

Lets have dinner together after meeting
at the surgical section

From Dr. Joseph Mills

At a hot med. meeting

POP'S BUDDIES

Tell me about pop when
you were at Kellie's

Among Pop's buddies were "Pomp" Hawkins, who later studied medicine and wanted Pop also to study medicine. He would tease Pop about wanting to be a preacher and wanted Pop to go to medical school with him. John R. Hawkins would chide Pomp's efforts to steer Pop away from the ministry. "Let Berry alone" said John R. "Let him choose his own course." Pomp: "I don't want to see him go wrong." Other classmates and buddies included Henry Manley of Wilmington, N. C. whose father had a newspaper and was later put out of business and run out of town by white rioters, John M. Avery of Morganton, N. C. and John Sanford of town, and Howard Barlow who was a bass singer of town. Pop was active in the ACE League, student YMCA, and other campus organizations.

MOONLIGHT REVELRIES

pop the upper classman

Groups of boys would get together for "harmonizing in the moonlight" on the campus to the delight of the girls in the dormitory and faculty members as well. Berry often took the lead in organizing these groups. Such songs as "My Old Kentucky Home", "Carry Me Back To Old Virginia", "Sweet Adeline", "Swanee River". These occasions were also used for forums or what would be called today "bull sessions," as well as for singing. These revelries would invariably end with a serious accent with such songs as "Lead Kindly Light" or Negro Spirituals. Lew Berry was active in trying to spiritualize young men who liked a worldly life. A case in point - Bob Simmons of Norfolk, a rough, swashbuckling youngster, who was always noisy in the dormitory and often up to mischief. He became Pop's "special project" for a long time. The boys learned that John R. Hawkins, or as they affectionately called him "old Man John", respected Lew Berry's opinion. He was often called upon therefore to plead their cause before the faculty. Example, when "Old Man John" would observe that the kerosene burning student light stayed on after hours in South Hall they would say "Berry was giving us a lecture."

Such a statement that a "Berry sponsored session" was on was usually not questioned further by "Old Man John". The facts were that very often the boys were holding a little "penny ante" game or a game of whist. Boys who got into disciplinary difficulties with the faculty knew that if their case had any merit Berry could get them a light penalty. He was regarded by the faculty as a student leader and often spoke for the students, yet he was a good mixer even in those early days of his life. He was quick witted and humorous but honest, studious and ambitious. He left a great imprint for good on the students as well as faculty. It was not unusual to find Lew Berry giving lectures to the men in the dormitories or on the campus. In his talks he would develop a dramatic voice even in such informal sessions but the boys, even the most mischievous, would listen and respected him. Hawkins used to say that L. L. Berry had the greatest potentiality of any man on the campus. The students recognized and respected the leadership of their president and they used to say that L. L. Berry was like him.

OTHER STUDENTS AND SCHOOLMATES

There was a young man by the name of Poole who was a sort of religious character and helped Pop to put over his program with the students. Poole was also a bass singer whose favorite was "Asleep In The Deep" and "I'll Take You Home Again Kathleen". There were mischievous boys in those days too who would manage to get a chicken once in awhile, usually such birds would have wandered from the yards of faculty folk too close to the boys dormitory. In fact there was probably organized posses who marauded around after dark to encourage such birds to come within range of South Hall. Many of the boys managed to have tiny kerosene oil cook stoves in their closets and other paraphernalia with which to cook their prey. Pop was forever pleading to get these youngsters out of difficulty and would refuse to participate in the hunt or the feast which followed so his hands were

Wills
Joseph
Statement of J. R. R.

clean to keep the boys from being shipped home to their parents when "Old Man John" was able to put a finger on them.

Other students and friends of Pop included Poole, of _____ city, who was a sort of religious character and later went into the ministry. He helped Pop to put over his program. Joseph N. Mills, who was an under-classman at Kittrell in Pop's day and who later studied medicine and continued a life long friend of L. L. Berry, admired him greatly beginning in the school days at Kittrell. Among others, Prof. J. L. Wheeler who was Dean of the college in the days at Kittrell, was a great admirer of Lew Berry, who spoke of him as the cleanest and most moral man on the campus and often said he stood head and shoulders above other students. John L. Wheeler, the former teacher, now has a son, John H., who is President of the Mechanics and Farmers Bank of Durham, N. C. Recalling other faculty members there was Miss Lovey A. Mayo who died still a spinster in Raleigh in 1952. She was nearly 100 years old. Dr. Mills and others had extended charity to her for some years. At her death, however, she left Five Thousand Dollars in the bank although she was undernourished and it was thought that insufficient food had contributed to her death.

One boy had a "Bee Bee" shotgun. A favorite "bank" as it was called was to get ^a small ^{bag} of corn, conceal it under his coat drop one grain at a time from the hen house gate of Old Man John into the yard on ^{to} other side of South Hall - Many an unsuspecting cat has way into range
J