



BURDICK HALL BOYS HOLD PLEASING BANQUET

"Dormitory" Men Entertain Many Guests; Foreign Students Keenly Appreciative

ONE OF MOST ENJOYED SOCIAL FUNCTIONS OF YEAR

Burdick Hall showed the material of which it is composed on Thursday evening, April 14th, when the "Hall" boys held their annual banquet in Firemens Hall. There were sixty guests present, including Dr. Archie L. Ide, Miss Bleiman, Prof. and Mrs. Seidlin, Prof. "Buzz" Wesbecher and Miss Landwehr as Faculty guests.

The affair started at six-forty-five with a procession of the banqueters marching in couples around the long table in search of their places, which were indicated by "phoney" names, amusing to everyone. Coach "Buzz" said grace in a very reverential and creditable manner. The banquet room was simply but attractively decorated with national colors predominating. The college colors were suggested by the orange-colored candlesticks and purple shades which were placed at intervals on the table.

High appreciation was shown to Mrs. S. P. Hurn, matron of the Hall and loyal friend of all the boys, for her untiring efforts in preparing and making the sumptuous banquet dinner a success.

After the demi-tasse, "Scotty" Ahern arose and in the capacity of toastmaster voiced his appreciation to all those who helped make the banquet such a pleasing affair. He properly introduced the speakers of the evening.

First came "Sammy" Volk, Burdick Hall's chief artist, as "Scotty" termed him. Very briefly, but amusingly, he depicted his trials and adventures as they had taken place in the Hall. He related a dramatic episode involving a "murder" which had occurred and in which he was both hero and victim. "Sammy" closed by saying that he, like many other students, received his first inspiration of college spirit from his residence in Burdick Hall.

Professor Seidlin feigned surprise and reluctance when called upon to speak. However, he kept all of the guests in a constant fit of laughter throughout the whole of his address. Upon closing his speech, which was decidedly interesting on account of its spontaneity and appropriateness, he suggested that all those who were eager to hear more of his humor should attend his classes. It was a gentle hint, perhaps.

Then followed Samuel "Izzy" Charniak, the Freshman prodigy and boy wonder of the age. The afternoon preceding the banquet he conscientiously spent five hours in-doors reviewing the last thousand pages of the latest International Dictionary. His somewhat grotesque commentary and explanation of Chas. Lamb's dissertation on the discovery of "Roast Pig" was highly appreciated by all.

"Scotty" then arose, and after a few brief remarks introduced Dr. Archie L. Ide as the final speaker of the evening. Dr. Ide's discourse was in congruency with that of the preceding addresses, and added greatly to the prevailing atmosphere of the evening. He admired the musical talent of the "Hall Boys," and told how wonderfully they aided the Department of Philosophy and Education. He said that on one morning, upon arriving at his office, he found his assistant teaching philosophy to the sweet strains of a fox trot.

After the close of the meal, the guests adjourned to the floor above to indulge in a few hours of dancing. Here they met a pleasing sight. The hall was elaborately decorated with lattice work of patriotic nature. Lake's orchestra capably rendered some intoxicated syncopation (as Prof. Wingate would say), and the dancers continued enjoying themselves until they heard the unwelcome toll of the clock in the tower announce the hour of departure.

WEE PLAY HOUSE "FEATURES" COMING MAY 5th

Student Casts to present German, Latin, Chinese and French Plays

At the Wee Playhouse on May 5, at 8 P. M. the Deutsche Verein, the Agora, the Cercle Francaise, and the Cosmopolitan Club will join in producing a really significant program of four short plays. The casts for these performances have been carefully chosen from the personnel of the four clubs

and are already hard at work under competent directors.

The Deutsche Verein has selected as its offering the irresistible little comedy of Roderich Benedix, Der Prozess, in which every line is a laugh. The exceptionally well-chosen

Continued on page two

VARSITY TENNIS TEAM PROMISED

Manager Whitford Negotiating With Thiel and University of Detroit

PLANS FOR LOCAL TOURNAMENT WELL UNDER WAY

The Alfred University tennis adherents are rapidly rounding into form, and several men have displayed superior ability at the popular court game. According to advices received from Manager Whitford of the Varsity tennis team, tournaments are pending with teams from University of Detroit and Thiel College. There will probably be a return match played with the Thiel team.

A large number of men have been working out regularly upon the courts, and the chances are excellent for a strong combination during the coming season. Oppenheim, Griffith, Gibson, Smith, DuBois, Liu, Drummond, Larabee and Whitford are men who have been showing excellent form during practice sessions.

Tennis has always been a popular minor sport at Alfred, and each season several tournaments have been staged. This season, however, marks the beginning of intercollegiate tennis, and it is expected that the number of candidates will be unusually large. The new ruling of the athletic association which grants 7x7 script "A's" to regulars in minor sports will no doubt prove an added inducement.

The low cost of the maintenance of a Varsity tennis team will permit the advent of many powerful collegiate teams here in the future, and with so promising a squad great things may be expected.

There are certain rules regarding the use of the courts which Manager Whitford wishes to make public:

1. No one except students or persons holding tennis tickets are eligible to use the university courts.
2. Tennis tickets entitle bearer to play only when courts are not wanted by college students.
3. Tennis shoes must be worn at all times.
4. Play is restricted to one consecutive set only.
5. Persons violating these rules are subject to suspension from the courts for the remainder of the season.
6. One court is reserved for tennis team candidates when desired.
7. No one is allowed on courts when wet enough to show footprints.

Remember the golden rule. Kindly report any violation of these regulations to the manager, Alfred W. Whitford, or Assistant Manager, Thomas M. Place.

The University Tennis Tournament is to begin on May 1st. All persons wishing to participate are requested to hand their names and twenty-five cents admission fee to the manager or assistant manager before April 28th. This tournament will consist of singles and doubles for both men and women. There will be no mixed doubles. All persons who do not pay athletic fees are asked to procure a 1921 tennis ticket immediately from one of the managers. The price of this ticket is \$1.00.

EXCEPTIONAL STUDENT TALENT DISPLAYED IN "THE GREAT DIVIDE"

Miss Isabel Mack '21 and John McMahon '23 Stars in Thrilling Drama of East and West

A PLAY OF STRONG EMOTIONAL VALUE

"The Great Divide," a three act drama, staged by the Footlight Club of Alfred College under the direction of Miss Gladys Bleiman, presented at Firemens Hall last Saturday evening, proved the crowning student theatrical production of the college year, and was witnessed by one of the largest and most appreciative audiences of the season.

"The Great Divide" has come and gone. It stands in the annals of Alfred's theatrical history as one of the most brilliant successes yet achieved. Rarely has such a play been attempted here, and seldom, if ever, has such a versatile cast appeared from members of the student body. From beginning to close, the play was a real feature, and there were times when interest seemed so tense that the slightest sound could be heard throughout the hall.

To Miss Isabel Mack '21, and John McMahon '23, great credit is due. The difficult roles essayed by these capable student actors, and the efficiency with which they portrayed them, is clearly indicative of superior theatrical ability. Throughout the entire play, the work of these two people can well be said to have rivalled the efforts of professional performers. Bits of comment here and there in the audience, frankly expressed opinions from faculty members and those who have witnessed many Alfred productions in past days, are all united in the statement that never in the history of student theatricals at Alfred have any amateurs displayed greater talent than that shown by Miss Mack and Mr. McMahon.

Possessed of calm self-confidence and exceptional grace of bearing together with a rare quality of voice expression, Miss Mack has been, during the course of her college career, connected with a large number of amateur productions. She has been highly regarded in the work which she has undertaken, and success is predicted for her in the theatrical field should she be associated with this work after her graduation in June.

John McMahon is a comparative newcomer to Alfred plays, but in the two years that he has passed here he has attracted much notice. The character of Stephen Ghent in the "Great Divide" showed him at his best. He was winner of first place in the Peace Prize Contest of 1921, while Miss Mack carried off major honors in 1920. It was indeed a capable pair that assumed the leading parts in this play of the great Southwest.

While Miss Mack as Ruth, and Mr. McMahon as Stephen Ghent were the high lights of the play, several other parts were so admirably presented as to bear comment. Frobisher Lytle '21, as Winthrop Newberry, had no in-

considerable role, and his work is worthy of much commendation. Miss Ruth Stillman '21, as Polly Jordan, carried a part which fitted her extremely well, and her natural ability before the footlights showed to good advantage. George Ford '21, in the character of Philip Jordan, assumed a rather heavy part, also, being present on the stage during the greater part of the play. His acting bore evidence of careful preparation, and he seemed entirely at ease during his appearances.

David Robison '21, as Lon, was a pleasing character who appeared in the second act, and exacted several hearty laughs from the audience. Irwin Conroe '23, Margaret Neuweisinger '21, Henry Hinchcliff '23, Frederick Gorab '24, Robert Clark '22, Charles Stamm '23, and Clyde Dwight '22 all did well in their respective minor roles. Clark was a loud and boisterous plainsman who packed a huge weapon, but who met disaster at the hands of Philip Ghent. He was good in this part.

The scene of the first act was laid in the interior of Philip Jordan's ranch house, Gila Desert, Arizona, in the month of October. Eight months later, the uplifted curtain of the second act revealed Stephen Ghent's cabin in the Catalina mountains, Arizona. The final act was staged in the sitting room of Mrs. Jordan's house, Milford Corners, Mass., six months later. The entire play covered a period of fourteen months.

The context of the tale is as follows: Philip Jordan and his sister Ruth, being in straitened circumstances due to the death of their father, travel westward and purchase a cactus-fibre ranch in the Arizona desert. Philip's wife, Polly, an eastern belle, grows tired of the dull life and wishes to pay a visit to a friend in San Francisco. Winthrop Newberry, a young doctor, is at this time spending a few days at the Jordan home.

As young Mrs. Jordan is preparing to leave for the station—thirty miles away—a boy arrives with news of an accident to one of the laborers. Dr. Newberry is forced to go immediately. At the same time it is discovered that all of the ranch hands have gone to attend a dance at another house. Ruth Jordan is left alone in the isolated dwelling.

Ruth retires, but is awakened in the night by the sudden appearance of three drunken men returning from the dance. They force an entrance. One of the strangers, Stephen Ghent, is less intoxicated than the others. Ruth appeals to him for assistance against the others, who are as veritable madmen. She promises to reward Stephen

Continued on page four

FRESHMEN VERSATILITY GRACES COLLEGE ASSEMBLY

Revisions Made in Athletic Constitution--Excellent Musical Program

The long-expected and eagerly anticipated Freshman "sing" occurred Wednesday morning in place of the regular Assembly music. The entertainment consists of vocal solos by Max C. Jordan and Mildred Allen, two original class songs, a piano solo by Louise Lair, and a male quartet consisting of Collson, Gibson, Johnson and Ames. Three violinists, Sanford, Ames and Cunningham, and a cornetist, Hascall DuBois, ably assisted their classmates with the class songs. Altho they were handicapped by being the last of the four classes to have charge of the Assembly singing, and consequently having fourth choice in variety of program, the Freshmen gave a fine exhibition of the team-work and spirit for which the class has often been commended. Much credit is due to the committee and its chairman, Mr. Okean, for its untiring effort in producing a satisfactory and creditable performance.

The remaining portion of the Assembly period was given over to the student body who devoted the time to a revision of the Constitution of the Athletic Association. The proposed amendments brought forth much discussion and suggestion. These amendments will greatly strengthen the original Constitution and tend to place both the Athletic Association and Alfred's future athletics on a firmer and more efficient foundation. Inasmuch as the Constitution and the proposed amendments were printed in last week's Flat, they will not be reprinted here. Several noteworthy changes and additions occurred, all of which are important.

Under Article III two sections were added. Section 3 relates to the person in charge of the injury fund and his student assistant. Section 4 relates to the Faculty Manager, his appointment and duties.

Under Article IV, Duties of Officials, a series of new sections were added, relating to the duties of the faculty member in charge of the injury fund; the suspension of members from the Council; the appointment of student managers and their assistants; and the election of the captains of the various athletic teams

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Under Article VI, By-Laws of the Board Governing Insignia and Honors, a new section—designated as section 2—was added. This provides that each athlete who has earned a first team insignia shall receive a certificate designating the authority for wearing the letter. The section further states that this certificate shall be signed by the chairman of the faculty committee, the coach, and the president of the Athletic Council. With this new section added, each of the following sections takes a higher number.

Attention is once more called to the importance of Section 3, which concerns the winning of A's and class numerals. Incidentally, it may be stated here that in the future all of the first team A's will be block letters.

At the close of the session Director Champlin, Professor G. A. Bole and Professor Waldo A. Titsworth were nominated as candidates for the position of Faculty Manager. One of these men will be appointed by the Alumni Committee to take the place recently vacated by Professor James D. Bennehoff, whose additional work in the Natural Science Department has made necessary his resignation as Graduate Manager. For three years Professor Bennehoff has efficiently filled this important office, and it is with deep regret that the Athletic Association releases him.

WEE PLAY HOUSE

Continued from page one

cast includes the following students: Shulze, squire.....Walter Preische Lehrman, squireMax Jordan Lohrman, a lawyerElsworth Burt Kropf, the jailor Olin Schulz The Nightwatchman, Martin Larrabee The students of the Latin department will give Hidden Treasure, an adaptation of a Latin comedy by Plautus. Despite the fact that this play was first staged at Rome about 2000 years ago it has the most direct of appeals to the modern audience. The cast is as follows:

Prologue: Cost of High Living, and Mlle. Impecuniosity—
Anna Crofoot, Helen Smalley
Four old gentlemen of Athens and great friends
Callicles.....Lloyd Lanphere
MegaronidesRay Witter
PhiloJohn Randolph
CharmidesRobert Lyman
Lesbonicus, son of Charmides, a successful spender.....Ralph Smith
Lysiteles, son of Philo, a quite likable young manOrval Perry
Stasimus, slave of Lesbonicus George Stearns

The French students have chosen a remarkable clever farce comedy in one act, called La Surprise d' Isidore. It is a brief but effective sketch replete with side-splitting situations. The cast as selected reads:

Adolphe Picard, Medecin alieniste... Edward Vachuska
Suzanne, sa femme...Mildred Allen
Isidore, ami du docteur, Irwin Conroe
Madam Duval, Evelyn Tennyson
Jeanne, servante..... Edith Teal

The Cosmopolitan Club will present an original drama called Meen-Toe. The parts in this imaginary Chinese legend of the middle ages are played by the following students:

Ma-Seeng..... Marius C. Felecetti
Meen-ToeAlice Dickinson
Kau-KaiJohn Spaltore
Woo-KaiSamuel Charniac
Yoong-KoFred Gorab

All four of these offerings are interesting representative playlets and all of them will be produced in a way that will make them worth seeing.

A \$100 PRIZE BANQUET

The Trustees suggest a solution of the banquet problem by way of substitution which meets the approval of the faculty, and I hope will be approved by the student body and the public in general.

The Executive Committee of the Trustees have voted to award each year, beginning with 1922 and not later than May 15 to the class which shall during the college year win the largest number of points in a series of contests to be arranged between the Freshman and Sophomore classes under the following conditions:

1. The contests shall be arranged by the Student Senate with the approval of the Faculty Committee on Student Life and umpired by the Student Senate.

2. The contests shall include athletics, literary, musical and others. Contests appropriate for men only or for women only, or for men and women jointly, shall be allowed, but no banquet contest shall be allowed.

3. The prize awarded shall be for the purpose of providing a non-contested banquet for the successful class, or for such other purpose as the class may elect, subject to the approval of the Faculty Committee on Student Life.

If a prize banquet awarded by the Trustees is approved by the student body as a substitute for the banquet contest, the Committee on Campus Rules can report necessary changes in Articles 3 and 4 of the Campus Rules, to provide for the carrying out of the new program of contests and the awarding of the prize. This program will make possible the introduction of a larger variety of contests than is now provided for, and should include some in which literary and scholastic points may be counted.

This is the first time the Trustees have ever offered a prize to students of the College, and the action expresses a very gratifying interest on the part of the Trustees in the maintenance of wholesome contests and desirable rivalries between the Freshman and Sophomore classes.

The class winning the prize banquet will have the satisfaction of enjoying a thoroughly approved and high class banquet as the prize for successful competition in the various contests during the college year. The unsuccessful class is not prevented from having a banquet, undisturbed and in the best of form meeting the cost itself. Such cost, however, will not be so great to any class as the present cost of the banquet contest is to each class, notwithstanding the unsatisfactory character of even a successful contest banquet.

I am more than pleased to be able to present this solution to the College in behalf of the Trustees, and I look forward to its cordial approval by all concerned, and to a most satisfactory and helpful growth, through the new system, of the college spirit and best traditions of Alfred University.
B. C. DAVIS.

Y. M. C. A.

Don Burdick, the Y. M.'s new leader spoke at the regular weekly meeting of the Association held last Sunday night at the Gothic. His topic "Christ, the Man," was developed to emphasize those human characteristics which made the Master respected and loved as a man. Courage, will-power, loyalty and love were the highest qualities of Christ's personality, as the speaker pointed out. Short, sincere talks, usually by students, are expected to be the drawing force at the weekly meetings of this term. The Y. M. cabinet has several items of business to discuss at their meeting tonight.

The Brick teas are again the feature of Tuesday afternoon of each week. Students, faculty and townspeople are invited to be the guests of the dormitory girls between 3 and 5.30 o'clock.

ARRANGEMENTS COMPLETE FOR JUNIOR PROM THIS SATURDAY EVENING

At eight o'clock on Saturday evening, April 23, the guests for the Junior Prom will gather at the Academy. Admission will be gained by presentation of invitations, previously obtained from Mildred Faulstich, Harold Davis or Russell Dougherty. The bill has been set at \$3.50, which includes both the dance and refreshments. "Andy" Dromazos has been engaged as caterer. He will serve, towards midnight, a lunch consisting of fruit salad, punch, ice cream and cake. Except for this intermission for refreshments, dancing will be in order from eight till twelve. McIntyre's orchestra of Hornell has been secured for the evening.

This year's Interclass Track Meet, planned for Friday afternoon, will furnish opportunity for Alfred's athletes to compete for places on the track team which is to meet Geneva on May 6th.

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FIAT LUX

Published weekly by the students of
Alfred University

Alfred, N. Y., April 19, 1921

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Charles C. Lake '23

Just who the new graduate manager of athletics will be is something of a problem. The proposition of securing a competent man to fill the place of Prof. J. D. Bennehoff seems rather difficult, but the fact remains that something must be done without delay. The future of athletics at Alfred rests mainly upon the selection of a capable leader at this rather critical time, and a man should be selected who will be able to devote a considerable amount of his time and attention to this work.

The three names suggested at the student assembly last Wednesday were those of Professor G. A. Bole, Prof. W. A. Titsworth, and Director Champlin of the Agricultural School. While any one of these men is capable of carrying on the athletic affairs of Alfred, were he free from the responsibilities which he now holds as a faculty member, will any one of them be able to devote sufficient time to athletics? That's the big question.

The selection of a graduate manager is extremely important, especially from the view point of any man who has been connected with athletics, and who is in something of a position to judge. No man should be chosen at random and without due consideration. Athletics are a growing factor in every American college, and without a competent understanding of the

duties of graduate manager, not much can be achieved.

There are certain colleges that should appear logically on the Alfred schedule each year, due to relative proximity and calibre of teams. No man who has not had some athletic experience, especially in this part of the country, is capable of knowing whom to play and when to play these teams. A poorly arranged schedule especially in football, might mean a disastrous season, when, under proper management, great successes might be attained. Of course it is impossible to play every team at the proper psychological time; equally, of course, it is often hard to arrange a schedule which will prove satisfactory to all concerned in Alfred. The graduate manager is up against many peculiar enigmas in this community, and they must be adjusted carefully and with due consideration.

It's all right to label a man "graduate manager" and give him the reins, but before this is done, and to prevent dissatisfaction to the greatest extent possible, the selection should demand acute consideration, and the capabilities of each candidate carefully weighed.

While Professor Bennehoff has of course been criticized at times, he has piloted the affairs of the Association through a real crisis. He gathered up the scattered details of the Whitford administration and brought the machinery back to running order once more. Now that he has resigned, another man must be appointed who will carry on the work in the capable manner in which it has been outlined.

"The art is lost of knowing how to praise." This statement was made by John Sheffield more than two hundred years ago, and it would be hardly unfair to make a similar statement today.

We of the twentieth century have become so accustomed to knocking and listening to knockers that it is hard to believe that good and truth exist. We are fast becoming cynics of the highest order. The average young person of today would seem almost stupefied if asked what he thought to be good; and, in fact, he probably would not dare to profess acquaintance with good for fear of being made the butt of ridicule.

Criticism of the right type is wholesome and a thing to be desired; it inspires genius and makes for a cleaner and better civilization. There is that other sort of criticism commonly known as "knocking," which is manifested in a sullen, sneaky fashion by a lower order of mankind, and which is unwholesome and detestable. This sort of thing we are glad to say is not often exhibited in Alfred, but now and then the eye and ear detect such manifestations

The staff of the Fiat Lux solicits criticism and suggestions of a helpful nature. It will gladly print any signed article if believed beneficial to school life. However, it resents being knocked in an underhanded manner.

ETA PHI DEFEATS KLAN ALPINE

Last Thursday afternoon the Eta Phi defeated the Klan Alpine baseball team, the score being 9-0. The Klan team surprised their opponents by exhibiting a much superior brand of baseball than in their opening game three days earlier. For five innings the two teams battled evenly, but in the sixth the Eta Phi team found the shoots of Griffith and crowded eight men around the paths.

Lyman started the scoring in the first inning by a circuit clout to center field. Neither team was able to do any further scoring until in the sixth. In this inning the Eta Phi team solved the benders of Griffith to the extent of seven hits one being a home run drive by Ockerman, which, coupled with four errors by the Klansmen enabled the Eta Phi men to sew up the game.

While, with the exception of the sixth inning, the Klan showed a remarkably improved defense, they showed small improvement in hitting.

Score by innings:
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 R H E
Klan Alpine 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 2 5
Eta Phi 1 0 0 0 0 8 x 9 16 2

Batteries: Eta Phi—Coffin and Witter; Klan—Sanford and Griffith.
Umpires—Ahern and Bliss.

The mathematical club of Alfred University was organized at 7:30 Wednesday evening, April 13, when nineteen students interested in mathematics met with Prof. Seidlin in Babcock Hall. Prof. Seidlin opened the meeting by giving a short talk on the idea of the club and then requested that Mr. Cole '23 act as chairman pro tempore while an election of officers was held. The results of the election are as follows: President, Mr. Vachuska '24, Vice President, Mr. Okean '24, and Secretary, Miss O'Brien '23. It was decided that meetings be held every other Wednesday evening at Babcock Hall and that a program committee be appointed by the President to prepare a program for the next meeting. The committee appointed consisted of Mr. Okean as chairman, Miss Banghart '21, and Mr. Husted '22. The meeting was then adjourned. The next meeting will be held Wednesday evening, April 27. All persons interested in mathematics are invited to attend.

Miss Mathilde J. Vossler '14, who has spent the past two years as a Y. W. C. A. Secretary in the Near East, has returned to Constantinople after several months' stay in Beirut, Syria. The unit of which she has charge is cooperating with the Near East Relief Committee in meeting the refugee emergency. Her address is care Near East Relief, via. British Army Post Constantinople, Turkey.

All persons having suggestions for the Revision of Campus Rules will kindly hand them to one of the following:

Stanley Banks
Margaret Glaspey
Charles Lake
Irwin Conroe
Julia O'Brien
Tom Walker
Alfred Whitford, chairman

Kindly attend to this as soon as possible.

ATHLETIC COUNCIL

The following business was transacted at the weekly Athletic Council meeting on Wednesday, April 13. Professor Bennehoff gave a report on the financial standing of the Association. A committee was appointed on the request of the ex-graduate manager, to audit his accounts. Professor Bole was elected faculty manager of the "Jumph Injury Fund." Henry Hinchcliff was authorized to

continue in office as assistane student manager of this fund.

Eleazer Barth reported on the treatments he had given the athletes and requested that he be given authority to continue this work. The council suggests the following amendment so that it will have power to grant this authority:

ARTICLE 3—Sec. 5—The council shall appoint a trainer from among the pre-medical students. His term of office to be one year. He shall be directly under the Faculty Manager of the "Jumph Injury Fund."

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FOOTLIGHT CLUB PLAY
Continued from page one

with her life. The Mexican is paid off with nuggets, and the other is shot. Ruth is then—per original agreement—taken away to San Jacinto where a marriage is consummated, and goes with her husband to a mining home in the mountains.

The mine turns out to be a success, and Stephen Ghent endeavors to buy his wife's love by gold, presents, and finally a new and elaborate house, but in Ruth's ears the words of one of the drunken men are constantly ringing. He had said that a dirt-eating buck of a Mojave would pay more than that for a squaw, and Ruth takes the saying literally.

With this idea in mind she saves all the money that Stephen gives her, paying for her upkeep by the sale of baskets and rugs to tourists. Philip Jordan and his wife see Ruth in the town as they are passing through on their way back east after the failure of the cactus ranch. They follow her to the cabin home. Ruth puts on a good face and welcomes them, though down in her heart she is extremely sad. After they leave, she tells Ghent that she has managed to buy back the string of gold nuggets, and wants to return them to him and go free. He refuses, whereupon she states that there is another life to consider. Trouble ensues, and upon the appearance of Philip, her brother, she returns with him to the hotel. Stephen Ghent is left alone.

Six months later the Jordans, assembled in their home in the east, realize that it has been saved for them by some unknown relative from abroad who keeps them relieved from all financial difficulties. Ruth is in an unhealthy state of mind and weak in body, due to her harrowing experiences. Stephen Ghent, who has followed the party back to the east, has acted the part of the benevolent uncle through the medium of Mrs. Jordan, mother of Ruth. Ghent has seen his young son and admires him greatly. He has bought the cactus ranch and succeeded in making it a success. He wishes to secure Ruth and to return westward once more.

A meeting is arranged between Ruth and Stephen, and Ruth begins at last to see that she has taken the wrong attitude by feeling that one must go through a great suffering to atone for the past. Stephen has "taken the good out of their lives and become strong," while she has "taken out the evil and become weak." The love which she has endeavored to crush finally breaks forth, and happiness comes with the curtain.

Miss Gladys Bleiman, director of "The Great Divide," deserves much credit for the success of the production. Her faithful work with the cast and her intimate knowledge of theatricals have united to place her production upon an exceptionally high basis. Frobisher Lytle is to be congratulated upon his work as scenery painter. The scenic background of the second act was a masterpiece.

When all things have been considered and weighed in the balance, "The Great Divide" stands unquestionably as the finest production of the Footlight Club since its inauguration in 1905, and fixes a distinct standard for future student theatricals.

By Morton E. Mix

The Footlight Club presented Moody's "Great Divide" last Saturday evening in such an excellent manner as to elicit the gratitude and commendation of the people of Alfred. It is indeed a pleasure to feel that plays of the type of the "Great Divide" can be successfully produced by Alfred students. The Footlight Club should be congratulated on the choice of the play, and Miss Bleiman on its efficient direction.

Several general merits and demerits were outstanding. Miss Bleiman displayed in this, as well as in other plays which she has produced in Al-

fred, considerable imagination in the matter of stage setting, and particularly in the "business" of the play. The settings of the second and third acts were admired by everyone, and the climax of the second act contained some excellent stage manipulation. Mr. Frobisher Lytle is to be credited for the new scenery. Regular and thorough training had given the cast an unusual ease and self-possession.

An obvious defect in the production was the inability of the actors to make themselves heard. Altho an error in the direction of over-restraint is probably preferable to the more common mistake in the opposite direction, it is still a defect, and the acting in the "Great Divide" was somewhat too subdued, not only in the matter of voice, but also of emotion. The result was a lack of variety in tone. Those parts that should have come out with strength were held back; and the play did not move in waves. This was especially true in the second parts of the first and third acts. The play did not get into the proper pace in the first act; but this was compensated by the excellent work of the latter half of the second act. The cast showed wide differences in ability.

Isabel Mack, as Ruth Jordan, contrasted strongly with the other actors, due partly to the nature of the role itself, but also to her superior ability. A rare intensity, grace, and sincerity characterized her interpretation of the girl from the East. The scene of the second act displayed her at the height of her power. But Miss Mack was carried away by the seriousness of her role. Whereas she should have been light and buoyant in the opening scene, as befitted the adventurous, idealistic girl who was bubbling over with happiness, she was really already caught in the gloom of the latter part of the play. And again in the presence of her relatives in the second act she should have been nervously vivacious because of her conflict of emotions. There was lack of versatility at this point. In a few places in the first act her acting was mechanical.

John McMahon had some difficulty in understanding the role of Ghent. Ghent was a man actuated alternately by low and high motives, with the latter predominating. Mr. McMahon carried the part of the better Ghent with good feeling, and he is deserving of praise for his genuine and rather even "thinking the part." But he seemed unable to throw himself into the character of the coarse Westerner. His interpretation lacked variety and was too subdued; he spoke too rapidly, too quietly, and with a too breathy voice; in the final scene he failed to rise to the power demanded by the reborn man.

Ruth Stillman gave a very agreeable interpretation of the role of Polly. She was particularly well fitted by her frankness, sense of humor, and cheerfulness, to take the part. The character, however, was not an extremely difficult one to portray. Miss Stillman's "recitation" of the clever speeches in the last act lost the illusion of originality by being spoken too hurriedly.

Margaret Neweisinger, as Mrs. Jordan, was a disappointment. Her appearance was good, but she lacked ease of movement. She had no conception of the niceties of the part, and at no time could the audience forget that she was Miss Neweisinger.

George Ford also had a good appearance, but he did not carry the part of Philip—the part carried him. He was scarcely severe enough to fulfil the character of the brother, altho in his defiance of Ghent in the last act he really "got into it" somewhat. In general, he broke the stage illusion by "reciting" his lines.

Frobisher Lytle was not the man for the part of the Doctor. He did not once give the impression of a polished, "finished" aristocrat of Massachusetts, either in voice or action. He was too indifferent to hold the attention of the audience; he lacked

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clearness and impressiveness. Certainly he did not appear to be very much infatuated with Ruth.

David Robison gave a good interpretation of the only "character" part in the play. He was self-possessed and effective. Altho the part was short, Mr. Robison made it very interesting and humorous.

The other minor parts were, on the whole, satisfactory; the lines were well learned and said with fair understanding.

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