

**FOUNDERS DAY**

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standards of scholarship, both of students and faculty. Important as are these measuring rods of scholastic orthodoxy and standardization, these evidences of material expansion, they are not the ultimate tests of a college. They are by no means the most important achievements of the present administration. For if we hold that the true college is a great idea in the minds of men and women, then we must look to intangibles for the founding of Salem and for its worth today. We do not look in vain. The Salem of today owes much to the eighteenth and nineteenth century past, yes; but it owes much also to the immediate past and present, the thirty-three years since 1909, when our president, Dr. Rondthaler, took office. In these years the college has grown, through faith in a great idea, through the belief that the business of a college is to train people to think, through steadfast devotion to freedom of inquiry by faculty and students, through patient pursuance of liberality in the face of demands for reaction, through the courage to scrap outworn institutions and develop new ones, through a kindly and tolerant spirit that points ever upward to challenge the ideal rather than downward to condemn the short comings, through the constant living spirit of Christianity that pervades rather than preaches, and through the contagion of gracious personality.

"Salem is what it is today and means what it does to alumnae and students and faculty because of these intangibles, these qualities of the heart and mind that its founders possess and share. For the leadership and the pattern which we all follow, blindly or consciously, haltingly or well, we honor its present founder, our own beloved Doctor Rondthaler."

At the Executive Board of the Alumnae Association directly following chapel, the announcement of a gift of \$3,000 from Mr. Jeff Penn of Reidsville, N. C., assures the beginning of the \$10,000 restoration of the building which will function as the Alumnae House. Mr. Penn's gift is a memorial to his mother, the late Mrs. Frank R. Penn, who as Annie Spencer attended Salem in the 1860's, and the alumnae house will be called the Annie Spencer Penn House, with, it is hoped, other memorial designations in its three-story interior.

After luncheon a brief ceremony of spiritual significance, Mother Strong made formal presentation of the Strong Residence to Rev. Weiland, who accepted in the name of Dr. Rondthaler. The cornerstone was laid by the donor with a silver trowel which she has used since 1912 in her many generous gifts of buildings in various parts of the world. Sealed in the cornerstone was a box containing the following interesting collections:

A list of all students, faculty, trustees, officers and employees of Salem College and Academy; the daily text book; photographs of Mrs. Strong and her son, Corrin Strong; the program of Founders' Day; catalogues of the College and of the Academy; views of the new building; samples of 1942 currency in silver, copper, nickel and paper; copies of the Winston-Salem newspapers, Blum's Almanac, the Alumnae Record, Salemite, Quill Pencil; and a copy of Mother Strong's presentation.

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**Dr. Charles Vardell**

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concluding the group, the Fantasia in F Minor, Opus 49.

One of the most interesting numbers on the program takes next position: the Sonata No. 7, Opus 64, by Alexander Scriabine. For those of us to whom the name Scriabine might signify man or mouse, it might be enlightening to know that he was a Russian who developed a highly original harmonic system, which to our unaccustomed ears may sound a bit strong at first hearing. The sonata is completely pagan in its feeling and is written in the impressionistic idiom, combined with a mixture of mysticism and eroticism. There is a rumor around Oaklawn Avenue that this summer, while Dr. Vardell was practicing the Scriabine Sonata, there was a great discussion in the neighborhood as to which was the greater nuisance: the neighbor's dog which howled all night long, or the wierd strains of Scriabine issuing forth from the Vardell home all day long! At any rate, this is undoubtedly a number to which we should all listen with the greatest of interest. It is full of unusual effects, startlingly thrilling harmonies, and difficult and brilliant passages, all of which Dr. Vardell executes with uncanny agility.

The final group is composed of three contemporary works, the first of which is the "Virginia Dare Dance," from "The Lost Colony," by Lanier Stringfield. Mr. Stringfield composed much of the music for "The Lost Colony" pageant, and recently arranged the "Virginia Dare Dance" for piano. The last two numbers are quite appropriate to conclude the program: two of Dr. Vardell's own compositions: "Flounder Fisherman at Midnight" and "Sir Crab." The latter is from the suite "From Cherry Grove" and was enthusiastically received at its initial performance two years ago at an afternoon recital by Dr. Vardell. It is a charming description of Sir Clavius Crab himself and is a humorous and thoroughly delightful characterization. "Flounder Fisherman at Midnight" was also written at Cherry Grove Beach, South Carolina, and has been in process of revision during the past two years. It was originally intended to be included in "From Cherry Grove" suite. Dr. Vardell says the finished composition we are to hear is the third arrangement.

Upon inquiring of Dr. Vardell if he had any particular requests prior to the big event, he sincerely

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**IF YOU DIDN'T GO**

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other very important test for the prospective WAVE is physical fitness . . . teeth are given such thorough examinations that one woman remarked, "I came to fight the Japs, but I didn't know I'd have to bite them!" . . . and eyes must be 20-20. Aptitude tests are given to classify one according to her integrity and liability; not necessarily her skill.

The WAVE must not be married to any man who is in the armed forces, because she must not be hindered in her readiness to act at any time or any place she is needed. She must not, furthermore, have dependents under eighteen.

The WAVES is not for women who are looking toward the specialized training they will receive, or the good salaries . . . it is for women who are genuinely interested in doing their part in winning the war. Those who feel that they, in being WAVES are being noble . . . are simply "loy-down prigs."

For us in college, Lieutenant-Commander McAfee said, remains the task of transforming from girls into women. We must have reason to think that what we are doing today will be useful five years hence. We, of course, cannot predict what the world of five years hence will be like; but we can learn the basic fundamentals to govern ourselves in worthwhile jobs. We must prepare to meet the post-war crises, and "to do the job which must be done."



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entreated that we forego the usual procedure of sending the recitalist an arm bouquet of red roses! Instead, he would like the honor of our attentive and receptive presence at 8:25 Monday night.



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Thurs.-Sat.—"Orchestra Wives," with George Montgomery and Ann Rutherford.

**FORSYTH**

Mon.-Tues.—"My Gal Sal," starring Rita Hayworth and Victor Mature.

Wed. — "Twin Beds," with Geo. Brent and Joan Bennett.

Thurs.—"Lady Be Good," with Eleanor Powell and Ann Southern.

Fri.-Sat. — "What's Cooking," starring the Andrews Sisters.

**STATE**

Mon.-Wed. — "Joan of the Ozarks," Joe E. Brown and Judy Canova.

Thurs.—A stage show, "Miami Nights," in conjunction with "The Falcon Takes Over," starring George Sanders.

Fri.-Sat.—"Sweetheart of the Fleet," with Jinks Falkenberg.

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