

## From A Reporter's Notebook

By FRANCES WALKER

Poets have written about "mornings in May," extolling the beauties and glories of same. But not even the most optimistic poet would have found much beauty in the first two weeks of May with its freezing temperatures and chilling rain. And then, almost presto, came Sunday! Have you ever seen a more perfect day? Someone said that God knew it was Sunday and he had punished us long enough with the miseries of unseasonable weather.

Life just whizzes by in such a hurry these days that practically none of us has the time to do all of the things we want to. Last week was one of those. Since the annual Home Demonstration club tour was

on Tuesday, I couldn't join them. Generally speaking, that's my busiest day of the week. These 42 women spent the day at Clemson and from all reports had a grand time. One of the highlights of their trip was a tour of the newly completed Ceramics building. Funds for this impressive structure were provided by the Olin Foundation. It should make a great contribution to a growing industrial art.

Another thing I missed was the Barter Theatre play at the college. Earlier in the afternoon I had gone by and looked at the set. Since Brevard Little Theatre has become such an expert on set building, I think we're all conscious of them. The Barter set was very good considering the fact that it has to be collapsed and moved on to another town every day. One thing in particular I noticed about the stage was a fireplace in the center front. Several bricks had been stacked to exemplify the fireplace, with a screen in front of the carefully laid logs. This probably gave the audience more of the feeling of seeing a play "in the round." One last word about Barter. Very few townspeople saw the play, I understand. It's a shame when we here get so few chances to see legitimate theatrical productions. Course the Brevard Little Theatre play last week attracted a total of about 600 and these productions have really improved to the point that they don't rate that trite expression "home talent shows" any longer. The organization is completing three years of successful operation.

The General Baking company plant at Spartanburg which makes that good Bond Bread is having open house beginning Thursday and continuing through next Tuesday (Sunday excepted). Maybe if I tell them that Thursday is my

**Graduates good luck!**

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## NEW OFFICERS P-TA INSTALLED

Discussion On The Peabody Report Led By Past President Garrett

New officers of the Brevard elementary school P-TA were installed at the May meeting by Mrs. R. E. Matthews, member of the county board of education and past president of the local group.

Walter Straus succeeds E. B. Garrett, Jr., as president. Other officers installed were Charles Townsend, vice president; Mrs. R. M. Levy, secretary and Mrs. Robert F. Andrews, treasurer.

The new president asks that any program suggestions or names for committee chairmen for next year be turned into him as soon as possible.

After the installation Mr. Garrett led a discussion of the Peabody Survey report made public recently regarding the county school system.

## Singing At Church Of God May 23rd

Rev. D. H. Delk, pastor, announces another singing convention at the Church of God Sunday afternoon, May 23, at 2 p. m.

He states that large crowds have been attending and all musicians and singers are welcomed. The public is also cordially invited.

birthday they'll bake me a cake. Regardless, with or without, I am anxious to see this enormous bakery that cost over a million and a half to build. Everyone is invited to inspect the plant and receive a hospitality basket containing samples of their products. That's real Southern hospitality in my estimation.

One of the professors who compiled the Peabody report on schools made a remark at the recent public meeting which I jotted down in the notebook. Somehow it seems quite meaningful to me. He stressed that in teaching, the aim should be to make the child "different;" each one should be encouraged and guided in the direction of expressing his own individualism. Today, he said, there is too much of a tendency to make the children alike, to follow an identical pattern. Again, the answer to this would be the same as with other problems — reduce the teacher load. The teacher does not have the time to spend on individuals when she has a class of 40 to 45. I want to encourage everybody to read the digest of the Peabody report which begins in this week's Times.

As readers no doubt have seen before they got this far, The Times this week is our annual graduation edition dedicated to portraying the activities of the two senior classes. I, too, want to offer my congratulations. Have reserved the message to the end because I didn't want to discourage anyone who had happened to read the column this far. Am feeling in a rather serious mood about this subject, for you see 1954 marks the tenth anniversary since I received my diploma from Bob Kimzey at Brevard high school. In 10 years I have naturally had the opportunity to observe the classes as they leave high school and go out into the hard, cruel world, which isn't really that way at all unless that's the way you want to make it. Today I believe I know more clearly what the graduate is thinking than I knew that May night in 1944. Everybody is telling him the best four years of his life are ended, but he doesn't believe it. The boys are being told they'll have to go in the army, maybe fight another war, but the latter seems a little preposterous to that fellow wearing the levis, a t-shirt and a crew haircut. Some are maybe a little frightened, but not much, because the courage and confidence that a 17-year-old has could really move mountains. I wish I had retained just a little of it—maybe some of that burning ambition, too. It's wonderful that today's young people are learning earlier the responsibilities they have to their home, their community, their country and above all themselves. There is something about this initiative that should make adults confident the boys and girls of today are just as fine, just as smart, just as capable, if not more so than 10 or even 20 years ago. To the seniors of 1954 I do want to say this. That old, old story about America being the land of opportunity is not hokum; it's the honest-to-goodness truth. There is a place for every boy and girl, a chance for every one of you to receive a higher education, if you want it badly enough. After that the gate has been opened, the road is waiting, and all you have to do is follow it, but be sure to check your road map first to make sure you're going in the right direction.



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