History of the Zetetic and Socratic Literary Societies of Southern Illinois Normal University, 1874-1941

Mae Trovillion Smith

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The Zetetic and Socratic Literary Societies
of
Southern Illinois Normal University

1874 ~ ~ 1941

by

Mae Truvillion Smith

1874 1949

Diamond Jubilee

Carbondale, Illinois
FOREWORD

At the suggestion of Mr. E. G. Lentz, chairman of the Diamond Jubilee Celebration, this booklet was prepared as a souvenir of the occasion, a tribute to the loyal alumni of the Zetetic and Socratic Literary Societies that have played such a vital part in the history of our school. The work of collecting and organizing the material has been a real pleasure. My only regret is that I was unable to include more of the fascinating history found in the old minutes of the Societies' record books. But to do ample justice to the work done by these two organizations extending over three score years would necessitate the writing of a much larger book than the one I have written in this abbreviated form.

My thanks and appreciation go to the alumni, both at home and abroad, for their gracious and prompt responses to my many inquiries. I am indebted to those at home for the loan of old programs and newspaper clippings, and to those away for their interesting letters giving reminiscent sidelights, historical and personal, not recorded in the minutes of the old secretary books.

Mae Trovillion Smith
Southern Illinois University

Carbondale, Illinois
June, 1949

Southern Illinois
University Library
The most important date in the history of our school was its first date, April 20, 1869. It was at that time that an act of the General Assembly of Illinois provided for the establishment of the Southern Illinois Normal University.

The second great date was July 2, 1874, when the school opened its doors to fifty-three students for a special summer session.

The third important date was September 19, 1874. That marked the actual beginning of an organization that was destined to have greater influence on the succeeding generations of students than did any other phase of their college life. The first fall term of school had hardly started when a small group of young men and women sent a petition to the Board of Trustees and the faculty, asking permission to organize a literary society at Southern Illinois Normal University.

The very wording of the plea was a testimony of their high purpose, their earnestness, and their sincerity in asking for an organization of their own, one which would supplement their classroom education with cultural influences and with practical application of their textbook knowledge.

A copy of the resolution in response to the petition and an account of the first meeting are found in the old Society records and are reproduced below exactly as they appear in the minutes.
Southern Illinois Normal University—Carbondale, Illinois, September 19th, A. D. 1874

On this day it appearing that a petition had gone forth to the Board of Trustees and Faculty of said University praying for a hall and leave to organize a Literary Society in said University, and it further appearing that R. H. Flannigan, one of the students of said University, had received an answer to said petition granting the prayer of petitioners to organize a society for literary purposes, whereupon the following named students of said University assembled in the North West Room in the Mansard story, to wit: Robert H. Flannigan, J. N. Brown, John Qualls, J. M. Reeder, S. A. Maxwell, H. Roberts, Mary Bright, N. E. Sherman, M. H. Eddy, Nellie Middleton, Ellen Underwood, Mr. J. R. Dean, C. E. Evans, E. E. Spragg, L. M. Kane, J. W. Law, D. G. Thompson, J. W. Osborn, W. A. Perse and J. E. Iles.

The assembly was called to order by R. H. Flannigan who stated the purpose of the meeting. Upon motion of Mr. Flannigan, J. N. Brown was elected temporary chairman. Upon motion of Mr. Maxwell, John Qualls was elected temporary secretary.

Upon motion by H. Roberts that a committee of three be appointed to draft constitution and by-laws, the chairman appointed John Qualls, S. A. Maxwell and R. H. Flannigan as a committee on constitution and by-laws.

Upon motion the society adjourned to meet Sept. 25th, 1874 at 7 o'clock P. M.

J. Qualls, Secretary
Society Hall, Southern Illinois Normal University, September 25th, 1874

Society met pursuant to adjournment, J. N. Brown in the chair.

On motion, the secretary, John Qualls, was instructed to take the names of those who desired to become members of the society. Whereupon the secretary proceeded to take and report the following named persons as desirous of becoming members of this society, to wit: Miss Mary Eddy, E. Sherman, M. Sherwood, H. Sherwood, and Mr. R. H. Flannigan, J. R. Dean, C. E. Stragg, L. M. Kane, J. N. Brown, J. W. Law, Miss Nettie Middleton, Mary Wright, Ellen Underwood, Mr. J. M. Reeder, D. J. Thompson, L. W. Osborn, S. A. Maxwell, W. A. Perse, John Qualls and J. E. Iles.

Committee on constitution and by-laws submitted their report showing that they had completed and herewith presented a constitution and by-laws for the government of the society. Which report upon motion was received and the committee discharged. Mr. Flannigan, a member of the committee, read the constitution and by-laws which after some argument were adopted by the society.

Upon motion the society proceeded to elect officers for the first term and upon ballot Miss Mary Wright was elected President; Miss E. Sherman, Vice President; John M. Reeder, Recording Secretary; Miss Nettie Middleton, Corresponding Secretary; John N. Brown, Treasurer; J. R. Dean, Critic; Miss E. Sherman and Mr. H. Roberts, Editors; R. H. Flannigan, Janitor.

On motion the President appointed H. Roberts, S. A. Maxwell and J. N. Brown as a committee on arrangements.

Upon motion the society adjourned to meet Oct. 2nd, 1874 at 7 o'clock P. M.
It is interesting to note that four of the officers of this first literary society, including the president, were women. Miss Wright in her speech of acceptance made a significant comment. "It is evident," she said, "why the ladies were given the important offices. It is well known that women are proverbial talkers, so we were put into positions to force us to keep still and allow you to do the talking. We will see that full justice is done to you on all occasions."

As is true in the early struggles of any great pioneer project, there were obstacles to overcome, involving numerous problems and discouragements. That first literary society began its activities in a bare room in the northwest corner of the Mansard story on the top floor of the Old Normal Building. The words of the petition stated, "praying for a hall and leave to organize a Literary Society." Actually, that is all they started with, "a hall and leave," and it was a bare hall—and dark! But they were a courageous group, and although the room was not equipped with furniture necessary for a club meeting, they did have a borrowed lamp and one long school bench. The hallways of the Old Normal Building were pitch dark on this particular evening back in September, 1874, and it was only with the help of lanterns carried by the students that they were able to grope their way up the three long flights of stairs and along the upper hall to the short stairway leading to the Mansard story.

One of the first items of business to be attended to was the selection of a name for this first society. The matter of selecting one worthy of such a literary enterprise provoked all kinds of debates and discussions. Finally, the term, Zetetic, a Greek word meaning "a seeker," was the name agreed upon. Yes, they were all seekers of knowledge. They must work to live up to that name, and they took a solemn vow, on that first evening, to uphold the ideals embodied in that word, Zetetic.
The next question to be voted on was a suitable motto, one which would be comprehensive enough to describe the purpose and meaning of the society and at the same time serve as an inspiration to the members. This matter entailed more thought and caused even more discussion than did the choosing of a name for the society. Finally, after much controversy over a variety of suggested mottoes, the subject was set aside while the members attended to more urgent business. Then someone offered a suggestion, feeling that some sort of creed or profession of faith was necessary to guide the society through the succeeding days until the next meeting. "Why not use a temporary motto describing our present situation and adopt 'Learn to Labor and To Wait'?

That motto proved to be no temporary one. It was later adopted and was soon appearing as a decoration spelled out with evergreen letters above the door, and finally in fancy scrolls on the Zetetic programs and diplomas. In fact, that motto disappeared from the old Zetetic room on the third floor of Main Building only three years ago when the ruthless painters redecorated the walls of the present English office.

As the membership increased and the programs became more elaborate, there was need for more officers in this Zetetic Literary Society. So, in addition to the original three officers, nine others were added. These were corresponding secretary, editor of the literary journal, treasurer, critic, librarian, usher, chorister, organist and chaplain.

Of all these, the critic and the recording secretary ranked in importance next to the president. The critic had the tremendous responsibility of jotting down in his little black book all mistakes made by speakers during the programs. No small job, this, when one considers that he had to catch every mistake in grammar and rhetoric, all errors in public speaking decorum, and all violations of rules in the parliamentary procedure.
Only those who ranked high in the English classes were nominated for this office.

The recording secretary gained his position by virtue of his excellence in penmanship. This officer usually out-SPencered Spencer in fancy Spencerian flourishes and shaded scrolls. The minutes found in the old secretary books of both societies are a living, though somewhat faded testimony of that fancy lettering, beautiful but dim, and almost illegible.

The treasurers of both societies had their troubles. It must be remembered that the literary societies were entirely on their own, without financial aid from either the faculty or the board of trustees. The necessary expenses for operating the society were paid from the initiation fee of one dollar, from dues of twenty-five cents, from fines ranging from five to twenty-five cents, and from small contributions of a very few members.

In the Zetetic minutes of October 16, 1874, there appears an itemized list of bills amounting to $30.40.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Two lamps and two tables.</td>
<td>$10.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two brooms</td>
<td>.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recording secretary's book</td>
<td>1.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lumber for stage</td>
<td>16.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hand lamps (lanterns)</td>
<td>.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oil can and oil</td>
<td>.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$30.40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Such were the early beginnings of the Zetetic Literary society. It was almost a whole year later that the socratic Society was organized. From an account written by the late Hon. W. H. Warder, one of the founders, we get the following story as it appeared in the Twenty-fifth Anniversary Souvenir:
It was early in the spring term of the year 1875, if my memory serves me right, that seventeen or eighteen young men, then students of the Normal, formed the plan of a literary society. All of them were from the country, and had been engaged, more or less, in debating societies and the "Literary" of the rural school districts. They were, however, backward about displaying their literary and oratorical abilities, and, up to that time, had hesitated about appearing publicly in such capacities at the Normal.

After a number of meetings, a committee was appointed to interview the faculty, and, with many misgivings, proceeded on their errand. The faculty, viewing the matter with very little concern, and not, at that time, recognizing the society work as a feature of the school, as it is now considered, thought it sufficient to allow the use of a large, bare room in the fourth or Mansard story of the old building. The old minute book, subsequently destroyed by fire, recited that a lamp was borrowed from Mrs. Joseph Warder for the first meeting. The only furniture provided was three or four recitation seats.

The members met together in the following week, and, from the small fund provided by membership fees, bought the material, and, with their own hands, constructed a platform; then chairs were purchased from the same fund, and, later, a hand-lamp and chandelier were procured.

There was a feeling of entire independence on the part of the membership from school control that might have led (but, I am glad to say, never did,) to a violation of or breaking away from the school restraint.
The debates were a strong feature, and at each meeting of the society, in addition to the regular program, every member was entitled to be heard under the head of general debate. There was no time limit on speeches, and the hour of adjournment was not fixed by the faculty, or by any rules of the society. Often our adjournment hour was reached only with midnight, and after every member, possibly, had made one or more speeches, either in debate or under the head of business.

The business meetings were seriously conducted. Momentous questions arose. Oftentimes it was only by the firm rule of a master hand in the chair that personal altercations were avoided, but while this is true, the body never became so turbulent as some other deliberative assemblies I have seen.

The Socratic Society, unlike the Zetetic, originally included only men. Since it was primarily a debating club, they preferred to restrict the membership accordingly. A few members, however, brought up the question of admission of the ladies, but they were overruled by a certain faction who argued that the presence of women would lend a frivolous atmosphere, destroying the serious and profound elements in their programs. These were the men for whom life was real and life was earnest, apparently, and they did not want to run the risk of temptation to become otherwise. The girls, they thought, might have a demoralizing influence. How could they carry on a learned debate to decide a profound question and, at the same time, keep their minds on their direct arguments and rebuttals in the presence of beautiful women?

It would have taken much clever maneuvering on the part of those favoring the women to secure the necessary two-thirds vote to amend the constitution. However, this strategy was unnecessary, for Fate played into the hands of the pro-feminine faction the night on which
the final vote was to be taken. For two good reasons, the anti-girl crowd were absent that night. Yes, those serious-minded young men who predicted the bad influence of the ladies did not attend the meeting, offering for an excuse the rainy night. But actually, it was learned later, they went to a wild circus down near the railroad tracks that very evening! So while they were gazing at exciting show girls who wore ruffles and tights and who rode on galloping steeds in the circus ring, the other members of the society were voting "Yes" on the question of admission of the girls to their learned society.

The co-eds did wonders for the society. Better programs, increased membership, and keener competition were only a few of the results of their influence. Even those serious minded young men, the "circus outfit," were completely won over, and harmony reigned in the Socratic Literary Society.

Like the Zetetics, the Socratics felt that their society should have a motto indicative of their high endeavors, one that would be in keeping with the classical figure for whom the group had named their organization. Possibly because they were not too well acquainted with the Greek language, they chose to express their motto in Latin—"Nulla vera felicitas sine sapiencia," "No true happiness without wisdom." Later they themselves admitted that they were not too familiar with the Latin language, either.

On a later page in the Souvenir Mr. Warder gives his own impressions of the value derived from the Socratic Literary Society:

We learned many things there. Not alone that which we gathered from the text-books, but we gained some idea of that wider range of learning—of women and of men and the forces that control them. Along with the high ideals there formed, the great desire for knowledge, there was much of the practical—the application of what was learned. There was the strong ambition to
succeed in whatever was undertaken, and we had a desire, not alone for knowledge, and the ability that it would bring, but for the power it would give the individual as a member of society.

We sought leadership; we worked for it. At the beginning of a new term there was always the seeking out of good material; the contest with the opposite society to get the best members, to make the greatest additions in point of ability. Here, again, was an opportunity to apply the knowledge we were gaining of men and women.

The Socratic Society was founded on the broad principle enunciated in that most famous document, the Declaration of Independence, "that all men are free and equal," and while in the domain of knowledge, they may have qualifications, there should be no qualification of that right as applied to an opportunity to be given every individual to acquire knowledge. One of the fundamental principles of the society was its absolute democracy, and by that I mean nothing political, but that each member was considered the equal of every other; that in the domain of the work of the society no such thing as an aristocracy existed. Especially did the society in its early years seek to help the members from the country. Oftentimes they were timid, and while having talent, were slow to assert themselves. The members of the Socratic Society, in its early day, were helpful to all such.

It was, probably, not until the year 1877 that the finances of the society were in such a condition that the question of procuring a piano might be considered. An organ had been purchased, and I well remember with what elation was added the office of organist to the list of officers to be elected. But the society, able to meet matters as they should arise, now decided that nothing less than a piano would do, and, by going in debt quite heavily, this ac-
quisition was made. There was no thought of applying to the faculty, because, even with the trustees, in those days, finances were an item, and they would never have dared to put in a demand for appropriations an item for a piano for the literary society. But the piano was paid for, though it took the savings of several years to liquidate the indebtedness. Sad to say, this piano was burned when the old building was destroyed, and, with it, the archives of the society.

Many of the members would delight to-day to turn the pages of the minutes of the earlier meetings, and revisit the scenes of those days; to fight again the old contests, and mingle with the members, and again to feel the strong, warm attachments that were formed among the members of the society, for the society work brought the students nearer together, and they became more intimate than was possible in any other part of the school work.

In the early days the society contests were fought with an earnestness that almost amounted to bitterness. For weeks before, the question of the comparative merits of the members of the different societies would be canvassed. Hopes would be raised; acrimonious conversations would be had between members; for our rivals, the Zetetics, were always on the alert to pick up a good member, or say a word derogatory to the Socratics.

The two societies followed, for the most part, the same pattern in their programs. And although the earliest books of the Socratics were destroyed in the fire of 1883, the Zetetic minutes furnish authentic records of the type of work accomplished in the early history of both organizations.
The matter of furnishing the society rooms was a problem that required time, thought, and money and involved all the rules in Robert's Rules of Order to arrive at a lawful conclusion.

After the Zetetics had purchased a piano from Dr. Parkinson for $50.00, they made plans for the purchase of a carpet to replace the worn matting. So in the minutes of 1879, the secretary recorded the beginning of the carpet campaign which extended on through the years, 1880 and '81; but it was not until the spring of '82 that the carpet was actually delivered and placed on the Zetetic Hall floor.

Each year that the carpet matter was brought up in the business meetings, it was tabled for lack of funds. It required 115 yards, and at a dollar a yard for the red Brussels carpet, the price was prohibitive. They could pay $50.00 down by selling the old matting cheap—forty-seven yards for nine dollars. Finally, in April of 1882, after giving oyster suppers and numerous entertainments, they were able to pay the balance due—and the carpet was theirs.

It was a happy day for those earnest young people when they saw this gorgeous red carpet delivered to the Normal. But actually their headaches were only beginning. Even the smallest item of business had to be handled in strict accordance with Robert's Rules of Order. There was, for instance, that little matter of carpet tacks, the purchase of which must go through the regular channels, with proper motions made and seconded. So excited were the members over the actual purchase of the carpet that the tacks had been entirely forgotten at the last meeting. They had neglected to appoint a committee to consider the buying of tacks. So the beautiful carpet remained secure and unrolled in its burlap wrapping until due legal action on tacks should be taken.

Then arose the matter of drafting a committee of masculine members with well padded knees and with the
strong and mighty sinews of the village blacksmith to
stretch the carpet and tack it down. It is quite pos-
sible that this was even before the days of those carpet
stretchers with the iron teeth projections and the lever
for stretching the carpet up to the baseboard. The
minutes contained no memorandum concerning the borrowing
of any such luxury, and of course the society owned
nothing of the sort.

The records show that a motion was passed to appoint
seven strong-armed members to meet in the hall on the
following Saturday morning to tack down the carpet.
Then worry number two reared its ugly head. They must
pass another motion to select a committee to decide on
proper padding to put under the carpet. This timely
suggestion came from the feminine element whose knowledge
of matters of this kind far surpassed that of the men.
But catch the men admitting that point!

The business meeting that evening lasted well into
the night—all over the argument as to suitable padding
for their fine Brussels carpet. One motion was made
to spread tobacco on the floor that could serve the
double purpose of a thin padding and a safeguard against
moths. That was voted down because of the added expense
of tobacco. In fact, it looked for awhile as if their
motto, "Learn To Labor and To Wait", would have to be
changed to fit the occasion and should read, "Learn To
Wait and Then To Labor."

Eventually, they settled on cedar paper as the
proper padding, and by the end of the spring term of
'82, the Zetetic Hall floor was covered with gorgeous
red-flowered Brussels carpet. Little did those students
dream that this one item of furnishing, of which they
were so proud, would be enjoyed for such a short time!
In less than two years, that beautiful carpet had to be
ripped up and thrown out the window of the burning
building.

The programs in the early history of the two
societies were lengthy and showed much thought and
thorough preparations on the part of the participants. And woe unto the member who absented himself on the night of his performance! For non-performance of duty he was fined heavily, and if he committed a second offense in this direction, he was suspended and often expelled. Absences of all members were taken into strict account, and reasonable excuses were demanded—otherwise a ten-cent fine was imposed.

From the minutes of a Zetetic meeting back in '76 the following item is found. "At roll call Mr. J. W. Law having been absent very successfully in the past, a motion made by Caldwell and seconded by Mr. Lyons that the same be excused for the past but to be present in the future or be fined." Just what is meant by being absent "very successfully" is anybody's guess, but whatever it was, the secretary did a marvelous job of leaving the readers seventy-five years later in total darkness.

Later that year, the secretary recorded the minutes of a program that was practically an impromptu one, all of which was probably due to the slump in interest and a too-frequent practice in non-performance of duty. Such backsliding swelled the society coffers but was none too good for the general morale of the members. This meeting appears to have been practically a one-man show. Since there were only seventeen members present, sixteen of whom were not on the regular program, this one man, Mr. Hanna, had the floor to himself.

"Mr. Hanna led the society in the chanting of the Lord's Prayer. In the absence of participants, impromptu numbers were rendered to the satisfaction of all present. One of the most entertaining features of the evening was the critic's report by Mr. Hanna. The evident appreciation that greeted the production was a deserved compliment to its worth."

The usual procedure, followed in the meetings of
both societies, consisted of eleven items, and for years this method of conducting the meetings was followed with strict adherence to the original constitution. It was not until the early 1930's that the meetings were shortened and many of the original offices became defunct.

The order of business was incorporated in the early constitution of both societies as follows:

1. Roll call
2. Chaplain's exercises
3. Literary exercises
4. Critic's report
5. Reading of the program for one, two, and three weeks
6. On election night distribution of tickets
7. Recess ten minutes
8. Reading of minutes of previous meeting
9. Unfinished business
10. New business
11. Communications read
12. Appointment of committees
13. Reports of committees
14. Reception of committees
15. Assessment and consideration of fines
16. Miscellaneous business
17. Adjournment

One can see that these meetings took up the entire evening. No one thought of dividing his time between his society and some other engagement. As a matter of fact, there was no place to go, but if there had been, no one would have been there, for everybody was in one of the two societies.

Those Friday night meetings were almost sacred engagements, and since they filled the need for social affairs and entertainments, they were looked forward to with keen enjoyment from one Friday to the next. Those students maintained a closeness of friendship and a fraternal unity not found today among students whose
loyalties must be spread over several organizations. For instance, it was a part of the Creed of those young people to look after the welfare of their fellow members, and to pay their respects in time of illness or death.

And it may be said that their Christian acts were no more commendable than their acts of chivalry. The men in those societies, some fresh from the farm, may have made a few mistakes in the correct table etiquette with silverware, but they were practiced in the art of chivalry and respect for the girls in the societies. It was an unwritten law among the male members to escort the girls to and from the meetings, an easy law to follow with the pretty girls—but alas, they were not all beautiful! So those young men took turns calling for the homely and unattractive girls and accompanying them home, with the same courtesy given to the beauties. Had it not been for their gallantry, many a drab and colorless co-ed would have had to pick her way home along the dark streets all alone. Yes, the members learned more in those societies than rules of debating and ways of conducting a caucus.

For years, debates were the important part of the program and certainly the most educational in teaching the forensic art. Although the music and declamations may have been more glamorous and more entertaining, they did not require the profound thought and concentration as did the debates.

The debaters usually attacked their questions with all seriousness. The losers died hard, and often became quite disgruntled over the decisions, accusing the judge (the president) of being prejudiced.

There were often two debates in one evening: the regular one, in which each side had carefully prepared its points in advance; and then the so-called irregular debate, in which anyone could take part without following rules too closely. In other words, the irregular or impromptu contests offered opportunity for
just plain arguments, "off-the-chest" releases and "off-the-record" comments. It was usually a relaxing period.

By following the subjects of these Society debates from 1874 down to the early 1930's, after which time they no longer appeared on the programs, one can trace pretty well both national and international problems. This point is rather interesting in view of the fact that there were no radios from which those students could get the world news neatly handed to them by just a turn of the dial. There were no telephones in those early days and little opportunities for communications with the Powers-That-Be in the nation's capital. The poor library facilities did not afford much help either in magazines or newspapers. But somehow those serious-minded students kept up surprisingly well on questions of current interest. And it is truly unfortunate that the modern device of making records had not been invented at that time so that today's alumni could listen now to some of those famous debates, extending over sixty years of Southern's history. All should make a reverential bow to those ambitious and striving young men and women who, without benefit of radio, or telephone, or adequate research files, were able to produce logical and sound arguments about certain current questions that were then being discussed around the world.

Echoes of the Civil War were heard in a subject of a debate held in Zetetic Society on April 29, 1878, overtones of a national discussion, "Resolved: That all American soldiers should receive the same attention in the national decoration." This was of particular interest to the S. I. N. U. students here in Carbondale, for it had been only a matter of ten years that the great General of Southern Illinois, General John A. Logan, had established the first Decoration Day here in Woodlawn Cemetery. After a visit to the Southland shortly after the war, General Logan had been impressed by the respect paid by the Southerners to their dead. The custom of decorating the graves of the Union soldiers on May 30, was then established by him in 1868, and
since that time has been observed throughout the country. Although ten years had passed, this topic was considered one of current interest and one wonders what arguments the negative had to offer.

Then on October 4, '78, there was another debate which doubtless was presented just for the sake of argument. The question was "Has the invention of machinery been a benefit to the masses?"--a difficult question in view of the small number of inventions of the time. What an affirmative speaker could do today with the marvelous benefits from today's magic machinery! When one thinks about the average farm student of that time, whose father was still using the old cradle in the field and the one-man horse and plow; and when one considers the girl who spent her summer vacation at home helping her mother can fruit, using an old kitchen range, and making soap in a big black kettle in the back yard,—well, he can see that their machinery must not have been of great "benefit to the masses," for the president decided in favor of the negative!

It is interesting to note that the reader finds occasionally a modern touch in these debates. Even back as far as 1878 they were concerned about equality of wages between the sexes. That doubtless sprang from the current question discussed, pro and con, in so many magazines—pro by the women, con by the men,—Woman's Suffrage! Also, there were still echoes of the speech made by Susan B. Anthony in Carbondale, on February 16, 1877. The debate on October 11, 1878, got down to particularities! "Resolved: That the great difference between the salaries of the sexes is an injustice." The president ruled in favor of the affirmative. There is nobody living today who was on that debate, but there is little doubt that one certain lady faculty member could have aided the affirmative by furnishing forceful arguments in carefully worded and grammatically correct phrases. Miss Buck's annual salary was $800.00 and remained the same for several years. Most of the men were getting $1,000 and $1,500.
It would have been worth a good deal to hear the next debate (Nov. 19, '78), "Is dancing morally wrong?" When one reads that the gentleman of those days, if he really was one, held his lady friend at arm's length, using a handkerchief in his left hand to avoid soiling the back of her dress—her dress, mind you, not her bare back—one feels compelled to agree with the president who proclaimed the negative as winner.

Back in '78, the word filibuster was probably not even in the dictionary; so it is not strange that the decision was awarded in favor of the negative in the debate, "Resolved: That the Bar affords a greater field of oratory than the Pulpit."

Whether or not the students were cognizant of the polluted word, "patronage," as used today by the political Big Wigs, is not known. But the affirmative must have presented some strong arguments back in '77 to win in the debate: "Resolved: That personal merit is more effective in promoting advancement in life than powerful friends." Nobody knows what success the judge of this debate had in later life, but it is doubtful that he ever reached political heights.

Many prominent alumni who have gained national recognition learned their first lessons in public speaking and valuable training in debating in the society halls of S. I. N. U.

From the Socratic Society two became college presidents, one a governor, one a lieutenant-governor, and one a United States congressman.*

*Roscoe Pulliam ('20) was president of S.I.N.U. from 1935 to 1944.
Charles Sattgast ('21) is president of Teachers College at Bemidji, Minnesota.
Albert Mead ('82) was governor of the State of Washington.
Joseph B. Gill, ('84) was Lieutenant-Governor of Illinois from 1893 to 1897.
Kent Keller ('90) was United States Congressman from 1930 to 1940.
Another important phase of work done in those societies was parliamentary practice. Robert's Rules of Order were adhered to with all strictness. All types of business, serious or otherwise, important or trivial, were conducted through the proper channels before becoming legal acts.

In order to brush up on proper procedures for passing, tabling, and amending a motion, the members frequently ran in a few nonsense motions, partly to liven up a dull program or, as was mentioned, to keep in practice for serious business. For instance, a motion was made to fine a member because he crossed the room without addressing the chair. The motion was seconded but later amended when further motion was made to have another member pay the fine.

Whether a certain motion appearing in the minutes of December 1, 1876, was in a serious vein or for mere practice, we shall never know. But the secretary recorded it along with the other business. "It was moved and seconded that no more peanuts be eaten in Society Hall. Motion carried."

Little items of business, such as returning borrowed equipment and properties for strawberry festivals, oyster suppers and entertainments, were attended to with due promptness following the proper motion. No member was allowed to return anything to the owner unless authorized by majority vote of the members.

There was a motion passed in the Zetetic meeting back in June of 1883 that "the bucket used in the strawberry festival be returned to the owner." If the owner had needed her bucket ever so much, she evidently could not have wrenched it from the committee until the motion to return it had been properly made, seconded, and carried.

When a motion was finally carried, the members who
were involved respected it and felt duty-bound to abide by it. Back in the winter of '79, apparently too many members in Zetetic Society were becoming lax in their obligations and responsibilities. Certain members on executive committees for arrangement of programs were being penalized for non-performance of duty. So on February 21, 1879, when they were selecting a committee for the mid-winter entertainment, they inserted the following in the minutes: "Moved that all members willing to perform the duty assigned should rise, place their right hand over the immediate vicinity in which the heart is located, and utter the words, 'I will.' Motion carried."

The occasional revisions of the constitution and by-laws were a favorite battleground in both societies and afforded all kinds of practice in parliamentary procedures. The many controversies necessitated motion after motion and amendment after amendment, followed by hours of discussions. When completely exhausted, the members often tabled the motion to provide a "cooling off" period and probably an opportunity for securing new and fresh ammunition for a later attack.

Some motions reveal a touch of penuriousness on the part of the Zetetics. The Society members watched their pennies closely. Back in 1878 when they needed money for furniture and books, they gave an entertainment charging twenty-five cents. At that price they knew they could not make much and that they had better go easy on the complimentary tickets. Accordingly, a motion was made that no free tickets given "except to the one who leads in prayer and his lady."

Then they showed an element of smugness, or rather an uncharitable attitude, when there appeared a motion in the February 22, '77 minutes which forbade persons outside the society to practice on their organ. Of course, there may have been a good reason. Perhaps the organ was being abused; or again, some irreverent student may have been guilty of playing something akin to hoe-downs or "Oh, Susanna" instead of sacred hymnals or classical selections.
One motion that was carried without a dissenting vote, one that needed no tabling or amendments, was the one presented by Mr. Wood, back in November 9, 1877. He moved that "we make Zetetic Society such a distinguished society that the faculty will deem it a pleasure to be allowed to cross our threshold!"

Later, in May, 1883, a motion was started on its way but encountered so many amendments and so much tabling procedure that the poor motion almost died of old age before it finally became legal. The original motion was a simple one in its infancy—that the Society (Zetetic) have a strawberry festival. As a matter of fact, that sort of festival was traditional, but for some reason that spring they could not decide on the exact night for the big event. And, of course, they could make no arrangements for the festive occasion without proper parliamentary procedure. So while the motion was in the throes of a heated discussion, the strawberries were getting riper and riper, since Nature required no motions in its business. Still the Zetetics had come to no agreement on the time for the festival. The middle of May came. The strawberry season in Southern Illinois was at its height—and like time and tide, the fruit waited for no man, certainly not for an unpassed motion. Then one evening, the last of May, after the best of the crop had been picked, the Society called an emergency meeting, and business proceeded according to Robert's Rules of Order. Finally, the festival was held out on the campus and turned out to be chiefly an ice cream "sociable."

Sometimes meetings were prolonged for lack of a second to the motion to adjourn. Students in the old days made an evening of it—a whole evening at one place. They were never in a hurry to leave. And so on December 17, 1879, the minutes relate that "After three motions to adjourn, all of which were lost, the fourth motion to that effect was carried. So upon motion the society adjourned." And they went straight
home. There were no late movies to drop into, no cafe or tavern, no convertible parked outside ready to "burn the midnight oil" on the country lanes. Those young people coupled off and started homeward after society meeting. The lucky youth who accompanied the beautiful belle saw her to the gate, bade her goodnight, tipped his hat, held the lantern high that she might see her way to the porch, and then went straight home. The gallant youth with the unattractive girl did the same. There was none of that "parting is such sweet sorrow" druing. Each had done his duty befitting the proprieties of the time. Each asked for no further recompense.

Both societies were careful to consult the faculty in all major matters and extended to them cordial invitations to their meetings. Frequently they honored the visiting professor by making him critic for the evening, and he was always called upon for a few "remarks for the good of the society." After all, the faculty had been elected as Honorary members of the Societies, and they felt it somewhat in the line of duty to drop in occasionally at the meetings.

The societies had made the faculty honorary members as an act of courtesy, but it was just plain politics that prompted their diplomatic gesture of making the Big-Wigs of the state honorary members. In the minutes of December 4, 1874, just two months after the Zetetics had organized, there is the following notation: "Communications from the following persons who had been elected honorary members of the society were read. Governor J. L. Beveridge, J. W. Wilkin and Thomas S. Ridgeway."

The societies, like many other organizations, played politics in time of elections, and once in a long time, a bit of crookedness would creep in. One Lewis Heitman, back in 1878, must have made up his mind to win the seat of vice president of the Zetetic
Society by fair means or foul, and ended up by trying the latter means.

The campaigning, the nomination, and the final election of officers were as important to them as was any national affair. The blot on the Zetetic record at that election was the rash and definitely illegal act of the above mentioned overzealous candidate. The minutes state: "The first ballot for vice president showed more votes than members and a poll of the house being taken showed Lewis Heitman as the person casting two votes."

It was a big evening for Heitman, who tried first to stuff the ballot box, then created so much disorder in the rear of the room that the secretary mentioned "a fine of ten cents."

By 1883 the Society Halls were pretty well furnished, each with a piano as well as tables, desks, benches, pictures, chandeliers, carpets, and a small library. Then came the fire that destroyed the Normal building. The Socratics lost everything in the fire; but the Zetetics, whose room was on the opposite side, were able to save part of their goods, including their piano, all their records, and their beautiful red Brussels carpet which was ripped up and thrown out the window.

The next night after the fire, the members had a joint meeting at the home of Mr. Sam Dunaway, on West Main street. The disaster had brought them into closer union than they had ever been, a fact that was proved when the Zetetics voted to give the Socratics thirty dollars to help them with emergency expenses.

They continued to meet in the homes of the Carbondale members until the Temporary Building could be completed. But even then, they had no special rooms set aside for them and were forced to use recitation rooms.
Although they were cramped for quarters in the Temporary Building throughout the school year, this fact did not in the least hamper their work or dampen their enthusiasm. Their spring entertainments were even more elaborate, though these were presented without benefit of adequate stage equipment or comfortable seating facilities. But both performers and audience made the best of the situation, entering into the spirit of the occasion in a circus-holiday manner. And there was a reason. The Commencement week festivities were held in a tent northeast of the Old Normal ruins. It was the only solution to the problem of handling the large number of Commencement visitors. Yes, the crowds could be accommodated, but the tent arrangement was no haven in case of strong winds and electrical storms—and that's just what happened on one Monday night in June of 1884. And the unfortunate Socratic Society was the victim, for it was on the night of the spring entertainment that the worst storm of the year broke forth, shaking the poles that supported the canvas and extinguishing every lamp in the tent! Richard T. Lightfoot was giving his society oration when the heavens opened with a downpour, accompanied by repeated claps of thunder. But Richard, undaunted, unheard, and unseen, went right on orating.

When the Societies staged joint entertainments, they usually gave these performances in the Opera House and charged thirty-five cents admission. This was for the purpose of earning money for the furnishing of their new rooms.

The following program, held in 1887, was typical of the sort of performance the groups presented, displaying to the public an example of the type of work they were doing in their weekly meetings.
JOINT ENTERTAINMENT

Zetetic and Socratic Societies

At Moody's Opera House, Dec. 10, 1887.

INVOCATION ........................................... Prof. S. M. Inglis.

OCTETTE ................................. 

'My Own Native Isle'

{ Jennie Hendrickson, Julia Hanson,
  Theo. Sprecher, Mary Alexander,
  D. W. Warren, J. E. Ramsey,
  J. M. Parkinson, K. E. Keller.

ORATION—'Philanthropy' ............................. C. M. Morgan.

INST. SOLO-- 'Whispering Winds' ...................... Louis Youngblood.

REGITATION-- 'Jamie' ............................... Laura Harvey.

VOCAL SOLO-- 'Down by the Sea' ....................... L. E. Baird.

ORIGINAL STORY-- 'The Old Doorstep' ................ J. T. Ellis.

INST. TRIO-- 'Theresen Waltzes' ..................... { Bertha Hull,
                                                C. J. Smith,
                                                Geo. Frank.

POETIC MEDLEY ......................................... C. E. Naylor.

VOCAL DUET ............................................ { Helen Meyer,
                                                Mabel Peters.

ORATION-- Abraham Lincoln ............................ J. T. Galbraith.

HUMOROUS DECLAMATION-- 'Railway Matinee' .......... R. E. Steel.

VOCAL SOLO-- 'When the Roses Bloom Again' .......... Mabel Smith.

RECITATION-- 'Aunt Sophronie at the Opera' .......... Mima King.

TABLEAU ................................................. Rescue of John Smith by Pocahontas.

M. BUCK, President of the Evening.
THE TEMPORARY BUILDING
Finally, on February 17, 1887, the new Main Building was dedicated. What a gala day it was for those brave young people when their Societies could move into their respective rooms on the third floor of the beautiful new building! The large room on the north east corner was assigned to the Zetetics, now used by the English office. The room on the southeast was given to the Socratics, now occupied by the mathematics department. On the transoms of the big double doors were painted the names of the societies, and on the walls above the doors were printed, in old English letters, the mottoes that had guided them throughout fire, water, storms, and other similar disasters.

Here the two societies held forth for sixteen years, during which time history was made by some of the most influential and illustrious personalities that ever attended the Normal. Many of these persons later became outstanding members of the Normal faculty and were recognized authorities in their respective fields throughout the Middle West. The valuable help and the inspiration of one faculty member must not be overlooked at this point. He was not a student of this institution but the stimulating and far-reaching influence of this man will go down in the history of the two societies as an enduring memory. He was Mr. Henry W. Shryock, a young teacher from the Olney High School. He joined the faculty in 1893 as teacher of literature. That year marked the beginning of an interesting change for improvement in the two societies, for this talented young man was assigned the duties of directing their dramatic activities.

There had been little change in the type of annual Spring Entertainments since their beginnings, back in 1876. These had included lengthy debates, declamations, original essays, long orations, and music, both instrumental and vocal. Mr. Shryock belonged to that rather new school of thought, advocating that a performance should be highly entertaining as well as instructive, and if either quality had to suffer, it should be the latter. He was easily bored by long programs that did
not smack of the dramatic; and if there was any one phase of those entertainments that he abominated, it was the long tedious debates; and next came the lengthy dull essays. He admitted that they had their place but also had their limitations, and he was not slow in speaking his mind on these points. With his natural gift of oratory and his broad knowledge of literature, he immediately secured the respect and admiration of the students who responded enthusiastically to his suggestion concerning a slight change in the Spring Entertainments.

Since a real literary society should include the best in literature, then why not present the work of the greatest figure in literature? The result was that the first entertainment after his arrival included, in addition to the usual numbers, a Shakespearean play, which was a wonderful success from the standpoint of both participants and audience.

This young man worked miracles with those students. Few, if any, had seen a Shakespearean play; yet they presented very creditable performances each year, thanks to their director.

His method of coaching those boys and girls was most ingenious. At the first meeting, roles were assigned. No try-outs, mind you. He always said that he could tell just by watching a student walk across the campus or enter a classroom whether he could be trained to act the role of a courtier or a clown. And by the same token, if a girl had what he called a "cornfield walk," as if she were striding across the field to feed the cattle, he knew that the part of Portia or Ophelia was not for her.

The next meeting was devoted to the reading of the play. And who read it? Why, he did! After hearing him, with his rich dramatic voice with just the right inflection and emphasis, those students felt they had witnessed an actual performance of a Shakespearean play by a real actor!
Then he did what all coaches should do but are afraid to do. He left them to go it alone. One week before the big night, he met them again and spent the week concentrating on smoothing and buffing the rough edges. And on the night of the performance, that erstwhile awkward swain, who had never in his whole life seen a professional actor "strut and fret his hour upon the stage," went through his act with the grace and poise of a veteran Thespian.

Parties, weddings, yes, and sometimes even religious gatherings in Carbondale were postponed if they conflicted with either of the two Society Spring Entertainments. People looked forward to them for weeks with keen enthusiasm and talked about them for months afterwards. And to this day, when those affairs are recalled by the alumni, it is not so much the orations, readings, and musical numbers that stand out in their minds. No, it is the elaborate Shakespearean presentations directed by a great coach and a great man.

The following Socratic program of 1902 is representative of the type of Spring Entertainments given while Mr. Shryock was sponsor of the two societies.
PART I

VOCAL ENTREE........................................ Mixed Chorus

INVOCATION....................................... Rev. W. G. Bennett

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS....................... Renzo Muckleroy

ORATION-- ‘The Growth of American Influence’ ...

...... Lauren Brubaker

VOCAL SOLO-- ‘O Vision Entrancing’, From the Opera, Esmeralda

.......... Arthur Lee

ESSAY-- ‘The Prayer of Ajax’ ............... Pearl Spiller

MIXED QUARTETTE-- Humorous, Selected .... Leona Etherton, Elbert Fox, Elsie Brooks, H. W. Temple

ORATION-- ‘The Value of the Power of Public Speech’
and Presentation of Diplomas ...... Roscoe D. Wyatt

__________ RECESS __________
PART II

Selections from the Opera "Bohemian Girl"—Act II

SILENCE, THE LADY MOON............ Invisible Quartette

I DREAMT I DWELT IN MARBLE HALLS....... Jennie Hill

THEN YOU'LL REMEMBER ME.................. Ardell Lee

HILLS AND VALLEYS-------------- Quartette

COME WITH THE GYPSY BRIDE....................

IN THE GYPSY'S LIFE YOU READ....................

Mixed Chorus...........................................


   Piano Accompanist......................... Minnie Smith

RECI TATION—(In Costume)The Sioux Chief's Daughter......

.............................. Jessie Brainard

MALE QUARTETTE—Good Night ... Arthur Lee, Roscoe Taylor, Ardell Lee, J. A. B. Walther

MUSIC........................................... Orchestra
READING AND PICTURES FROM "AS YOU LIKE IT"

Reader--Blanche Thornton

Cast of Characters:

Rosalind.................................................. Clarice Jones
Celia.......................................................... Marie Carson
Phoebe........................................................ Estella Bean
Audrey........................................................ Hallie Brewster
Orlando.................................................... Harry J. Beckemeyer
Oliver...................................................... Fred Henry
Duke.......................................................... Homer Karraker
Frederick.................................................. Milo R. Bateman
Charles.................................................... William Hays
Silvius.................................................... Oliver M. Reed
Jacques.................................................... John G. Bellamy
Adam........................................................ Marvin D. Brubaker
Mr. Shryock never tired relating his interesting experiences as coach of dramatics in the Normal. A story which he related to one of his successors in dramatics, by way of matching his trials with those she was having at the time, is worth repeating here.

It all happened, he said, on a rainy afternoon of the night of the Socratic Spring Entertainment back in 1898. *Midsummer Night's Dream* was to be presented as the second half of the program. "It just goes to show you that the blackest hours are just before the dawn. Don't ever forget that," he said, as he looked off into space and recalled that gloomy afternoon. It seems that the heavens had opened early that day and had released all the spring rains, drenching the globe, and concentrating on one spot in Carbondale—the Normal campus.

"Our plays, as you know, were given up on the third floor of Main in Normal Hall. Well," he continued, "the fellow that was supposed to get the scenery, the trees and shrubbery, for that first act, had to rehearse his confounded oration, and it fell to me to wade out through the wet campus and cut off dripping limbs and branches and then drag that mess up the three flights to old Normal Hall." On that particular day the Board of Trustees were holding a meeting in the Zetetic Hall, in the northeast corner of that floor. He came trudging up the stairs, puffing and blowing and using strong language under his breath, and finally reached the top step in a breathless state; then with what strength he had left, he started dragging the dripping tree limbs along the hall past the open doors of the Zetetic Hall. "I must have looked like Christian in *Pilgrim's Progress* but danged if I resembled any kind of Christian on the inside of me."

Just as he passed the door, one of the Board members caught a glimpse of this strange sight and inquired of President Parkinson just who he was. When the president explained, the man said, "Raise that professor's salary right now! Any man that would wag a whole forest up three flights of stairs for a mere play deserves something!"
All Spring Entertainments of the two societies were held in this hall until the Auditorium was built in 1919.

NORMAL HALL IN MAIN BUILDING

All Spring Entertainments of the two societies were held in this hall until the Auditorium was built in 1919.
A PATRIOTIC TABLEAU—"Stars of Liberty"

Floy Hawley, Grace Farthuy, Mollie Vancil (Mitchell), Ruby Etherton (Gullet), Hallie Winchester (Arnold), Floy Farthuy, Miss Karraker, Miss Parsons
It was during Mr. Shryock's term as coach of the Society entertainments that the famous Delsarte art was introduced. With the able assistance of Mrs. C. A. Sheppard, Carbondale's music and elocution teacher, he glamorized the entertainments with this new stage art. In theory, its purpose was emotional expression through voice and gesture. To demonstrate this, each society had two or three numbers on the program devoted to beautiful tableaux, wand drills, and romantic scenes in pantomime. The costumes were filmy and flowing, dotted with sparkling stars and imitation gems, giving the effect of misty, ethereal loveliness. All the graceful movements had a meaning all their own, to please the aesthetic taste of the audience.

A preview of such entertainments was given just before the performance started. At a given signal, the doors of the Normal Hall swung open. The fanfare was sounded, the pianist struck the first chords of the march, and then the entire dramatis personae of the evening began their impressive promenade around the hall, then up to the platform where they disappeared behind the green curtains to await their turn on the program.

No history of the two Literary Societies would be complete without mention of an item of school furniture which was of more practical value than many other pieces of school equipment. That was the large mirror that hung above the mantel in the Reception Room on the second floor of the Main Building. This was the official place for holding receptions, teas, etc. and the room in which the faculty and participants in the Society Entertainments congregated before starting their march up the stairs to the Normal Hall. Here the lady faculty members and the young girls used the mirror for last minute adjustments of sashes, flowers, "chokers," and bustles; and the men caught their own reflections and were pleased with their well trimmed mustaches and slick celluloid collars.

But there was a far more important purpose which the large mirror served, one which was not for pure
This room on the second floor of Main Building is now occupied by the Art Department. Here, all the celebrities were entertained at formal teas and receptions. Between parties, the Zetetics and Socratics rehearsed their Elocution lessons in front of the large mirror above the mantel.
vanity, but for a rather serious requirement. One of Mr. Shryock's theories in teaching elocution was to see ourselves as others see us. He often said to his students, "Only a mirror will tell you honestly and ruthlessly about your errors, and you better not get into an altercation and indulge in a fist fight with it!" Every member of each society was instructed to practice in front of that mirror in an effort to "suit the action to the word." The student was urged to watch carefully his posture, his gestures, and facial expressions before the frankest of all judges. If inanimate objects had the power of speech, the large mirror in the Reception Room could furnish a fascinating history of the work in elocution and dramatics in Southern Illinois Normal University.

The two Societies were quite prominent in the celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the founding of the institution. The faculty chose commencement week of 1899 for their elaborate functions, with both students and alumni appearing on the programs.

The following description of the programs presented by the two Literary Societies is taken from Professor G. H. French's account in the Twenty-fifth Anniversary Souvenir of S. I. N. U.

MONDAY EVENING, JUNE 12

By 8 o'clock the hall was well filled by the audience that had assembled to witness the rendering of the program prepared by the Zetetic Literary Society. On the outside of the cover of the neat program that was received at the door was printed "1874-1899," the society dating its organization back to the first year of the opening of the school. The program was divided into two parts, a literary part and a rendering of one of Shakespeare's plays, as follows:
1. MUSIC . . . . . . . . . Miss Mertz
2. INVOCATION . . Prof. Carlos E. Allen, A. B
3. PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS . . Willis Gerard Cisne

The speaker said that this evening is given over to the twenty-fifth exhibition of the Zetetic Literary Society and as a society we are proud of our record. The work of the society is important in the work of the school. Of the hundreds whose names have been enrolled on the society many are filling or have filled high positions of honor and of trust, while others are teachers exerting influences for good.

4. RECITATION--'DANIEL PERETON'S RIDE'. . .
   Kate F. Chandler

This was well rendered.

5. VOCAL SOLO--'THE HEAVENLY DREAM'. . .
   H. W. Temple

6. ORATION--'REFORMATION OF OUR
   INDUSTRIAL SYSTEM'. . . . J. I. McKnelly

   The speaker pleads for a broader scholarship as one of the means of curing the evils of our industrial system.

7. ESSAY--'OFF THE GRAND BANKS'. . . Mary Fryar

   The theme of the essay was suggested by a picture in one of the art journals, in which an old sailor was the central figure.

8. EUPHONIUM SOLO . . . . . . Walter Crow

9. ORATION AND DELIVERY OF DIPLOMAS--
   'NEW RESPONSIBILITIES'. . . I. Victor Iles

   The speaker touched upon the responsibilities of early nations and compared them with those of the present day. As the responsibility of a nation is increased by increased advantages and education, so the responsibility of the individuals composing the nation increases. At
the close of the oration Mr. Iles delivered the society diplomas to those of the Senior class who are members of the Zetetic Society.

10. 'MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING'

This was the second part of the program. Costumes befitting the play had been secured from Chicago, which, with appropriate stage scenery, made very necessary adjuncts for a successful rendering of the play. Each entered with spirit the character assigned him or her, and made the rendering of the play a decided success. The cast of characters was as follows:

Don Pedro. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . A. J. Reef
Claudio . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Roscoe Baker
Benedick . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . H. L. Freeland
Leonato . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Roy F. B. Davis
Antonio . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Thomas Hobbs
Dogberry . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Harmon Etherton
Verges . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Samuel Toler
Veatrice . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Stella B. Dixon
Hero . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Emma McLin
Ursula . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Maude Williams
Convade . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Thomas Bourland
Borachio . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Robert Brown
Friar. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . J. T. Montgomery
Watchmen . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Wm. Brandon

Gregg Garrison

TUESDAY EVENING, JUNE 13, 8 O'CLOCK P. M.

Last evening the hall was well filled at the time for opening, perhaps more so than on Monday evening, as more strangers were in town. The program of this evening was given by the Socratic Society, and was as follows:

1. GRAND MARCH. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . OrCHESTRA
2. INVOCATION . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . SAMUEL E. HARWOOD, M. A.
3. ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT . . . . . . . . . . . . W. GORDON MURPHY
Mr. Murphy spoke on the aims of the society in its work in the school, of some of the results that had been accomplished, and of what can be done in the future.

4. QUARTER--'Twilight Bells'. JENNIE HOPPER, JENNIE HILL, MABEL HOUTS, AND ANNA LIGHTFOOT

5. ESSAY--'The Mission of Nations'. ELLA GILLESPIE

The mission of the Greek nation was to give to the world fine arts and literature. Rome's mission was the arts of war. The Roman law was elastic, and hence made room for progress. England's mission is the acquiring of wealth. The mission of the United States is freedom to the world.

6. DISCUSSION--'Shall We Return the Philippines?'. AFFIRMATIVE, RENZO MUCKLEROY NEGATIVE, T. B. F. SMITH

The first speaker gave four things that could be done with the islands. 1. Give them back to Spain. 2. Give them their freedom. 3. Give them to other nations. 4. Keep them ourselves. After presenting the usual arguments on the first three, the speaker concluded that the fourth was stronger than either of the others. The speaker took up two points, principally, the argument against imperialism, or that the Constitution did not give us any warrant for acquiring new territory. The second was that the right of government came from the consent of the governed.

7. PIANO DUET--'Valse Tyrolienne'. BERTHA SPENCE, ETHEL CROUSE

8. RECITATION--'The Light on Dean Van's Bar'. NELLIE THORNTON

The rendering of this was fine.
Illinois is a wonderful state. Mr. Layman spoke of the early exploration of Illinois by LaSalle and Joliet, and the work of Marquette among the Indians. Now the state ranks second to none in educational affairs. Shurtleff College was founded more than seventy years ago. Less than seventy miles from Carbondale stands "Old Kaskaskia," or did before it was washed away by the water of the Mississippi, the site of the first capital of the state. In time of war, both the late war with Spain and the war of the rebellion, Illinois has shown her patriotism by responding nobly to the call on her for men. Among the great men she has furnished the nation stand Lincoln, Grant, and Logan.

10. CHORUS--MISSSES JENNIE HOPPER, JENNIE HILL, MABEL HOUTS, ANNA LIGHTFOOT; MESSRS. ARTHUR LEE, FRANK MACKEY, E. B. VAUGHN, AND T. B. F. SMITH

The song, "Jubilee," was acted as well as sung, and was excellent.

11. ORATION--'PROBLEMS OF THE AGE,' AND PRESENTATION OF DIPLOMAS. J. OSCAR MARBERRY

Every age has its problems that are peculiar to it. Every nation has its own problems that are its own heritage. In this day of American progress this nation has its problems, two of which were specially mentioned; first, the problem of labor and capital. The history of the conflict between these two forces; a story of the conflict between the strong and the weak. Second: Increase of population in our large cities is followed by an increase of crime. Both of these problems must be met by a more complete system of education of the masses. At the close of the address the Seniors formed in a row and re-
ceived at the hands of Mr. Marberry the diplomas from the Socratic Society given to those who were members.

12. Selections from . . . 'Lady of the Lake'

A bower of leaves had been prepared on the stage large enough for all the performers of the evening. Now the curtain was run down in front of this bower, all but the electric light extinguished, and a magic lantern light so arranged that it could be thrown on the bower. Costumes had been procured for those who were to take part in the pantomime. Miss Lulu Whittenberg recited the "Lady of the Lake," or selections from the poem, and at points where it could be well illustrated by the characters in pantomime, the reading would stop, the lights turned off, the curtain rolled up, and the actors would be shown for about a minute in the exciting or interesting part of what had been recited. Then the curtain would be rung down, the lights turned on and the reciting resumed. It was well executed. The cast of characters was as follows:

Ellen Douglas . . . . . . . . . . . . Anna Nelson
Earl Douglas . . . . . . . . . . . . D. C. Jones
Roderick Dhu . . . . . . . . . . . . Walter Stewart
James Fitz-James . . . . . . . . . . S. Boomer
Malcolm Graeme . . . . . . . . . . Roland Brinkerhoff
ZETETIC HALL
Northeast corner of Main on third floor
SOCRATIC HALL
Southeast corner of Main on third floor
When Mr. Shryock became president of the Normal in 1913, the duties of directing the Societies' plays were passed on to Miss Jennie Mitchell, a member of the English Department. She handled the work of sponsoring the two organizations during a most difficult period—the war years. Although her duties were many, she steered the societies successfully through the trying period. With so many young men in the army, the Societies resembled a club in a Girls' School, a fact that hampered Miss Mitchell greatly in choosing suitable plays for the Spring Entertainments. Consequently, it was practically impossible to present a Shakespearian play; so the director sought modern dramas with a predominance of feminine parts.

Although this was a decided change, the public was ready for more modern presentations, and Miss Mitchell was highly praised, not only for her selection of plays but also for her excellent directing.

The minutes of the societies' meetings at this time include extra business not found in former ones. For instance, back in 1918, motions were made to select committees for making Zetetic and Socratic service flags, committees to send letters and boxes over seas to the absent members, and committees for presenting Society diplomas in absentia. The subjects for their debates were more and more concerned with military subjects. Also, there were more frequent calls on the faculty members to appear on the weekly programs. The Societies' alumni on the faculty, in particular, were frequently called on for speeches concerning the early days of their society.

Following the resignation of Miss Mitchell in 1920, Miss Mae Trovillion, recently elected member of the English Department, was appointed sponsor of the two Literary Societies and director of dramatics of S. I. N. U.

She was assisted in the Society work by Miss Emma Bowyer, head of the English Department. Their duties included not only regular attendance at the Friday
night meetings, but also help and guidance in planning the literary programs.

The first public performance which they directed was a joint-Society affair in the fall of 1920. This was the year in which schools and colleges throughout the entire United States were urged to celebrate the 300th Anniversary of the Landing of the Pilgrims. With only two weeks' notice from the president, the two societies were asked to stage this historical episode at the regular chapel hour, 9:45 to 10:30.

The two sponsors went into action immediately. Miss Trovillion wrote the script and trained the students; Miss Bowyer attended to the props.

Then the question arose as to the proper setting for such a scene. If the Pilgrims were to land, they must have water—and a boat! Lake Ridgeway seemed to be the only solution, though it would take a world of imagination to turn that small lake into the Atlantic Ocean. Since American Indians played an important role, the problem of securing costumes, mainly feathers, was next on the agenda of worries. There was an overwhelming response to Miss Bowyer's announcement in Chapel on Friday, urging the students to raid the chicken yards on their farms during the week-end and bring back the feathers. In fact, when the two teachers arrived at their office on Monday morning, the place looked like a wholesale poultry house.

So far so good, but there are always troubles and emergencies that loom up suddenly, threatening failure. In the first place, on the morning of the affair, Governor Carver, played by E. E. Downing, turned up with a gash in his head, a sprained wrist, and a black eye—the results of an automobile wreck. Miss Bowyer's excited comment was, "Downing, you look as if the Indians had already tried to scalp you. Don't you know you ought not to step into a car on the eve of a play? But the show must go on! Now hurry and get yourself into your costume, and for Heaven's sake, try not to break your leg doing it!"
It had suddenly turned cold the night before, and there was a threat of snow in the air when the crowd started gathering on the shores of Lake Ridgeway at nine o'clock. Shortly before the zero hour, Mr. Shryock was seen rushing toward the scene in great excitement. The president, always concerned about the welfare of the students--sometimes unduly so--made the startling announcement that it was entirely too cold for an outdoor performance.

"But what shall we do?" one sponsor asked.

"Why, stage this thing in the auditorium, of course!" And with that he rushed off to his office.

Well! The Pilgrims would have to land on hard-wood floors without benefit of ocean, boat, or Plymouth Rock! But the feathers would help.

A very unique and rather un-historical landing took place that morning--unique because it was probably the only Landing of the Pilgrims staged indoors that year in any school in the whole United States!

The year 1924, the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of S. I. N. U., came and went with a minimum of celebration. As a matter of fact, the only recognition of the occasion was given by the two Literary Societies. They made a special effort to round up all their alumni and then presented elaborate programs with influential former members as the chief speakers.

The following articles concerning the 50th anniversary as celebrated by the two literary societies appeared in the Nov. 11th Egyptian.
Those who were unable to attend the reunion of the Zetetic Literary Society missed one of the biggest features of the Home-Coming, and those who did felt proud that they belonged to the Zetets. The Hall was beautifully decorated in the Zetetic colors and banners of the 50th anniversary.

The meeting was opened by the president, Carl Smith, and after expressing his thanks for the splendid co-operation shown during his presidency, Miss Coulter, the new president, took the chair. Miss Coulter in giving the president's address mentioned the fact that the society has increased 100 per cent in membership since organized and at present has 1/10 of the entire enrollment of the school.

After the usual devotional exercises the following program was given:

Music .......................... Orchestra
Reading ........................ Kate Mocabee
Xylophone Solo .................. Howard Thrailkill
Talk—"Value of Literary Societies" ....
................................. Mr. Shryock
Vocal Solo ....................... Hazel McCracken
Music .......................... Orchestra
Reading ........................ Pearl Murphy
Vocal Solo ........................ Thomas Whittenburg

Mr. Shryock's talk was a great treat. That alone would have made it worth while to have come for the 50th Anniversary Jubilee. He gave some interesting accounts of the work while he was sponsor, also praised the orchestra stating the value of orchestra training, not only while in school but after leaving.
Mr. Wham acted as critic. We learned from his report that he was responsible for the securing of the Philippines. He also mentioned the fact that he had a special claim on the Zetets as he was sponsor for several years.

The talks given by former members are always of interest. Unfortunately, time did not permit calling on all of the "old" members.

Miss Mary Crawford expressed her feeling in regard to the changing of the Zetetic Hall from the Main Building to the Library. We didn't realize until then just how the old members must feel about the change. But we who are here now may some time in the near future have the same experience, as at present the Hall isn't large enough to accommodate all those attending.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Snyder, class of '91 from Springfield, Idaho, also gave very interesting talks stating how much the society has helped them to "Learn to labor and to wait" and we might also add "to mate."

Among others giving talks were: E. Y. Smith, Dilla Hall, Howard Walker, Cary Davis and Thomas Whittenberg.

Many of the Alumni failed to register, so the list is not complete. The following registered: Julia Mikalauckas, Bertha Clark, W. E. Armentrout, Glenn Fishel, Lillie Trovillion, R. G. Browne, Elizabeth Grove, Kate Sturm, Anbur J. Snyder, Elma Fulenwider, Pearle Murphy, Ransom Sherretz, Ruth Laughlin, Howard B. Shappard, Blanche Dollins, Gladys Zapp, Raymond E. Etherton, Agnes Lentz, Hazel MacCracken, Ellis Crandle, Gustava Wheeless, F. E. Galbreath, B. A. Hunter, Meredith E. Smith, Marie Waller, George D. Wham, Carrie Yates, Gladys L. Smith, Byron E. Kotter, Fred Miller, Cleas Tabbect,

A portion of President Shryock's speech appeared in the *Egyptian* of November 11, 1924.

THE VALUE OF THE LITERARY SOCIETIES

(H. W. Shryock)

The student sometimes fails to realize the value of the work done in the literary societies. Classroom work does not always develop initiative or awaken a sense of personal responsibility and these are the things that the society does for its members. In the classroom the student learns to rely upon the teacher for guidance; in the literary society he must guide himself and direct his own thinking. A knowledge of parliamentary usage, too, is of the highest value in equipping one for even the commonest of his public duties. But besides all this, the associations formed in these organizations are of the most delightful and enduring kind. When the graduates return for the class reunion, their recollections and reminiscences as they recall old times are rather of the events and experiences in connection with the work of the society; and at such reunions the "old Grad" who was not a member of one of the societies feels himself on the outer edge of things as he tries to revive old memories and relive other days.
The Socratics held their Homecoming Celebration at 10 o'clock in their hall. The chairman of the day was Frank Smith. The following program was rendered.

Music . . . . . . . . . . . . . Orchestra
Talk . . . . . . . . . . . . . W. T. Felts
Music . . . . . . . . . . . . . Orchestra
Vocal . . . . . . . . . . . . . Nell Munall
Reading . . . . . . . . . . . Alice Bell Foster
Piano solo . . . . . . . . . . Albert Burkitt
Presentation of favors to old members

The new Socratic Loyalty song, which had just been written, was sung by the members and applauded by the alumni. The words were sung to the tune of "Columbia, Gem of the Ocean."

Old Socratic, pride of the Normal
The choice of the wise and the fair,
The shrine of good student's devotion,
Egypt honors thee everywhere.

Thou bestowest the gifts of true wisdom,
And with wisdom comes happiness true;
The success of thy sons and thy daughters,
Is the pride of the pink and the blue.

Among the alumni who gave short speeches were Lillie Copeland (1887), Mr. and Mrs. John Bellamy (1903-04), Mr. and Mrs. O. L. McBride (1903-04), Mr. H. L. Kessler, and J. P. B. Walther. Among the younger alumni who gave interesting talks were Lester Buford, Glenn Ayre, Frank Watson and Clarence Samford.
Following is a list of all former members present at the Homecoming meeting.

W. T. Felts, S. I. N. U., Carbondale
S. E. Boomer, S. I. N. U., Carbondale
Alice Belle Foster, S. I. N. U., Carbondale
Nellie Weller McLaughlin, Carbondale
Daisy Angell Legge, Carbondale
Mrs. Ben Sanders, Carbondale
Nella Monroe Bryant, Carbondale
Mary Crenshaw Kratz, Carbondale
H. L. Kessler, Community H.S., Carbondale
Gail Creager, Carbondale
John G. Bellamy, Benton
J. A. P. Walther, Golconda
Lester Buford, West Frankfort
Glen Ayre, Carterville
Rose Jansen, Carterville
Fay Bellamy, Benton
Ruth Rauch Harriss, St. Louis
Minnie Lillie Copeland, Marion
Mrs. Anna Pickles Brownlee, Marion
Clarence Samford, Springerton
Maud Bratten, Hurst
Edith Reed, Pinckneyville
Lumcinda Richards, Dowell
Ves McBride, Vella Ridge
Esther Owen, Broughton
Fannie Barcroft, Alton
Edgar Booker, Centralia
Vey Griffith, Cobden
Maurice Pyatt, Pinckneyville
Helen Blair, Salem
James Allen, Carbondale
Grace Hang, Centralia
Ray White, Marion
Frank Watson, Baldwin
Blanch Hamill, Marissa
David Stryp, Broughton
Grace Wiggs, Belleville
Alice Hackett, Xenia
Earl Purdue, Carterville
Myrtle Hill, Centralia
When Miss Trovillion presented the two spring plays in 1921, she made a most unorthodox gesture. Although she held to the tradition of having two separate programs in one evening, she modified the usual procedure somewhat by eliminating part of the exercises, the Society Graduation, cutting that part of the program to one half hour. Then the play could begin at 8:30 instead of 9:30.

Since there was no bloodshed over this drastic measure, she dared to go further the next year in eliminating the entire Society Commencement program on the night of the play. Beginning with that year, all subsequent Society Graduation exercises were held on the last Friday night of the term in their Society Halls,
thereby leaving Monday and Tuesday nights entirely to the plays. That last Friday night meeting was a gala occasion. The evening was theirs, and they performed to a large audience who had come to see the results of the four years' work in the two Literary Societies.

After the return of the boys from the service, the societies took on new life. With the increase in membership came better programs and improved financial status. They realized over two hundred dollars from their plays each year, money which they shared generously with other organizations and campus enterprises. For instance, they contributed liberally to the Y. W. and Y. M. C. A.; they financed the trips of the college band to out-of-town games; they aided in the purchase of the bronze tablet containing the names of service men. In fact, these two groups were the charity institutions that gladly furnished money to all enterprises in any emergency. And still they had money left to decorate and refurnish their halls. The Zetetics bought a new Steinway piano, and both Societies, back in 1923, bought two living-room suites for stage sets. No longer were they compelled to borrow Anthony Hall furniture for their plays, a great relief to the Anthony Hall matron, the Societies, and the coach!

It was in the early 1920's that the societies began organizing their own orchestras. Dilla Hall was responsible for starting an orchestra in the Zetetic Society; and Wendell Margrave, several years later, did the same for the Socratics, assisted in 1933 and 1934 by Mrs. Edith Krappe, a member of the English department, who gave much of her time to raising the standards of that particular phase of the Society work.

They also formed basketball teams in the two organizations, combating each other just as the former members had done in their rival debating teams years ago. In fact, they went so far as to cut their meetings short on Friday nights, eliminating the business part entirely just in order to attend the college basketball games.
SOCRATIC LITERARY SOCIETY GROUP—1929

Top Row—Vandeveer, D. Akin, Allen, Hughes, Rayburn, Margraves, Adamson, Clarida, Alexander.
Second Row—Hicks, Ferrill, Roberts, Borsenberger, Widdows, Pratt, Cress.
Fourth Row—White, McAfee, Sullivan, Rogers, Hicks, Kern.
Fifth Row—Schilla, Goddard, Mashek, Berry, Edwards, Kimmel, Jones.
Sixth Row—McGlasson, Moye, MChatton, Montgomery, Millen, Bateman, Reed.
Seventh Row—Corgan, Henry, Henley, Baker, Kennedy, Eros, Marsh.
Eighth Row—Hankla, Hetzer, Thaxton, Mclean, Press.
Bottom Row—Hankla, Campbell, McLean, Keller, Maule, McElvain, Robertson, Owen.
The completion in 1929 of Parkinson Laboratory, the new Chemical and Manual Arts Building, meant almost as much to the Literary Societies as it did to the Chemistry and Industrial Arts Department. The reason was that the Socratics and Zetetics were given two rooms on the top floor. These quarters furnished adequate room for the stage and its equipment and ample space for the audience.

By January, 1930, they had moved all the furnishings from the second floor of the Library which had been their home since 1903. On January 15, both societies held a reunion of all their alumni and dedicated their new rooms with elaborate programs "rendered" in the style familiar to all alumni.

The students turned the entire evening's program over to the alumni in each society. Mr. Felts, a member of the faculty and prominent alumnus of the Socratic Society, had charge of that program. As he called the roll, beginning with the list of 1886, each former member present related incidents connected with his entrance into the Normal. One related that a broken arm was the sole reason for his coming to the college. Since he was no good on the farm that summer, he came to college and was forever thankful for that lucky accident.

Mr. Walter Williams of Benton mentioned that he had actually risked his life to get to Carbondale. It seems that he became over anxious when the train neared the station, and fearing it was not going to stop, he jumped from the train, and he and his telescope landed on the ground shortly before the engineer stopped the train.

Mrs. Estelle Hooker Brown gave a reading, "The Pendulum." This was followed with a group of old familiar songs by Mrs. Lulu Royal Rife. Mr. Kent Keller gave an extemporaneous talk relating incidents of the 1887 era.
ZETETIC LITERARY SOCIETY GROUP—1929

Top Row—Phillips, Creed, Feller, Fishel, Miller, Dauby, Winkler, Myers.
Second Row—Damon, Timko, Colombo, Trigg, Chambers, Riggs, Hanna, Parks.
Third Row—Stewart, Wright, Dickey, Foley, Campbell, May, Dauby.
Fourth Row—Layton, Ingram, Brooks, Oakes, Armentrout, Hanson, Cox, Sauer, Brown.
Bottom Row—Petersen, Springer, Thrailkill, Borger, Thrailkill, Cox, Gardner, Davis.
The program would not have been complete without that most important phase of every program in past years. That was a heated debate on "Woman's Suffrage," with Mr. Harvey Kessler and Mr. Tom Laymon arguing against such a drastic action, and Judge A. L. Spiller and Mr. H. J. Wilson supporting the women's side. The negative won.

After a number of vocal selections by Mr. Will Hays, the program closed with the audience singing "Sweet Adeline."

At the other end of the building, the Zetetics were holding forth with a similar type of program. These members not only staged a program reminiscent of the old days, but also dressed in the fashion of their era. Mr. G. D. Wham was master of ceremonies, and the following program was "rendered."

**OPENING EXERCISES** .... **MRS. JOHN MILLER**

**PIANO SOLO** .... **MRS. RALPH THOMPSON**

'MAKING FRIENDS WITH BOOKS'. .... **MR. N. W. DRAPER**

'THE VALUE OF LITERARY SOCIETY WORK ON TEACHER TRAINING'. .... **SUPT. R. V. JORDAN**

**QUARTET** .... **MRS. BERTHA BARR KEESEE, MRS. D. L. BOUCHER, MR. R. E. RENFRO, DR. H. C. MOSS**

**SOLO** .... **BESSIE JOHNSON SMITH**

**EARLY IMPRESSIONS** .... **W. G. CISNE**

**VOCAL SOLO** .... **HARVEY NOONER**
SOCRATIC SPRING PLAY—1930

"Dulcy" cast: Laura Jacobs, Arthur Trammell, Dean Martin, Orville Alexander, Dorothy Clark, Lois Mallory, Charles Bateman, Raymond Akin, Omer Henry, Guy Neal, Dave Adamson.
ZETETIC SPRING PLAY—1930

"Seven Keys to Baldpate" cast: Raymond Etherton, Marjorie Leach, Marc Green, Jack Bozarth, Jane Richardson, Lorene Weaver, Harold Bailey, Dorothea Brandon, Kendall Fugate, Carliss Holland, Earl Shipley, Gaines Bailey, Raymond Borger.
At the conclusion of their program, the Zetetics went over to the Socratic Society Hall in time to join with that Society in singing "Sweet Adeline."

This affair on January 15, 1929, was actually the last outstanding program in which the alumni took an active part. As a matter of fact, the Societies as purely literary organizations soon began to decline, through no fault of any one. It was simply a matter of the changing times. They were fast being absorbed by the many other campus organizations--social and departmental.

Miss Julia Jonah, a member of the English department, became director of campus dramatics upon the resignation of Miss Trovillion from the faculty, in 1931. With Miss Jonah as coach of the Society plays, and Mr. Robert Faner and Mr. John Wright, as sponsors of the Zetetics and Socratics, respectively, the two literary organizations reached unprecedented heights from the standpoint of increased membership and almost professional training in dramatics.

The stage craft class, supervised by Miss Lulu Roach of the Art department, with the assistance of her students, furnished stage sets that resembled those of the New York theatres. And people were justified in making comments as, "We no longer need to go to St. Louis to see the drama. We have Broadway productions right here on the S. I. N. U. stage."

As a matter of fact, students were now joining the societies chiefly for the excellent training in dramatics and for the opportunity of appearing in the Spring plays.

With the increased number of clubs that were fast absorbing various phases of the early Societies, these two organizations bore only a slight resemblance to the original ones. Both business meetings and programs were conducted and presented in keeping with the changing age. No longer did they open the exercises with
hymn and prayer. A chaplain was not among the officers. Gone also was the office of critic, one of the most important positions in the old days. But what would a literary critic do in the early 1930's when sometimes the evening was devoted almost entirely to music?

However, there is this to be said for some of those musical programs. Their finished productions showed careful planning and revealed no little talent. The result was a smooth performance and an instructive entertainment.

The following account of a Socratic meeting of October 25, 1933, was taken from the Society minutes and is indicative of the general trend of the times.

After the group had been called to order, and the roll had been taken, the program for the evening, entitled "The Defense of American Jazz," was begun. The first number of the series consisted of a piano solo entitled "Arabesque" given by Voris Stafford. The second unit of the program was a duet by Elsie Janer and Berdona Janer, who were accompanied at the piano by Grover Morgan. Continuing the topic, Mr. Wendell Margrave took up the development of modern jazz, tracing it from its origin to the pre-war ragtime music. Several points brought out in the talk were illustrated at the piano by Grover Morgan. Following this, Bert Elbs gave two vocal solos and was accompanied by Paul Reeder.

During the business meeting that followed, Marian Richards reported on plans made for Homecoming Breakfast for the society.

Robert Finley, secretary
Student life was becoming more and more complicated, all of which kept students so busy throughout the week that they were glad for a respite by Friday. The result was that there was a general exodus from the campus on weekends. Friday night, once the most exciting night in the week for both Zetetics and Socratics, was no longer known as "Society Night." No, the time for meeting was now changed from Friday to Wednesday evening, and even then only part of the time was spent in the Society Hall, since the members must divide their time among other activities.

The change of weekly meetings was followed by another change. This break in tradition concerned the time of year for presenting the plays. Since the beginning, back in 1875, the entertainments of the two societies had constituted the major part of Commencement week, on alternating nights. Thanks to Miss Jonah, only one play was given during Commencement week; the other became a mid-winter play. For both coach and cast this was a welcome innovation.

The two societies were fast becoming dramatic clubs. The members of the Little Theater seized the opportunity to get extra training in stage work by joining either one of the societies at the beginning of the Winter Term to be eligible for the play try-outs. Miss Dorothy Magnus, who followed Miss Jonah as coach of S. I. N. U. dramatics in 1937, carried on the tradition of almost professional work in dramatics, presenting current Broadway hits with remarkable success.

With the expansion of the Science Department, the Society Halls were needed for laboratories and the museum; whereupon the Societies were forced to move to the Little Theatre room in Old Science Building where they held meetings in a more or less desultory sort of way. The crowds were large, one hundred fifty or more; their programs were short, often three or less.
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Emlyn Willie's mystery, "A Murder Has Been Arranged," was presented by the Socratic Literary Society on June 6, 1935. The scene of the play was the stage of St. James Theater, London, executed by Elnora Baumgardner and Everett Mitchell. Unusual lighting effects were a feature of the performance. Cast: Ruth Nast, Paul Reeder, Ann Langdon, Ernest Brashear, Geraldine Morgan, Ruth Ella Neil, Laverne Adams, John Straub, Mussette Cary.
The Zetetic sponsors for the past several years had done excellent work, but because of added academic duties could not give further time to the Society. And in 1940, the Zetetic Society did not reorganize at the beginning of the Fall Term. The large group of over a hundred members had become a flourishing dramatic organization.

The Socratic Society, however, continued for a year later with the help and encouragement of their faithful sponsor, Mr. John Wright, faculty member and Society alumnus. He worked up to the very last, spending both time and effort in contacting the Socratic alumni in the hope that they could have some influence in aiding the Society to recapture its former status as a great literary organization. But no sponsor, however energetic or enthusiastic, could have saved the societies or could have raised them to that plane on which they had formerly operated. The two societies had served a definite purpose, had filled a distinct need, and had accomplished successful results in their time. That time had passed. But their far-reaching and enduring influence has been felt by thousands of Southern's alumni in practically all walks of life.
Letters from the following alumni of the two Literary Societies give interesting sidelights and personal reminiscences that were not recorded in the minutes of the secretaries' books.

Mrs. Adella Goodall Mitchell, '82 (Zetetic) 1456 Oak Avenue, Evanston, Illinois

Miss Lily Houts, '83 (Socratic) 5445 Ingleside Avenue, Chicago, Illinois

Mr. Kent E. Keller, '90 (Socratic) Former Congressman of Twenty-fifth Illinois District. Ava, Illinois

Mr. Ira O. Karraker, '96 (Socratic) President of First National Bank of Jonesboro, Illinois

Mr. Fred L. Wham, '01 (Socratic) Judge of United States District Court, Eastern District of Illinois. Centralia, Illinois

Dr. Charles Sattgast, '21 (Socratic) President of State Teachers College, Bemidji, Minnesota

Mr. D. Ransom Sherretz, '26 (Zetetic) Director of Personnel. 2426 Oahu Avenue, Honolulu 14, Hawaii

Dr. Lemen Wells, '27 (Zetetic) Professor of Anatomy, University of Minnesota Medical School, Minneapolis, Minnesota

Mr. Lester Buford, '28 (Socratic) Superintendent of City Schools. Mt. Vernon, Illinois
Of course the societies were very important to us. One of the pleasantest things I recall was the habit a few of us had of taking extra lunch on Fridays to be eaten after school in Miss Buck's little office. Such fun as we had as we ate our supper, and then did our primping for the evening—Miss Buck seemed to enjoy it as much as we did.

The group was composed of girls from both societies. There was friendly rivalry, much joking—which only made stronger the bonds of friendship. One of the brightest and most mischievous was Anna Wheeler. She wrote poetry then, and was still writing it to the day of her death in her eighties. To this day I recall the disappointment I felt the night she asked to try on my new dress and decided to wear it herself to society, leaving me her old one!

And that unforgettable night when in a burst of high spirits Anna Arnold and I danced across the platform in Normal hall, bumped into the stand which held the Bible and broke it. My evening was ruined. No society for me! But how Dr. Allyn's eyes twinkled when I confessed my misdemeanor the following morning.

I could mention many names: Jennie Morrison, Wezette Atkins, Emma Parkinson and her two brothers, Lulu Van Winkle, Eva Tuttle, Lillie Houts, Fannie McAnally, Mamie Hassinger, Albert Ogle, Edgar Sprecker, Joe Gill, Tom Brown, the Hindu, Albert Mead (later governor of Washington), and my niece, Ada
Dunaway. I remember the lively debates, the orations and essays, the music in which I so often had part. Usually I served as accompanist on the organ—we had no piano—and the tableaux! No program was complete without a tableau.

Tom Brown, the Hindu whom I have mentioned was always a source of interest and conjecture. We never knew from whence he came or why. He tried to go with the girls but never succeeded. One night in society he read a long original poem telling of his rebuffs and declaring his indifference. It ended:

"Wezie may scold, Adella may frown, But never a cent cares old Tom Brown!"

So he got it back on us.

I hope this letter may bring back to others the happy days I remember in Southern Illinois Normal.

Sincerely yours,

Adella Goodall Mitchell
(Mrs. Henry C. Mitchell)
1456 Oak Avenue
Evanston, Illinois

I have been asked to write some of my recollections of the Literary Societies—The Socratic and Zetetic,—which formed the focus of the social life of the students during the period when I attended the S. I. N. U. (as it was then called),—that is, 1880—1883.

The young people of this day can hardly visualize life as it was then. There were no movies, no radios, no autos; with a few exceptions, no dancing, card playing or theater going. On the campus there were no baseball or football
teams. Many of the students were working their way through school; many had already been teaching, and their outlook on life was somewhat serious. While the institution was a state and not a religious institution, that element was very prominent, and a number of meetings were held in the churches for the young folks, especially on Sundays.

However, in the University there was a military department for the young men, conducted by an officer of the regular army; and the girls had physical culture or gymnastic exercises each day in the main hall. At one time we learned the "manual of arms" from the lieutenant.

But it was the two literary societies,—the Zetetic and Socratic,—which were the center of our social life and contacts. I was a member of the latter. In a book called THE SPHINX, gotten out by the Class of 1900, is a short history of these organizations.

The rivalry between the two societies for new members was quite keen at the beginning of the school year, when the new students enrolled. At the end of each collegiate year, on an evening of graduation week, an entertainment was given by each society. At some time during the year there was a contest between selected members of the Socrats and Zetets, at which time feeling ran very high. I participated in one of these. There was also one year a contest between our young people and a similar group from the Normal University at Bloomington.

As I wander "through memory's halls," many familiar faces come to mind, and numerous incidents, both humorous and romantic, for naturally there was much "courting" among the young people, and it was not at all uncommon for couples to pair off for the season. Nevertheless our work in the preparation of the programs was serious and the results creditable for our age and experience.

Lily M. Houts
It is quite out of the question to keep separate what belongs specifically to the Socratic Society and to the S. I. N. U. In that Society we discussed everything connected or not connected with the school, that we thought might interest us in our future lives. In living that life, I always hiked back to what we had dreamed together there, and did my best to make those dreams come true. My four years in the State Senate and ten years in the U. S. Congress were spent largely in doing what I had dreamed and discussed there with the other boys.

Let us understand that the S. I. N. U. was the one Educational Center for all the schools of Southern Illinois, and the Zetetic and Socratic Societies were competing, free and open forums for constructive thinking and planning for the growth of Egypt over many years.

And it was the Socratic Society, made up more largely of the country boys and girls, that took the lead in the free choices of subjects and methods of discussion of whatever might be most helpful in our future lives. I met my wife-to-be, Olive Robinson, in Socratic Hall, where many if not most of the young men of that time likewise found their wives and happiness. She played piano nearly fifty years for me and for her many friends, leaving me in 1940.

There were a number of Divisions that were decisive in the scope and extent of our thought for individual growth:
Robert's Rules of Order, the power of cooperation, the influence of military training, the study of one another—that is, human estimates, and unbounded faith in the idealism of democracy. We knew we were making history, and we knew the S. I. N. U. was a great school—our school.

The Socratic, as I mentioned before, was governed by Robert's Rules of Order. From these we learned the absolute necessity of certain specific rules for the direction of public meetings. That only by understanding these simple rules could any meeting of men get anywhere with matters up for
consideration. Robert's Rules of Order were and still are largely the basis of legislative bodies. Under these rules timid farm boys, which most of us were, soon learned that equality depends on the aggressive assertion of Equality; that in any meeting, public or legislative, it is the right of such individuals to be heard under these or similar Rules.

May I now express the everlasting hope that the Southern Illinois University may be permitted the full right and opportunity for the untrammeled growth of which this old part of Illinois is capable, mentally, physically, and spiritually; in the ideal of pure Democracy, for all the years to come.

In fond recollection of the many women and men whom I saw blossom and grow into womanhood and manhood, and in abiding faith that every succeeding generation may excel in the development of the citizenship, the one gone before it, in the service of their fellowmen; with the greeting of my heart to all Egypt, to our Illinois, to our American nation,

Kent E. Keller

Just why I made application to join the Socratic Literary Society soon after I entered school in 1892, I do not remember but it was not long until I learned from loyal Socrats many reasons why that society was much superior to the rival Zetets.

The two societies were the chief student activities and as a consequence, Friday night in anticipation, made the humdrum week days seem less tiresome. I should, should remember important debates, essays, readings and parliamentary drills, who participated and who were the best versed in Robert's Rules of Order but on events of seeming importance, memory is a perfect blank.

Now, it is no trouble to remember that to the surprise of old heads, William T. and J. Oscar Marberry asked to be put on
debate, the first performance. The veteran members had another surprise when they performed. They had been practising in a debating club back in their home neighborhood.

Everybody tried to avoid making an extemporaneous speech. The victim was usually tongue tied when the subject was announced but we could never understand how W. T. Felts could make a good speech on any subject any time.

At one meeting Prof. French acted as judge on a debate with two students. The decision was two to one for the negative when the affirmative had seemed to win on every point. Some believed the Professor had been asleep but one student judge afterward admitted that he had voted for the negative so they would not be so disappointed. The kindly Professor probably did the same thing.

At the beginning of each program, the chairman always appointed a critic whose duty it was to review the program and make valued suggestions. Professor Parkinson was the visiting teacher. He said: "Your critic is courageous and that quality is of some value. However, severe criticism is often discouraging to young students". This was a just and mild rebuke to the critic which he never forgot. I was the critic.

At one period the society was short of musical talent which was both able and willing to perform in public. Doubtless some of the old members will remember how Maude Cochran performed with loyal regularity as a piano soloist. She was always justly and warmly applauded.

But, there was one power which was stronger than all the enthusiasm of the membership. On more than one occasion, all sense of time was lost in the thrill of parliamentary discussion. The hour grew late when everybody thought it still early. Old Janitor Tierney's knock on the door meant "Time Up" and no questions asked. In ten minutes, another knock.
another ten minutes the gas lights were turned out. A hasty motion to adjourn carried unanimously and everybody scrambled down the stairs in the dark.

Very Truly,

I. O. Karraker

Unreviewed during forty-five busy years, the history I recall is best told in the form of personal thoughts.

During the early nineties my oldest brother (later Dean Wham) was an active and loyal member of the Zetetic Literary Society. From my earliest childhood I drank in with wide-eyed interest his stories of "great doings" among the Zetets. Yet, when I arrived at Southern in the fall of 1901 I joined the Socratic Literary Society because the few friends I then had there, mainly from Marion County, were of that society.

Fed by propaganda (the word hadn't been heard of then) put out by older members, I was quickly convinced that my newly adopted society was much superior to its rival, the Zetetic Society. Later I was quite astonished to learn that the members of our rival, with some reason, entertained a contrary view.

Regardless of the comparative merits of the two societies Socratic did have many members who, according to my then naive judgment, were talented in music or speech, or both. The competent manner in which they performed their parts in the weekly programs was a source of never-ending wonder and inspiration to me, a timid country boy, who, but for one magnificent and vastly embarrassing failure, never had enough courage to open my mouth in public utterance until after I had been a member of the society for five full school terms. Yet, though my participation was negligible, I know now that
my admiration for and my deep envy of those who were able to perform their parts so well under the eyes of the critic and the even more critical eyes of their associates, was building up in me a desire and a determination that years later drove me to master my timidity to an extent that I, too, could express my thoughts in public forums.

Long ago I ceased to remember and identify my friends of the dear old days at Carbondale by their society memberships. If I attempt to name my contemporaries in the Socratic Society I am almost sure to let some good Zetets get in among them. Of the active members who graduated soon after I arrived, I seem to remember Harry Wilson, Sanford Ballard and John Bellamy (now deceased). In later classes were Roy Wilkins, Roscoe Wyatt (now deceased), Lillian Toler whom Roscoe later married, Bennett Alvis, Letty Hughes who is now Mrs. Alvis, the attractive and talented sisters, Ada and Minnie Smith and a younger sister whose given name now escapes me, Anna and Ella Pickles and Lela and Edith Mannen; Also Pearl McCarthy (to my boyish eyes the prettiest girl in the world) and those popular brothers, Herbert and William Hayes and Harry and Albert Beckemeyer. These and many like them in the society were earnest and proficient students, all aiming high, all bent on self-development, but all having a genius for friendship and possessed of the saving graces of intelligent wit and humour. Many of them became prominent in their respective fields. All became valuable citizens. One could scarcely be more fortunate than to be associated with them, as I was, in halls of learning and in the happy, inspiring culture-giving programs of the Socratic Literary Society.

Sincerely,

Fred L. Wham
I first became a member of the Socratic Society in 1917. Why they accepted me for membership I shall never know because at that time I was still in the laboratory high school trying to get enough high school credits to graduate. There was wholesome rivalry between the Socratic and Zetetic societies at that time, and I loved it.

The activities in the Socratic Society helped me greatly in adjusting myself to the school life at Southern. By 1919 or 1920 requests began to come to me to help put on programs. This honor thrilled me and kept me alert to the extemporaneous forums and debates at the end of the formal programs. One such program was an impromptu debate with the late President Pulliam who was then a student. He proved to me and the judges that it is better to be on the outside looking in than to be on the inside looking out. You may think such subject trifling, especially when we consider how hard some of our students now work on speeches and debates delving into questions of atomic energy, Federal aid to education, and international problems, but I still defend the old Socratic idea. The training value came from the ability to organize quickly, to think on one's feet, and to do a good job presenting a problem. I never could keep up with Mr. Pulliam on a task of that kind. He seemed to be ever prepared on all subjects, and his ability at presenting materials could quickly vanquish an opponent and win approval of the judges.

There have been hundreds of times since that debate when all of us who were Socrates then have been called upon to pop to our feet at a moment's notice to defend some issue of vital importance. So the customary three-minute debate that took place once every week at the Socratic Society and in which the chairman would announce the subject, name two speakers and then call the first speaker to the floor on a moment's notice had its value. It taught us self-confidence, impromptu speaking, and the techniques of competition. The subject was of little consequence.
The Socratic had its more cultural and formal sides also. Our members would practice for months for the presentation of our better musical numbers, one-act plays, more important debates, or oratorical contests. There were times when we decorated the hall, and there were times when we prepared and served an informal tea. What could be better to smooth the rough edges of an awkward college freshman than the weekly preparation in such activities? I loved it! I hope they still do it! Sometimes I think the training in the Socratic Society was equal to the hours spent in recitation, in the laboratory or in the library.

My memories of the good times and good friends in the Socratic Society are among the sweetest and most valuable of my school life.

Sincerely,

C. R. Sattgast

The first business meeting of the Zetetic Society that I attended was an illegal meeting. In fact, all meetings for its last twenty-three years were unconstitutional. In the fall of war year 1918 there were only seven former members enrolled in school—all girls. In order to recruit male members, several of the larger freshman boys in the University High School were invited to join. At the first meeting one of the members who was a disciple of Robert's Rules of Order called attention that seven members did not constitute a quorum and that no business could be transacted. She was overruled; new members were elected; and another year was underway.

Two months later I made my first appearance on the stage. The critics failed to find fault with anything I said.
My initial presentation consisted of reading The President's Thanksgiving Proclamation.

It was not long afterward that the rolls began to carry the names of many returning veterans. However, I continued my membership until I received my degree, receiving three diplomas from the society—the high school, junior college and college—the last of which I had the pleasure of receiving from the hand of Mary Wright who fifty years before had been the first Zetetic President.

I had the pleasure of having a part in the first Spring play coached by Miss Trovillion, "What Happened to Jones." My greatest thrill of all the plays was the warm response of the audience to "Peg of My Heart."

My memories today of that yesteryear, those arcadian days at Southern, are enriched by the experiences, associations and friendships brought about due to my Zetetic membership. No small part of any success I have achieved can be contributed to the lessons I learned from the society's members and the faculty members assisting us as a group or as individuals.

Aloha nui loa,

D. Ransom Sherretz
It is indeed a pleasure to recall certain incidents in connection with the Zetetic Literary Society of almost a quarter century ago, about 1925 to 1927. In a "quickie" play, Safety First, Bert Casper got his tongue so twisted that "lashed to the mast" turned out to be "mashed to the last." One time about fifteen minutes were devoted to a debate on the subject, "Petting is reprehensible for unsophisticated, bashful, awkward, green, village cut-ups." Why did Lucille Throup, the negative speaker, win the decision despite Fred Miller's equally convincing, affirmative argument? The student judges must have been influenced in part by the fact that in those days smoking and dancing on the campus were officially forbidden and that cars of students parked in the wrong spot were likely to be found chained to a lamp post.

The co-eds were tops! In those years of short skirts, the wonderful knees of Mildred Bone and Catherine Brewer made lasting impressions. The manner in which Minnie Lauder's Eukele Girls demonstrated one reason for attending college should be recalled by those in attendance. Lydia Davis and Bessie Smith were elected Queens, and Lydia served as one of the attorneys for a girl who charged that her reputation had been damaged by an article in the Egyptian entitled "Miss Talbert Prefers 'Em Married."

Many of those remembered incidents which occurred during the rehearsals of two major plays, Craig's Wife and Only '38, were too personal to put into black and white. Most of them reflected the unusual originality of that incomparable director, Prof. Mae Trovillion (Smith). One that occurred after a rehearsal may be mentioned, however, namely that of getting lost in a peach orchard. Wyatt Akin (Chauffeur), Bert Casper, Ruby Ice, Mary Tedrow, Bessie Smith, Lydia Davis and the writer were the "unfortunate" Zetets, while Charles Neely was the "unfortunate" Socrat.
In conclusion, I would like to add a few words of personal tribute to Charles whose death came a few years later, shortly before his work for the doctorate had been completed. It is fine to know that the publication of his dissertation was arranged by the girl of his dreams.

Lemen J. Wells

I belonged to the "Socratic Society." As I recall, I was president for one term. This organization exerted a powerful influence in my life socially (I think it helped other ways, too). I did not find Dorothy Draper in the Socratic Society, but in it I learned enough of the art of wooing lovely maidens that she was unable to resist me even though she was a "Zet" at heart.

Almost by accident I was in one spring play. I think it was "The Whole Town's Talking." I know Lewis Ed Williams carried me through. When I forgot my lines, he would go ahead and talk (You didn't teach us to ad lib. we just talked).

It's dangerous to name contemporaries because you usually leave some of your best friends out. Here are a few people through whose names always suggest very pleasant thoughts and memories to me—

D. Ransom Sherretz
Dilla Hall
Glenn Fishel
Bain Hunsaker
John Hunsaker
William Kieth
Ethel Parr

Louis P. Shannon
Agnes Lentz
Russell Clemens
Edward Zeiler
Virginia Neftzger
Mary Boos
Glenn Ayres

Sincerely yours,

J. L. Buford
Among the pleasant happenings memory singles from college life none is more poignant than the Friday evenings spent in Socratic Literary Society. It was there that a spirit of thoughtful adventure, free of classroom restrictions, found its freest and more creative expression. Poise, freshness and vitality resulted from the pleasant companionships of those Friday evening meetings. The informality and variety of the activities carried on gave us learnings never attained in a classroom. Frequent selection of officers gave us lessons in politics, parliamentary practice gave dignity in directing group enterprises, extemporaneous speaking made us organize our thoughts and think clearly, work in dramatics gave us innumerable moments of pleasant but hard work and some of us a permanent love for the theater.

What pleasure it is to recall such skilled parliamentarians as George Bracewell and Roye Bryant at work, such Five Star Finalists as Mildred Anderson and Paul Robertson continually ferreting out news, or such actors as Wendell Margrave and Margaret McAfee in frequent stage productions. Since the theater has always been my first hobby it is not likely that I shall ever forget being a member of the annual Spring Play, Tommy, in 1928. It was a pleasure and a privilege to work with such a dynamic director as Mae C. Trovillion and a cast which had Arza Hughes, Lora Teel, Ted Ragsdale, Bain Hunsaker, Hobert Bolerjack and Margaret Warren among its numbers.

Small wonder that the Socratic Literary Society remains in my memory as one of the best of all Southern traditions.

Troy L. Stearns

Remember the old motto of the Zetetics, LEARN TO LABOR AND TO WAIT? I suspect we’ve all been “laboring” more or less. Once in a while Carl Smith gets back home; he’s a respected history prof at Wayne University (the last I heard), happily
married, several children. Remembering his argumentativeness in Miss Baldwin's Latin classes and on the Agora debate team—he always wanted to be a lawyer in those days—, who would have thought it? And that minutes-long kiss (beneath Ethel Parr's picture hat) in the play that opened the Zetetic Fall program one year: as her stage father, I've always suspected that they thoroughly enjoyed that!

You wouldn't know the old halls now, if you could find them. Reserve books fill Zetetic Hall, and Socratic Hall is only part of the second floor reading room. If you haven't seen the "Pioneer Days" mural up there, you should some day before they tear down the library. It's been condemned, you know, and we're hoping for a new one soon.

Remember Dilla Hall (married Belva Hunter) in DADDY LONGLEGS and THE THREE WISE FOOLS? Well, he's still just as good an actor, as he proved recently at the Fall faculty party, when he was required as a stunt to "sell" a lady's hat to a "customer." Van Brown, I remember, was the young hero in the THREE WISE FOOLS, with Lydia Davis as the heroine; even after practice the two would continue with rehearsal off-stage (I think that's what they were doing in the old porch swing at her boarding house.)

And do you recall those midnight suppers after the society Spring plays at the Barnes Cafe? Yep! Ellis Crandle, who says he was a member of the Zetets for 7½ years (!),—Dr. Ellis Crandle, M.D. to YOU, now, or if you were in the war, Major Ellis Crandle! He and I once had a double date for those two nights in a row. Because for the second one we got through early (the girls had late leave from Anthony Hall—and after all, the side door and a sympathetic matron could be counted on if you ran over a little), and mainly because Frank Armentrout and his sister Margaret had a couple of extra gallons of gas in his model T, we all drove down to Cobden in the moonlight. At least I seem to remember there was moonlight!
Then of course there was the annual Zetetic–Socratic basketball game in the earlier days, with Ransonne Sherretz, Piggy Allen, and some of the others. In fact, while still in U. High, I determined to join the Zetets, just because they were the underdogs in one of these events. Never was sorry, although some of my best friends were Socrats. It's a little hard, nowadays, to keep them all sorted out because of the conflicting membership lists of the debating societies, since some Zetets joined the Forum, and many Socrats were members of the Agora. Charles Neely, Glenn Ayre, John Hunsaker—some Socrats, some Zetets. Some that I do know were Zetets, are the Walkers (Howard and Roberta); our new superintendent of Schools in Carbondale, Clyde Winkler, who was class president in '29; Tom Whittenberg and Zelda Thomas (OBELEISK '25) as well as a host of others. The Egyptian was pretty well balanced as I remember between the two: Paul Robertson, the editor in '29, was a Socrat. The last I heard of Paul, he was doing Red Cross work in the South Pacific. I wonder what became of Harvey Phillips and Kate Sturm, for instance? Did you know Bert Casper? He and Mary Reno finally made a match of it and are happily farming near Cobden.

Just to check up the other day, I got out my copies of the old Obelisks for '25 and '29, my two "senior" years at Southern. Those were the days when our football team would beat Ewing 67-0, with Bugs Lamer throwing 40 yd. passes and Cabbage Floyd surprising Cape with a drop-kick from the 47 yd. line! And to cheer us on, we had as yell-leaders Zetetic Orville Carrington and Socratic Louis P. Shannon.

Those were the years also when we all attended "chapel" five days a week, and the whole school knew immediately when a faculty member had a new haircut, a shoeshine, or a new suit. You could be sure on Fridays that if some girl gave you a green handbill announcing a very special program at the Zetets that night, another would counter with a red one in large black letters enticing you to a "still better" perform-
ance at the Socrats. Yet, even at that, intense as the rivalry was, the two societies would sometimes entertain each other!

And then there were the society reunions at Homecoming. A typical Zetetic program (Socratic likewise) might consist of music (probably by one of the Thrailkills), readings, more music (the society orchestra?), climaxed with a talk, by President Shryock, if we could get him, or by Professors Wham and Cišne, ex-Zetets themselves.

By the way, now that we have finally got around to replacing the windows in Old Main, it seems funny to note that even then we were being warned about falling windows in the north end of the building, and to keep away!

Well, I could go on for pages and pages, but Ellen's calling me to supper, so—hope I'll see you at this year's Homecoming, at least.

Yours,

J. Cary Davis
Just to check us (1935) - It got our sympathy at the old Central San, 185 and 149, my two "another" years of Southern. These were the days when our football team would beat Rome 47-0, with each score throwing my Jr. March and football float acrobatically with a flourish from the 47 yard line. And to think we had 49 tail-enders in the 49-mile Conference and Socrates, Louis P. Whidden.

These were the years when we all celebrated "cupola" days, with a dance, and the whole school would march to the band hall. A student, in a new suit, would be on stage on Fridays that in the girl gave each a handkerchief announcing a very special program at the dance that night. Another would counter with a red one.
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