



# The Skirl

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## Semester Graduates Pursue Careers

Every year about this time we find ourselves faced with the fact that some of our seniors will be leaving us soon. This year the number of girls leaving us will be seven as they graduate at the end of the first semester. These lucky seven are Janice Gore, Loueen Price, Thelma Sue Harrell, Dee Jordan, Rosalynde Gibson, Nancy Ritter, and Ann White. Two of these girls are already married and one of them plans to be married in February.

Thelma Sue Harrell is a tiny blond with a light step and sparkling eyes. An English major, Thelma Sue plans to live at home in Fairmont with her mother and commute to Fair Bluff where she plans to teach high school English and French. While the rest of us will be struggling to make good grades this coming semester, Thelma Sue will be giving them to her students.

Ann White, a quiet girl with a soft manner and brown hair who transferred to Flora Macdonald from Mars Hill College last year, plans to live with her husband in Columbia, South Carolina. Ann, a primary education major, hopes to teach in Columbia beginning with the fall term.

At the time this paper went to press Janice Gore was still undecided as to definite plans for next semester. She does have one sure plan and that is to live with her husband in Tabor City, North Carolina.

Rosalynde Gibson, a tall and attractive day student from here in Red Springs, is an English major. As for the future Rosalynde has no definite plans.

Nancy Ritter, a history major from Pinehurst, North Carolina, is the little girl with the big plans. Nancy plans to be married on February 15. She and Egbert plan to live in Carthage where both will work. In September they plan to go to Bob Jones University, where Egbert, a pre-ministerial student, will finish the following June.

Dee Jordan, a Home Economics major who hails from Mullins, South Carolina, plans to wend her way to Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, where she will teach English and typing at the Myrtle Beach High School. In February, Dee will be the personal page for the State Regent of the D. A. R. at the state convention in Columbia. In March Dee plans to accompany her to the National convention in Washington, D. C. where she will serve again as a page.

Loueen Price, a native of Lilesville, North Carolina, has majored in the education for the grammar grades. She has obtained a teaching position in Parkton.

We shall all miss these girls. As they go we wish them all happiness in the future.

## Flora Macdonald Holds The Great Conversation

by Doris Hawse

From coast to coast, from city to town, in libraries, schools, homes, "The Great Conversation" takes place twice a month among sales men, engineers, teachers, housewives, ministers, secretaries, and every other imaginable sort of people. Year before last, the faculty at FMC organized a First Year Group, inviting the townspeople and faculty, and this year they are meeting as a Second Year Group in the same way. Ours is just one of the 1500 groups scattered over the land.

As you may know, the purposes of these little centers of reading and talk are several: to think independently, to apply what has been thought by the best minds of the past to our own day's problems and ideas, to learn to give and take in free discussion, to read critically and intelligently. All these aims are based on the reading of selected "Great Books", one list per year of about fifteen items, the lists running through a decade or more; they are issued by the Great Books Foundation, a non-profit organization founded for the purposes mentioned above. According to the foundation education should not stop with a diploma or a degree but should go on as long as life itself lasts.

In our group, somewhere up to eight earnest souls attend each meeting, not always the same people. At each session one person leads the discussion, but is advised not to lecture or to impose his own views on the group. Rather, he tries to bring out the ideas of the others and to stimulate discussion. In this manner many interesting discussions have been brought about, and not always on the subject at hand; it acts as a springboard for leaps into all directions, and such is the desire of the organization.

Here are examples of the first

## Dr. Scott And Miss Bateman Reported Doing Well

Two beloved persons which we here at Flora Macdonald have been missing lately are Dr. Eleanor Scott, Professor of English, and Miss Ethel Bateman, Health and physical education teacher, who have both been away because of illness.

Miss Bateman was in Scotland County Memorial Hospital during mid-semester. She is now at her home in Sumter, South Carolina, where she is reported to be recuperating satisfactorily. Her present plans are to be back with us next semester. We will be so happy to have her with us again.

We are also looking forward

## "Am I My Brother's Keeper?"



DR. WALTER R. COURTENAY

two years readings:

First Year: The Declaration of Independence, Plato: Apology and Crito, Aristotle: Politics, Plutarch: Lycurgus and Numa, The Gospel according to St. Matthew, Marx and Engels: The Communist Manifesto.

Second Year: Sophocles: Oedipus Rex, Shakespeare: Hamlet, St. Augustine: Confessions, Swift: Gulliver's Travels, Pascal: Pensees, Twain: Huckleberry Finn.

"It is time that we had uncommon schools, that we did not leave off our education when we begin to be men and women. It is time that villages were universities, and their elder inhabitants the fellows of the universities."

—Thoreau

## News Briefs

The electoral committee has been busily working on revising our system of elections here at Flora Macdonald College. They have submitted a definite plan to the Executive Committee for approval. Watch for these plans in the next issue of (Continued on Page 2)

The spiritual highlight of the year at Flora Macdonald College is Spiritual Enrichment Week. During the three days of this activity, we students are confronted in a truly challenging way with the claims of Christ and the necessity of total commitment to Him.

Our S. E. W. this year is February 10-12, only three weeks away. The speaker is Dr. Walter R. Courtenay of Nashville, Tennessee. He was born in St. Thomas, Ontario, Canada, in 1902, and received his A. B. degree from Maryville College. He then went to Princeton Theological Seminary, where he received his Bachelor of Divinity; he has also done post-graduate work at the University of Wisconsin and received his D. D. at Carroll College. Dr. Courtenay has served pastorates in Canada and Wisconsin; at the present time he is the minister of the First Presbyterian Church in Nashville, Tennessee. He is also the author of two books; "Where Two Paths Meet" and "I Believe, But—"

On December 5 and 6, the Cabinet and the Prayer Band leaders had a retreat at White Lake. At this retreat, hours of prayerful thought and discussion were spent making plans which will truly make this a week of spiritual enrichment for us.

Here at F.M.C., surrounded by the outward evidences of religion, we can so easily become complacent in our faith and mechanical in the expression of it. We become conformed to the pattern of life around us, rather than transformed by a Life above us. We strive to be "good", but having the wrong perspective of the Christian life, a careful look at our motives for being "good" reveals that they are not in harmony with Christ's motives.

Realizing these facts of our religious life at Flora Macdonald the Cabinet members and Prayer Band leaders sought to find a challenging and meaningful theme for S. E. W. — a theme which would confront us with the "real" religion which issues from a God-centered life — a theme which would show us that "goodness" is not the result of effort, but a by-product of a life lived on such a level that goodness is natural to it.

Many themes were suggested but not one seemed to include the wide scope of needs which the group felt should be included. Everything that had been suggested dealt with our relationship to and responsibility for our brothers. Someone remarked that the ideas which had been presented could be expressed in the words of the Christian Association theme "My Brother's Keeper?" Immediately the group realized that that person had voiced the thoughts of all.

As the discussion continued, it

was pointed out that we have failed to keep this theme before us and have not emphasized it on campus. This fact was in itself an evidence of our complacency: we had chosen a C. A. theme which set before us the basic principles of Christ and then had forgotten it. What better or more inclusive theme could be chosen for renewed emphasis? Immediately the group agreed, and this theme, including the limits and liberties of the Christian life and the question of whether we shall conform or transform, was chosen as the theme for our S. E. W.

Many activities have been planned to make the week even more meaningful. The emphasis will begin with Prayer Bands the week prior to S. E. W. at which time the Prayer Band leaders will focus our attention upon the theme.

Friday morning, three of the Cabinet members will conduct Chapel with their service being based on Carl Sandburg's dramatic poem, "The People Will Live On."

That Sunday, the W. F., B. S. U., and M. S. M. will base their Vesper programs on the S. E. W. emphasis.

Monday night, meditations will be held around the Rotunda at 11:00.

Tuesday through Thursday, the actual three days when Dr. Courtenay will be here, will begin with Morning Watch from 7:15-7:30. Then at 10:00, Dr. Courtenay will speak to us in Chapel. Vespers will be held after supper, at which time Dr. Courtenay will again speak to us.

After the Vespers service, buzz groups led by students will be held in the dining hall. These informal discussion periods will give us a chance to discuss our ideas on Dr. Courtenay's messages and ask any questions we might like to hear discussed. Dr. Courtenay will be available to the buzz groups at this time. Private meditations will be in Watkins from 10:30-11:00 on each of these nights.

Thursday night will be the climax of S.E.W. with the beautiful and inspiring candlelight Communion Service which follows Dr. Courtenay's closing message.

Friday morning, Chapel will be a period of silent, guided meditation. During this time, we will each have a chance to crystallize in our minds the new insights into the Christian life which we will have gained in the days of spiritual growth.

Much prayerful thought has gone into the plans for this S. E. W. The Cabinet and Prayer Band leaders feel that it will be a very challenging experience; may we each be much in prayer for the speaker and those who work with him, that through their efforts we may be led to see Christ more clearly, love Him more dearly, and serve Him more nearly throughout each day.