

January 1934

The Athenaeum met at the Latham Hotel at 6:30, the evening of January 4th with an attendance of 24 members and two guests. Twenty-seven plates were served. President Chappell called the meeting to order and instructed the treasurer to collect the dues. The result netted the Society \$47.00. This sum has enabled the treasurer to meet all our current expenses.

A great deal of talk followed the roll call, with a variety of suggestions, motions, and counter motions as to the advisability of authorizing the secretary to read the minutes of the two previous meetings or the expediency of ordering the readings omitted. Several points of order failed to be registered strictly in order. Finally, upon instructions from the Chair, the secretary read the minutes of the November meeting and heard the Society's expression of approval.

David M. Walker appeared first on the program with a paper on Simon Bolivar, the South America Liberator, with consummate realism.

James A. McKenzie in his paper feelingly portrayed the disillusionment and despair of Francesca in Dante's immortal poem of the mediaeval theology.

Members present were Meacham, Ira L. Smith, Downer, Henry, Rives, Eckles, Linton, McKenzie, Ira D. Smith, Clark, Soyars, Chappell, P. C. Walker, Holmes, Fink, Gaither, Flener, David Walker, Koffman, Petrie, Saunders, Ezell, Rogers, and Weldon.

Discussion-

With one exception (Eckles) all participated in the discussion.

B. W. Gaither, Secretary

Society at a dinner given at the Hotel Montgomery in their home city. The speeches of our hosts were brief and witty. The stated program of the evening was given in a brilliant lecture by our own beloved J. W. Downer, the guest of honor. Mr. Downer treated "Robert Louis Stephenson" with historical fidelity and extraordinary eloquence.

The other members attending were:

H. W. Linton, Trimble, Chappell, Soyars, Ira L. Smith, Ira D. Smith, Flener, Ezell, Holmes, Henry, Clark, McKenzie, Eckles, and Gaither.

The Ladies who attended were:

Mesdames Ira L. Smith, Alvin Clark, Ira D. Smith, Oglesby Soyars, William B. Holmes, Jr., B. Wood Gaither, Phil Chappell, And John Thomas.

Secondary note: At the March meeting the February minutes were approved with the proviso that James E. Breathitt's name be stricken from the list of members excused for absences from the February meeting.

B. W. Gaither Secretary

1934
Minutes of the February Meeting

The Athenaeum met at the Hotel Latham, Thursday Feb. 1st, 1934 with twenty-three members and two guests present, and President Chappell presiding. Upon the president's earnest entreaty Miss Nora had the Society served with T-Bone steaks, piping hot from the broilers. This innovation won hearty approval. In the course of the evening's business deliberations the secretary was directed to write Miss Nora a letter of appreciation for this unusual treat. That humble servant of the Society, still with the flavor of the fat bullock lingering in the region of his palate, was moved to cast the message in poetic form. He was very careful, when ordering dinner for the March meeting, to place the manuscript in Miss Nora's hands.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read, and, after several minor corrections, were approved. The collection of dues netted the treasury \$19.75. The hotel account of \$18.75 was paid the following day.

Excuses presented by Mr. Pettus White for his absences from the two previous meetings were accepted.

The secretary was directed to write a letter of sympathy to James E. Breathitt and to send a floral token to the Breathitt family.

Excuses for absences from the February meeting were presented and accepted for W. H. Southall, and David Walker.

The resignation of Selden Y. Trimble was read by the secretary. The Society ~~read~~ Mr. Trimble's message with the deepest regrets. Charles M. Meacham moved that a committee be appointed to ask that Mr. Trimble reconsider his severance of membership. Pettus White explained Mr. Trimble's position and said that preparation for the Society's program would be a great hardship. He recommended that Mr. Trimble be made an honorary member of the Athenaeum. H. W. Linton, after a brief exordium, repeated Mr. Meacham's motion. It was seconded by W. B. Holmes, Jr. and adopted on the vote of the society. President Chappell appointed Charles M. Meacham, Pettus White, and H. W. Linton, a committee to confer with Mr. Trimble.

On the program Charles J. Petrie read a splendidly scientific paper entitled, "You, The Other Fellow and I." It was a study in personalities and outlined a number of Biological findings and some fundamental psychological principles. His style showed the enthusiasm of a student with his hobby.

"The Power Age" was the subject of N. L. Simmons, whose paper dealt with the effects of modern machinery upon agriculture and the daily life of rural America. His presentation of the subject and manner of reading won the audience.

This was the first appearance of these two men on an Athenaeum program. The receptivity of their papers was attested in a lively and dignified discussion by the following members, viz: White, Linton, McKenzie, Holmes, Saunders, Fink, Clark, Henry, Meacham, Ira L. Smith, Ira D. Smith, Ezell, Weldon, Downer, Koffman, and Gaither.

Foot Note:

On the evening of Tuesday, Feb. 20th, the Philomatic Society of Clarksville, Tenn. entertained the Athenaeum

Minutes of the March Meeting
1934.

Par.1. March the first at six-thirty p.m., the Athenaeum met at Hotel Latham with an excellent beefsteak dinner demanding first consideration, and Phil E. Chappell presiding. Twenty-four members were present when the meeting was called to order, and two more came in after the roll-call.

The dues collected amounted to twenty-seven dollars.

The minutes of the February meeting were approved, with the proviso that one correction be made.

Absences from the February meeting were excused for Flener, Southall, Rives, David Walker, and Trimble, (also Breathitt.)

For the March meeting the following excuses were accepted; Rogers and P. C. Walker, also Breathitt.

On the program W. B. Holmes, Jr. responded to the first call with a paper entitled, "The Progress of Labor."

The caption of Ira D. Smith's paper, who rose to the second call, was "Crime and It's Punishment,"

The seventeen members who made impromptu contributions to the discussion were in order;

Rives, Flener, Petrie, Soyars, Trimble, Ezell, Ira I. Smith, Downer, Clark, David Walker, Meacham, Henry, Fink, Saunders, Koffman, Eckles, and Weldon.

On the Program for June;

Saunders and Linton.

Secretary/

April Meeting 1934

- Par. 1. The Athenaeum met at the Hotel Latham, in the club room, at 7 p.m., Thursday, April 5th, 1934. Twenty-six members were present.
- Par. 2. Excuses were presented and accepted for two of the absentee members, viz: Clark and Simmons. The treasurer collected \$29.00 in dues.
- Par. 3. After hearing the minutes of the March meeting read, Ira D. Smith moved that the secretary be instructed to expunge the sixth paragraph. President Chappell put the motion to a vote and it was carried.
- Par. 4. The President ruled that only those who are out-of-town people, or former members of the Athenaeum, be invited as guests to the regular meetings of this society.
- Par. 5. The membership committee reported the name of Mr. Wallace Henderson for nomination; and the Society approved by vote. The final ballot is to be taken at the June meeting.
- Par. 6(a) The second item of New Business was the annual election of officers. The chair appointed J. A. McKenzie, Ira L. Smith and S. Y. Trimble, a nominating committee. After a secret session this committee reported their nominations as follows:
Oscar Flener, for the office of president;
Charles J. Petrie for vice-president;
B. W. Gaither for secretary-treasurer.
- (b) On a motion, which carried the consent of the meeting, the president cast a ballot that elected the three nominees to their respective offices.
- Par. 7. The chair announced that the newly elected officers will constitute the program committee for the ensuing year.
- Par. 8. There was some talk pro and con of postponing the open meeting until June, but a motion from Charles M. Meacham, that the open meeting be held the first Thursday in May, was put to the vote and carried.
- Par. 9. The following appointments for the open meeting were announced by the newly-elected president.
- (1) Committee on arrangements.
Holmes, Koffman, and Chappell.
- (2) Committee on Decoration
Mrs. Petrie, Mrs. Gaither, and Mrs. Flener.
- Note: As sickness at her home prevented Mrs. Petrie serving on this committee Mrs. Fink substituted for her.
- (3) Program Committee
Meacham, Gaither, Petrie, and Flener.
- Par. 10. On the program, Oscar Flener, substituting for Ira L. Smith, responded to the first call with a paper on "Dentistry".
- (b) On the second call B. W. Gaither read his short story entitled, "Too Much or Nothing."
- Par. 11. The fourteen members who had survived up to this time and participated in the discussion were:
Saunders, Holmes, Rives, Koffman, Petrie, Linton, Downer, Fink, the Ira Smiths, D. and L., Meacham, David Walker, Henry and Weldon.

On the program for September; Gaither and Rogers

MAY 3rd 1934.

College Orchestra Enlivens 33rd Session Of Athenaeum Last Night

(New Era - May 4 - 1934)
The thirty-third annual open session of the Athenaeum Society was held last night at the Hotel Latham with splendid addresses by five speakers. An orchestra made up of students from Bethel Woman's College enlivened the occasion with music as the members and guests entered the dining room and during the banquet hour.

The Rev. Charles E. Craik, Jr., pronounced the invocation and Dr. Oscar Fleuer, the society's newly elected president, bore the onerous responsibilities of Toastmaster with becoming simplicity and admirable dignity.

H. W. Linton introduced his subject with the remark that according to the traditions of the Athenaeum no speech on such an occasion should be devoid of some attempt at humor. He supplied this element in a story of the traditional "Tin Lizzie."

Traditions, he said, are handed down like old clothes, from father

College Orchestra (Continued From Page One)

to son; and the most persistent characteristic of the traditional is that the son always likes the hand-me-down. Superstitious adherence to such fetishes of the past as black cats, or the left hind foot of a graveyard rabbit indicate man's proneness to cling blindly to outworn traditional habits of thought. Prejudice opposes progress.

Examples of this ballyhoo, Mr. Linton said, are to be found in the prevailing acceptance of the term, politician, as attested by a holding up of the hands in holy horror. A fairer attitude, he said, is to think of the politician as the person who got what we wanted but failed to get. In the same sinister sense the term Big Business has fallen into disrepute. If we had only Little Business America would be in the same class with China and Mexico today.

Ira L. Smith speaking under the caption: "They Say," said lying

but another man proved himself a bigger liar in establishing his copyright on Munchausen's book. May the truth be told on their tombstones, he concluded of the whole tribe of "They Sayers."

Dr. J. W. Weldon related an incident in the lives of Hawthorne, Emerson and Thoreau. In an attempt to be sociable the three geniuses failed miserably, and to avoid a repetition of such mutual boredom they never repeated the experiment, although they lived within a few miles of each other. Such, he said, are the perils of being a genius. One loses the common touch and the simplest enjoyment of companionship. Extolling the value of the genius to the world he brought into review an array of local geniuses whose talents adorn the Athenaeum Society.

"Meacham is a genius at making merriment," and quoted his dictum on the correct procedure for public speakers. The speaker, Meacham says, should turn the

pages of his manuscript face down on the table as they are read so the audience can keep count. Otherwise they cannot tell whether the speaker is making any progress and have no guarantee that he will not start all over again if he fumbles page one in the shuffle.

Another member, a gentleman of the cloth has a genius for gardening. Recently he said there is a sermon in every blade of grass. A neighbor passing and seeing his pastor mowing the lawn, remarked: "Doctor, I am glad to see you are cutting your sermons short."

Dr. Weldon said Downer is a literary genius who can speak for hours without a manuscript, and he knows more about Robert Louis Stephenson than Stephenson knew about himself.

He quoted McCauley as saying that no one ever wrote poetry whose mind wasn't a little bit off.

"They do say," began Judge Rives, "if it were not for the perils of genius we would be threatened with a new deal. When I wrote this impromptu speech," he informed his audience, "I forgot to put in the applause." They supplied it.

"If I tell a joke that you haven't heard before," he continued, "I apologize for it."

Commenting on the preponderating number of Methodists on the program he said the only excuse for the Methodist Church was John Wesley's desire for a new deal in religion, and, looking toward the speaker who was to follow, the only justification for a Presbyterian on the program is his election.

By omitting to define or analyze his subject the Rev. W. B. Holmes afforded his hearers the utmost relief. Taking his text from the tenth chapter of John's Gospel he denounced the preceding speakers as thieves and robbers with the accusation that they had stolen our time and robbed us of pleasure and nervous stability.

Then the speaker went to sea; and the combinations of his hortatory and gustatory abilities gave his audience terrifying thoughts of the moon and made them envious of the fate of Judas Iscariot—at least pro tem.

He came out of it finally on the borderland of ancient history, when to his youthful mind "Ignorance Was Bliss" and ended in a flight of poetic eloquence.

Correction. What Mr Smith said follows, viz:
"write thy fancy peopled stories,
Point a moral, or a truth portray,
Truth will cherish thy fair children
When the dreamer is past away"

The list of members and guests at the Athenaeum
Banquet in May 1934.

Mr. and Mrs. W. O. Soyars, Mrs. Mary Soyars Starling,
Mr. and Mrs. Thos Smith,
Miss Frances Tate,
Mr. W. E. Rogers, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Alvan Clark and Miss Clara Means and Miss Annie
Smith,
Mr. and Mrs. N. L. Simmons
Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Holmes, Jr.
Mr. J. W. Downer,
Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Craik, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Fink,
Dr. and Mrs. J. W. Gaines,
Mr. and Mrs. G. Koffman,
Mr. and Mrs. Pettus White,
Mr. and Mrs. John Stites,
Mr. S. Y. Trimble,
Mr. and Mrs. Norton Garth, Trenton, Ky.
Mr. and Mrs. Jas. McKenzie,
Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Fairleigh,
Mr. Chas. Saunders,
Mr. Hunter Moss,
Mr. and Mrs. B. W. Gaither,
Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Southall,
Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Albritton,
Dr. and Mrs. P. C. Walker,
Dr. and Mrs. J. J. Ezell,
Mr. and Mrs. Harry Keach,
Mr. and Mrs. Ira D. Smith,
Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Linton,
Mr. and Mrs. L. D. Browning,
Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Petrie,
Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Woodruff,
Judge and Mrs. Frank Rives,
Dr. and Mrs. J. W. Weldon,
Mr. and Mrs. Ira L. Smith,
Mr. and Mrs. Halcott Turner, Kinston, N. C.
Mr. W. M. Pryor, Campbellsburg, Ky.
Col. Jouett Henry and Mrs. Green Henry Russell,
Mr. Phil E. Chappell, Mrs. Phil Chappell,
Mr. George Chrenshaw and Mrs. Crenshaw,
Mr. A. H. Eckles,
Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Hammond,
Dr. and Mrs. Oscar Fleener,

76
9

85
Total

There were Nine members of the Bethel Orchestra present. They
furnished lovely music during the dinner.

Quotations from Speeches at the Open Meetings '34

A shot by Wm. B. Holmes Esq. of Welles' speech:

"If there is any real
in being a genius, every
member of this society is
as apt as a babe in the
arms of an angel."

Quotation from Franklin Rives:

"A new deal is not put away
in a day; mothers, wives and
sweethearts have put one over.
They are willing to permit the
man to maintain the fiction
that he is the big dealer."

Holmes: I need two more texts (1) "Judas sent out into the night and
hanged himself." (2) "So thou and old Ebenezer!" "The most satisfactory
thing about the pay confabulations of the speakers this hilarious evening has been
the coming - when the speakers not return."

THIRTY - THIRD

ANNUAL OPEN SESSION

OF

THE ATHENAEUM

1901 - 1934

THURSDAY EVENING, MAY THE THIRD

ASSEMBLE 7:30 DINNER 8:00

RECEPTION COMMITTEE

President and Mrs. Oscar Flenet
Vice-President and Mrs. Chas. J. Petrie
Secretary and Mrs. B. W. Gaither
Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Linton
Mr. and Mrs. Ira L. Smith
Dr. and Mrs. J. W. Weldon
Rev. and Mrs. W. B. Holmes, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Franklin Rives

Quotations from Speeches at the open meeting, '34

MENU

CELERY

OLIVES

GRAPEFRUIT COCKTAIL

HALF BROILED CHICKEN ON TOAST POINTS

NEW POTATO BALLS

PIMENTO PEAS

INDIVIDUAL TOMATO ASPIC

HOT CLOVER LEAF ROLLS

ANGEL FOOD SUPREME WITH STRAWBERRIES

COFFEE

MINTS

AFTER DINNER PROGRAM

President Oscar Flener **Toastmaster**
Well fed now and fortified
All ears pricked up to hear,
Clear the dishes all aside,
For wit, wisdom and good cheer.

Traditions **Hugh W. Linton**
But, say my lord, it were not register'd
Methinks the truth should live from age to age
As 'twere retail'd to all posterity
Even to the general all-ending day. —Shakespeare.

They Say **Ira L. Smith**
"They say" this and some say that
But better keep hearsay under your hat.
We don't know **THEY**, and don't trust **SOME**.
So the kindest thing is just keep mum.
(For it might be a lie.)

The Perils of Genius **Rev. J. W. Weldon, D. D.**
One science only will one genius fit
So vast is art, so narrow human wit,
* * * * *
Like kings, we lose the conquests gained before,
By vain ambition still to make them more. —Pope.

The New Deal **Franklin Rives**
Not in vain the distance beacons, forward,
forward let it range;
Let the great world spin forever down
the ringing grooves of change. —Tennyson.

The Permutations and Combinations of Miscellaneous Dissertations **The Rev. W. B. Holmes, Jr.**
He says little and that little said
Owes all its weight, like loaded dice, to lead.
His wit invites you by his looks to come,
But when you knock, it never is at home. —Cooper.

Holmes: I need two more texts (1) Judas went out into the night and hanged himself. (2) "Go thou and do likewise." The most satisfactory thing about the gay confabulations of the speakers this hilarious evening has been the (Clay) when the speaker (not clown).

June 1934.

The Athenaeum met at the Hotel Latham 7.p.m. the first Thursday in June with twenty-two members present and President Flener presiding. A very enjoyable dinner was served. The treasurer collected \$27.50 in dues and one donation of \$2.00. \$90.00 of the stipulated \$96.00 dinner contracted for at the May meeting has been paid to the Hotel Latham. Due to the splendid economy of Mrs. Flener and Mrs. Fink and the Kindness of the Bethel College Orchestra our expenses for the open meeting were kept within reasonable limits.

In the business meeting Mr. Wallace Henderson was elected to membership in the society.

A committee composed of Meacham, Rogers, and the secretary was appointed to confer and decide as to the necessity of revising the by-laws. Their report is due at the September meeting.

On the program Chas.W.Saunders gave an illustrated lecture on Ethylene Glycol as a substitute for Ethyl Alcohol.

Dr. J. J. Ezell read a paper on McDowell entitled "A Surgeon in the Backwoods."

Those who participated in the discussion were: The two Smiths, Downer, Meacham, Weldon, Rives, Gaither, Henry, Simmons, Fink, Koffman, And Holmes.

B W Gaither

Secretary

September 1934

The Athenaeum met at the Hotel Latham the first Thursday evening in September with President Flener in the chair and a total attendance of 24. Dues collected amounted to \$27.00.

Wallace Henderson was welcomed into the fellowship of the society by the president and he responded with brevity and grace.

Excuses were accepted for Ira D. Smith, J.A. McKenzie, and P.C. Walker for absences from the September meeting.

Rogers, acting for the committee on constitution and by-laws, read a report recommending that three articles, viz; the 3th, the 9th, and the 12th, be amended, and his report was filed with the secretary. White offered a correction to the third amendment in the report and also filed this with the secretary.

On the program Gaither read a paper entitled "Christianity In Ancient Britain."

W.E. Rogers, Jr. read a paper on "Anatole France."

The discussion was begun by Linton and ended by Koffman while the other twelve members who responded were Clark, Eckles, White, Petrie, Holmes, Saunders, Downer, Soyars, Ira L. Smith, Weldon, Meacham, and Ezell.

On the program for November; Chappell and Soyars.

B W Laithe, Secretary

THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON BY-LAWS AND
CONSTITUTION; offered by W.E.Rogers, Jr. at the
September meeting, 1934.

We, the undersigned members of the Athenaeum, appointed as a committee to study the Constitution and By-Laws of said society, with a view of ascertaining needed changes, hereby recommend that the said constitution and By-Laws be amended as follows, to-wit:

First: That Article Number Eight be amended and when amended shall read as follows: "A fee of Two Dollars and Fifty Cents (\$2.50) shall be paid by each member of the Society upon becoming a member thereof."

Second: That Article Number Nine be amended and when amended shall read as follows: "The regular dues of each member shall be One Dollar per month, payable in advance, which shall not be paid during any vacation the Society may take. If any member shall become ^{three months} in arrears for dues he shall be automatically dropped from the society.

Third: That Article Number Twelve be amended and when amended shall read as follows: "It shall be the duty of the Secretary to keep a correct roll of the membership of the Society; to report all vacancies as they may occur, and to keep ^{all} ~~the~~ records of the Society in a book provided for that purpose; it shall also be the duty of the Secretary to keep all books and records ~~in a safety box~~ of the Society in a safety box in one of the banks in Hopkinsville, Kentucky; all papers ~~read~~ read before the society, or a copy thereof, shall be filed with the Secretary and shall become the property of the Society and shall be open to criticism and comment.

THE AMENDMENT TO THE COMMITTEE'S REPORT: Offered by Pettus
White.

(September meeting,1934.)

" and which may be left at the public library
for public use. "

The Athenaeum met at the Hotel Latham, and dined in relays on the first Thursday evening in October. Dinner was begun at seven O'clock in the petite dining room near the south entrance; and, due to a regrettable error in the time announced on the notice cards, members continued coming in until seven thirty.

After dinner, President Flener called the meeting to order in the club room, where we were joined by Eckles, Clark and Weldon, who arrived in time for the program. There were twenty-five members in attendance.

The treasurer collected \$21.00 in dues,

The report of the committee on by-laws and Constitution, which was brought in by Rogers in September and filed with the secretary, was presented to the meeting for adoption.

A separate vote was taken for each amendment, which were voted on in numerical order.

The first amendment, proposing^{a.} reduction of the initiation fee, was lost.

The second amendment, which specifies, "If any member shall become three months in arrears for dues he shall automatically be dropped from the society," was adopted.

The third amendment provoked much discussion, but was finally tabled by a vote of 15 to 4.

On the program James A. McKenzie substituted for A.H. Eckles and read a paper captioned, "Books". He gave us the atmosphere of Homer and a close-up of Huckleberry Finn.

J. W. Weldon 's subject was Wesley and The Warm Heart."

The discussion was ably conducted by the following members:

- | | | | | |
|----------------------|-------------|-----------|-----------------|------------|
| 1. I. D. Smith | 4. Clark | 7. Ezell | 10. Henry | 14. Downer |
| 2. Gladstone Koffman | 5. Fink | 8. Petrie | 11. I. L. Smith | 15. Rives. |
| 3. Saunders | 6. Chappell | 9. Soyars | 12. Eckles | |
| | | | 13. Henderson | |

B W Gaithey, Secretary

or not.

Those who responded to the President's call in the discussion were; Clark, Trimble, Fink, Smith, Ira L., Southall, Saunders, Henry, Gaither, Koffman, Rives, Wallace, Meacham, Ira D. Smith, Petrie, Downer, White, and David Walker.

The meeting adjourned shortly after ten o ' clock.

B W Gaither

Secretary

November Meeting Friday Nov. 9th, 1934

Oscar Flener, Presiding

The Athenaeum met at the Hotel Latham at 6:30 p. m. with twenty-one members at dinner. Three men, came in later, making the attendance twenty-four.

The treasurer collected \$18.00. in dues.

After the roll call and the reading of the October minutes Messers White and Clark voiced their protest of the postponement of that meeting from the first Thursday to the second Friday for the benefit of the clergy; who after all were absent. Expecting the meeting to be the 2nd Thursday, they made a dinner engagement elsewhere in the city. (The postponement was in deference to the Community Revival, conducted by Dr. Burke Culpepper and was to be the second Thursday. Later it was changed to Friday and the clergy accepted the Friday engagement before receiving notice of the change.)

White moved that a vote of censure for the parties responsible viz. Flener, Gaither and Meacham be taken. It was seconded and carried. (The vote was twenty for and two against. The officers of the society voted for the censure.) The President said there must be no future postponement.

No excuses were presented for absentees.

The Membership Committee recommended Thomas L. Smith for election.

The ballots were spread and the resulting vote elected Mr. Smith to membership.

The president proposed that the Forum Society of Princeton and the Philomathic Society of Clarksville be invited as our guests at the December meeting.

Soyars moved that we invite them and levy a special assessment - if necessary. This was carried by the vote of the Society.

Rives suggested that the discussion in the December meeting be limited to a few chosen representatives of each society.

An expression from Saunders the the quality of discussions would be improved by the announcement of the subjects to be discussed in advance of the meeting was passed over without action or comment.

Chappell responded to the first call on the program, with a paper on " Inflation ".

Soyars read a paper on, "The Labor Problem and Relief."

These gentlemen introduced their subjects with a prefatory declaration of independence, stating that the papers were written for their own edification and enlightenment, and that the gentlemen of the Society might spare themselves much precious time by withholding their personal opinions on these subjects in the discussion, as they- the writers- did not care whether the rest of us liked them

December 6th, 1934.

Dr. Oscar Flener, Presiding

The Athenaeum met in open session at 6:30 p. m. at the Hotel Latham, and an excellent dinner was served at seven o'clock. There were twelve guests from the Philomathic Club, Clarksville, Tenn. viz; The Messers John Conroy, Collier Goodlett, Garnett Ladd, G. G. Foskett, W. J. Nicholson, Callis Tate, C. H. Moore, Stanley Moore, F. G. Woodward, Dr. C. F. Pickering, The Rev. John Davidson and the Rev. J. H. Lacy.

The local guests were Dudley H. Taylor, staff writer of the Kentucky New Era, and Herschel Long, a former member of the Athenaeum.

The business session was dispensed with, and soon after the dessert course was finished President Flener gave a brief address of welcome, and instructed the secretary to call the first member on the program.

S. Pettus White responded with a paper entitled, "The School of Hard Knocks." Before the close of the session it developed that the speaker was to take a post-graduate course in the school of which he had written, - and not without honors.

J. W. Downer, speaking on the subject of "William Gladstone" completed the program with another remarkable feat of his memory, in an hour of flowing eloquence.

Those who responded to the presiding officer's call for the discussion were, Philomathians, viz.;

Callis Tate,	Dr. Charles F. Pickering
C. H. Moore	Collier Goodlett
Rev. John A. Davidson	G. G. Foskett
Rev. J. H. Lacy	John J. Conroy
for the Athenaeum;	
D. M. Walker	Ira L. Smith
Alvan H. Clark	Chas. J. Petrie
P. C. Walker	C. M. Meacham.
J. W. Weldon	

The other members of the Athenaeum present were , viz;

W. O. Soyars, Jouett Henry, Phil Chappell, Frank Rives, J. J. Ezell, W. E. Rogers, Jr., F. W. Fink, Gladstone Koffman, S. Y. Trimble, J. A. McKenzie, Wallace Henderson H. W. Linton, W. H. Southall, A. H. Eckles, C. W. Saunders. B. W. Gaither.

On the program for February are F. W. Fink and C. M. Meacham.

B W Gaither

Secretary