

## CHARLOTTE COLLEGIAN

Published monthly throughout the school year by the students of CHARLOTTE COLLEGE, Charlotte, North Carolina.

## STAFF

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## STUDENT COUNCIL ELECTION CLOSE RACE



On April 15th Charlotte College had one of the finest turn-outs for Primary Elections of Student Council officers that has ever been experienced. The voting resulted in a close tie between the Booster's Party and the Student's Party. In the Final Elections three of the Students won out, along with one Booster. Heading up the Student Council as president for 1955-56 will be Billy June Reed, and Ralph Abercrombie as vice-president. William Vicery was elected as treasurer, and the female representation will be kept alive by secretary, Kanela Maydanis.

Chairman of the Elections Committee, Bill Foust, reported that there was an outstanding participation, with approximately ninety persons voting at each election, and that the race was a close one all the way. There seemed to be an unusually wide-spread interest in the election, and much school spirit was displayed among the students. The choice of selecting their leaders for the next school year was a hard one for the students to make, with all candidates being so well-qualified.

The Elections Committee is to be congratulated for the fine way in which it handled the elections. Plans are now in progress for the forthcoming elections of editors and business managers of the school annual, *Si Si*, and the newspaper, *Charlotte Collegian*. Let's all help make this election as interesting as the last, so that we may look with confidence to the leaders of our next school year.

## LIFE AT C. C.

Well, there is a lot of talk going on now concerning the enlargement and state support of Charlotte College. All of this is fine and we all hope to enlarge and improve our institution. The C. C. that I'll remember, however, is the small school of some 225 full time students who work and go to school.

I can't help walking down the halls and speaking to my friends and realizing that they are certainly a group that should be looked up too. Working and going to school is no crip man, but the students at Charlotte College are not all work and no play.

I'll always remember the coffee hours where all the students go together to discuss their social affairs. The dances are surely events that will always linger with me. Our assemblies are also a highlight of the school's activities. Then, of course, comes the basketball games. This is my favorite. The scene at the Piedmont gym where some ten boys spent most of their winter nights. Game night would roll around

and only a few of the students would be at the game, but this didn't keep these ten boys from going all out to bring honor and prestige to their beloved institution.

Yes, whether it be the classwork, the dances, or the basketball games; my life at Charlotte College will reign with me forever. And if you don't think it is going to be hard to say good-bye to this place, you have surely got another think coming.

## SI SI

All of us are very proud of our fine annual that was put out this year by Jim Fitzgerald and his staff. The annual was dedicated to the citizens of Charlotte, North Carolina. This dedication was made to show the citizens of Charlotte how much we appreciated the financial assistance they gave to the school last year. We all hope that the receivers of this dedication will enjoy the honor about one-half as much as we are enjoying our fine yearbook.

## THE LIFE OF MAHATMA GANDHI

BY LOUIS FISCHER  
Harper & Brothers  
New York: 1950

Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi was one of the greatest men of our times. He gave his whole life to the people of India.

In his biography *The Life of Mahatma Gandhi*, Louis Fischer has made clear not only the greatness and holiness of this extraordinary man but also his warmth and humanness. This biography, the first complete one of the Mahatma, acquaints the Western reader with India and helps us to understand Gandhi. Mr. Fischer is well qualified as the biographer of Gandhi inasmuch as he has traveled extensively through Europe and Asia on roving assignments for the *New York Post* and is one of the outstanding authorities on India. He knew Gandhi personally and through research uncovered revealing material about the Mahatma.

Mohandas Gandhi was born into a middle class Indian family on October 2, 1869. After attending school in India, he managed to go to London and obtain a law degree at one of the four institutions called the Inns of Court. Not very long after returning to India, he went to South Africa on a case. There he saw the injustices done to his countrymen: consequently, he spent the next twenty years of his life in South Africa fighting for Indian rights. There, too, his "passive resistance" move—"a new kind of mass-yet-individual opposition to government unfairness"<sup>1</sup> — took shape. Returning home he strove to unite the Hindus and Moslems, to acquire equality for the "untouchables," the lowly people who did not belong to any of the four castes in India, and to abolish child marriage (he himself was married at the age of 13 to a girl his parents chose.) He believed the Indians must unite before they could acquire independence from

England. The road to independence was a long, difficult one, he discovered. He spent a great deal of time in jail, which, incidentally, he used to good advantage by reading and studying some of the world's greatest literature. He traveled the country, helping his fellow man wherever and whenever he could and tried to teach the people non-violence and prepare them for the day India would be free of English rule. After thirty-two years of work the independence on August 15, 1947, proved to be a hollow victory for him. His people rejected his teachings, and chaos and disunity prevailed. He tried everything, including fasting, so that sanity might return to the people. He made progress, but before he could accomplish his goal, three bullets from an assassin's gun stilled the breath of Mahatma Gandhi. He died with "Oh, God," on his lips.

Gandhi's wife is portrayed as a quiet, loving, solicitous woman who always kept in the background, although she had a personality and mind of her own. Gandhi's sons are seldom mentioned. The other characters in the biography—Gandhi's friends and associates—are many, but minor. This is solely a story about Mohandas Gandhi, and he is portrayed as a man whose main characteristic was his love for mankind. His every act proved this.

Most of the story takes place in India—an India Gandhi sought to change and an India that desperately wanted to be independent. Gandhi, however, realized his country was not prepared to undertake the task of self-governing at this time, P. 14C hence his constant striving to teach and prepare them.

Louis Fischer's treatment of Gandhi's life is forceful and inspirational. Every chapter makes evident the great admiration and love Mr. Fischer held for this outstanding man, whom many considered a saint. It is also evident how much the author understands India and Eastern ways.

I thoroughly enjoyed reading this

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<sup>1</sup>Louis Fischer. *The Life of Mahatma Gandhi*, p. 77.