

Meredith Has Potentials For Social and Religious Drama Center

People go to the theatre as a result of all kinds of motivation. Some go to laugh away the minor irritations of the day. Some go to experience vicariously the suffering of some goddess with drooping eyelashes. Others, and I suspect their number is legion, go because they wish to see as often as possible the old story of boy-meets-girl, boy-loves-girl, boy-gets-girl. Some few go because they relish seeing great characters interpreted by talented artists. And there are those who go to the theatre to purge and refine their own emotions. To them the theatre means Euripides and Shakespeare and Moliere and Ibsen and Shaw and Eugene O'Neill. To them the theatre is a social and religious institution, dedicated to refining and humanizing personality. They are somewhat resentful of the fact that the contemporary theatre has been, to a large extent, taken over by the moneycrats of Broadway and the Hollywooders of California.

It is possible, I believe, for Meredith College to become distinctive as a center for religious and social drama. We have one of the finest auditoriums in the South. There is plenty of acting talent among our students and in Raleigh to assure high quality in our local production. In Mrs. da Parma we have professional competence of a high order. The Carolina Playmakers, the Barter Theatre, and other groups enjoy coming to Meredith. All that is necessary is an enthusiastic interest on the part of the faculty and students in this kind of theatre. This interest, we know, is lacking at present; less than 75 of our student body of 626 saw *Ah, Wilderness*. I feel, however, that a potential audience for great drama is here; it only needs to be shown what it is missing.

Harry K. Dorsett

Thanksgiving

First among the things to be thankful for is a thankful spirit. Some people would grumble at the accommodations in Heaven if they ever got there. They take their blessings here so much as a matter of course, that even a day of general thanksgiving once in a year is more than they feel any need of. And if their personal blessings in any measure fail, gratitude for that they have had or still enjoy is the last thing they think of. Another class really desire to be thankful, but they are naturally despondent. Their sky is as dark with clouds as though a special Old Probabilities were employed to keep it full. They go through the world in a deprecating spirit, hoping things may turn out well, yet fearing for the worst. We always feel glad for this class when Thanksgiving Day comes around. They then have an official warrant for gratitude. If their own hearts do not formulate blessings, they can listen to the sermon, or look to the President's proclamation.

How different with the thankful heart! What a gift it is to be born with an outlook toward the bright side of things! And if not so by nature, what a triumph of grace to be made thankful through a renewed heart! It is so much more comfortable and rational to see what we have to be thankful for and to rejoice accordingly, than to have our vision forever filled with our lacks and our needs. Happy are they who possess this gift! Blessings may fail and fortunes vary, but the thankful heart remains. The happy past, at least, is secure—and Heaven is ahead.

—Leaves of Gold

UNITED FUND DRIVE

At the recent conclusion of the United Fund Drive on Meredith campus, results revealed the drive to be relatively successful though our goal of \$1,200 was not reached. Contributions totaled \$1,139.56. Congratulations for almost reaching the goal! The college as a whole nearly did its part. But dividing the college into faculty and students, we find that about eighty per cent of the faculty and staff gave \$960.35 of the \$1,139.56. Approximately 325 students contributed \$179.21. Did we as students really "nearly do our part"? Remember there are 624 of us.

Mish's Messin'

Do you wake up hearing bells ringing? Do you spend your days with one eye on your watch and the other on whatever you're trying to do? Do you use your free time catching up on what you were supposed to have done for a class that probably met three days ago? You do! Aha!! I have recently been making a study of a group of students with such symptoms, and after much research, I can conclusively prove that the aforesaid students are none other than those fine young ladies at Meredith College!!! Well, it does seem that we have a lot to do sometimes, but then our hard life has its compensations. Take the Corn Huskin' Bee, for instance.

I don't believe that there was a person on this campus that didn't enjoy the Corn Huskin' Bee! I'm always hearing people say, "We just don't have the right kind of school spirit." Well, after the fun we had the other Friday night, I don't think a single one of us can say we don't have any school spirit!! Congratulations are in order for those people who planned and worked so faithfully on the Corn Huskin' Bee. All of the events went off without a hitch. The costumes so fascinated me at supper that, like nearly everybody else, I spent more time staring at people than I did eating! The court was a perfect place for the festivities. Hope you remember the folk dances . . . the scenery . . . the gay laughter . . . the cute sing-songs . . . Gordie's tall tale . . . the siamese twins . . . Dr. Campbell's calling hogs . . . the costume parade. If you recall these, the many other things, and the friendly feeling in the air, then I know you'll agree that Meredith College had real spirit that night!! Let's not forget it, either. We have lost more than we realize when we lose our spirit.

Don't be frightened by those people you see wandering around campus muttering to themselves and making strange gestures. They're quite harmless, for they're just rehearsing their parts in *As You Like It*!!

Is everybody excited over going home? What are you planning to do Thanksgiving? I have a very full schedule—sleep, eat, sleep, eat, eat, sleep, and more of the same. It promises to be a very delightful holiday!!!

Chapel behavior has been much better since something was said about it in our Thursday S. G. meeting. We should, if for no other reason, be attentive out of respect to Dr. McLain, who has been working very hard on the programs. I think it would be nice when we particularly enjoy some message or speaker to maybe say something to Dr. McLain about it. I'm sure it would make him feel as though all his efforts hasn't been in vain.

When I'm endeavoring to write this column, I never can think of anything amusing. This little quattrain by Rebecca McCann expresses my dilemma:

I think of witty things to say,
I'd be considered bright—
Except I always think them in
The middle of the night!
Be good, everybody. Have a happy Thanksgiving, but don't eat too much turkey. Be seen' ya!!

THINK ON THESE

It's not what you say,
It's how you say it . . .
It's not what disease one has,
But who has it . . .
It's not what you do,
But how you do it . . .

Miss Zinn, Versatile Assistant Dean, Likes Travel and North Carolina

"Oh, nothing exciting has ever happened to me," said Miss Edith Zinn, our new assistant dean. And she promptly launched into descriptions of her summer travels, trips she takes each two years. Mexico was her first venture in 1947; then in 1949 she visited the British West Indies. Her destination in 1952 was Europe in which she toured six countries. Now, is that exciting? Miss Zinn favors travel by plane, pampering her love for flying. When asked where her 1954 tour might lead her, she revealed plans for a round-the-world trip, touching the capitals along the way.

Miss Zinn is a Yankee, born and bred in Huntingdon, Pennsylvania, but harboring a love for North Carolina. Her brother graduated from Duke law school, and on visits to him, she got a look at our state, deciding to live here someday. So in 1950, she had her opportunity when Eastern Carolina College offered her a position as assistant dean. She came to us this fall, making Eastern Carolina's loss Meredith's gain.

Penn State is Miss Zinn's alma mater where she was also dean of women after receiving training at Syracuse University in New York. Incidentally, Miss Margaret Schwartz, our assistant dean before Miss Zinn, also received training



Miss Edith Zinn

there, a situation which lends comfortable feeling of familiarity to Miss Zinn's work.

Miss Zinn also taught art and English in Sunbury High School, Sunbury, Pennsylvania. Versatility seems to be one of her characteristics.

Liking the personal element found in smaller schools, Miss Zinn says Meredith is just the right size. And we, feeling quite fortunate to have Miss Zinn on our campus, hope to justify her convictions.

LETTER TO EDITOR

During the recent B. S. U. Convention in Winston-Salem an unfortunate situation arose when one of the main speakers for the convention, Dr. Nels F. S. Ferre, had his invitation revoked. Statements which followed in the papers were not all accurate, and so it seems that a clarification and statement of what actually happened needs to be made. For some time there has been a growing concern for certain phases of the Baptist State program. The speaker who was to appear had received some publicity which was quite unfavorable. In view of the unfavorable comments and the dissension concerning the State program, the Executive Secretary of North Carolina Baptists felt it was necessary to cancel this particular speaker for the Student Convention. At the Convention the students passed a resolution which sought to express regret at the embarrassment caused to all parties by

the late cancellation. It also sought to get some guarantee that the freedom for which Baptists stand would be recognized in the future. To the students the main issue of concern lay in this disregard of Baptist freedom and in the question of whether in the future the programs set up by students could be executed as planned. To the executive secretary the issue was that the interests of the total convention and its work made interference in the Student program necessary. Thus in an attempt to have harmony in our state the speaker was asked not to come.

Certain passages of Dr. Ferre's book *The Christian Understanding of God* were quoted in the controversy. These passages left out some very important details with the result that an entirely different interpretation than that intended by the author was made. His real view was ignored.
Dot Prickett



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Meredith College is an accredited senior liberal arts college for women located in the capital city of North Carolina. It confers the Bachelor of Arts and the Bachelor of Music degrees. The college offers majors in twenty-one fields including music, art, business and home economics.

Since 1921 the institution has been a member of the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools. The college holds membership in the Association of American Colleges and the North Carolina College Conference. Graduates of Meredith College are eligible for membership in the American Association of University Women. The institution is a liberal arts member of the National Association of Schools of Music.

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