



October 12, 1967

Individual Effort

One of the purposes of Meredith College is "to prepare students for intelligent citizenship." When students leave the college, they should be ready to assume responsibility for local, state, and national welfare. To acquire this readiness, we must first practice intelligent citizenship in our community here.

Realizing that we may enter into this situation unprepared, the Legislative Board has proposed that we adopt an election system similar to that in federal procedures. In such a system, a potential candidate would file to run in an election rather than being dependent on the present nominating committee. In this way, the students would take the initiative and practice techniques which they will use in later life.

Meredith prides itself on its community atmosphere. Is not, however, a community only as strong as each of its individuals? The proposed filing system would center on the individual and her willingness to assume responsibility. The candidate would have to evaluate her own qualifications, thereby strengthening her own maturity and indirectly benefiting the college community.

If we agree with Walter Hines Page that "there is one thing better than good government, and that is government in which all the people have a part," we will certainly endorse this proposal.

LJL

Are We Apathetic?

A college education, unfortunately, may be gained at the expense of interest and involvement in public affairs. Here at Meredith, in the day-to-day procession of classes, chapel, quizzes, papers, reports, parallel reading, meetings, dates, and deadlines, we tend to create our own unique and compact existence while, as the old song says, "the rest of the world goes by." It becomes habit to quickly scan the front page of a newspaper and move on in deference to those articles which seem to have more direct bearing on our daily lives; sports, "Dear Abby," the society page, and occasionally a required editorial. Radios and televisions come to be ignored during newscasts, and BRIDE'S takes top priority among magazine readers. What we lose, by our own neglect, is not primarily interest but contact.

In his comments on this page Mr. Stephen Young shows concern for our public consciousness. He sees the effects that life in a small, relatively sheltered college community can have, and urges us to broaden our concerns beyond this campus, tomorrow, or next week. More importantly, he raises a challenging question: Are we apathetic?

The failure of many students to sign the "Negotiation Now" petition on Vietnam, it seems by the opinion sample taken, is not absolute proof of apathy, but rather an expression of disagreement. Furthermore, the reorganization of the Young Democrats and Young Republicans Clubs is a definite indication of a desire to be involved in public affairs. We do not believe that, as a whole, Meredith College students can be described as apathetic. However, neither are we as well-informed and active as we need to be in the fast-changing modern world for which we will one day be responsible. Part of education must be concerned with citizenship. If we do not actively seek to maintain the new interest shown on this campus and become caught up again in the routine that college life can become, then we will be apathetic.

EAS

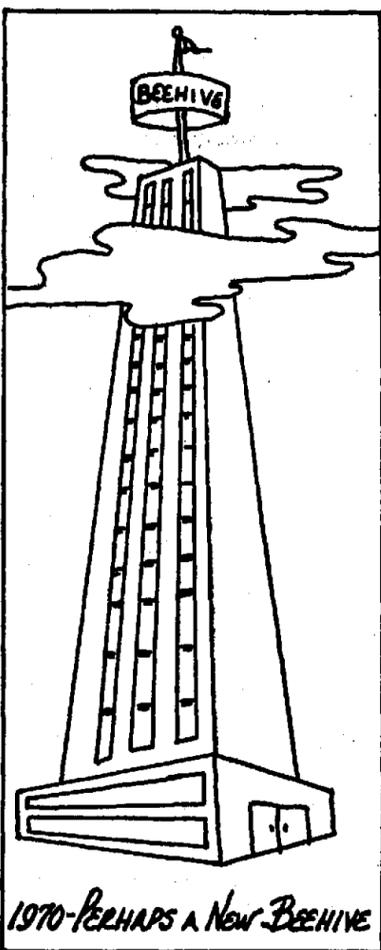
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MEMBER Associated Collegiate Press. Entered as second-class matter at post office at Raleigh, N. C. 27602. Published semi-monthly during the months of October, November, February, March, April and May; monthly during September, December, and January. The Twig is served by National Educational Advertising Service, 18 East 50th Street, New York, New York. Subscription Rates: \$3.45 per year.



Young Challenges Students To Form Opinions, To Act

Note: The following article was written by Stephen E. Young, instructor of music, at the request of the editor.

Last week's petition for "Negotiation Now" concerning the Vietnam war received nearly one hundred signatures from the Meredith student body, for which we should all be grateful. The statement was a fairly conservative one; therefore, does that mean that we have 750 hawks on campus, albeit disguised as Meredith angels?

No, I doubt that very much. Rather, we are confronted with a terrible kind of apathy, a feeling that whatever we do will not make any difference, or that we do not know enough about politics and foreign affairs to say anything. But as the terrible killing and bombing escalates, the futility of it all becomes more and more obvious because the hope of settlement grows dim. How many of us still believe the generals who blandly tell us each month of all the progress made? Each time the war escalates, we MUST assess anew our concept of "is it worth it."

Now it has been in large measure the youth of our nation, on campuses across the country, who have tried to do something, to stand up for what they believe is right, and have voiced their concern again and again. Where then is Meredith College? As a specifically Christian community, we have even a greater obligation to action than other colleges. We need to remember the Jesus, not of flowers and smiling children, but the Jesus who angrily overturned the money-changers in the temple. Albert Camus once wrote that what the world needed most was for Christians to stand up and speak in terms that the simplest man could understand for what was right.

Unfortunately, we cannot KNOW what is right or wrong, and we have to make up our mind knowing that we must take something as the truth

AGREE OR DISAGREE

"Students who shrug off academic subjects that 'don't help you make a living' ought to realize that even the subjects that help you make a living will be obsolete a half-dozen years from now."
 Sydney J. Harris, "Strictly Personal."

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

A statement of chapel policy recently distributed on campus sets forth the rationale for the requirement of chapel attendance and defines the new honor-system approach to the matter of attendance. The new rules seem to reflect a genuine interest on the part of the administration to respond positively to suggestions that students have made in the past concerning the conduct of chapel exercises. No doubt the student body is aware of this fact and duly appreciates this attitude of the administration.

The new statement of policy, however, brings into focus a serious issue concerning the responsibilities of the college toward not only the students but the entire Baptist community. The issue has to do with whether it is desirable for a Christian community to compel any of its members to attend worship services. It might be argued, for example, that a requirement of attendance at religious exercises does more to promote irreligion than religion. On the other hand, it may be said in defense of the present policy that to require class attendance but to make chapel attendance optional is to di-

minish the religious role of the college to the detriment of our Christian commitment.

In a spirit of Christian concern, the writer wishes to invite response in this column to the issue as he sees it:

RESOLVED, That it is not in the interest of a Christian community to compel any of its members to worship.

T. C. Parramore

Anomaly

By GINGER HUGHEY

"HARK!" the Meredith angels shout, "forty-two days till we get out!" The holidays mean home, and home means another chapter in the never ending romance which college students have with the bus lines. It takes just one sixteen-hour bus trip through the mountains at night to qualify you as a professional traveler. You are allowed one faint for the first time.

"The easiest travel on earth," however, can be met and mastered if you mentally and emotionally prepare yourself at least one week before the journey, and if you know a few of the basics: (1) Don't panic when you've checked your luggage for Black Mountain, North Carolina, and you watch it leave on the bus to New York City; you'll get it back just in time to return to Meredith. (2) When it takes two hours to get from Raleigh to Chapel Hill, you will know definitely the difference between an express bus and a through bus. (3) Bus drivers are cynical, so do not be faked out when one suggests that you talk to him all night so he won't fall asleep. They naturally drive on the wrong side, secure in the knowledge that no one else drives through Soco Gap at 2 o'clock in the morning. (4) Conversation is not always on the same intellectual level among passengers, so perhaps it is best to talk to the driver; then you won't hear things like "Do you know if Duke is accredited?" or "We're at the bottom of Nantahala Gorge, aren't we? Well, do you think we can get out before it snows too much?" At this point it is very important to keep your cool and not think about the return trip in four days.

love with your school and girls I met."

Students cannot claim sole credit for projecting the Meredith image, for the faculty makes special efforts to know the students as individuals and to promote the atmosphere of cooperation and friendliness by working with students in clubs, Corn Huskin', and Play Day. The administration is open to student suggestions and opinions on future development and college policies. Without this harmony, the group of people who constitute Meredith College could not promote the distinctive image which causes guests such as Mr. John Scott, who attended Buckminster Fuller's programs, to write this tribute to our school:

You girls really impressed me with your poise, maturity, and grace. I'm not just tossing bouquets. At dinner I sat there thinking about what a wonderful school you must have, and how some children will be blessed with thinking mothers someday. I salute you and the faculty. I'm really flattered to have been your guest.

Words like these, while warming our hearts, make us humbly realize how much we have to live up to. If this humility can be channeled constructively, we might be worthy of the qualities associated with Meredith College.

THOUGHTS ON TRADITIONS

By JUDY KORNEGAY

There seems to be something about Meredith that causes people to think of it as distinctively different from other institutions. Raleigh residents have been overheard to say, "She's a Meredith girl; I can just tell." A statement like this makes a person wonder just what it is about a Meredith girl that makes her so distinctive.

Quite a few ideas have been expounded on the subject of what a Meredith girl is, but the time-worn, exaggerated image of the recluse, staidly devoted to all study and no extracurricular activity, has been slowly dispelled over the years and has blossomed into a very flattering description of the Meredith girl.

The name, Angel Farm, has stayed with us and has become another tradition for us to live up to. There are traits of character which a few people have seen at Meredith which we may all hope will continue to be associated with our college.

Often out-of-state students are awed by the friendliness shown on campus. Unlike larger campuses, knowing someone by name is no prerequisite for exchanging hellos, and nearly anyone is glad to give directions or usher a newcomer to his destination. This atmosphere is appreciated by a visitor or newcomer. Dr. Harold Cassidy, who spoke in a Directions '67 program in February, 1967, wrote in a letter of thanks: The girls "thought up all sorts of generous little touches—an orange to take back to the Alumnae House; a newspaper for after breakfast; an alarm clock. . . . I fell in