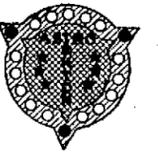


THE TWIG



Volume IX

MEREDITH COLLEGE, RALEIGH, N. C., OCTOBER 10, 1929

Number 2

REVIEW ANNALS OF PHI. SOCIETY

Reveal High Standing of Literary Society on Meredith College Campus

On the first page of an old ledger there is to be seen the following inscription: "The Philaretian Literary Society was organized Saturday night, November 4, 1899. The following were elected officers for the school year: Carrie Booker, president; Clara Wooten, vice-president; Helen Morning, secretary; Nellie Roberson, treasurer." Following this is the constitution, which, first of all, states that the society shall be called the Philaretian Literary Society; Philaretian meaning devoted to mental and moral excellence. Then follows the motto: "Plain Living and High Thinking."

Throughout the thirty years that have elapsed since this entry was made in the ledger, the Philaretian Literary Society has had a lively and interesting career. Although Meredith was a very young institution, and a literary society was a very, very new thing to the college, it did not take long for a group of active members to organize their society and get it in trim running condition. Decision Day and Society Night soon came to be recognized as two of the greatest events on the campus, and every year since then they have been looked forward to with tremendous interest and pleasure. Upon looking back upon the various customs of the society, it is found that these two occasions—Decision Day and Society Night—have remained practically unchanged throughout the years.

It was very interesting to read in this old ledger the list of charter members composing the Philaretian Literary Society. A number of them have daughters attending Meredith now. A score of them have made prominent places for themselves in all fields of activity, not limiting themselves to the home state or even to the home nation, but some of them going into distant nations.

When the society was first organized it met in a classroom in the old main building. Chief Justice Faircloth died in 1904, leaving to Meredith College by his will a bequest of about thirty thousand dollars, which the trustees used to erect a new building called Faircloth Hall. The third floor of this building was given over to the two societies, and it was a great day in the lives of the Philaretians when they occupied their commodious new quarters. They took great pleasure in beautifying their new hall. However, that hall at its best was not comparable to the splendid hall now used in the new Administration Building.

The old records of the society include many programs which were devoted to spicy debates and splendid literary discussions and criticisms. A source of stimulation to the achievement of literary ability in the society has been the annual presentation on Society Night of the Minnie Jackson Bowling Medal to the girl who writes the best essay. This medal is presented by Dr. Bowling, of Durham, and the girls have greatly appreciated his interest and generosity.

A perusal of the old minutes of the organization has shown the talent and originality of the daughters of Mother Philaretia. There are found

Society Decision Day Very Exciting Event

Wednesday was Decision Day—the day of days for the societies. Since the founding of the Astrotekton and the Philaretian Literary Societies there has always been a Decision Day for the benefit of the new girls, who on that day choose the society which is to be theirs. It has always been a day anticipated with great excitement, and Wednesday was a good example of just how much spirit there is on the campus.

The day did not dawn warm and sunny, as would have been most fitting; but dark clouds hung low, the air was damp and cold, and ordinarily it would have been a day of gloom and depression. But not so with Wednesday, for the very air seemed to vibrate with the spirit of the "Phi's" and "Astro's." The day began at 6:45 in the morning, with the old girls yelling and singing for the new girls. And then at breakfast the "Phi's" took their stand at the west door of the dining-room and the "Astro's" at the east door. They gave their calls and greeted each new girl with a cheer as she passed through. During breakfast there could be heard the general question, "What are you 'gonna' be?" Some would reply "Astro," some "Phi," and many would say, "I haven't decided yet."

Campaigning continued until chapel, and then came the final decision. The new girls occupied the central section of the auditorium. The right side was given to the "Astro's" and the left side to the "Phi's." Each side was beautifully decorated in the colors of the society. All the old girls gathered in the back of the auditorium.

Home Ec. Club Gives Picnic Entertainment

The Home Economics Club this year promises to be one of the best and peppiest club organizations on the campus. One might say that the club has taken on new life and new hope since it has been reorganized and many improvements made. The officers elected to serve this term are: President, Annie Mildred Herring; vice-president, Louise Mumford; secretary and treasurer, Rachel Hoggard.

Among the new regulations is one stating that only juniors and seniors and those being Home Economics majors are eligible for membership; whereas last year any one could be a member.

It looks as though 1929 will be a successful year for these girls, as the program for the entire year has been planned; and, too, the coming of Miss Pearman to the Home Economics Department is a pleasant addition to the faculty. Miss Pearman is faculty adviser of the program committee, of which Grace Jolley is chairman; Miss Ellen Brewer is faculty adviser of the refreshment committee, of which Pearle Jones is chairman.

The club members have already begun to show their enthusiasm and desire to make this year the best year for the club by an entertainment. It was in the form of a camp supper, given Tuesday night, October 8. The class left the campus at 4:30 o'clock and went to the woods back of Allen's pond. This was an ideal place for a camp supper. A delicious meal, consisting of potato salad, pickles, bacon and cheese, rolls, apples, and iced tea, was served. Each member thoroughly enjoyed the evening.

HIGH HONOR TO FORMER MEMBER THE TWIG STAFF



MISS PULLEN BELVIN

MISS BELVIN WINS ART SCHOLARSHIP

Three-Year Scholarship Awarded Through Woman's Club in Memory Mrs. Primrose

Miss Pullen Belvin has been awarded a three-year scholarship at the New York School of Fine and Applied Arts, the scholarship having been secured by Mrs. R. L. McMillan, a former chairman of the art department of the State Federation of Women's Clubs, through Dr. Frank Alvah Parsons, the head of the school. Mrs. McMillan presents the scholarship through the Raleigh Woman's Club in memory of the late Mrs. W. S. Primrose, the second president of the club and a lifetime student of the arts. The awarding of the scholarship to Miss Belvin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Belvin, of this city, in memory of Mrs. Primrose again links together two families whose friendship has been lifelong. Mrs. Primrose and Mr. Belvin's mother having been close friends from girlhood.

Miss Belvin was graduated from Meredith last June. She was business manager of The Twig, entered into other student activities, and was regarded as one of the most wholesome girls in college. For several years she has been interested in architectural design, believing that there is a vast field for women in the architectural world, and in the light of that, the award of the three-year scholarship comes to her with the warm wishes of her many Raleigh friends. She is now teaching in the public schools of Florence, S. C., and will probably not go to New York to enter the school before next fall.—*News and Observer.*

Pineland College Club Organized On Campus

A club consisting of the former Pineland College students has been organized for the first time on Meredith campus. The members of this club are looking forward to an enjoyable evening together on the first Friday of each month.

The first real meeting of the club was held last Friday evening, October 4. Plans for future activities were discussed.

Societies Entertain At Joint Reception

On Saturday night, October 5, the two literary societies gave a reception in honor of the new Astro's and Phi's. Pauline Kitchin, president of the Astro Society, met the guests as they entered the Astro Hall, which was decorated with flags of all nationalities. At one end of the hall was anchored the ship "Mayflower," with a number of its passengers on deck. These passengers entertained the guests during the evening in ways quite characteristic of their native lands. Nell Baker, in the disguise of a Japanese girl, announced the various numbers. Two English sailors, Mary Lee Seate and Sarah Cummings, danced the horn-pipe, after which Annie Gray Boney, as a young woman of Spain, sang a Spanish love song. The next dancer was a Russian girl, Tucie Phelps, who was followed by Margaret Trotman, a pirate bold, in an interpretative dance. A young French couple then appeared—Marguerite Mason and Mabel Beeker—speaking and singing in their native tongues. The program was closed by a sample of United States jazz, danced by a chorus of eight girls in sport dress.

At the conclusion of these numbers the guests went to the Phi Hall, where they were greeted by Chlaris Kellum, president of the Phi Society. There they found places at tables on which Astro gold and white and Phi lavender and white were attractively carried out in table covers and flowers. A salad course, orange ice, and wafers were served by members of the societies. Music furnished by Mrs. Wallace and her orchestra was enjoyed throughout the evening.

Virginians Organize Old Dominion Club

On Friday night, October 4, several Virginia girls met in the social room, first floor dormitory, for the purpose of organizing a Virginia Club, the motive being to bring the girls from Virginia in closer contact with each other and create among them a more friendly attitude.

At the meeting on Friday night the following officers were elected:

- President—Mary Frances Sneed.
- Vice-President—Mary Akers.
- Secretary-Treasurer—Ruth Wright.
- Reporter—Mabel Gordon.

The club decided to have a meeting every two weeks, with a different girl as hostess each time.

The following girls are members: Mabel Gordon, Jamie Blalock, Ruth Wright, Virginia Ransom, Mary Alban Akers, Mae Campbell, and Blanche Obenshain.

PROGRAM OF MUSIC AT COLLEGE CHAPEL

On Tuesday morning the faculty and students enjoyed a special treat. The organ was used for the first time this year. In addition, the Meredith Trio—Miss Galt, pianist, Miss Armstrong, violinist, and Miss Pike, 'cellist—gave their first program. It consisted of two numbers, "Evening Song" and "Pizzicato" by Bach. The hearty applause showed the appreciation of the girls. This is only one of a series of programs which the Trio has planned. They expect to give the second of the series in a short time.

EARLY HISTORY ASTRO. SOCIETY

Star Builders Uphold Literary Ideals and Promote Principles of Self-Government

On October 28, 1899, a small number of girls banded themselves together with the purpose of inspiring each other with a love for literature, and with a desire to promote the higher principles of self-government and self-control. The progress of the organization was wonderful.

The band was known as "Club A." It was ignorant as to parliamentary practice; the treasury was empty, and not only did they lack furnishings for a hall, but the hall itself was not to be obtained. This, however, was an "A" club, for, in spite of many difficulties, they met in chapel or recitation rooms and worked with zeal.

Soon a constitution was adopted, officers were elected, and a hall provided. This organization was no longer known as a club, but as a literary society, with a name worthy of an organization in the school founded by faith—Astrotekton—star-builders.

Then came the day when a visitor met with the society. He was charmed with the literary work and the zeal of the members. This was Mr. Dennis Simmons. He expressed his gratification by furnishing the hall at his expense, leaving the details to the discretion of the president. Now a large brass mirror took the place of a panel in the wall; a beautiful secretary's desk was provided; handsome mahogany furnishings took the place of bare benches—nothing was left undone.

In the following years the girls worked with added zeal; new members were received; strict discipline was enforced, and by means of systematic study the literary work was lifted to a higher plane.

Not to neglect any part of the development, debates were instituted. This effort was rewarded when on March 3, 1902, after a close contest with the Philaretian Society upon the question, "Resolved, That the pension system should be abolished," the representatives of the Astro's, who maintained the negative, were declared victorious.

It seemed that a good angel presided over the Astrotektons, for just at Commencement, 1902, the news came that by the will of the late Dennis Simmons the society was in possession of \$1,500; that it need no longer be hampered by the scarcity of funds.

In the early years, about 1905, a Carter-Upchurch medal was given in honor of the father and mother of Mr. Pat Carter, of New York City. This medal was to be presented each year to a girl of the society who wrote the best essay. This gave each girl a greater desire to achieve higher things, and this medal was one of the greatest inspirations that could come to a band of amateur girls.

This society was recognized by all as a worthy organization, and after a certain social event, the following lines appeared in the next day's paper:

"The university student who wishes to make the most of her school life will surely adopt Emerson's advice to her present circumstances and

—Continued on page 3