

The Twig

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ELECTIONS

"Some therefore cried one thing and some another, for the whole assemblage was confused, and the more part knew not wherefore they were come together." This excellently describes the state of the Meredith student body and any average college group, when there are elections in progress. This week the Student Government president for 1933-34 is the exciting topic for discussion. After that the B. S. U., publications, classes, societies, and other organizations will hold their respective places in the limelight for a brief moment of glory. We would like to urge this year, as every other year, that we as students not be carried away by personal prejudices—friendships or enmities—not by the habit of following the crowd, and not by the enthusiastic excitement of the moment. This sounds Utopian; but it is not impossible, if our assembly will give due consideration and really know for what purpose they have come together. Is popularity to be placed above real ability? Are flattering election speeches by friends of the candidates to be allowed to influence votes for a person who is not best fitted for office? Any one has supporters who can find nice things to say. Are we going to be led into confusion or are we going to be independent and think for ourselves?

Meredith faculty and student body are grateful that they were able to hear Dr. S. D. Gordon during the week of deeper spiritual thinking. His calm and simple manner of approach to his subject impressed all those who heard him.

We congratulate Mary Florence Cummings and Isabel Morgan on becoming members of the Kappa Nu Sigma Honor Society.

PERHAPS YOU'VE HEARD

That Dr. Charles Austin Beard, distinguished author and historian was at Carolina past week delivering the Weil lectures. He stated emphatically that he favors absolute independence for the Philippines and Porto Rico, pointing out that thousands of Porto Ricans have been pouring into the United States only to find themselves unemployed amid the miseries of our great cities. "Imperialism," he added, "is up a blind alley and doomed. International commercial rivalry will not permit it."

Zangara's fate has been hanging in the balance along with that of Mayor Cermack. Reads a *News and Observer* paragraphic: "If Mr. Cermack dies, Zangara's sentence will be materially shortened." By these tokens, then are we to understand that while Cermack was the unfortunate victim of circumstances, Zangara will be the victim of a technicality? As guilty as the would-be assassin admittedly is, will the physical resistance of the mayor increase or lessen the degree of this guilt?

That practically every Chinese university has requested Bernard Shaw to make a speech during his tour of the Far East. Several days ago one of our local newspapers imparted the following bit of information: "Yesterday he (Shaw) addressed the students of Hong Kong University denouncing university training and receiving an huge ovation." The Chinese students reception seems to have proved Shaw's point admirably. But lest we speak in our haste—perhaps the noted dramatist would have received the "huge ovation" anyway.

The "Cotton Bill" recently introduced in Congress and advocated by Senator Bailey of North Carolina has for its object the reduction by one-third of the acreage of cotton to be planted. Only those farmers who reduce their acreage that amount would receive national aid. To plant or not to plant—it remains to be seen.

Salem College students seem to have taken a great deal of interest in the recent Ping Pong Tournament. The *Salemite* says of the contest: "It was a contest inter-mural, inter-faculty, inter-vidual, inter-lectual, and interesting in other words an all round perfect success."

Under the auspices of the Y. M. C. A. Chih Meng of China, now associate director of the China Institute in America, delivered two addresses at State College last week.

The South Carolina Press Association recently awarded first honor to the *Winthrop Journal*, literary publication of Winthrop College.

TWIGLETS

A certain alumna who is still taking some work with us was asked last Sunday if she'd been reading anything improving. "No," she replied and then added as an afterthought, "just the Bible." She reminds us of the college student who, in filling out an application blank, wrote after the question to what denomination she belonged "Baptist—and Christian."

Seeing all the pussy willows recently which thought spring had come reminded Mrs. Wallace of the little girl who didn't care to go out and pick "cat tails" because she had no cats.

And speaking of cats, we hear that two children brought their dog to a famous animal hospital for treatment. He was described as being "wooly and dirty, but busy and waggish." When the

attendant asked what his trouble was, they told him, "he can't sleep." And so even dogs have insomnia!

We'd like to recommend this little poem by Dorothy Parker to a certain student of ours who once wanted to order a book called "Twenty-one Delightful Ways of Committing Suicide"—

"Razors pain you;
Rivers are damp;
Acids stain you,
And drugs cause cramp;
Guns aren't lawful;
Nooses give;
Gas smells awful;
You might as well live."
And did you see this piece of philosophy in one of our papers?
"Life is a horse
With a bridle and bit—
It will drive you
If you don't drive it."

Exchanges

The Lenoir-Rhyne debating season opened on Monday, February 27, when the girls' debating team met the Winthrop team in a dual debate on the question: "Resolved, that the United States should agree to the cancellation of inter-allied war debts." We wish you luck, debaters!

Agnes Scott College celebrated Founder's Day on February 22, with the usual banquet and dance. A very attractive red, white and blue color scheme was carried out, and the seniors wore colonial costumes.

The *Old Gold and Black* tells us that at last a method has been found of bringing faculty and students to chapel: simply, have Rudy Vallee to appear on the program. Wake Forest was the only college visited by Vallee during his N. C. itinerary. He was brought to the college by Dr. Isbell, professor of chemistry and director of the college band.

The Government Relief workers are busy on the Converse campus. Plans have been made for the construction of an amphitheatre, which will be one of the most beautiful spots on the campus. A new front gate will be begun as soon as the weather permits.

An early Coker College handbook contained the following "don'ts":

"Don't be overawed by the Sophomores. They are only last year's Freshmen."

"Don't forget that education is like the measles. Having been to college doesn't prove that you've caught it, but only that you've been exposed to it."

"Any student wishing to leave the campus before two o'clock must consult the president."

At The Theatres

STATE THEATRE

"State Fair," with Janet Gaynor, Will Rogers, Lew Ayres, Sally Eilers, Norman Foster, Louise Dresser, Frank Craven and Victor Jory portraying the principal roles, comes to the State Theatre on Monday for an engagement of four days.

Based on the Literary Guild prize novel by Phil Stong, a newspaperman who was born and raised on a farm, the picture is said to give a true and sympathetic insight into the characters of the men and women who live close to the soil.

A Talkartoon and Sound News complete this program.

PALACE THEATRE

Motion picture devotees who are demanding the return of screen musicals will find enough music and dancing in the comedy, "Hot Pepper," to meet their desires. It is the attraction at the Palace Theatre Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. This picture depicts the latest adventures of the immortal Quirt and Flagg, the fighting and loving Marines portrayed by Edmund Lowe and Victor McLaglen.

"Doubling in the Quickest," Mack Sennett Comedy, and Sound News completes the program.

There was a long, long trail a'winding behind that far-flung front in France.

And, in *The Big Drive*, greatest of all pictures of the World War because of its very authenticity, which will play at the Palace Theatre Thursday, Friday and Saturday one realizes just what that long, long trail could mean.

"Babe O' Mine," Musical Act, "Bosko's Dizzy Date," Cartoon, and Sound News completes the program.

Excerpts From Address By Dr. W. L. Poteat

From *In Defense of Scholarship* delivered at Meredith College, February 3.

There has been a request that Dr. Poteat's entire address be published in the *Twig*. This is impossible on account of the limited space of this paper. A few quotations, however, which have been taken from the address follow here:

"Acquaintance with the best is scholarship, the fruit of it ripening into refinement, elevation, sensitiveness, courage, and wisdom is culture. This acquaintance with the best may be but a speaking acquaintance, a mere ability to recognize and locate against any future need of expansion. Or it may be ultimate and free and happy. It may also vary from field to field. But the scholar may be at home in every province of the intellectual realm, certainly able to read its symbols and interpret its significance." [. . . "This is culture in process and result."] It authenticates itself by what you are, not by what you have; by the way you feel, not by what you know; by the fellowships of your spirit, not by the work of your hands. It is inward wealth which accountants cannot inventory, which time, the pilferer, cannot reach."

"It dreadfully needs to be remembered that what is new in our civilization is in the externals of it, the machinery of it. The fundamental interests and needs of human life remain the same."

"However satisfying and charming it may be, culture is not an end in itself. The first motive which ought to compel us to study may be, as Montequieu said, to augment the excellence of our nature and to make an intelligent being yet more intelligent, but it is not the last motive. An enriched and trained intelligence, a moral sense enlightened and disciplined, refinement of manners, tastes, and feelings, generosity onto tolerance of spirit, are the badges of culture wherever they appear, and they adorn any life. But culture is not ornament. . . . Removable beauty is not beauty. It is affection. Culture is rather a certain quality of the tissue of the organism itself. It is not ornament, but equipment. And if pure learning is to survive as one of the purposes of universities, as Mr. Bertrand Russell says, it must be brought into the service of the community as a whole, and not merely provide refined delights for a few gentlemen of leisure. A barren intellectualism wants justification. And my word to you women of capacity and distinction in Meredith College must be Browning's, himself one of the scholars of the time—

Know, not for knowing's sake,
But to become a star to men
forever.

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