

Guest Editorial

"HOME FOR CHRISTMAS"

By DR. ROGER CROOK

A few days ago General MacArthur, overly optimistic about the way things were going in Korea, made the prediction that the men in Korea would be home for Christmas. The very disheartening turn of events which has occurred since that unfortunate statement was made reveals how very wrong he was. But anxious parents had grasped that statement as a promise. Now they are more anxious and unhappy than before, for they know now that their families cannot hope to be together at Christmas.

To other families the college catalogue promises that their children will be home for Christmas, and those families look forward to the fulfillment of that promise. But only time will tell whether that promise will indeed be fulfilled. College students have a way of making home their base of operations during holidays, without spending very much time in their homes. They spend most of their time dating the hometown boy friends, or comparing notes with friends who have gone to other schools, or looking up the old gang, or doing those many other things which one finds to do in her home town.

Holidays and celebrations have most meaning for individuals when they are shared by the family. This is even more true of Christmas than of other holidays, since the spirit of Christmas is the spirit of love, and human love finds its finest expression in family life. This is the reason there is more appeal to being "home for Christmas" than to being "home for the week-end." A holiday which in itself is full of religious significance is made more important and more meaningful for us by our sharing it with those we love.

More than that, the family life itself is enriched by the sharing of experiences. When we do things together, we grow in our appreciation of each other. Some of the most meaningful experiences we human beings are privileged to have are those in which we share with the other members of our family. As we give our presents on Christmas eve, or as we gather around the tree on Christmas morning, we are doing more than giving and receiving presents. We are giving expression to our love one for another, and as we express our love we are in that very act causing our love to grow deeper and to become more satisfying.

It is increasingly true that for us Christmas is not just December 25, but all the planning and preparation that leads up to that day. It is the buying and wrapping of gifts. It is the planning and the preparing of meals. It is the recalling of pleasant memories around the table or around the fireside. It is the worship experiences which we share with the other members of the family. Other things and other people most certainly will contribute to the joyfulness of the Christmas holidays, but they cannot be allowed to move the family from its position of preëminence.

We can best understand and appreciate the Christmas story within our family circle. As we re-join our families during the holidays, may He who is Love, and who has expressed that Love most of all in his son Jesus Christ, bless and enrich the love which we know in our families.

Letters to the Editor

REPORT ON DRIVE:

UNIFIED BUDGET FOR 1950-1951

Table with 2 columns: Item and Amount. Items include World Student Service Fund, Cancer Drive, Red Cross, Goodwill Center Fund, March of Dimes, and Special Contingencies. Total is \$1,400.

Of this total, we are asking one-fourth from the faculty-administration. This would be \$350 which would leave \$1,050 for the student portion, plus \$150 for their contribution to Community Chest. (There is a special drive among the faculty-administration for this.) This would make a total of \$1,200 for the students and \$350 for the faculty.

Totals as of December 4, 1950:

Table with 2 columns: Name and Amount. Lists contributions from Vann, Stringfield, Jones, Faircloth, and Day Students. Total is \$242.

This is about one-fifth of our quota. The faculty-administration have already raised their quota.

-Patsy Emory, Chairman, Unified Budget.

To the Student Body:

We are supposedly living in a community. The distinguishing feature of a community is that the citizens which comprise this organization live under the principles that the good of the majority must go before personal desires. In other words, the majority rules. Think about this the next time you hear someone say "I didn't vote for the Unified Budget and therefore I'm not going to pay my three dollars." Look at it this way. If you live in a city there are certain taxes you must pay to enjoy these rights.

Our Unified Budget is comparable to city taxes. Ever hear of any citizens evading the tax law? Of course it's Christmas and cash is scarce all around here. Then there's the excuse about my father paying once and it all comes out of the same pocket, so why should I pay? All these are very logical—but so is the fact that you as a Meredith student should feel responsible about contributing anyway, so why not save yourself some time and effort? Whether you look at it from that viewpoint, or from the fact that a majority of the student body passed this system, the fact remains that it is your duty—and your privilege—to contribute to the Unified Budget.

-Pat Smathers.

HERE AND THERE

In Other Papers

By PHYLLIS NOTTINGHAM

Meredith girls are really getting in the Christmas spirit. Almost everywhere—class, dining hall, dorms, auditorium—and at anytime the angels can be seen with four needles and wool, knitting furiously on that pair of argyles for their "specials." This oddity, however, is not peculiar to Meredith alone. The belles at Saint Mary's are doing that same last minute rushing. Wonder if those lucky boys hail from Carolina, State, or Wake Forest?

Speaking of State, I notice from The Technician that sixty-one per cent of Meredith girls prefer to date boys from that institute across the way than from any other college. Could it be that they are so close or are they really the best? Our old Baptist brothers, you're loosing out! Also from the Wolfpack paper comes the bit of news that boys who date make much better grades than those who just sit at home. Do you suppose that the same situation could apply to girls?

But getting back to the Christmas spirit here at "The Farm," I found a couple of girls who had tacked on their

Day Doins'

By DOTTIE

Dear Santa,

Please understand that I'm not complaining, but I've been writing to you for nigh on to twenty years, and I can't say that I've gotten much out of the deal. 'Course I know you've got a whole lot of little girls to look after, but—really—sometimes I think people are keeping something from me. I'm going to try one more time, however; remember, this is your last chance. Please bring these items for the following (since we D.S.'s are in dire need of them.)

For Mrs. Taylor, Mrs. Munford, Mrs. Atkinson, Mrs. Beal, Mrs. Wilson, Betsy Goldston, "T" Childress, Martha Martin, Marilyn Rosser, and all our married day people: a twenty-six hour day to do class work, homework, and housework properly.

For "B.B." Ballenger and Alice Champion; two new tennis rackets so that they can practice up for the national championships.

For Barabara Daniel, an anchor to hold her down to earth because of that new ring.

For Betty Shields and Dorie Atkins: a course in speaking shorthand.

For Anne Marie Morton: another hayride. She loves 'em.

For Barbara Todd: a little red wagon to carry all those books around for her.

For Joanna Wilson: more electives, as she doesn't know what to do with her spare time.

For Nancy Apple: a major field.

For Ruth Champion: a baseball bat and a rhyming dictionary.

For Pat Eberhart: a furlough for somebody.

For Lucy Staton: a Spanish-speaking senior.

For Nancy Murray: a pet frog for biology.

For "Dimples" Cooper: a sleeping pill.

For Jackie Norris: one chemistry set.

For Pat Bass: more courses in religion.

For Marian Flowers: a new coat to travel home in.

For Secunda Parker: more math problems.

For Martha Stough: a house to live in after February.

For all the D.S.'s: A's in every course. (As you can see, these requests tend to be more idealistic than practical; Santa Claus is that way himself.)

For all seniors: a diplomas.

As'for me, dear Santa Claus, I isn't very bright; so choose for me, dear old boy, just what you think is right—just so it isn't a home permanent.

Love,
Dottie.

P.S. Remember, this is your last chance.

WANTED!

As many original one-act plays as possible, to be judged after January 8, 1951. The winner will receive twenty-five dollars in cash, plus the possibility of another award in Chapel Hill next spring. This is your great chance to become a famous—a reasonably rich—writer!

-The "Acorn" and the Little Theatre.

wall a calendar with the remaining number of days until the holidays and were marking off each day with joy. To them, as to the rest of us, I guess, Christmas holidays means good food, sleep, fun, and gifts. These things are just around the corner, too.

I hope that everyone goes caroling. To me, that is the one night of the year that the angels have the most fun together. So board that bus and join in the singing!

Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year!

Merry Christmas
and
Happy New Year
from THE TWIG

to
Faculty and Student Body

Barney's Blarney



The other day a man, hurrying to get his Christmas shopping done early, was rushing through the capital square pulling his young daughter along. Struggling to keep up, the little girl was still interested in what was going on around her. Pointing up to the statue of George Washington, she piped, "Look, Daddy, that's Jesus."

Her daddy, his eyes and mind on the crowded streets just ahead, only gave her a yank and a muttered, "Yeah!" Wonder if she will ever get the idea that Christmas is just a time to give presents and to decorate trees with colored lights and tinsel?

Not that I object to presents. Heavens no! The only objection I have is that I don't get enough, so I have to bring in the principle of the thing 'cause "misery do love company!"

Anyway, Meredith has the Christmas spirit of sorts. The melodic (?) jangle that accompanies "Jingle Bells," I'm told, grates on the nerves of people who like to carry on polite conversation during dinner. It seems that the music furnished by the dining hall is supposed to soothe the mind and provoke thought. Now it's up to the students to decide whether we want quiet music and muted conversation, or no music and screaming at the top of our lungs. And after I had just discovered that coffee cups have a much better tone than water glasses!

Anyway people will have time to figure out what they want for Christmas since State and a couple of other schools 'round about will be having exams and just might not be available next week.



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Since 1921 the institution has been a member of the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools. The college holds membership in the Association of American Colleges and the North Carolina College Conference. Graduates of Meredith College are eligible for membership in the American Association of University Women. The institution is a liberal arts member of the National Association of Schools of Music.

