

Letters . . .

Y Says Thanks

Dear Editor,

In behalf of the Japanese of Nagoya, I want to express my sincere thanks for your contributions totaling \$150.00, and approximately four boxes of clothes. With the help of faculty and students this project has been a tremendous success. Thank you again.

Eva Jo Butler

Salem Challenges

Dear Editor,

In the last several issues of the Salemite there has been criticism of certain aspects of Salem, mainly of intellectual aspects. In response to this criticism, several girls have said that they find little basis for change of these aspects—they are satisfied. Before I give my views on this subject, I would first like to say that I too am very much satisfied with Salem, otherwise I have found at Salem a great stimulation to both my intellectual and social development. Thus I ask this question, Is there not always room for improvement in anything; cannot a good thing be made better? This does not call for change and doing away with what we already have, but merely improvement of what we have. Permit me to digress a minute and say that those societies in the world which have been too satisfied with what they had and have not improved on the old, have stagnated or declined; whereas those societies which have exerted a continuous effort to improve and those societies which today are our leading societies. Salem is a part of a society—our American society—which is considered a leading society. Why then cannot Salem take her rightful place in this society and improve?

Now let me refer again to the intellectual aspects of Salem. Salem has many things conducive of an intellectual life. In our classes we are presented with problems, and challenged to debate these problems. Outside of classes, we have heard some very challenging lectures: Mrs. O'Neal's talk on Russia, Madame Pandit on India, Dr. Africa on Asia and Africa, the faculty assembly, and Charlie Jones. I believe these speakers have challenged Salemites to think. But our room for improvement lies in this: Salemites must not just think about these issues, but ACT.

Salem, also, provides an opportunity through the IRC and the Humanities Club to learn more about international and cultural affairs. At these meetings students first "listen", then they have the opportunity to discuss with the lecturer, faculty members, and among themselves. The next IRC meeting is in December. I am not sure of the date or program, but I encourage all Salemites to watch for IRC announcements and invite all to attend. The Humanities Club will have its first meeting next Thursday, November 12th at 7:30 in the Student Union. Owen D. Lewis will present a program on "beatniks"; discussion will follow.

I believe that our first attempts for improvement must be in using the potential and challenges we already have at Salem, as stated above. I hope to see many Salemites next Thursday evening.

Elizabeth Lynch



The Salemite

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We Get Letters

Harris Praises

Dear Editor,

I have noticed that in three issues of the Salemite, Mrs. O'Connor has criticized Salem students for not being more interested in world affairs. If she went to the library occasionally she would notice that a great number of students take time to read the newspapers in the reference room. Mrs. O'Connor also criticizes us for not wanting a paper which emphasizes world affairs. The Salemite is a paper for the students. It should and does give us news of Salem's activities. If we wanted only world news, why have the Salemite? I am not saying that the Salemite should not include world affairs. I am saying that it should be a balance of world news and school news. I believe that it is this.

Marie Harris

Two Approve Policy

Dear Editor,

Being reminded by Mrs. O'Connor that we should use our school newspaper as a medium of communication, we take this opportunity to communicate directly with her.

We do not feel that Mrs. O'Connor has been at Salem long enough to justify her negative conclusions concerning both faculty and student body in her criticism of our campus.

We take this opportunity to give constructive criticism. Being conscious that the average Salem student reads a daily newspaper would lead us to believe that our weekly newspaper cluttered with International News is "a waste of money, time and effort." In the past we have enjoyed "Beyond the Square," and feel it necessary—we appreciate its effectiveness. We also appreciate the newspaper as a means of "communication" with our fellow students and campus activities. It is unfortunate, Mrs. O'Connor, that you do not take an active interest in the Salem student and her activities. A pinning or an engagement can be very important. And after spending our week days studying, we find the news concerning our fellow students in "Around the Square" refreshing, as we do not have the time to learn this news personally. Do not misunderstand, Mrs. O'Connor, we are not advocating a newspaper filled with gossip—just one column informing us on what our fellow students have done "Around the Square."

And can Salem have a literary magazine? It certainly can. Mrs. O'Connor has proved the Salemite is a testing ground! In so doing, she has aroused much literary interest—so on with the plans.

Louise Adams
Caroline Easley

O'Connor Explains

Dear Editor,

Because of those letters to the editor which appeared in last week's Salemite, I feel it necessary, at this time, to state the purpose of both of my letters which have appeared in the Salemite.

My purpose in writing the articles was to stimulate interest in matters on the Salem campus, to promote discussion of these topics and to incite the students to read through the Salemite. My purpose was not to be a "committee of one who insists upon making Hollins out of Salem College." I used Hollins College only as an illustration of a system in action to disprove the statement that an unlimited class cut system will not work. I challenge Miss Carr to find one sentence in my letter of Oct. 16, 1959 in which I propose to "make Hollins out of Salem College." Miss Carr mentioned in her letter "the allusion that Salem professors are not challenging." Again, I challenge her to find one sentence in my letter of Oct. 16, 1959 which says that. I asked the question: "Does the faculty at Salem feel that they must compel the students to attend classes?" Miss Carr furnished us with her own interpretation and not mine.

The views on marriage were well expressed. I agree with them. My point in my letter of Oct. 23, 1959 was not to condemn pinning, as that would be a ridiculous stand for me to take as a wife. My point was that this information can be transmitted fast enough by mouth and by songs in the dining room. On Oct. 16, 1959 over one half of a page of the Salemite was taken up by information of this kind and pranks. I still am of the opinion that for a college newspaper representing mature young women of America in the pursuit of knowledge, this is unnecessary and out of place. We at Salem have been told that we must be aware and take an interest in national and international affairs lest we be conquered unaware and unprepared to meet the challenge. Other views such as Miss Craig's, Miss Carr's, Miss Wilson's and Miss Moore's are well founded in their beliefs and should be expressed. None is absolutely right, for this is purely a matter of opinion. My thanks to them for taking enough interest in my article to write one themselves. This is what makes a good newspaper.

There are many things that I love about Salem too numerous to mention here. However, I feel that a person at an institution benefits more profitably from constructive criticism than from continuous lavish praise. I have hoped that through my letters, Salem girls and Salem faculty could re-evaluate certain phases of life at the college, formulate and strengthen ideas and opinions of their own and share these opinions and ideas with the entire community through the Salemite.

Anne O'Connor

Around The Square

By Sue Froneberger

Few Salemites remained around the square last week-end. Dorms resembled trees that had shed their leaves for the winter. Was there an air raid? No, just an evacuation to Davidson, U. N. C., and State for the week-ends-homecoming at State and Davidson, U. N. C. Alice Huss and Jackie Baker had something other than U. N. C. Alice Huss and Jackie Baker had something other than U. N. C. memories to show for their week-end—they came back wearing Kappa Sig pins. Barbara Edwards didn't need to leave town for the week-end. She received a Theta Chi pin from a boy at Wake Forst. Alice Dudley Howell is just as proud of the Pika charm she received.

Two of our ex-Salemities seem to have scored at U. N. C. Gertie Barnes was crowned homecoming queen last week-end, while Kay Kirkpatrick was one of the seven finalists.

Last week the Salemite stated that Sue Cooper is studying history and Jean Smitherman is studying journalism at U. N. C. This is incorrect—they are both studying English there this year.

Last week-end was a bad one for Mr. Michie. Carolina was slaughtered and Virginia was cremated on the gridiron, plus the fact that Mr. Michie had to entertain company all week-end.

Betsy Gatling's week was brightened with the return of "Frankie" Sinatra to T. V. Crockett Rader and Pat Weeks had no time to watch him. They were too busy working off hours for their drama class. No, they weren't rehearsing lines or making costumes for the play; they were running to and from the Dairy Barn buying cokes and food for those of the "theatrical world," The Boyfriend cast.

The seniors had the traditional tree planting Monday. They also planted ivy to cover a drab wall that the Gramleys must face every day. Dr. Africa gave a very interesting talk on his Asian studies in Wednesday Chapel.

The letters to the Editor by Anne O'Connor have brought about much discussion on our campus. Let's keep this interest alive, for that is the purpose of Anne's letters.

Salemities, let's hear some discussion also on what you like to read in "Around the Square". This column has unlimited possibilities and can cover whatever aspect of college life Salemities prefer. This is your column, let us know what you want in it.

Beyond The Square

By Nancy Butler

Although Indira Gandhi is not too widely known to us, she is one of the most important women in India today. At present she is the president of the Congress Party.

Since there is only one party in India, the importance and influence of her position is quite obvious. Many believe that her father, Prime Minister Nehru, put her into this position in order that he might use her as a puppet.

However, Mrs. Gandhi has showed by her diligence that she is not going to be dictated to by her father. She has made a number of speaking tours through the country to inform the people of her plans and of the progress of the party. These speaking tours are quite necessary since the majority of the people are illiterate and few can afford radios.

Under her guidance, the Congress Party has driven a great deal of Communism from Kerala, a southwest state of India. Great consideration has been given to the division of Bombay into two sections: the Marathi speaking people and the Gujerate speaking people. Finally she has taken a firm stand against the Chinese Communist's aggressiveness.

In accepting this position, Mrs. Gandhi went into an entirely new field. Both her father and her grandfather did a great deal toward the independence of India. Politics was the main topic of all of their discussions, and consequently Indira's thoughts followed a similar pattern.

As a child, her favorite occupation was delivering orations to the servants. When she was denied membership in the Congress party at the age of twelve, she and her friends organized the Monkey Brigade. They carried messages, water and picketed for the party and did office work and gave first aid when needed.

When she was twenty-five, Indira was put in jail for her political beliefs. After studying in India, Switzerland and finally Oxford, she returned to her country to serve her people.

She met Feroze Gandhi, a newspaperman and after much dispute they decided to get married. Her family, being Hindu, did not approve of her marrying a Parsi. Nevertheless, they were married in 1942 and had two sons. Feroze became a member of Parliament and Indira was acting as hostess for her father, the Prime Minister. Thus they were seldom together except for occasional vacations.

Father and daughter working closely together, one of their greatest aims is to give equal opportunity to all citizens. They are not trying to make the people equal but must improve the conditions of the poor people. To carry this out, Mrs. Gandhi proposes a form of socialism, one that can be readily adapted to the needs of the country. In further explanation, she says, "... There are some sectors on which private capital just cannot work effectively and, that is where the state has to step in. But neither private enterprise nor the state can do alone. All must pull together."

Finally with regard to Communism inside India, Mrs. Gandhi definitely opposes it. She has made a number of speeches denouncing Communism. As a result, many have made similar speeches condemning Communists and their actions. The Communists have lost a great deal of support in India not only as a result of these speeches but because of their actions on Tibet and the Chinese incursions on the India border. Although the Congress Party has not gained considerable power because of the growing dislike for Communists, the party's membership has increased.

Indira's term expires early in the coming year. Some people believe that Nehru is thinking of his daughter as a possible successor since she is already sixty-nine. However, Mrs. Gandhi has expressed her desire to return to her welfare work and her family. Whether or not she succeeds her father, she is coming to be recognized with Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru.