

WHAT ABOUT STUDENT OPINION AND MORALE?

This is a question that never seems to be answered. It is a problem that never gets solved. Complaints are heard every day about homework, rules, and food; and yet it seems that the things we ought to be thinking about and expressing an opinion on are ignored. It is too much trouble to think out a real problem and do something to solve it. We take the easy way of drifting and getting along somehow. As a result, our student morale hits a low ebb.

Meredith is not the only school that suffers because of a lack of school spirit and intelligent thought. Several selections from other college papers have been printed on this page in the hope that we will all take notice of this problem and seek a solution to it.

We have freedom of speech. Let's use it constructively.

S. G.

And how would you like to see your Student Government Council run? Do you have some definite ideas? Well, now is the time to do something about it, for elections are here. So get to know nominees and be sure you're voting in line with your convictions as well as for an outstanding personality.

Not One Complaint

(From the *Daily Tar Heel* University of N. C.)

The new complaints board, which had its first meeting yesterday afternoon in the Woodhouse Lounge of Graham Memorial, had no student complaints brought before it, according to Bob Harrington, chairman of the board.

"I would like to see all students with complaints come to see us and air them," said Harrington concerning future meetings of the board.

The group, which was set up by the student Legislature, will meet every two weeks.

MEREDITH TALENT

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by Dr. Campbell to plan this program is composed of Mr. Dorsett, Dr. Rose, and Dr. Cooper.

CAMPUS OPINION

(From the *Collegian*, Greensboro College)

Recent headlines recording incidents of debates on Red China being stopped, the teaching of evolution in church-affiliated colleges being condemned, and courses on Communism being cut from college curriculums have prompted considerable discussion and apprehension. The question has been raised, "Is academic freedom being threatened?"

Your *Collegian* has added the opinions of G. C. students on this current question and reports that 64 per cent of those questioned believe that academic freedom is being threatened.

Interviews revealed extreme opinions on the subject, with the freshmen and sophomore students accounting for the largest number of affirmative answers. Upperclassmen, in general, felt that academic free-

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The Ungrateful Student

(From the *Journal*, Shaw University)

How many students do you suppose actually appreciate college WHILE DOING UNDERGRADUATE WORK? My guess is that perhaps three or four out of ten do.

In the past couple of decades the college graduate has become almost a commoner in our American society; and we can foresee the day when perhaps a degree from an undergraduate college will be the equivalent of a present-day high school diploma.

One reason for the decrease of appreciation for a college education, WHILE IN SCHOOL, is the easiness with which we achieve it. Today there are many scholarships available to an aspirant. One can obtain a scholarship for academic superiority, athletic supremacy, or outstanding achievement in a technical area, to name a few channels.

Another attribute to the student's "matter-of-fact" attitude is that the serious-minded student is all but dead. To study long and hard for courses is as antiquated as a 1900

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MISH'S MESSIN'

Well, what with elections going on and the dance concert and the senior recitals and everything else being given, this place is really getting to be a "mad house," isn't it? Yet somehow we all find time to get out and enjoy the nice weather we've been having. The warm days seem to be a prelude to spring; if they really are any warning, you might say, then we are going to have a beautiful spring. It won't be long now 'till we'll be entering the "last lap" of the semester! Three cheers for the coming spring!!!

Student support of *Arsenic and Old Lace* was very good, but, naturally, it could have been better. The Playmakers are very capable actors and certainly deserve our support every time they come.

You know, whether you realize it or not, these elections we are having are very important. People who deliberate seriously about the merits of the various candidates before they vote are those who are the most thoughtful people, in my opinion, on this campus. Really, these elections are no laughing matter. As usual, the Nominating Committee has done a fine job. They are entitled to our thanks for the work they have done.

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Lowering Student Morale

(From the *Technician*, State College)

Someone raised a question to the Editor this past week asking why editorials concerning student gripes and other negative aspects of college life were not abandoned in favor of editorials on the better features of State College. The question was raised specifically in regard to the editorial on "Research or Educational Center?" but was spread to include others, also. It was felt that student morale at State College was already low and that the *Technician* was not helping any by calling to the students' attention the shortcomings of the college and things related to it. Furthermore, it was felt that most of the editorials of the past had just given students topics to argue and gripe about.

The suggestion following the discussion was that through editorial concentration on the better things of State College, student morale would be raised and students would have a better opinion of the school and this in turn would give them more confidence in themselves and their education after graduation. Psychologically this would turn out better men.

The man raising the question was sincere and obviously he had some very sound points. However, the *Technician* is the mouthpiece of the student body and if it doesn't bring things that need correcting to the front, where else can students find something that will voice their complaints? Department heads, the administration, the trustees, and the Governor, all receive the paper and this affords the student body representation as well as offering those men in responsible positions an inside knowledge of the campus, student affairs, and opinions.

Certainly the *Technician* influences student opinion and what newspaper doesn't? The editorials aren't the absolute. Students and faculty members have the right to disagree. The right to disagree is our greatest heritage. The editorials are written in the hopes of answering question students have, of calling matters to their attention and speaking in a manner which reflects the majority opinion of the student body. . . .

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor:

Registering for the 1955 election of campus-elected officers were 77 per cent of the student body. Seventy-two per cent of the Senior Class members registered; 60 per cent of the Junior Class; 81 per cent of the Sophomore Class; and 84 per cent of the Freshman Class.

When one considers that not more than three-fourths of the student body is participating in the election of next year's leaders, she is impressed not with the number actively concerned, but rather with number seemingly indifferent to the responsibility of members in a community.

The percentage of registered voters who actually voted on the first slate has not yet been computed. However, the election for the second slate of officers will be held Thursday, March 10. There should be a ballot in the box for every student who signed her name in the registration book.

SANDRA PETERSON

To the Editor:

There are many people, other than State College students, who think Meredith girls are just wonderful. I am one of these many people and I suppose you are, too. Yet there are times when I have my doubts.

Last week when Miss LaMonte said a few words to us before dinner, I'd bet that million I have not made yet that it was her first experience in trying to be heard above the clanking of dishes. With the gripes that circulate around here about the food, you'd think we'd be happy to postpone the terrible task of eating for just a few moments because of dislike, if not for courtesy.

We are all big girls now and we all know the proper things to do. You know this, and I know it. But for gosh sakes, let's be more polite in the dining hall so our guests will know it too.

FRANCES PATTERSON

TODAY'S TASK

(From the *Journal*, Shaw University)

Americans today face numerous problems on the social, political, and economic level. Socially this nation has to reckon with the problem of equality for all of its citizens. Politicians of both major parties are worried about America's foreign policy towards the Communist world. In terms of economics, we face the task of reducing unemployment and federal spending.

As the average citizen looks at these varied problems, one wonders how they infiltrated into the American way of life. In probing into the past, we are prone to believe that to some extent problems from the past confront us now in the form of unconquered problems before a newly-developed social order. Thus America's inability to cope with these issues in years gone by ultimately left to this present generation the task of presenting the correct panacea for the existing problems.

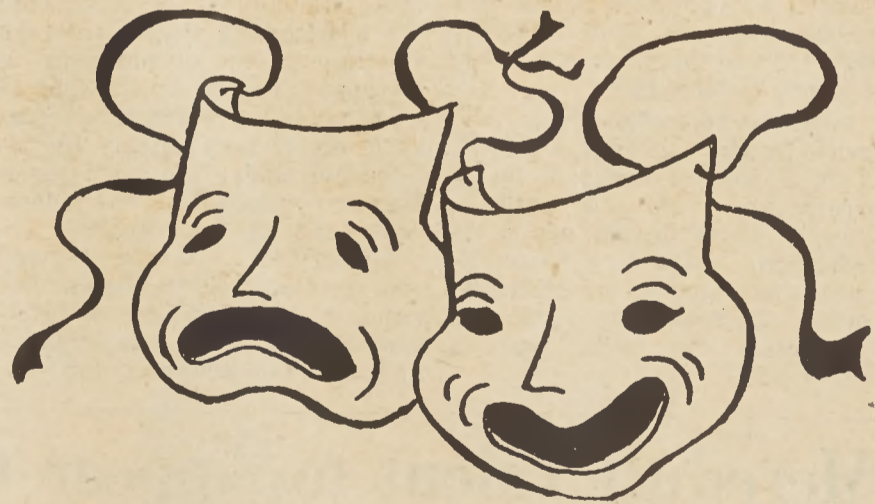
Each generation, it seems, adds a new leaf to vast history book of humanity. In our effort to contribute

to humanity, one unanswered question blocks the path momentarily. This may best be described by those immortal words written by William Shakespeare, who wrote: "To be or not to be, that is the question." Here we stand at Shaw University, potential educational representatives of this institution about to make the fatal choice between belief and practice or to associate the two harmoniously. Education acquired here can be used egotistically or altruistically. This is the question to be decided today.

As citizens of America, we must approach today's task realistically by seeking ways and means that are profitable for all in reaching this goal. The prerequisites, as basic tools to work with, are faith and reason. Facts compiled without explanation are useless; therefore reason is necessary to interpret truth from error. When factual knowledge reaches the level of the intangibles, then faith, which demands "trusting when one cannot prove," comes forth to guide.

Today's task will not be solved adequately by applying one of these tools. To combine the two as a working unit would make today's task our immediate gain and the future a glorious morn.

CURTAIN CALLS



For those who saw *Arsenic and Old Lace*, I'm sure that you'll agree with me that it was a very professional performance, superbly acted, which gave you a full evening of grand entertainment.

Although Jones Auditorium wasn't filled to capacity, a large number of enthusiastic play-goers turned out for the show and the Playmakers found before them a most appreciative audience. Hats off to the Tyner Education Club for making this excellent performance possible!

NEWS FLASH!!! The Raleigh Little Theatre is now in rehearsal of *Climate of Fear*, an original script by Charles Aycock Poe, an attorney here in Raleigh. An interesting note

on the author is that he was once an agent with the F.B.I. The play takes place in the near future and deals with politics in regard to the anti-Communist investigations. Sounds like SUSPENSE, doesn't it? This is the first original script that has been done in the Raleigh Little Theatre in six years, and it is the first local, original script done in the Little Theatre in nineteen years. The play is full-length — three acts, and it will run from the 18th through the 24th of March excepting Monday night. Curtain is at eight each evening. Tickets will be on sale at the door. Angels, here is your chance to see some of the best dramatic talent that North Carolina has to offer.



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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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