

"Slang Has Its Place, a Useful One"—Prof. Carter

(Continued from last issue.)

"Hardboiled" within the last few years has pretty well won its spurs. Mr. D. H. Lawrence writes—"down the whole course of civilization, and in which he is now hardboiled." Slang is here seen at its proper task—"refreshing the decaying energies of speech." Phrases characteristically American often come to feel at home in England. "Applesauce," of which the last remnants are now being scraped off the dish, seems as essentially American as the now historical "tuff" and "softsoap." "Bank-um," which originated when a member from the county of Buncombe insisted on making an elaborate speech to show his constituents he was active in their behalf, is now as much English as American. The older idea that "slang is a sign of mental atrophy," that it is "taken from literary garbage cans on their way to the dumps" is inconclusive. There is no valid argument in saying that slang is soon worn threadbare, for we are constantly taking the edge off words by keeping them everlastingly in service—"fine," "nice," "awful," "mean." In England I found things were pretty divisible into "topping" and "rotten." "S-nice" was still carrying out its pleasing ablutions round the shores of the English bourgeoisie in 1924.

The Use of Slang

It is the function of slang to be picturesque, pungent, amusing, vivid. But slang is a condiment of speech, and must be discretely used. You do not want your roast beef covered in inch thick with horse-radish, nor does anybody in his senses want a discourse made up of nine-tenths slang. To change the figure we use, that which slang, like the cymbal of the orchestra, is effective as it is judiciously used. It cheapens any hand to have the cymbals clashing from beginning to end, and college students, unlike the man I mentioned, who can do nothing but clash the cymbals of speech, are in a bad way. One of the first questions an American is apt to be asked in England is, "What about Arrow collars?" Is it true that all American men wear the same sort of collar and part their hair (should they be so lucky) in the middle?

These may be lavish traits in themselves, but it is far worse to find here a symbol of other and more important matters. If our students are saying the same phrases like parrots from one coast to the other because they are all thinking alike, it is time to reform. A friend of mine at Oxford says he can tell what college a man belongs to by hearing him speak. The man who lives at Magdalen college has something in his speech that distinguishes him from a Wadham college man. Speech on the part of English students is much more nicely calculated for the particular occasion. English students have less slang than American students. I have never heard of any English students who are slaves to it. Before me there are several Oxford student publications, which are very amusingly written up with plenty of banter, but I notice that any phrases that might not mix

Freshmen Will Hold Class Meeting Tonight

There will be an important meeting of the freshman class in the Bull Pen tonight at seven o'clock. All freshmen are urged to attend.

CRABAPPLE CLUB MAKES PLANS FOR HORT SHOW

That next year's horticulture show, the first in the last three years, would be open to all branches of horticulture, was unanimously decided by the Crabapple Club, sponsors of the show, at a meeting Tuesday night. Dean R. L. Watts and his son, Gilbert, addressed the club. Dean Watts gave a short talk on the history of the club and its value at Penn State. He also outlined some of the opportunities available to horticulture. Gilbert Watts, who owns a large truck farm at Bellwood, spoke on the modern business methods in farming. Mr. Ralph W. Rees, horticultural agent of the New York Central railroad, will address the club on the future of the apple industry in the East on April twenty-ninth. Mr. Rees has just completed an extensive agricultural survey of the apple-growing industry along the lines of the New York Central railroad.

with the King's English are properly indicated by quotation marks.

If an English student were to talk with a stranger, his speech would do him credit. This reminds me that I recently talked with a man I met on a train for an hour, and I set him down for quite an ordinary drummer, only to learn that he held a degree from one of our universities. I happened to have had some acquaintance with the college he mentioned, and upon asking him a few questions I learned to my dismay that he was telling the truth. Here was a bachelor of arts talking like an illiterate. Slang I do not regret, it has its place and a useful one; its widespread currency bears witness to the vitality of our English speech, our language cannot but ultimately be the richer for the thousands of phrases that accrue to it from the source, but I do regret that so few of our students, when the time serves, speak with anything like distinction.

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GOLDKETTE RELEASES LATEST RECORDS HERE

(Continued from first page)
Along with these complimentary tickets along with the invitations will be issued Monday. After inspecting proofs of the program and favor, the committee returned them to the manufacturer and the orders are now under way. To avoid having an insufficient number of favors six hundred have been ordered. Should this number prove to be too small the gifts will be ordered and delivered after the Prom night, Friday.

A special waving concern will clean and polish the Army floor shortly before the dance. Six fans, one in each corner and one in the middle of each of the long walls, are to keep the large ballroom at the proper temperature. Because of the lighting effects desired no floor lamps will be allowed in the booths.

THESPIANS WILL STAGE SHOW NEXT SATURDAY

(Continued from first page)
tween years The Alcazar is the theatre at which the Thespians will perform.

Following an all-night boat ride on Chesapeake bay, the Thespians will perform at the Liberty theatre at Old Point Comfort, Virginia. Their final appearance will be made at Hampton Roads, Virginia.

TO ADDRESS CO-ED MEETING

W. H. Walker, former Dean of the School of Commerce and Finance at Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, will be the principal speaker at a co-ed mass meeting in Room 4, McAllister Hall, Wednesday, April twenty-first, at seven o'clock.

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MACMILLAN NARRATES EXPERIENCES TONIGHT

(Continued from first page)
Milligan's ambition was to follow in the foot-steps of Penn, whose adventures he had eagerly read. Penn's attention was attracted to MacMillan by stories he had heard of his bravery. While conducting a nautical school at Casco bay, MacMillan rescued single-handed ten people from drowning, seven from a overturned canoe. Penn sent for MacMillan who agreed to accompany him on what proved to be the first expedition to reach the pole. Commander MacMillan's trip last summer was the first in which airplanes were used in the attempt to reach the frozen stretches east of Greenland, where undiscovered land is believed to exist. The planes were carried on board ship and assembled when the ships could go no farther. The experiences of MacMillan are not limited to this one voyage, but have been acquired from several other trips into the North. The Y. M. C. A. has something unusual to offer in Commander MacMillan's lecture tonight. The admission will be one dollar and fifty cents.

DRESS CUSTOMS MUST STAY DECREES COUNCIL

(Continued from first page)
dent Council promised to back the plan which will be held in the Armory at some future date. A recommendation was passed that the Council furnish the Y. M. C. A. with finances to overcome the annual deficit resulting from the publication of the Student Handbook. This year the loss in publishing the book is one hundred and fifty dollars. If the Student Council budget permits, this sum will be paid from that source. C. H. Moore '26, president of the Tribunal was authorized to consider keys for the students who have served on that body. The following committee was appointed to arrange for Father's day, the early part of next month. Donald Wyman '26, chairman, R. D. Dundore '27 and A. C. Alloway '27.

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