

The Salemite

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BEGINNINGS

A good way to begin the year is by first making friends. If you see a girl with a bright, shiny face and that new look not quite worn off, she's a freshman looking for a friend. Yes sree, you can't miss the new girls. They're everywhere. What's your name? Where's your home? And what's the next question? Oh yes! Well, do you know Jim So and So or Mrs. Thingamajig? There are "oh's" and "ah's" in all these meetings, but it is fascinating, indeed, to make new acquaintances. Find out what your neighbor thinks about football; see if Jane Timidity can sing; pull your best gag on the girl with red hair; tell your roommate a secret. My, but some girls are hungering for a "confidant!" Maybe you can be their pal. Here is a good campaign slogan: "Meet 'em, learn 'em, love 'em."

A good starter is on the mark ready to go. Friends or no friends and preferably with many friends, we all must begin classes and study. Oh, it's hard to start work at the very first, but, as you know, when Salem begins she begins. A tentative schedule is a handicap, so get it fixed in a hurry. Classes are going on. If you're a slow note taker put some speed on that pen, because the teacher talks on and on. How about your belongings? If they are already scattered and out of place it will be very hard to find certain English papers or a special note book around exam time. The library is a good friend and helper whom you should meet immediately. We can all begin by meeting our teachers, buying our books and having them on hand, and being on time and in our places.

Here's luck to all beginners of another school year! May you come to a happy end.

HAZING

Webster defines hazing as a thorough beating. Our deans warn us against hazing the Freshmen. What Sophomore no matter how cruel or with how gory tastes would think of beating a poor little Freshman? They seem to forget that only a few short months ago we too, were Freshmen, experiencing the same sensations of doubt, fear and anticipation. Bing made to recite nursery rhymes backward, laughing at others standing perilously on their heads is far from hazing. It is fun for both sides and helps break down the barrier of strangeness which often exists in a group of Freshmen who suddenly find themselves living among girls they have never seen before. Ordering a Freshman with a stately bun to let down her tresses or commanding a painted doll to go without make-up for a day is a far different thing from getting heavy sticks and giving her a thorough beating. Making a bashful, retiring girl speak to everyone she meets on the campus will give her a feeling of more self-confidence.

Last year the Sophomores with deepest consideration and pity did nothing of the kind to us poor green little Freshmen, who were expecting it and who were frankly disappointed because we felt that we had missed something that is a part of the advent into all colleges — Yes, we were slighted and it is up to this year's Sophomore Class — our bounden duty to see that the Freshman class of 1936 does not feel this way. Having had one year at Salem we are all thoroughly civilized and have no intention of hurting anyone. There are many other ways of initiating Freshmen into college life besides beating them. Why not try us and our discretion. It will work.

YWCA NOTES



Last Sunday evening Mary Francis Hayworth presided over the first vesper service of the year.

During the program the scripture was read by Josephine Ritter and a lovely solo rendered by Frances Watlington. The main speaker of the evening was Dr. Rondthaler who talked on the subject of testing one's self — a subject based on the twelfth chapter of Romans. In his talk, Dr. Rondthaler said that we all have talents given us by God, whether they be talents of the head of the heart, or of the hand, we should test ourselves, therefore, discover our capacities, and make the most of theirs — not fret because we are less gifted than another person. It was an inspiring talk, and one suitable for the beginning year.

The service was unusually well-attended both by the old girls and the new girls.

STUDENT PERSONALITIES

ETHEL HIGHSMITH

Of course, you have seen, and know the winsome lass with the dignified air and appealing smile — an unusual combination, I assure you. Her name is familiar to you and one you have heard many times. Her friends call her "E. J." the ones who don't know her quite so well, use Ethel; the few unlucky ones who yet haven't had the honor — Miss Highsmith.

Strange as it may seem "our" Ethel, just three years ago, was a freshman (you green ones see the years do fly). Since it is impossible to enumerate all the offices and activities in which this charming Fayetteville Miss has participated, I shall only refresh your memory with four. The I. R. S. Kept Ethel busy her freshman year. Her sophomore year, her interest centered in "St. Z." Council. Last year Ethel was president of the "Jolly Juniors," and this year she is president of the Student Body. So you see, having had a well rounded diet her first three years, Ethel is adequately prepared for her present office. She is an all-around Salem girl with an attractive personality, intellectual ability, and a grand sense of humor. Her friends will tell you, "Ethel is 'swell,'" (which is indeed a tribute).

THERE AND YONDER

With the singing of "Standing at the Portals" we have put away all summer things (including Knock, Knocks, thank goodness), and have settled down to hard (?) work.

We have been mostly here since last week, but Martha Coons did go to the game in Greensboro last Saturday night with her best beau. I wonder if she had to look in the Sunday Journal to see who won.

Mary Louise Hayworth recently had an operation for appendicitis. We certainly do miss her.

Have you seen Kate Pratt's new car or Mary Louise McClung's and Anna Leak Scott's gorgeous tan? Have a look-see sometime if you have missed 'em.

By the stately bearing and becoming modesty of the new seniors, one would think they were reared in academic caps and gowns.

Sara Ingram still hasn't taken on that harassed look of a newspaper editor. Here's hoping she stays young and becoming.

I wonder when Boots Norman will start touring down to Raleigh.

We heard Smith and Snipes went down to the "hill" last week for the afternoon. Didn't they get enough of it this summer?

Katherine Sissell is playing the organ for a wedding Saturday. Hope she can get the bride in all right.

POETRY CORNER

THE FLOOD

Blood has been harder to dam back than water.
Just when we think we have it impounded safe
Behind new barrier walls (and let it chafe!),
It breaks away in some new kind of slaughter,
We choose to say it is let loose by the devil;
But power of blood itself releases blood.
It goes by might of being such a flood
Held high at so unnatural a level.
It will have outlet, brave and not so brave.
Weapons of war and implements of peace
Are but the points at which it finds release.
And now it is once more the tidal wave
That when it has swept by leaves summits stained.
Oh, blood will out. It cannot be contained.

—Robert Frost.

* * * *

TRAVEL

The railroad track is miles away,
And the day is loud with voices speaking,
Yet there isn't a train goes by all day
But I hear its whistle shrieking.

All night there isn't a train goes by,
Though the night is still for sleep and dreaming,
But I see its cinders red on the sky,
And hear its engine steaming.

My heart is warm with the friends I've made,
And better friends I'll not be knowing,
Yet there isn't a train I wouldn't take,
No matter where it's going.

—Edna St. Vincent Millay.

* * * *

FEAR IS THE THORN

Fear is the thorn that guards the rose,
By unscarred hands ignored,
The ancient antidote for bliss,
The guest at bed and board.
Fear is the penalty of love,
The hearts most secret leaven,
A subtle east wind sent to dim
The too bright shores of heaven.

—Rachel Field.

THE OFFICE BUILDING

(As Seen By a Returning Student)

Have you seen the new office building? If you have not, you must march yourself right over there, because it is about the most beautiful thing on Salem Campus right now. The new students really do not know how to appreciate it, unless they saw the old office.

It was the first thing I saw when I got to school and when I walked in the door I did not recognize it. It has been completely restored under the supervision of Miss Ada Allen, through interest of friends of the College. I could hardly believe my eyes when I looked into the reception room and saw it completely changed from a drab colorless den into a charming, colorful place. And beyond it is the treasurer's office, completely remodeled and very business-like.

Going up the steps I noticed at the top a new dormer window, which has been a sky-light in the last few years, and was restored when Miss Ada Allen noticed there were only three windows, and there should be four. The room at the right at the top of the steps is the mimeographing room where alumnae records are printed, and the large room to the left with the presidents' pictures is the room where the Trustees meet.

The guest room is what caught my fancy, for it looks like a bedroom taken from an 1800 print, and set into Salem. The little room back of it is the Record room, a new feature at Salem, where the records of old students are kept.

BOOK REVIEWS

"Listen For A Lonesome Drum"
By Carl Carmer
"Full of admirable descriptions, good stories, swift, sure characterizations, amusing dialogue, valuable revival of old lore and legends."
(Saturday Review of Literature)

"Gone With the Wind"
By Margaret Mitchell
"The main thread of the story follows the fortunes of one woman. Satiric figure of civic virtue in the carpet bag regime."
(N. Y. Herald Tribune).
"There has been no figure like Scarlett O'Hara since Becky Sharp."
(St. Paul Dispatch).

Other best sellers are:
"Drums Along the Mohawk" by Walter Edmonds.
"The Need We Have" by A. Hamilton Gibbs.
"The Magnificent Hoax" by E. Phillips Oppenheim.
"Wake Up and Live" by Dorothea Brande.
"Man the Unknown" by Alexis Carrel.
"Way of a Transgressor" by Negley Farson.

Back downstairs again I found that the basement has been restored, and there is a charming old fireplace there. It would really be worthwhile to walk down and see it.

This building, by the way, was built in 1811, and used as the presidents' home until recently. But even though it has been remodeled, the colonial charm and beauty has not been destroyed, and the same old bricks and plaster are still holding the building together, and the rooms look like a modern version of 1811.