

Petitions Attempt To Close Gap We Get Letters . . .

The list of Standing Faculty Committees published in *The Salemite* last week revealed that there are very few students on these committees. What this article did not mention was that of the four committees listed (Calendar, Curriculum, Assembly, and Library), only the Calendar and Assembly Committees allow students to vote. This can and has resulted in a gross lack of communication.

In last week's editorial *The Salemite* Staff challenged you—students, faculty and administration—to do your part in closing the communication gap. Since that time, an opportunity for you to do this has risen.

The Student Government, which this year concerned itself with the role of the student in the area of social responsibility, is now broadening its area of concern to that of the role of the college as a whole in the area of communication between students, faculty and administration. Legislative Board will write two petitions to the faculty to place student consultants (without a vote) on certain committees, which will include the President of Student Government as a consultant to the Board of Trustees, and student representatives (with a vote) on committees which directly concern student affairs.

The Salemite encourages students to sign these petitions. A large number of signatures will show the faculty and administration that the student body wants to communicate and share in the responsibility of shaping Salem College now and in the future.

More important, however, *The Salemite* urges the faculty and administration to endorse these petitions. The fate of this communication gap lies with these two groups. The students have stretched out their hand, but it takes more than one to communicate.

Professor Antics Prove Entertaining

(ACP)—Going to class may sometimes seem a waste of time, but you often can get a sideshow of professor antics that in themselves are worth the hike, writes Donna Bible in the University of Alabama *Crimson-White*.

Take Mr. English Lit for example. He looks like a sweet little ole Robert Frost, but when he opens his mouth, he's pure Basil Rathbone. He orates. And he goes on orating until you think his whole purpose is to let you hear that marvelous I've-never-been-to-England English accent.

But bless his little Elizabethan heart. He knows his Wordsworth, and you almost love him until he starts cutting your major.

The Bundle of Nerves is usually a chain smoker who has no ashtray to play with. So he stands up there waving his three-inch ash that peppers the entire room when he finally flicks it.

He drops the butt under his desk and pats his foot around . . . There it is . . . he has found it. Then he crushes the remains until he's blue in the gills.

And all this time, he's been reciting those notes with religious cool.

One tall and angular instructor has 3,467 sitting positions he goes through during a lecture. One minute he huddles like a polar bear, the next he arches like a vulture. He's a sculpture museum in motion.

The novelty in the whole group is The Paer. He has to be in constant motion or his thoughts fail to come in an organized fashion. He flies across the room, outdoing any prior roadrunner records. Over

. . . and back . . . and over . . . and back . . . until . . . you get . . . a big . . . headache.

May they ever be so amusing.

Coming Events

On Campus:

April 11
Susan Gray Fowler, Senior Piano Recital
Shirley Recital Hall, 8:15 p.m.

April 14
Lynn Cole, Senior Voice Recital
Shirley Recital Hall, 8:15 p.m.

April 18
Rebecca McConnaughey, Sophomore Voice Recital
Patti Hay, Sophomore Piano Recital
Shirley Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

School of the Arts:
April 11
Philip Ruder, violin
Main Auditorium, 8:15 p.m.
(no charge)

April 18
John Ieuele, Conductor
Orchestra Concert
Main Auditorium, 8:15 p.m.
(no charge)

CONGLOMERATE DORMS!

By Tудie Brooks

After much discussion, the final decision has been made to mix dormitories beginning next September. As proven by the survey taken by the Student Service Council, the majority of Salemites are anxious that this proposal be carried out. The survey showed an almost unanimous desire for mixing dorms, which brought the idea to the attention of Student Government.

Administration, Faculty React

Dear R. L. T. and H. E. W.:

I was naturally interested in the comments you made in your letter-to-the-editor in the April 4 edition of *The Salemite*. I write in reply not to argue with you or your opinions, for I couldn't change your overriding viewpoint, I am sure; but to correct the impression you seem to have that Salem College has not applied for nor received Federal aid and that Federal and State funds are available for the asking. (There they are: hanging on the lower branches of the tree. Just reach up and take a handful—or two or three.)

One fact is that since 1958 Salem has received \$139,204 under the National Defense Student Loan program and used all of this to help Salem students. This money has been administered by the Scholarship Aid Committee.

A second fact is that Salem applied for and received \$6,302 in 1967 and \$6,255 in 1968 for books for the Library. (If funds are available again this year for this purpose, Salem will apply again.)

A third fact is that a Salem faculty member, with administrative support, applied for and received funds in support of a research program about 10 years ago.

There is as yet no legislation at either the Federal or State levels that makes financial aid available to any private college or university for general operating purposes. Most funds available are in support of research programs, residential housing and certain other projects, practically all requiring additional funds from the institution itself. One nearby institution is approximately \$1,000,000 out of balance in its operating budget because of expanded research programs that it believes will not now be renewed . . . I could name some private colleges which are seriously in debt (on a 40-year Federal loan arrangement basis) because they so eagerly embraced Federal programs.

Much more might be said in regard to this whole matter. I would merely summarize by saying that you share the opinion so many uninformed people have: that Federal and State funds are there for the asking and that these "sources"

Sixty to seventy percent of the student body voted to try the mixed dorm situation.

The three large dorms, Clewell, Babcock, and Gramley, will each be divided among the freshmen, sophomores and juniors. The smaller dorms, Sisters and Strong, will be given to sophomores and juniors on a mixed basis. The dorm presidents in the three large dorms will be juniors and the dorm presidents in the two smaller dorms will be sophomores. The class of the hall presidents is still undecided.

The rising seniors voted separately and decided to remain alone in senior dorms. Their isolation this year as juniors brought advantages as well as disadvantages; however, as seniors they feel they should remain unmixed.

The idea of mixed dorms was rejected by a slim majority for the 1968-1969 session when voted upon last year. However, after much consideration and a sincere interest by the student body, it has been realized a very advantageous situation. As Louise Sherrill stated, "I think it's just great! It will promote a greater communication throughout the school."

hold the answer to all our problems.

Cordially,
Dale H. Gramley
President

P.S.—I am intrigued by the H.E.W. initials. These are also the initials of the U. S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare, whence many people think cometh our help . . . It may, in time, but not yet.

D. H. G.

Dear Staff,

May I congratulate the Staff of *The Salemite* on an excellent and provocative issue last week. I found the expression of student opinion, the articles on contemporary issues, and the report of forthcoming events at Salem and in the community most helpful and interesting. Keep up the good work.

Clark A. Thompson

Dear Editor:

In the past three weeks, over fifty prospective students and their parents visited Salem and were

given a tour of the campus. We find it difficult to recall one who failed to comment enthusiastically about the sheer beauty of the grounds.

The members of our staff will take this opportunity to agree with those visitors from far and near, for we find a walk around the College campus this Spring to be a most colorful and "proud" experience. From the numbers of students we meet on the walkways, we believe they, too, must be aware of the rare quality of the care and effort that has caused green grass to grow, flowering shrubs to flourish, and tulips and hyacinth to pop up in unexpected little beds just waiting to be discovered.

We hope Salem students and faculty will join with us in expressing sincere appreciation to the donor of the bulbs and, particularly, to Mr. Holder whose tender, loving care has helped to make Salem's campus "a joy forever."

The Admissions Office

Beyond The Square

Duke Blacks Make Demands

By Joy Bishop

On February 13, at 7:55 a.m., it was reported that 30 to 40 members of the Afro-American Society barricaded themselves in the first floor of Allen Building at Duke University, which contains the University's Central Records Office. The occupation occurred two days after the conclusion of a week-long celebration of "Black Week" and three days after a group of Negro students presented a nine-point list of "requests" to President Knight.

The Afro-American Society had a list of 11 demands including the establishment of a department of Afro-American studies, establishment of a black dormitory, 29 per cent black enrollment by 1973, reinstatement of blacks who failed academically last semester, a black student union, and an end to grading of black students. Those protesting threatened to destroy the records in the Central Records Office if their demands were not met immediately.

This event sparked a series of further demands, threats, verbal abuses, force, counterforce, and arrests, causing the activities at Duke University to become prominent in national and international news.

The issues at Duke are among those which have divided us as a nation, and which we ourselves, like everyone else in the country, have felt at times to be the sharpest issues of national disagreement in these last years—the issues of equal rights and opportunities for all people in this country. In an attempt to learn what lay behind and beyond the specific demands in the way of deep human concern, and at times of human indignity or injustice, three important items concerning the particular list of demands should be noted.

First, on February 4, almost ten days before the occupation of Allen Building, Duke announced two major decisions affecting Afro-American students. They included the decision to launch a summer program to assist all students who want and need special academic assistance, and the decision to hire an effective advisor for minority groups and in particular, an advisor for Afro-American students. These decisions were achieved in the normal course of the University's operation and they are only two among many decisions in which the University has taken positive action in the last few months.

Second, in a number of cases, the University is actively at work on problems which it will take some time for Duke or any other university to solve adequately—for instance, the finding of a black advisor who is absolutely right or the development of a program of Afro-American studies which has academic solidarity and, at the same time, has relevance to many students in our community.

Third, a misunderstanding seemed to exist about requests and demands which had been made. The real concern of the Afro-American students is that the enrollment of black students at Duke increase beyond its low level. This is a concern which many share—to speak of one particular percentage is not wise—to speak of increase is not only wise but honest. The discussion of a grading system for Afro-American students may very well be a discussion of the nature of grading systems in the University world for all students. To select only one group and talk about a special grading system for it would clearly be unwise and insulting. No one pretends that any one grading system is the ideal for the the whole academic community.

A great deal must still be done to create within the learning experience at Duke programs which are meaningful and significant, not only for the black student but for all students at the University. Illegal occupation of a building on any university campus for any reason at all should not be condoned. This sort of aggressive action is no way in which to resolve a problem—it simply compounds it. Peaceful confrontation among human beings with a true desire for the understanding of one another's points of view was the only constructive road for the University. Conflict and violence interfere with ways of meeting. They do not clear the road, they block it.



The Salemite



MEMBER

Published every Friday of the College year by the Student Body of Salem College

OFFICES: Basement of Student Center

Printed by the Sun Printing Company

Subscription Price \$4.50 a year

Editor-in-Chief Sandy Kelley
Editors Carol Carson, Polly Smith
Business Manager Joy Bishop
Assistant Editor Pat Sanders
Managing Editor Sara Engram
News Editor Ginger Zemp

Feature Editor Jane Cross
Sports Editor Debbie Lotz
Copy Editor Cyndee Grant
Advertising Manager Carol Carter
Photography Editor Pelham Lyles
Chief Photog. Willie Everhart
Headline Staff Jeanne Patterson, Sandra Pappas
Managing Staff Cyndee Grant, Sandy Emerson
Layout Ginger Neill, Linyer Ward, Sandy Emerson
Circulation Manager Libby Seibert
Advisor Mrs. Laura Nicholson