

Heart of Oak, 1925-29 (done by class of 1930)

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Boxer



The precious old dog which has held a place in the hearts of all loyal Pacific University students and which has most caused the four classes to break the commandment, "Thou shall not covet," is Boxer, the bronze emblem of the class spirit of our college.

Boxer is a venerable old image of the Ming dynasty and his age in actual years is more than three centuries. He is a masterpiece of precious old bronze and belonged to a family of apothecaries at Shachore, Fuein. It was finally possible for Dr. J. E. Walker, a graduate of Pacific University in 1867 and for many years a missionary to China, to buy the bronze from the last member of the family. Dr. Walker presented Boxer to the college and for many years the dog sat calmly and peacefully distinguishing Brighton Chapel by his august presence. However, once he was missing and in 1911 he was seen in the chapel for only a few minutes. A terrific fight followed and poor Boxer was broken into three pieces, and it was not until the class of 1918 secured all three pieces that he was again entirely in the possession of one class. Since that time he has been separated and put together and separated again among different classes until the class of 1929 had him made whole, let us hope for all time to come.

This class of 1929, which passes out of the school this June, secured Boxer when they were Freshmen and have succeeded in keeping him for four years. Since they cannot take him with them when they graduate they have made tentative plans for an elaborate and exciting means of disposing of him. After Senior Flunk Day they plan to turn him loose on the campus and let the classes fight it out for his possession. The surrounding high schools will be invited to watch the struggle and photographers from Portland will be on the campus to take pictures of the fight when it occurs.

We cannot prophesy into whose hands will fall the priceless Boxer, but whichever may be the lucky class, that group will find it a hard task to keep him after he is in their possession.

Long live Boxer! Long live the spirit of Pacific University for which he stands!