

*The*  
**WILKES ALUMNUS**

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FIRST COMMENCEMENT  
(See Page 3)

*Summer*  
*Edition*  
1948



# The WILKES ALUMNUS

Official Publication of the Wilkes College Alumni Association

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(Cover Story)

## FIRST WILKES GRADS RECEIVE DIPLOMAS

On Saturday evening, June 12, the first four-year graduates of Wilkes College received their bachelors degrees. A capacity crowd witnessed the ceremony, held in the First Presbyterian Church, S. Franklin St. Sixty-five students were awarded diplomas from Bucknell University for work done at Wilkes. Bucknell degrees were granted because of a ruling that makes it mandatory for a college to graduate one class before it can be fully accredited.

A breakdown of the graduates according to degrees reveals that twenty-five received the Bachelor of Arts, eight received the Bachelor of Science in Biology, thirty-one received the Bachelor of Science in Commerce and Finance, and two received the Bachelor of Science in Education. In addition to the four-year graduates, certificates were awarded to sixty-five terminal students, most of whom were engineering students who will transfer to other schools for the last two years of work.

Two graduates received awards at the ceremony. John G. Gooch was awarded the Dobson Medal in Accounting for outstanding scholastic work in that field. Reese E. Pelton received the Service Award for responsibility assumed in creating and training the college band.

The graduation address was delivered by Dr. Everett Hunt, Dean of Swarthmore College. Diplomas were presented to graduates by Dr. William Coleman, Dean of Bucknell University, and to the convocants by Dr. Farley. Two selections were offered by the Wilkes College Choral Club under the direction of Mr. Donald E. Cobleigh. Rev. Charles Roush gave the benediction. Mr. Charles Henderson played the organ and recessional.

In his address Dr. Hunt told graduates that, "instead of trying to cure the world, you might learn to endure it." He explained that by enduring the hardships of life one actually helps to cure the ills. The Dean offered four suggestions to the graduates which he considered necessary for a well-balanced life: "Satisfying work, a satisfying amount of play, a large amount of love and a reverend attitude of worship."

The ceremony was preceded by a buffet luncheon served to graduates and convocants on the campus behind Chase Hall.

## Seniors Donate Trophy Case

The Class of 1948 unanimously voted to present a trophy case to the college as a class gift. The case will be built into the wall of the proposed gymnasium to be built on S. Franklin Street. At present the athletic department has been awarded several trophies and there are no means for their display.

Among trophies awarded to the school are the Dr. McNeal Trophy, presented for an undefeated record during the first year of participation in collegiate football, and a trophy awarded to the basketball team for placing in the Pennsylvania Junior College Tournament.

## EDITORIAL

With this issue of the *Wilkes Alumnus* we are beginning the periodical publication of a magazine to be devoted to the task of continuing relationships between Wilkes College and its alumni, including graduates of B. U. J. C.

In publishing this periodical we have two primary aims. First, we intend to inform each alumnus of the latest developments and additions to his Alma Mater. Wilkes College is now in the process of rapid growth and through the medium of this magazine each grad will share the pride of the faculty and undergraduates.

The second aim is to help each alumnus discover what his former classmates are doing and to assist the Alumni Association in bringing groups of graduates together into closer contact. Activities being considered for the coming year include a huge Homecoming celebration during the football season and a reunion program to be held next spring in connection with graduation events.

There is one way in which each alumnus can help to make both this magazine and the association a success. Send us any scraps of information you may have concerning both alumni and the college, and above all, send you personal comments and suggestions for improving alumni relations. If you have recently moved, received a new position or promotion, been married, received recognitions, etc., be sure to write. We shall eagerly await your card or letter; with your aid we shall progress with Wilkes.

REESE E. PELTON,  
*Alumni Secretary*



CHINESE STUDENTS STUDY HERE . . .

The student body of Wilkes is gradually assuming an international aspect. Above are Miss Irene Wang and Miss May Way, two Chinese students now studying at the college. Students from Columbia, Nicaragua, and El Salvador are also enrolled.



# An Open Letter from The President of the Alumni Association

Dear Alumni:

This year should be outstanding in the history of our Alumni Association and our Alma Mater will do all in her power to insure the attainment of this goal. We start the year with an acting Alumni Secretary, Mr. Reese E. Pelton, at the college. I have had the pleasure of working with Reese, know him to be a hard worker, and feel confident that much will be accomplished. At last we have an office of our own. This office is on the third floor of Chase Hall and we invite you to drop in to see us anytime you are in town. We hope to get all our tangled records in order and in one office by the end of this summer. I am going to count on your help for any missing information you may be asked to give or can volunteer and, as your President, have volunteered to give all my free time over to this work.

We have a fine new constitution to work under and in it there are provisions for branch organizations. We want branch clubs. If you would like to see one in your area, write to us and we will put you in touch with others in your area who are interested and supply you with names and addresses of Alumni living in your area. Branches, aside from contributing to the growth and prestige of our Alma Mater, provide opportunities for renewing old friendships, good fellowship, and many good times and memories among people with common backgrounds and interests. The Alumni Office of Wilkes College stands ready and waiting to help you. The Wilkes-Barre Association meets the first Monday of every month, September through May, (the September meeting is held on the second Monday), at 8:00 P. M. in Chase Hall. If you live in this vicinity or are in town that day, we invite you attend the meetings.

I can't tell you in words what this college has meant to me, for without the start I received at B.U. J.C. I would be minus a college education today. Many of you have the same deep feeling I have and know that it was the economy and convenience of a college in your own community that gave you the opportunity to go to college. There are others among you have other reasons for loving this college. Some of you like myself looked forward and worked for the day that B.U.J.C. would become a four year college and now that we have obtained that goal our task instead of ending has just begun. We know our college needs more new facilities and that a gymnasium is of prime importance for accreditation. It is now that Wilkes College has a definite need to expand, and it is to us, the Alumni, that a large portion of this task should fall.

With this issue of the *Alumnus* comes the first information about that Wilkes College Alumni Building Fund. This program is not a "matter of the moment." It has been presented to you after much deliberation and study on our part.

First, it should be emphasized that you will never be told that you owe Wilkes anything. Maybe you do, but you will never be reminded of it and it is hoped that no one will contribute because of that feeling. The Fund Committee wants you to give what you are able to give because of your love and respect for Wilkes and because of her need to better serve the many young people who are annually clamoring for permission to come to your Alma Mater. For the institution which does not continuously grow in the quality of its service will lose not only the respect of its Alumni but also that of the public. None of us have achieved great wealth, but if we all give our small share we will build a fund that will go a long way toward making Wilkes the college we want her to be. In this issue of the *Alumnus* you will find a coupon for that purpose. I hope that you will make use of it.

Wilkes today takes its place among the institutions whose Alumni take pride in the privilege of becoming investors in the future of their Alma Mater and of a system of government which we consider the best.

We have many more plans for the coming year in the blueprint stage and I intend to see that I receive your co-operation in carrying them out to final success.

I would appreciate hearing from you and would welcome any suggestions on your part for improvement of our program. I close my letter to you with high hopes of a bigger and better year in Wilkes Alumni history.

Sincerely yours,

DANIEL E. WILLIAMS, *President,*  
*Wilkes College Alumni Association.*

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## Frosh Rated High

Wilkes College recently participated in a Psychological Examination program conducted by the American Council on Education. Over 65,276 college freshmen from 293 colleges participated in the survey. Results of the survey recently came from the Council's headquarters at the University of Chicago. Wilkes College freshmen achieved the rank score of 16th among the 293 participating colleges. The testing functions which the Council has sponsored will in the future be a part of the Educational Testing Service.

## Alumni Dinner-Dance Huge Success

Approximately 70 Alumni and guests attended the Wilkes College Alumni Association's 3rd annual dinner-dance on Saturday evening, May 29, at the Commercial Club, Harvey's Lake. Leon Wazeter, a former president of the Association, was chairman of the committee for this affair. This committee really worked hard and the members are to be congratulated for their efforts.

After dinner we were formally welcomed by Danny Williams, president of the Alumni Association, who turned us over to the toastmaster, Atty. Ralph Johnston. Ralph left his court-room dignity at home and informality was the keynote. The principal speakers were President Farley and Dr. Roy C. Tasker. Dr. Tasker was formerly professor of biology at B.U.J.C. and is now at Bucknell University.

Dr. Farley amazed the Alumni present with his report of the changes at our Alma Mater, but injected a serious note when he mentioned the need of a gymnasium for accreditation. The new buildings, the new use of the old ones, the size of the faculty, the enrollment, and plans for the future were astonishing and seemed like a dream fulfilled to some of the oldtimers. After Dr. Farley's talk we were all eager to attend our first real homecoming day so we could actually inspect all these changes.

Dr. Tasker proved to be an interesting and entertaining speaker. He told us of the great strides of science and pointed out the similarity between this progress and our future possibilities. We were all amused when he produced some old copies of the *Beacon* and passed them around so we could see what we were doing back in our college days.

During the course of the evening we had a few vocal selections by William Burnaford with Betty Schwager at the piano. At the conclusion of the program we turned our attention to dancing and renewing old friendships until late in the evening.

Those in attendance were Dr. and Mrs. Eugene S. Farley, Dr. and Mrs. Roy C. Tasker, Atty. Ralph Johnston, Daniel E. Williams, Naomi Hons, Carol Kearns, June M. Owens, William M. Toplis, Katherine P. Freund, Sallyanne Frank, William L. Wentz, Harold Rosinn, Andrew P. O'Malley, Rita O'Malley, Joseph P. Brislin, Mary R. Brislin, Dr. Frank Speicher, Mrs. Treveryan Williams Speicher, Thomas G. Duffy, Claire L. Duffy, D. A. Frederick, Irene Frederick, Lillian Evans, Walter Casmark, William C. Davis, Genevieve Brennan Davis, Marion Martin, Marlan Frantz, Evelyn Hudak, William Burnaford, William Waters, Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Conway, Margaret Graham, Dorothy Hughes Royer, Robert D. Royer, Gertrude Marvin, Dr. Robert M. Kerr, Cordis Langdon, Dr. William F. Dowdell, Atty. Joseph V. Gallagher, Irene Stroney, Atty. Leon F. Rokusz, Laura Rokusz, Leon Wazeter, Betty Marlino, Evelyn Feinstein, Aileen M. Carr, Betty Schwager, Marge Krashkevich, Mr. and Mrs. Kornblatt, James Mollahan, Joseph B. Farrell, Betty McGinty, Louise M. Jones, Robert B. Eastwood, Charlotte Davis, Robert Wentz, John McCann, Scotty Ruthaford, Stephen Wartella, Loretta Farris, and Joseph Weir.

Everyone had a wonderful time and we look forward to more affairs like this. Next time we want to see even more Alumni, and hope to meet more wives and husbands.



### ALUMNI DANCE . . .

Last Christmas a large number of us living in the Wilkes-Barre area attended the Annual Alumni Dance in the Crystal Ballroom of Hotel Sterling. The Association plans to enlarge its social calendar for the coming year.

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## Library To Occupy Entire Building

Plans are at present underway to greatly expand both the facilities and contents of the college library. When the task is completed the library will occupy virtually all of Kirby Hall.

By this fall most of the changes and additions will have been made. The first floor will stand much as it now is; main desk, reference rooms, study rooms, and new book arrivals. The second floor will contain the bulk of the 15,000 books now on hand, a working area of two rooms, and the all-important card catalogue. Floor three, at present occupied by Dr. and Mrs. Farley, will be transformed into study rooms. It is expected that the former music room will become a browsing room for light reading.

Over 4,000 new books have been purchased by the library during the past year and the drive is not over yet. Before September, 1949, the shelves are expected to contain more than 20,000 volumes.

When the present expansion is completed the library will provide chair space for 150 students. Some new aluminum chairs and steel tables were recently installed in the reference room and from all reports the third floor study rooms will be similarly equipped. Fluorescent lighting will also be installed.

The library staff is to be increased from three to four. Present members are Joseph H. Myers, Librarian; Mrs. Nada Vujica, Circulation Assistant; and Miss Ellen Brennan, Ordering Assistant. Mr. Myers received his A. B. at Lehigh University and his B. S. in Library Science from McGill University, Montreal, Canada. The new member of the staff will be Miss Marian E. Nicolls of Saskatchewan, Canada. She is a graduate of McGill University and will be in charge of cataloguing.



## ON CAMPUS

The 1947-48 school year at Wilkes saw the establishment of a great many new activities, the basis for an expanded curricular and extra-curricular program. This was a year of "firsts" and alumni will be interested in noticing the growth. Here are some "firsts" —

### Annual Cinderella Ball . . .

Not a first, but of interest as a thoroughly established activity, the "Cindy Hop" is the peak of social activity at Wilkes. Ten lovely candidates for Cinderella are chosen weeks before the affair, at a special assembly. Then the entire student body votes by secret mail ballot. The winner is announced during intermission of the dance and in a colorful ceremony is crowned by the "name" orchestra leader, and presented with a wealth of gifts donated by local merchants. Last year Charlie Spivak entertained; this year 800 couples danced to the music of Tommy Dorsey & Co. and Miss Peggy Woolcock '48 was the choice for Cinderella.

### Band Concert . . .

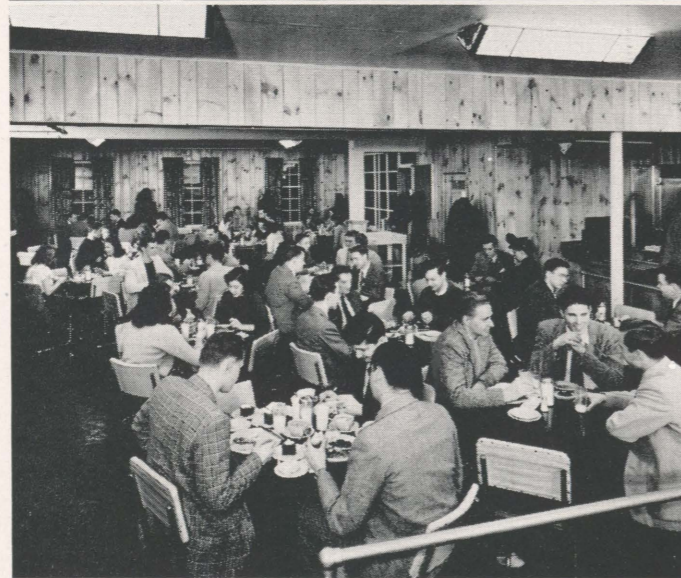
The College Band, now in its second year of existence, concluded a successful season by presenting an outdoor concert before a large, appreciative audience on the campus behind Kirby and Chase Halls. The band, which for the past two football seasons added color to the grid contests, consists of forty student musicians. The public concert was presented at night and the program included a wide variety of selections plus trombone, flute, and piano soloists. This concert will be presented annually.

### Wilkes College Rings . . .

As the result of a vote taken by the senior class, Wilkes College now has an official college ring. Any type of stone desired may be mounted on the circular face which is surrounded by the lettering "Wilkes College". One shank of the ring pictures the college seal, a woodcut of old Fort Durkee, and the other side has a likeness of Chase Hall. The class year is on the outside of the ring while the initials and degree received are engraved on the inside. Mr. A. T. Nolan, N. Franklin St., who represents the Balfour Co., is taking orders for the rings.

### Awards Dance . . .

Five theatrical "Oscars", a plaque, and numerous individual awards were given out at the first Annual Awards Dance held at Sans Souci Park by the Student Council. The "Oscars" were awarded for the two best leading roles, the two best supporting parts, and for the best technical work. The plaque was awarded for outstanding work with the college band. Pins or keys were awarded to the following organizations; Concert Band, Majorettes, Thespians, Beacon Staff, Cheerleaders, Choral Club, and the Student Council. Athletic Awards were made at a later date.



COLLEGE FACILITIES EXPAND . . .  
Top to Bottom: An engineering drawing room, part of the new cafeteria, main desk of library.

### Public Relations Department . . .

Publicity at Wilkes College is now being handled by John C. Bush '42 and Tom Moran '49. Bush is sports editor of the Sunday Independent at the present time and handles general publicity at the college. He graduated from Bucknell University in 1942 and entered the navy as an ensign. Following his discharge from service, Bush resumed his work with the Bucknell University Public Relations Department and in 1946 came back to Wilkes-Barre as a member of the Sunday Independent's staff. Moran, also a member of the Sunday Independent staff, is a student at Wilkes College and will graduate in February '49. At present he is Director of Sports Publicity and assistant to Bush on the general publicity staff.

### Placement Center and Careers Library . . .

The new Placement Center of the college, under the supervision of Mr. Clarence Boston, is endeavoring to find positions that graduating students are qualified to fill. Mr. Paul Mehm, head of the Careers Advising Dept. is chief librarian for what is believed to be the most unique, complete library of its kind. Employment and career reports for all types of positions on three continents are available to those interested. In addition, information on Corporation scholarships is at the office.



## College Offers Safety Courses

The new Wilkes College Bureau of Safety, under the direction of Clemens A. Pell '48 is offering two courses in safety education. The two courses are General Safety and Driver Training and Education. Each course is six weeks in duration and students taking them receive college credits.

Successful completion of these two courses entitles the student to receive certification to teach the subjects in public secondary schools of Pennsylvania. Beginning in September, 1948, teachers in all public schools of Pennsylvania will be required to have six hours credit in safety.

The Driver Training course consists of class work and actual behind-the-wheel training and leads toward the completion of requirements for acquiring a driver's license. The college has a dual-control training car for the "fledgling" drivers. The course in General Safety covers all types of safety practices and unlike the driving course requires payment of semester hour fees.

Mr. Pell is a member of the Wilkes-Barre Police Department on leave of absence. He received his B. S. in Commerce and Finance this year at Wilkes.

## The Faculty

### Dr. Craig Abroad . . .

Dr. Mary E. Craig, head of the Wilkes English Department, will sail June 23 for the British Isles aboard the S. S. America. She hopes to attend the Edinburgh Music Festival, the Malvern Festival, and the Olympic Games at Wimbley. Dr. Craig also plans to renew old acquaintances at the various universities and to visit the Hebrides.

Dr. Craig recently received news that her book, *The Scottish Periodical Press 1750-1789*, published at Edinburgh in 1931, has had a seventeen year sale in the British Isles. This is the first news she has received on the publication in five years.

Dr. Craig will leave England for the return trip to the United States on September 2.

Mr. Edward Williams, professor of English, will leave this month for Columbia University where he will take work leading to the Doctor's degree. For the past several semesters Mr. Williams has been a familiar figure before the American Literature classes. He was master of ceremonies at the senior dinner-dance held recently. Mr. Williams will return to Wilkes in the fall of 1949.

Mr. Konstantin Symonolewicz, head of the Wilkes College Sociology Department, is attending Columbia University where he is writing the thesis that will ultimately bring him a Doctorate. Mr. Symonolewicz has also been teaching Polish courses at Wilkes and was instrumental in arousing interest in establishing a Slavic Culture Center at the college.

Mr. Elwood Disque, head of the Foreign Language Department, is working on his Doctor's thesis here in Wilkes-Barre. The German professor was working on the paper several years ago when Uncle Sam interrupted him.

Twenty-one Wilkes College professors are taking summer work. Among them are Mr. Alfred Groh, English instructor, theatre director and yearbook advisor, who is taking work at Columbia University; Mr. Thomas Richards, head of the Mathematics department; Mr. Edward Wasilewski, a member of the Mathematics department, and Mr. John Riley '48, an instructor in the Commerce and Finance department.

Newest department head at Wilkes is Mr. Donald E. Cobleigh who is the man behind the music department. Mr. Cobleigh, who came here from Dartmouth College, succeeds the late Professor Paul Gies.

Other department heads at the college include:

Dr. Mary E. Craig	English
Dr. Charles B. Reif	Biology
Mr. Harold W. Thatcher	History
Mr. Voris B. Hall	Physics
Mr. Elwood J. Disque	Modern Languages
Mr. Thomas Richards	Mathematics
Mr. Konstantin Symonolewicz	Sociology
Miss Kathryn E. Dominquez	Psychology
Mr. Herbert J. Morris	Economics

The faculty itself has grown from some sixty to one-hundred within a year.



# WHAT WE'RE DOING

As far as we know none of our Alumni have reached everlasting fame and fortune, but we are still young and hoping. In the meantime this column will help keep us in touch with each other. In order to have plenty of up-to-date information we are going to ask for your help and we would appreciate hearing from you. Just write and tell us your name, class year, address, occupation, marital status, and number and names of children. If you know of the location and activities of some other Alumni or want to know about some of them, indicate that too. Address all communications to Alumni Office, Wilkes College, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania.

Because so many of our Alumni are away from Wyoming Valley we have lost track of them, so until your letters begin to come in, we will have to content ourselves by telling you what is new with us at home.

**Bertha Line Arnold** is teaching at Dallas Borough High School. Her address is 99 Elizabeth Street, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania.

A son, John Moore, was born to Mr. and Mrs. James Bryson, (**Margaret Moore "39"**) December 13, 1943. The Brysons also have a daughter Martha Jane. Their address is Centre Hall, Pennsylvania.

**Phyllis S. Eichler** recently received her doctorate from Pennsylvania State College of Optometry and became the first member of her sex to enter this practice in Wilkes-Barre. Her address is 203 West River Street, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania.

**George R. Rader** is public office manager of the Bell Telephone Company of Pennsylvania in Harrisburg. His address is 1201 Rolleston Street, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

**Robert Podrasky** and **Helen Janosky**, both "44", were married last January in Wilkes-Barre.

**Alfred Eisenpreis**, who is on the advertising staff at Pomeroy's Department Store, is doing double duty as a teacher of advertising at Wilkes College. Other Alumni on the faculty are **Joe Donnelly**, **Al Groh**, **Donald Kersteen**, **Joe Markowitz**, **John Riley**, **Arnold Sullum**, **Reese Pelton**, **Clemens Pell**, **John Cooney**, **Marcella Novak**, and **John Boyce**. **Ellen Brennan** is in a much expanded library and **Louise Brennan**, **Louise Dodson**, **Jean Machonis**, **Madelyn Molitoris**, and **Jean Withey** are working in the college office.

**Miss Marion Ganard "45"** is teaching at the Middletown Junior High School in Middletown, Delaware.

**Janet Post "44"** became the bride of Walter S. Phillips in the First Baptist Church, Kingston, Pennsylvania, February 28, 1948. The Phillips' are residing at 10 E. Dorrance Street, Kingston, Pa.

**Vince Wall** recently graduated from Hahnemann Medical College, Philadelphia. He will serve his internship at Scranton State Hospital.

**Mary Kenney "44"** is employed as a technician at White Plains, New York, Hospital.

The marriage of **Ruth Evans "44"** to Robert Thomas, a student at Dickinson, was recently announced. Mrs. Thomas is teaching in Plymouth, Penna.

**Alberta Novick "46"** is teaching in Plymouth Borough.

**June Owens "42"** and **Katherine Freund "42"** are teaching at GAR High School in Wilkes-Barre.

**Marian Reid "46"** is employed as a secretary in New York City. Her address is 103 Woodland Avenue, River Edge, New Jersey.

**Bob Moser** is living at 1007 Columbia Avenue, Lancaster, Pennsylvania. He is employed as a draftsman by the Hamilton Watch Company.

**Beatrice Hoyle's** address is Central apartment, 11 Spruce Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Beatrice is Operating Room Supervisor at Jefferson Hospital.

Mrs. **Kieth Moser (Claire Harding)** is living at 427 E. Sixth Street, New York City. Mrs. Moser is working at the Cornell Medical Center in New York.

Mr. and Mrs. **Walter D. Celmer (Florence Mackiewicz)** are living in Urbana, Illinois. Mr. Celmer has been appointed a Fellow in Chemistry at the Graduate School of the University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois.

**Phyllis Smith "44"** is an instructor of English at Bucknell University.

**Shirley Mason (x49)** is employed as a secretary by the Wilkes-Barre Lace Company.

**Leon Wazeter** is employed as an adjudicator by the V. A. in Wilkes-Barre. He is living in Trucksville, Pennsylvania.

**Dr. and Mrs. Frank Speicher (Treveryan Williams)** both "43" are living in Palmerton, Pennsylvania where Frank is practicing dentistry.

**Dr. Robert M. Kerr** is a Resident in Medicine at the Robert Packer Hospital, Sayre, Pennsylvania.

**Mr. Robert Wentz "46"** has accepted a position with Stone and Webster of Boston. His first assignment will take him to Baton Rouge, La.

**Thomas J. Boyle** is a student at New York University. He is living at 616 West 116th Street, New York City.

**Ellen Badger** is employed by the International Correspondence School in Scranton, Pennsylvania and lives at 377 Washington Avenue, Jermyn, Pennsylvania.

**Betty James** is living at Pocono Manor where she is employed as secretary to the superintendent of Pocono Manor Hotel.

**Jim Mollahan** lives at 396 Park Avenue, Wilkes-Barre. He is employed by the Veterans Administration.

**Evelyn Eichler** has announced her engagement to **Norman Baum**, a member of this year's graduating class at Wilkes.

**Allan Siegfried** is married and the father of three children. The Siegfrieds live at 8 Magnolia Avenue in Wilkes-Barre, and Allan is employed at Pomeroy's.

**Betty Schwager** is employed in the Service Repair Department of the Bell Telephone Company in Wilkes-Barre. Her address is 934 Wyoming Avenue, Forty Fort, Pennsylvania.

**Wallace Jones "48"** is associated with Dunn and Bradstreet in New York City.

# THE LETTER BOX

*(We are anxious to hear from any and all Alumni,  
Address your letters to the Alumni Office, Chase Hall)*

I am one of the "old grads" who as students were limited not only to two years of schooling at the "Junior College", but also to two buildings within which almost all of our activities -- curricular and extra-curricular -- took place. Facilities for registration, instruction, research, and informal get-togethers, for eating and studying were confined to these quarters. Thus, both time and space, in comparison with the college today, were quite unpretentious. However, it is not in terms of the physical that I think of our college, but rather, in terms of those intangible qualities -- spirit, inspiration, comradeship -- which were flourishing in my day and which to me will always be the school's outstanding assets. These are the primary assets which have been available to all students attending Wilkes from its inception as a junior college to its present status as a four-year institution.

It is not my intention to ignore the physical expansion of our alma mater, however. On the contrary, it is with pride that I now can call it Wilkes College, knowing that it offers complete facilities for a college degree. As first president of its alumni association, I know how great was the desire of all Junior College students for the fulfillment of this expanded four-year program. We like to feel that we have had a small share in making it possible; nor did we ever doubt that such an achievement would not materialize. Those alumni who formulated our constitution and by-laws provided for the necessary adjustments during the transition period, in view of the fact that a four-year status would soon be realized. The major purpose of our organization was to further the interests of our school, and the fact that so many of us had a sincere desire to organize is an indication of our enduring interest and affection.

Actually, the alumni association is still in its infancy. But I am confident that, as the college grows, the organization will proportionately assume its responsibility as a purposeful and successful adjunct to its alma mater.

JANE NAGRO LOWUM  
*First President of Alumni Assoc.*

How gratifying it is to know that we now have an accredited four-year college in our community. And how gratifying it is also to know that many of us have had some part in its development. I wonder just how many of us know the significance of this realization and what it means to our community.

I think those of us who endeavored to seek out our future during the old days of the "Boiler Factory", as Bucknell Junior College was called when it held classes in the old Business College building, and the early days when Chase Hall and Conyngham Hall were our only buildings, will appreciate the effort that was expended to reach our goals. Scenes changed frequently in those days, and, to some of us, receiving college degrees seemed like scaling a high mountain, difficult and uncertain. We all had to face the necessity of leaving Wilkes-Barre in search of higher education.

Today, however, thanks to the combined efforts of numerous foresighted citizens of this community, we have a "full-fledged" four-year college which awards accredited degrees to aspiring young people who have no need to seek their fortunes elsewhere but here in Wyoming Valley.

The door of opportunity is now open to students of moderate means who live in the surrounding areas and who otherwise would find it difficult, or even impossible, to receive a college education elsewhere. These are the individuals who form the backbone of our community and in them lies the responsibility of its progress.

Now that Wyoming Valley offers its youth a complete education at Wilkes College, an active alumni association aids in the strengthening of its ties within the community. With more and more members on its roster, the alumni association will be an important factor in the growth of the college and in turn will raise the intellectual standards of this community.

M. K.



# THE SPORTSCOPE

By Tom Moran

Director of Athletic Publicity

With the close of the 1948 baseball season Wilkes College wrote the final chapter to its second "big year" in collegiate sports and at present the members of the Athletic Department, headed by George F. Ralston, are preparing for the 1948-49 season, which promises to surpass all previous achievements in the sports history of the college.

The evolution of sports at Wilkes College -- taking into consideration the two-sport program sponsored by the school when it was known as Bucknell University Junior College -- has been rapid. With the first large-scale flow of veterans into the school in 1946, the first really great emphasis was placed on sports. George F. Ralston was introduced to Wyoming Valley sports fans and athletic enthusiasts at the college as the first Director of Athletics at the institution.

The college entered the sports world in its first important move in September 1946 with start of football. Ralston did what many consider to be almost the impossible -- when he coached his first team through a perfect season of six wins and no losses. In the Winter basketball was given a proverbial shot in the arm and wrestling was introduced at the college with Cromwell Thomas, a member of the faculty and a former Washington and Lee grappler, as coach. In the Spring, tennis was the fourth sport to be added to the steadily growing list of athletics and Joseph Danilowicz, a student of the college, was assigned the duties of coach. Baseball -- reorganized at the college in 1945 -- became the main attraction in May and June of 1946 when Ralston piloted his club through an exceptionally good season.

The second year of sports at the school -- then a four-year institution known as Wilkes College -- found the Athletic Department with better equipment and more experienced athletes. Wilkes fans delighted at the variety of athletic events scheduled for the 1947-48 seasons and valley people suddenly became aware of the spirit that was growing with the new college.

The second year of football at the college found Ralston with another first-rate team, which went through the season with six wins, one loss, and one tie. To support the team -- Wilkes College now had its own band, organized and directed by Reese E. Pelton, and cheerleaders.

The rest of the year's athletic events further proved that Wilkes was definitely on the road to becoming one of the most important sports college in its class in the country.



### BASEBALL PROGRESSES . . .

Baseball has become one of the College's major athletic attractions. Under Coach George Ralston this year's team rolled up a record of nine wins and three losses.



## WILKES COLLEGE 1948 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

September 18--	Bloomsburg State Teachers College	Away
September 25--	St. Francis College	Home
October 2--	Hartwick College	Away
October 23--	Mansfield State Teachers College	Away
October 30--	Lycoming College	Away
November 6--	Rider College	Away
November 20--	King's College	Home
Home Games -- Kingston Stadium		

*Plan Now To Attend*  
SECOND ANNUAL  
**HOME COMING !!**  
*Celebration*  
TO BE HELD IN THE FALL

# HERE'S YOUR CHANCE

HERE IS YOUR CHANCE TO HELP YOUR ALMA MATER. WILKES NEEDS NEW BUILDINGS; THE NEED FOR A GYMNASIUM IS URGENT. WE HAVE THE LAND BUT NOT ENOUGH MONEY TO BUILD. WE AS ALUMNI FEEL WE CAN HELP AND HAVE SET UP A COMMITTEE TO TAKE CHARGE OF A CAMPAIGN FOR THIS PURPOSE. THIS IS YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO PROVE YOURSELVES AS ALUMNI. WE AREN'T ASKING FOR HUGE SUMS; JUST TRY TO GIVE IN PROPORTION TO YOUR ABILITY TO PAY.

*Committee members in charge of the drive are:*

*Chairmen—Daniel Williams, Reese Pelton '48*

Sallyanne Frank

Marguerite Krashkevich

Floyd A. Seigfried

Ruth Tischler

June Owens

Douglas MacNeal '48

Alberta Novick

Naomi Hons

Ellen Brennan

Leon Wazeter

Katherine Freund

George Fry '48

ALUMNI BUILDING FUND COMMITTEE  
ALUMNI OFFICE  
WILKES COLLEGE, WILKES-BARRE, PA.

Name..... Class.....

Address.....

Occupation.....

If Married, Husband's or Wife's Name.....

Number of Children and Ages.....

Colleges attended after B.U.J.C. or Wilkes and Degrees:

.....

.....

Enclosed is my contribution or pledge for \$.....


(Checks or Money Orders should be made payable to the WILKES COLLEGE ALUMNI BUILDING FUND. If a pledge, please state how payable.)





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*The*  
**WILKES ALUMNUS**

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*Summer  
Edition*

1948

FIRST COMMENCEMENT

*(See Page 3)*



# The WILKES ALUMNUS

Official Publication of the Wilkes College Alumni Association

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 Wilkes-Barre, Penna.

(Cover Story)

## FIRST WILKES GRADS RECEIVE DIPLOMAS

On Saturday evening, June 12, the first four-year graduates of Wilkes College received their bachelors degrees. A capacity crowd witnessed the ceremony, held in the First Presbyterian Church, S. Franklin St. Sixty-five students were awarded diplomas from Bucknell University for work done at Wilkes. Bucknell degrees were granted because of a ruling that makes it mandatory for a college to graduate one class before it can be fully accredited.

A breakdown of the graduates according to degrees reveals that twenty-five received the Bachelor of Arts, eight received the Bachelor of Science in Biology, thirty-one received the Bachelor of Science in Commerce and Finance, and two received the Bachelor of Science in Education. In addition to the four-year graduates, certificates were awarded to sixty-five terminal students, most of whom were engineering students who will transfer to other schools for the last two years of work.

Two graduates received awards at the ceremony. John G. Gooch was awarded the Dobson Medal in Accounting for outstanding scholastic work in that field. Reese E. Pelton received the Service Award for responsibility assumed in creating and training the college band.

The graduation address was delivered by Dr. Everett Hunt, Dean of Swarthmore College. Diplomas were presented to graduates by Dr. William Coleman, Dean of Bucknell University, and to the convocants by Dr. Farley. Two selections were offered by the Wilkes College Choral Club under the direction of Mr. Donald E. Cobleigh. Rev. Charles Roush gave the benediction. Mr. Charles Henderson played the organ and recessional.

In his address Dr. Hunt told graduates that, "instead of trying to cure the world, you might learn to endure it." He explained that by enduring the hardships of life one actually helps to cure the ills. The Dean offered four suggestions to the graduates which he considered necessary for a well-balanced life: "Satisfying work, a satisfying amount of play, a large amount of love and a reverend attitude of worship."

The ceremony was preceded by a buffet luncheon served to graduates and convocants on the campus behind Chase Hall.

## Seniors Donate Trophy Case

The Class of 1948 unanimously voted to present a trophy case to the college as a class gift. The case will be built into the wall of the proposed gymnasium to be built on S. Franklin Street. At present the athletic department has been awarded several trophies and there are no means for their display.

Among trophies awarded to the school are the Dr. McNeal Trophy, presented for an undefeated record during the first year of participation in collegiate football, and a trophy awarded to the basketball team for placing in the Pennsylvania Junior College Tournament.

## EDITORIAL

With this issue of the *Wilkes Alumnus* we are beginning the periodical publication of a magazine to be devoted to the task of continuing relationships between Wilkes College and its alumni, including graduates of B. U. J. C.

In publishing this periodical we have two primary aims. First, we intend to inform each alumnus of the latest developments and additions to his Alma Mater. Wilkes College is now in the process of rapid growth and through the medium of this magazine each grad will share the pride of the faculty and undergraduates.

The second aim is to help each alumnus discover what his former classmates are doing and to assist the Alumni Association in bringing groups of graduates together into closer contact. Activities being considered for the coming year include a huge Homecoming celebration during the football season and a reunion program to be held next spring in connection with graduation events.

There is one way in which each alumnus can help to make both this magazine and the association a success. Send us any scraps of information you may have concerning both alumni and the college, and above all, send you personal comments and suggestions for improving alumni relations. If you have recently moved, received a new position or promotion, been married, received recognitions, etc., be sure to write. We shall eagerly await your card or letter; with your aid we shall progress with Wilkes.

REESE E. PELTON,  
Alumni Secretary



### CHINESE STUDENTS STUDY HERE . . .

The student body of Wilkes is gradually assuming an international aspect. Above are Miss Irene Wang and Miss May Way, two Chinese students now studying at the college. Students from Columbia, Nicaragua, and El Salvador are also enrolled.



# An Open Letter from The President of the Alumni Association

Dear Alumni:

This year should be outstanding in the history of our Alumni Association and our Alma Mater will do all in her power to insure the attainment of this goal. We start the year with an acting Alumni Secretary, Mr. Reese E. Pelton, at the college. I have had the pleasure of working with Reese, know him to be a hard worker, and feel confident that much will be accomplished. At last we have an office of our own. This office is on the third floor of Chase Hall and we invite you to drop in to see us anytime you are in town. We hope to get all our tangled records in order and in one office by the end of this summer. I am going to count on your help for any missing information you may be asked to give or can volunteer and, as your President, have volunteered to give all my free time over to this work.

We have a fine new constitution to work under and in it there are provisions for branch organizations. We want branch clubs. If you would like to see one in your area, write to us and we will put you in touch with others in your area who are interested and supply you with names and addresses of Alumni living in your area. Branches, aside from contributing to the growth and prestige of our Alma Mater, provide opportunities for renewing old friendships, good fellowship, and many good times and memories among people with common backgrounds and interests. The Alumni Office of Wilkes College stands ready and waiting to help you. The Wilkes-Barre Association meets the first Monday of every month, September through May, (the September meeting is held on the second Monday), at 8:00 P. M. in Chase Hall. If you live in this vicinity or are in town that day, we invite you attend the meetings.

I can't tell you in words what this college has meant to me, for without the start I received at B.U. J.C. I would be minus a college education today. Many of you have the same deep feeling I have and know that it was the economy and convenience of a college in your own community that gave you the opportunity to go to college. There are others among you have other reasons for loving this college. Some of you like myself looked forward and worked for the day that B.U.J.C. would become a four year college and now that we have obtained that goal our task instead of ending has just begun. We know our college needs more new facilities and that a gymnasium is of prime importance for accreditation. It is now that Wilkes College has a definite need to expand, and it is to us, the Alumni, that a large portion of this task should fall.

With this issue of the *Alumnus* comes the first information about that Wilkes College Alumni Building Fund. This program is not a "matter of the moment." It has been presented to you after much deliberation and study on our part.

First, it should be emphasized that you will never be told that you owe Wilkes anything. Maybe you do, but you will never be reminded of it and it is hoped that no one will contribute because of that feeling. The Fund Committee wants you to give what you are able to give because of your love and respect for Wilkes and because of her need to better serve the many young people who are annually clamoring for permission to come to your Alma Mater. For the institution which does not continuously grow in the quality of its service will lose not only the respect of its Alumni but also that of the public. None of us have achieved great wealth, but if we all give our small share we will build a fund that will go a long ways toward making Wilkes the college we want her to be. In this issue of the *Alumnus* you will find a coupon for that purpose. I hope that you will make use of it.

Wilkes today takes its place among the institutions whose Alumni take pride in the privilege of becoming investors in the future of their Alma Mater and of a system of government which we consider the best.

We have many more plans for the coming year in the blueprint stage and I intend to see that I receive your co-operation in carrying them out to final success.

I would appreciate hearing from you and would welcome any suggestions on your part for improvement of our program. I close my letter to you with high hopes of a bigger and better year in Wilkes Alumni history.

Sincerely yours,

DANIEL E. WILLIAMS, *President,*  
*Wilkes College Alumni Association.*

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## Frosh Rated High

Wilkes College recently participated in a Psychological Examination program conducted by the American Council on Education. Over 65,276 college freshman from 293 colleges participated in the survey. Results of the survey recently came from the Council's headquarters at the University of Chicago. Wilkes College freshmen achieved the rank score of 16th among the 293 participating colleges. The testing functions which the Council has sponsored will in the future be a part of the Educational Testing Service.

## Alumni Dinner-Dance Huge Success

Approximately 70 Alumni and guests attended the Wilkes College Alumni Association's 3rd annual dinner-dance on Saturday evening, May 29, at the Commercial Club, Harvey's Lake. Leon Wazeter, a former president of the Association, was chairman of the committee for this affair. This committee really worked hard and the members are to be congratulated for their efforts.

After dinner we were formally welcomed by Danny Williams, president of the Alumni Association, who turned us over to the toastmaster, Atty. Ralph Johnston. Ralph left his court-room dignity at home and informality was the keynote. The principal speakers were President Farley and Dr. Roy C. Tasker. Dr. Tasker was formerly professor of biology at B.U.J.C. and is now at Bucknell University.

Dr. Farley amazed the Alumni present with his report of the changes at our Alma Mater, but injected a serious note when he mentioned the need of a gymnasium for accreditation. The new buildings, the new use of the old ones, the size of the faculty, the enrollment, and plans for the future were astonishing and seemed like a dream fulfilled to some of the oldtimers. After Dr. Farley's talk we were all eager to attend our first real homecoming day so we could actually inspect all these changes.

Dr. Tasker proved to be an interesting and entertaining speaker. He told us of the great strides of science and pointed out the similarity between this progress and our future possibilities. We were all amused when he produced some old copies of the *Beacon* and passed them around so we could see what we were doing back in our college days.

During the course of the evening we had a few vocal selections by William Burnaford with Betty Schwager at the piano. At the conclusion of the program we turned our attention to dancing and renewing old friendships until late in the evening.

Those in attendance were Dr. and Mrs. Eugene S. Farley, Dr. and Mrs. Roy C. Tasker, Atty. Ralph Johnston, Daniel E. Williams, Naomi Hons, Carol Kearns, June M. Owens, William M. Toplis, Katherine P. Freund, Sallyanne Frank, William L. Wentz, Harold Rosinn, Andrew P. O'Malley, Rita O'Malley, Joseph P. Brislin, Mary R. Brislin, Dr. Frank Speicher, Mrs. Treveryan Williams Speicher, Thomas G. Duffy, Claire L. Duffy, D. A. Frederick, Irene Frederick, Lillian Evans, Walter Casmark, William C. Davis, Genevieve Brennan Davis, Marion Martin, Marlan Frantz, Evelyn Hudak, William Burnaford, William Waters, Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Conway, Margaret Graham, Dorothy Hughes Royer, Robert D. Royer, Gertrude Marvin, Dr. Robert M. Kerr, Cordis Langdon, Dr. William F. Dowdell, Atty. Joseph V. Gallagher, Irene Stroney, Atty. Leon F. Rokusz, Laura Rokusz, Leon Wazeter, Betty Marlino, Evelyn Feinstein, Aileen M. Carr, Betty Schwager, Marge Krashkevich, Mr. and Mrs. Kornblatt, James Mollahan, Joseph B. Farrell, Betty McGinty, Louise M. Jones, Robert B. Eastwood, Charlotte Davis, Robert Wentz, John McCann, Scotty Ruthaford, Stephen Wartella, Loretta Farris, and Joseph Weir.

Everyone had a wonderful time and we look forward to more affairs like this. Next time we want to see even more Alumni, and hope to meet more wives and husbands.



ALUMNI DANCE . . .

Last Christmas a large number of us living in the Wilkes-Barre area attended the Annual Alumni Dance in the Crystal Ballroom of Hotel Sterling. The Association plans to enlarge it's social calendar for the coming year.

★ ★ ★ ★

## Library To Occupy Entire Building

Plans are at present underway to greatly expand both the facilities and contents of the college library. When the task is completed the library will occupy virtually all of Kirby Hall.

By this fall most of the changes and additions will have been made. The first floor will stand much as it now is; main desk, reference rooms, study rooms, and new book arrivals. The second floor will contain the bulk of the 15,000 books now on hand, a working area of two rooms, and the all-important card catalogue. Floor three, at present occupied by Dr. and Mrs. Farley, will be transformed into study rooms. It is expected that the former music room will become a browsing room for light reading.

Over 4,000 new books have been purchased by the library during the past year and the drive is not over yet. Before September, 1949, the shelves are expected to contain more than 20,000 volumes.

When the present expansion is completed the library will provide chair space for 150 students. Some new aluminum chairs and steel tables were recently installed in the reference room and from all reports the third floor study rooms will be similarly equipped. Fluorescent lighting will also be installed.

The library staff is to be increased from three to four. Present members are Joseph H. Myers, Librarian; Mrs. Nada Vujica, Circulation Assistant; and Miss Ellen Brennan, Ordering Assistant. Mr. Myers received his A. B. at Lehigh University and his B. S. in Library Science from McGill University, Montreal, Canada. The new member of the staff will be Miss Marian E. Nicolls of Saskatchewan, Canada. She is a graduate of McGill University and will be in charge of cataloguing.



# ON CAMPUS

The 1947-48 school year at Wilkes saw the establishment of a great many new activities, the basis for an expanded curricular and extra-curricular program. This was a year of "firsts" and alumni will be interested in noticing the growth. Here are some "firsts" —

## Annual Cinderella Ball . . .

Not a first, but of interest as a thoroughly established activity, the "Cindy Hop" is the peak of social activity at Wilkes. Ten lovely candidates for Cinderella are chosen weeks before the affair, at a special assembly. Then the entire student body votes by secret mail ballot. The winner is announced during intermission of the dance and in a colorful ceremony is crowned by the "name" orchestra leader, and presented with a wealth of gifts donated by local merchants. Last year Charlie Spivak entertained; this year 800 couples danced to the music of Tommy Dorsey & Co. and Miss Peggy Woolcock '48 was the choice for Cinderella.

## Band Concert . . .

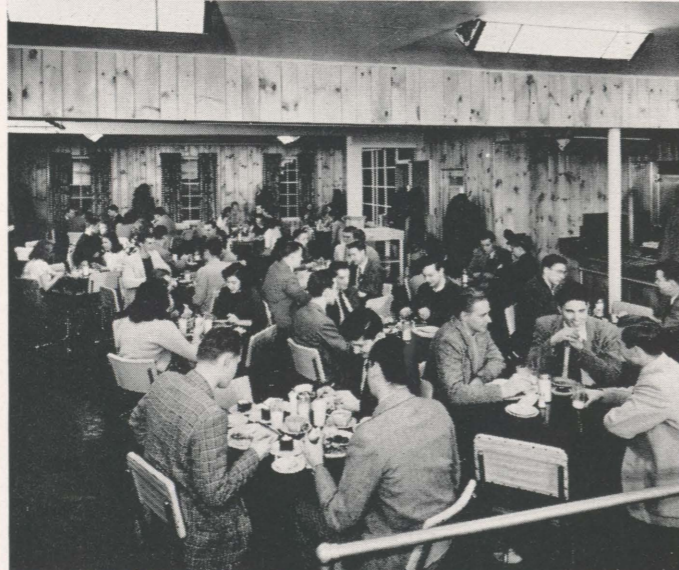
The College Band, now in its second year of existence, concluded a successful season by presenting an outdoor concert before a large, appreciative audience on the campus behind Kirby and Chase Halls. The band, which for the past two football seasons added color to the grid contests, consists of forty student musicians. The public concert was presented at night and the program included a wide variety of selections plus trombone, flute, and piano soloists. This concert will be presented annually.

## Wilkes College Rings . . .

As the result of a vote taken by the senior class, Wilkes College now has an official college ring. Any type of stone desired may be mounted on the circular face which is surrounded by the lettering "Wilkes College". One shank of the ring pictures the college seal, a woodcut of old Fort Durkee, and the other side has a likeness of Chase Hall. The class year is on the outside of the ring while the initials and degree received are engraved on the inside. Mr. A. T. Nolan, N. Franklin St., who represents the Balfour Co., is taking orders for the rings.

## Awards Dance . . .

Five theatrical "Oscars", a plaque, and numerous individual awards were given out at the first Annual Awards Dance held at Sans Souci Park by the Student Council. The "Oscars" were awarded for the two best leading roles, the two best supporting parts, and for the best technical work. The plaque was awarded for outstanding work with the college band. Pins or keys were awarded to the following organizations; Concert Band, Majorettes, Thespians, Beacon Staff, Cheerleaders, Choral Club, and the Student Council. Athletic Awards were made at a later date.



**COLLEGE FACILITIES EXPAND . . .**  
Top to Bottom: An engineering drawing room, part of the new cafeteria, main desk of library.

## Public Relations Department . . .

Publicity at Wilkes College is now being handled by John C. Bush '42 and Tom Moran '49. Bush is sports editor of the Sunday Independent at the present time and handles general publicity at the college. He graduated from Bucknell University in 1942 and entered the navy as an ensign. Following his discharge from service, Bush resumed his work with the Bucknell University Public Relations Department and in 1946 came back to Wilkes-Barre as a member of the Sunday Independent's staff. Moran, also a member of the Sunday Independent staff, is a student at Wilkes College and will graduate in February '49. At present he is Director of Sports Publicity and assistant to Bush on the general publicity staff.

## Placement Center and Careers Library . . .

The new Placement Center of the college, under the supervision of Mr. Clarence Boston, is endeavoring to find positions that graduating students are qualified to fill. Mr. Paul Mehm, head of the Careers Advising Dept. is chief librarian for what is believed to be the most unique, complete library of its kind. Employment and career reports for all types of positions on three continents are available to those interested. In addition, information on Corporation scholarships is at the office.



## College Offers Safety Courses

The new Wilkes College Bureau of Safety, under the direction of Clemens A. Pell '48 is offering two courses in safety education. The two courses are General Safety and Driver Training and Education. Each course is six weeks in duration and students taking them receive college credits.

Successful completion of these two courses entitles the student to receive certification to teach the subjects in public secondary schools of Pennsylvania. Beginning in September, 1948, teachers in all public schools of Pennsylvania will be required to have six hours credit in safety.

The Driver Training course consists of class work and actual behind-the-wheel training and leads toward the completion of requirements for acquiring a driver's license. The college has a dual-control training car for the "fledgling" drivers. The course in General Safety covers all types of safety practices and unlike the driving course requires payment of semester hour fees.

Mr. Pell is a member of the Wilkes-Barre Police Department on leave of absence. He received his B. S. in Commerce and Finance this year at Wilkes.

# The Faculty

## Dr. Craig Abroad . . .

Dr. Mary E. Craig, head of the Wilkes English Department, will sail June 23 for the British Isles aboard the S. S. America. She hopes to attend the Edinburgh Music Festival, the Malvern Festival, and the Olympic Games at Wimbley. Dr. Craig also plans to renew old acquaintances at the various universities and to visit the Hebrides.

Dr. Craig recently received news that her book, *The Scottish Periodical Press 1750-1789*, published at Edinburgh in 1931, has had a seventeen year sale in the British Isles. This is the first news she has received on the publication in five years.

Dr. Craig will leave England for the return trip to the United States on September 2.

Mr. Edward Williams, professor of English, will leave this month for Columbia University where he will take work leading to the Doctor's degree. For the past several semesters Mr. Williams has been a familiar figure before the American Literature classes. He was master of ceremonies at the senior dinner-dance held recently. Mr. Williams will return to Wilkes in the fall of 1949.

Mr. Konstantin Symonolewicz, head of the Wilkes College Sociology Department, is attending Columbia University where he is writing the thesis that will ultimately bring him a Doctorate. Mr. Symonolewicz has also been teaching Polish courses at Wilkes and was instrumental in arousing interest in establishing a Slavic Culture Center at the college.

Mr. Elwood Disque, head of the Foreign Language Department, is working on his Doctor's thesis here in Wilkes-Barre. The German professor was working on the paper several years ago when Uncle Sam interrupted him.

Twenty-one Wilkes College professors are taking summer work. Among them are Mr. Alfred Groh, English instructor, theatre director and yearbook advisor, who is taking work at Columbia University; Mr. Thomas Richards, head of the Mathematics department; Mr. Edward Wasilewski, a member of the Mathematics department, and Mr. John Riley '48, an instructor in the Commerce and Finance department.

Newest department head at Wilkes is Mr. Donald E. Cobleigh who is the man behind the music department. Mr. Cobleigh, who came here from Dartmouth College, succeeds the late Professor Paul Gies.

Other department heads at the college include:

Dr. Mary E. Craig	English
Dr. Charles B. Reif	Biology
Mr. Harold W. Thatcher	History
Mr. Voris B. Hall	Physics
Mr. Elwood J. Disque	Modern Languages
Mr. Thomas Richards	Mathematics
Mr. Konstantin Symonolewicz	Sociology
Miss Kathryn E. Dominquez	Psychology
Mr. Herbert J. Morris	Economics

The faculty itself has grown from some sixty to one-hundred within a year.



# WHAT WE'RE DOING

As far as we know none of our Alumni have reached everlasting fame and fortune, but we are still young and hoping. In the meantime this column will help keep us in touch with each other. In order to have plenty of up-to-date information we are going to ask for your help and we would appreciate hearing from you. Just write and tell us your name, class year, address, occupation, marital status, and number and names of children. If you know of the location and activities of some other Alumni or want to know about some of them, indicate that too. Address all communications to Alumni Office, Wilkes College, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania.

Because so many of our Alumni are away from Wyoming Valley we have lost track of them, so until your letters begin to come in, we will have to content ourselves by telling you what is new with us at home.

**Bertha Line Arnold** is teaching at Dallas Borough High School. Her address is 99 Elizabeth Street, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania.

A son, John Moore, was born to Mr. and Mrs. James Bryson, (**Margaret Moore "39"**) December 13, 1943. The Brysons also have a daughter Martha Jane. Their address is Centre Hall, Pennsylvania.

**Phyllis S. Eichler** recently received her doctorate from Pennsylvania State College of Optometry and became the first member of her sex to enter this practice in Wilkes-Barre. Her address is 203 West River Street, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania.

**George R. Rader** is public office manager of the Bell Telephone Company of Pennsylvania in Harrisburg. His address is 1201 Rolleston Street, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

**Robert Podrasky** and **Helen Janosky**, both "44", were married last January in Wilkes-Barre.

**Alfred Eisenpreis**, who is on the advertising staff at Pomeroy's Department Store, is doing double duty as a teacher of advertising at Wilkes College. Other Alumni on the faculty are **Joe Donnelly**, **Al Groh**, **Donald Kersteen**, **Joe Markowitz**, **John Riley**, **Arnold Sullum**, **Reese Pelton**, **Clemens Pell**, **John Cooney**, **Marcella Novak**, and **John Boyce**. **Ellen Brennan** is in a much expanded library and **Louise Brennan**, **Louise Dodson**, **Jean Machonis**, **Madelyn Molitoris**, and **Jean Withey** are working in the college office.

**Miss Marion Ganard "45"** is teaching at the Middletown Junior High School in Middletown, Delaware.

**Janet Post "44"** became the bride of Walter S. Phillips in the First Baptist Church, Kingston, Pennsylvania, February 28, 1948. The Phillips' are residing at 10 E. Dorrance Street, Kingston, Pa.

**Vince Wall** recently graduated from Hahnemann Medical College, Philadelphia. He will serve his internship at Scranton State Hospital.

**Mary Kenney "44"** is employed as a technician at White Plains, New York, Hospital.

The marriage of **Ruth Evans "44"** to Robert Thomas, a student at Dickinson, was recently announced. Mrs. Thomas is teaching in Plymouth, Penna.

**Alberta Novick "46"** is teaching in Plymouth Borough.

**June Owens "42"** and **Katherine Freund "42"** are teaching at GAR High School in Wilkes-Barre.

**Marian Reid "46"** is employed as a secretary in New York City. Her address is 103 Woodland Avenue, River Edge, New Jersey.

**Bob Moser** is living at 1007 Columbia Avenue, Lancaster, Pennsylvania. He is employed as a draftsman by the Hamilton Watch Company.

**Beatrice Hoyle's** address is Central apartment, 11 Spruce Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Beatrice is Operating Room Supervisor at Jefferson Hospital.

Mrs. Kieth Moser (**Claire Harding**) is living at 427 E. Sixth Street, New York City. Mrs. Moser is working at the Cornell Medical Center in New York.

Mr. and Mrs. **Walter D. Celmer (Florence Mackiewicz)** are living in Urbana, Illinois. Mr. Celmer has been appointed a Fellow in Chemistry at the Graduate School of the University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois.

**Phyllis Smith "44"** is an instructor of English at Bucknell University.

**Shirley Mason (x49)** is employed as a secretary by the Wilkes-Barre Lace Company.

**Leon Wazeter** is employed as an adjudicator by the V. A. in Wilkes-Barre. He is living in Trucksville, Pennsylvania.

**Dr. and Mrs. Frank Speicher (Treveryan Williams)** both "43" are living in Palmerton, Pennsylvania where Frank is practicing dentistry.

**Dr. Robert M. Kerr** is a Resident in Medicine at the Robert Packer Hospital, Sayre, Pennsylvania.

**Mr. Robert Wentz "46"** has accepted a position with Stone and Webster of Boston. His first assignment will take him to Baton Rouge, La.

**Thomas J. Boyle** is a student at New York University. He is living at 616 West 116th Street, New York City.

**Ellen Badger** is employed by the International Correspondence School in Scranton, Pennsylvania and lives at 377 Washington Avenue, Jermyn, Pennsylvania.

**Betty James** is living at Pocono Manor where she is employed as secretary to the superintendent of Pocono Manor Hotel.

**Jim Mollahan** lives at 396 Park Avenue, Wilkes-Barre. He is employed by the Veterans Administration.

**Evelyn Eichler** has announced her engagement to **Norman Baum**, a member of this year's graduating class at Wilkes.

**Allan Siegfried** is married and the father of three children. The Siegfrieds live at 8 Magnolia Avenue in Wilkes-Barre, and Allan is employed at Pomeroy's.

**Betty Schwager** is employed in the Service Repair Department of the Bell Telephone Company in Wilkes-Barre. Her address is 934 Wyoming Avenue, Forty Fort, Pennsylvania.

**Wallace Jones "48"** is associated with Dunn and Bradstreet in New York City.

# THE LETTER BOX

*(We are anxious to hear from any and all Alumni,  
Address your letters to the Alumni Office, Chase Hall)*

I am one of the "old grads" who as students were limited not only to two years of schooling at the "Junior College", but also to two buildings within which almost all of our activities -- curricular and extra-curricular -- took place. Facilities for registration, instruction, research, and informal get-togethers, for eating and studying were confined to these quarters. Thus, both time and space, in comparison with the college today, were quite unpretentious. However, it is not in terms of the physical that I think of our college, but rather, in terms of those intangible qualities -- spirit, inspiration, comradeship -- which were flourishing in my day and which to me will always be the school's outstanding assets. These are the primary assets which have been available to all students attending Wilkes from its inception as a junior college to its present status as a four-year institution.

It is not my intention to ignore the physical expansion of our alma mater, however. On the contrary, it is with pride that I now can call it Wilkes College, knowing that it offers complete facilities for a college degree. As first president of its alumni association, I know how great was the desire of all Junior College students for the fulfillment of this expanded four-year program. We like to feel that we have had a small share in making it possible; nor did we ever doubt that such an achievement would not materialize. Those alumni who formulated our constitution and by-laws provided for the necessary adjustments during the transition period, in view of the fact that a four-year status would soon be realized. The major purpose of our organization was to further the interests of our school, and the fact that so many of us had a sincere desire to organize is an indication of our enduring interest and affection.

Actually, the alumni association is still in its infancy. But I am confident that, as the college grows, the organization will proportionately assume its responsibility as a purposeful and successful adjunct to its alma mater.

JANE NAGRO LOWUM  
*First President of Alumni Assoc.*

How gratifying it is to know that we now have an accredited four-year college in our community. And how gratifying it is also to know that many of us have had some part in its development. I wonder just how many of us know the significance of this realization and what it means to our community.

I think those of us who endeavored to seek out our future during the old days of the "Boiler Factory", as Bucknell Junior College was called when it held classes in the old Business College building, and the early days when Chase Hall and Conyngham Hall were our only buildings, will appreciate the effort that was expended to reach our goals. Scenes changed frequently in those days, and, to some of us, receiving college degrees seemed like scaling a high mountain, difficult and uncertain. We all had to face the necessity of leaving Wilkes-Barre in search of higher education.

Today, however, thanks to the combined efforts of numerous foresighted citizens of this community, we have a "full-fledged" four-year college which awards accredited degrees to aspiring young people who have no need to seek their fortunes elsewhere but here in Wyoming Valley.

The door of opportunity is now open to students of moderate means who live in the surrounding areas and who otherwise would find it difficult, or even impossible, to receive a college education elsewhere. These are the individuals who form the backbone of our community and in them lies the responsibility of its progress.

Now that Wyoming Valley offers its youth a complete education at Wilkes College, an active alumni association aids in the strengthening of its ties within the community. With more and more members on its roster, the alumni association will be an important factor in the growth of the college and in turn will raise the intellectual standards of this community.

M. K.



# THE SPORTSCOPE

By Tom Moran

Director of Athletic Publicity

With the close of the 1948 baseball season Wilkes College wrote the final chapter to its second "big year" in collegiate sports and at present the members of the Athletic Department, headed by George F. Ralston, are preparing for the 1948-49 season, which promises to surpass all previous achievements in the sports history of the college.

The evolution of sports at Wilkes College -- taking into consideration the two-sport program sponsored by the school when it was known as Bucknell University Junior College -- has been rapid. With the first large-scale flow of veterans into the school in 1946, the first really great emphasis was placed on sports. George F. Ralston was introduced to Wyoming Valley sports fans and athletic enthusiasts at the college as the first Director of Athletics at the institution.

The college entered the sports world in its first important move in September 1946 with start of football. Ralston did what many consider to be almost the impossible -- when he coached his first team through a perfect season of six wins and no losses. In the Winter basketball was given a proverbial shot in the arm and wrestling was introduced at the college with Cromwell Thomas, a member of the faculty and a former Washington and Lee grappler, as coach. In the Spring, tennis was the fourth sport to be added to the steadily growing list of athletics and Joseph Danilowicz, a student of the college, was assigned the duties of coach. Baseball -- reorganized at the college in 1945 -- became the main attraction in May and June of 1946 when Ralston piloted his club through an exceptionally good season.

The second year of sports at the school -- then a four-year institution known as Wilkes College -- found the Athletic Department with better equipment and more experienced athletes. Wilkes fans delighted at the variety of athletic events scheduled for the 1947-48 seasons and valley people suddenly became aware of the spirit that was growing with the new college.

The second year of football at the college found Ralston with another first-rate team, which went through the season with six wins, one loss, and one tie. To support the team -- Wilkes College now had its own band, organized and directed by Reese E. Pelton, and cheerleaders.

The rest of the year's athletic events further proved that Wilkes was definitely on the road to becoming one of the most important sports college in its class in the country.



### BASEBALL PROGRESSES . . .

Baseball has become one of the College's major athletic attractions. Under Coach George Ralston this year's team rolled up a record of nine wins and three losses.



## WILKES COLLEGE 1948 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

September 18--	Bloomsburg State Teachers College	Away
September 25--	St. Francis College	Home
October 2--	Hartwick College	Away
October 23--	Mansfield State Teachers College	Away
October 30--	Lycoming College	Away
November 6--	Rider College	Away
November 20--	King's College	Home
Home Games -- Kingston Stadium		

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SECOND ANNUAL  
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TO BE HELD IN THE FALL

# HERE'S YOUR CHANCE

HERE IS YOUR CHANCE TO HELP YOUR ALMA MATER. WILKES NEEDS NEW BUILDINGS; THE NEED FOR A GYMNASIUM IS URGENT. WE HAVE THE LAND BUT NOT ENOUGH MONEY TO BUILD. WE AS ALUMNI FEEL WE CAN HELP AND HAVE SET UP A COMMITTEE TO TAKE CHARGE OF A CAMPAIGN FOR THIS PURPOSE. THIS IS YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO PROVE YOURSELVES AS ALUMNI. WE AREN'T ASKING FOR HUGE SUMS; JUST TRY TO GIVE IN PROPORTION TO YOUR ABILITY TO PAY.

*Committee members in charge of the drive are:*

*Chairmen—Daniel Williams, Reese Pelton '48*

Sallyanne Frank

Marguerite Krashkevich

Floyd A. Seigfried

Ruth Tischler

June Owens

Douglas MacNeal '48

Alberta Novick

Naomi Hons

Ellen Brennan

Leon Wazeter

Katherine Freund

George Fry '48

ALUMNI BUILDING FUND COMMITTEE  
ALUMNI OFFICE  
WILKES COLLEGE, WILKES-BARRE, PA.

Name..... Class.....

Address.....

Occupation.....

If Married, Husband's or Wife's Name.....

Number of Children and Ages.....

Colleges attended after B.U.J.C. or Wilkes and Degrees:  
.....  
.....

Enclosed is my contribution or pledge for \$.....


(Checks or Money Orders should be made payable to the WILKES COLLEGE ALUMNI BUILDING FUND. If a pledge, please state how payable.)





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*The*  
**WILKES ALUMNUS**

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FIRST COMMENCEMENT  
(See Page 3)

*Summer  
Edition*  
1948



# The WILKES ALUMNUS

Official Publication of the Wilkes College Alumni Association

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WILKES COLLEGE ALUMNI OFFICE

Chase Hall

184 S. River Street

Wilkes-Barre, Penna.

(Cover Story)

## FIRST WILKES GRADS RECEIVE DIPLOMAS

On Saturday evening, June 12, the first four-year graduates of Wilkes College received their bachelors degrees. A capacity crowd witnessed the ceremony, held in the First Presbyterian Church, S. Franklin St. Sixty-five students were awarded diplomas from Bucknell University for work done at Wilkes. Bucknell degrees were granted because of a ruling that makes it mandatory for a college to graduate one class before it can be fully accredited.

A breakdown of the graduates according to degrees reveals that twenty-five received the Bachelor of Arts, eight received the Bachelor of Science in Biology, thirty-one received the Bachelor of Science in Commerce and Finance, and two received the Bachelor of Science in Education. In addition to the four-year graduates, certificates were awarded to sixty-five terminal students, most of whom were engineering students who will transfer to other schools for the last two years of work.

Two graduates received awards at the ceremony. John G. Gooch was awarded the Dobson Medal in Accounting for outstanding scholastic work in that field. Reese E. Pelton received the Service Award for responsibility assumed in creating and training the college band.

The graduation address was delivered by Dr. Everett Hunt, Dean of Swarthmore College. Diplomas were presented to graduates by Dr. William Coleman, Dean of Bucknell University, and to the convocants by Dr. Farley. Two selections were offered by the Wilkes College Choral Club under the direction of Mr. Donald E. Cobleigh. Rev. Charles Roush gave the benediction. Mr. Charles Henderson played the organ and recessional.

In his address Dr. Hunt told graduates that, "instead of trying to cure the world, you might learn to endure it." He explained that by enduring the hardships of life one actually helps to cure the ill. The Dean offered four suggestions to the graduates which he considered necessary for a well-balanced life: "Satisfying work, a satisfying amount of play, a large amount of love and a reverend attitude of worship."

The ceremony was preceded by a buffet luncheon served to graduates and convocants on the campus behind Chase Hall.

## Seniors Donate Trophy Case

The Class of 1948 unanimously voted to present a trophy case to the college as a class gift. The case will be built into the wall of the proposed gymnasium to be built on S. Franklin Street. At present the athletic department has been awarded several trophies and there are no means for their display.

Among trophies awarded to the school are the Dr. McNeal Trophy, presented for an undefeated record during the first year of participation in collegiate football, and a trophy awarded to the basketball team for placing in the Pennsylvania Junior College Tournament.

## EDITORIAL

With this issue of the *Wilkes Alumnus* we are beginning the periodical publication of a magazine to be devoted to the task of continuing relationships between Wilkes College and its alumni, including graduates of B. U. J. C.

In publishing this periodical we have two primary aims. First, we intend to inform each alumnus of the latest developments and additions to his Alma Mater. Wilkes College is now in the process of rapid growth and through the medium of this magazine each grad will share the pride of the faculty and undergraduates.

The second aim is to help each alumnus discover what his former classmates are doing and to assist the Alumni Association in bringing groups of graduates together into closer contact. Activities being considered for the coming year include a huge Homecoming celebration during the football season and a reunion program to be held next spring in connection with graduation events.

There is one way in which each alumnus can help to make both this magazine and the association a success. Send us any scraps of information you may have concerning both alumni and the college, and above all, send you personal comments and suggestions for improving alumni relations. If you have recently moved, received a new position or promotion, been married, received recognitions, etc., be sure to write. We shall eagerly await your card or letter; with your aid we shall progress with Wilkes.

REESE E. PELTON,  
Alumni Secretary



### CHINESE STUDENTS STUDY HERE . . .

The student body of Wilkes is gradually assuming an international aspect. Above are Miss Irene Wang and Miss May Way, two Chinese students now studying at the college. Students from Columbia, Nicaragua, and El Salvador are also enrolled.



# An Open Letter from The President of the Alumni Association

Dear Alumni:

This year should be outstanding in the history of our Alumni Association and our Alma Mater will do all in her power to insure the attainment of this goal. We start the year with an acting Alumni Secretary, Mr. Reese E. Pelton, at the college. I have had the pleasure of working with Reese, know him to be a hard worker, and feel confident that much will be accomplished. At last we have an office of our own. This office is on the third floor of Chase Hall and we invite you to drop in to see us anytime you are in town. We hope to get all our tangled records in order and in one office by the end of this summer. I am going to count on your help for any missing information you may be asked to give or can volunteer and, as your President, have volunteered to give all my free time over to this work.

We have a fine new constitution to work under and in it there are provisions for branch organizations. We want branch clubs. If you would like to see one in your area, write to us and we will put you in touch with others in your area who are interested and supply you with names and addresses of Alumni living in your area. Branches, aside from contributing to the growth and prestige of our Alma Mater, provide opportunities for renewing old friendships, good fellowship, and many good times and memories among people with common backgrounds and interests. The Alumni Office of Wilkes College stands ready and waiting to help you. The Wilkes-Barre Association meets the first Monday of every month, September through May, (the September meeting is held on the second Monday), at 8:00 P. M. in Chase Hall. If you live in this vicinity or are in town that day, we invite you attend the meetings.

I can't tell you in words what this college has meant to me, for without the start I received at B.U. J.C. I would be minus a college education today. Many of you have the same deep feeling I have and know that it was the economy and convenience of a college in your own community that gave you the opportunity to go to college. There are others among you have other reasons for loving this college. Some of you like myself looked forward and worked for the day that B.U.J.C. would become a four year college and now that we have obtained that goal our task instead of ending has just begun. We know our college needs more new facilities and that a gymnasium is of prime importance for accreditation. It is now that Wilkes College has a definite need to expand, and it is to us, the Alumni, that a large portion of this task should fall.

With this issue of the *Alumnus* comes the first information about that Wilkes College Alumni Building Fund. This program is not a "matter of the moment." It has been presented to you after much deliberation and study on our part.

First, it should be emphasized that you will never be told that you owe Wilkes anything. Maybe you do, but you will never be reminded of it and it is hoped that no one will contribute because of that feeling. The Fund Committee wants you to give what you are able to give because of your love and respect for Wilkes and because of her need to better serve the many young people who are annually clamoring for permission to come to your Alma Mater. For the institution which does not continuously grow in the quality of its service will lose not only the respect of its Alumni but also that of the public. None of us have achieved great wealth, but if we all give our small share we will build a fund that will go a long ways toward making Wilkes the college we want her to be. In this issue of the *Alumnus* you will find a coupon for that purpose. I hope that you will make use of it.

Wilkes today takes its place among the institutions whose Alumni take pride in the privilege of becoming investors in the future of their Alma Mater and of a system of government which we consider the best.

We have many more plans for the coming year in the blueprint stage and I intend to see that I receive your co-operation in carrying them out to final success.

I would appreciate hearing from you and would welcome any suggestions on your part for improvement of our program. I close my letter to you with high hopes of a bigger and better year in Wilkes Alumni history.

Sincerely yours,

DANIEL E. WILLIAMS, *President,*  
*Wilkes College Alumni Association.*

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## Frosh Rated High

Wilkes College recently participated in a Psychological Examination program conducted by the American Council on Education. Over 65,276 college freshman from 293 colleges participated in the survey. Results of the survey recently came from the Council's headquarters at the University of Chicago. Wilkes College freshmen achieved the rank score of 16th among the 293 participating colleges. The testing functions which the Council has sponsored will in the future be a part of the Educational Testing Service.

## Alumni Dinner-Dance Huge Success

Approximately 70 Alumni and guests attended the Wilkes College Alumni Association's 3rd annual dinner-dance on Saturday evening, May 29, at the Commercial Club, Harvey's Lake. Leon Wazeter, a former president of the Association, was chairman of the committee for this affair. This committee really worked hard and the members are to be congratulated for their efforts.

After dinner we were formally welcomed by Danny Williams, president of the Alumni Association, who turned us over to the toastmaster, Atty. Ralph Johnston. Ralph left his court-room dignity at home and informality was the keynote. The principal speakers were President Farley and Dr. Roy C. Tasker. Dr. Tasker was formerly professor of biology at B.U.J.C. and is now at Bucknell University.

Dr. Farley amazed the Alumni present with his report of the changes at our Alma Mater, but injected a serious note when he mentioned the need of a gymnasium for accreditation. The new buildings, the new use of the old ones, the size of the faculty, the enrollment, and plans for the future were astonishing and seemed like a dream fulfilled to some of the oldtimers. After Dr. Farley's talk we were all eager to attend our first real homecoming day so we could actually inspect all these changes.

Dr. Tasker proved to be an interesting and entertaining speaker. He told us of the great strides of science and pointed out the similarity between this progress and our future possibilities. We were all amused when he produced some old copies of the *Beacon* and passed them around so we could see what we were doing back in our college days.

During the course of the evening we had a few vocal selections by William Burnaford with Betty Schwager at the piano. At the conclusion of the program we turned our attention to dancing and renewing old friendships until late in the evening.

Those in attendance were Dr. and Mrs. Eugene S. Farley, Dr. and Mrs. Roy C. Tasker, Atty. Ralph Johnston, Daniel E. Williams, Naomi Hons, Carol Kearns, June M. Owens, William M. Toplis, Katherine P. Freund, Sallyanne Frank, William L. Wentz, Harold Rosinn, Andrew P. O'Malley, Rita O'Malley, Joseph P. Brislin, Mary R. Brislin, Dr. Frank Speicher, Mrs. Treveryan Williams Speicher, Thomas G. Duffy, Claire L. Duffy, D. A. Frederick, Irene Frederick, Lillian Evans, Walter Casmark, William C. Davis, Genevieve Brennan Davis, Marion Martin, Marlan Frantz, Evelyn Hudak, William Burnaford, William Waters, Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Conway, Margaret Graham, Dorothy Hughes Royer, Robert D. Royer, Gertrude Marvin, Dr. Robert M. Kerr, Cordis Langdon, Dr. William F. Dowdell, Atty. Joseph V. Gallagher, Irene Stroney, Atty. Leon F. Rokusz, Laura Rokusz, Leon Wazeter, Betty Marlino, Evelyn Feinstein, Aileen M. Carr, Betty Schwager, Marge Krashkevich, Mr. and Mrs. Kornblatt, James Mollahan, Joseph B. Farrell, Betty McGinty, Louise M. Jones, Robert B. Eastwood, Charlotte Davis, Robert Wentz, John McCann, Scotty Ruthaford, Stephen Wartella, Loretta Farris, and Joseph Weir.

Everyone had a wonderful time and we look forward to more affairs like this. Next time we want to see even more Alumni, and hope to meet more wives and husbands.



### ALUMNI DANCE . . .

Last Christmas a large number of us living in the Wilkes-Barre area attended the Annual Alumni Dance in the Crystal Ballroom of Hotel Sterling. The Association plans to enlarge its social calendar for the coming year.

★ ★ ★ ★

## Library To Occupy Entire Building

Plans are at present underway to greatly expand both the facilities and contents of the college library. When the task is completed the library will occupy virtually all of Kirby Hall.

By this fall most of the changes and additions will have been made. The first floor will stand much as it now is; main desk, reference rooms, study rooms, and new book arrivals. The second floor will contain the bulk of the 15,000 books now on hand, a working area of two rooms, and the all-important card catalogue. Floor three, at present occupied by Dr. and Mrs. Farley, will be transformed into study rooms. It is expected that the former music room will become a browsing room for light reading.

Over 4,000 new books have been purchased by the library during the past year and the drive is not over yet. Before September, 1949, the shelves are expected to contain more than 20,000 volumes.

When the present expansion is completed the library will provide chair space for 150 students. Some new aluminum chairs and steel tables were recently installed in the reference room and from all reports the third floor study rooms will be similarly equipped. Fluorescent lighting will also be installed.

The library staff is to be increased from three to four. Present members are Joseph H. Myers, Librarian; Mrs. Nada Vujica, Circulation Assistant; and Miss Ellen Brennan, Ordering Assistant. Mr. Myers received his A. B. at Lehigh University and his B. S. in Library Science from McGill University, Montreal, Canada. The new member of the staff will be Miss Marian E. Nicolls of Saskatchewan, Canada. She is a graduate of McGill University and will be in charge of cataloguing.



# ON CAMPUS

The 1947-48 school year at Wilkes saw the establishment of a great many new activities, the basis for an expanded curricular and extra-curricular program. This was a year of "firsts" and alumni will be interested in noticing the growth. Here are some "firsts" —

## Annual Cinderella Ball . . .

Not a first, but of interest as a thoroughly established activity, the "Cindy Hop" is the peak of social activity at Wilkes. Ten lovely candidates for Cinderella are chosen weeks before the affair, at a special assembly. Then the entire student body votes by secret mail ballot. The winner is announced during intermission of the dance and in a colorful ceremony is crowned by the "name" orchestra leader, and presented with a wealth of gifts donated by local merchants. Last year Charlie Spivak entertained; this year 800 couples danced to the music of Tommy Dorsey & Co. and Miss Peggy Woolcock '48 was the choice for Cinderella.

## Band Concert . . .

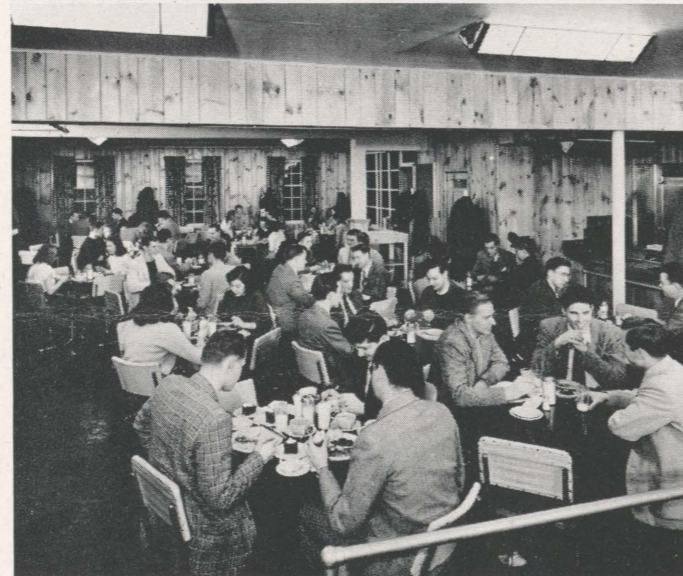
The College Band, now in its second year of existence, concluded a successful season by presenting an outdoor concert before a large, appreciative audience on the campus behind Kirby and Chase Halls. The band, which for the past two football seasons added color to the grid contests, consists of forty student musicians. The public concert was presented at night and the program included a wide variety of selections plus trombone, flute, and piano soloists. This concert will be presented annually.

## Wilkes College Rings . . .

As the result of a vote taken by the senior class, Wilkes College now has an official college ring. Any type of stone desired may be mounted on the circular face which is surrounded by the lettering "Wilkes College". One shank of the ring pictures the college seal, a woodcut of old Fort Durkee, and the other side has a likeness of Chase Hall. The class year is on the outside of the ring while the initials and degree received are engraved on the inside. Mr. A. T. Nolan, N. Franklin St., who represents the Balfour Co., is taking orders for the rings.

## Awards Dance . . .

Five theatrical "Oscars", a plaque, and numerous individual awards were given out at the first Annual Awards Dance held at Sans Souci Park by the Student Council. The "Oscars" were awarded for the two best leading roles, the two best supporting parts, and for the best technical work. The plaque was awarded for outstanding work with the college band. Pins or keys were awarded to the following organizations; Concert Band, Majorettes, Thespians, Beacon Staff, Cheerleaders, Choral Club, and the Student Council. Athletic Awards were made at a later date.



**COLLEGE FACILITIES EXPAND . . .**  
Top to Bottom: An engineering drawing room, part of the new cafeteria, main desk of library.

## Public Relations Department . . .

Publicity at Wilkes College is now being handled by John C. Bush '42 and Tom Moran '49. Bush is sports editor of the Sunday Independent at the present time and handles general publicity at the college. He graduated from Bucknell University in 1942 and entered the navy as an ensign. Following his discharge from service, Bush resumed his work with the Bucknell University Public Relations Department and in 1946 came back to Wilkes-Barre as a member of the Sunday Independent's staff. Moran, also a member of the Sunday Independent staff, is a student at Wilkes College and will graduate in February '49. At present he is Director of Sports Publicity and assistant to Bush on the general publicity staff.

## Placement Center and Careers Library . . .

The new Placement Center of the college, under the supervision of Mr. Clarence Boston, is endeavoring to find positions that graduating students are qualified to fill. Mr. Paul Mehm, head of the Careers Advising Dept. is chief librarian for what is believed to be the most unique, complete library of its kind. Employment and career reports for all types of positions on three continents are available to those interested. In addition, information on Corporation scholarships is at the office.



## College Offers Safety Courses

The new Wilkes College Bureau of Safety, under the direction of Clemens A. Pell '48 is offering two courses in safety education. The two courses are General Safety and Driver Training and Education. Each course is six weeks in duration and students taking them receive college credits.

Successful completion of these two courses entitles the student to receive certification to teach the subjects in public secondary schools of Pennsylvania. Beginning in September, 1948, teachers in all public schools of Pennsylvania will be required to have six hours credit in safety.

The Driver Training course consists of class work and actual behind-the-wheel training and leads toward the completion of requirements for acquiring a driver's license. The college has a dual-control training car for the "fledgling" drivers. The course in General Safety covers all types of safety practices and unlike the driving course requires payment of semester hour fees.

Mr. Pell is a member of the Wilkes-Barre Police Department on leave of absence. He received his B. S. in Commerce and Finance this year at Wilkes.

# The Faculty

## Dr. Craig Abroad . . .

Dr. Mary E. Craig, head of the Wilkes English Department, will sail June 23 for the British Isles aboard the S. S. America. She hopes to attend the Edinburgh Music Festival, the Malvern Festival, and the Olympic Games at Wimbley. Dr. Craig also plans to renew old acquaintances at the various universities and to visit the Hebrides.

Dr. Craig recently received news that her book, *The Scottish Periodical Press 1750-1789*, published at Edinburgh in 1931, has had a seventeen year sale in the British Isles. This is the first news she has received on the publication in five years.

Dr. Craig will leave England for the return trip to the United States on September 2.

Mr. Edward Williams, professor of English, will leave this month for Columbia University where he will take work leading to the Doctor's degree. For the past several semesters Mr. Williams has been a familiar figure before the American Literature classes. He was master of ceremonies at the senior dinner-dance held recently. Mr. Williams will return to Wilkes in the fall of 1949.

Mr. Konstantin Symonowicz, head of the Wilkes College Sociology Department, is attending Columbia University where he is writing the thesis that will ultimately bring him a Doctorate. Mr. Symonowicz has also been teaching Polish courses at Wilkes and was instrumental in arousing interest in establishing a Slavic Culture Center at the college.

Mr. Elwood Disque, head of the Foreign Language Department, is working on his Doctor's thesis here in Wilkes-Barre. The German professor was working on the paper several years ago when Uncle Sam interrupted him.

Twenty-one Wilkes College professors are taking summer work. Among them are Mr. Alfred Groh, English instructor, theatre director and yearbook advisor, who is taking work at Columbia University; Mr. Thomas Richards, head of the Mathematics department; Mr. Edward Wasilewski, a member of the Mathematics department, and Mr. John Riley '48, an instructor in the Commerce and Finance department.

Newest department head at Wilkes is Mr. Donald E. Cobleigh who is the man behind the music department. Mr. Cobleigh, who came here from Dartmouth College, succeeds the late Professor Paul Gies.

Other department heads at the college include:

Dr. Mary E. Craig	English
Dr. Charles B. Reif	Biology
Mr. Harold W. Thatcher	History
Mr. Voris B. Hall	Physics
Mr. Elwood J. Disque	Modern Languages
Mr. Thomas Richards	Mathematics
Mr. Konstantin Symonowicz	Sociology
Miss Kathryn E. Dominquez	Psychology
Mr. Herbert J. Morris	Economics

The faculty itself has grown from some sixty to one-hundred within a year.



# WHAT WE'RE DOING

As far as we know none of our Alumni have reached everlasting fame and fortune, but we are still young and hoping. In the meantime this column will help keep us in touch with each other. In order to have plenty of up-to-date information we are going to ask for your help and we would appreciate hearing from you. Just write and tell us your name, class year, address, occupation, marital status, and number and names of children. If you know of the location and activities of some other Alumni or want to know about some of them, indicate that too. Address all communications to Alumni Office, Wilkes College, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania.

Because so many of our Alumni are away from Wyoming Valley we have lost track of them, so until your letters begin to come in, we will have to content ourselves by telling you what is new with us at home.

**Bertha Line Arnold** is teaching at Dallas Borough High School. Her address is 99 Elizabeth Street, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania.

A son, John Moore, was born to Mr. and Mrs. James Bryson, (**Margaret Moore "39"**) December 13, 1943. The Brysons also have a daughter Martha Jane. Their address is Centre Hall, Pennsylvania.

**Phyllis S. Eichler** recently received her doctorate from Pennsylvania State College of Optometry and became the first member of her sex to enter this practice in Wilkes-Barre. Her address is 203 West River Street, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania.

**George R. Rader** is public office manager of the Bell Telephone Company of Pennsylvania in Harrisburg. His address is 1201 Rolleston Street, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

**Robert Podrasky** and **Helen Janosky**, both "44", were married last January in Wilkes-Barre.

**Alfred Eisenpreis**, who is on the advertising staff at Pomeroy's Department Store, is doing double duty as a teacher of advertising at Wilkes College. Other Alumni on the faculty are **Joe Donnelly**, **Al Groh**, **Donald Kersteen**, **Joe Markowitz**, **John Riley**, **Arnold Sullum**, **Reese Pelton**, **Clemens Pell**, **John Cooney**, **Marcella Novak**, and **John Boyce**. **Ellen Brennan** is in a much expanded library and **Louise Brennan**, **Louise Dodson**, **Jean Machonis**, **Madelyn Molitoris**, and **Jean Withey** are working in the college office.

**Miss Marion Ganard "45"** is teaching at the Middletown Junior High School in Middletown, Delaware.

**Janet Post "44"** became the bride of Walter S. Phillips in the First Baptist Church, Kingston, Pennsylvania, February 28, 1948. The Phillips' are residing at 10 E. Dorrance Street, Kingston, Pa.

**Vince Wall** recently graduated from Hahnemann Medical College, Philadelphia. He will serve his internship at Scranton State Hospital.

**Mary Kenney "44"** is employed as a technician at White Plains, New York, Hospital.

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**Alberta Novick "46"** is teaching in Plymouth Borough.

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Mr. and Mrs. **Walter D. Celmer (Florence Mackiewicz)** are living in Urbana, Illinois. Mr. Celmer has been appointed a Fellow in Chemistry at the Graduate School of the University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois.

**Phyllis Smith "44"** is an instructor of English at Bucknell University.

**Shirley Mason (x49)** is employed as a secretary by the Wilkes-Barre Lace Company.

**Leon Wazeter** is employed as an adjudicator by the V. A. in Wilkes-Barre. He is living in Trucksville, Pennsylvania.

**Dr. and Mrs. Frank Speicher (Treveryan Williams)** both "43" are living in Palmerton, Pennsylvania where Frank is practicing dentistry.

**Dr. Robert M. Kerr** is a Resident in Medicine at the Robert Packer Hospital, Sayre, Pennsylvania.

**Mr. Robert Wentz "46"** has accepted a position with Stone and Webster of Boston. His first assignment will take him to Baton Rouge, La.

**Thomas J. Boyle** is a student at New York University. He is living at 616 West 116th Street, New York City.

**Ellen Badger** is employed by the International Correspondence School in Scranton, Pennsylvania and lives at 377 Washington Avenue, Jermyn, Pennsylvania.

**Betty James** is living at Pocono Manor where she is employed as secretary to the superintendent of Pocono Manor Hotel.

**Jim Mollahan** lives at 396 Park Avenue, Wilkes-Barre. He is employed by the Veterans Administration.

**Evelyn Eichler** has announced her engagement to **Norman Baum**, a member of this year's graduating class at Wilkes.

**Allan Siegfried** is married and the father of three children. The Siegfrieds live at 8 Magnolia Avenue in Wilkes-Barre, and Allan is employed at Pomeroy's.

**Betty Schwager** is employed in the Service Repair Department of the Bell Telephone Company in Wilkes-Barre. Her address is 934 Wyoming Avenue, Forty Fort, Pennsylvania.

**Wallace Jones "48"** is associated with Dunn and Bradstreet in New York City.

# THE LETTER BOX

*(We are anxious to hear from any and all Alumni,  
Address your letters to the Alumni Office, Chase Hall)*

I am one of the "old grads" who as students were limited not only to two years of schooling at the "Junior College", but also to two buildings within which almost all of our activities -- curricular and extra-curricular -- took place. Facilities for registration, instruction, research, and informal get-togethers, for eating and studying were confined to these quarters. Thus, both time and space, in comparison with the college today, were quite unpretentious. However, it is not in terms of the physical that I think of our college, but rather, in terms of those intangible qualities -- spirit, inspiration, comradeship -- which were flourishing in my day and which to me will always be the school's outstanding assets. These are the primary assets which have been available to all students attending Wilkes from its inception as a junior college to its present status as a four-year institution.

It is not my intention to ignore the physical expansion of our alma mater, however. On the contrary, it is with pride that I now can call it Wilkes College, knowing that it offers complete facilities for a college degree. As first president of its alumni association, I know how great was the desire of all Junior College students for the fulfillment of this expanded four-year program. We like to feel that we have had a small share in making it possible; nor did we ever doubt that such an achievement would not materialize. Those alumni who formulated our constitution and by-laws provided for the necessary adjustments during the transition period, in view of the fact that a four-year status would soon be realized. The major purpose of our organization was to further the interests of our school, and the fact that so many of us had a sincere desire to organize is an indication of our enduring interest and affection.

Actually, the alumni association is still in its infancy. But I am confident that, as the college grows, the organization will proportionately assume its responsibility as a purposeful and successful adjunct to its alma mater.

JANE NAGRO LOWUM  
*First President of Alumni Assoc.*

How gratifying it is to know that we now have an accredited four-year college in our community. And how gratifying it is also to know that many of us have had some part in its development. I wonder just how many of us know the significance of this realization and what it means to our community.

I think those of us who endeavored to seek out our future during the old days of the "Boiler Factory", as Bucknell Junior College was called when it held classes in the old Business College building, and the early days when Chase Hall and Conyngham Hall were our only buildings, will appreciate the effort that was expended to reach our goals. Scenes changed frequently in those days, and, to some of us, receiving college degrees seemed like scaling a high mountain, difficult and uncertain. We all had to face the necessity of leaving Wilkes-Barre in search of higher education.

Today, however, thanks to the combined efforts of numerous foresighted citizens of this community, we have a "full-fledged" four-year college which awards accredited degrees to aspiring young people who have no need to seek their fortunes elsewhere but here in Wyoming Valley.

The door of opportunity is now open to students of moderate means who live in the surrounding areas and who otherwise would find it difficult, or even impossible, to receive a college education elsewhere. These are the individuals who form the backbone of our community and in them lies the responsibility of its progress.

Now that Wyoming Valley offers its youth a complete education at Wilkes College, an active alumni association aids in the strengthening of its ties within the community. With more and more members on its roster, the alumni association will be an important factor in the growth of the college and in turn will raise the intellectual standards of this community.


M. K.





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PL&R.



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*The*  
**WILKES ALUMNUS**

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FIRST COMMENCEMENT  
(See Page 3)

*Summer*  
*Edition*  
1948



*The*  
**WILKES ALUMNUS**

Official Publication of the Wilkes College Alumni Association

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*Published at*

**WILKES COLLEGE ALUMNI OFFICE**

Chase Hall

184 S. River Street

Wilkes-Barre, Penna.



(Cover Story)

## FIRST WILKES GRADS RECEIVE DIPLOMAS

On Saturday evening, June 12, the first four-year graduates of Wilkes College received their bachelors degrees. A capacity crowd witnessed the ceremony, held in the First Presbyterian Church, S. Franklin St. Sixty-five students were awarded diplomas from Bucknell University for work done at Wilkes. Bucknell degrees were granted because of a ruling that makes it mandatory for a college to graduate one class before it can be fully accredited.

A breakdown of the graduates according to degrees reveals that twenty-five received the Bachelor of Arts, eight received the Bachelor of Science in Biology, thirty-one received the Bachelor of Science in Commerce and Finance, and two received the Bachelor of Science in Education. In addition to the four-year graduates, certificates were awarded to sixty-five terminal students, most of whom were engineering students who will transfer to other schools for the last two years of work.

Two graduates received awards at the ceremony. John G. Gooch was awarded the Dobson Medal in Accounting for outstanding scholastic work in that field. Reese E. Pelton received the Service Award for responsibility assumed in creating and training the college band.

The graduation address was delivered by Dr. Everett Hunt, Dean of Swarthmore College. Diplomas were presented to graduates by Dr. William Coleman, Dean of Bucknell University, and to the convocants by Dr. Farley. Two selections were offered by the Wilkes College Choral Club under the direction of Mr. Donald E. Cobleigh. Rev. Charles Roush gave the benediction. Mr. Charles Henderson played the organ and recessional.

In his address Dr. Hunt told graduates that, "instead of trying to cure the world, you might learn to endure it." He explained that by enduring the hardships of life one actually helps to cure the ills. The Dean offered four suggestions to the graduates which he considered necessary for a well-balanced life: "Satisfying work, a satisfying amount of play, a large amount of love and a reverend attitude of worship."

The ceremony was preceded by a buffet luncheon served to graduates and convocants on the campus behind Chase Hall.

### Seniors Donate Trophy Case

The Class of 1948 unanimously voted to present a trophy case to the college as a class gift. The case will be built into the wall of the proposed gymnasium to be built on S. Franklin Street. At present the athletic department has been awarded several trophies and there are no means for their display.

Among trophies awarded to the school are the Dr. McNeal Trophy, presented for an undefeated record during the first year of participation in collegiate football, and a trophy awarded to the basketball team for placing in the Pennsylvania Junior College Tournament.

## EDITORIAL

With this issue of the *Wilkes Alumnus* we are beginning the periodical publication of a magazine to be devoted to the task of continuing relationships between Wilkes College and its alumni, including graduates of B. U. J. C.

In publishing this periodical we have two primary aims. First, we intend to inform each alumnus of the latest developments and additions to his Alma Mater. Wilkes College is now in the process of rapid growth and through the medium of this magazine each grad will share the pride of the faculty and undergraduates.

The second aim is to help each alumnus discover what his former classmates are doing and to assist the Alumni Association in bringing groups of graduates together into closer contact. Activities being considered for the coming year include a huge Homecoming celebration during the football season and a reunion program to be held next spring in connection with graduation events.

There is one way in which each alumnus can help to make both this magazine and the association a success. Send us any scraps of information you may have concerning both alumni and the college, and above all, send you personal comments and suggestions for improving alumni relations. If you have recently moved, received a new position or promotion, been married, received recognitions, etc., be sure to write. We shall eagerly await your card or letter; with your aid we shall progress with Wilkes.

REESE E. PELTON,  
*Alumni Secretary*



CHINESE STUDENTS STUDY HERE . . .

The student body of Wilkes is gradually assuming an international aspect. Above are Miss Irene Wang and Miss May Way, two Chinese students now studying at the college. Students from Columbia, Nicaragua, and El Salvador are also enrolled.



## An Open Letter from \_\_\_\_\_

# The President of the Alumni Association

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Dear Alumni:

This year should be outstanding in the history of our Alumni Association and our Alma Mater will do all in her power to insure the attainment of this goal. We start the year with an acting Alumni Secretary, Mr. Reese E. Pelton, at the college. I have had the pleasure of working with Reese, know him to be a hard worker, and feel confident that much will be accomplished. At last we have an office of our own. This office is on the third floor of Chase Hall and we invite you to drop in to see us anytime you are in town. We hope to get all our tangled records in order and in one office by the end of this summer. I am going to count on your help for any missing information you may be asked to give or can volunteer and, as your President, have volunteered to give all my free time over to this work.

We have a fine new constitution to work under and in it there are provisions for branch organizations. We want branch clubs. If you would like to see one in your area, write to us and we will put you in touch with others in your area who are interested and supply you with names and addresses of Alumni living in your area. Branches, aside from contributing to the growth and prestige of our Alma Mater, provide opportunities for renewing old friendships, good fellowship, and many good times and memories among people with common backgrounds and interests. The Alumni Office of Wilkes College stands ready and waiting to help you. The Wilkes-Barre Association meets the first Monday of every month, September through May, (the September meeting is held on the second Monday), at 8:00 P. M. in Chase Hall. If you live in this vicinity or are in town that day, we invite you attend the meetings.

I can't tell you in words what this college has meant to me, for without the start I received at B.U. J.C. I would be minus a college education today. Many of you have the same deep feeling I have and know that it was the economy and convenience of a college in your own community that gave you the opportunity to go to college. There are others among you have other reasons for loving this college. Some of you like myself looked forward and worked for the day that B.U.J.C. would become a four year college and now that we have obtained that goal our task instead of ending has just begun. We know our college needs more new facilities and that a gymnasium is of prime importance for accreditation. It is now that Wilkes College has a definite need to expand, and it is to us, the Alumni, that a large portion of this task should fall.

With this issue of the *Alumnus* comes the first information about that Wilkes College Alumni Building Fund. This program is not a "matter of the moment." It has been presented to you after much deliberation and study on our part.

First, it should be emphasized that you will never be told that you owe Wilkes anything. Maybe you do, but you will never be reminded of it and it is hoped that no one will contribute because of that feeling. The Fund Committee wants you to give what you are able to give because of your love and respect for Wilkes and because of her need to better serve the many young people who are annually clamoring for permission to come to your Alma Mater. For the institution which does not continuously grow in the quality of its service will lose not only the respect of its Alumni but also that of the public. None of us have achieved great wealth, but if we all give our small share we will build a fund that will go a long ways toward making Wilkes the college we want her to be. In this issue of the *Alumnus* you will find a coupon for that purpose. I hope that you will make use of it.

Wilkes today takes its place among the institutions whose Alumni take pride in the privilege of becoming investors in the future of their Alma Mater and of a system of government which we consider the best.

We have many more plans for the coming year in the blueprint stage and I intend to see that I receive your co-operation in carrying them out to final success.

I would appreciate hearing from you and would welcome any suggestions on your part for improvement of our program. I close my letter to you with high hopes of a bigger and better year in Wilkes Alumni history.

Sincerely yours,

DANIEL E. WILLIAMS, *President,*  
*Wilkes College Alumni Association.*

★ ★ ★ ★

### Frosh Rated High

Wilkes College recently participated in a Psychological Examination program conducted by the American Council on Education. Over 65,276 college freshman from 293 colleges participated in the survey. Results of the survey recently came from the Council's headquarters at the University of Chicago. Wilkes College freshmen achieved the rank score of 16th among the 293 participating colleges. The testing functions which the Council has sponsored will in the future be a part of the Educational Testing Service.



## Alumni Dinner-Dance Huge Success

Approximately 70 Alumni and guests attended the Wilkes College Alumni Association's 3rd annual dinner-dance on Saturday evening, May 29, at the Commercial Club, Harvey's Lake. Leon Wazeter, a former president of the Association, was chairman of the committee for this affair. This committee really worked hard and the members are to be congratulated for their efforts.

After dinner we were formally welcomed by Danny Williams, president of the Alumni Association, who turned us over to the toastmaster, Atty. Ralph Johnston. Ralph left his court-room dignity at home and informality was the keynote. The principal speakers were President Farley and Dr. Roy C. Tasker. Dr. Tasker was formerly professor of biology at B.U.J.C. and is now at Bucknell University.

Dr. Farley amazed the Alumni present with his report of the changes at our Alma Mater, but injected a serious note when he mentioned the need of a gymnasium for accreditation. The new buildings, the new use of the old ones, the size of the faculty, the enrollment, and plans for the future were astonishing and seemed like a dream fulfilled to some of the oldtimers. After Dr. Farley's talk we were all eager to attend our first real homecoming day so we could actually inspect all these changes.

Dr. Tasker proved to be an interesting and entertaining speaker. He told us of the great strides of science and pointed out the similarity between this progress and our future possibilities. We were all amused when he produced some old copies of the *Beacon* and passed them around so we could see what we were doing back in our college days.

During the course of the evening we had a few vocal selections by William Burnaford with Betty Schwager at the piano. At the conclusion of the program we turned our attention to dancing and renewing old friendships until late in the evening.

Those in attendance were Dr. and Mrs. Eugene S. Farley, Dr. and Mrs. Roy C. Tasker, Atty. Ralph Johnston, Daniel E. Williams, Naomi Hons, Carol Kearns, June M. Owens, William M. Toplis, Katherine P. Freund, Sallyanne Frank, William L. Wentz, Harold Rosinn, Andrew P. O'Malley, Rita O'Malley, Joseph P. Brislin, Mary R. Brislin, Dr. Frank Speicher, Mrs. Treveryan Williams Speicher, Thomas G. Duffy, Claire L. Duffy, D. A. Frederick, Irene Frederick, Lillian Evans, Walter Casmark, William C. Davis, Genevieve Brennan Davis, Marion Martin, Marlan Frantz, Evelyn Hudak, William Burnaford, William Waters, Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Conway, Margaret Graham, Dorothy Hughes Royer, Robert D. Royer, Gertrude Marvin, Dr. Robert M. Kerr, Cordis Langdon, Dr. William F. Dowdell, Atty. Joseph V. Gallagher, Irene Stroney, Atty. Leon F. Rokusz, Laura Rokusz, Leon Wazeter, Betty Marlino, Evelyn Feinstein, Aileen M. Carr, Betty Schwager, Marge Krashkevich, Mr. and Mrs. Kornblatt, James Mollahan, Joseph B. Farrell, Betty McGinty, Louise M. Jones, Robert B. Eastwood, Charlotte Davis, Robert Wentz, John McCann, Scotty Ruthaford, Stephen Wartella, Loretta Farris, and Joseph Weir.

Everyone had a wonderful time and we look forward to more affairs like this. Next time we want to see even more Alumni, and hope to meet more wives and husbands.



### ALUMNI DANCE . . .

Last Christmas a large number of us living in the Wilkes-Barre area attended the Annual Alumni Dance in the Crystal Ballroom of Hotel Sterling. The Association plans to enlarge it's social calendar for the coming year.



## Library To Occupy Entire Building

Plans are at present underway to greatly expand both the facilities and contents of the college library. When the task is completed the library will occupy virtually all of Kirby Hall.

By this fall most of the changes and additions will have been made. The first floor will stand much as it now is; main desk, reference rooms, study rooms, and new book arrivals. The second floor will contain the bulk of the 15,000 books now on hand, a working area of two rooms, and the all-important card catalogue. Floor three, at present occupied by Dr. and Mrs. Farley, will be transformed into study rooms. It is expected that the former music room will become a browsing room for light reading.

Over 4,000 new books have been purchased by the library during the past year and the drive is not over yet. Before September, 1949, the shelves are expected to contain more than 20,000 volumes.

When the present expansion is completed the library will provide chair space for 150 students. Some new aluminum chairs and steel tables were recently installed in the reference room and from all reports the third floor study rooms will be similarly equipped. Fluorescent lighting will also be installed.

The library staff is to be increased from three to four. Present members are Joseph H. Myers, Librarian; Mrs. Nada Vujica, Circulation Assistant; and Miss Ellen Brennan, Ordering Assistant. Mr. Myers received his A. B. at Lehigh University and his B. S. in Library Science from McGill University, Montreal, Canada. The new member of the staff will be Miss Marian E. Nicolls of Saskatchewan, Canada. She is a graduate of McGill University and will be in charge of cataloguing.



# ON CAMPUS

The 1947-48 school year at Wilkes saw the establishment of a great many new activities, the basis for an expanded curricular and extra-curricular program. This was a year of "firsts" and alumni will be interested in noticing the growth. Here are some "firsts" —

## Annual Cinderella Ball . . .

Not a first, but of interest as a thoroughly established activity, the "Cindy Hop" is the peak of social activity at Wilkes. Ten lovely candidates for Cinderella are chosen weeks before the affair, at a special assembly. Then the entire student body votes by secret mail ballot. The winner is announced during intermission of the dance and in a colorful ceremony is crowned by the "name" orchestra leader, and presented with a wealth of gifts donated by local merchants. Last year Charlie Spivak entertained; this year 800 couples danced to the music of Tommy Dorsey & Co. and Miss Peggy Woolcock '48 was the choice for Cinderella.

## Band Concert . . .

The College Band, now in its second year of existence, concluded a successful season by presenting an outdoor concert before a large, appreciative audience on the campus behind Kirby and Chase Halls. The band, which for the past two football seasons added color to the grid contests, consists of forty student musicians. The public concert was presented at night and the program included a wide variety of selections plus trombone, flute, and piano soloists. This concert will be presented annually.

## Wilkes College Rings . . .

As the result of a vote taken by the senior class, Wilkes College now has an official college ring. Any type of stone desired may be mounted on the circular face which is surrounded by the lettering "Wilkes College". One shank of the ring pictures the college seal, a woodcut of old Fort Durkee, and the other side has a likeness of Chase Hall. The class year is on the outside of the ring while the initials and degree received are engraved on the inside. Mr. A. T. Nolan, N. Franklin St., who represents the Balfour Co., is taking orders for the rings.

## Awards Dance . . .

Five theatrical "Oscars", a plaque, and numerous individual awards were given out at the first Annual Awards Dance held at Sans Souci Park by the Student Council. The "Oscars" were awarded for the two best leading roles, the two best supporting parts, and for the best technical work. The plaque was awarded for outstanding work with the college band. Pins or keys were awarded to the following organizations; Concert Band, Majorettes, Thespians, Beacon Staff, Cheerleaders, Choral Club, and the Student Council. Athletic Awards were made at a later date.



COLLEGE FACILITIES EXPAND . . .  
Top to Bottom: An engineering drawing room, part of the new cafeteria, main desk of library.

## Public Relations Department . . .

Publicity at Wilkes College is now being handled by John C. Bush '42 and Tom Moran '49. Bush is sports editor of the Sunday Independent at the present time and handles general publicity at the college. He graduated from Bucknell University in 1942 and entered the navy as an ensign. Following his discharge from service, Bush resumed his work with the Bucknell University Public Relations Department and in 1946 came back to Wilkes-Barre as a member of the Sunday Independent's staff. Moran, also a member of the Sunday Independent staff, is a student at Wilkes College and will graduate in February '49. At present he is Director of Sports Publicity and assistant to Bush on the general publicity staff.

## Placement Center and Careers Library . . .

The new Placement Center of the college, under the supervision of Mr. Clarence Boston, is endeavoring to find positions that graduating students are qualified to fill. Mr. Paul Mehm, head of the Careers Advising Dept. is chief librarian for what is believed to be the most unique, complete library of its kind. Employment and career reports for all types of positions on three continents are available to those interested. In addition, information on Corporation scholarships is at the office.



## College Offers Safety Courses

The new Wilkes College Bureau of Safety, under the direction of Clemens A. Pell '48 is offering two courses in safety education. The two courses are General Safety and Driver Training and Education. Each course is six weeks in duration and students taking them receive college credits.

Successful completion of these two courses entitles the student to receive certification to teach the subjects in public secondary schools of Pennsylvania. Beginning in September, 1948, teachers in all public schools of Pennsylvania will be required to have six hours credit in safety.

The Driver Training course consists of class work and actual behind-the-wheel training and leads toward the completion of requirements for acquiring a driver's license. The college has a dual-control training car for the "fledgling" drivers. The course in General Safety covers all types of safety practices and unlike the driving course requires payment of semester hour fees.

Mr. Pell is a member of the Wilkes-Barre Police Department on leave of absence. He received his B. S. in Commerce and Finance this year at Wilkes.

# The Faculty

## Dr. Craig Abroad . . .

Dr. Mary E. Craig, head of the Wilkes English Department, will sail June 23 for the British Isles aboard the S. S. America. She hopes to attend the Edinburgh Music Festival, the Malvern Festival, and the Olympic Games at Wimbley. Dr. Craig also plans to renew old acquaintances at the various universities and to visit the Hebrides.

Dr. Craig recently received news that her book, *The Scottish Periodical Press 1750-1789*, published at Edinburgh in 1931, has had a seventeen year sale in the British Isles. This is the first news she has received on the publication in five years.

Dr. Craig will leave England for the return trip to the United States on September 2.

Mr. Edward Williams, professor of English, will leave this month for Columbia University where he will take work leading to the Doctor's degree. For the past several semesters Mr. Williams has been a familiar figure before the American Literature classes. He was master of ceremonies at the senior dinner-dance held recently. Mr. Williams will return to Wilkes in the fall of 1949.

Mr. Konstantin Symonolewicz, head of the Wilkes College Sociology Department, is attending Columbia University where he is writing the thesis that will ultimately bring him a Doctorate. Mr. Symonolewicz has also been teaching Polish courses at Wilkes and was instrumental in arousing interest in establishing a Slavic Culture Center at the college.

Mr. Elwood Disque, head of the Foreign Language Department, is working on his Doctor's thesis here in Wilkes-Barre. The German professor was working on the paper several years ago when Uncle Sam interrupted him.

Twenty-one Wilkes College professors are taking summer work. Among them are Mr. Alfred Groh, English instructor, theatre director and yearbook advisor, who is taking work at Columbia University; Mr. Thomas Richards, head of the Mathematics department; Mr. Edward Wasilewski, a member of the Mathematics department, and Mr. John Riley '48, an instructor in the Commerce and Finance department.

Newest department head at Wilkes is Mr. Donald E. Cobleigh who is the man behind the music department. Mr. Cobleigh, who came here from Dartmouth College, succeeds the late Professor Paul Gies.

Other department heads at the college include:

Dr. Mary E. Craig	English
Dr. Charles B. Reif	Biology
Mr. Harold W. Thatcher	History
Mr. Voris B. Hall	Physics
Mr. Elwood J. Disque	Modern Languages
Mr. Thomas Richards	Mathematics
Mr. Konstantin Symonolewicz	Sociology
Miss Kathryn E. Dominquez	Psychology
Mr. Herbert J. Morris	Economics

The faculty itself has grown from some sixty to one-hundred within a year.



# WHAT WE'RE DOING

As far as we know none of our Alumni have reached everlasting fame and fortune, but we are still young and hoping. In the meantime this column will help keep us in touch with each other. In order to have plenty of up-to-date information we are going to ask for your help and we would appreciate hearing from you. Just write and tell us your name, class year, address, occupation, marital status, and number and names of children. If you know of the location and activities of some other Alumni or want to know about some of them, indicate that too. Address all communications to Alumni Office, Wilkes College, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania.

Because so many of our Alumni are away from Wyoming Valley we have lost track of them, so until your letters begin to come in, we will have to content ourselves by telling you what is new with us at home.

**Bertha Line Arnold** is teaching at Dallas Borough High School. Her address is 99 Elizabeth Street, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania.

A son, John Moore, was born to Mr. and Mrs. James Bryson, (**Margaret Moore "39"**) December 13, 1943. The Brysons also have a daughter Martha Jane. Their address is Centre Hall, Pennsylvania.

**Phyllis S. Eichler** recently received her doctorate from Pennsylvania State College of Optometry and became the first member of her sex to enter this practice in Wilkes-Barre. Her address is 203 West River Street, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania.

**George R. Rader** is public office manager of the Bell Telephone Company of Pennsylvania in Harrisburg. His address is 1201 Rolleston Street, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

**Robert Podrasky** and **Helen Janosky**, both "44", were married last January in Wilkes-Barre.

**Alfred Eisenpreis**, who is on the advertising staff at Pomeroy's Department Store, is doing double duty as a teacher of advertising at Wilkes College. Other Alumni on the faculty are **Joe Donnelly**, **Al Groh**, **Donald Kersteen**, **Joe Markowitz**, **John Riley**, **Arnold Sullum**, **Reese Pelton**, **Clemens Pell**, **John Cooney**, **Marcella Novak**, and **John Boyce**. **Ellen Brennan** is in a much expanded library and **Louise Brennan**, **Louise Dodson**, **Jean Machonis**, **Madelyn Molitoris**, and **Jean Withey** are working in the college office.

**Miss Marion Ganard "45"** is teaching at the Middletown Junior High School in Middletown, Delaware.

**Janet Post "44"** became the bride of Walter S. Phillips in the First Baptist Church, Kingston, Pennsylvania, February 28, 1948. The Phillips are residing at 10 E. Dorrance Street, Kingston, Pa.

**Vince Wall** recently graduated from Hahnemann Medical College, Philadelphia. He will serve his internship at Scranton State Hospital.

**Mary Kenney "44"** is employed as a technician at White Plains, New York, Hospital.

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Mr. and Mrs. **Walter D. Celmer (Florence Mackiewicz)** are living in Urbana, Illinois. Mr. Celmer has been appointed a Fellow in Chemistry at the Graduate School of the University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois.

**Phyllis Smith "44"** is an instructor of English at Bucknell University.

**Shirley Mason (x49)** is employed as a secretary by the Wilkes-Barre Lace Company.

**Leon Wazeter** is employed as an adjudicator by the V. A. in Wilkes-Barre. He is living in Trucksville, Pennsylvania.

**Dr. and Mrs. Frank Speicher (Treveryan Williams)** both "43" are living in Palmerton, Pennsylvania where Frank is practicing dentistry.

**Dr. Robert M. Kerr** is a Resident in Medicine at the Robert Packer Hospital, Sayre, Pennsylvania.

**Mr. Robert Wentz "46"** has accepted a position with Stone and Webster of Boston. His first assignment will take him to Baton Rouge, La.

**Thomas J. Boyle** is a student at New York University. He is living at 616 West 116th Street, New York City.

**Ellen Badger** is employed by the International Correspondence School in Scranton, Pennsylvania and lives at 377 Washington Avenue, Jermyn, Pennsylvania.

**Betty James** is living at Pocono Manor where she is employed as secretary to the superintendent of Pocono Manor Hotel.

**Jim Mollahan** lives at 396 Park Avenue, Wilkes-Barre. He is employed by the Veterans Administration.

**Evelyn Eichler** has announced her engagement to **Norman Baum**, a member of this year's graduating class at Wilkes.

**Allan Siegfried** is married and the father of three children. The Siegfrieds live at 8 Magnolia Avenue in Wilkes-Barre, and Allan is employed at Pomeroy's.

**Betty Schwager** is employed in the Service Repair Department of the Bell Telephone Company in Wilkes-Barre. Her address is 934 Wyoming Avenue, Forty Fort, Pennsylvania.

**Wallace Jones "48"** is associated with Dunn and Bradstreet in New York City.

# THE LETTER BOX

*(We are anxious to hear from any and all Alumni,  
Address your letters to the Alumni Office, Chase Hall)*

I am one of the "old grads" who as students were limited not only to two years of schooling at the "Junior College", but also to two buildings within which almost all of our activities -- curricular and extra-curricular -- took place. Facilities for registration, instruction, research, and informal get-togethers, for eating and studying were confined to these quarters. Thus, both time and space, in comparison with the college today, were quite unpretentious. However, it is not in terms of the physical that I think of our college, but rather, in terms of those intangible qualities -- spirit, inspiration, comradeship -- which were flourishing in my day and which to me will always be the school's outstanding assets. These are the primary assets which have been available to all students attending Wilkes from its inception as a junior college to its present status as a four-year institution.

It is not my intention to ignore the physical expansion of our alma mater, however. On the contrary, it is with pride that I now can call it Wilkes College, knowing that it offers complete facilities for a college degree. As first president of its alumni association, I know how great was the desire of all Junior College students for the fulfillment of this expanded four-year program. We like to feel that we have had a small share in making it possible; nor did we ever doubt that such an achievement would not materialize. Those alumni who formulated our constitution and by-laws provided for the necessary adjustments during the transition period, in view of the fact that a four-year status would soon be realized. The major purpose of our organization was to further the interests of our school, and the fact that so many of us had a sincere desire to organize is an indication of our enduring interest and affection.

Actually, the alumni association is still in its infancy. But I am confident that, as the college grows, the organization will proportionately assume its responsibility as a purposeful and successful adjunct to its alma mater.

JANE NAGRO LOWUM  
*First President of Alumni Assoc.*

How gratifying it is to know that we now have an accredited four-year college in our community. And how gratifying it is also to know that many of us have had some part in its development. I wonder just how many of us know the significance of this realization and what it means to our community.

I think those of us who endeavored to seek out our future during the old days of the "Boiler Factory", as Bucknell Junior College was called when it held classes in the old Business College building, and the early days when Chase Hall and Conyngham Hall were our only buildings, will appreciate the effort that was expended to reach our goals. Scenes changed frequently in those days, and, to some of us, receiving college degrees seemed like scaling a high mountain, difficult and uncertain. We all had to face the necessity of leaving Wilkes-Barre in search of higher education.

Today, however, thanks to the combined efforts of numerous foresighted citizens of this community, we have a "full-fledged" four-year college which awards accredited degrees to aspiring young people who have no need to seek their fortunes elsewhere but here in Wyoming Valley.

The door of opportunity is now open to students of moderate means who live in the surrounding areas and who otherwise would find it difficult, or even impossible, to receive a college education elsewhere. These are the individuals who form the backbone of our community and in them lies the responsibility of its progress.

Now that Wyoming Valley offers its youth a complete education at Wilkes College, an active alumni association aids in the strengthening of its ties within the community. With more and more members on its roster, the alumni association will be an important factor in the growth of the college and in turn will raise the intellectual standards of this community.

M. K.



## THE SPORTSCOPE

By Tom Moran  
Director of Athletic Publicity

With the close of the 1948 baseball season Wilkes College wrote the final chapter to its second "big year" in collegiate sports and at present the members of the Athletic Department, headed by George F. Ralston, are preparing for the 1948-49 season, which promises to surpass all previous achievements in the sports history of the college.

The evolution of sports at Wilkes College -- taking into consideration the two-sport program sponsored by the school when it was known as Bucknell University Junior College -- has been rapid. With the first large-scale flow of veterans into the school in 1946, the first really great emphasis was placed on sports. George F. Ralston was introduced to Wyoming Valley sports fans and athletic enthusiasts at the college as the first Director of Athletics at the institution.

The college entered the sports world in its first important move in September 1946 with start of football. Ralston did what many consider to be almost the impossible -- when he coached his first team through a perfect season of six wins and no losses. In the Winter basketball was given a proverbial shot in the arm and wrestling was introduced at the college with Cromwell Thomas, a member of the faculty and a former Washington and Lee grappler, as coach. In the Spring, tennis was the fourth sport to be added to the steadily growing list of athletics and Joseph Danilowicz, a student of the college, was assigned the duties of coach. Baseball -- reorganized at the college in 1945 -- became the main attraction in May and June of 1946 when Ralston piloted his club through an exceptionally good season.

The second year of sports at the school -- then a four-year institution known as Wilkes College -- found the Athletic Department with better equipment and more experienced athletes. Wilkes fans delighted at the variety of athletic events scheduled for the 1947-48 seasons and valley people suddenly became aware of the spirit that was growing with the new college.

The second year of football at the college found Ralston with another first-rate team, which went through the season with six wins, one loss, and one tie. To support the team -- Wilkes College now had its own band, organized and directed by Reese E. Pelton, and cheerleaders.

The rest of the year's athletic events further proved that Wilkes was definitely on the road to becoming one of the most important sports college in its class in the country.



### BASEBALL PROGRESSES . . .

Baseball has become one of the College's major athletic attractions. Under Coach George Ralston this year's team rolled up a record of nine wins and three losses.



## WILKES COLLEGE 1948 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

September 18--	Bloomsburg State Teachers College	Away
September 25--	St. Francis College	Home
October 2--	Hartwick College	Away
October 23--	Mansfield State Teachers College	Away
October 30--	Lycoming College	Away
November 6--	Rider College	Away
November 20--	King's College	Home
Home Games -- Kingston Stadium		

Plan Now To Attend  
SECOND ANNUAL  
**HOMECOMING !!**  
*Celebration*  
TO BE HELD IN THE FALL



# HERE'S YOUR CHANCE

---

HERE IS YOUR CHANCE TO HELP YOUR ALMA MATER. WILKES NEEDS NEW BUILDINGS; THE NEED FOR A GYMNASIUM IS URGENT. WE HAVE THE LAND BUT NOT ENOUGH MONEY TO BUILD. WE AS ALUMNI FEEL WE CAN HELP AND HAVE SET UP A COMMITTEE TO TAKE CHARGE OF A CAMPAIGN FOR THIS PURPOSE. THIS IS YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO PROVE YOURSELVES AS ALUMNI. WE AREN'T ASKING FOR HUGE SUMS; JUST TRY TO GIVE IN PROPORTION TO YOUR ABILITY TO PAY.

---

*Committee members in charge of the drive are:*

*Chairmen—Daniel Williams, Reese Pelton '48*

Sallyanne Frank

Marguerite Krashkevich

Floyd A. Seigfried

Ruth Tischler

June Owens

Douglas MacNeal '48

Alberta Novick

Naomi Hons

Ellen Brennan

Leon Wazeter

Katherine Freund

George Fry '48

ALUMNI BUILDING FUND COMMITTEE  
ALUMNI OFFICE  
WILKES COLLEGE, WILKES-BARRE, PA.

Name..... Class.....

Address.....

Occupation.....

If Married, Husband's or Wife's Name.....

Number of Children and Ages.....

Colleges attended after B.U.J.C. or Wilkes and Degrees:  
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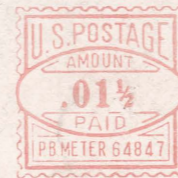
Enclosed is my contribution or pledge for \$.....

(Checks or Money Orders should be made payable to the WILKES COLLEGE ALUMNI BUILDING FUND. If a pledge, please state how payable.)





SEC.  
562  
PL&R.



Mr. Daniel E. Williams  
367 S. River St.  
Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

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