

THE TWIG

Meredith College

February 26, 1970

A Little Housecleaning

We want you! We want you! Be an Astro! Be a Phi! Last week we saw these and similar phrases taped, pasted, and hung all over our campus as Meredith's two societies vied for the attentions of Freshmen and Transfers. Nothing was spared as the members of both groups came out of their year-long hibernation for their week-long celebration. Spies from the girls in blue listened anxiously for any leaks of information from the Astro crowd, while the girls in yellow pumped their newcomer friends for news of "how the freshmen and transfers were going." Girls from one suite eyed their former friends suspiciously when they found out what society they belonged to. (Horrors!) Reams of construction paper were cut into little blue bears and little yellow stars; yards of crepe paper adorned the cafeteria and the court. Balloons hung from chandeliers, and messages were left at doors from "secret pals." Members worked late into the night feverishly planning "the supper club to end all supper clubs."

We cannot help but feel that much of the effort put out last week can only be so much wasted time. The fervor and enthusiasm displayed by otherwise apathetic students for a week of unmeaningful capers shows nothing but a student body with tragically displaced values.

Of course, we understand and agree with the view that societies help to make friends and strengthen old friendships. The companionship which one enjoys here with fellow students, both Astros and Phis, cannot be overembellished. The comrades one has at college are often the confidantes of old age. However, it seems to us that the emphasis during Rush Week is placed upon choosing sides, picking one group of girls over another.

Finally, what happens to the societies after Rush Week? As far as we can see, they merely crawl back into oblivion. Of course, occasionally throughout the year, we hear snatches of Phi project or Astro project, but how many of the society members actually know what these projects are all about? We would shudder to think of the countless freshmen and transfers who have asked the upperclassmen who came to rush them, "But what do you do?" What kind of a reply can be given? The Astrotekton and Philaretian societies have long since outlived their usefulness as so-called "literary societies." The themes which win the societies' literary prizes each spring on awards day are quite simply the results of an assignment given in English class.

What then, is to become of the societies? Are they to continue wasting hundreds of dollars each year on Rush Week, only to sit back on their haunches for the rest of the time, planning next year's rush? Let us hope not. It is our hope that society members will re-examine themselves and their goals and value carefully and see the empty space under the heading "Purpose." Meredith's societies could be a source of potential good if they would only shift their emphasis. The Cerebral Palsy and Blind School projects would be an excellent point of departure. Now that freshmen and transfers have made their choices, let's get to work on an endeavor of importance, both to ourselves and our community. An enterprise of this type could be of great consequence in helping us put our values back in proper perspective. It is our hope every society member at Meredith College will feel the need, this spring, for a little "Housecleaning."

JKM

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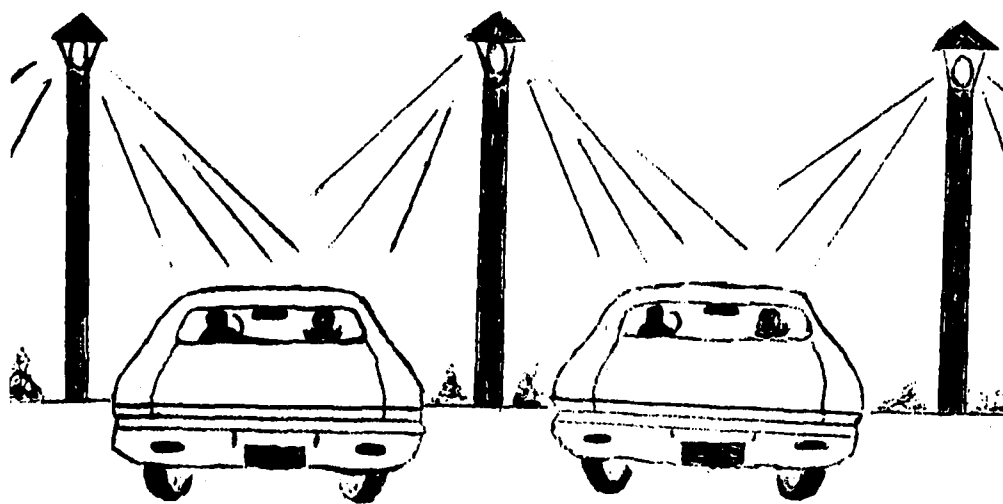
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REMEMBER the GOOD OLD
DAYS.....
BEFORE the ELECTRIC LIGHT!



REC

The Perils of Percy

By Percy Beane

Many of you have some lingering doubts about chasing men on the theory that they should be chasing you. But, I want you to answer these questions before you dismiss the idea completely:

(1). Are you tired of wondering what you're going to do tonight? Next weekend?

(2). Do you begin wondering in February if you will have a date for New Years?

(3). Are you sick of eating with the girls, or worse, your family?

If you answered yes to one of the above, you're ready to chase men. However, if you have some doubts, answer these questions:

(1). Do you have to buy your own flowers if you wear them?

(2). Do you long for love, friendship, a permanent poker partner?

(3). Do you wish you had someone to hug at night besides your pillow?

One yes answer to the above entitles you to chase men; three yeses indicate that it is a dire necessity!

In the next issues of THE TWIG I plan to print a wealth of information on chasing men, including how to meet them, how to hold their interest and how to finagle them out of presents, pins and lavalieres. I will also tell you what types to run from, what types to go after and how to "slow down the action without bringing it to a dead stop!"

On getting into action, one must perfect an approach. First, one must make herself as attractive as possible. There are some things which absolutely turn off a man. Below I will give some examples as told to me unknowingly by a guy while under my spell. Never use pins (safety pins, that is) unless failure to do so would result in indecent exposure. Don't wear a low cut dress on a first date unless you already know he is unaffected by it. Don't wear white lipstick unless you are going to a masquerade party and you are going as Morticia of the Adams' Family.

Next, arrange opportunities to be wherever he is. Of course, this doesn't mean if he is a pool player that you must make a habit of loitering around all the pool rooms in the area. Nor does it mean if he is a heavy drinker for you to turn in to a habitual bar hop. But you get the picture.

Perhaps the following account of what I did will give you some idea of the basic strategy. When I was sixteen, I was in love (I use the term love loosely, here) with a car

nut. Since I couldn't arrange to be at the local garage on Saturdays without looking a bit unusual or out of place, I hit upon a plan. It was so devious, I couldn't believe that I thought of it myself. Anyway, I coned my older and wiser cousin (he was 17) into teaching me how to tinker with car engines. I learned all about "327's" and "jets" and "headers" just so I could impress the object of my affection with my infinite knowledge of the automobile. I even subscribed to *Popular Mechanics*!

The ultimate was reached when I learned how to straight wire a car. This bit of info was most valuable in my plan of attack. I "planted" our car in the parking lot of a local hangout and when no one was looking, I undid the wiring. Then I pretended to start the car when my beloved drove up. Naturally it wouldn't start, so Lancelot immediately seized the opportunity to impress me. Little did he know I had set the trap for him. I watched him go through great pains to repair the wiring (actually, all he had to do was reverse the cables, even I knew that, but he wanted to make it look spectacular.) The rest, you can guess for yourself. I became one of the regulars at the garage on Saturdays.

Now that you have some idea of an approach, you are ready to learn how to hold the great man's interest. But that part I save for next time, along with how to get presents out of a man and the types to run from.

By the way, if any bachelors are reading this, it will be helpful to you to know just how the boom will be lowered. You can't escape it, but at least it won't be a total shock to your system when you realize YOU HAVE BEEN HOOKED!!!!!!!!!!!!

TWIG LETTER POLICY

The TWIG welcomes editorial comment from its readers. Submitted letters should be typed or written legibly. The TWIG reserves the right to edit for length or content. All letters MUST be signed; anonymous letters will not be published. Letters should be turned into the TWIG room on First Brewer, 201 New Dorm or 313 Potent.

The opinions expressed in the editorials and columns of THE TWIG do not necessarily represent those of the administration, student body or the entire newspaper staff.

Looking Back...

At Founders' Day

February 1, 1924

"We are all looking forward to February 7 of this year as that great day of the celebration of the founders of our College. We are interested in Founder's Day not only as a holiday, but also because it reminds us of Meredith's glorious history. Perhaps it will not be amiss to outline the chief events in Meredith's history."

February 3, 1928

"The first Thursday in February is always a much more important day at Meredith than the second or third, or any other Thursday. That is the day observed as Founder's Day, and for that reason it is one of the few holidays during the spring-term. Regardless of the facts that it is considered as a half-holiday, only, and that for that day there is a set program which has been followed for years, each Founder's Day seems more enjoyable than the last and no one, whether Senior or Freshman, would dare call it an uninteresting day."

February 1, 1929

"This celebration is one of the most important events of the college year. There are four principal reasons for its important position on the college calendar. In the first place, it is half a holiday, though, really, there are no classes at all. Next there is always a splendid address by a noted speaker."

February 5, 1932

"Doing honor to the multitude of men and women whose love and service in the past have made possible the Meredith of today and establishing connection with thousands of alumnae and friends of the institution, widely scattered over the earth, at home and in foreign countries, Meredith will celebrate its annual Founder's Day on Friday, February 5."

February 6, 1942

"Each year with the celebration of Founders Day, Meredith looks in retrospect upon its activities and achievements of the past, and forward, too, toward the greeted realization of its aspirations and goals. Meredith, past and present, might well be the theme."

— Movie Review —

"Viva Max": Great Comedy

By Donna Williams

Attracted by an impressive cast list which included Peter Ustinov and Jonathan Winters, we went to see "Viva Max."

Max is a general, with a long unpronounceable Mexican name, who commands what might be termed the Mexican equivalent of F Troop. They can't possibly hurt anyone, however, because they've forgotten their ammunition.

This rag-tag bunch of soldiers is helping Max to fulfill his lifelong ambition to recapture the Alamo.

"Viva Max" definitely has some great touches of comedy. A prime example is the woman prisoner who is convinced that the Chinese Communists have started their offensive to take over the world.

The cast is excellent. However, a great defect is the over-simplicity of the film's plot.

NOTICE

The next issue of THE TWIG will be published on March 12. Contributions for the March 12 issue should be turned into THE TWIG room on First Brewer or into 201 New Dorm by March 7.