

Altar-Bound Editor Bids MH Farewell

Examinations, no lights on campus, sympathy notes, and Christianity on campus have been well written about on this page, which actually leaves little to be written by the editor. This is a difficult time for all of us with exams, sorrow, the usual campus complaints. Everyone is getting tense and things will get no better until these dreaded exams are over.

Most of you will be returning next semester, but some of us will not. Some of us are leaving to go to seminary, to work or just home for a rest. Some of us are leaving to get married. I'm in this lucky group, and so this will be the last issue of the Hilltop which I shall have the privilege of editing. I want to take this opportunity to invite any of you who will be in Richmond, Va., on Feb. 8 to come to my wedding; and I also want to use this last editorial to say "thank you" to some students who have done some fine work on the newspaper staff.

A special word goes to the newspaper advisor for all his untiring efforts put forth, plus putting up with an editor who has "counted days" all semester. Mr. Smith and Sally Osborne, associate editor, both deserve special praise for jobs well done. The entire newspaper staff has made it possible to produce a newspaper under some trying situations. To each reporter who has turned in news from his organization, to the Student Government, to people who have given information to reporters and to the faculty members who have graciously given of their time to write editorials — to all of these, may I say thank you for a job well done.

To each student and staff or faculty member I wish the very best during the new semester. —Mary Mattison

Exams are Opportunity

We at Mars Hill are now engaged in the greatest activity ever devised for the frustration of students and teachers alike. The students, or at least the greater part of them, are frantically trying to find out what we have studied this semester so we can at least pass our exams. We worry ourselves for days about what the teachers will give during those two fatal hours. Afterwards we worry about the grade we made, or the question we could not answer.

Students are not alone in their worries, however. The teachers are frantically trying to find out what they have taught this semester so they can give the exam. They worry themselves for days about what to do about two hour's worth of questions. Afterwards they worry about how to grade all those papers in time, or about the students who filled three blue books with answers.

No matter how we look at exams, whether as student or teacher, optimist or pessimist, let us all remember that exams are an opportunity to use for the best advantage. —Jimmy Daughtry

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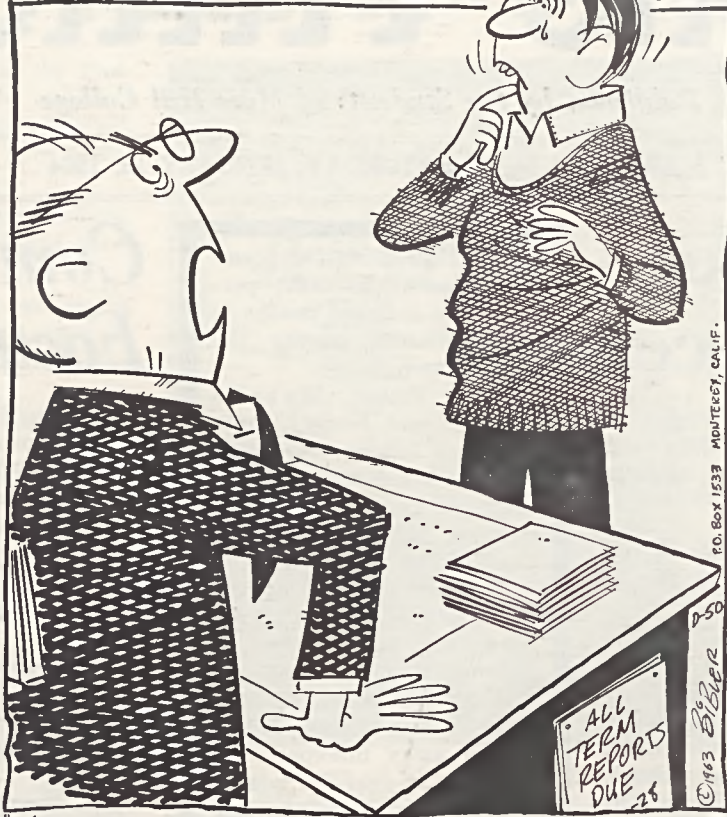
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LITTLE MAN ON CAMPUS



Letters to the editor...

Christianity on our campus is said to be on the way out of style. Those of us who profess to be Christians are regarded as old fogies from a past century. For this reason, we feel that we must hide our light from the world about us, and, no matter what happens, we must not allow anyone to tag to us an atrocious plaque bearing the word "Christian" upon it.

We Christians join the heathen on our campus twice a week and all move toward the Moore Auditorium for chapel, but we would not dare to come out of that saying the chapel speaker for the morning was a good one. Such a remark would cause us to be known as a "Christian" or as a "religious fanatic." The only reason we are brave enough to go to chapel is that all are required to attend this religious service; therefore, when Wednesday evening rolls toward us, we would not consider going to the Wednesday evening prayer meeting. Who needs to attend such a trivial service? Prayer is of no use anyhow because God never answers those petitions that ascend from our hearts.

The ultimate sin for us would be to crawl out of bed on Sunday morning and be present for Sunday school and morning worship in the local church. Of course, if we are already up and dressed and have nothing more challenging to do when Sunday evening arrived, it might not be too bad for us to slip over to the church for evening worship and training union. We must remember one thing. If we went to student prayer meeting, to Sunday school, and/or to morning worship, we will have to sneak out quietly on Sunday evening and to concoct a plausible excuse to give to anyone who notices our presence at all these meetings.

Christians, we must awaken! We must stand at attention, draw our swords, and fight for the greatest General that lives, Jesus Christ. We have pledged our allegiance to him and to his cause, and we must begin to work for and with him, or we shall die in

the midst of the battle. Christ does not need us, but we need him. We must struggle with him, or we shall die standing alone as the world marches onward in sin and shame.

Is Christianity really disappearing from our campus because we are living in the midst of hard-hearted people who lack the ability, or the desire, to accept Christ for their own? I believe that the true Christian must answer this question with a simple two-letter word, "no." Christianity is not dying because our generation of people is one of heathen devils. It is dying because we ourselves are lily-livered cowards who find the subject of religion, or our relationship to Christ, to be very embarrassing and an impossible topic for discussion. It is dying because we have failed to tell the girl, the boy, the man, or the woman who lives next door to us that Christ lives. It is dying because we — you and I — have failed to follow the orders given to us by Christ in Matt. 28:19-20 where he tells us:

"Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the world."

In Isaiah 60:1, we read: "Arise, shine, for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee." We Christians must arise and shine for Christ before the people on our campus and around the world. Christianity is not dead, but we must live as gleaming knights dressed in the armor of faith and fed on Bible study and prayer. Then, and only then, will Christianity become alive and live forever. —Melva Hailman

Dear Mary:

Please permit me to use the columns of your paper to express my appreciation to everyone — students and faculty members — who have been so gracious to me during my convalescence. —Nona Roberts

Cutting The Rungs Dangerous Mistake

The roster of well-drawn characters in Charles Dickens' classic *A Tale of Two Cities* includes the rather boisterous lawyer Bailey, Mr. Stryver. As he shoulders his through legal matters, gradually acquiring a rather lucrative position, Stryver, according to Dickens, begins to "cautiously hew away lower staves of the ladder on which he is climbing." On the mental powers of the brilliant and befogged mind of his partner Sydney Carton, Stryver — glib, bold, and unscrupulous — has accumulated a fortune and a reputation. The tragedy in the character of this lion of the court was that while he owed his success to others, he was carefully but continuously tempting to forget the people, circumstances and conditions which helped him to achieve his position.

There is an increasing tendency among us to forget the paths by which we have arrived at a certain station, the people whose investments have made our limited success possible, the circumstances which have related themselves in such a way that, molded together, they have created an atmosphere in which we could work, and play and study. With achievement of the four-year college program and the acquisition of new facilities, faculty and student body, it is well that we take to assure ourselves that we do not in the name of progress, "hew away the lower staves of the ladder."

During our school careers we have all the experience of paying our tuition and with a finesse which seemed to indicate that with those around us that we have dispersed our responsibilities by paying for our educational privileges. There are few if any schools in our country today operating on the basis of tuition fees and Endowments, special gifts and contributions account for many dollars in supplementing educational costs. Mars Hill students pay 70 per cent of the cost of their education.

It is with a deep sense of regret that I read a widely published newspaper article which calls attention by name to Mars Hill College intending in its comments to slant principles for which this school stands, policies to which the administration is committed, and the precepts which are the point of contributors in supporting the and mission of the school. Perhaps some of the rules seem to some to be antiquated could be that some of the regulations applied to be unnecessary; maybe some of the regulations don't suit the fancy of all of our students. It must be remembered, however, Mars Hill College remains a monument to people who believed enough in it and its potentialities to invest in its future — their talent and trust. Were we to deviate too far from the philosophy of education which this institution was built, we too would be "hewing away the lower staves of the ladder on which we had mounted."

—Mrs. Margaret Bridges

Students In The Dark

For who knows how long, the Mars Hill college campus has been without outdoor lighting. This includes Girls' Hill, Boys' Hill, and walks in between.

There are some relieving aspects to this situation. For dating couples it is fabulous; can always stay just out of sight of the mothers. It also is an electricity saver's light — no power — no bill.

There are a few less fabulous aspects to "saving of power," which is caused by "fray in underground wiring which cannot be fixed until the weather permits." For one, who snows as it has this week, it is hard enough to walk seeing the ground in front of you. Being able to see nothing at all makes it more an adventure.

There is a limit to everyone's humor. Students can understand why it would be possible to go out and dig up wiring in snow, however, when the weather is as nice as it has been some days recently, it does seem some attempt could be made to get us fixed. Fixing the electricity will be cheaper. Mars Hill getting even lower on the "Risk" in the insurance company. —Sally Lee Osborne