

# PRINCETON ALUMNI WEEKLY

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\$5.00 A YEAR

## EDWIN MARK NORRIS '95

JULY 14, 1867 ∞ APRIL 18, 1925

BY ANDREW F. WEST '74

**E**DWIN NORRIS, affectionately known as Teddy by thousands of our alumni, is a name to be honored by all who love Princeton. He came here a modest young Iowan of slender means, quiet and unobtrusive manner, only moderate health, buoyant good nature, common sense, and persistent industry. His student days are the record of a hard struggle in which he earned his own way, earned also the means to send a sister through college, and graduated in the honor roll of his class. It can be done.



On graduation he became secretarial helper in all the arrangements for the Sesquicentennial Celebration in 1896. He was more than a helper,—rather a younger comrade and brother, able and faithful in every detail, keen to see the point, and quick to suggest the way to meet it. His swift and accurate stenography, ability to write straight English, skill in accounts, and remarkable reportorial gifts made his help invaluable.

In April 1900 The Princeton Alumni Weekly issued its first number under the brilliant editing of Jesse Lynch Williams '92, who selected Edwin Mark Norris as

his associate editor in September of the same year. From that date until his death a few days ago Edwin Norris had been continuously in service, first as Associate Editor until 1904 and since that time as Editor-in-Chief. It was Jesse Williams who gave The Alumni Weekly its fine flying start and bright tone, and it was Edwin M. Norris who steadily strengthened and enlivened its spirit and by his self-effacing labors made it the eagerly welcomed weekly visitor in over ten thousand Princeton homes.

There was nothing showy or sensational in his temper or in his editing. Poise, patience, and restraint, joined to quick apprehension, brightened by kindly wit and animated by quiet devotion to Princeton,—these are the silent energies by which he made The Alumni Weekly what it is. It was true of him, as of comparatively few others, that he literally slaved for Princeton. He lived and labored not for what he could get from her, but for what he could give her. His death leaves us poorer, but the record of his devotion remains as part of our best treasure.

# Edwin M. Norris '95—An Appreciation

BY ANDREW C. IMBRIE '95

Class Secretary

WHEN Ted Norris left Corning, Iowa, in the autumn of 1891 to enter Princeton, he knew that he must rely upon his own efforts to put himself through college. Older by five or six years than most of our Class, he had reached an age when many young men, with a less eager desire for a college education, would have hesitated about adding four more years to their preparation for a life work.

Unlike the boy entering from a large preparatory school, he had no ready-made acquaintances, but set about in his quiet and friendly way to attract men to him by the genuineness of his character, his somewhat whimsical point of view, and his keen sense of humor. With all the demands upon him incident to "working his way through college" and to the maintenance of a creditable academic standing, he found time to take a responsible part in the literary life of the Class. He early developed a facility for writing. He took an active interest in Whig Hall; and if the ancient tradition of "hall secrecy" had not laid hold of me at an impressionable age, I might recount the offices he held in that venerable, if (nowadays) somewhat neglected society.

In sophomore year he won First Prize in the Whig Oratorical Contest. The next year he was one of the Junior Orators. In senior year, appointed by the Faculty as one of the six best writers of the Class, he became thereby a contender for the Baird Prize. At graduation he was awarded High Honors in Philosophy and won his A.B. degree *cum laude*. I remember him best as an undergraduate when we toiled together as editors of the *Lit*, merciless but helpful critics of each other's work, daring to confess to certain extravagant literary ambitions which then appeared not impossible to attain.

June of the year 1895 (which seemed the very end of the world for most of us!) found Ted Norris determined to remain in Princeton as a graduate student. Two years later he earned by hard work his degree of Master of Arts,—he had given largely of the intervening time to his exacting duties as Dean West's assistant in the preparations for the Sesquicentennial Celebration in October 1896.

In 1897 Ted Norris joined the staff

of the *Philadelphia Press*. Three years later, when The Princeton Alumni Weekly was started with Jesse Lynch Williams '92 as its Editor, Ted returned to his beloved Princeton as Associate Editor, becoming Editor in 1904 when Jesse Williams resigned to devote himself to literary work. In a letter to me in 1905 Ted wrote:

"Three years on the *Philadelphia Press* gave me plenty of theories of life,—mostly cynical. But four and a half subsequent years in Princeton, and three months of married life—presto change! As Professor Urban must have concluded by this time, whether a man is an optimist or a pessimist, a socialist or a monopolist, a pantheist, a hedonist, or an esoteric Buddhist, depends to a large extent on how far he is removed from his callow youth, the state of his digestion, and his personal experience of life.

"So only three of my ten graduate years have been spent outside of Princeton. But those three years were more or less thrilling. They gave me rich material for that celebrated work (projected) on 'Great Men Who Have Met Me.' Also they gave me a somewhat intimate acquaintance with the geography and inhabitants of the Quaker City, and occasional glimpses of the surrounding villages of Boston, New York, Baltimore, Harrisburg, Camden, Vineland, Wilmington, and Manunkachunk. And finally it gave me an assignment to Hawaii, in the spring of 1900, just after that Paradise of the Pacific had been scared into annexation.

"About that time I became convinced that if it was a good thing to be a newspaper man, it was a better thing to be an ex-newspaper man. So I was very glad to accept an invitation from Jesse Williams '92 to come to Princeton as his associate on The Alumni Weekly. I'd like to contribute a chapter to a '92 Record on what I owe to Jesse Williams. He helped me to get out of the newspaper way of looking at things, and showed me how to run The Weekly. So when he resigned from the chief-editorship last year, with a good deal of diffidence I began giving an imitation of the pace he had set,—somehow or other The Weekly is still doing business at the old stand. No Princeton home is complete without it.

"You have heard Johnny Poe tell how he saw the world from a porthole. I haven't seen the whole world, but it has been my good luck to get half-way round it, from Germany on the east to Hawaii on the west. If it weren't for the fact that many '95 men have travelled farther and seen more, I might brag about my experiences, including chapters on 'Looking into a Smouldering Volcano in Hawaii,' 'Viewing the Southern Cross' (and

being disappointed), 'What the Rockies and the Plains Look Like from the Top of Long's Peak' (14,271 feet), 'From Glasgow to Geneva on a Bicycle,' 'Getting Next to the Kaiser,' 'A Day with Wu-Ting-Fang,' 'Stoking a Furnace in Princeton,' etc., etc.

"Now that's all put behind me,—except the furnace stoking. And these are happy days in Princeton,—the new Princeton and still the old. One of the pleasantest features of life in the shadow of our Alma Mater comes from the opportunity of seeing classmates who come back from time to time for a quiet Sunday in the country.

"But I can't stop without recording that I was never thoroughly contented till last December, when I exchanged my A.B. for A.M., which mean, according to Dean West, 'A Boy' and 'A (married) Man.' For helping in the consummation of that felicitous event, I owe a lasting debt of gratitude to you, Mr. Secretary, and to Ray Carter, Willie Phillips, and 'Judge' Hurst, a prominent Baltimore barrister. At our home in Princeton it will always give us unusual pleasure to see any returning '95 men."

The genuineness of his hospitality and the happiness of his home life have been as an open book to his many friends during the twenty years since that letter was written. To all of us whose steps, following the heart's desire, have turned back to Princeton again and again, his latch string has been out. His life was filled with the cheerful doing of chores for distant classmates who "wanted to know"—whether it was about rooms for Commencement, or about tickets for games, or about examinations for their sons entering college. My secretarial files of thirty years, in which Ted's letters bulk large, give vivid testimony of this, for I have been not the least offender. Every conceivable question that could arise in the mind of an inquiring alumnus became simplified when the natural decision was made to "write Ted Norris about it." Nothing seemed too much trouble. "Oh, it's part of my job," he used to say with that quizzical smile of his. Of course it wasn't at all a part of his job; but he made it so, and not merely for his classmates, or those whom he knew well, but for any Princeton man anywhere. To him Princeton's twelve thousand far-flung alumni were as one big family in whose service he had enlisted for life.

It was a satisfaction to him to know

that *The Weekly* reached almost ninety per cent of our alumni, and that its circulation was actually larger than that of any other alumni publication in the world, despite the relatively small number of our graduates. Nor was it an inconsiderable task to have supervised personally, week in and week out, the preparation of every number of the paper for a period of over twenty years, and in all that time to have maintained so uniformly high a literary standard. There must have been many times when the monotony of the

thing palled; but his writing retained a freshness of spirit that never seemed to diminish with the years. In times of academic controversy, when not all were able to keep their balance, *The Weekly*, under his temperate guidance, did its part wisely and tactfully to unify and sustain our alumni in their loyalty to their Alma Mater.

How much Princeton owes to her graduates may only be conjectured. In material things the obligation can be assessed. What Princeton gains from the affection

of her sons, from their pride in her progress, and their vigorous defense of her ideals, we cannot ever fully know, though we do believe the gain to be very great. Many agencies contribute—no one thing is responsible for what we call the "Princeton spirit." But here we have twenty-five years of a man's life given to the interpretation of Princeton to her sons scattered about the world. That surely is a tangible thing. Its value can be seen. And that was Ted Norris's gift to the Princeton he loved.

## An Editor Who Seemed to Know Every One

RANDOM REMINISCENCES OF THE EARLY DAYS

BY WHITNEY DARROW '03

ON THE second floor of the ramshackle, frame house opposite the old University Hall were the offices of *The Alumni Weekly*. The entrance was on University Place and one wandered through grape arbors and ash-cans and ultimately found the stairway to *The Weekly's* offices after inquiring anxiously of the various members of the family who occupied the lower floor. *The Weekly* used four rooms, two of which had the advantage of heat from coal stoves. Jesse Lynch Williams '92, as Editor-in-Chief, occupied one of the heated rooms and the undergraduate Business Manager the other. In the autumn of 1900, right after the organization of *The Weekly*, Ted Norris came to Princeton as Associate Editor from the *Philadelphia Press*. He had one of the unheated rooms which, with his keen sense of humor, he never let me forget. Ted made up the first issue of *The Weekly* after he came and from that day never missed the make-up of an issue for twenty-five years. I well remember one week when Ted had a hard cold, which he attributed to the office, and the doctor wouldn't let him out of the house. I got the material together as best I could and took it around for Ted to look over before it was sent to press. He was always disturbed over this because he felt it had broken his otherwise perfect record. But as a matter of fact, Ted really did get out that issue, and all that the rest of us had done had been to act as willing messengers for him. In 1903, Jesse Williams resigned and Ted became Editor.

In the early days, the Nassau Club was still a dignified faculty club in University Hall and, without an alumni gathering

place, *The Weekly* offices became the center of alumni activity. Alumni of all ages as they came to town called on Ted Norris. It seemed to us that he knew every one. I don't think there was any one who knew one-half as many alumni. He not only greeted them by name the second they came in but he could usually tell several interesting anecdotes about each. He knew where the man came from, what he was doing, where he was living at the time, whether his father was a college man, and whether his boys were now in college. Ted's interest was not confined to alumni. Every year he had hundreds of friends among the undergraduates and he was one of those men whom men liked to be with whether they were old or young.

Ted was a great reader and he remembered what he read. There has never been a book written in any way connected with Princeton or its history which Ted had not read and remembered. Everyone who has been reading *The Weekly* for years knows what it has meant to have a man editing *The Weekly* who was an authority on Princeton men and Princeton things.

I was in one way or another connected with *The Alumni Weekly* and with Ted throughout this entire period, and as I have seen him, week after week for thirty-six weeks of each year and for twenty-five years in succession, face the editing of another issue, I have never ceased to marvel at his unflinching interest and keenness and fairness. I was with Ted through some of the more trying periods, and Ted Norris piloted *The Weekly* with a fairness and saneness which I think few men could have shown. Ted was always con-

scious of the fact that *The Alumni Weekly* was representing all of the alumni.

While the offices were in this old house, the Princeton University Press was organized and the small Zapf printing office was purchased at 2 Nassau Street, where Ted week after week made up the paper personally, actually directing the placing of the type in the forms, many times long after midnight. After some years the University Press acquired the printing office of the Princeton Press and inherited the town paper called the *Princeton Press*. Ted took this over for us and edited it for a number of years and had a great deal of fun with it because of his interest in local politics. He was at the time a member of the Borough Council and Chairman of some of the most important committees. There were some important controversies on at the time in which Ted took a most active part, and it afforded him an interesting diversion from his duties on *The Weekly*.

It is hard to think of *The Alumni Weekly* without Ted Norris. There was never a man connected with *The Weekly* or University Press who was not devoted to him. Men in the Press might rave and storm about the lateness of copy but they would always wind up in smiling and putting up with most anything because it was Ted and because they were fond of him.

All of us who are working in Princeton activities will miss Ted Norris more than most any one. When we think of giving to Princeton we usually think in terms of money contributions but those of us who knew Ted best know that no one has made a greater contribution to Princeton than he made—he gave all he had.

# A Life Devoted to Princeton

BY V. LANSING COLLINS '92

*Secretary of the University*

IN The Alumni Weekly of September 29, 1900, the Princeton Publishing Company announced the appointment of Edwin Mark Norris '95 as Associate Editor, Jesse Lynch Williams '92 still remaining Editor. Three and a half years later, the Commencement issue of The Weekly, June 18, 1904, announced the retirement of Mr. Williams and the appointment of Ted Norris as his successor. He had been an editor of the *Lit* while in college; from 1895 to 1896 he was secretary to Professor West (not yet Dean of the Graduate School) who had charge of the Sesquicentennial Celebration, and from 1897 to 1900 he had been on the staff of the *Philadelphia Press*. Obviously, he had received remarkable training for what was to be his life work.

His connection with The Weekly extended over nearly twenty-five years, during the last twenty of which he was Editor-in-Chief reflecting Princeton from week to week for Princeton alumni and the university public. For there is a public which scans the periodicals of those American universities that have long-standing alumni organizations and therefore representative alumni opinion. In our metropolitan clubs it is not only Yale men who scan *The Yale Alumni Weekly*, nor Harvard men alone who look over the *Harvard Alumni Bulletin* and the *Harvard Graduates' Magazine*; and The Princeton Alumni Weekly is picked up by plenty of readers who are not Princetonians. This was especially true of The Weekly's issues during the War.

The two decades that Ted Norris recorded were two of the most important in Princeton history,—the period that saw the growth of the University after the impetus of the Sesquicentennial toward the end of President Patton's administration, the progress during the administration of President Wilson, and the strikingly significant developments under President Hibben. The merit of such a span of editorial service cannot be illustrated by any single fact, or by citing any particular issue. The service of The Weekly to the University under Ted Norris' editorship can be judged only by viewing his twenty-odd volumes as a

whole. He had able assistants from time to time, and doubtless he followed many suggestions from his Board of Directors; but, after all, an editor is personally responsible for the tone and quality of his paper; and if one runs through the bound volumes, as I have just done, one easily reaches the conclusion that the chief credit for the quite remarkable series of numbers which Ted Norris produced, belongs to him.

The history of the University during the last twenty years, in all its phases, physical, intellectual, spiritual, is plainly visible when his work is viewed in the bulk; and if on every page the alumni note is prominent it was because he conceived of The Weekly as a medium not only for presenting the University to alumni no longer intimately connected with the place, but also for nourishing alumni devotion to the place, without which the very roots of the institution must wither. Thus, it seems to me, he constantly preferred to let the the University speak for itself in the make-up of his magazine, and for this reason, too, he minimized the value of the editorial point of view, and restricted his own writing to paragraphs in place of longer editorial leading articles. He may have thus sacrificed an opportunity to discuss scores of topics relating to university policy which came up during his long term of service; but it was a deliberate choice and in the interest of what he believed to be the better part, and the greater service to the University he passionately loved. Those who remember his stirring and touching sketch of "Johnnie" Poe will appreciate the writing ability he thus kept in the background.

One word more. His work on The Weekly was directed toward his alumni clientele, and no alumni periodical in America had as large a circulation. But in 1917 at the urgent request of Little, Brown, and Co., the Boston publishers, he wrote for their "Story of the Colleges" series, his well known "Story of Princeton." Planned for a wider reading public than the alumni body, this admirably balanced book, besides containing the essential history of the University since the founding in 1746, preserves the characteristic traditions that have gathered about

the place and give Princeton its intangible quality. Here he found freer scope for his genial and ready pen, and he produced the most interesting and useful history of the University that has yet appeared, and one that is not likely to be surpassed.

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WILLIAM R. WILDER '79

JUNE 30, 1858

APRIL 19, 1925

BY E. PARKER DAVIS '79

One more is gone, and so beloved,  
So constant, patient, loyal, kind!  
The loss is final, ours to find  
The world grown emptier, him removed.

The strange procession of our years,  
So quickly gone, so little known!  
Until we find ourselves alone  
Amid the mists and rain of tears.

How this one lived and that one strove,  
What griefs were his, what joys were ours,  
The hopes that faded like the flowers,—  
All this he knew and this he loved.

He chose us as the better part  
Of all his life, his treasure-trove;  
He glorified us with his love,  
And gave to each of us his heart.

His heritage of pain he bore  
As soldiers wear a cherished prize;  
He gazed on Life with steady eyes,  
The winner's laurel crown he wore.

Close up the ranks, stand nearer now!  
If we are fewer, we are dear  
Each to the other, let us hear  
No note of sadness; heads may bow

In silent grief about his grave,  
And hands may clasp, and eyes grow dim,  
And voices fail in praising him  
Who gave so much, so little saved!

And yet the same old bond holds true  
Which keeps us through Life's stress and  
strain;

Until, through Death, we come again  
Where Death is old and Life is new.

Our well beloved, let him rest!  
We lose one more, he gains the prize  
Of constant, loyal, sacrifice;  
And we, his debtors, here confessed!

# THE PRINCETON ALUMNI WEEKLY

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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, 1925

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## PRINCETON DIPLOMATS

THE appointment of John Van Antwerp MacMurray '02, one time Second Secretary to the American Embassy at St. Petersburg, later Chief of the Division of Near Eastern Affairs, and lately Chief of the Division of Far Eastern Affairs, as Minister to China has directed attention to Princeton's record in the foreign service of the United States. cursory examination of the biographical files in the Office of the Secretary shows that Princeton has supplied the State Department with one Ambassador to Japan (Roland Morris '96), two Ambassadors Extraordinary and Ministers Plenipotentiary to France (Chief Justice Oliver Ellsworth 1766 and William R. Davie 1776), three Ministers to France (Edward Livingston 1781, Richard Rush, 1797, and William L. Dayton 1825), three Envoys Extraordinary and Ministers Plenipotentiary to Great Britain (Richard Rush 1797, Joseph R. Ingersoll 1804, and George M. Dallas 1810), three Ministers to Russia (George W. Campbell 1794, George M. Dallas 1810, and George W. Boker '42), two Envoys Extraordinary and Ministers Plenipotentiary to Venezuela (Thomas Allen '50 and John W. Garrett '95), two to the Netherlands and Luxemburg (Henry van Dyke '73 and John W. Garrett '95), and one each to Spain (John Forsyth 1794), Mexico (John Forsyth, Jr., '32), Turkey (George H. Boker '42), Italy (John P. Stockton '43), Morocco (Samuel R. Gummere '70), Persia (Richard Pearson '72), Bolivia (William A. Seay '50), and the Argentine Republic (John W. Garrett '95). Princeton men have been *chargés*

*d'affaires* at London, Brussels, Copenhagen, Rome, Berlin, the Hague, and Luxemburg, John Garrett '95, probably holding a record for such service with eleven commissions to the Hague, seven to Luxemburg, four to Rome, and three to Berlin. It also appears that at least eleven Princetonians have been secretaries at American embassies and thirty-four have been secretaries at American legations, many of them at historically critical junctures. Post Wheeler '91 is possibly the best known of this group; he has been in continuous service since 1906 and is at present Counselor of Embassy at London. Norman Armour '09, now at Rome, has also had a brilliant record in the Department, while John Mac Murray before his Washington appointment held posts in both China and Japan.

To the above should be added the names of the Princeton men who have served as special advisers to American embassies and legations, or who have attended diplomatic conventions here and abroad as State Department representatives or experts, as well as those who have been serving as Chiefs of Divisions in the State Department at Washington, such as Butler Wright '99, Third Assistant Secretary of State and formerly Acting Chief of the Division of Latin American Affairs, and Allen Dulles '14, Chief of the Division of Near Eastern Affairs. Mention should also be made of the fact that Princeton has supplied not less than thirty-two consuls in Europe, Africa, China, and South America. Not a bad record!

## OUR LOSS

MESSAGES are coming in to the office day after day from friends of Ted Norris,—all emphasizing in one way or another his great service to the University and the alumni. Before 1900, graduating from Princeton often meant breaking practically all contact with the University. Ted helped to change this. He gave his life to the task of telling the alumni about Princeton; who can say how much of the present alumni loyalty and spirit is due to his twenty-five years with *The Weekly*?

But there are many, other than alumni, who mourn his loss,—residents of Princeton, and particularly

those who worked with him or for him—the linotype operators and the printers. One university employee remembers seeing him night after night in the Sesquicentennial office in the old University Hall and tells of the long hours spent on this early task for Princeton; and this same man adds, "Yes, and I liked him better 'an 'em all!"

## A DISTINGUISHED VISITOR

ON THE occasion of the British Ambassador's recent visit to Princeton, Sir Esmé Howard was kind enough to address a special word of greeting to the alumni. Though not a college graduate himself, he has a son in Cambridge and one in Oxford and is deeply interested in college and university men the world over. It was from his friend, the late Lord Bryce, he said, that he had first come to know of Princeton as something more than a name, and His Lordship's accounts of the University had made him eager to visit here as soon after his arrival in America as possible. After but a hurried view of parts of the campus, his anticipations, he insisted, were fulfilled and his effort in coming richly rewarded. He wished his cordial regards to be extended to the men trained here,—and his congratulations offered on their good fortune!

After his reception at Prospect, Sir Esmé spoke at Whig Hall. In the evening he was entertained at a dinner at the Princeton Inn by the Princeton Chapter of the English Speaking Union, and on April 22 he opened the Columbia-Princeton baseball game by pitching the first ball.

## LOVED BY UNDER- GRADUATES

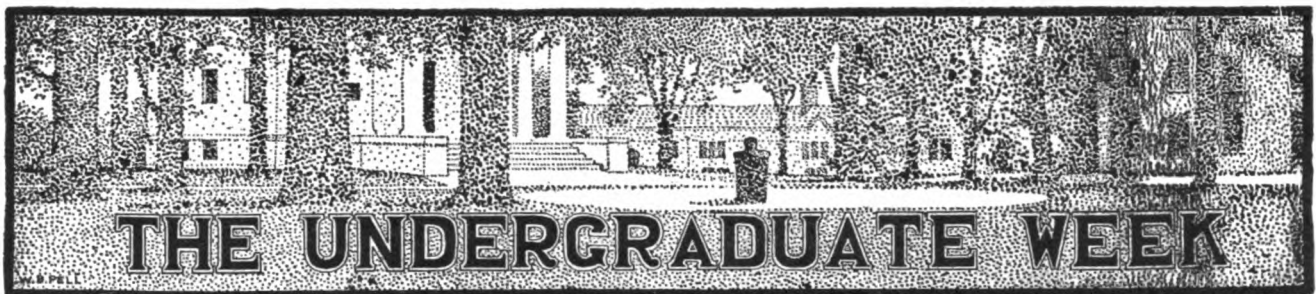
ON April 20, *The Daily Princetonian* published a leading editorial headed "In Memoriam," which we are reprinting below. In this connection we are reminded of the many times the former Editor of *The Weekly* lent a helping hand to candidates for the *Prince*. Never too busy to suggest a "hunch," or criticize a story, or explain a bit of Princeton history, he gave many a youthful journalist that rare, personal assistance that is not soon forgotten.

"With genuine sorrow Princeton marks the death on Saturday of Edwin Mark Norris of the Class of 1895. The end came suddenly although he had been in poor health since January. As Editor of

The Alumni Weekly Mr. Norris was known and loved by hundreds of alumni and undergraduates.

"Always an enthusiastic and loyal graduate he devoted the majority of his life

to service to Princeton with an untiring effort and indefatigable energy. To his bereaved family we extend our heartfelt sympathy and with them mourn the passing of one of Princeton's most loyal sons."



BY LEWIS MACK

#### THE BRITISH AMBASSADOR

Princeton in general and Whig Hall in particular were honored by a visit on April 21 from Sir Esmé Howard, British Ambassador to the United States. After being entertained at a reception at Prospect, Sir Esmé spoke before the American Whig Society at a meeting open to all undergraduates, accepting an honorary membership; and at 7 o'clock was the guest of honor at a dinner given by the English Speaking Union at the Princeton Inn, this new hostelry, incidentally, having become the popular place for the larger formal dinner parties. In his address to the debating society the Ambassador took the occasion to advocate the old Whig principles of toleration and sane thinking, remarking that he was relieved to find that a body standing for those ideals "appeared quite alive and not in the slightest danger of becoming fossilized."

Presenting their latest bill, "Fratricide Punished" and "Romio and Julietta," the Theatre Intime was enthusiastically received by a New York audience at the Neighborhood Playhouse on April 20. Two reviews of the productions by Professors Spaeth and Parrott gave much credit to the organization for its acting as well as the historically correct technique displayed in the presentation of two seventeenth century plays.

Following out a suggestion made in a letter advocating certain reforms in the present Sunday Chapel system, which the Cabinet of the Philadelphian Society had recently sent to the President, a committee composed of five undergraduates to act in an advisory capacity in the selection of University preachers was chosen by Dr. Hibben. The members are G. D. Mattison, G. C. Miles, and W. Van Keuren of the Junior class, J. Prendergast 1927, and C. A. Case 1928, representing two officers of the *Princetonian*, the President of the Philadelphian Society, and a sophomore and freshman class officer respectively. This represents the first move for the rectification of the Sunday Chapel situation from the undergraduate viewpoint.

#### AN OFFICIAL HOLIDAY

For the first time in the history of the

University an official holiday has been granted by the Faculty for Decoration Day. Editorially speaking the *Princetonian* notes, "We have not as yet looked up the date of the calendar but we are guilty of a decidedly slinking conviction that the date in question is a Sunday." The observation of the editorial writer was not entirely unfounded, inasmuch as the holiday falls on a Saturday on which day there are very few classes scheduled.

The Bureau of Appointments has been unusually active recently under the direction of A. Leitch '24 in bringing the Seniors in touch with possible and suitable positions following graduation. As it has always been maintained that a great number of men graduated without knowing what type of work they might be best fitted for, personal discussions with representatives of various companies are fairly appreciated by the outgoing Senior. Representatives of the International Telephone and Telegraph, and the Westinghouse Electric Companies were at Princeton for this purpose last week.

#### MISCELLANEOUS

The Triangle Club has experienced some difficulty in having a suitable play written for next year's production, the scenarios that have been submitted to date being excellent in dialogue but lacking a plot requisite for the club's purposes. It has been decided by Professor Stewart, Faculty Director, and the officers that a Venetian setting would serve as the best background for the musical play, and other plots are to be submitted with this in view. An attempt will be made to complete all the scenery during the spring, so that the cast practice next fall may be held under better conditions. Ned Weyburn, noted director of New York musical show dancing, will again train the chorus.

With the musical and dramatic talent that is always available among the student body it is never difficult to put on a benefit performance for charity in Princeton. On April 22 such a production was given for the Princeton Hospital with matinee and evening performances. Members of the Triangle Club were the principal entertainers.

The long established Lynde Debate was

held this year on April 17, the first and second awards going respectively to P. S. Havens 1925 and C. V. Wilson 1925, both members of Clio Hall, and the third to W. C. Johnson 1925, of Whig. Six debaters in all took part, three from each society, discussing the topic: "Resolved, That the city managerial plan of government be adopted in all American municipalities."

In ending an efficiently organized drive for books, victrola records, old clothes, and other useful cast-offs, the Philadelphian Society announced that they had collected a stack of records "reaching to the height of eight feet," and 150 pairs of shoes.

Fifty members of the musical clubs, as a compensation for the usual Easter trip which was not taken this year, gave a concert at Atlantic City in the Chalfont-Haddon Hall. The playing of a musical saw is to be counted as one of the latest and undoubtedly most bizarre numbers of the organization. R. Hartel 1926 has been chosen President of the University Orchestra for next year.

#### ELECTIONS AND SUCH

The resignation of W. W. Hall, Jr., as permanent Secretary of the Class of 1925 was tendered to the Senior Council. Reasons given were his acceptance of a teaching position at Roberts College in Constantinople. Wrote Secretary Hall: "Naturally, it would be quite impossible to transact the affairs of the Class from the midst of the Balkans, and the only alternative is the choosing by the Class of a new Secretary with less exotic inclinations."

In the second series of elections to the Senior Council the Junior Class chose G. W. Fisher, W. H. Forrest, C. F. Gates, Jr., and S. McLeod, Jr., for that honor. Fisher is captain of next year's soccer team and plays on the lacrosse team; Forrest was a member of the 1924 football team; Gates is a letter man in football and track, while McLeod will be the manager of next year's eleven and also serves on the Philadelphian Society Cabinet. The eight men elected so far represent a wide variety of extra-curriculum activities.

# PRINCETON ALUMNI WEEKLY

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## Student—Inventor—Teacher

THE RARE PERSONALITY OF A GREAT PHYSICIST AND  
A PIONEER IN THE FIELD OF ELECTRICAL  
ENGINEERING—CYRUS FOGG BRACKETT.

AN APPRECIATION

BY DEAN HOWARD McCLENAHAN '94

**I**N THE autumn of 1873, Dr. Cyrus Fogg Brackett came to Princeton as Professor of Physics and held that chair until 1908 when he was made Professor Emeritus. He came from Bowdoin College where he had been Professor of Chemistry since 1864. Within two or three years, Professor Charles A. Young of Dartmouth College accepted the call of the Trustees of the College of New Jersey to the Professorship of Astronomy here and took up his work in Princeton. These two products of New England college training were thoroughly advanced in their scientific views, and held open minds with reference to the scientific theories of the day which were disturbing the theologians of that time. The Darwinian theory of evolution was not the only offender. The modern theory of heat as a form of energy, the Maxwell electro-magnetic theory of light, the doctrine of the conservation of energy, even these purely physical theories became sources of offense. And, of course, both professors held a belief in some rational theory of the origin of the physical universe.

### ATHEISTS' CORNER

**T**HEY settled at the corner of Prospect Avenue and Washington Road. They seem to have received a truly "fundamentalist" welcome, for their corner was at once dubbed "Atheists' Corner." The two men remained devoted friends and fellow-workers for thirty years, and were the outstanding scientific figures of that period of Princeton's history.

Dr. Brackett had had a rigorous training in the classics in school and college, as well as in mathematics and the sciences. He was graduated at Bowdoin in 1859, and from the Bowdoin Medical School in 1863. This was followed by a year of advanced work in the Harvard Medical School where the young physician came under the influence of

Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes. He was called back to Bowdoin as an instructor in chemistry and remained in that institution until his departure for Princeton in 1873.

### CRUDE APPARATUS AND INEXACT IDEAS

**D**R. BRACKETT must have arrived in Princeton at the time that President McCosh's influence upon the intellectual life of the simple college had become really effective. Certainly he came at a time of enormous activity in the realm of physics, at a time of supremely important inventions of an electrical character. The arc light dynamo, the storage battery, the incandescent lamp, the telephone, had their birth and a marked development during the next decade. In this development, and especially in the ensuing patent litigation, Dr. Brackett had a contributing part. The inventors, Edison and Weston, came to the college for aid in some of their work and particularly in measurements of electrical quantities. It was a period of crude, insensitive apparatus, and, worse, of inexact ideas. The professor, with his exact training, was of real aid in clearing up the sometimes confused ideas of the inventor. In the electrical congresses of 1883 and 1884, at Philadelphia, Professor Brackett was a member of the commission which defined the practical electrical units, and helped bring scientific order out of electrical chaos.

The fifteen years of college work, from 1873 to 1888, were devoted to the preparation and delivery of a brilliant course of lectures in General Physics. According to the men who were privileged to listen to these lectures, they were always interesting and inspiring in the extreme. Dr. Brackett was assisted for the last half of this period by Professor W. F. Magie. In 1888, he gave over these lectures to Professor Magie, and for the next twenty years gave his chief attention to the origination and up-building of the School of Electrical Engineering.

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'24

Plans for a much anticipated Reunion are under way,—have almost reached their destination. There is to be a tent, strangely enough, near the entrance to the University Field, in which will be housed a platform, numerous bacon buns, under the governance of one man Jigger, and some 500 odd members of the Class of 1924. Rumors of music are afloat, a ball game, a picture, and other odds and ends will be featured. The Reunion will be held on the same week-end as those of the other classes, June 12 to 14. Sailor suits will be worn and are to be had at any time at the University Store. Announcements in detail will be made later.

A severe shock was registered here yesterday when a letter arrived from Harvey Duneka who is raising fruit trees in Arizona, to say that while motoring along the road he came upon "a roadster containing a very attractive young lady and a very much interested William Winslow Dulles. I was neither surprised that he did not see me nor that he was in such company." Enclosed was a clipping announcing the engagement of said gentleman and Miss Olive Paxton of Mesa. We hope that there was some connection between the two incidents. If not, the engagement will indeed be interesting. They are to be married May 8.

In case you are desirous of purchasing a portion of the State of Florida, you can make the transaction a class affair by appealing to Jack Van Urk, who is one of the few Miami agents to have seen the land they sell. The Van Urk insignia stand out on a window as firmly as the Van Urk moustache.

Pearce Bailey was also a daily attendant upon the beaches, and Bud Firestone is rapidly mastering the game of polo, playing an excellent offense when the opponents have the ball. Events on the Firestone calendar include entrance into an Akron tire company in the fall, and there are rumors abroad of matrimony.

Bill Williams has been flooding the cities of up-state New York with commercial paper, taking the week-end off in New York City, but claims that road work is more fun for the prize fighter than for the salesman. The life of a Pullman porter isn't too thrilling.

A class section dinner was given in New York on a recent Friday night which all but burst the doors of the Princeton Club, nineteen men out of over two hundred putting in an appearance. Jack Hopkinson presided in facile style and because of his expansive knowledge of babies, was elected, together with Ray Maurice, to serve on the committee appointed to inquire into the rules of the contest for the Class Baby, and to recommend that the Class award a cup to the winner. Numerous applications have come in. The dinner was much of a success, socially if not numerically. We now have a class organization working to stimulate class and sectional interest, and these men must have the assistance of the members to work successfully. We hope for a better showing in the future.

June 12 to 14—Reunion.

## OBITUARY

EDWIN M. NORRIS '95

Princeton University, our alumni, the Class of

'95, and hosts of friends, mourn the sad death of Edwin M. Norris, on April 18, 1925, at his home in Princeton. No attempt is made to appraise Ted Norris's worth, character, or spirit in this brief memorial. We—a few of his many friends—merely set forth what we know every alumnus thought of our beloved classmate.

Death sometimes reveals personal qualities in a new and clearer light. Everyone knew and loved Ted Norris, without knowing precisely why. His amiability, absence of ego, kindness, and gentleness drew about him an amazingly large circle of personal friends. His quality of attracting friendships was innate, and was never accomplished by the usual tactics of creating popularity visible in so many phases of modern life. The real basis of his extraordinary popularity was his modesty, kindness, and complete dedication to the spirit and life of Princeton. For twenty-five years, with no intermission, he gave everything he had to his Alma Mater.

In Ted Norris's deeper soul, there was a liberalism which, perhaps, not everyone clearly perceived—a liberalism born of toleration. Some of us knew how puzzled he was by the many conflicts of judgments and opinions on vital questions of the day; but, some of us also know that he yielded toward the side of humanism and charity, as against the rigid forms of cant and hypocrisy. Perhaps this kindliness of mind and sympathetic understanding explain, in part, how deeply he will be missed by all who knew him.

We venture to tender to his devoted wife and children this small and inadequate expression of sympathy of our entire Class, and we want them always to feel that Princeton and the Class of '95 are vastly richer because of his life, and that his image will always endure, in triple brass, in our hearts and memories.

JOHN H. BOWMAN,  
DICKSON O. BROWN,  
HENRY M. CANBY,  
RAY H. CARTER,  
WILFRED M. HAGER,  
JOHN J. HURST,  
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A. PARKER NEVIN,  
CHRISTY PAYNE,  
RICHARD STOCKTON,  
ARTHUR R. WELLS.  
For the Class of 1895.

### THEODORE F. REYNOLDS '97

We learn with deep sorrow of the loss of Theodore F. Reynolds, our friend and fellow member of the Class of 1897 of Princeton University, who died in New York City, March 12, 1925.

Of a modest and retiring disposition, tending to avoid rather than seek publicity, he attracted all with whom he came into contact by his sincerity and frankness. He was loved and respected by a large circle of friends. His interest in the Class was always active and the ties of friendship begun in undergraduate days were strong to the end.

His sudden and untimely death fills us with unusual sadness and we herewith extend our heartfelt sympathy to his widow and her family.

RICHARD E. DWIGHT,  
HENRY W. LOWE,  
CHESTER B. DEER,  
NELSON FOX,  
ARNO PARDEE,  
ARCH GULICK.  
For the Class of 1897.