

THE GREEN ROOM

By MARGARET TUCKER

Back in the days when the papers were full of advertisements reading hopefully, "Have tuxedo, will travel," it was a custom in the big theatres to have a room called, inappropriately enough, the "Green Room." Backstage, this chamber was the melting-pot for actors and interested theatre-goers. It was here that current news and tidbits were passed by word-of-mouth. In renaming the theatre column "The Green Room," I am expressing the tentative hope that you, the readers, will consider yourselves an "interested, theatre-going public." I shall try to answer any questions you ask about the theatre, even unto the edge of my knowledge. From time to time, there will be news of the shows opening currently on Broadway; they are the plays that will influence little theatres and school playhouses in the years to come.

If I may drag you back from the lights of the Great White Way for a while, I would like you to join me in applauding the girls who were recently tapped for Alpha Psi Omega. They are Cathy Atkins.

Jeanne Grealish, Sally Drake, Betty Jean Blackmon, Emily Newman, and Mary Kiser.

The Playhouse was honored last week by an impressive reading of Shaw's *Don Juan in Hell*, by an even more impressive all-star cast. Theopians were Dr. Lowry, as Don Juan; Dr. Crook, playing the Statue; Dr. Wallace, in the part of Dona Ana; and Dr. McLain, as the Devil. The meeting was quite a success, and it is to be hoped that we can present others like it in the future.

A recent dramatic effort, Barry's *The Twelve Pound Look*, was put on by the play production class, under the direction of Mrs. da Parma, in chapel. Not having exactly that degree of objectivity which is necessary for a reviewer, this columnist will be forced to bypass any comment. . . .

If you have any questions about the theatre, or any ideas about what you would like to read in this space allotted me, I would be delighted to do all that I am able. Until next fall, then, a happy season to everyone!

Society Night Features An Alumna

By PAM HARTSELL

The entire Meredith student body will be greatly honored when a "Meredith daughter" will return to be speaker for society night. Bernice Kelley Harris, a graduate of 1913, is today a well-known author of six novels, folk plays, feature articles, and short stories, all of which have been read and enjoyed, not only by North Carolinians but by people of all states: famous authors, sailors from Shanghai, club women, beginning students, ambassadors, and university presidents. Mrs. Harris' success seems to lie in her down-to-earth style of writing, which grew out of a strong love for her state and its people. In her works she pictures the people she has known intimately through the years, particularly those of Wake and Northampton counties. Frequently her character will emerge with a combination of characteristics drawn from several different real persons. Always those about whom the plot evolves are portrayed as very human people, with common joys, tears, weaknesses, and successes.

In an article which appeared in the *Meredith College Alumnae Magazine*, April, 1951, Mrs. Harris writes directly to her friends and readers, sharing with them some interesting little details concerning her publications and the fan mail she has received in connection with her writings. She relates how she came to be awarded the Mayflower Cup for the most distinguished North Carolina book of the year in 1939; the book, incidently, was *Purslane*, her first novel. To read her fan-mail, after the success of this book, is a fascinating experience. There seemed to be some confusion in various parts of the country about the significance of the title, *Purslane*.

My Bunsen For a Cookie, Pill-Fed Chemist Might Cry

(From *The Skyscraper*—Mundelein College, Chicago—ACP)

A distinguished American journal lamented recently that a national flour and baking company gives annual awards for the best recipes entered in its national contest.

Further comment ran that it is deplorable indeed that such frivolous endeavor as baking a cookie should be so amply rewarded when so many more deserving projects die for want of funds.

We wouldn't for a minute argue that a cancer cure is more important than a cookie, or a polio vaccine, or a means of curing a common cold.

But lots of far less vital matters rank as "suitable" and "worthwhile" projects, whereas the simple things that make life smooth and somewhat sweet are taken for granted.

Undoubtedly there are people who are so absorbed in the study of art, science, nature, and the unknown that cakes, pies, steaks, and cookies are of little concern. These individuals could be easily satisfied with a little wild rice or bird seed.

But we wonder if men are wise to underrate the cookie. A woman interested in improving her recipes and pleased by the result of her culinary labors is probably a happy woman. Her family is probably well-nourished, and her husband is undoubtedly pampered.

We think that the modern woman in her triple role as caterer, dietician, and entrepreneur of the world's only perpetual motion machine — the kitchen — out-science science.

Her ancestor who dreamed up the apple pie merits a place in our Hall of Fame. And if she makes a better cookie — it is all right with us to have the flour and baking company send an award to her door. In fact, it is fine!

Miss Garner Obtains Leave of Absence

Miss Maxine Garner, director of religious activities and teacher in the religion department, will be on leave of absence from Meredith during the 1955-56 college year to study on a fellowship at Union Theological Seminary in New York. Hers is one of twenty fellowships which were given by the Rockefeller Foundation and were not open to individual application but by selection of a Seminary faculty committee and a board of advisors.

Represented in the group of advanced students are citizens of India, Pakistan, Burma, Thailand, Hong Kong, Japan, Australia, Nigeria, Egypt, Denmark, Norway, Brazil, British Guiana, Cuba and the United States.

But, I must share with you a part of a letter which Mrs. Harris received from a sailor in Shanghai. He had just finished the reading of *Porulaca*.

"This is a true job of interpreting our wonderful State, a section that is Paradise on earth to me. Every dog-goned one of those characters I know, have talked to, and have listened to. The more I read, the more I liked it, and the more I laughed. The weird city of Shanghai that lay in a pool of glittering lights below me might have been a million miles away; I had gone back to a little North Carolina town, gone back so surely that I could smell the clean pine scent after a rain and the leaves burning on a fall afternoon. And suddenly I was nostalgic for cornpone and succotash and fried ham. . . ."

There were dozens and dozens of such letters that piled into Mrs. Harris's mailbox, and she proudly states that she has answered every one of them.

It is with eager anticipation that we await the meeting and inevitable friendship of this remarkable woman of which our country, our State, and most of all, our school, are very proud to claim.

FACULTY SHINES ON PLAYDAY

By BARBARA SELLERS

Faculty-Student Playday began with a bang as Dr. Edward Lowry and Cathy Yates were crowned Duke and Duchess of the day on the steps in front of the dining hall. Next on the program were the cheers and songs given by the dorms and the day students. (Faculty, where were your song and cheer?) The day students won first place with both their cheer and their song.

After the beginning festivities, the students dispersed, either to watch or to beat (they hoped) their favorite teachers at some game. The volleyball court, where a lively game ensued between panting faculty members and the varsity team, was the first stopping-place for most. Then, on to the court, where Dr. Lowry and Dr. Crook busily chewed soda crackers (without benefit of water), as several students cheered them on. (The first to whistle was announced the winner.) Besides eating crackers, Dr. Lowry broke a classroom rule by blowing bubble-gum — in this case, when a bubble completely hid his face, he was announced the "Winnah"! Another strange sight was to see Dr. Smith concentrating at Chinese checkers. He, along with Miss Aycock, also indulged in hopscotch. Of course, Dr. Johnson and Dr. Rose represented the English department with their skill at croquet. The science department held its own, for Mrs. Collins and Dr. Mary Yarbrough beat all challengers at bridge. Dr. Wallace, already an undisputed tennis champion, showed her prowess at scrabble with all who were in-

Societies Elect Officers

Astrotekton Society
 President.....Kay McCosley
 Vice-President.....Marjorie Thore
 Secretary.....Betty Kellum
 Treasurer.....Martha Bone
 Sergeant-at-Arms.....Eileen Browne
 Chief Marshal.....Ann Middleton
 Senior Marshal.....Mickey Kimbrell
 Junior Marshal.....Janet Fulcher
 Sophomore Marshal.....Kay Banner
 Freshman Marshal.....to be elected

Philaretian Society
 President.....Nancy Reese
 Vice-President.....Marilyn Greene
 Secretary.....Sharon Patterson
 Treasurer.....Lula Mae Jones
 Sergeant-at-Arms.....Cathy Yates
 Chaplain.....Miriam Lundy
 Chief Marshal.....Jean Cooper
 Senior Marshal.....Barbara Brantley
 Junior Marshal.....Marcia Horrel
 Sophomore Marshal.....Betty Sue Knott
 Freshman Marshal.....to be elected

Freeman Religion Club Announces Officers

President.....Barbara Southworth
 Vice-President.....Marjorie Jackson
 Secretary.....Jody Gibson
 Treasurer.....Pam Hartsell
 Publicity Chairman.....Joy Curtiss
 Arrangements Chairman.....Bobbie Anne Yarbrough
 Social Chairman.....Pat Loving

Sociology and Psi Chi Clubs Have Picnic

On the afternoon of Tuesday, May 10, the Sociology Club and the Psi Chi Club joined forces, quitting exam jitters for a while by enjoying a picnic at the Chimney. Katherine Bright and Elladene Johnson planned a delicious menu of ham, potato salad, and all the trimmings. Dr. Syron and Dr. Tilly, faculty sponsors of the clubs, added to the gaiety of the atmosphere. Our entertainment ranged all the way from watching some young birds (the kind with wings) being fed their supper to telling shaggy-dog stories. All of us are anticipating more of the same fun and frolic next year.

OPEN LETTER

(Continued from page two)
 sibilities necessitate more experience, and perhaps more education, than you now possess.

The job opportunity picture looks like this:

Business and law: demand flexible and moderate

Civil Service: demand constant and moderate, high for technologists

Engineering: demand growing, supply insufficient

Health: demand growing, supply insufficient

Natural Science: demand great, supply insufficient

Social Work: demand steady and increasing, supply moderately short

Teaching: demand very great and growing, supply greatly inadequate

I hope this letter has served its purpose in leading you to think of occupational opportunities and your place in the professions. Your Employment Service can furnish you with all the necessary information for a more detailed analysis.

Welcome to the greatest labor force in the world. You will be proud of your place in it and your contribution to the continuing well-being of the country. I wish you every success in the career you will choose.

terested, while Mr. Howell and Dr. McLain took on "all who would" at ping-pong in Brewer social parlor. (Most "all who would" were beaten, too!) Mr. Dorsett was seen on the tennis court in his usual championship form, at the same time that Miss Axworthy and Mr. O'Steen entertained with piano variations! In fact, all of the faculty participated in one way or another

BSU NEWS

The picnic planned by the B. S. U. for Friday, May 13, was held in Society Hall. Every college student in the Raleigh Sunday schools and training unions was invited. Martha Ann Roberts, general chairman of the party, was assisted by Lela Melvin, chairman of the food committee; Mary Kiser, chairman of the devotion committee; and Jeanne Grealish, chairman of the entertainment committee. Nancy Young was in charge of the program, which included a skit given by Shirley Spoon, Horace Smith, and Reverend Roberts Lasater. Kay Johnson led the singing, Nancy Joyner led the devotion, and a hymn was sung by Juanita Swindler, Marilyn Strum, and Kappy Stroud. About 200 people were present and everyone seemed to enjoy it.

On Wednesday, May 18, a party was held for the seniors in 1st Faircloth social parlor. Nancy Young was in charge of the program.

The birthday party for people whose birthdays are in May was held Wednesday at supper.

A. A. NEWS

Congratulations to Ruth Jean Allen for her outstanding leadership in the Athletic Association this year! As president of A. A. Ruth Jean has not only led us but has also worked beside us in Corn Husking Bee, Stunt, and Faculty-Student Playday. We'll surely miss her next year, but we extend our best wishes for the future to Ruth Jean Allen, a versatile student, an ever-loyal friend, a capable leader, and an all-round good citizen.

Congratulations are also in order for the honorary softball varsity. Members of this year's varsity are: Eleanor Bowden, Amorette Bryant, Joyce Burns, Dale Caspari, Martha Fasul, Kathleen Matthews, Wilma Owens, Juanita (better known as "Peanut") Swindler, and Cathy Yates. Vann Dorm was proclaimed winner of the softball tournament.

Well, it looks as if everyone is getting a pat on the back this week, so while we're passing out bouquets we might give a few to Betsy Greene, the newly-elected dance chairman of A. A., and Virginia Corbett, the newly-elected social chairman.

Good luck on those exams. As for next fall, let's come back raring to make Meredith's A. A. bigger and better than ever. Only the students can do it, so A. A. is counting on YOU!

Home Economics News

At the first meeting of the Home Economics Club on May 5, the new officers were installed in a beautiful candlelight ceremony, and the seniors were inducted into the North Carolina and the American Home Economics Association. The club was fortunate in having as a speaker Miss Kiker, a past president of the N. C. Home Economics Association and a representative of the Dairy Division of the Dept. of Agriculture. Talking on the values of home economics, she described what it has meant to her, and what it would mean to the student and graduates of today. She presented the club with a little bronze Betty lamp, which is their national symbol. The meeting closed with a pleasant social hour.

The seniors were honored at the annual dinner meeting at the S & W, each one being toasted by a member of the club. The guest speaker for this occasion was Dr. Ethel Tilly of the psychology department who described her travels in Japan and gave interesting side-lights on home life in that country.

Home Economics Seniors Entertained

Invitations "letting the cat out of the bag" were extended to the senior home economics majors when Miss Brewer invited them to a "catnip tea" as a final get-together at the "Cedar Chest," Miss Brewer's cabin, on Saturday, May 14, at 6:30 p.m.

"Kittens" graced the rooms in the form of decorations, favors, games, and entertainment as the "theme of the event."

The guests were seated around a long table where they enjoyed an hour of food and fellowship together.

In addition to the senior guests, the special guests were Mrs. Brewer, Miss Brewer's mother, and Miss Hanyen of our home economics department.

The seniors who will be graduating are Joan Allen, Virginia Kime MacMillan, III, Emma Lou Chappell, Lois Williams Gerald, Christel Burns, Frances Patterson, Virginia Mumford, Lela Melvin, Patty Melvin, Vivian Stanly, Earline Martin, and Cleo Jones.

On June 3, the graduation exercises of the Rex Hospital School of Nursing will be held in Jones Auditorium on the Meredith College campus.