLICKER OF THE LYCEUMS

With respect to campus organizations, marked changes long developing culminated. Most notable were the last flutterings of the old literary societies. In the spring of 1916 the women gave up. The two societies, Alfriedians and Athenaeans, voted to combine with the College Women's Organization, and, while nominal functions were assigned to them, actually they ceased to exist. In the fall of 1916 a special meeting of the Alleghanian society was called to "bury or pickle" the organization. It was placed in a state of suspended animation from which it never awakened. The Orophilians put up the stiffest fight to avoid oblivion. In the winter of 1916-17 several old-time sessions were held with full programs, and in the fall some enthusiasm still showed. But it was hopeless for them too. The war, added to all the familiar obstacles, proved fatal. The Oros turned their trophies and furniture over to the University, and closed their doors for good, thus ending 80 years of lyceum activity.

FRATERNITIES FLOURISH

As the lyceums declined and died, the fraternities flourished. In 1916

The Clan Alpine Club hied to Hornell and celebrated its 17th birthday anniversary. Burdick Hall was still its club house. Ousted from its home there by the war to let the Brick girls in, the Clan took up quarters on Terrace Street. There it organized as a local fraternity becoming Klan Alpine changing "C" to "K". To celebrate that event it tendered a reception (February, 1919) and perfected plans to occupy in the fall the large house nearly opposite Firemen's Hall. Burned out there the following December, the boys, cared for by the plentifully proffered village hospitality, lost no time in repairing and refeathering their nest, resuming normal life in it after the holidays. Some three years before these last events the Eta Phi Gamma boys had been burned out of their residence, the Stillman house on South Main Street. Here, too, generous hospitality stepped in. After New Years, they were again in their redecorated and otherwise improved quarters.

For a time the stories of Eta Phi and Ku Klux Klan ran parallel. The latter had taken up its abode in the "Castle." Not succeeding in making satisfactory arrangements to stay there, it talked of disbanding. College enrollment was rising (1916). Dorms and clubs were jampacked. The Brick was spilling over into annexes. For three or more years Eta Phi and KKK tried a complex series of joint and separate housing experiments, but the autumn of 1919 found them housed again, KKK in the Castle and Eta Phi Gamma in the Stillman house.

Alfred now boasted three local fraternities. Klan Alpine, KKK, and Eta Phi Gamma. They were playing larger and larger roles in campus affairs. Pledging though was still very primitive. But there was discontent over the lack of system, and plans were talked over on the need of uniform rules. In his college opening address in 1919 President Davis, realizing that fraternities were helping to solve the acute housing shortage, encouraged them. He urged inter-fraternity rivalry in scholarship. He favored a fraternal organization to govern pledging and expected in time to see them all established in their own houses.

At this juncture KKK was accepted as the Alpha Zeta Chapter of Delta Sigma Phi, a well-known national fraternity with many chapters. The happy installation banquet took place in Firemen's Hall, February 7, 1920, where high ideals and excellent advice were laid before the novitiates by national representatives. Guidance was given also by Frank E. Lobaugh, at that time an Alfred student but previously a member of the University of Pittsburgh chapter. Lobaugh was largely responsible for the founding of Alpha Zeta. As the historic meeting broke up the old KKK yell was given for the last time. After the in-

stallation there were echoes of a hilarious informal initiation which took place near the Brick. Among the scenes were Robert "Kidder" Witter pleading long and piteously for the heart and hand of a faculty lady no longer young; "String" Smith becoming the animated model of a cuckoo clock, with "Doc" Dougherty fishing assiduously for snow birds. Thus came Alfred's first national Greek letter fraternity.

Having infected the sacred hillside the fraternity virus spread to the School of Agriculture. Two Clubs were jointly accepted there by Theta Gamma, an agricultural fraternity, and received installation about the time that Delta Sigma Phi nationalized.

OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

A sampling of other organizations in this demi-decade showed the Glee Club active and winning words of praise. Speaking of a concert in that city, a Hornell paper called it nearly two hours of refined inspiration and most delightful entertainment. The Christian Associations showed normal activity. The YW enjoyed a special occasion when a missionary on furlough addressed the girls on "The Versatile Chinese Girl"—who illustrated the unfolding cultural possibilities of her sex suppressed by the national customs of centuries.

The war's end brought life and work again for OMA, the unofficial student punitive group and a relatively new organization on the campus. It was the informal law enforcement arm of the student government. Freshmen were warned to read "Hints to Freshmen" in the *Handbook*. The standard weapon of the OMA was a paddle such as father used in the woodshed and applied anatomically where it was supposed to do the most good!

In 1916 a Poetry Club was running a poetry contest for new members. There was a debate and literary club which grew out of the army unit English class, 1919. That same spring the "League of Overalls" sprang forth. Its members agreed to wear that garb on weekdays as a protest against high prices. Other clubs abounded in the campus schools, devoted chiefly to various social or professional interests indicated by their names.

FOOTBALLS, BASEBALLS, AND BASKETS

Aside from the effects of the war, the period was featured athletically by the spectacular success in football culminating suddenly in 1916. Baseball and basketball suffered from the previous ills with which we are already familiar as well as from the war. Tennis never gave up

entirely, war or no war. In the last season of the half decade (1920), it had quite a streak of success. There were local tournaments for men and women. A Varsity team emerged, played a couple of creditable games out of town, and then bowed before the rackets of the Wellsville and Elmira country clubs.

Of the three sports which ordinarily were still listed as major sports, football, basketball, and baseball, the last had the worst time in this five year stretch. The final season (1920) was the best but nothing to boast about. Alfred defeated Clarkson Tech in a clean, well-played match, but suffered two defeats from the bats of their old rivals at Mansfield. The basketball record in the four seasons of the period in which Varsity teams were organized was little better than that of baseball. In the four years Alfred played some 18 games—nine with colleges or State normal schools. Of these Alfred won one college match, and six against a miscellaneous assortment of opponents. Thus the basketball season showed 7 victories and 11 defeats of all sorts. The co-eds showed up better in basketball than the boys, so many of whom were attending to Kaiser Wilhelm's misdeeds. The girls traveled to Geneseo and defeated the student school marms (1918). The following season they defeated Geneseo again as well as an Ingersoll Rand team, and the team of an Elmira business institute making an excellent three game record of 107 to 20. During the five years there were many lively interclass tilts on the campus.

The story of football was quite different. A steeply ascending scale of success climaxed in 1916 in one of the most spectacular football victories Alfred had ever enjoyed. Looking back through the dreary eras of defeat when indeed the psychology of failure became almost a psychosis, honor can be freely bestowed on the dogged warriors who fought on and on, for they saved the sport for their more fortunate successors.

Crucial in this new period of success was the advent on the campus of E. R. Sweetland, a most likeable and competent builder of teams (1915). He quickly built a winner. After an easy victory over an academy, came two defeats—one by semi-professionals and one (7-13) by Hobart College. However, the Saxons, as Alfred teams were coming to be called, were the only team that season to cross Hobart's goal line. Now the tide really turned. Buffalo felt the sting of defeat, 6-0, in one of the season's best games. It was the first game between the two institutions since the defeat of Buffalo in 1902. John Cottrell was Alfred's star. The usual flame-lit celebration followed after which a campus

artist directed by automobile lights splashed the magic figures on the informal score board which was the west wall of Burdick Hall! Next Alfred overcame the Syracuse University freshmen, 13-7. Again the crackling celebration and another visit to the score board.

A confident Mansfield Normal team went home disappointed with a 40-7 punishment. St. Bonaventure College cancelled bringing the season of 1915 to an abrupt close. Counting all games Alfred scored 99 points to her opponents 41. Dorms, clubs, rooming houses, and individuals vied with each other in awarding appreciation sweaters to the conquering gridmen. No time was lost in securing Sweetland for another year, and a "22" Savage rifle went to his Dryden, New York, home as a mark of appreciation.

If the 1915 season had put Alfred a good stretch up the ladder, the next boosted her to its summit. Pre-season practice was introduced, and when the call went out, a good squad responded. The first college game was an encounter with the University of Rochester in Rochester—a strong outfit which would show what could be expected of the Alfred gridders. W. F. King, just elected captain to fill a vacancy, and H. D. Bliss, J. B. Cottrell, Jr., A. J. Decker, and Harry Boyd were rated as Alfred's stalwarts. The battle joined with fifty Alfred fans present. Sweetland's proteges subdued the Rochester eleven 27-0. Campus joy dangerously bottled up from Friday until Saturday night (for local religious reasons), burst forth with a wild celebration which included a march of sympathy to Jack Cottrell's quarters. Jack had received a fractured arm in the game. A new coat of paint on Burdick Hall had ruined that landmark as a scoreboard, but a real one had been provided just south of the hall. Roof-raising pep meetings preceded all games and provided the psychological preparations.

The game with Thiel College brought unprecedented scenes. There was the gathering of students and many others in front of the University Library, the march down North Main street to the field, led by the band; the tramp, tramp of hundreds of feet; the well organized cheering during the game; the calls of the peddlers of programs and refreshments; and the snake dance between halves as students crowded the vacated gridiron; movie cameras grinding to edify the future. With the closing whistle (score 21-7) an excited mass surged across the grounds again and up the street, with the football heroes surrounded by an informal guard of honor. The entire town gathered around the celebrating blaze, and cheers that made the echoes ring uncorked the pent-

up joy. The faculty melted by the enthusiasm declared a half-holiday for the St. Bonaventure game to be played on the Wellsville field. Alfred lost 7-19—the only defeat of that unbelievable season.

The crackling defeat of Hobart 33-0, the first victory over the parsons since 1907, was for many the high point of 1916. However, the conquest of the far-famed Carlisle Indians, one-time humblers of Syracuse and Harvard, attracted wider attention. True, the red men had passed the peak of their football greatness, but their name and fame were still high in popular esteem. The contest, fast and sportsmanlike, was played in heavy snow squalls and mud. When the red men and the white men separated those original Americans were seen at the small end of a 27-17 score. The big game and the big season were over. Fans who understood the relative standings of teams awarded Alfred the championship among the minor colleges of the State. Appreciation sweaters were awarded the men. A dance in their honor featured decorations with the football *motif.* Needless to say Coach Sweetland and his wife had an enthusiastic send-off. Thus ended one of Alfred's most memorable football years.

The rest of the half decade was tame compared with 1916. After some hesitation, the green light was turned on for 1917. Thiel College bowed to the Purple and Gold on a chilly day with a slippery field and falling snow. On a field described as liquid chocolate glue, amid a steady rain, a "safety" won Alfred's clash with Grove City College, 2-0. Two colleges cancelled and the abbreviated season ended, Alfred winning all three games. The football season of 1918, dominated by the Student Army unit, was noted in the previous chapter. In 1919, the war over, it seemed like old times again football-wise as school opened. Football uniforms were lacking, and queer garbs did temporary duty. Seven match games were played, three only with four-year colleges, allowing two victories and one defeat. This was not failure but not quite the success of the former Sweetland brand. Until this time, attitudes had been normally friendly. Then "a mean atmosphere" developed. Views were aired, until Coach Sweetland declared at a near-tearful mass meeting that he could no longer be Alfred's coach. Differences had intensified on the advisability of some practices introduced by coach and manager. Bitterness and antagonism which it took later officials time and effort to neutralize had grown among Alfred's football opponents, attitudes hard to explain as due entirely to the sting of defeat. It was most distressing that the period's athletic story should end on such a note.

Sources of tension in another area developed in the half decade. The new tendency (1916) to put the victory celebrations on Friday evenings (Sabbath evening to the local community and to the University's founders and earlier supporters) brought problems for both students and college officials. Later also the possibility of Saturday afternoon games away from Alfred was discussed as the student body ceased to be predominantly Seventh Day Baptist. The faculty refused to change the long-time rule against such games but authorized the President of the University to make exceptions in special cases. Occasional permission was granted, and on both issues the students gradually won their point.

CHAPTER XXI

The Climb Continues—Things Academic and Administrative, 1920-1933

THE FINAL third of the long Davis regime can still best be described by the single word—expansion. This burgeoning took place in enrollment, in curricula, especially in ceramics, in buildings, in finance, in prestige, in the freedom of student life; and even in the size of the problems and controversies which arose. All in all it was a dynamic period with spectacular advance in all lines of interest to Alfred's governors and well-wishers.

LIBERAL ARTS

In the oldest of the campus schools the enrollment growth showed vividly one phase of expansion, and since ceramic students did a considerable part of their work in liberal arts, the two enrollments for this immediate purpose may be combined, thus showing the total enrollment of the college-level student population. In 1919-20 this was 181 including 63 freshmen. In 1932-33 the parallel figures were 559 and 217.

The general set-up of courses in liberal arts and the requirements for matriculating and graduating remained substantially as earlier. There was definite enrichment of curricula in certain fields, and economics particularly arose in strength and standing by becoming a separate department. The earlier start in offering combination courses, like that in medicine with Yale, was expanded. In 1921 came two- and three-year pre-medical courses admitting to all "Class A" medical schools. A pre-dental course had been begun also, and in 1923 a pre-law combination was offered. The catalogs tabulated a variety of pre-professional courses as suggestions to students.

During the first part of the period there were some faculty changes and several well-known faculty men and women joined the teaching and administrative personnel. Succeeding the first dean in 1920, Dr.

Paul E. Titsworth received the title Dean of Alfred University, which position, while carrying certain academic responsibilities in liberal arts, included that of dean of men of both colleges. Three years later the new dean resigned his chair and his deanship to take the presidency of Washington College, Chestertown, Maryland. Then the deanship was offered to Dr. J. N. Norwood who took it reluctantly and retained it with the same feeling for a decade. The deanship of women was established in 1918 with Professor Mabel I. Hart as the first incumbent. Several faculty-connected ladies served in succession until 1925 when Dora Kenyon Degen (Mrs. George C. R.), daughter of Alfred's first dean, returned to the scenes of her earlier life and teaching and held the deanship for 21 years. She also headed the College Department of Bible and Religious Education.

The faculty newcomers included Dr. Russell S. Ferguson in biology and in his hobby—cross country coaching. Others were E. Fritjof Hildebrand, industrial mechanics; Joseph Seidlin, mathematics and physics; Mrs. Ada Becker Seidlin, pianoforte; Mrs. Beulah N. Ellis, English; Irwin A. Conroe, English; Gilbert W. Campbell, philosophy and education, who made the campus movies his hobby; A. David Fraser, classics; M. Ellis Drake, history; Miss Eva L. Ford, modern languages; Miss Lelia E. Tupper, English; and Paul C. Saunders, chemistry. Later in the period several other men and women joined the faculty: In 1928 came James A. McLane, physical education; James C. McLeod joined as chaplain the following year; then G. Stewart Nease, classics, Burton B. Crandall, economics, and Charles D. Buchanan, German, 1930. The 1931 group included Harold O. Burdick, biology; Alfred E. Whitford and L. Ray Polan, mathematics; Marie L. Cheval, modern languages; and Lloyd R. Watson, chemistry.

During the early 1920's President Davis' activities brought the accrediting nod of the Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools of the Middle States and Maryland. A few months later (1922) the President armed with files of information betook himself to see an official of the powerful, top flight Association of American Universities. Conferring with him a good half day Davis so impressed the official that the University soon received the same approving gesture of that Association, the highest college accrediting body in the United States. Attempts to gain acceptance of his Institution by the American Association of University Women were thwarted for several years. But with his usual persistence he won in 1931.

As the period swung into its latter part, two so-called survey courses suggested by a strong faculty Committee on Educational Policy were agreed upon, one in mathematics and science, the other in history and the social studies. The surveys were alternates to the freshman history and mathematics. Their purpose was to bring the student as early as convenient in touch with as wide a range of human knowledge as possible. Further tampering with things as they were kept the system of major and minor fields of specialization but encased them in larger concentration groups. These cut across departmental lines. Sample units were Industrial Arts and Mathematics, or Physics; and Philosophy, Ethics, Religion, Education. Some flexibility was permitted in making up the fields of concentration.

The coming of Chaplain McLeod (1929) marked an epoch in the religious life of the campus. President Davis, aided latterly by others, had long served as chaplain and minister of the enlarging Sunday congregation. Because of the presence of State schools two religious denominations contributed for a time to the project. McLeod became responsible for the triple services: University chaplain, minister of the Union University Church, and director of religious activities. Friendly, original, brainy, a good pulpit man, the young divine made a fine impression. After attending the last chapel service of his long leadership (1933), the deeply-moved President wrote McLeod that he considered "your selection. . .one of the most significant achievements of my presidency."

Illustrative of some kinds of cultural opportunities on the campus may be noticed a Schubert Day assembly presented by Director R. W. Wingate who briefly outlined the famous composer's life and sang several typical selections from his works. Several years later led by Mrs. S. R. Scholes, a much appreciated musical organization was formed representative of town and gown. Known as The Friends of Music that group made frequent appearances with its ensembles, soloists, and string quartet. Owing to the special talents and interests of certain faculty members the Allen Steinheim Museum was enjoying a period of activity and popular interest. New gifts came in. In 1927 a series of articles appeared in the Alfred *Sun* on the archeological collections. Also the unique character of the museum structure was evidenced by a statement of the Director of the Association of Museums that the Steinheim "is the second oldest science museum building now (1931) standing." Harvard had the oldest. As the period ended, the museum was attracting visitors at the rate of nearly 2,000 a year.

THE SEMINARY WOULD SECEDE

I shall "work for a complete. . .separation of the Seminary from the University...." Thus wrote Dean Arthur E. Main in 1926. Why was the theologian so anxious to secede? His discontent swirled around the University's action in permitting dancing and allowing some football games, though away from Alfred, on the Sabbath (Saturday). Hence the theological School was to suffer through a series of controversies which greatly harassed all University officials involved in them.

Denominational criticism of these deviations from former practices was strongly expressed by one official body thus: After the most "careful, prayerful, thoughtful, and continued consideration of the football issue," it "respectfully. . .endorses the old rule" and "deplores the exceptions to" it. Letters of protest received by President Davis were occasionally quite caustic. To one such the badgered executive departed from his usual suave, soothing terminology, and hit back with vigor and vinegar: "The wisdom and authority," he wrote, by which you read Alfred out of the denomination, "will be questioned by many who are not aware of such excommunicating authority." More normally the President aimed factually to allay fears and point out his problems. Now Dean Main himself could not go along with the University's dance and football policies. More broadly he noticed that colleges the country over were drifting away from their mother denominations. Alfred was obviously caught in the same trend. In addition the Dean felt that the University was not financially fair to his department. Other administrative matters also bothered him. Anyway those doubts and fears led him to declare for separation. His first thought was to merge the Seminary with some other Seventh Day Baptist college.

Before answering Main's declaration of independence Davis learned from University legal counsel that neither the University nor the Seventh Day Baptist Education Society could convert funds specified for the Seminary to the use of any but the "Alfred Theological Department." Trust funds once accepted must be applied as designated despite inconvenience to either or both parties to the issue. In view of those legal opinions Davis begged the Dean for his own peace of mind to leave administrative problems to those charged with them.

The Dean also had consulted counsel and was sure separation was possible. However, he had learned that his department standing alone could not meet State rules for degree-granting schools and had weakened on his secession plan. Reaching for half a loaf if a whole one were

unattainable he made the constructive alternative suggestion that the University trustees place the Seminary under another body, for example the Seventh Day Baptist Education Society. This would make the Seminary the spiritual possession of the churches. The trustees agreed to the extent that they placed it for informal management under a Board of Managers composed of three University trustees nominated by the Education Society and elected by the trustees, together with three ex-officio members—the presidents of the Education Society, the Trustees of the Seventh Day Baptist Memorial Fund, and the University trustees. With changes in detail and in name (Advisory Council) that extra-legal body, product of a gentleman's agreement, continued to determine or advise on Seminary policy into the 1950's. In 1926 the School's name was changed at the Dean's request from "The Alfred Theological Seminary" to "Department of Theology and Religious Education." Since the Dean's different contentions were never tested in the courts no absolute answer is possible as to their validity.

While deploring the Dean's lack of adjustment to executive responsibilities President Davis declared him to be a great man, one of the strongest in his particular sphere that the denomination had ever known. His popularity with his students was evidenced when his quarter century at Alfred was celebrated and letters poured in from the United States and other countries full of undying love for the Dean. It was shown again when he rounded out his third decade of service in 1931. But the days of Alfred's teacher of preachers were numbered. In the midst of plans for improving his own teaching techniques, still mentally alert but physically burdened with his four score years and six, he passed away January 29, 1933. In his later years, two parttime men had been provided as his assistants. One of these, Dr. Edgar D. VanHorn was named acting dean. The business depression seriously reduced the Seminary's finances, and it was 1935 before Dr. Ahva J. C. Bond stepped into the place of the departed Dean.

CERAMICS ENJOYS A BOOM

The dynamic 1920's brought a real boom to Alfred's Clay Working School, as it did to higher education generally. Toward the end of the period particularly, several changes added variety and flexibility to the courses offered in engineering. In the Art Department, while the Normal course no longer bore that name, the two earlier trends continued, i.e., the stress on art with reference to industrial needs and the

preparation of teachers. Beside the pottery work in the latter, crafts such as block-printing, weaving, and batik were included.

Turning our sights outward, we find that as earlier the American Ceramic Society Conventions drew a number of students from their laboratories. In 1925 at Columbus, Ohio, six students or alumni and three faculty members had spots on the program. It was there too, that the first of those vivacious Alfred ceramic dinners took place. Thirty-seven Alfredians attended. The silver anniversary of the School and of the Binns' leadership was at hand. The dinner inevitably became a forum from which to pay him tribute. It was a fitting preliminary to the celebration at the Commencement a few weeks later. On that occasion "Daddy" Binns, as he was affectionately named, delivered the customary Doctor's Oration and received an honorary degree. The President of the American Ceramic Society presented him with an engrossed testimonial; and the alumni announced the creation of the Charles Fergus Binns Medal—an annual award for signal achievement in ceramic art.

The boom had zoomed enrollment in the School from the 52 of 1920 to 220 in 1933. Several new teachers and an executive or two came and went or stayed. Among them were the well-known Clara K. Nelson, art; Clarence W. Merritt, engineering; Murray J. Rice, chemistry; Charles M. Harder, art; Charles R. Amberg, engineering; Major E. Holmes, Dean; Samuel R. Scholes, glass; and Robert M. Campbell, engineering. The expanding institution was figuratively bursting at the seams. Several abortive attempts had been made to win from the legislature a new building. A couple of suggestions made late in the 1920's added pressure to the push. Various interests including the State Education Department had become interested in having a glass department for the School and a former student had suggested prophetically a ceramic experiment station.

Thus, despite previous disappointments, armed with letters from influential ceramic industrialists, and their never-knew-when-they-were-licked spirit, the Alfred authorities led by President Davis again went after a new building. Earlier Davis had sent Governor Franklin D. Roosevelt a cogent brief arguing for it. The Governor objected. Nevertheless a special bill was introduced by Senator John Knight providing an appropriation of $175,000 for the new building. It glided through both houses in April, 1930. Davis, Merrill, and Binns rushed to Albany and were in the executive chamber when Mr. Roosevelt's signature was affixed. He told the trio that he had decided to sign it and thereby

"heap coals of fire on John Knight's head"—the latter gentleman being a leading Republican State senator. Thus was assured the edifice long known as the New Ceramic Building and later, for obvious reasons, Merrill Hall, for Hon. J. J. Merrill. A glass department was provided for—the first in any ceramic educational institution in the United States.

Ground was not broken until the Commencement of 1931. At that time a touching preliminary meeting in Alumni Hall (old Chapel Hall) included greetings from the American Ceramic Society to the Director who was soon to quit the leadership he had held so long. Dr. Binns had passed the statutory age limit and received the title of Director Emeritus, December 31, 1931. He had lifted the School into international recognition. He had adorned art institutes and museums with his own handiwork, written books, and published scores of articles and reports in his field. All joined to do him honor. Dr. Davis expressed his love for his longtime colleague and regretted his retirement. Professors Amberg and Rice became acting co-directors, and Dr. Binns' other work was divided among his former colleagues.

Coincidentally with changing its leadership the School also changed its name. A rather sudden movement crystallized to elevate it to college status, which it had always enjoyed in fact. A bill with that intent passed in 1932 and the School became "The New York State College of Ceramics at Alfred University." On Binns' retirement the College hung out a "Director Wanted" sign. Dr. Davis was soon enroute to the Missouri School of Mines where large-framed Major E. Holmes headed the ceramic engineering department. A conference between the two men resulted in Dr. Holmes' appointment as the first dean of the Ceramic College effective July 1, 1932. Holmes had served as development engineer for two different ceramic firms after completion of his doctorate at Cornell. Later he acted as consulting engineer for several other firms in his own field and had won a national reputation as an engineer. In early summer he and Mrs. Holmes came to Alfred ready for the tasks ahead. Meantime Dr. Samuel R. Scholes had accepted the leadership of the new glass technology work. The new specialist had a doctorate from Yale. He had been a research fellow and assistant director of Mellon Institute and had lectured for some time at Ohia State University. Like the dean, Dr. Scholes enjoyed a national reputation in his field and came to Alfred recommended by ceramic industrial leaders.

During these events the finest building boasted by any ceramic educational institution in the country was practically completed. Dedica-

tion took place in June 1933, the occasion honored by the presence of Governor Herbert H. Lehman, who received an honorary degree, expressed his interest in the College, and favored adequate support for it. Dean Holmes introduced a group of prominent visiting ceramists including President John C. Hostetter of the American Ceramic Society who bespoke the happiness of the Society over the new facilities at Alfred. A scroll was presented to President Davis about to retire listing his long services to the State School. Following the oratory the new hall was thrown open for inspection.

Gleaning new ideas from all possible sources especially from the knowledgeable Secretary of the American Ceramic Society, Ross C. Purdy, and his own wide experience, Dean Holmes reached certain broad decisions as to the changes needed in the College program. He planned a definite expansion in general technology and engineering aimed at covering all branches of the industry—glass, refractories, gypsum, cement, equipment design, and plant lay-out. Some specialized sciences were to be added or newly stressed, such as petrography and advanced physical chemistry. A course in research was on his planned academic bill of fare. Conferences with Dr. Harlan H. Horner of the State Education Department and others in 1933 focussed other policies. Masters degrees were authorized. Research was heartily approved by Dr. Horner, but *training of teachers must cease,* gradually but definitely. The divisional organization of the College was ratified, i.e., General Ceramic Technology and Engineering, Glass Technology, and Ceramic Art.

So it stood in 1933. With a new building, a new name, a new dean, and a new department, the College eagerly faced its broadening future.

THE SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE LANGUISHES

The conditions which brought prosperity to Ceramics almost put NYSA out of existence. But as the period opened that School seemed as prosperous as ever. Enrollment was large; its objectives still were to prepare men and women for successful life on their own farms, but with an eye also for those who wished positions as inspectors or farm managers. Newly awakened interest in rural teacher-training led the State to provide for that work (1920). Director Ladd resigned in 1920 and was succeeded by locally-born Archie E. Champlin ('08), who held the position many years.

But clouds lowered on the horizon and were closing in. The post-war depression in agriculture hurt all institutions serving that key industry.

Enrollments turned sharply down—from 90 in the local agricultural courses in 1920-21 to 42 in 1925-26. In 1924 reduced appropriations snipped three teachers off the staff. Governor Smith suggested that some of those special schools be closed. Despite an energetic promotional campaign and a new emphasis on extension work, enrollment figures became still more alarming. Farm and Home week and home making courses had been dropped. By late 1926 State officials were planning to turn NYSA into a mere extension school with no resident students. Amid these disturbing events another element of change was injected when by the general reorganization and consolidation of State executive departments (1927), the agricultural schools were placed still more fully under the State Education Department. This reduced the local boards of managers (the trustees of Alfred University in the local case) to boards of visitors practically without authority or responsibility.

Up to that winter (1927) farmers had been unaccountably apathetic about the fate of their schools. President Davis was almost bitter over the lethargy. He and his associates had fought for years to save the agricultural schools, trying to awaken farmers to the crisis. A friendly State senator in Alfred's area complained that until within a few weeks no farmer or farm organization had troubled to say to him that the School at Alfred was of any value to them. But they did wake up, if late, and kicked up considerable agitation. The State Fair Association demanded such appropriations as would mean the schools' continuance. Others backed the demand, and the bill carrying the appropriation became law. The crisis was passed. NYSA would continue as a residence school and would also push extension work.

Having thus escaped demotion, if not extinction figuratively by a hair, the emaciated Institution fought manfully for healthy survival. An earlier decision to drop teacher training was reversed. In 1927 a new departure in extension work began aiming to give to farm boys high school instruction in agriculture. It was a good example of the Agricultural School's desire to serve. Director Champlin was everywhere selling farmers on the School and on the value of the new Farm Bureaus. In 1932 he listed among other happenings potato, poultry, stock, and fruit-judging competitions, formation of an Ayrshire Club, alumni picnics, and progress in teacher training. Admittedly, things were going quite well. In 1932 a State commission to assess the Schools of Agriculture recommended continuance of them all. It specially called for increased funds for the Alfred School and two others.

SUMMER SCHOOL PROSPERS

This lusty youngster of seven summers was involved with both the College and the Clay School. Enrollment was growing notably in its distinctive rural teacher training. But a State ruling in 1923 changed the requirement for a rural teacher certificate which proved detrimental to the summer program. Also, as we have seen, the School of Agriculture added its tax-backed competition in the same field. Later, however, summer work for high school teachers was winning popularity.

In 1925 pottery courses were again offered in the summer. In 1933 stenography and typewriting became parts of the curriculum. In 1923 the School had lost its chief founder and Director when Dr. Paul E. Titsworth became President of Washington College, Chestertown, Maryland; and the University trustees selected his cousin, Professor Waldo A. Titsworth, as director. At the same time those governors of the College assumed more direct responsibility for the summer venture. In the summer of 1930 enrollment was 126 with 24 teachers, and 58 listed courses. As usual, summer extra-curricular life was a varied mixture of culture and recreation. Picnics, dances, sing-fests paralleled the weekly assemblies, music, and religious services. In 1933 special items included a bus trip to famed Niagara Falls and a most interesting lecture on Oberammergau by Dr. Paul E. Titsworth, an eye witness, and back again in Alfred as president-elect of the University.

AWAKENING ALUMNI

The colorful Commencement festivities were proceeding as usual. Let us glimpse graduates and former students especially in their collective capacities. In 1924 the Alumni Association was reorganized with a part-time paid secretary and a publication—*The Alumni Quarterly.* Each class selected a "secretary-agent" to act for it and supply class news for the *Quarterly.* New ways were borrowed or invented to secure contributions from alumni and friends. That same fall "Homecoming Day" was inaugurated when alumni revisited the scenes of college days for a variety of activities. It was an ideal October day. There was a football game with St. Bonaventure—a scoreless tie until the fourth down on Alfred's one-yard line when Alfred lost the ball and the game. This was partially offset when between halves wing-footed Hollis Herrick led his cross country team to a 19 to 26 victory over Colgate. The next year fraternities and sororities held open house, and a dance was added for

alumni and students' enjoyment. Fall homecoming became an annual alumni event.

New geographical groups came into being. The ceramic alumni in 1929 adopted a more formal organization in connection with the American Ceramic Society Convention in Chicago—the first non-geographic unit. Also the popular Sunday morning reunion class breakfasts at Commencement time in the Brick were coming into vogue. That year, too, the Twentieth Century Club of graduates literally "passed in its checks" (cash on hand) to the Alumni Association treasurer and went out of existence. In 1932 the *Quarterly* came out in a colorful new cover symbolic of Alma Mater, and the following year dropped its merely chronologically significant name for the more descriptive *The Alumni News.* For better or for worse the Association had become more closely tied in with the new Department of Finance under Dr. J. Wesley Miller.

Thus we see the more academic sides of the mounting Davis climb. The next chapter will describe even more spectacular evidence of it.

CHAPTER XXII

Money, Bricks and Mortar, 1920-1933

IF THE previous chapter provoked the use of the term "expansion," this one surely added to it. Alfred University was riding high. Finanically it gathered funds represented by the magic word "million." Nor did financial showers happen by chance. They were the result of hard, persistent, wise creation of shower-weather. Much will be said also about the succession of new buildings which came to adorn the expanding campus.

FINANCE

In 1920 President Davis had applied to the General Education Board (Rockefeller Foundation) for the larger sum of $100,000. Late that fall the request was granted with conditions. Alfred must raise $200,000 elsewhere in cash or pledges by October 30, 1921, all of which must be collected in five years from that date. By that time also the University must be free from debt! Cash and pledges already won would count toward the total. About the same time President Davis had presented a similar request to the Carnegie Corporation for the Advancement of Teaching. He had done much to inform both philanthropic bodies about Alfred's needs. Nevertheless Dr. Davis felt that the Alfred authorities should push ahead on the firm Rockefeller offer without awaiting an answer to the Carnegie appeal. Yet Alfred's President did not cease to woo the steel king's funds.

On Founders Day, 1920, the conditional offer was announced at the student assembly. In an address at the local church Davis listed the amounts to be raised and their purpose. Counting the prospective gift (of $100,000) by the Rockefeller people and the $150,000 in sight from solicitation already done ($250,000 in all), another $100,000 was needed to meet the requirement making the total $350,000. Of that total $300,000 was for endowment and $50,000 to liquidate the debt on the Heat-

ing Plant. The college executive urged his fellow townsmen and co-religionists to treble the $10,000 they had already pledged—a huge task he agreed. The general drive was resumed and by June 1921 the sum needed was nearly half subscribed. Success came in the early fall. Just before the deadline (October 30, 1921) came the tense announcement: "If $20,000 can be raised in the next five days, the battle is won."

It was won. At ten o'clock that evening the goal was reached with $500 to spare. The success, Alfred's greatest to that date, called for a celebration. Led by the band and managed by "Daddy" Binns, a colorful parade of all the campus schools circled through Main, Pine, and State Streets to Academy Hall. There came the speeches of representatives of the various groups active in the solicitation. Especially pleasing to the President was the students' contribution of $10,500. When final figures emerged from the adding machines, the drive was $25,000 over the top. Striding through the intervening years to 1926 when the cash must all be in hand, a final push raised money to fill in for lapses in the pledges of 1921. All was well, and the conditional gift was paid in full. In fact the Improvement Fund in the first decade of its existence (1916-26) had brought to the University $514,000.

Stimulated by the success of that drive Davis and his trustees felt that the momentum must be conserved. The raising of that last $40,000 or $50,000 to fill in the earlier subscription failures had been consolidated with a continuation of the Improvement Fund effort aiming at a million new dollars by the centennial in 1936. The first objectives were rehabilitation of Academy Hall, liquidation of the debt on Allen Laboratory, and the capture of that elusive gymnasium. Thus the new "Million Dollar Centennial Fund" program was launched. The trustees' finance committee was directed to carry out the plan. The Alfred area was informed of the services the University was providing for its youth. So successfully was this done that by 1930 the response had been liberal. But before goodby was said to 1929 it became clear that expert aid would be needed for the final push. Hence Alfred's top three money generals, Davis, Orra S. Rogers, and C. Loomis Allen went into a huddle with officers of the Hancher Organization of Chicago, Illinois—just such a concentration of expert "know-how." A contract brought Dr. J. Wesley Miller, one of those experts, to lead in the finale.

While the wider organization was warming up, President Davis and others had been busy and had won money and buildings in surprising amounts. The first meeting of the Centennial Fund Council convened in the new Social Hall. This was a house warming for the hall in effect.

As the invited representative members of that council, men and women of Alfred's larger area gathered that early autumn day (1930) their sparkling array of automobiles stood parked about the Hall. One very solvent citizen alighting from his shining car was heard to remark: "Well, boys, they hope that this honor will cost us money."

After lunch, speeches broke out, and when the oratory ceased Justin B. Bradley (ex'15) was elected chairman, and the group pledged support of the campaign. Dr. Miller introduced his office and field workers and reported that the fund had already reached the half-way point. December 20 (1930) was set for the climax. The magic Million should be pledged by that date. The campaign went well and excitement mounted as time ran out—coming to its peak that late December evening. Suddenly came the cry: "There goes the Chapel bell, the drive is over the top." The late mail that evening brought an unexpected $20,000 contribution, which clinched the drive. Final accounting showed $1,020,-610. The rejoicing may well be imagined even though the unprecedented success came in the midst of the Christmas vacation.

What followed by way of another Continuing Improvement Campaign was in the nature of an anti-climax. A new Department of Finance was created, and Dr. J. W. Miller, enticed from the Hancher organization, was made Director (Fall 1931). A staggering list of objectives was drawn up calling for another million dollars—all swallowed at one optimistic gulp by the trustees. But there was a Depression on with a big D, and the channels of business were congealing in its icy grip. Solicitation of funds in such a temperature was futile, and the Director's energies were turned to the promotion of student enrollment. The department helped with alumni affairs and an alumni continuous support plan was talked about to help University finances. With those aims the fund raising efforts again went over to a later period.

Meantime talk had resulted in action on trying out a student loan and deferred obligation plan with the William E. Harmon Foundation of New York. Alfred joined in 1923 one of the first to do so. Loans were repaid by the students in installments after leaving college. Two years later a deferred tuition feature was added to the simple loan program. Both Harmon projects operated successfully for a number of years. In 1929 Mr. John P. Herrick of Olean, New York established a scholarship loan fund of $6,000. A little later the donor changed the loan plan into one of free scholarships. During the next quarter century Mr. Herrick established scholarships for the education

of youth to the extent of over $250,000. He also was influential in getting others to join with him in this good work.

These financial operations were of course more or less closely tied in with the fund hunting described above. Another generous gift came from Mr. Judson G. Rosebush, '00, a native of Alfred, who created the George W. Rosebush Foundation Professorship of Economics as a memorial to his father—a gift of $100,000 as planned. It was no fault of the donor that the devastating depression so seriously crippled his plans.

On finance we still have the story of the debt—an almost constant companion of the University treasurers. At the end of the previous period (1920) the old debt we saw stood at $25,200. The successful financial drives reduced it to a mere $2,000. The clearing of the debt through an underwriting committee as pledges were paid to qualify for the Rockefeller gift left the treasurer freed from direct debt. In 1927-28, however, there began what may be called the new debt which remained a feature of University finance until past the middle of the century. That debt was forced on the Institution by the booming enrollment which came faster than cash could be collected to pay for facilities to care for such an increase. New buildings were absolutely essential. By 1929 the debt thus incurred was $125,000. The loans were to be paid by the Centennial Fund (i.e., Improvement Fund) subscriptions. The success of the "Million" dollar effort eased the situation temporarily. But the depression deepened, and commitments pressed so that when the period and the Davis presidency ended (1933) the debt had bulged to a rather frightening $239,200. The obligation was represented by three items: University Serial Notes, a loan from the Howe Public Library Fund, Wellsville, New York, and borrowings from the University's endowment.

A few financial bits may conclude the money phase of this climax of the Davis climb. In 1927 the University trustees by voluntary assessment voted to pay half the $75,000 cost of the new village sewer system, namely $37,500, of which sum the State paid $15,000 as its share for the State schools. Another bit involved the State, which in 1931 changed its method of compensating the University for instruction of ceramic students in liberal arts classes from an annual lump sum appropriation, to one based on the actual credit hours of teaching. As our final bit, the Carnegie Corporation, earlier rather dubious about Alfred, voted the University Library along with other libraries an annual appropriation ($2,000) for three years.

BRICKS AND MORTAR

The climax in money matters having now been considered we look at the bricks and mortar phase. To be sure the two phases were closely intertwined. As we have seen, the debate on what to do with the old livery barn ended with a decision to demolish it. The new science laboratory, therefore, was to rise on State Street. Ground was broken in 1922. Construction was pushed through summer, fall, and winter. In April an opening ceremony was held therein with the lecture room packed. Dr. Ferguson of the Biology Department eulogized the laboratory sciences as "destroyers of groundless theory." Formal dedication at Commencement was featured by an outstanding address by Dr. Leon I. Shaw, '07, then assistant Chief Chemist of the United States Bureau of Mines. He concluded by dedicating the building to the services of science both pure and applied. The trustees named it "The Allen Memorial Laboratory."

The Heins Memorial Grandstand was the gift of Mrs. Meta Heins Wallander, as a memorial to her brother, Ernest Augustus Heins, a former student of the School of Agriculture who died in World War I. Erected on the west side of Merrill Field in 1924, it formed a fine addition to sports facilities. Other field improvements also were under way. For several years the field house had been allowed to deteriorate. In 1921 the new "Athletic Advisory Board," chaired by sports-minded J. J. Merrill, started a series of betterments in the field and field house. The result made the latter a large and commodious facility, with showers and other accessories. It was then that the field house was moved from the west side to its present site (1921). Three years later when the Heins Memorial was built, the field was regraded and still further attention given the house. In 1925 the sports-area was designated "Merrill Field."

Gymnasium was still a touchy word. Student complaints continued over that and other athletic inadequacies, but knocking was not all the students did. For instance, when celebrating its freshman moving up day in 1924 the class contributed $100 toward a gymnasium. A plan sparked by Dr. Ferguson promised such a joy without embarrassing the authorities. It involved a bond issue financed by an extra student athletic fee. By fall (1925) this had crystallized into plans for a gymnasium across the creek from the Delta Sigma Phi chapter house. A "T" shaped structure was planned 82' x 120', the stem of the "T" to house a basketball court and running track. The head of the "T" would contain showers,

lockers, and other equipment. President Davis sanctioned the plan, and construction began that year.

January 1926 the first intercollegiate basketball game (with Canisus College) was played on the still unfinished court. Unfinished, but still a start toward more adequate sports facilities for Alfred's bulging campus population. Nevertheless Davis and his trustees did not stand still. The summer of 1928 saw excavation started for the top of the "T"—finishing off the arc-roofed court. This was built, furnished, and ready for dedication by February, 1929. The oratory echoed in Alumni Hall. Athletic events filled the afternoon with classes suspended. "Track House" was the temporary name of the building. Later it was christened "Men's Gymnasium."

With one squeeze relieved, another was eased by a transformation of the Academy Hall into Alumni Hall. Pressured by its own size the weekly student assembly had migrated from Kenyon Hall to Firemen's Hall in1924. Two years later with 500 students enrolled and seating for far fewer in the new location something had to be done. Hence Academy Hall underwent drastic internal rearrangement, and external face-lifting. "Don't spend any of my money on that old relic!" warned some contributors. "Use the Hall, but preserve its architectural unity," begged others. Sentimentalizing over it one asserted: "Old Alumni Hall symbolized. ..the simple plainness and austere spirit of the pioneer Alfred." Praised were its rich historical associations, unsurpassed architectural charm, and its unique place in University and alumni life. By late fall of 1927 it was ready for dedication. The date set, December 1, was just the wrong one. Floods pushed the event from forenoon to afternoon. Even then some who started never arrived in Alfred. It was Founders' Day and the traditional "Song of the Classes"—

Where, O, where are the verdant freshmen?
Safe, safe in the sophomore class

seeped out of the building. There were reminiscences on former days in the story of Old Chapel Hall. When the songs and the talks ceased the seventy-five year old landmark, rechristened "Alumni Hall" had been given a new lease of life.

Needs, needs, and more needs: no sooner was one need satisfied than another popped up behind, or even alongside it. To meet a long felt want a one-room infirmary was operated in the house just south of the Brick (1926-27). Plans were in the verbal stage for the next year when up came the unexpected. Marcus L. Clawson, M.D., '90, hinted

to his receptive classmate, President Davis, his intention to furnish the campus with an infirmary. His generous offer was received with sincere appreciation and gratitude. The University had acquired the residence in question and now agreed to install steam heat and electricity. The Doctor made other necessary changes and repairs in the house, supplied hospital equipment, and paid the salaries of nurse and housekeeper for the first year or two. After experimenting a bit, Dr. Clawson expected to provide a modern building with full infirmary equipment, medical offices, and examination and operating rooms. By late fall all was ready. An experienced nurse, Miss Lydia Conover, long associated with the donor, was put in charge with an assistant. Dr. Raymond O. Hitchcock located in Alfred just in time to become University physician and make use of the Infirmary. Opening and dedication Day was October 24, 1927 when it was inspected approvingly by a constant stream of visitors. Very quickly Alfred's new acquisition fully justified itself. Unfortunately that all pervading depression wilted Dr. Clawson's larger plans.

A beautiful gift of the Class of 1925 was the "Campus Gateway." It all came by way of sundry secret conferences of class representatives with President Davis over architect's plans. Costing $500 the gift was formally presented to the University at Commencement.

February 19, 1929, Babcock Hall of Physics burned. The Dean awakened with a start about three o'clock one morning. "Was that the fire alarm?" The whole sky was an ominous copper glow. The fire's early start spelled total ruin to the structure. Much irreplaceable equipment was lost. Classes were burned out of classrooms and laboratories. The local ceramic society was rendered homeless. That technical group soon met in Kenyon Hall for its regular program, its stated topic appropriately enough being "High Temperature Insulation!" President Davis was on vacation in Florida. The dean, registrar, and treasurer assumed charge and advised Dr. Davis not to cut short his stay south. Harry C. Greene, efficient superintendent of buildings and grounds, had before noon run a steam line around the ruin putting heat again in Allen Laboratory. Also with his uncanny gift to visualize such problems Registrar Waldo A. Titsworth was ready by four o'clock to announce at a faculty meeting rooms, laboratories, and schedules for most of the classes burned out. A fair degree of normalcy was quickly achieved.

Letters of sympathy poured in with promises of aid. The first, with a gift of $100 came from the Women's Student Government. Architects

were quickly set to work pencilling plans for a more convenient rectangular structure on the old site. The shops were to be placed in a one story annex in the rear. The latter was ready in the fall of 1929. Difficulties arose with respect to the main building because of the financial depression. Still the basement was begun in 1931 and pushed until winter interfered, and the work done was put in winter wrappings where it slumbered until after the Davis era ended.

While Alfred's leaders were puzzling over the replacement of a burned physics building, pressure was rising again for some sort of social union building. Several possibilities were inspected and rejected. Then further search was happily suspended when an anonymous donor proposed to erect a social union building at the head of University Place modeled so far as possible on the old White House. In January L. C. Whitford took the contract. All this, however, was done before Dr. Davis was allowed to disclose the donor's name—Susan Slingerland Howell (Mrs. William L.) Ames. Construction moved rapidly when spring came (1930). The corner stone ceremony took place in connection with the weekly assembly. Mrs. Ames was introduced and was roundly applauded. A native of Alfred, she gained her early education on the campus, became a widely known musician, having studied at musical centers in this country and in Europe. The donor married Arthur Mees, internationally known in the music world, and after his death wedded Mr. William L. Ames of New York. Social Hall was erected in memory of four relatives including herself who had borne the name Susan Howell. After brief addresses at the assembly, adjournment was taken to the building site where Mrs. Ames spread the mortar, and the cornerstone was laid.

At the first assembly in September came an elaborate dedicatory program. Illness kept Mrs. Ames from attending. "I wish it to be," she wrote, "a place for social contacts in an atmosphere of refinement and the observance of the social amenities, the easy use of which marks the cultured and well-bred." The chief dedicatory address was given by Dean Dora K. Degen, who described the plans for the management of Mrs. Ames' gift. She noted the furnishings including the glorious Steinway piano once the property of famed Raphael Joseffy and later of Mr. Mees. The fireplace design and the mantel vases were the work of Director Binns. The wrought iron bridge lamps and fireplace fittings represented the skill of Professor F. S. Place. Nor was Mr. Ames to be left out. Secretly he had a famous artist do a near life-sized portrait of his wife and on a surprise visit had it hung over the mantel of the fire-

place. Thus more than is true of any other campus structure except the Steinheim, Mrs. Ames put her personality into her gift.

From a Social Hall we move to a new dormitory.

"And now it gives me great pleasure to tell you that it [building Bartlett Memorial Hall] is exactly what I should like to do and feel sure at the same time that Dad would wish just such a memorial...." Thus wrote Nancy Bartlett Laughlin in France to President Davis (1929). Naturally Davis could scarcely contain himself. "God bless you," fervently wrote Alfred's excited executive, "how can I thank you enough?"

This splendid conclusion followed several years of intestate deaths, doubts, hopes, and surprises. Mr. Frank L. Bartlett of Olean, a trustee of the University, had told President Davis that he planned a dormitory on the campus for freshman boys. He had also told his friend, Judge Edward W. Hatch, a fellow trustee. A tangled chain of events pushed the large Bartlett estate into the lap of Nancy Bartlett Laughlin, who spent much time abroad. Naturally the young heiress was quite upset by the death of her father and the unexpected load of responsibility which fell to her. Miss Florence W. Hatch, who succeeded her own father on the University board of trustees and a long-time friend of Mrs. Laughlin, played a helpful role in acquainting her friend with Mr. Bartlett's intentions.

Official announcement of the gift was made at a meeting of trustees and others in New York. The toastmaster was Louis Wiley of the New York *Times*, an honorary alumnus. Formal acceptance was voted with regrets at the donor's absence. Appropriate resolutions of thanks were passed and included in a booklet sent to Mrs. Laughlin. The building contract was let to L. C. Whitford, the star builder in Alfred's construction boom. The Bartlett Memorial Hall was ready for its freshmen in the fall of 1931 and was dedicated October 1. The donor's modesty prevented her from participating. The accommodating Miss Hatch represented her. Hon. Hamilton Ward of Buffalo delivered the principal address. After the assembly, an "At Home" was held in the dormitory allowing full inspection of the freshman-filled hall. On an earlier occasion President Davis had expressed the general feeling thus: "No praise is too high for the wisdom, philanthropy, and love which prompted this gift by Mrs. Laughlin." The coming of the great dormitory filled another of those pressing needs.

In November, 1932 two campus officials, Registrar and Dean, glancing at noon from their offices in Kanakadea Hall were startled to see

flames belching from an open window high in the Brick. Fire fighters swarmed in from the area to help the hard-pressed local firemen. After many hours, the fire fiend was subdued, leaving the 75-year old hall unroofed and gutted. Considerable equipment and personal effects were saved and stored, the latter being mostly claimed by their rightful owners. The hundred ousted co-eds were quickly located about town with a dining department opened for them in the Seventh Day Baptist Church Parish House. The relocation was done by much friendly co-operation and preeminently through the poise and clear sightedness of Mrs. Dora K. Degen, Dean of Women.

Nearly 20 college generations of alumni women who had lived in and loved the variously-named hall heard of the disaster with regret. A mere man attempted to express their feelings in the following lines (last two stanzas):

The Old Landmark's Dead

Think of the girls of long ago
  Shaky-voiced when this news they know,
Memories stirred, fond pictures bring:
  Lyceums, sleighbells, a diamond ring.

At eve it was a gladsome sight,
  Those friendly rows of brilliant light;
Now ghostly still and dark instead
  Dull echo sighs, "The old landmark's dead."

After considerable discussion, it was decided to rebuild although some felt it to be a waste of money. The Georgian Colonial style of architecture was chosen in harmony with some newer buildings on the campus. Fire resisting material was used. The large north porch was eliminated and the approach made by the present curved iron stairway. President Davis boasted of the tiled floor bathrooms and dining room and the mechanized kitchen. Thus renovated, many felt that the dormitory should have a recognized official name. Twenty years earlier the lack of it had led to an abortive attempt to fill the need. In 1913 one page of the University catalogue called the building "Ladies Hall," while another listed it as the "Brick." Faculty and students pondered the subject and with presidential sanction chose one. Then amid Hallowe'en festivities that fall they ceremoniously re-christened it "Abigail Allen Hall" for the wife of former President Allen. However, that name failed to "take," and it was not until the events of 1932-33

that it became officially "The Brick," with the words carved over the north entrance.

BRICK AND MORTAR BREVITIES

On this subject a number of developments can have brief notice. In 1921 the Morgan house on Sayles Street was acquired by the University and soon housed a sorority. The Greene Block (later Greene Hall), University property since 1913, was pressed into use for class and office space in 1923. In 1932 Professor Harold O. Burdick acquired the small house now behind Allen Laboratory, where frolic the little animals which live and die, sacrifices to human well-being. Crandall Hall (The President's Home) on South Main Street became University property in 1928. Finally, football at Alfred was revolutionized in part when (1930) 4,000,000, and later (1954) 8,440,000 candle-power electric lighting was installed in Merrill Field.

Was expansion the appropriate word?

CHAPTER XXIII

The Students' Alfred, 1920-1933

IN THIS period student life was greatly affected by the rapid increase in enrollment, as were other features of the Alfred story. Campus life was one of the many facets and rich in improving changes. Old institutions were modified or abandoned and new ones introduced.

THE GREEKS

A relatively new feature among these institutions was the fraternities. As already noted, they were quickly interested in getting houses of their own. In 1921 the agricultural fraternity, Theta Gamma, moved triumphantly into a three story house with large grounds on Elm Street. In the fall of 1922 Eta Phi Gamma left its South Main Street quarters to establish itself in the former home of Director C. F. Binns on State Street. Then disaster after disaster befell the boys. Twenty-four hours before Christmas came the fiery destroyer. Zero weather favored the flames. What a forlorn mess it was when the fires were quenched! Books, hangings, clothing, rugs, and furniture presented the hopeless, bedraggled desolation so typical of fires and the almost equally destructive water. Renting a house on South Main Street, they burned out again. It was May before they returned to their restored State Street property. In 1921 Klan Alpine and the next year Delta Sigma Phi bought their present chapter houses.

In 1925 Eta Phi Gamma dropped its local chrysalis and nationalized as New York Beta of Theta Kappa Nu. A full-blown initiation guided by their national officers installed them in their new status. In the fall of 1922 rumor was rife about a fourth Greek group ready to burst on the Alfred scene. The youngster's name was "Kappa Psi Upsilon." Faculty approval gained, Sanford Cole became its leader and Dr. R. S. Ferguson its friendly counsellor. House hunting was a first enterprise.

Nor was that all Kappa Psi did. It helped to focus earlier talk of a "Pan Hellenic Council" to govern the local Greeks. Other influences aided, and representatives of the four fraternities met to formulate a constitution for such a council. By April differences were ironed out, and the charter drawn up and ratified. New misunderstandings arose, however, and for a couple of years the council traveled a bumpy road.

In February 1926 came the first rush and pledging system under the Council's direction, and a high point in Hellenic good-feeling was notched when Theta Kappa Nu gave an inter-fraternity smoker for all fraternity men including those of the New York State School of Agriculture. But despite the happy interlude, the dreaded blow fell that year and nearly wrecked the Council. The Council declared Klan Alpine guilty of violating the spirit of the constitution. It was decreed that pledge pins of all Klan freshmen be recalled. The Klansmen crashed back with a blast proclaiming that the Council was prejudiced and aimed at limiting Klan's legitimate growth. Every attempt was made through the spring of 1927 to heal this campus-cracking schism. Blood pressures dropped a little during the summer, and early in the fall Klan helped by petitioning for reinstatement in the Council. Negotiations began, and after a year and a half the breach was healed (April 1929). Thus ended two and a half years of bitterness which had also infiltrated other campus organizations. Greek unity was important as those groups became increasingly influential in student affairs.

Now let us back up a little to resume the thread of events. In the spring of 1927 Kappa Psi Upsilon established itself in the residence at the head of the present Greene Street. The event was celebrated by a general interfraternity smoker. In the friendly blue haze the house was "warmed" and goodwill cultivated. It was near this time that the non-fraternity men's group, or the "Independents," assumed organized form and became a recognized campus influence. In the fall, too, (1927) the ceramic engineers formed an engineering society which after a number of years and through a couple of mergers became the well-known Keramos (April 10, 1932). This gave the engineers a single national fraternity. Outside its natural professional interest it reportedly specialized in roast pig dinners! In early 1930 an all-Jewish group organized Kappa Eta Phi, and was hailed as marking a new step in campus democracy. Two years later it nationalized with Kappa Nu, and the "Castle" became its home.

While Kappa Nu was settling into its new status and residence, Delta Sigma Phi was burning its chapter house mortgage (1933). Dean J. N.

Norwood, treasurer of its corporation, assured Dr. B. C. Davis, the corporation president, that the debt had been paid. Then Dr. Davis took the proffered match and 80 members and alumni around the chapter house dinner tables cheered as the $10,000 papers blazed. Meantime in 1930 a group of men mostly of Italian parentage won permission from the faculty to form Beta Phi Omega. It took the former Eta Phi house on South Main Street, and went on probation for admission to the Inter-fraternity Council.

How were the ladies taking all this male Greek activity? They also were smitten by the fraternal fever and had formed three prosperous sororities. The first of these sisterhoods, Theta Theta Chi, announced its advent in January, 1921 with a dinner at the Brick. Nor did these sisters merely exist. When May blossoms opened, they explored with invited gentlemen guests, of course, the wonders of Portage and its famous falls. The next autumn, after successful negotiations with Mrs. O. S. Morgan through President Davis, the girls moved with pride and joy into Morgan Hall. Soon occurred there the first of those open house events or receptions for students and faculty which were to contribute much to campus social life. And with University assistance (1924) desirable alterations in the house were made, and the girls put on the road to its ownership.

Two years after the first sorority gladdened the campus, came the second taking the appetizing name of Pi Alpha Pi (1923). At the inaugural supper its honorary president, Professor Marion L. Fosdick, gave it a welcome. Incorporation followed, and the inevitable search for quarters was rewarded with a house, also like Theta Theta Chi on Sayles Street. The third of the sorority trio announced its presence late in 1924. Christening itself Sigma Chi Nu it was duly greeted by its chosen adviser, Professor Beulah N. Ellis. When Sigma Chi Nu soon purchased a house on Sayles Street, "Sorority Row" added its third group. In 1932 a fire badly damaged the Sigma Chi Nu house. By 1929 The Women's Intersorority Council had been created to unify and regulate sorority competition and eliminate ill-feeling. This evolved a bidding system for selecting new members of the sisterhoods—a system similar to that used by the men.

Now let us visualize a typical sorority rush party as these girls started coaxing possible neophytes to their membership: striking decorations, vivid flashes of color, soft lights, the strumming of a guitar, gay caballeros, and alluring senoritas all importing the atmosphere of Old Spain. Thus were several freshman girls welcomed as visitors at "Villa

Morgana." Each member represented a famous man or woman, e.g., Mayor Walker of New York and Rudy Vallee. Saxon serenaders dispensed music. Special features filled the musical interludes—wandering troubadours sang popular hits, two celebrities did a tango, Vallee did a broadcast, and a toreador slaughtered a bull in the arena. Finally the shrill whistle of plain clothes men more than hinted that the place was raided. Such was a sorority rush party in 1931.

Note must be taken of certain honorary Greeks, both Misters and Misses. In 1924 came Eta Mu Alpha stressing scholarship, leadership, and fair play. M. Ellis Drake was its president. Three years later Drake, having become a faculty member, led in founding at Alfred a chapter of Pi Gamma Mu, a social science honor fraternity. Its name illustrated its aims. In 1925 the honorary women's fraternity, Phi Sigma Gamma, organized recognizing those women who had given positive service to Alfred. The spring of 1930 brought a women's honorary athletic fraternity, Alpha Tau Alpha. Average scholarship, leadership, loyalty, sportsmanship, and physical beauty were stressed by it.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

In this period special interest clubs and societies spawned at Alfred with the fecundity of fish. Several were departmental clubs. The Agora of Alfred University and the Sodalitas Latina fostered classical culture; Le Cercle Francais swapped riddles and jokes and enjoyed refreshments, all doubtless in French; a Deutsche Verein, and a Cosmopolitan Club speak for themselves. A Math Club evolved into The Scientific Society. Thus departmental clubs continued to thrive, go moribund, revive, or die. World War I rehabilitees formed the Federal Board Club. The Athletic Council sponsored a Varsity "A" Club to put alumni on the prowl for good athletic timber. Brilliant success in Cross Country won a chapter of the blue-blooded Spiked Shoe fraternity. A Glee Club dodged in and out of the Alfred picture. In the early 1920's such a Club was giving concerts in the local and New York City areas. A later variation was the Ladies' Glee Club singing at an alumni dinner in Buffalo and doing some broadcasting. In 1932 an Interfraternity Glee Club broke into song at an alumni meeting in nearby Hornell. With it Professor Irwin A. Conroe offered lively readings. The next year it became an all-college club with extensive and successful trips.

In 1929 some 50 Roman Catholic students formed a Newman Club, and in due time arrangements were made to transport members to Andover Sundays for church. A Purple Key Society took over some of

the athletic managers' tasks as hosts to visiting teams and other guests. At one of the Footlight Club presentations in 1933 there was a visitor scouting for Theta Alpha Phi, a top national dramatic association, in which the Footlighters were fishing for membership. The bait proved good and the local actors became New York Alpha of Theta Alpha Phi. A Forensic Society produced a lively revival in debating. The prolific spring of 1932 noted the organization of the Alfred Peace League. Its roster included both men and women, and it operated under the auspices of the Carnegie Foundation for International Peace. Its success in drilling peace into the student mind may be measured by an assembly vote at which fifty per cent of the voting students affirmed that they would under no conditions fight if drafted. On the other hand, thirty per cent were willing to volunteer whatever the issue.

Christian Association work was stimulated by two events. In 1923 a parttime trained secretary was employed in the person of Mr. S. F. Lester, Allegany county secretary. That genial gentleman knew many of the boys and girls in "Y" work before they came to Alfred and could follow through with them—a real step in advance. YM work was strengthened also when the Alfred University "Y" and the Country Life Christian Association of NYSA merged the next year. Spring found this combination sponsoring group discussions on religion led by the Dean of the University. Then came a serious slump—so bad that the very existence of the men's association was threatened. However, led by Professor Irwin A. Conroe, a self-examination session by leaders at Camp Shenawana on the Genesee River sparked a revival and a reorganization as the Alfred University Christian Association (AUCA). "Service" was to be its motto—service to the campus. After two years *Fiat Lux* noted the results: notables such as Sherwood Eddy and Stitt Wilson secured, bringing tone and prestige to the assemblies, a free student *Handbook,* a second hand textbook exchange, and help in the orientation of freshmen. In 1932 the "Y" ran a weekend orientation camp for freshmen before college opened to help in the transition from high school to college. For a few years that form of preparation was helpful and popular at Alfred and at other institutions. But the YW was awake too. In fact, it operated a freshman girls camp before the YM had one for the boys. In the fall of 1931 YW gathered thirty girls at the popular river camp. The program included discussions, sports, a bus ride to Alfred to cheer the football team, then the trip back to camp. On the campus again student leaders introduced the new women to Alfred social life at a tea party. An intercollegiate Christian Associa-

tion conference held in Alfred (April, 1932) with popular speakers on peace and a State association secretary helping, stimulated the girls to offer a bigger and better camp in the fall of that year.

Thus as the period ended, the Christian Associations were much alive.

TRADITIONS BULGE AND SOME BREAK

Campuses abound in traditions. Some come easily and go quickly. Some come and stay. The Proc Contest was ultimately one which succumbed. When the tussles were over, the sophomores defending the posted pieces of scurrilous taunts and mock advice and the freshmen trying to obliterate them, there were usually fights with the neophytes defeated. The battering the latter got was supposed to teach them true Alfred sportsmanship. Critics objected that such clashes too easily turned into rough and tumble tangles doing heavy harm to scholastic work. The new students were cheated out of a good start in class work and the contest rules were unfair. So ran the strictures, but they brought no effective improvement and the Proc contests survived into the next period.

A tradition doomed to early death was the annual banquet contest, also between the two lower classes. The objective as we have seen was for each class to hold a class banquet without discovery by the other. Like the Proc competition it often resulted in a physical clash. It too was facing both student and faculty opposition. President Davis listed the evils involved as physical fatigue, intellectual loss, reduction of athletic efficiency, a slump in social standards during the excitement, and illegal upper class participation. In the fall of 1921 the University president went before a student assembly and won a vote to abolish the banquets (October 21, 1921). Students made the change reluctantly, but not without appreciation of the dangers the contests involved.

The traditional freshman Initiation program also fell into disrepute. This ceremony was supposed to be the final induction of the green-caps into full campus membership. The Senate conducted the affair in the fall or winter, while the OMA paddle was recognized as a necessary instrument. Campus and village enjoyed the "entertainment." A typical men's program might include a roll call on Main Street and a lockstep march of the freshmen to Academy (Alumni) Hall behind a decidedly inharmonious band. Festivities would open with a speech by an official, either ironic, or urging acceptance of the program in sportsmanlike fashion. Freshmen might be compelled to recite their own weaknesses, or in reverse boast of exploits like walloping Jack Dempsey. At the end

freshmen still faced a hectic time retrieving their shoes stacked in a heap on the floor. In 1926 a student writer expressed profound disgust at the vulgar performance, but opposition lacked the punch to effect desirable changes until later. The girls also went through a milder ordeal separately directed by their own sex. At times that was followed by a really serious induction ceremony in the Gothic Chapel.

The annual event which fell to the lowest ebb in the period was the traditional Moving Up Day. Started as a simple parade by the freshmen in the spring of 1906, with singing and speeches on Main Street, the celebration went through increasingly noisy and damage-producing phases until abolished in its existing form by student vote. The sample to end all such moving up performances was inflicted on town and hillside in the spring of 1925. Regardless of law, property, invalids, and the terrified screams of children awakened by the midnight dynamite blasts, the freshmen had a night of it. At dawn the campus looked like a city dump. A rooster and his wives desecrated the chapel room, trees were festooned with toilet paper, and damage done too extensive to list. Heavy blame was laid on certain upperclass prompters of misrule, and more deplorable still was the rumored disloyal double talk by top student officers in their dealings with freshmen.

A passing stranger viewing the chaos asked what had happened. "Deliver me from a college town," he commented, when told. "Moving Up!" queried another. "Moving up from what?" "From freshmen to sophomores," replied a student. "From infancy to idiocy," growled the questioner. Several students were suspended for drunkenness, loud, profane, and disgusting language, and were barred from second semester credit. No freshman academic credit was booked until all reasonable damage claims were paid.

However, no one should think such wild monkeyshines peculiar to Alfred.

At Alfred, after a disgusted student body had voted the abolition of all such destructive practices, a committee was set to work on a new program for the occasion. Its report was in large part adopted and put in effect the next year. The new program included a special assembly with seniors in academic costume, the lower classes singing the traditional moving up songs. New campus officers were announced, as were certain student awards. The incoming Senate president was installed. In the afternoon came a tug of war, various sports, and in the evening a block dance in front of the Carnegie Library. All praised the new

"tradition." With decided ups and downs and some changes the general plan has been followed past the middle of the century.

A tradition of quite a different sort met the heat of student criticism and withered away under it. That was the Honor System in examinations. It was favored by the faculty as a training in self-control and self-direction. What was wrong with it? Some felt that leaving students to themselves in an examination presented too great a temptation. Still most frequently objected to (1923) was the very keystone of the system—students required to report on fellow students seen cribbing. On the other hand, there was a strong determination to keep the system, make it successful, and justify the catalog statement that Alfred was a place where the Honor System worked.

In 1928 another wave of belief in the widespread misuse of the tradition appeared. A *Fiat* editorial mourned: the honest student got his lowly "C" and wistfully watched the cribber post happily diploma-ward with "A's" and an easy conscience. The conscientious Senate president denied the slur that the system was a joke, but admitted that it was a problem. If students failed to report violations, the Senate could not act. That some did report was shown by his list of numerous trials, convictions, and punishments. Finally in early 1931 a series of questions on the weakening honor code was presented to the student assembly for vote. To the query, "Does the system work?" came the thumping reply, No—282, Yes—34. With that situation before it the faculty voted indefinite suspension of the Honor System. In its place was established a faculty proctor plan which has been in effect in its main features ever since.

Contrasted with traditions sick and dying came a new one—a joint faculty-student program called variously "Welcome," or "Orientation days." In the fall of 1924 the first assembly was turned over to the juniors for that purpose. Various rules were explained and features of campus life described. Its success smoothed the way for the present "Freshman Week" or "Orientation Program." Alfred decided to try it in 1926. The program included special freshman chapel services, informal talks by faculty members and students on Alfred's history and traditions, social ideals, and the work of the student government. There was a noon picnic on the campus, entertainments, certain tests given, and the registration of the class with which the program ended. Thus—a new Alfred tradition.

Nor was the orientation venture the only new student institution of the period. Continuing dissatisfaction with the means of enforcing

campus rules led in the mid-1920's to the organization of the Campus Court, and the Office of Campus Administrator. We have mentioned in an earlier chapter the OMA which, because of its Gestapo-like midnight calls and unnecessary violence, was ruled out. But it left unsettled the question as to how Senate rules could be enforced. The other question involved a fair and effective method of compelling freshmen to perform their traditional campus duties.

The Court manned by a judge and 12 sophomore (!) jurors solved the enforcement problem. Any student could bring to a juror charges of rule violation—failure to wear the green caps, carry matches for a senior's pipe, and similar trivialities thought important. Physical punishment was generally barred. For a time the atmosphere of the court was dignified and impressive, aiming at fairness. Yet it is hard to explain the seeming fatality with which student power so easily degenerates into crude unfairness and even sadism. Four years later his honor the judge was excoriating an upperclassman for snatching a freshman's cap off and then turning him in as a violator of the rule. The Administrator's Office with a chief and two assistants collected full data on all freshmen: height, weight, free time, and then assigned work accordingly. It was fairly admininstered and a success, at least for some time.

The fights over the "Black Knight" surely belong under tradition. The knightly figure was from atop an old classroom stove which was dumped into Kanakadea Creek in 1906. The "knight" rescued and adopted as a mascot of the even-numbered classes, could start a fight wherever "he" was brought into the light. In 1922 the juniors ('24) ventured out with it for a class photograph. Bitter battle joined at once and swirled along the creek and down to the Delta Sigma Phi house which was pressed into use as a "hospital" for the injured. Men and mascot were damaged. "Soupy" Campbell, a junior, got the largest part of the relic, hid it in his pants, feigned injury and was actually helped by a couple of "enemies" as he limped to the "hospital." Unaware of the trick, the warriors fought on until a truce was patched up allegedly for fear of injury to important athletes!

Undoubtedly the most spectacular tradition ever let loose on Alfred's campus was the famous "St. Pat's Festival." Early in 1933 the following wire was allegedly received by some ceramic engineer: "Expect to be in Alfred in the near future," and was cryptically signed "S.P." Anyone getting a clue as to who S.P. might be was urged to contact some student engineer at once. Research revealed that the letters stood for "St.

Patrick," the patron saint of engineers. He would be in Alfred for his birthday, and a reception must be provided befitting the famed visitor. Thus originated the festival imported by Dean Major E. Holmes.

Arriving in the college town in some spectacular fashion, a senior engineer personifying the Saint, crowned and escorted by his guards, led a gay parade of floats to Alumni Hall. There he delivered an address full of jibes on students and faculty. After the laughter died down, St. Pat "knighted" into his service senior engineers and faculty or visiting ceramists. In the two day festival there followed with some variations year by year an Irish lunch, a tea dance, the Open House (at the College) with ceramic processes in spectacular demonstration, a special movie, and a play. Then there was the grand finale—a brilliant ball in the Men's Gymnasium. Amid the whirling joy came a recess. The band struck up "The Wearing of the Green;" St. Pat ascended his throne; the Queen of the Festival, selected at first by popular campus vote, appeared with her fair attendants, was gallantly crowned by St. Pat, and received from all present the homage due her royal rank. The affair was a smashing success in every way and remained with some changes an annual social landmark as the Saint's birthday rolled around.

Our space will admit of but a brief mention of certain other aspects of student life pertaining chiefly to the latter part of this thirteen year span.

TENSION

One of the most serious of student-faculty differences resulted in the so-called "water strike" of 1931. For several years water shortages had been occasionally acute. Owing to increased enrollments and a severe drought these shortages culminated in the strike. Conditions were terrible. Freshmen in the new Bartlett dormitory, it was said, had to use the brush covered hillside above the dorm for certain necessities. Both campus and village protested the shortage. Students presented their sentiments to the harried Dean who was under crossfire both as an official of the University and as a member of the Village Board! A new and productive water well was drilled. A powerful pumper was put to work and got water into the mains. The health officer declared the emergency over. Perhaps all should have been well. However, students had suffered fearful inconvenience and worse. A few had set their minds on a vacation, and cases were reported of wanton wasting of water to force a vacation. Students refused to attend classes. After sundry

student mass meeting* and faculty sessions, it was agreed to close school for the week, the four days thus lost to be made up by shortening regular vacations. Thus the water crisis was weathered.

A warm issue was that of allowing Alfred student women to smoke. The women were divided on it. Returns on questionnaires to parents on the subject showed in three years a rapid breaking down of parental opposition. Hence, as the period ended, the women were winning their campaign to use the weed.

BREVITIES

In 1927 the "Women's Loyalty Medal" was founded to parallel the medal awarded to men. Phi Sigma Gamma provided it for the co-eds. In 1932, sponsored by Dr. Gilbert W. Campbell of the Education Department, movie equipment was installed in Alumni Hall, providing the beginning of the Campus Movie Theatre. It was at the same time, too, that the students by vote sanctioned the nickname "Saxons" for the Alfred University athletic teams. The last three years of the period were in the Great Depression, and much was being said about reducing the costs of clubs, fraternities, and other campus organizations in view of the strained financial situation.

CHAPTER XXIV

Scoreless Wonders" and Star Runners, 1920-1933

WITH THE spectacular exception of cross country and track, Alfred's intercollegiate sports record in that thirteen-year period was mediocre—say about D minus. Basketball showed no team brilliance, while baseball scarcely rated as a major sport. The football team was sarcastically hailed as the "Scoreless Wonders of 1927." On the other hand, track and the new cross country running brought Alfred to the dizziest heights of fame ever experienced, or say A plus. Interest in tennis varied, and wrestling won standing as a major intercollegiate sport. So unsatisfactory was the situation in football, the traditional barometer of athletic success, so severe the criticisms that thorough shake-ups in management were forced.

FOOTBALL

The first season of the period opened with the usual buoyancy. Preseason practice and a training table were introduced (1920), and Aloysius Wesbecher, the new coach, was on hand. On the whole it was Alfred's best season with four victories and three defeats—a sort of high spot in the plain since the football successes of 1916. Opportunities were provided for some uproarious pep rallies rattling the windows of Agricultural Hall. Unfortunately the first grid season ended in tragedy. In the game at Thiel College, Durwood D. Jumph was severely injured. On the way back to Alfred it was necessary to remove him from the train to a Meadville, Pennsylvania, hospital, where he underwent a major operation. Hope for him rose and fell, but poison swept his system and he died in early February. A large delegation attended the funeral. The lad's sad death made a lasting impression on the whole campus. As a memorial the "Jumph Injury Fund" for the aid of maimed athletes was established, and in the spring of 1922 the senior class dedicated

a bronze tablet to Jumph and to another football man, Elmer W. Ferry, who it was said had succumbed to tuberculosis.

The next five seasons—1921 to 1925 inclusive—dropped to a lower level. We have assessed the handicap of the torn-up Merrill Field on the teams of the fall of 1925. Despite the debacle of that year—one lone victory against Juniata—students grasping at straws of success made that and a cross country victory, a tension releasing, bonfire-centered celebration of the traditional sort. The season of 1926 was only microscopically better with the sole victory against Buffalo, a school which like Alfred was a strong bidder for cellar honors. Despite bubbling interest, in the fall of 1927 Alfred's long football decline of more than a decade tobogganed into the basement making the team the "Scoreless Wonders" of that season. Buffalo had failed to win a single game, and, when these two teams met, they battled to a scoreless tie! For Alfred it was a heart breaking game for her team came within a foot—a mere dozen inches of a touchdown! Of course the two squads were fair game for the sports writers who pounced on the unlucky teams like vultures on carrion. They praised the Alfred men ironically for their ability to "take it on the beazer. . .without demanding their coaches' life blood."

In 1928 the nest of Alfred goose eggs was extended to an even dozen. When Alfred did score again it was an event. Missing victory by but two points against Juniata College (12-13), the campus felt that it was *really a victory.* Fans got a thrill, too, on the muddy field in the last two minutes of play against Edinboro Teachers when Marty Staiman seized the oval and ran 60 yards for a touch down. The score was 6 to 2; the first Purple and Gold victory in nearly two years, and the first on the home field since it was reconditioned in 1925. Students were intoxicated with joy, and exuberantly made it known. Clarkson was smothered (37-0) by Alfred's biggest score tallied in five years. By contrast with scoreless 1927 two victories and seven defeats looked like a splendid record! The football and cross country lads were treated to an appreciation banquet.

In 1930 Alfred's fans acquired John "Ghost" Galloway as their pigskin mentor—a former Colgate star with an uncanny way of appearing ghost-like where the ball was. With four games won, one tied, and three lost it was the best season in years. There was a double thriller in the Hobart game, too, when Alfred stars, Lewis Obourn and Francis Gagliano, ran 88 yards and 75 yards respectively for touchdowns. It proved to be the "Ghost's" best season. In the last season of the period (1932) Homecoming alumni and the campus got a shock when a rather

looked-down-on team steamed up from Salem College, West Virginia, and rolled over the Saxons 0-19!

BASKETBALL

Activity in this sport was very lively during the period, but its success in the early years was almost as unimpressive as that of football. The number of college games played each season (they still played some non-college quintets) varied from six to a staggering 21. In the first two seasons the Varsity lost every college game. The best percentage made in the first half of the period was .375. In 1928 a three-loss trip was termed "rather unsuccessful," while a four-loss journey was rated "disastrous." Season and games were better (1929) when Clarkson, for example, was buried under a shower of baskets twice its own score 38-19. The high spot in the period was reached in 1930 when the Varsity won 12 games and lost 9—its only season with a better than .500 percentage. As was true in football so in basketball, Alfred's authorities were bound to play institutions like Syracuse and Cornell, away out of Alfred's class. However, the big red team (Cornell) must have had a touch of panic when it won by a narrow 28-32. Boosting Saxon morale also were the freshmen boys' 9 victories out of 11 starts. The youngsters were named Alfred's smoothest quintet in recent years.

Quite respectable too was the record, 1931, of the hardwood devotees who won just half their games, Cornell coming even a bit nearer to disaster, and *mirabile dictu* (wonderful to relate) Alfred tied for third place in the "Little Ten" Conference. James McFadden, Samuel Wenger, and Frank Steele received stellar rating. Referring to the three seasons 1929-30-31, a campus scribe felt that a record had been hung up which would stand for many years. During those three seasons a string of 13 successive victories had been won, the only black mark being a defeat by an alumni quintet. The team samples of the last two seasons fell back toward the mediocrity of earlier years, relieved however, by at least one tingling thrill in 1933 when the team won in a whirlwind finish against Buffalo, 40-39.

CROSS COUNTRY AND TRACK

So far in our sports story, while recognizing flashes of brilliance here and there in the period, the picture on the whole had been bleak and disappointing. By contrast, the successes in cross country and track were amazingly brilliant. Even before the appearance on the Saxon campus of Dr. Russell S. Ferguson (1921) talk had broken forth about

reviving track and substituting it for baseball. A track club was formed soon after Ferguson came. In 1922 a track meet was held on the home field in a steady downpour. The track was soft and the field a grease spot. A dripping little group of fans saw Alfred overwhelmed by Allegheny College—an unpromising start. But Ferguson was training for cross country too.

In the fall his men bowed to Hamilton in Alfred's first harrier race. Then they swamped Bucknell by a perfect score (15-40, low score wins) and defeated Hobart. The leaders were Clifford Button, Sanford Cole, Richard Lyon, and Ralph Smith,—Hollis Floyd Herrick, the coming super star, was lame and unable to participate. In 1923 the Alfred boys ran against five outstanding institutions, defeating all but Syracuse, the intercollegiate champion. A new group of stars or starlets included William Navin, Robert Witter, Gordon Borden, and Herbert Arnold. It was that fall, too, that the first interscholastic (high school) cross country race was run at Alfred. In 1924 the cross country Varsity outfleeted Maine on her own course—the first such loss by that opponent in her history. In 1925 a national athletic journal summarized Ferguson's victories thus: his runners had lost but one cross country race and had never lost first in the events—above the half-mile—in the spring meets entered.

By that time Herrick was Alfred's top runner, and now climbed another rung on the dizzy ladder of fame. November of that year he and the team he captained won the Middle Atlantic Collegiate Track and Field Association championship. Herrick led a field of 50 men, breaking the Association record by 16 seconds. Those boys gave Alfred its greatest cross country championship up to that time. Said a New York *Sun* sports writer: one of the biggest surprises in recent years was the powerful band of harriers from Alfred University running over the six mile course at Van Cortlandt Park. Herrick, hero of the day, won over Union by 100 yards, beating easily all six rival college teams. His triumph was as impressive as his team's. Locally the campus press couldn't praise team and coach sufficiently. But Senior Herrick was not quite through. In the spring (1926) that quiet, unassuming lad hung up a new record in the 2000 meter race at the Niagara District AAU indoor meet. Moreover he collected victories in the mile and mile and a half at the first meet of the newly-formed New York State Little Ten College Conference.

Herrick and other top runners graduated, but the momentum helped to carry through. The Middle Atlantic cross country race was won for

a second time. The reader does not need to be told that these unprecedented successes kept the celebrating bonfires roaring in campus rejoicings. Of course they did, and those victories offset in part the dismay as the grid men drilled deeper and deeper in their cellar floor as the "Scoreless Wonders" of 1927. That year the cross country men won all their dual meets by near perfect scores. The Saxon "gaspers" did nearly as well the next year in their meets, but lost the Middle Atlantic championship to New York University by one point.

Now well above the horizon loomed a new track luminary to bring renown to himself and Alma Mater. That was Wilber Charles Getz, '29. He had already done well, and in his senior year reached the zenith. The wing-footed boy realized his ambition in winning the 3000 meter steeplechase at the University of Pennsylvania Relays in Philadelphia. Boulton, another Alfred star, came in fourth. Getz finished 60 yards ahead of the next man. Not only that but a few weeks later he went to Chicago to outstep the greatest in the country for the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) mile championship. He won in the wonderful time of 4:19.4 and returned the championship to the East. The Syracuse *Post Standard* called Getz's championship no surprise to those who had followed his great career. The paper pointed out also that while Alfred had been kicked around in football, few liberties could be taken with her cross country and track men. The Philadelphia *Inquirer* named the stars: beside Getz, they were "Chick" Zschiegner, "Danny" Klinger, Dean Fredericks, and Frank Steele.

Although there was some apprehension again when Getz and his fellow stars graduated from that greatest cross country team, and Ferguson was succeeded by James C. McLeod, the new chaplain, the tradition still carried on. Teams still won races and track meets, and McLeod won a place among cross country coaches in the East. In the last two seasons (1931-32) though respectable successes were won, the returns were not quite up to the earlier levels.

While the discussion so far has included both cross country and track, emphasis has been on the former. A further word is in order about track, coached since 1931 by Professor James A. McLane. Just as the 1929 model of the cross country teams was called Alfred's greatest so its counterpart of the cinders and grass the previous spring was hailed as the best that ever graced the Purple and Gold. Records were cracking and breaking in all directions. Besides Getz' unique performance in the steeplechase and the mile, Zschiegner was first in the 880, and Fredericks outstanding in the high jump. Moreover Hamilton and Rochester were

buried under huge scores in dual meets. In 1930 Alfred was dethroned from the Little Ten Conference track championship for the first time since that Conference was organized. During the last seasons of the period, while the Saxons piled up astronomical scores in dual meets and the 1932 edition of track teams was one of the best, they failed to regain Conference leadership.

OTHER SPORTS

Baseball fell from its former high estate to that of barely rating as an intercollegiate sport. It was being swamped in a wave of new enthusiasm for track and especially cross country. However, it kept a high place in the active intramural picture.

Wrestling was pushed to the front as a new sport in 1925 with the announcement that seven Alfred grapplers trimmed in college colors would take on a Springfield, Massachusetts, team. Dr. Joseph Seidlin was at once both promoter and coach. Their success was only fair. During six seasons the grapplers won more than half their meets in just one season—the first, six out of nine contests. That winter they defeated St. Lawrence, Brooklyn Polytechnic, and Williams College, and two smaller schools. They were out-grunted by Yale (after giving the Elis a bit of a fright), Penn State, and Norwich. The next year's team was called unequal to a difficult season. The schedule of 1930 was wrestling's most disappointing season and included terrific thrashings by two of its rivals. Much brighter was 1931, sufficiently so that a campaign active for some time to get wrestling elevated to the honor of a major sport reached success—a recognition which greatly gratified the team and former stars. But this psychological boost failed to bring even average success in the two remaining years.

Tennis, the romantic game of "love," and "love all," had its ups and downs like those already considered. Early and later in the period active interest was manifest but no great success was achieved. Apparently the best season was 1932 when an average of .500 was achieved. In the final year of the period the sport was not even mentioned in the campus annual.

INTRAMURALS

The successes of track and hill and dale doubtless influenced the upsurge of intramural sports, which, while never absent, boomed mightily in the period. Other factors were a desire for a sprouting plot for athletic talent, the opening of sports opportunities for men who had failed to earn varsity letters, and the hope for a friendlier feeling among fraternities and clubs on the campus. Certainly intramurals proliferated

prodigally. To manage intramurals the Intramural Athletic Association was founded in 1926. Competition was keen, and championships changed hands rapidly. At one time nine basketball teams vied for top spot. In participants the program was an outstanding success: 80 per cent of the campus men appeared in one sport or another.

The co-eds also were up to the neck in intramurals of their own. Miss Natalie Shepard, for a time an assistant, became director in 1931. Building on previous progress she did wonders for the women. An amendment to the Athletic Governing Board regulations launched a parallel Women's Athletic Governing Board, chaired by the new director. This Board aimed to develop interest and regularize the program. Activities and plans in the fall of 1932 illustrate the nature of the feminine intramural activities. Hockey succeeded soccer. Hiking followed hockey. Their winter sport was basketball, and the swimming club was to be revived. Interclass contests and tournaments were not new, but they boomed, and the women's honorary athletic society awarded silver basketballs to victorious teams. The girls continued to play a leading role as cheerleaders for varsity sports.

BEHIND THE LOW SCORES

We have now canvassed the sports story of the period from cross country stars down to football's Scoreless Wonders. Let us glance behind the scores or more especially the lack of Alfred scores to see some bitter criticisms which led to shake-ups and reorganizations of athletic control.

Finance, of course, was a chronic Alfred ailment athletically as otherwise. Movies and dances were used to raise sports coin, but an adequate, dependable student tax came to be accepted as the proper method of financing sports. Deep discontent was chronic over the rapid changes in coaches. In less than three years (1923-25) four different coaches tried to rule the athletes. Other deficiencies included proper equipment and playing space. In the middle 1920's it was "Ray, Ray for Merrill" who by clear-visioned planning and use of personal funds worked wonders on the athletic field and Field House. "Jake" as he was familiarly called, was spoken of by delighted students as a beloved alumnus and friend of the College.

In spite of the rejoicing over these improvements, discontent with teams which so largely scored defeats grew more vocal. So critical was the campus temper that Mr. Merrill asked President Davis to call together a representative faculty-student committee to seek remedies.

Meeting in the Persident's office the earnest-minded group admitted wide differences among themselves but set honestly about a search for solutions. Accumulating through the years had come a $7,000 athletic debt. A prominent faculty official, W. A. Titsworth, praised the coach but roundly raked the teams for gross violations of training rules and pointed out some glaring illustrations. Destructive fraternity influences were also listed. With these ills well ventilated the committee got down to remedies. The existing system of athletic control was exceedingly complex and cumbersome. A simpler one more in line with procedures on other campuses seemed desirable. The result was that the sub-committee presented plans to a student assembly where, after the problems and their causes had been fully discussed from platform and floor, all propositions were carried by large majorities (1927). The two chief items were (1) a $20 per year athletic fee and (2) a simplified system of athletic control.

The Athletic Council then created included students, faculty, and alumni. It was to be the unified governing authority in its field handling budgets, policy, schedules, awards, and other items. In short it did as a unit what the curious jumble of officers and committees had previously tried to do. Director Archie E. Champlin of the NYSA was chairman. The first meeting of the Council was held in June when it dealt with subjects natural at the close of a sports year and defined plans and practices for application in the autumn. When the reorganization plan and the higher tax were voted *Fiat Lux* commented that the student body had "granted varsity athletics a new lease of life."

This seemed like a happy ending to a lot of troubles and salve for many sores about scores. Early in 1928 the Athletic Association constitution was revised, the old one having palsied from contradictory sections and defective arrangement. At the same time Champlin, after ten years of fruitful service resigned as graduate manager. His last year had seen finances improved. Despite its failures, football had become the winner of cash on which champions thrived in other sports. We have said that the arrangements of 1927 *seemed* like a happy ending to athletic management troubles. But in two years the fat was in the fire again; another "coroners jury" was assembled; Heers gave way to John "Ghost" Galloway; and momentarily came better feeling and better scores. Then the old bickering returned (1931); violations of training rules were charged; fraternity influence was deplored; and the end of the period arrived with little promise of better things to come.

CHAPTER XXV

Three Years of Glow, Gloom, and Glow, 1933-1936

*

END OF THE DAVIS PRESIDENCY

"WITH THIS . . . annual report, I must present my resignation as President of Alfred University...." Thus from President Davis (1932) came the notice of the approaching end to his remarkable career.

During the succeeding months love and honors well nigh overwhelmed the Davises. At the Commencement of 1932 a surprise honorary degree was conferred on Estelle Hoffman Davis—an honor to both husband and wife. The audience was on its feet cheering and reaching for handkerchiefs. As the unscheduled ceremony ended, her surprised husband apologized for his inability to dismiss the audience with dignity and self-control. In the spring of 1933 the faculties resorted to pardonable trickery to assure the presence of the Davises at a Social Hall dinner in their honor. After the food and program were enjoyed, an electric chime clock was presented to the guests of honor to time the pleasant years of retirement. The *Kanakadea* of that spring was dedicated by the Class of 1934 to the retiring couple.

At the last official Commencement for the Davises, a sea of 400 alumni faced toward the head table in the newly restored Brick. Presided over by Dr. Finla G. Crawford, '15, the alumni president, tributes were brought by various representatives to the beloved leader and his wife. Moreover, alumni had arranged for words of esteem through a collection of 500 letters beautifully bound in book form and presented at this time. The outstanding item of the Commencement Day Convocation was the masterly address by Dr. Crawford outlining impressively the crowded achievements of the closing regime. Concluding that summary, the speaker turned to "Prexy" with the parting wish: "Good speed! and may God's richest blessings attend you."

As the nearly forty year presidency, which may be called the Golden Age of Alfred University, thus drew to a close what shall we say of the

manner of man this Davis was to achieve the results chronicled? Perhaps two words hold the key to his successes. The first word is *charm.* He was an out-going and out-giving man. Tall, handsome, popular with students, possessed of a rich speaking voice and polished manners, obviously interested in all whom he met, he easily won friends for himself and his College. The second word is *vision.* Surveying the plight of the little School trembling on the brink of extinction, Davis visualized the changes in academic program and the wider public to which appeal for students and funds must be made, and boldly struck out to achieve them.

Joining these two qualities he communed with helpful associates and the State authorities and brought to the campus the two State Schools of Ceramics and Agriculture. He met the moneyed men of his denomination, of his area, and those of national renown and won buildings such as the Babcock Hall of Physics, Bartlett Memorial Dormitory, Howell Hall, and the gifts of Carnegie and Rockefeller for the Library, and for needed endowment. But President Davis was no mere collector of money and building material. These were but the means to an end which was the building up of his ailing School of 1895 into the high grade College of Liberal Arts, which at his retirement had full accreditation by every accrediting agency local and national having jurisdiction.

Thus ended the most spectacular presidency in Alfred's story, the climax providing the first Glow in the three year period of Glow, Gloom, and Glow under consideration. And the tiny taper lighted in 1836 was expanding into a brilliant chandelier of varied Light shedding its rays more and more brightly near and far.

PRESIDENT PAUL EMERSON TITSWORTH

For some time the trustees on the lookout for a successor to Dr. Davis had been eyeing the vibrant little bundle of energy which was the President of 150 year old Washington College in Maryland. Thus, when Davis announced his resignation, Titsworth was common talk as his successor. In due course the election took place, and Titsworth was unanimously chosen President. In signifying his acceptance of the honor Alfred's new leader assured the trustees that their action was the fulfillment of a dream of his since boyhood. In the early summer of 1933 the new executive, his charming wife, and daughters came and settled in Crandall Hall, the newly designated presidential residence. The new

President's college opening address showed restraint on policy pronouncements until he had more fully learned the situation.

Meantime plans were maturing for Alfred's first full scale inaugural. October 20 was the day, a full day: a morning convocation, a guests' luncheon, a double bill of football in the evening, topped off with a dance in the Men's Gymnasium. That red letter day dawned bright and mild. Autumn's gay colors decked the campus and the hills, matching the colorful regalia of the long academic procession. In the alumni Hall audience some 70 special representatives of colleges and learned societies were presented. John Nelson, President of Rotary International and a close friend of Persident Titsworth, addressed the Convocation and quoting a famous university executive said, "it is to the University that we must look... to indicate the proper place for the national citizen in the international community. Dare we hope it will be forthcoming?"

Formally inducted, President Titsworth conferred an honorary degree on John Nelson, then in his inaugural address discussed "The Creative Teacher," a brilliant statement of educational fundamentals. At the luncheon which followed, greetings were spoken to Alfred's new captain by a wide range of spokesmen who offered a sparkling flow of wit, humor, anecdote, and good wishes. The installation completed Dr. Titsworth plunged again into the busy whirl of his new responsibilities—committees, sermons, conferences, rushing hither and yon as occasion called, busy, busy, busy!

Then sudden death! This fresh glow was drowned in blackest gloom. A heart condition had led doctors to advise him to slow down. Saturday evening there was a happy hour in the family, with a friend invited to enjoy a shipment of fresh oysters. After a ten below zero night, there was a sermon to be preached in Hornell. Going for his car the President dropped dead in his tracks without warning (December 10, 1933). What hopes, family happiness, and bright institutional plans were dashed by that lightning stroke of death! A sad funeral, flowers, crowds, and the slight form of the President was laid to rest near the village where his early hopes and ambitions had just come to fruition. One of many voices from far and near quoted thus:

> He scarce had need to doff his pride,
> or slough the dross of earth
> E'en as he walked that day to God,
> so walked he from his birth....

At the last college assembly of the school year, a memorial service was held for the fallen leader. Five close friends spoke on the various aspects of his career. Thus came the Gloom through a President's sudden death.

PRESIDENT JOHN NELSON NORWOOD

Following the December funeral, Dean J. N. Norwood was offered the Acting Presidency which he accepted much against his inclinations. At a student assembly the next day President Orra S. Rogers of the Board of Trustees introduced the temporary executive who in brief remarks declared that, despite the recent shattering events, there must be no hesitation. Our motto must be: "Alfred University—Full Speed Ahead!" In June, 1934, the word "Acting" was clipped from the presidential title making Dr. Norwood the seventh president of the University and starting him through some dozen years of depression distresses and wartime worries.

WITH THE CAMPUS SCHOOLS

The three-year period following the revolutionary events just chronicled was marked by vivid and progressive changes. The work of bringing the liberal arts program more fully in line with needs was aided by the clarification of that college's administrative organization. From the start (1908), the dean's position had been anomalous. Of what had Dean Norwood been dean? His usual title was Dean of Alfred University. Was he Dean of the liberal arts faculty and Dean of Men in both colleges? Was President Davis still doing much dean's work when he retired? The renaming of the Ceramic School as a College and the director as dean made easy the way for a parallel arrangement. Professor Irwin A. Conroe had been assistant dean and an informal specialization had already begun making Norwood Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Conroe Dean of Men of both colleges. Then Norwood's promotion to the presidency and Conroe's annexation by the State Education Department in 1934 opened the way to making that arrangement official. Dr. Alfred E. Whitford became Dean of the College of Liberal Arts, and Dr. M. Ellis Drake Dean of Men of the two colleges. The academic deans ruled their respective deandoms as heads of the faculties and academic counselors to their students. The Dean of Women like the Dean of Men functioned in both colleges, both being concerned with student life as counselors and as disciplinary officers. It took time and forbearance for them to learn the boundaries of their respective spheres.

The interest President Titsworth showed in good teaching had crystallized in his appointment of a Committee on the Improvement of Teaching chaired by Dr. Joseph Seidlin, and filled out with a strong membership from Liberal Arts and Ceramics. The group functioned for several years and from time to time its recommendations were included in curricula and other changes. Alumni were asked for suggestions, a request which set off a veritable explosion of hot exceptions to the training methods of the University's education department.

These criticisms, with the new State regulations concerning teacher-training and the certification of teachers led to the drastic reorganization of Alfred's teaching of teachers. The department personnel was changed as well as its procedures, and new courses were added leading to masters' degrees in education aimed to equip school principals as well as teachers. The new look in that department went into full effect in 1936. Other improvements followed. The Public Speaking and Dramatics offerings took on new life (1935) under Miss Mary K. Rogers, '29, (Mrs. S. C. McFall).

Interesting things too were happening among the faculty. Dr. Drake followed Norwood as head of the History Department. Dr. Willis C. Russell, an American University doctor of philosophy and a rapid-fire class-room lecturer, joined as the second man. Miss Ruth P. Greene moved up to the librarianship when Dr. Cortez R. Clawson retired. Coming from a term of teaching culminating in a two-year presidency at Salem College (West Virginia) Dr. Clawson joined Alfred's staff as Professor of History and Political Science (1908). Two years later he became University Librarian and supervised a four-fold expansion of that essential institution. His faithful, effective service was much appreciated. Mounting depression enrollment called in several instructors for relatively brief stays; and John R. Spicer, '30, hailing from varied services at Toledo University, began a decade of still more varied services on the familiar campus. Nor did the liberal arts faculty members confine their influence to the campus. Dr. Joseph Seidlin and Dr. Lloyd R. Watson, '05, won election as Fellows of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. The latter was basking in worldwide fame for his success in perfecting procedures and instruments for the artificial insemination of queen bees. To encourage further research he was awarded a Guggenheim fellowship. Dr. Harold O. Burdick also won a grant-in-aid to follow up research results he had already published in the field of biology.

The depression was responsible for a development in higher educa-

tion in which Alfred extensively participated, namely the Emergency Collegiate Centers. President Titsworth had supervised the forming of a preliminary type in far away Greenwich, New York. There were teachers out of work all over the country, and students unable to finance study on campuses. The idea was spreading, and the Federal Government stood ready to finance such centers. "What do you know about these free tuition emergency centers?" queried the Superintendent of Schools from neighboring Bath, New York. The University's acting head admitted having learned considerable about them, with the result that Alfred's first such federally financed, locally housed, and State and University supervised emergency collegiate center was established in that village. A call from Jamestown, New York, led to the opening of the second such school.

In the third year of the program, 1935-36, Alfred supervised six such emergency schools—Bath, Cattaraugus, Dunkirk, Jamestown, Lockport, and Medina. Thirty-seven teachers sat behind the desks instructing 414 students. A sort of "campus" life developed at each center, and recreational programs were evolved. Faculty groups visited the Alfred campus to consult with faculty members whose work the visitors paralleled. After their second year emergency center students began transferring to Alfred and other colleges.

Returning to our campus—as the period ended, we find Dean Whitford still prospecting for the bounds of his deanship, reporting his College as alive with internal growth and progress, and listing varied improvements from the new counseling system to the revitalization of the subject matter offered. His departmental staffs were developing a five-year-plan of further betterment, including a catalog of needed equipment and additional teaching personnel.

The top event in the Seminary during the period was the coming of Dean Main's successor. Since the aged Dean's death the Department of Theology and Religious Education had been managed by the parttime men—Van Horn and Greene. Widespread consultations had shown a general demand for Dr. Ahva J. C. Bond as the new dean. He was called and accepted, entering on his duties in 1935. An arts graduate of Salem (West Virginia) College, an Alfred bachelor of divinity with graduate study elsewhere, he had served leading churches and had held top denominational posts. As with his predecessor, the ecumenical movement was his serious hobby. In 1927 he had represented the denomination at a world church conference in Lausanne, Switzerland. In Alfred he led in a revision of the Seminary curriculum which in har-

mony with his special interest included a course on Cooperative Christianity. In keeping with that emphasis, too, he attended in his first year various conferences, inaugurals, and Union Seminary's centennial. Special feature courses were provided at the Alfred school, and the staff executed a major coup in presenting to the local area the world-renowned Japanese Christian leader—Dr. Toyohiko Kagawa. At the new Dean's request, the trustees approved the change of name from the cumbersome existing designation back to the simpler "School of Theology."

In 1933 the 20th summer session convened and enjoyed the usual success. Enrollment occasionally varied a little from the usual 140. It was nothing new when pottery enthusiasts stayed after the six week session to learn more from Professor Harder's store of technical lore. In 1934 courses in ceramic technology were introduced for the first time in a number of years. That same summer the required course in surveying for engineers was crowded into the three weeks following Commencement and then, or soon after, was counted in the summer enrollment.

In ceramics the fillip given to better teaching and all round improvement by President Titsworth showed chiefly in curricular changes, the most drastic of which came with the State-demanded abandonment of art teacher training. The previous notice and the change plunged the School and its friends into warm controversy over what was right in art, good art, and good art teaching. The outcome was the new department of Industrial Ceramic Design, which signalized the more exclusive emphasis. Some tense conferences marked the birth pangs of the new order, with much heart-burn over the loss of the long-successful teacher training work among the art faculty members and the alumni. In 1935 Dean Holmes announced that the more specialized course was in full operation.

Through the period under survey the Dean succeeded in further interesting the ceramic industry in the College. In the fall of 1933, the Ceramic Industries Association of New York was founded—the latest try for such a permanent body. At the Association's first annual meeting near the same time silicosis, a lung disease due to dust, was discussed and safeguards studied. Another success of the energetic Dean was the getting of what was almost an Alfred meeting of the American Ceramic Society convention in Buffalo, New York, the nearest place with adequate accommodations for so large a gathering. Alfred's name was much in evidence there. Dean and Mrs. Holmes were guests of honor at the

Association President's reception, he was master of ceremonies at a dinner, and Alfred students wearing distinguishing ribbons made themselves useful everywhere. Efficiency in work assigned to them won praise from the convention leadership.

An objective high on the Dean's list, and that of his associates—the President, Hon. }. J. Merrill, and the State Association—was a Ceramic Experiment Station. For this they had labored. Finally the depression-dogged legislature gave way and victory came in 1936. The appropriation was $9,500. Small? True, but with the recent expansion in building and equipment even so microscopic a sum worked wonders. H. G. Schurecht, a noted master of ceramic research, and John F. McMahon, '23, manned the Station which sprang into immediate production. So quick was its success that when the State Association convened at Alfred in 1937 ceramists used such expressions as "amazing," "far in excess of expectations" to express their pleasure at the first year's fruits. Other means the resourceful Dean used to win friends and fruitful publicity included an exhibit of pottery throwing and glass blowing at the New York State Fair (1934) and a varied showing of ceramic products at the annual Convocation of the University of the State of New York in Albany. Of more than campus interest was the well-established ceramic Christmas festival which attracted many guests from a wide area. It was really an open house with art work in the making, an art exhibit, and a colorful Christmas celebration of many facets. There was much "atmosphere", a sale, and refreshments.

Ceramic faculty members were writing and doing research. Dr. S. R. Scholes published his *Modern Glass Practice;* Stanley Stillman patented a new style, smaller "kick wheel" suitable for studio artists; Harder was sleuthing for that elusive Chinese color glaze—copper red, like fresh blood; while Professors M. J. Rice and W. P. Cortelyou were revising a once popular but outdated chemistry textbook. Gloom darkened the campus when on December 4, 1934, a sudden attack of pneumonia took the revered "Daddy" Binns, Director Emeritus of the Ceramic College. An impressive farewell service, with faculties capped and gowned attending in a body, was held in the village Church. Messages of sympathy poured in from every direction. At the Commencement in 1935 many joined in a memorial service in front of the original ceramic building. Paul E. Cox, '05, delivered the address. Said he: "Dr. Charles Fergus Binns is not dead so long as any lover of fine ceramics turns to . . .his writings. . .for counsel and inspiration." The building was dedicated as "Binns Hall."

While no longer in danger of falling into the clutches of an institutional mortician, the School of Agriculture was struggling along with an enrollment which dwindled in the triennium from 82 to 50. The loss of the teacher-training department made NYSA an exclusively male unit. Naturally feelers were out for new fields in which the hesitating School might usefully serve. One-day conferences were arranged at the School for farm boys, who studied the methods and business practices on farms successful even in depression. Evening courses were offered to a vicinity Civilian Conservation Corps camp—a depression work-project. Learning that many boys were interested in agriculture but not in farming, further work in related fields was offered, such as sales, inspection, processing, and distribution of farm products. Attention had been turned also to the building trades as a field offering possibilities for non-farm rural folk.

In 1936 the 15 year directorship of Archie E. Champlin came to an end with his transfer to the Cobleskill School of Agriculture. "Champ's" ability, long service, and influence had made him a power in the area. Having ascertained the wishes of the State Education Department as to a successor, the Board of Visitors' (Alfred University Trustees) Executive Committee met and nominated for the directorate Paul B. Orvis, NYSA '21, a bachelor of science from Syracuse University and a prominent member of the School staff. Familiarly known as "Pat", in his new leadership he exhibited to an amazing degree vision, resourcefulness, and push. He has filled the position with brilliant success for many years.

Thus with a new leader, and exhibiting an observing and test-and-try attitude, the School of Agriculture closed the triennium.

Before leaving the academic picture let us glimpse the University Alumni Association which had always included students in varying numbers from all the campus schools. The sixteen alumni geographical branches or groups were vigorously alive. As a depression gesture, the two colleges invited jobless graduates to attend classes tuition free. New or refresher courses could fit them for positions not previously open to them.

The chief event of the period in the Alumni Association was the reorganization of 1936. A new council of elected representatives from the classes and geographical groups was formed which could speak for those bodies. Moreover, plans were made for a salaried secretary of the Association effective the next year. Thus alumni activity was encouraged, with larger participation in University affairs.

BUILDINGS, GROUNDS, FINANCE

After the old hall of Physics burned in 1929 lack of funds, as we have seen, left it only partially replaced by a separate shop building, and cellar walls for the main structure. Doubly pressed by local need and hints from the State authorities that a physics hall was urgently needed, money was borrowed and construction resumed (May, 1934). Contractor Whitford again showed his knack of saving on estimates, and by autumn the new edifice was echoing to the footsteps and laughter of students. Georgian colonial in style, the new building made an attractive addition to the campus. Beside the physicists the new hall housed mathematicians, economists, and the wielders of pencil and "T" square. Dean Whitford also chose a pleasant room there for his office. Very welcome too was the fact that the new pile of brick and concrete had cost less than $60,000.

A notable development was foreshadowed at the end of the triennium when a group of alumni was dickering with a Belgian firm of bell founders for an ancient carillon of 35 bells to be a memorial to the Davises. Dr. Davis was thrilled at the prospect but hopeful that search for the needed funds would not interfere with the current centennial financial campaign. The bell project reached joyous realization in the next period (1937).

Meanwhile existing buildings and grounds were not being neglected. While several edifices were receiving coats of paint, regrading and shrubbing beautified the grounds. The four-member feminine fraction of the University Board of Trustees—Mrs. William L. Ames, Mrs. Harry Bradley, Mrs. Shirley Brown, and Miss Florence Hatch—pooled some generous contributions to effect more artistic landscaping. Crandall Hall, the Social Hall, and The Brick were appropriately treated to planting, and a start was made on the banks of Kanakadea Creek. A similar task with different objectives was the reforesting of some expanses of unused campus land. Thousands of red pine and some Norway spruce trees were set by expertly directed students eager to earn a little cash. In a contrary way, the year 1935-36 witnessed nature's blind ability to wreck the facilities of Merrill Field with a flash flood and campus trees and shrubs with sleet. What a chaos of rubbish, mud, gravel, and boulders the gridiron presented that July day! And picture the ice storm of the following March: a white glistening landscape, fog, sleet, the crackle of snapping tree limbs, the tinkle of falling ice, were sights and sounds long remembered. Electric service was lacking for days. But while nature thus maims and murders her offspring remorse-

lessly, she has healing balms too. After some weeks of work by tree surgeons and the opening of spring foliage, little of the earlier ruin-littered mess was visible when the centennial was celebrated in June.

New buildings, paint, weather damage all suggest finance. How fared the treasury in this period? By June 1935 the cash collected on the Million Dollar success of 1930 was $559,500. A spot check on the remaining *cash* pledges indicated $81,000 uncollectible. In the fall of that year the trustees launched the 1936 Centennial Campaign for the mountainous sum of $1,672,000—a bold move, too bold. Dr. J. Wesley Miller set up his organization headquarters in the Greene Block. A beautiful brochure, *The Century of Progress,* was sent to alumni and friends. A five-man field team aided Dr. Miller. The going was desperately difficult, and the outcome quite what should have been expected—net new paper in the treasurer's portfolio of only $245,000. The depression years had turned attention to the alumni for more financial aid. To encourage such help the Continuous Support Plan or Alumni Sustaining Fund had been organized (1932)—annual gifts to the operating budget or other university purposes. The alumni had always given generously, and the new plan proved very helpful.

The worldwide financial depression had the effect of sending youth to colleges in ever increasing numbers—no work outside being available. The Harmon Foundation loans ended in 1934. The next year the University managed to increase its student aid to a total of some $25,000. The federal treasury came to the assistance of impecunious youth not only in the collegiate centers already described but also through the National Youth Administration (NYA). Federal government rules channeled through the State Education Department fixed the conditions of student employment and the rate of pay. Such varieties of employment were permissible as secretarial work, research, additional departmental assistance, and reforestation. No "boondoggling" smirched the Alfred program. In 1934-35, 60 projects were completed; 110 students had parttime work earning $9,000, thus being enabled to stay in college. Alfred was complimented on the ingenuity shown in finding real work.

Obviously the economic debacle affected all phases of University finance. Despite balanced operating budgets, the University debt climbed, owing chiefly to the rebuilding of the Hall of Physics, from $239,000 in 1933, to $311,100 in 1936—more than half of it borrowed from endowment. In 1933-34 the microscopic bits of uncollectibles of the hoary Betterment Fund were written off and the venerable account closed.

CHAPTER XXVI

Three Years of Glow, Gloom, and Glow — continued, 1933-1936

STUDENT LIFE

THE STUDENT life of this brief triennium showed the same broad outlines of fraternities, sororities, and societies with their ever similar and ever changing phases. Entertainment, the ups and downs of governing organizations, and the tensions between the faculty and the student groups—all these appear. Prominent, too, in it flashed the fortunes of the athletes.

Among the Greeks, we find that a couple of fraternities suffered damaging fires. Kappa Nu burned out at the Castle at Christmas time and was adrift until February awaiting house repairs. Allegedly it was a painter's blow torch which put the Delta Sigma Phi home out of use for a time. But, believe it or not, there were fires that really made their "victims" happy—fires started by applauded incendiaries. Thus Theta Kappa Nu's mortgage was burned at a festive dinner (1935) when the boys were congratulated on their ability to pay off a mortgage in the midst of depression. Three months later Pi Alpha Pi celebrated its 13th birthday anniversary by subjecting its mortgage to similar heat treatment. Unfortunately trouble again disturbed the quiet of Greek relations. In 1934 Delta Sigma Phi was declared no longer affiliated with the Inter-fraternity Council. Freshmen were warned by the Council to await pledge invitations from the Council. It was some time before the breach was healed.

Early 1935 brought two new specialized fraternities to the campus. An instructor and former boy scout interested ex-scouts at the University in creating a chapter and affiliating with a 30 chapter national. A similar movement among students of journalism produced another fraternity to work for higher standards, and greater interest in campus publications.

The agitation for world peace still flourished on the campus in the

1930's. Colleges in general were alive with it. Alfred's International Relations Club was very active. In 1934 it engaged a dynamic speaker, Reverend Ward B. Flaxington of Hornell, New York, to address it on the "Possibilities of Being a Pacifist," declared to be the most important issue facing young men and women of those days. The spring of 1936 saw such a spawning of peace societies that they got in each others' hair. A student meeting decided to simplify the situation and let the new American Student Union carry on the peace crusade in cooperation with unions in other colleges. Alumni Hall fairly rocked with their debates. They were on the whole orderly but in deadly earnest. Alfred's authorities though concerned at the volume and heat of the anti-war agitation, deemed it wise to go along with the demonstrations offering guidance rather than discouragement or opposition.

Along other lines the Radio Club flourished mightily, got a wireless license, and put Alfred W8LHK on the air. The sleepy Purple Key waked up and resumed its duties as entertainer of teams and other guests. In 1936 it changed its color on acceptance by Blue Key, an honorary national fraternity with objectives similar to those of the older group. The Glee Club had a new spurt of activity. In a metropolitan area broadcast (1935) the Club flashed Alfred's name and music from Maine to California. Theta Alpha Phi footlighted an area high school dramatics tournament with four schools taking part. The best play production and the best actor and actress were selected and rewarded.

In 1932 Dr. G. W. Campbell and W. Varick Nevins III gave new life to the campus movies, started earlier from the gift of a silent moving picture outfit by the Class of 1929. Naming the project Alfred Cooperative Pictures, they appealed to town and campus through the sale of blocks of low-cost tickets to cover running expenses and start payment on an excellent Western Electric sound system. The venture proved successful, and many of the top American and foreign films were shown. To meet a strong student and faculty demand several groups, e.g., the Alfred University Christian Association and the student Senate, joined to provide a quality series of forum lectures and entertainments for the centennial year. Selectees included such leaders in their respective fields as Governor Phillip LaFollette of Wisconsin, William Beebe, the undersea explorer, and Sigmund Spaeth, the tune detective. The series proved an outstanding success.

The second St. Pat's festival was as big a success as was the first. It appeared, however, that some better way must be found of selecting the festival queen than by popular assembly vote. How the student editor

poured the vials of his pungent sarcasm on the "moronic intelligence" of the voting when he learned that the "Robust, Rugged, Two Hundred Pound Tackle" had been elected campus "Queen!"

The so-called "Battle of the Barn" opened a new phase of underclass competition. On the east hill was Bartlett dormitory the freshman fortress; on the opposite hill was Burdick's steep-roofed, red-tiled barn. First one class then the other painted its numerals there and obliterated those of its rival. Year after year these alternations occurred until the owner said, "No more numerals."

Two traditions went overboard in 1935. Increasing difficulty was felt in administering the awards of loyalty medals for men and women. Mounting enrollment, the intangibles involved in judging loyalty, and the appearance of individuals apparently equally entitled to the honor convinced the awarding groups—Phi Psi Omega and Phi Sigma Gamma—that the awards should be abolished. Also, since membership in those fraternities was itself an honor award, it was hoped that such membership would bring just recognition to a greater number. A few weeks earlier the Junior Follies withered away in the disapproving breath of the college authorities. The Follies, said they, had failed to do credit either to the class or to the University.

Religious life in the triennium prospered under the capable chaplain, Reverend J. C. McLeod. He judged his fifth year, 1933-34 to be the best yet. The Christian Associations were active, and voluntary chapel attendance was something of which to be proud. The Newman Club and the Catholic mass were well attended, the latter led by a visiting priest each week. The Union University Church with its strong inter-church flavor had a sprinkling of Jews and Catholics in its congregation. The next year the Episcopal group, disrupted by the death of its founder, "Daddy" Binns, revived under the part-time ministrations of Reverend J. G. Spencer, Rector of Christ Church, Hornell.

The general practice of women smoking pressed more and more heavily on the administration to relax the no-smoking rule for women students. If the practice persisted outside, Alfred would have to allow it sooner or later inside. In fact in 1935 a comfortably furnished "recreation" room was rather quietly provided in The Brick where only women students might smoke. A year's trial showed the rule working well. However, the sororities had begun pressing for similar privileges in their houses. Thus, as social standards changed, Alfred, like most church-founded colleges, was fighting a futile rearguard battle against practices once thoroughly taboo.

While the three year span produced no scoreless wonders in football and lacked a little of the previous lustre in cross country and track, those sports continued a similar difference in achievement.

Football's first season (1933) was its best with three victories, one tie, and two defeats. An old rival, Rochester, was overcome for the first time since 1916. John E. Cox succeeded his fellow collegian, John Galloway, the next season but a light, inexperienced team won one lone game, forced two ties, and lost four tussles. Two victories and five defeats told the tale of 1935. Basketball made a good record. In the first two seasons the ball and basket boys averaged just over .500, trimming in the second season several of their doughtiest rivals. In the third winter the tally was eight victories with college teams against nine losses.

Cross country and track made excellent records but failed to reach the earlier levels. In the first cross country season came the bad news: "Alfred hill and dalers have been defeated for the first time on the home course." To be sure Alfred's conqueror was weighty Cornell, and that by grace of only five points. Then the campus runners won another State Conference championship, and took first place in the Middle Atlantic. What a home celebration it was that feted the boys on their triumphant return. Three won and two lost was the tally in the difficult season of 1934. But sweet recognition came when the University was admitted to membership in the Inter-collegiate Association of Amateur Athletes of America (IC4A), the oldest organization of its kind in the country. The last season of the triennium (1935) was less spectacular. Alfred lost three of the four duals, but held the Middle Atlantic title—beating Rutgers, the runner-up, by one point.

In track the team of 1934 was called the greatest that ever wore the Purple and Gold. Records fell on every side. Captain Charles Clark was outstanding. Alfred regained the Little Ten Championship, but placed second in the Middle Atlantic. The next season with a team lacking its usual balance, duals were won with Cortland and Rochester. For the first time also in the Alfred track story, the King Alfred men won the Middle Atlantic Class B mile relay championship. In the last season Alfred buried Cortland in the one dual meet under an avalanche of points (98 to 33) and reaped an outstanding triumph at the Rochester invitation meet when the Saxons piled up 100 points, one for each of Alfred's 100 years. The host team was runner up with 72 points.

The climb which the wrestlers made in that short period was shown by the yearly records: 1934 won one, lost five; 1935 won two, lost four; 1936 won five, lost one! Women's athletics continued the improvement

begun earlier. New games were added. Archery made its debut in 1933. Badminton suddenly enjoying country-wide popularity invaded the Alfred campus. Other newcomers followed, e.g., pingpong, deck tennis, and shuffleboard. For mixed reasons probably, the men showed marked interest in the new games. Intercollegiate competition with the newcomers was pending, and the familiar tournaments and "Play Days," local and intercollegiate, continued. The earlier campus intramurals program was as vigorous as ever.

Now we must move abruptly from celebrating athletic victories to celebrating Alfred's century of activity as an educational institution.

"ONE HUNDRED YEARS, O ALFRED"

"It's not too early to start planning for the centennial celebration," warned Dr. Paul E. Titsworth once during his brief presidency. And during the next two years ideas did crystallize. The pace increased in the fall of 1935 when an extensive centennial committee evolved to prepare the five-day festivities. President Emeritus B. C. Davis was honorary chairman; President J. N. Norwood, chairman; and Dean A. E. Whitford executive vice-chairman. A general committee was formed composed of staff, faculty, students, and townsfolk.

In a sense the opening event of the great celebration, the second Glow of the chapter heading, was the One Hundredth Founders' Day program, December 5, 1935. President Frank E. Gannett of the Gannett Newspapers was the speaker. The June, 1936 programs began with the annual Alumni Association dinner held Saturday evening in the Men's Gymnasium. It was featured menu-wise by a huge birthday cake. Fifty candles of one color and fifty of another noted the jubilee of the Association and the centennary of the University. Dr. Davis with due ceremony cut the cake. President Ernest L. Perkins, '17, of the alumni presided, and fearing excessive volubility in speakers for the reunion classes, armed himself with a police whistle, the mere flourishing of which, after the rules had been explained, effectively silenced the only near-offender.

President Norwood, the chief speaker, expressed pleasure at seeing the bumper attendance at that centennial alumni meeting and outlined what Alfred must have done for her to assure her future and the service she must render to deserve a future. Dinner tables removed, the way was prepared for dancing to the strains of a student orchestra. All agreed that the centennial had pushed off to a promising start. A long tradition was continued Sunday morning in the annual sermon before the

Christian Associations. Mrs. R. F. Reynolds, choir director of the Union University Church, was assisted by Professor Ada B. Seidlin and her talented sister, Miss Rose Becker. Declaring that stupid, brutal conditions in the world caused disbelief, and cynicism, which was not monopolized by youth, Chaplain McLeod discussing "A Religion of Healthy Mindedness," asserted: "There is joy in love, reality in God, inspiration in the ideals of Christ."

Traditional too was the baccalaureate service that evening. Director Ray W. Wingate was in charge of the music. The processional was Dr. S. R. Scholes' inspired "Centennial Hymn," the first line of which forms the title of this section. In his baccalaureate address President Norwood discussed "Our Heritage," and took as his text, Isaiah's exhortation, ". . .look unto the rock whence ye are hewn." In a spiritual sense, the speaker said, the Founders of the University themselves were the rock from which we are hewn. It is for us to conserve and extend that heritage. Turning to the capped and gowned seniors the President urged them to build their businesses and professions on the high standards of "Service Above Self."

Big plans had been made by President Perkins for the Alumni Public Session. Dr. John A. Lapp, '06, told what Alfred had meant to him through 30 years of notable public service. Her teachers had opened doors to the great intellectual beyond. If he had to choose again he would do exactly as he did, and come to Alfred University. Dean M. Ellis Drake, '25, thoughtfully analysed Alfred's needs under the topic, "The Challenge of the Future." He advised employing teachers with Ph.D's who should become more interested in research to keep them out of ruts; he also urged the completion of the pending changes in the curriculum, in counseling, and in teaching methods. Dr. Drake moreover stressed training for intelligent citizenship. The alumni session closed with the showing of old pictures mounted for stereopticon use. As they flashed on the screen running comment was made respecting them by Dora K. Degen, '98. Pictured were the near treeless campus of 1868, the unimproved streets and the rail fences, the bevy of girls on the steep wooden steps of the Brick (1873), the four top-hatted, cutaway-coated gentlemen constituting President Davis' first graduating class (1896), and the old lyceum session rooms—all bringing wistful memories of college days long past.

The Centennial Convocation began with the colorful academic procession to the grove near The Gothic. First came greetings from colleges and learned societies presented collectively by the representative of Cor-

nell University, Dean Robert M. Ogden. Then came greetings from King Alfred's England by a visiting Englishman in a beautifully worded address delivered with a delightful accent. President Dixon R. Fox of Union College, Schenectady, New York, presented the Convocation address. In a sense Alfred is a daughter of Union College, as two of its first three principals were Union men, and the speaker expressed pride in the offspring. Turning to his theme: "Have We Improved In One Hundred Years?" he surveyed the vast progress in science. But a bigger question was: "Have We Advanced Morally?" Well, continued the speaker, in the early 19th century women were civilly dead. It was many years after Alfred's founding before there was a woman lawyer in our State. In the early 1830's five-sixths of the people in New York prisons were there for debts—half the debts being for less than $20.00 each. Worse than that even a manufacturer in Ithaca, New York rejoiced at making such full use of the country's "man" power, and thus swelling the national wealth, by employing "more than 100 females, most of them under eight years of age." "The world is more kindly and more just than it was a century ago," said Dr. Fox.

To many visitors the Pageant was the high point of a week packed with memorable moments. The Pageant script was the work of Miss Elsie Binns, ex '06, a lady steeped in the best of Alfred's traditions. Her product was sympathetically staged by Miss Mary K. Rogers, '29, (Mrs. Samuel McFall) also by graduation and family tradition a worthy representative of Alfred's culture. An audience of some 2000 watched the presentation of the 200 actors just north of The Brick. The music was artfully adapted to stress the desired emotional effects, period costumes and the quickly grown crop of beards gave an archaic touch to the scene.

Four o'clock and all was ready.

In perfect order came the six historic episodes beginning with the ox-drawn covered wagon bringing the influential Stillmans, then the opening of the Select School, and on through the story to the middle 1890's. Part Two through the media of music, color, form, and movement symbolically and subtly portrayed the cultural, scientific, social, and spiritual developments of the last four decades. Then as Asser, King Alfred's secretary (Professor Harold O. Burdick) called forth the groups, he interpreted them to the Saxon monarch (Harold Riegger). Hearing all this, the King demanded to see that worker of miracles who had brought these later changes to pass. President Emeritus Davis then stepped forward, and King Alfred handed him the royal jewel as a

symbol of King Alfred's love of Alfred University commanding: let it pass from hand to hand through all coming years. Then Dr. Davis passed the Symbol on to President J. N. Norwood, symbolizing present and future. In a beautiful climax the great audience rose amid the slanting rays of a westering sun in tribute to Dr. Davis the worker of miracles. Performers and audience intermingled and joined, tears on many faces, in singing the traditional Founders' Day hymn: "Our God, our help in ages past...."

Another color-splashed academic procession came the next day, the big day of the record-sized graduating class. The address was delivered by Miss Frances Perkins, United States Secretary of Labor. Her choice as speaker of the day was quite in line with Alfred's long tradition of equal education for the sexes. Interesting back-stage happenings occurred, however, in connection with Miss Perkins' selection. While favorable official sanction had supposedly been gained for inviting so controversial a political personality, there was an ominous rise of blood pressure among granite-ribbed Republicans over it. A leading University trustee quite wilted Alfred's President when just before Commencement was to begin he glumly told the President that he had made the one "grand mistake of his young life." Also, while President Norwood and others had gone to meet and greet Miss Perkins, another top trustee, being told where the University head was, exploded characteristically, "God, I hope they all roll into the ditch!"

Expressing appreciation of Alfred's work for women, its scholarly achievements and the moral standards which had undergirded its teaching, Secretary Perkins asked, "What can be done in the next hundred years?" She recommended making our American society an inclusive society rather than exclusive—making things available to the many rather than reserving them to the few. "This", she said, "is part of the Christian aspiration."

An unusually long list of honorary degrees was conferred. Alumni citations were awarded to Dr. Orra S. Rogers, President of the University trustees; and to Curtis F. Randolph, who a few days before had been the guest of honor at a dinner in recognition of his quarter century as University treasurer. Announcement was made also of the actual purchase of an ancient 35 bell memorial carillon. The last official function of that event-packed week was the President's reception. Many important persons filled the receiving line. As the reception ended and the guests thinned out, the rains came—the only rain in those critical five days. The Centennial over, the weary president dropped into a

corner chair beside the man who had so shaken his nerve as the celebrations were about to start. Handsomely the critic apologized, declaring that Miss Perkins' address was a wonderful analysis of fundamental Americanism—one of the best he had heard. So far as known, the more explosive critic never recanted.

A bit more must be said about the excellent centennial music. A special recital on the organ was presented by Director Ray W. Wingate in the Seventh Day Baptist Church Sunday afternoon followed at once by a band concert on the campus under Wingate's leadership. Monday evening there was a recital by Mrs. Seidlin's piano pupils. Tuesday evening a glee club concert was offered, when a reunion of earlier glee club singers joined the current organization.

A number of fringe features of the week add to the total effect. Various exhibits recalled the life of other days: pictures and documents in the Carnegie Library, model period campuses in Kenyon Hall, a dormitory room furnished as of the 1860's in The Brick, and in almost all the buildings were exhibits appropriate to the school or structure in which they were shown.

Nor were sports neglected. There were a soft ball game of seniors *vs* alumni, supervised games for children, and sports equipment available for anyone wishing it. Moving pictures kindly taken by photographers from Thomas J. Watson's company, International Business Machines, perpetuated the chief events. A special mailing envelope and a postal cachet featured the pen-topped spire of Alumni Hall, and Hornell business men congratulated the University through advertisements in the campus newspaper.

Then there was the centennial tree—a red oak planted during the celebrations just northeast of the campus gateway. Through the cooperation of Mayor C. M. Potter, the village was thoroughly swept, dusted, and polished for the festive week. The herculean task of caring for special guests and visitors was well done by the committee on hospitalities, and lunches were served in the Men's Gymnasium on two days.

Thus ended the triennium, and Alfred University turned confidently into her second century trailing the Glow of a brilliant centennial celebration with her.

CHAPTER XXVII

From Depression to War, 1936-1941

THE CAMPUS SCHOOLS

DEPRESSION ruled the rest of the decade of the 1930's and a bit more. Yet all units of the campus made commendable progress academically. It was the President and the business office people who sweat over the monetary matters which menaced especially the College of Liberal Arts. Student life moved in its usual orbit, with football rising again to new heights of success.

In the academic field let us first look at the College of Liberal Arts. There an urgent task was to complete the reorganization of the Department of Philosophy and Education begun in the previous period. Daniel P. Eginton, a Columbia Ph.D., came and stayed a year pushing needed improvements. An innovation was his creation of a well-equipped workshop which found intensive use. When Dr. Eginton moved on, Dr. Joseph Seidlin was finally weaned away from his beloved mathematics to lead the teacher training work. Tackling the task with his wonted vim Dr. Seidlin pressed the subject matter departments into partnership in the teacher education effort and further professionalized the work. He also tied the Bureau of Appointments to the department. In those depression days placement was crucial, and to prospective teachers "signed a contract" was a magic phrase. State requirements of continued education for in-service teachers forced the offering again of regular courses leading to masters' degrees. Such courses were also fitted into the summer and extension programs already in effect. As the period ended, preparation of teachers had been brought fully up to standard. In the fall of 1939 the University trustees added to Dr. Seidlin's duties that of Director of the Graduate Division of the College of Liberal Arts.

Meantime administrative eyes had been noting some ominous signs of the times. Competition was edging Alfred's way in the form of public

junior colleges, degree-granting State normal schools, and technical institutes. The declining birthrate, the rush for quick vocational courses, and the dimming ideal of a liberal education were not lost on Alfred's leadership. Apparently, unless more vocational or professional outlets were provided, Alfred might suffer enrollment losses approaching the vanishing point. Facing the situation President and Dean after full investigation decided on a department of business and secretarial studies. Such a program was launched in 1939. Said Professor John E. Whitcraft, experienced head of the new venture: "Once again the educational 'stork' has left a new 'baby' on the campus of Alfred University. . . ." He assured all that it would be nurtured on college standards and on a par with the School's best traditions. Miss Agnes M. Pearson joined the staff to teach the secretarial science. Additional vocational aid was offered students through roundtable sessions on the campus where invited speakers and faculty members made suggestions and answered questions on such callings as advertising, journalism, and law. At the same time Dr. John A. Lapp of Chicago, editing a series of vocational pamphlets called "Careers," contributed for Dr. B. R. Grandad's occupational counseling work many samples dealing with positions ranging from manipulating a steam roller to doing research in vitamins.

During the period the liberal arts curriculum was under constant review. Scholastic standards were raised, and a new emphasis was put on tutorial work by which students studied semi-independently under the guidance of an instructor. Tutorial work was a cousin to research, and at Alfred research was in the air. The Ceramic College emphasized it. Students breathed it. Certain Liberal Arts faculty men were deep in research. Indeed, the general attraction of undergraduates to that field in New York State led to the formation of a State Student Scientific Conference.

The emergency collegiate centers lost their federal funds in the spring of 1937. Two communities, Jamestown and Dunkirk, elected to continue experimentally on a tuition basis. Alfred agreed to go along. A little more advanced work was included, and some professional courses for in-service teachers were added. Dunkirk closed at midyear; Jamestown was fairly successful. The set-up in the furniture city was reorganized and the name Alfred University Extension (AUE) was adopted with State approval. During the next three or four years enrollment fluctuated, and all parties interested adopted a wait, see, and hope attitude.

The project did succeed, becoming the present "Jamestown Community College."

While Alfred profited by the Jamestown connection in several ways, its work there was chiefly a public service enterprise. Scouting about for other ways to serve its area, the idea of a Human Relations Conference was hit upon. The first was launched in 1937 using "Roads to Peace" as its one-day topic for discussion. A lecture in Kenyon Hall in the forenoon, was followed by a lively forum discussion in the afternoon participated in by some 60 invited ministers, school men, newsmen, and local students and faculty members. Enthusiastic participants hoped that the Conference might become the first of a series. It did. By its third session (1939) it had taken on the form used until blacked out by World War II. The subject, "Toward a Better Understanding Among Jews, Catholics and Protestants," was selected. A forenoon session was combined with the regular student assembly. The three-man panel, including Dr. E. R. Clinchy of the national inter-faith conference, representing those faiths through a happy combination of wit, repartee, question and answer, brought meaty comment on their respective faiths. Students called it the most impressive assembly of the year. The afternoon session followed the plan of the previous years, while after dinner a mass meeting steamed on in Alumni Hall formally and informally until after ten o'clock. This procedure was continued annually under such leaders as Vernon Nash, spokesman for "Union Now," a plan for world government, and Dr. Margaret Mead of the American Museum of Natural History.

Along quite a different line but still a cultural contribution to campus and area was the Davis Memorial Carillon. References have been made in these pages to earlier steps taken toward acquiring a carillon. L. Sherman Greene, Dr. and Mrs. L. R. Watson, Nathan Lewis, Dr. and Mrs. Paul C. Saunders, and Norman J. and Mildred Whitney had dreamed and worked on the project. Then carillonneur H. S. Wesson, representing a Belgian firm of bell-founders, entered the picture as did summer school student Mrs. Charlotte Greene of Boston, who had played Belgian carillons. Mrs. Greene became a powerful supporter of the Davis project.

Through endless tribulations and local and international planning a collection of 35 ancient bells was offered by a firm of Belgian bell founders (1936)—bells by famed Hemony, Dumery, and Van den Ghyn, cast between 1674 and 1786. Excited, scared, with butterflies under their belts, the committee members took a dare, met the terms, underwrote

the sum needed, banking on the support of alumni and friends to see them through. July, 1937, the precious freight came to Alfred. Justin B. Bradley, ex '15, provided the "temporary" wooden tower, there was a brief "blessing" ceremony and the bells were hoisted to be installed by Mr. Wesson, who played the first public recital that September. An impressive dedicatory ceremony took place at Commencement, 1938, when Belgian-born Kamiel Lefevere, master carillonneur of the Riverside Church, New York City, played those bells brought from his native land. The beautiful instrument, an *ancient* carillon unique in the New World, was soon fitting easily into the cultural life of Alfred's area. Dr. Ray W. Wingate became its capable maestro.

The College of Ceramics which had enjoyed such a period of expansion went on consolidating its spectacular gains. The new Ceramic Experiment Station got off to a flying start. The Station's purposes were listed as research on ceramic materials, processes and products, and training students in research. Materials dealt with included clay, refractories, enameled ware, glass, whitewares, porcelain, tile, terra cotta, gypsum, lime, and cement. Possession of the Station enabled the College to accept research fellowships from industries, which became an important part of its work. In 1937 the powerful Engineers' Council for Professional Development (ECPD), an accrediting agency, made a thorough survey of the College's engineering curriculum and rendered a verdict very gratifying to all concerned. Thus the College of Ceramics became one of six so recognized in the United States.

In 1939 when the College of Ceramics participated in the New York World's Fair, Stanley Ballard, '39, its representative potter, turned a shapely pot amid a beautiful array of Alfred's finest ceramic ware. When the big show really got going, the exhibit and demonstrations became a popular feature, attracting an estimated 300,000 visitors.

While the State had denied the requests for a new ceramic building, a stopgap appropriation from the Federal Works Progress Administration permitted alterations in Binns Hall for better accommodations for the Experiment Station and the art work, pushed out of the previously-borrowed NYSA dairy building when that School's booming revival had come. In 1938 the last class under the old art teacher-training program completed its work, leaving the field to courses with an industrial emphasis. Despite the unsettling effects of the change, the Art Department was vigorous and successful. In line with the new emphasis, commercial aspects of art training loomed large and the department was cooperating with R. H. Macy's and E. I. DuPont's on a program

for developing a line of dinner ware for the retail trade. Other faculty members were busy off campus too. Don Schreckengost was studying in Europe, 1936. Dr. S. R. Scholes was reading a paper at a glass conference in London and a little later helping to plan a similar conference in Germany. Alfred was well represented at the annual meeting of the American Ceramic Society in New York (1937). On the campus The Student Branch of the Society launched *The Alfred Engineer* 1939-40, to acquaint the industry with the College and cultivate employment opportunities for graduates.

The black spot on the St. Pat's festival of 1940 was its assembly program. That annual address had degenerated from year to year despite all warnings, into "an ill-assorted collection of off-color attempts at wit, turning the assembly into a session of muck." The axe fell and the assembly was abolished as far as the campus was concerned. An entire issue of *Fiat Lux* could have been filled with student and other protests against the filth. No voice was raised publicly in defense. Considerably purified, the St. Pat's annual assembly address in later years was delivered from a Main Street upper porch. By 1941 both Colleges were being shaken by the reverberations of World War II raging in its second year.

The School of Agriculture having overcome its earlier obstacles was ready for an unprecedented boom. Enrollment sky-rocketed and offerings expanded. From the 80 or 90 students of 1936, the enrollment had risen in 1941 to 1,006 students, counting those full and part-time and those on- and off-campus. Equally amazing was the expansion of the School's program. To its original agricultural specialty came floriculture, agricultural business, and farm machinery—the last probably the first of its kind in this country below the four-year college level. Then jumping into a wider field there were added power distribution, radio, air conditioning, telephony, and refrigeration. The management of two National Youth Administration Resident Centers was undertaken, one for men, one for women—another type of depression ameliorator. These young folks learned useful vocations, instruction being paid for by their own services to the School.

Having branched out into new fields of higher education, NYSA was eligible to train under the Emergency Defense Program. Thus on the campus and in neighboring communities, daytime and evenings, various courses applicable to that purpose were available, including sheet metal, drafting, blueprint reading, and sketching. Men in defense industries mainly were the students. Moreover, in 1940 a Civil Pilot Training unit

was formed made up of students from the three campus schools. The government contract was with Alfred University, but the bulk of the work was done through NYSA. Successful completion of the parttime, three-month course won civilian pilot licenses. Finally the payoff for all these new services by NYSA came in April, 1941, when the State renamed its School, "The New York State Agricultural and Technical Institute at Alfred University," thus recognizing its widened field and its junior college status.

Of course, the massive growth of the Institute posed problems for the University. Two steps were taken. One looked toward a closer integration of the Institute with the University, e.g., through State budget provision for some instruction of Institute students in liberal arts classes, as was the case with ceramic students. Action was directed also to forming still closer relations of the student bodies in campus life—a plan which for a while promised success. But there were soon straws in the wind which pointed the other way. NYSA formed a separate student senate, and published its own student annual. Moreover, no funds were forthcoming for the accessory instruction in liberal arts classes. Regarding that topic one is led to ask if there was a well-founded belief or fear that Liberal Arts teachers could not provide the teaching viewpoint in basic science courses needed to fit students for the intensive, specialized program of the Institute? In brief, were circumstances pushing the junior partner toward independence?

The session of 1938 rounded out a quarter century of Summer School service. In 1939 the School listed 39 teachers and 210 students. Special courses of interest to school administrators were offered by officials drawn from the State Education Department. In June 1939 three graduates received masters' degrees earned in summer and extension courses. Heavy work as University Registrar led Director Titsworth to give up the summer leadership and take the lighter work of summer registrar (1941).

The School of Theology, not to be outshone by its bulkier neighbors, enjoyed a little boom of its own and like two of its associates got a new name as we have seen. In the fall of 1937 Reverend Sylvester S. Powell came to teach Hebrew and Greek; Dr. George B. Shaw instructed in English Bible; and a bit later Dr. Ben R. Crandall offered courses in law and finance useful to ministers. Special lecturers spoke on such topics as Missions, Church Camps, and Music in Public Worship. At denominational request Dean Bond organized a Seventh Day Baptist pastors' conference at Alfred. So successful did it prove that similar

conferences have been held year after year at Alfred or elsewhere. Of course the Dean was exercising his strong interdenominational interest in attending meetings of the Federal Council of Churches and representing his own churches and Baptists in general at Utrecht in Holland where a constitution was being formed for a World Council of Churches.

Alfred alumni, offspring of the schools, had busy times in their corporate capacities. The long reorganization job was completed under the three presidents: Crawford, '15; Perkins, '17; and Hagar, '19. A real lift was given alumni affairs when John R. Spicer, '30, became secretary, and editor of *The Alumni News* (1936). He won alumni aid in his trying task as Counselor to Prospective Students; boosted the fall Homecomings; founded the alumni citation awards; and filled in the details of the newly reorganized administration just noted, including the new way of nominating alumni representation on the University Board of Trustees. Interest in the branch meetings, the professional interest groups, and the Old Timers and other reunion breakfasts at Commencement time was well sustained. Begun also was the listing of the men in the armed forces.

MAINTENANCE AND MONEY

While academic matters were to a degree the worry and joy of the deans, the problems of buildings, grounds, and finance, especially the latter, as usual, grew gray hairs on the crowns of all top administrators. Finance is a perennial headache for colleges—trebly so in depression times and under the shadows of approaching war. Oh, to be sure there still were little spots of sunshine and an occasional financial windfall.

A fruitful suggestion of Hon. J. J. Merrill opened the way for the improvement of facilities for sports. Those improvements were achieved by the joint activities of Athletic Director James A. McLane and the interest of a private citizen, Lynn C. Vars, who collected the necessary cash from local business men. Thus the neglected and unsightly terra cotta lot was transformed into a level field useful in various ways but particularly as a football practice field. It also became a beauty spot. Bounded on the east by the not always friendly creek and by the more beneficent row of graceful willows, it tied together the athletic area from the Men's Gymnasium to the older field and Field House to the north. After the 1935 flood, another project fully rehabilitated, regraded, grassed, and equipped that old field, and installed additional steel-supported bleachers.

As to campus buildings, minor improvements were made on several, but a major operation was done on the Men's Gymnasium. The old floor was ripped out, fill taken in, rolled, covered with concrete, and a new wooden floor laid. The Field House also was improved to the degree that Director McLane exclaimed, "Now we can be proud to entertain any team in Alfred." In the severe winter of 1940 the aging boilers in the heating plant had been pushed far beyond capacity. Now, new tubes were installed, walls and fireboxes rebuilt, and the structure itself enlarged to house new equipment. That facility was considered good for many years, but like the gymnasium floor its durability and adequacy proved disappointing. The most notable structural gain was the acquisition by the University of the high school building and lot on Park Street (1940). The formation of a central school district and the consequent erection of a larger building elsewhere put the local building on the market. Mrs. Susan Howell Ames generously came forward with the funds for its purchase. The name, "South Hall" was agreed upon for the Park Street structure—a name reminiscent of old South Hall burned in 1858. Moreover it is the most southerly of the campus buildings.

In the matter of buildings too, an interesting development took place which has proved financially, socially, and educationally successful, when a cooperative house was established. For various reasons some young women students could not remain in college and pay prices for existing housing facilities. Through the efforts of Mrs. Dora K. Degen, Dean of Women, a house was obtained on North Main Street, owned by L. Sherman Greene, hence easily called "Greene Gables." This was fitted up for ten women. An ideal manager-hostess was found in Mrs. Madeleine Burdick, a local resident, and the project succeeded from the first. After four happy years in that location the cooperative enterprise was transferred to the "Castle" on Reynolds Street and there continued its expanded special housing program.

On finance we begin where that only partially successful campaign of 1936 ended. A bit of face saving showed in the announcement that the effort had been but the first phase of a ten year program. The depression compelled continued financial aid to students. On a longer range basis Mr. John P. Herrick was providing more full-tuition scholarships. Using personal funds and those of interested friends he honored by the scholarships relatives, friends, and earlier area leaders. One of these was the Allegany County Masonic Free Scholarship, believed to be the second of its kind in the United States.

Deficits and debts were still common words in the discussion of University finance. The two years 1933-35 showed the first operating cash deficits since 1910, $17,000. These were covered by more than five times the amount in student paper. But more deficits and debt came, causing the worried President to call them the outstanding nerve-wracking problem which dwarfed all others. Building and rebuilding to accommodate the bulging enrollment had lifted the debt to alarming heights. From 1927-37 such additions and improvements had been made costing $956,900. Of that sum $633,700 had been paid, but a debt of $323,200 remained. While subscriptions were on hand to cover the debt, pleas to those willing, but pocket-pinched subscribers brought little response. Then the gray hairs were further stimulated by the bulging operating deficits. It is true that *for the period* 1933-34 to 1939-40 inclusive there was a small net cash operating surplus ($2,580). However there had been some annual deficits, and the next year 1940-41 the figures were written in a blaze of red ink—$50,000! What caused the crimson figures for that year? There were multiple answers: a loss of enrollment, the stopping by the trustees of interest payments on the borrowed endowment, arrears of income from invested endowment, smaller income from the boarding clubs, but the chief villain in the red display was the large repair and improvement bill (heating plant, and South Hall). Those items accounted for over $42,000 of that deficit. Between 1933 and 1941 the debt had risen from $239,200 to $362,800. It was carried as previously by loans from sources already listed.

But something was being done about the debt. A plan already partially used was amplified and intensified—the Continuous Support Plan. It asked alumni and friends to make annual cash gifts toward debt liquidation, operating budget, and maintenance of the alumni office. In March, 1941, W. Harold Reid, '20, joined the staff taking the revived title of Director of Finance. Experienced in business and widely acquainted with alumni, Mr. Reid assisted in completing the Continuous Support Plan and directed its operation.

December 31, 1939, Curtis F. Randolph, the veteran treasurer, retired and was succeeded by his assistant treasurer, Burton B. Crandall. Exactly six months later Mr. Randolph died. The auditors in their last check up called his books the most complete over which they had cast "an alert and error spotting eye."

WITH THE STUDENTS

Noting now student activities, when lecturers and laboratories were silent, we find the scene quite similar to that of the previous period. A writer in *Kanakadea,* the campus annual, caught a compact, general picture of the student scene and flashed it descriptively: "On a given evening," he wrote, "Alfred students banded in half-a-dozen clubs may be found debating national policies, peering at planets, chatting in a foreign language, or simply meeting to elect new members.... At the same time another group will be assembling a newspaper, looking at lantern slides, or rehearsing a three-act play." Few clubs, if any, were not correlated with class work to some degree. At their best they practiced the textbook theory, at their worst they died.

Moving to a closer view of student doings we find new discontent over partiality and brutality shown in the enforcement of freshman rules. Revised machinery for enforcement was set up; more of an effort was made to imbue newcomers with Alfred's traditions; and for a time, as usual, the new broom dispelled the dust.

Life among the Greeks was quite as harmonious as could be expected. Their future "Actives" were enjoying life in the freshman home—Bartlett Dormitory. There they went through the gay, carefree times, the practical jokes, the bull sessions, the clowning, all supposedly adding to the fellowship of successful dormitory life.

The alarming topic, "The Diabolical Structure of Magic Squares," was boldly tackled by the Math Club; the French Club celebrated its fifth annual French Week; and the International Relations Club, after a rest from earlier hectic clashes on peace and war, revived again (1937-38). The Student Branch of the American Ceramic Society heard visiting industrialists, edited the unique *The Alfred Engineer,* noted elsewhere; and managed the famous St. Pat's festivals. The Guild was as busy as ever.

All the familiar religious services were well maintained as befitted Alfred's spiritual traditions. A new group—the Christian Scientists—met weekly in the Chaplain's office. Yom Kippur was appropriately observed annually by the Jewish group. In the academic year 1938-39 the AUCA ran a series of Sunday evening discussions on Marriage and the Home—average attendance 200. The women offered a series on What Religion Means to Me, also well attended. In 1940^1 the two associations merged as the Alfred Christian Fellowship (ACF). Chaplain William H. Genne succeeded Chaplain McLeod, who left after a

service of eleven notable years (1940). Musical and lecture programs flourished. Outstanding were the Don Cossacks who filled Alumni Hall with its largest audience. Other big names in the entertainment line were Miss Margaret Speaks, Rockwell Kent, General Smedley D. Butler, Cornelia Otis Skinner, and Will Durant. Of course the University Music Department provided its share of entertainment. Campus journalism was riding high, *Fiat Lux* winning four awards in 1938-39. A new-comer dressed in print crashed the campus—the *Saxonian* magazine. It survived the burning criticism which greeted it and won readers for a while.

Now a couple of snapshots. "Sally!" Sally, Steinheim's ancient skeleton, was discovered one morning weakly leaning against the entrance to a local restaurant and bearing the mournful sign, "I ate here yesterday." The proprietor, not a bit amused, catapulted the bony visitor into the street where "she" was instantly demolished under a passing truck. Well, it wasn't Sally, but an imposter. Sally was found safe and silent in the Biology Department. Next from mock tragedy to real tragedy: a farm barn on fire; crowds of students impressed by the family distress; the silent, stricken father; cattle wandering dazed in the glare; a small boy weeping for a pet colt. Then a campus money raising rush—result $200. Not much in view of the disaster, but it revealed the heart of youth.

From campus sympathy to sports enthusiasm is not a great leap. Football was to climb in the period to the highest plateau up to that time, though the first season predicted no such glory with five losses and a zero tie. In 1937, however, came Coach Alex J. "The Great" Yunevich, and lo—an undefeated, untied season! The Saxons piled up 168 points to their opponents' 31. Of course, football enthusiasm shot up locally and in the wider area. The Chicago *Tribune,* reminded by an alumnus that a top team had been overlooked, burst forth with—"Good Old Alfred.. .the top team in the entire country. . .is Alfred. . ., won seven games, lost none, and has not been tied. It tops the 1000 per cent teams because it has played one more game than any other undefeated, untied eleven in the list."

The next two seasons were on a lower level of success but excellent by Alfred's average performances. In 1940 came Alfred's second high performance of the half-decade—six won, one tied, no defeats. Opponents made but six points to Alfred's 125. In 1941 a key football man was graduating—the "sparkplug and braintrust of the Purple and Gold backfield. . .the greatest football player ever to perform in Alfred University togs, Walter "Bo" Johnson, half-back extraordinary." It was

with deep regret that coaches and sports fans saw "Bo" play his last game for Alfred.

Cross country and track continued on a high level of success. Perhaps cross country's best season was that of 1939 when the panting hill climbers won all four dual meets—three with perfect scores, 15 to 40; even Cornell was beaten 25 to 30. Lyle Perkins was the star of the 1936 season cracking the record on West Point's five mile course. The other seasons were good or fair. On the whole the track men fared better than did the cross country team. A good record was made in the season of 1938, but the next year brought their most spectacular success. It introduced an outstanding little runner, Bradley Rendell of NYSA which then was joining with the University athletic teams. After other successes, he went on to win the 3,000 meter steeplechase at the Penn Relays against the country's best, even beating the record of the great Getz (10:15.4") by 13.2" (10:2.2). Rendell was called "one of the outstanding runners in the east." An excellent showing was made in 1941 also. The freshman teams, too, did well in track. In 1939 the famed Interscholastic Track Meet, a spectacular thirty year old annual spring event at Alfred, was ended by a State rule that such encounters must be held only under the control of school boards of education.

The hardwood basketeers had little to crow about. Their best season was the first with eight games won and six lost. After that they never reached a seasonal percentage of .500. The wrestlers fared even worse than the hoop men. Their best showing was in the last season of the period (1941). Then the grunters and groaners won three and lost three. Perhaps it was such relative success which justified the contemporary guess that wrestling was on the up grade. Among the minor sports fencing was new. In a bout with the University of Buffalo, the first ever regularly scheduled by Alfred, the Saxon's won the foils phase but failed in the sabre division, thus losing the match. The skiers made a typically pretty winter picture, forming bright splashes of color on the snow as they flashed among the trees below the Steinheim or crossed the slopes of Pine Hill. The strong intramural sports program continued.

Under the Women's Athletic Governing Board and the energetic guidance of Miss Lavinia Creighton the girls had a bigger and better program all their own. They did especially well in archery. In a national tournament by telegraph in 1939-40 the Purple and Gold devotees of Robin Hood stood 11th among 109 schools. Among eastern institutions the Alfred girls rated second as a school. The acquisition of the con-

veniently located South Hall was a boon to the women's program, allowing further expansion and easier access.

In 1938-39 athletic management was again by general agreement reorganized. A student vote dissolved the venerable Athletic Association. The Athletic Governing Board was continued with student representation, as were the faculty athletic committee, and the alumni advisory board. Thus administration was unified. Actually, however, for some time Director James A. McLane, accountable only to the University President, had controlled athletics with the advice and counsel of the committee and the boards.

CHAPTER XXVIII

Mars Strikes Again, 1941-1945

W

THE CAMPUS TURNS TO WAR

FOR SOME time coming events had cast their shadows before them, and since the clanking German war machine had crossed the Polish border (1939) the United States had become increasingly war conscious. The Selective Service Law and the earlier Civil Aeronautics program had brought the atmosphere of war to the campus, causing young men to wonder what patriotic duty required of them. The deans also were spending much time advising on the draft and on armed service opportunities.

Calendar-wise an accelerated second semester was scheduled for 1941-42; a compressed, three-term year for 1942-43, and a lengthened summer school for both years. To the curricula were added certain so-called defense courses such as world politics, business English, wood and metal work, aviation, and radio. Home-nursing and first aid were also offered. In the second semester physical training stressed conditioning and toughening exercises, e.g., heavy calisthenics, wrestling, and boxing. Campus war efforts were unified in a Committee on National Defense representing all the schools. Headed by the University President, weekly meetings were held and policies determined. The academic year, 1942—43, brought further interference with college work, increasing student restlessness, posing added financial distress to the University, and more perplexing problems of academic adjustment to changing needs. A War Adaptations Committee worked hard at finding war-aimed courses and combinations of courses which, if taken, would allow students to stay in school and feel comfortable about their duty. So rapidly did needs change, however, that the ink was scarcely dry on new leaflets before they were obsolete.

Meantime, full information on all the University's facilities had been forwarded to Washington. But pessimism was strong on Alfred's chances

of getting any worthwhile armed forces unit. In the early spring of 1943, however, prospects brightened. In fact an announcement appeared that the College of Ceramics had been listed to process a unit. That was most gratifying, but enthusiasm cooled when it was seen that that College could not give the kinds of engineering needed. Then a few days later, the University (Liberal Arts) was listed for a unit in the basic phase of training, e.g., physics, chemistry, English. A trip to New York by the President to see Lieutenant Colonel J. B. Grier, in charge of education for the Second Service Command, made clear to that official the relations among the campus schools. Campus officials visited other institutions to learn how housing and boarding for the service men should be handled. Others were allocating class and laboratory space and teaching personnel. A visit from Colonel Grier convinced him and the Alfred authorities that Alfred could process a 400-man unit.

July 9, 1943, was contract day. A long table was arranged in the President's office, army men on one side, University men on the other, Colonel and President at the ends. All day the treasurer's figures on army-supplied blanks were subjected to scrutiny. "Gentlemen," said Colonel Grier, "I am just as willing to tell you when your figures are too low as I am to object when they are too high." That was his spirit all day. Again and again requests for payment for items like moving kitchen equipment from Bartlett to the barracks building (The Brick), could not be allowed under that terminology, but could under "activating expenses." By late afternoon the contract was ready for engrossing, and for the signatures of certifying officials. The soldiers-to-be would soon be coming. So hustle, hustle was the word. How men and women did work! They labored regardless of hours and Sabbaths. The President and the Dean of Women going the rounds of fraternities a few days before the dead line were cheerily assured by the workmen that all would be ready for the women—unusual occupants of such houses.

The unit members dribbled in at first, then a block of 175 arrived, marching spectacularly from their troop train at Alfred Station. Soon the program was in full swing and settling into routine. The "Hup, two, three, four," echoed everywhere as the thirty units marched from class to class. Quickly the small boys about town were intoning the sharp count of command with surprising fidelity. But as all work and no play could make Khaki Jack a dull boy, entertainment plans long incubating were activated. A committee representing town and gown had arisen to fill the need. One project was a series of Saturday night dances in South Hall. Floor shows, skits, music, a soft drink dispenser,

and recreation rooms aided or supplemented the dances. A local orchestra produced toe-tingling tunes. Social Hall was open seven days a week. Hornell cooperated with its Service Men's Center open weekends, and with Sunday dinners, Christmas entertainment in private homes, and the privileges of the YMCA.

Captain Alfred W. Smith, C.E., first Commandant of the "3220th Service Command Service Unit, Army Specialized Training Unit (SCSU, ASTP) at Alfred University" was transferred at the end of the first term and was succeeded by Major Theodore F. Angell, F.A. Both officers cooperated fully with campus authorities in the operation of the unit. Government payments were prompt. Colonel Grier and a group of inspectors expressed themselves as highly pleased with the housing, messing, and instruction provided, rating them "excellent."

There were tense moments. One came when fire threatened the barracks. It was difficult, also, to keep a competent faculty. Once, the President, hard pressed for an instructor in geography rushed to Syracuse University. Seating himself solidly in the office of Dean (later Vice Chancellor) Finla G. Crawford ('15) the President exclaimed, "Fin, I am going to sit here until we find a geography teacher." Telephones hummed, and in less than two hours a competent man was pledged to be in Alfred in three days. Other campus changes owing to the army's presence included assemblies held monthly only and in the evening, chapel crowded into the noon hour, classes meeting Saturday forenoons, and many other non-traditional situations which caused staid citizens to blink unbelieving eyes. The personnel and facilities of the College of Ceramics, under a contract with the State, were used by the University as needed in processing the army unit. Full cooperation by the ceramic staff was cheerfully given. The Technical Institute expanded its already varied offerings in war-aimed technologies.

In mid-February 1944 word came that the ASTP would terminate April 1. Some elements stayed until the end of that month, while part of the officers' cadre remained until June. Army enrollment had been 711 different men. Other students included liberal arts 187 (of whom 50 were in the United States Cadet Nurse Corps), ceramics 126, theology 4, and the Institute 45 regular, and in its various training projects 813 more, or a grand total for the entire campus outside the military of 1,175. Subtracting the Institute's enrollment campus population in the two colleges was 317. This contrasted with a normal enrollment of over 600.

READJUSTING TO A CIVILIAN CAMPUS

With the service men leaving, University officials looked for ways of getting along on a more nearly civilian basis. One aid was the Cadet Nurse Corps just noted. In the fall of 1943 a permanent department of nursing was established in the Liberal Arts College headed by Mrs. Anson Harvey. Led largely by Dr. H. O. Burdick this project had involved much detail and much consultation with State and nursing education leaders. It started under the State-sponsored Central Nursing School plan using selected colleges and neighboring hospitals. For the students it entailed a year on campus and two calendar years in affiliated hospitals for study and work. Then after successfully passing appropriate examinations they won registered nurse certification. An added campus year made possible a bachelor's degree. For the war period however Alfred nursing students were enrolled in the new United States Cadet Nurse program and studied at government expense. Other ways of filling the gap caused by the loss of the army stressed opportunities for women in industrial ceramic art, even in ceramic engineering, and in secretarial studies. Also the G.I. education bills before the Congress promised veterans as students. On the other side of the problem savings were effected by closing three buildings and by granting leaves of absence to staff members to fill the numerous outside positions in teaching, research, or industry until students flocked back to the campus. More familiar conditions were restored on the campus when, after the summer of 1944, the former two-semester year and the six-week Summer School returned. Courses such as physical training went back to pre-war requirements. Despite such signs of returning normalcy the war rolled on into August, 1945.

Now, having specialized so far on the effects of the war, we chronicle some happenings, mostly academic, in the campus schools while they were immersed in direct war work. First let us record that in the very start of that first American war year President Emeritus Boothe C. Davis died at his Florida home (January 16, 1942)—"Davis the Beloved," as he was rightly called, who for nearly four decades, had manfully met the problems of Alfred University.

In Liberal Arts study was undertaken to improve the curriculum. High school interest in meeting the new technological demands brought less attention to detailed college entrance requirements. Those were simplified to ask for four years of English and twelve other unspecified units. Such fluid demands were expected to appeal to students of more

diverse interests. In 1942 a long-felt need was met when art courses were introduced experimentally again in liberal arts supplementary to the music appreciation work already listed. Miss Marion L. Fosdick, Miss Erma Hewitt, and Mrs. Mildred Landis were the instructors. The Summer School survived the war and stayed in the black financially under the guidance of its new Director, Dr. M. Ellis Drake. The Jamestown Extension (AUE) surmounted all wartime obstacles. A reciprocal association with the Jamestown city laboratory strengthened both. And an Alfred University Extension alumni association was formed (1942).

Like the other schools the College of Ceramics lost civilian enrollment as well as staff and like them turned to various new activities. In cooperation with State Departments in Albany, State resources in shales and clays were surveyed, research was expanded, conferences of staff members and industrialists were held to improve the curricula, and the Up-State Section of the American Ceramic Society was organized. The College also won permanent accrediting by the Engineers' Council for Professional Development (ECPD).

No unit at Alfred went out in the war effort more fully than did the Agricultural and Technical Institute. Yet, like the others, it kept a small regular enrollment and adequately cared for it. Its Civil Aeronautics Training became the Naval Air Cadet training program for enlisted men (1942). In 1943 Director Orvis joined the Allied Military Government in occupied territories, leaving staff members T. A. Parish and W. C. Hinkle as acting co-directors. A popular innovation was the annual Farmers' Field Days, (1944). As the Institute reverted to peacetime status, a welcomed new departure was the laboratory technology curriculum for women. That offering soon grew from a six-month emergency affair to a two-year terminal element. As with its associated schools, the Institute returned substantially to its pre-war program as the war effort declined.

WARTIME FINANCE

While we have emphasized Alfred's activities in the war as fully in keeping with its traditional patriotism and have shown the progress made in various directions, the crucial financial difficulties were still present. The President told alumni how very, very, serious those were (1942). Calling the squeeze between falling revenues and rising costs the "Dilemma" he said that to maintain the fine plant, facilities, accreditation, and especially the need to be prepared to manage a possible armed service unit, still more drastic economizing, and still more

sacrificial giving were necessary. At the same time Finance Director Reid pointed out the difficulties met by the new Continuous Improvement Fund. Heavy competition came from the almost numberless war agencies patriotically appealing to all citizens for support. Officials sometimes actually asked, "Can the University survive?" Financial facts warranted such warnings and fears. For 1941-42 there was another back-breaking deficit—over $50,000, a little worse than the previous year and an all-time record. For the first time the debt from operating deficits and old familiar causes exceeded $400,000.

The next year (1942-43) the deficit digits were less alarming—$14,000. And Reid's returns from Continuous Support were $29,000, or more than twice those of the previous year. Moreover, the Treasurer listed $49,000 in current assets as in notes and pledges. In 1943-44 "Mr. Dilemma" was still on hand, but his frown was less tense. It was the year of the ASTP Government checks and the wonderful in-pouring of gifts buried the red splashes under a $22,200 surplus. What a financial shower that was!—all to mollify Mr. Dilemma and totaling $51,500. The largest gift was $40,000—a happy surprise. Fortunately not all of that windfall was needed in the crisis. Part was put into scholarships in honor of the donors. Part was held to see what critical demand would prove to be the most insistent. Bad as the situation was at times, an institution with such supporters was reasonably safe from fatal disaster. With some feeling the President thanked Alfred's backers for thus relieving the burdens of administration. The debt was cut to $388,690.

With no checks from Washington and with low enrollment, the last year of the war period did not appear rosy. Reid redoubled his efforts. He invented "The Hundreds Club" described as made up of all who contributed $100 or more each to the University in the year. Reid urged all to borrow, beg, scrape the barrel, rob the teapot, even the baby's bank to secure the entrance fee. By June (1945) $32,150 had been sent in—a wonderful achievement. Yet, when Treasurer Crandall finished his adding and subtracting, he picked up his red pencil to write: "Deficit $29,590." And the debt had climbed to $422,000. While the net result of annual ups and downs in the operating budget through 1940 had been a small surplus as previously noted, the war years produced a massive accumulated deficit of $122,000. Bigger and better borrowing from familiar sources was still the stock solution.

STUDENT LIFE AND THE WAR

A general survey of campus life showed the natural effects of the

war-reduced enrollment, especially on the men's organizations and interests. On the whole it was amazing that clubs and societies carried on as fully as they did. Honor societies, religious groups, the assemblies most of the time, the forums, and the organs of campus government were alive, as were the somewhat anemic *Fiat* and *Kanakadea.* That chiefly male interest, *The Alfred Engineer,* was an early casualty. One new organization appeared in the period: the honorary journalistic fraternity, Pi Delta Epsilon (1943). The first year of the period naturally saw the least change. Famous names like Max Lerner, Paul Robeson, and Maurice Hindus graced the Forum platform. In 1942-43 girls' smoking rules came in for further modifications, and as changed were successfully administered by the Women's Student Government. A faculty variety show packed Alumni Hall, was uproariously enjoyed, and added a nice sum to the Veterans' Scholarship Fund sponsored by the Student Senate.

The Union University Church celebrated its twentieth anniversary in the existing form and took on support of a refugee boy. A new Rabbi in Hornell took fresh interest in the campus Hebrew group. Chaplain Genne reported that practically every student was touched by the Alfred Christian Fellowship. *The Eve of St. Mark,* a play based on the Western New York area, and in which Alfred was mentioned, was the major effort of the Footlight Club. The Forensic Society exchanged arguments with Keuka College on World Federation. The Khaki year saw campus groups which were still active sponsoring recreation for the trainees. The Chaplain was unusually busy as liaison officer between the soldiers and entertainment opportunities in Alfred and Hornell. The Independents added intellectual aims to their social ones and contributed more fully to a richer life for the non-affiliated students. Then and later that group took a leading part in starting the Campus Union —a snack bar complete with coffee, chocolate shakes, hamburgers, and a juke box. In 1944 five men and five women were selected for the national *Who's Who Among Students in American Colleges and Universities.*

Men continued scarce through the last year of the period even though a number of veterans dotted the campus. Senior class life was still disrupted. The picture-punctuated *Kanakadea* (1945) showed among the 32 seniors just three men. The Women's Student Government got a new constitution which tried a partial honor system with respect to campus rules. Technical Institute girls were represented on WSG. The

girls' cooperative home moved from "Greene Gables" on North Main Street to the "Castle." A new sorority founded by six women and named Alpha Kappa Omicron (1945) was admitted to membership in the Inter-sorority Council. That Council was forced to omit its annual post-rush season ball that year—cause, no men!

Intercollegiate sports were the chief campus casualty. Yet the first year of the quadrennium was fairly normal. Alfred's unprecedented football victories ended. But suspension of the freshman rule, the presence of some likely first year men, joined with the unexpected return of two stars—Trigilio and Chrzan—made possible a season with four victories against two defeats and a tie. At the dinner and dance after a football victory over Hofstra College on Long Island, Alfred citizen William "Bill" Brown, an unofficial team "mascot," was feted and amid enthusiastic cheers awarded a loyalty citation as a perennial booster of Saxon teams. Mearl "Mike" Greene was rated among the top third of all college tackles in the country. Then a senior he had been the pride and joy of the coaches and had won national prominence in football, wrestling, and track, 1941-42. Just before college opening in the fall of 1942 a terse announcement said—no intercollegiate football that year. What! no chance to cheer the gridders when the mercury sank below freezing and spirits ran high after a long run, no chance to shout the famed "Hallelujah" challenge? No, the coach was in the Navy, the playing field was a wreck from another summer flood, and the players had been sucked out by the draft. Football was really out. Basketball struggled fitfully for a while and succumbed to the conditions of the time. What became of cross country? Pithilly put: It graduated. Track played out after winning two out of three dual meets in 1943.

As intercollegiate sports wilted, intramurals boomed. In January came a play-off in basketball between campus all-stars, the "Dry Five," and the "Boozers," the cadet team. Rivalry reached a peak but the warriors won 51 to 28. The women's intramurals also reached fever heat. As usual, the women competed in the Spring Telegraph Tournament of the National Archery Association, 1943. Florence H. "Beazie" Guthrie, campus archery star, won a gold pin from the Association. Then in another contest in Class C that young archer shot within four points of the national record. To help the girls pass the time ordinarily spent with boy-friends the Women's Athletic Governing Board offered a list of eleven different sports. But doubts existed as to those being satisfactory substitutes! Thus on the campus the war years passed.

PRESIDENT NORWOOD RETIRES

Just 17 days after Japan asked terms of surrender President J. N. Norwood closed his dozen years in that office. An earlier request for retirement denied by the trustees was renewed in the fall of 1944. The trustees yielded. From then on honor after honor came his way. Citations or testimonials by alumni groups, the Jamestown Extension, the American Ceramic Society, and dedication of the 1945 *Kanakadea,* all culminated in a three-fold surprise at Commencement.

June 11, 1945, was a beautiful spring day. The commencement exercises were held among the familiar pines. At their conclusion the President arose to announce the Alma Mater, when Dr. Waldo A. Titsworth, a close friend interposed and presented him on behalf of associates and friends complete furnishings for an office in Greene Hall. Before Dr. Norwood could go on, Dr. Charles P. Rogers arose and delivered a nattering review of the executive's career in college and community. Allowing no interval, Dr. J. Hillis Miller of the State Education Department, speaker of the day and recipient of an honorary degree, in a tribute of high praise nominated Dr. Norwood for the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws, which President-elect J. Edward Walters proceeded to confer. Profoundly moved, the object of these honors thanked all with deep appreciation.

A few weeks later (September 1) Dr. Norwood turned his office over to President Walters, thus ending his own 35 years of service to Alfred University.

CHAPTER XXIX

President Walters, 1945-1948

DR. JACK EDWARD WALTERS was selected for Alfred's presidency after painstaking investigation. A few weeks later in the fall he was formally inaugurated eighth President of the University. The occasion was honored by Governor Thomas E. Dewey, and other political figures, heads of several colleges and universities, and Dr. J. Hillis Miller, representing the State Education Department.

Boothe Colwell Davis, Jr., presented Dr. Walters; and Dr. Charles P. Rogers, chairman of the board of trustees, spoke the inducting phrases. The University Charter and the King Alfred Jewel were used symbolically in the ceremony, and Governor Dewey and President Walters presented addresses appropriate to the occasion. Thus tall, handsome, energetic Jack Walters with long service in personnel relations at Purdue University and similar experience with a New York firm of management engineers was formally seated as Alfred's post-war leader. He had already attacked with determination the staggering problems of the new era.

POST WAR PROBLEMS

One of the most pressing was that of housing for increased students and staff members. After endless delays and conferences and after the Federal Housing Authority had provided units on the Belmont road, opposite The Brick, and near the Bartlett Dormitory, thirty-five trailers were draped around two sides of the Men's Gymnasium. These sheltered in all some 850 persons. Later three barrack-like structures were added on the Belmont road site. That whole white-painted cluster was named officially "Saxon Heights," unofficially, for obvious reasons, "Diaper Hill." Other units were named for students who died in the war. In all this the new President was the guiding spirit.

A project close to Dr. Walters' heart was the Alfred University Research Foundation. After careful planning it was sanctioned by the University trustees late in 1946. The Foundation aimed at training in research, spreading scientific and technical information, and carrying on cooperative research. The Foundation was ruled by a widely representative board of directors headed by the Ceramics College dean, ex-officio. Its first project was a study of radioactive isotopes through a contract with the Atomic Energy Commission. In 1948 the College, through the Foundation, was busy on an Air Force contract to produce high temperature refractories for jet propulsion devices. A less successful innovation was the "Alumni College" introduced by Dr. Walters in consultation with the President of the Alumni Association. A feature of Commencement (1947), it was based on the belief that alumni would once again love to hear their old professors. A program was arranged for Saturday and Sunday afternoons including panels or lectures on topics varying from "Patent Law" to "A Historian Looks at the World Today." Attendance was good, but after a second year's program interest waned, and the experiment was discontinued.

Alfred's President, a canvas artist in his own right, felt that Alfred should do more for the fine arts and crafts. An early result of that feeling was the migration of the School for American Craftsmen to Alfred, July, 1946. Sanctioned by the State authorities, the School settled in the former Crandall Hall barn. Said its sponsor: Alfred has implemented the hand arts basic to all arts with constructive action. Metal-smithing, pottery, textiles, and woodworking were supplemented by design, mechanical drawing, history of art, art production, and marketing. Also two degree courses were outlined.

This impetus to the arts helped in the birth of Alfred's first Spring Arts Festival. That mass assault by the varied arts made a great impression. What a galaxy it presented! In the Social Hall student exercises with the vocabulary of design were shown in varied materials. In the same place the music library and the radio-phonograph console, gifts of the George Openhyms, sounded a continuous concert of recorded music. The converted barn of the craftsmen showed varied pieces —chairs, tables, desks, textiles, trays by the metal smiths, and pottery bowls. The Forum number that spring fitted into the new plan and gave the Festival a dance program symbolically summing up art from Adam to atom. The play, *Murder in the Cathedral,* was sensitively staged to a packed audience under the direction of Professor C. D. Smith, III. Mr. William Fiedler, the new music department head, presented a Bach

cantata, and for good measure threw in an afternoon of chamber music. All these won unstinted praise, and Alfred lovers of the arts felt that a new era was opening in their specialties. The next year's Festival was equally successful, and the event became an annual campus enjoyment as spring made its Alfred approach.

Certain needed administrative changes appealed to the President. One remedied the alleged too-static character of the University board of trustees. Membership changed too slowly, average age was too high, he thought. New rules (1948) compelled a more rapid turnover and opened the way for new blood. The existing Academic Council invented by the previous administration was made more widely representative and renamed the Administrative Council. Furthermore, Mr. Brinton Stone was appointed the President's administrative assistant and loaded with a formidable list of duties. In one of his reports Stone put his finger on one damaging result of the recent rapid changes in personnel: the fact that nearly every administrative office was held by one recently appointed.

Relations with the rapidly expanding Agricultural and Technical Institute had their ups and downs, although the faculties and student bodies maintained the usual cordial relations. The President proceeded as if that School were, or should be, under his jurisdiction. Actually, it was practically independent. When Dr. Walters left the problem of Ag-Tech and Alfred University relationships had not been solved. The President was surely on popular ground when he won two considerable salary increases for the liberal arts teaching staff. Important also were new rules on academic freedom, teaching load, tenure, and retirement. For student benefit came an elaborate, revised counselor system which aimed further to individualize instruction and assure the self-determination and progressive self-realization of the student. Such were samples of changes won by the many-sided Walters.

Enrollment in the two Colleges had mushroomed from 620 before the war to 917 in 1947. Alumni hearing about the growth, the changes, and the hurry wondered a bit. What did it all mean? Was the University better or worse for it? Alumni President Harold F. McGraw tried to reassure them. Such numerous and rapid changes were unfortunate, he agreed. But if Alfred can maintain its friendliness, its high quality of instruction, and the intellectual integrity of its faculty, it can change in many ways but will really be the same Alfred.

ACADEMIC MATTERS

In the College of Liberal Arts faculty cogitations had formulated some broad aims. A typical sample would have students distinguish reason from emotion, fact from opinion, truth from error, and, on achieving understanding of problems, be able to discover and apply constructive solutions. In such processes both critical thinking and high moral character were essential. Many a music lover was made happy when music-loving Susan Howell Ames contributed $15,000 to strengthen the Music Department. Mr. William Fiedler, as noted, was enticed from Ohio's Antioch College to lead in Alfred's music offerings. With more cash and the added personnel, musical matters received better support. At the end of that year (1946) Alfred E. Whitford retired from the deanship and was succeeded by Dr. M. Ellis Drake. Drake did a bit of justified boasting about the quality of his College. As supporting data, he cited the placing of Alfred's freshmen in the top ten per cent in a national test covering 317 colleges. But the new Dean would have it still better. At the same time the Dean of Women, Dora K. Degen (Mrs. George C. R.), and Registrar Waldo A. Titsworth went into well earned retirement.

The Cadet Nursing course with its interesting "capping" and graduation ceremonies ended its Federal phase in 1946. The course was then reorganized as a full, four year combined campus and hospital degree unit. An interested foundation financed it for five years (to 1951), when the Corning General Hospital underwrote the Alfred Nursing Department for several years. A useful program developed on the campus in 1948 when the Alfred University Study Area came to enlighten the territory centering in Hornell, New York, on business and various sociological matters. Managed by the departments of Economics and Business, and Sociology, it won excellent cooperation from banks, chambers of commerce, industries, and interested State departments. Its published findings won praise on the campus and among various groups in its geographical area of 71,000 neighbors.

Another thriving unit got a lift about that time. Called a questionable experiment in 1938, the graduate department had prospered so that in 1947 it was ready for its academic maturity and became the Graduate School, Director Seidlin, becoming Dean Seidlin. It served teachers in service or in preparation, non-teachers, and graduate students in liberal arts and ceramics. In 1947-48 the newly-named School enrolled 250 students in 40 courses on the campus and in nearby communities.

The Summer School, still operating with black ink, broke attendance records the first peace year with 306 students. Drake was still its Director. The School of Theology lost its two veteran part-time teachers—Greene and Van Horn—to whom it owed much. A descriptive leaflet *Through Gothic Windows* was the work of its scholarly young Professor Wayne R-Rood. In 1946-47 six regulars attended, and 18 liberal arts students enjoyed a course in comparative religion.

Stepping now far afield from Pine Hill slope let us ask, "What was doing at the Jamestown Extension?" It would like to have been called the Junior College of Alfred University, but Albany shook its official head. Nevertheless, it was doing well. In 1948 it had a good enrollment, many students had transferred to Alfred, and some were graduating there that year. Back in thought on the Alfred campus we faced a sad series of events in the Ceramics College. In December, 1945 Dean M. E. Holmes, who had not felt well for some time, was hospitalized. His work was taken over by associates, but no one was prepared for his death the following May. Thus at a difficult moment, the leader who had so masterfully piloted the College for 14 years was struck down. Dr. Holmes was a great organizer, a great engineer, and a great dean.

Dr. Samuel R. Scholes was named Dean, which started other changes, e.g., Kurt Ekdahl followed H. A. Nord, who had followed Schreckengost (Industrial Ceramic Design); and Dr. Harold E. Simpson stepped into Dr. Scholes' shoes as head of the Glass Department. Professor Charles R. Amberg returned from a year's study, decorated with a Ph.D. degree and resumed his headship of the Ceramic Research Department, as the Experiment Station had come to be called. Interim head Professor John F. McMahon had done an excellent job and was tendered a happy dinner party by his co-workers. Certain curricular changes showed a trend toward more of the fundamental sciences, with less detail on plant operations. Also a broader understanding of human relations was asked. Larger appropriations, new equipment, and added staff further strengthened the College.

As elsewhere, enrollment zoomed in the Agricultural and Technical Institute. In 1945-46 it was 314, but it soon struck an uncomfortable 700 level. Hence there, too, housing was an acute problem—the shortage affected both living and laboratory space. Houses were purchased in the village. Students commuted from their homes or from rooms rented in the area. For some of those the Institute provided free bus service. Federal and State help was invoked, but as the Walters' regime ended the needs were only partly met. Diesel Engineering was a new depart-

ure added in part in answer to requests from the Erie Railroad then rapidly converting to that type of motive power. Basic work in diesel was provided as was parttime specialized training for industry. New equipment required by that specialty and the older work cost hundreds of thousands of State and Federal dollars. Those dollars did create here, however, some of the best machine shops in the East. Such developments led the Engineers' Council for Professional Development to accredit certain of the Institute's offerings. Cornell University granted partial credit for some courses in agriculture to students desiring to continue work in Ithaca, and several engineering schools allowed some credit for pertinent work at the Institute.

PLANT AND FINANCE

As to the condition of the University plant, we find that shortages of building material limited construction and repairs. The one actual acquisition was the Priscilla Hostess House on North Main Street. That facility came (1948) by the will of Miss Caroline E. Alden of Alfred, a descendant of the colonial Priscilla. The new guest house was placed under a resident hostess, and guests were charged moderate rates.

The financial situation was much the same as in the earlier diagnoses. The first post war year 1945-46 continued the deficit habit—$25,200. Fortunately the next two years showed comfortable surpluses, real achievements for President and Treasurer. The red ink tide for the moment was ebbing. The story of the debt in the Walters triennium ran thus: 1946, $465,000; 1947, $440,000; 1948, $453,000. The Continuous Support (or Improvement) Program produced from $10,000 to $14,000 per year. Costs of supplies rose alarmingly, and it was close to impossible to get any kind of employees. Wage levels mounted. A threatened strike of the heating plant crew was fortunately averted and may have saved the campus a run of pneumonia. A new financial campaign was under consideration, but failed to materialize until the next administration came in. In 1946 Treasurer Burton B. Crandall resigned and was succeeded by Edward K. Lebohner who began a most influential career as treasurer and business manager.

STUDENT LIFE RETURNS TO NORMAL

How did student life go in those first war-free years? A freshman showed two moods of his class in 1945: "Life," said he, "is one complete rush. . .to a seven o'clock breakfast; to an uninteresting eight o'clock; to. . .the Campus Union for a game with a battered deck of cards."

Then he relented. No, it was not all bustle. There were "The friendly hellos. . . the beautiful hills you climb. . . and the social activities... . We are proud of our school and hope she may be proud of us." That freshman and his fellow students were governed by the 40-year-old Student Senate, a very busy group of solons. For instance, they ran a campus chest, enlarged their budget, provided uniforms for the cheer leaders, ratified Alfred's membership in the National Student Association, planned a student-government conference at Alfred, and supervised campus elections.

The Women's Student Government (WSG) got some structural and rules changes. One rule devolved more responsibility on each representative to settle minor offences within her own house. The revived Campus Court reformed its procedures again, abolishing accumulated irregularities. The former student life committee was reborn as the Student Affairs Committee—a forum where student and faculty opinion met and merged. It planned dances and administered the activities calendar. Social life normalized and various organizations revived when the war ended and men returned to College. Tensions eased and morale improved. G.I.'s also brought maturity and earnestness and, contrary to predictions, became a stabilizing group in the student body. A change which further illustrated the spirit of delegating responsibility, and at the same time a sharp break with Alfred tradition, was the softening of the hard and fast prohibition of student use of intoxicants. Now students were to regulate that matter themselves. As to the new responsibility, a student quoted an ancient philosopher thus: "And your freedom when it loses its fetters becomes itself the fetter of a greater freedom." Students were reminded that they represented the University as well as themselves.

As the Greek letter groups resumed normal life in the post-war period, a new fraternity, Beta Sigma Psi, joined the established five already acclimated on the campus. The independents engineered a variety show which produced cash for the World Student Service Fund. The new veterans claimed organized representation. They soon discarded the name Sons of the Broken Wing, for the more prosaic The Alfred University Veterans' Organization. They specialized in aid to members on their plentiful problems. Veterans also espoused "Pan-Alfredism"—mutual understanding in campus interrelationships. A campus American Legion was founded in the last year of the period, which took the name of John Eggleton—a former athlete killed in the war. The first post-war *Kanakadea* struck a serious note in its "Foreword" thus:

"Alfred's students gave their services and their lives. . .that we might say '1946...and peace.'" That volume was dedicated to those who had given their lives. The *Integral,* a new magazine venture, struggled its way to campus attention and made itself a place, but changed its name to the Alfred *Review.*

No account of student life can leave out athletics. The familiar sports took the two or three post-war years to get on their feet again. Coach Yunevich returned from his tour in the Navy in time for spring practice (1946). "Jimmy" Kehoe took a key position on the team and Alfred won all six games on its schedule except the tilt against Buffalo. Kehoe won rating as All Western New York State team quarterback. Bad luck dogged their efforts in 1947. An auto accident removed a promising tackle, and Kehoe vanished into law school. Yet after Yunevich's restoring touch the small squad won five of eight contests. The freshmen after six years with no teams made a clean sweep in a four-game schedule. Lights similar to those on the playing field were placed on the practice field in 1945-46.

Meantime, basketball was the only intercollegiate sport the first year. How glad students were to hear Men's Gymnasium resound again with cheers and waves of pure unadulterated enthusiasm! Attendance at games doubled the pre-war figures. Winning scores, however, were scarce: six victories out of sixteen games the first year, and six out of 17 the next year when rock bottom was touched. *Per contra* fans felt so good the third year over the 12 out of 20 tally that they dreamed that it had been the second best season in 40 years! The unhappy freshmen were sunk under defeats in all their 12 games. Cross country, track, and wrestling achieved only fair results in the triennium. Tennis flourished as an intercollegiate game. Women participated again in intercollegiate sports. Intramurals returned for all with hot and furious rivalry and spirit.

In the fall of 1945 a Winter Sports Club was founded to establish a sports center with a ski run, a toboggan slide, and a skating rink. The next year it had two runs on Pine Hill back of the campus. In January, 1948, a Winter Carnival was successful with an ice show, skiing and skating competition, snow sculpture, and a "Sno Ball" at which a Snow Queen was crowned. The whole campus joined in the fun. That year also the permanent 700 foot tow was laid out on the Saunders Ski Slope west of the village.

Alumni activities largely suspended during the war again highlighted the Commencements. Homecomings boomed as of yore. In 1946 the

Homecomers yelled themselves hoarse as the Saxons smothered the Clarkson College football team 38-7. A feature at that game was the burning of wooden replicas of fraternity and sorority insignias at the back of Merrill Field.

In 1946 too W. Harold Reid became executive secretary of the Alumni Association succeeding John R. Spicer who had accepted a deanship in another institution. In the period, also two well-known alumni-faculty members passed away: Professor E. F. Hildebrand, '19 (1947), and Dr. Lloyd R. Watson, '05, internationally known bee specialist (1948).

RESIGNATION OF PRESIDENT WALTERS

Meantime things had not gone well with genial Jack Walters as President. At first his pleasing appearance and friendly smile had won him almost universal support. But generally attitudes changed as one allegedly unwise or ill-timed move after another was pressed. Seeing the danger signals Dr. Walters deposited a tentative resignation with Chairman W. C. Cannon of the University board of trustees, March 1948. Opposition intensifying, in June he declared the resignation effective as of September 1. The trustees accepted the resignation at their annual meeting and rightly praised the President for his extremely energetic and intelligent efforts and for his accomplishments in furthering the interests of the University.

On recommendation of a trustee committee Dean M. Ellis Drake of the College of Liberal Arts was elevated to the Acting Presidency, effective on Dr. Walters' departure. There were disquieting reports of actions on Dr. Walters' part during the summer, e.g., the forced resignation of Dean S. R. Scholes of the College of Ceramics; but when Dr. Drake assumed the acting leadership in the fall, the unfortunate disturbances of the previous year or two began to subside. Glaring misconceptions about the campus fostered by the spread of biased information were rapidly receiving correction, and all groups looked forward hopefully toward happier days ahead.

CHAPTER XXX

President Drake and Renewed Expansion, 1948-

WHEN IN 1948 President Miles Ellis Drake, '25, took the helm as Acting President, he noted that the two Colleges also were beginning the year under acting leadership. However, he made it clear that neither he nor the deans had any intention of merely marking time. All would push forward.

But the Acting President so well satisfied his board of trustees that at Commencement time in 1949 the board unanimously and with enthusiasm elected him to the Presidency. It was a memorable moment there around the tables in Carnegie Library with the June sun streaming through the east windows. Brought in and told of their action, President Drake assured the trustees that he appreciated the honor conferred and promised his best efforts in carrying the responsibilities of his office. Joining a simple installation ceremony with the traditional Founders' Day observance in November, the new executive pledged himself again before a thousand campus folk and distinguished guests to maintain the principles of Alfred's founders and provide students a well-rounded education.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

The President had already been grappling with Alfred's weighty problems for over a year. Very difficult were those problems arising from the founding of the new State University of New York but particularly the continuing problem of relations with the Agricultural and Technical Institute. These had become entangled with the State's desire for certain, campus lands as sites for an industrial building and for dormitories. Alfred University hesitated to deed such areas before the larger issue of relationships was settled.

State University officials, confronted with the gigantic task of getting

their many-unit Institution into smooth operation, naturally underestimated the seriousness of Alfred's problems, which admittedly were more Alfred's than theirs. When President Drake suggested a solution by bringing the Alfred Institute into a closer relation with Alfred University similar to that existing between the College of Ceramics and Alfred University, the State University leaders, perhaps disturbed already by the problems looming in that very relationship at Syracuse and Cornell Universities, were quite cool to any suggestion of more "contract colleges" like those. When time and circumstances showed that closer relations were impossible, measures were soon taken toward the other alternative—total separation. The first break came when Institute students were ruled ineligible for Alfred's intercollegiate sports teams (1952). At the same time University sororities ceased pledging Institute women students.

On the Institute side the Student Council, reluctantly and after fair-minded discussion, recommended withdrawal from most of the cooperative inter-campus activities—senate, newspaper, student annual, and others. At the same time the Council expressed concern lest the separation should destroy the excellent spirit existing between the respective student bodies.

Another State action showed that separation would be the solution, when new advisory councils for State operated schools were established. This step deprived the Alfred University trustees of the slight responsibility they had still exercised for the previous quarter century over the Agricultural and Technical Institute and made legal separation complete. But all these steps could not effect physical separation. Embarrassment and friction could arise from the rapid growth of both Institute and University, from the Institute's possessing the name "Alfred" so long used educationally to mean "Alfred University," and from the location of Institute buildings on the University campus.

To get some non-partisan advice on possible answers to the problems involved, an independent committee of educators was asked to survey the Alfred campus situation. With their report in hand, conferences were held between State Education authorities and Alfred University officials as a result of which, in 1956, President Drake could say that steps "which have been taken 'point the way' toward a reasonably satisfactory solution of our problems for all concerned."

In another campus situation where friction had arisen, a quick solution was reached. This involved the recently acquired School for American Craftsmen and the College of Ceramics. The crux of the matter

lay in the pottery curriculum of the craftsmen. The craftsmen were doing fine work, but Alfred's ceramists had taught such a curriculum for half a century, and "Alfred" in the ceramic world meant the College of Creamics. After frank discussion of the dilemma, the School for American Craftsmen withdrew and affiliated with the Rochester Institute of Technology (1950).

The Nursing Department had emerged from the wartime United States Cadet Corps in 1946 and had continued on a tuition basis when Federal support ceased. It became a four-year degree course, and on that level won a place among "the top 25% of the Nation's basic programs" (1949). Since such departments were generally coming to be called schools, the Alfred department was renamed "The Alfred University School of Nursing" (1953).

Aiming at greater unity among faculty members, administrative staffs, and trustees, President Drake instituted the annual President's Dinner to bring them together (1950). That yearly dinner meeting also presented the opportunity for awarding citations to faculty and staff members who had served the University long and well. A new departure in top administration reached realization after careful study when Dr. Lyman Judson came in 1955 as assistant to the President for public relations and development.

CASH AND CONSTRUCTION

Other areas obviously the responsibility of administration were finance and buildings. In the former interest it was decided to revive an earlier method and have an intensive financial campaign (1949). A national organization was set up, an attractive brochure edited picturing the University, and specialists employed to guide the effort. The immediate aim was $400,000 for a chemistry building. After the intensive drive funds continued to trickle in so that by 1954 some $268,000 in all had been received—not enough to begin construction.

A financial worry which knit official brows resulted from the rising salaries of the adjacent State schools. How could a private college reach such enviable levels? Fortunately certain influential industrialists also began to feel new concern for the American way of life and to note the role of the private liberal arts colleges as bulwarks of that way. As a result there was founded the Empire State Foundation of Independent Liberal Arts Colleges, "a membership corporation for the purpose of enlisting the financial support of business, industry, foundations, estates, and the general public to insure the survival of liberal arts education."

The plan promised success, and in 1955-56 Alfred received some $9,000 from that source.

A very hopeful feature of Alfred's financial picture was the coming of many bequests, gifts, and grants in the 1950's. Mrs. William L. Ames willed over $95,000 to complete her earlier gift of the Susan Howell Social Hall (Howell Hall) and further to develop the Department of Music. The addition of the two wings completed a beautiful hall at the head of elm-arched University Place (1954). Mr. and Mrs. Orra S. Rogers, beside providing $7,500 toward the steel tower for the carillon, left a bequest of $194,000. The John P. Herricks, longtime friends and generous benefactors contributed the eight heavier bells ($16,000) which were dedicated that year. Near the same time Mrs. Herrick died leaving $520,000 for the John P. Herrick Memorial Library.

From an alumnus, Joseph E. Myers, came an unrestricted $275,000, which was made available by trustee action for the erection of the delayed chemistry (or science) hall (1955). Money given or subscribed in the earlier financial campaign for that building and other gifts received since assured the immediate (1956) construction of the science hall. Announced, too, was the Ford Foundation's grant of $182,400, the interest from which was to be used for the increase of teachers' salaries. The President's acknowledgement of gifts—cash, pledges, and bequests —for 1955-56, listed $1,364,000. The Liberal Arts College budget for that fiscal year was $1,268,085, and for the tenth successive year showed a balance written in black ink.

Thus far funds from private sources had financed these expansions, but loans from the Federal Government were helping to nourish the expansion of the physical plant. In 1953 a self-amortizing loan of $590,000 was obtained for two men's dormitories and for the enlargement of the Bartlett kitchen. Completed and dedicated in 1955, the two residences were named Cannon Hall and Barresi Hall for William C. Cannon, and Cewsmc Barresi, who had provided the furnishings. Very soon a government loan was granted for a women's residence to stand south of The Brick. Included were enlarged kitchen and dining facilities for the use of the occupants of both women's dormitories. These were put into use early in 1956, and the new residence dedicated as Kruson Hall. Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Kruson, Alfred alumni, contributed the furnishings, and the name honors Mr. Kruson's mother, Christie Anne Skinner Kruson, '76.

While private philanthropy and federal loans were aiding Alfred University's building projects, the State of New York was engaged in

major construction for its Alfred schools. The Ceramics College building, erected in 1931-32, was named Merrill Hall. The original structure, Binns Hall, was demolished (1950), and a new building, joined to Merrill Hall, arose on the site. The combined facility was renamed Binns-Merrill Hall. Dedicated in 1953, the double edifice offers "the finest. . .facilities for ceramic education in the world." At the same time an Industrial and Laboratory building was erected for the Agricultural and Technical Institute south of Bartlett Dormitory. Governor Thomas E. Dewey dedicated the structure (1953).

In concluding the account of buildings and finance, a few glimpses of lesser but still significant happenings will enlarge the picture. In 1952 repairs after a fire in South Hall provided an opportunity to modernize the entire building except the gymnasium. The summer of 1951 saw a service building rise east of Greene Hall for use of the buildings and grounds crew. The following summer a welcome addition was built to the University Health Center (Infirmary). In 1953 there was created a non-profit membership corporation "to function as a benevolent organization promoting the general welfare of the faculty and students of Alfred University, with specific reference to housing, dining, and recreation." Also the University joined a plan which enabled parents to pay the rising tuition and fees in installments. About the same time the University began participation in the "Faculty Children's Tuition Exchange Plan" which permitted a limited number of faculty sons and daughters to attend another college tuition free on a reciprocal basis. To encourage the enrollment of women full tuition scholarships were established for a young woman in each of eight neighboring counties.

On the University grounds a major change in appearance of special interest to alumni was the landscaping and other improvements on the lower campus: a change which involved the filling in of "Prexy's Bath Tub," a pool which had served various student and other purposes for 40 years (1952).

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Such were the worries of administration. What had happened meantime among the autocrats of classroom and laboratory? The College of Liberal Arts was very much alive. There were excellent teaching, improved methods, and much scholarly activity and community service by faculty members. Hence it was no great surprise that a survey placed the University 38th among the top 50 colleges and universities of the nation in the production of male scholars.

Noteworthy developments in cooperation with other institutions took place in the early 1950's. A "College Cooperative Project" with Syracuse University and the University of Buffalo enables graduate students to study for the doctorate in Education in the Alfred Graduate School, with the degree, for the present, conferred by Syracuse or Buffalo. Columbia University School of Engineering admitted Alfred to its combined five year liberal arts and engineering plan. This plan permits a student to spend three years in liberal arts at Alfred and two years at Columbia in his chosen engineering specialty. Such a student would be awarded two appropriate degrees, one by Alfred and one by Columbia. Also Alfred joined a plan offered by American University, Washington, D.C., permitting superior students in political science to study government-in-action at first hand, for a semester at the Nation's capital.

A notable addition to the curriculum was the Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC) in 1952. It represented the new General Type of training. At the end of the first year inspectors rated the Alfred Corps a superior unit in administration, supply, and training. The annual Inspection and Spring Review on Merrill Field became popular ceremonies. Men completing the four years of this General Type training are awarded commissions upon graduation and, when called, report for active duty at regular army installations as second lieutenants.

In 1955 Dr. Nelson Marshall became Dean, succeeding Dr. Harold O. Burdick, who had resigned to give full time to instruction and research. Among other curricular developments three may be noted. An interdepartmental and interschool major in Fine Arts was projected using English, Speech and Dramatics, Music, and Ceramic Design as participating departments. The aim was to make the best possible use of the facilities of both colleges in teaching the Fine Arts. A second such major was announced for those interested in graduate work in Geology. The departments of Biology, Chemistry, Geology, and Physics in liberal arts and certain instructional areas in ceramics join in offering a basic preparation for students wishing to become professional geologists. While not planned as a major, a third combination features a group of courses as "Family Life Electives," useful to women looking forward to homemaking as a career.

Just before this time the School of Theology had welcomed the return of an alumnus, Professor Wayne R. Rood, newly awarded the doctorate of theology degree. It also welcomed a financial windfall from principal assets held by the Seventh Day Baptist Memorial Fund. Rood soon resigned to join the faculty of his second theological alma

mater, the Pacific School of Religion, and was succeeded by Dr. Loyal F. Hurley, a specialist in Biblical Interpretation. In 1952 Dean Ahva J. C. Bond retired and was granted the honorary degree of Doctor of Literature. But he remained two years as temporary Dean, teacher, and consultant, then ceased all active work in the School. In speaking of the beloved teacher President Drake testified: Dr. Bond has given 19 years of devoted service as "an inspiring teacher and exemplary Christian." He "is one of the finest Christian gentlemen I have ever known." The Reverend Albert N. Rogers, who had served as Assistant to the Dean, was appointed Acting Dean and two years later (1956) Dean.

While by no means lacking encouraging factors, as the School entered the middle 1950's, it obviously faced difficulties as to staff, enrollment, finance, housing, and continued accreditation. An accrediting committee of the Middle States Asociation of Colleges and Secondary Schools dealt sympathetically with the Seminary but listed definite essentials for continued recognition and suggested a time limit. Basically the School was squeezed by the cost of ever-rising academic standards and the limitations of denominational finance. Another facet of its problem appeared when the evaluation committee warned that for continued acceptance its building, The Gothic, needed major physical improvement. Adequate funds for the purpose were not available, but fortunately the housing problem was removed when Alfred University purchased for it a residence on South Main Street. The Seminary had sufficient funds, with some University aid, to fit the building as a satisfactory home for the School. Into that home the School moved amid happy congratulations in 1955. There Dean Rogers hopefully carried on as his 95-year old School of the Prophets awaited developments.

In another way The Gothic was involved when its site was selected for the new Herrick Memorial Library. Great grief was expressed that a building so beautiful in itself and so entwined with the memories of those who had worshipped in its little chapel, or had exchanged marriage vows within its hallowed walls, should face demolition. What could be done? Funds were lacking for its removal, even if it could survive the ordeal. No solution appeared until Miss Hazel Humphreys, an Alfred alumna, came forward with funds and a vacant lot to which the chapel section was triumphantly moved in the icy spring of 1956. This rescued fragment of the revered Gothic was repaired and made available for inter-denominational religious uses to all desiring them.

Joy rather than grief dominated when that distant daughter of the

University, the Jamestown Extension (AUE), received promotion in becoming the Jamestown Community College. A special Convocation in the fall of 1950 activated the new school with Governor Thomas E. Dewey delivering the address.

The College of Ceramics continued its recognized leadership. Acting Dean John F. McMahon was chosen permanent Dean. Near the same time (1949) that College and the Technical Institute were brought within the new State University of New York, but without changing the status of the College of Ceramics as a "contract college." In June 1950 the College celebrated its Golden Jubilee in a special University Convocation. The speaker of the day, Dr. C. E. Kenneth Mees, of the Eastman Kodak Company received one of the honorary degrees then conferred. A history of the College: *Ceramics at Alfred University, 1900-1950,* was written by President Emeritus J. N. Norwood and published by the College.

In 1954 the well-known accrediting agency, the Engineers' Council for Professional Development, through its representatives called at the College with its mental measuring rods and came up with a report highly pleasing to the College officials. This healthy growth of the ceramic Institution required budget increases, and new buildings both of which the State willingly provided as we have seen (1953). The expanding research projects sponsored by Government and industry were being accepted under contractual arrangements with Alfred University and were supervised by the Ceramic Research Department.

Meantime ceramic faculty men were earning honors, writing for publication, and doing professional work overseas. Abroad Dr. Willard J. Sutton was on leave serving with a Government Point IV project in Indonesia (1953). On the home front distinguished service won Dr. Samual R. Scholes the Bleininger award. As the period ended Ceramics College staff members were continuing their activities in various professional and scientific organizations. Their high standing in them was illustrated when Dean John F. McMahon was elected President of the American Ceramic Society and his colleague, Robert M. Campbell, became President of the Institute of Ceramic Engineers (1956).

Scanning the ceramic curricula, the early 1950's saw the three-week summer intersession organized to provide intensive treatment in a three-cycle annual series on refractories, whitewares, and structural clay products. These cycles became a popular source of ceramic education for both students and industrialists. In 1955-56 in order to broaden their educational experience by acquainting them with man's social

and cultural development, something as important to them as to students in other fields, engineering and technological freshmen were required to take the liberal arts course in "Civilization" (Our Cultural Heritage). At that time, too, plans matured to offer a doctor of philosophy degree in ceramics. Several students began work as candidates for the degree that year.

From literary and technical academic affairs to alumni matters is an easy transition. In 1949 the Alumni Association's organ *The Alumni News* celebrated its silver anniversary with an article about itself entitled "I am Twenty-Five Years Young," and soon graduated into a new dress and format. In 1951 two new alumni branches were organized, one in Pennsylvania and one in Connecticut. Three well-known alumni died in the period: Orra S. Rogers, Cortez R. Clawson, and Hon. John J. Merrill. The fall Homecomings gave opportunity for alumni to root for the home team and grow reminiscent about old times. Alumni continued to aid Alma Mater by representing her at academic celebrations, by seconding the efforts of the admissions office, and by bequests, continuous support, and in other ways.

STUDENT LIFE—ATHLETICS

In student life there appear all the familiar institutions adding their respective contributions to recreation and education. The Student Senate had to get an improved constitution. Quite in line, too, with past experience the Freshman Court, after another of its several "deaths" was reborn with new resolutions to be really a court and fit the punishment to the offense. The 30 or 40 clubs, societies, and departmental groups flourished or languished in harmony with tradition. A real student achievement was the successful management at Alfred of a session of the Model Assembly of the United Nations Middle Atlantic Division with 53 colleges and universities represented (1954).

Among the fraternities and sororities happy fires went on consuming mortgages, and the trend continued from the sectarian to the more mixed type of Greek letter group. In 1950 Theta Theta Chi sorority in its hillside home, the red paint of which showed prettily through fronting evergreens, burned its mortgage. A gladdening fire up Greene Street blazed for Kappa Psi Upsilon eliminating its debt and illuminating the celebration of the 27th anniversary of the brotherhood (1949). Boasting its non-sectarian stand Alpha Kappa Omicron sorority that year celebrated its fifth anniversary by obtaining the former home of the late President B. C. Davis. Kappa Nu, begun as a strictly Jewish

group, went non-sectarian. The big news with Lambda Chi members was the completion of an addition to their chapter house in 1950-1951. In 1953 Beta Sigma Psi became a chapter of Tau Delta Phi and a little later found a home on North Main Street.

Exhibiting a bit more vividly the campus whirl, quick kaleidoscopic glances at events flowing from the Greek letter groups, the dormitories and other sources may enliven the picture: open house, celebrations, formals, picnics, parents' days, stag parties, teas, bridge huddles, Hallowe'en, Moving Up Days, Spring Arts and St. Pat's festivals, pep rallies —the cheering crowds on the playing field or in the gymnasium, victory-celebrating bonfires; and in a more serious mood Founders' Day, fireside chats, and the all-campus Religion-in-Life Week—surely a varied and dynamic student scene.

The ups and downs of athletic teams vividly continue the story (1948-56). In football the Saxon warriors attained success and fame never before achieved. But other sports events in the period must be described before that thrilling story is unfolded. The varied intramural program ranged from touch football and basketball to ping pong and horseshoes. The sports women still enjoyed the inter-class tournaments, the Play Days with their sisters in other colleges, while intercollegiate shooting competitions kept both men and women archers busy. Winter sports expanded through the activities of the Outing Club. In 1948-49 a dream came true as 30 acres of land including the present ski area were purchased and equipped with an electric ski tow. In 1950 a student coach put skiers in trim to win three out of four meets with outside groups. In 1951 the fourth annual Winter Carnival included snow sculpture with Psi Delta Omega capturing the trophy. A ski meet with the University of Rochester brought bumper crowds and an Alfred victory.

In intercollegiate tennis except for a five out of six victory record in 1949, scores were not plentiful. Wrestling was unimpressive team-wise, but individuals stood out: Arthur D'Avanzo in the early part of the period, later it was Frederick W. Gibbs—scion of father and grandfather who were earlier Alfred stars. The McWilliams hoopmen just touched the .500 rating in the third season of the Drake presidency. But a feature of those earlier years was a surprise they handed Ithaca College (1950) in an exciting game. Coming from the rear in the fourth period King Alfred's men completely "foxed. . . one of the best teams in the East" (63-58). The last four seasons saw basketball fortunes fall from a season's high of 13 victories to 7 defeats, to a low (1954) of 3

victories to 13 defeats. Tall Robert Corbin regularly took individual scoring honors. In the last three seasons 1954-56 Millard Evak set a total record of 871 points.

In track Per Andressen; Harold Snyder, a local boy; and Lester Goble played stellar roles. Andressen won the open mile in Hamilton, Ontario, while teammates took second in the 1000 yard run. The varsity submerged its opposition in dual meets and showed up well in larger track assemblies. In 1950 the fleet young Norwegian gained headlines for the Saxons, being outstanding in ten large meets and two dual contests. In 1952 Lester Goble was top point winner. His 21.5 in the 220 yard dash won him national rating. Snyder won the Champion's crown in the mile and two mile. But whether Alfred won or lost, Goble and Snyder sprinkled the sports pages. While Alfred was only third in team scores at the State meet the Saxons broke five meet records. So it went.

Good as all this was the season of 1954 topped it, bringing victories against some of the stiffest competition in the East. But according to neighboring newspapers a writer of fiction would hesitate to tell the story which Lester Goble made fact at the IC4A classic in 1954. Wishing to try the 200 yard low hurdles Goble's coach (McLane) released him briefly from his specialty to prepare for the venture. Thus when he ran that race Alfred's Little Ail-American football star won in 23.3, only one second off the world's record—a signal honor for runner, coach, and University.

Cross country made an excellent record too, and with two of the same three stars. Andressen with the freshmen in 1950 led them to a most impressive season. So good was the young Viking that Alfred almost lost him to Yale. The cross country season of 1951 showed four victories for Alfred to one defeat (by Cornell). Snyder achieved an amazing record. Alfred's runners ran away with the State Track and Field Association Championship (1951) when nine colleges competed. In 1953 the runners lost in four of their six contests, but Snyder won the headlines, showing the boy at his finest. Snyder* won individual honors in the Middle Atlantic, praise in IC4A and NCAA competition, and national recognition. In 1956 a new starlet, Frank Finnerty, won the freshman championship at the Middle Atlantic in record time and was third in the State meet.

In football improvement showed as the eight year period progressed. The 1950 version was called the best in recent years. The next year the

•Snyder was the small boy who wept for a pet colt destroyed as the family barn burned to the ground (Chap. 27, p. 15).

Yunevich men bowed only to Buffalo and tied Hofstra. St. Lawrence's 18 game winning spree was broken before a wildly cheering Homecoming crowd. The season placed Ralph DiMicco on the Little All-American team, and gave John Fasano honorable mention. Only a tie with Hobart marred 1952. Buffalo was defeated by Alfred for the first time since 1941. DeMicco and John Fasano won similar honors as in the previous season with Lester Goble also getting honorable mention. The next year St. Lawrence won the one game Alfred lost, getting sweet revenge thereby. An 18 inch snow fall cancelled the Hobart game. Alfred merchants treated the warriors to a Hornell Country Club dinner —thick, juicy beefsteaks. Kings Point marines and Hobart's Statesmen dashed Alfred's hopes for an undefeated 1954 season.

The perfect season of 1955 started with a resounding defeat for Brockport; then came Cortland, St. Lawrence, and Albright, the first to score against Alfred that year. Victim after victim followed: Ithaca's bombers; then the tough Buffalo bulls; and the Kings Point marines who were drowned in a heavy rainstorm on a water logged field. The score then stood 184 to 21 for that season so far, and the way was open for the big battle with Hobart undefeated in 19 successive encounters.

Saturday, November 12, was a beautiful fall day. The field at Geneva overflowed with Alfred and Hobart rooters. It was the small college battle of New York State. Alfred got off to a bad start. Hobart had her way the first half, and Alfred the second. The only score came in the fourth quarter when Albert Moresco, smallest of the Saxons, bulled over the one score (6-0) of that spine-tingling game, and clinched Alfred's undefeated, untied season. Charles Shultz made Little All-American end. James Ryan, Nicholas Teta, Alfred Bilanski, and John DeSantis won honorable mention. Alfred's total points for the season were 190 against her opponents' 21. Alfred's coach Alex Joseph Yunevich had to his credit 81 victories, 21 defeats, and 6 ties from 108 games. In that blaze of glory ended Alfred's unprecedented football season.

CONCLUSION

Thus is told the 120-year Story of Alfred's educational efforts in this valley as Select School and Academy, and for a century within that period an institution under the University Charter. What has that long travail of labor, risk, doubt, discouragement, sacrifice, persistent faith, and victory produced? What is Alfred University today? Briefly it consists of five Schools under the Charter: the College of Liberal Arts, the School of Theology, the Summer School, the Graduate School, and the

School of Nursing. Integrated with the University also is the State University of New York College of Ceramics.

The physical plant of these units includes 100 acres of land and some 30 buildings: laboratories, libraries, class rooms, gymnasiums, health center, auditoriums, and dormitories—with all necessary equipment for instruction, study, housing, and recreation. In its six Schools the University represents an investment of $4,320,414 dollars. Administration, instruction, housing, boarding, accounting, and maintenance require the services of 423 full and parttime men and women. These serve an enrollment of some 1,200 students. While still a small University, startling comparisons can be made with parallel statistics found in this Story not many decades earlier.

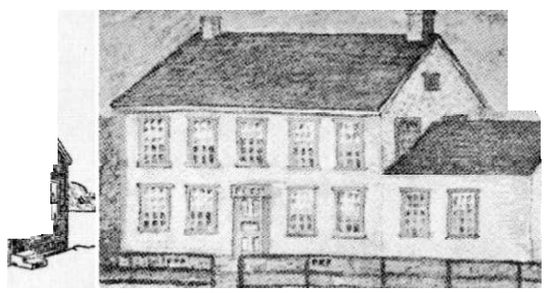
Such briefly was Alfred University as it came to the middle of the 1950's.

EPILOGUE

Alfred's past has been reviewed. The present is visible to all. What of the future? As in the past Alfred University will move forward, providing the education that future American society needs. President M. Ellis Drake has expressed this thought in these words: "...to the concept of Alfred as a fixed pattern, we must add the idea of constant change. Throughout the coming years, the University's faculties, classrooms, laboratories, living quarters and recreation facilities will be developed. . .well beyond their present high level. . .for these are times of great change in all phases of American education.. . . Alfred will more than keep pace with these changes. At the same time it will provide progressive patterns of learning and living which will meet the high standards set throughout its 120-year history."

Change, growth, strength, and range—all seem to be predicted in Alfred's motto, *Fiat Lux.* The Light implied in the motto and typified in the little Taper figuratively lighted in 1836, steadied and intensified through the dozen decades into a brilliant chandelier of illumination, will further increase, shedding a still greater light dispelling ignorance, error, and superstition as far as its lengthening rays shall reach.

Nestled aivay 'mid the Empire State hills,
'Neath the watch-care of sentinel pines,
Where the murmuring song of the brook hums along,
And a favoring sun ever shines;
In a valley so fair where the forest trees share
Dominion o'er hillside and glen,
Stands the pioneer college of Western New York—
Alfred, the mother of men.



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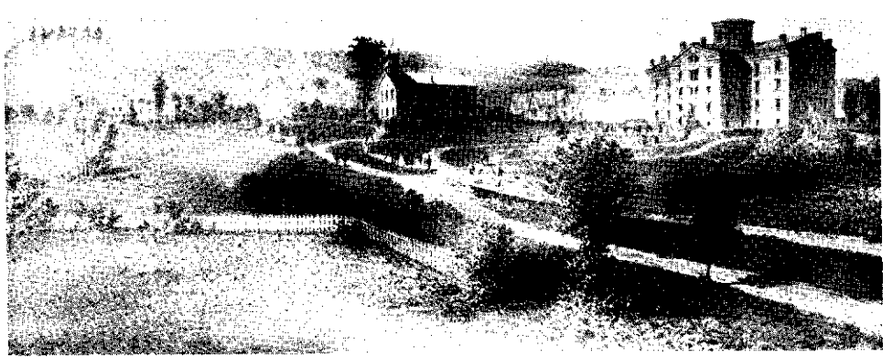
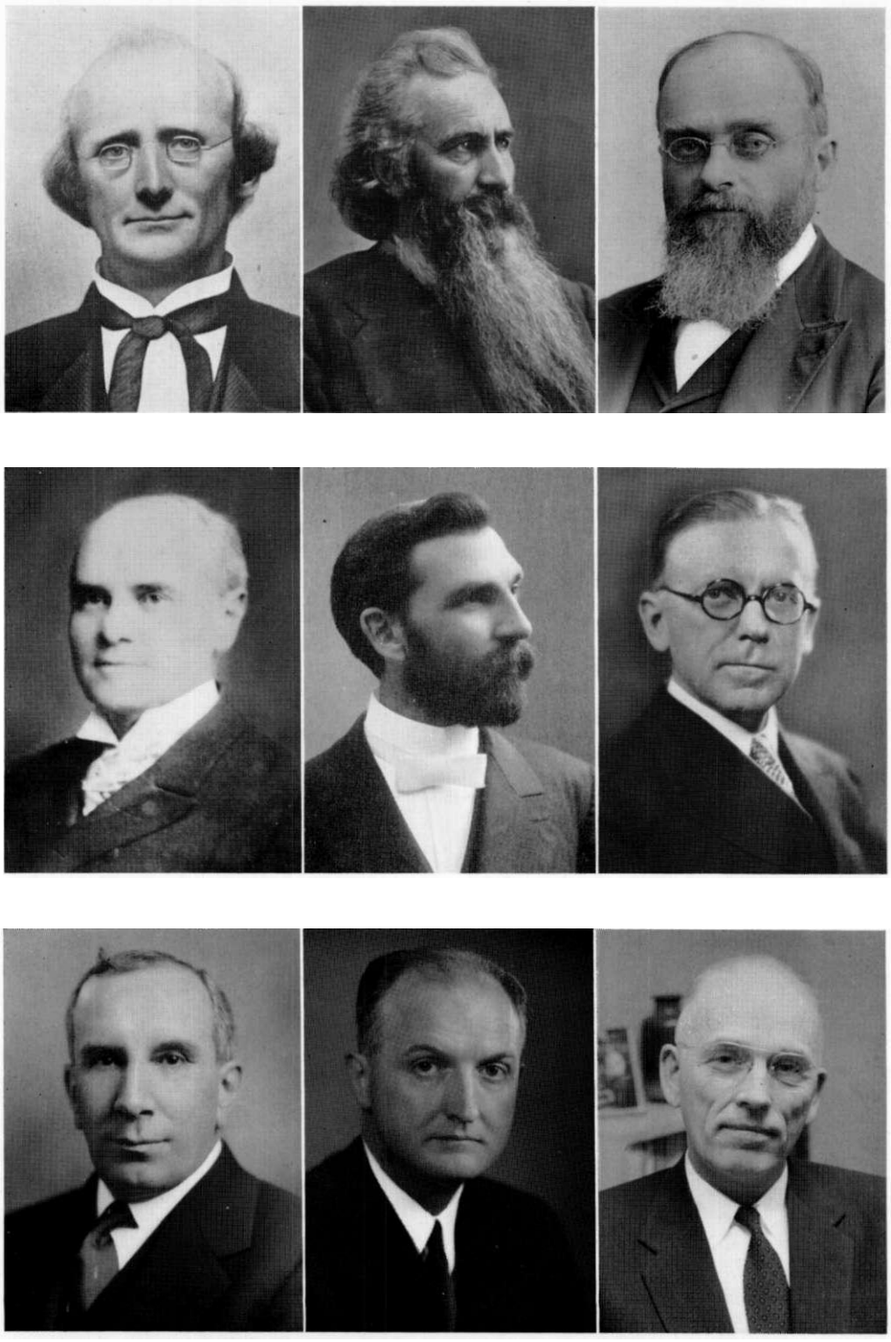
A Sample Page of Catalog of 1847

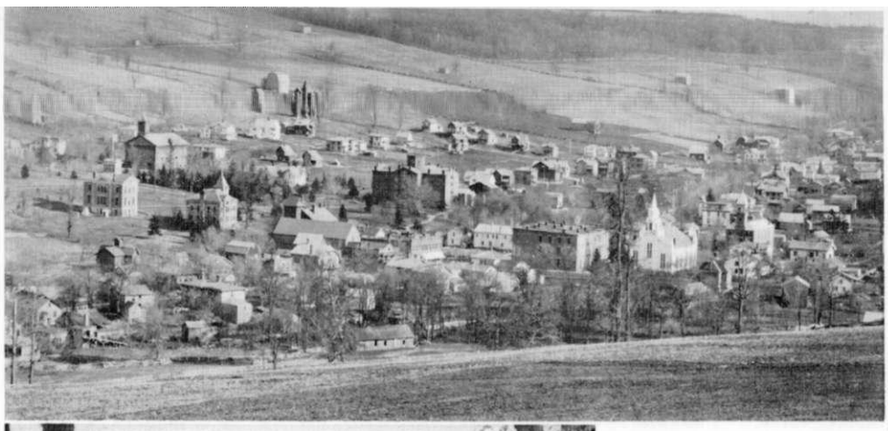
James R. Irish

Academy Hillside Campus 1847



University Campus 1868

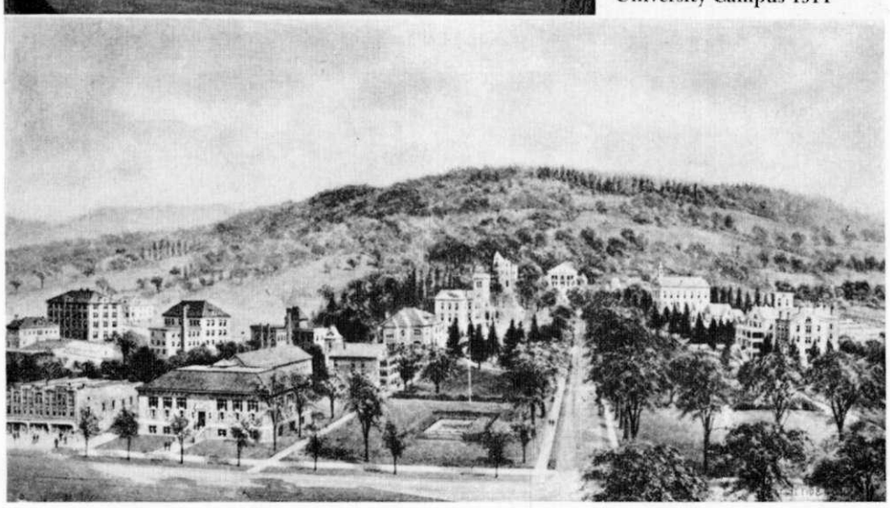




Village and Campus c. 1888

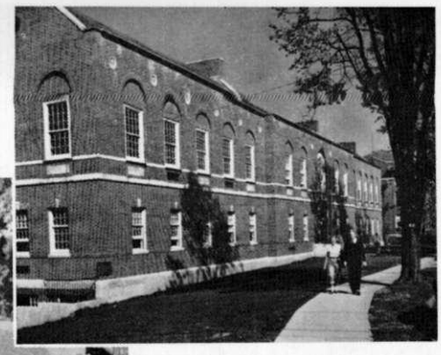
The Gothic

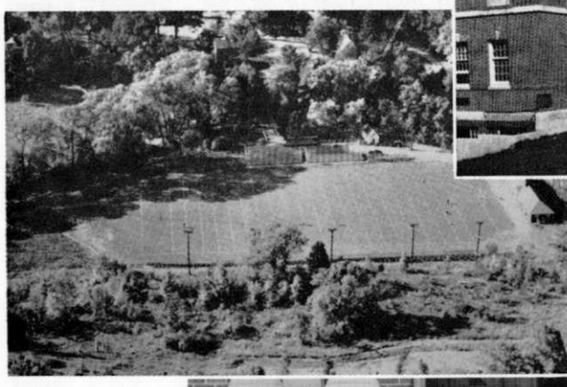
University Campus 1914



Top: **University Faculty 1886.** ***Left:*** **Alumni Hall.** ***Right:*** **Steinheim.** ***Bottom:*** **Babcock Hall of Physics and New York State School of Clayworking and Ceramics**

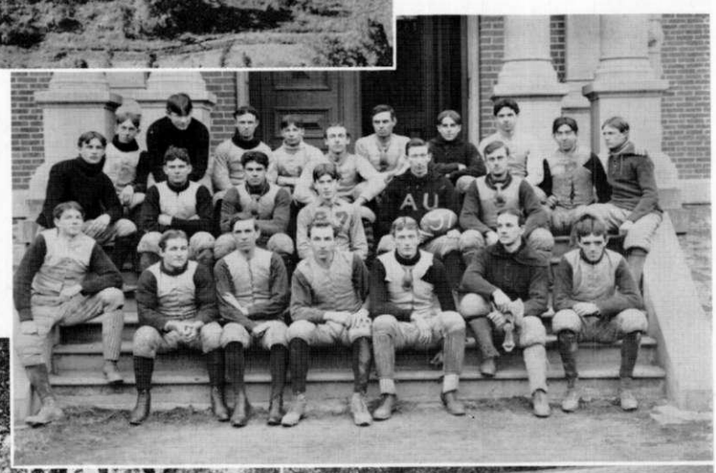
Right: Binns-Merrill Hall



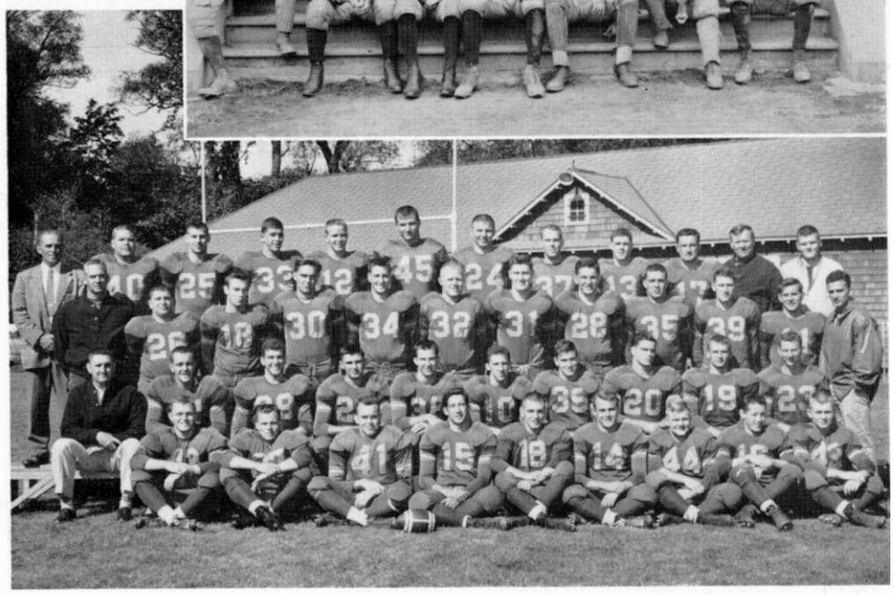


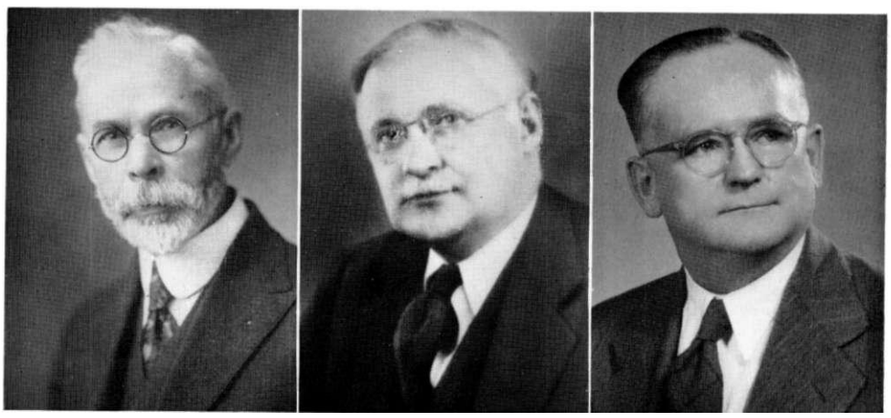
Left: Merrill Field

Right: Football Team 1897



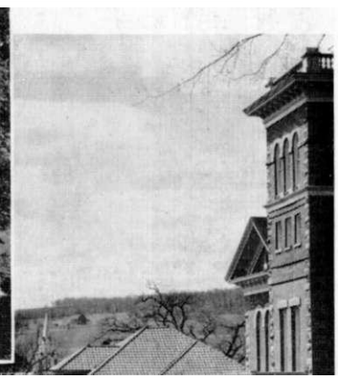
Below: Football Team 1955

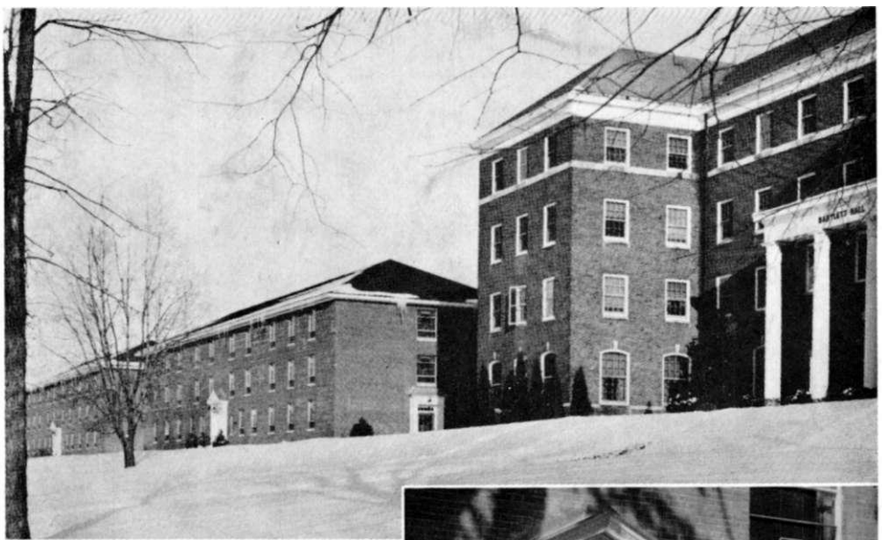


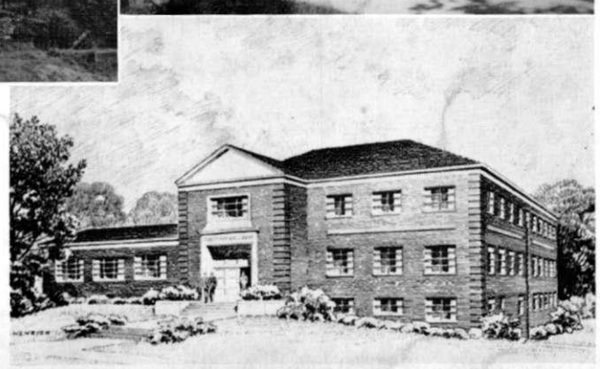


Ahva J. C. Bond Albert N. Rogers

O. S. Morgan Archie E. Champlin Paul B. Orvis







Top: **Bartlett, Cannon and Barresi Halls.** ***Left:*** **Davis Memorial Carillon.** ***Right:*** **Kruson Hall.** ***Below:*** **Herrick Memorial Library**

Acknowledgment for the pictures must go to many different people, chief among whom are Mr. Norbert Haley of the Alfred University Publicity Department, and Mr. Paul Gignac.

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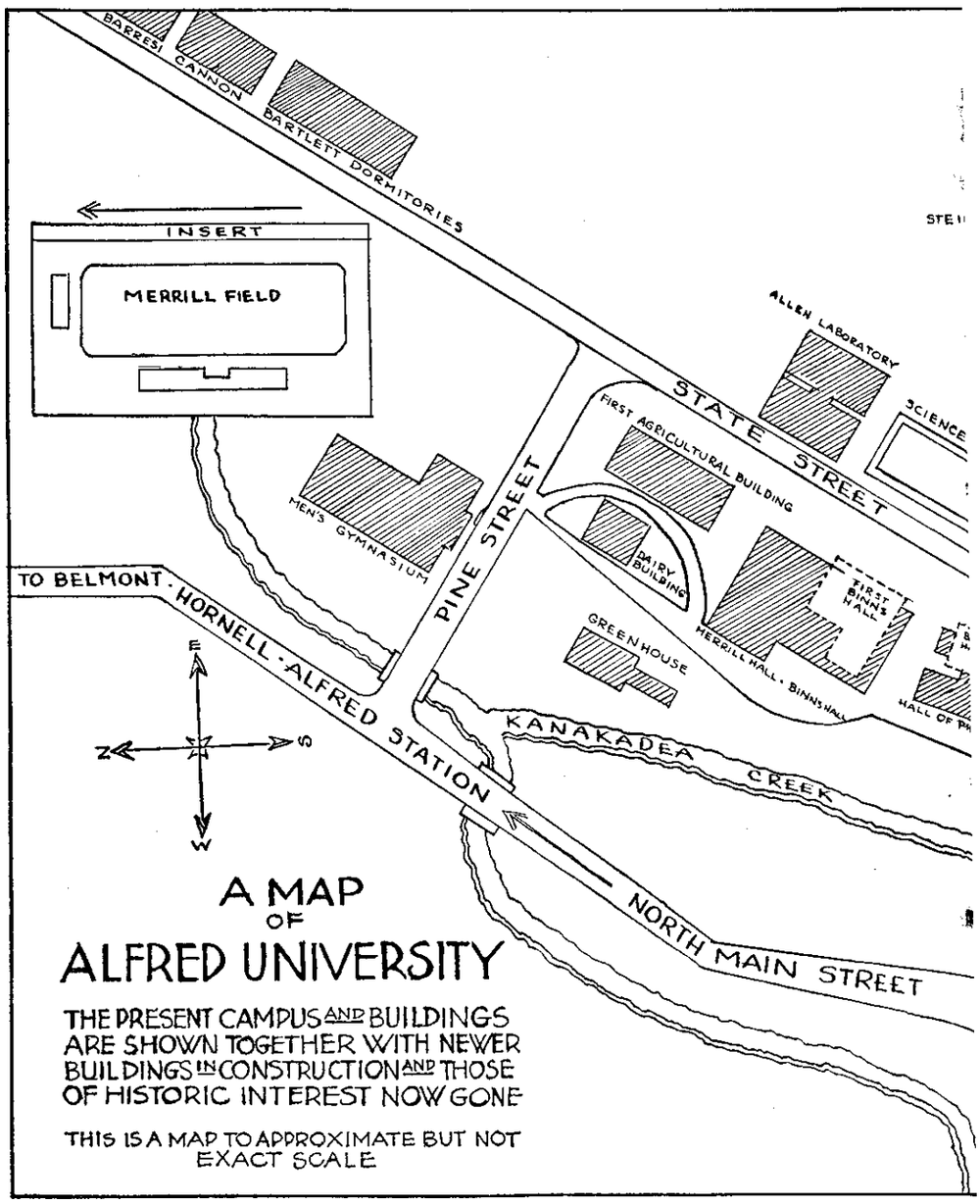
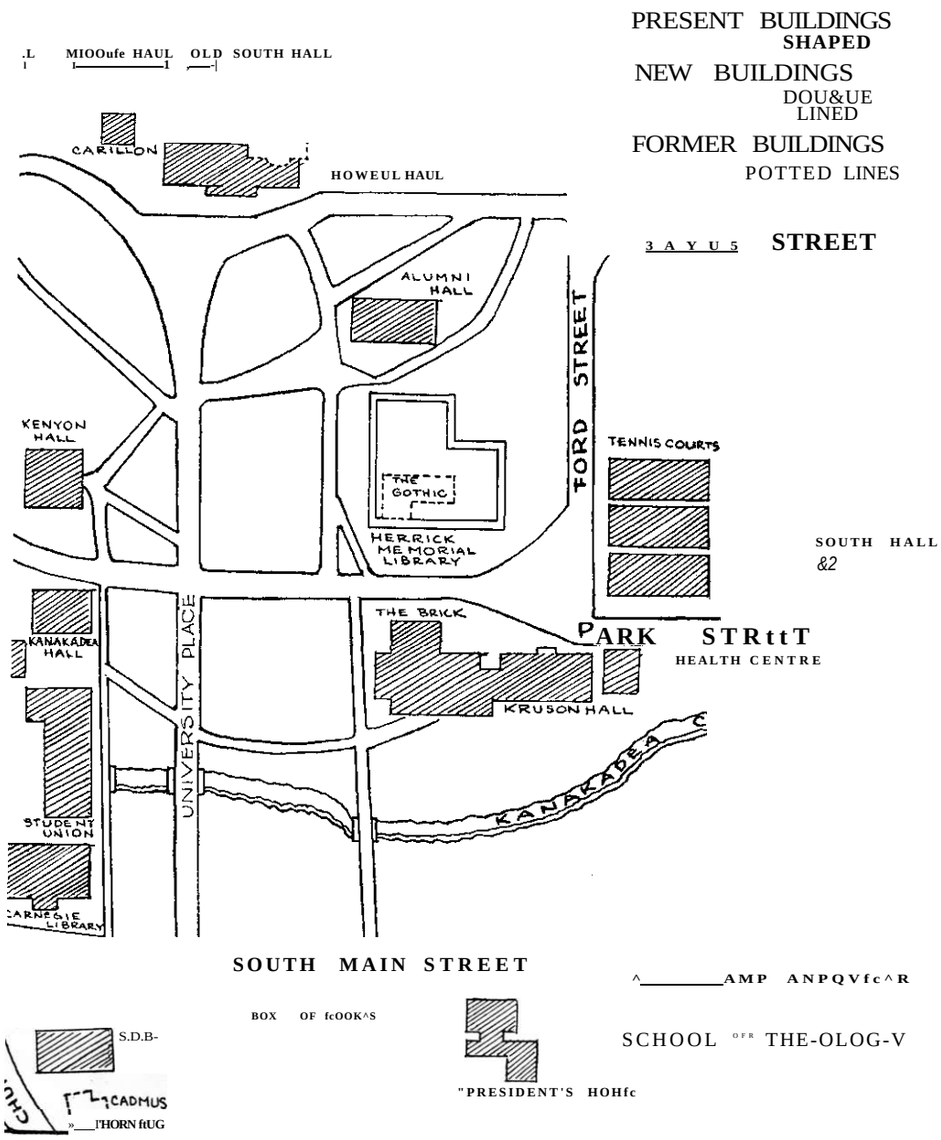

BARRESI
CANNON
BARTLETT DORMITORIES
INSERT
MERRILL FIELD
ALLEN LABORATORY
SCIENCE
STATE STREET
FIRST AGRICULTURAL BUILDING
MEN'S GYMNASIUM
PINE STREET
DAIRY BUILDING
FIRST BINNS HALL
GREENHOUSE
MERRILL HALL · BINNS HALL
TO BELMONT · HORNELL · ALFRED STATION
KANAKADEA CREEK
NORTH MAIN STREET
E
N
S
W
A MAP
OF
ALFRED UNIVERSITY
THE PRESENT CAMPUS AND BUILDINGS ARE SHOWN TOGETHER WITH NEWER BUILDINGS IN CONSTRUCTION AND THOSE OF HISTORIC INTEREST NOW GONE
THIS IS A MAP TO APPROXIMATE BUT NOT EXACT SCALE



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