



# The Salemite

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

OFFICES—Basement of Lehman Hall — Downtown Office—414 Bank St., S.W.

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Printed by the Sun Printing Company

Subscription Price \$3.50 a year

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## FITS Victory Proves Seniors' Lasting Spirit

Dignified seniors removed their caps and gowns and put over strong support for the FITS day activities. Commendation to the girls who so successfully did this is in order. It is only more strongly enforced because the present senior class is the founder of the FITS program. Two years ago, in order to abolish the initiation program of "ratting", they conceived and carried out the new Freshmen Initiation to Salem. To them it is a more effective way of welcoming girls who are a little frightened than berating them and making them the work-horses and scorn of upperclassmen.

The argument that Salem girls often do not support an idea, once off the drawing board, is forcefully combated by the senior victory. They began it two years ago, encouraged it last year, and showed the underclassmen the right attitude this year.

Again the top class showed up the lackadaisical atmosphere of the other classes, when every member of the class participated in Senior Follies. They are not too busy with seminars, practice teaching, and study to enjoy their final year at Salem and to make the student body know what togetherness, excitement, and Salem spirit really are. B. B.

## Faculty Neglects Chapel

The members of the Chapel Committee deserve a big hand for the time and energy they have spent to bring the chapel programs up to a high calibre. Chapel meetings have become two of the most stimulating hours of the week because they have been relevant, enlightening, and interesting to most of us.

There is just one thing missing—the faculty. We students can hardly help but wonder where the faculty members are during these chapel programs, which are deemed so important that they are compulsory for students. It is even harder to understand when we consider the excellence of the programs. We realize that sometimes there are faculty meetings, but we wish that the faculty would try to come to chapel. We might want to ask them some questions or discuss something in class. L. L.



"BUT..."



Until recently most books on science were written for the trained scientist and in a manner far beyond the comprehension of the average reader. Because of the lack of scientific training in our background and the inability of the scientist to speak our language, we are not aware of some of the most pressing problems of our day. Fortunately, several books have been published recently by recognized scientists, who are also philosophical thinkers and forceful writers.

**The Firmament of Time** by Loren Eiseley, presently Provost of the University of Pennsylvania, has the distinction of having something very definite to say and does it in a manner which is comprehensible to the layman and appreciated by the scholar. His message is that man is the most magnificent product of nature, and that he can attain his highest goals only through an awareness and appreciation of himself.

This work is an expanded version of six scholarly lectures delivered by the author on evolution. Although he begins with man's early history, he emphasizes the giant steps made by him in the past 300 years in grasping the nature of his physical world. While he stresses this accomplishment, he does not fail to state in precise terms the many relationships which still must be perfected. The author's thinking is mature and subtle. His essay is a delight to read; its poetic style is informal and warm. The premise is also a mental challenge.

**Man in Nature**, by Marsten Bates, also has man and his world of nature for its theme, but it is very different in its approach to the problem. Where Eiseley is philosophical, Bates is factual and specific. It is a clearly written and well organized book on the history of man. It encompasses, in brief, every facet of man's existence as a social being, while stressing his recent environmental problems with science and culture. The illustrations are good, and the footnotes are all in order.

**Science and Government**, by C. P. Snow, is a recent work based on a series of lectures delivered at Harvard University. A distinguished British novelist and scientist, Snow was a member of the Scientific Council which was in charge of the scientific aspects of England's defenses during World War II and has had first hand experience with the role of science in world survival. He begins his story with an interesting account of the development of radar in England and shows how bungling use of scientific information and scientific talent almost lost the war for his country. From this, he gives us some practical information of how science and scientific information should and should not be used by government and politics.

These books will not improve your scientific background, but they will help define the nature of this powerful force for good or evil which we have unwittingly let loose upon ourselves. They will also offer some suggestions of how to use this force for the betterment of all men.



The Interdenominational Group is going to sponsor a discussion at 6:30 p.m. in the Day Student Center on October 18. The title of the discussion is "Do you deserve a place in a bomb shelter?" The discussion will be led by Beth Troy and Judy Summerell.

The Y had a good turn-out for its discussion on "La Doche Vita" and hopes it will have as many again.

All students are invited and urged to attend.

## Beyond The Square

By Linda Wall

"I think you are fortunate to live in this stirring time of revolution," spoke Adlai E. Stevenson to the graduating class of McGill University. We do live in a world of conflict—ideological conflict between Democracy and Communism, emotional and physical conflict over Berlin, Laos, and the Congo. Not only in the outer world but also within our own country we experience the pull of contrary forces. The battle of ideas continues between Democrats and Republicans; the struggle of emotions rages over the question of integration in the South. We at Salem stand divided as to the meaning of honor and as to the way of strengthening the Honor Tradition. Mr. Stevenson is right: we do live in a "stirring time of revolution."

But why are we fortunate to live in such a time? Would it not be easier to live in a world of complete harmony and peace? With complete peace we would be at ease, but we would not be alive. Life is a drama, and the essence of drama is conflict. Without conflict there would be no philosophers puzzling over the questions of life, no teachers-stirring young minds to think critically, no advancement in the spiritual, mental, moral, or social aspects of life. We would be static—moving neither up nor down. No one would question traditional standards; no difference of opinion would exist. The essence of life would be missing.

If we are fortunate and if we do live in a world of conflict, we have a part in this drama of living. We are not on front stage at the moment. In fact, we may feel as if we're just a backdrop of one scene in one city in one country of the world. But we're not just props. Props are inanimate, and we are alive. As understudies, we must probe the meanings of this drama, pull forth its conflicts, and define our own positions. By keeping informed and ordering our ideas we are learning the roles we are to play. We are not to memorize our lines and spout them off; we are obliged to put expression and feeling into them. If we can assume creative roles, we shall be ready for the front stage.

But the tremble of stage fright may run over us. We may cry that we can never condone fighting and conflict; we may moan that we still want only peace. But peace does not just descend upon us. It is a goal, an ideal. It requires work, sweat, conflict—conflict with forces who want the peace of indoctrination, not of freedom. We may cry that we will never be a Kennedy or a Roosevelt; we will never hold an important position in this world. Are we so unimaginative that we must succumb to this pessimism?

There is a man who holds no formal position in any government, but a man who is playing a role in this conflict. His role is one of unification of forces, not the rending of them. He is Jean Monnet and his plan is the United States of Europe. Dedicated to internationalism and active at seventy-two years old, Monnet has fostered the unifying of Europe, especially through the three and a half year old Common Market—comprised of France, West Germany, Italy, Belgium, Luxembourg, and The Netherlands. The Common Market is dedicated to the elimination of their trade barriers and to the integration of their economies. With Britain's recent bid for membership, the Common Market has taken a forward stride toward her goal. In European unity Britain sees her fate and the future of the West. In Florence plans for a University of Europe are being made and financed by the six nations. In the Brussel's Common Market European High School, about 1,150 school children from twelve nations have enrolled and have opened history books, not colored by patriotic prejudice but revealed from every point of view. Monnet has started a revolution—a chain reaction toward unification. Although Monnet cannot escape the conflict over methods of achieving this goal, such a conflict could bring forth a gigantic force of unity—the United States of Europe.

What a role Jean Monnet has assumed! Yet, unlike us, he had no higher formal education. Let us use this advantage of education by being alert, informed, and eager to play our parts. We do live in a wonder-filled, dynamic-powered world. Let us not miss the thrill of these stirring times by yielding to pessimism, pity, or ignorance. Mr. Stevenson is right: we are fortunate to be alive now!

## Around The Square

By Tina Thrower

The sophomore slump is taking over the campus and news is scarce. To brighten up the drab meals in the dining hall, the seniors sang "Best Wishes" to Rachel Parker and Sue Sample.

The sophomores joined in by singing "Congratulations" to Anne Griffis, who is pinned to the president of the Theta Chi fraternity at Wake Forest.

Poor misfits! Our sympathy goes with you for having to put up with those lovely beanies.

Nancy Kizer, Sue Cook, and Jane

Kelly are making plans for their big summer in Hawaii as receptionists.

The juniors in South displayed their feelings about FITS Day by making their own award which hangs on the back door of South.

By the way, a searching party has been organized by the seniors who are determined to have—at long last—the FITS Day Cup. Where is it?

That sharp senior class has done it again! Senior Follies went off with flying colors and E. E. Spasmodic will begin giving free dancing lessons to all those interested.