

The Lenten Season

When the young men of America left the comforts of home and prepared for war, they were first sent to a training camp, not only to be schooled, but also to be hardened by the process. They were to be made "fit" for war.

Lent, too, is the time for training in the necessary disciplines of life. By observing Lent, one determines whether the pleasures of life have actually become necessities.

A few years ago at Brevard College, a group of students decided to observe Lent by abstaining from eating dinner for the 40-day period, and to give the money thus gained to a charitable organization. However, these students failed to catch the true significance of Lent, for, even though they did not eat lunch in the cafeteria, they later went to a downtown restaurant for their meals. Thus, they had sacrificed nothing.

During the Lenten season, each person should seek to observe greater fidelity to prayer, to emphasize more the daily reading of the Bible, and to show more concern for building concrete religious habits.

Physically, Lent is the 40-day period preceding Easter, beginning on Ash Wednesday and ending on Palm Sunday. But Lent is much more than simply a physical fact. It is a time for discipline, for paying attention to the needs of one's own soul, for determining who is master — man or his appetites. The sacrifices, the abstinence from purely social forms, are merely an effort to disengage oneself from the world long enough to take a piercing, searching look at life, and to clear life of its less important activities in favor of discipline.

There Are Others

Alpha Beta Gamma and Pi Theta Kappa, the scholastic honorary fraternities on campus, have recently held their induction services. To become a member of one or both of these organizations is a much-coveted honor, and those inducted deserve sincere congratulations. This is a recognition of the many long hours they have spent studying, of their exemplary conduct as students, of their above-average grades, and of their interest in their courses and their school.

But this is not to say that these students are the only deserving ones. There are those who are capable of making only C's. And many of these students have studied as long, have conducted themselves as well, have had the same interest, and have made the best grades they are able to make. May they somewhere find the recognition and appreciation which they need and deserve.

And for those who almost made it, but fell slightly short of the mark, there is always another chance. For the freshmen there is next year, and for the sophomores there will be other organizations and other forms of recognition. The important thing is to keep trying — not so that others will know they can meet the standards set by an organization, but so that they can keep progressing and learn and know within themselves that they have tried.

It is a wonderful achievement to meet the requirements of one of these organizations and be accepted into its membership, but it is more important to bring forth the best qualities and the highest effort in order to learn and live as each of us should.

MUSIC NOTES

The second Lyceum program for this school year will be on Wednesday night, March 1. PLAYERS INCORPORATED will present Shakespeare's play *The Merchant of Venice*. In addition to the faculty and student body, the Kiwanis Club of Brevard will be present for this program. We welcome the Kiwanians to our campus and hope that they might wish to make this an annual "ladies night" affair for their group.

The College Madrigal Singers will be featured in the annual Brevard Chamber of Commerce banquet to be held at the Armory on Thursday night, March 2. This will be the first appearance of this group for the spring semester.

The fourth program for this year's Asheville Civic Music Series will be presented on March 4. It will feature Grant Johannesen, Pianist.

The Chromatic Club of Brevard College will have its first meeting of the spring semester on Saturday, March 4. It will begin with supper in the faculty dining room and will be followed by a business session. Those having tickets for the Asheville concert will then leave together for this concert. It is hoped that we can find additional tickets for this concert so that more club members may attend the program. All members are urged to remember this meeting.

When You're Alone

By Vandalyn Brown

There are many different forms of happiness. There is the serene contentment that comes with the living of a full, rich life. There is the unbidden ecstasy that comes with first love and never returns in the same way. And there is a calmness that comes with having a sense of direction.

Even though there are those who say that the object in life is not to be happy, everyone is searching for happiness. Why, then, does it always elude us when we try to trap it and come to us when we least expect it?

Happiness comes to different people in different ways. There are those persons who seem to have been born either for joy or tragedy, and when happiness comes to them it comes as brightness and vivacity and it fills their lives.

And there are others who accept their happiness knowing that it might not last. They ques-

tion it and do not let it get too firm a grip on them.

Others bring it into their lives with calmness and serenity. When and if it leaves their lives, they continue with their routine with no noticeable change even though they are slowly dying inside.

Happiness often comes from an unexpected source. We are not expecting it and possibly we do not want it from just that particular source, but it is better to accept it than to fight and become weary. For it is what we really want and it is what is best for us. The only thing to question about happiness is if it is real and true or merely a moment of light coming during a dark time seeming to be a ray of eternal joy.

Happiness to one person is misery to another, but if we live and love and learn as we should, we will each get a chance to find our own particular type of happiness.

Miss Crook

By JERRY TILLOTSON

I feel sorry for Miss Crook. She was here one day, but then gone the next. She lived in our town all of her life, never venturing from its site, even with the advent of automobile and jet-propelled transportation, so they say. I never knew her myself except on sight, but then no one could mistake the pitiful, hunched figure in the faded blue gingham dress and the threadbare cashmere coat. She would give a wan smile to passers-by, but her light brown eyes seemed to be on some object in her mind, looking at it from different angles, but then casting it suddenly aside as something too awesome to touch. What was it, I wonder. They say that she was once a beautiful woman, with all the young men in town in pursuit of her, but as her mother had died while quite young, Miss Crook was dominated by an irrational father who kept her in the house, forever berating her about the meek or some personal mannerism.

He said to her once, "You can make yourself happy by marrying a man, or you can make me

happy by staying with me until I die." Miss Crook never married. She stayed with her father, never uttering a complaint, mixing his medicine, answering his correspondence and cleaning the house, until he died ten years later. They say that her eyes held no tears at the funeral. Her young beauty had faded now, and she gave up any ideas about matrimony. She shut up most of the house, covering the furniture in long, tapering white sheets, and used only the first floor of the house as her home. She began going to the quilting parties and church suppers. She cancelled her subscription to *Readers Digest* and subscribed to *The Christian Advocate*. She was now one of the old crowd. They say that an elderly man in the neighborhood took an interest in her, but she snubbed him on the streets and he never recovered. Miss Crook doesn't live in the old chocolate house now, the one with broken windows and sagging porch. She lies under the ground on the hill, in the family cemetery. Her grave is situated in an inopportune location. In

—Turn to Page Four

Nicholson To Speak During REW March 5-9

Religious Emphasis Week will be held March 5-9, the first service being held Sunday evening, March 5, in the Brevard Methodist church.

The speaker for these sessions will be Mr. R. H. Nicholson, pastor of the First Methodist church



of Waynesville. Mr. Nicholson is a native of North Carolina, having been born near Statesville in Iredell County. He graduated from Harmony High School in 1933 and from Lenoir-Rhyne College in 1937. Mr. Nicholson received his BD degree from Duke University Divinity School and did one and one-half years of special work in the Duke University Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. During World War II he served as a chaplain in the U. S. Navy and again during the Korean War. He maintains a commission with the rank of Commander in the U. S. Naval Reserve.

Mr. Nicholson is married to the former Hazel Montgomery of Statesville, and they have three children, two boys and a girl, ages respectively 13, 11, and 8.

Religious Emphasis Week was originated by Mrs. A. W. Plyer, who established a fund, the interest from which will each year bring an outstanding preacher to the campus.

Her husband, the late Dr. A. W. Plyer, was a Methodist minister in the Western North Carolina Conference. He served as a charter member of the Board of Trustees of the college, showing great interest in the college's work and promises for growth. He was co-editor for the *North Carolina Christian Advocate* and served in that capacity for many years. The church suffered a great loss when, in 1956, Dr. Plyer died at the age of 89.

Mr. Nicholson, speaker for the forth-coming Religious Emphasis Week, will present a talk to the Brevard College student body on Wednesday, March 8, at the regular assembly service.

The library has a display of career pamphlets which it hopes the students will use to their advantage. If anyone would like information on any special career, the librarian will be happy to order pamphlets.

A number of new Photography books which the journalism department gave the library are beginning to come in. These are also on special display.

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