

The Salemite

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Something to Think About

He that has light within his own clear breast
May sit 't the centre and enjoy bright days;
But he that hides a dark soul and foul thoughts
Bentwinked walks under the mid-day sun;
Himself in his own dungeon.
—Milton's "Comus."

PARAGRAPHS

Freshmen, hide your hats this week. Hat-burning is coming, and the seniors must have something to burn; they have a special affinity for freshmen "chapeaux."

It may be convenient for you to leave the remains of your dessert on the window-sills in Main Hall, but we hardly think that the aforesaid remains are ornamental additions to the appearance of the halls.

Halloween ghosts will begin to walk on Saturday night of this week. We expect a nice assortment of black cats, owls and bats to be procured for the occasion.

For modern, up-to-date business methods, we recommend all students to confer with the Home Economics Club. When the losing membership team gave the winning team a party, they served "Hot-dogs." Afterwards they sold the remains of the refreshments and made enough to pay for the party. We haven't heard, but they may have made a profit.

Swallowing An Education Whole

"American college students swallow the knowledge offered them with a provoking readiness," said President George Zook of Akron University. This statement, half-humorous, yet having an underlying seriousness, should cause college students to stop and think of its significance.

It is undoubtedly true that a great many students receive their knowledge in the manner indicated. They swallow facts whole, and as a consequence, fail to digest or assimilate those facts properly, and therefore derive no earthly good from them. The greater part of the knowledge gained in college should have a practical application, but this cannot be accomplished if the student does not attempt to learn thoroughly the subjects which he studies and to gain some degree of mastery over them.

The habit of learning "for the time being," that is for a particu-

lar period, or quiz, or exam, is an absolute waste of time. It leads nowhere and uses up a lot of hours which might be spent to better advantage. It is a senseless process worthy of a six-year-old child, but assuredly unworthy of a young man or woman of college years.

The habit of accepting whatever the professor says, without question or argument is another instance of "swallowing knowledge whole." A fisherman would describe it as "swallowing hook, line and sinker," and the inference is that the student who accepts whatever he is told, is very gullible and unsophisticated, to say the least.

A college education is supposed to be a term of individual research, leading to the acquirement of sound, interesting, and above all, usable information. If it is, however, the product of individual effort.

Develop the questioning, critical type of mind. Do not allow your teachers to fill you with knowledge which you do not understand. Hold them to account for every dubious statement which they make, and not only will you yourself obtain maximal benefit, but the classes will become more interesting and instructive.

Expecting the Best

La Rochefoucauld, a great French maxim writer, said that it is more unfortunate to distrust one's friends than to be deceived by them. At first thought we may not agree with him, but if we think seriously about it we are likely to accept this view. If we observe for a while we will realize that we are less often disappointed in people than we are surprised at the good traits they show. Most of us, when we cannot find something, thoughtlessly say that some one has taken it, and usually we find it in some place where we have put it and forgotten it. We make such accusations hastily, though we are not really pessimistic about the integrity of our acquaintances. If we did not believe in their honesty, we should not leave things unlocked in our rooms as we do, nor books and notebooks lying about in the halls.

It is not, however, only in matters involving honesty that we want to believe the best of our friends, but in personal matters as well. We do not want to be so sensitive as to imagine hidden meanings in what they say and "slights" in what they do. Rather, let us believe in their sincerity as true friends. In any case, if we trust a girl and are deceived by her, it is a fault in her, a thing for which we cannot be blamed; while if we distrust someone who is absolutely honorable, the fault lies with us.

An individual usually tries to live up to his friends' expect of him, if for no other reason, because his pride makes him want to keep anyone from lowering his opinion of him—knowing that some one expects him to show the finer side of his nature seems to give him a motive for doing so. Everyone wants the respect of friends, and we may hurt a girl deeply by showing her that we do not trust her, or even by not showing that we do trust her. We hurt not only the girl, though; we hurt ourselves also, for in failing to trust our friends we are losing confidence in people—and this leads to pessimism. Let us expect the best and keep our optimism.

Dependent or Dependable?

The weakest person in the world is the person who depends upon others. In college, especially, do we get the habit of depending on other students to do things that are expected of us. It is very easy to learn to rely upon a few outstanding girls in college for each original suggestion that is needed. It is still easier to sit peacefully back and watch our friends as they produce thoughts and ideas for us. There are many girls in this school who have never shown the least initiative in anything, nor have they ever produced an original idea of their own. Many times the blame for lack of initiative should go to each individual girl, for as a rule, she is thoroughly capable of undertaking responsibilities, if only she will do away with her lack of confidence, and learn to depend upon herself rather than upon others.

There are approximately ten girls at Salem to whom every one, faculty included, turns when there is work to be done. For this reason these girls are always overworked doing things for which they get little or no credit. There are numerous other girls in school who have the ability to do those same tasks if they would only step forward and let it be known that they are capable. Many girls excuse themselves by saying that they have neither originality nor time. How often have these girls tested their originality? How many times have they actually tried to show individuality while performing a task? The girl who asks not to be given an assignment because she has no spare time, is offering the poorest and weakest excuse possible. We all know that we usually can do what we want to do, and what we make up our minds to do. We can "make" the time! The girls who never have any extra time to show their college responsibilities are often the girls who are always "busy" writing letters, going to town, and socializing. No person is more satisfied than the one who is both independent and dependable. Which are you?

KRAZY KALENDAR

Saturday, October 22.—The announcement of the first hike called forth a highly enthusiastic response. Four girls participated. Where were the others who had their pictures taken for the hiking club?

Sunday, October 23.—Steak for dinner. Nothing else exciting happened.

Monday, October 24.—The final proofs of all the pictures for the annual were shown. Some people discovered that they were not so beautiful as they thought they were.

Tuesday, October 25.—Leonora Taylor tried to imitate some of the stunts done in the circus last week, but succeeded only in getting herself into rather a battered and bruised condition. Friends will be glad to hear that she is recovering slowly.

Wednesday, October 26.—Mr. Campbell presided in chapel, and, contrary to all expectations, did not appear in the least embarrassed.

Thursday, October 27.—A certain freshman admitted that when she first came Salem, she did not anticipate the pleasure of having masculine teachers. Her first impression of Mr. Higgins was that he must be the night watchman.

Friday, October 28.—47 more days, 1128 more hours, 67680 more minutes before Christmas!

AT LEISURE

MEDALLION
I would have Cellini
Strike a medal for me.
In chining bronze (he said
your laughter)
On it—your lifted head;
I would have poets,
Who lodge coldly in attics
And read their sonnets to irreverent
nic.

Match all their genius to devise
The inscription.
Then I should lay my medal
On velvet, in a black frame,
And hang it,
At the end of a long, slim room
Very many people would come there
To see it,
And my pity for a world that does
not know you,
Would be lessened.
—Rachel Grant in *Smith College Monthly*.
(From the *New Student*.)

Miss Barrow Entertains Business Students

On Monday afternoon, October 24, from 5 to 6 o'clock, Miss Otelia Barrow very delightfully entertained all of the students of her department at a winter roast held on lower Back Campus. A good fire was made beside the brook, and the girls roasted wieners and marshmallows. Ladies, who had also provided rolls and cold drinks as a part of the picnic supper.

The vesper service, on Sunday evening, October 30, will be in charge of the sophomore class.

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COLONIAL

MONDAY AND TUESDAY

DOLORES DEL RIO

AND

ROD LA ROCQUE

IN

"RESURRECTION"

COMING

RICHARD DIX in "SHANGHAI BOUND"
OLIVE BORDEN in "THE JOY GIRL"
JOHN GILBERT in "TWELVE MILES OUT"
BUSTER KEATON in "COLLEGE"
MARION DAVIES in "THE FAIR CO-ED"