

# A Significant Omen

In the past few weeks, one of the leading southern universities admitted, by the dismissal of one of the members of its faculty, that it lacked academic freedom. The professor, dean of education, had advocated educational integration in a public address; without any previous warning, the university automatically asked for his resignation. Many of you who noted the incident doubtless attributed it to the predominant racial question in the south. However, the event carries much more significance than a question of prejudice. It implies a deficiency in the school systems of the nation, as well as in the south. When an educational institution begins to dictate to its professors or to its students what they can believe or profess to believe, it ceases to be educational and becomes autocratic. Many colleges have carried this autocracy to the extremes of book-banning and of security investigations.

If one single thing had to be chosen as the reason for the excellence of Meredith College, it is my belief that its complete academic freedom would be the first consideration. According to all reports, there has never been a single incident in which pressure was brought to bear on a faculty member. It is left to each one's good judgment as to what he believes and as to what he will try to instill in his students. There are probably unknown events in the history of Meredith which need correcting, but on the whole it has a liberal and democratic view. If only more of our educational systems could develop this same approach, the force which seems to be working internally as well as externally would soon be eradicated. What contribution can we as future teachers and mothers make to this fight for freedom?

## JOYEUX NOEL

This season of the year is the joyous season. Christmas, with all of its significance, is in the air. Age-old traditions based on a long-ago event create that event anew in our hearts. There has been so much said about the commercialization of Christmas that people seem to be losing sight of the fact that no matter how many red and yellow lights are strung along the streets, the picture of a babe lying in a manger and all that it signifies is still real in the heart of most individuals." That is, if these persons are not too busy waging verbal war against those who insist on using Christmas for their own gain. Instead of being at odds with the world over trifles, let us all rejoice that One cared enough about our salvation to send His only son to save us. Being concerned with the outward signs of Christmas—such as the carols we happily "shout," the presents we rush to buy, the parade we crowd to see—does not dim our realization of the true present underneath all these gay wrappings. Each member of the TWIG staff joins me in wishing each of you a joyful Christmas.

The annual Christmas broadcast of music by the Meredith College Chorus will be on Christmas day from 6:30 to 7:00 p.m. over radio station WPTF.



### EDITORIAL STAFF

Editor.....Margaret Anne English  
 Assistant Editor.....Barbara Sellers  
 Managing Editors.....Mary Fran Oliver, Millie Harvey, Jane Maynard  
 Feature Editor.....Pam Hartsell  
 Art Editor.....Rachel Turnage  
 Assistant Art Editor.....Mary Jane Sumner  
 Music Editor.....Adair Whisenhunt  
 Sports Editor.....Cathy Yates  
 Photo Editor.....Corinne Lowery  
 Columnists.....Nancy Joyner, Margaret Tucker  
 Day Student Editor.....Bette Nock  
 Reporters—Ruth Sperling, Eunice DuRant, Sally Crook, Barbara Snipes, Rovilla Myers, Betty Esther Smith, Pat Corbett, Page Sink, Kay Johnson, Clara Hudson, Ann Griffin, Ann House, Ann Woodside, Polly Ann McLamb  
 Faculty Sponsor.....Dr. Norma Rose

### BUSINESS STAFF

Business Manager.....Harriett Andrews  
 Advertising Manager.....Becky Miles  
 Circulation Manager.....Margaret Jo Jernigan  
 Asst. Circulation Managers.....Betty Lou Walters, Mary Frances Fulp  
 Advertising Staff—Lois Pond, Joyce Foster, Julene Barlow, Patsy Ann Dixon, Pat Kerley, Annie Ransom  
 Typists—Maxine McRoy, Gertrude Bissette, Doris Daughtry, Polly Richardson, Marlene Reep, Ruby Britt, Beverly Rowand, Marilyn McArthur  
 Chief Typist.....Frances Clark  
 Circulation Manager in Charge of Mail.....Kitty Holt  
 Faculty Sponsor.....Miss Lois Frazier

Entered as second-class matter October 11, 1923, at post office at Raleigh, N. C. under Act of March 8, 1879. Published semi-monthly during the months of October, November, February, March, April, and May; monthly during the months of September, December, and January.

The TWIG is the college newspaper of Meredith College, Raleigh, North Carolina, and as such is one of the three major publications of the institution—the other two being *The Acorn*, the literary magazine, and *The Oak Leaves*, the college annual.

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.

Subscription Rates: \$2.45 per year  
 The TWIG is served by National Advertising Service, Inc., 420 Madison Ave., New York 17, New York.



## NEWS FROM THE DAY STUDENTS

By BETTE NOCK

With the Christmas holidays approaching quickly, the thoughts of the day students turn to their traditional Christmas party. Each year, we spend the night before the last day of classes in the hut and join the dorm students in caroling. The slumber parties are usually marked by a decided lack of slumbering. Determined to make a night of it, the girls sit up playing bridge, telling jokes, playing games, or even exchanging "doodles" until they can't stay awake any longer. One by one they retire to the pallets on the floor to spend the few remaining hours in the misery of a cold and hard "bed." Morning having come, they drag their stiff and aching bones off the floor and to class where they catch a few more minutes sleep. For the past two years, Miss Williams has greatly enlivened the parties by her uproarious presence.

Several day students took exciting trips over the Thanksgiving holidays. Patsy Barrett went to Annapolis and the Army-Navy game. The Blue Grass state was honored by a visit from Becky Murray. We are sure Louisville was greatly enlivened by our red-haired friend.

## SheNANigans

Even if our school spirit isn't so obvious to the casual onlooker, no one can say that about Meredith Christmas spirit. From Thanksgiving until the holiday, we go about fairly jingling. When I was in grammar school the favorite fad was the wearing of bells on shoe laces, an innovation that drove teachers to an apoplectic condition and thrilled the very souls of all the kiddies. We aren't quite reduced to that around here, but we do think of things almost as clever. What with door decorating, mirror adorning, Christmas treeing, and what have you, we manage quite well to get across the thing that is uppermost in our minds.

Last year the second Stringfield freshmen had quite a gay time with a nightly "candle-lighting ceremony," weaving in and out of suites singing "Blue Christmas" to the top of our harmonizing lungs, or simmering down to a nostalgic "White Christmas." You couldn't join the procession unless you had a candle or a tube of lipstick to mark off days on peoples' mirrors. This practice had quite an effect on our long suffering hall proctor's suite. They shot figurative daggers and muttered such disparaging remarks as "stupid freshmen," which bothered us not a whit as we blissfully stomped through their rooms.

By the way, have you heard about Dr. Mary's and Mrs. Collins's chemis-tree? That's what you would call a practical (or impractical?) application of a course to a season. I like that idea.

Do you remember hearing about the old custom of shouting "Christmas gift" when you visit someone on Christmas day? Whoever says so first has to fork over, or something of the like. Those two words have a magic effect on me. It gives me a head ache. Have I gotten all Christmassy inside? Oh yes. Have I bought one present for my gargantuan list, or even thought about what to give who (excuse me, —whom)? Oh no. Since I haven't

begun to beat the streets (it takes me hours just to pick out cards), and since advice is cheaper than actions, I thought I might help you suffering females with "What to give the friend—boy?"

There are all manner of approaches, the primary approach being, unfortunately, through the pocket book. First find out from your roommate, who is bound to know, the price of what he is going to give you. This thing gets rather mercenary, but I heard in a movie one time that sentiment has no cash value. You discover that he has something picked out within the range of five and ten bucks. There you have a problem. Nothing, absolutely nothing costs between five and ten dollars. It's too much for a tie and too little for a sweater, and what, I ask you, can you give a boy besides? My next suggestion is that you drop the monetary angles and concentrate on something that will remind him of you. It's good psychology. Give him a picture, if you haven't already, which you probably have, or if you already have had one made, which you probably haven't. Knit him some argyles, if you started working on them last September and, incidentally, if you can knit. You don't like those ideas? What about making some Christmas cookies? What difference does it make if they wind up in giblets in the mail or if your snowmen resemble nothing so much as saggy gingerbread men? Suppose he doesn't like cookies. It's the thought that counts, and it would be a sweet thought. Now, haven't I helped you?

Here I have been knocking myself out prattling about decorations and hit tunes, gifts and cards, without once thinking of the meaning of the season. Christmas is exciting and gay and beautiful, but don't let its beauty overshadow the sacredness of its meaning. The French have a better expression for it than we. Although it means essentially the same, it sounds better. So—Joyeux Noel to you, one and all!

## CIVIL SERVICE

### TEST ANNOUNCED

A civil service examination has been announced for Dietetic Intern for filling internships paying \$2,000 a year in Veterans Administration hospitals in Los Angeles, California; Bronx, N. Y.; Hines, Illinois; Memphis, Tennessee; and Houston, Texas.

To qualify for these internships, applicants must have received a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university and have completed courses of study in appropriate fields. No written test is required. Interns will be given a 12-month training course after which they will be eligible for promotion to a Dietitian position with the Veterans Administration, which pays from \$3,670 to \$4,525 a year.

Applications will be accepted through March 1, 1956 for the classes of interns beginning on July 1 or September 15, 1956. Applications must be filed with the Board of Civil Service Examiners, Veterans Administration, Washington 25, D. C.

Further information may be obtained from the editor of this newspaper.

## B.S.U. News

This week the annual Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions has been observed. Morning Watch was held each morning from 8:10 to 8:25. Special emphasis was placed on foreign missions in vespers each night. Miss Janet Stallings taught a study course book, *AMONG THE MINARETS*. On Tuesday night a Moslem student at State College spoke and on Thursday there was a film strip. In connection with the Week of Prayer was the drive for the Lottie Moon Christmas offering, which goes to foreign missions.

On Tuesday, December 13, children from the Good Will Center will be entertained on the campus. Hostesses will be the Y.W.A. and the Sociology Club.

For B.S.U. chapel Tuesday, December 13, the Ligon High School Chorus will sing excerpts from "The Messiah."

The chorus is to appear at the Capital Square December 16 at 7:30 p.m. to present music for Christmas. Governor Hodges and fifteen local ministers are to also appear on the program.

## National Teacher Examinations To Be Held in February

The National Teacher Examinations, prepared and administered annually by Educational Testing Service, will be given at 200 testing centers throughout the United States on Saturday, February 11, 1956.

At the one-day testing session a candidate may take the Common Examinations, which include tests in Professional Information, Gen-

eral Culture, English Expression, and Non-verbal Reasoning; and one or two of ten Optional Examinations designed to demonstrate mastery of subject matter to be taught.

In the early days of the school, classes were listed in the catalogue as junior, intermediate, senior and seminary. Just think, no freshmen or sophomores!