

The Salemite

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"TO THEM WHO HATH, IT SHALL BE . . ."

As we look about us there is no doubt in our minds that spring is really here. At this time spring has different meanings to people. We can not help but think of the meaning of this season to people across the sea in contrast to the meaning of Spring to us here at school. This warm sun means to us that the time has come to take sunbaths back of the gym, but it means to "them" that they will be warmer in spite of the scarcity of their clothing. The new green grass suggests to us to keep off or else be called a "ditchdigger," but to "them" the grass means a place of hiding from the enemy. To us the weather suggests swinging golf clubs, but to "them" it only means the continual swinging of war clubs. To us the season suggests open ears and the singing of gay songs, but to "them" it means riding in closed cars and perhaps whistling to keep their spirits high. To us Spring means that summer is not far behind, and that in turn suggests a vacation of such sports as swimming. For "them" summer means that hardships will be harder because of intense heat in most of the fighting regions. "They" can not escape from heat by diving into a pool of clear, cool water when they desire. Many years ago in England Tennyson said "In the spring a young man's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of love." Now the minds of those people are probably hopefully harboring thoughts of peace in the near future. Don't they deserve a thought from us as we go about our days of "spring pleasure?"

—S. H.

"OUT OF THE NIGHT . . ."

In these past months there has been an increasing number of people who feel that they must have their say about certain doctrines, ideas, and situations confronting the world. True, many of their ideas are unsound, many are rather arbitrary; often they are nothing more than the letting off of steam, by the speaker or writer; but they do serve a purpose, if only one, for they show us better than anything else, that the individual is thinking, not only of himself and his future, but unselfishly of his neighbor; the other fellow is coming into the picture.

Being conscious of this growing unity and unselfishness I wonder how many of us are tying this idea up with the future, our future, and that of our children, when we have left behind us the present horror of this war. Am I being too optimistic? I think not, for stop and think yourself what an opportunity is being offered us. Here we have that basic idea that will make for that eventual Utopia, and what is more we also have before us the failure and neglect, of those who have lived previously, to profit by. Agreed, that with the ever present fear of war and all its attendants one is apt to fail to look ahead and face these opportunities; it must also be seen that

OPEN FORUM

To the Open Forum:
Salemite

The question has come up in the Open Forum and in the office this year as to the advisability of changing from the semester system to the quarter system at Salem. Since I felt inadequate to answer this question correctly because of my lack of experience, I wrote for opinions on this subject to experienced registrars or administrators of colleges comparable to Salem which are on the semester basis: Mary Baldwin, Hollins, Agnes Scott, and Randolph-Macon. One, Agnes Scott, has recently changed from the semester to the quarter system. I also wrote to two larger nearby schools on the semester basis, Davidson and Duke. The evidence would seem to point conclusively to the fact that the quarter system is not suited to a college such as Salem. However, since the letters answer the question so much better than I can, I shall quote directly from them and let them speak for themselves.

Marguerite Hillhouse, registrar of Mary Baldwin College says: "We have not considered seriously at any time changing from our present (semester) system to another."

The Registrar at Hollins College, Miss Fanona Knox, writes: "Hollins maintains a semester system rather than the quarter. The matter has never been considered by our faculty so, of course, there has been no discussion. From my point of view, I can see no advantage in the quarter system for an institution of this size, I feel that for undergraduate work very few courses shorter than a semester can have the depth and thoroughness which we think are so necessary."

Miss Annie C. Whiteside of Randolph-Macon College writes: "Randolph-Macon has thus far retained the semester system, though some members of our faculty have discussed the advantages of the quarter system. I believe there are two very good arguments for the quarter system. One is that the work is more concentrated and that this is advantageous both to the teacher and to the student. The second advantage of the quarter system is that it fits better with the regular vacations . . . Under the semester system, the work of each course spreads over a longer period of time. I believe that under this (semester) system students probably acquire a better understanding of the subject matter and remember it for a longer period of time . . . Those who have tried the quarter system say that it entails a great deal more work on the part of the administrative offices. This would be due to having three registrations instead of two and three sets of examinations in place of two. I think the quarter system is best for a university which offers summer work. I see no great advantage for a college of this (Randolph-Macon) type."

Dean W. H. Wannamaker of Duke University says: "We have never had much discussion here as to whether we prefer the semester system over the quarter system. The semester system has been, as you know, held to here for many, many years and I have found little interest in changing to a quarter system . . . I have long felt that time is a vital element in the process of absorbing knowledge and it has therefore seemed to me natural to give the student a semester's time to a given subject rather than the shorter time."

From Davidson College Registrar F. W. Hengeveld writes: "As you probably know, we have operated here under the semester system. A proposal of this kind was submitted to our Faculty some years ago and a committee was appointed to

certainly the aim is worth fighting for, despite the obstacles. We realize now, looking about us, that we cannot fail, that our future must be a successful future, for the challenge offered us is one we cannot, as individuals or collectively, refuse to accept; in it lies not only our destiny, but that of the rest of the world as well. The opportunity is ours, and though our gain will probably be small, if we have started out in the right direction, we will know that we have visioned of and profited by the failure of those who have gone before us.

—M. R.

BARD'S BOX

UP RIZE THE SUN

Spring is here, the sun has rize
I wonder where those Salemites is
On class, in lab — could they be there?
I'll bet five cents they are elsewhere.
They're not habbling French; they ain't working math
No. they're down on the gymn steps taking a bath,
What! Taking a bath right on the step?
Gosh! Will that ruin ole Salem's rep?
Don't blush so child; don't hide your pan,
They're just sun bathing and getting a tan.

—M. Avera, Salem College, '44.

(By this cold weather this is history—Ed's Note.)

THANKS

Since this is the last issue edited by the '40-'41 staff the editor wishes to praise the excellent work done by the editorial and feature writers this year.

Thanks also are due the outside people who have contributed their time and energies in order that the Salemite be successful. To Miss Byrd, faculty advisor; to the Day Students who have given the use of their cars; to the business staff members for their good work; to the faculty members and others who have given their advice—to those our appreciation is given.

study the feasibility of such a change. We were practically unanimous in our action that it would be unwise for us to go over into the quarter system . . . In the first place, we found that we would be out of line with most of the institutions of our type in adopting the quarter system. So far as we know, only such institutions as give the university type of education are now using the quarter system. In the second place, we felt that a change from the semester system an increase of Faculty, a complete would involve additional expense, change in the educational program, and the adoption of a full quarter of summer school work. This is as far as we went in our study and, the difficulties seeming insurmountable, there has been little discussion of such a movement at Davidson in the last four or five years."

Dr. J. R. McCain, President of Agnes Scott College, which has recently changed from the semester to the quarter system, writes the following: "So far as our own campus program is concerned, I think both faculty and students would prefer the semester basis. We are co-operating with Emory University and the University of Georgia, both of which run on the quarter basis, and so our change was made because of the University Center development and the need of a uniform calendar . . . The quarter basis does have an advantage of getting examinations off hands before Christmas and before spring holidays, so that students do not come back with any feeling of dread or anxiety about examinations . . . From an educational standpoint, most of our faculty believe that the very best arrangement is to have five courses running three hours a week rather than the very mixed programs which the quarter system usually provides."

"I had so many covers on the bed I feel like the bottom hot-plate."

—Bob Burns.

LE COIN FRANCAIS

LELLAC

Ainsi, toujours poussés vers de nouveaux rivages,
Dans la nuit éternelle emportés
sans retour,
Ne pourrions-nous jamais sur l'océan
des âges
Jeter l'ancre un seul jour?

O lac! l'année à peine a fini sa
carrière,
Et près des flots chéris qu'elle
devait revoir,
Regarde! je viens seul m'asseoir sur
cette pierre
Où tu l'as vis s'asseoir!

Tu mugissais ainsi sous ces roches
profondes,
Ainsi tu te brisais sur leurs flancs
déchirés,
Ainsi le vent jetait l'écume de test
ondes
Sur ses pieds adorés.

Un soir, t'en souvient-il? nous vo-
guions en silence;
On n'entendait au loin, sur l'onde
et sous les cieux,
Que le bruit des rameurs qui frap-
paient en cadence
Tes flots harmonieux.
(Continued Next Week)

RADIO PROGRAMS

Friday

8 p.m., WEAF.
Those who particularly enjoy a program of the semi-classical variety will enjoy a concert presented by Lucille Mannens, soprano, and Ross Grahah, baritone, under the direction of Frank Black.

The program is:
Sleeping Beauty
Waltz Tchaikovsky
Ava Maria Schubert
Three Blind Mice Traditional
Dance of the
Rogues Tchaikovsky
For You, Just You Day
Piratis of Penzance
(Medley) Gilbert-Sullivan
8 p.m., WOR

Saturday

3 p.m., WABC
The Budapest String Quartet is heard in a Library of Congress Concert. They will play:
Adagio and Fugue in C
minor Mozart
Quartet in A minor Beethoven
11:00-1155 p.m., WABC

Sunday

2 p.m., WEAF
Every Sunday at this time Dr. Frank Black, director of music for the National Broadcasting Company, presents a concert by his String Symphony. Always an interesting program is given.

3 p.m., WABC
The regular Philharmonic Symphony Orchestra, under the direction of John Barirolli, will present:
Overture Zottan Kurthy
Conducted by the composer.

Symphony No. 8,
in F Beethoven
Piano Concerto No. 2, in
B flat Brahms
Rudolf Serkin, pianist, will be the soloist.

4:30 p.m., WABC
Andre Kostelanetz, director, and Albert Spalding, violinist, with a guest artist always present a program of familiar and beloved music at this time every week.
9 p.m., WABC