

## John Mason Brown Makes Salemites Laugh



JOHN MASON BROWN

John Mason Brown, noted author, lecturer, and drama critic, charmed a Salem audience Monday night, April 17, with his keen wit and accurate interpretation of world affairs in relation to today's literature and drama. Speaking on the subject "Seeing Things," Mr. Brown appeared on the college Lecture Series for the sixth time since 1938.

In his criticisms and comments on current plays, books, and movies, the speaker showed that the present trends in literature are motivated to a large extent by changing world events and situations. He termed our era as an "anxious age," commenting that the United Nations is becoming the "Disunited Nations" and that the cold war might appropriately be called the "Hot Peace."

Mr. Brown mentioned Churchill's memoirs and Eleanor Roosevelt's "This I Remember" as "fact books" which have influenced contemporary literature. Among the novels which he said were related to the changing world were Hersey's "The Wall" and George Orwell's "1984."

The lecturer praised several foreign films for their presentation of realistic life, a characteristic which American movies do not generally possess. However, he praised such films as "The Best Years of Our Lives" and "The Snake Pit" for their integrity. The critic commended "Home of the Brave," "Lost Boundaries," "Pinky," and "Intruder in the Dust," four pictures on the Negro question, for their courageous presentation of a difficult problem.

Taking a hurried glance at the current Broadway productions, he commented on such plays as "Mr. Roberts," "The Death of a Salesman," "South Pacific," and "The Wisteria Trees."

A native of Kentucky, Mr. Brown was educated at Harvard where he was a member of the famous Baker Workshop. He has worked with the *New York Post* and the *World Telegram*. He was recently elected president of the Drama Critics Circle for the fourth consecutive year and holds the position of associate editor of *The Saturday Review of Literature*. He has appeared on various radio programs and has written several books, his most recent being "Morning Faces," a series of essays on family life.

Mr. Brown was a guest of the Lecture committee in the dining hall before his appearance Monday evening. After dinner he was entertained in the Alumnae House with an informal coffee.

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## Former Salem

(Continued from page five)

from 1943-47. Under her presidency the Alumnae House Restoration started. Dr. and Mrs. Cunningham have four children.

Miss Elizabeth Connor now Mrs. Harrelson, hailing from Wilson, N. C., was an outstanding member of her class of '23. Because of her originality Mrs. Harrelson was elected class prophet. By her picture in the annual is the sentence, "We pity the class who has no member like her." Also the Chancellor's wife was on the "Ivy" staff, the campus magazine, the *Salemite* staff, the Y. W. C. A. cabinet; and belonged to the Bandana Gang and the Wilson-Rocky Mount club. A college picture is drawn of Mrs. Harrelson after reading the Senior chart which tells the following about her: Nickname—Betsey, hair—little bit, eyes—gray, complexion—blonde, ambition—to adopt an orphan asylum, major subject—English, Favorite expression—"tra-la," favorite amusement—writing poetry, opinion of self—very diplomatic. Mrs. Harrelson didn't adopt an orphan asylum, but she does have a home with a very

large number of boys. Col. and Mrs. Harrelson have no children.

Mrs. Raymond S. Hauptert, the former Miss Estelle McCanless of Winston-Salem, continued her campus life a long way from home as wife of President Hauptert of Moravian College for Men, in Bethlehem, Pa. Mrs. Hauptert a classmate of Mrs. Harrelson, was a member of the Y. W. C. A. cabinet, the hockey team, art editor of *The Sights and Insights*, a member of the Day Pupils' Club, and a member of the Athletic Association. The Senior chart gave the following account of Mrs. Hauptert; Nickname—"Mutt", Hair—luxurious, eyes—gray, complexion—rosy, major subject—English, pet expression—"piffle", favorite amusement—crossing bridges, opinion of self—moron. Mrs. Hauptert taught before her marriage. She is now the mother of four strapping boys.

Saturday will bring back many happy memories to these three Salemites as they watch their husbands march in the processional.

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