

THE TWIG

Newspaper of the Students of Meredith College

VOL. XLIX NO. 18

MEREDITH COLLEGE, RALEIGH, N.C.

APRIL 17, 1975

Staley lecturer

Proctor prescribes action for overcoming moral fatigue

Dr. Samuel D. Proctor, a leader in the Christian church, education, and political life, spoke to the Meredith community April 7 and 8 as the Staley Distinguished Christian Scholar.

The theme of the lecture series, "The Recovery of Moral Perspective", was introduced in the convocation hour with a lecture entitled "Overcoming Moral Fatigue."

Proctor began his lecture with a reading from Isaiah 40: "The Lord does not faint or

grow weary, his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength.

"Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint."

The Proctor Translation was, "Here is hope for people who think that nothing will

work out. If we settle for the war, greed, corruption, and pornography that drowns us today, there is no reason for thinking that goodness can prevail."

He continued with the different kinds of fatigue that man experiences, the first of which, physical fatigue, is common to all of us on Mondays, he said. The symptoms are "forgetting things, being irritable, and having our charity fall to zero." The remedy for physical fatigue is sleep.

The second kind of fatigue is psychological. "I am psychologically fatigued when the best self I know becomes too demanding for me to be. I require too much reading, honesty, integrity, charity, and I just ain't got it."

Psychological fatigue occurs because humans are made up of several personae. "We have memory, imagination, we think about our thoughts. We have the subjunctive mood in our language because we are aware of probability. We have a margin of freedom, and options are open to us.

"Therefore, we have several selves within our ego. We get confused, and we want to say, 'Will the real me please stand and stay standing long enough that I can see who you are?'"

To overcome this moral fatigue, Proctor suggested not to try to take on the whole world at once. "There are Nixon, poverty, and the oil crisis to worry about, and college sophomores try to solve it all one Thursday morning.

"If you take all the world's problems in one gulp, you're going to stay fatigued," Proctor cautioned. He suggested focusing on a specific goal; for example, his church in New York City has taken the project of improving one apartment building across the street from the church rather than tackling 30 square miles of New York slums.

Proctor continued, "It takes more courage to start with something really do-able. Compare what you are doing now with what you have the opportunities to do."

"There is an existential quality to taking a moral stance, and moral decisions must be made with a sense of immediacy. I must decide what is right for me right now.

"The Bible," he continued, "is a record of people who made moral judgments with a sense of immediacy, doing what they could at the time the problem struck them."

The second move toward overcoming moral fatigue, Proctor said, is to "ally yourself with the forces going your way." For example, there are hunger associations looking for ways to get the food that Americans don't need to African babies who are starving.

"You don't give one cotton-picking farthing to these associations. But do you

(Continued on Page 4)

Cause of Viet apathy is government neglect

Irresponsible government action has contributed greatly to the lack of resistance by the Vietnamese people to the Vietcong according to Dr. Philip Worchel, who spoke here last Wednesday.

Worchel, visiting scholar from the American Psychological Association spoke on "Legitimate Use of Power", a study based on research done in Vietnam from 1966 to 1970.

Dr. Worchel was appointed by the U.S. Department of Defense to determine why the Vietnamese people did not support their government by resisting the Vietcong. Dr. Worchel studied the peoples' values, and lifestyles, using four phases of tests: preliminary testing of test instruments, data collection, retesting to assure stable

results, and follow-up studies a year after the original data collection. Structured and unstructured interviews,

sociometric ratings, dream reports, the Self Anchoring Scale, and the Thematic Apperception Test were utilized. In the Self Anchoring Scale, the individual rates himself on a scale of one to ten in terms of where he is in his personal development. The individual is shown various pictures and asked to interpret them for the Thematic Apperception Test.

Test results showed the Vietnamese felt that the government neglected economic needs of the people, and that the people had no say so in their government. The people saw an unequal distribution of rewards and an arbitrary and unjust system of decision-making among government officials. Finally, the people showed feelings of powerlessness due to violations of promises and expectations by the GNV.

In speaking of students today, Dr. Worchel said, "Today's youth refuse to equate authority with morality", and that "today authorities must justify their use of power". When asked his feelings about teaching, he said it was important to "create a thinking atmosphere, not just pump students full of facts." The talk was followed by a reception in Joyner Lounge, and later an informal get-together at Dr. Huber's home. Thursday morning Dr. Worchel ended his visit after talking with Psychology majors about career opportunities.

Dr. Worchel has done research in a variety of countries, and visited almost every country in the world except Red China. His educational background includes: a B.S. in Chemistry, Physics, and Biology from the College of the City of New York, an M.A. in Guidance and Personnel from Columbia University, and a Ph.D. in Experimental from Cornell.

Discussing death

Most people do not like to talk about death, either their own or someone else's. But is it not true that death is our constant companion? What do you think about it? How would you accept the death of a friend or relative?

These questions and others can be answered on Wednesday night, April 23, at 9:00 in Barefoot's first parlor lounge. As part of the "Wednesday Night at the World" series, Dr. Roger Crook will discuss the topic of "Thanatology", death. Since it is such a broad topic, Dr. Crook will try to cover a few specific areas such as the "adjustment process" of accepting death or how to take care of the physical arrangements. After speaking briefly, he will open the floor for questions and comments.

Feel free to come and discuss your thoughts and feelings about your "constant companion".

Lynn McArthur

Department establishes honor society chapter

Meredith College has been authorized by International Phi Alpha Theta to set up a Chapter of the history honorary society. The new Chapter will be inaugurated in May with the following officers: President, Mrs. Mazie Fleetwood; Vice President,

Emily Johnson; Secretary-Treasurer, Gail Stott; Historian, Jo Ann Williford; Faculty Advisor, Frank L. Grubbs, Jr.

The entire History Department faculty will be initiated into the Society along with Seniors Debra Edge, Mazie Fleetwood, Marilyn Helms, Emily Johnson, Sarah Manning, Margaret Rogers, Gail Stott, Suzanne Thomasson, Jo Ann Williford, Kay Wyche and Virginia Clark.

To be eligible to join, a student must have an overall "B" average in History and in her general college work. Although students do not have to be history majors, they must have twelve hours of history. In the fall, 1975, eligible juniors will be invited to join the Society.

Phi Alpha Theta is the second largest honor society in the United States.

Symbol to be recreated

On Friday morning at 10 a.m., April 18 for Parents Weekend, the Bicentennial Committee at Meredith will decorate a Liberty Tree near the entrance of Joyner Hall. The Liberty Tree was used during the Revolution Period as a focal point for Colonial dissent against the British in Boston and other towns. The Boston Tree was the most famous and was cut down twice by the British. The Meredith Tree will be decorated similar to the first

Boston tree and all items on the Meredith tree will be copied after the original. Meredith students will find this tree amusing, today, but during Colonial times, the Liberty Tree was taken very seriously by our ancestors. Come see the Tree, take pictures and send them home. As far as we know, Meredith is the only College in North Carolina planning such a restoration.

Frank Grubbs

Twig newsbriefs

Teacher education admission policy

Students planning to enter a Teacher Education program are reminded that this intention must be made known to your advisors by the end of your sophomore year and no later than one full semester prior to student teaching. The student must complete an "Application for Admission to Teacher Education" which is available from Department Chairmen or from the Education Department.

Halifax dig

Pat Garrow, archeologist, will show slides and speak on

the summer dig at Colonial Halifax on Friday, April 18, at 10:00 a.m. in Joyner 105. All interested students are invited.

Tennis intramurals

Tennis intramurals will be held Monday April 7. Sign up in your dorms.

"Wednesday Night at the World"

Following is the April schedule for this program. April 23 - 9:00 - Thanatology Dr. Roger Crook
April 30 - 7:00 - Interior Decorating - Mrs. Allred

"Saturday Night at the Movies"

April 26 - "Fahrenheit 451"
7:00 - CEA: no admission.

TWIG OFFICE HOURS

MWF 9 - 10
TTh 8 - 9:30

Articles may be brought to the TWIG office on the 2nd floor of the Cate Center or deposited in the TWIG's manila envelopes posted on the letter boxes in Hunter, Joyner and Jones.