

Childish or Childlike . . . A Distinction?

How do the words of Paul that when he became a man he "put away childish things" correlate with the words of Jesus that the Kingdom of Heaven is made of such that are like little children? The answer lies in the vast difference between the words "childish" and "childlike" and is a point which is, I think, particularly pertinent to us as a college generation.

As we mature in wisdom and knowledge through study and living in a community such as ours here, we must of necessity put away many "childish things"—childish ways if we are to be the mature women we are expected to be as Meredith graduates in taking our place in society.

However, the danger too many encounter during college years is that they lose the childlike quality of their lives—that quality of awe and faith which is important to keep, and develop instead attitudes of cynicism or pride in their own knowledge and ability. Francis Thompson expressed the important childlike quality when he said that to be a child is "to believe in love, to believe in loveliness, to believe in belief." This, I think, is what Jesus meant when he said that the Kingdom of Heaven is composed of little children.

S. R.

MEREDITH AND COMMENCEMENT... THE PAST AND THE FUTURE

Meredith is soon to draw to a close its 1959-60 school year and to graduate another class of students. As this time approaches it is proper to consider the purpose and significance of this school and the meaning of commencement.

Emerson spoke of the "train of ghosts . . . the long, winding train reaching back into eternity." In the past of Meredith there are many ghosts whose spirits contribute to the unseen reality of this school today. The heritage which makes Meredith what she is remains alive in a spirit which is paradoxically more real than the physical attributes of buildings, books, and equipment.

The true Meredith is an intangible beyond physical destruction, for she can be harmed only by her own being—her students. It is incumbent upon us to develop an understanding of the heritage of our school and to gain an insight into the purpose for which she exists. The avowed intent of Meredith College is "to develop in its students the Christian attitude toward the whole of life" and "to provide not only thorough instruction, but also culture made perfect through the religion of Jesus Christ." The responsibility for implementing this purpose lies with each Meredith student.

Commencement is an occasion which, in the words expressed in a Radcliffe newsletter, "summons the past and links the present to what has gone before." In presenting to society another group of graduates, Meredith is calling her heritage to the forefront and is asserting its embodiment in the class of 1960. From her orientation as a Christian institution, she seeks to graduate persons who have developed "the Christian attitude toward the whole of life" and who are immersed in the "culture made perfect through the religion of Jesus Christ."

As the word implies, Commencement is not an end but a beginning. It does not stop with summoning the past. Commencement symbolizes the reaching of a new level of growth. The inheritance from the past becomes a dynamic element in the future. Only those Meredith graduates who recognize this quality of commencement are true to Meredith's past and present.

S. L.

A Freshman Year Approaches Its End

By ELAINE SMITH

I'm in the process of assembling a scrapbook which is entitled "My Freshman Year at Meredith College." On the first page will go pictures—pictures of my big sister, my freshman counselor, my roommate and suitemates, and then one of each of the other forty-six girls on my favorite hall.

Next is a letter from home, the first one I received! I can remember crying for hours from homesickness and a sense of loneliness—but all that has passed. On the same page I'll fit in the chewing-gum wrapper which is a souvenir of the first of numerous blind dates to fraternity parties.

There are some miscellaneous items that can't possibly be left out. I have a yellow star and a purple cut-out of Milton from Rush Week, a piece of dried corn from Corn Husking, a miniature hat as a reminder of our part in Stunt Night, and a broken tennis racket from Play Day. (I don't think that will fit!) Somewhere I hope to find room for pictures of a few of the faculty, especially those who have guided and shaped my future in class and in conference.

Oh, I'd better not forget this dorm card that brought me three call-dawns for failure to put S. P., incorrect chapel-cut totals, and the wrong date. Finally, I plan to include a full-page photograph of the May Court in all its glory. And that's the last page and the last event in the best school-year of my life!

Music Notes

By SUSAN LEATHERS

With all the junior and senior concerts over, the senior music majors are now able to concentrate on other things. On June 18, Barbara Smith and Glenda Pressley will both hear wedding bells. A little later, similar occasions will arise for Barbara Armstrong and Janice Morgan. Mary Margaret Morgan plans to teach in New York state next fall.

There seems to be no rest for the chorus. Immediately after the spring concert, work was begun on music for an out-of-town trip and for graduation week-end. Last Sunday afternoon, the group went to the First Baptist Church in Henderson, North Carolina, to present the evening worship service.

Freshmen music students have been planning tentative schedules for the fall semester. Dr. Cooper has gained a couple of white hairs from trying to work out "these complicated things."

Congratulations are due to the new officers of Sigma Alpha Iota Music Fraternity. They are Joan Cope, president; Pat Walston, vice-president; Nancy Phillips, secretary; Peggy Martin, chaplain; Gail Newton, social chairman; and Gigi Padgett, pianist.

Noted with interest: freshmen theory students working diligently to meet a dead line for late work . . . increasing difficulty in finding empty practice rooms as examinations draw closer . . . hushed conferences of music faculty after senior hearings . . . ambitious, budding composers going to Miss Swanson with their masterpieces?! for advice and criticism . . . the number of practice hours remaining in this semester.

MERE DITHER

By MAY

My dissertation on the absence of the "Palm Springs" scene around campus was shot full of holes when I spied two swim-suit clad sun-seeking souls perched on a breezy third Brewer breezeway.

Recent visitors to our campus—a gubernatorial candidate and two other candidates' representatives—seem to have made quite an impression, even on those under voting age. A classmate has announced she will not wash her right hand, at least until the elections—she may have shaken hands with the future governor.

Dr. Johnson's class brought forth this definition of a highbrow: "educated beyond one's intelligence." (Could this have come from Samuel Johnson's dictionary?)

A chemistry student (as a result of a chem lab accident) has found a way to remember her formulas. Put a chemical reaction on each finger. How, I asked, do you propose to remove the rather unsightly colors when you've passed the course? "Oh, no problem. Hydrochloric acid should do it."

Naturally, most of us are thinking about the approaching final exams. Not studying for them, of course—just thinking—and it's very disconcerting to find someone who is studying. Would you believe it, I actually know one of these foresighted "creatures"—my roomie. (The rest of the suite is normal.)

With this, the Meredith campus scene draws to a close, to reopen with September's TWIG. *Mere Dither* looks forward to that time of reunion and welcome.

Mrs. Carlyle Campbell Attends Nation-wide Mothers' Conference

Having returned recently from the annual Mother's Conference held at the Waldorf-Astoria in New York City, Mrs. Carlyle Campbell, wife of Meredith's president and Raleigh's nominee for state mother of the year, is bubbling with enthusiasm over her memorable experiences.

The conference, born nearly three decades ago, was begun to choose from among the mothers of America one mother who would stand as a symbol of ideal motherhood.

Catherine Marshall Is Speaker

The Awards Week Activities this year, using as its theme "The Home—The Center of Family Life," had among its speakers the inspiring Catherine Marshall. Mrs. Campbell and her traveling companion, Mrs. D. R. Coker of Hartsville, S. C., the 1958 American Mother of the Year, are in hearty agreement that Mrs. Marshall's address and the "earnest Christianity shown by the women dedicated toward the building of Christian homes" were the highlights of the week to them.

Alumnae Meet At Union

Mrs. Campbell is quick to add, too, that besides renewing old friendships with nine Meredith College Alumnae at a get-together one evening at Union Theological Seminary, where several of our alumnae are enrolled for graduate study, they also made many new friendships—even one with the Puerto Rican Mother of the Year.

Conference Ends With Procession

At the close of the event-packed week of luncheons, receptions, workshop sessions, prayer groups, sight-seeing in New York, and a tour of the United Nations, the grand finale of the conference was held Friday noon, May 6, in the grand ballroom of the hotel where the candlelight procession was an outstanding tribute to the past and present state and American mothers, speakers, dignitaries, and friends present.

"Indeed, the week was a very meaningful one for me," Mrs. Campbell relates, "and it is one that I shall long remember with deepest pleasure."

CROOKS ARE RALEIGH'S FAMILY OF THE YEAR

Each year the Raleigh Family Service Society, a United Fund Agency, sponsors the selection of a Family of the Year from among the white population of the city and one from among the city's Negro population.

This year the family of Dr. and Mrs. Roger Crook has been selected for this honor. The Crook family includes six lively boys. They are David, 10; Joe, 9; John, 8; James, 5; Bryan, 4; and Stephen, 2.

Dr. Crook, a graduate of Wake Forest College and the Southern Baptist Seminary, is a Meredith religion professor and the pastor of Raleigh's Mt. Olivet Baptist Church. Besides her time-consuming duties as a minister's wife and the mother of six boys, Mrs. Crook also finds time to contribute to the civic life of the community.

Dr. Johnson Addresses Language Conference

Dr. Mary Lynch Johnson, chairman of the Meredith College English department, recently attended the Foreign Language Conference at the University of Kentucky April (Continued on page four)



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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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DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES ADDRESS MEREDITH GROUP

A program presenting the Democratic candidates currently running for governor of North Carolina was held on Wednesday, May 11, at three o'clock in the afternoon in Joyner Hall. The meeting was sponsored by Dr. Sarah Lemmon's American history class. Both students and faculty members attended the program which was presided over by Ann Michael.

Of the gubernatorial candidates, all except Dr. I. Beverly Lake were represented. The first person to speak was Mr. Tom Lambeth, who represented candidate Terry Sanford. He was followed by candidate Malcolm Seawell. Candidate John D. Larkins, Jr., who was unable to be present, was represented by his campaign manager, Mr. Clyde Shreve.

