

THE BENNETT BANNER

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Shakespeare said that "All the world's a stage." Anyone observing our world today would surely be amazed at the condition of the stage. The present condition of our world is such as that of a stage where all of the entities are present except the director. The story to be enacted is a good one, the actors are talented, and the scenery is beautiful but all of these components are useless with the guidance of a director lacking.

The events of the past year have proven to us the uncertainty of life. All of us should have been shaken out of complacency. Since we can never be sure of the future we must always be prepared with an alternate plan. It is indeed foolish to hang all of one's hopes on a single idea. If one is to survive and live a full life, she must be able to alter her plans with the change of events. This does not mean, however, that we should be in any way lackadaisical in planning for the future. The individual with no plan, no goal, no dream, is dead. It is inherent in the nature of man that he must inspire toward some goal.

At the beginning of each year many of us make many resolutions and promises to ourselves. Many of these promises are fantastic and contrary to our nature. How much better it would be to make a few practical and realistic promises that we can keep than to feel guilty because we cannot be true to unrealistic ones.

Our physical world is in a constant uproar. Is this any reason for our own little world to be also torn by hate, prejudice, and dishonesty? It is the responsibility of each one of us to sow around him the seeds of love and friendship. Peace between nations, between races, or between cultures will not come on the broad plane of ideas or because of words on paper. This goal of peace will only be attained when men meet on an equal footing and learn to regard each other as brother in the family of mankind.

Many tributes were paid to our late President John Kennedy. Men spoke of his genius, political skill, and leadership qualities, but equally mentioned was his pleasing personality, his personable manner, and his genuine and sincere interest in people. May we follow his example and make these qualities our own.

—S. C. BRINKLEY

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The New Year began at Bennett College on January 6. All came back from their brief holiday refreshed with a new burst of energy and for many there were resolutions, new goals, etc. Glancing over the past year one notices with awe the memorable events it held for the world and for us here.

January, 1963, arrived with a much greater air of intensity. There was a feeling of apprehension in the air as to what the new year would bring. Many Bennett students faced trials as a result of anti-demonstration arrests made before Christmas. Others greeted the new year ready to commence their fight for human rights.

The first few months were relatively tranquil and attention was directed to our college and its problems. The seeds of discontent were again being sown and in the spring the fire exploded around the world. Birmingham was in an uproar — the Negro citizens were being bitten by dogs and showered with water hoses. People everywhere were made to realize the seriousness of this situation. Greensboro also became restless. Students met and decided to demonstrate against their own discriminations. Arrests were made, students were jailed and they experienced the cruel hatred of their fellow men. Yet they were jailed again and again, voluntarily for the cause — never coerced.

Other incidents held this problem before our eyes. In Mississippi Medgar Evers was shot down for the cause of freedom. The success of the August March On Washington proved to the world the dedication of Negro and many white Americans to the cause of equal rights and opportunities. In the fall the lives of four Negro children were snuffed out in the bombing of a church in Birmingham.

To culminate this year of turmoil within our nation's boundaries, a fanatical act in Dallas, Texas took the life of one

THE INQUIRING REPORTER

Question: What do you think about not having the College Party this year?



Andrea Mast, sophomore, English major, Houston, Texas. "My ideas about the college party could be colored with the darker shades of unconcern, for I had given the party no thought prior

to the announcement that it would not be held nor any thought since.

"Personally I think that there is very little spirit put into these parties by their sponsors or the girls. Therefore, I don't particularly find the parties relaxing, stimulating or inviting for that matter.

"There are so many people who are interested in the college party that it is a terrible waste and disappointment for them. For these I am sorry but for those who may feel as I do, so what!"



Lillie Coley-Greene, sophomore, foreign language major, Brooklyn New York. "When I was told that there would be no college party because the students needed a few days to relax and prepare for the new semester, I was somewhat disappointed. Then I thought, could there be a better way to relax than to go to a party? In what other way would a young woman want to start a new semester? I tried in vain to answer these questions objectively but I just couldn't understand why the students would be deprived of their only means of distraction.

"Could there be the possibility of the college's not having the extra funds to sponsor a social

event at this particular time or is it just that no one wishes to go through the trouble and expense of sponsoring an event that the Bennett family looks forward to annually? Why? I just wish to know."



Regina Carpenter, junior, sociology major, Washington, D.C. "When I heard that the annual college party was postponed, I had no feelings of disappointment; to be exact I did not care. After

my exams I just want to relax in my room but there are others who may want to have a little fun, especially the freshmen. Is not the college party a part of Bennett's tradition?"



Emma Watson, senior, English major, Birmingham, Alabama. "From my knowledge of the situation we are not having the college party in order that we may have more time to prepare for the second semester.

"I cannot state factually any unbiased opinion because I do not know what it is that we have to prepare for that we have not had ample time to prepare for in the previous years.

"I have felt that the college party, because of the time that it was held, provided a pleasant outlet for post-examination fatigue. However, on the other hand for those of us who would prefer an open break without any ties, this new arrangement provides the perfect opportunity."

of the world's foremost champions of world peace, human rights and civil liberties. Our nation, as did the world, ended the year in an air of bewilderment yet not without hope.

What lies in store for 1964? No one knows nor dares to predict. We can only hope that in such an age of confusion and dissatisfaction Bennett will see its responsibilities and tasks more vividly than before and strive to reach new frontiers. We know not what lies ahead but we can hope and try to prepare.

—FRANCES CAMPBELL

LET'S HAVE A TALK

On Sunday, January 19, Dr. Edens provided us with much food for thought via his vespers message. His theme of rededication and reevaluation of ourselves and our attitudes was a very timely one. We as students are indeed approaching a period of re-evaluation and adjustment.

Our semester examinations will be in some measure evaluate our academic achievements during the past semester. We should pause and evaluate ourselves in terms of both personal and academic achievement.

Perhaps these few words will help each of us in this period of adjustment . . .

Myself

I have to live with myself, and so I want to be fit for myself to know,

I want to be able as days by by Always to look myself straight in the eye.

I don't want to keep on a closet self

A lot of secrets about myself, And fool myself as I come and go Into thinking that nobody else will know

The kind of man I really am, I don't want to dress up myself in a sham,

I want to go out with my head erect;

I want to deserve all men's respect;

But here in the struggle for fame and pelf,

I want to like myself.

I don't want to look at myself and know,

I can never fool myself and so What ever happens I want to be Self-respecting and conscience free.

If we take this poem seriously and try to govern ourselves accordingly, we cannot help but become better persons.

Let us at this time rededicate ourselves to continued study, better behavior and personal self improvement. Yours for a better second semester

Jo Laurence Richardson

RECORD REVIEW

Many great new hits, rock 'n' roll and others have ushered in the New Year. We will all miss the great blues-filled voice of Miss Dinah Washington. She was one of the greatest. Look for a new album of her greatest hits to come out soon.

On the jazz scene, one finds a unique blending of sounds and vocalizing in the album Nancy Wilson and Cannonball Adderly. The Cannonball's sweet low sax, plus Nancy's sultry voice swing through some, slide through others, but the sound is pure jazz. This is one not to miss.

I hope that you are all listening to the Jazz Hour every week. This is a chance for everyone to hear old favorites, from Dixieland on down to Paul Horne.

On the rock 'n' roll scene we are all singing *Anyone Who Has a Heart*, Dionne Warwick's great hit. The expression and feeling which she puts into this one tops all of her other hits.

Major Lance, the "Monkey" man, has a new swinger with the improbable title of *Mm-mm-mm-mm-mm-mm-mm*. It has a perfect rhythm for doing the new dances we've picked up over the holidays. We also like *You're No Good*, and *You'd Better Watch Yourself*. Clyde McPhatter comes in strong in *Deep in the Heart of Harlem*.

Well, that just about wraps up the record scene for this month. Next time we'll talk about those wild ones, the "Beatles" keep rockin!



DID THIS HAPPEN TO YOU?