

COMMENCEMENT ... Through a Senior's Eyes

The time has come to think of leaving. We who will graduate face ourselves and each other now with emotions more than mixed. Deeply we are grateful to those who have made these four years possible, to those who have made parts of them bearable, and those who have helped to make them rich. . . . We think of our own part—have we played it all well? Remembering the moments of inspiration, the hours of anxiety, and too frequent weeks of aimless busy-ness, it finally reaches us why we have come. Not merely for knowledge, for comradeship, or for the development of our individualities, we came seeking a way of life that would unify and make meaningful our experience; we came to fill our spirits with a faith that springs from glimpses of the everlasting truth—truth that is God.

Immature and human as we know ourselves to be, we know we have not found truth. We did not expect victory so soon. But we have found new tools in these years at Meredith: we have learned patience and humility of mind, as well as courage of thought; we have met inspiration in flesh and blood as well as in print; and we have known happiness that comes with understanding one another.

We have not so soon found meaning; we have not solved mysteries; we have only begun to try. The wonderful and strange thing about life is not its countless endings, but its equally infinite store of beginnings. In June we begin anew.

JO ANN SELLEY, Class of '57

... Through a Junior's Eyes

Breathlessly we pant toward the close of another year at Meredith. Though it may be the middle of the summer before we recover sufficiently to take stock, surely we will want to. At the end of a junior year I can realize for the first time how brief four years can be. A trip into the stacks of the library or an hour spent tasting of the seemingly boundless knowledge of a favorite professor becomes a rather saddening experience now, for I cannot consider the pitiful little I do know for fear of despairing over the endless oceans of knowledge and wisdom I have not sailed upon. College becomes not a means to an end—the almighty degree—but a hopelessly small minute in which to equip oneself for all the hours to be spent in a world of people most of whom do not know and do not seem to care. We shall go out not with a degree so much as with a responsibility.

As a junior (for I can only speak as a junior), I am aware of another important opportunity which may be fleeting by. Perhaps the chance to know—to understand and to love—all sorts of people is the most important part of this equipping process called college. I have one more year in which to remedy the situation of "I wish that I had . . ." How long do you have?

N. M.

A Vacation . . . From What?

By MARGARET PARIS

"Three months to forget about the books!" This is perhaps the attitude of many of us about the forthcoming summer vacation; we plan to close our books and our minds for three months, both to be reopened next September. Our rationalization—"But we need a rest"—is a comforting excuse to waste much valuable time during these months, when demands will not be as strenuous as they have been in the school months. A summer job is not completely time-consuming; neither is summer school. Too, there are many wasted half-hours or even fifteen minutes in the day. With time such a precious thing in our hurried, mobile society, a few extra minutes a day are not to be treated lightly. It is the advice of this writer that these "few minutes" be spent with a book. Several few-minutes periods can equal a summer of profitable reading. One need not feel obligated to plunge into De Tocqueville or Sartre to do some profitable reading. Every college student experiences the frustration during a crowded

semester of wanting to read a book, but not finding the time to do it. With some background, lingering from the past semester, as a point of reference, some comprehensive and enjoyable yet stimulating and thought-provoking books may be chosen to form a summer reading list. Too, there are "those books" which we've always meant to read, and really should, that may be included: *Crime and Punishment*, *War and Peace*, *Look Homeward, Angel* and *An American Tragedy*—to mention a few. (Even a whaling expedition has some lulls when a book is welcome!)

Why? (One of the college student's most frequent words when mental activity is suggested.) Simply: We are college students; we are in the process of obtaining a formal education; yet an education does not stop when June 2 comes and begin again when September 18 comes. Everyday life is a part of our education. Why not relate nine months to three? Why not give the formal a place in the informal, the daily routine? A satisfactory, rewarding way to do this—through books.

Lou's Remarks

By LOUISE WHITE

Six chapel cuts! Nine church cuts! Six call-downs! It is impossible! But it is not impossible; it is a hard, cold fact, supported by hard, cold numbers, and another girl joins the strict-campus club. Immediately the wail goes up, "How can I exist with no dates, no phone calls, no trips down town, no anything?" This, of course, is the wrong attitude. The girl should rather welcome the week as an opportunity to do constructive things with no outside interference. The one who is campused has unlimited study time. Her afternoons are not spoiled by phone calls; her nights are not consumed by dating. She can thus read ahead in all subject, finish collateral for the semester, or review for exams. She has her best chance to become a pale, wan, intellectual-looking creature. Also,

strict campus is the best money-saving device at Meredith since it eliminates all bus rides, shopping trips, and telephone calls. If the campused student just must spend money, she can drink five Bee Hive Pepsis for the price of a trip to town. But how can anyone look intellectual while drinking five Pepsis? Maybe she had better buy coffee. Strict campus week is the ideal time to be creative. Think of all the possibilities for paintings on the Meredith campus. And, if the ungrateful girl persists in being bitter and depressed, she can give vent to her feelings in better, depressing poetry and establish a reputation as a poet. Since the blessing of strict campus falls to almost every student at least once in her college career, perhaps talks explaining the numerous pleasant ways to spend the week should be included in freshman orientation.

Musical Notes

By JOYCE SKILLMAN

It was observed by Dr. Cooper a few weeks ago that one by one the haggard expressions of the junior and senior music majors changed overnight. And now that the last recital has been given, this transformation is complete, and many of the recitalists are even smiling again. As those of you that attended them know, these last recitals have been just as well done as those given earlier in the year. On May 6, Faye Wheeler presented her senior organ recital. On May 11, a junior recital was presented by Pat Greene in organ and Clara Hudson in voice. On May 13, Margaret Anne English gave a piano recital as part of her requirements for a Bachelor of Music degree. On May 21, Peggy Holland presented her senior voice recital.

You may have heard Pat Greene relating some interesting experiences about a recent convention she attended. Pat traveled to Atlanta, Georgia, for the Southeastern Regional Convention of the American Guild of Organists. She represented the Central Chapter of this organization in a student contest held during the convention.

The SAI's have been kept busy this month. On May 8 the members presented a Modern American Music recital. On May 20, the initiation service was held for the pledges, who presented a musicale following the service. Also this month the SAI's have chosen Mrs. G. Ernest Moore as their advisor for next year. Mrs. Moore, of Raleigh, is a patroness of SAI, and has been president of the Raleigh Music Club,

The Green Room

By SUSAN MOSS

Congratulations to Katie Joyce Eddins of Zebulon, Kitty Holt of Greensboro, Ann House of Sanford, Edith Johnson of Raleigh, Annie Ransome of Enfield and Donnie Simons of Hartsville, S. C., on being tapped into Alpha Psi Omega Dramatic Fraternity. These girls truly have "excelled in dramatic endeavor" and are responsible for much of the success of the Playhouse. Meredith's first national honorary society, Alpha Psi Omega, welcomes you new members. By the way, every Meredith student is eligible for membership in Alpha Psi, so plan to help in the fall production of the Playhouse and begin to accumulate points. (Takes only fifty.)

"The play's the thing . . ." Shakespeare declared. What plays would you enjoy seeing produced next year at Meredith? Each of you, as an associate member of the Playhouse, is urged to express her opinion to Miss Peg Gorsage, our director, or to any Playhouse member. The purpose of the Playhouse is to provide you, students, faculty, and people of Raleigh, with good drama. The work is meaningless and useless if we do not have your interest and support.

New of interest from the outside world—*Variety* lists the most popu-

lar movies for the month of April:

1. *The Ten Commandments*
2. *Heaven Knows, Mr. Allison*
3. *Around the World in 80 Days*
4. *The Seven Wonders of the World*
5. *Funny Face*
6. *Designing Woman*
7. *Cinderella*
8. *The Shrinking Man*
9. *The Tattered Dress*
10. *Twelve Angry Men*

The late Eugene O'Neill's plays are enjoying a successful run on Broadway this season. *Long Day's Journey Into Night*, an autobiographical play which *Time* calls "the season's outstanding drama," has recently been awarded the Pulitzer Prize. *The Iceman Cometh* is "flourishing in its second year off-Broadway as a revival"; *New Girl in Town*, a musical version of O'Neill's *Anna Christie*, opened May 14; and *A Moon for the Misbegotten* opens next month. *A Touch of the Poet*, in which O'Neill explores the theme he used in *The Iceman Cometh*—a man needs to dream—will come to Manhattan next season making the O'Neill revival livelier yet.

Magic Moments ... to amuse you

By KAY ELIZABETH JOHNSON

Do you ever feel like the character in Shakespeare's *Midsummer Night's Dream* who said, "What revels are in hand? Is there no play To ease the anguish of a torturing hour?"

If you ever are at loose ends like that and have nothing to do and wish to be amused for a short time, John Steinbeck's *Sweet Thursday* would be the ideal book to amuse you. Basically amusing, this novel also has an underlying theme of happiness and good will toward man.

Characters from an earlier novel, *Cannery Row*, live again in this delightful novel. His characters come to life vividly and joyously in a way which makes the reader bubble inside. There is Doc, the marine biologist; Suzy, the girl with no home who makes her home in an abandoned boiler pipe; Flora, proprietor of the Bear Flag; and Joseph and Mary Rivas who have taken over Lee Chong's store. Steinbeck writes about these characters in a vein of broad comedy with notes of rowdy humor and satiric thrusts.

Sweet Thursday is an entertaining comedy—bawdy, sentimental, and sometimes unbelievable—but also charming, whimsical, and delightful. One critic called the novel Steinbeck's "lyric to the vacant lot." Written with obvious gusto, the book occasionally kicks over conventional traces.

Gaily inconsequential, *Sweet Thursday* was made into a hit Broadway musical, *Pipe Dreams*. One of the tunes from the show is "Everybody's Got a Home but Me."

One example of Steinbeck's delightful humor describes the thinking of a not-so-bright male named—of all things—Hazel. "Thinking is always painful, but in Hazel it was heroic. A picture of the process would make you seasick. Imagine a gray, whirling furor of images, memories, words, patterns. It was like a traffic jam at a big intersection with Hazel in the middle to get something to move somewhere. . . . Hazel's thoughts were not complicated. It was just remarkable that he had them at all."

After you have read *Sweet Thursday*, listen to the records from the play, *Pipe Dreams*. They are delightful. It will be interesting to follow the adaptation of the book to the play through the music.



Member
Associated College Press

EDITORIAL STAFF

Editor.....Nancy Joyner
Assistant Editor.....Nancy McGlamery
Managing Editors—Marcia Allen, Bobbie Conley, Bob Earley, Mary Fran Oliver, Page Sink
Feature Editor.....Margaret Paris
Music Editor.....Joyce Skillman
Art Editor.....Glenn Nowell
Day Student Editor.....Nancy Nylund
Drama Editor.....Susan Moss
Photo Editor.....Nancy Craig
Columnists.....Kay Johnson, Juanita Swindler, Louise White
Reporters—Mary Ann Brown, Lela Cagle, Lelia Davenport, Cynthia Denny, Lynda Evans, Ann Finley, Joy Goldsmith, Sue Matzner, Janice Morgan, Sally Newton, Annabel Ray
Faculty Sponsor.....Dr. Norma Rose

BUSINESS STAFF

Business Manager.....Barbara Hazelwood
Advertising Manager.....Pat Stout
Circulation Manager.....Eleanore Foulds
Assistant Circulation Manager.....Carole Kerley
Mailing Editors.....Diane Stokes, Frances Wilson
Chief Typist.....Emily Gilbert
Advertising Staff—Alice Allsbrook, Betsy Moore, Liz Millikin, Eddie Bowen, Shiela Griffin, Babs Howard, Rose Daniels
Typists—Harriett Hiel, Tennie Husky, Mona Fay Horton, Mary Keith, Doris Dixon, Virginia Byrne, Linda Smith, Anne Williams, Elizabeth Hicks
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.