



# The Skirl



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## Alumni Return For Homecoming

On Saturday, November 1, many of the Flora Macdonald alumnae will find themselves back at their alma mater for Homecoming Day.

The program will begin at twelve o'clock when the president of the Alumnae Association, Mrs. Phebe Emmons of Raleigh, calls the meeting to order. Dr. Marshall Scott Woodson of the College will give the invocation.

The speaker of the day will be Dr. A. C. Dawson, Jr. of Southern Pines. He has served the Southern Pines City Schools since 1937 as teacher, principal, and at present is serving as superintendent.

After the business meeting luncheon will be served in the college dining hall at one o'clock.

## Gustafson Heads Chapel Committee

The Chapel services here at Flora Macdonald are planned and organized by a chapel committee made up of several faculty members and a student representative. Mr. Robert M. Gustafson replaces Dr. Leslie Bullock as head of this committee. The committee is very dependent on the criticism and suggestions of the students.

Programs are planned with the ideas that they are to be worshipful, inspirational and informative. The chapel services are planned

around the suggestions presented it by both students and faculty. Chapel programs are planned at least a month in advance, but subject to change or revision at any time.

The following is a schedule of the chapel programs for the coming weeks.

October	
28	Malcolm Calhoun
30	Miss Bowen
31	Student Council
November	
4	Mr. St. Jacques
6	Home Missions
7	Mr. Williams
11	Sara Little A.T.S.
13	Anne Corry Glade Valley
14	Vacant
18	Societies
20	Conservatory
21	Science Club
25	Choral Club
December	
2	Dr. Johnson, Jr.
4	Home Economics Club
5	Wild Life Conservation
9	Dean Vardell
11	Conservatory
12	Vacant
16	Vacant
18	Reverend Black
19	Dean Vardell- Carol Sing

Miss Margaret Bowen, professor of Christian Education, will present highlights of her trip abroad last summer in her chapel service. The Student Council will present a program on the honor system.

In its effort at informing students about various vocations the committee has asked Mr. St. Jacques to talk on Guidance and Psychology as a field of work. Miss Sara Little from the Assembly's Training School in Richmond, Virginia will talk on Christian Education as a vocation. Dr. Johnson, Jr. will talk on medi-

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## Barter Theatre To Present "The Reluctant Debutante"

On Tuesday evening, October 28th, the famous Barter Theatre of Virginia will open the Flora Macdonald College concert lecture series for 1958-59 with its presentation of "The Reluctant Debutante", a play deeply rooted in British idiom and manner. The theme involves the annual rat-race in which mothers of the season's debutantes out-manuever each other in a desperate effort to land suitably select noblemen for their daughter's hands.

The Barter Theatre genesis dates back to the long, lean summer days of 1932. The birth of the theatre is a saga in itself; it is also the story of Robert Porterfield, the fertile-brained, energetic founder.

The sting of the depression hung over Broadway and Robert Porterfield found himself just another actor without a job. He could have retreated to his old home place in Glade Spring, but retreating is hardly up Mr. Porterfield's alley. Instead of brooding, he came up with one of the most original ideas in show business: a theatre for which admission would be paid in produce, produce of any kind in return for which the actors would provide entertainment.

The first season wound up in the black, on hand was \$4.30 in cash and quantities of jellies and jams.

From these humble beginnings, the group of ex-Broadway troupers opened new horizons and par-



Scene From "The Reluctant Debutante"

layed the edible kind of box office cabbage into the more flexible, folding variety.

Today, the Barter Theatre of Virginia is the largest professional company outside New York City, 600 miles from the Columbus Circle, in the heart of the Virginia Highlands, a tourist des-

Among the distinguished alumni who received their first training at the Barter Theatre include Gregory Peck, Charles Korvin, Patricia Neal, Lisbeth Scott, Frank Lovejoy, and Ernest Borguine.

## Dr. Vardell Well Known Among American Composers

Certainly Flora Macdonald can be proud of Dr. Charles G. Vardell, dean of the conservatory! Through his tremendous knowledge of music, he has gained respect and fame for both his compositions and performance.

One of Dr. Vardell's most celebrated works is his orchestral arrangement of "Joe Clark Steps Out". Many groups have included this on their program. It has been recorded in the album, "Fiesta in Hi-Fi", along with works of other contemporary American composers. The recording was done by Howard Hanson conducting the Eastman - Rochester Symphony Orchestra.

Another major work of Dr. Vardell's is "Symphony I in G Minor (Carolinian)". This has been performed by Eugene Ormandy and the New York Philharmonic Orchestra and other outstanding groups. Both the original score and the published edition of this work appeared in display in the F. M. C. Library the week of Dr. Vardell's faculty recital. The entire display was of much inter-

est to both faculty and students.

Another frequently performed composition of Dr. Vardell's is the cantata, "Song in the Wilderness", a musical setting for the poem written by Paul Green. In this same field, he has written "The Inimitable Lovers", a cantata based on Alfred Noyes' poem.

Among Dr. Vardell's choral works, we are perhaps more familiar with "Go, Lovely Rose" which was performed for the first time by the F. M. C. Choral Club at the home concert last spring. The group, under the direction of Mr. Skinner, was particularly proud to have this selection included on its spring tour program.

At Flora Macdonald it could easily be said that one of his most popular works is "Cookie Jar". This is a novelty piece for the piano which is played with the arms as well as the fingers.

These are only a few of Dr. Vardell's compositions, but through these we can begin to see the contribution he has made to the music of America.

## A. A. Plans Dance

The Athletic Association is planning to sponsor a square dance in the gym on November 1. The theme of the dance will be Halloween and decorations will include corn stalks, pumpkins, and other Halloween motifs.

Mr. Robert Buckner from Fayetteville will be caller for the square dances and there will also be some slow numbers and several folk dances.

Plans are being made to round up some stag boys and the A. A. would like to urge all of you to make plans to attend the dance.

## Prospective Students To Be Entertained

An important part of F. M. C.'s publicity program is the annual "House Party" or "Hospitality Weekend," an introduction to college life, this year on November 15-16. Miss Mary Ruth Matze, a former student of F. M. C. is field representative. In this capacity, she visits high schools in search of prospective students. Five hundred invitations have

been sent to such prospective students, and one hundred acceptances are anticipated.

A tentative schedule for Saturday's program of the "Hospitality Weekend" is as follows:

Gathering of the clan in the auditorium at 1:30, for introduction of the faculty, a short history of F. M. C., and Highland dances.

Tour of the campus at 2:30.

Volleyball game at 3:30.

Buzz groups in the parlors at 7:00 for general information about the college.

Societies' entertainment of Highland Players' play at 9:00

Rotunda prayer bands at 11:45.

## Graduate Fellowships Deadline October 31

The Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation announces in its 1958-1959 program of 1,000 fellowships in the humanities, and in the social and natural sciences, to encourage undergraduates now in their senior year to undertake graduate work in order to enter the college teaching profession. As a new feature, a limited number of graduate fellowships will (Continued on Page 2)

## Highland Players Open With "Outward Bound"

On November 14-15, Highland Players will present, "Outward Bound." This outstanding play by Sutton Vane enjoyed a distinguished run on Broadway a few years ago. Mr. Thomas Johnson will direct the play with Phyllis Ratcliffe as student assistant.

The scene of the play is an ocean liner lounge. Not one of the passengers on this liner knows how he got there or where he is going. This play gives a very effective study in characterization.

The cast is as follows: Ann, Sybil Moore; Henry, George Paris; Mrs. Midget, Faye Joyner; Mrs. Cliveden-Banks, Shirley Thomas; Stella Prior, Nancy Campbell; Rev. Duke, Bud Johnson; Scrubby, Jimmy Guy; and Mr. Lingley, Mr. Clifton. A male part the Examiner has not yet been cast.

The Committees have been set up with the following chairmen: Publicity-Program, Marilyn Layton; Business-Ushers-Costumes, Becky Whetstone; Make-up, Marilyn McGrath and Carol Harriss; Property, Judy Rembert; and Scenery, Rosalynde Gibson.