

The Salemite

(Member of the North Carolina Press Association.)

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THE BLUES

So I asked her
How it happened
That she always seemed
To be in a good humor
And always grinning
And never worrying.
And her answer was:
We all learn our lessons
As we go thru life;
And after a girl
Gets to be a college woman
She's bound to have
Her share of troubles
And also her worries
Because it's so ordained.
And there's no girl
Who can rid herself
Of her responsibilities.
And one of the first things
That I learned
After reaching Salem
Was the uselessness
Of all these blues.
For they neither aided me
Nor aided others.
And I've had my share
Of work and tough luck
And there have been times
When my own particular sky
Has been dark with clouds
But always I've found
A bright spot
Somewhere in the heavens
And if I looked hard enough
I'd surely find it.
And if I kept on looking
Before very long
That bright spot grew
Until it had spread
All over the sky
And all was fair again;
And I thought that was good enough
To put in The Salemite
Don't you?

—(Adapted.)

IN THE SPRING A MAIDEN'S FANCY—

In the spring a maiden's fancy always turns to "house-cleaning." Doubtless this laudable and symbolical custom was introduced by our thrifty Puritan grandmothers. It has successfully withstood the attacks of time, and still exists despite the growing tendency to do away with all drudgery. But wait—this isn't "drudgery." Oh, no! It is as natural as May flowers and just as pleasant. When the sun begins to drive away the winter snows, and the March wind howls with rage because it is to be shut away in the dark somewhere, like a naughty child, till winter comes again, and when the birds begin to sing, and the buds begin to burst, don't you just feel "in your bones" that you've just got to tear things up and put them back again?

It gets us all—this spring-cleaning fever; both the willing and unwilling eventually succumb. The rejuvenation of nature is very contagious, and any girl who isn't planning to wade in with a will and make her alcove fairly shine with cleanliness and attractiveness is hereby warned to stay strictly indoors and muffle her ears.

DO YOU KNOW?

What's the idea in keeping Lent?

This word brings to most of us merely a picture of forbidden pleasures; and we do not seek to find the underlying motive, which is truly noble. Its purpose is to encourage and stimulate serious thought about the serious things of life, and the "for-bidden pleasures" is merely symbolical of our renunciation during this time of all things frivolous and shallow. Few of us really think about our religion. It is handed to us pre-digested and pre-arranged from the time we are babies, and we take it for granted; so that instead of being a beautiful truth that is born within ourselves, by our own meditation, and therefore something distinctly personal, it is something acquired, from without, the fruit of another's labors, accepted, unquestioned.

This search and analysis of the fundamental truths of life should continue throughout the year, but it is particular fitting during this particular time, during which, one thousand, eight hundred and ninety-one years ago, the Greatest Thinker the world has known was going through the most critical period of his life.

ANOTHER VIEW OF THE MATTER

There seems to be some opposition on the part of the faculty to our 80%-exam-exemption-for-seniors drive. If this exemption were to affect the entire student body, and if its primary object were to raise scholastic standing and encourage thorough daily preparation, we would quite agree with them that the rating should be higher. But this exemption is proposed for the benefit of the average senior.

It is evident that the spring season is very trying on those who are to graduate, and it is generally agreed that an exemption of seniors from the spring examinations would be advisable. Therefore it is plain to be seen that the aim of the proposed exemption is not to raise scholastic standing—though it undoubtedly would—but to relieve a deplorable situation. The average senior is not an A student. The suggested 80% is high enough to include the average senior and low enough to encourage those on the border line to pull their work up.

We sincerely hope that a favorable action will be taken in this direction in the near future.

HERE'S ANOTHER CHANCE

The Inter-Collegiate Press Association is a wide awake, progressive organization, and the Salemite was very fortunate in having a fore-sighted editor-in-chief whose activities put it on the band wagon. Here's another chance to put Salem College and The Salemite in the limelight. The Association has planned a contest to take place in the early spring, and the colleges represented, and especially the winner, will be greatly benefitted. Each contestant is to hand in three articles—an editorial, a feature story, and a social item—to his or her editor-in-chief who will forward them to the judges. The student who wins in this contest will be given much publicity in the publications of the various members of the association, which will mean much to his or her paper and college. Rally-round, and let's win this new honor for Salem, which she well deserves.

ACCORDING TO CUSTOM

Salem College has many beautiful customs. However, one of the most impressive is a series of Lenten organ recitals given by Dean Shirley in Memorial Hall every Thursday afternoon during the Lenten season. Dean Shirley selects with great care organ compositions by the best known composers. This is a rare opportunity which every girl should seize and make the most of, in order to make her college career more complete in every sense of the word.

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