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## The Egyptian, February 01. 1959

Egyptian Staff

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History of the Daily Egyptian

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## THE EGYPTIAN

The Normal Gazette was the first newspaper in the history of Southern Illinois University. It was a monthly eight-page paper, printed by the Free Press Printing House of Carbondale, Illinois, in 1888 and 1889. The subscription price was fifty cents per year. In June of 1889, over a thousand copies of the Normal Gazette were printed, and the editor, J. T. Galbraith, planned to publish the third year of the Normal Gazette in a sixteen-page magazine format in 1890. For reasons unknown, the magazine apparently was never published.

For 27 years the school remained without a paper. In 1916, Robert Brown, a graduate of the class of 1913 actively promoted the idea. The Egyptian began publication as a monthly magazine at the subscription price of a dollar per year, and continued until publication was suspended in 1918 because of the First World War.

After three years, in the spring of 1921, the newly created Student Council revived the idea of a school paper, and started the publication of a weekly, four-column paper at the subscription price of a dollar per year. In June of 1921 the Southern Illinois Normal University Board of Directors vested full control of The Egyptian in an elected board of directors composed of one representative from each class. This board elected the editor, the associate editor, departmental editors, business manager, and faculty advisors. It

also handled all matters of policy and business concerning the paper. In May of 1923 The Egyptian became a charter member of the Illinois College Press Association and in January of 1930, became a member of the Columbia Scholastic Press Association. Four years later it affiliated with the Associated Collegiate Press and began carrying the Collegiate Digest in every issue.

The early years of publication were years of financial difficulties for The Egyptian. In 1925, for the first time since 1921, The Egyptian was able to announce that it was out of debt. Solvency was short lived, however, In 1931, at the beginning of the depression, advertising fell off and the paper once again passed into a period of financial problems. After the depression, the paper seems to have remained in good financial condition.

The Egyptian moved its printing contract from the Carbon-dale Herald to the Free Press Publishing Company in 1935, and again in 1936 to the Murphysboro Independent. The printing contract was then moved from one area paper to another on the basis of competitive bidding. In 1962, The Egyptian began printing on its own cold type by offset press.

The first major change in format was made in 1927-1928, when The Egyptian adopted a new artistic heading and increased its page size slightly. Page size increased again in 1934, 1935, and 1936, and then for fifteen years the format remained roughly the same in a standard newspaper size. The paper

produced its first summer issues in 1936, and in the following year sponsored Scarab, an annual literary supplement. (Scarab was published irregularly for several years; but by 1942, it was no longer associated with The Egyptian.) In 1950 The Egyptian published semi-weekly in a tabloid format; it returned to standard size in 1952. In 1961 it reverted to the tabloid format. Two years later, in 1963, The Egyptian became the Daily Egyptian, with publication on five days of the week. It has now become a well-established newspaper with a daily circulation of 10,000.

In the fall of 1947, The Egyptian had become a laboratory for journalism classes, with the extension of university credit for work done on The Egyptian. After fourteen years of close affiliation with the Department of Journalism, the publication of The Egyptian became the responsibility of that department.

Egyptian Editors

1916-17	Claude E. Vick
1917-18	Arthur Browne
1920-21	Guy W. McLain
1921-22	Earl Y. Smith
1922-23	D. Ransom Sherretz
1923-24	J. Lester Buford
1924-25	Howard S. Walker
1925-26	A. Marvin Owen
1926-27	Lemen Wells
1927-28	Troy L. Stearns
1928-29	Paul Robertson
1929-30	Roye R. Bryant
1930-31	Orville Alexander
1931-32	Norman Lovellette
1932-33	Elma Trieb
1933-34	Ruth Merz
1934-35	Frances Noel
1935-36	Vernon Crane
1936-37	Jasper Cross
1937-38	Glen Fulkerson
1938-39	Willard A. Kerr
1939-40	Jeannette Miller
1940-41	Wilbur R. Rice
1941-42	Harry Patrick
1942-43	Elizabeth Fairbairn
1943-44	Lillian Goddard

Egyptain Editors cont.

1944-45 Helen Mataya and Jeane Jacobs; James Dodd;  
Lillian Goddard

1945-46 Lillian Goddard; Betty Koontz; Mrs. William  
Hunter; Catherine Sullivan

1946-47 Catherine Sullivan; James Dodd

1947-48 Fred L. Senters

1948-49 Bill Plater

1949-50 Mary Alice Newsom Dell

1950-51 Bill Hollada

1951-52 Virginia Miller

1952-53 Barbara Von Behren

1953-54 Bob Brimm

1954-55 Jim Aiken

1955-56 Don Phillips

1956-57 Gene Cryer

1957-58 Don Hecke

1958-59 Joe Blewett

1959-60 Barbara Downen

1960-61 Joe Dill

1961-62 Dedrich G. Schumacher

1962-63 Eric Stottrup

1963-64 Nick Pasqual

1964-65 Editorial Conference