

Paper Gets First Class With Rankin's Editorship

The Salemite congratulates itself. According to the ratings just released by the Associated Collegiate Press, the Salemite carries a First Class Honor Rating for the fall semester, 1961. Under the editorship of Ellen Rankin, this was achieved.

It cannot be stated that this is a definite step upward according to the ACP; however, as current editors, we can evaluate it partially as such. It is true that the standards of grading do vary from year to year, in that if the worst of any given group improves, certainly the best of the group must also improve to continue to be foremost. Each year the standards are set by the participating papers; each specific paper is judged against all others in the same grouping.

Still, with all the conditions, the qualifications, the Salemite considers itself in excellent company; only three other papers from schools in the under 700 enrollment class were awarded First Class ratings.

As we stated, the work was under the editorship of Ellen. It is her leadership and her staff which earned the rating. As the ones who took the editorship from her, we are indeed proud of her fine work. We only hope that next year, we can be among the foremost of the best—as this one.

Lazy Spring Day Causes Light, Serious Thought

When the weather is warm and classes dull and dreary, we wonder about many things. Some are light as the spring day; and some, as deep as "Intimations of Immortality." Some are puzzling; some are refreshing.

The refreshing thoughts are most pleasant . . . they require little mental effort and perhaps provoke humor. We wonder how one reaches the immediate area of the lily pond without walking on the grass. We wonder that the swimming pool is unfilled and the heat, terrific. We think the girls could refrain from leaving the trash there so that all of us could enjoy the pool. And do classes seem longer to other people in the late morning and early afternoon in the spring? Does air-conditioning seem the most wonderful invention since the automobile to us now? And does the Salem campus seem a delightful place when viewed from the third-floor window of Main Hall?

More refreshing ideas and activities come to the campus when a tiny little girl and a busy staff produce a brightly-colored annual full of happy memories and lovely girls. Congratulations to Ann Sellars and the Sights and Insights staff. Another group of students impress the campus when the May Queen and her Court rule over a sunny (we hope) afternoon and an "Old South" evening. The Archway staff is polishing the literary magazine for its imminent debut. And many of the girls are thinking of the Deb parties and balls coming soon. It is indeed a time to think pleasant thoughts. In spring, a young man's fancy may turn to baseball and young ladies, but the Salem girl's thoughts range over diverse areas.

And deeper thoughts come with the bright—thoughts that won't be expressed by some, ones that grow and develop until girls build their lives around their possible fulfillment. The thoughts are of more than coming marriage plans or coming exams or change of major or change of school. They are the thoughts on why we are working for an "education." When one must sacrifice a big weekend at the beach for a term paper, the questioning becomes mighty important. But when attainment of certain goals comes within the realm of probability, the answers present themselves. We want an education because without it, we are nothing. Our minds are our only advantage over lower animals and to allow them to be underdeveloped is to waste our existence. This is why we strive for education—why we ponder important things—even why we wonder about the little, the unimportant. Because we have minds, because we assimilate knowledge, because we are like all other human beings, because it's spring and a time to relax and dream.



NSA Defines Duties, Tells Of Convention

By NSA Committee

Apathy among the Salem students has been demonstrated again and again. No one wants to write this column and few are interested in attending the lecture series. Is it because Salemites are not aware of the importance of events beyond our square?

Although many students do not realize it, one of the duties of the NSA Coordinator and her committee is to increase awareness of the students. A vast majority of Salem students think they work only with the refugee student program. The NSA Coordinator is elected as one of the major officers on campus, but do you even know what NSA stands for?

This past week-end some members of the new NSA committee attended the Regional Conference of the National Student Association at Belmont Abbey College, Belmont, North Carolina. They found while meeting with students from schools in Virginia, North Carolina, and South Carolina, that the NSA can be an effective and influential organization. The National Student Association is the largest organization of students in the nation.

The national office in Philadelphia has done research in solving student problems throughout the world. This information as well as suggestions for solving Student Government problems on our campus is available to everyone. NSA also has over 500 films on contemporary controversial subjects available for a nominal fee.

The range of benefits that NSA has to offer each individual student varies from foreign travel to reduced rates on books.

During the convention, workshops were held concerning all phases of NSA activities. The role of student government on campus in relation to the students and to the faculty and administration was discussed, especially the area of students' rights. The committee discovered that Salem has one of the best and most liberal systems of student government of any of the schools represented. The only area in which Salem lacks is in student enthusiasm in events. It was evident from hearing representatives from other schools that no such problem exists on other campuses. Enthusiasm is high when outside speakers, or films, are brought to campus.

Students should check the NSA bulletin board in order to learn more about and to take advantage of NSA offerings.

Races, Parties Fill Weekend

By Sally Bacon

With spring definitely in the air (and summer very near) it's not hard to forget about term papers for a week-end at the beach or some other luring spot . . . Carol Threatt, Agnes Smith, Linda Smith, and numerous others went to the V. I. R. races in Danville last week-end . . . State celebrated with I. F. C. week-end . . . Dougie Heinreck, Lisa Rankin, and Lynn Ball went to U. Va. . . Best wishes to Pat Robinson and Mary Jane Dunn!! Mary Jane Harrell is Theta Chi "Dream Girl" at Wake Forest . . . Things were busy for those who stayed around the square last week-end. Beth Troy gave her music recital after long weeks of practice . . . Beth Moore found out how it was to be on the other end of the the joke. Sophomores were trying to finish their term papers—Seniors were dreading comps . . . The sun spots continued to be crowded.

This week Sue Cook has been working hard on the fund raising campaign while the students are digging into their pockets for contributions. The Juniors have big plans for the combo party. Too bad Germans and May Day are on the same week-end—ABTORFH's big day is Saturday—All the activities indicate the time of year that's quickly drawing to an end. There were a few sad thoughts as the "good old" Seniors marched in for lunch Tuesday. Summer time is near!!

Grad Explains Earlier Letter

Dear Editor:

A thing can be dragged out too far, but I feel I must say just a few words in re-answer to Miss Still's letter in the Salemite.

I did not specify in my letter that Salemites go to the extreme and dress in their Sunday finery when they come to town. I was merely trying to say that there is a great deal of difference in being "casual" and being "sloppy."

Of course, I remember those quick trips to town, and hardly ever did I wear my Sunday best, but I did make an effort to look well-groomed.

For many years I did hear the comments to which Miss Still referred and I was proud. I'd like to hear them more and more. And I commend the juniors for their Beauty Nook and I commend the IRS for its stand on good grooming.

Casual dress is fine, but sloppiness is too often used synonymously with casualness. There is no excuse for sloppiness.

The problem of good grooming is a crucial one at every period of a lady's life, and I feel that Salem girls are ladies and the problem isn't a lasting one, as far as this particular "crisis" is concerned.

My comments on the art gallery incident were based on a photograph. Perhaps my eyes deceived me.

I am not saying that Salem girls are worse or better than other girls, I am only saying that Salem girls should represent Salem and themselves when they walk that long distance from Salem Square to Fourth Street or anywhere else. The way you dress isn't such a far cry from the way you conduct yourselves under the new drinking rule.

It can tell the same story about you and your college.

Susan Hughes Pleasant '61



The Salemite

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