

# The Hilltop

PLAIN LIVING AND HIGH THINKING

Published by the Students of Mars Hill College

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## Look About You

Look about you. See the beauty of God's handiwork in nature. Are the leaves not the richest variety of colors imaginable? The mountains of Western North Carolina provide natural beauty for its inhabitants. Yes, indescribable beauty is about us.

Not only do the mountains suffice its inhabitants with beauty, but they serve as a means of protection. Western North Carolina did not suffer disaster during the recent series of hurricanes which destroyed much property and many lives along the eastern coast. Neither was Western North Carolina affected by the floods which resulted from the hurricane.

Many sections of the nation are suffering from severe droughts. True, Western North Carolina has been in need of rain, but the crops in this region have not been greatly damaged by the lack of rain. The water supply in the cities in this section has not reached the critical stage, as it has in the eastern part of our state.

Because of a pleasant climate and beautiful mountain surroundings, many people come from all over the United States to make Western North Carolina their home after retiring. Let us appreciate the blessings which Nature has bestowed upon us and enjoy the mountains while we are among them.

## In Keeping With Ideals

Can you imagine what a visitor would have thought had he visited our campus last week during society initiations? He probably would have thought that he was visiting an insane asylum instead of a college which supposedly mature young people attend. You resent the fact that a visitor is mentioned, but visitors judge the college by the actions of the students. The societies are judged by their members.

Society does much to aid our cultural development, but initiations are questionable. Do they fulfill the ideals of society? Truth, purity, fidelity, dignity, simplicity, conservatism—are these carried forth in initiation?

The programs within the society halls are very formal. It seems that initiations contradict the formality exemplified in other phases of society life. Should initiations conform to the formal side of society? Do you not think that an initiation ceremony within the halls would be more appropriate? It would be well to give the new members something beautiful and symbolic to remember rather than the traditional initiation. Society welcomes originality. Why not put your originality to good use and contribute something beautiful and original in the way of initiation?

The decision is yours. The societies and the college will be judged by your decision.

## Profit By Experience

"If I were an ostrich I would cover my eyes so the world would not see me." These are the words you may hear a discouraged student say after seeing his advisor and discussing his delinquencies. Truly, many of you will be discouraged almost to the place of giving up. You are no exception because every college student becomes discouraged at some time in his career.

It is good for you to take your delinquencies seriously—but not too seriously. Rather than mourning about your neglect and inefficiencies, resolve to correct them. It is not too late for correction. You have only been here six weeks. The mid-semester reports will not be sent home for two weeks yet.

Not excusing your failures, it is easy to understand why you, the C-1's especially, are delinquent. Becoming adjusted to a new phase of life is difficult. Learning to study is quite a task for many who slighted their studies in high school. Since many of you are delinquent, do you not feel the need for getting to work? Do you not feel the need for more concentrated study? I challenge you to profit by your past delinquencies and press toward a higher goal.

## Bonfires, Parties Games And Pranks

Bonfires, parties, nut cracking, apple cracking, apple bobbing, corn popping - Great Ghost! What has come over people this season? Boo! Oh, so that is it? The time of spooks, witches, goblins, ghosts, spirits and all sorts of supernatural influences, is once more at hand. Yes, October 30 can already be heard calling out, "Beware, Halloween approaches!"

It falls the lot of this day to be Sunday, and quite appropriately, for Halloween, sometimes known as the All Hallow Even, Nutcrack night, or Snapapple night, means hallowed or holy evening and was so called because it is the eve of All Saints Day. Halloween is actually a Christian feast established in the seventh century, honoring the Saints, although many of the beliefs and observances connected with it arose long before the Christian era. Thus pagan customs are mingled with the Christian element.

Present day practice of telling ghost stories on this eve is probably a carry-over of the ancient custom of gathering around a great bonfire, built to keep away evil spirits, and relating ghostly experiences with queer noises, trembling shadows and mystic practices.

It has been said that those whose birthday comes on this day have the power of talking with the supernatural beings. So if you see someone walking around in a trance, just wish him a happy birthday but do not stay close by long enough for him to cast a spell upon you or you may end up as did Little Leary Lopkins, who tied the tin cans to the poor kitty's tail and was swallowed by the darkness of a huge, bleak, black form upon a floating broomstick, and never glimpsed again.

Say, now! Wonder what our ancestors would say if they could see our idea of their Saints as seen in the costumes which depict our conception of their visible form?

## Are You Guilty?

When the bell rings for chapel,  
We trudge up the hill.  
In every nook and corner  
The seats we do fill.  
We hear the announcements  
And sing the day's hymn,  
But as the speaker rises  
The snooze begins for Jim.  
While Mary reads her letters,  
Bob studies his Greek.  
No one hears the speaker  
If even he should shriek.

This poem, if it can be called such, should make our faces turn red if we are one of the many guilty! It is meant not only to be funny but to call to our attention the rudeness we show our chapel speakers. If they are willing to spend their time preparing a talk, we should be able to spare twenty minutes to hear what they have to say. Every now and then, we might even hear something that would interest us, further our education, or put a new emphasis on our spiritual life. Try it!

## Faith at Work

By Shirley Bradley

Have you heard what has been added? Well, you must because it is for you. That is, if you go on mission trips, it is for you. Each Sunday morning at 7:30 a Sunday School class is taught for your advantage. The name of the class is Pause for Power, is taught by Kemp Swain. You are not compelled to come, if you wish to grow stronger in the love of our Wonderful Savior are invited to come each Sunday you go on a mission trip. You will be left out! Come tomorrow morning to the old church at 7:30. If you have never been on a mission trip, you really do not know what you are missing. This is your invitation to go and use your talent for the Lord, even if it is only a smile.

Brotherhood provides all young men an opportunity to have a more active part in the religious life here at Mars Hill. This organization is one of fellowship and worship. Don't you want to become a member? Watch for notices of its next meeting.

### Council Meets

While a hustle and bustle is in progress each Saturday at noon, the Y. W. A. Council of MHC is united in a large circle around the throne of Christ through prayers. This council commits all to Him and receives the strength, faith, and knowledge that it needs to carry it safely through the coming week.

"To each of us is given a task this day, but be it great or small we have the assurance that it is God's plan and purpose for us, so

Work hard today and pray,  
be resolute and say  
I will not fail in work of mine  
though I must toil till night  
stars shine  
And midnight falls."

Would this not be your prayer as it is the prayer of each of the Y. W. A. Council members?

The Methodist Student Fellowship (formerly the M. Y. F.) has started this year with a bang! It has twenty-three members and its officers are: president, Anne Ruffin; vice-president, Nancy Craddock; secretary and treasurer, Audry McCroskey; chairman of recreation, John Lackey; and chairman of worship, Mary Jeffress. Miss Hopkins is advisor.

The MSF has had one social on top of Little Mountain. The members ate a hot dog supper, sang, and enjoyed the spacious outdoors. The social was enjoyed by everyone.

### Bishop Speaks

Monte Bishop spoke on "Service" at the meeting of the Ministerial Conference, October 7. Testimonials were given by Ken Small, Russell Myers, and Eddie West. Charles Jenkins and Don Holland were Bible readers. The Conference this year is a large one and is doing great things. Each member is encouraged to attend each meeting.

The BSU presented in its chapel programs October 13 and 14, a summary of the study course books that were taught this past week during chapel hour. We sincerely hope that you attended these periods of study because you wanted to learn more about God and His work. In order to give a full hour to this important study, each period was shortened five minutes.

The Youth Temperance Council met last Sunday afternoon at 4:00 in the old church. Phyllis

## Students Urged To Submit Poems

The Hilltop has received announcement concerning the edition of the Annual Anthology of College Poetry. For the benefit of those interested the essential information follows.

"All college students are cordially invited to submit original verse to be considered for possible publication in the Annual Anthology of College Poetry.

"This is the Twelfth Annual College Poetry Competition.

"The recognition afforded by publication will reflect definite credit on the author, as well as a commendation from the National Poetry Association in the past 10 years. Of these, about 1000 have been accepted for publication.

"Rules are simple—as follows: Manuscripts must be typed or written on one side of a sheet. Give student's home address, name of college and college address must appear on each mss.

"Students may submit as many mss. as is desired. Theme and form may be in accordance with the wishes of the student contributor. In order to give as many students as possible an opportunity for recognition and because of space limitations—shorter efforts are preferred.

"The closing date for submission of manuscripts is Nov. 5.

"All manuscripts should be addressed to—

Dennis Hartman, Secretary  
National Poetry Association  
3210 Selby Avenue  
Los Angeles 34, California

## We Hope You'll Soon Be Back!

We grow accustomed to a routine. The familiar things and familiar faces seen every day are taken for granted and not fully appreciated until we no longer have them. Then how we do miss them!

The cafeteria has not seemed the same place for the past few weeks with Mrs. Sprinkle and "Miss" Essie absent because of illness. We rejoice to know that both are improving and hope soon to see their always-cheerful faces back among us.

Yates spoke on "Christ in Crucified Life." Each person present received a challenge.

Singspiration is held each Sunday night after the worship service under the leadership of some outstanding persons. Listen for an announcement in Training Union for the place. Then attend and have a great time singing and having fellowship together.

P. S. Don't forget Morning Watch and Vespers if you want to begin and end each day with a prayer.