

THE TWIG

Meredith College

February 8, 1968

Publish or Perish

Why did *The Acorn* not meet its January publication date? The literary magazine, as is often the case of THE TWIG, suffers from a lack of student support.

Perhaps students do not contribute to the magazine because they think they cannot write. However, have they tried? Most students are content to leave writing to the English majors. But do they leave singing to music majors, typing to business majors, sewing on buttons to home economics majors, or attending church to religion majors? Every student at Meredith has felt something about which she could write—homesickness, happiness, disillusionment, depression, delight, gaiety, grief. Not every student can write, but fewer do than can.

On the other hand, perhaps they can write but are too shy to have it published. Yet, they write clever scripts for Stunt, Corn Huskin', and society supper clubs that are produced before the entire student body. They compose class songs, witty skits, and campaign speeches which are delivered to classmates. *The Acorn* offers a more lasting form of expression, one that lasts longer than a single night.

Getting students to work on a student publication is very difficult. It is much harder to put an idea or emotion on a blank sheet of paper, to capture a mood in a photograph or a drawing, to meet deadlines and deal with printers, than it is to attend a club meeting, sit back, and listen to someone else speak. It is a challenge because it is hard.

The Oak Leaves and THE TWIG will continue to exist because their functions are more easily recognized. The purpose of *The Acorn* is less obvious. The yearbook preserves the past for the future. The newspaper communicates the present. But the literary magazine, a record of experiences, thought, and emotions, is timeless.

C.O.R. and L.J.L.

Buffalo Junction?

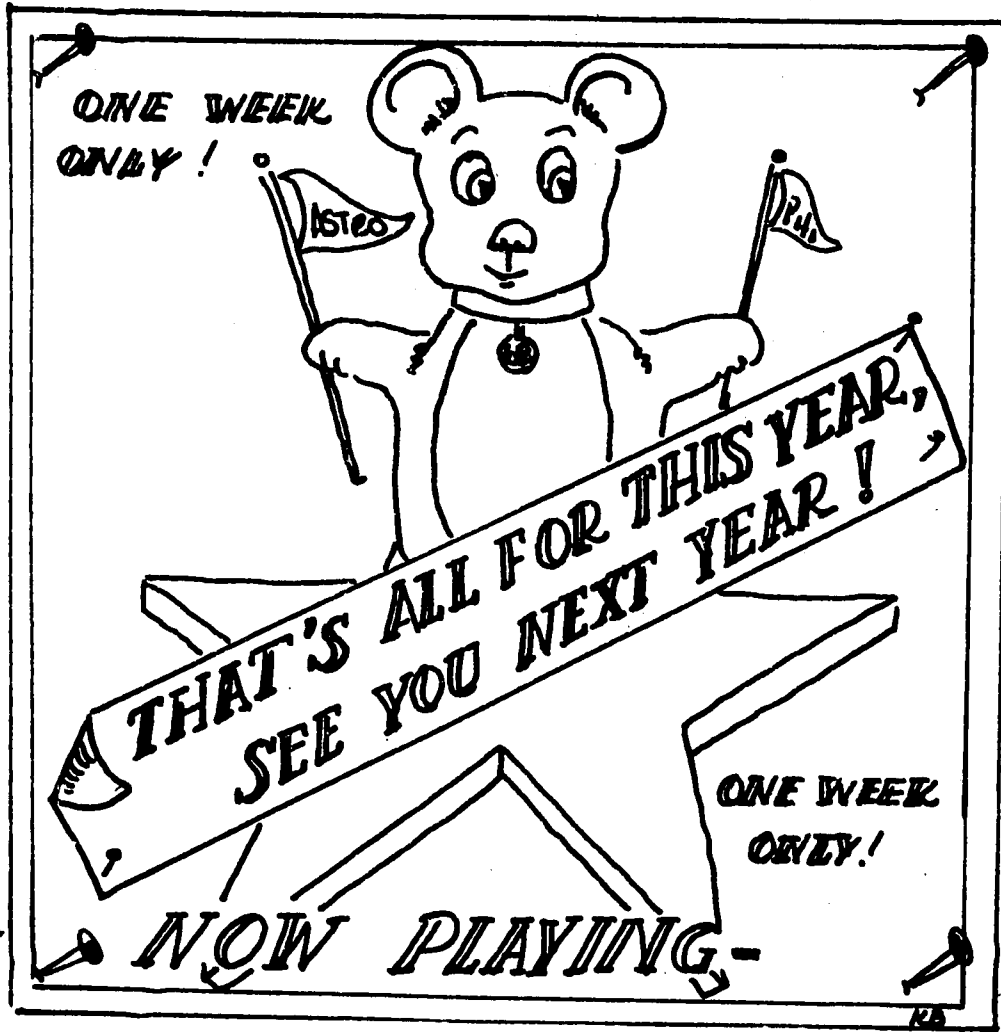
A family-style evening meal has long been a tradition at Meredith. This is fortunate, for a leisurely meal with one's friends can be a relaxing break after a fast-paced day, a remedy for the impersonalization that is sometimes characteristic of college life, and a practice that promotes a sense of unity and community.

However, if one has recently observed student behavior in the dining hall before supper, she might well wonder exactly what was about to take place. By 5:45, the end entrances to the dining hall are so well-packed with hungry females that neither man, beast, nor the U. S. mail could get through the crowd. When the bell finally rings, the stampede-like rush to the tables begins, and it is, indeed, "every woman for herself." Is all this really necessary?

Perhaps the root of the problem lies in the ruling of the dining hall management that no waitress may reserve or "save" tables. As it now stands, those students who first reach a table determine who else sits there; hence the rush to merely "get a table."

To want to enjoy a meal with one's friends is understandable. However, the current practice of racing for a place to sit is unbecoming and disconcerting. The assignment of students to tables would undoubtedly be too extreme a solution. Nevertheless, a return to the old system of waitresses "saving" tables would provide a degree of understanding and continuity, and might at least have a calming effect on the anxious crowd which invades the dining hall each evening.

EAS



Freshmen Voice Opinions On First Months of College

By GENI TULL

Taking a poll of my fellow freshmen concerning their first semester at Meredith, what they expected and what they actually got, was a task I looked forward to until I asked my first question to Rachel Shaw.

"Rachael," I asked, "was your first semester at college what you expected?" Her answer was a pitiful groan closely followed by, "Did you have to ask me a question like that?"

Though my enthusiasm was dampened, I nevertheless proceeded to question other freshmen.

NANCY IRWIN: I wanted to be able to take advantage of Raleigh's cultural opportunities, but because of the work, I can't!

LINDA AUSTIN: It was much more difficult than I expected. It took me all semester to realize I was accomplishing something.

ANN MATTOCKS: It's harder than I ever expected.

CAROLYN POND: It was a challenge as I had expected, but the pressures made adjustments more difficult than I had anticipated.

BERTA WARDELL: The going was a lot smoother than I expected.

SISSY BEAM: I didn't realize competition would be as keen. Yet, I expected it to be hard, and it is!

DIANE WATKINS: I knew I'd have to study, but not this much. I think the teachers take a more

personal interest in students here than they did in high school.

GEORGIA JOHNSON: I expected to meet new people, to have a lot of work, and to have trouble adjusting to a roommate and to new situations, and I did!

LINDA BALL: I came with a superficial idea of meeting new friends and having a great college life, but I have a deeper idea now. I appreciate it more.

AIMEE OAKLEY: I expected challenging work and meeting new friends. The work's hard, sure, but the friendships make up for it.

JOYCE LITTLE: The girls are good, the food is good, the State boys are good, and the work is just as hard as I expected.

BARBARA CURTIS: My grades were too high for the capacity of work I put into my courses.

JANICE HOLLEMAN: I had to study and to adjust to a completely

(Continued on page 4)

Anomaly

By GINGER HUGHEY

Institutional cooperation is synonymous with "traumatic experience" for some unsuspecting Meredith Angels who venture from the embraces of Mother Meredith and wind up in the clutches of Big Daddy North Carolina State.

Enticed by the obvious advantages of furthering one's academic and social experience at a university, the naive Meredith cherub, in all of her wide-eyed innocence, might well be anxiously anticipating her course in Soviet Government 472. It meets only one night a week for three hours, which should sound suspicious, but she is too excited about broadening her knowledge to catch the first warning signal.

After a week of classes in the old "home" community, the big night finally arrives. After two hours, she has finally found a decent pair of hose, thrown away her moth-eaten sweatshirt and skirt, donned a more socially-acceptable outfit, fixed her hair, put on lipstick, and set aside her glasses for contacts. She is finally pushed out the door by her roommate, and in her own inimitable way, she spastically drives into the sunset.

Her spirits do not fall when she spends fifteen desperate minutes looking for stairs and running around in circles in Harrelson Hall. Neither do they fall when, out of 10,000 boys, she walks (falls) into a class of nine and sits behind a certain one whom she never wanted to see again. Nor does she panic when the professor assigns the first fifteen chapters of the text for the next time. Actually, she was holding up rather well until she realized that the tiny triangular-shaped room has no windows, while she begins to wonder nervously what happens in case of fire (which is reasonable since everyone is smoking and dropping the ashes on the floor).

"Miss . . ." the professor asks, "How would you begin a systematic and analytical study of all the governments of the world?"

Eyes burning from all the smoke, hands shaking from the cold (the air-conditioning was on), and face

(Continued on page 5)

THOUGHTS on TRADITIONS

By JUDY KORNEGAY

Looking back we can see many things the fall brought to our lives at Meredith: uninitiated, eager freshmen and revitalized upperclassmen invaded the campus to undergo orientation, attend classes, and participate in Corn Huskin' and

Stunt.

The activities which kept us running through last semester might be viewed as a preparation for the more numerous events of the second half of the school year. Second semester brings an onslaught of fresh activities which are the culmination of a summer and fall of planning and the commencement of new challenges to our study schedules, self-discipline, and intellectual curiosity.

First comes Rush, that enthusiastic pooling of resources and talents which teaches us that fun and fellowship have important places beside our newly-resumed studies. Upperclassmen use their influence, contesting with each other for the allegiance of freshmen, winning converts for the two societies. The carefully planned society battles are conducted with weapons — favors, decorations, songs, and amiable coercion, resulting on decision day in multiplication rather than division of friendships. After the hectic competition of Rush, the societies refrain from overt opposition and work side by side in a state of peaceful co-existence.

The fellowship of Rush is succeeded by the intellectual and spiritual fellowship with God, others, and one's self in Religious Emphasis Week. REW provides us with an opportunity to hear a variety of excellent speakers which

(Continued on page 5)

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

My concern is about the dorm check that we had on the night of January 3. I think it was totally unfair to keep the girls cooped up in the uncomfortable parlor until one o'clock and even later at night when some of the girls had eight o'clock classes the next morning. This wasn't the only inconvenience. Many of the girls, some of whom had already had their baths, had to sit on the filthy, hard floors for a solid hour or more.

However, there is a more serious item involved. Realizing that there must have been some necessity for the check, I do feel, nevertheless, that it could have been performed in a much better way for all. Next year if the occasion arises to have another check, what is wrong with being a little more considerate of those who take pride in their personal possessions? Let the hall proctors come to the individual

suites while the girls are present, tell them what is going on, and advise them to be quiet about the matter and sit still while they are checking. The checkers do not have to let the girls go out of their rooms until the whole mess is finished. Nothing can be more frustrating than to have to stay in one small, extremely noisy room with thirty-nine boisterous girls who have nothing else to do but talk, while you know that someone is rummaging around in your room without your being able to watch them.

At least when the police department comes to you with a search warrant, they tell you what and why they are looking and the circumstances behind it. Maybe we can have a clause written in our Meredith honor code or constitution legalizing dorm checks instead of keeping the matter under the "necessary and proper" clause.

MARY TURNER

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