



Newspaper of Students, Meredith College

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ALUMNAE SUPPLEMENT TO THE TWIG

- Norma Rose, Editor
- Mary Lynch Johnson
- Ione Kemp Knight
- Eleanor Edwards Williams (Mrs. J. E., Jr.)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By MARGUERITE MASON WILKINS

Memories, memories, Dreams of love so true. On the sea of memories I'm drifting back to you. Meredith days, Meredith ways Love and laughter too; We left you long ago, But still you're our own, In our beautiful memories.

As I have tried to recall in recent days the events of my two years as president of the Alumnae Association of Meredith College, it has indeed been a journey down the trail of memory. May I invite you to follow this trail for a few moments with me?

With what high hopes and great anticipation I accepted this honor and responsibility of being your president; for next to my church, I have always considered the Meredith College Alumnae Association the most distinguished group to which I belong.

My first task was to write letters of welcome into the association to the graduates of 1944; then I began appointing committees. Almost before the school year was started in the fall, a group began agitating the merger of our dear alma mater with Wake Forest. That month of October seems more like a nightmare than a dream, on the trail of memory. There were resolutions, articles for publication, long-distance phone calls to every chapter president in North Carolina. I spoke at five meetings during Meredith week that fall. At last the Baptist State Convention on November 15 voted down the proposal; so we could breathe easily again, and resume our normal alumnae activities.

The theme of our President's Council that year was "A New Day is Dawning." All projects of the association were presented as evidences of the new day. Especially delightful was the panorama of student personalities who spoke on "Meredith of Today."

The alumnae that year edited one of the college bulletins. Jane Greene and her committee did an excellent piece of work, and the publication was enthusiastically received, especially the section of pictures of children and grand-children of alumnae.

The first aim of the association for 1944-45 was to aid in every way the Expansion Program of the College, that being the most evident sign that a new day was dawning for alma mater. Chapters and individuals were active in securing pledges and gifts. Literally thousands of letters were written and sent out from the alumnae presidents to out-of-state alumnae. Then just before commencement went out a special letter to every alumna, another to chapter presidents, enclosing lists of chapter members who had not pledged or given. A concerted effort was made to secure a gift or pledge from every alumna by commencement. The 100 per cent goal was not reached; however, many alumnae did respond. The Expansion Program was again stressed on the Commencement program by an open forum under the leadership of Mabel Claire Hoggard Maddrey.

Founders' Day, February 9, 1945, was celebrated by the usual radio program, presided over by your president. For the first time in alumnae history an effort was made to suggest an appropriate chapter program for Founders' Day. This was sent out in the form of a playlet on the history of Meredith pre-

pared by Laura Weatherspoon Harrill, Norma Rose, and Mae Grimmer. Many chapters have used this program and expressed appreciation for it.

During 1944-45 our goal was 30 per cent active alumnae. Mae Grimmer tells us that after all records were in, we missed the goal by about 1 per cent. Credit for this increase over the year before was largely due to the Loyalty Fund Chairman, Lois Stafford Kelly, and the class and chapter Loyalty Fund Chairmen. The goal adopted for this year was 40 per cent active membership. Margaret Craig Martin and the class and chapter chairmen have worked untiringly, yet the percentage stands at about 28 per cent today.

We began the school year 1945-46 with even greater anticipation. I ought to have learned something, I thought, by my one year's experience as president. And then, the war was over, and we could have more meetings and resume many of our normal activities.

So the President's Council met on November 10, with the theme, "Keepers of the Light," using our college seal to remind us that as graduates of a Christian liberal arts college we must keep burning brightly the light of high scholarship, the light of high ideals of living, and the light of Christianity in a pagan world.

A new venture this year was the *Twig Supplement*, edited by Norma Rose, which gave us two full pages for alumnae news and pictures instead of the previous half-page on the back of the *Twig*. Our sincere appreciation goes to Norma Rose and her committee for their efforts. Many words of appreciation have come from various alumnae; and we hope that this is just a step toward the publication of a regular alumnae magazine.

On Stunt Day last fall, we resumed our pre-war custom of Alumnae Home-Coming Day. The Alumnae Council met at 11:00 a.m., using again the theme of "Keepers of the Light." Reports from chapter activities during Meredith week were heard, and plans for the year were projected. At the palio in the afternoon the alumnae presented \$10.00 to the winning class.

During the Baptist State Convention, which met at the First Baptist Church in Raleigh this year, Meredith College faculty and students were at home to delegates of the convention on two afternoons. This entertainment took the place of the Meredith luncheon at the convention. Many Baptists visited Meredith for the first time (believe it or not) and were much impressed with their own property. Some who had not visited Meredith for a long, long time, were reassured that Meredith ideals of yesterday are being cherished in 1946 with better equipment and finer personnel than they had ever dreamed.

Founders' Day, February 15, 1946 brought another broadcast for alumnae and friends of the college. Your president again presided over the program and presented the president of the college, Dr. Campbell, and the student speakers, Nancy Harris and Elizabeth Shelton. The music by the Glee Club under the direction of Miss Beatrice Donley, was outstanding, and brought many fine comments.

On May 10 in Rocky Mount the very first Divisional Meeting of Meredith Alumnae was held. Annie Sarah Barkwell Abbott, vice president of the Elizabeth City Division planned the meeting and presided. Mary C. Shearin Waters, president of the Rocky Mount Chapter, and the members of that chapter were hostesses at a lovely tea hour afterward. About thirty alumnae from the Elizabeth City Division were present. This meeting is significant because it is a forecast of what the first divisions of our Alumnae Association can and must do. There are many Meredith girls who live where there are not enough alumnae for a chapter, who could and would attend divisional rallies. These meetings can mean a great deal to the Association and the College in the future.

Just before commencement last year I spoke to the Senior Class on "Four-Square Womanhood" and urged the members to accept the duties and privileges of alumnae. Again last week I appeared before the graduating class of 1946 and directed their minds toward the fact that Meredith days would never be over as they thought, for they would be "Meredith girls forever."

Five new chapters were organized during 1944-45: Norfolk Chapter, Peninsula Chapter (Newport News), Brotherly Love Chapter (Penn.) Ahoskie Chapter, and Craven County Chapter. Two inactive chapters, Mt. Gilead and Richmond County, were revived.

This year we report four new chapters: Florida Chapter, Littleton Chapter, Smithfield Chapter, Clinton Chapter. One inactive chapter, the Rocky Mount, has been revived.

Before this trail of memory comes to an end, I should like to pay tribute to the boundless enthusiasm and steady work of Mae Grimmer. She is really responsible for everything we have accomplished during these two years. Also each year I have been fortunate in having the most efficient and cooperative officers and committee chairmen. They have all been fine and along with Mae Grimmer have done the work, while I enjoyed the honors. Thank you, each one for your wonderful cooperation.

So this trail of memory comes to an end today, at commencement—with regrets because we have failed to do so many things that I had hoped we could do, but also with joy because of the privilege which has been mine to put my heart and life in this special way into the activities of the Alumnae Association of Meredith College.

In closing, let me urge you to follow the gleam. Because of our years spent at Meredith we know what life can be at its best. So while we serve in the valleys we must never forget the visions of the mountain tops.

Follow the gleam,
Standards of worth, o'er all the earth,
Follow the gleam,
Of the light that shall bring the dawn.

A Word from the New President

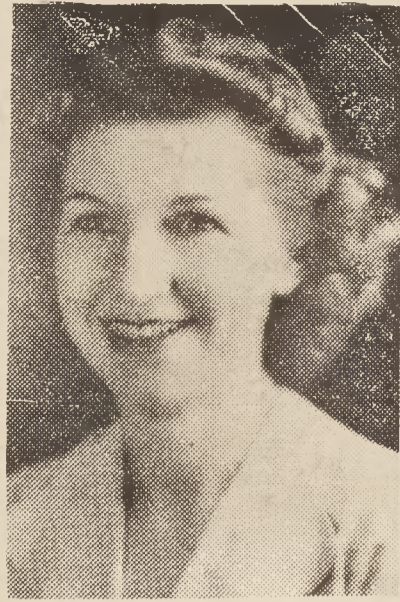
May I take this opportunity to express again to you my appreciation of the honor you have bestowed upon me by electing me president of our Association for the next two years. It is with high hopes and aspirations and not a "little fear and trembling" that I assume this responsibility. However, I am depending upon all of you and Mae Grimmer to help me out in this undertaking.

This past commencement has been one of the best I have ever seen from the standpoint of alumnae. Numerically the old grads and other alumnae, too, were here in throngs. As for their enthusiasm and interest, it was evident on all sides—in the programs, in conversations, in gifts to the College, and in the genuine pleasure at being back which was apparent to even a casual observer.

During the summer months please keep Meredith and the Alumnae Association in your minds, and if you have any ideas and suggestions for the coming year, don't fail to send them in to me.

Margaret Craig Martin.

RETIRING AND INCOMING PRESIDENTS



Marguerite Mason Wilkins



Margaret Craig Martin

ALUMNAE OFFICERS FOR 1946-1947

- President—Margaret Craig Martin (Mrs. Zeno), Raleigh.
- Vice President—Mataline Nye Council (Mrs. C. T., Jr.), Durham.
- Vice President—Asheville Division—Rachel Lovelace Mitchell (Mrs. M. E.), Canton.
- Vice President—Charlotte Division—Lucile Johnson Dixon (Mrs. Hubert), Boiling Springs.
- Vice President—Elizabeth City Division—Annie Sarah Barkwell Abbott (Mrs. J. Carroll), Elizabeth City.
- Vice President—Greensboro Di-

- vision—Henrietta Castlebury Auman (Mrs. D. Glenn), Hillsboro.
- Vice President—Wilmington Division—Fannie Turlington Royal (Mrs. J. Sebron), Clinton.
- Recording Secretary—Clarice Holder Bryan (Mrs. Rand), Garner.
- Exec. Secretary and Treasurer—Mae Grimmer, Meredith College.
- Commencement Speaker—Eunice Edmundson Johnston (Mrs. G.S.), Tallahassee, Florida.
- Alumnae-at-large—Maude Wall Cheek (Mrs. J. M.), Durham—Annie Craig Phillips (Mrs. Guy), Chapel Hill.

VARIED GIFTS

(Continued from page one)

threads of the old rug last fall will be glad to know of this improvement. Edna Frances Dawkins, who is both alumna and faculty member, forgot for the moment the former status and on behalf of the faculty thanked the group for the gift and the thought which prompted it.

The gladioli used in the rotunda, the society hall, on the stage, and elsewhere, were a gift sent from Florida by Emily Boyd Garrison, '11. Marguerite Wilkins asked Mrs. Garrison to stand that she might be recognized as the alumna who through the years has made our meetings and social occasions more festive by her Florida flowers. On last Founders' Day and several other times she has remembered Meredith in this way.

The music department received a gift from Katherine Covington Lambeth, who gave a check to be used as Dr. Cooper wishes. Virginia Council Gibson, representing the music students and friends of Miss May Crawford, presented a portrait painted by Mrs. Isabelle Bowen Henderson.

At the alumnae luncheon in the dining room the stream of gifts continued. Celebrating their ruby anniversary, the Class of 1906 gave, in lieu of the real ruby they would have liked to give, a ruby colored lamp to be used in the college parlors. The generation of '11, '12, '13, '14 gave a fifty dollar bond to the Expansion Program. The Class of '21, celebrating their silver anniversary, gave a pair of candlesticks. The generation '30, '31, '32, '33 contributed an imposing number of articles for the social room. In addition to two marble-topped end tables, a pair of lamps, a floor lamp, and two Godey prints, they left thirty-eight dollars with Mrs. Egerton, House Director, to be used for furnishing the social room. The Class of '36 gave two prints in gold leaf frames for the office of the Dean of Women. The Senior Class, who were welcomed into the Alumnae Association, made an excellent beginning by contributing twenty-five dollars to the Ida Poteat Scholarship Fund.

According to tradition the classes that distinguished themselves were awarded books which they in turn gave to Hazel Baity for the college library. The Class of '13 was the only one attending one hundred per cent active membership. The Class of '14 was the reunion class having the next highest percentage active membership and the Class of '09, the non-reunion class having the highest. The Class of '45 was the first class of more than fifty members to reach the goal of forty per cent active membership. For this evidence of loyalty these classes received the following books as prizes: volumes one and two of Adams's *Album of American History*, Baker's *Biographical Dictionary of Musicians*, and Sears's *Song Index*.

Since the annual meeting an additional gift of one thousand dollars for the Expansion Program has been received from Ada Middleton Stanback.

In view of the fact that a person's

OVER THREE HUNDRED ATTEND

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membership the Class of '13 received its degree *summa cum laude*; for 50 per cent the Classes of '06 and '21 *cum laude*. Permanent presidents of the classes received the degrees and were hooded by class Loyalty Fund Chairmen. Additional awards were given to the Classes of '13, '14, '09, and '45 for distinction in the Loyalty Fund Drive.

The singing of the Alma Mater ended the luncheon activities.

Spring flowers were used throughout the dining hall. Each table had a center bouquet flanked by 4 maroon and white college seals, and colored pictures of the college marked the places at the tables. The seal was also the decorative motif for the sepaers' table where special guests, the toastmaster, and others were seated.

The following alumnae served on the Committee for arrangements: Ann Simms Haskins, Dorothy Evans Allison, Gaynelle Hinton Cooper, Sallie Jones Gallant, Virginia Council Gibson, Margaret Craig Martin, Olive Hamrick Miller, Martha Ruth Kendall Murray, Amorette Byrd Bryson, Margaret Weatherspoon Parker, Virgie Egerton Simms, Elizabeth Layfield Smith, Irene Little Steele, and Stuart Weather- spoon Uphurch.

DR. POTEAT PREACHES

(Continued from Page 1)

Dr. Poteat showed how Jesus' life exemplified the paradox of success in failure. Before His life ended on the cross, the leaders of Jewish life and thought had turned away from him; the multitudes had ceased to follow him; and even the disciples were ready to desert him. According to the standards of the world his life was a failure; but in that failure lay the glory of his ultimate success.

The reason for the failure and the success lay in Jesus' refusal to compromise, to lose his own soul to gain the world. In this refusal to surrender his inner integrity, his loyalty to God, he set for each one of us that most important of all questions, which we must in the final examination answer, "What is inside of you?"

North Carolina Baptists welcome Dr. Poteat as a son of Dr. Edwin McNeil Poteat, a native of North Carolina who was president of Furman University; as a nephew of Dr. William Louis Poteat, former president of Wake Forest College; and as brother of Edwin McNeil Poteat, formerly pastor of the Pullen Memorial Church of this city, and now president of Colgate Rochester Theological Seminary. Meredith has an especial interest in him as the nephew of Miss Ida Poteat, so many years professor of art at the College; and as the father of Mrs. Rabon Rose (Anne Poteat, '38), this year a member of the Meredith faculty.

interest in any project or organization increases in direct ratio to the time, money, and thought he invests in it, the increasing number of gifts to the College stands as a good omen for alumnae activity.