

## Swedish Student Is Welcomed

By MARY ANN BROWN

If you were to knock on the door of 317 Brewer, chances are that a voice would invite you in. If you were to open the door, chances are that you would be met by a smiling blue-eyed blonde — that would be "Bibbi," a junior from Eskilstuna, Sweden, who is at Meredith on a Rotary Scholarship. More formally, and officially, known as Birgit Sporre, Bibbi has been in America since August 22, and thinks this country would be the greatest if her family—her mother, father, and a 16-year-old sister—were here too.

After crossing the Atlantic by boat—"It was rough, but wonderful!" — Bibbi went to Virginia to stay with an uncle until time to come to Meredith. She was able to meet her roommate, Margaret Morgan, before school.

Bibbi is taking math, sociology, typing, tennis, and has begun to add Spanish to her present knowledge of English, German, French, Latin, and Swedish. Since in Sweden they cover in twelve years what we in the United States cover in fourteen, Bibbi is classified as a junior, although she only graduated from a Swedish high school this year.

She is impressed by America—"It's so big!"—and Meredith—"... so beautiful, with wonderful surroundings." Bibbi likes American milk shakes and hamburgers, but not peanut butter or garlic cheese; and she just cannot see why Lillian Brandon, a suitemate, doesn't like Swedish bread. Lillian teasingly tells her, "You keep your bread and I'll keep my peanut butter, okay?"

Bibbi points out that American young people are more social than the Swedish, and that we in the United States spend more time in cars than the Swedish people do. In fact Bibbi asked, "Do you ever go walking?"

Her scholarship, which she received through the Swedish-American Foundation and the Institute of International Education, will keep Bibbi in America until next summer. In addition to her regular schedule, Bibbi will take time out for pictures, interviews, and speeches, the first of which will be Nov. 4 at the local Rotary Club.

Bibbi is enthusiastic about Meredith campus life in all its aspects. Margaret says, "What a roommate! She won't tell even me whether she's going Phi or Astro." Whichever way Bibbi goes, we are glad to have her at Meredith, and we hope she will enjoy life at Meredith as much as we enjoy having her here.

## Students Tell Of Summer Travels

"Around the World in Eighty Days" became a familiar expression this summer. During that time probably no one from Meredith went around the world in any number of days, but a few did go abroad. We can't begin to bring you their many experiences — the quaint shops, the modern cities, the many little incidents, amusing and otherwise — that make up such a trip. But if we tell you who went where, you can get them to fill in the rest.

Our first travelers will be of interest to all you wise people taking freshman and sophomore English, and don't tell me you took it just because it's required! They are Dr. Mary Lynch Johnson and Dr. Ione Kempe Knight, who began their trip on June 5 by crossing the Atlantic on the "Ile de France." They first went to the Continent for two weeks and then spent a week in Scotland. After touring Scotland, they stayed six weeks at Oxford, where they made a study of numerous aspects of seventeenth-century England. They returned to the United States on August 30 on the "Liberte."

Dee Williams' trip brings a bit of spice to this article; she went to Mexico City. This Meredith Spanish major who has family friends there, used their home as a base of operations while they took her to typical and resort towns in Mexico. She flew down on June 15 and came back on August 15. She said she had a wonderful time and learned much Spanish at the same time.

Nancy Joyner went on a European tour with her father, who went to London to the American Bar Convention. They flew over to England on July 17. After touring England, they flew over to Paris, where they rented a car. From Paris they drove to Belgium, the Netherlands, Germany, Switzerland, Austria, and Italy. They came back to France by way of the French Riviera and, of course, Monaco. From France they flew back to the States on August 21.

Can you picture Jane Stemberge hitchhiking around England, France, and Scotland? Well, she did just that, but don't get excited. I've been told it is an accepted practice over there. Before her tour she studied philosophy at the University of Edinburgh. How about that! She went over to England June 11 on a student ship. She said that on the ship were people going to tour,

to study, or to join the Experiment in International Living. There were also some students going to the Moscow Youth Conference. She was able to hear a lot of their experiences when she returned on a studentship on August 31.

Two of our transfers, Patsy Holland and Martha Elmore, sailed to Europe on June 8 on the "New Yorker." They visited Germany, France, England, Austria, Holland, Denmark, Italy, Norway, Sweden, and Switzerland. Actually, they visited one more country, but for the life of her, Martha can't remember what it was. (I guess it was pretty late at night when I asked her.) Anyhow, they came back on July 30 on the same ship.

Our last traveler was Dr. P. F. Brookens of the social studies department. He and his wife had a very special reason for going to England: their only son lives outside of London with his English wife and two daughters. During their leisure time they toured England, Scotland, and Wales. They left the States on June 5 on the "Queen Mary" and came back on the same ship on August 29.

Surely many of us had interesting summers, but not quite so far-reaching as these. Through their reports we can share their experiences.

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## BEGINNINGS OF A FRESHMAN

By NANCY WHEDBEE

"Will you help me find something about frost," says a shy, quiet voice at the library desk. It is the plea of the disconcerted specimen of collegiate life known as the freshman.

The once starry-eyed bundle of confusion, perplexed at the moment with that monstrosity labeled the "card catalogue," seeks to find material for her first English assignment. The library assistant, expecting anything, obliges by searching in the files through everything from *frigeration and floe to frostbitten*. "Do you suppose you could help this young lady find a book about frost?" she asks her superior. "Why, of course," is the reply, and a second search is begun. Once again the small voice at the desk ventures to speak, "Why don't you look under R?" she asks.

"Why should I look under R?" responds the inquisitive librarian.

"Because his name is ROBERT FROST!"

In the biology lab the submissive scholar is equally successful in disorganizing "le professeur." Given the task of observing simple, one-celled life under a microscope, this collegiate tenderfoot discovers an amoeba with hairy legs. Immediately she jubilantly imparts to her teacher the amazing find, to be met only with raised eyebrows and the scowl that only a college professor can give. Ah, but how could she know that the legs were but reflections of her own curly eyelashes?

Alas, the freshman's life is a problematical conglomeration of dilemmas and confusion, but it is also the excitement of attending college for the first time, the fascination and challenge of all the learning and knowledge waiting to be grasped, and the thrill of being one of a group of young and mature women together for the same purpose.

This is an experience not to be exchanged for any other.

## LEADERSHIP COUNCIL MEETS

The 1957-1958 Leadership Council held its first meeting for the year on Wednesday night, October 2. Suggestion had been made beforehand that the group dedicate the opening session to an evaluation of orientation week. The representatives to the council therefore, had given time and thought to all phases of orientation week — both those elements pertaining specifically to their respective organizations and those problems of a more basic and general nature. Members brought forward suggestions previously outlined in meetings of their particular organizations.

In discussions moderated by Inez Kendrick, the group focused attention upon the original problems raised and upon subsequent questions and suggestions. A detailed outline of these discussions is being set up for presentation to the orientation committee for their comment and study.

This report on the first meeting of the Leadership Council serves, in part, to show the function of the Council and, to some extent, the manner in which it operates. It is an unchartered, non-constitutional body composed of a representation of the leading organizations on the campus: Presidents of Student Government, BSU, A. A., playhouse and of each class — editors of TWIG, *Acorn*, and *Oak Leaves* brought to their attention by students and faculty members. On occasion the group will meet with faculty representatives for the purpose of clarifying problems, entertaining mutual exchange of ideas, and establishing means to these ideas, to follow through as it were.

Throughout the year the council will be meeting—along the lines and for the general purposes above mentioned. The next session is set for Wednesday, October 16.



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