

# Alumnae Supplement to The Twig

MEREDITH COLLEGE, RALEIGH, N. C., FRIDAY, MARCH 22, 1946

## Edna Lee Pegram Appears On Stage In Pacific Area

### Alumna Has Role in Noel Coward's "Blithe Spirit"

For the past two years Edna Lee Pegram, of the class of 1936, has been on the faculty of the University of Hawaii in Honolulu. She arrived there on January 20, 1944, and assumed the role of Assistant in the Pre-School Division of the Department of Education. Since that time Edna Lee has distinguished herself not only by her successful training of Chinese, Japanese, and Filipino children but also by noteworthy dramatic activities.

Last summer while she was playing in a Little Theatre production of *A Bell for Adano*, Maurice Evans saw her and invited her to join his company playing *Blithe Spirit*. She accepted the invitation and began appearing six nights a week in presentations of the comedy in hospitals and in camps. Her connection with the company lasted all summer; the cast appeared not only in Hawaii but also on Midway and Maui.

Edna Lee, who majored in psychology and sociology at Meredith, took an active part in Little Theatre activities during her student days. She played the role of Charles Lamb in the college production of *Charles and Mary Lamb* and the role of Scrooge in Dickens's *Christmas Carol*.

Picking up coconuts after a windstorm and cutting huge bouquets of poinsettias from luxuriant plants are among the incidental experiences which Edna Lee has reported in her letters home. She plans the approach to the States during the approaching summer, bringing with her a record in colored film of her recent experiences.

## Commencement Address Mailed To Alumnae

Mae Grimmer reports that she has recently mailed to Meredith alumnae copies of the address by Foy Johnson Farmer, delivered last June at the annual meeting of the Alumnae Association. Mrs. Farmer, who is the newly elected president of the W.M.U. of N. C., spoke on *Meredith and the Woman's Missionary Union*, emphasizing both the debt of gratitude which Meredith owes to the W.M.U. and its leaders, and the debt which the W.M.U. owes to Meredith. In making the latter point she summarized briefly the important fields of Christian endeavor in which Meredith alumnae have served and are serving.

The pamphlet was printed by the Charity and Children Press, of which Mr. J. A. McMillan is director.

**1946 REUNION CLASSES**  
Elizabeth Hostetler  
General Chairman  
1906-1911-1912-1913-1914  
1921-1930-1931-1932  
1933-1936-1944



## THE PRESIDENT SPEAKS

Marguerite Mason Wilkins

How good it was to meet with so many Meredith girls at the Meredith Luncheon in High Point during the recent W.M.U. State Convention. The luncheon committee under the direction of Sarah Cook Rawley had worked so efficiently that everything was beautiful, delicious, and entertaining! Thank you, High Point!

I was challenged by an address at the Convention on "The Hope that is in You." Ever since, I have been thinking just how much the hope of the world in these dark days is in you and me, and others like us who have a Christian Education. We are the ones who know that all of history is His Story. We may not know all of the answers to the complex problems, but we do care, we want to reach the right solutions. The more of Christ's Spirit we have in us, the more hope there is for the world. "Christ has no hands but our hands to do His work today; He has no feet but our feet to guide men in His way."

Sometimes when we look at the



Edna Lee Pegram

## Three Chapters Report Interesting Programs

Large attendance and interesting programs are featured in accounts of chapter activity over the state in recent weeks. The Charlotte Chapter has held the night meeting which was scheduled especially for business women in the group, and two additional chapters have reported meetings on Founders' Day.

### Charlotte Chapter

The Charlotte Chapter met on the evening of March 12 at the home of Beth Carroll Taylor with thirty members present. Rose Collins, president was in charge, and Nancy Carroll led the group in singing Meredith songs. Guest speakers for the evening were Alice Tuttle Steadman, instructor at the Mint Museum, who talked on "The Art of Make-Do"; her husband, Captain Harold Steadman, who spoke on his experiences in China and India; and Mrs. Guy Carswell, who spoke on her collection of bells. After the meeting a social hour was enjoyed. Special guests for the evening were high school students.

### Elizabeth City Chapter

The Elizabeth City Chapter met on Founders' Day at the home of Minnie and Elizabeth Nash, with Kate Ford Peele as assisting hostess. Kathleen Jackson, president, spoke briefly on the College and the significance of Founders' Day. The Meredith Skit was presented by Annabelle Hollowell Highfill, Callie Perry Newbold, and Kate Ford Peele. For the social hour a Valentine motif was carried out in decorations and refreshments. Marjorie Ferebee Midgette from Currituck County was a special guest.

### Statesville Chapter

The Statesville Chapter met on Founders' Day at the home of Katherine Noe Knox. The theme of the program was "Keepers of" (Continued on following page)

## Reunion Class Notes 1936

Nancy Allen (Mrs. George Baker Snuggs), Wadesboro. "There's nothing unusual about my day to day life to write about in the TWIG. It's just the same old story—home, church and community activities. Of course I enjoy my work in each field. My worry now is that it seems I'm partial to boys' schools and my planning so far has been Wake Forest for the boys, but here's hoping Meredith will not be left out of my future plans."

Dorothy Andrews (Mrs. B. H. Stevenson), Cranford, New Jersey. "I live in Cranford with my husband and two healthy boys, Benny, five years old, and John, three years old. My house and family are my chief interests."

Mildred Avertette (Mrs. S. F. Mullen), Suffolk, Virginia. "How I would like to be able to attend commencement this year and see all the faculty members and students who were there at the time I graduated. That will be impossible, but I am sure it will be a grand reunion. My husband, five and a half year old daughter, and I have been living in Suffolk for almost five years. We enjoy living here and are active in church work and club activities. Our daughter is just as active as can be. I don't finish answering one question before she has asked another."

Nancy Bunn (Mrs. Geo. W. Wray), Shelby. "I do hope to see all of you at our next class reunion as I seem to have missed out on all the recent commencements. After leaving Meredith I taught school here for seven years and worked on a weekly newspaper for two years. I've been just a housewife since Christmas and find it a job I'm not at all fitted for, but my two children, almost six and almost three, do keep me well occupied."

Ina Mae Byrd (Mrs. Rex Glenn Powell), Fuquay Springs. "I am a very happy housewife and mother, living in Fuquay Springs where I came as a young graduate of Meredith to teach piano. I liked it so much I decided to make it my home. Until the first of this year my husband was the cashier of the Bank of Fuquay, but since that time has been associated with his brothers in the Ford Motor companies of Fuquay and Apex. We have two children, Melinda Ann, age four years, and a brand new daughter, Elizabeth Glenn, born March 1."

Henrietta Castlebury (Mrs. Glenn Auman), Hillsboro. "We are again settled in our home in Hillsboro after my husband spent two years in the Navy. It is wonderful! I stay busy "keeping house" and renewing friendships. I am looking forward to seeing many of our class at Commencement."

Mary Chandler (Mrs. Howard W. Watkins), Lillington. "I came to Lillington in '36 to teach and stayed to make it my home. My activities. Largely, a husband (on his way from Japan) and two boys—one three years and one three months. I do find time for some church work—and even a few social 'outings'."

Pauline Covington (Mrs. W. B. Cole), Carthage. "It seems almost impossible that ten years have gone by since we were "The Sturdy Class of '36." Many things have happened in these ten years, and we have all been kept too busy to notice the time passing so rapidly. During these busy years, I have been teacher, social worker, Superintendent of Public Welfare, and now, in addition to my profession, I am a most happy wife and companion, as I married September 10 one of Wake Forest's sons. For the past three years I have been a member of the Baptist church here and have the privilege of working with Rev. Walter Warford and his wife and my friend, Hilda Williams Warford. I am Director of B.T.U., Sunday school Teacher, officer of W.M.S., and member of the Choir. I enjoy so much my church work. It makes me happy to hear how well the sociology students from Meredith are doing in agency. I hope to have one in our agency's employ. I hope to be present for the reunion this year."

Dorothy Dockery (Mrs. C. L. Dickinson), Longview, Washington. Give me a few more years and I'll probably make a good Northwesterner. But I'm becoming reconciled to the fact that Longview, Washington is our permanent home as my husband is happily employed as chief process engineer for the Development Department of Weyerhaeuser Timber Company here—and this is a beautiful country! I don't have too much time either to think of the 'east coast' what with my housekeeping duties, church circle, A.A.U.W., Preschool P.T.A., and Dick, my two and one-half year old blonde. I would love to be at Meredith for our reunion. Instead, I'll be in a hospital. On May 27, we expect the second addition to the Dickinson family. I am looking forward to seeing Kat Lives Warren this summer. Kat lives (Continued on following page)

## High Point Group Sponsors Annual Alumnae Luncheon



Pictured above is J. Gregory Boomhour, Dean of Meredith College from 1910 to 1941 with his grandchildren, Margaret and Carolyn Kerr, daughters of Elizabeth Boomhour Kerr. Mr. Boomhour sends greetings and best wishes to all former students.

## Tribute to J. G. Boomhour

By MARY LYNCH JOHNSON

On Homecoming Day, Founders' Day, or Commencement, whatever the occasion that brings the alumnae back to Meredith, Mr. Boomhour invariably has around him an eager group claiming his attention. His "old girls" want to know if the daisy chain he has just helped make is as pretty as theirs. They review his incomparable acting of the King of Hearts in *Alice in Wonderland*, with five successive queens in the twenty years. They ask about his family, and some of them can hardly believe that "little Elizabeth" has a Ph.D., a husband, and two children. They proudly introduce their own Susan and Johnny, or at least produce pictures for his admiring comments. (They would, if they dared, ask whether the J. in his name stands for Joshua or Josiah.)

As students we appreciated his thoroughness and patience, his rare combination of firmness and gentleness, his genuine interest in each of us. As alumnae we are still grateful to the teacher and the dean, and we cherish even more warmly the beloved friend. Our hearts are made glad by his cordial greetings, his welcoming handshake, and above all by his kindly smile, which begins in his eyes and illuminates his whole face—a smile best described in Carlyle's phrase, "like sunlight on the deep sea."

### NOTICE

There will be no "Alumnae Supplement to The Twig" in April. The next issue will appear in May; the last issue immediately following Commencement.

## FUND CHAIRMAN REPORTS

Margaret Craig Martin



Another month and another season has rolled around, and if you all are like I am, you are truly glad to see it. I went to Marion last week and all the way across the state I could see forsythia, japonica, daffodils, and thrift in a grand array of blooms. And in spite of dark forbidding clouds and the heavy rain that completely ruined the appearance of my newly washed car, I felt that spring was not far away. Zee said, "Mama, I wish God would take a butcher knife and cut a hole in that big cloud"—and then, sure enough, in just a few minutes we saw some promising rays which soon opened up into a good wide slit.

So much for spring. But along with spring, I hope the thoughts of many of you are turning again to Meredith and that your pocket books will be like the cloud and open wide. Around Founders' Day we had a wonderful spurt in the Loyalty Fund, but since then there has been a little slump. However, one class has already reached 100 percent, but I can't tell you which one until commencement. Others have been sending in the \$2 dues

## Record Crowd Numbers 107; President Wilkins Speaks

The Meredith Alumnae Luncheon, held during the W.M.U. Convention at High Point on March 13 at Wesley Memorial Church, was one of the high spots for alumnae and friends. Sarah Cook Rawley, president of the local chapter, presided and directed a quick registration procedure.

Seated at the honor table were Mrs. Rawley, Marguerite Mason Wilkins, President of the Alumnae Association, and her mother, Mrs. B. K. Mason, Foy Johnson Farmer, President of the W.M.U., Mrs. J. Clyde Turner, past president of the W.M.U., Mae Grimmer, Alumnae Secretary, and Mrs. W. F. Ellis, Jr., President of the W.M.S. of the First Baptist Church, the hostess church.

Mrs. Farmer introduced the visiting guests of honor, returned missionaries, officials of the W.M.U. work, and others. Among them were Alda Grayson, Katie Murray, Sophie Lanneau, Belle Tyner Johnson, Miss Inabelle Coleman, Mrs. Aaron Hancock, missionaries; Dr. Wingam M. Johnson, professor at Bowman Gray School of Medicine, and his wife, Undine Futrell Johnson; Harriette Murakami, freshman at Meredith; Mrs. B. K. Mason and Mrs. J. Clyde Turner.

Mrs. Wilkins spoke on the meaning of our college seal, emphasizing "Lux," she reminded the guests why Meredith means so much to her children. She emphasized the fact that it is a happy privilege and duty of alumnae to be "Keepers of the Light" to Christian education and high Christian principles instilled into us by the teachings and the atmosphere of Meredith. Mae Grimmer introduced Mrs. Wilkins.

Mrs. Aaron Hancock, contralto, sang "Pale Moon" and "Indian Love Call." She was accompanied at the piano by Virginia Lambert Wood.

Before dispersing, the 107 Meredith girls and friends present stood and sang the Alma Mater.

The committee on arrangements was composed of Sarah Cook Rawley, Winifred Perry Autry, Swanee Lewis Whichard, Gertrude Carson Hutchins, Louise Wilson Miller, and Callie Dunlap Gibson.

### ADDITION

Frances Calloway (Mrs. Earl Probst), Concord. "I'm sorry to be so late but hello just the same. Earl and I have just returned home from two and a half years in the Navy. Earl was overseas about six months. Before he left he was stationed on the West Coast for a year. I was with him. Had a grand week-end with "Doppy" Dockery Dickinson and Cal in Longview, Washington. Their baby "Dick" is strictly a honey. While Earl was stationed at Holtville, California, we stayed with Frances Jones Jackson on her wonderful cattle ranch. Frances' husband is a swell person and their two young sons are just tops. Needless to say seeing these two '36-ers made our stay on the West Coast a lot of fun. We really caught up on a lot of Meredith chatter."

plus an added amount that applies to the Expansion Fund. Mae Grimmer reports that we have already \$700 in additional gifts. That's grand, but we'll have to work hard to surpass the \$2,100 of last year. Soon we'll be sending out some other printed reminders. So if you have forgotten to send in a remittance, remember that Mae Grimmer is always waiting with "Frankenstein" fingers to put your \$2 "plus" where it adds to our Loyalty Fund goal.

The following names have been added to the active chain of names since the last issue of the Supplement: Henrietta Castlebury Auman, Mary Covington Avent, Mamie Leila Bumgardner Baisch, '30, LIFE MEMBER, Virginia Norwood Buchanan, Adelaide Bunker, Willa Weathers Hackney, Lillie Harper, Laura Weatherspoon Harrill, Adelaide Harris, Elizabeth Richardson Helms, Eulie Edna Jones, Evelyn Jolley Keenan, Edna Lou Lamb, '45, Mary Livingston, Virginia McGougan Martin, Cleone Cooper Mumford, Ina Mae Byrd Powell, Charlotte Green Shepard, Virginia Swanson Stone, Verona West, Lucile Cates York.