

Summerell Learns That Differences In Culture May Hinder Friendship

Before I left home in June to attend summer school at Winthrop College I had no idea who my roommate would be. It was, of course, a surprise to learn, when I signed in, that I would be living for nine weeks with Catherine Beh from Formosa. Contrary to the expressed opinion of other girls, I welcomed this as a unique opportunity and determined to know and understand this foreign girl. But the goal I set for myself turned out to be not quite as simple as I had imagined. It did not take long to find out that I was dealing, not with a mere difference in language, but with an entirely different culture, indeed, a different world from my own.

My first meeting with Cathy was encouraging. She was pleasant, courteous, and friendly, talking easily with my mother and me. Intelligence and good breeding were obvious from the beginning; she was definitely from a family well above the average. I had high hopes for establishing a firm and intimate friendship.

But my hopes were whittled down daily as I came to realize that she had an underlying reserve almost impossible to penetrate. In an effort to become acquainted with Cathy, I ployed her with questions about her family, her home, her previous college years. She met my questions with the shortest answers possible, not as though she were reluctant to talk, but rather as though she found short answers sufficient. I once heard her tell someone that her name in Chinese, Hing-Ann, meant quiet, and that in China, parents gave a child the name of a characteristic they wish him to develop. Cathy fully lived up to her name.

One thing that puzzled me about Cathy was the fact that she seemed to know nothing about straightening a room or taking care of her clothes. She was not untidy; she seemed instead to be totally unused to any kind of housework. She tried to make her bed in the morning, but this consisted of merely pulling the top covers loosely over the pillow. There was no order in the way she kept things in her chest of drawers. Instead of folding her clothes to put them away, she would open just any drawer and stuff her clothes in. I tried to ask her tactfully if Chinese girls generally help around their homes. She explained that her family had always had a maid for housework and laundry and a "cooker." Even her mother had never learned to cook.

Efforts to include Cathy in my

own activities were usually unsuccessful. She would not walk a few short blocks up town in the hot sun, nor go to the library in the rain. When I invited her to visit me for a weekend, she declined because she did not want to be too tired to study when she came back to school. Most of this was due to her delicate constitution; she was tiny and fragile, without much energy. But I realized, too, that she was unused to the hurried pace of Americans, who seldom let weather or loss of sleep stand in the way of their plans.

At the end of summer school I did not feel that I had fully reached my goal. I did not really know Cathy and feel close to her, as I would have liked, but I did understand her, at least in part. Now I realize that I had wrongly expected her to act like an American girl instead of a Chinese girl. A few short months in the United States could not undo twenty years of training for life in a very difficult land.

Mademoiselle Contest Is Open To All

Mademoiselle Magazine has begun its campaign for twenty guest editors for its 1957-58 College Board.

The twenty winners of the contest will illustrate and edit the August, 1958 College issue.

Mademoiselle is looking for a girl to be editor-in-chief and for additional staff members to serve as fashion and merchandising editors, to do art work, to promote the magazine and handle advertising, to write editorials, features, and critical reviews.

There are definite projects that a student may choose in her field of interest. These must be submitted by November 30.

The winners will have a salaried month in New York where they will edit the College Issue. During this time, they will meet prominent authors, editors and designers. New York.

Five Seniors Are Chosen

(Continued from Page One)
ley is editor of *Sights and Insights*.

Shirley's other activities include being president of the Freshman class, serving as president of Clewell, and being a member of the Student Government. Besides her annual work, she is also active this year in the President's Forum, the Nominating Committee, and the F. T. A.

An English major from Coral Gables, Fla., Martha Jarvis has done outstanding work at Salem. She was a student at the University of Oslo on the Strong Scholarship and has been on the Presidents Forum and the Orientation Committee. This year, Martha is editor of the *Salemite*.

Martha has also had roles in Pierrette plays and been treasurer of the IRS. She directed last year's May Day pageant and plans to do this again this year. She is also a member of FTA. In the field of academic honors, Martha has earned membership in Phi Alpha Theta and the Honor Society. She is the *Salemite's* representative on the Lecture Series.

Nollner Morrisett from Lynchburg, Va., is a member of Stee Gee. She was on the May Court, a Chapel Marshal and past president of Sisters Dorm. Nollner is majoring in Sociology-Economics.

This year Nollner is Business Manager of the *Sights and Insights* and Treasurer of the May Day Committee. She is also currently active in the FTA and IRS.

Lynn Hamrick, a voice major from Winston-Salem is president of the Pierrettes. Last year she received the first Pierrot Award for her outstanding work with the Pierrettes. Lynn was a scholarship student at the University of Oslo last summer, a past member of IRS and is Assistant Director of the Choral Ensemble this year.

President of the Student Government and majoring in Religion is Mary Curtis Wrike from Graham, N. C. Curt is a Pierrette, past secretary of Stee Gee, Y Council and past treasurer of A. A.

In her capacity of President of the Student Body, Mary Curtis is also head of the Nominating Committee and the Orientation Committee. She is also the Student Body representative on all official committees. Mary Curtis has worked, in some way, for almost every organization on campus.

Smith's Art Is Shown This Week

The painting exhibited in Main Hall this week is a landscape by Elizabeth Smith done in oils on cardboard. The building in the picture is the science building. Elizabeth painted the picture in art lab during the last week of October. To quote her, "It was an experiment in the use of bright colors."

Elizabeth is a junior this year and is majoring in art and minoring in French. After graduation she plans to do work at Richmond Professional Institute preparatory to going into commercial art.

New Courses Are Offered

Registration for second semester courses begin the week of November 20th-27th.

A nice variety of electives is being offered.

In economics, there's Personal Finance. In English, there's English Drama to 1800, Victorian Era, the English Novel, 1860 to 1945. Students interested in history might take Modern Political Thought and Government, United States in World Affairs, or Russia, 1850 to Present. There are many more possibilities. Why not take a look at the list of courses for the second semester posted on the bulletin board in Main Hall.

News Briefs

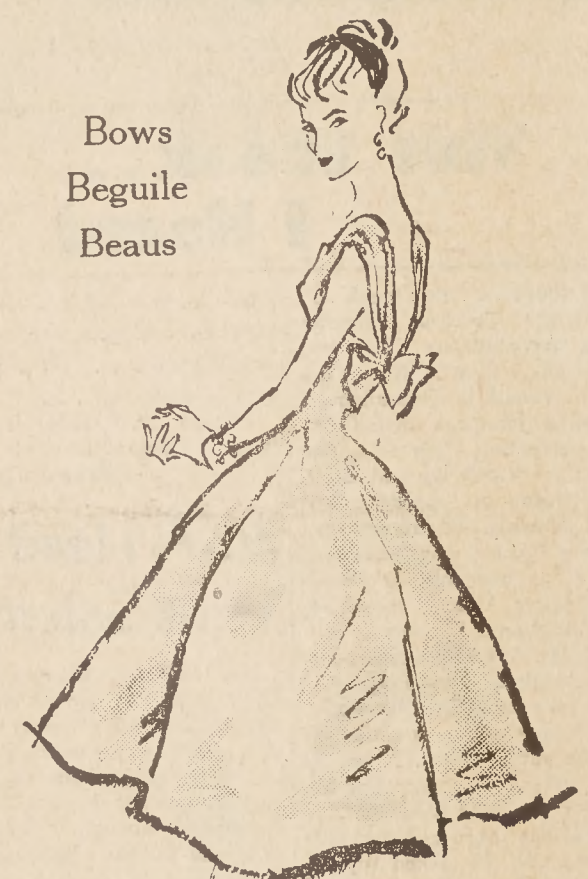
Thanksgiving holidays begin Wednesday, November 27, at 1:00 p.m. and end at 8:30 a.m., Monday, December 2. Students are reminded that all unexcused absences on November 26 and 27 and December 2 and 3 will be counted as double cuts.

The Humanities Club will meet Monday night at 7:30 in the apartment of George Arnold, a local artist. The topic for the evening will be Philosophy. Any students interested in attending should be at the Day Student Center at 7:15. Coffee will be served.

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