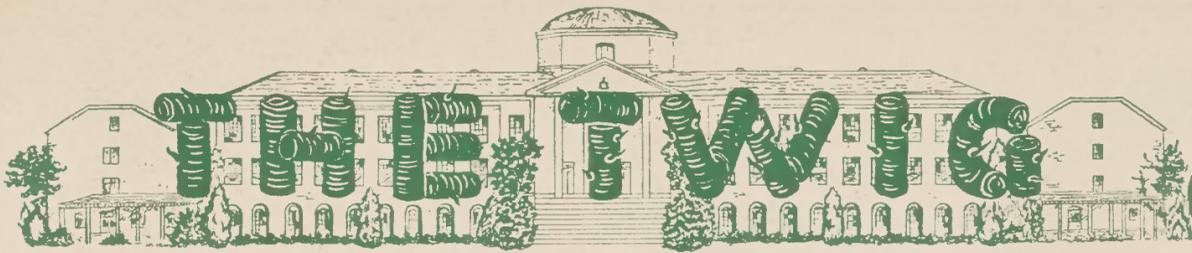


Christmas  
Features



Little Theatre  
Play

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# Meredith Little Theater Produces 'Quality Street'

## Nancy Jackson, Annie Ruth Ward, and W. S. Bull Star in James Barrie's Play

By MARGARET MOORE

Barrie's popular four-act costume comedy, "Quality Street," will be presented in the college auditorium by the Meredith Little Theater on two nights, Friday and Saturday, December 13 and 14, at 8:00 o'clock.

The production is under the able direction of Catherine Hilderman, a newcomer to Meredith. Miss Hilderman is a graduate of W.C.U.N.C., where she was active in Little Theater work. She had further training and experience at the Yale Drama School before coming to Meredith this year as head of the dramatics department.

Another newcomer to Meredith is Nancy Jackson, who plays the major role in this year's fall production. Nancy, a Junior, came to Meredith from Albion College, a Methodist co-educational school, in Albion, Michigan. There she was an active member of the Albion Players. While attending her home town high school in Highland Park, Michigan, Nancy was an assistant teacher in the dramatics department. She was chosen a member of the National Thespian Dramatic Society.

Meredith is fortunate to have W. S. Bull, a freshman of State College, as the leading male star in "Quality Street." W. S. has had eight years of experience in dramatics in his home town, Newport News, Virginia. In high school, he played major roles in "Charm School" and "You Can't Take It With You." As a member of the Newport News Little

Theater, he starred in "Male Animal."

The action of the play takes place during the period of the Napoleonic Wars. The scene is Quality Street, a quaint little English town. In the words of the author, "there is a satisfaction about living in Quality Street which even religion cannot give."

Nancy Jackson is starred as "Phoebe Throssell," whose activities are the center of attraction in the little country town in which she lives. Phoebe's youthfulness sometimes shocks the ladies of Quality Street, who are not nearly so cunning as she. When misfortune comes her way, Phoebe loses the sparkle of her youth, but she courageously hides her sorrow under the guise of an old-maid schoolmistress' cap until her happiness is restored.

W. S. Bull plays the role of Valentine Brown, the local physician, and the suitor of the leading lady, Phoebe. Because of his gallantry and sense of humor, the ladies thought him quite dashing.

The part of Phoebe's older sister, Susan, is played by Annie Ruth Ward. Miss Susan, too, had romantic ideas when she was younger, but having been unsuccessful in her own love affairs, Susan reconciled herself by sharing in those of her sister. Miss Susan is an entirely lovable character; she is witty, sweet, and thoughtful.

Christine Williamson plays the part of "Patty," the maid in the home of the Throssell sisters. Patty is a lively character and adds a great deal of color to the play.

The parts of the Throssell's neighbors, Mary and Fanny Willoughby and Henrietta Turnbull, are played respectively, by Gazelle Moore, Daphne McLawhorne, and Frances Hollis. Typical of most small towns, Quality Street does not lack its "old maids" who seem to thrive on gossip; of such type are the Misses Willoughby and Turnbull.

The parts of two unnamed figures in "Quality Street" society are played by Eleanor Jane Andrews and Osee Mac Johnson. Marjorie King is cast as Isabella, a student of Phoebe and Susan. Johnny Lawhon, son of Mrs. Gladys Lawhon, a piano teacher at Meredith, and Watson Burts, son of Dean Charles Burts, play the roles of Arthur Thomson and William Smith.

Other guests from State College are Claude Kidd, who plays the part of a sergeant, and John Faulk and Gabe Holmes, who play the roles of Ensign Blades and Lieutenant Spicer, rivals for the hand of Phoebe.

Heading the production staff is Dorothy Loftin, President of the Little Theater. Serving as chairmen of the committees are Dot Hennessee, Stage Manager; Margaret Moore, Business Manager; Jennie Lou Newbold, scene construction; Edith Camp, scene painting; Mary Humphrey, costumes; Genie Jo White, make-up; Dot Beland, lights; and Mary Frances Keene, properties. The scenery was designed by Mrs. Lloyd Ream.



Pictured above are the leads in "Quality Street": Annie Ruth Ward, who plays Susan; Nancy Jackson, who plays the role of Phoebe; W. S. Bull, the male lead.

## MEREDITH PLANS HOLIDAY FETES

Although the whole month of December on the Meredith campus is crowded with activities that breathe the spirit of Christmas, the holiday season is highlighted by the annual formal dinner given in the college dining hall, Wednesday, December 18.

The dinner will be a Christmas party for the entire student body with new faculty members and non-resident students as guests. The three major organizations on the campus, the Student Government, the Athletic Association, and the Baptist Student Union, sponsor the Christmas dinner each year. Santa Claus is expected to be there with a present for everyone. An after-dinner coffee for all guests will be held in the parlors.

Still another major event on the holiday calendar is the annual caroling trip, sponsored by the Athletic Association, which will occur on Thursday, December 19, at 4:00 a.m.

Special busses will carry the students who wish to participate in the trip to Dix Hill, the State School for the Blind, the State Penitentiary, Rex Hospital, Mary Elizabeth Hospital, the Methodist Orphanage, the Governor's Mansion, the County Home, and the homes of members of the faculty and of the board of trustees.

The singers will assemble on Fayetteville Street at 5:30 a.m., to broadcast over WPTF. Miss Beatrice Donley and Dr. Harry Cooper will direct the group in singing Christmas carols.

## DR. McCURDY BECOMES FULL-TIME ADVISOR

The editorial staff of THE TWIG has been very fortunate in securing Dr. Harold McCurdy, head of the Department of Psychology and Philosophy, as advisor. Prior to this time he has been advisor to the business staff, and the editorial staff has not had one.

## ORATORIO SOCIETY TO SING BACH MUSIC

Friday evening, December 13, at 8:15 p.m., the Oratorio Society will present Bach's Christmas Oratorio in the Church of the Good Shepherd. Dr. Harry F. Cooper is conductor; Mrs. Lillian Wallace, pianist; and C. D. Kutchny, orchestra conductor. There are 20 girls, Peggy Parker, Virginia Holcomb, and Esther Hollowell are participating in the performance. Soloists are Mrs. Hallie Sidden, soprano; Miss Beatrice Donley, contralto; Mr. Frederick C. Lowry, tenor; Mr. E. W. Wilhelm, bass.

## SENIOR CLASS ELECTS NEW SUPERLATIVES

The Senior Class last week elected the following superlatives:  
Miss Meredith—Helen Wallis.  
Most Popular—Joan Drake.  
Friendliest—Nancy Gates.  
Most Attractive—Jetta Burdick.  
Class—Marge Furch.  
Most Intellectual—Jean Branch.  
Most Versatile—Emily Hine.  
Most Athletic—Jean Griffith.  
Most Stylish—Stella Lassiter.  
Best All Round Town Student—Ernestine Clark.  
Wittiest—Virginia Holcomb.  
Most Original—Vicky Manty.

## REPORTER PAYS VISIT TO BELOVED CHARACTER UNIVERSALLY EXPECTED ON ANNUAL JOURNEY

This week our reporter was fortunate enough to have the honor of interviewing another interesting personality, well known and loved by all Meredith students and, indeed, by everybody everywhere. Our personality is not one of our faculty members this time, but someone who has made a particular place for himself in the hearts of young and old at especially this time of year. You are right! It is none other than old Chris Cringle himself!

When I arrived at Santa's northern habitat, I was a bit hesitant because I was afraid I might find there a tall square building with modern lines and a 1947 Studebaker parked in a paved drive. "Why, Santa might even be wearing a zoot suit these days!" I thought with horror. Perhaps you agree with me that Santa is one of the spirits of America that cannot be modernized and still retain all the legendary splendor that has come down through the years. When I walked up to the door, all my worries left me, for there before me was a big ice house something like a cross between an overgrown igloo and a big florist greenhouse. Just to the right I saw a big wire pen, and inside were one, two, three. . . . Yes, sir! They were all there, Santa's

By FRANCES ALEXANDER

eight reindeer, prancing about like so many young colts, and in front of the pen three little dwarfish creatures were busily engaged with a huge bottle of Dast-Finish Polish. They were almost as fat as they were thin. I noticed immediately that it was Santa, though they were getting dressed for Christmas Eve. I don't want to disturb them, so I went on up to Santa's door and rang the jingle bells. Another funny-looking little character opened the door, and when I had explained my intentions, ushered me into a long, low-ceiling room filled with everything from mama dolls to loud flowered trees! Santa's workshop! Who would ever have dreamed a Twig reporter would find her way into Santa's workshop? Before my eyes had had time to take it all in, a peal of the merriest laughter I had ever heard rose up from the midst of it all, and there he was, Saint Nick himself! He was dressed in a heavy red leather coat, trimmed in white polar bear fur that just matched his long white beard.

When I first walked up to speak to Santa, I was ill-at-ease

because though I had interviewed many types of people before, I was having my first experience with a world-renowned celebrity. However, just as the poem says:

"A wink of his eye and a twist of his head  
soon gave me to know I had nothing to dread,"

I began asking my questions orderly, but before long we were both lost in a maze of ideas about new kinds of toys for the little people this Christmas. Santa, you see, keeps up with all the modern fads even if he doesn't change himself. He showed me the newest thing in streamlined electric trains, and brought out all sorts of new plastic toys, shiny new and in bright colors.

I questioned Santa as to his home life, since that is about the only part of his life with which most of us are unfamiliar.

He and Mrs. Santa Claus are self-sustaining in their little northern home. For food Santa kills seals and other wild-life of the North Pole with a long spear-like stick called a harpoon. He showed me how he cut little holes in the ice and caught fish with something similar to a hand line. He also let me taste some of their finest whale blubber.  
(Continued on page four)