

The Salemite

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Editors Discuss Cut System; Thought Before Decisions

The faculty has given a vote of confidence to the student body. By abolishing the present cut system, they have given voice to their belief that Salem students are mature enough to accept the responsibility of class atendance.

This motion places right in our laps the student responsibility we are always striving for. We cannot afford to fail

If we fail at this, we will have failed not only the faculty but ourselves. We will have proved we are not the mature individuals we say we are.

The responsibility of class attendance now lies with us. It is up to us to decide whether to go to class or to cut. If we can realize that we are at college primarily for an education, if we can see the difference between sleeping late or playing bridge and going to class-in short, if we can not settle for less than our best, then we will not fail.

It is Thanksgiving and the season gives us a moment in which to pause and reflect on our many blessings. Perhaps the statement appears to be only a song we've heard before or another plug for a commercialized time. Yet Thanksgiving, from its name, must be a time for reflection and evaluation.

In an era of crises in our world and even in our academic set-up, the moment for decision is approaching. No longer can we hesitate over our stand on world-wide issues; President Kennedy has emphasized the point often. In the Salem community, neither can we hesitate. Responsibility has been given to us; the challenge has been issued.

Before we can act on any decisions, however, we must precede them with substantial and intense thought. The thought will grow from our thanks. When we know that which we appreciate, we know more fully the actions to be taken to support and continue them.

Freshman Expresses Opinion On Salem's Honor Tradition

felt about signing the Honor through their close relationship Pledge Cards this fall. The following is the opinion of one student who did not sign the card. Other comments will be published periodi-

affirmation of my honor to the Student Government of Salem College. I feel an awareness, yet after signing this pledge I know that a re-

A major factor in the apparent throughout the sophomore year.

Adversities will

10t stay me from

swift completion

of my appointed round.

gort

The way is

unbearably long,

but I must deliver

this message to Gort

(Editor's Note: The Honor Evalu- | weakness of our Honor Tradition ation Committee would like for stu- lies in the fact that freshmen lose dents to know how other students all faith in the importance of honor

The stitch in

my side grows intolerable ... PANT.

Zeus! I'm

weary!

There at last!...

Gort stands yonder

awaiting, with

bated breath, the

scribblings upon

this stone.

O noble Gort ...

PANT ... a message

for you...!

As for me,

I die.

Social Events Attract Salemites way from Yankeeland to see her. traveled to U. S. C. for the game By Betty Lou Creech Cold weather finally came bring-Congratulations!

ing rain, colds, and big weekends to many campuses: South Carolina -Clemson football game, U. N. C .-Germans, V. P. I. Fall Formals, State I. F. C., Davidson Fall Functions, and Wake Forest Greek

Bonnie Bean didn't need to go to any of the big weekends to snag Bonn's SAE pin. He came all the Martha Still and G. G. Saunders

Want to join "Chubettes Anonymous?" This fat group is having a contest to see who will lose the most inches and pounds before Christmas. For more information see Gay Austin, the organizer. South is already full of sore muscles and "exercise happy" females.

Wonder who will win the prize?

Americans Must Lose Idea Of Complete Superiority

By Linda Wall

When we think of "the American people", we envision a group of decent, moral individuals with a common belief in freedom and democracy. We, the American people, tend to think we are more decent and more human because we live in the United States, a free and democratic country. But is this idea a true one? De we ever consider the possibility that "the Russian people" are human beings too?

To a beginning sociology student the concept of ethnocentrism is quite familiar. It is the concept that the beliefs and ideas one holds are right and that one's way of life is therefore better than any other. Of course we all like to think we embrace Truth and Reality in our lives; we like to believe we are on the road which leads "to the best of all possible worlds." As we realize this normal tendency within us, we may begin to see that the Russians are people too-people who think that

their ideas are the true ones.

Though they stand opposed to us and though their ideals threaten ours, they are still human beings. To ignore this fact may lead us into false thinking. One of the leaders of American Protestant thought and dean of the faculty at Union Theological Seminary, Dean Bennett, has urged us to look before we assume attitudes of superiority. A thoughtful, liberal Christian, Dr. Bennett warns Christians against thinking that God is always on the side of the West and against turning "the cold war into a holy crusade." Viewing the nuclear threat as "the most baffling of all our problems", Dr. Bennett states that the World War II bombings of Japanese and German cities marked the beginning of an increasing moral deterioration in the thinking of United States citizens. The temptation to think that damaging the enemy at a distance is more moral than killing one of them face-to-face is a danger to Western thinking. Because we feel that God is against Communism and all for Western Democracy, Bennett fears that we are in danger of taking "a moral leap from the posture of deterrence to the will to initiate nuclear war at some stage in a conflict." Is Dr. Bennett right? Are we in danger of thinking that we are moral human beings and that the Russians are crude animals?

If we are not ready to answer that question yet, we might look at what Professor Hugh Seton-Watson, professor of Russian history at the University of London, has to say. It is his opinion that the bad things Khrushchev's Russia does are no more dangerous to us than the good things it represents. A great mistake of the democracies, especially the United States, he says, is "the feeling that, if people are good and decent, they can't be our enemies, and, conversely, if they are our enemies, they must be devils." Professor Seton-Watson warns us not to believe that the Russian people, because they are Communists, lack moral strength. Like Dr. Bennett, the professor is aware of the tragic paradox of human beings and human affairs: "Very often the best opposes the best. It's generally with young native delinwhat is good about our civilization that the Russian Com- quents. Although segregation and munists hate and what is good about their situation that native oppression run a with the sophomores, who feel all- frightens us to a considerable degree. They are dangerous to knowing and who feel they can us just because they have got a genuine moral strength and break a few rules and still be smart are decent and rather admirable people."

Let us now return to our question: Are the Russian people enough not to be caught. The really human? If a Russian moved into the house beside ours, sophomores tell a select few how or if we met him on our travels abroad, we would probably As a freshman, I signed an to get by the rules; the juniors are like him. We would certainly not call him immoral or inmuch more set in their pattern or human because he was a Russian. Though we stand opposed conception of honor. A senior feels to the Russian people and their theory of Communism, and perhaps an awareness again of the though we'll fight them if the time comes, we can't call them meaning of honor and realizes its inhuman devils. Dr. Bennett and Professor Seton-Watson have affirmation will not strengthen me influence upon her life "beyond the said that this is the greatest temptation and danger before or my honor. I feel honorable to square". I know no remedy for us—to hate the Russians because we think they're immoral, the standards and ideals of Salem such a cycle except to emphasize because we are the decent, Christian Americans. For they're now and realize my duty without the Honor Tradition to students at not all wrong, just as we aren't; they're not all right, just as the end of the freshman year and we aren't. But they are "Russian" people and we are Americans.

Good

show,

old chap!

Damn these bulk-rate advertising circulars !

which was a thriller - fights, twisters and all.

Germans at U. N. C. attracted Frannie McClain, Anna Transou, Betty Cox, Cliffie Elder, Sally Smart, Sally Bacon, and quite a

few other Salemites. Anne McArver and Martha Ann Martin Cooper enjoyed the many activities at V. P. I. while Molly Scarborough, Anita Hatcher, Kit King, and Betty Pope were partying at State.

Davidson boys entertained many Salem girls with a concert by the Brothers Four, a football game, and after parties. Ann Sellars, Carroll Roberts, Elsie Vitale, Nancy Kizer, Jo Hiergesell, Daphne Dukate, Faye Herring, Karen Kelley, Sandra Morgan, Boo Best, Beth Norman, Mary Jane Harrell, Patty Warren, Sheila Smith, Nina Ann Stokes, and Robbin Causey enjoyed he festivities.

Wake Forest parties with the Catalinas and the Drifters drew large crowds. Rockin' and rollin' to the music were Jackie Barker, Vancy Umbergers, Mary Dabney Henderson, Susie Johnson, and \nne Simons.

Professors should now undertand why there were so many eleepy-eyed, dull students Monday. After all, about 250 girls signed out for the weekend.

As the paper went to press, Eleanor Quick, Joan Thrower, Frances Bailey, and many others were working all hours on last minute details for "Taming of the Shrew" presented Thursday and riday nights.

With Thanksgiving vacation only five days away, smiles and halfnacked suitcases are numerous. Girls are rushing to meet deadlines-the heavy onslaught of quizzes and papers hasn't slackened, although practice teachers have finished their work and seem to have a bit of free time.

Have a happy Thanksgiving!



Tales From A Troubled Land is the most recent fiction work of Alan Paton, South Africa's leading novelist and political spokesman, a white, who is committed to the cause of his country's native races. His novel, Cry The Beloved Country, is generally regarded as the most outstanding literary work produced in that country. He is also a writer of many political and social works.

This book is a collection of ten stories, mostly reflecting the author's experiences as the principal of a reform school, and deals throughout the work, it cannot be dismissed as written solely to further a cause. The human element is dominant. His characters are little people living in a society functioning with two moral and social standards, and their acts are more often the result of confusion than obstinacy. In individual situations, these characters attest to the personal qualities of love and (Continued On Page Four)

Letter To

I think the student body is to be commended on the enthusiastic interest displayed during Religious Emphasis Week. The student response to Tuesday's voluntary 5:00 Assembly seemed to be an encouraging answer to the question 'What do we really care about?" The continued interest shown at the remaining sessions indicated not only a high regard for the stimulating speaker, but it seemed to affirm the fact that Salem students DO want to put an emphasis on religion!

Trisha Weathers