

THE EVERLASTING SPIRIT

The beginnings of our nation are rooted in the promise, the faith, and the assurance given people by the everlasting Spirit of Christmas. It is a beautiful sentiment. It is a beautiful faith. It is the trusting, the strong faith of a child.

Whether in time of war or in time of peace, whether it be a period of happiness or a period of strife, Christmas comes as the years come.

Not in modern times has there been greater reason for rejoicing than now. The world is not lost. It was saved two thousand years ago in Bethlehem.

And so our faith in the Spirit of Christmas does not falter, and our souls may join with the Heavenly Hosts in singing the joyful hallelujahs.

—Adapted from a dissertation in Titmus Tidings

MORTALS AND ANGELS

Funny things happen around Montreat at Christmas time. Your bed is suddenly made up (for the first time) as if by magic. Your floor is swept, and trash is put into the trash can instead of under the rug and, lo and behold, you can find things again because your dresser and desk have been cleaned off for you. Then you might find a chocolate bar and a coca-cola by your bedside at night. There are angels at work, and I don't mean just any angels. These are Montreat angels, and each one has a mortal, for whom she goes about doing secret good deeds.

The nicest thing about the beautiful old tradition of angels and mortals at Montreat is that everyone is an angel, and everyone is a mortal, representing the joy of giving and receiving at the most joyous of all seasons. It creates a loving Christmas atmosphere.

We all met and drew names in the lobbies. The person, whose name you draw, is your mortal and you are her angel. For several weeks before Christmas, nice things are happening to you unexpectedly, for you too, have an angel. The fun comes in keeping yourself secret from your mortal. Finally, on the night before the Christmas holidays, all angels are to be revealed. It will be surprising and somewhat touching.

It is all a merry mess and wonderful for keeping alive the spirit of Christmas.

—Ruth C. White.

Scope of the World

While most of us were in class one day in mid October, I dare say that we should have been beside our radios listening to the message the President of the United States was delivering in Chapel Hill. President Kennedy was to receive an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from the University of North Carolina, but also he was to deliver the major address at the annual University Day. It is this address that we should have heard, for it was delivered to each of us, the college students of the day.

The speech did not concern foreign affairs, nuclear tests, the Berlin crisis, Cuba or any other removed subject. It concerned us and that priceless opportunity which we have at this moment to advance ourselves to places of esteem in our communities and nation. Today to be admitted to college is an honor. But we, as American students, have failed to realize this and we tend to use these four years as an escape from responsibility and reality. In other countries a college degree means much. For example, in Belgium the college graduate has three votes in an election as compared with the non-college graduate who has one. Does this fact alone not motivate us, the students of Montreat-Anderson College, to think seriously about our purpose here and the time that we are using and wasting? President Kennedy tells us that foreign affairs are of concern, but he is also concerned about the seriousness of education on the college and university campus. He praised the state of North Carolina for its high educational standards, but he left room also for us to advance to even higher standards. Will we continue to be content or will we wake up and take advantage of the resources at hand, and realize our responsibilities to ourselves and to others?

—Ann Poe.

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ABINGDON HOLDS RETREAT

The Abingdon Presbytery, which is in the Synod of Appalachia, in Virginia held their annual officers' training retreat at Montreat on November 18, 19. They attended classes on the work of the five commission chairman, — Faith, Witness, Outreach, Citizenship, and Fellowship and on that of the four executive offices—president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer and a class for adult advisors. The groups had a vesper and communion service on Saturday night, following a film in Anderson Auditorium. Sunday morning the groups had a song service and a talk from a missionary with adjournment at 12:30. There were about 180 youth attending the conference.

MISS DECEMBER— (From P. 1)

soon she was in the full swing of the Montreat spirit.

Becky has held several offices these two years at Montreat and is now vice-president of the Student Christian Association.

Becky's home is in Marion, North Carolina, where she is a member of the First Presbyterian Church. In high school she was well known, and she liked and held such jobs as editor of the school paper, showing herself as both able and responsible.

Becky made her debut in 1960, when she was presented at the Debutante Ball in Shelby, N. C.

She plans to continue her education next year, when she will be majoring in sociology.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor:

I have found it hard to become homesick here at Montreat during this Christmas season, mainly because of the warm Christian spirit and friendliness that seems to surround the campus. I truly am thankful for this time of year and would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas!

—Jim Jettner.

Dear Editor:

Montreat-Anderson College is an excellent college and has a faculty of wonderful Christians guiding it. Many of the Montreat students personally know Jesus Christ and are searching to know and love Him better. However, the spiritual power that could prevail at Montreat is not able to. We, the students, have failed to stand with Jesus constantly thus far at college, doubting our Lord and becoming very liberal and complacent in our Christian life. We who are saved have a great responsibility to be true to our calling in Christ. Many times we act just like the lost people that come to school here.

Editor, why can't we, the Christians, become lost in Christ so completely that the lost of the world might find the Saviour and Salvation so dear to us? J. R.

Dear Editor:

I think we should all become acquainted with some of the interesting people around Montreat, and perhaps have an article occasionally about them. The very "cream of the crop" of the Presbyterian Church who live in or visit Montreat sometime during the year. For instance how many people know wonderful Mrs. Grier, who is 92 years old, and served as a missionary in China for forty years? You wouldn't believe some of the experiences she had while doing God's work in the interior of that heathen country. She is Miss Lucy's mother and she loves young people. Then there are scores of missionaries all over the place, either on furlough or retired. The Gartrells, for instance, have been in the States on furlough since May, from Brazil, and are fascinating people to talk to. They have five children, who can speak Portuguese like true Brazilians, even the little ones. And of course we should all know the Thielmans, the Bells, and the famous Grahams. These hills are just filled with the most exciting characters imaginable. I have met a few of them and have been thoroughly entranced. I urge our readers to get acquainted with our neighbors. It is a blessing and an inspiration just to hear them talk.

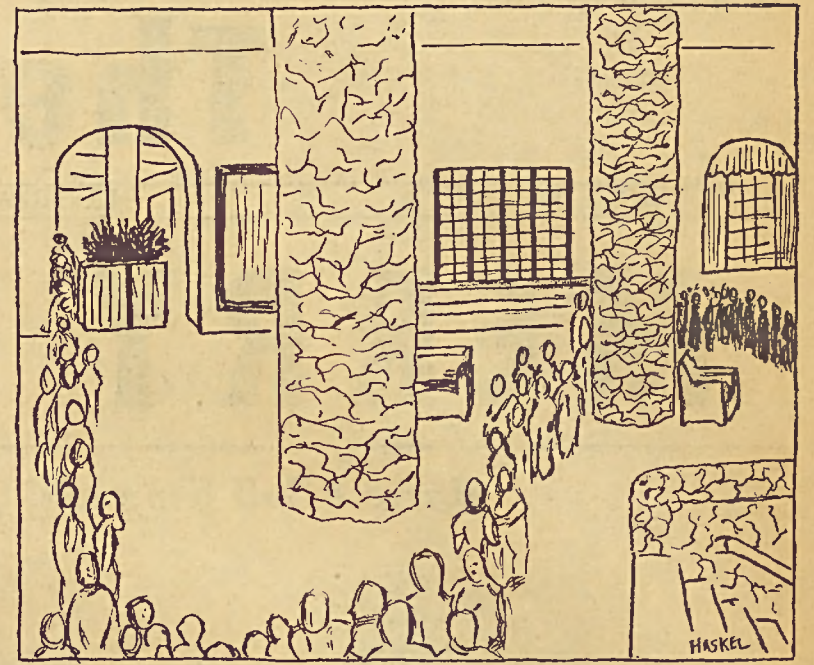
—Ruth C. White.

BUSINESS CLUB

The Business Club met recently to elect officers for 1961-1962. The officers elected are: president, Jim Nance; vice-president, Judy Atkinson; secretary, Delores Perry; treasurer, Gail Erskine; reporter, Carl D. Hash. The advisor of the club is Mrs. Woody.

The club decided to become an active member in the FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America). It will present several assembly programs this year, which will include talks by several outstanding business executives and a program in which the members participate themselves. The club further decided to keep an attractive bulletin board with news of interest to the entire student body.

The club is still open for membership. Boys are especially urged to join.



"They also serve who only stand and wait". —Milton

A STUDENT SPEAKS

Although the chief goal of a person who has found Christ personally is to want others to know such a wonderful Savior, I wonder if the Christian shouldn't take a closer look at himself. I've heard people say so often, "I can't possibly see how that person claims to be a Christian." Christians, I'm writing this article to you—and myself. Quoting from an inspirational message, "You cannot bring others any closer to God than you are." Observing the people on the campus who are so eager to go shout the fact—"Look at me! I'm a Christian, I know everything there is to know about God. Come to me for advice and I'll help you." I have only this to say: Our lives should so radiate the love of Christ that we do not have to tell others, for our lives will show it. "Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in Heaven." Matt. 5:16.

Don't misunderstand me; I, too, want to see others find the joy of knowing Christ personally, but many times, by setting ourselves on a pedestal, we drive people away from Him. Shoving it down people's throat is no good. They want to see something real, not just words. "Actions speak louder than words." How often has someone seen Christ so evident in your life that he has come to you and wanted to know the secret of your happy life? We do have a secret for controlling our temper, being happy, having complete peace, and loving others. Each time we lose our temper, are "down in the dumps," are critical of others, and many little things, we fail the Lord in our Christian life's witness. These things are human and the only way we can overcome them is through Christ. "I can do all things thru Christ who strengthen me". Phil. 4:13. Let's improve our own Christian life. Let's keep Christ on the pedestal, not self!

—By Anne Gilliland.

Drama From The Courtroom

Are there any potential lawyers in our midst? Are there those who are fascinated by courts of justice and court procedure? What happens in a courtroom can be and often is dramatic and compelling. What happens in a courtroom often captures the attention of a nation or of the world.

In NINE FAMOUS TRIALS John Evarts Tracy, a distinguished member of the bar who grew up in Tennessee, recounts these trials with all their excitement, their precedent-setting importance, and their human interest. Tracy includes the little details and aspects so often over looked.

The trials of well known and lesser known personalities are included; yet each trial, each verdict is one which left a profound impression on those who make and interpret laws. The trial of Aaron Burr, the impeachment and trial of Andrew Johnson, president of the United States, the trial of Mary Queen of Scots and such little known people as "sailors at sea," Arthur the Miller, and Annals are typical of the trials Mr. Tracy discusses.

"At once instructive and entertaining, NINE FAMOUS TRIALS is a dramatic account of moments when a man's life—or fortune, or reputation—hung literally in the balance . . . when there was no sound in the world more ominous than . . . the simple falling of a gavel."

The Dialecte

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