

readers write

SGA

UNION DUO

Dear Editor

The fact that Montreat-Anderson requires church and chapel attendance reflects a fundamental misunderstanding of the purpose of Christian liberal arts education.

It is my conviction, and that of the college, as stated in the catalogue, that an education should provide students with the tools and supportive atmosphere which will enable the serious investigation of viable alternatives and the making of responsible choices. It is also my conviction that education must involve the whole of one's experience, which means not only the intellectual investigation of alternatives, but also the actual making of decisions and living with the consequences of these choices. It seems then that Montreat, as an educational institution should at least sustain, and at best encourage and even demand this type of experimentation on the part of the students and faculty.

Because Montreat is a Christian college, it should provide the community with the unique advantage of not being dependent on the regular attendance of traditional worship services for a confrontation with the gospel. Rather it should be a confrontation which occurs constantly through concerned professors in the class rooms and through friends in the community.

It was Martin Luther, the author of the Reformed tradition in which we stand, who reminded us that salvation is granted through faith and not works. Works are a response to God's grace made known through Christ. It would seem then that the "work" of worship could be called worship only if it occurred as a response to grace. When it occurs as a response to laws and requirements it is only a pretense---and for many of us it is not even that.

By Blanche Morrison

Dear Editor

The 1968 election is over, and just as after every election, there are winners, and there are losers. The biggest winners are the over 9½ million Americans who cast their ballots for George Wallace. They are winners simply because, in order for the Republicans to win again in 1972, they're going to start listening to what the average people of this country want.

For the past eight years, mostly the past five years, the Democrats in Washington have been so concerned with pleasing the minority groups in our country that the average man has been forgotten. Of course, I believe in giving people their rights, but there's a difference between that, and letting the minority groups run the country. It's getting to the point now that these groups are trying to tell the majority of people what they're going to change that.

In the student legislature for the last month, there have been discussions concerning the Student Advisory Committee, the demerit system, car regulations, a day student council, listening to the report of the food committee, and a S.G.A. newsletter.

The Student Advisory Committee will concern itself with self study in five areas of College life: the instruction; the physical plant; the library; the student activities; and the effectiveness of the faculty. A committee of fourteen, nine sophomores and five freshmen, will be the standing committee and will also serve as the student committee for college advancement.

The demerit system underwent two changes. With twenty-five demerits a student will go on disciplinary probation; with thirty demerits he will be suspended not less than two weeks.

The change in the car regulations is that any student 21 years or older can secure permission from the dean of students to have a car on campus.

The day student council, whether it is needed or not will depend on these people; Richard Monica, chairman, Karen Ailstock, Charles Lance, Gayle Granger, and Bob Barrett.

The food committee asked if it would be possible to have a table for peanut butter and jelly so students would be able to make up sandwiches.

An S.G.A. newsletter will be published for the student body giving the facts of what is going on during the student legislature meetings. The editor will be John Mullins with his assistant being Dan Malcolm. This newsletter will probably come out every two weeks.

COMING EVENTS

by Jill Wolff

For several weeks now you have been hearing about previews for Fall Frolic. The waiting is over! Tomorrow night will mark the opening for Bourbon Street Beat. Guys will want to be sure to attend. Gals will enjoy the casual atmosphere and the tunes of Soul Inc. Tickets are \$2.00 stag and \$3.00 drag. The dance begins at 8:00 p.m. in Anderson.

Sunday night vesper worshipers will have the honor of hearing Reverend Floyd Trexler at 7:00 p.m. in Gaither.

Homecoming is just around the corner and we wish to remind you of our big Homecoming Alumni Dance where you will be able to witness the crowning of our new reigning Queen. The dance is only the follow-up to many preceding Homecoming activities. Remember the 10:00 a.m. worship service, our soccer and football games, our Thanksgiving Banquet, entertainment at 7:00 p.m. in the Inn, the semi-formal alumni dance, and the basketball game Friday night the 29th.

Sam Shumate and Ben Kirkland, two members of the Richmond team here this week, disclosed how they happened to come to Montreat. Sam Shumate said, "A letter was sent to Union Theological Seminary requesting a team. We were chosen and decided to come."

Ben Kirkland added, "It was our own decision." Kirkland felt a religious emphasis week "of the sort we had here" was a good idea. "Five persons can talk to more students than one individual could," he continued. "I think the students are great."

Sam Shumate agreed, explaining, "I think they're great because of the way they accepted us." Since both these men are pre-ministerial students, your reporter asked them if they felt Christianity was on the decline or upswing. Shumate stated he wasn't concerned with the numerical growth but thought people especially young people, were taking their religion more seriously.

In six months, Sam Shumate and Ben Kirkland will be ministers. About today's growing clerical activity in social movements, Kirkland commented, "I think if a man is led that way, he should go that route."

Sam Shumate took a somewhat different position. "I think the church should be active in society. The minister's role should be limited and particularly concentrated on encouraging other Christians to act."

Ben Kirkland, who had taught in Japan during the summer said Christians were only a very small percentage of the Japanese population. "Their influence is much greater than their numbers. They are active in social work and make the government very aware of this minority." Kirkland said Japan is largely a Buddhist nation. In communist satellites, the Christian faith becomes "more precious," he added.

At this point, the interview closed. On the question of returning to Montreat, the two said "Most definitely. Basically, the reason we'd like to return is to see the students again."



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