



The Salemite



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Salem Joins Discussion At Huntsville, Alabama

A conference on teacher education and school integration was held in Huntsville, Alabama, November 30-December 3. The conference was ninth in a series of ten such meetings held throughout the southeastern states as an Emory University project in cooperation with SNEA and the Institute for Services to Education. These conferences deal with the role of the beginning classroom teacher in the continuing process of school integration. It was found that many college students were not finding sufficient opportunity for experience in integrated student-teacher situations. The conferences were not designed to solve all the problems of school integration but rather to bring together the people who will be involved in these situations in an atmosphere conducive to open discussion and consideration.

Three juniors—Kristin Jorgenson, Susan Kirby, and Lee Torrence—attended the meeting for the Georgia-Alabama region. They agreed that the situation in that area was more challenging and exciting than in the North Carolina-Virginia region. There were 150 representatives present from colleges throughout Georgia and Alabama, with approximately equal numbers of Negroes and Whites.

The activities of the weekend, which were sponsored by Emory University, included a discussion by regional teachers of the problems

encountered in integrated schools, and visits to various schools in Huntsville where integrated faculties and student bodies have been in operation for several years. The girls noted that Huntsville seemed to be quicker to integrate, probably due to the high percentage of NASA employees in the community who bring with them progressive ideas and plans for modern education.

Not every minute of the weekend
(Continued on page 5)

Salem Pianist Gives Concert

By Sissie Walker and Sallie Barham

Hans Heidemann, Associate Professor of piano at the Salem College School of Music, gave a very successful concert, December 11. It was well attended as Mr. Heidemann has earned the reputation of being an excellent pianist. He has made concert tours in both the United States and Europe.

The program that he played Tuesday evening consisted of the *Sonata in C minor*, Op. 10, No. 1, by Beethoven, *Carnaval*, Op. 9 by Schumann, and the *Sonata in B minor* by Liszt. The responsive audience called for an encore.

This concert was sponsored by
(Continued on page 5)

Eva, Ninnie Explain Their Season, Celebrations To Salemites

Eva Drexler and Ninnie Olson, Salem's foreign students, will experience their first American Christmas season this year. Christmas customs vary from country to country, and Eva and Ninnie would like to add an international flavor to Christmas at Salem by relating the customs observed in Austria and Sweden.

Eva says that Christmas is the most important holiday of the year in Austria. It is celebrated on Christmas Eve. The popular custom is for the Christmas tree, usually of fir or pine, to be kept in a locked room, decorated by the parents with candies wrapped in brightly colored paper, with Christmas cookies, all kinds of ornaments, gold and silver garlands and a large number of candles. The children are not admitted to the room where the tree is hidden until Christmas Eve, when the candles on the tree have been lit. The presents are spread out beneath the tree, but the center of attraction is a Manger scene of the Blessed Parents with the child Jesus. Nearly every family in the country owns hand carved Manger figures, often hundreds of years old and handed down from generation to generation, which are placed beneath the Christmas tree every year. Then it is the custom for the family, standing in front of the tree, to sing Christmas songs. Only after this

are the children allowed to examine their presents. Then comes a Christmas supper, usually consisting of fish and a variety of pastries.

At midnight, Christmas matins are celebrated in all Austrian churches and in the country the peasants usually hold torches in their hands as they come down from the mountains to attend services in the valley.

One old tradition still preserved in rural areas is that of "Showing the Christ Child." A sacristan and two altar boys carry a Manger from house to house, singing Christmas carols along the way. They are followed by so-called pastoral singers (children dressed as shepherds and angels who are invited into the houses to act as pastoral episodes, for which they are rewarded with Christmas cookies and candies.)

There is no Santa Claus in Austria. Christmas presents are attributed to the Christ Child, who is represented as a baby with angel's wings and who is really a symbol for the new-born Jesus Christ. The Christ Child comes from Heaven and is accompanied by angels who help him decorate the Christmas tree and distribute the gifts.

December 25 and 26 are considered to be the two most important holidays of the year. On these days members of families and close friends visit each other and enjoy a large dinner, usually of roast pork, ham and all kinds of cake and cookies.

The Santa Claus known in America does appear in Austria in another form, however. On December 6, St. Nicholas' Day is celebrated, a custom which has been shown to go back to the 11th century, when the people began to honor Bishop Nicholas as the patron saint of Children. St. Nicholas makes his appearance accompanied by the devil. The children must give both of them information about their good and bad deeds.

The devil prepares to hit them with a rod or to carry them off to Hell in a tub. Then St. Nicholas, dressed as a bishop, chases the devil away, gets the children to promise that they will be good from now on and gives them lots of nuts, fruit and candy.

Ninnie's family, as other Swedish families, begins Christmas celebrations on December 12. Actually, that day is St. Lucia's Day, and the festivities celebrate the longest night of the year. On this day the daughters in the family dress in white gowns and wear wreaths adorned with candles in their hair. Dressed in this garb, the girls serve their parents breakfast in bed.

December 23 is reserved for decoration of the Christmas tree. On that night the family retires early, while the mother stays up later to decorate the rest of the house.

Christmas Eve is the day of the greatest Christmas celebration in Sweden. A big meal is served in the middle of the day, consisting traditionally of ham. That afternoon is spent watching Christmas cartoons—Walt Disney cartoons—on television.

At the smaller evening meal on Christmas Eve a special porridge made of rice is served. An almond is put into the porridge and the one who gets the almond in his portion is destined to get married within the year.

During this evening meal the smaller children will ask where Santa Claus is. The father leaves the room and returns dressed as Santa and loaded with gifts. After distributing the presents, "Santa" disappears and the father returns shortly. The children are dismayed that their father missed seeing Santa Claus. One year Ninnie's mother dressed as Santa Claus. As she entered the room, she tripped, fell, and lost her beard!

Swedish families hold open houses on Christmas Day and visit friends and relatives.

Student Teachers Switch Roles For Hazard-Filled Six Weeks

By Patsy Mathews

6:15 a.m. Ring! The student teacher begins another fun day. As she springs from her bed, her roommate blinks, groans, and subconsciously renews her hate for her early-rising chamber companion.

7:15 a.m. Time to jet to the Refectory for a lavish breakfast most definitely necessary to hold the practice teacher until the 12:37 lunch bell.

7:40 a.m. Car-pools pull out to local schools—provided some efficient, dumb-dumb student teacher has not overslept.

And so the day begins, and that is only the beginning of what is to come in the next eight hours of the student teacher's day.

Hazards are numerous to the novice teacher. There is always the danger of falling madly in love with the little blonde boy in your sophomore English class. Senior Follies newspaper pictures proved to many mortified practice teachers that their students do keep abreast of current events. Next is the hazard of glaring down a sixteen-year old beast-monster—all the while fearing that he is going to soon stand up and thrash you.

Practice teachers are soon tested, then accepted or rejected. Miss Lowry's students gave her the "O.K." when they found out her nickname and greeted her with a chorus of "Hey, Mar, Mar!" Miss P. Mathews acceptance was a little more involved. One day, overcome by a combination of the smell of her kerosene heater and the noon meal, she found it necessary to dash from her charming trailer unit to



Loaded with books and papers, Randy Chastain returns to Salem after eight hours at the blackboard.

the nearest bathroom. Distance being quite long and time quite short, she got sick in the main hall of the building just as the Mixed Chorus was marching down the hall. By sixth period the latest "pupil scoop" was "Be kind to MRS. Mat-

hews—she's pregnant because she got sick in the hall." Acceptance, cooperation, and ultimate consideration have been hers since.

As the seasons come and go, however, so do practice teachers. As
(Continued on page 5)

Salem, 1967, To Become Salem, 1800, On Monday

By Katherine McCarty

Salem girls will be homeward bound and bubbling with Christmas spirit, especially after Monday night, December 18. Old Salem, Inc. is sponsoring "Christmas in Old Salem," recreated as it was in 1800, and centered around activities designed to recapture the spirit of the little Moravian congregation town of Salem a century and a half ago.

Salem Square will be the setting, decorated with boughs of holly and greenery strung along the white fences. Candle lanterns at the doorways and candles in the windows will flicker, and hopefully, all the lights in the college, including the library, will be temporarily extinguished during the event. Adding to the authenticity, a night watchman in early Moravian dress will walk up and down Main Street, calling the hours with the blowing of a conch shell and the singing of chants that were written in 1727 for the Moravians in Herrnhut, Germany. A costumed sentry, lantern in hand, will trot his horse

along the streets, and the Moravian band will play chorales that were used at Christmas in Salem nearly two hundred years ago.

The music played will not be familiar to the public, for it was only recently discovered in the archives of Moravian history. At the John Vogler House, members of the School of the Arts will present vocal, harpsicord, and flute numbers known to have been used in the early 19th century. Twelve members of the Choral Ensemble will be joined by male voices in the singing of early music inside the Brothers' House and will be accompanied by a string quartet and the 1797 Tannenberg organ. At the Miksch Tobacco Shop (1773) there will be cooking over an open fire and "illuminations" (transparent pictures) in the window.

Following the re-enactment of Christmas in early Salem, Salem girls will be joined by the public in singing favorite traditional carols, and many girls will return to campus for dorm parties. The girls of South Hall at the early boarding
(Continued on page 4)