MELETIAN
1961
WISCONSIN
STATE
COLLEGE
RIVER FALLS
A year of building, rebuilding and progress . . .

As great strides were taken in the world of science with the first launching of a man into space by the United States, the College at River Falls contributed its share to the advancement of future generations by insuring individuals — interested, seeking — ready to become part of society.

The College expanded physically by dedicating the new laboratory farm buildings, R. A. Karges Physical Education and Recreation Center, Prucha Residence Hall for Men and the H. T. Hagestad Student Center. The art, music, science and foreign language departments added to their facilities.

Courses were innovated to stimulate inquisitive minds.

Graduates left with a feeling of accomplishment, mixed with awe and anxiety about going into the outside competitive world, but there was a good basis for beginning . . . learning had been opened to them.

Juniors were beginning to experiment with the individuality they had been hearing about. Sophomores envied seniors and freshmen simultaneously as they were eager to be independent, yet hesitant about leaving "conformity." Freshmen were still amazed at seeing a new "freedom" opening up to them.

As a member of a class, each student had an opportunity to grow with the College . . . grow in ability to think and know, choose and plan, as does no other living form.
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Students of Wisconsin State College  
River Falls, Wisconsin  

Dear Students:  

In one sense "Shadows," the theme of this year's Meletean, seems to be a rather foreboding and ominous one. And perhaps, in a symbolic way, it is appropriate for our age. Certainly the shadows of mushroom clouds, of missiles, and of satellites hang over us.  

But there are shadows only when there is also light. These shadows which sometimes frighten us are cast by the light of men's knowledge. And the light can move and spread and cause the shadows to assume new and more pleasant forms.  

The real reason for the existence of this and other colleges is to keep that light burning and spreading. During its "fourscore and seven years," the College at River Falls has been a source of opportunity to many who might not otherwise have been able to avail themselves of the light of higher education. And its graduates have reflected this light throughout the nation and, indeed, throughout the world.  

In an age of technology and complexity, the need for this light has never been greater than it is today. The kind of education River Falls offers, with a balance between specialization and a breadth of knowledge, is more important now than ever before and will become increasingly important in the future.  

With continued student, alumni and faculty support, the College is making plans now to move confidently into a future of growing light and greater service.  

Sincerely yours,  

E. H. Kleinpell  
President  

EHK:10
DEDICATED TO ONE
WHO, by his friendly hellos and wise counsel, has shown a sincere interest in each individual at the College...
WHO this year completed his fifteenth year as president at River Falls...
WHO has been largely responsible for the physical growth of the campus...
WHO has enthusiastically supported campus activities...
WHO believes that liberalism on campus should be practiced as well as taught...

DR. EUGENE H. KLEINPELL

Individual . . . A moment alone
Husband . . . The Kleinpells enjoyed basketball games

Faculty Frolics Star . . . 'Deep in the Heart of Texas'

. . . These are things which describe our College president, Dr. E. H. Kleinpell. He received his bachelor of arts degree from the State University of Iowa, his masters degree from the University of Chicago, and his Ph.D. from Ohio State University. His teaching experience includes Kemper Military Academy, head of the history department of Northern Montana College at Havre, head of the Division of Social Science of Morningside College in Sioux City, Iowa, and President of the State Teachers College, Valley City, North Dakota, from 1942 until 1946 when he came to River Falls.

An institution is the lengthened shadow of one man.

Emerson
An editor wonders, worries, wishes, and finally is relieved as a yearbook goes to press. During this time he wonders if other editors have gone through the same kind of uncertainty for a complete year, answering questions such as “Is it done yet?” and “When do you study?” and, in our case, “What does Meletean mean?” While browsing through past issues of the Meletean, capitalizing on ideas other editors have (or haven’t) had, the last question was answered.

“A weekly paper, the Badger, had formerly been published by the school, and the yearbook was in a way an outgrowth of this. However, the staff did not wish to keep the name, since it was that of the annual published by the University of Wisconsin, so the Latin word for badger, and the scientific name of the European badger—meles—was chosen, and from it was formed—Meletean.”

... 1926 Meletean
Campus Tour

Wisconsin State College
At River Falls
The Campus

1. Prucha Hall
2. Stratton Hall
3. R. A. Karges Health and Recreation Center
4. H. T. Hagestad Student Center
5. Agronomy Building
6. Industrial Arts Building
7. College Apartments
8. Health Cottage
9. South Hall
10. North Hall
11. Hathorn Hall
12. Chalmer Davie Library
13. Hathorn Cottage
14. Laboratory School (under construction)
15. Ramer Field
A College

What is a college? Cheerleaders . . . coffee . . . professors . . . students? A college, some will say, is ivy covered buildings, football heroes, flighty coeds. To others, perhaps, a college is boredom and dull lectures or radical ideas or grinding work spent on meaningless projects in impossible courses about impractical subjects. Or is college the "passport of the future", the "key to the door of opportunity", "one of the most memorable experiences anyone could ever have"?

Whatever a college is, there are, according to one survey, more than 1800 such institutions in this country.

We don't pretend to know all about all of those colleges, but we do think that we have an excellent example of what a college should be — here at River Falls.

One short stroll around the campus and you begin to get the idea.
Juliet may have asked, "What's in a name?," but then, she wasn't thinking of our Student Center. For us it's a center in many ways.

Here, this year, we found time and facilities for many things: strong coffee and good talk — and sometimes the other way around — time to read the books bought in the campus bookstore, and more talk: nuclear physics, Winter Carnival, Shakespeare, Time-Space, student elections, spring proms.

There was time and space for food and play. Downstairs, at almost any time, the billiard balls click and the ping balls pong. In the lounge areas there was always a carefree game of hearts going on — with or without cards.

And then, too, here is where we learn the business of self-government. "Self-government," by the way, is more than a hollow term at River Falls. Our Student Senate handled a budget of approximately $41,000 this year.
Classrooms & Laboratories

Across the campus, past the flower beds, and over the lawn are some of the classroom buildings. These are the heart of the campus, for despite “learning machines” and other mechanical aids to imparting knowledge, students continue to gain the greater portion of their formal education in the traditional way — from professors talking with students, sharing interests, information, and concepts and demonstrating that ideas can be exciting.

Of course the term “classrooms” means laboratories, too. Besides those in physics, chemistry, biology and the other sciences, there are the agriculture labs, the industrial arts workshops and a soon-to-be-completed language laboratory.
Room to Experiment

And, then, there are the new, spacious studios which are the pride of the art department. They contain all the equipment the aspiring young ceramist, painter, or sculptor needs to produce his work.

There are rooms for learning about writing and producing radio scripts and for practicing speech. There are music practice rooms, listening rooms and rehearsal rooms. Anything academic from modern ballet to modern mathematics has a place on the college campus. There's plenty of stimulation and challenge in the wide variety of subjects at River Falls.
Books and Learning

The college library, when you come to think about it, also has many “convertible” features. Other than books—our library still uses them — there are other sorts of records available here.

One mustn’t forget our Twentieth Century method of storing information and experience: the phonograph record, the motion picture film, and the microfilm. The record library is an admirable one. (It’s still amazing to think that our civilization has been able to compress a full-sized symphony orchestra into those grooves on that wafer-thin disk.) And, if we need additional films for instruction or for entertainment, the rental services of the world are happy to oblige.

For “living” records, there’s the Little Theatre on the lower floor of this building. The drama department produces its plays here and the works come from all periods and areas of the world.
Sports and Speeches

But, to counterfeit a phrase, all mental play and no work-out would make Jack, or any student for that matter, a dull one. You can get the work-out at the new, huge Karges gym. The building isn't quite large enough to contain Ramer Field, so we probably will continue to play our football games outside for a while yet. But it is large enough to hold three full-sized basketball courts (with spectator space), exercise rooms, an Olympic-sized swimming pool (with spectator space) and showers, lockers, coaches offices, etc., etc., etc. If you favor individual sports, in addition to swimming there are always wrestling and volleyball and badminton and, work-out of all work-outs, handball.

The main gym also proves useful as an auditorium for those large gatherings (such as the Faculty Frolics we had this year), commencement, and for some of the outstanding personalities who visit the campus. The group shown at the right is listening to Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt.

R. A. Karges Physical Education and Recreation Center
A Spot for Study,

We suppose that it's just "normal" to think of college learning in connection with classrooms and libraries. But education takes place in other ways, too. According to the latest psychological theories it's impossible not to learn: we do, it seems, learn something new every day.

Some of the more comfortable learning places on campus are the student residence halls. For the men there are Stratton and Prucha Halls; for the women Hathorn Hall and Cottage. For the ever-growing number of married students, there are the College Apartments. In the near future there'll be a new wing for Hathorn, and later, a new men's dorm, making housing for even more students.
Conversation & Companionship

Probably the people who recall college as "the most memorable experience anyone could have" are thinking partially at least of their college "home life". One can hardly doubt the fun of meeting new people, seeing new faces, and the even more enjoyable experience of getting to know the person that goes with the face.

College students still being college students there's also room for the parlor get-together, for jokes and pleasant conversation, an exchange of ideas or, over the phone, a call for a date. And, as always, the necessary involvement of even the most frivolous student with the text book.
Well, here we are back in the Student Center. Our tour is over.

What is a college? We still don't know.

What is our college, River Falls? Perhaps you have an idea.

However, no one can describe a college with pictures of buildings or even pictures of people. As a student you become a part of it and realize that it is impossible to photograph some of the things that make River Falls unique: the spirit of the student body, the warmth and genuineness of the student — faculty relationship; the friendliness of the college community in general.

We suppose it's the reality of these intangibles that help a growing physical plant, faculty, and student body make River Falls what a college should be.
In Memoriam

The loss resulting from the deaths of three students who lost their lives in separate automobile accidents was deeply felt by everyone at the College. This page is dedicated to their memory.

Russell Radke, a freshman during the 1959-60 school year, from Dodge Center, Minnesota, died July 18, 1960, as a result of injuries received in an accident near Rochester, Minnesota, May 21, 1960.

Dennis Wollen, freshman from River Falls, was killed in an accident near Spring Valley September 16, 1960.


None but those shadowed by death’s approach are suffered to know that death is a blessing; the gods conceal this from those who have life before them, in order that they may go on living.

De Bello Civili