

dents who did not wish to be degree candidates. There is no record of how many students earned this certificate or how long it was offered.

In a circular dated March 1852 and entitled "Union College. Civil Engineering Department," ALEXANDER HOLLAND wrote:

The course of Civil Engineering is a department of the "University course" of the College (a system established in it in 1832, and more fully developed in 1849) by which students, not candidates for the regular Bachelor's degree, are allowed to pursue such studies as they are qualified for and may desire, purely scientific, practical, classical, or otherwise, provided they attend at least three recitations daily, and conform in all other respects to the laws of College. On leaving, they receive a certificate of the studies which they have pursued, and of the progress which they have made.

The 1859 laws of the College provided for "University Students." The term had no reference to Union University, which did not yet exist. Such students were later called "eclectic students" or "students of the partial course."

See also: EVENING DIVISION.

Upperclass Walk. The path from Bailey Hall to Psi Upsilon was probably named "Upperclass Walk" by the Sophomore Discipline Committee, which on April 8, 1946, added the walk to the list of places forbidden to freshmen (see HAZING AND CLASS FIGHTS).

Passing near the IDOL, Upperclass Walk was itself frequently painted with fraternity symbols. A variant name, "Senior Walk," was used as late as 1958, but the notion that the walk was restricted had disappeared long before the path was obliterated in 1961 by construction of a parking lot behind Schaffer Library.

Upsilon Pi Epsilon (Theta chapter). A national honor society in computer science, Upsilon Pi Epsilon has had a chapter at Union since November 10, 1989.

Upward Bound Program. A group of pilot projects funded in 1965 by the federal Office of Economic Opportunity led in 1967 to the national Upward Bound program, administered since 1969 by the Office of Education.

On October 28, 1966, Union's Board of Trustees voted to participate, making the College one of several hundred initial host institutions. Union offered a summer program for Amsterdam, Troy and Schenectady high school students "with potential college ability who have been handicapped by economic, cultural or educational circumstances." The program consisted of a six-week summer course during which students who had completed the tenth or eleventh grade lived in the College dormitories and took courses with high school teachers and Union College faculty members. Later, the program was extended to Saturdays during

the academic year. Some Upward Bound students eventually matriculated at Union, but the program was intended to prepare students for college generally.

During the summer of 1969, the students and staff of Upward Bound published five issues of the *Concordiansis*, and the creative writing course published an anthology titled *What's so orange about 2 o'clock??* Another anthology, *From out of the blue*, appeared in 1973.

The program offices were in Bailey Hall (1967/68), North College (1968/69), Webster House (1969-71) and Stoller Hall (1971-76).

Although the federal Upward Bound program continues, Union ceased participating at the end of 1975/76, after its grant was terminated in a federal budget cutback.

The Directors of Upward Bound were: 1967-69: John Terry; 1969-70: Peter M. Crawford; 1971: Martin Abramowitz; 1971-73: Mary A. Hannon; 1973-75: J. Anthony Sharp; 1975/76: Lynn Gilmore.

See also: ACADEMIC OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM.

Van Den Heuvel, Cornelius Willem (circa 1760-April 1799). Professor of Natural Philosophy and Astronomy, 1798-99.

A native of Vlaardingen in the Netherlands, where his father, a wealthy merchant, had been burgomaster, Cornelius Van Den Heuvel studied medicine at Leiden University. Between completing his residence at the university and receiving his doctoral degree, Van Den Heuvel studied in London, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Paris, and Vienna. Accompanied by a friend, he also toured Switzerland on foot, collecting plants and visiting learned men.

Back at Leiden in 1787, he published and defended his dissertation, a large and ambitious attempt at a new classification of diseases (*Tentamen nosologicum; sistens morborum a vitio vis vitalis divisionem...*). The Netherlands was in a period of political strife, however, and Van Den Heuvel's republican sympathies made it necessary for him to emigrate to France in the same year. Three years later, he followed two friends to America.

After a period of further botanizing in the vicinity of Baltimore (doubtless with a pharmaceutical motive), he settled in New Jersey, but about a year later he moved to Schenectady. He entered there into a business with Dirck Van Ingen which is variously said to have been a medical partnership or an apocathary shop; the two professions were in fact not very distinct at that time, but Van Ingen was a businessman, not a physician.

Van Ingen became the treasurer of Union College in 1797, and the following year the board hired Van Den Heuvel as Professor of Natural Philosophy and Astronomy. Student notes survive for his lectures on both subjects, and they suggest that, in the field of physics at least, Van Den Heuvel was more up-to-date

than the textbooks (Leiden was a center of the “new physics”), and that he made extensive use of the College’s scientific apparatus for demonstrations. His very imperfect English, however, limited his effectiveness as a teacher.

He died of a “febrile disease” before his first year at Union was complete.

Van der Veer, Alice. The ghost of Alice Van der Veer allegedly haunts JACKSON’S GARDEN, where she was supposedly burned alive, or hanged, by a mob in 1672, after her father shot and killed one of her suitors.

There is no evidence that an Alice Van der Veer ever existed, or that any such incident ever occurred in Schenectady. Nor is it clear that anyone ever seriously claimed to see the ghost; the story is probably more correctly classified as modern fiction than as legitimate folklore.

Vanderveer, Charles W. (1856–Aug. 31, 1928). Director of the Gymnasium, 1879–82; 1884–92.

A native of Amsterdam, New York, Charles Vanderveer was the first non-military man to be placed in charge of physical education at Union (see ATHLETICS). The College had opened its first indoor gymnasium (see BECKER HALL) in 1874, equipping it with gymnastic apparatus, and the classes “Vandy” began in November 1878 generated considerable enthusiasm. He gave a trapeze performance at a college fair in 1882.

Vanderveer also worked with track athletes, led cross-country runs, and literally moonlighted as a night watchman from 1880. The latter work made him a witness to an incident of student rebellion which became an issue at the “trial” of President ELIPHALET NOTT POTTER in 1882. In that year Potter, citing the need to reduce expenses, dismissed Vanderveer.

Two years later, shortly after Potter’s departure, students successfully petitioned for Vanderveer’s reinstatement. After another eight years of service, he departed for Case University, where former Union professor Cady Staley had recently been named president. He spent only one year there and subsequently worked as a coach, primarily in the Seattle area.

Van Orden Prize. Established in 1910/11 by Wessel Van Orden, in memory of his uncle, Dr. Wessel Ten Broeck Van Orden ’39, the Van Orden Prize for “the best English essay submitted by a Freshmen” was awarded for the first time in 1912/13. In the early years, the subject of the essay was specified by the faculty.

Van Voast Evergreen Garden. Occupying a large area east of the central pathway in JACKSON’S GARDEN, the John C. Van Voast Evergreen Garden is a lawn enclosed by evergreens from John C. Van Voast’s own garden.

The plot had formerly been the Benedict’s vegetable garden. When Van Voast, of the Class of 1887, took over supervision of Jackson’s Garden, he asked Frank E. Bradley ’85 to lay out an evergreen section, but only a very modest start was made before Van Voast died in 1935. In the fall of that year, with the financial support of his fraternity, ALPHA DELTA PHI, MARIAN OSGOOD FOX had the area planted with evergreens from Van Voast’s garden, and from FRANK BAILEY and Ludlow Melius. A place of simple tranquility, the evergreen garden has remained virtually unchanged. A bronze plaque on a nearby boulder commemorates its creation.

Vedder, John Nicholas Vrooman (Nov. 28, 1873–Dec. 26, 1936). Class of 1895. Professor of Thermodynamics and Mechanics, 1914–36.

Born on the Niskayuna farm of his parents, Abraham and Mary Vrooman Vedder, John Nicholas Vedder was descended on both sides from early Mohawk Valley settlers. He attended the Union Classical Institute, then entered Union College in the classical course, distinguishing himself by winning several public speaking prizes. He graduated with an AB in 1895, a year ahead of his brother Henry.

For the next few years, Vedder taught briefly in several upstate New York high schools, interrupting this work to return to Union temporarily as a mathematics instructor during the fall term of 1900.

Graduate study in physics at Columbia University, 1903–5, did not lead to a degree, and a 1906 job teaching freshman mathematics at Stevens Institute of Technology proved short-lived. In 1909–10 Vedder worked as an assistant in the calculating department at Schenectady’s American Locomotive Co. He then obtained a position as assistant in the department of electrical engineering at the University of Illinois, where he taught thermodynamics, mechanics and vector analysis from 1910 to 1914. A year after the department’s chairman, ERNST BERG, came to Union in 1913, he brought Vedder back to Schenectady.

During his first fifteen years on the faculty, Vedder was part of the electrical engineering department, but following the death of Howard Opdyke, a physicist who had taught mechanics, Vedder was moved in 1929 to a newly-established Department of Mechanics and Thermodynamics. There he taught applied mechanics, mechanics of materials, hydraulics, thermodynamics, and applied vector analysis—essentially a mechanical engineering course. In 1928 he married Mrs. Harriet Booth-Rusk; they had no children.

Aside from a 1922 paper on “The reheating of compressed air,” based on his earlier work at the University of Illinois, most of Vedder’s writing consisted of papers arguing the value to engineers of a liberal education (see BALANCED COLLEGE CONCEPT), and witty addresses prepared for the HALE CLUB. His whimsical

humor enlivened many of the club's Christmas parties; he was remembered especially for a pseudo-scholarly paper on the problem of determining the exact middle of the Middle Ages.

Vedder also delivered carefully prepared serious lectures on such subjects as "The philosophy of Benedetto Croce" and "Romanticism." He loved music, attending concerts of all kinds, but he was equally devoted to horse racing. The breadth of Vedder's interests, and his ability to mix high and low culture, earned him some popularity with students, even though he was evidently rather uninspiring in the classroom.

After Vedder's death of a heart attack at the age of sixty-three, President Fox said that he "finely illustrated an ideal too seldom realized in our modern world of academic specialization—the broadly cultivated gentleman able to present one branch of learning against the background of many others." Writing in the *Union Alumni Monthly*, Charles Waldron, perhaps seeking to allay misunderstanding of Vedder's student nickname, "Betsy," added another dimension: "he was very masculine, and had a man's vocabulary that could sweep from one end of the verbal spectrum to the other."

Veterans' Housing. Two separate clusters of temporary housing units were built for the flood of veterans entering or returning to Union after the Second World War. The housing for married students was called DUTCHMEN'S VILLAGE and was on the present site of Garis Field. The housing for unmarried students was in the PASTURE in front of North College, and is treated in this article.

Five two-storey wooden buildings, called lodges, were erected: Wildwood (February 1947), Beaver and Elmwood (by August 1947) and Mohawk and Seneca (February 1948). The whole cluster was sometimes called Wildwood, sometimes "the pasture dorms"; because it was expected to be temporary, it had no formal name.

The dormitories were built by Rathgeb and Walsh, Inc., the contractors for Dutchmen's Village, and financed by the Federal Public Housing Authority. They were turned over to the College to operate on November 15, 1948.

The dorms' tenants changed rapidly; the structures were cold in winter and noisy at all times, and few lived there by choice. Because all fraternity houses had been closed during the war, and some off-campus fraternity houses had been lost to the fraternities, sections of Elmwood and Beaver were assigned to fraternities in August 1947. With the opening of the last of the dorms, students who had been granted special permission to live off campus were required to move back, and by June 1948 all the dormitories were full, housing over four hundred students.

By February 1950, however, two lodges were empty again, and the CHARACTER RESEARCH PROJECT moved into one of them. In November 1950, the students remaining in the temporary dorms moved into the just-completed WEST COLLEGE, and four of the buildings were razed in January 1951. After the Character Research Project moved out of the last lodge in the fall of 1951, the building remained empty for a while, and was then occupied by American Locomotive Co. officials during a strike from late 1952 until the following spring. The last of the temporary buildings was finally razed in the summer of 1953.

Vietnam War. America's military involvement in Vietnam, which began in a very small way in 1950 and grew under President John Kennedy, increased markedly in 1965 under President Lyndon Johnson. During the next eight years, until the cease-fire agreement of January 1973, Union College participated in a national debate on the war, and many students and faculty members protested against it in various ways. Of the students and alumni who saw military service in the war, at least six lost their lives: Richard W. Budka '54, Henry Coons '55, Steven W. Diamond '63, Earl W. Grenzbach '53, David L. Weeks '57, and David H. Whitehill '66.

Although Union's reaction to the war news resembled that on hundreds of other campuses, it was also influenced by individuals, by accidents, and by the nature of the institution.

The earliest substantial public expression of opposition to the war came in February 1965, when English instructor Bruce Clements wrote a *Concordiensis* column advocating negotiation with the National Liberation Front and acceptance of defeat; if put to a vote, his position would have received little support. A week later, student Alon Jeffrey titled his *Concordiensis* column "Mess in Vietnam." In May, when Senator Wayne Morse gave a convocation speech critical of U.S. Vietnam policy, some Union students picketed it.

1965/66. Early in 1965/66, senior Rodham Tulloss wrote to the *Concordiensis* calling on faculty members to exercise moral leadership in the debate on Vietnam; some of them would eventually do so, on both sides. Soon afterward, a *Concordiensis* random poll of 207 students found 168 supporting U.S. policy in Vietnam, 30 opposing it, and 9 in other categories. In March, the International Relations Club sponsored a faculty debate on "American Alternatives in Vietnam." Union professors Alfred Thimm and Charles Gati supported American government actions; Malcolm Willison and RPI professor Edward Fox spoke in opposition. In May, students held a poetry "read-in" against the war. About fifteen Union protesters, joined by five from Skidmore, handed out leaflets at Parents Weekend and picketed the A.F.R.O.T.C. parade.

1966/67. 1966/67 likewise saw a relatively low level of student activity concerning the war. The *Concordiensis* called in November for abolition of Union's ROTC unit and representatives of the radical Students for a Democratic Society (an organization that never established a presence at Union) spoke at Hale House in January. President Johnson's bombing of North Vietnam, denounced by Arthur Schlesinger Jr. in a January speech at Memorial Chapel, became the object of a petition drive by an ad-hoc student-faculty committee. Launched in early February, the petition, demanding "an immediate, extended cessation of the bombing of North Vietnam as an essential prerequisite to peace in Vietnam," had picked up the support of fifty-four faculty members (forty-seven percent of the faculty) by the time it was mailed to Johnson at the end of May, but only one hundred and sixty students (twelve percent) signed.

1967/68. More students became active against the war in 1967/68, as changes in the Selective Service Act gave them a personal reason to take an interest in the subject. The College was now required to send reports on the academic standing of draft-deferred students to local draft boards at the beginning of each academic year. Students with low grades risked being given draft numbers, but the probability of being drafted depended on whether those were low or high numbers.

In October, as part of a national "Stop-the-Draft Week," some students from Union joined others in picketing the draft induction center in Albany. The Campus Action Committee, formed that year, organized a draft counseling session in January 1968; professors Malcolm Willison, Michael Foster and William Bristol advised students on their options. At the same time, in a display of even-handedness, the Committee sponsored a talk on Vietnam by Army 2nd Lt. Kenneth Cuneo, who had been sent from Washington for the purpose.

Up until this time, a majority of the general public, according to most polls, still supported the war and accepted Washington's assurance that, as a result of steady increases in the number of troops sent to Vietnam, America was winning. At the end of January, however, a broad North Vietnamese attack called the Tet Offensive convinced many observers of the falsity of this view, and polls slowly began to show decreasing support for the administration. About a year later, polls showed a majority opposed to the war.

In February, President HAROLD MARTIN joined other college presidents in sending letters and telegrams to Congress objecting to the announced end to all deferments for graduate students except those in medicine. That month, Union's Student Council voted down (17-15) a motion to take a position for or against the Vietnam War; in the future, however, it would be ready to oppose the war. On March 31, Pres-

ident Johnson announced that he would not seek reelection, a decision that was interpreted as showing the efficacy of protests against the war.

The year also saw some student opposition to the presence on campus of military or other war-related recruiters. After the Campus Action Committee announced plans to hand out "peace literature" during the visit of a Marine Corps recruiter in November, the College changed his venue from Hale House to the peripheral and more easily secured Wells House and established the policy of booking all future recruiters, civilian and military, into that building. In February about thirty students picketed recruitment interviews by Dow Chemical, the maker of the napalm that, for many of the war's opponents, had come to symbolize the immorality of America's role in the conflict. (Eight counter-picketers carried signs praising napalm.) At that time the dean of students announced the Martin administration's policy in the case of subsequent demonstrations: students who interfered with the academic freedom of others would be subject to action by the Discipline Committee, and faculty members would be called before the President's Council.

Nationally, the assassination that spring of the Rev. Martin Luther King (April 4) and of Senator Robert F. Kennedy (June 5) affected the attitudes of activist students. Both men had opposed the war (though they were killed for other reasons), and their murder fueled doubts that traditional methods of effecting change were still adequate. Locally, what many students considered the failure of the College to take sufficient notice of King's assassination also increased tensions.

Three weeks after King's death, the Campus Action Committee, with the blessing of the administration, sponsored four activities intended to focus attention on the Vietnam War and on civil rights: a silent vigil (it drew 80 students and 2 faculty members); a "teach-in" (225 students and 25 professors participated); a student strike, the success of which was not reported; and a fast for all who normally ate at West College (about 150 freshmen and 50 upper-class fraternity men took part.)

1968/69. In the fall of 1968, and especially immediately after Richard Nixon's election, students opposed to the war several times lowered the College flag to half-mast. Fifty-one Union students went to Washington to protest Nixon's inauguration, but perhaps because he had claimed in his campaign to have a "secret plan" to end the war, protesters were not very active on the campus during most of the year. In May, Harvard University biology professor George Wald, a recent winner of the Nobel Prize, spent a few days at Union as the first DAVIDSON FELLOW. His formal address on "The Origins of Death" attacked, *inter alia*, the militarization of American society. Next day, he spoke informally outside the Nott Memorial to a

crowd estimated at more than one thousand. Calling on Congress to stop the Vietnam War, stop the draft, reduce the size of the armed forces by two-thirds, and cut the defense budget drastically, Wald warned that a revolution from the right, in the name of law and order, could be imminent. Following the talk, most of his audience marched across Nott Terrace to Veterans Park on State Street to hear other speakers. Wald's attacks on the Nixon administration received national coverage.

In 1968/69 and in the following year, the faculty debated the role of the AIR FORCE RESERVE OFFICERS TRAINING CORPS, a debate discussed in the article on that subject. Although student protesters objected to the presence of the ROTC as constituting College participation in the war, the faculty debate was largely concerned with whether or not the ROTC program deserved academic credit. Union's ROTC program ended with Commencement of 1971.

1969/70. Anti-war activity the following year began with the national "Vietnam Moratorium" on October 15, 1969. Planned by the Student Social Action Committee (as the former Campus Action Committee was now called), the day's activities included screenings of an anti-war film, a march to Veterans Park, and a talk on South Vietnamese political prisoners. President Martin and sixteen members of the faculty (joined later by fifty-six others) signed an open letter urging

the cooperation of the entire Union College Community with the programs planned for the Viet Nam Moratorium.... As citizens, as members of a learned profession and as human beings we regard with dismay and horror the prolongation of a war for which we can find no justification. History will surely record this as one of the blackest chapters in the American experience. For our own times it has poisoned those relationships which lie at the center of a democratic society....

The Faculty Council asked faculty members to restructure their courses so that students participating in the Moratorium would not be penalized. Organizers of the march estimated that about three thousand people, including about two-thirds of the student body, participated. Over the coach's objection, Martin approved optional wearing of Moratorium armbands by players in that day's football game.

Also in October, President Martin joined seventy-eight other college and university presidents in signing a letter to President Nixon and congressional leaders, calling for "a stepped-up timetable for withdrawal from Vietnam" and noting that "our military engagement in Vietnam now stands as a denial of so much that is best in our society." At about the same time, political science professor Charles Gati, one of the campus's few articulate dissenters from the prevailing anti-war sentiment, explained that he opposed unilateral withdrawal from Vietnam because it would un-

dermine the balance of power in Asia. Conceding that South Vietnam's dictatorship was corrupt, he reminded the College that North Vietnam's was vicious.

After those events of the fall, most students gave little attention to the war until the following April. When the Student Senate voted (23-15) in November to request that the flag be flown at half-mast until the war's end, the All-College Council rejected the request (8-1).

A group called Schenectady Clergy and Laity Concerned about Vietnam continued, as they had for some years, to hold a weekly noontime vigil at Veterans' Park. Father James Murphy, the campus Catholic chaplain, and David Snider, Coordinator of Religious Activities, were regular attendees. Snider continued to offer draft counseling, and about fifteen students formed a draft counseling service as his "apprentices."

Late April and early May of 1970 brought to Union, as to most American campuses, the most traumatic events of the war. On Tuesday, April 28, 1970 (the day before the Cambodian invasion began), several hundred students rallied outside Hoadley House, the ROTC headquarters. About twenty-five student protesters spent the night on the building's porch, with the announced intention of blocking entrance by the ROTC staff the next day. In the morning, however, the staff had no difficulty entering. A rally followed, at which Dean James Palmer explained that the College's contract with the ROTC was not likely to be renewed in any case.

The invasion of Cambodia began later that day. Its announcement on the following day, Thursday, April 30, coincided with and transformed a non-political, countercultural "be-in" that had already been organized by Alan Gyurko '72. Students rallied that evening at the Psi Upsilon flagpole and burned President Nixon in effigy. The next morning about three hundred students gathered in front of Schaffer Library to hear speeches by RPI professor Edward Fox, Father James Murphy, Black Alliance President Bill Adams, and sophomore Vietnam veteran Simon Burrow. President Martin also spoke at the rally, announcing that he had called off classes for the morning, and making a personal statement condemning Nixon for running the "risk of a deeper and more horrible involvement in Indochina." He also urged students to keep their protest on campus, but about six hundred students gathered outside Blue Gate and marched across Nott Terrace. Some chanted "One-two-three-four; we don't want no fucking war!"; others chanted (or tried to chant), "All we're asking is give peace a chance." When the crowd reached Veterans Park, about eight students started to lower the American flag flying there, but desisted at shouts of "Leave it!" The crowd then recited the Pledge of Allegiance and marched, cheering, down State Street.

Failing to attract much support from students at Schenectady County Community College, marchers proceeded to the main gate of the General Electric plant, where they sat down for about forty-five minutes. At about eleven AM Father Murphy persuaded them to leave for the Selective Service Office on Wall Street. When one student tried to enter the building through a window, the police seized him, but released him when the crowd shouted "Let him go!" After a half hour of speeches and discussions, the group returned to the intersection of State and Erie, and sat down blocking traffic for more than an hour. According to a contemporary newspaper report, later denied by some participants, Saga food service brought the protesters buckets of water and sandwiches from the campus. The crowd then split into separate factions; one group of about one hundred students marched back to General Electric where they broke through a police cordon and milled about before being persuaded to leave. No one was arrested.

Parents Weekend then began, and protesters reportedly took the opportunity to get "several hundred" parental signatures on a letter to President Nixon.

In the immediate aftermath, eight members of Union's social science faculty (Robert Sharlet, Joseph Board and James Underwood in Political Science, David Potts and Manfred Jonas in History, John R. McNamara and Thomas Kershner in Economics, and David B. Rheubottom in Sociology) published a letter condemning the invasion of Cambodia: ("Thursday night, the Vietnam War passed into history [i.e., was no longer confined to Vietnam], and with it the hope, perhaps the illusion, that the United States had learned something about the limits of power") and urging the role of academe in changing the system that brought it about:

In this struggle, the university will be the final sanctuary, not for forays that will invite repression, but for critical systematic, sustained analysis of the web of assumptions, many long forgotten, which legitimize, rationalize, and undergird the system.... The crucial question is, will the academic community have the discipline to take this route."

Between the letter's drafting and its appearance in the Tuesday *Concordiensis*, a Monday, May 4 confrontation between protesting students and the Ohio National Guard at Kent State University left four students dead. The reaction at Union was as visceral as that at other institutions and in marked contrast to the relatively subdued level of earlier anti-war protest at the College. For this reason, and because Union, unlike most other colleges, remained in session for several more weeks, activities at the College received increased attention.

After an "Ad Hoc Committee for a Strike for Peace" gathered almost nine hundred student signatures requesting cancellation of classes the next day, a meeting of department chairmen voted to comply with the re-

quest. The *Concordiensis* published a one-page special issue announcing plans for the day.

Activities on Tuesday included a series of seminars, followed by a mass rally in library plaza addressed by professors Charles Olton and Robert Sharlet. After a brief memorial service at the flagpole for the Kent State students and an exhortation by Simon Burrow ("Marches are fun, but canvassing is work. I don't want to see anyone marching who isn't willing to canvass"), an estimated 450 Union students set out to canvass the local community for support of the McGovern-Hatfield bill to cut off funds for the war. In the evening, the Student Council endorsed those plans, urged that the flag be flown at half-mast for one month in memory of the students killed at Kent State, and endorsed RPI professor Edward Fox in his bid for the Democratic nomination to the House seat held by SAMUEL STRATTON.

Taking seriously rumors that non-Union students planned to bomb the library and Bailey Hall, the administration later that week closed both buildings. Fire bombings did occur at the State University of New York at Albany, but Union was spared any significant violence. Many institutions, including Skidmore, canceled classes for what little remained of their academic year, but Union, with its later commencement, could not. In a referendum, Union students chose instead a plan intended to accommodate both those who wished to complete their normal courses and those who wished to demonstrate their opposition to the war during the six weeks remaining before commencement.

A newsletter called *UNION PRESS*, created "to keep the students, faculty and administration aware of the scope, organization and activities of those students who are working towards the stated ends of the National Student Strike," published a total of fifteen weekday issues between May 11 and June 5. W2UC, Union's amateur radio station, moved broadcast equipment to the WRUC sales office and established, along with other college ham stations, a National Student Information Net. Operating about 20 hours a day, W2UC relieved Brandeis as the Net Control station.

129 members of the faculty and administration signed a letter to President Nixon and all members of Congress:

[We] share the deep sense of outrage felt by millions of American students, faculty members and administrators at the present direction of American foreign and domestic policy. We deplore the words and deeds of the national administration that have of late increased the scope of violence at home and abroad, divided citizen from citizen, and made damaging inroads into the civil liberties of all....

Although by this time the great preponderance of the College community opposed the war, the sentiment was not unanimous. About May 19, some conservative students formed a "Student Committee for an Alternative Viewpoint," which attempted to sched-

ule conservative speakers in the last weeks of the term and published at least three issues of *Viewpoint*, a newsletter in opposition to the *Union Press*. The committee arranged a May 26 panel discussion of the war by professors Gati, Jonas, Kershner and Sharlet. "Strike Central" endorsed the principle of free discussion by bringing to the campus Wesleyan University political science professor David Titus, an administration supporter.

William Kunstler, however, had drawn a much larger audience for a May 20 convocation address, scheduled months earlier. Characterizing student activism as "the most potent force in the United States," Kunstler called for "a universal strike" on college campuses.

Although mass protests unquestionably influenced administration prosecution of the war, most students quickly tired of this activity. The editors of the *Union Press* expressed in the final issue disillusionment and discouragement at the rapidity with which nearly all students had lost interest in the strike after a couple of weeks. While more than one hundred Union students reportedly gave their draft cards to a national campaign in the immediate aftermath of Kent State, they presumably suffered no consequences; the organization, called "UNDO," (United National Draft Opposition) was rebuffed in its attempt to surrender the cards to the Justice Department.

1970/71. The following years saw no demonstrations or marches on the scale of 1969/70, but some of the activities of 1970/71 were imbued with at least the style and rhetoric of radical politics. Because they resembled protests which had led to violence on other campuses, and because their objectives went far beyond ending the Vietnam War, they were more troubling to the administration and others than the relatively apolitical opposition to the war seen in earlier years.

An important element in the events of 1970/71 was the presence of Dennis Peskin '66, who had returned from graduate school to fill a one-year vacancy in the English department. A recent convert to what was understood to be Maoism (though he much later admitted that he had known almost nothing of Maoism), Peskin became the center of a small group of students, joined at times by people from outside the college community, who staged several protests through that year. In general, they treated the Vietnam War as one consequence of a hopelessly corrupt capitalist system.

During an October 23rd teach-in, Peskin spoke on Black Panther repression and characterized the College as "integrally related to the oppressive culture." Another speaker, not from Union, warned that only armed revolution could avert a police state in America.

Four days later, a group consisting of Peskin and five students interrupted a convocation appearance by

Nixon administration spokesman Dolph Droge, who had been defending the conduct of the war, in order to stage a brief display of "guerrilla theatre" portraying the Agency for International Development as a CIA front. President Martin announced that disrupters would be subject to disciplinary action, and Droge was warmly applauded at the end of his speech. Meeting later to consider the case, the President's Council concluded that a violation of the rules against interference with discourse had occurred, but decided to take no further action because the group left the chapel when ordered to do so.

The Social Action Committee and other students not aligned with the "Maoist" group continued their anti-war activities, the weekly silent vigil in Veterans Park continued, and, in March, Father Murphy went with a large "fact-finders committee" to Paris, where peace talks were taking place. But in April, as Union sent a contingent organized by David Snider to participate in a national march on Washington, Peskin denounced the march as "reactionary" and supported instead a campaign against the Albany branch of Bankers Trust Co. for its alleged investments with defense contractors. One Union student was subsequently arrested during protests at the bank.

Speaking at Union on May 7, 1971, radical philosopher Herbert Marcuse praised the "new sensibility" prevalent among the young, but warned that, at present, revolutionary violence was futile.

On many American campuses, students seeking to draw attention to their objections to the war, or to institutional policies, had occupied buildings—usually administration buildings—sometimes for extended periods and with damage to property. No buildings were occupied at Union until May 12, when about fifteen members of the Black Student Alliance occupied the Computer Center for three days. A week later, a small group, including some students from Skidmore, some non-students, and some members of the "Maoist" group, occupied the Administration Building for most of one day.

The administration had drawn up guidelines for such a contingency, placing the highest priority on the safety of persons and on preventing conflict from escalating. In both instances, the administration refused to negotiate until the occupations had ended; both occupations ended without damage and resulted in disciplinary action for those involved.

Though neither episode was directly related to anti-war protests, both heightened fears that the more aggressive and consequential "direct action" experienced on other campuses might appear at Union in one cause or another.

As Commencement day (June 12) approached, the "Maoist" group threatened to disrupt the graduation ceremony. The administration took the precaution of locking adjacent buildings a few days before Com-

mencement, and looked into the possibility of having the city police present. Learning that officers could not be sent without guns, and mindful of the terrible example of Kent State, the administration judged that the least risky course would be to rely on the limited protection afforded by the unarmed campus police.

The promised disruption came early in the proceedings. A few students sat down in front of the library steps, chanting obscenities, thus preventing board chairman SAMUEL FORTENBAUGH from opening the ceremonies in the customary way. Peskin and a student had marched in and sat on benches in the library plaza, carrying, respectively, the flags of the Viet Cong and an unidentified flag. With the ceremony disrupted by the chanting demonstrators, mathematics professor Theodore Bick '58, sitting with the rest of the faculty under the colonnade between the library and the Humanities building, became sufficiently indignant to leap through the intervening yew bushes, his academic robes streaming behind him (as a fortuitous and internationally reproduced photograph showed) and wrest the Viet Cong flag from Peskin. Both were then led away by the campus police, and the ceremony continued without other interruption.

Peskin and Bick were treated as faculty members who had violated the rules regarding interference with freedom of discourse. Peskin's case was mooted by the fact that he left the College before the hearing, having completed his one-year contract; Bick was required to apologize for his action. The incident long continued to divide those who witnessed it; some thought Bick's behavior understandable but misguided, while others praised him for doing what they believed the administration had failed to do.

1971-73. Although the war continued for another one and one-half academic years, anti-war activities at Union subsided to a rather low level. The 1971/72 *Concordiensis* seldom mentioned the war, but published several articles on the famine in Bangladesh. A National Moratorium Day vigil was held in the fall of 1971, and the weekly vigils in Veterans Park continued, but by January the Social Action Committee began to give some of its attention to tutoring in the local schools. A new group, called the Student Mobilization Committee, sent about twenty-five students to join other groups picketing the Army and Marine Corps recruiting stations in February. Socialist/pacifist David Dellinger spoke in March. In early May, about three hundred and fifty students and faculty members attended a rally in library plaza to protest Nixon's "re-escalation" of the war. The protesters then marched to Veterans Park, held a vigil, and canvassed the city, passing out a letter "stating concern with the actions undertaken by the President."

In the fall of 1972, fifty-two members of the faculty signed an advertisement supporting George McGovern's presidential candidacy, which was based largely on his opposition to the war. Tom Hayden and

Jane Fonda spoke to a full house in Memorial Chapel as part of the "Indochina Peace Campaign," and the Social Action Committee again recruited students interested in anti-war activities, but by January its membership was down to ten.

Months of secret diplomacy culminated in a cease-fire agreement on January 28, 1973, followed by the withdrawal of American troops. An all-volunteer army soon replaced the draft.

Mingled with protests against the war, at Union as elsewhere, were demands for greater student participation in College decision-making. As a consequence of these demands, student representatives were added to department meetings and to the Board of Trustees (see GOVERNANCE).

From 1976/77 through the end of the period covered by this book, Professor Robert Sharlet taught Political Science courses related to the Vietnam War.

President Martin. The administration of President Harold Martin spanned the period of opposition to the Vietnam War. As mentioned above, Martin publicly criticized the conduct of the war on several occasions, but he was nevertheless the object of vicious verbal attacks by a few students who perceived only that he was in charge of the College. Likewise, the fact that Martin established policies for the College designed to preserve academic freedom at a time when threats to academic freedom often emanated from opponents of the war, and the fact that his policies for dealing with conflicts worked to preserve the institution from the kinds of trauma experienced by some other colleges, did not protect him from the criticism of some trustees, alumni and others who blamed him for what they saw as the unpatriotic behavior of students. On one occasion, he met with members of the Maintenance Department who contemplated refusing to service student facilities, explaining to them the students' point of view. Whenever possible, Martin handled such problems without making the general college community aware of them.

Viney, Moses (March 10, 1817-Jan. 10, 1909). Eliphalet Nott's servant. Born in slavery on the Talbot County, Maryland, plantation of William Murphy, Moses Viney was the eldest of the twenty-one children of Horace Thomas Viney, whom Murphy had purchased at auction in Baltimore. After several years of field work, Moses eventually became his master's butler and did not consider himself badly treated until, learning accidentally that he was to be sold, he planned his escape.

Viney and two friends left on Easter morning in 1840 and made their way north via Philadelphia, New York City and Troy. Viney found work on the Schenectady farm of Dr. Fonda, a local physician. In 1842, Eliphalet Nott hired Viney as his coachman and messenger. After Nott was badly crippled by rheumatism

in 1846, Viney became his personal servant as well, sometimes carrying the president in his arms, giving him massages, and—following his recovery—accompanying him on trips to New York.

With passage of the Fugitive Slave Act in 1850, Viney was no longer safe in Schenectady. Nott dispatched his grandson, Clarkson N. Potter, to Maryland to inquire about the cost of buying Moses's freedom. Rather than pay the \$1,900 demanded, however, Nott sent Viney to Canada. Moses returned to Nott's employ about April 1855 and in July of that year Nott purchased his freedom at the reduced price of \$120. Living with his wife, Diana, in a small house behind the present site of Silliman Hall, Viney then remained with Nott, in what was by all accounts a close and trusting relationship, until the latter's death in 1866. Nott bequeathed one thousand dollars to Viney.

The Vineys moved out of their house the following year, but Moses remained a servant to URANIA NOTT until her death in 1886. Purchasing from her estate the horse and three-wheeled carriage he had so long driven, Viney then set up a livery service in Schenectady; because he charged less than the flat rate of one dollar per ride then standard, he flourished until his retirement in 1901.

At the request of Mrs. Raymond and to the pleasure of returning alumni, Viney was made a part of Commencement week, serving annually as doorman at the president's reception until a year before his death at ninety-two.

During his later life and for several decades after his death, "Moses" ranked very high among objects of alumni sentimentality. The frequent accounts in College publications of his mutually satisfactory relations with Union, though apparently true, are faintly self-congratulatory, and compel one to record an unsurprising but discomfiting fact they omit: this man, whose character, intelligence and initiative would virtually have ensured his prosperity had he been white, worked for Dr. Nott for ten dollars a month.

VITA. Founded as "Volunteers for International Technical Assistance," but later known by its acronym, VITA is an organization of scientists, engineers and others who volunteer time and professional expertise to address technical problems in developing nations and (since 1969) in impoverished parts of the United States. From its origin in Schenectady in 1959 until it moved to Washington in 1973, the organization had many connections with the College.

First proposed in discussions of the technical consultation committee of the Mohawk Association of Scientists and Engineers in April 1959, VITA was incorporated as a separate organization on June 24, 1960. The founder, General Electric physicist Robert M. Walker '50, was succeeded as president (1965–72) by his Union classmate, Beno Sternlicht '50. The orig-

inal board consisted of professor Walter Lowen and public relations director Rowan Wakefield, both from Union, and GE scientist Robert G. Luce; many other Union faculty members and administrators later served on an expanded board.

Lowen's office in Union's mechanical engineering department was VITA's first address, succeeded by a series of offices in Schenectady. In 1965, grown to thirteen hundred volunteers, the organization hired its first permanent professional staff. Returning to the campus in 1967, VITA occupied the former MODERN LANGUAGE BUILDING, moving in 1970 to the former county library (WEBSTER HOUSE), recently purchased by the College. By then its volunteers had increased to six thousand from seventy-five countries.

VITA's best-known publication was the *Village technology handbook* (1963; rev. ed. 1970), which gave instructions for solving village-level technical problems in relatively primitive conditions. A Village Technology Center in the headquarters built and tested such proposed devices as pumps and solar-powered ovens. VITA long served, under grants from the U.S. Agency for International Development, as technical consultants to the Peace Corps, but it responded to requests for help from many other quarters and set up counterpart organizations in other countries.

In 1967 VITA absorbed DATA International Assistance Corps of Palo Alto, California. In March 1973 it moved its headquarters to the Washington, D.C. area to be closer to agencies and embassies with which it worked; it subsequently altered its name to Volunteers in Technical Assistance.

As part of the Comprehensive Education curriculum, physics professor Kenneth Schick created a course in 1968 ("VITA and the Developing Countries") which put Union students to work on VITA projects.

Voz de Union (La). In 1924 the Spanish Club (see STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS), under faculty advisor Angel Flores, published the first of seven issues of *La Voz de Union*, said to be the first Spanish literary magazine in a United States college. The contributions came from both inside and outside Union College; during the first year about half were in Spanish. The two issues of the second and final year, following Flores's departure, were entirely in Spanish.

Waddell, William Alfred (Feb. 5, 1862–Feb. 22, 1939). Class of 1882. Registrar. College president.

Born in Bethel, New York, Waddell graduated from Union as salutatorian with two BA's (classical and scientific courses) and a Civil Engineering degree, and worked briefly as an engineer with the New York State Geodetic Survey before enrolling at Princeton Theological Seminary. After graduating there in 1884, he returned to Union as registrar for the 1885/86 year, then became pastor of the Presbyterian Church of San