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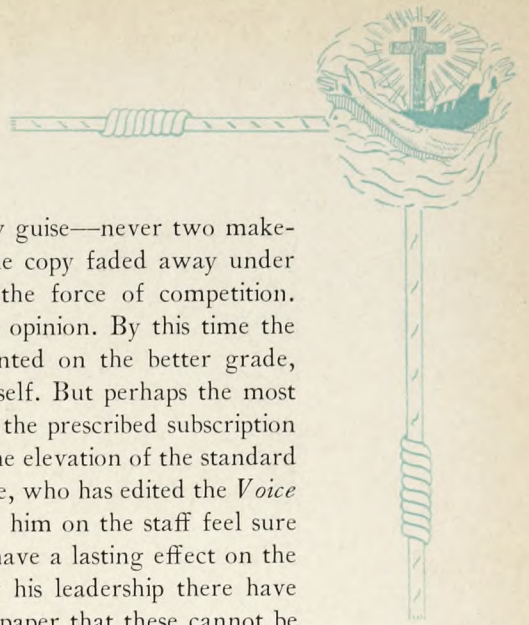
A. Murphy
Assoc. Editor

The Voice

BIRTHDAY anniversaries are always happy occasions—even when the birthday is that of a student newspaper. The *Voice*, which hardly more than a year ago was but an idle fancy, has come of age. Within the short year or so of its existence, the official student publication of St. Francis College has progressed far and accomplished much. For this, if for no other reason, it is entitled to its due share of praise and boastful comments. But why praise and boasting? The *Voice* is still far from perfection, just as far as it is from the imperfection in which it started. We of the staff are only too keenly aware of this fact, and we would be the first to object if no further progress were envisioned for the future.

Yet all this does not mean that we are not proud of the year's advancement. We are, and justly so. Since the first appearance of the *Voice* last April, each issue has put the former to shame. The *Voice* has taken its place by successive, yet lengthy strides among the better class of collegiate newspapers. Even in its present form, the *Voice* is not what the students voted for at its beginning. It is better—it is what they dared not expect. Originally it was planned that the college paper should be a monthly of four pages, but never has it appeared as such. To prove just what could be done, the editors of the first number published the *Voice* as a bi-weekly and they published it with six, not four pages. Of course, not all the six pages were free from error—far from it. We all remember those typographical slip-ups that had the paper dubbed in its own columns as the *Gvoice*, those misleading headlines that gave little hint of the news value of the articles, the ill-considered length of some of the features, the poor taste displayed in a few of the news items. We cannot forget these unpleasant faults, nor do we care to. They are a constant reminder to us of the obstacles that have been overcome and the errors that have been removed. To Joseph E. Mulé and his assistants, the first editorial staff of the resurrected and revised *Voice*, which had suffered too long from laryngitis, we owe much for the tremendous burden assumed and the brilliant results achieved.

With the opening of the new semester in September, improvements on the *Voice* came in rapid order. Pictures, ever important to the well-balanced newspaper, gradually



found their place of prominence. Each issue appeared in new guise—never two make-ups the same, but all up to the best advantage. Errors in the copy faded away under careful scrutiny. Better news stories were written under the force of competition. Editorials took on a greater influence for moulding student opinion. By this time the *Voice* was prepared to assume its new garb, and now printed on the better grade, magazine-type paper it is hardly recognizable as its former self. But perhaps the most significant step, for the students at least, was the abolition of the prescribed subscription fee for the publication. For these details particularly and for the elevation of the standard of the paper generally, credit is especially due to Robert P. Lee, who has edited the *Voice* for both semesters of this year. Those who have served with him on the staff feel sure that his quiet but efficient activity in this regard cannot but have a lasting effect on the efforts of the future editors, whoever they may be. Under his leadership there have been set such high ideals of tone and quality for the college paper that these cannot be changed, no matter whatever else may happen. His assistants as news editors, Thomas Orr and Paul Ciangetti, are to be congratulated for not only making the *Voice* a “news” paper, but also for training members of the lower classes to write for publication. The successful sports pages and feature articles are due in no small measure to the supervision extended over them by John Lagomarsino and George McFadden, sports and feature editors respectively. To the associate editors and especially to Austin Murphy recognition must be made for their efforts in lightening the burden of the editor. The business staff, headed by James Donnelly, is to be complimented on the manner in which it has handled this less romantic but not less important side of journalism.

