

The Aquinas

Student Publication of the University of Scranton

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Lent

Once again the season of Lent impends, five days away. That college men should conduct themselves during this time of penance with a devotion more ardent than that of most members of the laity is a truth which is too self-evident to be elaborated upon. Most seniors will find themselves within the age range of those bound to fast. Proper observance of the Lenten season, however, lies not merely in the routine adherence to prescribed rule; it is, properly speaking, a spirit or attitude which the individual develops within himself.

This Lenten "penitential attitude," as it may be termed, can be aroused in men only if the proper facilities and encouragements are provided. One important move which the University authorities are making to foster this general proper spirit is seen in the return of the dialogue mass, so popular with students last year. It will be celebrated each Friday morning during Lent.

Drama Again

Despite any other criticisms which might be aimed at the production "Hit or Miss" few adverse remarks can be made of the acting performances given by members of the cast. For amateurs with little experience the showmen did well. Returning to our "form a Dramatic Society" proposal of last week we learned from the show that if the ascertainment of student talent is the only deterrent offered, it is negligible, and we should organize the group today.

Last week's editorial on the subject was interpreted in many ways. Rather than attempting to foster science-arts-business animosity we attempt to discourage it. If the persons offended by the remarks, concerning a very evident inter-class feeling, would do something other than merely disliking to hear the distasteful subject mentioned—the spirit between students registered in the various courses could be obliterated. Why not form a Tri-Course Dramatic Society as a melting pot for the unwanted spirit and as a molding pot for a necessary extra-curricular activity.

No Labarum

Announcement this week concerning the disbanding of plans for the production of a 1941 Labarum is met with two feelings:

1. Regret—that the traditional graduation annual, later to be much desired by the class of '41 for reasons sentimental and reminiscent, will not be published.
2. Rejoicing—that the University authorities have displayed foresight in preventing the compilation of another debt-producing student venture.

The several hundred dollar debt remembered from last year, the inadequate preparation made by the seniors thus far for the production, combined with their indecisive, incooperative attitude toward the yearbook staff evident for the past few months, all arguing for another "flop"—unite to make our rejoicing dispel our regret.

Britain Should Finance War
Ways and Means Listed
The Lend-Lease Bill Flayed

The Lend-Lease Bill at the time of this writing is still being debated by the Senate. The necessity for the passage of that bill has been based upon the assumption that Britain is financially unable to buy outright the materials it needs. Let us try to evaluate that assumption.

Britain's Finances in U. S.

The *N. Y. Times* (May 22, 1940) carried an article issued by the United Press that Britain has in the U. S. over eight billion dollars in "gold, foreign exchange and securities." Research by our State and Treasury Departments substantiates the contents of that article.

Now, many people (President Roosevelt being one of them) believe that if Britain can ward off defeat this year, it will subsequently win the war in a very short time. On that basis the eight billion dollars over here would help a great deal in financing the war. Why has Britain refused to use this source of wealth in purchasing the necessary supplies? How can the British truthfully say to us, "We are too poor to pay, so won't you please give us armaments, and at the end of the war we will return them to you?"

The answer is obvious. Those same people who own the eight billion are unwilling to utilize this stock in wealth in paying for the war.

Tax That Eight Billion

You say that the money in question is privately owned. True enough. But couldn't the British government tap that source of wealth by the proper type of taxation? It is assumable that the

eight billion could be taxed even to the point of confiscation. That taxes in Britain are excessively high is also true. But as long as the amount in question is left untouched how can Congress pass the Lend-Lease Bill on the grounds that Britain cannot pay?

Someone's "Coining the Dough"

From a material point of view, should England lose the war, the wealthy Englishmen would stand to lose the most. We should think that he would be pleased to contribute more of his wealth—including that eight billion—to the British war effort. But no—the *British News Review* reveals that 89 per cent of the sales tax revenue is received from those who can least afford to pay. Excess profits could be taxed more effectively. *Labor Research* claims, "the belief that the British excess profits tax has taken the profits out of war is just one of those illusions that the interested find so useful." In 1940 profits of British industry exceeded by 125 million dollars the profits of the preceding year. Why do such conditions exist, since all the elements in English society claim that they are primarily interested in winning the war and not in making money?

We Pay for England's War

There are three sources from which the British might exact revenue in financing the war: the poor and the rich of Britain, and J. Q. Public of the U. S. The poor have no wealth to contribute, the wealthy refuse to contribute, but J. Q.—why do you think there is such a thing as the Lend-Lease Bill?

Junior G-Men Probe Prom;
Blomain Presents "Band
Within a Band" Tonight

A Study in Red

Sing a song of six-bits,
Pockets full of lint;
Junior G-Men want to know
Where the money went.

At a recent meeting of the junior class, a few irate upperclassmen, who seem to have been reading too many detective stories, succeeded in forming a committee to investigate the financial report of last month's Prom. The plot thickens, or rather the plotters thicken. Such an action will only cause ill-feeling among a nice group of fellows who should (to coin a phrase) "stick together." Aren't you becoming just a little bit melodramatic? We're positive that there's no "nigger in the woodpile." Let's forget this nonsense about graft and corruption and do something constructive, such as concentrating on our just debts. Don't forget your assessment of 65 cents. It's payable now.

Blomain's Blomanias

Congratulations to the Business Club on the selection of Tom Blomain's orchestra for tonight's Bowery Hop. A barrage of superlatives about Tom and his band would probably bore you, so we'll just call him extra-good. He's been playing up and down the valley for quite some time now, and most of you are familiar with his style of music. A novel feature of the outfit is a "band within a band" called "The Tommies Blue Room Five" which takes care of the swing arrangements. The Bowery Hop is the last social affair before Lent. Tuxes aren't



needed, the band is tops, there's a super special floor show, and prizes will be given for the best costumes. Why not drop around to the Temple tonight and see for yourselves?

'Cat-Calls

Tip to the Student Council: The WPA Concert Orchestra is still in existence. Why not bring it in again, or are those exciting Thursday morning assemblies for the next few months all planned . . . Dave Levinson, the Purple Sage, certainly told Lord Halifax to go there last week . . . Read Dr. Erdelyi's article on the psychological approach of popular songs . . . Chuck Foster leads what we think is a perfect dance orchestra . . . Baron Elliot would be ideal for the Sophomore Cotillion . . . Dick Messner's orchestra was the best that Marywood had in the past few years. It was a little swiny but definitely good . . . Interested in philosophy and literature? If you are, listen to *Invitation to Learning* any Tuesday evening at 10:15 (CBS) . . . Hey Sophs! Better get to work on your dance. It's less than a month away . . . "Hit or Miss," the science play(y)gue, was held last Monday night . . . "Yes, My Darling Daughter" is Dinah Shore's best recording to date.

THEY SATISFY—

Fred Waring's Pleasure Time—Monday through Friday on NBC stations at 7 P. M.

Glenn Miller's Moonlight Serenade—Tuesday through Thursday on CBS stations at 10 P. M.

Professor Quiz—Tuesday night at 9:30 on CBS stations.

Tommyrot

"Hit or Miss" Tid-Bits

Things you should have seen: Paul Ryan walking in with three girls; Tony Cummings' piano moving technique; Doc Wolf entertaining the dancing instructress, Miss Noone; the expression on Bruno Manno's face when one of the make-up artists (Glenn Cook's girl) told him that whoever put the moustache make-up on his upper lip did a poor job; John Barratti looking for a benzene ring and a carbon chain; Ed Cerwonka getting his trousers burned off up to the knees while trying to stamp out a fire; the crowd in the balcony; the science show.

The Vodka Kid

Tommyrot sincerely hopes that Mike Yevitz is able to get a date so that he may grace the Temple ballroom with his presence tonight. Mike and his famous left armpit are well remembered for their fine performance at last year's brawl.

Here's Hoping the Dikes Hold Out

Joseph A. Loftus has proven his love for Dorothy by disregarding the distance he must travel to see her. He says, "The only thing that bothers me now is that I may need a boat to go over there (Kingston) in case of a flood."

Dick Gets Run-a-Round

We have it from a reliable source that Dick Lonsdorf is getting the run-a-round from Anastasia Koaxzyockowicz. Too bad, Dick. You have our heartfelt sympathy, and we sincerely hope that she will realize what a mistake she is making so that your affaire de couer may be settled soon and to your mutual satisfaction.

Balanced Budget (?)

To assuage the ruffled dignity of the seniors who disliked having the statistics for their dance printed, Tommyrot displays its impartiality and prints those released on the Junior Prom also.

INCOME		EXPENSES	
Tickets	\$393.00	Band	\$400.00
Booster	44.00	Hall	100.00
Concession	65.00	Cop and Fireman	10.00
		Programs	55.00
		Printing	23.25
		Decorations	2.12
		Advertising	3.00
		Publicity	.50
		Tax	31.50
	\$502.00		\$625.37
			502.00
			(minus) \$123.37

Marywood Prom Patter

Were you at the Marywood Junior Prom? If not, you're slipping. For dates for the affair were so numerous as those in Powers' little red book. The dance itself was the best ever held at the neighboring institution. The band was fair with too many swing numbers thrown in the early part of the program. And one nice thing can be said about the favors, they were all right.

Poor Rosy

Rosy from Pittston has finally got back into circulation, much to the happiness of your Tommyrot reporter, who was rapidly running out of information on the down-valley lassies. No longer will Cawley have to listen to the tune of "Rosalie, My Darling." For two of the more famous underclassmen have succumbed to the amorous lady. Bob Scherrieb escorted her to the Misericordia Junior Prom and "Romeo Rondo" Ryan was her companion at the aforementioned science presentation.

Cold Wave Hits School

Our janitorial staff, as any of the students who walk through the front hall has noticed, has purchased a little lock for the thermostat on the wall opposite the registrar's office. And the result of said purchase has been a lowering of the temperature around the school to a point where 40 degrees is considered torrid. At an eight o'clock class one morning this week, cold-blooded Nelson Ramont was heard to say, "Err-r-r. It's so cold in here that the icicles on the radiators are even yelling about it."