



The Salemite



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November at Salem—and we must study . . . and we must enjoy . . . and it will be brisk . . . and rainy . . . and sad . . . and part of a unique year of our lives.

"A Matter Of Life And Death" Heads Religious Emphasis Week

Attention Students:
A Matter of Life and Death—This will be the theme for the most pertinent Religious Emphasis Week ever to be observed at Salem College. In view of the world events during the past two weeks and the present crisis, the opportunity afforded to Salemites to evaluate the relationship of their lives to these events could be no more revelant. The topics of Dr. Heller's nightly discussions and his talk in chapel on Tuesday bear the greatest urgency to every Salemite to look at this matter confronting her so closely—A MATTER OF LIFE AND DEATH.

Aline Dearing
Sandy Smith
Co-Chairmen of
Religious Emphasis Week

Dr. Heller's schedule during his stay on campus is as follows:
Monday, November 5:

6:00 p.m. Dr. Heller will have supper in the refectory.

Tuesday, November 6:

8:30 a.m. Religion 201
12:10 p.m. Assembly Program "If I Should Die Before I Live".

1:00 p.m. Lunch in the refectory.

2:00-3:00 p.m. Individual Conferences.
4:00-5:30 p.m. Coffee for students and Dr. Heller Day Student Center.
6:00 p.m. Supper in the refectory.
6:30 p.m. Discussion in Bitting—"The Christian and the Future . . . in This Life."
Wednesday, November 7:
9:25 a.m. Religion 103—tentative.
11:00 a.m. Individual conferences.

1:00 p.m. Lunch in the refectory.
2:00-3:00 p.m. Individual conferences.
4:30-6:00 p.m. Faculty coffee—Strong.
6:00 p.m. Supper in the refectory.
6:30 p.m. Discussion in Bitting—"The Christian and the Future . . . in the Life to Come."

Evening Engagements End Dr. Gramley Comments

A petition from Legislative Board abolishing the procedure of allotting a specific number of evening engagements to upperclassmen has been approved by the Faculty Advisory Board.

The request to include second semester freshmen in the evening engagement procedure change was denied. Dr. Gramley, in a letter to Legislative Board, explained this denial: "Both the Faculty Advisory Board as a group and the President as an individual believe firmly that there should be a longer period than one semester for new college students to achieve the state of self-awareness, self-discipline, and self-control involved in this whole matter. We believe also that there should be consistency in regulations regarding freshmen, and that, thus, the evening engagements for freshmen should coincide, in a sense, with the Faculty's class attendance regulations for freshmen."

The letter further explained that the rule change does not eliminate the sign-out, sign-in procedure. Dr. Gramley said, "It is important for

the protection of the student and occasionally for her family that there be a record of her general whereabouts in the evenings. This is not a matter of administrative prying. It is a matter of common sense in the event of emergency or other reasons for locating a student or for explaining why a student cannot be located."

Judicial Board announced a new policy regarding students who fail to sign-out. Judicial Board Chairman Heather Peebles announced the change, which went into effect at the same time as the new evening engagement procedure. Judy Summerell, Stee Gee president, announced the change in a student government meeting, Nov. 1.

Frosh Receive Library Guide

This year, for the first time, the Salem College Library prepared a library handbook and distributed it among the freshmen. The handbook is designed primarily to acquaint new students with the library's procedure and arrangement. In previous years students were given this information through a lecture or mimeographed sheets.

There are several reasons the library staff decided to prepare a handbook. Almost every college library has one, and the staff feels the transition from high school libraries to college libraries is difficult. Students must deal with more scholarly, detailed catalogue cards, more specialized references and in many cases, a sizeably larger library.

The handbook, which has an attractive tan cover with a sketch of the library entrance, is twelve pages in length. It contains information about checking out books, fines for overdue books and use of reserved books. It includes a brief history of the library. There is a selected list of references, encyclopedias, and indexes which students are expected to know. The catalogue carding system is explained. Information about the library's special collections, such as the Record Collections, the one on the Moravian Church, and the one in the Treasure Room is also included.

Since the library must serve the senior as well as the freshman, it would be natural for the new student to be a little confused. The Salem College Library Handbook is an "attempt to get compact, useful information about the library between two covers" with the hope that this information will help eliminate confusion.

Students Review Books, Discuss Age Of Insecurity In Six Areas

(Editor's Note: This article reviewing several of the books on the Summer Reading List was compiled by various students to indicate their benefit from the suggested reading and to suggest to other Salemites some of the ideas to be found in certain books.)

Bearing the title "The Age of Insecurity", the reading list attempted to suggest several authors, each with a concept or attitude or emotion about the twentieth century insecurity.

Eric Fromm, in his **Escape From Freedom and The Fear of Freedom**, is attempting to explain the reasons for the appeal of conformity to modern society. He feels that the individual bows to conformity because the burden of being individualistic is too much for modern man to bear. Mr. Fromm points out that this conformity in its most radical form, can lead people to support a group theology such as Nazism or totalitarian Communism. There seems to be a conflict in man between his desire for individuality and his need to be part of a community. Elmer Davis, in **But We Were Born Free**, shares Fromm's beliefs, as he shows in addition to ways in which man is attempting to throw over his heritage and man's fear of actual freedom. Books like William J. Lederer's **Nation of Sheep** further the idea of modern man's desires to conform, as he attacks Americans for their willingness to follow the leader rather than to assert their abilities to make decisions.

The theme of insecurity is expanded to include the aspects of society in imbalance. Allen's **The Big Change** is a delightful and informative commentary on the social development of the United States from 1900 to 1950. The author draws a graphic picture of the transformation of America to a complex and progressive society. Vance Packer more frankly and cynically devotes **The Status Seek-**

ers to the ways in which the modern American measures himself and his neighbors by established status symbols. Chester Bowles, in **Africa's Challenge to America**, defines the positive steps that must be taken by the U. S. to prove that we are not being false to our own traditions when we relate ourselves to the forces at work in Modern Africa today. Each author concerns himself with possible collapse or degeneration of society. Works such as Eugene O'Neill's **The Hairy Ape** illustrate the inability of primitive man to adjust to modern society, destroying himself in the attempt. Finally, Boris Pasternak's controversial Nobel Prize winner, **Dr. Zhivago**, shows a comprehensive picture of Russian society and expresses through Dr. Yuri Zhizago the cry of the human spirit for freedom.

The growth and development of the age of mechanization further contributes to the feelings of insecurity present in this complex twentieth century man. Huxley's **Science and the Modern Man** and Gison's **Mechanization Takes Command** explore the impact of machines on man's earlier concept of himself as a superior being. With the Industrial Revolution came the devastating blow to man's ego, as one machine was able to do the work of several men. Another phase of insecurity appeared.

In the midst of man's personal insecurity is the international situation, with nations struggling for superiority and threatening man with weapons too powerful for his comprehension. Setton and Watson, in **Neither War Nor Peace**, discuss among other things, the problems of Western policy in the Cold War world and assist readers in understanding the day-to-day developments in the world. The controversial, best-selling **The Ugly American** further disturbs man's concept of the success of some of his institutions, as the American diplomat abroad is severely ridi-

culed. Its authors maintain that the book employs "the rendering of fact with fiction". Its brief illustrations make U. S. diplomatic failures seem real and compellingly urgent. Arnold Toynbee also sternly criticizes the U. S. in its positions on nuclear weapons in **The Fearful Choice**. The author advocates unilateral withdrawal from the arms race because of Russian supremacy, saying that the munist domination is, and must be, choice between death and Communist domination, not a decision imposed on man by nations. Nevil Shute, in **On The Beach**, presents a most terrifying picture of present-day, degenerate society faced with utter destruction by nuclear war. The island-continent of Australia is the only remaining area for human existence, and the wasted faction of its society encounters crisis in the face of death.

In addition to the inability of nations to communicate is the extreme problem of communication between men. C. P. Snow in **The Masters** shows the behind the scenes power and politics in a college, as the masters elect a new president. The secret desires, emotions, and destructiveness of men pitted against their friends for position fervently echos the cry that man cannot successfully communicate and share with his fellow man. **No Exit**, by Sartre, more vehemently denounces man's failure to relate successfully to other men, as he portrays one man's hell being confined in a room with no exit and two other people. The torture and agony each imposes on the other two awakens fears in readers that herein lies man's weakness. Finally, Katherine Anne Porter's **Ship of Fools** creates pessimistic characters of the twentieth century, characters having no values and no hope as they return to a post-war Germany.

Man is plagued by the numerous forces acting upon him. In the

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