

Another Species of Angel Child

TELEPHONE JOB OFFERS ROMANCE?

By KAY ELIZABETH JOHNSON

Have you picked up the 'phone on your hall to hear the sweet-toned voice of some young woman saying, "Ah-pah-ray-ter"? This young woman and her sisters in occupation are another species of angel child known as telephone operators. More than anything else—monetary pressure included—the lure of adventure and the unknown attracts these dulcet-voiced young ladies to their job. Of course, the mundane requests of "Outside, please" and "TE 3-4522, please" hold little attraction. The possibility, though, of a strange, attractive masculine voice accidentally calling for a fictitious person so the owner can talk to the operator on duty is the attraction which draws most girls to the small, secluded room in Johnson Hall. Just think, wouldn't it be romantic to meet your future husband through the telephone?

Requirements for the job are stiff. The voice must be just right. You'd never imagine how many inflections are needed. Knowledge of other people's voices is also important—that is, the ability to distinguish between faculty and student voices—so she can know when to say "Yeh-yah" or "Yes, ma'am."

Patience is another virtue required of this species of angel child. If you aren't familiar with the setup, this is it. When 'phones are picked

up, tiny lights warn the operator. Taking them in the order that they came on, she answers the light calls. Patience is needed most when some inconsiderate person—faculty or student—clicks the plunger making the light come off and on with disconcerting clicks. Also, when calls come in fast and furiously, there is danger of suicide among the operators—especially between 7:30 and 8:30 on Saturday nights. Be more considerate to these poor, sometimes frustrated, angel children.

The ability to sit for long periods of time—sometimes for three hours—is helpful.

A sense of humor is important when things go wrong and entertaining when there is leisure. One operator has been accused of enlivening dull hours by answering in different accents. For instance, a junior—whose name I will withhold—was startled by a distinctly Chinese voice murmuring "This is Hong Kong. To which coolie would you like to speak?" No one knows if this be true or a figment of the said junior's demented mind.

Just be reminded. Be kind to the telephone operator species of angel child. A strike for better treatment would be a catastrophe.

BEHIND THE SCENES

... WE RECOGNIZE JO ROBINSON

Until last spring one member of our student body was employed in Naval Air Intelligence for the United States Air Force. Although she worked in the Pentagon, Jo Robinson didn't let Uncle Sam take all her time, and she spent part of it working as a model.

In the spring of 1956, Jo decided that she wanted a college degree. In preparation for starting to school in the fall, she went to Wake Forest to summer school. There, undecided as to where she would complete her college work, Jo met some girls from Meredith. These girls soon became convinced that Jo Robinson should come to their school.

Luckily for us, they must have been convincing, for in the fall of this year Jo registered for Meredith College Orientation Week. Since then, she has been active on campus, and in the recent election she was chosen secretary of the B.S.U. Yet this isn't all of Jo's story—she enjoys horseback riding, civic music, parties, and people, and she admits a weakness for foreign foods and Pullen do-nuts.

Jo plans a major somewhere in the field of humanities. She says that having worked among many different types of people, she still prefers the South and is proud to be called a "rebel."

In this issue, the TWIG proudly recognizes Jo Robinson—the girl behind the scenes.

P. S. Have you seen the new TV in the Hut? For this a big "Thank you" goes to our girl behind the scenes.

DEBATE TEAMS ON CAMPUS

On Tuesday, April 9, Meredith was host to debaters from the high schools near Raleigh. On arrival, the visitors went to the rotunda where Jimmie Rucker and Faye Locke received them and helped them draw places and times for debating.

The debates were held in Joyner Hall with the following as judges: Dr. Knight, Mrs. Marsh, Dr. Syron, Miss Bell, Dr. Canaday, Miss Grimmer, Miss Baity, Dr. Crook, Dr. Peacock, Mrs. Collins, Dr. Lemmon, and Dr. John Yarbrough.

Roxboro had the winning teams—both affirmative and negative. These teams will enter the competition at the University of North Carolina.


In the afternoon, the Hut was open to the high school visitors, judges, and Meredith student officials.

ALL YEAR LONG A YOUNG GIRL'S FANCY ...

By NANCY McGLAMERY

'Twas a little past midnight, And although that's quite late, Most angels were stirring, Coming in from their dates. But I was all settled And ready for sleep When way down the hall, I heard the first shriek. It began with a scream And soon grew to a shout. Then from each door Two heads peeked out. The pounding of feet I then heard in the hall, And the clamor grew louder With laughter and calls; And though I was drowsy, I couldn't hold back The urge to crawl out Of my snugly warm sack. So away down the hall I flew with the rest, To see which dear angel child Now had been blessed. I followed the crowd 'Til I joined in the sighs That surrounded the new sweetheart Of the Sigma Chis.

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