CONCERNING THE CONFERENCE AT BLUE RIDGE

The Purpose
The Southern Student Conference is a gathering of representative college men from all the leading colleges and universities of the South, for the study of the problems of college life, for the building up of a virile college spirit, and for the discussion of methods of Young Men's Christian Association work.

The Daily Program
The daily program which follows gives one an idea of the inner workings of the conference. The mornings are given over, first, to study classes in the Bible; second, to discussion by the students of the problems of moral and spiritual need in the colleges and of the most approved methods of dealing with these problems; third, to a study of social service and life investment; fourth, to addresses from outstanding Christian leaders. The afternoons are free for all forms of recreation. The new grounds have ample facilities for baseball, track, basketball, volley ball, tennis, and mountain climbing, which have always had a prominent place in the life of the gathering. After supper each night, classes are conducted in the study of some of the most pressing needs of humanity at home and in the mission fields; and there is also an address each evening on opportunities for life investment. Perhaps the main uplifting feature of the whole conference is the hearing of addresses from men who are great thinkers and real workers. It is no small privilege to be in a gathering where some of the best and strongest speakers of the nation are to be found.

Athletics
There are always a large number of Varsity athletes at the conference, making the athletic contests very interesting. A series of championship baseball games will be arranged between the colleges represented, and several afternoons will be devoted to competitive track meets. Clemson now holds the Championship Banner for track meets held at the Southern Student Conferences, and her ability in this line is always recognized in the meets. Tennis tournaments will also be held between the players from the
various colleges. Appropriate pennants or banners are always awarded to the winning players or teams in these contests.

Speakers

Among the list of prominent speakers who will be at the Conference this June are:

Dr. J. R. Mott, Secretary of the World’s Student Christian Federation.

Dr. T. R. Glover, Lecturer in Cambridge University, England.

Dr. H. H. Horne, University of the City of New York.

President E. M. Poteat, Furman University.

President W. L. Poteat, Wake Forest College.

Prof. C. W. Steed, Mercer University.

Dr. T. B. Ray, Secretary of the Baptist Mission Board, Richmond, Va.

Dr. John J. Tigert, University of Kentucky.

Representation

The widespread interest in this conference is shown by the fact that all of the best Southern colleges always have large delegations at the Blue Ridge meeting. Vanderbilt is making an effort to send 50 students. The University of Virginia, Georgia, South Carolina, Tennessee, Kentucky, and Mississippi—all these universities send large delegations. Even Georgia Tech will have a large crowd up there. There were nine men from Clemson at Blue Ridge last June. How about sending fifteen or twenty this June? Can’t you go?

The Expenses

Reduced rates on the railroads are always available for this conference. The round-trip rate from Spartanburg, to which point all Clemson delegates will probably wish to return on the home trip, will be about $2.50; board at Robert E. Lee Hall, the Hotel on the Blue Ridge grounds will be $12.50 for the ten days. Some board, too, believe me! This far, we have reached the sum total of $15.00. In addition to this, there will be a Conference registration fee of $3.00, which goes for securing the speakers, paying off the help, and such things as that. This brings us, then, in our computation, to the munificent amount, $20, which may be considered the outside absolute cost. We are now in position to consider what may be termed ‘extrys’, by which one means hack-fare, laundry, a dish of ice-cream, or a box of crackers between meals. Take a man who is what we might call lousy with the mazuma—or “flush” if we use a more dignified phraseology—and such a man might spend five dollars for these mere decorations, while another man with a lean look and an eye to bargains might come out on two-sixtyfive. But anyhow, the whole trip should not cost more than $22.50 at the outside. And you can take it from those who have been, you will get your money’s worth.

ONCE UPON A TIME

The cost of living was quite low,
Once upon a time.
We used to save a little dough,
Once upon a time.
We can recall it didn’t take
A dollar bill to buy a steak;
We didn’t spend all we could make,
Once upon a time.

The women all dressed sensibly,
Once upon a time.
They were as modest as could be,
Once upon a time.
They didn’t wear the low-necked gown
When walking on the street downtown,
And skirts so tight they couldn’t sit down,
Once upon a time.

The people danced with ease and grace
Once upon a time.
They didn’t scramble round the place,
Once upon a time.
They danced in manner meant to please,
Not on their elbows and their knees.
They turned no handsprings in the breeze,
Once upon a time.

Hysteria was not a fad,
Once upon a time.
The folks were not sensation mad,
Once upon a time.
They were quite strong on sanity,
And it is very plain to see
Things are not what they used to be,
Once upon a time.

—Chicago Post.

Notice—Prof. Morrison’s chickens have cholera. Fellows, beware.

Prof. Holmes: “Mr. Smoke, who is boss of the democratic machine in New York?”
Cadet Smoke: “Mr. Hall, sir.”
Prof. Holmes: “What Mr. Hall?”
Cadet Smoke: “Mr. Tammany Hall.”
The activities of the Association were presented, and all were invited to take part in them whether they became members of the Y. M. C. A. or not. An effort was made to show the students that the Y. M. C. A. is their organization, and that the success or failure of it depends entirely upon the interest and support of the students themselves. Those who knew already what the Association stands for and what it undertakes to do, were urged to pay the membership fee and become allied with the organization. Others were urged to wait until they had learned more about the Association and were in position to say whether or not it was worthy of their support. In response to this announcement, one hundred and fifty-three students have paid the membership fee in full, while a few others have paid a part of the fee.

Those who are familiar with the Association’s work in the past, may notice that the membership this year has not been as large as in some former years. But it is the opinion of those who have been most familiar with this year’s work, that the membership has been more truly representative of the Y. M. C. A. spirit than at any time in the Association’s previous history.

Bible Study
Two hundred and ninety-three men were enrolled in the three courses of voluntary Bible study offered by the Association.

Most of these men were organized in small congenial groups, led by older and more experienced students, while two other classes were organized and conducted in connection with the Chapel Sunday School. One of these classes was led by Dr. Brackett, the other by Dr. Riggs. The class which was led by Dr. Riggs is considered the most efficient in the character of work done as well as in point of attendance, that our Bible Study department has known. There were twenty-two men on the roll and the actual attendance averaged twenty at each meeting of the class.

There were seventeen of the small groups led by students, and the seventeen leaders were trained in a Normal class which was led by Mr. Mills.

The attendance at all classes for an extended period—two months or longer—was seventy per cent. of the total enrollment.

A somewhat different method has been followed in the Bible Study department this session, in that the first half of the College year was given over primarily to Bible Study; an average of one Sunday night service each month being devoted to an address or Stereopticon lecture on some Mission theme.

Four delegates and the Secretary were sent to the State Bible Institute.

Missions
The Mission activities are just now getting under way. Over one hundred men have been enrolled in the study of missions, and there are three classes already well organized. Two of these classes meet at the Sunday School hour, and are connected with the Chapel Sunday School, while a third large...
group meets after the Y. M. C. A. service on Sunday evenings.

The courses which are being studied in these classes are Speer’s “South American Problems,” and Brown’s “The Chinese Revolution.”

Community Service

Members of the Community Service committee have conducted two rural Sunday School classes in the neighborhood of the College throughout the session. At the Old Stone Church Sunday School, the interest had begun to decrease to such an extent that there was a likelihood of its being discontinued; but just recently a new member has been added to the committee, and so earnest has been the effort, that there has been a revival of interest and the work is progressing well. The decrease in interest at Stone Church was due to the fact that no resident in the community was especially interested in the work. And such a condition always makes it much more difficult for the students who have opportunity of reaching the people only once a week.

The young men who have had charge of the work at Keowee have been more fortunate in that they have had the cordial cooperation of a few really capable leaders from the neighborhood. This Sunday School has done good work all the year; and the weekly attendance is most encouraging.

Work for New Students

As usual, letters of welcome were sent out to the Prospective students about ten days before the opening of College. An invitation to join the Association was given by the General Secretary, and each man was invited to make himself at home in the Y. M. C. A. rooms, whether he joined the Association or not. The Y. M. C. A. Handbook, containing much useful information regarding life at the College, was sent to each new student.

A committee of cadets met all trains at Cherrys and at Calhoun during the opening days of the session, and directed the men to the Main Building for registration. Another committee was in waiting to conduct them to the room to which they had been assigned and to assure each man that he might call at the Y. M. C. A. office or on any member of this committee for any information desired.

Social

The usual College Night exercises were held at the opening of the session. These exercises have always proved a great help to all the College activities, and they were well attended. The primary purpose of it is to teach the new students the college songs and yells and to present to them the various phases of college life.

The annual banquet for the members of the Association was not given this year because of the depleted condition of the Treasury; but from time to time, the Bible classes held social gatherings in the regular place of meeting. Supplies for these social gatherings were obtained from the Y. M. C. A. store, which is under the direction of the Social Committee.

This store continues to be both popular and profitable. By means of it, we have been able to finish all payments on our piano, to meet all of our back indebtedness, and to have funds on hand to meet our current expenses. The treasurer’s report will show the exact amount in our budget that has come from this source.

Under the activities of the Social committee, might be mentioned also the moving picture shows which have been given twice a week during the session. Though this activity was entered upon with the primary object of raising funds for the treasury, it has been plain from the start, that we were providing a wholesome form of recreation and enjoyment for the student body. The Greenville Film Exchange, through which we obtain our films regularly, has been instructed to send us only the cleanest variety of films for our use; and they have always done so. Many of them are without doubt, instructive and educational; and Dr. Weatherford, Mr. Geo. Irving, and other men who have visited the show with the Secretary, have pronounced this variation from the standard Y. M. C. A. activities a thing thoroughly worth the doing. The Y. M. C. A. hall, as it is arranged now, is most suitable for these shows; and though this use was not considered in the original planning, we believe it is accomplishing its end of furnishing a place of amusement for the students in a larger way at present than would be possible were it crowded with checker and domino tables.

Religious Meetings

Under the head of Religious Meetings should be included all weekly Sunday night services, prayer meetings, and the evangelistic campaign by Dr. Weatherford.

Our Sunday night services, on the whole, have been well attended. Among the most attractive speakers who have been with us this year are: Ex. Gov. Ansel, Hon. Jos. A. McCullough; Prof. Clinkscales; W. D. Weatherford; George Irving; Prof. Daniels; Dr. R. E. Gaines; Dr. Jones, of Atlanta; Dr. Hines, of Seneca; and Prof. Shannon. Each of these men has brought a vital message to the students; those of Dr. Hines and Prof. Shannon being regarded as some of the most helpful that have been heard here. Indeed, a man who is not a member of the Y. M. C. A. was heard to make a statement to that effect only this week. In addition to the splendid lectures which Prof. Shannon gave while here, much good resulted from the large number of his books which were sold to the students.

No special mention of Dr. Weatherford’s meetings need be made at this time. All Clemson students are so familiar with him and his powerful messages that there is no necessity for trying to explain their beneficial results. It may be of interest, however, to hear of the decisions that were made. There were in all one hundred and twenty decisions: 75 made the decision for the Christian life; 17 made the decision to unite with the Church; 25 made the decision to unite with a Bible class; and 42 made the decision to do personal work. All of the men who made the decision to do personal work, were called together, and the entire list of the men who had made decisions was read to them; each man of them selecting certain of the list whom he knew, and agreeing to speak...
personally to him about joining a Bible class, or the church, or to help him in any possible way. The names of the men who decided to unite with the church were given to the four ministers, and they were urged to look after the men personally. The meeting resulted also in adding a number of new men to our Bible class rolls.

Another of our religious meetings was held at noon on Friday during Dr. Vines’ stay in the community. Dr. Vines made a wonderfully strong appeal on the subject: “The Clean Life,” and concluded with a most effective appeal on the subject of swearing. At the conclusion, nearly four hundred men arose to their feet in evidence of their having made the decision to try “by the grace of God, to discontinue all swearing and to help others quit.” During Prof. Shannon’s stay, the Clemson I-don’t-swear Club was organized. Throughout the week during which the cadets were allowed to wear the button on their uniforms, 428 buttons were worn, as evidence that the wearer was trying to quit all swearing.

Special groups of men have been called together from time to time for the purpose of prayer. Besides these special groups, there have been a number, varying from 15 to 25 students, who have gathered in the Y. M. C. A. Hall each morning after breakfast, for Scripture reading and prayer. This group has grown and is growing now, entirely by personal work on the part of those who attend. Four students met one night with the Secretary for a special prayer service, and at this meeting it was decided to begin this daily morning prayer service, and to invite to it certain men who we felt would enter into it with the right spirit and would let it become a real power in their lives. It is still increasing in numbers, and is not only interesting to Y. M. C. A. members, but is reaching several men who are not members.

We have had an address already on “Principles that Should Govern in Choice of a Life Work”; and it is our purpose to have men who are prominent in the various professions and in business to discuss those careers as life-callings. Our object shall not be to call men to these careers, but to show them how they may do Christian service even tho they do not hold the call to the ministry or other distinctively religious pursuits.

Another phase of our religious meetings which has proved most popular, is the stereopticon lectures. We have found that our best meetings have been of this character, and from the large crowds of cadets who attend, as well as from the marked attention to the lectures, we are sure that these meetings are productive of quite as good results as are the majority of our set addresses. It is our purpose to enlarge on this phase of our religious meetings, and to arrange for serial illustrated lectures.

Confereces
At the Southern Students’ Conference last June, Clemson was represented by 7 cadets, one minister and the general secretary.

We hope to take at least 15 cadets and several members of the Faculty, if possible, this June.

Four cadets and the secretary attended the State Bible and Mission Conference at Columbia last October.

Four men represented Clemson at the World’s Student Volunteer Convention at Kansas City, during the Christmas holidays. On their return, reports of the Convention were given in the College chapel and in three of the churches of the surrounding towns.

We hope that the Conference this June will be attended by a large number of our strongest students, for we realize that this is the source of the greatest inspiration that can come to our workers.

Treasurer’s Report to April 1, 1914

Expenditures

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<td>Incidents</td>
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<td>Missions</td>
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<td>Conference expenses</td>
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Total expenditures            $1881.74

Resources

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<td>Store and moving pictures</td>
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Total resources                $1881.74

Statement showing financial standing of Y. M. C. A. up to April 1, 1914.

Amount needed April 1, to June 15, 1914 $350.00

A. R. Boyd, Treas.
NOTICE

Owing to the fact that this issue had been previously given over to the Y. M. C. A. exclusively, the trip to Rock Hill and all of its wonderful events will be clearly covered with detail accounts of all happenings in next week's issue.

Don't fail to see next week's issue. All about the trip to Rock Hill and Winthrop. Don't miss it.

THE COBURN PLAYERS

The announcement of the coming of The Coburn Players in classic repertoire under the auspices of the Y. M. C. A. of Clemson College will be of interest to those who have seen these distinguished players during the ten years that they have been appearing in this country. They have chosen the best classical masterpieces for local production, ranging from the strongest dramatic action to the most refined comedy. The productions which will be brought here will be complete in every way and the company will include twenty-five players, each of whom has been recognized in his or her particular line of work.

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COST—Approximate cost for board, room, lights, heat, water, laundry, uniforms, and all fees for the session, except tuition, $134. Tuition, $30 additional.

SCHOLARSHIPS—108 four-year Agricultural and Textile scholarships. Age requirements 16 years or over. $1 one-year Agricultural scholarships. Age requirement, 18 years or over.

Value of scholarships, $100.00 per session and free tuition. Scholarship and entrance examinations will be held July 10, at each county court house in South Carolina. For information, write at once to W. M. RIGGS, President, Clemson College, South Carolina.

Clemson College expends over $100,000 annually for State work, such as Fertilizer Inspection and Analysis, Veterinary and Entomological Inspection, Tick and Cholera Eradication, Agricultural and Textile Scholarships, Branch Stations, and other lines of public service.

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