

## Religious Groups Must Be Supported

The Y. W. C. A. is again sponsoring Spiritual Guidance Week at Salem. Not only will speakers appear in both assemblies, but they will be available for conferences during the week. This seems to be an excellent opportunity for groups of girls to discuss with qualified people many of the problems which generally disturb college students.

However, the title "Spiritual Guidance Week" seems to imply that for one week only is organized religion promoted on campus. In the past years there has been a marked lack of enthusiasm among many students to participate in the church fellowships on campus. Is it necessary that this disinterest in organized religious meetings and speakers continue?

There is always the argument that the college years of an individual is her time to live, to break away from her heredity and environment and to discover what she is.

Should this phase require renunciation of all ties with religious groups? On the contrary, it should be a time for deep and thorough examination of one's beliefs.

This, of course, places a great responsibility on the various religious groups on campus. Fewer picnics and more discussions, fewer speakers and more counselors—less indoctrination and more questioning—should be planned.

The indifference to religion on this campus must be replaced by, if not devout hearts, then at least inquiring minds.

S. L. F.

## Is Salem Stuck In A Rut?

By Nina Stokes, NSA Coordinator

The United States National Student Association consists of students of approximately four hundred American colleges, one of which is Salem.

The main purpose of the National Student Association are to create a greater awareness on college campuses of educational problems and issues, to provide a voice for American students in national and international affairs concerning students, to assist in the development and growth of student governments, and to encourage an exchange of ideas between colleges.

We, as members of NSA, have a unique responsibility to make student opinion known and understood by various groups and leaders of this country. NSA leaders may express student opinions before the United States Congress and USNSA is the only student organization to be a constituent member of the American Council on Education.

All this sounds very good, but how does it relate to Salem's campus? It seems that most of us here at Salem are in a rut. We get so bogged down in classes, college weekends, and committee meetings that we leave no time for considering things outside our little circle.

Unfortunately, most of us are more concerned about whether there is mail for us at the post office than with whether, for example, Khrushchev's visit to this country accomplished any concrete purpose. We forget that there are students in many parts of the world who need our help and support, even if only vocal.

On our campus, NSA works with Stee Gee and IRC to stimulate interest and participation in student affairs ranging from Salem's adoption of the faculty evaluation program to the Association's promotion of academic freedom.

Because NSA realizes that most of the problems of the world today stem from misunderstanding, it has established valuable programs by which we can work, study or travel in European countries at low student rates. In this way students can learn more about the cultures and interests of the foreign students, and thus grow to a mutual understanding.

But what can we do here at Salem? We can attend IRC meetings and participate in its programs. By reading the newspaper, or at least the clippings on the refectory bulletin board, we can keep in touch with what is happening in our world, and we can get to know Lena and Marie, our foreign students. And finally, we can remember that at Salem we are preparing ourselves to become future active citizens of our community and that its future depends ultimately on us!

## Letter To The Editor

Dear Editor,  
No longer are there complaints from the Day Students about their snagged sweaters, pulled hose, and torn skirts caused by last year's wicker furniture. The right rear room is now a very cozy place for socializing and the left rear room is more conducive to studying with new study tables and lamps.

Through the Salemite, we would like to express our appreciation to the Administration for the remodeling done in the Day Student's Center.

Sincerely,

Eleanor Fishel  
Brenda Flynt  
Gerrie McIlroy

## Beat Poetry Gives Pep To Beat Students

The Senior Follies went over with a bang, but the real sleeper was Pat Weeks' reading of Beat poetry, with a background of bongo drums. This is the poem which was really with it.

from, *A Coney Island of the Mind*  
by Lawrence Ferlinghetti

The world is a beautiful place  
to be born into  
if you don't mind happiness  
not always being  
so very much fun  
if you don't mind a touch of hell  
now and then  
just when everything is fine  
because even in heaven  
they don't sing  
all the time

The world is a beautiful place  
to be born into  
if you don't mind some people dying  
all the time  
or maybe only starving  
some of the time  
which isn't half so bad  
if it isn't you  
Oh the world is a beautiful place  
to be born into  
if you don't mind  
a few dead minds  
in the higher places  
or a bomb or two  
now and then  
in your upturned faces  
or such other improprieties as our Name Brand society  
to prey to  
with its men of distinction  
and its men of extinction  
and its priests  
and other patrolmen  
and its various segregations  
and congressional investigations  
and other constipations  
that our fool flesh  
is heir to

Yes the world is the best place of all  
for a lot of such things as  
making the fun scene  
and making the love scene  
and making the sad scene  
and singing low songs and having inspirations  
and walking around  
looking at everything  
and smelling flowers  
and even thinking  
and kissing people and  
making babies and wearing pants  
and waving hats and  
dancing  
and going swimming in rivers  
or picnics  
in the middle of the summer  
and just generally  
"living it up"

Yes  
but then right in the middle of it  
comes the smiling  
mortician

## Khrushchev Gives Shrewd Performance

By Felicity Craig

Once upon a time, to adapt Aesop just a little, an eagle had snatched a goodly piece of cheese out of a window, and flew with it into a high tree, intent on enjoying her prize. A fox spied the cheese, and addressed her in winning manner. "O Eagle" said he, "how beautiful are thy wings, how bright thine eyes, how graceful thy neck! thy talons are a match for all the beasts of the field. O! that such a bird should be dumb, and want only a voice!" The eagle, pleased with his flattery, opened her mouth to sing:—down dropped the cheese which the fox snapped up and walked away.

"How is it," said Premier Khrushchev at Pittsburgh, with reference to Russia's desire to expand trade in strategic goods with the United States, "that you Americans have lost one of the features peculiar to America? The Americans used to be very bold and trade with the whole world. Now . . . they are afraid to stick their noses out for fear the devil will imprison their soul."

Khrushchev's visit has come and gone. And it seems as if he has put on one of the supreme performances of history. We have read the newspaper reports. We have seen him on television. We have heard him described, by first-hand witnesses, as a man of mercurial moods, earthy, shrewd, tough, volatile, unpredictable, cocky, crude, ruthless and wily.

But the most noticeable aspect of the trip is that Mr. Khrushchev has gotten exactly what he wants. He suggested a summit conference long ago. The suggestion was turned down. He put on the pressure over West Berlin, created an international crisis; then eased the pressure, and happily took off for America. It took a while, but Mr. Khrushchev was patient, and determined.

The role he selected most often while he was here seemed to be that of the international ambassador for peace, although his chumminess dissolved in flashes of temper when sore points were touched upon. It was indeed magnanimous of Mr. Khrushchev to compliment us upon the superiority of our sausages. It was gracious of him to admit that the American people and the American government are identical in their desire for peace.

But in this easing of international tensions which seems to have been brought about by Mr. Khrushchev's good-will tour, let us not forget the subjects which aroused his anger: references to the Hungarian revolt, Soviet censorship, and his statement to America that "we will bury you." Mr. Khrushchev wants certain definite things from America.


He is not particularly concerned for harmonious relations, per se. But he would very much like to expand Russia's political and economic strength.

American negotiators are at somewhat of a disadvantage. The American dream includes an ideal of ethical integrity for its heroes; Russia has no such handicap in her struggle for power. She is motivated by one desire, and one desire only; to expand and to grow great. Friendship with such a Russia is not worth a betrayal of West Berlin. Mr. Khrushchev has shown himself to be a leader of many qualities. But, as Hungary demonstrated, he is not an honorable man.

## Chapel Committee Needs Openers

The Chapel Committee, headed by Sarah Tesch, is looking for new assembly openers. Sarah is now attempting to select a fitting Scripture passage which will be appropriate for each program, but she needs new and different ways to direct the attention of the audience to the stage. In place of the regular devotions, it has been suggested that a patriotic song be used. Not only would this require new songbooks, but we would soon run out of patriotic songs.

Another suggestion is to begin assemblies with a poem of philosophical import or a passage quoted from some well-known author. The committee would like to have suggestions from the student body.



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