

Home "Talkies" Will Replace Books In Future, Booth Tarkington Predicts

Midshipmen Expelled After Drunken Brawl

ANAPOLIS, Md.—Three midshipmen in the United States Military Academy here have resigned "for the good of the service" according to officials, following their discovery in an intoxicated condition in the academy dormitory.

The liquor was procured here, the authorities said, and the three were discovered after they had engaged in a drunken scuffle in which all three were cut and bruised.

PHILADELPHIA, PA. — Declaring that popular interest in books is declining, Booth Tarkington, novelist who is now recovering his sight, asserts that reading in the home is about to be replaced by home talking pictures, and that the writer of the future will have to devote himself to writing scrip for the talkies if he hopes to continue his trade.

"When one can press a button and turn on a good play or vocalized movie on the home screen," Tarkington said, "there will be little time for reading. Certainly, there has been a gradual decline in reading for a long time. Times are materially changed from the days when the only diversion of the pioneer and farmer was a good book. Editors tell me more people than ever read books because of the increase in population, but a very much smaller percentage of the population reads books than formerly."

Ban Book Because Of Cave Man Description

PERTH AMBOY, N. J.—"A Child's History of the World," by V. M. Hill-mer, has been removed from the local schools by order of Dr. Wm. C. McGinnis, superintendent, at the behest of Rev. Byron C. Nelson, Lutheran pastor, who objected to its description of the cave man and his methods of eating and wooing.

The book declares that the cave man drank blood of animals as we now drink milk, and that when a cave man wanted a wife, he stole her from a neighboring cave, sometimes finding it necessary to knock her senseless before carrying her off.

The pastor said his six-year-old daughter was reading these passages and thought they were not fit for children.

A murder trial at Princeton, W. Va., was heard over the air recently when it was broadcast by a Bluefield radio station. It was believed to have been the first trial thus broadcast.

Students in the majority of American cities are not allowed to form high school fraternities, according to the Office of Education, in New York.

"Padlock" Fraternity Houses At Michigan

ANN ARBOR, Mich.—Five fraternity houses at the University of Michigan in which liquor was found by dry agents last week, have been ordered "padlocked" by university authorities until next September 1.

The order was made by the faculty committee on student affairs. Under the ruling, the fraternities may re-open under "social probation" for the 1931-32 college year, but may have no social functions during that year.

A warning also was issued to national officers of the fraternities that if any more liquor is found at the houses in the future their charters will be cancelled locally.

The 79 students involved in the raids, members of Theta Delta Chi, Phi Delta Theta, Delta Kappa Epsilon, Kappa Sigma, and Sigma Alpha Epsilon, have been ordered to find other rooming houses at once.

It appeared late last week that no legal action would be taken against the 79. Their court appearances scheduled for the latter part of the week were postponed for two weeks.

Fathers of the students, many of them prominent lawyers, and other alumni, descended on the campus and declared they would fight to a finish any charges they considered unwarranted. These men were particularly aroused over suggestion of charges against students who were found asleep in their rooms where no liquor was found.

State Representative Frank P. Darin, chairman of the house university committee, demanded of the legislature an investigation of the purpose behind the raids.

Calling for an appointment of a special investigating committee of three representatives and two senators, he said that he was not trying to defend the presence of liquor in the fraternity houses, but that he and other members of his committee took strong exception to the manner in which the raids were staged.

He charged that the raids were made on "information and belief" search warrants. "From all appearances the raid was staged to get the utmost possible publicity," he said.

Says Sun's Rays Cause Changes In Weather

WASHINGTON—Dr. Charles G. Abbot, astronomer at the Smithsonian Institution here, has advanced the theory that changes in the intensity of the sun's rays regulate the weather.

Meteorologists heretofore have believed weather depended mainly on irregularities of the earth's surface and could not be predicted far in advance any more than could the passage of rough water in a stream over a rocky bed.

However, Dr. Abbot believes, weather is caused chiefly by frequent interventions of actual changes of the emission of radiation within the sun itself.

His discovery has been checked with similar findings at Williston, N. D., and Yuma, Arizona, he explains.

Literature Of Today Filthy, Phelps Says

AUGUSTA, Ga.—Lecturing to an audience at his winter home here, Professor William Lyon Phelps, of Yale University, declared recently that never in history has literature "been so consistently filthy and rotten as it is today."

This state of literature, he said, is partly offset by the purity of popular songs. These modern musical offerings, he said, were never so clean as they are now, and are growing more puritanical and prudish all the time.

Today, he said, is an age of biography, but writers thereof are more prone to select "victims" than "subjects."

Paul Revere Story Is Not True, Major Says

CONCORD, N. H.—Get out your American history books, boys and girls, and write in the margins opposite Paul Revere's ride, "Not so!"

Major Otis G. Hammon, director of the New Hampshire Historical society, is credited with the information that Paul didn't raise Massachusetts farmers to battle at all, but rather came right on up into New Hampshire, and started the first battle of the Revolution at Portsmouth, before the Battle of Lexington had even been thought of.

Major Hammon contends that the successful storming of Fort William and Mary at Portsmouth Harbor by the Granite State Volunteers set aflame the torch of rebellion in the colonies. It resulted in the capture of powder, small arms and cannon.

bleak Bolivian plateau to study the customs and language of the last remaining remnants of the Uro-Chipaya Indians.

AVIATION LABORATORY

LAFAYETTE, Ind.—Students in flying courses here will soon have practical laboratory facilities. A total of 157 acres of land has been purchased by David E. Ross, president of the board of trustees, and deeded to Purdue University to be developed as an airport.

Acquisition of the airport will mean expansion of all phases of instructional and research work, according to university authorities.

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