



The Skirl



A STUDENT PUBLICATION OF FLORA MACDONALD COLLEGE

Volume No. 7

Flora Macdonald College, November, 1958

Number 3



These girls enjoy fun and fellowship as they decorate their Thanksgiving basket.

Thanksgiving Baskets Tradition of Much Worth

On the afternoon of Tuesday, November the twenty-fifth the traditional delivering of the Thanksgiving baskets will take place. At three forty-five all the students who wish to help to deliver the baskets will gather on the back platform from which they will pile onto the back of trucks. With much singing and holiday spirits they will follow Claude, who will be in the college truck laden with the gaily decorated baskets as they are delivered to some needy families here in Red Springs.

This is an annual project of the Christian Association which originated practically the same time the association did. No one remembers when it started for it has always been one of the traditions on the campus. It is through this phase of the Christian Association's activities that the help on the halls, in the kitchen, on the campus grounds, and in the laundry can take part in our Christian activities. Each of the help has the privilege of suggesting the name of someone or some family to receive one of the

baskets. From these names plus a few of the old servants who served the college so faithfully in the years past the recipients of our baskets are carefully chosen.

Each of the twenty prayer bands are in charge of fixing a basket. Not to be left out are the faculty and day students each fixing a basket making a total of twenty-two baskets. The baskets are filled with staple groceries such as flour, sugar, coffee, dry beans and peas, potatoes, and every kind and brand of canned goods imaginable. There is usually an assortment of fruits and vegetables and occasionally even soap and washing powder to make for a well filled basket. The baskets themselves are decorated with crepe paper leaves, streamers, and pictures to make each one gay and festive. Each of the baskets is a symbol of Flora Macdonald's spirit of Thanksgiving. As the girls help to deliver them the songs which they sing and the smiles on their faces bring the spirit of Thanksgiving into the hearts and lives of some of those less fortunate.

NEWS BRIEFS

To begin the tapping of seven seniors into WHO'S WHO IN AMERICAN COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES, Dr. Charles Vardell tapped Adeline Brady. Then Elizabeth Ann Clark, Susan Currie, Jeanne Flournoy, Jean McRae, Gay Mothershed, and Betty Jo Trent were tapped in succession. Dean Price H. Gwynn concluded the program Friday, November 14.

Volleyball "season" was noisily opened when the annual mascot search began at 9:00 and a pep rally for the classes began at 10:15 on the back campus Friday, November 14. The rally included songs, cheers, a crackling bonfire, and marshmallows galore.

Practicing housekeeping are Susan Currie, Elizabeth Ann Clark, Sarah Jordan, and Della Evans, who are spending six weeks in the Home Management house. Their six weeks of using all the talents they've learned as Home Economics majors will be over shortly before the Christmas holidays.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert K. Gustavson were entertained at a "Halloween Party" by the sophomore class October 31. Skits and songs were presented to introduce the members of the class. Mr. Gustavson is the newly elected sophomore class advisor.

Next year's "Big Sisters" say they were pleased with the response to their coffee hour which closed activities planned for the Houseparty, Sunday, November 6.

Christian Association Plans Announced

Busy days are ahead for the Christian Association, headed by Jean McRae as president and Mrs. Elbert McPhaul as faculty advisor. The C. A. contributes to many worthwhile causes during the year, but at present it is at its peak of activity insofar as planning is concerned.

A yearly project of the C. A. is the delivery of Thanksgiving baskets to indigent families in and around Red Springs. These baskets are fixed and filled with anything and everything from the grocery store by each of the twenty prayer bands. Then every student who so desires can go along on the big truck to help deliver these to the particular families designated as needy. Just to note the reactions of the recipients of these baskets instills within one the Thanksgiving spirit.

Following the Thanksgiving holidays the twenty Prayer Band Leaders, the ten members of the Cabinet, plus the chaperones, Mr. and Mrs. Gustavson, will attend a Prayer Band-Cabinet Retreat at White Lake. This will be the first time they have made an overnight trip like this. The purpose of this retreat, being held December 6, is to help them make definite plans for Spiritual Enrichment Week February 10-12. The Cabinet and Prayer Band Leaders are very enthusiastic about this and hope that with careful planning it will be an effective week of spiritual enrichment for every student. The speaker for these services will be Dr.

Walter Courtney of Nashville, Tennessee.

Plans are also being made for the annual toy workshop and Friendship party for the colored help here at the college. Soon the C. A. will be asking each student to bring old toys from home. Then everyone will be invited up to the C. A. Library to help mend them to give to the children of the colored helpers at the Friendship party held for them right before Christmas.

On the Sunday night preceding the Christmas holidays the beautiful and impressive White Gift Service will be presented. The C. A. is responsible for this, also. The town people attend and enjoy this with us. Afterwards, everybody wraps up tightly and goes caroling. Upon the return Mrs. Gambill serves cookies and hot chocolate.

Another function of the C. A. Cabinet is to be in charge of the Dome Service which follows the Christmas Banquet.

The Cabinet and Prayer Band Leaders know that the students serve as the final link in their work. The degree of co-operation from us as students will determine the success or failure of their efforts. They are doing their part in meeting spiritual needs—are we?

Two other items of interest about the C. A.: Cecilia Heins replaces Martha Kessler as secretary, and Betty Barnes is now treasurer instead of Nancy Ritter who will graduate in January.

Christmas Dance — Blue and Gay

Bells, bells, silver bells, everywhere one looks—that's what it will be like at the annual Christmas dance, co-sponsored by Zeta Theta Psi and Epsilon Chi societies, Saturday, December 13.

Theme and theme song of "Silver Bells" will be carried out in the rotunda with a myriad of silver bells suspended from a blue canopy, a belled blue ribbon curtain at the entrance to the ball-

Harpichordist Next On Concert List

On Tuesday evening, December 9, the second performance in our concert-lecture series will be presented. Artist for the evening is Canadian-born Claude Jean Chaisson, harpichordist, who has won eminence in the entire musical world of America.

Mr. Chaisson is devoting his life to the harpichord, and in recent years to returning this instrument to its rightful place in American musical circles. He has studied harpichord technique and literature with Dr. Putnam Aldrich and later with Wanda Landowska.

The artist has centered his musical life in Boston for a number of years, but now calls New York home. While in Boston he presented a very successful series of

concert-lectures at the Museum of Fine Arts in that city.

Periodically, Mr. Chaisson has interrupted his concert-lecture activities to build harpichords, and to date has completed eighteen such instruments. Although his inspiration in instrument design is derived from the ancient master builders of Belgium, France, and England, Chaisson has recognized the contemporary demand for fuller dynamic range and variety of color. In his own concerts Mr. Chaisson perform on his grand harpichord with two keyboards, four separate sets of strings (1 sixteen foot, 2 eight foot, and 1 four foot pitch) with six pedals.

Besides playing the standard Bach, Couperin, and Scarlatti, Chaisson is continually surprising his audiences with many rarely heard compositions of lesser known composers.

room and within the ballroom, a blue backdrop with "Merry Christmas" lettered in silver, and silver bells. Swaying from the center of the ceiling of the ballroom will be a huge mirrored bell with mistletoe.

Other features of the dance decor include blue angel hair twined about the white columns in the ballroom, an enormous candle draped in angel hair, blue punch and bell-shaped cookies, and small tables decorated with blue candles and silver magnolia leaves or white ivy.

As yet the name of the band for the dance has not been made public.

Co-chairmen Janice Page, of Zeta Theta Psi, and Sylvia Williams, of Epsilon Chi, urge wholehearted support by the student body so that the dance will be a great success.



CLAUDE CHAISSON