

## Students' Interest In Religious Activity Lags

Was Spiritual Guidance Week a yardstick by which we may measure the interest Salemites have in religion? If so, we fall pitifully short. Is there any need for such a program on a church-affiliated campus?

You say it's hard to attend evening meetings for days in a row. Granted. Is it equally difficult to attend morning devotions and Sunday evening vespers? When would you suggest we arrange such meetings—maybe after lunch?

Students are being asked questions—their religious beliefs are being challenged in the dormitory and in the classroom. Good. Few of us can substantiate our beliefs and therefore we become confused and often allow our religious convictions to be torn from us because of our own apathy, indifference, mental sluggishness, or ignorance of the subject.

In politics one must have a firm knowledge of events and a sound argument to back personal convictions. There must likewise be an objective, open, inquisitive mind—to survey the field and weed the truths from the untruths, to distinguish propaganda from fact.

Few of us can distinguish "propaganda from fact" in the field of "our religious convictions." We rationalize and minimize and procrastinate until the question of one's beliefs becomes of little or no importance—to be easily pushed aside from day to day until "a guide to live by is shoved out by life itself."

Are you an intellectual paragon whose mind is closed to Christian concepts because you cannot completely comprehend the infinite? Are you indifferent—periodically exclaiming you just don't know what you believe—you're mixed up and don't care to delve into the matter because it's an endless search? Are you the steady church-goer who has had ideas and concepts drilled into your heart until you're now a firm believer in something you happened to inherit—in something you know little about? The problem of developing one's philosophy and finding one's religion is underrated. Each of us, to be fair to ourselves, must realize that the formulation of religious beliefs is not an easy one—but a necessary one.

The opportunities for you to learn are here. We suggest that you not allow yourself to be lead "by the nose" into any beliefs—but that each person equip himself with the knowledge to discern—do a little probing into the problem. Don't under-estimate the matter of religious beliefs.

—Mary Jane Mayhew

## Nap-time, Kiddies

Esprit de corps  
Zzzhhh . . . snore

Hard benches  
Lazy wenchies

Announcements please  
Cough, sneeze

Some speakers rant  
Others can't

Installation, Honor's Day  
Required, again? hooray.

The conductor's getting fat  
Three corners has my hat

During the prayer take forty winks  
Singing the hymn will take out the kinks

"Give the speaker a round of applause  
To let him know we apprecia—" (pause)

Yawn, yawn, time to eat.  
Esprit de corps, that's my meat.

Where, oh where, is the chapel committee?  
In Harry's, Main Hall, or out of the city?

—Tendrils

## The Salemite



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## U. S.'s Aim Good But Deeds Questionable, Says Recamier

By Sue Cooper

"Oh wad some power the giftie gie us  
To see oursels' as ithers see us!"

We Salemites are more fortunate than the lady in Burn's poem for the giftie has been given us—in the form of Catherine Recamier—a special student at Salem from Paris, France. I think we might profit from a look at ourselves from across the continent through the eyes of one of our contemporaries (a member of our peer group, as we say in education). I asked Catherine for the French attitude on American policies, and she assured me that she could not speak for her entire nation, but she consented to give me some ideas and impressions of her own concerning America. She said—

First you are wealthy. You have dollars and a powerful army, navy, and air force. You think that you have the role (almost God-given) of making everybody happy and defending the poor and oppressed. With a "big brother" attitude, you are looking in every direction—Far East, Middle East, Greenland, South Pole, everywhere. Your aim is good, but look at your deeds.

As soon as there is a crisis you rush in to help apparently without careful consideration of what is involved, and after some debate and thought, you withdraw. The Suez Canal crisis is a good illustration of this. You rushed in, pledged your support and rushed out again leaving a very puzzled France and England to drift for themselves with Nasser. This indecision may be interpreted by others as a sign of weakness.

At other times you failed to act when people sought your support. The people of Hungary looked to you for help when they revolted, and you did not support them in their struggle for freedom.

Sometimes you go too far in your actions. This is true in the instance of your asking the U. N. to consider the Algerian question. This is a French domestic affair, and you have no right to interfere. You have so many military bases in other countries that the people there get enough of America and begin to feel that they are being invaded by foreign troops.

I realize that foreign policy is very difficult because it is to think and after to decide which is the right thing to do at the right time. Everything is a question of shades on degrees—

You have a very wonderful thing here in America and that is your belief and faith in your country. You believe so strongly in something and you should preserve this.

I heard the last call for Farmer's Dairy, so I grabbed Catherine's arm and ran. Licking on a super cone of lemon sherbet, I kept thinking of U. S. actions and how they would be regarded by someone in a small country in the Middle East or an island off the Chinese mainland. I decided that we all need more of these foreign students' considerations instead of our usual democratic, republican or southern way of looking at things.

## Salemite Editors Criticized For Giving "Slanted Opinion"

Dear Editors,

In regard to the front page editorial which appeared in the *Salemite* last week, " . . . The U. S.'s Integration Problem", we feel that you went above your capacity by using the paper for such a slanted opinion.

The first paragraph of the article said that the *Salemite* is "the official publication of student opinion" but since no concensus was taken, to our knowledge, the article did not represent over all student feeling on the matter.

The editors should certainly have had the courtesy to obtain a wider range of opinion on a major policy such as this one with so many people involved. With the situation as it is today, a state-

ment on integration involves the board of directors, the administration, the faculty and the student body. What do these people think about your statement on integration or the "Southern Declaration" which appeared on the second page?

This letter is not to speak as "White Southerners" but as the "American Citizens" you seem to be looking for. We speak as American citizens who would like to be consulted before an "official publication of student opinion" publishes a statement which is not necessarily true for all of us.

Sincerely,

Joy Perkins  
Audrey Kennedy  
Lucinda Oliver

## The "Square" Urges Magazine Proposal

By Mary Jane Mayhew

Mrs. Pyron was laughing unusually loud in the library as she read the following:

"May I be so bold as to submit to the Student Council this idea. There is, in the library, a well furnished record room which I enjoy very much.

"But as one knows, the softness of a deep arm chair and the relaxation of a smoke increases the rapture of the music . . .

"I hope I am not asking for the moon, or if I am, that it will be quickly heeded.

"Wishing that the Student Council will have the kindness to take notice of my request . . ."

I remain—

Very sincerely yours,  
Catherine Recamier

I want to commend our French lady for trying, but Mrs. Pyron seemed to think the Fire Dept. would object strongly to smoking in the third floor record rooms, and that funds would not allow for the purchasing of soft deep arm chairs.

Soup for lunch—for lunch . . . Mrs. Cummings where is the usual Wednesday afternoon soup? Please, we miss it!

There has been a group on campus who has been battling around the idea of having a literary magazine. Does Salem need such a publication? We have our weekly *Salemite*—and our yearly annual. Do they serve this same purpose? I think not. A literary publication would be a sufficient outlet for the "up and coming" young writers and artists on campus. There are works which the paper cannot publish due to the function of the paper—"to inform." A literary magazine would instill more interest in creative writing and composition. I hope interested parties will rally their forces and begin work on such publication. I believe we need it.

Wake Forest opened its Lecture Series last week with the presentation of a musical comedy based on Voltaire's *Candide*. Lillian Hellman, the playwright, and Leonard Bernstein, who wrote the musical scores for the play, combined their talents to produce a musical reincarnation of a satire on one man's search for himself. The Wake Forest and Salem Lecture Series Committees have combined forces to have the famed British actor Sir Cedric Hardwicke, on October 31st. Sir Cedric Hardwicke was obtained after the cancellation of Raymond Massey.

Also the Wake Forest Dramatics Dept. is presenting the Arthur Miller play *All My Sons*. Tonight is your last chance to see the play. The general plot of the play is based on the unethical business tactics of a wartime airplane manufacturer and the effects the man's tactics have on his sons. It is dramatic realistic and has much of the 1947 wartime hysteria in it.

A lack of coordination of activities or organization of projects has caused many of the campus denominational groups to become relatively ineffective. This is unfortunate for those who lead the groups and expend waste hours in planning programs and meetings to have relatively no participation. It is even more embarrassing to engage the time of outside speakers only to have a turn-out of a handful in the audience. What shall be done?

Elizabeth Smith has devised a brilliant plan whereby we can have at least one egg every morning for breakfast. The far end of the athletic field is rarely used—we can purchase some chickens and begin a hatchery. Being a college with a liberal arts degree the school academic program would be all the more diversified by offering an hour's study in "egg raising". The department could then donate all eggs to the dining hall.

The girls in South are debating as to whether or not they should evacuate their dorms and leave them to the rats—or fight it out. From all I've gathered Frances Jennette should give some sort of recognition for braver. She has not flinched but has held her own with the "wee-beasties". That's the spirit girls, you'll win yet!