AUB Student Magazines
1898 - 1946

Archives and Special Collections

07 - October - 2013

Exhibition

Come join us in the lobby & basement of Jafet Library!
The AUB Archives and Special Collections hold over 70 student publications, dating back to as early as 1899, and ongoing until 2012 (Rusted Radishes). In this exhibit, we focus on student magazines published between 1899 and 1946.
The magazines displayed here were edited by students of different nationalities, and come in several languages: Arabic, English, and French. They were often issued in two copies: one circulated on demand, and the other was deposited at the Libraries. The magazines vary in running time, subjects, layout and design, as well as significance and impact, but in all cases, they constitute a real treasure trove for sources on students’ life at SPC, and AUB.
In fact, they offer us a first-hand narrative of the students’ individual and group concerns, interests, ambitions, and outlooks in the first half of the twentieth century.
Through the plethora of backgrounds, opinions, political affiliation, aesthetics, interests, approach, editorial boards, and formats offered by these magazines, they constitute a true testimony to the richness of the liberal arts education AUB has offered to its students since 1866.
زهرة الكلية (1899)
مجلة علمية أدبية فكاهية يصدرها طلاب المدركون كل اسبوعين
زهرة الكلية
جزءهاة
جميل الحسن اللزائري
نور البابا سنة 1904
المصدر: مورد كيكوبين
A "literary, comic and critical" bi-weekly magazine. Originally founded in 1901 by Isaac Atiyah, it counted among its editors many poets such as Amin Takieddine (who went to Cairo where he established Al-Zouhour magazine with Antoun El Gemayel) and Salim Azar, both of whom went to become prominent poets and journalists. Its motto was: "God, Nation, Virtue".
Among the subjects it tackled was a typical life of a student at SPC, and it was often done in a witty, interesting and comparative manner. See the article featured here comparing students’ life at SPC and at Jesuit schools.
Happy Days of SPC (1903)

A bi-monthly, then monthly review. Its Editor in Chief was the Instructor of English, Mr. Nikula Tabit.

Beautifully illustrated with some comics and designs on the cover page, executed by Harotyun Giragos Terzian, B.A. 1907. The first issue appeared on December 1st, 1903. The board of publishers consisted mainly of Armenian students, with Terzian being the main illustrator of the review.
Happy Days of SPC (1903)

A bi-monthly, then monthly review. Its Editor in Chief was the Instructor of English, Mr. Nikula Tabit.

The library holds 7 issues from the years 1903-1904, and 4 from 1905. Articles include short stories, riddles and puzzles, and the overall design and most of the content reflects happy youth days at the College!
The Miltonian (1903)

Edited by Morris Franklin and issued by the Milton Society (established in 1902)

This bi-weekly magazine was edited by Morris Franklin, B.A. 1904 and illustrated by Nasri Kawar. The first issue appeared on May 26th, 1903. The paper’s self-stated mission was to offer members and students: “[...]a chance to display their ability in the use of the English language”.
Al-Nahdah al-Islahiyah (1907)

A bi-monthly handwritten Arabic magazine, self-described as a "critical, scientific, literary, comic paper". Edited by Philip Birbary B.A. 1910. and Taufik Kurban B.A. 1910 (for the 2nd year of the magazine), and by Aboud Nasrallah B.A. 1912; and Tawfik Kandalaft B.A. 1912, M.D. 1916 (for the third year of the magazine).
Vouloir c’est pouvoir (1908)

A bi-monthly French handwritten literary publication

It was published by Wadie Bustany, B.A. 1907, O. Khuri, Spiridon Saad, Ph.M. 1911, and Najib Farah, M.D. 1913. Its main focus is French literature, but it also comments on local social norms, and literary styles, etc. The Library owns three non-illustrated issues.
The SPC Missionary Review (1908)

A monthly typed publication, published by the members of the Mission Study Class

Published under the auspices of the Missionary Committee of the Y.M.C.A. Its motto was “The World for Christ”; the issue displayed here is devoted to missionary work in Korea and the Far East.
The Students’ Union Gazette (1912)

A monthly magazine issued by the Students’ Union Society; editor in chief Badie Bushrui, B.A 1914, M.A. 1917; assistant editor Spiridon Abu Mas’ud, B.A. 1913; , typist Azar Habib, Sketcher Salim Haddad, B.A. 1914, D.D.S. 1922. Among its writers are Emile Bustani and Charles Malik

The Students’ Union Gazette was issued by the students of the Syrian Protestant College (SPC). The first issue was published in 1907, but unfortunately is lacking in the library collection. The library holds 9 volumes from 1912-1932. The gazette is published under the Union’s motto “Growth”. During the years of its publication, this magazine was the mouth piece of many student groups, under the umbrella of the Students Union.
The Gazette tried to address matters related to College life, and to the Student Union. Many articles tackle students' concerns, and extra-curricular activities.
Most volumes contain very few illustrations: instead, collage techniques, whereby postcards, photos, and handpainted pieces were cut out, then mounted and glued directly onto the pages. The results were particularly impressive with the many colorful advertisements that adorn the magazine’s pages.
Brotherhood Bulletin (1925)

This Bulletin was prepared by Dr. William T. Van Dyck and it was issued by the West Hall Brotherhood Society.

The library holds the issues of February and May 1925. Both are composed mainly of press clippings. Its motto reads as follows: “The realm in which we share is vastly larger than that in which we differ.”
The Anchor (1922)

A bilingual (Arabic and English) magazine, covering economic and financial matters

It was issued by the students of the Department of Business and Commerce. Among the illustrators were Afif Beyhum and Amin Nuzhet and among the editors, Karam Karam. The English section of the magazine was typed, whereas the Arabic section was handwritten.
Al Urwah al Wuthqa, later Al Urwa (1918)

Affiliated with the Al-Urwa al-Wuthqa association (1918-1955)

One of the most important and influential AUB student associations which was a major influence on harakat al qawmiyyin al Arab, and on Arab Nationalism in general throughout the Arab world, and which boasted among its members major Arab intellectuals, politicians and writers (e.g. Ibrahim Tuqan, Usamah and Ismail al Khalidi, Emile al Bustani, Anwar al Khalil, Anis Nsouli, Khaled el Husari, Rose Ghurayyib, Said Takieddine, Shafiq el Hout, Abdallah el Mashnouq, Aliya el Solh, Ghassan Tueini, etc.)
Al Urwa al Wuthqa, later Al Urwa (1918)

Affiliated with the Al-Urwa al-Wuthqa association (1918-1955)

Al Urwa al Wuthqa magazine was a focus for cultural and political activity. Edited by prominent intellectuals throughout its years of appearance, it featured articles encouraging its readers to connect with and discover the richness and depth of their Arab culture, the beauty of the Arabic language, and to reflect upon their unique position as Arab citizens in the modern world.
Al Urwah al Wuthqa, later Al Urwa (1918)

Affiliated with the Al-Urwa al-Wuthqa association (1918-1955)

The Al Urwa al Wuthqa magazine (and some say the association itself) reached its peak of intellectual maturity and depth in the 30s and 40s, when both the association and the magazine were supervised by their Advisor, Dr. Costantine Zureik.
Al Urwah al Wuthqa, later Al Urwa

Affiliated with the Al-Urwa al-Wuthqa association (1918-1955)

Among the topics discussed in the magazine were questions of nationalism, what distinguishes the Arab nation as such, and what are some of the obstacles facing its unification. Looked at with some distance from the angle of the 21st century, many of the articles are truly striking in their subtlety, complexity and candidness.
Al Urwah al Wuthqa, later Al Urwa

Affiliated with the Al-Urwa al-Wuthqa association (1918-1955)

Also noteworthy, is the level of artistic and graphic design that the magazine achieved. Displayed here are several issues featuring drawings by Rafaat Buheiry.
The Kodak 1904

A magazine specializing in photography, the Kodak was edited by Iskandar Makarius, and constitutes one of the editor’s first stabs at photo journalism. Makarius later worked at Al Mukattam newspaper (Egypt, Cairo), and then went on to publish the Sudan Press and Al Lataef al Mousawarah (Feb. 15, 1915).
The Kodak (1904)

The Kodak discusses AUB social life as well as social and political events in Greater Syria, and as such, constitutes one of the early examples of reporter photo journalism.
The Kodak (1904)

Some of the most noteworthy events covered in the three issues of The Kodak that were handed down to the Libraries are the celebration of the anniversary of the coronation of the Ottoman Sultan in BeitEddine (summer 1903), the fire of the Petroleum Store House in Beirut (January 1904).
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