

ALUMNAE COLUMN

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 Alumnae Secretary: Mae Grimmer, '14, Meredith College, Raleigh, N. C.

To the Editor of the Twig:

What has become of the word *newish* at Meredith? Is it ever used in vocal expressions? I do not remember having seen it in the Twig recently— if indeed ever, though I would not be sure of this. But I do note in a recent number that uneuphonious word *frosh* used where the exigencies of head line writing would have permitted a word of six letters as readily as one of five. It cannot be merely because *newish* is colloquial or slang, or whatever it is, for certainly *frosh* is all of that and then some!

Now I hope that I am not so old that I want a thing to stay as it is and was because

So was it when my life began;
 So is it now I am a man;
 So be it when I shall grow old,
 Or let me die!

Also I hope I am not so strict a fundamentalist as to fear evolution even in language and the usage of words.

But after all, tradition is one of the greatest heritages of a college or of any institution of man. Even traditions about small things are valuable when they have grown out of significant experiences. They are symbols that add to the richness and individuality of life as embroidery to a garment.

I was told the story—a story at least—of *newish* when I was one. During the Civil War the Confederate Government was obliged to issue much paper money which depreciated rapidly. The older issues, being in the nature of a first mortgage, were more valuable than later ones which quickly became almost worthless. After the war the men who came back to Wake Forest to finish their interrupted courses, with the usual modesty of old students in the presence of new ones, took over the recently used terms and called the latter the "new issue." They suggested, and probably did not hesitate to say, that they belonged to the more valuable "old issue."

Like a pebble on the beach, the term was worn down with usage to *new-ish*, with equal accent on the two syllables, and finally to *newish*. In the meantime Meredith, which had been struggling to be born for many a long year, came forth in all the nakedness of a new institution, without the richly embroidered garments of tradition. It was not strange that some at least of the family ways should become her's—for was she not own sister to Wake Forest?

The story made the term mean something to me back in the fall of 1909. It ceased to be a pale piece of collegiate slang meaning a bit new, as I might also be greenish, or countryish, or girlish. Not only that, but it was something that not every other college had—it was as original as Son, as distinctive as Dr. Vann.

I hope it has not died. If it has, I am well aware that no artificial stimulus will resurrect it. If it has, perhaps this story will have an antiquarian interest for present students, or will arouse some other alumna to tell it more accurately and more fully. If it has not, then maybe my telling it will serve some curious *newish* today as my unremembered informant served me.
 HARRIET L. HERRING, 1913.

It is with deep regret that we learn of the untimely death of Josephine W. Parker, of Raleigh, N. C., of the Class of 1923. We extend our sincere sympathy to her family and friends.

The alumnae and friends of Meredith are very sorry to learn of the death of Mr. Ernest Hussey, of Warsaw, N. C. His wife, formerly Miss Minnie Middleton, is a graduate of the class of 1911. We extend to her our heartfelt sympathy in her bereavement.

PERSONALS

Miss Frances White, '24, is studying at Westminster Choir School, Dayton, Ohio. The "Choir," of which Miss White is a member, is going to tour Europe in the spring of 1929.

Miss Esther Royster, '16, received her M.A. degree from Rutgers University in the summer of 1928.

Misses Bessie and Louise Futrell called at the College Saturday, October 6.

Misses Pauline Freeman, Sallie Williams, and Elizabeth Brewer, all of the class of 1928, spent several days here this past week.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Edwards of Mullins, S. C., a daughter, Jeane Ward, on October 2, 1928. Mrs. Edwards before her marriage was Thelma Edwards and was a student here in 1923 and 1924.

DR. GILL INTERVIEWED

(Continued from page one)
 generation up to the age of eighteen. Because of vast population and prevalent ignorance the task of Soviets is overwhelming. However well the Bolshevik government may be succeeding and aside from grave errors regarding religion, we must approve the efforts of the Russian authorities to create an educated population.

While "Big Business" in Europe, on account of lack of native capital, cannot and does not as yet play so great a part in the life of the peoples as in America, it undoubtedly, is on the increase. The World War was largely a "Big Business" war; and there have been, despite the general bankrupt conditions of certain countries, immense movements that must inevitably affect world history. I need only mention one phase of the matter to indicate its seriousness. "Big Business" of the various countries is endeavoring to make international alliances, in certain industries, in order to defend themselves economically against America, Europe has come to look upon America, in these last ten years, as the foremost financial and military danger to world safety. "Big Business" in Europe glares, across the Atlantic at American "Big Business." The immediate future history of the white race will revolve around that fact.

Labor conditions in Europe are far from satisfactory. The European laboring man is under-paid and unfortunately has gone into politics, thus emphasizing class war. The situation in Great Britain is particularly bad. The Labor Party in Britain seems destined to return to power; and Socialism has enormously increased in Germany since the War. Even in Soviet Russia, which is supposed to be the workman's heaven on earth, the laboring man is no better off than before—possibly worse off, economically. The Italian experiment of Fascism in its economic phase, will be watched with the utmost interest. The labor question in Europe is far from settled righteously.

ON OUR CAMPUS

Friday evening at ten o'clock, Miss Ida Kathryn Allen, assisted by Miss Mabel Becker, entertained a number of friends in her room on first floor B. Among the guests were Mlle. Pascal, Misses Alice Dowd, Ruth Truesdell, Elsie Parker, Lucy Bennett, Ethel Day, and "Dot" Lindsay. The victrola added much to the enjoyment of the evening. The delicious refreshments consisted of sandwiches, fruit cake, chocolate-covered cherry candy, and salted nuts.

Bits o' Thought

MATILDA HOLLEMAN

The sparkle of a drop of dew,
 The chirping of a baby chick,
 The rustle of a blade of corn,
 Thoughts of a bright new morn.

The kisses of a baby breeze,
 The twitter of a tiny bird,
 The glances at a fresh new bloom,
 Thoughts of an afternoon.

The peeping at the yellow moon,
 The calling of a whippoorwill,
 The watching of the stars so bright,
 Thoughts of a lovely night.

P. Powell: What are you scratching your head for?

M. E. Check: I'm trying to get an inspiration.

P. Powell: That's a new name for them.

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