

Weiner

(Continued from Page 1)

don Mathematical Society, and in 1931-32 served as lecturer at the University of Cambridge.

A graduate of Tufts College in the class of 1909, Dr. Wiener received his doctorate from Harvard University in 1913. He has carried on advanced studies at Cornell, Columbia, and the Universities of Cambridge, Gottingen and Copenhagen. He joined the staff of M. I. T. in 1919 and in 1932 was appointed to full professorship.

The National Tsing Hua University is one of the largest in China, and is maintained by indemnity funds which the United States returned to that country for educational purposes following the Boxer Rebellion. It has a distinguished faculty, and from time to time entertains eminent men in various academic fields as visiting members of its staff. Among them have been Professor George D. Birkhoff of the mathematics department at Harvard, the Indian poet, Rabindranath Tagore, Bertrand Russell, the French mathematician, Hadamard, and the French physicist, Langevin.

Student Dictators Murder Professor In "Independence Day" Celebration

Editor's Note: This is the sixth and final installment of "That Was College Life," by Morris Mishop, reprinted from the New Yorker by special permission.

An Independence Day

The history of the University of Virginia has a certain sanguinary charm. In the thirties, the boys organized a military company. The faculty, fearing, perhaps, a student military dictatorship, ordered their charges to surrender their firearms. The young cadets voted: "Resolved, that we have our arms and intend to keep them." This was Saturday, November 12, 1836. Until Sunday night, the students had the campus to themselves. They fired off most of their ammunition, broke into the professors' houses, and amused themselves with the inmates. The hurly-burly was at length calmed by the arrival of the state troops.

The faculty dismissed those students who were known or suspected of being the rioters, and allowed them to return to good scholastic standing only on the acknowledgment of error and the promise of reform. These terms were regarded by the Virginia gentlemen as humiliating. They were published by the faculty's chairman, Professor John A. G. Davis, and he was regarded as personally responsible.

For several years thereafter the students celebrated the anniversary of the riot as a holy day in the history of student self-government. The celebrations reached their climax, on November 12, 1840, with the shooting and killing of Professor Davis. A contemporary student's letter says: "There

were only two rioters seen, who had been firing blank cartridges about the doors of the professors, masked and disguised. The two passed freely within a few feet of the peaceful students, completely concealed by their disguises, when one of the students told them to take care, as Mr. Davis was on the watch, near his house. One of the two immediately walked down that way, loading his pistol; but, in addition to the former charge of powder, he was seen to put in a ball, ramming it down against the wall of the house as he went. Nobody at that time, however, suspected anything, or felt himself authorized to interfere."

Heedless, carefree youth! They aren't really bad at heart, they are just scatterbrained; they suspect nothing when a companion loads his pistol with ball.

As Professor Davis lay dying, he was asked if he knew his assailant's name. He replied that he knew it perfectly well, but he refused to tell. A student named Simms was finally arrested and charged with murder. He forfeited his bail.

Ah well, let us not be prim about the failings of youth. Life ran lusty in the veins in those halcyon days of the past; and today it is sweet to look back on the brave world gone by, when college life was careless and bold, and the golden hours were filled with malicious mischief, assault and battery, and homicide. The professors need not be so despondent about student conduct when the present undergraduates paint the Founder's statue pink or kick over the professorial ashcans.

Union

(Continued from Page 1)

method of dividing the house. In the past, provision was made only for those definitely favoring one or the other side of the question. At this meeting, those who have no predetermined opinions will also be accommodated.

Problem Is Old One

The problem of reconciling religion with scientific discovery is one which has troubled mankind ever since the eighteenth century, when the insistence of intellectual leaders on the rationalistic method produced widespread skepticism of religion and kindred movements depending mainly on faith.

It is furthermore a problem peculiar to the student in engineering and scientific fields, since it is commonly claimed that the pursuits in his field of endeavor are constantly leading away from religion. It is a discussion of the truth of this vital fact that the Union faces tomorrow evening.

The familiar procedure of short speeches by the two opposing teams, and open forum discussion from the floor will again be followed.

James Means

(Continued from Page 1)

and accessories, or in the application of physical, chemical, or mathematical science to the art of flight.

Candidates for the degree of Bachelor of Science who wish their theses to be considered for the James Means Prize are required to submit to Room 3-173 before May 1, 1935 an abstract of the thesis, together with a brief explanation of its aeronautical application.

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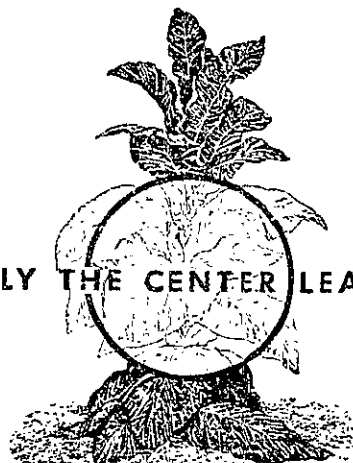


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