

# The Salemite

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## EDITORIALS

### CHRISTMAS SEALS TO BE SOLD

Only one week and four days until the Christmas vacation begins, and what numerous things can be crowded into those few days. What would Christmas be without its rush and bustle, its red and green, its cards and ribbons and seals? As to seals, they are surely an adequate means of manifesting that pervading spirit of Christmas, and of sending others a sense of cheerfulness. Every letter must be sealed with them, and no package must depart without them.

There are only two days during which these Red Cross seals are to be sold at Salem; only until Monday does the opportunity last. The president of each class has appointed a committee which will have charge of the sale and which will report the results in Chapel Tuesday morning.

Of course each class vies with all others in being the first to report 100%, but beneath this friendly rivalry there is a deeper meaning. Each class wants to "go over the top" not only for the novelty but also for the very real benefits which even the smallest investment procures. During the Christmas season there is a deeper feeling of sympathy for those who are ill and helpless, and a greater desire to do everything possible for them. These seals, though small luxuries in which all indulge, serve a great cause and are worthy of strict attention. The average number assigned to each girl is very small and there is no reason why Salem should not go 100%.

† † †

### HOCKEY AGAIN TAKES PLACE OF INTEREST

It seemed almost impossible three years ago that a game so newly started could make such tremendous strides in assuming a foremost place in the list of sports, but hockey has passed beyond all expectations in the pure fun it presents. Of course it allows a large number of players to take part and of course the exercise is splendid, but who ever thinks of those advantages when the teams are on the field and the ball is in play?

For many years basket ball has held first place at Salem, but hockey now runs it a close second. Even before the final basket ball games were played questions of "When will hockey begin?" were to be heard on all sides.

Last week when the pictures were taken on the field, requests to begin immediately were made; the old players were eager to resume the practices of last year, and the new ones were anxious to try their skill in the contest. Interest and enthusiasm are at their height; let us continue to keep them there.

† † †

A ray of light gleams upon the darkness surrounding those dreaded mysteries, intelligence tests. More and more they assume importance; neither the three nor the seventy-three year old is exempt from their tell-tale results.

It is pleasant to learn of the mental ability of those around us, but when it comes to personalities, that is a different matter. With careful secrecy the I. Q. is guarded until by some fatal step it is revealed and we are classed with the morans, which class after all seems rather popular.

And then—we find that here is a rule which does not work both ways, and which, moreover, works only the right way. Princeton reports are reassuring in that they state that low grades do not necessarily represent poor or even mediocre brains, but that high marks unerringly indicate excellent mental ability. In other words, low grades may be due to many causes other than lack of ability.

Although intelligence tests are generally unpopular with those to whom they are given, they are rapidly becoming a basis for grading. Criticism of innovations is always in evidence, and psychology with its many discoveries and experiments has not escaped unbelief. Intelligence tests are still considered more or less a joke, but joke or no joke they are becoming of great importance throughout the country. And yet, we maintain that it is a comfort to know that it is only mental ability and not lack of it which is measured.

## POSTURE

(By MIRIAM BRIETZ)

This theme, written by Miss Miriam Brietz during the S. U. S. Campaign conducted by the Physical Education Department, was selected as the best among those turned in by College students.

Posture is distinctively an attribute of mankind. Nobody ever thinks about the posture of a pig or a chicken or an elephant. Posture must affect, then, some quality which man possesses and which the lower animals do not. It does. That quality is the mind—the spirit. The habitual position of the body influences vitally one's whole life and character. This can be best proved by example. Look at any vagrant on the street—beggar, tramp, or just plain "bum," and it will be found practically impossible to see one with head thrown back and shoulders erect. The vagrants all droop. They are mundane persons who stare at the sidewalk beneath, instead of at the blue sky above or at the faces of men on a level. They look down—and they stay down. They never rise, in affairs either worldly or spiritual. If one believes in a hereafter, it would probably be safe to say that in future life they will continue to go down.

On the other hand look at the great people of history: Napoleon, Bismarck, Cromwell, Washington. No one ever saw any of them affect a "tea-hound droop." They were men who accomplished things—open-faced, straightforward, and upright. Think for a minute of the famous women: Cleopatra, Anne of Austria, Queen Elizabeth, Mary Queen of Scots. Egypt's charmer never accomplished her ravages among masculine hearts by a "subdeb slouch." The three queens did not rule their brilliant courts with down-bent backs and drooping heads. They were straight, inside and out. It is difficult to be quite certain which is cause and which is effect, but nevertheless it is an undeniable fact that success and good posture usually go together.

Aside from the psychological effects of a crooked body, the resulting ill health is also vastly important. Observing the skeletons of a man and of a gorilla, one may see that the chief difference in structure, other than in the shape of the skull, is in the curved backbone and the hollowed chest of the gorilla. The tendency to "flop" goes back to pre-human days. When we give way to it, we suggest that we are less than human. Drooping shoulders compress the chest and weaken the lungs, and thereby they affect the whole body physically and subtract an amazing amount from the mental capacity. The erect man is constructive, a useful member of society, a respecter of himself and others; the crooked one is destructive, of doubtful value to the world, a coward, and a cheat.

## SOCIALS

Miss Golda Cline spent Thanksgiving at her home in Asheville.

Misses Elsie Harris and Margaret Peery went to Davidson College for the week-end.

Misses Ruth Piatt and Maxine Wilkerson spent the week-end at their home in Durham.

Miss Mary Ragsdale spent the week-end at Jamestown.

Miss Ethel Cox spent the week-end at Asheboro.

Miss Maud Welsh spent the week-end at Charlotte.

## PRESIDENT'S FORUM COMPILES SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

The President's Forum has compiled a schedule of the meetings of the various classes and organizations on the campus. This calendar is as follows:

Student Self Government Association—Council meeting, Thursday, 5:00 P. M.; Regular business meeting, first Monday of month, 1:30 P. M.

Y. W. C. A.—Cabinet meeting, Wednesday, 6:30 P. M.; Regular meeting, Friday, 6:30 P. M.

Salemite Staff—Monday, 9:30 P. M.

Annual Staff—Tuesday, 9:30 P. M.

Freshman Class—First Tuesday of month, 6:30 P. M.

Sophomore Class—First Tuesday of month, 6:30 P. M.

Junior Class—First Tuesday of month, 6:30 P. M.

Senior Class—First and Third Tuesdays of month, 6:30 P. M.

French Club—Fourth Thursday of month, 6:30 P. M.

## COLORED WORKER SPEAKS AT Y. W. C. A. VESPER SERVICE

Adele Ruffin, a national colored Y. W. C. A. worker, spoke at the vesper service of last Sunday afternoon. Her address was a forceful appeal for a better understanding between the two races.

She said that a recognition of this need of mutual understanding came even before the exodus of Negroes from the south. She mentioned the fact that both Georgia and Tennessee had been pioneers in this, and told of an interesting experiment carried on in Nashville, Tennessee, where white and negro students studied the problems of each other.

She asked that, while publicity was given to all the failures and mistakes of the negroes, recognition also be given their improvements and achievements. Although many negroes have gone north, the majority of them have stayed in the southern states. She said, in addition, that it was the earnest desire of these negroes to work out for themselves, as a different people with a distinct work, their own destiny. They wish only an understanding of their situation and acknowledgement of their progress.

## HOCKEY SEASON FOLLOWS CLOSE UPON BASKET BALL AND VOLLEY BALL

The basket ball and volley ball season has come and gone with its laurels both lost and won. It is hard, in a way, to think of it as being over but with hockey coming to take its place, little more can be desired. Hockey, as a sport, is not much older at Salem than volley ball but if its age could be measured by enthusiasm no one would guess the fact. It is already a close rival of basket ball and promises even more in the future. It will be interesting to the players to learn that this year shin guards are to be provided and it is hoped that they will greatly facilitate the playing. At the first practice called on last Monday afternoon, December the third, almost every class had a full team, which fact foretells hard fought and enthusiastic games when the finals are played. To the teams who lost in the basket ball championship, this ought to be a big challenge for the secret of all success lies in perseverance and practice. So let the motto of every player be, "I will not put off until the next practice what I can do in this."

## EXCHANGES

In an essay contest recently initiated by the building committee of the new Durham Hotel, W. T. Couch, a junior in the University, won a ten dollar prize for writing the second best essay on "Why Durham Needs a New Million Dollar Hotel." The first prize of \$20 was won by a Durham citizen.

Davidson has grown from a college of sixty-six students to one of the largest "small colleges" with an enrollment of 577. Eighty-six years have been spent in human investment. The lines and characters of men are being moulded and fashioned for our great mission—service.

Ten members of the Senior Class of Trinity College were duly initiated into the Beta Chapter of North Carolina of the Phi Beta Kappa Fraternity. The average of six successive terms must total at least ninety before a student is admitted into the scholarship fraternity. The Phi Beta Kappa Fraternity was founded at William and Mary College on December 5, 1776, by fifty founders. At present there are ninety-nine chapters of the fraternity scattered over the United States. Some of the most distinguished persons America has ever produced were members of the Phi Beta Kappa Fraternity.

The contract has been let and work is now well under way on the excavation for the Frank Thompson Gymnasium to be erected at State College, Raleigh. The total cost of the building, exclusive of equipment, is \$215,700, and it will be an equal of the finest gymnasium in the south.

The North Carolina section of the Society for the Promotion of Engineering Education was formed a few weeks ago and the first meeting meeting was held at State College, Raleigh.

Mr. Frank Page, Chairman of the State Highway Commission, addressed the society on the functions of an engineering school in relation to the training of engineers.

The Society for the Promotion of Engineering Education has recently been given \$108,000 by the Carnegie Corporation for the purpose of making a study and investigation of education in engineering.

## FRESHMEN ENTERTAINED THURSDAY BY COUNCIL

"We all agree that your probation has been of lengthy, hard duration So Thursday afternoon In the Recreation room The Council hopes to celebrate its cessation. The hour is five and the object's fun So do your best and all of you come."

This was the invitation the Freshmen Class received Wednesday afternoon and great was the rejoicing when it was read. The Freshmen went in full force to the Recreation room where members of the Council were at the doors to welcome them as they entered.

Miss Irma Heaton furnished the music while many of the girls danced; others played "Buzz" and "No Sir, Not I Sir." Then the refreshments! Each plate had the cheery appearance of the approach of Christmas; some had as a favor a Christmas bell, and others a jelly of Santa Claus.

The party was a decided success both on its immediate enjoyment and in the fact that it celebrated the end of probation.