

SEE  
"THE HEIRESS"  
TONIGHT

# THE TWIG

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CONTEST

Newspaper of the Students of Meredith College

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## PLAYHOUSE PRESENTS "THE HEIRESS" TONIGHT AT 8:00



Excellence in scholarship and leadership gives these students recognition in "Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges." They are, left to right: Kitty Barbehenn, Betty Ann Highsmith, Jean Dula, Pat Smathers, Ann Partin, Janet Stallings, Betty Jo Welch, and Betsy Brooks McGee.

**Cast Uses Period Costumes, Antique Furniture; Mr. Dorsett Plays Role of Arrogant Father**

By ALYCE EPLEY

The curtain goes up tonight at 8:00 on "The Heiress," opening production of the season for the Meredith College Playhouse.

Grease paint and props have finally been assembled; period costumes have been ordered and antique furniture has been obtained for the stage setting of the play, which is enacted against the background of Old New York.

"The Heiress," adapted by Ruth and Augustus Goetz from the Henry James novel, *Washington Square*, manages both to capture the mood created by the novel and at the same time to provide for those sudden crises without which the subtlest atmospheric effects leave a theatre audience unsatisfied.

The plot of the production is concerned with the character and emotions of private individuals. Hysteria is veiled with stately, stylized candlelight and shadows, and the entire story is built around an individual act which is examined coolly and scientifically through a microscope.

Mr. Harry K. Dorsett, splendidly plays the role of Dr. Austin Sloper, a cold and arrogant Victorian father, whom one might find it difficult to believe in if Jane Austen had not preceded him and Victorian literature did not take it as a matter of course. He rightfully tries to protect his daughter Catherine from the advances of an obvious fortune hunter, but he gives the implication that "No one could possibly want you except for your money."

Charlene Swanzey poignantly portrays the daughter, Catherine, making us believe in her dullness and lack of charm, yet being very interesting and charming as she does so. She is characterized by a desperate, reckless passion when she allows herself briefly to believe she is loved, and at the last by a proud stoical acceptance of a life which will be completely devoid of love and happiness.

### Dr. Yarbrough Receives Honor

Dr. John Yarbrough, head of the biology department, has recently been designated a member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Membership into the association means that Dr. Yarbrough is a *Fellow* and also a member of the National Council.

Dr. Yarbrough has also been named secretary-treasurer of the North Carolina Academy of Science for a three year term which began last May. The North Carolina Academy includes all sciences and has as its function an annual meeting for reporting research. The next meeting of the Academy will be held in Raleigh in May 1953 with State College as hostess.

Dr. Mary Yarbrough is also a member of the Academy and a former vice-president. She is now chairman of the high school exhibits committee.

Ellen Westmoreland gives dimension to the heroine's Aunt Lavinia Penniman, a silly, romantic sister of the doctor, while Mary Cobb Dickens renders a splendid performance as the doctor's other sister, Mrs. Almond, a handsome woman in her forties.

Mrs. Almond's pretty, vivacious daughter Marian is enacted by Fay Walker, and Marcel Martin very silkily performs as Marian's fiance, Arthur Townsend.

When Marian and Arthur make their first appearance on the scene, they bring Arthur's cousin, Morris Townsend, into the Sloper household. Gordon Berkstresser plays the part of Morris, who has recently returned from Europe and is living with his widowed sister. The sister, a Mrs. Montgomery, is portrayed by Betsy Cannady, and Kitty Waynick acts as parlormaid for the Sloper's.

Tickets for the play, which is to be presented both tonight and tomorrow night have been distributed to Meredith College students and will be on sale at the door to other interested parties. Student dates are to be admitted for fifty cents, and adult tickets will sell for seventy-five cents.

This year's officers for the Playhouse are Betsy Cannady, president; Beth Morgan, vice-president; Fay Walker, secretary; and Lyn Belton, treasurer.

The traditional after-the-play party for members of the cast and production will be held tomorrow night immediately following the play in the Hut.

### Home Ec Club Helps Methodist Orphanage

Continuing to place its emphasis on the home, a "Foundation of Stone," the Home Economics Club is centering its activities this month around the theme of "Open Doors." The entire meeting on November 3 was devoted to a project for helping our less fortunate friends. On that afternoon, the sewing lab was the scene of much excited activity as the members all joined in to help make bean-bag clowns. These colorful little toys will be distributed at Christmas to the children at the Methodist Orphanage here in Raleigh.

### Dr. Keith Edits Blount Papers

Dr. Alice B. Keith, associate professor of history, has just completed Volume I of the *John Gray Blount Papers*, a collection of some 520 letters and documents written between 1764 and 1789. Having edited the first of this series, Dr. Keith is now working on material for two more volumes.

John Gray Blount, a prosperous merchant, businessman, and land speculator of Washington, N. C., was one of the most important figures of his day. His letters and papers were deposited in the Department of Archives in 1933.

### EIGHT SENIORS RECEIVE HONOR IN "WHO'S WHO"

Eight seniors have recently been chosen for national recognition in "Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges" for the 1953 edition. These students were recommended by the Student Government Council and a faculty committee. They are Kitty Barbehenn, Jean Dula, Betty Ann Highsmith, Betsy Brooks McGee, Ann Partin, Pat Smathers, Janet Stallings, and Betty Jo Welch.

Selected on the basis of scholarship, co-operation, and leadership in academic and extra-curricular activities, citizenship and service to the school, and promise of future usefulness, these students will receive certificates of recognition at graduation.

The honor of being recognized in the current "Who's Who" carries with it the use of a placement service conducted for the benefit of seniors and graduates whose work has received this recommendation.

The College Newspaper Contest on Safe Driving is now open for entries. You may be a winner of part of the \$2,100 in cash prizes. The purpose of the contest is to encourage safe driving among college students through the medium of the press, and all you have to do is submit an editorial, feature, cartoon, or photograph on safe driving. Entries must appear in a college publication to be eligible. See the editor of THE TWIG if you would like to enter.

### Chapel Talks Give Inspiring Thoughts

*Editor's Note: Because members of THE TWIG staff feel that the chapel talks being presented each morning contain many worthwhile thoughts that Meredith students would like to remember, THE TWIG, each issue, will publish excerpts of these talks. If any student or faculty member finds a thought or an idea that she would like to pass on to other readers, bring it to a member of THE TWIG staff. Any idea of this nature is eligible for print in this column.*

"When I was a college freshman, I announced to my mother that I was getting married Christmas. She asked me calmly to sit down and discuss the virtues and vices of Louis. 'Well, he doesn't drink,' I began slowly. 'He doesn't swear, and he never misses going to church.' My mother answered quietly. 'All negative virtues.' And so I instantly saw that the goodness of Louis, in this case, was boredom. Be certain that your life has a positive outlook. Negative virtues are worthless."

"Life is not a vessel to be drained, but a cup to be filled."

Dr. Elizabeth Vaughn,  
Head of Sociology Dept.  
Meredith College  
November 10, 1952

"Every year I become more convinced that with increasing maturity, teachers become increasingly useful and effective. But—there are things which a student who really understands that part of a subject which she has mastered can do for a stu-

dent who is struggling with that same subject which no one else can do. When you get papers back bearing 96's and 97's and 98's, do you look around to smirk like Jack Horner, or do you reach out to assure some contemporary? 'This thing is not the voodoo kind of mystery which only the seventh daughter of a seventh daughter of Meredith College can understand, but this is something which any girl like you and me who speaks the English language can see — if she looks aright.'

"When in putting on your last and best nylons, you find a great run in the place where it will show, when you struggle to the front of Johnson Hall and

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### Campus Elects May Queen, Court

Dot Stell and Alma Brigman were elected May Queen and Maid of Honor, respectively, in an election held by the Meredith student body on Thursday night, November 6, 1952.

These two were chosen from a number of Meredith beauties, among which were Jane Cate, Sue Bunn, Ruth Cole, Daphne Stephenson, Jean Dula, June Eller, Mary Ann Godwin, Lucy Parker, Betty Jo Welch, and Meta Mae Williams.

May Court representatives elected from the Junior Class were Lyn Belton and Shirley Graham, and those elected from the Freshman Class were Liz and Joyce Jones. Sophomores chosen were Lou Ann Griffin and Phoebe Barnhardt. The Senior Class chose Betsy Cox and June Eller.