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ROLLINS RECORD

VOL. II

Rollins, the oldest College in Florida,
yet with its future all before it.

No. 2

NOVEMBER, 1928

MEMOS

THE winter course of Tuesday evening entertainments opened November 13th with a Schubert Concert given by the Rollins Conservatory of which Mr. Clarence C. Nice is the Director. The concert was a brilliant musical affair and drew a crowded house. ◇

If you are to be anywhere in Florida during the last week in February you should not miss the Rollins Mid-winter Convocation on February 23, or the "Literary Vespers" on the 25th when the third annual issue of the "*Rollins Animated Magazine*" will be presented. Instead of setting up and illustrating the Magazine, the authors are invited to appear in person and read their contributions. Announcement of the "contents" of this "*Animated Magazine*" will be made later. ◇

Next year five Rollins students will have the benefit of Scholarships at Foreign Universities. These scholarships are granted by the Institute of International Education and include all expenses except transportation.

INSTITUTE OF STATESMANSHIP

THE first session of the "Institute of Statesmanship" will be held in Winter Park, Florida, from Monday, March 25, 1929, to Friday, March 29, 1929. The Institute will be conducted under the auspices of Rollins College. The topic chosen for discussion at the first session of the Institute is: "*The Future of Party Government in the United States.*"

The Institute of Statesmanship will be held in a part of the country which is just awakening to a lively interest in broad questions of national and international policy. Each session of the Institute will bring together from various parts of the country academic experts and men of practical affairs.

On each of the five-days session there will be Round-Table and Open-Forum Conferences in the forenoon, participation being restricted to active members. The afternoons will be given over to recreation and contacts of a more informal character. In the evening there will be addresses by persons of national reputation and authority, which will be open to the general public.

Winter Park is ideally located for the holding of the Institute. There are three luxurious winter hotels; a balmy semi-tropical climate, eighteen lakes within the city limits for boating, bathing, and fishing, a sporty golf course, a Little Theatre and many other cultural activities.

Communications should be addressed to:

INSTITUTE OF STATESMANSHIP
LELAND HAMILTON JENKS, *Executive Secretary*
Winter Park, Florida

COLLEGE LIBRARY GROWS

READERS of "*The Record*" have responded generously to the appeal in the June issue for books for our College Library.

Already we have received more than 5,000 volumes which have greatly enriched our library facilities. The largest gift of nearly 2,000 books on English literature was from Dr. Fred Lewis Pattee, the distinguished teacher, author, and editor, who comes to Rollins January 1st as Professor of American Literature.

Another large and valuable gift of nearly 1,000 volumes came from Mrs. Stephens Dows Thaw of Harrisburg, Pa. Other gifts of books range from single volumes to a few hundred books, all of which have been keenly appreciated.

If there are other friends of Rollins College who have books—or an entire private library—that has served its purpose, you can make them of lasting service by forwarding them to the Rollins College Library. A library is the heart of a cultural college such as Rollins.

The remodeling of the library is now completed and the new reading and study room (40x60) is daily crowded with eager students. Shipment of books should be by freight.



Ten foreign countries are now represented in the Rollins student body.

SOCRATES SITS UPON THE LOG

By LELAND HAMILTON JENKS, PH.D.

Professor of History, Rollins College

Extracts from a recent article in "The Nation,"
New York.

If there is hope for an intellectual *renaissance* in the United States, one of its most promising signs is the zeal with which the college world is engaged in self-criticism. The more venturesome of the many experimenters are not only hoping to reorganize the curriculum but are also seeking to break through the routine of the time-honored lecture-and-quiz methods of instruction. None perhaps has broken so completely with classroom tradition in this respect as has Rollins College at Winter Park, Florida, under the leadership of Hamilton Holt.

It is nothing new for Rollins to be a pioneer. When the college was founded in 1885 under the auspices of a group of Congregationalists from New England, it was the only institution of higher learning in Florida. It was the first liberal college in the Far South. Through many difficulties the college was kept true to this generous faith.

Three years ago the college undertook a further mission. Dr. Hamilton Holt, former editor of the "*Independent*," co-founder of the League to Enforce Peace, and leader in numerous enterprises for international co-operation was offered the Rollins presidency. Although his career had previously been that of a publicist, President Holt had some well-defined ideas about education. And his freshness to the academic world emboldened him to launch an attempt at Rollins to get back to first principles in the relations of teachers and students.

Briefly, Dr. Holt proposed to banish the lecture and recitation wholly from the campus, as the normal methods of instruction. He proposed to provide each department and instructor with a laboratory or workshop, equipped with the tools,

books and conveniences for study. Here it was hoped that students and teachers would work together, the former learning especially from the contagion of common intellectual undertakings. It was a thoroughgoing application to the college field of what is frequently called the "project-method" in discussions of secondary education.

Instruction has come at Rollins to be a matter of conference, suggestion, and guidance, with the student placed increasingly upon his own initiative and held responsible for the results.

Whatever Dr. Holt has started at Rollins, it is not a cut-and-dried system. He has given able instructors who were dissatisfied with older methods an opportunity to experiment with more direct means of promoting the intellectual and aesthetic development of their students. And the admitted results have encouraged the indefinite continuance of the experiment.

It was not easy at the outset to bring students and teachers to realize the full implications of this sweeping break with time-honored college teaching methods. To assist the Conference idea in making its way upon the campus, a departure was instituted in the length of the class periods. Instead of meeting for three one-hour periods a week, classes were scheduled for the same number of periods, two hours in length, for the same credit. The college day was divided into three such conference periods, which, together with a period for athletics in the afternoon, were expected to place the required activities of the school upon an "eight-hour business day."

As the college attracts to it, as it is doing, the type of students best able to become master of their own education, this particular mechanism is certain to undergo considerable modification. In practice it is safe to say that there is not a student on the campus who actually performs all his required college work, not to say all that he is moved to do, within the strict and exclusive limits of the office-worker's day. The Conference idea will triumph over the time-clock as well as over the lock-step.

ROLLINS NEEDED ENDOWMENT

FEW people realize the tremendous sacrifice that has been made and is being made to carry forward the educational program here at Rollins. This is the third year of successful operation of the Rollins Conference Plan which has resulted not only in attracting students from thirty different states and ten foreign countries, but has quickened the intellectual life of the entire student body. For most of the students at Rollins, going to college has become a real Adventure, and the intimate and informal contact between the faculty and students has proved an inspiration to both.

The approval and adoption of this Conference Plan of teaching by other colleges as a substitute for the old lecture and quiz system is further evidence of its soundness and practicability. Here is an opportunity for some forward-looking friend of education to make an investment that will yield generous dividends of satisfaction for the rest of his life and go on building character and citizenship to the end of time.

The present meagre endowment of the college of less than \$650,000 is woefully inadequate to meet the needs of the increasing student body. Florida is our last frontier, and money invested now in Christian education in Florida will largely determine the future character of our citizenship. Rollins *immediate need* is for increased endowment. Perhaps you—or some friend of yours—would be interested in discussing the matter with President Holt.

"THE BEST TEACHER"

From a Recent Editorial in the New York "Herald Tribune."

DR. HAMILTON HOLT, who was a nationally known editor before he became president of Rollins College in Winter Park, Florida, has said recently that "the best teacher in most colleges is the football coach."

He meant it for a reflection on our system of higher education, which it is. But whose is the fault? Not that of the students, certainly, who are as clay in the hands of the potter. Nor that of the coach, whose business it is to teach his pupils the subject to the "chair" of which he has been appointed at a handsome salary. Nor yet that of the public which rewards football prowess far more sumptuously than facility in the classics. Probably it is no one's fault. The blame belongs to an utter misconception, traditionally entrenched, of adolescent interest, a misconception which perpetuates the notion that boys and girls with the ichor of youth pumping in their veins can prefer a "liberal education" to something that represents a storming of their environments. Success at football is a symbol of victory in the game of life.

Possibly the answer is that the facilities of our educational institutions should be made to relate themselves in spirit to the point of view and ambitions of the young people under them who demand a show of vitality for every exercise of the intellect.

ROLLINS "WINTER SCHOOL"

THE coming session of Rollins "Winter School" (January 2 to March 23) promises to be unusually attractive and well attended. Courses are being offered in Art, Drama, Economics, Education, Florida Archaeology, History, Modern Languages, Science and Music, by a faculty of forty members.

Among the distinguished teachers giving courses are Irving Bacheller, General Robert Lee Bullard, Jessie B. Rittenhouse, Clinton Scollard, Count Sforza, Edward E. Slosson, Gerald Barry and Fred Lewis Pattee.

Regular students in other colleges wishing to take courses in the Rollins "Winter School" can do so and receive full credit for work done at Rollins. They would have the benefit of three winter months in the semi-tropic climate of Florida, and a term of work under the Rollins Conference Plan of teaching, which has been substituted for the old lecture and quiz method.

A limited number of "special students" can be admitted, and arrangements made for individual instruction in the Rollins Conservatory of Music.

A Bulletin of the "Winter School" will be sent on request.

The College Catalogue and Illustrated Booklet on Winter Park will be sent by the Registrar on request. Rollins is a member of the Southern Association of Colleges.

I Published monthly during the school year by Rollins College. Entered as second-class matter November 23, 1927, at the post office at Winter Park, Florida, under the act of August 24, 1912. Shall we add your name to our mailing list? **I**