

## REASONS FOR ATTENDING COLLEGE

One of the most important decisions that we will make is whether or not to attend college after high school graduation. Most of us have decided to continue our education. Various reasons have influenced this important decision. The majority of us will attend college because our parents are interested in our welfare and are willing to finance our education. Some of us find the idea of getting away from home extremely intriguing. Our friends are going to college and we feel that it is "the thing to do." The excellent possibility of broadening our acquaintances is always an encouraging factor. Few of us girls will deny that the hopes of finding our life-time partner did not enter our minds when we chose a coeducational college. Still many people enter college solely for the purpose of acquiring an education. People attend college for any of these reasons or for a combination of them.

By now most of us know where the ivy is the greenest. We have chosen colleges, or should I say the colleges have chosen us, ranging from the small junior college to a large state university. We might pick a northern university, or we might prefer our native southland. Many times our parents influence us to attend their alma mater. If we are wise, we will select a college that specializes in our major. We may choose a college for its high academic standards or for its lack of them. We choose colleges that will best suit our parents pocketbooks. Our parents may choose the college for us. We may attend a college that has awarded us a scholarship, or we may have little choice and go wherever we can get in. A few of us will obtain our formal education at the college that we selected years ago.

College has always seemed in the distant future so that now when the gap of time that was once wide is closing before us, we become puzzled and worried. We always have fears of failing. As we complete our final year of high school, we become more independent of our parents.

It is hard to know what to expect in college. We all hope that we can return to tell our teachers that they are wrong because college is no more difficult than high school. We will meet people who come from different environments than what we had previously been accustomed to. The adjustments that we will make to college life, our professors, and our friends will probably influence us for the rest of our lives. In college we will meet more challenges, and we will have to accept these challenges. Our parents will not be there to help us. We will learn many things in college-- things that are not in the textbook, but most of all we will begin to grow up.

LITTLE WARRIOR by Bob Dickens

