

The Dialectte

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.

EXECUTIVE STAFF

Editor-in-Chief ----- Betty Marshall
Associate Editor ----- Colleen Story
Business Manager ----- Jolene Parks
Literary Editor ----- Ellinore Krieger
Advertising Managers-----Joan Douglas
Helen Duke

EDITORIAL STAFF

Feature Editors ----- Elinor Ammons
Elizabeth Stewart
Reporters ----- Margaret Leech
Hilda Plecker, Joan Hunsberger
Sports Editor ----- Olivia Bishop
Humor Editor ----- Shela Gregory
Art and Publicity ----- Leta Miller

BUSINESS STAFF

Typists ----- Frances Bridges
Margaret Langston, Freida White
Asst. Advertising
Manager ----- Jo Ella Dunaway
SPONSOR—Miss Elizabeth Maxwell

Merry Christmas, HEIDE

"Christmas Joy" is a phrase too often talked about at Christmastime and never displayed. This year here at Montreat, Christmas Joy became a reality to every student as the true spirit of Christmas prevailed.

The one receiving the greatest joy was Heide Funke, who, at 4:30 P. M., on Tuesday afternoon, December 11, was presented with a bus ticket and a deposit in the Student Bank to cover eating expenses on her trip to Grants Pass, Oregon, where her parents, three sisters, and a brother are living.

Heide left Germany in January, 1950 to come to our country. She lived in Aiken, South Carolina, (where she first heard of Montreat) until September of the same year when she arrived in Montreat as a Freshman. Heide has not seen her parents since then. They are not expecting her until next summer. What a surprise they are in for!

As Christmas drew near, the Montreat college students and faculty began thinking about "angels and mortals", which is always a Christmas project here. This year, they felt impelled to lay aside that fun and give all their efforts to helping Heide go home for Christmas, and nothing could have given greater joy to all than to see Heide receive that precious gift.

Heide's message to all Montreaters and friends is,

WORD FROM A CHINESE ALUMNA

Thirty years ago a young Chinese girl entered Montreat College.

She was a "scholarship" student, having no funds for tuition, board—or for the extras, we so often call "the little necessities."

She was an enthusiastic and excellent student in all subjects. It was discovered that she also possessed unusual talent as a pianist. This talent was developed through concentrated instruction and interest by the Music Department. Upon graduation, she was retained as a member of the College music faculty. Two years later she returned to China to spread her gifts among her native people.

Direct correspondence was maintained for many years, and her letters combined with messages received through missionaries on leave, revealed her rapid development, not only as an excellent teacher, but also as a concert pianist of wide recognition. Then the long war years and the final occupation of the Communists in China caused correspondence first to dwindle, and then to become a total blank. Whether or not she had survived the Communist infiltration was unknown.

Until . . . one afternoon this fall, a stranger approached the sick bed of Mrs. Crosby Adams, and said, "Ten Seng sends her love."

The stranger was a missionary school teacher only recently returned from China. She had been an intimate friend of Ten Seng's for many years. She made no attempt to bridge those long years in detail for Mrs. Adams. Instead, she said, simply, "I want to tell you of my last visit with your friend." Here is the story she told:

It was one afternoon last winter, during the peak of the Christian purge, when a very talented young girl approached the Chinese pianist in her apartment wanting lessons.

The talent was quickly recognized and Ten Seng immediately agreed to instruct the girl. The girl then wanted to discuss the possible fee. Ten Seng, fully aware of the girl's circumstances, jokingly suggested the equivalent to ten cents in American money.

The girl replied in a very sober manner, "Sometimes we do not have rice to eat."

"How much I appreciate this gift, —it is like a fortune to me. It's hard to tell, but words are never necessary—only to learn in English class—So please excuse this crude "thank you" but it comes from a heart full to the brim with happiness. Merry Christmas."

MONTREAT TO RECEIVE CHIMES FROM A TEACHER

"Once upon a time, in a far-away country," a very little boy placed a very small silver piece on the altar beside large and expensive gifts to the Christ Child.

It was the small boy's gift which caused the spiritual chimes of a great cathedral to ring after many years of silence. The story is Raymond Alden's greatly loved Christmas tale: Why the Chimes Rang.

The imaginative story comes to life with a recent gift made to the Christ Child at Montreat. And soon, very real chimes will peal softly over the Montreat valley — not only at Christmas, but all through the year.

The chimes represent a \$1,500 gift from a small salaried school teacher, who as a child silently promised someday to give her home missionary parents the music they loved — and needed — for their evangelistic work. The gift, then, is a fulfillment of childhood prayer, and the large amount is an accumulation of many small silver pieces (no larger than the small coin placed on the great altar), extracted from a very small salary, over a period of many years.

This is a very wonderful gift, but it isn't of great significance only of itself—but, rather, as a very definite illustration of all that exists at Montreat.

For everything at Montreat represents countless spontaneous and selfless gifts to the Christ Child. They are gifts made without the expectancy of chimes, with which the throngs carried expensive offerings to the Cathedral altar imaginative story.

So it is — thus the fulfillment of a childhood prayer has brought about the miracle of the Montreat Chimes.

Ten Seng smiled and said, "I mean. I want to GIVE you the lessons!"

The girl looked at the pianist with an expression of surprise and love—and yet with a bit of disbelief. Then she confronted Ten Seng with a very pointed question.

"Are you a Christian?"

It was the time of the purge, the most critical period when Chinese Christians often were killed without provocation and when many students acted as Communist agents.

But Ten Seng replied without hesitation to the girl's direct question.

"Why, yes . . . of course. You see, when I was your age, I went to a very wonderful Christian school in the United States. It was there a very lovely person did the same for me. Now I can pass their gift on to you."