

# The Twig



Member North Carolina Collegiate Press Association. Official Organ of the Student Body of Meredith College.

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## Cuts

The absence of nearly one-third of the student body during the last week end brought up before the other two-thirds the question of cuts. In the handbook under the head of academic regulations is the sentence: "Students may be absent without excuse for not more than one day a semester. However, they may not be away from the College without excuse and so miss classes except for visits home." In the handbook in another place the privilege is further limited: "Students will receive zeros for cutting the last recitation in subjects before a holiday and the first after a holiday." Thus it is impossible for about one-half of the student body to avail themselves of the advantages offered thru this privilege. For those girls who live too far away to go home except at Christmas the place occupied in the handbook by the first statement might just as well have been saved or used for something else. A six-day schedule of classes lasting from ten o'clock Monday morning till three-thirty Saturday afternoon prevents some of these girls from taking even the privilege of making a week-end visit near Raleigh. Why could there not be a system of cuts devised by which the privilege would really be for the whole student body rather than a lucky few? Since there are practically as many cut systems as there are colleges it would be no unheard-of thing to change this system which has held sway over all week-end plans since its institution at Meredith. This is not a plea for a greater number of cuts particularly but rather a desire for a re-statement of the privilege, at least making it more impartial. Reminded that we are here for work we

can only say that "All work and no play" applies indiscriminately to every member of the student body, so why not make our version of it apply to all the girls as well.

## FRIENDSHIP FUND

Though we have spent the past four years attempting to get back to a pre-war basis it seems that there are some features of that period previous to Nov. 11, 1918, which have come to stay—and one of these features is the "drive." In that time the American people learned that the direct and immediate method of procedure was the best way of getting funds and so long as there is need in the world, a drive seems to be the most advantageous way of enlisting the assistance of the public for suffering humanity and drives there will be. So in spite of the fact that we are sometimes a bit disinterested or weary perhaps, we cannot help but realize that the Red Cross Roll Call and the Student Relief Fund offer an opportunity for service thru our means if not our lives. The great present need of the Red Cross was discussed in Chapel on Armistice Day and the following information sent out from headquarters refutes anything that could be said against the Student's Relief Fund or Student Friendship Fund as it is called:

Appeal is renewed in colleges all 'round the world this year for aid to 90,000 suffering European students through Student Friendship Fund.

Famine conditions in Russia, and the terrible emergency in Smyrna and the Near East, make it urgent that student response exceed the 1921 gift of a half million dollars to students in twelve European countries. This gift came from students in forty-one lands, through the Fund. The American agencies sharing in the Fund are the Young Men's Christian Association and the Young Women's Christian Association in colleges. Gifts made this month will be sent direct to the areas of need through the Fund headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland.

A typical case of student relief has been found in the following story of Sonia, a Russian student, told by a relief worker:

"This is to introduce Sonia Kaprolova, the student I have spoken to you about." So read the card.

"I glanced at once at Sonia's feet because it was all a matter of shoes, but the two hunks of leather, oozy with mud, were so unattractive that I looked away very quickly to her shy little face. A pretty college

girl, large portfolio under her arm, rather young to be attending the Russian Pedagogical Institute. Pink cheeked and healthy, I thought her capable of walking two miles to school, but not on a couple of sponges.

"A great doubt came over me when I fitted the mental image of the feet inside those sponges into the mental image of the pair of shoes we had been saving for Sonia Kapralove. What twist in the process of evolution has made the American girl's foot long and narrow and the Russian's short and broad? This physical fact, which heredity or environment or the shoemaker ought to explain, becomes most inconvenient when one has a good-looking, almost-new pair of narrow shoes to donate to a pair of poorly-shod broad feet.

"Tatiana was getting the shoes from the shelf and Sonia was disassociating one foot from a wet piece of leather. Moist semi-circles had crept up her brown stocking from the sole. The joy in her face at the sight of the neat, black, almost-new shoes was embarrassing, so much that I hastened to say, 'I am afraid they are not going to fit.' It was too true. Sonia tugged and shoved and grew much pinker, but the uncompromising American shoe refused to give in. Finally she sat up breathless and murmured something about wet stockings, but Tatiana and I both warned her that she should not spoil her feet with narrow shoes. Great was the disappointment among us.

"Then I thought of a room full of clothing newly arrived to be distributed among the neediest men students. We must get these poor feet covered, and a pair of men's shoes would be better than none. The three of us trailed through many passages to a room piled with bales. With knife and scissors we made a hole in the first bale and began to delve for shoes. Out came a pair of men's oxfords. Too impossible. The poor child would lose them on the road. More delving. Tatiana shouts 'women's shoes,' and drags from the bottom by their pointed toes two high-heeled shoes, size eight or nine. They were the wrong shape again but large enough to allow for the Russian pedal peculiarities. Once more Sonia uncovers the moist stocking and the shoe goes on easily. Tatiana and I are satisfied.

"But Sonia only sits and looks at her new shoes—toe turned up like

## College Calendar

Saturday, November 18, 4:00 P. M.—Junior-Freshman Basketball game. Open night.

Sunday, November 19, 6:00 P. M.—Y. W. C. A. presents *The Gift of Self* in college auditorium. 6:45, Mission Study.

Monday, November 20, 6:45 P. M.—Mission Study. 7:45, Executive Committee Meeting.

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 6:45 P. M.—Mission Study. Thursday, 9:30, Y. W. C. A. Cabinet meets.

Friday, November 25, 6:45 P. M.—Mission Study Closes.

## Daily Bible Readings

Topic for the week—Right Thoughts About God.

Monday, November 13—Psalm 33: 12-22, Key Verse 18.

Tuesday, November 14—Psalm 37: 29-40, Key Verse 39.

Wednesday, November 15—Psalm 50: 7-15, Key Verse 14.

Thursday, November 16—Psalm 85: 1-13, Key Verse 8.

Friday, November 17—Psalm 94: 12-19, Key Verse 12.

Saturday, November 18—Psalm 73: 23-28, Key Verse, 24.

a jester's slipper, bulging ankles, overlapping top, uncertain heel. I should have laughed outrageously in any land but this where necessity makes comic section outfits an every day affair. Sonia smiles ruefully, murmurs, 'Droogoi latches. Otchen horosechi,' and we learn that her heart is set on the good-looking almost-new shoes. We beg, we plead, we perjure our souls with praising the larger pair. But no—it will be all right—her feet are swollen with typhus. The swelling will go down soon and the shoes will fit. Her stockings are wet. She will have a man put the shoes on stretchers. Then with a shy smile, 'They are such nice shoes.'

"At last she won us over, for the love of a girl for a pretty thing cannot be suppressed even by a revolution, and the right of a woman to govern her own feet has never been denied. So Sonia left the office, her soggy shoes on her feet and her treasures under her arm. And if today, Sonia is sitting in her class fidgeting with her mind on her feet instead of her pedagogics, the Student Friendship Fund Relief office refuses to take the blame."

Fifteen dollars feeds a student throughout the university year. One student is depending on you to see him through. DON'T FAIL HIM!