

REVIEWS

MASKS IN A PAGEANT
The Macmillan Co., 1928
Co., 1928

Living, as the majority of us do, in the politically-ridden city of Chicago, most of us are somewhat interested in the subject. Unfortunately, most of the books on this topic are entirely too technical in their make-up as to interest a man with the minimum of time for outside readings.

"Masks in a Pageant," by William Allen White, has mastered this difficulty by presenting all of the presidential controversies and the contemporary politicians since the days of Harrison to Coolidge. Inasmuch as he has known all of these men personally, we can expect something different than the subject matter might seem to afford.

White writes in a bitter, satirical, acid style, and we see the various men stripped of their glamour. Character analysis seems to be an easy operation to White; the underlying motives of these men seem clear and defined to him and he presents them in a most straightforward and frank manner.

Perhaps it may shatter some of the lovely stories that one is given to believe by the advocates of political domination, but White certainly can make much of the mystery of politics disappear by his conjuring wand, the pen.

As the younger men of the country, we would be most interested in Wilson, Harding, Coolidge, Al Smith, and "Big Bill" Thompson, all of whom are analytically dissected by the merciless author.

To show the deepness of his style, I quote the following from the chapter on Harding. "The gods of the times created him out of the red Ohio mud and put him to dry against the fence outside the Executive Mansion; and when they breathed the breath of opportunity into his nostrils, he walked in."

Smith and Thompson must undoubtedly interest us the most. The "Young Princes of Democracy," as he, with his searing humor, has named them, are exposed for just what they are. In reading, one notes that White does not condemn, often seems to praise, but at all times is deeply pointed in his remarks.

His views of Thompson are enlightening to those of us who cannot understand how he won his last election. We see "Big Bill" as a most successful bully and braggart; but White pictures him in no gentle terms, and we are left in no doubt as to his real nature, despite his apparent popularity.

We read of Big Bill "standing, a brawny boss, feet apart...leering about with his thick-lipped, loose-mouthed smile, his eager, shallow eyes, and flicking one lewd wink at his audience as he trumpets.... 'Shoot 'em in!'"

This book will prove a delightful source of information for all of the men who have any interest in political movements; the thoughts are good, the style is superb, and the topic is timely. A. B. A.

New Piano Like Human Voice

A new type of piano which is called a revolutionary musical development, has just been patented by Dr. John Hays Hammond, Jr.

The invention increases the sonority of the piano, lengthens the vibrations and sustains the capacity and volume of the tone. Often the pianist has desired to influence the tone of the piano after the keys are struck. With the new instrument it is possible to do this and to produce a vibrato tone which so far could only be produced by the human voice or by string instruments.

The piano looks very much like the usual piano except that the strings are enclosed in a sound-tight casing having two sets of shutters, one above the strings and the other below the sounding board, which are opened and closed by means of a fourth pedal. The shutters act as reflectors and produce an effect called "acoustic regeneration," sustaining the sound vibrations for a much longer time than is possible in the ordinary piano. Manipulation of the extra pedal removes inflexibility and shortness,

M. I. T. Holds Frenzied Field Day Battle

Recently, the Sophomores and Freshmen of Massachusetts Institute of Technology staged their annual field day and battle. We reprint a few of the high lights of the day:

Unusual forms of ammunition were employed by both sides in the battle. Sophomores used eight crates of rotten eggs, most of it cost a dollar a crate, but fifteen dozen were donated by an old Tech man in the firm of Lewis & Mears.

The Sophs had cleaned out the bad egg market so thoroughly, the freshmen were forced to pay 47 cents a dozen for cold storage hen fruit. The rotten ones had the advantage in point of odor, the petrified ones were harder.

When a cold storage missile landed it cut. One was seen to bounce off a second year man's cranium and then splash against the fence.

One luckless freshman was observed fully dressed under a shower. He was busily engaged in soaping off the nauseating odor of ancient hen fruit.

The freshman egg barrage forced the band to move into the Sophomore stands for protection. Then after ruining the uniforms, they drove their classmates out of the stands into the Track House.

Sammy did not get hit this year.

Transmission grease in paper bags was a favorite weapon, while wads of plaster of paris bound in straw ranked a close second. Fish heads were very much in evidence.

The freshmen did not march onto the field preceded by the band as is the custom. An egg bombardment from the "roof gang" kept them clear. Incidentally the doors to the roof were protected by fire extinguishers, in case there should be a raid in retaliation.

A janitor presumably in the pay of the recipients of the afore mentioned barrage attempted to stamper the roof gang with the statement that Major Smith was on the way with an army. But the roof gang knew Major Smith and held the fort.

It seems that the fire extinguishers keep right on functioning once they are started regardless of the engineering ingenuity brought to bear upon them.

The Sophomores hunted in packs of eight in the glove fight. Learning from their last year's experience when a luckless man shouted for help the numerous freshmen mobbed him, they carefully refrained from shouting "32" no matter how hard pressed. Instead each unit had a number of pass words such as "Leo," "Roof-gang," "Dorms," and "Devils," not to mention others not fit to print.

When the gun went off the Sophomore line held steady without moving to make the freshmen come to them. This established the line of scrimmage close to the Sophomore barrel so they would not have to travel so far with the gloves. It also prevented any group from getting cut off from venturing too far into the enemy lines.

One freshman raiding the Sophs to regain a 33 banner was captured and sent back "au naturel."

Some Sophs tore their captured gloves in two before turning them in.

the chief drawback of the old piano tone. The tone effects and shading made possible have caused the instrument to be called a "breathing piano."

On this new piano, Foster Donahue, pianist, has given many performances during the last two years. It is practically effective for modern compositions such as by Debussy and Scriabine written in impressionistic style and demanding varying nuances of sound.

Dr. John Hays Hammond, Jr., has received 400 patents, many in the radio field, and he is also an excellent violinist.

Davis Speaks at Assembly Monday

(Continued from page 1)
comrades, 'Give my love to mother, and give them hell.'"
Tribute, according to General Davis, must be paid to the dead, sacrificed because of a nation's devotion to its ideals of liberty. So that others will not suffer and die, we should see to it that there shall not occur other great wars, but that our nation will join hands with others in peace.

General Davis served in the military forces of the United States in Cuba during the Spanish American War, on the Mexican Border in 1916, and in the World War in command of the 132nd Infantry, U. S. A. He was decorated by the United States Government with the Distinguished Service Medal and Distinguished Service Cross, and the French Government made him an Officer of the Legion of Honor. Because of his splendid work and his courage, General Davis is recognized as one of the outstanding military heroes of the country.

General Davis is a man who has served his country with the same zeal, interest, and capability in civil matters that he has shown in military matters. He is, besides being Vice President of the Chicago Title and Trust Company, a member of the Bar, Chairman Advisory Committee Forest Preserve, member of the Chicago Plan Commission; he has been a member of the state legislature, and Recorder and Registrar of Cook county.

Armour's new little symphony orchestra, recently formed by a combination of members of the band and orchestra, made its first public appearance when it played in assembly yesterday. The numbers which it rendered showed great possibilities for the future of this new organization.

The Arkansas Press Club makes an annual presentation of a live razorback hog to the one who does the most for the college during the year.

FRATERNITY NOTES

PHI KAPPA SIGMA

The Phi Kaps held their annual Parents' Day on Sunday, November 10, at the Chapter House. November 23 has been set as the date for the housewarming dance. Alpha Epsilon of Phi Kappa Sigma wishes to extend a cordial invitation to the faculty and students of Armour Institute.

DELTA TAU DELTA

The annual Weiland Freshman Banquet, held in the Red Room of the Hotel La Salle, was attended by the entire pledge body and most of the active chapter, Saturday, November 9.

Paul Malm, M. E. '31, who was forced to remain out of school for the semester on account of sickness, paid the house a visit Tuesday, November 5.

SIGMA KAPPA DELTA

Another one of the boys is to take the fatal step. This time it is Robert E. Brummond '28, who is to be married on November 15.

TRIANGLE

Triangle takes pleasure in announcing the pledging of Edward Kenner, F. P. E. '33.

PHI PI PHI

Phi Pi Phi announces the initiation of G. Reichle, Arch. '20, H. Seichtenburg, M. E. '32, M. Morgan, C. E. '31, and J. B. Finnegan, Jr., F. P. E. '32.

Phi Pi Phi also announces the pledging of G. Hill, F. P. E. '32.

SIGMA ALPHA MU

The members and alumni of the Sig Alph are looking forward to a big time at the annual Pledge Party, which is to be held November 16, at 1322 Chase avenue.

THETA XI

Theta Xi held open house last Saturday evening following the Wisconsin-Chicago football game for several members from the Wisconsin chapter.

Civils Make Two Inspection Trips

(Continued from Page 1)

the battery room visited, and then the party went to a switch where the operating mechanism was explained.

Disposal Plant Incomplete

Friday, the men visited the sewage disposal plant. This plant, located at Laramie and 39th street, disposes the west side sewage and the north side sludge from the Howard Avenue Plant. It is not yet completed; the men being able to observe the processes of construction. When finished, it is to be the largest in the world of the Imhoff type, where the sewage is allowed to settle in huge tanks. The project has been under construction for a number of years, lack of funds holding up the construction. As the work consisted largely of concrete and steel, it was of the utmost interest to the men.

The first trip was under the leadership of Professor Grafton, and the latter under Professors Stevens, Heald, and Pierce.

According to a recent survey at the University of Iowa, an average of 40,000 cigarettes are smoked by 800 women in a week. The female smokers comprise about one-third of the women on the campus. They are less secretive about buying their luxuries than they were formerly, but they now purchase them over the counters, and in cigar stores where they can have their lighters filled. The survey also showed that the high-priced, fancy-wrapped brands are not popular with the women.

Football Again

As we glance out the window and notice the crowds gathered to either partake or to watch the touch football game which is in progress in Ogden Field, we feel that Tech should have a football team where these men can blow off some of their excess energy.

ALUMNI NEWS

A feature article about George Jennings, ex-'29, appeared in the last issue of the "Public Service Company of Northern Illinois News," house publication of that organization. A large picture of George in action showed that he has not lost the touch of the tennis racket. He recently entered the employment of the Public Service Company of Northern Illinois.

An announcement has been received that the marriage of F. J. Pischke, '28, to Miss Edith Godard is to take place on Saturday, November 23 at St. Viator Church.

Harvey Dozois, '29, writes in that he and LeRoy Bernhard, '29 are going through a training period of several months as members of a group of five connected with the Chief Engineer's Dept. of the Illinois Bell Telephone Company. According to Harvey, some of the work is almost as hard as school.

Rumors have been floating around that Fred Jurgensen, '29 is now married. Fred was president of last year's senior class.

Fred Payne, '28, was in town recently for the week end.

"Bugs" Balch, '12, sends word from Madison, Wisconsin, that he is busily engaged in "architecting."

John G. Attwood, '29, formerly staff artist for the News, is now Assistant Research Chemist at the Battelle Memorial Institute, Columbus, Ohio. He is at present working on problems concerning steel production methods.

YALE UNIVERSITY

Yale University spends \$2 for every dollar that the students pay for tuition. Fellowships, scholarships, and loans were given to 1,269 men last year. The total amount disbursed by the university in this manner was \$484,595. Faculty salaries have been increased this year as a result of the large amount of money which the school received through endowments. Students may borrow money without advancing any security.



Charter House

CLOTHES

SUITS
\$35. \$40. \$45. \$50

OVERCOATS
\$45 to \$60

PERFECTION IN COLLEGIAN GARMENTS

STUDENTS, AND YOUNG GENTLEMEN IN BUSINESS, WHO HONOUR THE STYLE TRADITIONS WHICH HAVE EXISTED AT OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE FOR CENTURIES, WELCOME THE OPPORTUNITY TO SEE AND SECURE GARMENTS CHARTED IN ENGLAND.

Charter House

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