

# Mary Ella Hall Has Poem Chosen For Publication in College Anthology



Mary Ella Hall

By NANCY BROWN

No doubt as you have flipped through the *Acorn* from time to time you have noticed the lovely bits of poetry that have been contributed by Mary Ella Hall. One who has little knack for stringing words together in that manner must marvel at the ease with which she seems to write.

Her talents have again been recognized by the National Poetry Association, which has chosen her poem "Idea" to be published in its Annual Anthology of College Poetry. This anthology, which is published each year, is a compilation of the best poetry written by college students all over America. Selections for it are made from thousands of poems submitted, so that it is quite an honor to be the author of one of those selected. It is, however, an old story to Mary Ella, who has had poetry published in the anthology before, during both her high school and her college years.

Mary Ella, a senior English major from Asheboro, transferred to Meredith last year from Campbell. She says that she has been writing ever since she was about ten years old. Her high school English teacher was very much interested in her writing and helped her a great deal. Mary Ella writes mostly poetry, but has written other things, including short stories, but she says that most of the short stories "just don't get finished."

After she graduates, Mary Ella eventually wants to get a job in which she can use her creative writing ability, but right now her immediate goal is to become an English teacher.

Here is the poem which was chosen for publication in the anthology:

### IDEA

There—a fragile glass sliver  
Just under the skin,  
Pricking—insistent—  
Painfully swelling the mind's  
tender finger—  
Mocking the probing—  
Down deeper still.  
Elusive, mystic, sprite of a thing  
Seen by a glimmer—  
Then lost—  
Now recurring—  
A maddening game—  
A tormenting reminder.

Mary Ella Hall.

Stop in at  
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3025 Hillsboro Street

# EXCERPTS FROM CHAPEL TALKS

"If personality is sacred or divine, everything one values should have sacredness. Somebody's life has been spent in producing it. Life is sacred only as we hold values. For example, there are the dixie cups lying in front of Johnson Hall. Some people are willing that others spend a good portion of their lives — lives made in the image of God — picking up the trash with which we clutter God's world. How can a man feel his life to be sacred and important if his only job is to pick up after careless people who have no value of the sacredness of life?"

"It is not altogether inappropriate to meditate on this. It is the business of education to make us more sensitive to the real values of living, so that we give, rather than destroy, vitality. Whoever is willing to waste life cannot be a real disciple of Christ."

"Why do we ask questions? First, there is an important human element to know why. Curiosity is the normal possession of every human being, although it is not enough in itself. You must ask the right question. Education is often stifled and stopped by irrelevant questions. Not only the question 'What is it?' is important, but 'What of it?' Maybe in asking a question, you fear social disapprobation, so you do little or no thinking about the problem. You think, 'I'll just accept and be an animal'."

"Then, too, often we accept answers that are not necessarily true. When you start to accept an answer make it appear respectable and positively inevitable."—Dr. Carlyle Campbell, President, Meredith College

"If the belief that 'All power corrupts and absolute power corrupts absolutely,' is true, the opposite is equally true. There is no morality without responsibility. If one can't do evil, one also cannot do good. The opposite force must exist to give a basis for decision. Thus, good requires evil and morality requires good. Good cannot exist without responsibility, nor can responsibility exist without power." — Dr. Ernest Caldwell (quoted by Dr. Carlyle Campbell)

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## Home Ec News

At a recent meeting of the province workshop, Jane Williamson was elected vice-president of the southeastern province. This province includes the states of North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Tennessee.

Two weeks ago, Anne Partin and Shirley West went with Dr. Elizabeth Vaughan to represent Meredith at a Family Life conference in Charlotte.

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# It's All in a Day: Student Teachers Get Embarrassed, Chagrined, Flattered

By DORIS PERRY

"I'll bet it wasn't too long ago that you had boy friends," said one little fifth-grader as she pointed out her own "boy friend" to Dixie Foshee. Such innocent remarks from their students make Meredith student teachers aware of the fact that they are getting along in years, at least in the eyes of this younger generation. On another occasion, however, Dixie's ego was restored with this flattering question: "Are you the May queen?" And then followed a volley of flattering statements, all in one breath: "Your hair is so pretty; your blouse is so pretty; your earrings are so pretty; your shoes are so pretty." One little girl even stooped down to brush off Dixie's shoes.

Nancy House's fourth-graders really keep her on her toes. One student asked her how the ocean got salty, and another wanted to know whether a zebra's stripes are black on white or white on black! At the time of the question Nancy had to admit that she did not know, but now she can boast the knowledge that a zebra's stripes are neither color on the other, but rather just plain stripes.

Mary Ann Godwin is convinced of the frankness of children. One little girl came to her and whispered, "Miss Godwin, I don't want to embarrass you, but I heard somebody say that you wore your lipstick too dark." Another little "smarty" let it be known that he thought Miss Godwin needed to take reducing exercises.

When Mr. Tyner came to observe Beth Casstevens, one little boy muttered, "The dentist! Boy, I'm leaving!" Another wanted to know if Mr. Tyner were Beth's boy friend. Beth

has been working with her students on an Indian project, which they enjoyed very much, but she has had her problems. Students are always complaining about not being able to read her writing, and one little curly headed boy has presented a real problem: "Miss Casstevens, I just love to talk," he said. She has had fair warning from one little boy that if she gives him any arithmetic homework he's going to "dry up and die." One day Beth received a note from one of her little boys which read, "I love you. Do you love me? Please answer."

Adele Buening's spelling as well as her last name has  
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## FRESHMAN IMPRESSIONS...

They say that if you wish for something long enough, it is bound to happen. Personally I don't believe a word of it. For the past two hours, now, I've had my ears virtually primed for the sound of the telephone's ring. Each time it rings, my heart pounds as enticing thoughts race through my brain. I invariably jump to my feet and rush to the door, only to hear someone else's name called. In spite of trying not to think about it anymore, my thoughts continue to wander again and again to the phone. There it goes again! Well, this time I'm going to stay right here. Oh, no! That just couldn't be my name they're calling. Slow down, now, don't let him think you're too anxious. After all, he might get the idea you were expecting him to call.

Betty Hockaday

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# Home Economics Students Display Talents in Christmas Cooking

By JOAN LANGLEY

Have you been walking past the foods laboratory lately on your way to class and noticed the sweet aroma of Christmas cookery? Or maybe you've even seen some of the attractive Christmas cakes and cookies. If so, then you know that it is the work of the sophomore foods class. They are getting ready for their traditional Christmas exhibit and programs in and out of Raleigh.

This year, the girls began their travels by going to Campbell College on December 8 at the invitation of Miss Catherine Campbell, head of the home economics department there. Miss Ellen Brewer led a discussion on holiday foods, while the Meredith students explained the ways in which decorative touches add to the attractiveness of them. They explained how new novelty touches could be used instead of the traditional cakes and cookies and still carry out the holiday motif.

Along with the more intricate designs, some time-saving types were illustrated. It was pointed out which cakes and cookies lend themselves best to preparation in advance for packing and shipping. Also included were ideas for holiday entertainment and home cooked foods as possible gifts. (Sounds like these girls ought to get on the foods staff of *Good Housekeeping*, doesn't it?)

Not content to stop at one very interesting and informative program, our foods experts traveled to Garner later in the week to present a similar program to a group of grade school mothers. From there they journeyed to Smithfield to take part in an exhibit as a part of a garden show.

Sounds exciting doesn't it? Just ask any one of the home economics girls and she will tell you what fun it is to travel around and listen to people exclaim over something she made.

# ROY'S