

Behind the Scenes WE RECOGNIZE LOIS DOBSON

By NANCY McGLAMERY

"She likes to go places, do things, and meet people," says Wilma Owens about her roommate, Lois Dobson, and that is easy to believe after hearing an account of Lois' many activities here at Meredith.

This junior religion major is tall with black hair and brown eyes, and she hails from Snow Hill, N. C. She has been on the B.S.U. Council for two years, and this year she is serving on the Worship Committee. A sports lover, Lois participates in softball, and she is on the varsity volleyball team.

Hall Y.W.A. president her freshman year, and a Spanish Clubber last year, Lois has been a member of the Freeman Religion Club for three years. She is also a member of Sigma Pi Alpha language fraternity and has been on the Dean's List for the past year. Besides her major in religion, she is working towards a teacher's certificate in social studies. Add to this the fact that Lois is



Lois Dobson

typist for the *Acorn*, on the editorial staff of the *Twig*, and that she attends First Baptist Church, and you have a busy girl.

In her spare time, Lois likes to read and listen to her collection of popular and classical records.

When Wilma says her roommate is "full of life and action" — well, that's for sure!

HERE AND THERE By PAM HARTSELL

We see:

Bags under eyes . . . bare trees . . . a "sea" of diamonds . . . rain . . . heavy coats . . . exam fatigue already . . . new cashmere sweaters and jeweled watches . . . the night watchman running our fellas off at 10:55 p.m. . . .

We hear:

About the dances, parties, mistletoe, and breakfast parties . . . that bell again! (remember sleeping until 11:30 a.m!) . . . the new clock radio "accidentally" going off at 3:00 in the morning . . . what he said about the sweater that was four sizes too large. . . .

We borrow:

Hair-dryers, to get ready for that last-minute date . . . scarfs, bracelets, and earrings . . . those flattering hair-rollers that everybody is now using . . . French dictionaries . . . cough tablets and Kleenex . . . ink . . . class notes . . . pencils with erasers . . . money for the movies. . . . We discard:

Last year's calendars . . . holly wreaths and candy canes . . . letters from an old beau . . . candy and potato chips left from the hall party . . . notes to roommates. . . .

We remember:

The late hours . . . the minute he slipped the ring on that third finger, left hand. . . .

THERE'S MUSIC IN THE AIR

By ADAIR WHISENHUNT

The first Civic Music concert of the New Year will be on January 19 when the Ballet Theater is presented. Meredith students always look forward to this event, which is always a highlight of the concert season. In regards to transportation to the concert, we understand that it will be necessary to buy bus tickets far enough in advance for the committee to know the number of girls going. I think we all realized how important it is to have this service when we found ourselves without it. With co-operation from us, the new plan will work.

1956 is the 200th anniversary of the birth of Mozart. On February 17, the Mozart Festival Quartet,

made up of the Albeneri trio which has been here before and Paul Doctor, violist, will appear in the Chamber Music series. Admission is by season ticket; tickets for this concert will be sold at the door.

One of our music faculty members is proving he is not superstitious by presenting his piano recital on Friday, January 13! Make your plans to attend the recital of Mr. Charles Turn tonight.

Sigma Alpha Iota is sponsoring a recital on Tuesday, January 17, in Recital Hall. The members of our music faculty are excellent performers as well as teachers. This recital will be well worth attending.

The annual meeting of the A.F.C.W. will be held at W.C., U.N.C. on January 13-14. Official delegates from Meredith's A.A. Board will be Rovilla and Hilda Myers. The meeting will consist of discussion groups, panel discussions, a banquet, and various types of recreation. Will topics for discussion will be: Playdays and Co - Recreation; Organization of W.A.A.; How Much of the W.A.A. Program is Based on Needs of Students; and The Creative Program—Its Place in W.A.A. The week end will be highlighted by a water show to be given Friday night by the Dolphin-Seal Synchronized Swimming Club.

It will be of interest to many of the students and faculty to hear of the activities of two former students.

Martha Bramlett, a member of last year's Freshman Class and now a student at Western Carolina College, was recently elected as one of the sophomore representatives to the May Court.

Marylyn Bestedt, also a member of last year's Freshman Class and now a student at Campbell College in Buies Creek, is the editor of the campus newspaper, *Creek Pebbles*.

We Welcome Miss Sparks

Everyone gives a cordial welcome to Miss Louise Sparks, our new dietician. Miss Sparks names Ruffin, N. C., as her home, where her mother, father, sister and brother live. Prior to coming to Meredith she worked as country club hostess in Danville, Virginia. She also worked with the Slater System and as hostess at Verden's Restaurant in Danville. Traveling, food and young people are her special likes. Miss Sparks is versatile not only in foods, but she is also organist of her church. She says she loves Meredith and likes the friendliness of the girls. She urges everyone to come by and see her in 115 Vann and bring any suggestions about the food with them.

VIENNA: 1955

By DR. ETHEL TILLEY
(Written Last Summer)

Russian women in Vienna, I am told, have been offering about three thousand dollars apiece for Austrian husbands. A law forbids such a marriage. Russian ladies must reluctantly accompany their menfolk past the iron curtain.

I see a few Russian soldiers standing guard. I ride through Stalinplatz. The terminus of one tram line is *Brücke der Roten Armee*, Bridge of the Red Army. The Soviet Information Office is still open; I have made no inquiries. Russian occupation still keeps tourists out of one or two attractive castles.

Some Austrians are not happy over the treaty. "Will America help us if we are attacked?" they ask. Yet Austrian pride over regained independence is great.

The hotel on Rooseveltplatz in which I am staying represents the three aspects of Vienna in 1955: ancient splendor, ruins of war, modern renovation. The old elevator is *kaput*, the new one not yet operating. I walk up the long stairs of a former palace of the Count of Liechtenstein. Past piles of lumber and walls open to pipes and wiring, past decorated double doors opening into enormous bedrooms with plaster-and-gold cherubs on the ceiling for overhead, I go to a small room with brand-new bed, bedding, acoustic ceiling, and electric and plumbing fixtures.

In Vienna one sees the room in which Emperor Karl I signed away Habsburg power in 1918. But one sees also the room in which Napoleon's only legitimate son died at twenty-one, and one sees the legendary crown of Charlemagne, admitted by even cautious historians to be the oldest crown in the world, having weighed down on the heads of emperors for over a thousand years.

Nearby are the show windows of department stores as modern as New York. But no hats to crown the heads of Austrian ladies. I have seen only a few rather fuddy-duddy hats on a few rather fuddy-duddy heads.

The Burgtheater is hidden by scaffolding. The Staatsoper is "swallowing up" (tourist literature English) the last of ten million dollars' worth of repairs. The opera will open in November with Beethoven's *Fidelio*. Vienna has two opera companies normally producing operas ten months a year, two symphony orchestras, and chamber music groups.

Of the forty theaters thirty-eight are closed in August, and one presents a variety show featuring a rician. The Josefstadt, with reputation for the best plays, is packed night for a new comedy by

SHAKESPEARE ON EXAMS

Cramping at 7 a.m.: "It is not for your health thus to commit your weak condition to the raw cold morning." — *Julius Caesar*.

The Green Room

By MARGARET TUCKER

Although it is not my usual custom to refer you to moving pictures in this column, I feel that the past year has produced several movies worthy of note for dramatic content, music, excellent acting, originality, or beauty. Among these are *Marty*, *I Am a Camera*, *Trial*, *Gate of Hell*, *Night of the Hunter*, and *Guys and Dolls*. Reflecting upon the past few years in movie-making history, I find that they have been, on the whole, years of fairly consistent improvement in entertainment. For a while, the only question was which was worse, television or moving pictures. Now the two media have entered into competition in which the winner is the viewer or the movie-goer; we see more artistically valuable drama at this time than in previous years.

At this point, some critics hold that a deathbed groan is heard from Broadway, that the success of the legitimate theatre is suffering from the success of its more easily accessible competitors. It is true that Broadway is suffering; but not because of television and movies as much as from the present economy of the nation, which makes the production of each Broadway play so expensive that a show *must* play to a full house, *every* night, or fold!

Fritz Eckhardt, *Rendezvous in Wien*. The uninterrupted hilarity of the audience broke my heart over my limited understanding of German, but I enjoyed every moment of the superb acting.

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