

An Explanation . . .

Last Spring, the various organizations were criticized because there was an overlapping of publicity activities, Orientation Week, and certain money making projects. The discussion was specifically concerned with the over use of skit material and talent.

One of the major points of the discussion was that the organization heads were not developing and fostering enthusiasm among the majority of Salem's students; thus giving a false impression that only a few girls were qualified to assist in the leadership and functions of the various clubs and groups on campus.

Another fallacy of our extra-curricular activities, as pointed out in the discussion, was that the budget and non-budget organizations were not functioning as a unit for the betterment of Salem, but were competing as individual groups. Hence, there was a degree of friction and an unhealthy competitive spirit.

These criticisms were generally expressed at the spring meeting of the out-going and in-coming presidents of budget and non-budget organizations. This group felt that these criticisms were constructive enough to warrant their immediate attention. Consequently, the idea of a President's Forum was conceived and put into working effect last Monday night.

The forum hopes that by uniting the organizational presidents with a common aim, these weaknesses of their groups will be alleviated. With the support of the Student Body in giving constructive criticism and help, this newly formed group can achieve its purpose.

A. E. E. and B. L. W.

A Decision

As a college student you have many opportunities.

You have the opportunity to either accept or reject the advantages that will be offered to you. You are considered a mature person and can make your own decisions.

Will your decision be to forgo the informal talks with your professor, to ignore the 'minor' rules as interpreted by your Student Government, to forget the faculty and student concerts, to wear pajamas under your skirt to class, to "let somebody else do that job", to forget to say thank you when someone does you a small favor, to forget the coffee for the lecturer because you don't like to make 'small talk', and to criticize without offering a better plan.

Or will you be the girl who offers her talents to some organization, compliments somebody on a job well done, takes time to talk with that lonely student, enjoys visiting with the faculty, remembers that chapel is no time to socialize, appreciates Sunday vespers, gives a little of her time to someone else, and loves being a Salem girl?

The Salemite



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Ode To The Freshmen

Did you know that the time has come
To put those fancy bedspreads on?
To hang that picture, dust that shelf
To make your room shine by itself?
To 'range your desk 'n chairs 'n table
To place them best as you are able
To hang up clothes—to throw 'way trash
To be quite sure your colors don't clash.
Do you suppose that you can guess
Why I am spouting all this mess—
We're having a contest on room decoration!
Three factors enter into this theme
Originality, neatness, and color scheme
On Monday judging will take place
The winners will accept with grace
A prize of the Washington mint's invention;
The runners-up get honorable mention!
So work with roommate and agree
That your room will be best to see.

Bobbi Kuss

Letters To The Editor

Dear Salemite Editor,

Upon completion of the handbook text last week, there was a spontaneous gathering of sophomores for a smoke and a discussion of the regulations. We came to the conclusion that the rules made by the Student Government are for our own good and are an attempt to lead us in the right directions. We realize that we are attending a democratic college which imposes as few rules as possible upon its students. There is, however, one small but not insignificant rule to which we object.

On page 35 of the handbook under section F, number seven, we read: "All students returning from an overnight during the week must be in by their usual time. Sunday hours are 10:45 for freshmen and sophomores."

Now our contention is, that as college students for the second year, we should be entitled to at least fifteen minutes more time to sign in on Sunday night than we had as first year students. After all, we are well acquainted with the class schedules and the general college set up. We have learned

to accomplish much more work in a shorter period of time than it formerly took us. As a result, we feel that we should be allowed to come in on Sunday night at eleven o'clock.

The main basis for our argument is that fifteen extra minutes would enable us to return to school from out of town with a little more ease. If, for instance, you wish to get an express bus from Charlotte to Winston-Salem (according to the last year's schedule) you could leave at eight and should get here by ten-thirty. Many girls, however, have been unfortunately delayed en route and so were late signing in. If the sign-in time had been eleven o'clock, there would have been no trouble.

As I previously stated, we are very happy with the majority of regulations at Salem College. Our honest opinion is that the ten forty-five sign-in hour should be moved up to eleven o'clock for sophomores. We hope that any other student who agrees with us will be brave enough to say so. Students, speak out!

Jeanne Eskridge

Here And There

By Freda Siler

Last week France, West Germany, and Britain sought to draw up a plan for the collective defense of Western Europe. This was quite a job as the plan had to be strong enough to withstand the Russians, flexible enough to let the British and Americans stand half in and half out, and roomy enough for Frenchmen and Germans to live peaceably under the same roof.

Each country had its own idea of how this could be accomplished. France wanted: 1) a British "association" with the continent; 2) the admission of Germany and Italy to the 1948 Brussels Pact; 3) a system of "strict and severe controls" and the armies and arms of all Brussels Powers, but especially on the Germans.

However, France refused to give Germany immediate admission to NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization). Germany wanted simultaneous membership in the Brussels Pact and the NATO Alliance. Konrad Adenauer, German Chancellor, said that he would accept controls on Germany only if the other countries had similar controls. Britain was hoping to work out a compromise between these two views which would involve Britain more than EDC (European Defense Community) did and that would also commit the U. S. more emphatically. This last point is

taken care of in the NATO all-for-one agreement.

Last week the United Nations Assembly elected as its president Dr. Eelco Van Kleffens of The Netherlands. He is a 59 year-old diplomat who knows law, economics, and four languages and has been active in the U. N. ever since its birth in 1945. This seems to have been one of the few things the U. N. decided as it opened for its ninth session.

Only one of the Big Four Foreign Ministers—John Foster Dulles of the U. S.—was present. Again the Assembly tabled for a year the Russian proposal to oust Nationalist China and to give its seat to Red China.

The H-bomb has claimed its first victim. During the U. S. H-bomb tests in the Pacific the Japanese tuna boat **Fortunate Dragon** cruised too close to the site of the blast. A fine white dust rained down on the boat and its crew. From this dust the crew contracted radiation sickness. On arriving in Japan they received transfusions and antibiotics, to which all but one reacted favorably. This one was Aikichi Kubozama who died last week after remaining in a coma for almost a month. It seems the fine white dust has earned its Japanese name of shi no hai—the ashes of death.

Last week some bored G. I.'s stationed at a NATO base in Iceland had a quite different occupation. They were sent out with machine guns to kill a pack of killer whales that had almost dis-

(Continued on page 6)



By Donald Caldwell

This week is, as you already know—
Or maybe you don't know. So I'll tell you.
Salemites, this is Fire Prevention Week.

Since the honor (?) of being the Salem College Fire Chief is mine, I have become quite an expert on fire and fire prevention. In fact, all I have done the past few days is chase people around the campus and tell them to prepare for a fire drill.

The first thing that I had to consider in this matter was the fact of when Fire Prevention Week would take place. I learned much to my surprise that every year the week of October sixth is set aside as Fire Prevention Week. And I'll bet you don't know why that is either.

It is really very simple. The Chicago fire was on October the sixth—ever so many years ago. So Mrs. Murphy's cow, who was only kicking at a fly, was the beginning of it all. Too bad he had to do so much bad to begin this good.

After getting Fire Prevention Week straight, I began to work on fire prevention (bet you thought that I was going to say week) here at Salem.

Until this year, I had always thought that somebody just pulled the fire alarm, the girls gathered up their belongings, hurried out of the building and that was it. Well, what is left of me is here to tell you that that isn't all there is to it.

You have to get a captain in each dormitory. Sounds easy, but imagine going up to someone and saying:

—Will you be fire captain in your dormitory?—

They don't know anymore about Fire Prevention Week than I did before my re-education in the ways and rules of fires. So all I get is a funny look or just a big hehah.

After I have convinced someone that I am serious and they agree to take the job, I have to go through the whole process again to get a lieutenant on each floor of each dormitory. That adds up to seventeen people that have to be convinced that I haven't lost my mind—not counting the proctors on each floor who help too.

When I get the seventeen people lined up, I have to explain to them what their job is. I show each captain how to turn on the fire alarm. It is quite a task. You have to use a minute key. Of course there is only one key for each dormitory and they must not be lost. The solution to this is to furnish each captain with a large chain to chain the key around their neck. This is a little uncomfortable, but Fire Prevention Week only lasts a week.

The lieutenants are given a list of the girls on their hall and they also receive instructions on when and where to report. The lists have to be pasted on cardboard so they won't be lost and each lieutenant is to put her list away in a safe place. If any of them find a safe place, please let me know so I can crawl into it for a little peace of mind.

Speaking of peace, there is never any. After I had everything all organized, it happened. The thinkers start to bombard me with questions. What to do if you are in the basement studying? In this weather do you have to wear a heavy coat? On and on the questions go. Things that I never thought of, but being a diligent fire chief I made up answers that sounded pretty good. Even if I do say so myself.

Then the big night comes. The Winston-Salem Fire Chief is going to be there for the drill that is supposed to start at eleven o'clock sharp. Will everything go right? What if someone forgets what she is supposed to do? The tiny things that could happen get awfully big. And the Fire Chief—namely me—gets smaller and smaller.

But somehow all the girls seem to get out with all the things that they should have and some things that they shouldn't have. Teddy bears, fur coats, pictures of him. But we always think of our valuables. Now that Fire Prevention Week is just about over, this Fire Chief feels that she can safely say that she will retire come Sunday.

The main thing I will remember about my career as fire chief of Salem College is that I never had a chance to ride on a fire engine.