

GUEST EDITORIAL

WHAT'S GOOD IN MEREDITH GIRLS?

A former faculty member visiting on campus this year said, "Chapel speakers usually spend most of their time talking about what's wrong with students. I think that speakers at Meredith should talk more often about what's good in the girls." That is my theme.

Meredith girls are not armed with knives. They do not eat loco weed and go on a spring spree of destruction. We and our property enjoy a safety envied by many college and public school communities.

Night film has been removed from the faces in our classrooms. The hair sprouting from our cerebral areas is combed. Ears are washed-behind. Dresses are not only clean, they have style. Some of them give one a genuine aesthetic thrill. Not thus do damsels strike the eye on all campuses.

Book Teas and many casually assembled dormitory groups are marks of a student body with intellectual and spiritual interests that transcend grade-gunning.

Remember the note on the bulletin board a few months ago inviting faculty members to break cafeteria lunch lines? In managing a schedule, faculty members and students follow the same impersonal clock. Faculty members receive as many minutes a year as students receive. Students need as much time as teachers need. But how delightful to live where grace goes beyond necessity!

When the Greeks made a clay jar, they had all that was necessary for carrying water. Then an exuberance of spirit urged the Greeks to mold about the edge of the jar a wreath of flowers or a procession of youths and maidens. This decoration, foolishly unnecessary for bringing water into the house, the Greeks called the "grace." The invitation for faculty to cut the cafeteria line is only one of many signs of exuberance of Meredith spirit that flowers into graciousness.

Meredith Library is a place in which one can relax and read. Loud voices and piercing whispers are left outside.

Probably we shall forever see some Meredithians throwing paper cups and chewing gum wrappers on the driveway and lawns, some coming late to chapel, some chewing gum, some paying less than courteous attention to speakers, some putting out more energy on comic books and true confessions than on Shakespeare, Einstein, and Plato.

During the summer we may conceive plans for improving Meredith. But let's spend some warm hours remembering what was good about us this year. And when we become drowsy over memories of our own perfections, let's wake up to remember for a while what was good about the other people on campus in 1952-1953.

Dr. Ethel Tilley

SALUTE TO THE FRESHMEN

When a freshman leaves home to begin Orientation Week, her impressions of college are essentially the same impressions she received during Hospitality Week End the preceding spring. She sees her packed suitcases, filled with clothes, high school souvenirs and room furnishings. She and Dad have it all settled about the weekly allowance. And so, with the independence of having a new bank book and of being on her own, she is impatient to get the good-byes over and to enter "College," a fine grown-up word that is at last applicable to her.

Responsibility and initiative don't worry the prospective freshman. She's confident that she has always had those qualities. As she enters college, she's cocky, pert, and satisfied in exploring her new interests. There are schedule cards to fill and a whole new bewildering language about hours and quality points to learn. There are buildings to find, too — and delightful lingo about "Cow College" and "Angel Farm" that give her a certain priority (she thinks) over the girls from Peace and St. Mary's. She's never been to a fraternity party in her life. She's never written an outline in her life. In fact, life itself is very new and different, and there is much to learn.

So much to learn. Far more than she realizes. Girls becomes homesick, and a few drop out. The responsibility of daily vocabulary and paragraphs in English — history and biology tests on the same day — maps to correct and collateral to read weighs down upon her. She cannot see that, rather than stifling the freedom of her mind and the independence of her spirit, the drudgery of routine work is opening new doors for her.

And so the freshman finds herself in a bewildering position. She feels insecure — too old — and much too proud — to cry, yet, too young and inexperienced to know how to handle the situation. All the guidance and counselling available cannot help her. Getting along in college and life is a problem she must work out herself.

The Freshman Class of this year is to be commended. According to Miss Margaret Schwartz, assistant dean, and our own observations, the class has shown outstanding leadership. So far, only five of the 177 freshmen have withdrawn; two more left because of academic deficiencies. The fact that fifteen freshmen were on the Dean's List last fall shows that their emotional control and stability have fostered better academic application than that of previous freshmen classes.

The freshmen have also been well-adjusted, socially. Though nine strict campuses and twenty-four lenient campuses were reported, the freshmen from the start have generally, and in good spirit, obeyed regulations. Freshmen girls, particularly, are dressed to look like college girls when you meet them uptown. Chapel conduct of the freshmen, as a whole, has been above reproach, both in the daily morning services and during lectures. Also, there have been many incidences of freshmen turning themselves in in respect of the Honor System.

The superior leadership of the freshmen has resulted in better school spirit. As evidenced in their winning Stunt Night, the freshmen have worked hard as a group in school activities. They are always well represented at the Phi and Astro meetings. All clubs open to freshmen members have a good quota of freshmen in them; there are freshmen representatives on the staffs of the three publications.

Meredith is proud of the overall excellence of her "little sisters." According to Miss Schwartz, it was a particularly hard task to choose the fourteen freshmen counsellors because of the many outstanding members of the class. Even though the other 163 freshmen are not officially counsellors, we are confident that their example will do much to strengthen the incoming Freshmen Class.

LETTERS TO EDITOR

Dear Editor,

Commencement is almost here. Commencement with its caps and gowns, its speeches, its joy, and its tears. Those tears will hardly be for this past year, because it has been a full year. First was Orientation Week. Before it was forgotten on came Rush Week, Saturday football games, Halloween, the Corn Huskin' Bee, Thanksgiving vacation, and then creeping weeks before the thrill of Christmas. The fall was crammed, packed, stuffed, but yet there were a few extra minutes. There was probably at least one Saturday when we slept all afternoon.

Back from Christmas, the threat of exams claimed our attention. As soon as we finished one semester the other one was here, and we started all over again. Classes, Religious Emphasis Week, student recitals, parallel reading, campus elections, and Easter vacation. All of these were gone through with, but yet. . . . Then came the fun of Faculty-Student Playday, term papers, spring registration, and finally the Junior-Senior Banquet. A year of fun it has been, but it seems that we have had more fun at other times.

Plans for Class Day are now in progress; that will be a glorious week end, when the seniors graduate in true tradition. They will probably look back, also, and wonder if the year was complete. It was full; yes, but was it complete? Some thing seems to be missing.

Could it possibly be Palio?  
Ruth Jeanne Allen.

Dear Editor,

This letter may be a bit on the unusual side, but I hope that some good will come of it. Considering the fact that so many of the boys here in Korea are faced with the same problem that we of the Sixth and our Maintenance Detachment are, I have decided to try my best to remedy the situation. Being the Company Mail Clerk, I have noticed that several members of the outfit have not been receiving the mail that they should to keep their morale up to par with what an American soldier's must be to endure this life. It gives me a funny feeling to say "No" to these people when I hold mail call. I hope that a few of the girls at Meredith might be able to aid me in this cause. Following will be a few names:

Pfc Charles E. Andrews  
US 51 190 382  
6th Trans. Co. (Hcptr.)  
APO 20 in care of Postmaster  
San Francisco, California

Pfc Donald L. Horn  
RA 16 400 099  
150th Trans. Cargo Hcptr. Fld.  
Main. Det.  
APO 20 in care of Postmaster  
San Francisco, California

Cpl Joseph T. Conlin  
RA 12 334 395  
6th Trans. Co. (Hcptr.)  
APO 20 in care of Postmaster  
San Francisco, California

Pfc Thomas J. Boyle  
US 55 247 034  
6th Trans. Co. (Hcptr.)  
APO 20 in care of Postmaster  
San Francisco, California

Yours truly,  
Donald A. Mason  
RA 11 220 407  
Unit Mail Clerk

Dr. Keith, Dr. Wallace Attend Regional Meet

Dr. Alice Keith and Dr. Lillian Wallace are attending a regional meeting of the State Literary and Historical Association at Winston-Salem this weekend, May 22-23. Dr. Keith, as vice-president of the organization, will preside at the Saturday morning session. The program will be concerned with the restoration of Old Salem Village.

Wedding Bells for Meredith Girls

Diplomas and diamonds seem to be the key words that can unlock the thoughts of many Meredith students this last month of school. With exams upon them, these lucky girls can relax at intervals of studying by planning furniture, homes, and budgets.

June 1 will be a milestone for seniors, but the excitement of graduation is being rivaled by weddings by two Meredith girls, Ann Partin and Nancy Jo Wallis. Ann, who will marry Charlie Cecil Holland of South Boston, Virginia at four o'clock, is setting the new precedent at Meredith of being married on the campus. Her wedding ceremony in the small auditorium will be performed by Dr. Broadus Jones of the First Baptist Church in Raleigh. Melrose Cannady, her roommate, is maid of honor. Marshals include Margaret Ingram, Velma Smithwick, Nancy Tew, and Linda White. After the wedding, the couple will live in South Boston.

Nancy Jo Wallis, who will marry Bob Fleming, a State graduate, is planning a small formal wedding at the Temple Baptist Church in Raleigh. Nancy's father, a Baptist minister, is coming from Illinois to perform the ceremony. Nancy plans to follow Bob when he enters the service around July 1.

In addition to an academic education, college has brought prospective husbands to Marian King and Mary Estes, bride-elects of this summer. Marian, who will marry Joe Pollard, a former classmate at Campbell College, is planning a July wedding. Both plan to live in Raleigh. Joe will be affiliated with the Western Electric Company, while Marian might teach.

Mary Estes met Bob Speight a Sigma Nu Rush party at State in her sophomore year. Two weeks after the wedding at Chevy Chase, Virginia, on August 8, they will head for Oklahoma where Bob will work. Martha Baird and Mary Ann Godwin will be bridesmaids at the wedding.

For many Meredith students, though, college life could not erase their connections with the young people of their home-towns. On June 20, Janne Dawson of Charlotte will marry Bill Phillips who was "just an old friend of the family's" until last summer. Bill is in Wash- (Continued on page three)

Mish's Messin'

Hustle and bustle!!! Everybody's busy with something, or more often, several things at once. Nothing like everything happening at the same time, is there???

Signs of the times: hot sunny days; refreshing dips in the pool; ice cream and cokes from the Bee Hive, especially around 10 o'clock at night; the quietness of the early morning just before the first bell rings; noise everywhere, all the time; voices floating across campus. . . . Then there are . . . parties, dances, classes, recitals (I've been to more in the last two weeks than all the rest of my life put together) dates, exams to study for, and . . . last but not least . . . GRADUATION for those lucky seniors.

We underclassmen are always saying how much we envy the seniors because they are finally "getting out." Well . . . I know that often it seems as though college is hard and unendurable, but stop and think now — aren't you seniors going to miss Meredith next year, and also, aren't the rest of us rather looking forward to another year? Now . . . be honest with yourself when you answer.

The play by Maxwell Anderson about Joan of Arc that Dr. Edwin M. Poteat read in chapel the other day made the chapel service one of the most inspiring I have experienced this year. As was pointed out in the play, we all need to have an enduring faith in these troubled times. Although we all gripe (and I am just as guilty as anyone else) about having to attend chapel so often, I know that we paid close attention that day. Chapel is not half so bad if you listen once in a while.

I found in the morning paper a fact that should be of particular interest to those girls getting a husband this summer: "In one state there's no limit to the number of hours a woman may work — state of matrimony."

And then, if you are not yet aware that the hot weather has arrived:

"Spring is here;  
How do I know?  
A little virus told me so."

Good luck to the departing seniors, and happy vacation to EVERYBODY!!!!



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