

The Hilltop

PLAIN LIVING AND HIGH THINKING

Published by the Students of Mars Hill College

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March Against Polio!

More than 55,000 persons were struck by polio in 1952! A larger percentage of these were between the ages of 18 and 25 than in 1951. Thus, now more than ever, polio is attacking the college age group.

With the danger being brought closer home, Mars Hill college students will be given the opportunity to help guard against this ever-increasing spread of polio when the March of Dimes drive is held on campus during the week of January 26-31. The March of Dimes fund provides financial aid to four out of five polio victims and some kind of service to all.

In addition to the money which goes into the patient-aid program, funds from the March of Dimes are used in research. Just in the past two years experiments have been made with gamma globulin, a blood fraction containing antibodies of all three types of polio, on children. These tests resulted in less infection of paralytic polio in

the group inoculated. However, this experiment is only a step forward in the march against polio. If research is to be carried further, a record response to the 1953 drive is necessary; for this year's fund already has a debt of approximately \$7,000,000, incurred from the 1952 epidemic, to pay off before help can be given to new victims and to research.

The March of Dimes fund also goes to provide scholarships and fellowships to students training in fields of medicine connected with polio, such as physical therapy, occupational therapy, pediatrics, orthopedics, physical medicine, and medical social work. Thus, through aid to victims, research, and education the March of Dimes is doing much to lick this dragon called polio. Won't you do your part to further this worthy cause?

Remember—"The 1953 March of Dimes must outpace the march of polio!"

Scholarship Counts

A clean, fresh, white card lies in the permanent files of Mars Hill. On the top line is your name. Beneath it courses are listed, the courses that you and your adviser thought would prepare you best for what you plan to do with your life. The rest of the card is blank. Within the next few days, you will determine what goes into some of those blank spaces. What is recorded there is important, for it is an indication not only of what you have learned in one semester at Mars Hill, but of your character as well.

Someone is paying for your college education. Someone has enough faith in your character and ability to spend a lot of money preparing you for a place in the world. Will you justify that faith? Or will you close your eyes, turn your back, and tell yourself that examinations and grades and scholarship are not important?

They are important, perhaps far more so than you realize. Should you apply for a job, chances are that

you will be asked if you are a college graduate. Your prospective employer, in many cases, will want to know what sort of a record you established in college. What will he find? If your record is not what it should be and you are turned down, can you ever be sure that your record was not behind the employer's decision?

Then, too, most students are in college because they want to be there, not because they were forced. Is it reasonable to waste your own time and effort without accomplishing anything?

A college education is a privilege that is not open to everyone. You who have it are lucky. You live in a country where it is possible, and you were able to get financial backing from someone. An examination is not a useless torture device; it is the best method known to find out how you are progressing in that education. You can pass any examination if you really want to pass it; those who work don't fail. Don't waste your chance at that privilege.

Eat, drink, and be merry; for tomorrow you have exams. (Those without mealbooks, please disregard first word!!!)

Watch and Pray

The challenging month of February brings on its wings one of the highlights for Mars Hill College students. February 9-13 has been set aside as Religious Focus Week, and plans and preparations are being made that that week may be a successful one.

Much depends upon the work done by each individual. How much time are you planning to give to the work? How faithful is your attendance going to be? How many hours are you resolved to spend in prayer that the week may be one of blessing for you? It is imperative that much work be done. It is also necessary that much service be rendered, but far more important than zealous service is whether you as an individual are rightly related to God through His Son during the days of emphasis ahead, during the important Now. Your singing will

be an unblest song if your heart is not filled with the melody of God's eternal love song for the world. Your prayers will be of no avail if there is not within your soul that feeling of kinship and friendship with God. Your visiting will be fruitless if you do not possess that spirit of understanding love and Christ-like encouragement.

Christian fascination is not to be substituted for real Christian experience, and unless your Christian experience has brought you into that right relationship with God, your service will be useless. Be not the bearer of a guilty soul when the week's activities are concluded because you did not do your part. Do not disappoint God. Do not disappoint your friends. Do not disappoint yourself. Make Religious Focus Week a time of spiritual deepening for you.

There Are Those Who Are Happy; There Are Those Who Take Exams

There are some people who are still able to look at the world through rose colored glasses—these are the people who look upon the delightful seasons of spring, summer, fall, and winter; then there are students. We have no rose colored glasses (What's more some don't have glasses at all). We look upon the year as consisting of (first semester) tests, tests, tests, tests, and examinations; (second semester) tests, tests, tests, tests, and examinations; then summer school with just a calendar of more tests. (By this time, some have finally caught on; they go home and during their remaining life boast of the way they straightened out Mars Hill!) We remaining students have only one consolation and that is that "It came to pass."

(Note the pronoun is not "we".) In view of the effect of examinations, students may be divided into several groups. There are those with down-in-the-mouth attitudes—that is, the answers are somewhere down there, but they just won't come. (And some that do come up, really look just as if they'd been picked from a hollow tooth.) Yes, these are the students who have really studied and burned the midnight oil—these are the ones who have crammed and crammed and stuffed and stuffed till they have eaten all their suitemates' food; yet they continue to study though they have nothing to nibble on. (Noble, aren't they.) And if you've ever

tried to study in a bed of cracker crumbs while hunger pangs gnawed at your 200 pound frame, you can readily sympathize with these unfortunates.

So they study and study and soon are filled with facts up to their ears. Then on examination (they don't know whether to blame it on that peanut butter or not) the answers get stuck and just won't come out; so they grumble about these horrid teachers who fail people when "they know I know it."

Then there are the ones with the sort-of-crooked-mouth attitudes. These poor souls are the ones who go into hibernation. They devote an entire afternoon to writing their loved ones back home and elsewhere to tell them that the hand of fate has reached down to bring forth those dreaded examinations and that from henceforth there will be no communication to the outside world so that all time and energy may be applied with the hope of altering the present outlook on (Continued on Page 4)

Pensamientos

Have you ever seen the sky?
That beautiful arch over your head,
Which talks to you and talks to me
In the most exciting days,
And which at night full of stars
seems to tell us many things:
Tales of Kings and Fairy's tales,
Like the tales of the Thousand Nights.
It inspires the poet to write his verse,
It inspires me and you to laugh and cry.

So often we laugh when our heart is sobbing,
So often we cry even full of happiness,
Can you explain it, my child? Can you?
The mysterious things of life,
All that is grand, all that is great,
And all the profundities of life,
Why is it all so complicated?
Have I still not seen the light?

My heart is sobbing like a child.
I do not even know why I cry:
My eyes are tired of so many tears.
What are the sadnesses that sorrow me?
Perhaps tomorrow I will understand;
I'll not tire of imploring The Lord.

—by Leila Cassis

News Brief

The Hilltop has a new circulation, nowadays. Recipient paper received a letter from Irvin F. Barger, class of '52, who is now at the Force Base in Fairfield, enclosing a page from the section of the *San Francisco Examiner*. On it was a section of jokes compiled by Berterson, containing a joke in one of this year's editions of the Hilltop, complete with credit.

A number of students from the Christmas holiday are returning to Mars Hill. Among them are Margaret Jean Kraft, Jo Marie Kornegay, Sadie Dix Copeland.

During the holidays Patricia Jackson became the bride of Robert Shaw. They live in Inman. Also married were John and Mary Jane Lovingood, an Inman College student who will be returning to Mars Hill for the semester.

During the holiday season former Mars Hill student Robert Shaw, Ethel Evans Taylor, and Iris Summers.

Talmadge Penland, former Mars Hillian, recently received an award from Leo Pritchard directing the Appalachian Music Tournament.

Both he and his wife, attended Mars Hill and were prominent in extracurricular activities. Talmadge was president of the International Rifle Club and the Philomathean Society.

During his two years at Mars Hill, he has engaged in Debating and is president of the Baptist Student Union. Recently he was elected moderator to succeed in his senior year.

Between The Book Ends

A biography of interest and entertainment, which can be found in the library, is *Wife for the Crown Prince*, by Elizabeth Gray Vining. It is her account of four remarkable years at the Japanese court as tutor to the Crown Prince of Japan.

In 1946 Mrs. Vining, widow of a man of a creative mind, was sent into a strange land, poverty-stricken after a disastrous war, and a court hedged about with memorial restrictions. She had been appointed by his Imperial Majesty, the Emperor of Japan, to be the young Crown Prince's tutor in English; for he wanted to know about western civilization.

Her account is colorful and fascinating, spangled with the touch of a person who writes from her own experiences of the growth of friendship between former bitter enemies, and the development of a boy into a young man.