

Bill Learns Meaning of 'Hell Week' As Fraternity Pledge At Northwestern

By Bill Averill February 4, 1939 Dear Dad, I was impossible to work in a letter to you any sooner than this, for during the past three weeks I have been busier than ever before. Two weeks ago I spent my time finishing up my last classes this semester, while last week I took my final examinations. This past week what fraternities commonly call "Hell Week" and my pledges worked practically all the time.

Just one more new experience unveiled to me in my first semester as a college freshman was the uncertainty of one's finals. At mid-semester when I received word of course, that one is not blackballed. One never knows, though, until the last moment, so hold your breath for your little college freshman.

Concerning "Hell Week" I had better give you a little idea of what it is like here at Northwestern. A couple of years ago, the Universities ruled that fraternities had to eliminate the tough hazing that had been the custom previously. This very definitely limited the fraternities in this respect, so that now the procedure is very tame compared to what it was. All my pledge class was required to do was to clean the house from top to bottom. The work included waxing all the woodwork, floors, and furniture; cleaning the walls of the halls and waxing the corridor floors; and washing windows and Venetian blinds.

Although you can see to what degree "Hell Week" has been lessened, don't get the impression that it was easy work. We were called at eight o'clock and worked through till five thirty for several days. I still can't tell whether there is more for us to do tomorrow or not, but it looked as though we were through today. I'll be going out to purchase books for my next semester's classes this Monday, and at the same time launch myself into the second half of my first collegiate year. I'll write to you again in a couple of weeks, Dad.

Lots of love, from your son, BILL. Dad, do you know why I think I will get better grades next year? No, not because I am not going to study harder, but merely that in May I'm going to show you the well-known "bull," or "beat-around-the-bush," or any other way you want to put it. Unless a fellow is a potential Phi Beta Kappa and has a head crammed full of facts and answers obtained only as a genius is able to, he is sunk as far as an exam is concerned unless he can write a whole of a lot about practically nothing.

What I'm trying to get at, Dad, is that to me it seems that the venerable words are skillfully woven around a thin thread of thought, a student can pull down a much higher grade than one who may supply a little more of the answer but does not take up as much of the blue book.

Now don't think that this is my original solution, for it isn't, I merely decided to adopt the method only after countless warnings and recent practical experience. For before I had been at Northwestern very long, the boys in the house, and for that matter many persons outside of the house, advised me that the more material that has even a slight bearing on the question that I

PIERCE P. T. A. PLANS ANNIVERSARY MEETING

A special observance and program will mark the next meeting of the Pierce School Parent Teacher Association, to be held this evening. In observation of the 42nd anniversary of the founding of the National P. T. A. Congress, a candle service will be one of the evening's activities.

Sales Group Meets To Discuss Problems

In the Salesmanship Discussion Conference, which are being held every Wednesday evening, at 7:30 o'clock, in Room 102, Baldwin High school, experiences are recounted by the members, who profit by hearing of the others' problems. The group is sponsored by the Retail Merchants' association under auspices of the Board of Education.

In conjunction with the State Board of Vocational Education, Cyrenius Adelbert Newcomb, III conducts the meetings. There are 18 members. Some of the problems already covered by the group include how to serve the public more satisfactorily; diminution of indifference; recognition of the customer as an individual; and how to make the customer feel at home in the store. Those who attend the group regularly will receive a certificate from the state.

LOCAL PYTHIANS JOIN STATE-WIDE JUBILEE

Birmingham's fraternal circles will join those throughout the state on Saturday evening, Feb. 18, for the annual charity ball of the Order Knights of Pythias, to be held at the Hotel Elt. Wayne. The event will be of special significance since, on Feb. 19, the Order will observe its diamond jubilee.

Principal speaker of the evening will be Mrs. Edith F. Mohr of Detroit. Mrs. Mohr, who is state chairman of motion pictures and visual education for the P. T. A., has announced that her topic will be "Movies and Children."

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Bowling Scores House League Mil-Pex Coffee shop 31 25 Mike Service 31 25 Orpheum Rec. 27 27 Kurths Real Estate 27 27 Pham Rec. 23 31 Mouthrop Lmbr. 18 36 High game, L. Librada-224 Ladies League Backs Cleaners 28 20 Wilson Drugs 27 21 Lindquist salon 25 23 Freeman's salon 24 24 Hildebrand 20 28 Photo Shop 20 28 High game, M. J. Smith-129 Wermuth & Son League Team No. 2 22 Team No. 3 32 Team No. 4 31 Team No. 5 31 Team No. 6 26 Team No. 7 22 Team No. 8 34 High game, R. Wilfong-201 Junior House League Bham Rec. Jrs. 38 22 Scriba Candies 36 24 Winningsham Chev. 33 27 Detroit Creamery 32 28 Brooks of Pontiac 32 28 Mulhollands 30 30 Ritters Beer Str. 19 38 High score, S. Wall-198 Merchants League Shermans Market 33 15 Goebels Beer 32 16 In-N-Out Bank 32 19 Dixie Diner 26 22 Clawson Oil 21 27 Bham Eccentric 19 30 Grand Bank, R. O. 18 30 Detroit News 14 34 High score, J. Myers-641 Leonard Electric Team 1 Stewart 12 9 Team 2 Stewart 12 9 Team 3 Corey 11 10 Team 4 Watson 11 10 Team 5 Frankensfield 10 11 Team 6 Mackey 10 11 Team 7 Opperman 8 13 Team 8 Redback 7 14 MEET ME IN CHICAGO HOTEL PLANNERS IN THE CENTER OF THE LOOP

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