One of the traditions through the years was that of Freshman Week. This was a time when the freshmen were brought in for orientation to meet many of the faculty, the administrative officers, and to learn the songs, traditions, and the spirit of the University of Puget Sound. During the week the freshmen took various examinations, learned the plan of their class schedules and became acquainted with the campus in general. There were meetings each night and the groups were asked to create their own stunts and we were able to find a great deal of the potential talent in the freshman class during that week.

Originally, they were asked to buy their green beanies and wear them, particularly during that week, so that they would be able to identify themselves as members of the class. In some cases, the fraternities and sororities were allowed to bring those people who had written in and said that they wanted to go through rush three days early so that the rush factor could be pretty much finished by the time the total group came for freshman orientation.

The green beanies were really a badge of distinction and the freshmen were asked to wear them and in some instances were coerced by the sophomores. In order to get away from the old tradition of college hazing, there were certain rules and regulations laid down. For instance, there was the bag
rush which was held about a month after school started. This was a fifty pound bag which was placed in the middle of the football field, sophomores on one end and the freshmen on the other. On the blowing of a whistle, the teams rushed out to the center of the field and got the bag and which ever team could carry it over the other goal line was the victor. If the freshmen were victors, and in most cases they were, because they seemed to out-man the sophomores two to one, they were allowed then to not wear their green beanies. If the sophomores won, it was customary, according to the tradition, for the beanies to be worn until homecoming.

Some years a freshmen-sophomore tug-of-war was substituted for the bag rush. A fire hose was brought in to play in the middle of the rope and whichever team pulled the other team through the fire hose was winner with the same consequence about the green beanies.

One of the early traditions of the University of Puget Sound had to do with the hatchet. The hatchet was a battered carpenter's tool, unearthed in 1908 as one of the old campus buildings was being torn down. Ever since that time it had become a point of fierce contention among the four classes of the University. It was the goal of each graduating class to have its graduating year engraved upon the main part of the hatchet and to keep other classes from gaining possession of it and having their numbers etched into it. The passing of the hatchet from one class to another was a traditional battle.
It had been passed in chapel and disrupted the service. On occasion it was passed from the top of one building to another. It was passed in the night. It was passed by throwing it from one car to another and there were all kinds of stories from the various classes as to how it received or how it passed the hatchet on.

When I became candidate for the presidency of the College of Puget Sound, one of the Trustees teasingly asked me if I had good teeth. I said, "Good heavens, why do you ask that question?" He said, "Every once in awhile when the hatchet was passed in chapel, Dr. Todd got in the battle and one time he came out from under a group of sophomores and freshmen with the hatchet in his teeth. This is a folklore story but it does show the kind of tradition the hatchet had for many years.

The hatchet actually had the numerals of many classes etched in the blade and also in the handle. One time in the passing of it, the handle and the blade became separated and a new handle was created. This has the so called false or pseudo numbers etched in it.

There was a theory that the hatchet must never be taken off the campus. During the war, I received in the mail one day a post card unsigned saying, "Dr. T., do not worry, we have the hatchet and will take care of it." It was signed with three typewriter dots. That was the last we have every heard of the hatchet. It has seemingly disappeared. There
There has been no passing of it since the second World War. I have put out an inquiry several times in the Alumni papers and other means to see if there was any possibility of retreaving the tradition but at the moment it seems to be in abeyance.
Another interesting tradition at the University was Campus Day. This was started approximately at the time the college moved from the old location to the new location. I recall we had a day set aside each year for campus day in which we would have classes from 8:00 to 10:00 and then at 10:00 classes would be dismissed and the student body would organize itself into various teams to do various things. They would clear the weeds and debris off of part of the campus. They would paint windows and paint some rooms on the campus. Each professor would work up a project he wanted done and get his majors and other people to be part of the team. It was a never ending job of cutting back Scotchbroom and other bushes which overran the campus. Inasmuch as the only lawn was on the quadrangle in front of Jones Hall, there was a great deal of work to be done.

I recall when we put in the campus green between Jones Hall and the Music Building. We put in three hundred loads of earth to make the ground level. We put in concrete blocks around the base of the trees in order to save them from being killed by burying the roots. This was a very strategic move and we lost only two trees in the twenty years because of the fill.

After the students had worked from 10:00 to 12:30, there was a big picnic held on the campus to which all students
and faculty were invited. It was very interesting because most of the meaningful students came and most of the faculty came. After the picnic they had baseball and softball games and sometimes the freshman bag rush was held if it had not been held earlier in the year.

I recall many times sitting down and talking with students on Campus Day and it was a very wonderful personal relationship. Some of these people still write about the joy of getting to know one another on Campus Day. Not very long ago an alumnus who is fifty years old told me he had participated in putting the concrete blocks around the trees on the campus green and comes back at least once a year to see how the trees are surviving. It was a wonderful fun day, a day for getting acquainted, and a day for making the campus more beautiful.
One of the traditions for many years was called Founder's Day. It was in progress under Dr. Todd's regime and it was a time when Chapel was required. The program usually consisted of Mr. E. L. Blaine, who was then in his 80's and Dr. Todd appearing before the student body and talking about the people who were the founders of the University. It was very interesting for people interested in hisotry but not particularly interesting for the students. For that reason, it was usually a time when the students cut Chapel and on many occasions we had more empty seats than we had people attending. I talked it over with Mr. Blaine and also with Dr. Todd and we decided it would not be continued although it was a very meaningful tradition. It reminded me of when I was in school and we had exactly the same situation but the students in their desire to not be involved in it called it "Bounder's Day" and while there was an academic procession, the students dressed up in all kinds of strange apparel and marched in fun concerning Founder's Day.
LITERARY SOCIETIES

One of the outstanding traditions through the years at the College of Puget Sound and the University of Puget Sound was its literary societies. In the very early history of the College of Puget Sound there were special groups known as Societies. Later these evolved into what was called the Great Society. There was a sort of informal organization called the Adelphians. This was thirty years before the Adelphian Choral group was organized. It was a group of loosely organized people who wrote papers and read them more or less as an intellectual stimulus. Out of this evolved two main co-educational organizations - the Philomathians and the Amphictians.
Right along with Founder's Day, the Board of Trustees established what was called the Order of Founders and Patrons. This was an order in which they would give a citation and plaque to individuals who had been very much involved in the development of the University and yet did not in some way merit an honorary degree. The Order of Founders and Patrons went to many people and was much appreciated. I remember Mrs. Redish was given a membership in the Order of Founders and Patrons because she had been for many years president of the Women's University League. She was affectionately referred to as Grandma Reddish. I remember Mrs. Rummel was also made a member of the Order of Founders and Patrons because of her leadership in the University Women's League. Harry Brown was a member of the Order of Founders and Patrons because he had been so instrumental in developing the University through the years. Dr. Todd was made a member and many others. Mr. Norton Clapp was a member and many others became a part of the order. When the situation eased up it appeared more valuable to award honorary degrees rather than Order of Founders and Patrons. Its popularity diminished and there has not been a person recommended or to become a member for many years.
THE SCIENCE FAIR

The university early organized a Science Fair. This was under the able leadership of Robert Sprenger and the entire floor of the Field House was set up so that high school students could bring their science exhibits in and demonstrate them during the day. There was everything from vitamin research to atomic research and these science displays were exceedingly fine. I know of at least a dozen young people who started out because of this natural interest in some phase of science and went on to major in it and in several cases became outstanding professors because of the Science Fair. Dr. Sprenger was one of the ablest men in motivating students to follow up their natural inclinations in science and research. The Science Fair proved itself to be a most outstanding tradition at the University.
SONG FEST

Another tradition was that of the song fest. The song fest was comprised of the various sororities and fraternities each of whom practiced for many weeks to present their offering at the song fest. It was exceedingly well done - the sororities all made dresses matching. The fraternities on many occasions had matching sport coats, hats, and slacks. Later on some of the fraternities were not willing to practice and presented very unprofessional appearance - which was the beginning of the end for the song fest. It rendered a great service during the years in which it was good and was very well received.
One of the traditions for many years was the Spring Carnival. This was a weekend in which the campus was especially the host to many high school graduates and their counselors. The festivities usually began on Friday afternoon with the traditional coronation of the May Queen and the presentation of her court. Her court was made up of high school and college princesses. These people were selected by their own high schools and came dressed in colorful formal dresses and formed the court. Martha Pearl Jones, who was advisor for the Spurs usually went out into the community and secured flowers to make a chain some two hundred feet long. There were two of these which the princesses held for the court. The May Queen had been selected by a vote of the student body and the history of this goes back to almost the very beginning of the University. The May court was presented and the President of the University crowned the May Queen. In the evening there was the Song Fest and the informal mixer which followed the Song Fest.

On Saturday morning and afternoon, the various clubs and organizations on the campus had open house so the prospective students could get acquainted with the faculty members in the department in which they wanted to major. There was a luncheon and then the guests left the campus the latter part of Saturday afternoon.
TREE PLANTING CEREMONIES

One of the interesting things that grew out of Campus Day was the tree planting ceremony which we had from time to time. There was a feeling that if we planted trees they would grow and make the campus beautiful. There was also a management theory that I had that for every tree that was cut down, three had to be planted. That is one of the reasons that the campus is as beautiful as it is. I had great regard and affection for the two poplar trees at the east end of the president's residence. I asked that they be put there to grow and be beautiful. I also asked that a series of poplar trees be planted in front of the gymnasium in the middle of the campus so they would form a hedge for the baseball diamond. Without by being aware of it, the Buildings and Grounds people planted evergreen trees rather than poplar trees, but I thought there was nothing more good looking than a hedge of tall good-looking popular trees. When finally I was aware of what had happened and asked the Buildings and Grounds people why this was done and they said that poplar trees are very dirty, take a lot of maintenance, and shed all their leaves in the fall which evergreen trees do not. I still wish the poplar trees had been planted there.

We planted many trees in various strategic spots on the campus because we knew that the location of buildings would cut out some. I am sure we have written somewhere about
Colonel Hooker who was a Trustee. When I asked him for money, he said he couldn't give money but he would give trees. He called the Nisqually Tree Farm and then told us to send our truck down, which we did. The truck driver said they wanted to give him two thousand trees two inches tall. I asked if he couldn't trade them for two hundred trees two feet tall. Ultimately I asked that these trees be planted in strategic places on the campus. They put most of them in between the Science complex and the president's residence. This was jokingly referred to by the students as "Franklin's Forest."

One of the unique things about the campus is that the trees have been maintained and they do make a very beautiful campus.
VARITY SHOW

One of the traditions through the years was the varsity show. The Associated Student Body presented an annual talent show for the college and community. This show on many occasions was exceedingly excellent and well received. It capitalized on the potential and latent talent in the various classes and it was very well done. During the latter part of the 60's and early part of the 70's it was not continued because the students were very much interested in their own ego-centric conditions. However, when we received so many students from Hawaii, they put on their own luau and their own show which has filled the Field House on many occasions and is very much a carry over from the varsity show of years ago.

In 1937, we had 186 students from Hawaii and they brought with them exceedingly fine talent and carried on the Hawaiian tradition on the campus.