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ROLLINS RECORD

VOL. V.

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

No. 2

DECEMBER, 1931

MEMOS

THE Grand Prize of \$100 offered by the Florida Federation of Art for the best piece of work exhibited at its recent Convention at Jacksonville was won by Hugh MacKean with his portrait "Boy with a Cup." Mr. MacKean graduated from Rollins in 1930.

The Sculpture prize was won by Ruth Harris, a sophomore at Rollins, and the prize for the best etching or print was won by Janet Cadman Sharp of the class of 1930 at Rollins.



Rollins football season this year was the most successful in its history, the season closing with only one defeat.



The Rollins Broadcasting Program over WDBO is directed by Professor H. R. Pierce, Professor of Public Speaking. You are invited to listen in on any Wednesday evening from eight to eight-thirty or on Friday evening from nine-fifteen to nine forty-five, E. S. T.

ROLLINS DEBATERS

ON December 15 Rollins had the honor of being host to the debating team from Oxford University, England, which has been touring the country.

The Oxford Team consisted of John Archibald Boyd-Carpenter, who graduated from Oxford in 1930. He is the son of Sir Archibald Boyd-Carpenter, a member of the Conservative Party, and a former Secretary to the Treasury in the British Government. The other member of the Oxford Team was John Foot, a son of Sir Isaac Foot, a member of the Liberal delegation at the recent Indian Round Table Conference. He is a graduate of Oxford with an Honor Degree in Law.

The Rollins Team consisted of Charles Brooks, a senior at Rollins, and Maurice Dreicer, a sophomore at Rollins.

The question debated was "RESOLVED, *that the Press is Democracy's Greatest Danger.*"

The decision went to the Oxford Team who spoke for the affirmative of the question.

In January the Rollins Debating Team leaves for several weeks trip during which they expect to debate with such colleges as William and Mary, Columbia, Yale, Harvard, Bates, Western Reserve, Ohio University, Amherst, Williams, and a number of others.

Debating has developed into an important undergraduate activity at Rollins under the coaching of Harry Raymond Pierce, Professor of Public Speaking.

WHAT IS HAPPENING AT ROLLINS*

By EDWIN OSGOOD GROVER
Professor of Books

WHEN Dr. Hamilton Holt accepted the presidency of Rollins six years ago, he discovered one of the unique educational opportunities in the United States. Here was Florida, the oldest state in the Union—and yet the youngest—endowed with a thrilling history under the flags of five nations; a climate that is almost unsurpassed in the world; a state of limitless and unexploited natural wealth, one that is certain within the next twenty-five years, to rank as one of our great commonwealths.

Few colleges possess such a beautiful geographical setting as does Rollins. Winter Park, with 3,500 population, is regarded as the most attractive small city in Florida. There are eighteen lakes *within* the city limits, four of which are connected by canals, providing an eight-mile course for canoeing or motor boating. The Rollins College campus consists of forty-five acres and has nearly a half-mile frontage on Lake Virginia.

Perhaps the most notable progress that Rollins has made under the presidency of Dr. Hamilton Holt has been in the development of its faculty from twenty-nine to sixty-five members, and the modernizing of its curriculum and teaching methods. Remembering his own experience at Yale and Columbia, where

*—Extracts from an illustrated article on Rollins College in the October issue of *Banta's Greek Exchange*, the Interfraternity Journal.

lectures and quizzes constituted the routine of the classroom, President Holt sought to devise a teaching method less formal and more human and friendly. He found it in what he calls the "Conference Plan," which is simply a reversion to the method of Socrates on the streets of Athens, and that supposed to have been used by President Mark Hopkins of Williams, while seated on his mythical "log." There is nothing new or mysterious about the Conference Plan of instruction. It is nothing more than a device to *humanize teaching*, to bring the student and the professor together for two-hour periods, on a friendly basis to share in a joint educational adventure. It does away with the formal lecture and recitation systems, although any professor is free to lecture at any time if occasion requires. The Conference Plan tends to develop self-reliance, independent thinking and resourcefulness, and after a six years trial it has justified itself in the opinion of both the students and the faculty.

"The Rollins Plan", however, includes more than a change in teaching methods. It includes a modernized curriculum, which places the work of the students on the basis of *achievement* rather than on the *time* spent on the course, the *marks* secured, or the *credits* accumulated. This plan was formulated by the faculty following the "Conference on the Curriculum for a Cultural College" held at Rollins during January, 1931, at which Dr. John Dewey presided, and which was attended by fifteen noted educators from all parts of the country.

Throughout the winter the college provides free Tuesday evening lectures, while the Symphony Orchestra of fifty-three pieces presents a series of six concerts, which attract music lovers from all parts of Florida.

During Founders' Week in February, the college "publishes" the *Rollins Animated Magazine*, the only magazine in America that "comes alive." Each distinguished contributor appears in person and reads his editorial, story, poem, or humorous sketch, before an audience of 5,000 people. The program is also broadcast on a national hookup.

A natural development of "The Rollins Plan" is the encouragement of creative writing. *The Flamingo*, the undergraduate literary magazine, compares favorably with that of any other college or university. *The Sandspur* is a full-sized weekly newspaper. There has recently been published by the Angel Alley Press the *Rollins Book of Verse*, an anthology of the work of twenty-two Rollins undergraduates, which has attracted wide attention. Three of our undergraduates have published small volumes of poetry, and Frank Doggett, then a junior at Rollins issued last summer, through Longmans Green and Company of New York, a critical study called *Dipped in Sky*. Christy Mackaye, a senior at Rollins, published this spring through Harper Brothers of New York, a volume of poetry called *Wind in the Grass*, with an Introduction by Edwin Arlington Robinson.

Sinclair Lewis, in his Stockholm address accepting the Nobel Prize in literature, listed

Rollins first of all the colleges in the United States that were doing most to encourage creative work in contemporary literature.

The most significant evidence of the recent growth and influence of Rollins is the fact that this year its student body is drawn from thirty-six states and eleven foreign countries.

It is also significant that fifty-nine students transferred from forty-nine other institutions to Rollins this fall. Thus Rollins is in a very real sense a national institution, if not international, in character.

The material growth of Rollins during the past five years has been steady but not spectacular. In spite of the fact that the tuition has been gradually raised from \$100 to \$400, the student body has more than doubled. President Holt has added a million dollars to the general endowment fund. All of the older buildings on the campus have been modernized. In addition to this, Rollins Hall for men was constructed in 1920, and Mayflower and Pugsley Halls for girls in 1930. These three new dormitories are built in Mediterranean architecture, which is the established style of the New Rollins.

The new Knowles Memorial Chapel, which will be one of the most beautiful church edifices in the South is nearing completion. This chapel has been designed by Cram and Ferguson of Boston, America's greatest ecclesiastical architects.

Mrs. Edward A. Bok has recently presented Rollins with \$100,000 for a theater to be named in honor of her life-long friend, Annie Russell, the famous actress whose home is now in Winter Park.

The intimate contacts between the faculty and the students have resulted in an intellectual ferment that surprises visitors. President Holt has succeeded in bringing something of the spirit of happiness and adventure back into education.

CREATIVE WORK AT ROLLINS

IT is not possible to illustrate here the creative work that is being done at Rollins in the fields of Art, Music, Play Writing, and Play Production. The following poem appeared in a recent issue of *Scribner's Magazine* and is included in "Wind in the Grass", a volume of poems by Miss MacKaye recently published by Harper & Brothers of New York. The volume has an introduction by Edward Arlington Robinson. Miss MacKaye is now a senior at Rollins.

EARTH MELODY

By CHRISTY MACKAYE

*One day I heard a clear sonorous reed
Played by a boy in wheat fields all alone:
Each note upon the air a scarlet bead,
No joy or sorrow, only birds of tone
Pricking the cords of thought until they bleed
And in the heart's deep earth red seed are sown.*

*And in the quiet after, I heard, more
Than skies or meadows ever told before:
Cool consolation and a flock of pities
For hearts that drink the nourishment of pain
In music from the trees' small tongues, and cities
Of busy crickets, and from the tread of rain.*

*Often I listen to music of man's lore
But seldom pause, as then, on the brink of day
To speak with trees and flowers along the way,
To listen to the sigh of fields, the rune
Of inlets where the waves go plodding through,
The untired birds' small penetrating tune
That winds write on a spider web with dew,
And the slow footfall of silence through the hours
To make articulate and fitly frame
So clear a springing as the will of flowers
Poured out upon the air to build a name.*

*The pace of the Bible's great grey language came
From contours of the wind, the sound of flame,
The loneliness we pity the old hills for,
Moulding the mind as oceans carve a shore;
But that and these were moulded by much more
Awfully moving among giant powers,
Yet speaking with most purity in flowers
As in that clear, untremorous music, blown
From a far reed in wheat fields all alone.*

ROLLINS' OPPORTUNITY

FORTY-SEVEN years ago Rollins' first great opportunity came to her. It was an opportunity for service.

For forty-seven years Rollins has been "getting ready". The day of her greatest opportunity is here. Rollins is indeed a small college and intends to remain small, having definitely limited her enrollment to 700 carefully selected students. With a faculty of 70 gifted teachers—one for each ten students—Rollins proposes to establish a new fellowship of learning; to unite the teachers and the students in a new bond of intellectual endeavor; to make the acquisition of learning the *joint adventure* of both professors and students.

The Conference Plan of teaching which was inaugurated at Rollins six years ago has already produced remarkable results and proved that the New Rollins is worthy of its past; and worthy of the interest and financial support of all those who are concerned for the welfare of our Democracy.

There are few, if any, educational institutions in the United States, where gifts pay larger dividends than at Rollins. Perhaps you would like to make an "investment" in the Rollins of the future, either by a cash gift or by remembering Rollins when you draw your "last will and testament." What more satisfying memory could you take with you—and what more beautiful "memorial" could you leave behind?

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Shall we add your name to our mailing list?