

Writer, Philosopher Will Durant Gives Advice To 1958 Graduates

By United Press International
The name, Will Durant, has been one of the best known of American intellectuals since 192 when he accomplished the miracle of writing a book about philoso-



WILL DURANT

he impudence to be witty, worldly and warm as well as learned. This week Durant took time off from writing the last of his historical volumes to compose an address to his grandson's prep school graduating class. His wife, who takes a keen and often critical interest in his work, typed it for him. Saturday he will deliver it at the commencement exercises.

Editor's Note: Graduation time is at hand for hundreds of thousands of American boys and girls. What advice should they be given as they go out into a troubled and dangerous world? What will be their most pressing problems? A wise philosopher, an internationally known historian, answers the questions in the following dispatch. It is part of a commencement address which Will Durant will deliver this weekend at the Webb Preparatory School, Claremont, Calif. Among the graduates he will be addressing his own grandson, James Easton, 16.

By WILL DURANT
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A task has been assigned to me, and I propose to go through with it as modestly as its inherent modesty will permit. If now I dare to address you, it is not as one white with wisdom, or practiced in the ways of the world, but as a fellow student hand-cuffed with senility, yet as eager as ever to learn something between every rising and setting of the sun. You must season my platitudes with a grain of doubt, and grant me the tolerant allowances that youth must always make for age.

My first request to you is—be healthy. It is mostly within your will. In many cases sickness is a crime; you have done something physiologically foolish, and nature is being hard put to it to repair your mistake. The pain is the tuition you pay for your instruction in living. Care of the health should be a required course, for at least an hour each week, in

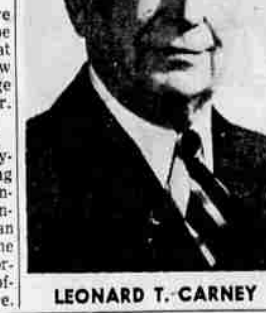
Adventists Set Vacation School

Vacation Bible School will be conducted at the Seventh Day Adventist Church, Main and Mortimer streets, beginning Monday, June 9, continuing for two weeks. Theme of the school will be "The King's Adventureland."

Interesting and worthwhile projects are planned in the craft division with Mrs. Joyce Urue as leader. Thrilling and instructive Bible stories will be told by Mrs. Cecil Humphrey. Mrs. Roy Dugan is director of the school. Elder Ronald Kegley, pastor of the Klamath Falls Seventh Day Adventist Church will lead the devotional service with Mrs. Kegley at the piano. Leaders of the various departments will be: Mrs. Don Howard, junior department; Mrs. C. Chaffee, primary; Mrs. Don Benjamin, kindergarten. Others assisting will be Mrs. William Harrell, Mrs. Don Chrowl, Mrs. Ivan Graham, Mrs. Harry Morgan, Cecil Montgomery. A welcome is extended.

Installation Of Reverend Slated

LAKEVIEW—Formal installation of the Rev. Leo Scheel as pastor of the First Lutheran Church, Lakeview, will be held at 8 p.m. Wednesday, June 11, with the Rev. Emil Leising of Gardnerville, Nevada, performing the rites. The Rev. Scheel has been the acting pastor since October, 1957. The sermon will be delivered by the Rev. Armin Mueller, pastor of St. Luke's Lutheran Church of Reno.



LEONARD T. CARNEY

Bostonian Named To Lead Christian Science Church

Leonard T. Carney of Boston, was today named Boston president of The Mother Church, The First Church of Christ, Scientist, in Boston. Mr. Carney's appointment was announced by The Christian Science Board of Directors at the annual meeting of the denomination attended by more than 7,000 Christian Scientists from many parts of the world. He succeeds Miss Mabel Ellen Lucas of Brookline, Massachusetts. He will serve a one-year term. A member of the Board of Trustees of The Christian Science Publishing Society, Mr. Carney holds degrees from Grinnell College, Iowa and the Harvard Law School. A native of Marshalltown, Iowa, he has been an authorized teacher of Christian Science since 1934, and a Christian Science practitioner since 1919. From 1943 until 1947 he served as a member of the Christian Science Board of Lectureship.

every year from kindergarten to Ph.D. Such a course would include thorough instruction in diet. Our bodies are what we eat, plus what our ancestors ate. Don't let restaurants tempt you; they are the vampires of the stomach; they will burden your flesh in proportion as they lighten your purse. One of the cardinal errors of our time and land is to continue in a warm and sedentary life the diet that once served to provide necessary muscle and heat. Let us keep our inners clean. The hospitals are littered with people who have put too great strain on their digestive organs and have allowed an excess of imports over exports to disturb their internal economy.

Do some physical work every day. Nature intended thought to be a guide to action, not a substitute for it. Thought unbalanced by action is a disease. Cut the lawn, clean the car, paint the house rather than the town, help with the dishes after the evening meal. Help your wife with her work, and let her help you with yours. Husband and wife should be helpmates. Marriage disintegrates when it is only a partnership in sex, play, and conspicuous expense.

SEX
After hunger, is our strongest instinct and greatest problem. Nature is infatuated with continuity, and dolls up the woman with beauty and the man with money to lure them into propagation; and so it gives to the males such sensitivity to the charms of woman that we can go quite mad in their pursuit. Sex then becomes a fire and flame in the blood, and burns up the whole personality—which should be a hierarchy and harmony of desires.

Our civilization has unwisely stimulated this sexual impulse. Our ancestors played it down, knowing that it was strong enough without prodding. We have blown it up with a thousand forms of incitation, advertisement, emphasis, and display, and have armed it with the doctrine that inhibition is a mistake—whereas inhibition—the control of the impulse—is the first principle of civilization. Don't let indoctrination determine your desires.

MARRIAGE
Was probably developed not only for the better care of children and property, but to save us from the tyranny of sex. In marriage that instinct is given abundant freedom, but it is channeled within limits consistent with social order. But submitting to marriage we can take our minds off sex, and become adult.

Marry as soon as you can keep the wolf from the door. You will be too young to choose wisely, but you won't be much wiser in these matters at 40. There's no fool like an old fool in love. We parents should help you to get started in wholesome married life: Help you with money, and—! you will permit us—with counsel. Don't let your choice of a mate be determined by the accident of association at a time of physiological needs; don't buy a crab bag in a coma. Let at least three months intervene between acquaintance and betrothal, and between betrothal and marriage. The difficulties of marriage are

far less than its rewards. One touch of a woman's hand can be a paradise, if the touch is not too much. Napoleon said that the only happiness he had ever known was in loving his children; and I hope you won't have children without marriage.

CHARACTER
Comes on a par with health; intellect may come third. The greatest task assumed by such schools as this is to transform egos into gentlemen. A gentleman, as my wife once defined it, is a person continually considerate. Kind words cost so little and are worth so much! Speak no evil of anyone; every unkind word will sooner or later fly back into your face, and make you stumble in the race of life. De vivis, rather than de mortuis, nil nisi bonum. To speak ill of others is a dishonest way of praising ourselves; let us be above such transparent egotism. If you can't say good and encouraging things, say nothing. Nothing is often a good thing to do, and always a clever thing to say.

RELIGION
Has been along with the family and the teacher, a tutor of character. For 50,000 years or more man lived as a hunter before he took to tilling the soil. Probably man's native character as it is today was formed in that hunting life. He had to be greedy because the food supply was precarious and irregular; he had to be pugnacious to fight for food and mates; he had to be easily stimulated to reproductive ecstasy, because a high birth rate seemed desirable. What are now, through excess, our major vices, were then virtues—qualities making for survival of the individual or the group. When organization devel-

oped, and social organization became the chief tool of survival, these powerful impulses had to be restrained. They were restrained by a moral code transmitted through parental authority, family discipline, and religious instruction. That moral code, though against the grain of the flesh, was accepted partly through fear of parents, and very much through belief that the code came from an all-seeing God who would reward every virtue and punish every vice. I am not sure that civilization could have come without such religious sanctions of the moral code.

Those of you who specialize in science will find it hard to understand religion, unless you feel, as Newton and Voltaire did, that the harmony of the spheres reveals a cosmic mind, and unless you realize, as Pascal and Rousseau did, that man does not live by intellect alone. We are such microscopic particles in so vast a universe that none of us is in a position to understand the world, much less to dogmatize about it. Pascal trembled at the thought of man's bewildered minuteness between the two infinities—the immensity of the whole and the complexity of each part: "These infinite spaces," he said, "frighten me." Let us be careful how we pit our pitiful generalizations against the infinite scope, variety and subtlety of the world.

MONEY
Build an economic basis under your life, but don't get caught in the rat-trap of money-making as a profession; that, too, like sex, can be a consuming fever, and brings only fitful pleasures, no healthy happiness. Your wife will have the responsibility of stimulating you to develop all your creative capacities, but I hope she will not insist on your keeping up with all the Joneses in the town. If you become an employer, your relation with your employees will count for more in your happiness than adding a zero to your wealth. Give every employe the full equivalent of his share in the product. Don't live in a boastful and selfish luxury based on taking more



GARRY MOORE

TV Humorist Heads Drive

Garry Moore, one of the nation's television humorists and emcees, will head the 1958 Easter Seal campaign as national chairman.

Paul Dietrich, Los Angeles, president of the National Society for Crippled Children and Adults, made the announcement in connection with the opening of the 1958 Nationwide Staff Meeting in Chicago's Pick-Congress Hotel. Nearly 150 professional workers for the crippled are attending the sessions. The 1958 Easter Seal appeal will be conducted February 27 to Easter Sunday, March 29. Moore said, "My deep thanks for the confidence you have placed in me by your invitation to be national Easter Seal chairman for 1958. I am happy to accept this position, and I do so with much appreciation. I hope the year 1958 will bring much satisfaction and many achievements to the National Society for Crippled Children and Adults."

from the world than you give. Don't take them too seriously. Expect to reform the government only after you have reformed human nature and your own. Corruption is natural in government because it is natural in man. Don't be frightened by the international situation; it is normal; man is a competitive animal, individually and in groups; peace is war by other means. I believe that intelligent fear will keep us from international suicide. Evils usually beget their cure through their excess; so now the balance of terror is making for peace.

How good it is that the military competition is changing to economic competition! Let the better system win, or a combination. We are witnessing in America an Hegelian synthesis of capitalism and socialism, taking the virtues of each; and this merger, I believe, will be more productive of goods and happiness than the fearful Communism of Russia or the selfish capitalism of the not very Gay Nineties. See, even in depression time, the relative happiness and exuberance of the American people, killing one another ecstatically in the precipitate pleasure of their holidays.

INTELLECT
I take this for granted in your case; indeed, our schools have put too much stress on intellect, too little on character; we have sharpened our wits even while weakening our restraints. In my youth, I used to talk about the bondage of tradition; now, as benefits of age, I distrust the fetishism of novelty. We exaggerate the value of newness in ideas and things. It is so much easier to be original and foolish than to be original and wise. For every truth there are a thousand possible errors; let us not try to exhaust the possibilities.

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Most of you now will go to college, and the sharpened competition among individuals and nations will force you into intellectual specialties. The stress on science today is so strong that college, if I may pun a bit, will give you only a passing acquaintance with literature, history, philosophy, music and art. But don't let yourselves be fragmented. When your formal education is complete, give at least two hours a week to rounding yourselves out with these flowers of civilization.

Make friends with great poets—Sophocles, Euripides, Virgil, Dante, Chaucer, Shakespeare, Milton, Goethe, Byron, Shelley, Keats, Whitman. Acquaint yourselves with the world's supreme art—Egyptian, Indian, Greek, and the Roman architecture and sculpture, Arabic mosques and decoration, the Gothic cathedrals, Renaissance painting, music from Bach to Rachmaninoff. Study the great statesmen from Hammurabi and Moses to Winston Churchill and Franklin Roosevelt. Sit for a while at the feet of great thinkers—Confucius, Socrates, Plato, Aristotle, Zeno, Epicurus, Archimedes, Lucretius, Epictetus, Marcus Aurelius, Francis Bacon, Spinoza, Newton, Kant, Schopenhauer, Darwin, Nietzsche, Einstein. Enjoy great prose writers—Isiah, Jeremiah, the authors of the Proverbs and the Psalms, Demosthenes, and Cicero, Rabelais and Montaigne, Milton and Swift, Voltaire and Rousseau, Hugo and Balzac, Tolstoy and Dostoevski, Emerson and Anatole France. Follow man's

odyssey with great historians—Herodotus, Thucydides, Tacitus, Gibbon, Macaulay, Guizot, Michelet, Froude, and Taine. Walk humbly with the great saints—Buddha, Jesus, Augustine, Francis of Assisi, Gandhi. I shall not hold you educated unless you make many of these geniuses your friends. Cultivate them, and you will be molded by the company you keep.

THE MOUNTING HERITAGE

These and the whole world of knowledge, technology, morals, manners, government, literature, philosophy, and art are your heritage, which has grown incredibly rich through the centuries, and is so rich that you will never be able to absorb it all, to reach the bottom of this fortunate, purse of the race. This is the patrimony that each of us inherits on entering civilization.

Good health to you, good work, good fortune, good character, good children, good grandchildren! Drink the brimming cup of life to the full and to the end; and thank God and nature for its bracing trials and challenges, its educative punishments and rewards, its priceless gifts and inexhaustible treasure of beauty, wisdom, labor and love.

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