

St. Dunstan's Red and White

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Editorial

Vale

With the completion of this the final issue of Vol. XVIII of Red and White, our connection with the magazine in an official capacity is at an end. As we lay aside the blue pencil, we experience, as many others have experienced in similar circumstances, a two-fold feeling of relief and reluctance—relief at the lifting a burden that has been at times onerous though never unpleasant, reluctance because of the severance of ties, the breaking off of associations formed during our tenure of office, associations that have united us firmly with the institution and with its individual members. A diligent staff, generous advertisers, obliging printers and an appreciative public have combined to make the task a pleasant one. That Red and White has not escaped some criticism is as it should be, for our mistakes would be of little profit to us without the hand of the candid critic to point them out and suggest the remedy. Before passing on to other fields of labor, we bespeak for our successors the same courteous treatment that has been accorded us, and express a heart-

felt wish that, under their management, Red and White may advance far above any standard which it has hitherto maintained. We are taking the old quill as a souvenir; the faithful waste basket will be found at its post when the cobwebs are brushed away in the fall. *Au revoir.*

Literary Awards

The system of awarding literary D's established a few years ago with a view to stimulating interest in Red and White, was continued during the current year under the same plan. According to the rules, members of the editorial staff are not eligible to compete for those awards, although they may—and do—contribute to the literary department. Besides the senior members of the staff, who receive D's in recognition of their services, the following are the successful competitors for the year:

For best short story, *After Fifteen Years*, John O'Meara.

For best poem, *Aux Finissants*, G. E. Blanchard.

For best article, *Mexico*, E. L. Murray.

For meritorious service—Joseph Walsh.

While we feel that Red and White has had a fair measure of success during the past year, we are of the opinion that, with few exceptions, the promise of literary awards has been of very little material assistance. If the members of the staff and other non-eligibles had not been allowed to contribute, the magazine would have been deprived of much of its best material—in fact, the contributions received from those who might have competed were not sufficient to warrant publication at all. Experience has convinced the editors that those awards are not sufficiently difficult to obtain. Some have been won on the merits of a single contribution, which is not at all according to the wishes of the founders of the awards. The system of giving points for each accepted contribution, such points to be carried over from year to year, until a certain number has been obtained, seems to work well in other institutions. Perhaps something of a similar order would be successful here. At any rate, we suggest that next year's staff attempt some reform, if only by making the stipulation that competitors for D's must contribute to each issue during the year.