

# Seniors Anticipate Spending Spree With First Employment Check

By Sue Kelly

In spite of plaintive cries of lack of employment, many hired and yet-to-be-hired seniors at Meredith are anticipating the magic moment when that very first pay check will be a reality. Busy as they are with graduation worries, marriage plans, and budget problems, the seniors still have extra moments in which they may sit leisurely back and tire one another with talk of anticipated offers of employment and soon to be acquired financial resources. That they are putting much serious thought in this matter of spending their future wealth is evident from the replies one receives upon inquiring just what their main objectives will be after the first pay-check is at hand. Sara Gwynn Bryan chose to be cagey in her reply and merely stated, "I'm going to spend it on something foolish — something I'd be embarrassed to ask my parents for money for." Pat Tupper managed to combine the logical and illogical when she replied, "I'll pay my first car payment and then splurge on some red satin bloomers." Her roommate, Linda Pierce, plans to "buy her husband some food." Millie Pearce has decided to remain quite conventional and "buy a dog with some of it and go out to eat steamed oysters." One of the main items on the list of "must" purchases with the first pay check is

land, and be a citizen." Joey Dennis plans "a trip to Oklahoma in my own plane." Carol Reams will "buy clothes and save to go to Spain." Anne Palmer Hodges will see the country "in my sports car—a Le-Mans." Sandra Butler will throw out the first ball when she fulfills her ambition of "going to see the World Series."

On the more serious side are those aspiring seniors like Fran Walters who intends to "spend it as fast as I get it. Just be sure to spend all of my first pay check and save the second." Margaret Rackley says, "I've already spent it, but I want to buy an amethyst ring surrounded by diamonds." Louise Milford says the best thing to do is "frame it and hang it on the bathroom wall." Sandra Harrill's eyes widened as she stated, "I'll probably stare at it for twenty minutes and then start making car payments—then I'll squander the rest." Suellen Walter can't be convinced that someone will really pay her to work for them so she is going to "pay back the Unemployment Bureau." Betsy Fuqua will be "paying rent, buying a car, getting rid of her coffee brown hair color and buying some diet pills." Ruth Ellen Johnson aspires to almost as many purchases as Betsy. Her plan include "pay for a car, finish paying for Childcraft, buy liquid refreshments, pay for apartment, brib-



Ann Dean, bride-to-be, thinks of payments she will make as a new housewife.

appears to be a fantastically large first pay check. Her high ambitions include "framing it until I get ready to buy a Rolls Royce and then send my brother through college and then buy a home and yacht." Barbara Radford seems to frown on such extravagance as she states, "I'm going to save it for A.B. and me." Mary Baldwin anticipates a large first pay check, however, so that she may "save some after paying for a car, getting myself out of debt, buying some clothes, and renting an apartment."

Marriage plans that demand more than just "pin money" for bride magazines are affecting quite a few pay checks. Betsy Kidd is going to "help pay for the wedding, buy a car, and pay rent." Betsy Forbes is "saving to get married and be able to eat the first month." Joy Adams will "spend it on furnishings, use it to put L.T. through school, and replenish my wardrobe after leaving most of my clothes behind when I move to California."

In view of the vast amount of forethought that Meredith seniors have given and are still giving that all important question of how to spend one's first pay check, the fact that the American economy need fear no relapse is quite evident. Never have so many wild spenders been assembled in any one location. Those of us who are less fortunate and will not know the joy of being financially independent in the near future can only hope that the outcome of so many incomes will not be disastrous.

Peggy Pruitt dismisses the whole idea and intends to "buy anything that's most important at that time." "Paying off debts" will be the main chore of Lena Rose Patterson. Pen-

elope Senter sang a different tune when she stated, "I'm not going to get one because I don't want Mel to pay me for doing housework." "Wee-zie" Allen is going all out with what



Senior Betty Brock makes a tentative list of the wants for her first pay check.

clothes. Ann Rivers will be "buying shoes because I'll be wearing them out teaching." Frances Glenn will become the proud owner of "nineteen pairs of shoes" and Clarene Roberson will "buy pretty nightgowns." Betty White admits that she "wouldn't mind having a whole new wardrobe."

Some seniors, however, are forgetting themselves and channeling their financial resources for the good of those around them. Carolyn Norwood and Jane Worrell plan to "give the faculty a required cocktail party." Brucie Tull is going to save her entire check for the sole purpose of establishing herself "on the board of trustees at Meredith." Without a thought for self, Brooksie Bell has unselfishly sacrificed her check to "buy a marriage license and mail it special delivery to Henry who wants to wait and use the pay check of September 1965 to buy it." In order to please Mary Ann Ainsley, Geneva Barnhill has decided to "buy a book of stamps after having bought all the clothes it'll buy and saved a little to get my hair fixed." Ann Dean will make her money go a long way when as she states, "I'll pay rent, pay Chester's car payment and the last payment on my diamond and pay off everything that's on lay-away."

Dreams of faraway places will determine the use of some senior pay checks. According to Phyllis Austin, she will "put part of it away so I can go to Japan — live there, buy

boys to date me, buy clothes, go in debt, and borrow." Sandra Biggerstaff states, "Bill and I will put it on a house, car, and all the other things we've bought on credit—but I would like to splurge." The sad tale of Ellen Macintosh runs thus, "I'll buy a sports car and some food because if I'm accepted in the North Carolina Volunteer Program, I'll probably be starving." Margaret Houghton says all her money will go for "rent, car payments, one steak every Saturday night (hot dogs will suffice on the other days), and a savings account of fifty cents a month to replenish a wardrobe." Brenda Smith sadly admits that she'll be "buying food because my check will be coming from the welfare department." Not to be outdone where food is concerned, Elaine Griffin states, "I'll eat out because I'll be tired of eating my own cooking." Nancy Evans plays the role of the obedient house wife when she comments, "I'll hand it to my husband." Ginger Featherston's outlook is ingenious and familiar when she replies, "I'll buy stamps and write home for money." More decidedly pessimistic were answers such as that of Sandra Wallace—"What pay check?" Helen Simms is definite in her ambitions to "pay for an apartment, pay back my parents, pay for a car, and a lot of other things." Betty Soderman states, "Help pay for the groceries. I haven't gotten beyond the necessities yet."

## Three Meredith Girls Plan European Trips

By Mackie Rudisell

Travel abroad! "I don't think about it because I don't think it's me," says Sally Nixon, Meredith sophomore. Sally will spend twenty-four days touring in Europe and sixty days working in Finland.

On June 18, Sally with other American students will leave from Luxembourg for a five-day "Safari" through France, Belgium and Germany. After this brief tour, Sally will take a nineteen-day tour which will include Paris, Florence, Venice, Milan, Rome and Vatican City. The students will be furnished with passes which secure them special student rates to museums, historic buildings, etc.

A fold-up umbrella and raincoat will constantly accompany Sally and her camera on the trip. Sally will send her winter clothes ahead of her to Finland, the land of 60,000 lakes. In Finland, where summer temperatures average 65 degrees, she will serve as a governess for the children of Mrs. Paula Ravi in Hameenlinna. The money she earns will cover the traveling expenses she will incur while in Europe. The job and trip are arranged for Sally by the American Student Information Service. Sally gives credit to Mr. Walker, who told her about the program, for encouraging her in her application to ASIS. Though most applications were made in September, she applied in January; three weeks later, she was notified of her acceptance. Sally's job does not require a fluency in any foreign language, although some of the other positions do.

In Vicenza, a suburb of romantic Venice, Italy, Carol Andrews, rising Meredith senior, will spend seven weeks studying. The courses which Carol will take, Italian literature and Renaissance art, will include visits to museums and sites of artistic interest in Italy. "Oh, oh, the courses are given in English," Carol hastily adds.

A highlight of Carol's trip will be a visit to Austria for a Shakespeare

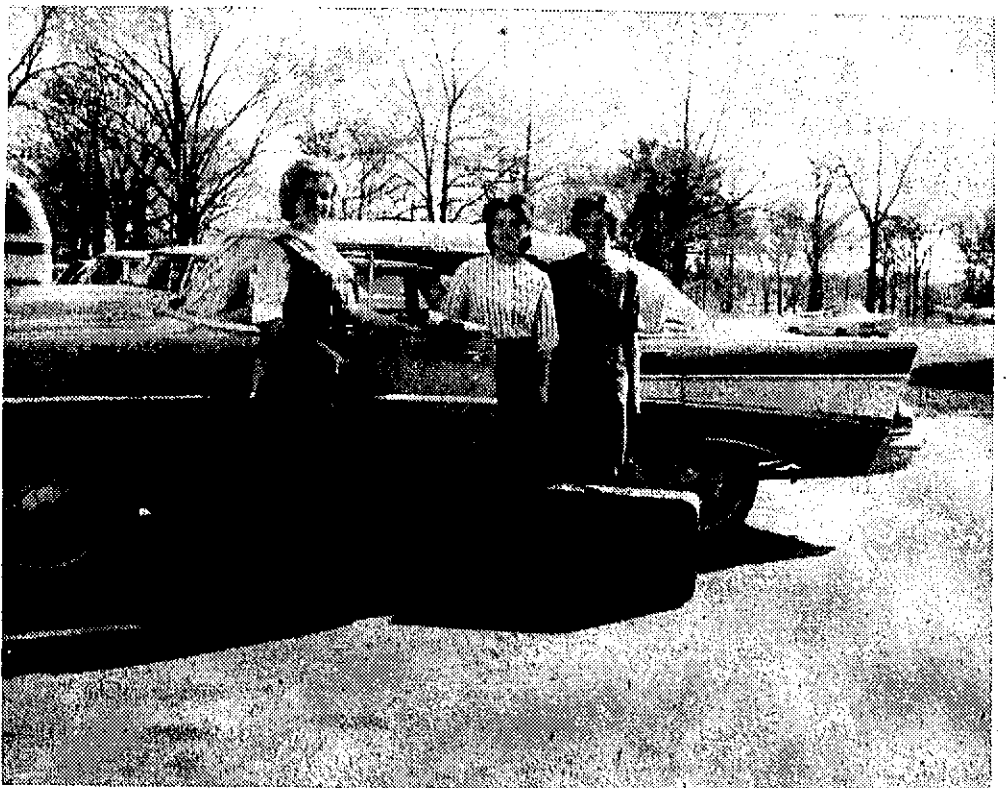
festival. It will also be an experience for Carol to live with an Italian family while she attends school.

Carol will leave on June 20 with a private group of students. They will be under the supervision of a Romance language professor, of Ohio Wesleyan College, and his sister. Dr. Mary Lynch Johnson first told Carol about the trip. All of her expenses will be covered by money from a trust fund for her education. On August 8, Carol will return to the United States after her summer of study and sight-seeing.

After a look at the World's Fair with her family, Liz Nieuwenhuis, a Meredith sophomore, will leave from New York on June 9, to visit her native Holland. Liz, who came to the United States when she was three, is still a Dutch citizen. It will be a special thrill to revisit all her folks in Holland. As she spoke of it, she "just sat on the edge of the bed ready to take off."

Liz will travel on an Italian ship, *M. S. Aurelia*, which is booked solid with students. Liz and a friend who attends Duke University will travel to England first, spend a week there, and then go to Holland. After reunion with her relatives, Liz, with her friend and a cousin their age, plans to take some tours with European students and visit Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, and Switzerland. Liz and her friend considered working in a Girl Scout Camp in Germany, but Liz doubts that they will take the job offer.

Liz, with fall clothes, Bermudas (though the cousin wrote that Europeans wear short shorts), and rain apparel, is prepared to enjoy the trip without worry, thanks to her trusty book, *Five Dollars a Day in Europe*. Equipped with this book and brochures in her native Dutch, she is certain to enjoy this dream trip paid for with money she has been saving for years.



Come June, Liz Nieuwenhuis, Carol Andrews, and Sally Nixon will be "girls on a whirl" of traveling in Europe.