In their dour moods campus editorialists can be depended on to mourn the decay or absence of traditions. The glorious days of infectious customs are always in the past. This is the theme especially in the late winter days when Illini editors have run out of initial inspiration, when daily routines have become commonplace, and when freshmen discover that their illusions of college life are unreal.

Illinois, like other colleges and universities, has its own social customs and regulations setting it apart, but few of these are fondly viewed as traditional. Neither the Cam nor the Thames is the Boneyard, even though Professor Oldfather did find it possible sometimes to put his canoe in Boneyard waters in his own back yard and float down to the Wabash River, 150 miles away.

The flat prairie and uncertain winters preclude the more enticing outdoor winter sports, leaving students to snowballing and the less excitable rink skating. And Illinois' buildings are not mossy with empty halls echoing the past. The "great tradition" may come with time, but the first seventy-five years have been spent in day-to-day adaptation to the requirements of the moment. Long ago, some mourned the decline of the literary societies but none shed more than a figurative tear at the passing of the strident student life of the 'twenties. During the 'thirties, it was evident that students were again in a transition as significant as that of the 'nineties forty years before.

In 1930 there were almost fifteen thousand students— an increase
of more than five thousand in ten years. The men still outnumbered the women, three to one. Most women were in liberal arts courses, but some had found their way into every school and college, including nine in Engineering. The College of Liberal Arts, attracting nearly one-fourth of all students, was as large as its two nearest complements, Commerce and Engineering, combined. The Graduate School doubled and the Library School grew to five times the size it was in 1920. According to popular thought, 1930 marked the end of a decade of "flaming youth" and of "revolt on the campus." Nevertheless when the Saturday Evening Post reported in early 1929 its version of "revolt and decay" in student morale at the Illinois Campus the artless conclusion was "Per cent of those examined who were unable, when first questioned, to think of anything against which to revolt....100." The issues of student life, the author was supposed to have found, were dating and "rating"--the latter being the measure of the individual's social acceptability. Such unconcern for the marks of radicalism, coupled with the success of organized and approved activities, was a matter of pride to the conservative administration.

The faculty, however, was not wholly disinterested. Each college had recently been giving more attention to individual students and to encouraging initiative. Doubt had also risen whether the Council of Administration was the best agency for the supervision of student conduct. Dissatisfaction was general among students, faculty, and administrators alike. When President Chase came in 1930 student affairs and discipline were still exclusively functions of the council, conducted by the instrumentalities created in 1895 and in about the same way. The paternal tone had been scrupulously subscribed to by President Kinley, who stated that "nothing concerning the student's life in the University is beyond the authority of the University if it affects his career and


In early 1929 the Senate and Council were at odds over questions relating to student scholarship, with neither side willing to compromise. See Council of Administration, Minutes, Apr. 16, 1929, 30; 130-131.
work as a University student.... The responsibility rests upon the
authorities of the institution. The public expects it and the parents
demand it." Deans of men and women, on whom direct responsibility
mainly rested, had functions that were in loco parentis, as was indi-
cated by their reports of thousands of interviews with students.

Most students at Illinois, as elsewhere, some studies showed, pre-
ferred to escape active personal obligation, expecting teachers to assume
the burden of their "education" and deans their welfare. Like most pub-
lic universities, Illinois had its share of those who came without more
than the vaguest sort of motive, hoping perhaps to discover one. The
student editors, forced to think the thoughts presumably in the minds
of their fellows, wrote editorials on the evils of Bolshevism and the
foibles of the national legislature, campaigned for causes that aroused
no enthusiasm, and took polls to find complacency among the students on
Calvin Coolidge, the League of Nations, pacifism, politics, prohibition,
and interest in dances, automobiles, and petting. The criticism implied
seemed harsh and unfair to individuals, but most of the faculty seemed
to agree that the students lacked initiative, in spite of the existence
of hundreds of approved organizations sponsoring "activities."

President Chase, of whose administration at the University of North
Carolina it had been said, "Teaching people how to think gave better re-
sults than teaching them what to think," came to a similar conclusion.
With characteristic frankness he suggested at a Union smoker that Ill-
inois students might show more initiative; but, said the Illini in reply,
the multiplicity of rules and the paternal attitude prevented it. The
opinion coincided with Chase's own. A regulatory system would only pro-
long adolescence. It would never achieve what he saw as the larger
purpose—to help young people toward maturity in their moral and social
as well as intellectual development.

4. Unpublished surveys, reports, and other data collected by Professor Florian Znaniecki, Sociology Department, in connection with studies in educational sociology.


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6. "As President Chase Puts It," *IAW* 11 (December, 1932), 82.
The general problem was one of the many put before the Committee of Nine late in the fall of 1930. Even as the special subcommittees on student conduct were beginning their work, many of the more arbitrary regulations were being relaxed. Bluntly, yet with good grace, President Chase told the fraternities that their barbarous and childish Hell Week was out of place in a university, and suggested instead the higher aims of fellowship and culture. The boys had heard this before, but this time they took it more seriously. The Hell Week tradition was weakened and one after another the fraternities showed intentions to live better intellectual lives. Chase saw many such opportunities to elevate student life, and finding support from both the faculty and the students, convinced himself that there was at hand an unusual chance to work out an ideal set-up.

Chase's plan grew out of his search for a successor to Dean Clark, who though due to retire in 1930 had been asked to continue in office another year. The idea was to have a director or vice-president in charge of campus social services and student activities—a everything touching student life except formal academic instruction. Chase wanted an environment having the richest possible opportunities for socially valuable experiences. It was based on the belief that "everything in fact which a student does aside from his formal class work is just as important a part of any educational program as those features for which we now give credit toward a degree," an idea having the full support of educational psychologists. The proposal and the candidate to fill the office were to have been presented to the trustees in May, 1931, but the death of the president's mother caused postponement. By the time of the next meeting, only a month later, the report of the Committee of Nine had been received by the Senate and subjected to sharp debate and alteration; the depression hit at its hardest and support of new expense-incurring ventures could not be expected. Scarcely less important,
the proposal ran counter to the prevailing desire to decentralize the administration. It was the Senate's plan, growing out of the recommendations of the Committee of Nine, which was adopted. To some extent it represented student opinion. When Dean Clark retired in September, Fred Harold Turner, '22, who had just rounded out a decade as Clark's assistant, became dean of men.

Under a new statute the Senate assumed disciplinary matters and delegated them to a Committee on Student Discipline and its sub-committees. The deans of men and women now concerned themselves with "advisory and not regulative" duties, including "personnel work, vocational direction, and guidance in problems involving intellectual, emotional, and social adjustments," and were given ex officio places on another Senate committee, Student Organizations and Activities. The six members of the latter committee, renamed the Committee on Student Affairs at its second meeting, became the administrative "court for all organized student activities." At President Chase's suggestion a student co-operating committee composed of the Illini editor and the presidents of the most prominent campus organizations joined in the faculty committee's deliberations almost from the first meeting. Thus the precedents of the older system were swept aside. The aim was to make "student life and extra-curricular activity a wholesome, integral, and educationally valuable part of a University education." But the "new system" was scarcely under way when the depression changed for a time even the fundamentals of student activities.

The state university was by virtue of its nominal fees the mecca of the better students of high ambition and low finances to whom "activities" meant working for an income. To say that a third of the students were in this group or at its fringe would probably be conservative. These were the first to feel the effects. The YMCA's employment center, closer

11. The sub-committee on the Relation of Students to the University had inserted a public request for suggestions in the Illini, Feb. 10, 1931, 4, and both the editor and correspondents supplied a month's grist for the committee.


13. Committee on Student Affairs, Minutes, Nov. 13, 1931, 1931-1932: 25, 27.

to the pulse of this group than any other campus agency, reported that
436 early applicants in the fall of 1931 were competing for sixty-one
15 jobs. When the fall term opened, over a thousand rooms in nearby
rooming houses were reported vacant, and fraternity rushing to close
the gaps left by non-returning members was in some cases a matter of
16 life or death to the organization. The critical period, however, be-
gan in December when local banks closed, one of which had the accounts
of students as its chief assets. Some relief to them came from a friendly
suit initiated by Dean Turner, but the money shortage was still felt.
There were stories of as little as fifteen and twenty cents a day spent
on food. These hastened a survey, leading to the distribution of a spe-
cial loan fund raised by faculty contributions and of emergency meal
17 tickets by the deans. There may have been some cases where pride pre-
vented their disclosure of need and thus escaped notice, but the incidents
of abject poverty which the questionnaire was expected to reveal failed
to materialize. Nevertheless during the depression over half of the calls
at the deans' offices were for financial aid or advice.

Every effort was made to help student employment. It was character-
istic of the uncertainty of the period that most students would rather
work their way than borrow, yet loan funds were exhausted. The deans
encouraged local householders to employ students in the commonplace duties
of washing windows, tending furnaces, and raking lawns. The women, some
of them instructed by the YMCA in table service, also found employment
in homes. But for all who did, there were many who did not, or could
earn only part of the money they needed. In the fall of 1932 after the
dean of men's office took over the employment service of the YMCA,
which the University had been subsidizing, the statistics showed that
989 students secured 4,363 jobs, of which 354 were of a continuing ma-
ture. Even more students found work themselves or through other means,
since the dean's records showed that more than a third of all of them

16. *IwA*, 10 (October, 1931), 13; (December, 1931), 138.

had jobs. More than eighty different kinds were listed by men and thirty by women.

Outside work was one of the more obvious solutions of financial problems, but various economies helped. Rents were cheaper further away from the campus and students began looking for rooms with cooking facilities. The three Woman's League co-operative houses and one Congregational had waiting lists. The University's own Women's Residents halls on Nevada Street were being deserted by co-eds who found the normal dormitory life too costly even after rents and board were reduced. By following model budgets and diets prepared by the dean of women and the home economics department, living expenses were brought down to four hundred dollars or even less. Fraternity budgets were pared as much as ten to twenty percent.

Most fraternities felt the pinch of the times even though individual members on the average were better off than those in rooming houses. The 'twenties had been an era of enthusiastic building of chapter houses on mortgages—which haunted members on into the 'thirties. More than half the fraternities around the campus were less than ten years old, representing the growth of the times. Not yet having achieved stability, the new, the overbuilt, and the locals were the first to feel the depression. By April, 1932, six had disbanded, all leaving debts. In keeping with the new spirit of handling student problems the Committee on Student Affairs asked the Interfraternity Council to formulate equitable and honorable bases for dissolution. With the help of the committee a number worked out consolidations, such as Delta Sigma Tau with Delta Alpha Epsilon to help fill the $100,000 stone mansion built in 1929, but some of the houses still stood empty ten years later. By 1935 only sixty-one of the ninety-two fraternities existing in the heyday of 1930, and twenty-six of thirty-three sororities, were left to tell of the troubles


they had seen.

The friends of the fraternities were inclined to blame the University for having failed in more prosperous years to curb expenditures, but there was little to show that the membership in the early-depression years saw the moral. Until denied the privilege by the Committee on Student Affairs, the fraternities and sororities showed few signs of abandoning ostentation. But whether the administration or the depression, the elaborate grottoes, crusaders' castles, and endless trellises of the dances gave way in 1935 to simpler decoration, and the big affairs of the year were usually allied with charitable purposes. Campus life took on a more modest and even a more democratic aspect. Conspicuous idleness was no longer fashionable, by necessity, and in some cases by choice, the depression student wanted to find some occupation, even if it was chiefly ornamental. Meanwhile, it should be said for the fraternities and sororities that their building boom went on under private management and capital at a time when the community had stopped any move to build more university dormitories. It is doubtful if the students of the 'twenties could have been housed without this private building.

When the funds of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration (FERA) were opened to students in February, 1934, the employment program in the 23 dean of men's office nearly doubled. During the first five months the FERA served 1,158 students. They could each earn from ten to twenty dollars a month to meet what was then an average board bill. Most of the FERA work was interesting; in some cases students could be on jobs closely related to their studies. Continued and expanded after June, 1935, under the National Youth Administration (NYA), it was preferred by most of the serious working students to the uncertainties of local off-campus work. But every year brought more applicants than jobs; the

23. BT, p. 34: 446. "The University Employment Bureau," in Dean of
1933-1934, p. 477.
quotas of ten per cent of the enrollment were annually filled until the abandonment of the program in 1943. In spite of the gradual lifting of the depression, there was no lessening and even an increase in the usefulness of the employment service; about forty per cent of the students were helped by it annually.

Always present even in normal years, the problems of student housing were of course greater in the depression. The women were the more fortunate, having two University residence halls and three co-operative houses, which held, however, not more than fifteen per cent of their total. About a third lived in sorority houses; a third in private rooms, a sixth in the University-owned quarters, and the remaining sixth, local students, in their homes.

Among the men, the twenty-five hundred living in some sixty fraternities were the best housed. The rest, a majority, in private homes, and in two large privately operated residence halls, lived under a remarkable variety of conditions. About a third of the two thousand in the rooming houses were ill-housed. How to raise the standard was the problem. Dormitories seemed the most obvious solution, but local rooming house interests opposed them.

The issue became a favorite subject of discussion among the non-fraternity men. The Independent Council, formed in 1928, repeatedly raised the question and took the initiative, sponsoring in 1934 a meeting for rooming house proprietors which drew up plans for uniform regulations and their enforcement. And though the council itself was on the decline and within two years was virtually defunct, the housing issue was still a bond among independent men. A new organization was promptly formed, the Men’s Independent District Association (MIDA) showed more highly developed ambitions both for dormitories and common housing regulation. Inquiry and discussion of the various plans brought about by 1937 the


A survey of MIDA was presented to the board in February, and in November the demands for regulation, co-operative houses, and residence halls. At the meeting in the latter month the trustees brought to an end the long debate over dormitories and agreed to include provisions for them in the next legislative request. The principle of regulation of private rooming houses was accepted, and the formation of a student housing division anticipated. Two years later the latter was established, and its first director, Charles R. Frederick, '30, worked out with his advisory committee a plan, perfected by 1942, for the eventual living of all students in approved houses.

Also by 1942 the Men's Residence Halls had become a reality, thanks to the financing of the Federal Public Works Administration (PWA) and an insurance company. The five units accommodating about four hundred fifty men erected in the undeveloped area west of Huff Gymnasium included boarding facilities. In September, 1941, the units were named for Dean T. A. Clark; Willard C. Flagg, one of the early trustees; Dr. William L. Noble, a trustee who had championed dormitories in the 'twenties; H. J. Barton, the classics department head who had long presided at commencements, had headed the Senate committee on athletics, and had been the University's Big Ten conference representative; and Carl L. Lundgren, the baseball coach, long an influential friend of young men. But September, 1941, was only three months from December, 1941; and like the women's residence halls completed in 1917, the men's houses were promptly turned over to the military.

A characteristic of the decade commonly attributed to the depression was the new democratic spirit and purpose of the students. Under the pressures of the depression they had to justify their being in the University, usually at the cost of some sacrifice by their parents. The depression
27. BT, '38: 204; 568-569.


30. Ibid., 932; '44: 17.
personalized and vitalized many problems of life which at other times had been merely social and academic. The new trend, however, had deeper roots and was probably only accentuated by the depression. "Joe College" was gone from the Illinois campus even before the crash. Social sophistication and pseudo-sophistication were losing out as qualities of those who rated as leaders. The picture was probably overdrawn, but W. L. Bay, '34, the Illini editor and self-appointed class historian, briefed his class's progress as "We came in a time of carelessness to a country club atmosphere... People are more serious now. Some of them even think."

Among the factors of this new democracy were the leveling influence of the automobile ban, more necessity for part-time working, and the rise of the non-fraternity students as a force. The "Indees," indeed, dominated student life during the 'thirties. Early in the decade the Independent Council won recognition in campus politics, sharing in 1931 for the first time several of the class offices. But this did not seem enough; before the end of the year the council began publishing a militant Independent News, a fortnightly eight-page paper sent free to every independent man. The original purpose to rival the Interfraternity Council was rapidly passing, however, and closer relations were established with the Woman's Group System, some of whose customs were adopted by the more loosely organized men. The close co-operation which developed was increasingly evident in relations between the Independents and fraternities. Succeeding years showed less cleavage.

The Independents became even more like the WIS when reorganized as MIDA (Men's Independent District Association) in the fall of 1936, when its ambitious leader was Edgar E. Barton, '36. Each of the thirty districts had its own organization of about 150 men. Interest and enthusiasm varied from district to district, but the central executive

    Illini, Dec. 12, 1931, 1; Jan. 9, 1932, 1.

33. Illini, Nov. 12, 1936, 1.
board was unusually successful. It championed housing regulations, men's residence halls, the Illini Union building, and more sick care than given by the Hospital Association. MIDA was not alone in championing these causes, but the support it gave President Willard and others easily set it apart as a group to which much credit is due. Co-operation with WGS was closer than that of the Independent Council. MIDA's weekly paper, a revived Independent, 1937-1940, sponsored jointly with the WJS, had merit both as a college paper and as a propaganda organ. Other signs of MIDA's awareness of social conditions were its scoffed-at but popular dating bureau, its low-cost dances, and its "campus labor relations board," which tried to get fair wages and conditions for working students.

A third organization entering the independent scheme was the women's Residence Group System (WGS), the "Ressies," formed in 1938 among the women's co-operative houses and Busey and Evans halls. Due partly to the growing popularity of co-operative living and partly to the difference in conditions under which these groups functioned, the new organization took a place beside the Woman's Group System. The women's co-operative houses, owned by the University and dating back to the early post-war years, were always popular, but men's houses on a similar scale coming into vogue in the later 'thirties were disrupted by the war.

That the students also had more serious purposes was seen in more attention to scholastic clubs and to studies. The sophisticated were inclined to regard as patronizing the frequent faculty comment that the interest in scholarship was rising, but the generalization still held. Organizations with vocational interests, and honor societies, were stronger in and after the depression period than they had been since the first World War. Many, such as Sigma Xi, representing scientific scholarship, and Zeta PhiEta, the women's speech honorary, regularly brought in distinguished professional leaders as speakers. There were three or four lectures of this kind every week from September to June
35. The Independent, passim. MIDA's power was probably due less to the perfection of its organization--its elections drew from five hundred to a thousand voters out of the possible six thousand independent men--than to the liveliness of its causes and the vigor in crusading for them.

and nearly as many in the Summer Session. Student chapters of the engineering and scientific societies, more than a dozen agricultural clubs, and others from every academic department boasted larger memberships, and new organizations were being formed.

Scholarly standing of the fraternities and sororities had been a matter of competition since 1914, when semester grade averages were first computed. The fraternity grades had always been lower than the general average for men. Alpha Kappa Lambda, organized in 1918 as the Bushnell Guild and as AKL in 1921, had in its first decade ranked highest among fraternities sixteen out of twenty semesters. Most of the plans to "raise the grade average," however, were sincere but often soon forgotten, until 1930 when Delta Tau Delta installed a preceptor ("house father"), a graduate student who in guiding the members in their studies would create an atmosphere inspiring scholarship. The policy was encouraged by President Chase and Dean Turner; by 1935 twenty-two fraternities had adopted the plan in some form, and most of them showed gains. Viewed over a decade, however, the results were not so certain. The general improvement, such as it was, and which showed only in the second and third decimal places, was due to the rise of several professional-social fraternities which were honorary in character. The general women's average was regularly above the men's and the sororities were often even better, but seldom did any of them come up to the organized houses of the WGS.

A more obvious measure of changing conditions was the passing of some of the time-hallowed side shows of student life. The bonfire and hobo parade which had been part of the gala homecoming week-end were dying traditions. The hobo parade lasted only until 1930, and the bonfire until 1933, when some of the boys went too far in collecting the wrong wood. There was even a falling off of interest in the homecoming game itself; the attendance of alumni seldom equaled that of even the

38. IAM, 9 (January, 1933), 167.

39. "Faculty Advisors for Fraternities," ibid., 11 (November, 1932), 49; (February, 1933), 158. *Illini*, Feb. 5, 1933, 4; Mar. 28, 1933, 1.

leaner years of the 'twenties. The spontaneous exuberance, mourned by 
the Illini and the returning old grads, was indeed gone.

Freshman hazing became a thing of the past too, except as its vest-
iges hung on in fraternity Bell-Week. Boneyard duckings were alumni 
memories. The absurd little green caps worn by fraternity freshmen, 
and the annual spring cap burning, passed with the early years of the 
decade. Chase thought they were childish, to say the least. The last 
"approved" burning, held in 1931, was perhaps reason enough for the bun. 
The Illini account, generous in rhetoric, had it that "lamps were smashed, 
windows broken, confectionaries wrecked, coeds shocked, and townspeople 
insulted as 2,000 frenzied, maddened freshmen, half of them naked, rushed 
about the campus following the annual freshman cap burning." The 
class of '34 was not entirely at fault, but its luckless lot was to stand 
the bills for the five hundred dollars damages. Similarly Bell-Week, another 
it the initiation period for fraternity pledges, was an accumulation of 
many uncomfortable stunts which had grown up through the years and which 
the fraternities were reluctant to give up. "I went through Bell-Week 
myself, and I'm not going to be deprived of the pleasure of helping others 
get it, too." The issue was put squarely before the Interfraternity 
Council by the administration and by campus opinion. The Council, forced 
to act, ordered the substitution of a drably-named "preparatory week" 
or "courtesy week" without the barbarisms. The fraternities outwardly 
agreed to this almost-unanimously, but actual compliance was at best 
slow; only nine houses were on record the following year as having actu-
ally given up pledging, which after all was the most unimaginative "test 
of character." Five years later, in 1940, the Interfraternity Council 
showed for the first time a willingness to enforce its rule. Other 
groups following the same system of initiation were also criticized, 
some, existing as honorary societies, apparently lived only for elections, 
initiations, and badges. These were forced to justify their purposes 
in an investigation of 1936-1937 by the Committee on Student Affairs.
41. Ibid., Apr. 22, 23, 29, 1931.
43. LAM, 15 (December, 1936), 11.
The mischievousness which had always accompanied class activities was almost spent. There was still a good annual snowball fight or two, resulting in broken windows as often as bruised heads. When the snow was deep enough, and the gang large and quick enough, mountainous snowballs appeared suddenly to block the buses and fraternity doors but Champaign’s motorized police rushed quickly to the scene. Old “Pete” Adams, for forty years a campus cop, assured the alumni that 10,500 students were easier to handle than were a thousand in the “old days.” There were some die-hards, however. Sigma Delta Chi, a journalism honorary fraternity, will always be remembered for its troubles. No history of campus humor, real or alleged, is complete without Sigma Delta Chi’s Gridiron Banquet, Axegrinders’ Brawl, and Headliners’ Hop. The fraternity’s special homecoming paper, newly titled each year, was in more recent years a raucous sheet without even the saving grace of real humor. It called to mind the bogus publications that were common in the ’eighties and ’nineties. The edition of 1939, the Bonyard Blast, was especially objectionable and led to probation for SDX. The Axe Grinders’ Brawl, a costume affair to which were invited campus student and faculty “leaders,” began in the early ’thirties with a ride in a railroad coal car over the city street car tracks. But the axe grinders soon ran afoul of the committee on Student Affairs, as was inevitable, and were banned in 1935. The Headliners’ Hop was at best only a milder version.

Those with illusions of college life probably never will concede how little the escapades of a few touched the many. It was easy for most of the ten thousand students to go through four years almost oblivious of the groups which maintained what passed for “school spirit.” Class rivalries and symbolism were dying out. Only the law seniors kept their custom of carrying canes, but even they seemed apologetic. It came as a surprise to the class of 1934 to learn that the tradi-
42. Ibid., 19 (November, 1940), 5.
tional colors were blue and white, red and blue, purple and champagne, and cardinal and gray. This bit of research in the dean's files called for the early scheduling of a "traditions week" looking toward not only the revival of old traditions but the creation of new ones! To find any which would be actively supported by such a loosely-knit student body was of course impossible—but the hunt still goes briskly on, today. A brief flurry of popularity attended the revival in 1939 of the old U of I pin, the quaint blue and gold eight-pointed star designed by Ricker in 1899. But in general the students already had on their bosoms college jewelry of a more modern and personal nature. The fifty-year-old star pin was of interest only to old-timers.

From their fond memories the Illini of recent years look to the smaller groups of which they were a part. There were in 1935 some two hundred "approved" or recognized clubs and possibly as many unrecognized of one kind or another. The latter were usually so informal and so dominated by faculty members that they were in effect faculty groups. Generally, the activities with strong faculty support had more continuity and popularity. In some colleges, notably Commerce and Engineering, clubs were virtually a part of the students' courses. Some seemed to have no relation to anything other than the gregarious instinct. Greek-letter disguises, recognized or unrecognized, appealed to nearly half. The earnest were attracted to associations of professional interest containing undergraduate, graduate, and faculty members. The military and athletics departments had their collateral organizations—the former its clubs representing the ranks as well as the branches of the service. Agricultural students had their choice of some twenty clubs of academic interest, of which nearly half had Greek-letter names. The 4-Hs had a distinctive spirit, less sophisticated than in other colleges, but expressing itself in free and easy good sport. The "Little International" stock show in the fall brought out curried cattle from the University.
47. Code on Student Affairs, Chap. V, "Honorary, Professional, Educational, and Recreational Organizations."
hers and flock in mock parade as a setting for light-hearted merriment by shore boys and milkmaids, and a speech by some such faculty favorite as "Johnny"Lloyd. The Ag Dance, annually renamed the Corn-cob Cotillion, the Plowboy Promenade, the Barnyard Jamboree, etc., attracted couples in gingham and overalls with vegetable corsages and hanging lunchbaskets. The queen was crowned on a throne of baled hay. It was impossible to do without "queens" at any large dance during the thirties.

Student engineering societies worked up the engineering "open-house" which demonstrations and electrical shows/alternated from year to year and attracted large crowds. Usually someone fainted at the demonstration of the electric chair. College social functions were few; the Engineering Ball, lapsing in 1931 after a succession of financial setbacks, was revived in 1934 as St. Patrick's Ball, and, not finding a queen appropriate, crowned the first "St. Pat," William F. Barnes, '34, with a metal halo. Among the departmental groups represented in the Engineering Council the customary activities were smokers and lectures, but the student branch of the American Ceramic Society added an annual "Pig Roast" and faculty roast at which, until tradition had to be sacrificed for the convenience of the large attendance, a pig was roasted and served in the kiln house.

South of Green Street, Der Deutsche Verein gave monthly programs of travelogues, sings, and dramatics in the appropriate vernacular, and Le Cercle Français sponsored French movies. More intermittent have been the groups devoted to literature and writing. The literary section of the Daily Illini disappeared entirely and the only campus outlet for "creative" writing was the Green Cauldron, an English department publication begun in 1931 to stimulate the freshman rhetoric classes. The pages were open only to faculty-selected themes from students of English.

Hard times led in almost every case to thinner and less-frequent issues of student publications and in the case of the College of Commerce

Enterpriser, to complete abandonment. Also noticeable was the changing character of the major journals, the engineers' Technograph and the Ag's Illinois Agriculturist. In 1934 the former, in its forty-eighth volume, laid aside its pretensions to scholarly contents and became more like a trade journal; the latter, changing more gradually, showed that the same forces were at work on it. The war was for these an even greater trial than the depression.

The musically inclined went into the band or the glee clubs, the University Chorus, and the orchestra directed by the School of Music faculty. Each usually gave at least one important concert a year and sometimes took extended tours; Ray Dvorak and the Men's Glee Club made a bus circle tour of Miami, Boston, and Quebec in the summer of 1933. A chorus of more than 150 members annually delighted Christmas season campus audiences with "The Messiah." Operas were the special fare of the reverse-spelled Arepo, which drew its talent largely from music students. "Nannini," "The Barber of Seville," and other standard presentations were performed annually and there was always at least one Gilbert and Sullivan operetta during the year. Women wishing to dance could join Orchesis, which gave an annual recital. The standards and aspirations of these groups were high, for they and their audiences could easily compare the performances with those of the professionals on the Star Course, a series of recitals by outstanding artists and musical and dance organizations arranged by the University Concert and Entertainment Board.

Among the symphonies, the Chicago, Cincinnati, Indianapolis, Minneapolis, and St. Louis orchestras played to the packed Auditorium audiences, as and did the dancers of the Monte Carlo, Jooss, and Ted Shawn groups of the as did introducers, the name of Marian Anderson, Gregor Piatigorsky, Tito Schipa, and Jose Iturbe, indicate the quality of the presentations.

For theatricals the campus looked to its home talent and to the Lim-
60. Council of Administration, Mar. 27, 1931, 32: 90. Illini, Mar. 27, 1931, 1.
The Theater Guild, made up from Mask and Bauble (student players), Pierrot (male players), Faculty Players, and Arapo, gave weekend entertainments ranging from the smart comedy and varieties of Broadway—when they were popular—to the classic drama of Sheridan, Gorki, Molnar, O'Neil, and Rice. Drama at Illinois is distinctly an activity of the students, drawing players from all of them, rather than a pre-professional effort of drama specialists, a fact which has doubtless increased its general appeal. Lighter and more original was the minstrelsy of the Illinois Union and the Homecoming Stunt Shows which used campus events for inspiration, dissecting foibles of the prominent with broadswords and finding wit in much-commented-on characters. The season and the tempo of student life. Another group, the Broadcasters, used the University radio station for their weekly dramatic readings. Pageantry has been virtually confined to the band formations at football games and the May Day activities on the occasion of Mothers' Day, held the week before the national observance. That week end, bringing a thousand mothers to the campus, is marked by the crowning of the May Queen, by banquets, receptions, fraternity sings, and shows.

What had been in days of old the year's great holidays, Homecoming and Interscholastic, began to reflect the tempering of student enthusiasms. Homecoming in its palmy days had included class contests, a hobo band parade, a band concert, mass meeting, carnival, plays, dances, receptions and banquets, and of course the great game. But the planning of so huge an affair was burdensome, and during the 'twenties the enthusiasm for it was already waning. The class scraps were the first to go, and the Chase administration saw the last hobo parade. Student interest shifted to the decoration of houses, and to a stunt show. Homecomers of 1939 still talk about Michigan's coming to Urbana to prove that Harmon was greater than Grange; how an otherwise inconspicuous Zuppke eleven made good the boasts of giant killing which were the theme of many a decoration. Once more the hullabaloo went on far into the next morning, as
in the "old days".

At interscholastic late in May the campus greeted the high school students of the state who came to Urbana to compete for state supremacy. Of the various events scheduled for entertainment, the interscholastic Circus was the most spectacular. During the 'twenties it had at times as many as eight hundred performers in five rings before audiences up to fifteen thousand. But the circus, too, felt the pinch of changing conditions which led to its eventual end. The crowds of visitors who formerly created the holiday spirit dwindled as many of the high school events came to be disposed of in regional contests, leaving only the finals at the Stadium, and automobiles brought in teams at the last minute, taking them home the same day. Less and less originality and consequently of interest in the circus and rising costs of presentation were difficulties the directors did not overcome, so it bowed to the inevitable in 1930. It had no successor, except in a small way the Gymkhana, a depression organization built around the gymnastic team but including women performers. It gave gymnastic, trapeze, dancing, baton twirling, and athletic clowning exhibitions of professional quality for the original purpose of meeting the expenses of the gym team. But Gymkhana, though popular in its decade, became a war casualty when Hartley Price, the gym team coach, marched away. Outside of the mixers of Freshman Week when the newcomers were introduced to the campus, the college social life of perhaps a third of the women and a fourth of the men began just before registration with their self-conscious appearance at the doors of fraternity or sorority houses. This had anticipations and terrors; the destinies of four years and even the longer future seemed to depend on wearing the right clothes, saying the right things, and doing as the Greeks did in general. Rushing was highly standardized. Receptions, teas, house parties, and dinners, each progressively more exclusive,
51. The state high school basketball tournament has undergone the same rearrangement, but basketball still enjoys greater popularity than track and field, and so remains unaffected.

52. C. O. Jackson, '26, "Where, Oh Where Are the College Circus of Yesteryear?" The Fraternity Month, 7 (May, 1940), 33-34.
followed by a "silence day" broken late in the evening by the invita-
tions to pledge, kept self-conscious young women in tension for three
days.

Once the academic year had begun, the chapter parties, usually
dances, were limited to three a semester—a formal, an informal, and
the third a novelty, such as a costume party, hayrake or bobsled ride,
or picnic. In the early 'thirties an orchestra or "name band," as
famous as could be afforded, was a necessity; but the radio and phono-
ograph made deep inroads, even before the depression came on, and have
stayed. Early each fall, freshmen men gathered in Fraternity Park to
run the Skull and Crescent torchlit relay pajama race for a trophy and
new pajamas, and at Thanksgiving time there was the "turkey race," for
which each sorority picked two champions to run over a plain or obstacle
course, the winners taking the turkey and feting their runners at a
dinner. During most of the 'thirties the Interfraternity Ball was a fall
dance. January always brought intensified study; chapter grades were
at stake in the semester examinations. Once these were over, the pledges
were initiated with or without the "character building" of Hell or Fra-
ternity Week, a period having little relation to the calendar.

When spring and porch swings returned, the Pan-Hellenic Ball, once
the most exclusive dance of the year, opened the season of spring formals
and picnics. These were the nights when chaperons repeatedly flashed
the lights and called the reluctant girls to come in; this was romance
in the best college style. "Pin hanging," the college version of "going
steady," which was just short of the marriage engagement, was at its
height during the spring formal season, and ushered in the period of
midnight serenading. At other intervals all through the year there
were receptions, dinners, and other entertainments, making the Greeks'
social year a rich one.
All of this differed from the life of the independent students as much as the elective system did from the older set studies. The independent often floundered in selecting activities and ended up in a single venture, while the fraternities assured their members better opportunities and more variety. House loyalties and reputations demanded at least some leadership, and though the way was open to and resulted in abuse, the net effect was probably helpful. Some "major" activities, such as rated pictures and listing in the Illio, were favored and to some extent were dominated by the fraternities. Among the most popular were the athletic captaincies, the more important honor societies, the class offices and committees, the Illini and Illio and the student government.

Illinois is noted not only for its unusually numerous social fraternities, but also for the number and variety of honoraries represented, some of which have been founded here. Among the latter, and now widely recognized, are Phi Lambda Upsilon (chemistry, 1899), the Order of the Coif (law, 1902), Alpha Omega Alpha (medicine, 1902), Phi Eta Sigma and Alpha Lambda Delta, 1923 and 1924, respectively freshmen men's and women's scholastic honoraries, and a dozen or more others. Even more nationally and locally recognized students for mock heroics in leadership, including the unmournful "Eta Beta—We Got the Gate," whose symbol was the boot and gates ajar for having lost out for Illini senior offices.

For senior women Mortar Board (formerly Phi Delta Psi), the most coveted honor, combined high scholarship and other student eminence. Its midnight round in academic garb and candlelight and an early morning rock garden ceremony gave the wanted blend of thrills and mystery. Torch, a junior class honorary, decorated its initiates with orange scarfs worn each Wednesday after their election in the spring. To be chosen as queen of a dance was recognition of beauty and sometimes of politics; a house with many queens, past and potential, was socially
53. "UI Takes Lead as Founder of Honorary Fraternities," Cham-
paign News-Gazette, Apr. 15, 1945, 10.
secure. There were other honors and awards symbolized by cups and plaques, all highly prized. The same was even more true among the more varied men's activities. Ma-Wan-De, hanging its arrow-head plaque on a conspicuous elm north of University Hall (later, when the Union was built, south of that) was the masculine complement of Mortar Board, and Sachem of Torch. The failure to get one's name on a plaque hanging outside the deans' offices could still be recovered by election to the unrecognized but respectable Blue Pencil (senior men) or Shorter Board (senior women, one member less than Mortar Board). Students of lesser repute might be pictured in local confectionaries, or might join specialized departmental honoraries, with plaques in almost every campus building. The faculty at times wondered whether honors of all kinds were not being reduced to absurdity.

The editorship of the Daily Illini remained as one of the brightest honors of all. From a horde of freshmen proofreaders and reporters, fewer sophomores, and still fewer juniors, emerged one editor and dozens of editorial and managerial assistants, many of whom were privileged to get their names and opinions before the ten thousand students. Viewing themselves as molders of campus opinion, most editors have within them at least mild ambitions to be crusaders. J. Ben Lieberman, '35, was not content with a college paper. In his year the Illini had syndicated comics, columns, and news pictures, and advanced ambitions to become Urbana-Champaign's morning daily. His successors, notably John A. Mabley, '38, sometimes made campaigns out of local vice situations. The Illini has been effective in most of the larger campaigns it has supported in the recent decade and boasts of its freedom from censorship. Its publisher, the Illini Publishing Company, tries to keep in mind that it should give valuable services to students, regardless of profits. Some of its publications are carried on at a loss. The responsible members on the staff of the Illini have been without exception earnest and anxious to keep it up to
the standards which won it the reputation of the "world's greatest college daily" more than a generation ago. Its columns are closed to no one. Even the curious inconsistent liberalism of the national Student League and its later version, the American Student Union, representing one of Illinois' smaller minorities, found expression on the _Illini_ editorial page.

The smart and mildly naughty _Siren_, the campus humor magazine, floundered in 1940 in a final attempt to be funny and profitable. The end had been in sight for some years; scissors and paste did not save it when national publications like the _New Yorker_ affected a new slant of sophistication. More genteel and leisurely was the editing of the annual _Illio_, the unexclusive cyclopedic social register of the campus year. No longer aglow with the roasts, cartoons, poems, stories, and other literary touches which had characterized its origin and growth more and more a huge picture book and little else—the _Illio_ passed from the juniors to the seniors in 1951, who have continued to fill it with thousands of cuts of solemnly regimented organizations and activities, and student leaders, in their dressed-up best.

The class offices became almost wholly ornamental, for there were no class functions left but the dances—the Freshman Frolic, Sophomore Cotillion, Junior Prom, and Senior Ball. The elections did not lose all their interest, however. All the devices and machinations known to politics were eloquently tried—the airplane scattering of party dodgers, the stuffed ballot box, and forced electioneering. But voting was always light. Competitions between the classes were almost unknown to this later generation; the last vestige passed in 1932 when the Woman's Athletic Association changed its sports program from a class to a residential 54 group basis. Of real student government there was very little in spite of the Student Council, composed of the presidents of major activities,
such as the junior and senior class presidents, and the principals of
the Illini and Illio staffs—an obvious copy of the old Council of Ad-
ministration. The Student Council’s desuetude was matched only by the
general disinterest in it.

When President Chase suggested the appointment of a student com-
mittee to advise the Committee on Student Affairs, interest began to
revive. A demand arose, first, for a more representative government,
and then for one that did things. The first objective was gained in
the spring of 1934 when three sophomores—John J. Brandlin, Albert R.
Irle, Joe M. Gartner, and William L. Day, ’34, the Illini editor—
won support for the creation of a Student Senate of fifty-four members,
thirty-two elective and twenty-two ex-officio (the older Student Council),
with recommendatory powers. The second objective was won in early
1936 in a reorganization reducing the membership to twenty-four and mak-
ing the Student Senate a co-ordinate of the Committee on Student Affairs,
allowing the student government authority to initiate general regulations,
and authorizing student participation in the subcommittees of the faculty
committee. An active student government resulted. Though not getting
complete support, it was successful within the limits set for it. Stu-
dent interest was stimulated in the broader questions of policy. Among
the more specific results were better controls over dance committees,
the abolition of useless “honor” organizations, promotion of plans for
men’s dormitories and the union building, and aid in making housing re-
gulations. A weakness, however, was that the Student Senate and the Com-
mittee on Student Affairs were only two among some thirty student
and faculty agencies having anything to do with the direction of student
activities.

Among the others, the Illinois Union and the Woman’s League were
service organizations which theoretically included all the students.

The League, named in 1898 "Watcheka" by the first dean of women at the suggestion of Dean Kinley "to further a spirit of unity among University women," became the most highly organized campus social group as a result of Dean Leonard's further stimulation in the 'twenties. Its first council brought together weekly the presidents of a hundred sorority chapters, other organized houses, and societies and co-ordinated their activities; the second council had charge of the Woman's Group System (WGS); and later the third council became the governing body of the residence hall women. Besides sponsoring its own program, the League stood ready to join with others to promote useful activities. The Illinois Union, which had been formed in 1909 "to promote Illinois spirit and loyalty by all possible means, and to foster all legitimate forms of student activities," was also a kind of government, co-operating with the League and others in arranging the annual fall homecoming, the stunt shows, sings, house decoration contests, the Dads' Day and Mothers' Day week ends. The Union itself sponsored activities as various as bowling and billiards exhibitions, ping pong tournaments, weekly dances, beauty contests, a book exchange, a billiard room, and a bowling alley. Saddled with debts, the Union had an uphill struggle, both to clear itself financially and to do things for the students in spite of their indifference. Unlike the more closely guided and rent-free Woman's League, the Union had to fight its own battles. Its program of income-producing ventures was never strong enough to meet large payments of interest, principal and upkeep on its buildings. The various Union boards and their manager, E. E. Stafford, '20, never have been given the credit they deserved for carrying an impossible financial burden and at the same time keeping up a fair activity program. They paid off nearly a hundred thousand dollars in debt, deeded to the University an equity of almost that much in two buildings, and presented some twenty thousand dollars to the new Union.

Other spheres of autonomy were the many student-faculty boards gov-
57. See *Illinois Leaves*, annual booklet for freshmen and transfer women students published by the Woman’s League.

erning specialized activities: the Illini Board of Control, the University Concert and Entertainment Board, the Student-Alumni Association, the Theater Guild, and others. There was friction and little co-ordination. More pleasant to anticipate was the place to be taken by the proposed new union building which in 1934-1939 grew from fond hopes to definite plans.

The union building idea, proposing a center for all student activities and a unified program, was nothing new to the Illinois students of the 'thirties. The Illini, the Alumni Association, the Illinois Union, and other organizations had planned and campaigned for it for nearly thirty years, but in 1921 the students voted to build the Stadium first. Also in that year the Illinois Union opened its lounges and offices in the former YMCA building, and began a program of expansion. At the end of the decade the student insistence on a better building was again stimulated by the erection of million-dollar unions at Purdue, Wisconsin, Iowa, and Indiana. The Illinois difficulty was of course financial; state appropriations were out of the question as long as there were more urgent academic needs. That plans were studied seriously in 1934 was due chiefly to President Willard, who took an immediate and lasting interest. He received prompt co-operation from the Alumni Association, which within a year created the University of Illinois Foundation to begin raising funds. But the prominence with which construction was begun in the summer of 1939 was due to a grant by the Public Works Administration and a loan.

The consolidation of student activities to fit them in a general plan utilizing the coming new Union had been discussed by the Committee on Student Affairs as early as March, 1935, and from then on several plans were in mind. The Committee on Student Affairs proposed the centralization of all activities in an Illini Union headed by the president.
59. Committee on Student Affairs, Minutes, Mar. 21, 1935, 1934-1935; 96.
of the University or a vice-president. But this was not done. During the next few years every organization concerned with handling student affairs was scrutinized and in some cases changed. Student pressure, largely from the Student Senate and MIDA (independent men) brought about the addition of two student members to the faculty's committee on discipline, and in 1940 the Committee on Student Affairs was itself recast to admit six students, four with voting privileges. As a result of suggestions furiously argued, the Student Senate emerged with a clearer idea of its powers. The only notable casualty was the old Illinois Union, which was in an awkward position. Its hope that it represented the men students was an ideal hardly evident in the membership of only ten per cent. In spite of its traditional place on the campus, its name was to be taken away to prevent confusion with the new union, of and for all students, women as well as men. To meet the demands of the Committee on Student Affairs the old Union was renamed the Men's League, a complement of the Woman's League, in the spring of 1940. The two leagues were to co-ordinate the activities of all the students.

When the long-anticipated Illini Union Building was opened in February, 1941, it exceeded every expectation. As a building it was an architectural gem in the American Georgian style of other campus structures built in the past two decades, and was richly reminiscent of old Williamsburg. One of the lounges was decorated in pine to suggest masculine informality; another was more delicately feminine, in the good taste of its eighteenth century name, Wedgwood. The faculty-alumni lounge, the dining rooms, offices, and meeting rooms were superbly adapted to their purposes, as were the browsing room, the bowling alleys and other game rooms, the soda fountain, and a large phonograph record library. The building and its facilities were endowed with a broad purpose by President Willard, who looked upon it as one of the most impor-

61. Independent, Nov. 4, 1939, 1.

62. Committee on Student Affairs, Minutes, Sept. 17, 1940, 1940-1941, 2.

63. In the critical election of 1940, when the Union's life was at stake, only 429 votes were cast. Illini, Apr. 13, 1940, 1.

64. Committee on Student Affairs, Minutes, May 9, June 4 and 8, 1940, 1939-1940; 97-100, 113-115, 118-124.
tant achievements of his administration. "The aim," he said, "was to erect a building which would be not only a distinguished social center open to all students, faculty, and alumni, but also inspire those who use it with the best traditions of our early American way of life."

The general director, Vern L. Kretschmer, '31, had been president of the old union in his student days. The social director, Irene Pierson, '25, assistant dean of women, soon had under way a student-directed program of music appreciation hours, dance and etiquette instruction, hobby groups, tournaments, student-faculty coffee hours, discussions, and dances. A little later a "ninety-nine cent night club"—the Club Commons—became a popular Friday night diversion complete with floor shows by student talent. The Illini Union Building was a success.

Meanwhile, the second year's trial of the dual student league system showed that the larger problem of unification of student activities was not yet solved. In the late spring of 1942 an entirely new organization, the Illini Union Board, replaced the leagues in the Union activity program. It included nine students, three faculty representatives, one from the Alumni Association, the Union Building manager, and the social director. The new board was given overall charge of three activity divisions: faculty, alumni, and student, the latter with some thirty departments and committees. This plan, in spite of the war-time dislocations, promised success, but its real test would come in the years that lay ahead, when "the thousands" again returned.

Further centralization of student activities came from the Survey Report of the American Council on Education in early 1943. Commanding the progress already made, the report recommended that responsibility be centered in one administrator. President Willard proposed and the trustees approved a dean of students, including the nomination of Fred H. Turner. This step was indeed almost inevitable. Such an office,
65. The Illini Union at the University of Illinois (Urbana-Champaign, 1941), 1.

66. BT, '44: 80-82.


68. BT, '44: 494-496. IAH, 22 (September, 1945), 3.
responsible for the health service, McKinley Hospital, housing, the residence halls, counseling, and organized activities for women as well as for men had been brought to the point of action by the trustees as early as 1931 and similar plans had been much discussed since that time. A steady accretion of duties was again making the dean of men's office the administrative center for student activities, especially after Dean Turner was made executive secretary of the Committee on Student Affairs in 1939. His appointment to the new office was also a logical choice. He knew the University intimately; his three degrees were from Illinois, his Ph.D. thesis being a critical review of the University's founding. He had been Dean Clark's assistant for nearly a decade, and his successor as dean of men for another. Miss Leonard continued as dean of women until her retirement in 1945, when she was succeeded by Leah Fullenwider Trelease, and the office of dean of men was filled by E. E. Stafford, for many years business manager of the old Illinois Union, and for a time the field secretary of the Alumni Association.

Of the more than three hundred organizations from which recognition was withdrawn in 1942 the great majority justified their right to continue, and functioned without interruption or impairment of their aims. The YMCAs and the YWCA, the oldest of campus organizations, with long and enviable records of student service, were among the first to be restored. Many of their functions were jointly conducted, as was the Sunday Evening Club which brought in prominent religious leaders, and they have always been important in the orientation of new students, the development of closer student-faculty relations, and the general promotion of student welfare. Henry E. Wilson, the general secretary, and M. I. Coldwell, his principal associate, watched over YM affairs for more than twenty-five years, in quarters ranging from the building now known as Illini Hall, erected by the Y in 1908, to a standard army hut on the corner of Wright and Green, two residences, and finally the pleasant, well-equipped
70. The investigation of student organizations had been going on since 1935, when a subcommittee on Educational and Honorary Organizations was established by the Committee on Student Affairs. See Minutes, Jan. 23, 1936-1937, 124. The reports of this committee, touching honor societies, may be found in the committee minutes, Mar. 12, 19, and May 12, 1937, 1936-1937; 163-164, 166, 201-203.
building dedicated in 1939 at the corner of Wright and Chalmers, where more students pass daily than at any other place on or near the campus. The Y's are no longer the only religious organizations at the campus, but their programs have been adapted to fit in with others, bringing together the various religious efforts, and "most of all in holding up Christianity as a living principle before the entire student body as a definite part of the life on the campus."

Foundations maintained by the churches having large student memberships were among the best of campus agencies providing congenial, home-like social opportunities. Attracting student groups of from fifty to six hundred, the libraries, study rooms, music and hobby rooms, and the social and religious programs stimulated informal personal friendships and group spirit to an extent which few other organizations could match. The sympathetic guidance by scholarly clergymen is remembered by several generations of students: James C. Baker and Paul Burt at the Methodists' Wesley; Abram L. Sachar, a distinguished historian of Judaism, at Hillel; John O'Brien, the Catholic philosopher, at Newman; the venerable Stephen E. Fisher at the Disciples'; and Walter J. Malone at the Presbyterians' McKinley. They have developed social and religious centers of the highest type. There is at least one church of every faith regarding itself as a student church. Some have helped student housing by building residence halls. Presbyterian Hall has been a home for women since 1911, and Newman Hall, maintained by the Catholic Newman Foundation, with rooms and social quarters for over three hundred men, is the largest single residence unit for either men or women near the campus. More recently the foundations have aided students in founding and managing co-operative houses, a movement in which the Congregational Pilgrim Foundation led. Another contribution has been the growth of inter-church comity, perhaps best represented by Hillel's establishment of the Edward Chauncey Baldwin Memorial Award, a fellowship of three hundred dollars,
71. "Sixty Years With the Y.M.C.A.," IAM, 12 (February, 1934), 156.
   "Y. M.C.A. Building is Dedicated," ibid., 17 (June, 1930), 7.

72. Wilson, The University of Illinois Young Men's Christian Association, 111-112.
to reward student leadership in promoting interfaith good will. Loyalties have been developed which larger, impersonal University groups have not been able to command. The foundations have been integrating forces in campus life often underestimated.

Of the 57,000 graduates and the 90,000 non-graduates enrolled before 1940, one of the largest alumni bodies listed by any university, seventy-five per cent had been in attendance during the last twenty years and the average age, as reported by Glyn Goodwine, records keeper and treasurer of the Alumni Association, was only thirty-two. The continuity of the classes from the first one, 1872, was unbroken until as late as 1938, when the last graduate members of '73 and '75 died. As among all large universities, alumni unity has become harder and harder to maintain. Among the more recent classes of large membership, it has been almost impossible to carry on alumni activities of the usual type. What class secretary could cope with the 2,344 undergraduates in the class of '39, not to mention the 1,171 advanced degree holders? The combined Alumni Association and Alumni Records office has tried to keep the addresses of one and all and to keep them informed of University events, but the task becomes harder each year, as C. E. Bowen, '22, the present director, will attest.

From eighty to a hundred Illini clubs, about half of them in the state of Illinois, maintained connections, some rather slight, with the Alumni Association. The enchantment is still greatest at a distance; New York, Cleveland, Detroit, St. Louis, Kansas City, and Los Angeles clubs are the strongest outside of the Chicago area. For some years a Tokyo club sent annual greetings, and scattered Illini in the Philippines

and China discovered their potential strength when they gathered to greet President Kinley on his post-presidential tour of the Orient in early 1931. The *Illinois Alumni News*, successor in 1921 to the *Alumni Quarterly* and *Alumni Quarterly and Fortnightly Notes*, edited for twenty-four years by Carl Stephens, and now by J. O. Colvin, had readers on every continent. When the *News* was combined in 1940 with the *Illini News*, the organ of the Foundation, a news-print tabloid format was adopted to permit economical free monthly distribution to as many Illini as had reliable addresses. By 1946 it was reaching 75,000 of them, more than a thousand of whom had foreign homes—the widest circulation of any alumni paper. Large audiences of the faithful and their friends had also been reached by several editions of *The Illini Trail*, a sound film picturing the campus and its personalities in the early 'thirties. Like other campus organizations and the University administration itself, the Alumni Association was examining itself and reorganizing.

One important thing it did was to sponsor the Student-Alumni Association, "to promote the welfare of the University in the communities from which the students come." This it tried to do by working with student Illini clubs, by presenting Illios to high schools and by helping with the Union financial campaign in various communities, all under the direction of W. J. Pfister. It also sponsored Founders Day programs. To raise money to carry on it held campus dances which became major events but brought it into conflict with other organizations, and it lost its identity in the sweeping realignment of student activities in 1942 when many of them were absorbed into the new Illini Union. To some extent the Student-Alumni Association represented an awakening of alumni interest at the undergraduate level, where the Committee of Nine had said it must begin. According to its thought, the University in order to have better alumni must have better students. Student loyalty could be helped by better teaching and a less paternalistic administration. The


oft-heard statement that the University was "too big to love" was not necessarily true. The Committee of Nine especially noted that the trend was away from class organizations and urged that more attention be given to college and department alumni groups. The idea was not new; the Library School Association had carried on a successful venture for years and was publishing a semi-annual News Letter, and the College of Dentistry Alumni Association, formed in 1902, had since 1914 issued a quarterly Bulletin. Revivals of other divisional groups took place in the 'thirties, leading to the issuance of periodic circulars which in some cases became magazines: the Journalism Alumni News Notes (1938), the Pharmacology Bulletin (1940), the Medical Alumni Association Bulletin (1941), and numerous departmental circulars.

Cynics have said that the main reason for alumni associations, foundations, and publications is to get more money from more alumni. But alumni contributions can be several other things besides money. They can be contributions of good will, which a state university especially must have if it is to move forward; of personal services such as interviewing, and writing to, persons and newspapers not inclined to be especially friendly to the University.

If the best alumni associations are self supported, as some authorities think they should be, then the Illinois Alumni Association does not rank with the best; for several years it has been liberally subsidized by the University, but with the present understanding that it will get on its own feet as soon as possible. It is interesting to note, however, that very few alumni associations of other universities are
78. IAN, 9 (July, 1931), 450; Ibid, (October), 5.

79. The earlier alumni of the three Chicago colleges were represented in the Scalpel and Plexus (medical and dental), and in the Pharmacist and Apothecary (pharmaceutical.)
self-supporting; that in order to become independent they must either curtail some of their more expensive activities, or discover some new magic by which they can bring more alumni into membership.

The old Alumni Fund, begun in the early 'twenties, supervised by the then executive manager of the Alumni Association, C. J. Roseberry, and used first to help finance Lorado Taft's "Alma Mater," became the U. of I. Foundation in 1935 with a board of twelve directors. With Glenn M. Hobbs, '91, as the first director it was the center of the campaign to raise money for the building and furnishing of the new Illini Union and also was important as the trustee in the financing of several other PWA building projects at the University. Mainly the purpose of the Foundation is to promote giving of all kinds to the University. Its first publication was a quarterly bulletin, becoming later the Illini News which was finally merged with the Alumni News.

The two advances standing out in the student life of 1930-1940, the coming of President Chase in 1930 and the building of the Illini Union by President Willard ten years later, have helped make the campus more inspiring and livable. Chase with his disdain of the many paternalistic rules for students which had been laboriously accumulated through the years almost reached the stature of a liberator. His belief that young men and women could behave themselves on their own responsibilities, un-
disciplined by deans of men and women though still within their advisory care, was hardly realized in the short time he was here, though the number of sections in the booklet Regulations for the Guidance of Undergraduate Students was reduced from one hundred thirty-eight to forty-three. President Willard and Dean Turner have intelligently carried forward much of the Chase philosophy. It emerged strengthened rather than weakened by the great depression, and has its part no doubt in the new democracy one feels in the Illinois of today. The next step, the Illini Union building and the sweeping reorganization of student affairs centering in it, can be looked back upon by President Willard as one of his greatest achievements.