

Two Laps Around The Campus

By Dolly Lavery & Faye Shaw

editorial in the sun beaming through the window on an afternoon physics class prompted the expressed to Mr. Vernon Wood, to tell of the faculty members, "When you are hot air coming from both sides and back, take what proportion you can — pull the umni — and des."

Sorry. Secovery esteemed personality at Mars Hill is required to carry an ace by reading. Lucifer Goofus Hart is a feature preception. Although unclassified and an off-campus resident, plays an important part in campus life.

commendations to Josten's, the director of the Mars Hill College design which won honors at recent convention of ring manufacturers in Chicago. . . . Congratulations also to Mr. Allen Pingel in the biology department and his Rev. and Mrs. Charles Davis are proud new parents of a William Morgan Davis, born Oct. 21).

ave you heard about Mr. Robert West's imaginary pet "Fifi"? our record-breaking Hilltop who received 14 letters last week?

ox Dormitory's "Myrtle" (the radiator) has finally been cured her temperamental conduct. now obeys push-button commands.

through the Hilltop you have heard that Miss Ihrig and Miss Ann made trips to Europe this summer, but did you know

that Dr. L. M. Outten, the quiet-natured science staffer, jetted over to England late in August to attend the National Congress of Genetics in London and visit friends?

The local high school football team has been doing well this season and two members of the faculty are among the staunchest fans. The father-son combination in the science department, Vernon and Arthur Wood, delight in the prowess of their grandson and son, Bob, who is a star halfback. David Harris and Macky McFee have both undergone operations recently for shoulder injuries sustained in football.

All of us have been enjoying the beautiful fall weather, but two Mars Hill families have been especially grateful because the weather favors the workmen who are building them new homes. Mr. and Mrs. Fish are building near Dean Lee on Bailey Street, better known as "High School Ridge"; and Mr. Harrell Wood, his wife and their three sons anticipate the completion of the first house in a new development on the east side of town.

In case you didn't hear the results of the dorm-decorating competition announced at the homecoming game, Myers captured first place. Honorable mention was made as follows: for originality, Edna Moore; for detail work, Spilman; for art, Huffman; for most clever slogan — MHC Outfoxes GMC — Fox.

Societies Struggling For Survival

by Steve R. Spain

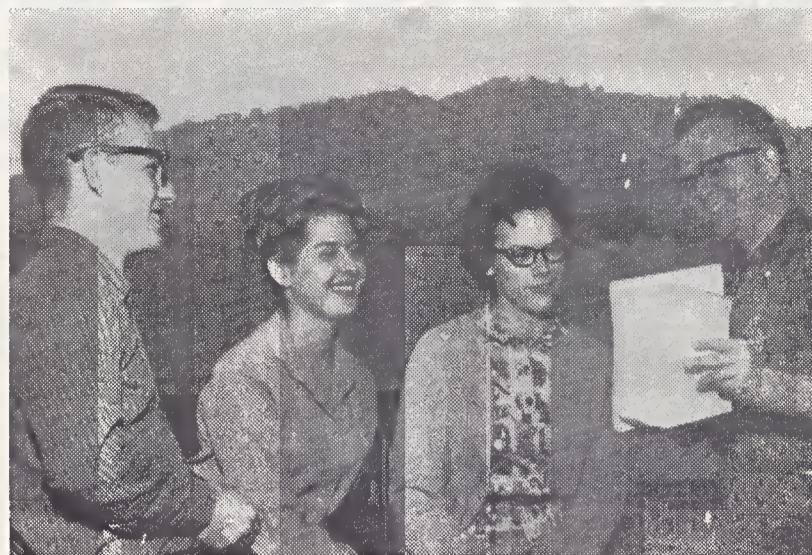
An experiment designed to foster the survival of Mars Hill's literary societies has been proposed by the Student Activities Committee after consultation with the presidents of the four groups.

The proposal calls for integration of the brother-sister organizations, which means that members of Philomathia and Clio will meet together and members of Nonpareil and Euthalia will meet together.

The experiment will continue throughout the current term. If increased interest in the organizations is not shown by then, a spokesman explained, the society officers probably will ask the Committee to recommend to the Administrative Council that the societies be disbanded.

The societies have been an integral part of campus life since their founding in the late 1800's, and in previous years there has been greater interest in them than now. At one time students took great pride in being a society member and there was keen rivalry between the two brother-sister groups. The anniversary programs, receptions, weekly programs and commencement contests were among the most outstanding events of the school year.

The society halls were packed on Thursday afternoons (when the coed groups met) and on Fri-



A new plan for operation of the four literary societies for the remainder of the semester is reviewed by John Reagan (right), president of Philomathia, before the other presidents (L to R), Allan Clark, Euthalia; "Mimi" Jones, Nonpareil; and Becky Youngblood, Clio.

day nights. The old auditorium would not hold the alumni and other friends of the college who came to the public programs sponsored by the societies. One of the most aspired-to student offices was that of society president.

Interest in the societies has been waning for several years. Numerous explanations have been given. Among these are (1) the convenience of travel has made it possible for more students to go home or elsewhere on the weekends; (2) honor clubs, interest groups and a variety of other social activities on the campus have claimed more attention for the students and have helped push the literary organizations into the background; (3) the societies have become more social and less literary, a deviation from their original purpose.

In recent years a few faithful members have held the societies together, and some of them have gotten good training in the process; however, the road has been rough. The members have fought criticism and opposition from fellow students, which has caused some students to drop out or never to join at all. Some observers feel that, as a result, not only the societies but also college-sponsored events of a literary nature have suffered. They point to the relatively small percentage of students who attend lectures, plays and musical productions.

The few remaining members of

the societies are now struggling to hold their place in the life of the college. The two integrated organizations will strive to offer the student who does not find himself in a honor club or some other interest group an opportunity and a place to develop his talents.

Quite a few students feel the need for literary societies. They now have an opportunity to help keep them in existence. Their challenge is twofold. First, they have an opportunity to strengthen worthwhile organizations; and second, they have, within the societies, an opportunity to prepare for the future by gaining experience in public speaking, debating and other forms of literary effort.

Many persons on the faculty and among the alumni would join the current society members in saying that the college needs good literary societies, and it is obvious that the societies are in need of interested students.

Poem

If just one more time I could wear a pair of bluejeans out in the knees and not in the seat;
If just one more time I could say "why" or "I don't know," or
If just one more time I could hear Beethoven's Ninth for the first time.
What has happened to my perspicacity? Why do I accept the ridiculous and shun the beautiful?
Cotton candy, sugar coated apples, and hide-and-go-seek have been replaced by an affluent sense of superior hopelessness.
People say, "Dave, You're a mess" to which I reply sardonically, "I know it."
—David Harold Griffith

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