

# May 27... A Conjecture

May 27 has been described by a few fatalists as Annihilation or A-Day. Few of us need be told that this is the day set aside for the consummation of what now is called the Berlin Crisis. Our reactions to the Soviet Union's ultimatum have run the gamut from cautious consternation at Khrushchev's audacity to sober contemplation of what it may mean to us personally. Whatever may come of the Prime Minister's Conferences, whatever parleys Macmillan and Dulles may have, whatever decisions, (we hope agreements) are made between the powers-that-be-contending in Berlin, the crisis has revealed some rather pertinent characteristics about the citizenry's attitude toward the government, particularly the State Department.

It reveals the citizen's virtual isolation from matters of foreign policy as far as knowing what our objectives are and the procedure for following them through. Perhaps Dulles has been going around with our foreign policy in his head, as Dexter Perkins laconically surmised during his visit to campus, but we seem to be content to let him continue to do so.

It is only when we realize the personal import of a situation such as the one in Berlin that we cease to view the government as some abstract body who does little more than determine our draft status, levy taxes, and play I-dare-you with the Soviet Union.

The conjecturing of our communications elite makes the solution more perplexing. Each commentator has a different idea about what our course will be. To say that we as citizens have no idea about our position is to put a rope around our collective neck.

On March 6 we say we will not back down, whatever this may mean. What happens on May 27 will depend on our support of the unwritten, unstated procedure the State Department will follow.



## The Salemite

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY OF THE COLLEGE YEAR  
BY THE STUDENT BODY OF SALEM COLLEGE

OFFICES—Lower Floor Main Hall — Downtown Office—414 Bank St., S.W.

Printed by the Sun Printing Company

Subscription Price—\$3.50 a year

EDITOR Jean Smitherman		BUSINESS MANAGER Cordellia Scruggs	
Assistant Editor ..... Susan Foard	Asst. Business Manager ..... Betsy Gilmour	News Editor ..... Carolyn Ray	Advertising Manager ..... Rosemary Laney
Feature Editor ..... Grace Walker	Asst. Adv. Manager ..... Lynn Ligon	Headlines ..... Alta Lu Townes	Circulation Manager ..... Becky Smith
Joanne Doremus	Copy Editor ..... Sallie Hickok	Rewrite Editors ..... Nancy Jane Carroll	Copy Staff—Irene Naell, Sybrilla Caudle,
Sarah Tesch	Cathy Pollard, Healan Justice, Sue	Columnists: Mary Lu Nuckols, Bobbie Morrison	Sample, Sandy Wimmer.
Faculty Advisor ..... Miss Jess Byrd			

# Life Is What You Make It

By Jane Bellamy

How many times o'er and o'er have I said  
To hell with it all—I wish I were dead.  
The routine is too much—I'm so in a rut,  
I'll quit going to class—but I'm already overcut.  
Bells ring constantly early in the morn  
And just like Keat's Nightingale, they toll, "forlorn!"  
The work is quite a discouraging matter  
What bothers me more is girls' idle chatter.  
They shriek over bridge and mourn dead Tyrone  
Soon my skin begins to crawl to the bone.  
There's bound to be a bright spot in my life someday.  
How I hope it does come before I'm old and grey.  
Ah, yes, vacations and week-ends—on them I do thrive  
Yet they seem to be gone by the time they arrive.

An idea struck me that I thought I'd pursue  
Maybe I'd find solace in what great men would do.  
With old Samuel Johnson I first played and toyed  
But—"Life is a state much to be endured—little enjoyed."  
Hoping it wasn't, I tried Aristippus' theory  
But my head ached next day—my eyes red and bleary.  
Discarding my appetites and desires that I had  
I tried to be stoical and endure what was bad.  
To placid expression and subdued thoughts I did revert—  
But I gained nothing but a new title—"Introvert!"  
When I studied Socrates and vowed to nurture  
My studies, for as he says, "Knowledge is virtue."  
"But surely I want more than that," I cried in a seizure,  
"What if something happened and I got amnesia?"  
I tried benevolence to others as advocated by Mill  
I gave it up soon, as I got self-righteously ill.  
Schopenhauer led me into further remorse—  
Why would I want to live if my will were a loss?  
His theory of marriage gave me more pessimism  
As an instrument for propagation I feel a mere mechanism.  
As the rationalists view the world, "We know all we should know."  
What are schools here for? Just to take over our dough?  
No, despite everything I'll not quit, though it's screwy  
I'll just be thankful this school's not like Dewey's—  
"The world's a stage" by gosh or golly  
And this poor player has reached her finale.  
These theories as I have written them  
Are used too literally, so don't you follow them.  
But this method will show that it's "how you take it"  
For life to me is what you make it.

# Stee Gee Reporter Spot Checks Opinions Of Students On What Makes A Party

By Mary Lu Nuckols

The Student Council for the last two weeks has been faced with the problem of deciding what constitutes a party, and what should have to be approved by the Dean of Student's office. This seemingly simple question of "What is a party?" was brought up by student questions about the following rules. 1) Students do not stay off campus after local social affairs involving both men and women. 2) Students are not expected to visit in the home of men friends except with the permission of the Dean of Student's office. Thus far the Student Council has not been able to agree upon an answer.

Since there was such a wide range in opinion in the Student Council, the Salemite decided to do a spot check to see how many people the students think constitute a party. There was very little agreement upon this question.

Two of our Juniors seem to like a small group for their parties. Sarah Tesch thinks that two or three couples make a party. Evelyn Vincent agrees that three couples or over is considered a party. Another Junior, Harriet Herring, decided that four or five couples would be a party in her opinion.

The Sophomores who were interviewed thought that a large number of people were required to make a party. Both Jane Givens and Cathy Gilchrist considered that six couples would be a party. They also agreed that a party depended upon what the people were doing. To them a party had refreshments, dancing, and fun as well as a set number of people.

Some of our students had a more liberal idea about what a party is. Freshmen Sue Luter and Sue Fronenberger thought that a real party consisted of from 25 to 50 people.

This problem was discussed at some length Monday when the Student Council met with the Faculty Advisory Board. In trying to decide how to define a party the Student Council asked Mrs. Heidbreder why the rules had been made.

Mrs. Heidbreder explained that these rules were made so that the office would have information on where the students were and where the chaperons were in case any question came up about a social affair. She explained that the neighbors of people who were giving parties (whatever they may be) involving Salem students have called into the Dean of Student's office and complained about noise or asked for information. If this information is not available, the office is left in the embarrassing position of seeming not to care where the students are.

Many of the girls, while agreeing that the office should know where the students are, think that these vague rules should be made more definite. Now, as it is, there is a great deal of question about what a party is and what should be approved. As the problem stands, such questions as "Can I double date to the Plantation and come back and spend the night out in town?" and "If my date and I go to the home of a married couple here in Winston-Salem to play bridge, does the host or hostess have to call in and issue the invitation through the office?" The question also came up as to whether the parents of a boy living in town have to call in to invite a girl to come and eat dinner with them and to visit. It will be very difficult to arrive at any one decision on these problems.

As one of the Stee Gee members said after the meeting Monday, "I have gotten up to the point that I don't care what they decide a party is as long as the rules are definite."

# Williams Recalls Experience Of Election

Being elected President of the Student Body is one of the greatest honors and also one of the heaviest responsibilities that can come to a college student. Nan Williams, fully aware of and capable of handling the responsibility, is also grateful for the honor.

Nan received the letter from the Nominating Committee telling her of the election results on Wednesday afternoon just before she was to go into a math lab. As the results were supposed to be fairly secret until the announcement at dinner, Nan didn't want to show her feelings in lab and, therefore, didn't

open the letter. However, her roommate Pat Weeks learned the results and, not caring about math lab, took the letter down to Nan with a command to open it. Nan says that, as she read the letter, she experienced a "warm feeling"—the excitement, the back-slapping, the jokes about "Pres." came later. For those first few minutes she was simply happy that the students thought she would make a good Stee Gee President.

Nan will bring to her new job a knowledge of the workings of Student Government and an understanding of the new system, which

she has worked with and helped form. Further, she will bring her office a real understanding of the honor tradition.

Nan feels that the honor tradition is but a part of the larger idea of the type of school that Salem is. She feels that here—away from the pressures of home, yet guided by example and tradition—one has the opportunity to mature. An understanding and a sense of responsibility to the honor tradition should be a part of this maturity. Nan explains, "Individual growth is the reason for the system and is more important than the rules."

# Kingston Trio Is Cancelled So Salemites Anticipate Easter Bunny

By Bobbie Morrison and Frances Gunn  
A SONG TO SPRING

Spring is coming  
Skirts are getting tight.  
Please to take a safari  
In the middle of the night.  
If you can't take a safari,  
A week-end will do—  
If you can't take a week-end  
What'ya doing in college?

A most uneventful week . . . unfortunately, the Big Trio cancelled at Davidson, to the disappointment of many Salemites. But Helen London, Mary Louise Lineberger, and Gwen Dickerson were fortunate enough to see them at Duke Monday night at a concert and party afterwards. Sturdley P. Sturdley, our underground worker, feels that the party afterwards contributed to the inability to travel, mayhap. However, and theretofore, they are to return to Davidson's fair campus April 9—Keep up the false smiles, you'll get there yet!

Another almost happening: A carload of 14 year-olds 'bout cornered Dora Bryan and date, Fred Tate, last Monday night in front of Sisters Dorm. Seems that several boy scouts just

returning from a meeting decided to drive around Salem Square. Two catches: none were able to drive and the car was stolen. Bumpers bumped, and Fred's car almost ended up in Sisters. Well, they've had roosters South . . .

Sturdley also uncovered the secret to M. Paine's painfully impossible exams — MA COMICS.

The Easter Bunny has received most varied and diverse, though generally condescendingly, opinions from Salemites because of his assertion of power in ordering that all eggs be dyed lavender this year.

Said one freshman "I just don't understand . . ." And a sophomore, "So long as he doesn't take away the chocolate eggs, it doesn't affect me." Other comments ranged from a junior's seasonal comment, "I mean really, lavender just isn't top drawer." To the keen observation of a senior, "So, impeach the Easter Bunny."

Then what ya' got? Ya' got thousands of bunnys trying to prove that their platform is best—That's what you'll have—Sooo—What ya' do?  
We close.