

The Colby Echo

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WEDNESDAY, DEC. 9, 1931.

News Editor, Robert E. Finch, '33

You are a college student! Do you know what that means? Are you conscious of the great responsibility which is yours? You are to be the leaders and teachers of mankind; because of your position here it is your task to understand and intellectually to master the world.

Today we are facing a great crisis in the evolution of mind and spirit over primitive brute force. For the first time in history a world conference has been summoned to limit destructive armaments. Students from all over the world are taking advantage of this opportunity to do their part in making this conference a success by creating an aroused and enlightened public opinion.

You need not be told what is the significance of the Disarmament Conference which is to meet at Geneva next February. The disarmament commission on this campus has cooperated with other colleges to bring you a mass of interesting material. Chapel speakers have presented both the pros and cons of disarmament; other speakers at your clubs and associations have helped to clarify your mind on the various issues; you have seen plays about disarmament, read displayed literature on the subject; attended forums, discussions and debates where obscure points relating to the subject were fully interpreted. Even the radio has been utilized to show how the leaders of the world felt towards this vital question.

To all this you have probably turned a receptive ear. But is this enough? Lord Bryce says that it is the small organized minorities which mold governments. Are you going to let our government continue its present regime of extravagant armament expenditure when millions are starving and destitute, when distress and despair are everywhere about us, or are you going to take an active part to end this growing chaos by forcing our government to take the lead in bringing about a real limitation and reduction of armament.

All statesmen and diplomats agree that it is impossible to do anything towards disarmament without the support of the people at home. In the light of such knowledge thoughtlessness and indifference are the worst crimes against humanity. The attitude of the Preparatory Disarmament Commission was well expressed in their last meeting: "Do the peoples wish for disarmament? Only they can give an answer to that question. The last word is with the peoples of the world." It is our job to make this last word positive, to arouse public opinion in every way possible.

The way nations face each other today, armed to the teeth and with ever increasing armaments shows how we have failed to learn the lesson of the last war. As Charles Evans Hughes has well said, there is no greater fallacy than that contained in the familiar slogan: "In order to prepare for peace, prepare for war." Germany was the most prepared nation in the world prior to 1914. Instead of providing security, her military armaments provoked suspicion and fear, which in turn hastened the catastrophe of 1914. How is a repetition of that disaster to be avoided. Certainly not by repeating the folly of Europe during the early years of this century.

What can you do? There are many ways in which the college student in his or her community can take the lead in forming local, public opinion in behalf of disarmament limitation.

Fire the town with your enthusiasm—if you are asked to speak before a local organization, get them interested in disarmament—find out what your ministers are doing toward world peace. If you're selling Tubercular Christmas seals, take a couple of petitions around with you. It is only through petitions that President Hoover is ever going to be able to know the mind of the people. When you are working on your Christmas job, keep a petition on hand for old friends and customers who are awake to the situation. Get your old scout troop to do a hundred good turns in half an hour by dividing up the town and making a house to house canvass. Talk to your political leaders and see what influence they are exerting to have the right delegates chosen for the Conference. Great Britain, France, Germany are sending their prime ministers. Who will represent us?

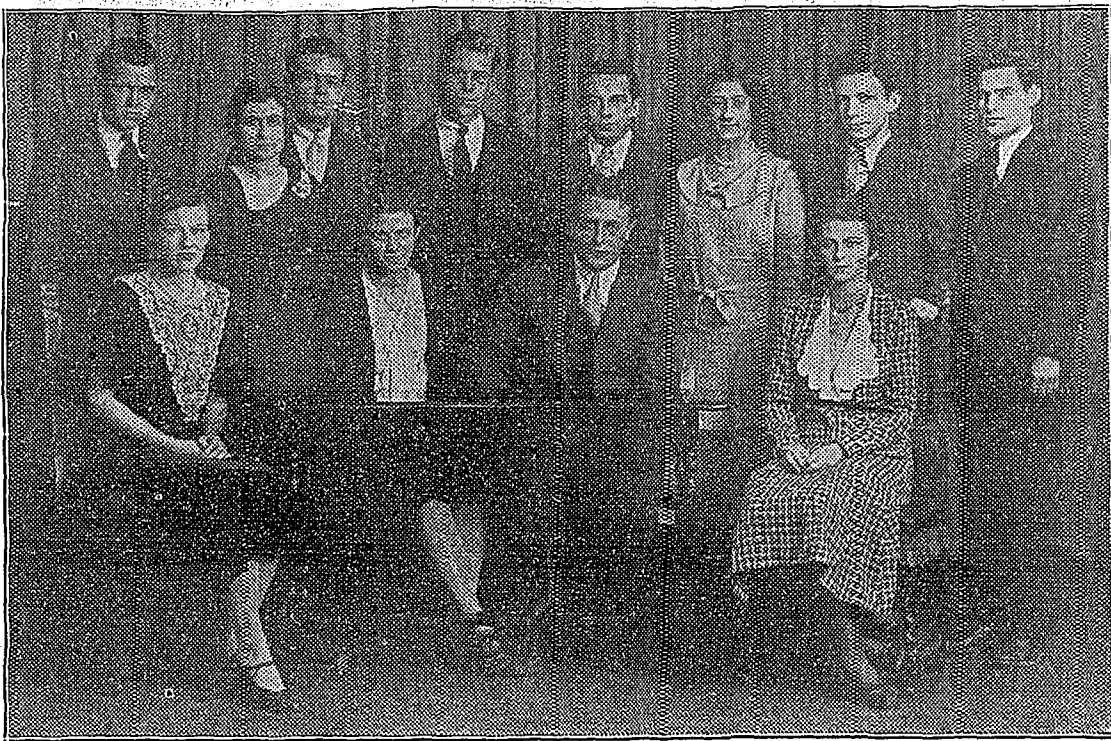
If there is another war we are the ones who will be involved. We will be the objects of wholesale murder from the poisonous gas and germ warfare the war-makers are now preparing. It is our property which will be abolished by air raids and powerful bombs, and those of us who are left will be the ones who must start anew where our fathers left off thirteen years ago.

Since then, the youth of today will be the next victims of warfare, it is a duty which we owe ourselves to fight militarism in all its forms. One of these forms is that of armaments and we have an opportunity now to defeat this menace to world peace by giving our unstinted support to the Geneva Conference.

Dear Santa:
I don't want very many presents this year. Just bring me a teacher who will allow me some spare time for my other courses.
Sincerely,
Joseph Colby.

When you return to school on January 5th:
Don't ask anyone if they had a good vacation.
Don't enumerate the girls you have "made."
Don't boast how you "staggered" through the old into the new year.
Don't crab about coming back to the "old joint."
Don't be a "play boy" on the Pine Tree Limited.
Don't lose that frat pin.

LIBRARIAN REPLIES.
To the Editor of the Echo:
A fair and valid criticism concerning the delay for a period of several days of the newspapers which come to the library appeared in the Gladstone column of the last issue. The reason for that delay was the readjustment resulting from a change in postal service recently inaugurated. The newspapers, as a result of that change, will come into the library more regularly and promptly than was formerly possible when the mail was received but once a day. It will now be possible to receive all morning papers at 10 a. m., and the New York Times in the early afternoon of the same day as published, instead of the day after. The librarian appreciates criticisms of library service, especially when such criticisms are as accurate as the one just answered.
J. S. Ibbotson.



Cast of "It Won't Be Long Now," at City Opera House, Friday: Standing: A. Raymond, R. Chester, M. Stratton, W. Millett, J. Poulin, V. Swallow, F. Shreiber, R. Cummings. Sitting: E. Rowell, E. Langlois, B. Hayward, N. Fuller

CHI EPSILON MU MET LAST EVENING

Papers On Chemistry, And Professor Parmenter Talks

Chi Epsilon Mu, the chemistry honorary society, met at the home of Professor G. F. Parmenter on Tuesday evening, Dec. 8. After a short business meeting Parker Dority read a paper on the contributions of X-rays to chemistry, and Albert Nelson gave an interesting report on the general subject of rubber. Following this all members present took part in an informal discussion, on these and other subjects.

After partaking of refreshments furnished by Mrs. Parmenter, every one gathered around Dr. Parmenter, who gave a very interesting talk on his trip abroad.

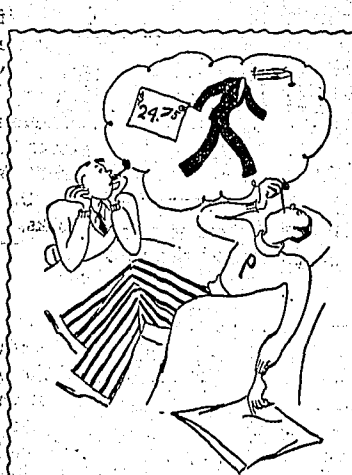
A graduate member, Ashton Hamilton, now employed as a chemist in the Hollingsworth & Whitney mill was present at the meeting.

The next meeting of the society will be held in the chemistry lecture room, January 12, at which time it is hoped that motion pictures on special subjects will be given.

St. Nicholas Day.

(Special to The Echo.)
(Foreign Student Correspondent.)
Maria Lenochova likes America, enjoys the football holidays, delights in our strange feast day, Thanksgiving; but she heartily misses St. Nicholas Day, with all its attendant joys and festivity. Cheeks flushed, and with glistening eyes, it was easy to see that the Slavic custom of celebrating St. Nicholas Day on December the sixth was one which recalled pleasant memories to Maria. I could see that the subject was one close to her heart when she began: "Long ago there was a Bishop in my country who was famous among the poor people for his great social feeling; he was so good. He brought gifts to the poor, and left them behind their doors, for he was bashful and did not desire to receive thanks. When he died, the poor people who had been so grateful to him in his life, decided to keep his memory by giving gifts to the children on his birthday. Now it is such a habit, that both rich and poor adhere to it alike. Toys, sweets, and fruits, a Czechoslovakian child is likely to find in his stocking or shoe when he awakens on St. Nicholas Day. There is a superstition that St. Nicholas is sup-

posed to descend from heaven with one or two angels the night before his birthday, and that he takes one or two devils from Hell and goes through the towns and villages visiting all the families. It is really the children's relatives or servants of the household who take the parts of St. Nicholas and his well-mixed retinue. Upon their arrival, the children kneel and pray, hoping that they may be good enough to receive gifts. If the parents upon being asked by the good saint whether the children were good or bad during the year, respond that they have been naughty, they receive no presents, for the time being, but the devils terrify the children by clashing their chains along the floor, and making baleful grimaces. To the good children, the saint and his cohort distribute gifts." "Were you ever one of the bad children Maria?" I asked. She laughed, and shook her head. "I was going to ask her another question, but when I looked at her again, I saw that she was lost in reminiscences."



No Pipe Dream!

No, indeed! For these are really "wide-awake" Freshies... already initiated into the deep mysteries of economics. They're wise—for instance—to the truth that a smart suit, a wear-giving suit, a suit suited to every phase of campus life awaits them at Penney's... and at a price that doesn't jolt the modest collegiate budget!

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EDSON H. COOPER.

(Continued from page 1)

gary on to Vancouver the scenery was wonderful. Nearly the whole time, August 26th, 27th and 28th, we passed through the majestic and magnificent wonders of nature, the Canadian Rockies. If you have never been through that section of the country, you certainly should do it, for it is certainly beautiful, and awe-inspiring not to say that it is magnificent. I took many "snaps" on the way through these mountains, but I am sorry to say that they did not come out in class "A."

I left Vancouver on the "Empress of Asia," one of the famous white "Empresses" of the Pacific on my way to Yokohama, the first port of call in the Orient. For eleven days there was nothing to see except water, water all around—and plenty of it. I will have to make an exception to the statement of not seeing anything, for we did pass very close to some of the Aleutian Islands. Mere rocks jutting out of the sea, with not a sign of vegetation on any of them. Practically the whole time from Vancouver to Yokohama was stormy and cold. Even when we finally did arrive at Yokohama "Sunny Japan" it was raining and rather miserable weather on the whole.

It was early Wednesday, Sept. 9th, that I caught the first glance of Japan, and incidentally the first oriental odor, which I soon became accustomed. All oriental towns have their own particular smell, and some of them are just too terrible to describe. Yokohama, at last! It is not as beautiful as I had imagined, but far more Japanese than either Tokio or Kobe. It certainly did seem quite strange to see the women dressed in their native kimonos and hopi-coats, with wooden sandals, hustling and bustling, with the "clack," "clack" of their wooden slippers on the stone pavements. As for the men the majority of them dress a la European style. As we stayed in Yokohama for twenty-four hours, I had the opportunity to go up to Tokio, a matter of thirty minutes ride on the modern electric railway. Tokio resembles to a great extent, Boston or New York, as it is so completely modernized—the buildings, methods of transportation, etc. On the whole the Japanese people are far more polite than we Americans, not looking for tips, and are extremely willing to show an American what Japan has to offer in the way of art and beauty. In the evening I went about Yokohama and saw the night life as displayed in true Oriental style—and what a time. It is a very good place for a person not well acquainted with Oriental ways and customs not to attempt to go to certain sections, for there is a great possibility of not returning in the same condition as he started. So much for Yokohama.

From there we went to Kobe, the most beautiful of any of the places I visited with the exception of Hong Kong. Kobe is surrounded on three sides by mountains, and has a very excellent harbor which will accommodate a very large amount of shipping. From Kobe I went to a small place about thirty miles down the coast to Okoshi, a sort of a natural park. It is an exceedingly beautiful spot, having many tropical gardens, and small artificial ponds which were covered by water-lilies of all possible color combinations. It was a sight for "sore eyes"—if you will pardon the vulgarity of speech.

The next port of call was Nagasaki, a small port at the other end of the famous Inland Sea. Here we stopped for only a few hours to coal ship. The coaling here is done mostly by women who receive about 50 cents per day and enough rice for three meals. As the ship anchored out in the harbor, barges loaded with coal drew alongside and the work began. On each barge there were about a hundred men and women who formed a "bucket brigade" passing small baskets by hand up to the coaling entrances. They kept up this constant work for six hours until the last bit of coal had been loaded. It is interesting also to note that these women hold the world's record for coaling a ship in the shortest period of time. Whereas they can completely coal a vessel in six to eight hours by hand, it takes three to four days to accomplish the same amount of work in Vancouver by modern machinery! That statement does not seem possible but it is the actual fact.

China was the next port of call on the trip. We arrived at Shanghai late in the afternoon of the 14th of September. It was here that we caught our first glimpse of the floods which have been devastating that section of China. Parts of Shanghai were covered with water, and only three days before our arrival there had been three feet of water on the main streets in the city proper. Shanghai is a terrible place from a social standpoint. To my way of thinking it is the refuse pot for all Europe and the Orient. Here we saw Indians, Japanese, all crowds of Chinese, Filipinos, and every other race on earth. On leaving Shanghai, we took on an

armed guard for protection against Chinese raiders who were very active along the coast between Hong Kong and Shanghai. Needless to say we did not come into contact with them; consequently it was a rather quiet and uninteresting as well as hot trip down to Hong Kong.

At Hong Kong, I made my first purchase of tropical clothes. You might be interested to know that I had two complete suits made in six hours at the great expense of \$4.25 each! Quite some difference from what one had to pay in Waterville. Of course the suits were of linen, but even they cost about twenty dollars in the States. We stayed in this port only about eight hours, and that was about long enough, as it was extremely hot, and not being used to the heat, I was very uncomfortable.

The ship arrived at Manila the 19th of September. What a place that is! The most beautiful spot in the east with the exception of Baguio. The streets are lined with all kinds of tropical trees, mostly coconut palms and other species of that nature. We were forced to stay in Manila until the following Tuesday because of a typhoon which was raging up around Baguio, and to travel during one of these storms is very dangerous and extremely uncomfortable. A typhoon is usually accompanied with heavy winds and a torrent of rain. When it rains it rains! About an inch in ten minutes!

The ride from Manila to Baguio a distance of some 180 miles was for the first part, through banana, sugar and coconut plantations, with many small native towns along the way where everything from babies to carabo play and run wild in the streets. We even had the exciting experience of a carabo (water buffalo) charging our automobile. However we finally arrived in the wonderland of the islands, Baguio. Baguio is situated about five thousand feet up among the mountains in the Igorot and Ilocano country. It is a spot which never gets hot and never becomes cold. An ideal spot to live.

The mountain people are very timid and afraid, especially of having themselves photographed, because they fear that when they are photographed their soul leaves their body and goes into the picture, thereby depriving them of the privilege of going to heaven when they die. This morning I attempted to take a picture of one of these Igorots, but he had a different idea. Instead of remaining calm, he ran shouting behind a tree. I finally induced him to come out from hiding, and after giving him ten centavos, took his picture. His dress was true to form, with the indispensable gu string, blue "army" coat and painted felt hat perched upon the very extreme top of a coconut shaped head. The women dress more moderately, wearing bright colored skirts with a white vest-like shirt.

However these women are the ones who do the heavy work, and it is quite a common sight to see them carrying very large loads on their heads or in baskets nearly as large as themselves which are strapped on their backs. I believe I had better bring this letter to a close at this time for fear of boring you too greatly. However if there are any questions which you would like to ask, I will try my best to answer them for you. Incidentally if you desire any post cards which show the natives and depict various scenes in and about Baguio, I'll be only too glad to send you some of them.

Please give my regards to Professors Eustis, Chapman, Breckenridge, Strong and Colgan. Trusting everything is going along smoothly at college this year, I remain,

Sincerely yours,
Edson H. Cooper, '31.
Brent School,
Philippine Islands.

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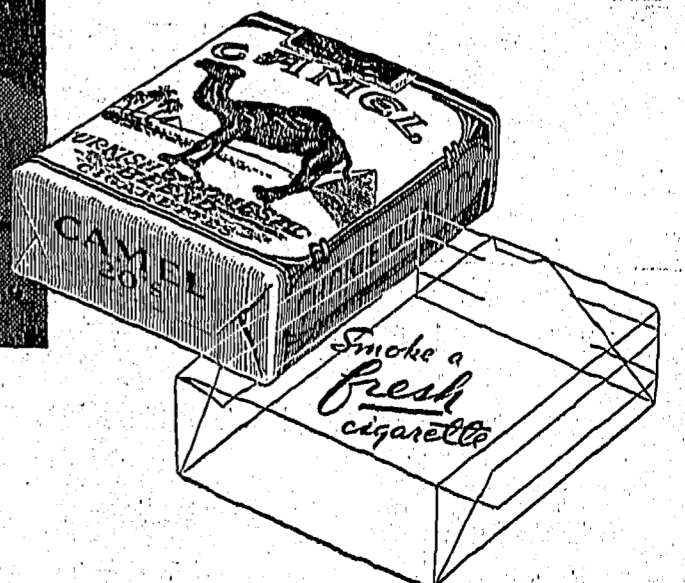
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