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## THANKS - - - - HURRY BACK

The news we received upon our return from Christmas holidays of the tragic accident of our dietitian, Miss Janie Odom, was a shock and pain to all of us. We all have missed her a great deal since she has been gone. Our sincere desire is that our friend and many times comforter shall soon be able to come back and take her place of service for which we can never really express our gratitude. A portion of our hearts rest with you, Miss Odom; so accept our humble thanks and love as we await your return

We also wish to express our thanks to one who has filled the position of dietitian at Gardner-Webb very capably. Mrs. Davis, every student here at the College is very grateful to you for planning our meals and for your radiant personality for the last several weeks. Sometimes it is very hard for some of us to let you know how much we appreciate you, but in this small way we all say, "Thank you,"

### THE SMALL COLLEGE

DR P I FILIOTT President

In the preface to the 1948-49 volume of Who's Who in America the editors have made this significant statement:

> "That institutions of 300 students or less, and in the majority of cases, with small plants and endowments, can report four times as many Who's Who biographies per current student as the largest and richest educational institutions of the country, should be significant news to all interested in our small colleges and universities ard what they stand for in the American edu-cational scene."

These are indeed significant words, coming from this part'cular source. Too, they should give ballast, or confidence, to those who have chosen the small college over the large one. These words are especially true of the small private and denominational colleges, the junior college as much as the senior. There are several reasons behind this statement,

In the first place the small college offers the student, teachers who are thoroughly prepared and are devoting their entire time to teaching. Smaller classes and shorter hours make personal direction more certain. The curriculum is inclusive enough not to be narrow, but not wide enough to be thin. More personal attention can be given.

Often in our college we accept a transfer who is failing in one of the larger colleges or universities. He stays here two vears and returns to the original college in which he was fail-

ing to continue successfully to graduation.

The basic philosophy undergirding the small college ofter makes a wide difference in the total picture. For example, in a progressive county which has a small liberal arts college a survey was conducted among the high schools and college to ascertain the attitude of the young people toward our economic system. Significantly 15.5% of the high school seniors preferred a position that offered maximum service irrespective of salary or security, while 36% of the college seniors chose service to salary or security. A basic philosophy of the importarce of service perhaps makes a difference.

Our small liberal arts colleges privately owned and con-

trolled constitute the last stronghold of liberty. I have seen twice in my life all the tax supported schools of a state dropped from the accredited list of the Southern Association because a governor had interfered by firing presidents of colleges and placing politicians in their places. This could not have happen-ed without the private colleges. It is entirely likely that the state colleges will find themselves in the coils of political domination when they do not have the private college to preserve their freedom.

The most important aspect of the small college is its emphasis on individualism. The graduate should have some things phasis on individualism. The graduate should have some things he has thought out for himself. It is important to teach him how to think rather than what to think. "As a man thinketh in his heart so is he;" not what he thinks. This is not irreligi-ous, or disloyal. It is the highest religion. Thinking however ous, or disloyal. It is the highest religion, Thinking however is both difficult and dangerous. To think requires intelligence, and nothing less than creative thinking will satisfy a creative intelligence. Thinking, too, requires integrity. It both reveals character and creates that which is to be. It becomes likewise the fountain out of which conduct springs. Only straight people can think straight. The hope of our courtry is people who think and think straight until their thinking leads them to love the right and their love of the right becomes the sole basis of their actions. This is the supreme function of the small college.

### THE NEED FOR ----

In our nation's ever-increasing struggle to get along with the world the need for advanced education is evident. Problems confront the world that man in former years never dreamed would be facing it. The questions which have caused man strife and turmoil from the beginning of history are still not answered and are still the ones which must be answered if peace and world fellowship are to be achieved,

Let us ask ourselves in what realm it is that man must find a new knowledge or a new solution if he is to preserve this world from utter destruction. The amount of knowledge that car be obtained from the universe from a scientific point (Continued on Page 12)