

PLAIN LIVING AND HIGH THINKING

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The Hilltop



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Crying Needs

One of the major deficiencies in American education at present is the emphasis upon life adjustment courses at the expense of many vital courses in science, mathematics, and basic English. Many of these life adjustment courses fail to prepare the student to face the rigorous and unsympathetic competition of the post-graduate business world. Such failures lead to social maladjustment and plainly reveal the fact that there is no substitute for a well-rounded education in the basic courses. The humanities are also vitally important, for in a world of strife and tension each citizen should be instilled with a sensitiveness to the needs of others and an appreciativeness of human values. The United States cannot afford to sacrifice her reverence of the human element in her efforts to compete with and surpass Russia's technological advances. If she sacrifices this reverence she will have been conquered already by the Russian doctrine. But as one commentator said, competitive coexistence may go on for a long time; great values are at stake. The educational problem is to produce graduates with human sensitiveness as well as with the abilities necessary to meet the challenge of the world's technological advances. Thus the educational system becomes a long-term investment which will in large part determine our position in the world in the years to come.

It is the teacher who is the vital instrument of the educational system. Far too little prestige and recognition are given to these teachers of tomorrow's citizens and leaders; the teaching profession needs to be made more attractive and rewarding materially. Salaries and prestige should be raised for the teacher in order to draw as many as possible of the best students into the teaching profession. There is a great need for consecrated teachers who are alert to the complexities of the modern world and who are dedicated to preparing each student to face and overcome these complexities. But the teacher is greatly limited by the large number and variety of students which make up each class and by pressure from the students and parents to lighten the study load.

The viewpoint of the teacher must necessarily be from a group standpoint, but the parent can and should take a deep personal interest in his child's education. It is the parent who can have the greatest influence upon the child's early education; the personal interest of the parent can do much to instill a determination in the student's heart to study and to succeed. Parental encouragement and direction can make learning a source of enjoyment and can help the student escape the feeling that school is a temporary but necessary evil. The parents should also take the responsibility of directing their children in the selection of their high school courses; many students of the high school age fail to realize the importance of a well-rounded education.

In many high schools there is almost an unspoken agreement among the students that none of them will work hard in order that the standard will be lowered and none of them will be expected to work hard. In many high schools and colleges competition between students on a scholastic basis is practically non-existent, and it has become almost a mark of abnormality to enjoy studying. The courses offered, the preparation and dedication of the teachers, and the interest of the parents are all important factors in each student's education; but in the final analysis it is the attitude of the student which spells out his ultimate success or failure in obtaining a balanced and useful education. Many persons have successfully educated themselves; modern facilities of education serve only as aids in the growth of the student's mental prowess and alertness. The student should not be over eager to terminate his formal education. One does not lose time by stopping to sharpen his tools. It takes time for a student to become a scientist, or doctor, or minister, or lawyer, or businessman. In the meantime each student should follow Tennyson's advice:

To follow knowledge like a sinking star,
Beyond the utmost bound of human thought.

HYATT GIBBS

Mars Hillians Take Honors

Grove Robinson, Mars Hill alumnus of 1955 and son of Mrs. Locke Robinson and the late Dr. Locke Robinson of Mars Hill, has been awarded a Fulbright fellowship to study in Paris, France, during 1958-59.

Mr. Robinson attended the University of North Carolina for a year following his graduation from Mars Hill. He is now at Columbia University, where he will receive his Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in June.

Charles Webb, '57 graduate, was elected state BSU president at the recent spring leadership conference held in Greensboro. Charles is now a student at Appalachian State Teachers College, Boone.

Jo Ann Weber, also a '57 graduate, was elected director of the State BSU choir at the same meeting.

Paddy Sue Wall, another '57 grad, was named recipient of the Jane Craig Gray award which is given to the outstanding junior girl at the University of North Carolina. In the recent spring elections, Miss Wall was elected secretary of the UNC student body.

Bill Cobb of the class of '56 has been awarded a Danforth Foundation fellowship for graduate study next year. Currently at Wake Forest Bill plans to attend Union Theological Seminary in New York City.

Joe Mamlin, MH '56, Wake Forest, has been awarded the Mary Reynolds Babcock scholarship of \$23,000 for graduate and postgraduate work in research at Bowman Gray School of Medicine.

David Lynch, a senior at Mars Hill High School and son of Dean and Mrs. W. L. Lynch of Mars Hill College staff, has been awarded \$1,800 scholarship distributed over four years for study of music at the Oberlin Conservatory, Oberlin, Ohio.

David is valedictorian of his class, a member of the Beta Club and the Glee Club. He represented the high school as a member of the Choral Clinic group; he is literary editor of the yearbook also.

Spider's Web

"Who broke the spider's web,
Pale, delicate in the dawning,
Crusted with jewels in the morning,
Under the morning sun?"

I broke the spider's web
Spun with slow turning toil,
Broke it with one quick blow,
A single turn of my hand.

The spider very patiently
Began to build again
Laboring steadily
Turning and toiling
Under darkening skies.

Mary Elizabeth Moore

I'll Believe It

Come in to me, Night!
Come kiss me, cool and tender.
Bring sweet dreams, love dreams.
Tell me truth that never was.
I'll believe it all
... until the morning.

Gail Ray



By GWEN SLOAN

From where I sit the birdies have at last taken their storm windows down for an enchanting Spring. Maybe now those optimistic girls who labeled their doors "Spring, We Hope!" can find assured consolation. A botany student tenderly described the blossoming of the trees in this way: "The little terminal buds have escaped through the epidermis of the younger twigs."

Mars Hill students eagerly heard their own Touring Choir, Wednesday and Thursday, after reports from their Spring tour into Maryland, Virginia, Washington, D. C. and North Carolina. Congratulations to both the Touring Choir and the Band for their great success on recent tours.

Maxie Welch put his Spanish class in an uproar when he exemplified the comparative adjective: "Me gustan muchachas para mas fue." Liberal translation: I like girls because I'm stronger.

During spring holidays our own co-eds evidently participated in the Spring Fashion parade. Result: Sack dresses on our campus. Word has leaked to us that during one fashion parade a sack of potatoes fell from a passing truck. It was accidentally awarded first prize. Coach Hart told of a man who was going "to hit the sack." She couldn't understand if he was going to bed or to beat his wife. There is also the interesting inquiry, "Where do you buy your flour? I'd like a sack like that too."

Sunny Florida Day had a few slight interferences this year. In spite of a rainy day and frozen oranges, they had scores of willing vacationers. It seems that this balmy Spring weather is accomplishing more than blossoming dreams. For instance, remember that Talent Show that was cancelled last winter because of snow. It is now re-scheduled, farewell party fashion, for May 6.

The nursing club made a two-hour tour of the Memorial Mission Hospital Saturday, April 12. Hmm — Band tour, Choir tour, Hospital tour. . . .

And also a Mission trip. During Spring Holidays twelve members of the student body assisted in a revival held at the Temple Baptist Church of Washington, D. C. of which Eddie Moore is a member.

Miss Bingham and Miss Snelson, the Maryland-D. C. Club wishes to express its appreciation to you for the buffet dinner Saturday, March 15.

Felicitations and best wishes to the newly elected BSU officers, and to the incoming officers for dormitories. All this seething activity spells out the year is almost over. My well-used hour glass indicates that we have only four weeks of classes left and one week of exams. Makes you remember what a great war we have had, doesn't it?

Big Brother

Brown tweed . . .
Close cropped hair . . .
A playful grin . . .
His crushing arms . . .
Big feet . . .
BIG BROTHER

Barbara England

Library Has Book Plates

Do you have a book that you would like to give to the Library in the memory of or in appreciation of someone? If so, we will put one of our beautiful new Bookplates in it with your name and the one whom you are honoring. This will be a living memorial that will bless many lives.

In a recent letter, Tom Shearing, Library Assistant for January, who transferred to Carolina this semester, says, "My job at the library was one of the most rewarding that I have ever attempted. I learned more while working there than anywhere I have ever worked. Thank you all for being so kind and patient with me. Your understanding encouraged me and made me want to do well in my work."

Have you looked in the *Reader's Guide* for articles, and then when you called for the magazines they were not there? Probably the reason was that someone had mutilated or even destroyed an issue so that the volume cannot be bound until it is replaced. Do you have any extra old magazines that have not been cut or torn? We would like to have them to help complete our periodicals collection. Then you will get better service.

Watch the bulletin board (by the drinking fountain in the first floor lobby) for news and views items.

Ecstasy

A bus arriving a moment too soon
Waiting—
Then homeward, but no special plans.

Passing streets, houses, and trees
"Hi" to a stranger I chance to meet.

Home at last, and part of me smiles.

The telephone rings.
A familiar voice.
All of me smiles.

Gwen Sloan

Staff Members Plan Weddings

Announcements have been made of the engagements and approaching marriages of two members of the College Staff, Misses Betty Shoaf and Earline Martin.

Miss Shoaf, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. O. E. Shoaf of Kannapolis, is engaged to Coy C. Privette, of Wake Forest. Plans for the wedding will be announced at a later date. Miss Shoaf is a graduate of Mars Hill College and of Baylor University and has been for two years in the alumni and publicity office.

Miss Martin, dietitian in the college dining hall, is engaged to Frederick Guy Walker of Albemarle. An early summer wedding is planned. Miss Martin is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Martin of Eagle Springs.

Little Brother

Rumpled hair . . .
Jelly-smeared face . . .
Worm-filled pockets . . .
Toothless grin . . .
Heart of gold . . .
LITTLE BROTHER

Barbara England