CAMPAIGNS-GOOD OR BAD?

The recently manifest concern of the nominating committee for determining the feelings of this student body about elections is gratifying, and the questionnaire issued in assembly contained a number of pertinent ideas. One question, that of whether or not to have campaigns for elections, is a basic and important decision in any election; there is more to be considered than whether campaigns are "fair."

One factor to be noted is the simple fact that any kind of campaign lets the students know that there is an election going on and who is running. Especially in a school such as Meredith, contacts are made among students mostly within the framework of classroom, separate organizational activities, and dormitory halls. It is, therefore, easy for even highly qualified potential leaders to be unknown even by name, and certainly as to ability and character.

Advertising proves daily that people will find out whose a name is if they see it often enough. On the other hand, the best products are not always most advertised and most bought, and the advertisements do not always give a true picture of the product. Still, some picture of two persons running in an election is better than none at all; and usually the person who is original, discriminating, and efficient in the campaign will be so in filling her office.

Competition, the life-stuff of many an American project and program, would definitely keep up interest in campaign-preceded elections. The question is whether or not competition is good. Certainly, as the president of our college pointed out in the Student Government installation service, voting for leaders in carefully thought out concern for who is best for the position is a far better way than voting to gratify the urge for victory of a group or individual. However, without campaigns, is there enough interest in elections to insure that votes as a whole have been carefully thought out, or does the final issue, after all, become a matter of whom we know or like best?

The issues are not clear-cut. One thing is: elections demand candidates, and they demand voters. The method in which both should be approached is a matter which all of us should consider.

H. M.

WHO HAS RESPONSIBILITY?

To assume responsibility is no easy task. Each newly elected campus officer is quickly realizing the challenges she will encounter during the following year. Old plans must be carried out, but new ones must be made. What is adequate one year will not suffice the next. Advancement is necessary for keeping up with the world about us, but the pushing forward cannot be achieved by merely the few leaders on campus. The President of the United States would be powerless without the backing of the people. Likewise, our officials mean nothing if they are left to stand alone.

Each year when our leaders assume their positions, they make ardent pleas for student support. How much do we give them? Once we have elected them we seem to feel our responsibility has been completed. Now they are on the stand, and we sit back in our arm chairs to watch them squirm. "Sure am glad I'm not in her shoes," we say; but we are the ones who are responsible for placing her in such a position. Yet, we feel that whatever she does is her worry, not our own.

To be a good follower is a much greater task than to be a good leader. A leader is expected to meet the demands placed before her with diligence, while today a follower is expected to do nothing. The major officials on campus take on oath of office during their installation. We do not realize that by being made members of the A.A., B.S.U., and S.G. upon our arrival at Meredith we are also installed as supporters of these organizations. It seems that the time has come for us to realize and assume our responsibilities if we expect to make any advancement in the coming year.



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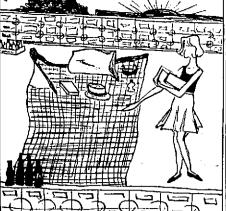
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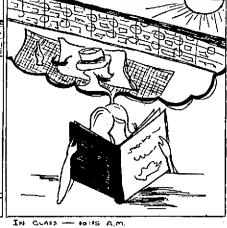
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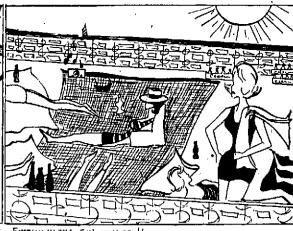
Since 1921 the institution has been a member of the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools. The college holds membership in the Association of American Colleges and the North Carolina College Conference. Graduates of Meredith College are eligible for membership in the American Association of University Women. The institution is a liberal arts member of the National Association of Schools of Music.

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AS A REALIST HARDY CLAIMS HIGH REGARD

By SANDRA WALKER

Written in 1891, Tess of the D'Urbervilles stands at the peak of Thomas Hardy's achievement. The novel adopts as its theme the popular story of a young girl forced to make her own way in the world, then exploited by her employer's son. In his earlier works, Hardy's female characters have been rather superficial, but in Tess he creates as the heroine of the tale a "pure woman" victimized.

As a novelist, Hardy takes his place with the philosophic realists of his age. Making no attempt to hide the ugliness of the world, he presents his characters in real life situations. None of the misery of Tess's plight or of Angel Clare's tormented mind is minimized. Combining this realism with a certain amount of sensationalism, Hardy moves the reader into what Forster calls a "willing suspension of disbelief." Although the reader knows that the blood of Tess's murdered lover cannot pass through a ceiling in only a few minutes, he yet accepts the fact that Mrs. Brooks observes the stain a short time after the murder.

teenth century influenced Hardy in his concept of nature. Throughout Tess of the D'Urbervilles, Hardy presents a personalized, malignant Nature, a fate from which there is no escape. Tess is seen finally resigned to this power as she willingly gives up her life, contented after her few days of bliss as Angel's human loves, are left at the end of his goods restored. wife. Angel, himself, echoes this the play, questions unanswered, to feeling when he revises Browning's rebuild life, to take whatever bless- dependence on God at any time; original statement to read, "God's ings comes, and to endure any and in the end his greatest comfort not in his heaven; all's wrong with disasters with the heroic courage is his fellow sufferer, the rest of the world." This pessimism under-that belongs to them as human humanity. Together they will find lies the entire novel with its confused mixture of Greek paganism and distorted Christianity.

Into a setting of natural beauty his universal appeal.

MacLeish's J.B. Falls Short of Its Source

By HILDA MANESS

The current heightened interest among us at Meredith in Archibald MacLeish's play J.B., occasioned especially by the "Friends of the College" presentation some time ago and by various discussions of church and other groups, offers one a chance to hear the opinions of religious and literary thinkers of the city and to form ideas of one's own concerning the new version of the oldest drama.

The tendency today seems to be to read all the "modern" religious writings but to never have time nor patience to read the oldest, the Bible itself, where Job first made the soul-filled questions of our existence that are part of J.B. One may profit by comparing J.B. with his earlier counterpart. Job, like J.B., "blameless and upright," was prosperous in such material blessings as goods and family until he was stripped of all possessions, prestige, and almost his very body, by a series of disasters. Likewise, in each account Job and J.B. are restored that the justice of God cannot be to prosperity.

come then not in the events but in different ways; for J.B. comes to it the question and answers of the two plays. J.B.'s great question seems told of it in a gloriously colorful to be the old agony, "Why do the and majestic picture of God's righteous suffer?" Through all his torture and despair it seems that he would be comforted if only he The scientific upsurge of the nine-could find justice in it all; therefore, his prayer throughout is, "Show me my guilt." His wish is himself in his proper relation to to be found guilty of sin in order God, he is overwhelmed and subto prove God just.

God's justice cannot be understood glory. Then only does he gain cour-

in human terms. J.B. and his wife, symbolizing all

It is in the final emphasis on the courage of man that MacLeish most radically leaves the book of Job, even though he himself does not seem to realize his departure, for he states in his introduction to J.B. that the end of the play belongs, "as in the Book of Job itself, to the courage of a woman and a man."

Job, however, asks a bigger question than "Why do I suffer?" Granted, with great courage, man can endure all disaster even without knowing why it has come. However, men do not have great courage of their own making, no matter how much they may wish it. Great courage comes only from great dedication to a vital purpose. Job's question is not just "Why must I live and endure suffering?" but, 'Why must I live at all?" The failure to give any kind of answer to the question makes J.B. the less profound of the two stories.

Like J.B., Job comes to know searched out by man. The two The differences in the two dramas men come to such an awareness in by his own limitation, while Job is height, which shows him not only his own limitation but also the splendor of God. Therefore, he acknowledges his smallness and his dependence on God. When he sees dued by the glory of God and sees Finally, he realizes, however, that a purpose in living as part of the age for living, courage from God, not of himself; and only then are

J.B. does not really accept his i a better life.

Editor's Note:

beings.

As the 1961-1962 Twig staff asand ugliness, Hardy inserts his sumes the duties so magnificently characters: pure, simple Tess, suf- handled by the 1960-1961 staff, we fering because of others' guilt; im- realize the vast amount of work and pulsive Alec D'Urberville, relent- responsibility that faces us. Allessly seeking personal gain; and though words seem quite inadeidealistic Angel Clare, constantly quate, we would like to express our searching for intellectual peace. sincere thanks to Suzanne Leath Hardy takes his readers into the and her staff for a job well done. minds of his characters and divulges | We hope that we can carry on the their thoughts. Perhaps it is this high standards that have been ability to project one into his maintained during the year and characters' roles that gives Hardy show advancement equal to that of the 1960-1961 staff.

WHAT'S NU IN STU-GU

By VELMA McGEE

ideas which would be welcomed, an agreeable solution can be The S. G. Council invites everyone reached. to attend its meetings and hopes this opportunity.

Meredith student there. During

| football season when lunch is being The new President of Student served at the houses and at any Government in her Installation | time when girls are invited to watch | Government in her Installation time when girls are invited to watch speech reminded us that changing television, such an addition to the times call for a change in policies rules concerning fraternity boyest. times call for a change in policies rules concerning fraternity houses and rules. Many members of the would be particularly helpful. Alstudent body are well aware of this though all details have not yet been fact and, more important, have worked out, the Council hopes that

Appointed at the Council meet- in me that it is Spring! that people will take advantage of ing on May 1 was a committee to study the set-up of S. G. There is for there are dancers practicing in A measure is being worked on at a need for the Council to have the court, and there is music coming the present time by the Council. It more time to work on student legis- from somewhere, and near the gym will allow Meredith girls to go to a lation, but first the body must be an ugly duckling pole is being fraternity house on Saturday after- relieved of some of its judicial re- miraculously transformed into a noons, provided there is another sponsibilities. The new committee, bouquet of rainbow colors, tipped

(Continued on page four)

MERE DITHER

By RACHEL DAILEY

I sat by the window in the library and watched a maternal pigeon settle herself upon her precious eggs. I listened to her purr and gurgle, and I thrilled that, had there not been a window pane, I could have smoothed the iridescent feathers and touched the delicate warm eggs. Suddenly, I knew it was Spring!

I walked quickly through the mud and water, and I held my head down against the wet little bullets of the wind, and wondered when my umbrella would prove a traitor and turn itself inside out to the wind. I glanced up enough to see if there were other umbrellas remembered that it was Spring!

Now I feel the warmth of shade, the searing heat of sun, the sure and sultry humidity of rain, the color of flowers and the fertility of endless green, and there is no doubt

But now I feel something else,

(Continued on page four)