

"O Memories  
That

# COLUMNS

Bless and  
Burn"

Volume II

LOUISBURG COLLEGE, LOUISBURG, N. C., FRIDAY, JUNE 11, 1943

Number 8



E. B. Ward, Jr.

## HARPIST TELLS OF ART AND EXPERIENCES

Miss Gertrude Hopkins with quite ready graciousness had granted the interview after her concert, ending with generous encore numbers, on Thursday evening, May 13.

Miss Hopkins spoke of the great amount of preparation that the average concert harpist experiences, as incalculable. She said that she herself practiced four hours a day and, when not on tour, even more.

She told of the care of her hands and the caution she must take not to keep them in water for any length of time and not to allow her fingernails to grow long. One especially interesting fact she mentioned about herself as a harpist was that she was left-handed, and that her left-handedness was an advantage in her harp playing. Of the various masters with whom she has studied she spoke especially of Marcel Grandjany, whom she called "magnificent."

She is on the faculty of Berbey College, New York, and has done a considerable amount of church work. (Continued on page four)

### PRAYER

"May our teachers and the curricula of our schools keep close to the Teacher and the teachings of the Master Teacher.

"May our college be known not only in our midst but elsewhere for its emphasis upon the precepts and teachings of the Great Teacher of Light.

"Enlighten the minds and purify the hearts and lives of the students, so that they may go out into this new world ready and consecrated for large and fruitful work.

"Lord, who art the light, the Way, the Truth, the Life... the Light without which there is darkness, the Way without which there is error; the Life without which there is Death—help us to see the way and avoid wandering; see Truth and shun error; see life and escape death. Illumine our minds in all things, and direct our feet in the ways of Peace."—From The Reverend A. P. Brantley's prayer at the graduation.

## "THE OAK IS HERE"

Campus strolls and tennis games were interrupted near 7 p.m., May 19, for great news, long awaited, had arrived.

"The annuals have come!"

"The Oak has come!"

"Who said so? Really?"

Students rushed in from all the walks, up the front steps, past the postoffice, through all entrances, down to the English office. They scrambled, shouted, hurried, and hollered.

Someone said, "Hey, let's get in line," and they did; although no one could understand how.

Sue Margaret and Mac stood at the door. One by one the books were given out and the names checked off by Sue and Sara, as students filed out the crowded doors. The noise had certainly not subsided, only changed to shrieks, gasps, and laughter now.

"Who has a pen?"

"Wait, I want you to sign in my book."

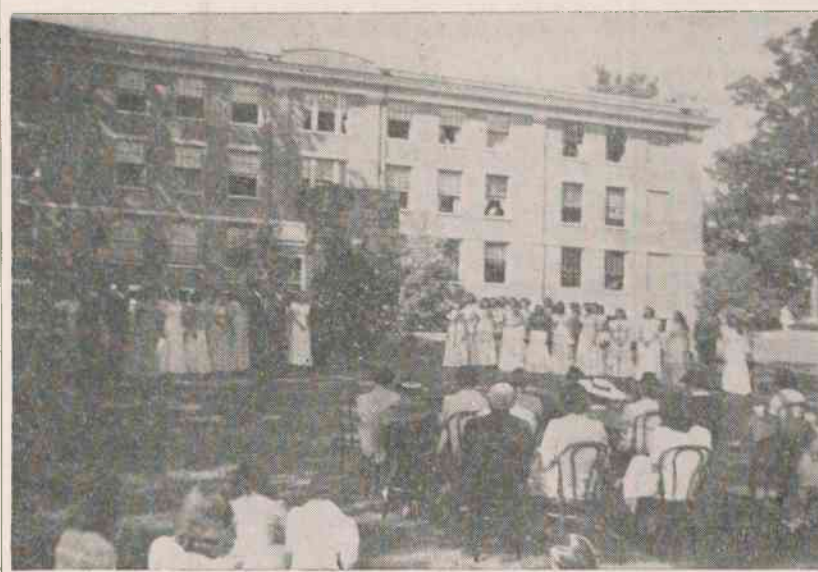
"Won't you write in my annual?"

Confusion galore! Here, there, and everywhere — writing in annuals, borrowing pens, crowding into corners, jamming stairs, filling up steps, and again—writing in annuals. Whoever wished to go outside by way of the porch from the English office might have to climb over annuals, pens, and heads, or tunnel his way through stone steps. Indeed, outside was a panorama of annuals, well suited to an action shot.

The seven o'clock bell had the hardest time ever, starting a study hour that evening; but the difficult feat was finally accomplished—in part.

One student finally queried, "Who ever started writing in annuals, anyway?"

## Commencement Features Varied Events



E. B. Ward, Jr.

CLASS DAY ON WEST CAMPUS, 1943.

### President and Mrs. Patten Entertain

President and Mrs. Patten entertained at tea in the president's home on Sunday afternoon, May 23, in honor of the graduating class, alumni, faculty, student body, and friends of the college. Guests were received in the garden and in the house by the hosts and members of the faculty. Miss Lula Mae Stipe presided at the punch bowl placed along with attractive cakes and candies on the dining table covered with lace cloth. College marshals—Eaton Holden, Elizabeth Harris, Thomas Helms, and Shirley Smith served in the dining hall.

Out-of-town guests were the Reverend and Mrs. Allen P. Brantley, (Continued on page four)

### Alumnae-Alumni Banquet Offers Interest

The annual alumnae-alumni banquet was held in the college dining hall Saturday evening, May 22.

The Reverend E. H. Davis gave the invocation, after which Mrs. Maurice S. Clifton, president of the Alumnae-Alumni Association, gave words of welcome. Mrs. Florence Egerton Underhill responded to the welcome.

Miss Rose Malone gave two enjoyable vocal numbers, Mrs. O. Y. Yarborough accompanying at the piano. Mr. W. H. Yarborough, Louisburg lawyer, gave an address. He told of what Louisburg College stood for and meant to him personally and reminisced of days that he had spent on the campus. He humorously related heart throbs of bygone days and ended the address by reading a poem he had written to the ten women of the senior class of 1891.

Martha Ann Strowd, in a quiet and impressive manner, then dedicated the service flag with 135 blue stars in honor of the alumnae-alumni in service, and a gold star for Bill Waters, Wilmington, whose life was sacrificed in the cause. Mr. Moon then sang an appropriate song. (Continued on page four)

### Student Singers Present Recital

Three students of the Music Department, Josephine Lassiter, Jane Moon, and J. E. Norris, Jr., began the 1943 commencement program by being presented by I. D. Moon, director of music, in a vocal recital. They were accompanied by Margaret White of Norlina.

Josephine Lassiter sang "Arise, Shine" by Spicker, "Florian Song" by Godard, "Out of My Soul's Great Sadness" and "Dedication" by Franz, and "Sandman is Calling" by Roberts.

Jane Moon included in her selections, "Rose Softly Blooming" by Spohr, "Eye Hath Not Seen" by Gaul, "Rose in My Garden" by Courtney, "Nocturne" by Densmore, and "The Pipes of Fairyland" by Vaughan.

John Norris sang "Rantin' Rovin' Robin," a Scotch folk song; "Magic of Your Eyes" by Penn, and "Sea Fever" by Andrews.

The three gave as trio numbers "America" by Carey, "Sleepy Hollow Tune" by Kountz, and "In Silent Night," a Subian folk song.

The recital was spoken of as unusually pleasing and excellent.

### Louisburg Observes Finals After 156 Years Seniors Hold Class Day

Class Day began with "Alma Mater" played as processional for the program May 22, directed by Miss Julia Brown Hudgins, class sponsor.

Sue Margaret Harris gave the salutatory, characterized by a note of appreciation.

McNeil Ipock followed with the class history, recreating the varied campus life of the past two years with its phases of both seriousness and fun. Martha Ann Strowd read the class poem, which said, though the world was old, it lay before youth that was new.

The class song (words by Billy Andrews, written to the tune of "Farewell to Thee") was sung, expressing appreciation of the college.

Sara Hux read the prophecy presenting a cleverly woven story, dated 1968, when the class of '43 with here and there slightly silvered locks, in married or still unmarried estate, and under lucky or less lucky stars, was supposed to gather for a reunion on Louisburg campus. The gamut of their fortunes was narrated as well as the description of Louisburg of twenty-five years hence, domiciled in its glass buildings. Claude Stainback read the last will and testament, bequeathing the charms and foibles of the outgoing seniors to aspiring juniors.

Martha Ann Strowd gave the valedictory, likening life to volumes of books.

The music of "Alma Mater" was repeated as the recessional.

The setting of the program was attractive and meaningful with the bank of Dorothy Perkins roses arranged against the chimney of the old building of 1814, burned in 1928. The old chimney stands as the sole reminder of the quaint old frame building and now serves as a favorite spot for campus snapshots.

### President Patten Cites Challenge in Life Trust

"God has created the universe... that thinking, moral human beings may accept their trust and create dividends for the oncoming generations," said President Patten in his baccalaureate sermon at the Methodist Church on Sunday morning, May 23.

In emphasizing the concept of Jesus and of others as to the worth of the individual, he cited the fact of the low evaluation upon human life at the time of the birth of Jesus, when seventy per cent of the population was illiterate. (Continued on page three)

### DYNAMICS FROM PRESIDENT'S COMMENCEMENT MESSAGE

Your life is a trust, and that trust demands that you live—Co-operatively.

Creatively.

Adventurously.

You spin the cocoon in which you live.

Your life craft has been committed to you. Your hand is on the helm.

No one can live your life for you. The earth affords ample material and opportunities for the noblest life.

We cannot effectively live isolated lives as individuals or as a nation.

In whatever position in life you may find yourself, just remember that the situation is awaiting some creative mind to appear and improve the conditions.

The world is awaiting for the dividends that shall issue from your LIFE TRUST.



Courtesy Suddell Studio.

J. Wesley Gentry  
Brantley Medal Winner

Martha Ann Stroud  
Brantley Medal Winner  
Valedictorian

Sue Margaret Harris  
Salutatorian

The Reverend A. P. Brantley, member of the Board of Trustees, has given annually since the first award in 1940, the Brantley Medals to the students of the graduating class judged by faculty vote the best all-round man and the best all-round woman. The decision is made upon the basis of scholarship, personality and character, and participation in the campus organizations and life.

These medals were won this year by J. Wesley Gentry and Martha Ann Stroud, students so outstanding in achievement and leadership that, in a sense, surprise could hardly be possible. Wesley's record has shown an increasing excellence in scholarship, marked by a steady climb upward almost from the first of his entrance at Louisburg. Also, Wesley has achieved in an interesting variety of fields of interest. During his senior year he has been a member of the Y.M.C.A., of the Men's Student Council and of Phi Theta Kappa, advertising manager of *The Oak*, assistant in college publicity, president of Beta Phi Gamma and of the Dramatic Club, and editor-in-chief of *COLUMNS*.

Martha Ann Stroud was valedictorian, repeating the honor she won two years ago at Mills High School, Louisburg. She has stood high in her class throughout her two college years, graduating *magna cum laude*. During her senior year she has been president of Phi Theta Kappa, a member of the International Relations Club, literary editor of *COLUMNS*, a member of the Girls' Athletic Council, and president of the Girls' Athletic Association.

Sue Margaret Harris was salutatorian graduating *cum laude*. During her senior year she has been vice president of the Women's Student Council, a member of the Y.W.C.A., corresponding secretary of Phi Theta Kappa, a member of Beta Phi Gamma, vice president of the Dramatic Club, managing editor of *COLUMNS*, literary editor of *The Oak*, and a member of the Girls' Athletic Association.

This year for the first time the donor was present to award the medals; and, too, for the first time a winner in *absentia* received the award. J. Wesley Gentry missed by about thirty-six hours receiving, in time to be present, his discharge to inactive duty, from Fort Bragg, where he had been inducted into service April 24, exactly one month before.