

THE DIALETTE

The DIALETTE is the official newspaper of Montreat College, and is published monthly by the Staff of Student Publications. Its purpose is to give the student a fair and unprejudiced view of campus life.

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OUR GREAT HERITAGE . . .

Today we are celebrating an anniversary - the most important one in the history of our country. One hundred sixty-two years ago today - September 17, 1787 - the constitution of the United States of America was officially born. But long before that time it had been molded and fostered in the hearts and minds of freedom-loving men.

At the time the constitution was born, the Declaration of Independence was little more than eleven years old. We had just broken our bonds with our mother country. We were a very young nation, and there were some who laughed at our determination to live. We have not only lived; we have become one of the greatest powers in the world. We say it with humility, not pride. Our Constitution is not a product of the minds of our present generation. We did not share in the glory of its birth; we have only to glory in its many blessings. But lest that glorying reach a stage of smugness, let's remember that all we have we owe to the generations of optimistic, far-seeing men who have gone before. We can pay our debt to them only by determining, at all costs, to keep the American way of life as set forth in the Constitution. Its destruction has been threatened many times but it is as strong as ever. It was forged in peace and nurtured through war. It destroyed the belief that some people should be kept in subjection. It gave men purposes for subduing and settling a wild, untamed continent. It carried a young nation through a great and tragic civil war.

It still embraces the most precious things in the world to an American. Its first ten articles make up the Bill of Rights, which set our mode of living.

Let's not be guilty of taking our heritage for granted. Let's remember this anniversary and treasure our Constitution. And let's strive to be better citizens by being the best students possible.

F. I. B.

ED'S NOTES . . .

Let's consider it a good sign - having rain the first day of school only. We usually have it the first two weeks!

The most welcome sight to meet our eyes upon the re-opening of school - workmen busy on the new building. Anticipation is so great that not even the instruc-

tors complain about the noise.

Looks as if Freshman Talent Night will have to be given in installments if all their numbers get "into the act." And though we're not trying to rush them before they even get class officers, let's remind them that we want their entertainment to come early in the year.

The welcoming parties that first week of school were especially nice. Makes us almost forget that our primary purpose in coming to college is to study.

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THE INTANGIBLES OF MONTREAT . . .

As you come and go in Montreat during the next months there are many things that you will come to know about it and the institutions that are its very life. Right now there are many confusing thoughts in your mind about the Mountain Retreat Association, Montreat College, Montreat School, and the Town of Montreat. But, as you live here and hear more of these complex organizations, you will come to understand how they are all tied together and without one there could not be the other.

In Montreat there is BEAUTY. You have felt something of this natural beauty as you have watched the hills around us - the lake, the clouds - and even the buildings. If you haven't taken time to just LOOK, do so. Stop on the bridge and just gaze from the hills to the valley in all directions. As fall comes upon us and the trees take on the gold, the crimson, and russet of the changing season, it truly seems that they are dressing themselves for the most elaborate social affair of the year. "Miss October had a party and all the leaves were there: Some came in green, some came in red, and some in yellow fair." A fairy land of changing color from hour to hour it seems. Always there are the clouds, too. Sometimes the big white fleecy mounds seem to be piling higher and higher on the mountain tops; then there are the days when it appears that tiny bits of cotton have been thrown into the blue sky to float and drift and be tossed by the wind.

The beauty of the everlasting hills is always with us, encircling us as great protecting arms. Look to the hills in the morning when they are fringed with the gold of the rising sun. Watch the sun creep over them as on little cat paws until it floods the valley we call Montreat. Enjoy them when the sun makes the frost upon them glisten in a brilliance to rival a fairy dream. Look to them in the evening when the purple shadows of closing day are upon them. And when the moon slips silently above the hills to cast a silver ray across the lake, we are reminded again that "the heavens declare the glory of God and the firmament showeth His handiwork."

Then, in Montreat there is STRENGTH. The hills speak to us of strength and of power in their majesty; the very buildings speak of strength - built of the solid stone of the earth. But there is another kind of strength in Montreat, too. It is an intangible thing - we cannot see it or touch it. It is really only a feeling. It is the feeling of the strength of those that have passed this way and left their impression of strong character, of devotion to God, their sincerity, their zeal for Christ's Cause, their profound greatness whether their places of service were in the remote corners of the earth or in the great cathedrals of the land. Perhaps many of you who are new do not realize the hallowedness of Montreat. But you will come to know and to seek for this sense of strength that comes to us from the great Christians whose spirit and grace remain to bless us long after they have come and gone, for the paths of the great Christian leaders for three generations have passed through Montreat, and we are the better because they have come this way. Seek to find this intangible feeling of strength. It is a heritage that is a thing of wonder.

In Montreat too, is TRUTH. It is the truth of seeking to live and do according to God's will. In all that is being done and that will be done to make Montreat College and Montreat School what we desire them to become and to make Montreat able to be most useful to the Church in every way, His will is sought first. We believe that is the only way that Montreat can ever fill the place that God has for it and all of its institutions. Just so, we know that we can fill the great place of usefulness and service that He has for each of us only when we seek to know His will. We are aware of the truth too, that unless we are useful and of service to our fellow men and to God, we are of little value and we are not happy. We become more aware of these truths in Montreat because they are lived day by day by those who teach and lead in Montreat's affairs. Seek to come to know them for yourselves.

Seek to know Montreat to the fullest - all of its beauty - all of its strength - all of its truth, then you will come to love Montreat for the wonderful organizational structure that it is and for the intangible beauty, strength, and truth with which it is filled.

— Marietta Yarnell