

The Salemite



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LITTLE THOUGHTS FOR TODAY

*Life without holidays is like
a long journey without rest.* —Democritus.

*I have a great confidence in
the revolutions which holidays
bring forth.* —Disraeli.

*What makes life dreary is
the want of motive.* —Disraeli.

*Life is not death merely by
years. Events are sometimes
the best calendars.* —Lord Beaconsfield.

THANKSGIVING

When we really do some serious thinking, what does Thanksgiving mean from the average modern viewpoint? Or let us say, what does it mean from a college girl's viewpoint? Today Thanksgiving has a definite meaning to us. It means a good meal and some gaily costumed gurus, dances, and all that goes to make a hectic though happy holiday. We never spend much time thinking about what Thanksgiving means to us, but we dash around and have a gr-r-r-and time and come back, as Mary Brewer says, "I'm sick but I yet I'm happy." And when the day is past we have lived through it with only being conscious of its true significance.

We wonder how many of us really thought about the real purpose for which celebration was originally held on the last Thursday in November. Let us not forget, in the future, if we may have had that tendency heretofore, to pause in our frolicking and be grateful for the wherewithal to frolic.

LOST AND FOUND

FOUND—I have in my possession a Fountain Pen left upon the table in Room 11 several weeks ago. I should be glad to return it to the owner if she will describe it with three suitable adjectives.

—P. V. Willoughby.

THE NEW RADIO

One more step forward—a new realm. And just think how much we are going to enjoy it! Now we can flop down in a nice comfortable chair and listen to the latest pieces by some good orchestra or tune in on a first class opera or concert. These cold winter nights Alice Clewell living room will be a cheery place, where we can forget that we were ever homesick and enjoy ourselves. Some of the girls have worked hard to help in the radio and we thank them now. Later we will no longer appreciate what they have done for us and the whole of Salem College. The next thing best to seeing a football game is hearing it over the radio. Suspense, just wait until score is 7 to 6 in favor of Carolina with three minutes to play and So-and-So flying down the field for a touchdown. Who would have expected and of course we all did. We are going to be mighty proud of our new radio and it's take good care of it.

Honor System In American Colleges

The Present Day Importance
of the Problem of the Hon-
or System in American
Colleges

ATTENTION

Note: This is the first of a series of articles on the Honor System being printed simultaneously in all the college newspapers in the United States beginning on or about November 20th. A series of five articles will follow with matters pertaining to the Honor System.

The release is being made by the Committee on the Honor System for the National Student Federation of the United States of America, with a hope that the students of this country will give serious thought to the problem of student honesty in our colleges, and that they will send the Fifth Annual Congress of the National Student Federation representatives who have well-thought-out ideas concerning the matter. The Fifth Congress will meet at Stanford University on the 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 of January, 1930.

Of all the problems that confront student leaders and college administrators, that of student honesty in classroom work and campus relations is probably the one that is first in importance. The problem of students meet this problem commences a large part of the time given for discussion of student problems; when college administrators meet, this problem is widely discussed. It is a perplexing problem; it is an important one.

Some colleges and universities attempt to solve this problem of student honesty by means of the Honor System. Under the Honor System, broadly speaking, the students are given absolute freedom from surveillance by faculty members or professors. It is assumed that the students are honest, and they are dealt with on that basis. Their signature to papers, or in some instances to a special pledge, vouches for the fact that the work represented to be his own was done by the student himself, and by him alone. His word is his bond.

Those colleges which use the Honor System, as a rule, believe that it is efficacious in instilling into students a love and respect for honest dealings one with the other; that it is a vital force in the building of character in students; and that it instills into them the strength and sound and lasting principles of good citizenship that will serve him well in after-college days, when he has left the protecting influence of college professors and fellow-students, and the wholesome deterrent effect of student disapproval of shoddy conduct.

On the other hand, many colleges, in fact, majority of the colleges of the United States, do not favor the Honor System. They see the advantages to be derived from it; they consider it such a system to cheat. They think that its advantages are greatly outweighed by its disadvantages; they consider that such matters are academic, and that they should be handled by paid faculty members

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rather than by students whose experience is comparatively limited and whose judgment is not fully developed.

Between the Honor System in which faculty control is nil, and the system of faculty espionage, in which students are used, there are many intermediary systems. In some colleges the Honor System is in force in certain departments; in some it applies to matters outside the classroom; but in most of them the Honor System attempts primarily to regulate honesty in classroom work.

A number of colleges are in the middle of a great debate on account of the pros and cons of the Honor System. A few have abolished it within the last few years. A few others have installed it. Others are seeking information concerning it in order that they may try to install it, or if they already have it, in order that they may make improvements.

At the Fourth Congress of the National Student Federation, the Honor System was the subject of important problems discussed. As a result of the discussion and recognizing the potential value in the Honor System as an educational institution, the N. S. F. A. decided to urge colleges and universities to fully acquaint themselves with the Honor System and to take steps toward introducing it; or, if they already have it, to better it still as a procedure.

With this end in view, and with

a hope that the students of the country will give some serious thought to this problem, the Committee on the Honor System for the N. S. F. A. is releasing this series of articles. The chairman of the committee would be glad to receive inquiries concerning the system or opinions concerning it at Box 958, University, Alabama.

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