

ALUMNAE COLUMN

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Johnson Hall,  
 Columbia University,  
 New York City,  
 November 17, 1928.

Greetings to Everybody:

Yes, I realize that is a rather general salutation, but it is just what I want to say to all the readers of THE TWIG; for in that way I am able to speak to members of the faculty, the alumnae association, the student body, the maids and even Miss Brewer's cats, all at once.

Although several times heretofore I have had the privilege of writing for THE TWIG, never before have I been allowed to write as a member of the Meredith College Alumnae Association. My, how important that name does sound, and how glad I am to be a member of such an organization!

In the two months that I have been here, I have acquired such a fondness for my new alma mater, that I now feel that every girl who takes a degree from Meredith should come to Columbia for graduate study as soon as she possibly can. Since this was my first trip to New York, I had the thrill of an introduction to the city, in addition to having to play the part of a Freshman at the University. However, among 44,000 students, one almost necessarily finds a group that has heard of North Carolina and possibly of Meredith and that is congenial. Here in Johnson, too, as next-door neighbors I have to the south a girl from South Carolina, and to the north one from Virginia. Geography is repeating itself, it seems.

By being in the Hall for graduate women, I have enjoyed many experiences similar to some at Meredith. However, all rooms are single, thus entailing a lack of either roommate or suitemate (how odd it seems to have to blame oneself for everything!); in place of the familiar cry of "telephone," there is a constant race down the corridor in answer to the sounding of the "buzzer," which is one of the furnishings of the rooms.

I find the academic work here a good deal like my undergraduate work, except for the fact that few of my professors have yet taken a second glance at me, unless I happened to appear unusually disturbed when they glibly referred to the 500 pages of reading I was expected to complete during the week; and that at the first meeting of the class the professors admitted we were not expected to attend class again until examination day in January. What a long list of absentees Miss Biggers would have!

I had such a surprise during my first week here, when the University Advisor to Graduate Women called me to her office. She explained that she had learned I was from Meredith, and as Miss Mary Shannon Smith was formerly connected with that college, she wanted to meet me. With much regret I confessed that I had never had the privilege of knowing Miss Smith, but had heard much of her many attributes. The Advisor is a great admirer of Miss Smith.

Miss Eleanor Young, a former member of our English Department, is teaching in New York, and has been

Importance of College Newspapers is Stressed

"THEY ARE TRUE MIRRORS OF COLLEGE LIFE" SAYS OGLETHORPE PAPER. THE "STORMY PETREL"

THE MAGAZINE IS LOSING GROUND

Groups generally may be pretty well appraised by their journalism. But estimated by its newspaper, the college is too good to be true; judged by its humorous publication, it is merely a hang-out for fair co-eds and athletic heroes intent on swapping jokes, flashes, kisses and the latest campus scandal. The magazine, so popular a few years ago, is losing ground.

More than 100 college papers are published in America. Almost every study body supports one from the four-page weekly of the small college to the complete imitation metropolitan daily in the big university. These publications provoke student opinion on vital subjects and jealously guard the undergraduate interests. As a result they become embroiled in frequent controversies.

But what of college journalism as a preparation for life work? It is a comparatively new thing in the profession and was at first looked upon by old-time newspaper men as a foolish fad. Not so now. The schools are agencies furnishing young people well grounded in fundamentals. In the future perhaps one of the prerequisites of the profession will be a thorough-going education in college journalism. Such training has one definite value if no other, that is it tends to lend dignity to the profession. When young men and women study from four to six years to become lawyers, doctors or school teachers, journalism is belittled if men and women consider it time and money wasted to spend any time studying to become newspaper workers.

It is not easy for a girl to get a pe-

quite nice in showing me the city. We had a real "Meredith reunion" a few weeks ago, when Mildred Allen, '28, came to New York for a week, and she and I, together with Mary Rodwell Hunter and Elizabeth Richardson, both '28, went to New Haven for a week end visit with Bess Thomas, '28.

If only I could be sure of a reader, I might write columns about Columbia, my work here and the experiences I have had (some of which I refuse to share even with your sense of humor). Despite the rush, however, there is always ample time to read THE TWIG from front to back page, "ads" included. Isn't it dandy that we have a space there, and a Secretary at Meredith to help us keep in touch with one another?

Now, it is somebody else's turn to write about herself! Best wishes for each of you.

MABEL CLAIRE HOGGARD '28.

NOTICE!

Mr. Enloe is very sorry that the Meredith girls were refused the use of the free ticket given in THE TWIG to see Keith's on Monday and Tuesday afternoons. The new boy at the door made the mistake; he misinterpreted Mr. Enloe's directions. Meredith girls going to see Keith's on Monday and Tuesday afternoons may use the free ticket. Mr. Enloe is cooperating with us, let's cooperate with him and see Keith's next week.

PECKING THE LOUD-SPEAKER

The man who toots his own horn soon has everybody dodging when he appears.—Boston Transcript.

sition on a newspaper, but if she is a college graduate she has a fair chance. In fact, according to Mrs. Marie Weekes, editor of the Norfolk, Neb., Press, "There is plenty of room for clever, willing girls who want to apply what they have learned in the schools of journalism." And Vina Lindsay, reporter on the Kansas Post, says "The prejudice against women in newspaper offices is waning—especially against women from schools of journalism. One editor became converted to women from such schools after he had hired a boy half-way through high school to prove his point that training was not necessary. One day the boy took a telephone notice. Some way it got into the papers uncensored and read to the effect that the most conservative, dignified minister in the city would speak the following Sunday on the "Respectability of Our Girl Missionaries." Investigation brought forth the fact that the reporter meant "responsibility."

A broad education is absolutely necessary to success in journalism. Ignorance rather than malice is undoubtedly to blame for the most cases where speakers are misquoted and facts distorted in newspaper columns. Thereafter the successful school of journalism must borrow its strength from the great university. Otherwise its training is certain to be narrowly professional at the expense of sound intellectual reserve. The school seeks to provide training in actual technique and practice of modern journalism, to familiarize the student with present day social, political and economic problems, the general field of literature and finally to develop his powers of effective expression.

The Collegian.

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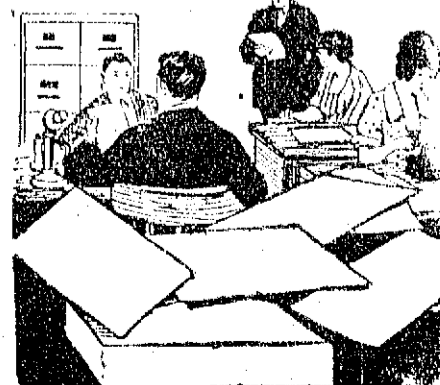
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