

The Salemite

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GRUMBLING

In the "Salemite" for October 2, 1936, was a list of questions with which one could test his ability to make friends. Question No. 6 was as follows:

Do you refrain from grumbling about things that you cannot change?

There is only one thing worse than grumbling, and that is the grumbler. No one wants to seek out a person who is continually finding fault with his teachers because an assignment is long, or a test hard, or some other such petty cause. Grumbling and muttering about it will only wear you out — and all the people who have to listen to it, as well.

Grumbling, as is gossiping and lying, is chiefly habit. It is not hard to form the habit of grumbling about every assignment — a habit that grows and grows, and becomes increasingly difficult to break. This habit becomes a distinct part of your personality. You are not conscious of being unpleasant, or of saying unpleasant things.

The best way to break such a habit is to build up another habit to take its place. When an assignment is hard and long, force yourself to become interested in it.

Say nothing rather than something unpleasant, for you will find that there is no place in this world for a grumbler.

CHAPEL

We all realize that we have an exceptionally attractive freshman class this year, but why do so many of you Sophomores and juniors insist upon bringing up the rear of its line every morning in chapel, thus appearing as a "perpetual freshman"? There has not been a morning this year that a few distracted upper-classmen have not dashed madly into the auditorium just in time to tag along after the last row of freshmen. What's the matter, girls? Don't you love your own class, or is it that you have never tried marching in with your respective class-mates? It's great sport, so why not try it tomorrow morning. Instead of waiting until the last bell before you go to the P. O. for your daily epistle, tear yourself away from the breakfast table or the Green Room a little earlier so that you may be on hand to line up for chapel. An orderly line will really be appreciated by both the speaker and the student body.

CAMPUS CARAVAN

Three Vassar students saw the Spanish tinder box, burst into flame. Two escaped by plane to open ports, describe the tragic drama in by-lines recalling the spectacular play, "Idiot's Delight."

At Harvard's tercentenary a century slipped by as the college flag, sealed at the close of the two hundredth anniversary, was raised, broke out in the fresh 1936 breeze.

Influenced by low cost housing propaganda, dramatic presentation of the trailer boom in March of Time's filmed release, students at the University of North Carolina and Missouri's Northeast Teachers have built wheeled 16 by 8 dormitories, proudly point to increased utility and privacy.

Reports of NYA projects from Wash College feature the whitewashing of the gym. The whitewashing is admittedly non-political.

—NSFA.

DO I REALLY LOOK LIKE THAT?

Being photographed, like making a speech, is an ordeal that comes to everybody at some time during his life. It is something one must accept resignedly and try to take calmly. The nicest thing about the whole business is that one can never tell exactly how bad the proofs will be, and it is barely possible that someone, somewhere, some day will take a good, i. e. extremely flattering, picture of one. This hope buoys up many to go through a fifteen minutes that they will regret the rest of their lives. Oh, yes, someone in the family will be sure to say, "That's a very sweet picture. Tell the man you'll take six like this one," indicating the one with the seasick grin. That means that she will meet herself smirking around the homes of all her relatives from then on. Bad pictures never die.

When you are about to be photographed, you are first taken aside and "draped." No, that doesn't mean that you are prepared for burial. You have a piece of velvet put around your shoulders in such a way that it feels as though it will come sliding off at any moment. That makes you feel quite at ease, of course. You are then taken, seated on a very straight and hard bench, told to sit up straight and to put your hands in your lap. If you spend much of your time sitting up very straight on a hard, backless piano stool with blinding lights close to your face, you probably feel very natural and not at all self-conscious; otherwise, — well look at your last proofs. Then a little man, who is either extremely talkative, with an endless supply of slightly shopworn jokes, or else very silent, comes up eyeing you critically, much as a hen examines a piece of corn. He arranges you as if he were laying out a corpse; when you are "fixed" to the last fingernail, he steps back and moves his lights around for an interminable time. Then he puts his head under the black cloth and takes it out three or four times. When he is at last ready, you have been smiling shamelessly at him for a least five minutes. The picture is taken and the performance is repeated numberless times until you have been photographed to his satisfaction. Finally you stumble out, a dazed and nerveless shadow of your former self.

But the real shock comes a few weeks later. You are handed what are known as "proofs." They are indeed that — proofs that your friends and your mirror are hopeless liars. For the next month or so you have a pronounced inferiority complex and a disposition to look rather sceptical when given any sort of compliment. Time and hope heal many wounds, however, and there will be other pictures made. The ridiculous thing about it is, that you pay for it!

CO-OPERATIVES INTEREST GROWS IN COLLEGES

New York (NSFA)—The National Committee on Student Co-operatives reports 159 college co-operatives with 40,000 students doing a business of between two and three million dollars annually. Cooperative living centers have been founded at the Universities of Oregon and Southern California. This growing interest on the campus parallels the examination of the co-operative movement which the Federal Government is making, which resulted in the sending of a commission to the Scandinavian countries for the study of the great movements in them. Individual interest in co-operatives was rewarded at De Pauw University when Paul Turner received the Walker Cup, symbolic honor presented the year's outstanding senior for the organization of a medical co-operative in Economy, Indiana, Turner's home town. Meanwhile, the Tenth Biennial Congress of the Co-operative League will hold a special session on college co-operatives under the leadership of William Moore, Chairman of the National Committee on Student Co-operatives. Many college co-operative leaders are expected to attend.

POETRY CORNER

DREGS

The fire is out, and spent the warmth thereof,
(This is the end of every song man sings!)
The golden wine is drunk, the dregs remain,
Bitter as wormwood and as salt as pain;
And health and hope have gone the way of love
Into the drear oblivion of lost things.
Ghosts go along with us until the end;
This was a mistress, this, perhaps a friend.
With pale, indifferent eyes, we sit and wait
For the dropt curtain and the closing gate:
This is the end of all the songs man sings.

—Ernest Dowson.

AT DAWN

She only knew the birth and death
Of days when each that died
Was still at morn a hope, at night
A hope unsatisfied.

The dark trees shivered to behold
Another day begin;
She, being hopeless, did not weep
As the grey dawn came in.

—Arthur Symons.

NEW AND OLD

For what is old you nothing care —
"Antiques," you say, but leave you cold;
And yet the sun that gilds your hair
Is more than many aeons old.

The very song I hear you sing
Is little but a variation
Of some foregone primaeval thing —
Some early mortal inspiration!

Ah, never say you hate the old,
It always hides the new within it;
'Twill last until the stars are cold,
The other only stays a minute!

—Henry Austin Dobson.

I sent my Soul through the Invisible,
Some letter of that After-life to spell;
And by and by my Soul returned to me,
And answered "I myself am Heaven and Hell:"

Heaven but the Vision of fulfilled desire,
And Hell the shadow from a soul on fire,
Cast on the Darkness into which ourselves,
So late emerged from, shall so soon expire.
—From the Rubaiyat.

NATIONAL STUDENT MIRROR FEATURES POLITICS

New York, N. Y. (NSFA)—Featuring interviews and statements from President Roosevelt and Governor Landon, the October issue of the National Student Mirror is offered the title "A Primer for Democracy." In attempting to personify present political ideas, trends and organizations, the editors secured statements from the candidates for the presidency on the place which they believe youth should take in modern political and economic society.

In return, George Houston, Sec. Wallace, John L. Lewis, and fifteen other prominent men of many ideas, ideals and creeds have contributed succinct statements on the candidates themselves and the vital issues of the election which they personify.

Against these mani-colored viewpoints are set the considered opinions of leading political thinkers, Herbert Agar, A. A. Berle, Jr., and Charles W. Taussig, who examine the nature of the American experiment and the place youth may hope to find within its framework. Again, Russell Hall, recent graduate, describes the growing and conflicting political attitudes and forms of political expression which are developing among college undergraduates themselves.

Concrete analyses by trained reporter minds disclose certain specific phases of the government. Paul Yates examines the lobbies: Robert Horton the Bureau of Navigation and Steamboat Inspection; Drew Pearson the effect of party contributions on government and its personnel; and Meigs Frost gives the background for the dropping of the Louisiana tax investigations. Assistant Secretary Sumner Welles explains the theory and actions of the State Department under the guid-

THE WASTE-BASKET

Two of the "three Musketeers" seem to be doing alright by that boast they made at the beginning of school, but what they want to for is more than we can see.

What was it that Meredith didn't want Mouse to tell in the Green Room the other nite — any why?

Why does a certain Sophomore go off on a jaunt to Carolina every weekend? Of course it is only a profound interest in football.

We wonder why a certain Junior doesn't open a florist's shop an supply all the men faculty with roses for their buttonholes.

A number of our cute undergraduates who are flashing sparkling rings, say they came to Salem to learn the facts of life before venturing upon the sea of matrimony.

We all wonder why the telephone has been taken out of Lehman Hall.

Why did a certain Freshman cut History Class the day after Sophomore Court?

Who were the two cute Sophs. that got such lovely bouquets of Zinas Sunday nite? They looked mighty much like home grown products.

We wonder why the tub room is so popular after eleven-thirty this year. ance of, Mr. Hull and President Roosevelt.

Believing that the material from these various sources carries its own message, the editors have offered a minimum of editorial comment. They believe the contents of the October "Mirror" will a valuable campaign document for American undergraduates throughout the country.