

Must library close?

Although part of the purpose of Meredith College as stated in its catalogue is "to develop in its students the Christian attitude toward the whole of life," surely the administration has no intentions whatever of forcing this philosophy on us against our wills.

Even so, Christianity is indeed being indirectly pushed on Meredith students every Wednesday morning at 10:00 when the library closes for an hour because chapel services are being held elsewhere on campus.

No one objects to worship services being conducted. Many students regularly attend and find rewards from their participation in mid-week services. But what about the approximately eighty-five per cent of us who do not wish to attend chapel? Should we be forced out of the library because the other fifteen per cent choose to go the Wednesday services? I think not.

In spite of its Christian orientation and its affiliation with Southern Baptists, the primary purpose of Meredith College is to prepare its students academically. Closing the library at a time when many students seek its services seems little else than a flagrant violation of academic and personal freedom which cannot be justified.

GR

Food policy explained

In light of the spiraling inflation that presently plagues the American economy, Mr. Taylor should not be unduly criticized for the new cafeteria policy that cuts out between-meal food and drinks.

Many students are complaining because they miss stopping for that cup of coffee on the way to class, but, according to Mr. Taylor, eliminating such luxuries is the only way to stay within his budget and not "jeopardize the quality of the regular meals."

The cafeteria budget was allotted last spring, but prices have soared since then. Sugar, for instance, has quadrupled in price over the summer. Since a set budget leaves no room to accommodate such drastic increases, corners must be cut elsewhere to compensate, and discontinuing between-meal snacks is a logical place to begin.

Mr. Taylor and the cafeteria staff are doing their best to economize to give us similar quality meals as those in the past without charging us considerably more. Let's co-operate and help them wherever possible.

GR

EDITORIAL DEADLINE

Letters to the editor should be turned in to THE TWIG office (second floor, Student Center) or to Room 311, Barefoot by 12:00 Fridays. This will insure publication in the following Thursday's issue. We editors reserve the right to edit copy in the interests of clarity and brevity.

Letter to the editor

Dear Editor,

As we enter our first semester of completely unrequired assemblies, student attendance at campus functions has been good. As might be expected, attendance and attention are directly related to the quality of program being offered.

Certainly, programs such as the President's Convocation, the Danish Gymnastics exhibition and Margaret Mead's lecture deserved the attendance and enthusiasm which they received.

On Friday, September 20 at 10:00 a.m. in Jones Auditorium we will hold our first Student Government meeting of the year.

As stated, the quality of the program often determines attitudes about attendance. This year we hope to help make S.G.A. assemblies the kind of meetings for which people will want to make time to attend.

Student Government is not something designed for a select few but hopefully to provide opportunity for each student to voice her opinions about conditions of concern.

Neither the Executive Committee nor the Legislative Board can make Student Government a success. For any government to be successful, it must have the support, the criticisms, the advice and especially the ideas of the people it represents. For student

government to work, it must have the involvement of the students.

Our first meeting will include voting on several articles of legislation. Also, students will have the opportunity to meet Dr. Sandra Thomas, vice-president for student development, and hear some of her ideas about the potential of an active student government organization.

We certainly hope that attendance at this first student sponsored assembly will be indicative of the high expectations which we hold for S.G.A. this year.

Sincerely,
Jean Jackson, S.G.A. President

Jack Anderson's Weekly Special

No evidence of pardon deal

Nixon's Pardon: We have been bombarded with questions about the pardoning of ex-President Nixon. We have carefully investigated the story behind the pardoning and have spoken to sources who are in a position to know what happened.

Did Nixon make a deal for a pardon before he brought Ford into the White House? We have found absolutely no evidence of any advance understanding about a pardon. On the contrary, President Ford specifically instructed his representative, Benton Becker, not to promise a pardon during the preliminary discussions at San Clemente.

Why did Ford grant the pardon? He acted strictly out of compassion. He had received reports that Nixon was terribly depressed and despondent, that his nerves were strung like a harp, that he was deteriorating daily. Ford thought the humane thing to do was to pardon his predecessor.

Why didn't the President wait until the courts had determined Nixon's guilt? Ford was told that a Nixon indictment was imminent. He felt the indictment might crack Nixon's emotional stability. Since Ford had

already decided upon mercy, he thought it would be more compassionate to act immediately.

Didn't Ford realize that a Nixon pardon would be unequal justice and might upset the whole Watergate prosecution? His lawyers told him that the power to pardon had been used in the past as the President's personal prerogative, without regard for equal justice. But the whole truth is that Ford simply didn't consider all the implications.

Washington Whirl: By pardoning Richard Nixon, the President has revived the Watergate controversy after almost putting it to rest. This will increase the risks that the GOP will become identified in the public mind as the Watergate party. The voters won't be able to vote against either Nixon or Ford on November 5th. Therefore, many voters will register their protests by voting against the Nixon-Ford party. Except in the South, Republican candidates will be hurt by Ford's action.

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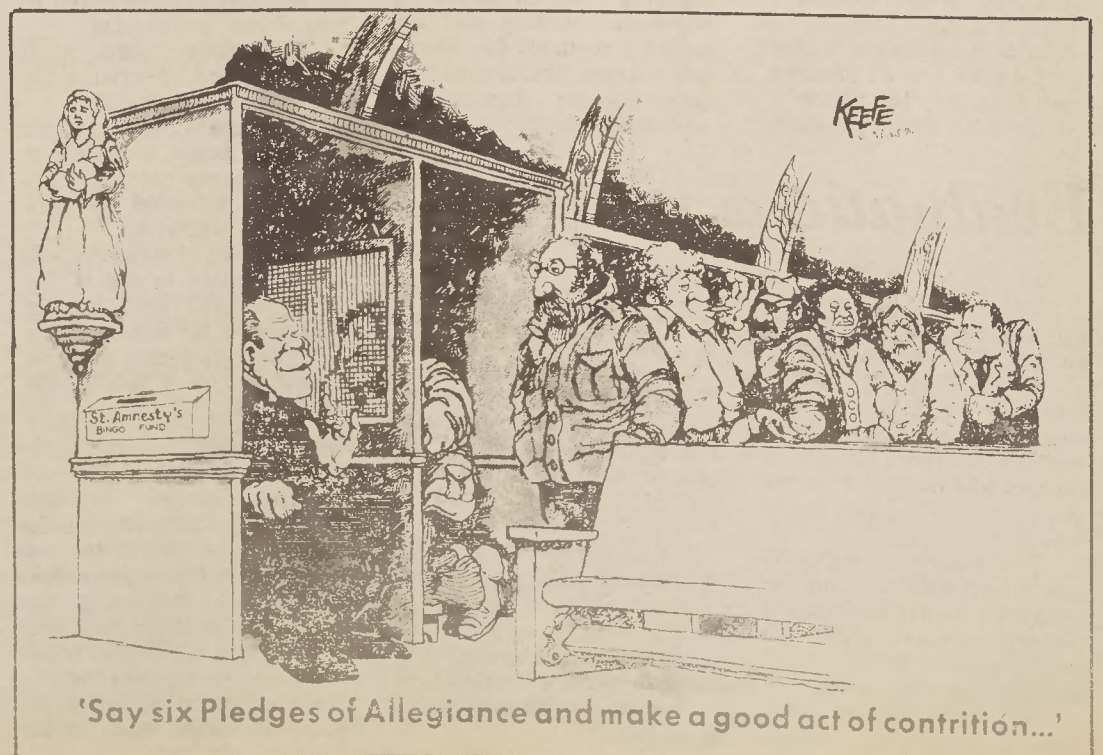
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'Say six Pledges of Allegiance and make a good act of contrition...'