



The Salemite

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Printed Word Offers Opportunity For Gripes

This campus contains more dormant campaigns, more unsupported causes, and more verbal objectors than any place of its size in North Carolina. We fear that this will always be the case at Salem. Why is this Salem's situation? Why do we so willingly scream about our causes and then shrug when a medium of communication is open to us? Perhaps a letter to the Editor will not re-vamp the campus in a week but it will come closer than conversation with four other girls who also don't speak out.

Faculty spend much of their class time frequently discussing rules and situations which are both pleasing and annoying to them. At least eighty people have mentioned to us that they "intend to write a letter to you." Yet those letters never come and the faculty comments emerge as seven different stories on four different subjects! Why is this?

We feel confident that any Salem student can compose a coherent letter on any subject important to her. The writing of several themes in English 10 makes it possible. And do not pretend that opinions do not exist—we live in dorms, also.

Students spent days complaining over the new regulations on academic probation and expulsion. Two chapels a week have been a bother for several years. A Pierrettes production was panned but 300 students praised it to themselves. We said that the behavior of Mississippi officials might deserve respect or consideration—did no one disagree? The written word in *The Salemite* has permanence — the chatter in the dorms does not.

Supposedly we are able to reflect student opinion. We fear that such opinion has turned over to sleep again. Perhaps we shall discover new enthusiasm in this issue. Facts have not moved you. Critic's opinions have been accepted or ignored by you. Perhaps an insulting editorial will anger you. The bookstore sells pens and paper—we furnish typists.

Students Point Out Hypocrisy European Sees Image

By Judit Magos

I think we all, Europeans, Yankees and educated Southerners, agree that there is no such thing as the superiority of a race. We are all men and we are all equal; meaning that we have the same right for happiness and are to be given the same opportunities.

The discrimination, the negative distinction of the American South, makes the Rights of Man into a mere mockery as did the persecution of the Jews in Nazi-Germany. (I don't speak about state action, for the American government has learned from the horrors of Hitler, but I speak about the deep prejudice in people's hearts).

Naturally, you may say, the circumstances were different; the Jews have not been an uneducated, low, oppressed class for centuries. Also their skin is white and their reactions are similar to ours. And anyway, colored people are happy as they are—you might say. But no, the problem of the Jews and of the Negroes is basically the same. Both are questions of uncontrolled emotion and of deeply unjust, violent prejudice.

Even those of you who say: I am not prejudiced, I don't have anything against colored people, I even like them (yes, you like the maid who cleans your room as long as she remains "in her place")—would you marry a colored man? No.

All right, you have some excuses; you have been raised in this prejudice as you have been raised in your Christian religion—another screaming contrast: all those churches and only white men in them—and we know how deeply one is formed by early environment. But—would you let your daughter marry a colored man? No—you answer. You would raise her in the same prejudiced, old-fashioned, unrealistic, and irresponsible way you have been raised. And, shouldn't it be the sign of an educated person that his mind, his understanding and considering of things, controls his emotions and makes him free of prejudice? "But why should I be the one to say or to do something? I am only one weak girl!"—you might say.

I believe that the basic principle of American society, of democracy, must be applied to this problem, too. The problem will never be solved from above. The solution must come from the people—from single individuals. Every single person carries the whole responsibility for a failure of the relationship between the two races. Every person has to seek for an answer and has to give his voice to protest. A mighty choir must not rely on each single, comparatively feeble voice. I tried to show you some European ideas on the racial question. I will collect public information on this question from European newspapers which I will present to you later. I hope you will take the trouble to think about all this and to point out the mistakes in my thoughts.

Southerner Urges Stand

By Anne Heath

"We hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness."

"No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any state deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws."

"Give me your tired your poor,
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore.
Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost, to me,
I lift my lamp beside the golden door!"

These three famous statements from the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and the inscription upon our Statue of Liberty sum up in very few words the ideals upon which our nation was founded and developed; therefore, they should be examined carefully. Notice that the Declaration of Independence says that one of man's "inalienable rights" is not only "life," and "liberty" but also the "pursuit of happiness." Notice that the Fourteenth Amendment recognizes that all men are equal under the law, and finally notice the inscription upon the Statue of Liberty which emphatically states that America is the "golden door" for the . . . "huddled masses yearning to breathe free . . ."

Does America today allow all her citizens to engage in the pursuit of happiness, or does she prevent some of them from this pursuit by social ostracism? Does each state recognize the equality of its citizens before the law, or do some states either directly or indirectly twist the law to prevent equality from taking place? Finally, does America really want the "huddled masses," the "tired" and "the poor" for its citizenry, or does it try to repress them?

Obviously, we preach one doctrine and practice another. Herein lies the American Hypocrisy. America holds itself out to be a great democracy, a land of promise and hope for the oppressed, and yet the people of America follow a form of oppression and discrimination against the Negro race which cannot be denied or explained to the satisfaction of most foreigners.

Many Americans tend to rationalize this image of discrimination we project abroad by saying that foreign countries ought to realize that no nation is perfect and that just because we have one black mark on our record is no reason to condemn the whole United States. In other words, we are saying, "do not throw out the baby with the bath." And yet, it is impossible to isolate or divorce the race problem

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Eleven Co-eds Travel To Sewanee Mid-winters

by Mary Dameron

Cupid's arrows have been twanging all over Salem campus for the past week. It is evident, judging from the types of valentines left at the Book Store, that the Salemite's choice is definitely no longer the sentimental card. The age of "To My Sweetheart With Love" seems to have given way to "Hurry up and Be My Valentine—I'd Hate for you to Have to Stand in Line!"

Tuesday afternoon, Nancy Griffin scurried to the Post Office to mail a very special valentine to Annapolis. In the hastily wrapped box which she clutched under her arm was a pair of Men's shorts, which Nancy had gaily decorated with lacy ribbons, hearts and cupids. Kay Ascough's V. P. I. valentine had a big surprise when he opened his Salem nightshirt, the special feature of which was a big heart sewn in the middle of the back, reading, "Love you to the very end!" Decorating Patty Nash's room (and almost filling it!) is a 40" x 60" valentine which was presented to her and Jane Hall.

Salem had a visit from the Wake Forest Sigma Chi's Wednesday night. The occasion was a beautiful serenade to Diane Shull, who is pinned to Toby Hale.

From now until Parents' Day, February 23, wherever there's a freshman, there will probably be a song. Preparation for the special day involves memorizing a song for the show which will be given in Old Chapel Saturday night.

It's Sewanee bound for eleven Salemites this week-end, and the transportation which the girls will use is varied. Brett Barrs, Ann Wilson, Baird Brown, and Lucy McCallum plan to fly to Chattanooga; Charlotte Carter will travel by car, and Babs McCrory will take a bus. A new adventure is in store for Aileen Dearing, Ferne Hauser, Cacky Hubbard, Carolyn Bridgers, and Pat Wilson who are making the trip in an A-Rent-A-Car. If everyone makes it, they should have a gay time at Sewanee Mid-Winters.

Many thanks to the nice persons who cleared away the large deer rat which lay in front of Bittin Tuesday morning. For awhile, the charm which draws people to the senior dorm was rapidly fading!

Strenuous practice for intramural basketball has been going on in the gym on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday nights. The freshmen, sophomores, and juniors are represented by some great players. Come on, seniors, give it a try!

