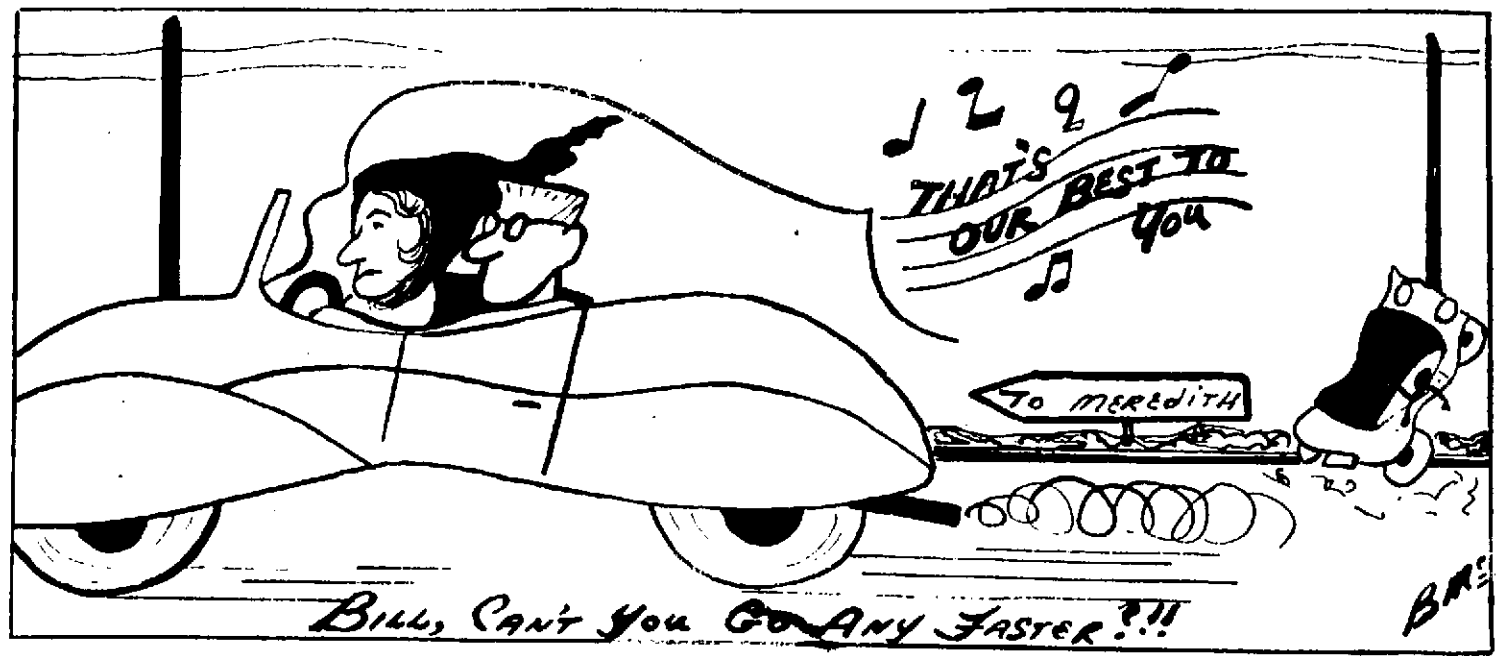


# The Task Is Yours

Last spring new officers, the ones that served this year, were ambitiously yet somewhat hesitantly beginning new tasks. Now the time has come for those same girls to relinquish their positions of leadership. The feelings are mixed. There is relief at knowing one will no longer be responsible for staffs and organization mingled with little bits of pride at having tried to do something worthwhile for Meredith; but most of all there is regret—regret that we could not be more worthy of our offices and our own personal ideals.

If our positions were worthwhile for no other reason, they were worthwhile because they taught many of us humility, a quality that some of us may not have previously possessed. It is simple to sit back and criticize the work of others; yet, once the chance to put such criticism into action is given, one realizes all the hard work that goes into achieving even mediocre results. How easy it is to let oneself be content with merely doing the job and exerting no extra energy. How simple it is to let discouragement knock the props from beneath us. As outgoing officers, all that we can say to those of you who will be taking over our positions is not to let your enthusiasm for your job dwindle and slip into the middle road as some of us have done. Fight defeat with every ounce of energy you possess. Remember that the position you hold is not yours but Meredith's.

L. K.



## Author Seeks to Bring Better Understanding Of the Bible Through Biblical Scholarship

By DIANNE SIMMONS

TOWARD UNDERSTANDING THE BIBLE: by Georgia Harkness

The purpose of her book according to Miss Harkness is "to help the ordinary person get a better understanding of the Bible."

### MERE DITHER

By RACHEL DAILEY

As I sit down today to write my column, my mind goes back to other days and other columns. I remember hurried moments of frantic typing, quiet times of serious consideration of what to say, deep ponderings to search my feelings, and light-hearted words which stumbled from my fingers. I remember at times having things well up inside me until I had to write them or burst. I also remember times when I had to pull every dot, every word, every letter from the depths of my soul with pain. I remember wishing I didn't have to write . . . and I remember more times being thankful for the opportunity. As I write today, I see more clearly than ever before how much this column has meant to me.

It's strange how people write. They come to the typewriter with a host of experiences and feelings behind them, and they collect them in their souls without knowing until there is a type of whole which has some meaning to them and they hope, to others.

So it has been with me. I have seen sunsets, felt sadness, heard trains wail, tasted rain, touched a flower petal and lived in a thousand ways, and without my knowing it, I have relived my experiences to others. Do not we all do this? Is not this communication? And is not communication with others the stuff that life is made of?

But we have gone far afield of this column. I am sitting here again, typing, trying to think of something to say, how to say it, whether I am saying it correctly or not . . . typing . . . thinking . . . hurrying . . . feeling . . . knowing . . . and most important of all, I am happy!

To carry out her purpose Miss Harkness has written a book which is really a preparatory statement to the Bible.

It is not a book designed to answer all the complex questions of biblical interpretation; yet the author, realizing that the real value of the Bible is hidden to many people because they do not understand its historical backgrounds, its diversity of literary forms or the unity of its spiritual message, has attempted to present modern biblical scholarship

in a simplified, condensed manner. The book begins with a look at the place of the Bible in modern culture, followed by a discussion of what is meant by its being the inspired work of God.

Miss Harkness also deals with the geographical, social, and religious setting of biblical times and discusses the stages of development and the literary types in the Old and New Testaments with a brief discussion of the main theme of most of the books.

## Fateful Footnotes Fascinate All Term Paper Enthusiasts

MOTIVE, April 1961 — In view of the term paper traumas suffered not only by freshmen but by upperclassmen as well (usually because three papers are due in one week), the special offers of "Footnotes Incorporated" are presented below.

One of the most pathetic by-products of scholarly endeavor is the accretion of superfluous and orphaned footnotes. Such items, of no use to the industrious owner, nevertheless due to reasons of sentiment are seldom consigned to the ignominy of the incinerator.

In order to avoid such scandalous waste, we take pride in announcing the formation of a remarkable new business enterprise. Large lots of unused or unneeded footnotes have been purchased and classified so that a vast store of hitherto wasted references can now be shared, at a modest markup to cover operational expenses, with the scholarly world. For the first time, quantities of notes of every possible description have been made available to the public.

Here are some mouth-watering samples:

- Smoke-screen footnotes, intended to take the professor's mind off certain inadequacies of the text.
- Footnotes that will not be missed: if there ain't room at the bottom of the page it don't matter. Takes tension out of typing.
- Irrelevant footnotes—guaranteed to leave any topic as obscure, if not more, than it was before illumination.

- Foreign language footnotes, laid on a base of tasteful and authentic Latin: (in order of expense) French, German, Armenian, Kurd (with swearing, slightly higher), Sanskrit, Algonquin, Piute (cost is \$10 due to fact that Piute is not a written language).
  - Casual footnotes, viz., "In a conversation with Jack Kennedy the other day," "in a recent letter from Nehru," etc.
  - Contemptuous footnotes, viz., "Dupont-Sommer, with his customary asininity. . ."
  - Filler material, designed to fit between the first and last lines of notes and thus occupy miscalculated blank areas at bottom of page.
  - Footnotes from nonexistent authors with such authoritative sounding names that the professor will not dare to show his ignorance by questioning the source.
  - Get-even footnotes (in which the professor is smartly insulted or some pet idea of his is tellingly derided—in obscure language).
  - Bright-idea-too-risky-to-put-in-narrative-but-heck-this-may-be-the-find-of-the-century footnotes.
  - Footnotes with professor's comments and favorite expressions, viz., "true," "perfectly clear," "quite," "splendid," "particular," etc.
- OUR MOTTO: If it's a word, we can footnote it!

## Change Brings Both Praise and Work

Thank goodness the long hard process of change is over! Thank goodness the organization is settled, the constitution is drawn up, the handbook is on its way to publication, and elections have put a seal of finality on Meredith's revised Student Government Association. During the whole year, in the various phases of change and adapting that led to the present renovations, there has been a rewarding sense of accomplishment for the student body.

As the concrete results of discussion and thought were put down on paper, intangible results were also becoming visible in increased enthusiasm, purposeful co-operation among those who worked, and the growth of real appreciation for the spirit of self-government, which remains the same no matter how the process itself is adapted to time and situations. A good example of the above combination of results is seen in the just-completed elections. The extension of examination of SG to that area led to improved arrangement in concrete aspects such as placement and hours of the polls, and to a parallel improvement of enthusiasm and participation.

It is therefore time to give the whole Meredith student body a pat on the back. However, though proud of our accomplishment, we must include even in that motion of praise a motion of pushing also—for, as with Rome, so with all lasting accomplishments: time is needed for final building. The need now is for the continuation of the original enthusiasm and dedication, and those emotions are best supported by involvement and work. The new set-up will have snags. Some will loom immediately and appallingly; others, gradually and less obviously. There will appear real mistakes and gross inadequacies. However, there seems practically unanimous opinion that this year's overall reorganization is good. The remaining task is to prove it, not just to prove that Meredith is capable of adapting, but with the highest aim being the greatest harmony and happiness of the Meredith community.

H. J. M.



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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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## SG COMMITTEE WORKS ON SINGLE CUTS FOR HOLIDAYS

By VELMA MCGEE

As our enrollment at Meredith increases, it seems that there are more and more students who live a long distance from the college. When vacation time comes around, these students have a particular problem in that they are sometimes forced to take double cuts in their classes because of long traveling hours, unless they are willing to pay for a plane ticket. As the system now

stands, however, double class cuts do not seem to be penalty enough; these girls must also take a week-end if they cut any classes. In many ways this procedure seems completely unfair. A committee has been set up, with Elizabeth Haywood and Sue Ellen Moody as co-chairman, to work on the problem. These girls feel that any one living outside a four hundred mile radius of the school should be allowed

single class cuts if their traveling time requires it. Another recommendation which they have worked out is that no one should have to take a week-end if they are not leaving the college a day early.

This problem is by no means solved as yet. However, a definite need is felt for a revision of the present procedure, and the committee is working hard to introduce a change immediately.