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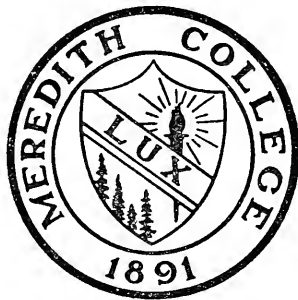


A HISTORY OF MEREDITH COLLEGE

SECOND EDITION

By

MARY LYNCH JOHNSON



MEREDITH COLLEGE
RALEIGH
1972

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FOREWORD

President Campbell in 1948 with the authorization of the Board of Trustees requested me to write the history of Meredith. That book, finished in 1955, ends with the 1953-54 session of the College. A few months after President Heilman came to Meredith, he asked me to revise the book when I retired, bringing it up to date.

The revision involved only slight changes in the chapters which cover the history through President Brewer's administration and in the appendix, a brief biographical sketch of Thomas Meredith. A new appendix gives the names of trustees from 1889 to 1971 and faculty and staff from 1899 to 1970-71. The account of Dr. Campbell's presidency and that of alumnae affairs necessitated extensive revision to bring them up to date. The swiftly moving, significant events of President Heilman's administration required a long and important new chapter. As this section was virtually completed before he accepted the presidency of the University of Richmond in March, 1971, no mention is made of that great loss to Meredith.¹

John Edgar Weems, vice-president for finance and administration at Middle Tennessee University, was elected President of Meredith College on October 14, 1971. When he assumes office on January 1, 1972, a new chapter will begin in "the ever unfolding text" of Meredith's history.

Much of the information for both editions was found in the records and publications of the College: the minutes of the Board of Trustees and of its executive committee; the reports to the Board of the president, the dean, and the bursar; the College catalogue and other issues of the *Meredith College Quarterly Bulletin*; the student publications—the *Student Handbook*, the *Oak Leaves*, the *Acorn*, the *Twig*; and the *Alumnae Magazine*.

In addition to these sources, I have used the minutes of the North Carolina Baptist State Convention and of various

¹ On September 24, 1971, one of the two new dormitories was named the E. Bruce Heilman Residence Hall, in grateful recognition of President Heilman's service to Meredith.

associations; Baptist periodicals—the *Baptist Interpreter*, the *Biblical Recorder* (which was of immeasurable value), *Charity and Children*, and the *North Carolina Baptist*; and daily and weekly newspapers, among them the *State Chronicle*,² the *News and Observer*, the *Raleigh Times*, and the *Greensboro Daily News*. I also found of value the *Baptist Historical Papers*, issued from October 1896, to January, 1900, by the North Carolina Baptist Historical Society. To these and to other scattered sources I have made reference in the text without the use of formal footnotes.

With the exception of the familiar words from the “Alma Mater,” the title of each chapter comes from some report, letter, or speech quoted in the chapter.

The gathering of this material from records and publications would have been impossible without the cheerful and generous aid of the staffs of the Meredith and Wake Forest libraries and the library of the State of North Carolina. To Miss Hazel Baity, Miss Jane Greene, and Mrs. Dorothy McCombs I turned most often for help. I am indebted to other Meredith officials for information of various kinds. My especial gratitude is due to President Campbell and President Heilman for the opportunity of writing and revising the history and for help and encouragement in the work.

Mrs. J. C. Blasingame, Mrs. Paul Brantley, Miss Annie Jones, Colonel J. Y. Joyner, and the North Carolina State Library kindly lent pictures for the book. The alumnae offices of the University of Pennsylvania, of Dartmouth College, and of the University of Georgia supplied information about Thomas Meredith, Daniel Ford Richardson, and James C. Blasingame, respectively.

In conversations and letters I learned much from individuals, among them Mrs. Charles Beddingfield, Mrs. J. C. Blasingame, Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Boomhour, Mrs. Charles E. Brewer and the Misses Brewer, Miss Beulah Bowden, Dr. W. R. Cullom, Miss Leonita Denmark, Mrs. Foy Johnson Farmer, Miss Margaret Forgeus, Miss Mae Grimmer, Miss Gertrude Gunter, Mrs. Elbert N. Johnson, Mrs. R. C. Josey, Sr., Dr. J. Y. Joyner, Dr. J. L. Kesler, Mrs. M. L.

² A weekly newspaper which Josephus Daniels edited from 1895 to 1904.

Kesler, Mrs. C. F. Lambeth, Mr. J. A. McLeod, Miss Rosa Paschal, Mrs. Kemp Smith, Miss Mary Shannon Smith, Mrs. Robert Sorrell, Mr. Francis Speight, Mrs. O. L. Stringfield, Mrs. Julia Brewer Thomasson, Mrs. J. C. Thomson, Miss Dorothy Vann, Dr. Elizabeth Vann, Mr. William Harvey Vann, and Mr. L. D. Watson. Of especial value were the many conversations I had with Miss Ida Poteat and with Dr. R. T. Vann after his retirement, conversations which would have been even more valuable had I dreamed that I should ever write the history of the College. I have obtained bits of information from other sources too numerous to mention; and to these, as well as to any whom I may have inadvertently omitted, I am grateful.

In addition to a critical reading of portions of one or both manuscripts by persons familiar with the material involved, the first was read in its entirety by President Campbell and Mrs. Foy J. Farmer. President Heilman read most of this second edition and gave helpful suggestions. Dr. Norma Rose and Dr. Ione Knight read both manuscripts with the same careful, candid, yet sympathetic attention which they give to freshman themes. The latter with almost incredible skill in deciphering my cacography made both typed copies from the handwritten ones. To these two and to Mrs. Farmer, as well as to Mrs. Memory F. Mitchell for suggestions as to procedure, goes a large part of the credit for the index.

Without all these kind folk, I could not have done the work. They furnished much of the information; for the misinformation, the omissions, and the errors in judgment in both editions, I alone am responsible. The work has been to me, in the words of Oliver Larkin Stringfield concerning his work for the Baptist Female University, "a dear delight." A visiting lecturer at the faculty workshop in 1967 said that "colleges and universities have suffered from unloving critics and uncritical lovers." The reader will please forgive me if I have been an uncritical lover.

M.L.J.

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I

“AN OBJECT MUCH TO BE DESIRED”

(1835-1888)

“If you ask about the beginning of Meredith,” Richard Tilman Vann once said, “no one can answer you. It is the incarnation of an idea. Events may be dated and chronicled, but who can trace the genesis of an idea?” Four events are dated on the cornerstone of the Livingston Johnson Administration Building: “Projected 1889, Chartered 1891, Opened 1899, Relocated 1924.” More than fifty years before the earliest of these dates the idea which had to wait so long for its incarnation was already in existence.

At the 1835 session of the North Carolina Baptist State Convention, held at Union Camp Ground in Rowan County, some far-seeing person whose name is not recorded moved the appointment of a committee “to consider the establishment of a female seminary of high order.” The motion came only five years after the organization of the Convention and only a year after Wake Forest Institute opened its doors. The committee appointed by General Alfred Dockery, president of the Convention from 1834 to 1841, was composed of Elders John Armstrong, Thomas Meredith, and W. H. Merritt. Armstrong was a Pennsylvanian as was Meredith, educated at Columbian College, now George Washington University; Meredith was a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania. Armstrong was the professor of ancient languages and the financial agent of the newly established Wake Forest Institute; Meredith was the founder and editor of the newly established *Biblical Recorder*. Both were among the fourteen founders of the Baptist State Convention and were staunch supporters of its work. William Henry Merritt, a North Carolinian, was older than the other two and not so well educated as they. Ordained at the age of forty-eight, he did useful work as pastor of various country churches; as a prosperous farmer and businessman he gave generously to the building of several Baptist churches,

notably the one at Chapel Hill. In his will he left \$2,000 to Wake Forest to be used for the education of young preachers.

The committee in 1835 made their report the day after they were appointed; the only comment in the minutes of the Convention is that it was received and ordered to be "appended to the minutes." It does not appear there, nor was it among the reports from several committees which were published in the account of the Convention given in the *Biblical Recorder*.

Their report was probably unfavorable; for the motion was renewed at the 1836 session of the Convention at Brown's Meeting House in Sampson County; and again a committee was appointed, with William Hooper replacing Armstrong as chairman. A grandson of a signer of the Declaration of Independence, a graduate of the University of North Carolina and an instructor in Latin and Greek at that institution, a minister converted from the Episcopal to the Baptist faith, Hooper was just beginning the long and distinguished career which he devoted to various aspects of education in the Baptist denomination in North Carolina. John W. Moore in *The History of North Carolina* characterized him as "profound scholar, eloquent orator, and powerful preacher." It was he who four years earlier had presented to the Convention the recommendation which led to the establishment of Wake Forest. His report in 1836 to the Convention concerning a female seminary follows:

The committee to whom was referred the subject of a Female Seminary beg leave to report:

That they have had the matter under consideration, and have come to the conclusion—that it is not expedient at present to establish such a seminary—such are the claims and wants of the Institute now under the care of the Convention that it appears to your committee it would too much divide the attention and resources of our friends and patrons to create a new Institution at this time. Unless such an Institution were to be aided by our funds, it could not be of such merits as to offer advantages much beyond those already in existence, and those funds, at present, are demanded by the existing wants and obligations of the Convention.

At the same time your committee deem it proper and seasonable to express their views of the great importance of Female Education, as well on account of the direct improvement of one-half of our species as on account of the indirect influence which well-

educated women exert on the welfare of the whole community. They, therefore, would urge upon the Baptist public generally to avail themselves, as far as their circumstances will allow, of the facilities now in existence for cultivating the minds of their daughters in order to raise up a generation of women who shall employ all that influence and control which are conceded to them in every civilized and Christian country, on the side of liberal sentiment and to sway the minds of men in behalf of virtue and religion.

There was no mention of a female seminary at the 1837 Convention, but the idea persisted; and on June 29, 1838, at a meeting of the Board of Managers—the forerunner of the General Board—Thomas Meredith, J. B. Outlaw, and D. F. Richardson were appointed a committee to report to the next session of the Convention “on the expediency etc. of establishing a Female Seminary under the auspices of the Baptist denomination in this state.”

Joseph B. Outlaw was a physician then practicing in Raleigh, where he had moved from Rolesville. He was the first chairman of the Board of Trustees of Wake Forest Institute, and was one of the five members of the building committee of the Institute who in 1833 pledged their personal property to that cause. His affection for North Carolina Baptists is evidenced in a letter to the *Recorder* in 1839 from La Grange, Tennessee, where he had just moved—a letter in which he declared that though mountains might separate him from his brethren, he would “never, no never, till life’s last throb” cease to pray God’s blessings on them. He soon returned from Tennessee and spent the rest of his days in Nash County, where he died shortly before the Civil War.

The third member, Daniel Ford Richardson, a graduate of Dartmouth and of Andover Theological Seminary, had come from New Hampshire to Wake Forest as professor of Greek and Latin in 1837 when Armstrong was given leave of absence for two years’ travel and study in Europe. Richardson also served a brief time as professor of Hebrew and rhetoric before he returned some time after 1840 to his native state, where he took an active part in state politics. Like Outlaw, he remembered his North Carolina brethren with occasional affectionate letters in the *Recorder*; in the last one, which appeared in 1872, ten years before his death,

he recalled his ordination in the Wake Forest Chapel nearly thirty-five years earlier.

It is significant that only Thomas Meredith was appointed to the three successive committees; evidently he was resolutely determined in the face of all obstacles that the denomination should offer to young women a real education. He was not content to eulogize the influence of woman and assert in empty phrases the importance of "Female Education"; for the resolution which he offered to the Convention November 6, 1838, was vigorous and definite.

The committee appointed at the last meeting of the Board, for the purpose of reporting on the expediency of establishing a female seminary, of a high order, in a central part of the state, would respectfully submit the following statements:

They are convinced that an institution such as proposed is greatly needed. The facts—that there are but few female schools of much standing in our state—that these are not generally adapted to the views and wishes of our brethren—and that our people are therefore compelled either to keep their daughters at home uneducated, or to send them to other states, at an enormous expense and much inconvenience—constitute, in the view of your committee, sufficient evidence that a seminary adapted to the wants of our people, and located in a central part of the state, is an object much to be desired.

Nor do your committee entertain a doubt, that a seminary properly constituted, and situated in a healthful and eligible part of the state would receive ample support. To say nothing of those portions of the community, having no concern for Baptist enterprise, which would find it to their interest to patronise such a school, there are surely Baptists enough, who would eagerly embrace the opportunities afforded by such an institution, to provide it with an ample and permanent patronage.

It is the opinion of your committee, that the seminary should be located in Raleigh or in the vicinity of that city: that it should be properly and primarily a boarding school: that it should be furnished with buildings and all needful accommodations, for *thirty pupils* at the outset: that the instructors should be persons of high standing in their professions and fully adequate as to number: that the branches taught should be such as to constitute a plain and substantial, but at the same time, a first rate course of female education: that the whole establishment should be modeled and conducted on strictly religious principles: and that the school should be subject to the superintendence of one man, who, together with his lady, should constitute a sort of temporary parentage, with whom the pupils should live, to whom their morals and behaviour, as well as their scholarship, should be entrusted, and who should be held responsible for their safety and improvement, so long as they continue in the school. If located in town, a lot



THOMAS MEREDITH

Alma Mater

R. T. Vann

1. We sa - lute thee, Al - ma Ma - ter, we sa - lute thee with a song,
2. Thou hast come thro' trib - u - la - tion and thy robe is clean and white,
3. In thy path the fields shall blossom and the des - ert shall re - joice,
4. Where the rho - do - den - dron blush - es on the bur - ly mountain's breast,
5. Where the sons of Car - o - li - na taught a na - tion to be free,

At thy feet our loy - al hearts their trib - ute lay;
Thou art fair - er than the sum - mer in its bloom.
In the wil - der - ness a liv - ing foun - tain spring;
In the mid - land, where the wild deer love to roam;
And her daugh - ters taught their broth - ers to be brave;

We had wait - ed for thy com - ing in the dark - ness, wait - ed long,
Thou art born un - to a king - dom and thy crown is all of light;
For the blind shall see thy beau - ty and the deaf shall hear thy voice,
Where the wa - ter - lil - y slum - bers, while the cy - press guards its rest—
O'er a land of peace - ful plen - ty, from the high - lands to the sea,

Ere the morn - ing star pro - claimed thy na - tal day.
Thou shalt smile a - way the shad - ow and the gloom.
And the si - lent tongue their high ho - san - nas sing.
Lo, thy sun - ny land of prom - ise and thy home.
May thy ban - ner, Al - ma Ma - ter, ev - er wave. *A - men.*
R. T. Vann

should be procured and suitable buildings and fixtures provided. If in the country, a small farm, affording a healthy and commanding situation, should be purchased and all necessary local arrangements made. And all this should be done before the school should be allowed to go into operation.

As the pecuniary responsibilities involved in such an undertaking would probably be greater than any one person would wish to assume, your committee suggest the expediency of forming a small company or corporation, who should divide the stock and the proceeds among themselves; and who should employ teachers, make regulations, control the financial concerns, and do all other things appertaining to the absolute proprietorship of the establishment. In that case, the wisdom of a number would be concentrated—interest in behalf of the school would be more generally diffused—arrangements requiring an outlay of funds might be made with efficiency and despatch—if any loss should be sustained, it would be divided among several, and would probably fall on such as would be able to bear it—and should any thing be gained by the enterprise, it would go to those properly entitled to it, and would be a gratifying compensation, for expenses incurred and responsibilities assumed.

Your committee are aware that neither the Board, nor the Convention has any constitutional power to act in this business. They have power, however, to give advice, and to recommend measures, and this we trust will be done on the present occasion. Your committee would therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

1. *Resolved*, that in the estimation of this convention, it is expedient to institute a FEMALE SEMINARY, adapted to the existing wants of the denomination, and to be located in the city of Raleigh, or at some eligible point in the adjoining country.

2. *Resolved*, that immediate and effective measures be recommended for carrying into effect the aforesaid undertaking—and that the school be had in readiness for operation in one, or at most, in two years from the present date.

3. *Resolved*, that the aforesaid school be modeled and conducted on strictly religious principles; but that it should be, as far as possible, free from sectarian influence.

4. *Resolved*, that a committee of five be appointed for the purpose of carrying into effect the foregoing resolutions, and that they conform as far as practicable, to the principles of the foregoing report.

The report was adopted by the Convention, and a committee consisting of Thomas Meredith, William H. Jordan, Samuel Wait, A. J. Battle, and J. B. Outlaw was appointed “on further movements in relation to the female seminary.”

The three members who had not served on the committee appointed by the Board of Managers in June were great denominational leaders of that day. William Hill Jordan

was said to be one of the most eloquent and zealous Baptist preachers of the South. He was president of the Board of Trustees of Wake Forest for several years and was highly successful as an agent of that college at two different times when it was in dire financial straits. He was from 1837 to 1843 secretary of the Baptist State Convention. Samuel Wait, a native of New York, had come to North Carolina in 1826 as a representative of Columbian College and remained as pastor of the New Bern Church, to which pastorate he had been recommended by Thomas Meredith, who had once been pastor in New Bern. He was one of the most influential of the fourteen founders of the Baptist State Convention and was the first president of Wake Forest, serving from 1834 to 1845. He was the grandfather of two brothers who were to become college presidents, John B. Brewer of Chowan and Charles E. Brewer of Meredith. Amos Johnston Battle of Edgecombe County, a member of the first Board of Trustees of Wake Forest, gave liberally to the college, as well as leading others to give. He was pastor of churches in various towns of the state, among them Nashville, Raleigh, and Wilmington. He was one of the two representatives from North Carolina to the meeting at which the Southern Baptist Convention was organized in 1845.

The new project, even with the approval of the Convention and with so able a committee in charge, apparently met with no success. A study of the minutes of the Baptist State Convention during those years shows a lag in interest in the activities of the denomination in general—due perhaps partly to the panic which prevailed in the country in 1837, partly to a natural reaction from the first fervor of enthusiasm with which the Convention was organized. Francis Hawley, one of the agents of the Convention, wrote in his 1836 report:

It is a painful fact that almost general apathy prevails among the churches where I have traveled relative to the interests of the Redeemer's Kingdom. The church has evidently drunk deep into a worldly spirit; and many who, a few years ago, seemed to run well, now seem to be bending all their weight to amass a fortune. It is evident that Christians do not realize their obligation; hence there is but little spontaneous action. . . . Many who once put their hands to the plow have turned back.

The treasurer’s report for 1837 shows the contributions to be a third less than those of the preceding year. The brethren were “affectionately requested to make efforts for the increase of the funds of the Convention generally, but especially Home [i.e. State] Missions and Education.”

In 1838 and 1839 there was a quickening of interest with an advance in the work, but the enthusiasm was short-lived; for the 1840 minutes again show a marked decline in contributions to all the objects of the Convention. In 1842 Thomas Meredith was forced for financial reasons to suspend for more than a year the publication of the *Biblical Recorder*. In the enthusiasm of the 1839 Convention the appointment of ten State missionaries had been authorized; by 1842 the State Mission Board was in debt and only three missionaries to serve four months each were appointed—the equivalent of only one full-time missionary. In 1843 N. A. Purefoy, the general agent of the Board characterized the situation in a terse sentence: “There appears to be but little opposition to the objects of the Convention, and but little in favor of them.”

In addition to the general apathy of the Convention, there was another difficulty in the way of the proposed school. “The claims and wants of the Institute . . . under the care of the Convention” which had led the 1836 committee to decide against establishing a school for women were in 1838 more rather than less urgent than they had been two years earlier. The roseate belief expressed in Hooper’s report in 1832 that a literary institute on the manual labor plan “would probably from the beginning support itself without any expense to the Convention” had swiftly faded. When in 1838 Wake Forest Institute became Wake Forest College, it was, according to George W. Paschal’s *History of Wake Forest College*, burdened with a debt of not less than \$20,000. By 1857 the debt was paid, and an endowment fund of \$100,000 was completed.

Concerning the North Carolina Baptists’ delay of sixty years in making adequate provision for the education of women, R. T. Vann wrote: “The reason assigned was poverty, but Wake Forest grew and accumulated \$100,000 in endowment before the Civil War. I fear, therefore, we must

admit that the longstanding assumption of superiority by men over women was responsible in part for this neglect."

This "assumption of superiority" was chivalrously sugar-coated, especially in the South, by the idea that woman was too delicate a creature to undergo the rigor of a real education; hence the cultivation of "the polite arts," the pursuit of "the ornamental branches of education." There was also a widespread fear that any training which went beyond these limits might unfit Woman for her Place in the Home. Archibald McDowell, twice president of Chowan, expressed a prevalent ideal of womanhood when he wrote: "Man is characterized by strength, courage, independence, and self-reliance, woman by vivacity, delicacy, sensibility, and a confiding sense of dependence."

Hence female education was in those days distinctively female. Even in the few well-established academies for girls—schools with better equipment and teachers than the average, with more emphasis on the fundamental studies—the curriculum of the female academy was considerably modified from that of the school for boys. French was usually substituted for the ancient languages, and "polite literature" for mathematics. Music, drawing, and needle work were added.

But these better schools were exceptional; in general the girls who were fortunate enough to be educated at all were trained with a heavy emphasis on the ornamental branches in schools that had come into existence like mushrooms, in cramped quarters, with little or no equipment, in control of teachers inadequately educated and often inexperienced. An advertisement in the *Raleigh Register* for June 23, 1815, explained that "Mrs. Mumford's recluse, and, at times, lonely situation" had led her husband to suggest that she open a school. In the issue for June 7, 1831, of the same paper Mrs. Bowen informed the public that as her house and furniture had been lost by fire in Fayetteville, she had decided to open a school for females in Raleigh. Charles Coon's *North Carolina Schools and Academies, 1790-1840* records the advertisements and notices of numerous such enterprises, most of them pathetically short-lived.

In addition to this general attitude toward a woman's

mind and its training, there was a further reason why North Carolina Baptists should have had little enthusiasm for the higher education of women. Wake Forest, like virtually all other denominational schools of long standing, was established primarily to train ministers. The purpose of the Convention as stated in its constitution couples with the missionary efforts "the education of young men called of God and of their respective churches to the ministry." Hooper's report in 1832 had recommended the establishment of a school "to afford our young ministers facilities for obtaining such an education as will qualify them to be able ministers of the New Testament." By no stretch of imagination could anyone then foresee the possibility or desirability of educating young women as able ministers of the New Testament.¹ So subordinate was their place in church affairs that a subscriber to the *Recorder* asked in September, 1841, "Shall female members have a voice in electing a pastor?" Thomas Meredith answered the query in the affirmative, "since they help support him and are dependent on his ministry for spiritual comfort and edification." Another subscriber signing himself "Carolina Baptist" defended the right of females to take communion.

In 1838, aside from the work of some Sunday schools in teaching children to read and write, little had been done by any denomination for the education of girls. The Moravians were pioneers in this work in North Carolina, having established Salem Female Academy in 1772. The Methodists obtained a charter for Greensboro Female College in 1838, and opened it in 1846. New Garden Boarding School, founded in 1837, the forerunner of Guilford College, was coeducational from its beginning. Apparently there were at that date no other denominational schools in the state open to women; for Franklin Academy, the Female Department of which in 1857 became Louisburg College, was not in 1838 owned by the Methodists.

It is, therefore, no cause for wonder that the Baptists of North Carolina, did not then follow the lead of Thomas Meredith, that their educational efforts should have been exclusively in behalf of young men.

¹ Six Meredith alumnae are now (1971) ordained ministers.

The first girls' school under Baptist control in the State, Milton Female Academy, was established in 1844, not by the Convention but by four associations—the Dan River, the Flat River, the Roanoke, and the Beulah. Nathaniel J. Palmer, a layman and a leading citizen of Milton, was evidently the moving spirit in its founding. First mentioned in the minutes of the Convention in 1838, he was until his death in 1854 actively interested in every phase of the work of the Convention, but especially in education. The Convention in 1844 adopted a resolution which he introduced, recommending the newly established academy. A preliminary advertisement in the *Recorder* of August 26, 1844, expresses the hope that “parents will avail themselves of the advantages which it will afford to confer upon their daughters a thorough and accomplished education.”

The school which has the longest history of any of the Baptist schools for women in the State was opened at Murfreesboro by the Chowan Association² on October 11, 1848, as Chowan Female Institute; a little later *Collegiate* was added to the name; still later it was renamed Chowan College. Its founders intended it, as Archibald McDowell, its first president, explained later, “to supply a manifest, a felt want of their own locality,” though it soon attracted students from all parts of this state as well as from other states, and for more than half a century was of great influence as a school for women only. It became a coeducational institution in 1931, and a junior college in 1937.

But the hope of a high-grade school for women which should be state-wide in its appeal still lived. In the *Recorder* of September 15, 1849, “A Baptist” wrote:

Among the subjects that will probably be considered by the Convention at its session in Oxford is the establishment of a Female Institute, similar to the one established by our Methodist brethren at Greensboro. Such an institution is imperiously demanded by the wants of our denomination, and I trust our people have the disposition as I know they have the ability, to establish and sustain one of elevated character.

Oxford was proposed as a site, “one of the most delightful, neat, and pleasant villages in the State, admired by all who

² Now divided into the Chowan and West Chowan.

see it for its beautiful residences, broad streets, and shaded lawns. It also has a high character for health and the intelligence of its citizens."

The author of the letter was probably the aforementioned N. J. Palmer, who, as secretary of the Board of Managers presented the Board's report to the 1849 Convention at Oxford. The last paragraph of that report, dealing with female education, brought the first recorded division of opinion in the Convention:

Female seminaries of high character have been established and are now in successful operation in Murfreesborough, Raleigh, Rockford,³ and other places. The necessity of establishing a female college for the State, of an elevated character, in which suitable testimonials of a high grade of scholarship will be awarded is seriously entertained by many of our brethren, and is an object worthy of their united and zealous efforts for its accomplishment.

J. B. White, president of Wake Forest, it is recorded in the minutes of the Convention, "moved to strike out that portion of the same which related to the establishment of a Female College, which motion provoked some discussion." White's motion was lost, and the report was adopted.

In the first issue of the *Recorder* after the 1849 Convention, Meredith gave a dispassionate summary of the argument on each side:

It was contended on the one hand that the object contemplated did not come fairly within the constitution; that it implied a reflection on the schools already in operation; and that it was inexpedient for the Convention to recommend a new enterprise under the existing circumstances of the denomination. It was maintained, on the other hand, that the report was an executive document and that the Convention had no right to mutilate it by striking out any of its recommendations, that a Female College was as legitimate an object of consideration as Wake Forest College and that it could not reflect on any schools already in existence, as none of them claimed to be an institution of the kind recommended.

Defending the report as it stood were N. J. Palmer, J. J. James, Archibald McDowell, and J. S. Purefoy; standing with President White in his opposition were J. J. Finch, Quinton Trotman, and—Thomas Meredith!

On the surface it seems a case of the lost leader, a reversal

³Rockford Male and Female Academy had been established a few months earlier, largely through the efforts of Palmer.

of opinion which implies either a loss of interest or a dimming of his former courageous faith. Yet there was a sound basis for Meredith's position "under the existing circumstances of the denomination," and subsequent events justified him. He had doubtless learned from the fate of his 1838 recommendation, which had won the approval of the Convention, that adopting resolutions is easier than establishing schools. Though the female seminaries at Milton, Murfreesboro, and Rockford looked to the associations rather than to the Convention for support, yet the associational leaders were the men upon whom the Convention had to depend for the carrying on of its enterprises. Thus the multiplication of schools locally would inevitably make the support of a female college for the whole state the more difficult.

The male academies being established over the state were also multiplying. In the years from 1845 to 1855 the establishment of associational schools preparatory to Wake Forest was repeatedly urged. Elias Dodson wrote in the *Biblical Recorder* of July 19, 1845: "To nourish Wake Forest College there should be three or four academies in different parts of the State." That same year the indefatigable Palmer introduced in the Convention a resolution to the same effect. By 1849 the resolution called for schools preparatory to Wake Forest in every part of the state; in 1852 and 1854 resolutions were adopted wherein each association was requested to establish these "nurseries of the College."

In addition to the female schools belonging to the associations, there were some schools for girls established and operated by individuals who were Baptist leaders which would share in the patronage of the denomination. Thomas Meredith himself had sought to establish such a school. On October 28, 1843, he announced in the *Recorder* his intention to open Warwick Female Institute "at his home on the great Western Thoroughfare, five miles from Raleigh." There were to be at first ten or twelve young ladies; the building, surrounded by ample grounds, was to be "new and commodious," and to be enlarged as the number of students grew. The prices were to be adequate to maintain a

school of good quality, yet adapted to the stringency of the times. The plan did not materialize then; but two years later, when the need of educating his own daughters was urgent, he renewed the proposal. From the explanation in the *Recorder* of his plan for Warwick, it is evident that, since it seemed impossible to organize a stock company for the operation of a school for the Baptist females of the state, he himself had decided to attempt the establishment of just such a school as the 1838 resolution had recommended. The first paragraph which follows is from his *Recorder* editorial of October 28, 1843; the second from the advertisement in the same issue and from one appearing August 23, 1845.

We contemplate an institution in every respect adequate to the wants of the denomination in the State. Everything, it is well known, cannot be done in a day; circumstances admonish us that we must proceed with caution. We shall stop short, however, of no efforts nor expense that our patronage shall justify to carry into effect our ultimate plan, and if the friends of Female Education so will it, they have now an opportunity for assisting to raise up an institution such [as] has been long desired, without the inconvenience of any draft on their benevolence or of any call for their responsibility. All that is asked or wanted is a prompt and liberal patronage.

The pupils will reside in the family of the proprietor, and will be under the immediate care and control of a competent governess. The exercises of the school will be conducted in part by instructors engaged for the purpose, in part by the proprietor himself, the whole being under the general and constant supervision of the latter. . . . The school is designed to be conducted on a liberal and elevated scale. . . . All the branches of an approved Female Education will be taught, including the Ancient Languages, French, and music if required.

The opening of the school was delayed because of difficulty in obtaining a well-qualified teacher and because of freezing weather which stopped the work on the building. However, in the *Recorder* of June 27, 1846, an editorial note announced: “The school is now in operation, and no pains will be spared to make it all that it has promised to be.” The last advertisement appeared November 7 of the same year, and there is no further editorial mention of Warwick Female Institute. It was to have had two sessions a year, each five months in length; it probably closed at the end of the first five months.

The difficulty in financing single-handed such an undertaking could easily account for the short life of so laudable an enterprise. Perhaps too, the young ladies were disinclined to study the ancient languages rather than the courses so popular in female seminaries—wax work, lace making, or theorem painting on paper or velvet.

A school similar in type to Warwick but much more successful had opened on Fayetteville Street⁴ in Raleigh a year earlier. Sedgwick Female Seminary was conducted by the Reverend John Finch, pastor of the Baptist Church, and his wife. From the beginning it was more largely her enterprise; and after his death in 1850, she remained in charge. Finch took an important part in Convention affairs; Livingston Johnson in *The History of the Baptist State Convention* termed him "one of the giants of those early days." He was a grandfather of Hubert Royster, a leading surgeon of Raleigh, and of James Finch Royster, a professor in the University of North Carolina. In 1847 the Convention passed a resolution commending Sedgwick to the patronage of the Baptist people generally as a school "much needed in this state and entirely consistent with the cause of truth and the best interests of the rising generation." A similar resolution was passed in 1851. It was on numerous occasions listed with Chowan and later with Oxford as a Baptist school. It was in all probability the school referred to in the report of the Board of Managers in 1849 as the seminary in successful operation in Raleigh. Meredith was generous in his editorial commendation of the school which succeeded where his had failed. His name was given in the early advertisements as a reference, and he evidently knew the school well. W. A. Graham wrote in the *Recorder* of July 6, 1904:

As a scholar in Mrs. Finch's school for girls,⁵ I made Mr. Meredith's acquaintance. I think he lectured to the highest classes, but may be mistaken. He visited the school occasionally. I had not then reached *baker* and did not come under his instruction.

⁴ As Raleigh was first planned, New Bern Avenue was *the* business street, and Fayetteville was *the* residential street, with the capitol at one end and the governor's palace at the other.

⁵ Such schools often took boys in the lower classes, as Meredith Academy was later to do.

With the number of schools for which the denomination was already responsible, with the prospect of a rapid growth in this number, and with his own disillusioning experience with Warwick, it is not surprising that Meredith doubted the wisdom of an attempt to establish at that time a female college. He doubtless agreed with "A True Baptist," who, writing to the *Recorder* shortly after the Convention, declared the need of the denomination to be not more schools but proper appreciation and support of those already existing, Sedgwick and Chowan. Such a view had in it more of practical common sense than of reactionary caution.

After the 1849 Convention approved "a female college for the state of elevated character," the promoters of the new project let no grass grow under their feet. "A Baptist" again wrote an enthusiastic letter to the *Recorder* reporting a public meeting which they held immediately after the Convention. The meeting was addressed by N. J. Palmer, J. J. James, and J. M. C. Breaker of New Bern. A board of trustees was chosen, and plans were made for obtaining a charter. The citizens of Oxford without regard to denomination agreed to contribute liberally. The institution was to be under the special patronage and control of the Baptist denomination, but there was to be nothing sectarian in its teaching. "A beautiful, commodious, elegant residence" was offered at a greatly reduced price for this "great and good enterprise, identified with the best interests of female education in North Carolina." Later letters tell that the matter was presented to several associations by Palmer, Wait, James, and others.

At its next session, 1850, held in Louisburg, the Convention on Saturday morning, October 19, recessed for about two hours in order to give place to a meeting of the friends of the proposed college. The Board of Managers at the same session reported the progress of the plan.

While the education of young men is thus attracting the attention of the wise and good, the improvement of the minds of young ladies is gaining the aid and zealous efforts of those *truly* great who have a proper regard for the advancement of our race in virtue and true wisdom. . . . The Board are grateful to be able to state that measures promising a successful issue have been taken by the friends of such an institution to establish a Female College

under the control of the Baptist denomination in the town of Oxford in this State.

The college opened the next summer on July 21, 1851, with Samuel Wait, who had been the first president of Wake Forest, as president. He could not be at the Convention that year, but wrote a long letter to the brethren, reporting the success of the efforts "to rear up a Female College," and of the plans for expansion and building.

That same year the report of the Board of Managers with Archibald McDowell as president was enthusiastic about the flourishing condition of all the female colleges—Chowan, Sedgwick, Rockford, and others, especially the newly established Oxford College, which was giving "the strongest assurance of complete success." The report urged the importance of educating daughters as well as sons, since "their influence on the rising generation will be potent for good or evil," and continued with an eloquent appeal for liberal gifts to all the schools. "The Baptists of North Carolina have it in their power to sustain all these our schools now in existence, and as many more."

In 1852 the Board of Managers were equally pleased with the progress of "Female Education."

Our two female colleges, Chowan and Oxford, as well as the five or six other schools, are full of pupils and are acquiring a high degree of confidence, not only with the denomination, but with the public generally. . . . None of the Southern States, if indeed, any State in the Union, is now ahead of North Carolina in Female Education. All of our educational institutions should be properly endowed and established on a permanent basis.

In 1854 the Board made a glowing and detailed report to the Convention.

In regard to the Female schools and colleges, the board would remark that the Chowan Female Collegiate Institute and the Oxford Female College are both in a flourishing condition. The former has a large and able corps of professors and is extensively patronized, both in this State and Virginia. Under the administration of its present distinguished president, the Rev. Dr. Hooper, and with the facilities there afforded in their extensive philosophical and chemical apparatus, it now ranks inferior to no institution in the Southern country.

Oxford Female College is yet in its infancy, but is gradually

growing in the public esteem and confidence. Its location is in every way desirable, and with its able and efficient instructors, and its increasing patronage it will ere long rank among the best institutions of the land, and become the rallying point of the Baptists in the upper region of the State for the education of their daughters. It needs an efficient agent to collect funds to enlarge its buildings and supply it with additional apparatus and a library.

The Metropolitan Female Seminary [formerly Sedgwick] at Raleigh under the direction of the Rev. A. McDowell, A.M., has a large number of pupils, and is destined to become, under his able management, an important school. Located at the seat of government, it will exercise an important influence in this State.

There are other Female Schools under the patronage of Baptists now in successful operation in different parts of the State. All are being well sustained, and the Board are gratified to state that our brethren, hitherto in the background in the way of Female Education, are now about taking the lead in promotion of this noble cause, destined to exert an influence in behalf of our denomination salutary and lasting in its effect.

Events thus far would seem to prove that Meredith had been wrong in 1849 in thinking it unwise for North Carolina Baptists to establish another school for women. But events soon turned. In 1855 the board dismissed female education with a sentence: "For the education of our daughters there is the college at Oxford, the Collegiate Institute at Murfreesborough and others of inferior, but respectable grades." In 1856 there is not even that mere glance at schools for women; the campaign to bring the endowment of Wake Forest up to \$100,000 was the chief topic of interest, an effort completed in 1857—and in 1857, six years after it opened, Oxford College was sold for debt. It was bought by John Haymes Mills, later the founder of the Baptist Orphanage in this state, who for two years had assisted Samuel Wait in the administration of the school. Mills explained that debts had piled up "because Oxford expected the denomination to pay, and the denomination expected Oxford to pay." The trustees, relying on both, were continually incurring new debts taking "fair promises for good deeds." Mills was the sole owner of the school; and feeling that it had been "mismanaged by a multitude of counselors," he ran it single-handed, without a board of trustees. "Forty men in forty vocations," he wrote, "cannot know how to run a school."

As a private school it was a financial success and won approval among its patrons. James McDaniel wrote to the *Recorder* of July 12, 1860:

Brother Mills educates young ladies to make *Wives* when they marry. Too many young ladies who graduate and marry do not make wives, but are only broken ribs to those with whom they become associated. The Scripture tells us that "Whoso findeth a wife, findeth a good thing." Dare I venture the assertion that a graduated, snuff-eating, novel-reading, money-spending, gossipy lady was never found to be a very "good thing."

After Mills gave up the school in 1867 it was for a troublous interval under various managements until 1880, when it was taken over by F. P. Hobgood, who was its owner and president till his death in 1923. The college closed in the early thirties. Thus the school which the denomination had founded but had not supported, and which in six years was sold for debt, had a long and useful life under private control, keeping the good will of the denomination, with which its ties were always close.

The lugubrious list of schools burdened with debt cited in a letter "Timothy" wrote to the *Biblical Recorder* March 17, 1859, gives additional proof of Thomas Meredith's wisdom in 1849.

Where shall I begin? Well, there is Oxford Female College; after struggling for years under debt it was sold for several thousand dollars less than the debt remaining on it. . . . Chowan Female College has been for years in debt. Will Baptists get it out of debt, or must it be sold? Look at Chesapeake Female College up for a debt of forty thousand! Will Baptists build such an establishment for other denominations? I see that Warsaw High School is in debt. Will the Baptists in Sampson and adjoining counties let it be sold? Are the schools at Mount Vernon out of debt? The United Baptist Institute, at Taylorsville, is in debt!

Yet "the truly great," with "a proper regard for the advancement of our race in virtue and true wisdom" continued their "zealous efforts." Warned by the mistake made by the promoters of Oxford ten years before of taking "fair promises for good deeds," and establishing a school too hastily without financial security, a little group in 1859 set out to raise sufficient funds for a Baptist Female Seminary in Raleigh. The movement was significantly linked with the

past in that they followed the plan Thomas Meredith suggested in 1838 of organizing a joint stock company. It was also linked with the future in that the leader in the enterprise was Thomas E. Skinner, the young pastor of the Baptist Church of Raleigh, who thirty-two years later when pastor emeritus of that same church undertook to raise funds in Raleigh for the Baptist Female University.

The *Recorder* of July 1859 announced the purchase of property for the school—Guion’s Eagle Hotel. W. N. Jones in a talk at Meredith College on Founders’ Day, 1923, said that in looking up the deed in the courthouse he found that Skinner and his associates—W. W. Vass, T. H. Briggs, Sr., Mayor D. A. Lewis, R. M. Jones, and others—gave their personal notes for the greater part of the purchase money. The building was large enough to accommodate comfortably 150 students, on a site of two acres lying between Edenton, Salisbury, Jones and Halifax streets—exactly two squares west of the site chosen thirty-one years later for the Baptist Female University.

Through letters and editorials in the *Recorder* one can trace the progress of the movement. G. M. L. Finch, who was appointed to collect money for the stock, was greatly encouraged by the interest and liberality of the people. By March 1860 half the \$25,000 stock had been sold; when the other half was sold, building was to be begun. Evidently the hotel itself proved not to be “eminently suited to the purpose of a school,” as its purchasers had believed it to be. Later, three-fourths of the amount was reported subscribed. “A Friend to Female Education” wrote to the *Recorder* exuberantly, if a trifle smugly,

Is there a single heart in the great Baptist household that will not rejoice to witness such consummation? . . . Let us thank our Great Master that we are becoming more liberal, less selfish, and, of course, more pious. . . . The ladies generally and the sisters universally are enthusiastic in the good cause. This is hopeful. The sisters on the side of a good cause is half the battle.

On January 16, 1861, the stockholders met, formed a board of directors, and adopted a constitution. The Civil War put an end to these high hopes; then with the economic chaos of Reconstruction the energies of the Convention had to go in

the re-establishment of disrupted work rather than the establishment of new enterprises.

In April, 1899, in the fourth of a second series of articles, "The Baptists in North Carolina" in the *North Carolina Baptist Historical Papers*, J. D. Hufham wrote of this attempt:

He [Skinner] was carrying forward with characteristic energy and liberality an enterprise which was merely an anticipation of the Baptist Female University of the present day. The conception was splendid; worthy of the man and of the denomination; pity, we say, as we think of it, that the plan could not be realized.⁶

The Raleigh Female Seminary, opened in 1870 two squares north of the future site of the Baptist Female University, was not connected with this earlier effort. Dr. William Royall, earlier and later a professor in Wake Forest College, was for one year president; then his son-in-law, F. P. Hobgood, carried on the school for nine years, after which time he closed it to take charge of Oxford College. Though the Raleigh seminary was under private control, it had the benevolent patronage of the denomination.

T. H. Pritchard, then pastor of the First Baptist Church in Raleigh and afterwards president of Wake Forest, wrote in the *Recorder* of the Raleigh school two years after it opened. "A school of this kind will bless not only present, but future generations. I hope it will be a source of light and knowledge so long as the State of North Carolina and the City of Raleigh exist." Its ten years of existence gave no time for the fulfillment of his hope; but the school evidently deserved W. N. Jones' tribute, "It served well our denomination, our city, and our state."

Though the 1838 resolution was not carried out, though the 1849 resolution brought into existence an institution which the denomination was not ready to support, North Carolina Baptists' sense of responsibility for the education of their daughters as well as their sons continued to live. It was evident in the patronage of private schools conducted by Baptist educators who had the confidence and respect of their brethren and in the establishing of associational

⁶ Hufham, who was ordained in 1855, lived to see Meredith College reach its twenty-first birthday.

academies and institutes. In 1882 a resolution presented by W. A. Nelson of Shelby was adopted, urging the importance of female education, and asking God’s blessing on the female colleges “in their respective spheres of usefulness.” It is significant as the first resolution concerning female education in the minutes of the Convention since 1855, but it called for no decisive action. Such a call came six years later, when in 1888, exactly fifty years after Thomas Meredith’s resolution was adopted by the Convention, Leonidas Lafayette Polk introduced to that body the motion which led to the fulfillment of Thomas Meredith’s dream.

II

“BY THE GRACE OF GOD IT SHALL BE”

(1888-1899)

Leonidas Lafayette Polk's interest centered in the welfare of the farmer as wholeheartedly as had Thomas Meredith's in the Baptist denomination. Born to Andrew and Serena Autrey Polk on April 24, 1837, on a farm in Anson County, the boy was left an orphan at fifteen, the inheritor of a large plantation. When he returned to his devastated state after service in the Confederate army, he realized that the placidly pleasant life of the gentleman farmer was a thing of the past. He knew that the future of the farmer everywhere was as never before to be vitally affected by economic and political conditions, and that the farmer must help shape these conditions, rather than being the victim of them; therefore he was firmly convinced that the farmers must be organized and educated.

With this conviction he was largely responsible for the establishment of the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and was in 1877 appointed the first Commissioner of Agriculture in the State. In 1886 he began the publication of the *Progressive Farmer*, which soon went from State-wide to South-wide influence. He was the chief founder of the North Carolina State College of Agriculture and Mechanics, (now North Carolina State University) the cornerstone of which was laid in August, 1888. With his election in 1889 to the presidency of the National Farmer's Alliance and Industrial Union, he became a person of national importance. Before his death on June 11, 1892, he had been slated for nomination by the People's Party as their candidate for the presidency of the United States.

His "vigorous and far-reaching influence," to use Dr. Vann's phrase, was due in part to a gift for oratory which amounted almost to genius. Through an address of more than two hours his hearers would sit "as if enchanted," and

often, as more than one reporter noted, many of his audience of sturdy farmers were moved to tears.

Polk was an active and conscientious member of his local church; and, though he was too absorbed in his chief interest—the welfare of the farmer—to be one of those most intimately concerned with denominational policies and problems in the state, he was at home in a religious, as well as in a political gathering. He was several times a delegate to the Baptist State Convention, and was in 1885 a vice-president of that body. He had the confidence and respect of the denominational leaders and was a powerful influence among the hosts of Baptists living in rural areas. As a trustee of Wake Forest for ten years, he was concerned with denominational education; and as the father of six daughters, he knew the problems of female education. His daughters attended the Raleigh Female Seminary, and more than once his editorial comments in the *Ansonian* showed his strong interest in the education of women.

Hence when the denomination, like the rest of the state, was recovering from the discouraged torpor of the Reconstruction and was increasingly concerned with the need of a college for women, Colonel Polk was the man who could most effectively present the matter to the Convention. He did so on Saturday, November 16, 1888, at its meeting in Greensboro in the following resolutions:

Resolved, That a committee of nine, to wit: W. R. Gwaltney, R. R. Overby, T. H. Pritchard, J. D. Hufham, R. T. Vann, N. B. Broughton, R. H. Marsh, A. G. McManaway, H. W. Battle, be and is hereby appointed to consider the expediency and feasibility of establishing a Baptist Female University in this State.

Resolved, That said Committee be, and it is hereby authorized and empowered to ascertain the best available locality and to make estimates as to the approximate cost of inaugurating such institution, and report the same to the next annual session of this Convention.

The resolutions were adopted without discussion, with Polk's name added as chairman of the committee.

The Convention of 1889 met in Henderson. As Polk the year before had been elected president of the Convention, another member of the committee, H. W. Battle, on Novem-

ber 14, 1889, made to the Convention in session at Henderson the following report signed by the committee of ten:

Your committee "appointed to consider the expediency and feasibility of establishing a Baptist Female College of high grade," under the auspices of this convention, are convinced that the great need for such an institution renders the enterprise *expedient*, and most encouraging assurances of moral and financial support convince us that it is now *feasible*. We, therefore, earnestly recommend that this convention resolutely and joyfully assume the duty, which, we believe, the desires of the people and the demands of the times have laid upon us.

Your committee must further report that, from the nature of the case, they have been unable to ascertain the best available locality, or make estimates as to the cost of inaugurating such an institution; and that they may be enabled to carry out these requirements of the original resolution, respectfully ask for further time, and full authority to act in the premises.

The discussion, a chorus of approval with not a speaker opposed to the plan, was reported in full in the *Recorder* of November 20. Polk spoke first, threatening that, if immediate steps were not taken to help the girls, he would "appeal to the power behind all our homes"; N. B. Broughton deplored the fact that a girl with a college diploma was four years behind a boy with his diploma from Wake Forest. J. S. Dill of Goldsboro reported that Alabama had just voted \$10,000 for the same cause. But Charles E. Taylor wisely recognized that \$50,000 was essential for a beginning—\$100,000 would be better. Thomas Hume, professor of English at the University of North Carolina, and H. W. Battle, of New Bern, stressed the injustice done to the home and to society, as well as to the woman herself in the failure to educate her properly, thus limiting her "to the mere sphere of matrimony." J. D. Hufham reminded the Convention that "nearly sixty years ago our fathers dreamed of a college for boys, and now their dream for girls comes up for us to solve this year." T. H. Pritchard pointed out that other denominations were assuming the responsibility Baptists were shirking and were educating Baptist girls in their schools. Baylus Cade thought that after 6,000 years of the woman question the time had come for men to enable woman "to paddle her own canoe."

After the enthusiastic discussion, the Convention unan-

imously adopted the report of the committee. At the suggestion of Columbus Durham the committee of ten was enlarged to twenty-five, who were to constitute the Board of Trustees of the new institution. He, with W. A. Pool and R. R. Overby, was appointed to nominate the additional members.

Columbus Durham, corresponding secretary of the Convention from 1888 till his death in 1895, was from the beginning a warm friend of the new enterprise. He must have been an inheritor of Thomas Meredith's spirit, for Livingston Johnson wrote of him: "He believed in God and in his brethren. He was stimulated, rather than discouraged, by difficulties; and he had the power to inspire others by his spirit of confidence." In the year of Thomas Meredith's proposal, 1838, William Hill Jordan wrote in his report as secretary of the Convention, "Brethren, what we do must be done quickly. Death will soon come and put an end to all our schemes." It must have been when this 1889 Convention took the first step toward making Thomas Meredith's dream a reality that Columbus Durham wrote on the margin of that page in his copy of the 1838 minutes, "It did not end the schemes of these fathers."

The fifteen names to be added to the original committee of ten were presented by W. A. Pool on Saturday, November 16, and were accepted by the Convention. The twenty-five men thus chosen to constitute the first Board of Trustees were as follows:

1889

- | | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|
| L. L. Polk | A. G. McManaway | E. K. Proctor, Jr. |
| W. R. Gwaltney | H. W. Battle | J. M. Currin |
| R. R. Overby | C. Durham | J. H. Lassiter |
| T. H. Pritchard | B. Cade | W. G. Upchurch |
| J. D. Hufham | C. A. Rominger | W. T. Faircloth |
| R. T. Vann ¹ | J. W. Carter ¹ | R. P. Thomas |
| N. B. Broughton ¹ | G. W. Greene | D. F. King |
| R. H. Marsh | W. C. Petty ¹ | C. E. Taylor |
| | | J. L. White |

Of the twenty-five, fifteen were ministers. Columbus Durham before he became secretary of the Convention had

¹ These four were still members of the Board when the school opened in 1899.

been pastor in Goldsboro and Durham. John L. White was then pastor in Durham, and was that year one of the vice-presidents of the Foreign Mission Board. A. G. McManaway was pastor in Charlotte; J. W. Carter in Raleigh (First Baptist), and James H. Lassiter in Henderson. Baylus Cade, noted in the Convention for his wit, was pastor in Louisburg; he was to be the successor of Polk as editor of the *Progressive Farmer*. W. R. Gwaltney, who had been a chaplain in the army of the Confederacy, was at Greensboro; in his long ministry he served churches also at Hillsboro, Mocksville, Winston-Salem, Raleigh (Tabernacle), and Hickory. R. R. Overby, of Belcross, spent virtually all his long, useful ministry in the Chowan Association. In the eastern part of the State also were Henry W. Battle, of New Bern; and Richard Tilman Vann, of Edenton, a man destined to play a great part in the history of the College. R. H. Marsh, of Oxford, was president of the Baptist State Convention from 1891 to 1904, a term of service second only to the eighteen years of James McDaniel, one of the founders of the Convention. George W. Greene was a teacher, principal of the Moravian Falls Academy from 1877 to 1891, then for one year professor of Latin at Wake Forest before he went to China as a missionary. James Dunn Hufham, in addition to his pastoral work in various churches, had edited the *Biblical Recorder* for ten years in the difficult period which included the Civil War; later he had been corresponding secretary of the Convention. Thomas Henderson Pritchard, another minister whose long service lay in varied fields, was in 1889 pastor in Wilmington. Other pastorates he held were in Hertford; Fredericksburg, Virginia; Baltimore, Maryland; and Raleigh. He had once been an associate editor of the *Biblical Recorder*, and from 1879-1882 he was president of Wake Forest.

Charles E. Taylor, Pritchard's successor as president of that institution, was, except for Greene, the only educator on the newly elected board. He, too, was a minister of the gospel. A native of Virginia educated at the university of that state, he came to Wake Forest as professor of Latin and in 1882 became president. There were two lawyers—

William T. Faircloth, of Goldsboro, whose memory is perpetuated at Meredith in the name of the dormitory which his generosity made possible, and Edwin K. Proctor, of Lumberton. C. A. Rominger, of Reidsville, who had taught for five years before he became a dentist, was active in the affairs of the denomination, as was Roscius Pope Thomas, a physician of Cofield, in Hertford County. Thomas was for fourteen years moderator of the Chowan Association.

On the committee were five businessmen, each successful in his field. James Madison Currin, of Oxford, associated with the American Tobacco Company, was a liberal contributor to denominational causes. Doctor Franklin King of Leaksville, so named because his parents expected their seventh son to be a physician, became a bank president instead. One of the leading businessmen in his section of the state, he was a tower of strength in his church and association. Major William C. Petty, of Manly and Carthage, who remained on the Board till his death in 1906, had several business interests; he was president of a lumber company, a bank, and a railroad on which no trains ran on Sunday unless it were a matter of life and death, in which case he would accept no remuneration.

W. G. Upchurch and Needham B. Broughton were both pillars in their churches, the First Baptist and the Tabernacle, in Raleigh. Upchurch was a promoter of Caraleigh Cotton Mills and owner of a live stock farm near the city. Broughton, an apprenticed printer before he was thirteen, was only twenty-three when in 1871 he with C. B. Edwards founded the firm of Edwards and Broughton. His leadership in establishing the public schools of Raleigh is recognized in the name of Needham Broughton High School. He was interested in all the activities of the denomination, but Sunday school work was especially dear to his heart. For years he was one of the vice-presidents of the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention and also a member of the executive committee of the International Sunday School Association. He was one of the most valuable of the trustees of the College, devoted to its interests till his death in 1914.

These, with the energetic Polk as president, constituted

the Board of Trustees, which met in Henderson immediately after they were elected. Rominger was made secretary, and four committees were appointed—a committee on location, on charter, on constitution and by-laws, and on course of study.

The committee on location, consisting of Polk, Rominger, Taylor, White, and Gwaltney, was, of course, the first to function. It was appointed, according to the first minutes of the Board of Trustees, "to advertise our purpose to build a Female College of high grade, and to receive bids from any town in the state, to visit such localities as may desire to have it located in their midst, and report to the Board of Trustees at a called meeting to be held on Tuesday after the second Sunday in February, 1890." In the eight weeks between the Convention and the called meeting of the Board, the committee interviewed various people. Polk wrote that New Bern, Goldsboro, Durham, Oxford, Henderson, Greensboro, Winston, and Charlotte all wanted the new school. The committee decided on eight acres as a minimum for the site. They visited Oxford, Durham, and Greensboro, and were "hospitably and royally received."

At the meeting of the Board on February 11, 1890, in the infant classroom of the First Baptist Church of Raleigh, with eighteen members present, six offers were considered. Oxford offered eight to ten acres with a sealed bid of \$30,000; Durham ten or more acres with \$50,000; Greensboro ten acres with \$10,000; Raleigh eight to ten acres with \$25,000. In all cases payments were to be made within three years from date. Chowan College and High Point College each offered its buildings and grounds, as did Clarement College in Hickory at a later date. The representatives of each place spoke; then all retired before the discussion and vote of the trustees. Polk wrote in the *Progressive Farmer*:

The claims of the respective localities were presented by their representatives ably, zealously, and eloquently. A strong rivalry, but a most commendable spirit of fairness characterized the bearing of the contestants.

Next day, February 12, the vote was taken, "after careful and prayerful deliberation," and Raleigh was chosen as

“the location best for the growth and development” of the school. Polk’s editorial ended thus:

Let the Baptists of Raleigh and of the whole state rally to the college so greatly needed. . . . Baptists have done nobly by Baptist boys of the state; now it [the Convention] will turn its attention to the equally important work which is, if possible, more urgent and obligatory, of educating the Baptist girls of the state. That it should have been so long neglected is a reproach which can only be obliterated by giving them now an institution which shall be equal in all respects to the very best and most advanced in all the land.

As soon as the decision was announced, the city of Durham vigorously protested. A mass meeting of citizens sent a protest to each member of the Board, requesting that body to reconsider its decision which had caused in Durham “great surprise and dissatisfaction.” The members of the committee on location who visited that city had been pleased with three of the six sites shown them; Durham’s offer of \$50,000 doubled Raleigh’s \$25,000. Moreover, the protest asserted, only Durham had given the assurance of moral and financial support which had been mentioned in Polk’s resolution.

The protest, according to the trustees’ minutes, created “some disturbance and doubt of many of the Board of Trustees, . . . and hindered the progress of the move in Raleigh.” In compliance with the request to reconsider, the trustees met in Wake Forest on March 20. Again there was earnest discussion and long, prayerful consideration, which evidently removed “the disturbance and doubt” of many trustees, for the vote to uphold the original decision to locate the institution in Raleigh was unanimous. One of the fifteen members present was J. L. White, who with Julian S. Carr had presented Durham’s offer at the February meeting. The trustees went ahead united in their efforts, and the *Recorder* stood staunchly back of the trustees.

At the February meeting, in addition to voting on the location, the trustees made a happy choice of a financial agent in Thomas E. Skinner. By background and nature he was well fitted for the position. His father, Charles W. Skinner, a wealthy layman of Edenton, had been one of the fourteen founders of the Baptist State Convention and was

from the beginning a staunch and generous friend to Wake Forest, his gifts ranging from a bell in 1834 to \$5,000 in 1856. The son held pastorates in Virginia and Tennessee, as well as in North Carolina. The greater part of his work, however, was done in Raleigh, where he was pastor of the First Baptist Church from 1856 to 1869 and again from 1879 to 1886. The generosity characteristic of the father was also characteristic of the son. To the present church house, built in 1858-1859 under his guidance, he contributed largely. At that time he was raising funds for the ill-fated Baptist Female Seminary. In 1863 he made a trip to England, and bought at his own expense stereotype plates of the New Testament for the Board of Missions to use especially for the soldiers. After his retirement he taught theology in Shaw University for a time and continued to live in Raleigh until his death in 1905.

The irrepressible sense of humor which had made him a prankster in his college days lived on in the merry twinkle of his eye, the lively wit of his tongue. More than once a tense situation in the Convention was eased by an apt remark from Dr. Skinner. "A streak of sunshine," "vigorous of mind and mellow of heart," "a perfect illustration of the beauty of old age"—so he was characterized by various brethren. J. W. Bailey editor of the *Biblical Recorder*, wrote of him, "The halest, the heartiest, the most kindly and lovable old man in the world is Dr. Thomas E. Skinner of Raleigh. . . . Since his retirement his presence has been an unfailing benediction to the Mission Rooms, the Recorder office, and the entire city." When the beloved old man died in 1905 Bailey wrote, "He has demonstrated how devoted, how full of grace, helpfulness and sunshine, how firm in faith and how full of fellowship with a new generation an old man may be."

Skinner wanted to give his services, as he had done in collecting funds for the proposed Baptist Female Seminary in his prosperous days before the Civil War. The trustees, however, confident of the early success of the new enterprise, set his annual salary at \$1,500, his duties being "to solicit and collect funds for building, endowment and other purposes."

Meanwhile a committee was considering the possible sites which Raleigh offered, and on April 22, 1890, made its report to the trustees. One site which had been proposed was, according to Dr. Vann's statement, the grounds on which the Methodist Orphanage is now located. Another, W. N. Jones wrote, was a tract of land east of the city limits, between New Bern Avenue and Oakwood Avenue, consisting of about forty acres. The trustees, who had insisted that the new school be in Raleigh because they wished the students to have all the advantages offered by the capital city, realized that most of these advantages would be lost to a school located so far from town as were both of these sites in 1890. Hence they chose a much smaller lot, described in the trustees' report as "fronting on Edenton Street from Blount to Person Street, and extending about 380 feet in depth on these last mentioned streets, the citizens of Raleigh agreeing to furnish this lot with the Adams brick building and the Pullen building remaining on it." The site was on the square next to the Governor's Mansion and only a block from the State Capitol. The Adams building was the twenty-six room house of L. H. Adams; the Pullen property was owned by an uncle of John T. Pullen, Stanhope Pullen, who gave the land for Pullen Park.

Skinner began immediately his work of obtaining pledges in Raleigh, because it had been decided that Raleigh should do its share before the rest of the state was canvassed. He made a good start, but the work, more strenuous than he had anticipated, overtaxed his strength; and in November after his election in February he resigned. The salary paid him was considerably less than his gift of \$1,000 to the school.

Hoping that "the exercises of the University" might be opened in the fall, the trustees on February 27, 1891 obtained from the legislature a charter for the Baptist Female University. At the meeting on March 6 when the charter was read, the finance committee was authorized to "investigate the practicability of securing money for building purposes by mortgage of property or issuance of bonds."

At the next meeting, April 14, the committee on course of study, consisting of Greene, Marsh, Cade, and Hufham, made

a report, the preamble of which makes quite clear their ideal for the school.

If we are to establish a college to be simply a rival of the institutions already in existence, we see no sufficient reasons for this movement, and we might better leave the work in the hands of those now doing it so well. . . . But by almost unanimous consent, we need and desire an institution whose course of study shall be more extensive than that of any school in the South. . . . It has been urged that there is little material for such a course of study, but, as often happens in other directions, the supply will help to create the demand. There may not be at first a large number of students ready to take a course as advanced, but this number will steadily increase, not only from the girls of North Carolina, but also from those of other states. Local patronage may, for a while, demand an Academic department, but we deem it of the utmost importance that it be evident from the beginning that such department is *the Annex* and only temporary, while the advanced course is the special work for which the College is to be established.

Adequate preparation for such a course would be required for admission. The course of study was to be in three departments—"Literature and Science, Fine Arts, and Technical Training." The third department was defended thus:

Too long our girls have been educated with little reference to enabling them to gain a living independent of fathers, brothers, or husbands. Common sense unites with Christian civilization in demanding that they have the opportunity of acquiring such technical and industrial training as shall give them independence and enable them to enter such spheres of activity as their sex fits them for and the Scriptures approve.

The A.B. and A.M. degrees were to be offered.

After Skinner resigned, Columbus Durham was elected financial secretary; evidently the work was to be a side issue to his duties as secretary to the Convention. Upon his refusal, J. B. Boone was elected to the position on April 15, 1891. A minister who was keenly interested in education, he came to the new school from a pastorate in Moberly, Missouri; before that time he had been president of Judson College in Hendersonville, North Carolina; and still earlier, in 1873, when he was pastor in Charlotte, he had organized in that city one of the first graded schools in the State.

The new financial agent was directed by the trustees as his first duty "to secure in Raleigh all that had been

pledged, and to increase the amount of contributions if possible." The work was from the beginning an uphill task. Raleigh's offer of \$25,000 and a site had evidently resolved itself into permission to collect from the citizens of Raleigh the necessary amount. Boone took over the books in June, 1891, with \$141.85 in cash, and \$22,407 in subscriptions. When he made his first report on October 6, he had collected several thousand and had added \$6,012 to the subscriptions, but had found \$6,000 of the amount already on the books worthless; thus \$12.00 was the rather discouraging net gain in subscriptions. This total amount was more than \$7,000 short of the sum necessary to pay for the proposed site, consisting of the Adams and the Pullen lots with their houses.

He met two great difficulties in his work—objections to the location on account of insufficient space and objections to the high price of the Adams property, the house and grounds on the corner of Edenton and Person streets.

The harassed trustees, trying faithfully to meet both objections, directed the executive committee to give up the original site and if possible to buy for \$20,000 the property of Colonel S. A. Ashe, a house with grounds of five acres on Hillsboro Street at Boylan Avenue.² When they could not buy the Ashe place for less than \$25,000, the trustees decided to enlarge the original site by buying a small additional lot (the Grissom lot) adjoining their property. It was too sanguine a decision, for the total subscriptions and cash in the spring of 1892 still fell far short of the amount necessary to obtain even the original small site. Hence the trustees had to let the Adams house and all but a narrow strip of the Adams land go. Thus the site on which they planned to build the Baptist Female University was not quite two acres in all. It cost \$14,000, of which amount they had \$9,639.33 in cash; in addition they had \$10,648.85 in "subscriptions considered good."

Boone's second report, which contains these figures, was made in April, 1892. With it he handed in his resignation. Though his work before he came to Raleigh and his subse-

² There is a historical marker on Hillsboro Street indicating the site of the house, Elmwood.

quent ten years of constructive administration as general manager of the Baptist Orphanage at Thomasville proved the truth of John A. Oates's characterization of him as "a man of indomitable pluck and energy," though he worked, Vann said, "with his accustomed skill and vigor," he considered the undertaking doomed to failure. He had done all that seemed possible in Raleigh; then he had made two trips in different sections of the state. "We found many expressions of favor and promises to give," he wrote in his report, "but very few persons who were willing to make actual subscriptions." Everywhere he met "some opposition and tremendous lethargy." The report ends thus:

By reason of the disturbed financial conditions of the country, your secretary has nothing to suggest. The situation is indeed embarrassing. It is somewhat similar to that of the leprous men at the gate of the city in a time of siege. "They said one to another, If we say we will enter the city, there is famine in the city, and we shall die there; and if we sit still here we shall die also. Let us fall into the host of the Syrians, if they save us alive, we shall live; and if they kill us, we shall but die."

If we remain inactive, we shall die, and if we go into the field to collect, the famine is there, but where shall we find the camp of the Syrians? That is the question.

In this unsettled state of affairs, your Financial Secretary asks to be relieved from any further connection with the work, and he hopes you may find some magnetic man who can infuse new life into the enterprise.

The words were not the discouraged wail of a tired man. The sentiment prevailed throughout the state. The Female University, which had been launched "resolutely and joyfully" with the confident expectation of its opening at the latest in the fall of 1891, with an endowment of at least \$50,000, had in two years barely managed to obtain less than two acres of land. Columbus Durham had written in the *Recorder* the week after Polk's resolution had passed:

It is not usual for the Convention to enter upon new work, especially such as involves heavy expenses, without some considerable divergence of opinion, but in this proposal to establish a school there was a unanimity and enthusiasm rarely, if ever, equaled in the Convention.

Yet two years later on November 11, 1891, after the grant-

ing of the charter of the school in February, John A. Oates wrote in an editorial in the *North Carolina Baptist*.³

And what is to be done with the defunct Female University? It was a healthy infant, giving promise of beautiful young womanhood, and we fondly dreamed of the coming years when its daughters should be found all through our Southland, testifying to the wisdom and glory of this endeavour of our people. Alas! the infant has pined away in the cold care of its unfaithful nurse, and soon it will be a stench in our nostrils. Shall we try to resuscitate it? Shall we give it up, then formally bury it and let it be forgotten as one of our follies?

The report of the trustees to the 1890 Convention had been, in Dr. Vann's words, “radiant with hope and rhetoric.” In 1891 there was no report from the trustees, and not a word about the Baptist Female University appears in the minutes of the entire session.

Two reasons for the loss of enthusiasm were pointed out in Boone's report—the dissatisfaction over the location and the disturbed financial conditions. In addition, the new enterprise met an unexpected difficulty in an opportunity which came to Wake Forest College, an opportunity which urgently called for extra financial aid from the denomination. Wake Forest had from the beginning shown in the female university a generously sympathetic interest, evidenced in President Taylor's strong speech of approval at the Convention in Henderson and in his letter to the *Recorder* a week later, urging the necessity of high standards and an adequate endowment for such a school as the Convention desired. Student opinion was equally sympathetic. The editor of the *Wake Forest Student* applauded the Convention for taking this “all important step” in creating an institution which would meet a long-felt need; he cordially welcomed the “promised sister” and earnestly hoped that she would soon be a “healthy and growing sister” and that she would not be “seriously handicapped by the bickering” over the location of her home. Of the twenty-five trustees of the university-to-be, in addition to Taylor and Greene of the Wake Forest faculty, nine were at the time trustees of Wake Forest; and throughout its early years

³The *North Carolina Baptist*, established in 1891, was in 1908 consolidated with the *Biblical Recorder*.

the most valued trustees of the new school were usually also trustees of the older college.

The trustees of Wake Forest concurred in the decision of President Taylor that Wake Forest should not push a campaign for funds "until the female college shall have had ample opportunity to raise endowment and equipment." That decision, announced at commencement in 1890, was soon changed. George W. Paschal in his *History of Wake Forest College* explained the situation:

During the following summer the design of leaving the field free for the "female college" was disrupted by a proposition of Mr. J. A. Bostwick which President Taylor presented to the Board at a meeting in Raleigh on July 31, 1890.

Jabez A. Bostwick, who had given \$50,000 outright to the men's college, now offered to add to the endowment one dollar up to \$50,000 for every two the College raised from other sources. Paschal wrote concerning the offer.

The trustees were not able to resist the temptation of this offer and asked President Taylor to take the field and raise all possible. This he did, beginning his work with the people of Wake Forest on September 7, 1890, and continued it, not stopping "for ill health or bad weather." He saw individuals, visited churches and associations and the Baptist State Convention, and had the co-operation of Professor Carlyle and other members of the faculty and of many pastors of the State and of the *Biblical Recorder*.

About \$25,000 was raised thus. Bostwick offered in June, 1891, to extend the time limit to July 1, 1892; but, Paschal continued, "the claims of the promoters of the Female University to the field caused even President Taylor to doubt the expediency and propriety of making a further canvass."

Some of the difficulty was due to the attitude R. T. Vann considered partly responsible for the failure of Thomas Meredith's appeal, "the long standing assumption of superiority by men over women." J. W. Bailey gave the same explanation of the situation in the nineties:

A young woman must pay twice as much to get an education half as thorough and comprehensive, and if she travel a thousand miles, she finds all the advantages in her brother's favor . . . States and churches have from time immemorial proceeded upon the idea that men are worth educating, and that women are not.

Such conditions underlay the despair of Boone's words, "If we remain inactive, we shall die; and if we go into the field, the famine is there."

Years later President Vann in looking back summarized the situation thus:

Perhaps no other enterprise was ever inaugurated by North Carolina Baptists with greater unanimity or warmer enthusiasm. And yet, within a year, the flame began to flicker; within two years it was burning low; within three it became invisible; and in four the ashes were cold.

Yet the flame never became quite invisible for the courageous trustees, who steadfastly refused to acknowledge defeat even when it seemed inevitable. In December, 1892, they reported to the Convention the purchase of land for the Baptist Female University and their unanimous decision "that the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees press the work for the establishment of the University with unremitting diligence."

As some of the original twenty-five moved away, and some few grew discouraged and resigned, others were elected to fill the vacancies. Two who came to the Board in 1891 and two in 1892 were of immeasurable value to the College. Chosen as trustee in 1891, William Louis Po-teat, then professor of biology in Wake Forest College and later its president, did more than any other one person in putting the curriculum of the Baptist Female University on a sound basis. Also elected in 1891 Wesley Norwood Jones, like N. B. Broughton, was in his youth a printer; later he studied law at Wake Forest and rose to a high place in his profession. His staunch integrity was paralleled by his soundness of judgment. It is said that he would never take a case unless he thought his client was in the right and that he settled more cases out of court than any other lawyer in the state. As president of the Board from 1899 till his death in 1930, as a member of the executive committee and the finance committee for more than thirty-five years, and as College attorney for nearly as long a period, he never counted the cost in effort or time in the service of the College. Carey J. Hunter, elected in April, 1892, worked closely with him on the ex-

ecutive and the finance committees. Generally acknowledged one of the most successful businessmen in Raleigh, Hunter devoted that business acumen to the affairs of the College as wholeheartedly as to his own. More than once when the school, in desperate financial straits, had to borrow, Hunter or Jones personally guaranteed the repayment of the loan.

Another trustee elected in April, 1892, was Oliver Larkin Stringfield, the man destined to bring to success the new venture in education when, in his own words, "FAILURE was written in large letters in the minds of everyone." He was the realization of the forlorn hope expressed in Boone's report, that the trustees might find "some magnetic man, who can inspire new life into the enterprise." He was engaged by the executive committee for part-time work beginning in May, 1893, at a salary for May and June of \$25.00 a month, then of \$40.00. In December the Board of Trustees confirmed the action of the executive committee, and soon afterwards he began full-time work at an annual salary of \$900 and traveling expenses.

It was W. N. Jones, Stringfield wrote in his unpublished memoirs, who asked him to accept the position which had been vacant for a year.

I assured him that I was not the man to undertake the work. He asked me if I would pray over it, and I could not refuse to promise him to do that. I knew that was the way to go about any department of the Lord's work. . . . I kept my promise to Brother Jones. The more I prayed, the greater my anxiety became that we offer our girls the same advantages we were glad to give our boys at Wake Forest.

The fervent prayers of Stringfield and the committee went on for days, then came the decision:

The Spirit made it very clear to me by a powerful compulsion, about which God's children know, that He would have me undertake the work. . . . With a few men and women to cheer my heart with their prayers, I did venture my all to live or die for the establishment.

In all his efforts he and the trustees sought earnestly the guidance of God. He wrote in his memoirs:

What prayermeetings we had in the Mission Rooms! C. Durham, N. B. Broughton, Dr. J. W. Carter, A. M. Simms, W. N. Jones, all

pleading with God to manage for us. To my dying day I will recall the touch of their hands on my shoulder as we would leave the room, and they would say, “Go ahead, do your best, and God bless you.”

The difficulties did not dismay Stringfield; he was accustomed to them. Born near Wilmington May 9, 1851, in a well-to-do family of slaveowners, he could not say, as did Andrew Carnegie, “I was born to the blessed heritage of poverty”; but he entered into it early. His father died during the Civil War while five sons were in the army, and eleven-year-old Larkin with a child’s strength felt a man’s responsibility for his mother and two sisters. This experience, followed by the grim days of Reconstruction, developed in him an extraordinary sturdiness of character without which he could never have accomplished what he did for the Baptist Female University.

He so readily accepted the will of God in this matter, once that will was clear to him, because at one time in his life he had struggled desperately against it, and lost. He wrote an account of this experience in his memoirs. His conversion had taken place simply and naturally. With the constant example and daily Bible teaching of his godly mother, the boy had been ready to respond when his Sunday school teacher said to him, “Larkin, Jesus loves you and wants to make a man out of you.” He had walked sixteen miles to be baptized into the membership of Shiloh Baptist Church. But soon after his mother’s death in 1873 there came a strong conviction that he should preach the gospel. Unwilling and doubtful of his ability, he promised the Lord that instead of being a preacher he would give Him one-third of his income the rest of his life. But the conviction would not let him go, and he surrendered to the call. “If God writes on your heart to do anything,” he said years later, “you *best* do it.”

The decision to preach was especially hard, because he was twenty-three, with only the most elementary education—reading, writing, arithmetic, and a little grammar. As his only living brothers were married and away from home, he would have to leave at home two sisters, one a widow, “with very little to eat or wear.”

He told his sisters of the call and of his decision to go to Wake Forest College. They bravely assented, and the younger one, weeping, threw her arms about his neck and exclaimed, "I'd give anything if I only had a chance to be educated!" Those words must have often echoed in his heart in the years of his struggle to give other girls the chance his sisters never had.

A few months later, early in January, 1874, the sisters packed his clothes in a neat bundle—a very small bundle sufficed—and watched him out of sight as he began his eighty-mile walk to Wake Forest, with only two dollars in the pocket of his faded blue broadcloth coat.

The difficulties he encountered—the preparatory work which had to be mastered before he could begin college, the loss of \$285 earned during two years out of college and entrusted to a false friend, the consciousness that his sisters were also having to struggle to make ends meet—all these went into the making of his heroic character. By June, 1882, when he was thirty-one, he had a college diploma, four country churches, a debt of \$540, and a prospective bride. The \$540 debt would have been smaller had he not with characteristic independence refused the aid which the Board of Education of the Baptist State Convention offered him as a ministerial student. Ellie Beckwith became his wife on September 5, 1882, just before he went to be principal of a new school at Wakefield, near Wendell. Of this school and of South Fork Institute, to which they went many years later, he said, "My name was on the circular as principal, but Mrs. Stringfield was the real principal. She always kept matters going straight on the inside." She was unusually well educated for a woman of her generation and was experienced in school work, having taught mathematics in Thomasville Female College.

In the eleven years they were at Wakefield the school grew from a two-room affair to a large boarding school, with an ever-increasing reputation. It was a venture of faith—the first of a long series which made up his long, active life—a venture of faith which would have been impossible had not his wife been as extraordinary a person

as he. They were both quixotically generous. No student who wanted an education was ever turned away from their school for lack of money. "Many times," he wrote in his memoirs, "wife and I signed a mortgage on our property to get money to pay for food for poor boys and girls who could not attend any other school." Sometimes the students had to be clothed as well as fed. His daughter Miriam recalled his often repeated advice to her: "When things get hard, just pray a little more, and He will carry you through."

Though he was at various times pastor of several churches in the state and as such was greatly loved, throughout most of his life he was the champion of forlorn causes. Some few of them were lost in spite of his efforts at raising money for them; most of them have become so successful that today it is startling to think they were ever forlorn causes. The Baptist Female University was the first of these; then Greenville Female College in South Carolina, now a part of Furman University; a proposed industrial school near Lancaster, South Carolina; Lexington College in Missouri; the North Carolina Anti-Saloon League; Ridgecrest; Edisto Academy in South Carolina; Boiling Springs Academy (now Gardner-Webb College); and a home for motherless children at King's Creek, South Carolina. Such work necessitated constant traveling, usually with an inadequate salary. Sometimes, as in the case of the proposed industrial school and of Lexington College, he suffered personal financial losses. How their seven children were fed, clothed, and educated is a miracle of God's mercy and of Mrs. Stringfield's unceasing industry in supplementing their income and her genius in managing it. She must have stretched pennies to do the work of dollars. It was characteristic of both Mr. and Mrs. Stringfield that from the school which owed its existence so largely to his efforts they refused any financial concessions for their three daughters, one of whom, Mozelle, entered the first year the school opened.

Stringfield retired from strenuous work in 1924 when he was seventy-three, a retirement which gave him opportunities for intensive Bible study and for the evan-

gelistic work which was always close to his heart. A book in which he wrote several of his sermons has, significantly, the first sermon on "Faith," and the last on "Seeing the Invisible." Of the last, only three sentences were written, but his life finished it gloriously.

Until his death February 1, 1930, he and Mrs. Stringfield lived with their daughter Miriam, Mrs. Paul Brantley, ex-'03, and her husband near Wendell, not far from the site of the old Wakefield Academy, now marked by a memorial recently erected by some of his old students, in whose lives his influence constitutes a greater memorial. Mrs. Stringfield, who lived to be ninety-four, was to the last physically and mentally alert. Her vivid recollections of the past in no way lessened her keen interest in the present.

"My first work," Stringfield wrote, "was to ask the Baptists of the State if they really wanted the Baptist Female University." So for about a year, he did not press the matter of money; his chief effort was to revive interest in the school and make for it a place in the heart of the denomination. In raising the money which paid for the site, Skinner and Boone had worked largely in Raleigh and had obtained gifts mostly from people already interested. Stringfield had to create an interest which would lead to giving.

With the effort to procure money for the building and endowment, difficulties arose on every hand. The dissatisfaction with the location, so formidable an obstacle to Boone's efforts, had not yet died out. The friends of Chowan and Oxford were uneasy about the effect on these schools of this new claimant to denominational support. This fear is evident not only in several letters to the papers from friends and officials of these schools, but even more so in the earnest reassurance from the supporters of the proposed University.

In 1889, when the resolution was passed at Henderson, although Charles Duncan McIver was already working for the establishment of the State Normal and Industrial College (now the University of North Carolina at Greensboro) no action of any sort had been taken. That institution

was granted a charter by the 1891 legislature, as was the Baptist Female University. With the state taxes to support it, the State Normal and Industrial College was ready to begin work in October, 1892. Different as the two schools were, there were some Baptists who felt that the opening of the state institution would make it inadvisable for Baptists to go on with their plan.

This doubt was the greater because “the disturbed financial condition” of which Boone had written had darkened into a panic. With cotton selling at four or five cents a pound, some who had been enthusiastic about the proposed university could not pay what they had promised; others would not because they had lost hope that the school could ever be opened.

This despair was partly responsible for the sentiment that developed in favor of making Wake Forest coeducational. T. H. Pritchard, one of the twenty-five original trustees, who at the Convention in Henderson and in letters to the *Recorder* and *Charity and Children* had warmly advocated the establishment of the Baptist Female University, who even at the Convention in 1893 had strongly urged that the school be opened as soon as possible, just as strongly urged in April, 1894, that the Convention, instead of continuing the effort to begin the new school, should open Wake Forest to women. Among others, G. W. Paschal, of the Wake Forest faculty, Baylus Cade, and F. P. Hobgood supported his position. However, as President Taylor and the Wake Forest trustees did not encourage the idea and as Columbus Durham and C. T. Bailey, editor of the *Biblical Recorder*, vigorously opposed it, the movement did not go far. But the discussion heightened the uncertainty of the future of the woman's school and was discouraging to Stringfield's efforts.

Years afterwards when the College was well established, Stringfield characterized the whole situation thus:

Everything seemed to be the matter. It was a clear case of the blind man on the train with a yelling baby on his arm, the other hand scratching about on the car floor. When the conductor asked him what was the matter, the man replied, “Sir, my wife got off

at the wrong station, my baby has the colic, and I have lost my ticket."

In the *Recorder* of May 2, 1894, in an article entitled "Cold Water on the Baptist Female University," he recounted less facetiously the various objections raised and the difficulties they were causing. Nevertheless, in the work which he later called "a dear joy to me," what impressed him most were not the difficulties but "the Lord's blessings which were with me during the whole time I was concerned with the blessed work." The article in 1894 ends with two sentences which are the keynote of everything he did:

If this work be of God, it will succeed. We verily believe that God has men with enough money to erect suitable buildings and endow the school so that we can, under God, do a work for the Baptist girls of the State that will live forever.

With this conviction, he went up and down the state from the mountains to the sea, speaking wherever he could get a hearing—at the Convention and at associations, in city and country churches, in schoolhouses and under brush arbors. Tall and awkwardly lanky, dark as an Indian, he caught the attention of his audience as soon as he rose to speak. Pleased with the informality of his manner and with his keen sense of humor, his listeners were soon absorbed in the theme that absorbed him—the glorious destiny of the Baptist Female University.

Wherever he went to speak, he always visited in homes in the community, often taking dinner with one family, supper with another, and spending the night with a third. In his memoirs he wrote of such experiences, of sitting "around the fire, the little girl holding my left hand and the little boy my right as I was trying to persuade the father and mother to educate their children for God." With a story for the children, a jest for the grown boy and girl, a survey of the cotton and the pigs with the father, and a talk about her children and about his with the mother, he soon won his way into the hearts of every family. Old and young were ready to be convinced by his arguments and to be kindled with his flaming enthusiasm.

When he was praised for an especially effective speech, he answered characteristically, "I say, I will always say the Lord did it in His own blessed way, using my poor tongue."

Margaret Shields Everett, of the first graduating class, gave an account of a visit which was typical of hundreds of such visits in North Carolina homes.

It was on a July afternoon in 1895 I first saw Mr. Stringfield. In company with Mr. Vann, our pastor, he called at our home in Scotland Neck. My mother, as was her custom with a visiting preacher, invited him to be our guest while in the community. A timid child, I recall how I shrank from meeting the tall, angular, swarthy guest. As I crept out on the porch, he sat alone, lost in thought, gazing into a far corner of the yard where stood a large willow tree. On my approach he turned with that alert movement, so characteristic of him. With beaming face and eyes all aglow, with an irresistible smile, extending his hand, he said, "Howdy, child, howdy, and what is your name?" There sprang up at once a friendship between us. . . .

His visit to our home was a memorable one. His conversation was flavored with delightful humor, so integral a part of his nature. He talked unceasingly of that college which he was working to build. In his enthusiasm he almost convinced my sisters that the new college was more of a reality than their Alma Mater. He preached in the village church on the Sabbath. After a stirring sermon. . . . he gave an invitation something like this: "I want every girl who wants to make the most of herself and train her life for usefulness, who wants to come to our College when it is built, to come forward and give me her hand." Then, while we stood about him, he gave another invitation. "I want every father and mother who will dedicate themselves to God to give these girls a chance and will work and pray and sacrifice to help build this College for them, to come forward." What a scene that was! It was duplicated all over North Carolina.

His account book shows that most of the gifts were small—twenty-five, ten, five dollars, and hosts of one-dollar gifts. There were also gifts of fifty, twenty-five, ten, and even one of five cents, each carefully entered in the book with the name of the giver, the address, and the date. It is said that he was once given two cents, and the tale is credible; for in April, 1897, he worked a week in one mountain county and was given in cash and subscriptions \$1.67. Yet his patience, his courage, and his good humor never failed. He richly deserved the dedication of the 1906 *Oak Leaves*, the College annual:

Dedicated to Oliver Larkin Stringfield, who through his great faith and untiring zeal did most when the way was darkest toward establishing this institution.

He could never have collected enough to begin the building had he not done at the same time a far greater work—aroused in the churches and communities a consciousness of the importance of woman's education. Though the types of institution for which they toiled were quite different, he was at one with Charles Duncan McIver in spreading the creed, "Educate a man, and you educate an individual; educate a woman, and you educate a family." Such a creed was strange and unwelcome in many quarters. McIver in an article in the *Biblical Recorder* of June 24, 1896, a special educational issue, cited verbatim the argument he had heard from a young man with a license to teach:

What is the use of educatin' a woman anyhow? If she was educated, she couldn't be a sheriff, nor a register of deeds, nor a clerk of the court, nor go to the legislature, so what is the use in educatin' her? The fact is, Mister Chairman, it hain't her hemisphere to be educated anyhow, it is us men's hemisphere.

In the light of this comment it is not strange that Stringfield sometimes was turned away from the door as soon as his mission was made known.

As Stringfield worked over the state, the trustees were going ahead with plans for the school. In December, 1893, when Stringfield had been doing part-time work for eight months, there is recorded in the minutes of the trustees "the sense of the Board that the University should open in the fall." At the same meeting a committee consisting of Poteat, Durham, and Stringfield was appointed to nominate a president. They acted promptly and on January 17 presented to the executive committee the name of John B. Brewer, at that time president of Chowan. The grandson of Samuel Wait, the nominee was the oldest of ten children of John Brewer, the youngest of whom was Charles E. Brewer, the third president of Meredith.

The Chowan president at first accepted the position and came to Raleigh to confer with the local trustees about the

opening of the school. The *Recorder* in an enthusiastic editorial on the Baptist Female University congratulated the institution on its president, who had “along with broad culture a business tact and executive ability that is characteristic of few men”; in him the school had a president who was “all that could be desired.”

Before his acceptance could be received by the Board at its April meeting, it was withdrawn. The mere fact that he declined is recorded in the minutes, and there is no comment in the *Recorder*. Since the movement to make Wake Forest coeducational reached its height shortly after he was elected, he probably shared the widespread doubt as to the success of the proposed school.

This discouragement strengthened the trustees' resolve that definite steps must be taken toward establishing the university. Through a special committee they issued a statement of the aims and purposes of the school—a pronouncement which is similar to the report of the committee on course of study in 1891, a recapitulation of the steps already taken, and an explanation of what remained to be done. Columbus Durham wrote in the *Recorder* a statement that was clear and vigorous enough to convince the doubtful and arouse the indifferent.

There has been no time in twenty years when such a school could have been established with conditions more favorable, . . . with prospects of so little friction with our other Baptist female schools, and with more unanimity of opinion in the necessity and wisdom of the enterprise. The three years' delay now seems providential. After our disappointment has come God's appointment. Every step has been authorized by the Convention, and every step by the Convention and the trustees has been a step forward. This is a great work, and it will take time to do all that is needed and contemplated. But the school must be opened and time for growth given. The trustees are united, their plans are practical, their work is steady and their faith in the establishment of the school is unshaken.

Determined to open the school as soon as possible, the trustees tried first to rent the Adams house and afterwards to buy it, but the price of \$11,000 was too high for them. Then, though they had very little money in hand—most of which had been obtained from the sale of a small part of the property, the Grissom lot—they instructed the fi-

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nance committee and the executive committee to "consider and adopt a plan for the erection of a suitable building, and this shall include the duty of making a provision for raising necessary funds. They shall prosecute the work as rapidly as possible." The committees chose and the Board approved the plans of A. G. Bauer, a young architect of established reputation, who had designed the governor's mansion. The architect's drawing, given to Meredith by Foy Johnson Farmer, '07, and now placed in the social room of the first floor of Vann Hall, shows the familiar turrets and towers of the old Main Building. Parts of the building shown in the drawing were never erected.

On April 9, 1895, the contract was let to the North Carolina Car Company, which had agreed to put up the building at a cost of \$37,700, the work to begin without delay. The house and outhouses on the property were sold for a few hundred dollars, and the laying of the foundation was begun. Trustees who did not live in Raleigh found that business brought them to the city more frequently than usual, and the local members almost wore out the sidewalk around the corner of the square on which the building was beginning to take shape.

When the contract was let, the trustees had instructed the executive committee not to incur a debt of more than \$2,000. It was necessary to borrow \$2,000 of the \$6,000 for the outside work of the first story; and then the work had to stop until a plea to the 1895 Convention brought enough for them to proceed with the second story, which cost \$5,000. In his report to the trustees on April 11, 1896, A. M. Simms, chairman of the executive committee, wrote:

Soon after your meeting, work was begun upon the building. The same is now ready for the brick work of the third story. It was very trying to us to see the pretty fall days passing by while our walls stood day by day without rising higher, but we were forced to wait until money came in before going further.

Albert Meredith Simms, a native of Virginia, the father of Robert N. Simms, Sr., had been elected a trustee in 1893, soon after he came to Raleigh as pastor of the Tabernacle Baptist Church. Till he moved away in December, 1900, he was one of the most enthusiastic and tireless members of

the board. It is said that when the school was being built, he was on the job every morning before the workmen and watched the laying of almost every brick.

The building went on with so many delays because of lack of funds that the half-built walls were by some mockingly dubbed “Stringfield’s Folly.” Archibald Johnson told of hearing McIver plead before the Legislative educational committee in 1896 for adequate appropriation for the State Normal and Industrial College:

Pointing toward the walls of the Baptist Female University, which were standing exposed to the weather, without a workman in sight, he said, “Look there, gentlemen, and see for yourselves the folly of the voluntary principle in education.”

And Stringfield in his memoirs commented, “The Legislature made haste to appropriate money for the Normal School at Greensboro. We did this much good by going at a snail’s pace.”

But the earnest folk working for the school by day and dreaming of it by night did not share McIver’s view. There is something both heroic and ludicrous in an editorial in the *North Carolina Baptist* on January 7, 1897 which announced the stopping of the work for lack of funds, and then added: “\$100,000 is wanted from North Carolinians to get the school in good running order, and then it is hoped to add a substantial endowment by the aid of funds outside the State.”

With these high hopes for the future the trustees none the less faced realistically the strain of the immediate emergency. There were many earnest pleas to the Baptists of the state for aid, as J. W. Carter wrote, “to this struggling child who so much needs and so richly deserves it.” A. M. Simms wrote to the *Recorder*:

A sacrifice you may have to make, but please be encouraged by the fact that no work is sweet to us until we have made sacrifices for it, and also by the fact that God’s work is built upon sacrifices. Some of us feel that we can never have rest of mind until the institution is open for our girls.

The *Recorder* editor wrote in the same spirit:

Educational institutions are not made of bricks and mortar and money. They are never great until sanctified with sacrifice. . . .

Into yonder institution we must pour rich heart's blood, lives must be lived for it, sacrifices must be offered for its sake, and the best of some of us must be devoted to it.

And again he wrote:

The slow pace of progress in the completion of the institution should draw our hearts closer to it. Already the sacrifices of many have been made for it. Greater sacrifices must needs still be made. It requires more than a day or a year to do a great work; it is unwise to measure by time that which shall do work through all eternity. If it required a century to complete the Baptist Female University, it would be worthy of our labors and prayers every moment of the time. Let us not bother our minds about time: God rules, and we have but to do our duty, and look to Him. No one need fear that what he shall do for this institution will be lost. It will last as long as the world shall last.

There were generous responses to these pleas—some who had given before gave again and again; others gave for the first time. Some gave dollars who could ill afford dimes; others gave hundreds who could ill afford tens. Women knitted socks and sold eggs at ten cents a dozen to make money for the University. They took to heart Stringfield's plea, "Let us ask God for grace to do what we can."

A spinster school teacher "doing a great work on little pay," Stringfield said, with her gift of ten dollars wrote:

I can do without the clothes I meant to buy with this, but we cannot do without the school.

A country preacher barely able to make ends meet wrote:

I can't pray if I turn my back on a work like this. If we succeed, we'll bless His name for it; if we fail, we'll meet Him with the consciousness of having done what we could.

A drayman pledged twenty dollars to be paid in hauling. A childless widow gave her husband's watch.

At the Convention of 1897 A. M. Simms gave the report for the trustees. The roof was on the building, the scaffolding was being torn down, and the windows were boarded up for the winter. Yet the stopping of the work brought no note of discouragement into the report; instead there is renewed determination.

A female university is a necessity to our work and the heart of our people has laid hold of it and has said, "by the grace of God, it shall be."

In 1896 the trustees had been forced to remove their debt limit of \$2,000 and authorize the borrowing of an additional \$3,000. In 1897 they had to borrow \$10,000; and again in 1898, before they had repaid the other loans, they borrowed \$20,000. Yet \$7,000 more was needed to complete the building. Again there is no note of discouragement in their report to the Convention, which met that year in Greenville. With the building nearing completion, and with the prospect of the opening of the school before another session of the Convention, a wave of enthusiasm swept the meeting; and a collection of \$4,714.00 was taken, a sum incomparably larger than it would be now. In memory of their mothers, for love of their wives and daughters, they pledged. When a lull in the pledging came, Dr. Vann once said, an anaemic young preacher exclaimed, “I want to give ten dollars for the girl who wouldn’t have me!”⁴ Another unmarried preacher gave his first wedding fee, in hopes that he might find his future wife at the University.

This 1898 Convention marked the beginning of an organized effort among women in behalf of the school. Fannie E. S. Heck, president of the North Carolina Woman’s Missionary Union from its beginning in 1886, was largely responsible for this step. In an account of the inception of the movement which she wrote for the *Recorder*, she told of the pledge a few women had made to one another when Stringfield began his work, to pray for him and for the work three times a day, a pledge which most of them had kept through the years. In 1896 Women Builders’ Certificates were prepared, “handsome and suitable for framing,” each one signed by the president, the secretary, and the financial agent of the Board of Trustees. A certificate was given to each woman contributing ten dollars or more to the building fund, and her name was enrolled in a book to be kept permanently in the library, the *Record of Women Builders*.

This movement originated with the trustees, not with the women themselves. Individual women had given, of course; but no organization of women for the purpose had been effected, even though the school was to be built for women.

⁴ It is gratifying that the next year the young preacher found a girl who would have him; the *Recorder* carried a notice of his marriage.

In Greenville in 1898 Miss Heck called for a meeting Sunday afternoon of the women attending the Convention.

It was a quiet, solemn gathering of perhaps fifty women. Behind us seemed to stand our sisters, waiting to see what we would do; to hear our voice if we call them to the work we had taken on our hearts; to sit still as lookers if we did nothing. But we could only speak for ourselves. Sixteen of that little company, naming certain sums to be raised by each during 1899, pledged themselves, "Solemnly, in the presence of God, and in reliance on His strength, to spare neither prayer, time, thought, pride, nor purse in securing among the Baptist women and friends of education in North Carolina" \$1,000. Each was ready to take this work back to the home church and count no effort dear in interesting her sisters as she was interested.

This meeting led to the formation of the Woman's Executive Committee of the Baptist Female University, the aim of which was to raise \$5,000 during 1899. To reach this aim the ten members of the committee, with Miss Heck as chairman, were to try "to come in touch with every Baptist woman in the State in order to secure a large or small contribution from each." The name of each person contributing was to be kept among the permanent records of the University. Women Builders' Certificates were to be given as before. In addition, when the gift amounted to twenty-five dollars or more, the name of the contributor or any other person she chose to honor was to be placed with others on a marble tablet to be placed in the chapel.⁵

The work which the plan involved was stupendous, but it was carried out well. Though the amount given through the treasurer of the organization, Miss Susan Clark, fell short of the \$5,000 goal by \$2,130.30, Stringfield said more than that amount was paid to him as the direct result of the women's work. After 1899 the organization continued to work until December, 1900, as the Woman's Educational Union, still under the guidance of Miss Heck, who was tireless in the work. Her example reinforced her precept, "Give first yourself until sacrifice brings joy, and then you will be ready to influence others to give."

⁵ It is to be regretted that neither the book with the names of contributors nor marble tablets are to be found. These names, however, are written in the book Cowper described in his "Sonnet to Mrs. Unwin,"

By seraph writ with beams of heavenly light,
In which the eyes of God not rarely look;
A chronicle of actions just and bright.

With the often deferred opening of the school set definitely for the fall, 1899 was a busy year for the trustees. They were faced with the important and difficult task of selecting a president and a faculty. Though at various times the matter had been discussed, no attempt had been made to find a president since John B. Brewer's refusal until a nominating committee consisting of W. L. Poteat, C. J. Hunter, A. M. Simms, John E. Ray, and R. T. Vann was appointed at the meeting of the Board in December, 1898. From many names suggested and several considered, the choice was narrowed to two men. One was Alexis A. Marshall, of Atlanta, formerly a president of Monroe College (now Bessie Tift), who in 1900 was to come to Raleigh as pastor of the First Baptist Church. The other, James Carter Blasingame, a native of Georgia, was on April 21, 1899, elected president. After graduating in 1892 with honors from the University of Georgia, he had gone directly to be in charge of Jackson Institute in Georgia, where he stayed five years. He came to the Baptist Female University after two years at Holbrook Normal College, in Fountain City, Tennessee (near Knoxville). Five teachers were elected with the president; the others were chosen later with his co-operation.

The *First Annual Announcement of the Baptist Female University*, which appeared in July 1899, listed the faculty in order of election thus:

Jas. C. Blasingame, M.A., Ped.D., President
Psychology and Pedagogy.

J. L. Kesler, M.A.,
Natural Science.

Mrs. Kate Hayes Kesler, M.A.,
History and Economics.

Miss Delia Dixon, M.D.,
Physiology and Resident Physician.

Miss Sadie T. Perry,
Latin.

Miss Ida Poteat,
Art Department.

L. D. Watson, A.B.,
Mathematics and Bursar.

Mrs. H. E. Stone,
English and Literature.

Miss Evalina K. Patten, M.A.,
Greek and Ethics.

Miss S. E. Young,
Modern Languages.
 Henri Appy, Director of Music,
Piano, Violin, Theory.
 Mrs. Henri Appy,
Voice-Culture and Sight-Singing.
 Miss Julia Brewer,
 Miss Lovie Lee Jones,
Assistants in Music.
 Miss Sophie Reynolds, M.L.,
Elocution and Expression.
 Miss Hattie Farrior,
Stenography, Typewriting, and Bookkeeping.
 Mrs. Laura B. Watson,
Matron.

Housekeeper

 University Academy.
 Miss Lillian A. Eckloff, M.A.,
Principal.

The salaries ranged from \$200 with board and room (estimated at \$108) to \$1,000. The president's salary was \$1,800 with living for him, his wife, and his child. In general, the men's salaries were—according to the accepted custom—two or three times larger than the women's.

Blasingame came to the new work on July 1, and scarcely had the warm welcome accorded him been uttered when he was off for a three weeks' tour of northern colleges. The trustees, not used to such rapidity of movement, especially in matters which involved expense, were divided between consternation and pride. That trip completed and the *First Annual Announcement of the Baptist Female University* prepared and sent to press, the new president began a circuit of the state, visiting as many of the churches as he could by the end of August. His glowing speeches went even further than Stringfield's in leading his listeners to believe, as W. R. Cullom said years later, "that the university in question would soon surpass Princeton, Yale, Harvard, or even one of the great English universities."

With so full a schedule for the newly elected president, preparations for the opening of the University on September 27 were still the responsibility of the trustees, especially of the executive committee. The building, not yet finished

or paid for, had to be furnished and equipped. The committee met three times in two days to consider the purchase of fourteen upright pianos and one grand piano. The kitchen range, the dining room furniture, and the five microscopes were bought at one meeting. Portable tablet armchairs for the classrooms were ninety-five cents each; desks for the elementary department came higher, \$1.65 each.

Through the *Recorder* and the *North Carolina Baptist* appeals were presented to churches, Sunday schools, missionary and aid societies, and individuals to furnish the bedrooms; the cost of the rooms for two, for three, and for four girls was thirty, fifty-two, and sixty dollars. Bed covering would be a welcome gift, as would pillows—even feather beds of which pillows could be made if the feathers were “nice and clean.”

On May 3 “Brother Bailey was appointed a committee of one to raise a library.” “Brother Bailey” was William Josiah Bailey, a trustee of the school and editor of the *Biblical Recorder*. He had in 1896 succeeded his father in both capacities. He solicited contributions “in cash or in kind”; with \$150.00, he wrote, he could get two hundred books. The *Recorder* noted the first two gifts. The first was a leather-bound *Encyclopedia Britannica* from C. B. Justice, pastor of the Baptist church at Rutherfordton, who had been a trustee less than a month. The second donor, Miss Mary Harp,⁶ of Raleigh, brought “two excellent books.” Her middle name should have been Martha, for later she gave several pillows.

Long before 1899, the trustees had given up hope of beginning the school with an endowment; gradually even the most optimistic gave up the hope of beginning without debt. Even with the pledges at Greenville—some of which, like pledges made before and since in the sweeping excitement of the moment, were never paid—even with the money raised by the Woman’s Executive Committee and with generous gifts from individuals, the University still owed \$15,000 when on August 22, less than five weeks before the date of opening, the trustees authorized the borrowing of

⁶ Willis Briggs, lifelong resident of Raleigh and an authority on its history, said that Harp street was named for her father.

\$5,000 more, without which the work on the building could not be finished. How desperate the need was may be seen in the fervent gratitude of the following paragraph, written September 13 by one of the trustees:

A friend sent \$1,000 last week for our Baptist Female University. It came within a few hours after the Executive Committee had met to devise ways and means for accomplishing a great deal of work for which no money was in sight; and the ways and means were hard to devise. This gift is a gift in the hour of great need. It means more now than it could ever have meant before. We would give the name of the donor, in order that all our people might speak their gratitude to him, but he made a special request that it be withheld. God be praised for such a man, who is able to make large gifts and willing as he is able. Some day, when heads now young shall be white with the snows of many winters, some one will grow reminiscent upon seeing the great Baptist Female University, and record the trials and discouragements and the glories of its building. That will be an eloquent chapter in Baptist history, and this gift coming in the very hour of need, and the story of the giver, will crown the chapter.

As the day approached when the University, so long a dream and a desire, was to become a reality, the trials and discouragements were completely lost in the glories.

An editorial "At Last" in the *Biblical Recorder* of September 27, the day the school opened, expressed the feeling of grateful hearts all over the state:

After ten years of promise and five years of building, the prayers and sacrifices and faith of our people come to fruition this week in the opening of our Baptist Female University.

It is a great day for 100 girls or more.

It is a great day for many a home and many a heart.

It is a great day for North Carolina.

It is a great day for our denomination.

It is a great day for the Kingdom of God on earth.

Let us praise God for this wonderful hour. May He take the work of His people, may He guide it in all things now and henceforth.

III

“FULL GROWN IN A SINGLE DAY”

(1899-1900)

The next week the *Recorder* editorial was headed “Praise God,” for September 27 was indeed a great day. The debt still rested heavily on the unfinished building; part of the equipment and furnishings had yet to be provided; some of the faculty were late in arriving—two of them had to be lent money for train fare. But the girls were there!

Though hopes had been high for a large student body, there had been an undercurrent of anxiety. True, O. L. Stringfield had in 1898 confidently asserted that three hundred girls were waiting to come to the Female University, but his unflinching optimism had been equally confident of opening the school with \$100,000 in building and equipment and another \$100,000 in endowment. As the bricks of the one building were being laid, the president of a college in Raleigh had warned a loyal supporter of the new enterprise: “If you ever get the building completed, it will be ten years before you enroll fifty students.”

The week before the opening, President Blasingame, judging by the number who had sent five dollars for a room reservation, had hoped for 125. As the one building had been planned for a hundred girls, several days before the opening the trustees, urged by the president, had bought for \$10,500 the Adams house—later called East Building, the twenty-six room dwelling which had been part of the property the trustees had proposed to purchase in 1890. It was a wise decision; for 180 students registered the first day, a number which before the end of the year had increased to 220, sixty-seven of whom were residents of Raleigh. The amount borrowed for this building and its furnishings had brought the total debt to \$35,000.

By nightfall of the first day plans were under way for finishing the entire fourth floor of the Central Building—bedrooms, art studio, and infirmary, all of which had been

left unfinished. Until these bedrooms could be made ready and the Adams house repaired and equipped, the Central Building—later called Main Building—was chaotically crowded. The students of 1899-1900 have vivid memories of those first few days. In 1911, when she held the awesome office of lady principal at Meredith, Rosa Catherine Paschal, '02, wrote in the alumnae department of the *Acorn*:

Don't you girls remember how you had to walk around piles of lumber and stumble over adzes, saws, and hammers, as you passed through the halls that first opening in 1899? We had expected all things to be in readiness for us, but we found no bedsteads in our rooms and no shades to our windows. We couldn't go into the hall to dress, for there were the carpenters, the electricians, the janitors, the visitors, and the faculty passing back and forth. After a few days Mrs. Kesler and Dr. Dixon, perhaps impelled by views from the street, got wrapping paper and pasted it over our windows.

Speaking of no bedsteads, I wonder if it was any of you who went to sleep one night in a room with two mattresses on the floor and woke up the next morning to find that three other mattresses and six other girls had been put in during the night.

Another student was even less fortunate, sharing a room for several nights with nine other occupants.

Yet the confusion that existed did not reign, even those first few days. The first student to register, Gertrude Gunter—then of Wake County, later of Charlotte—wrote years afterwards:

A shy, timid country girl, I felt still smaller as I viewed the building that looked so massive and elegant. Notwithstanding my timidity, I was thrilled in the realization that my dream had come to pass. A new college, a new building, a sea of new faces! Stepping from my former environment into such a high and dignified altitude made a new world for me.

And Margaret Ferguson Sackett, '04, wrote to the *Twig* in 1921:

I shall never forget my impression of the intricacies of Old Main's architecture, with its many turrets and gables, nor that of East Building, with its walnut woodwork, spacious halls, high ceilings. Not one feature of its grandeur escaped my admiring gaze, and to this day I measure my standards of a handsome residence by comparison with the East Building.

The enthusiastic account which the *News and Observer* on September 28 gave of the opening had as a headline,

“From the Hearts of Its People
It Sprang Full Grown in a Single Day.”

The enrollment was “better than its most sanguine friends had expected,” breaking all records for the opening of a denominational college in the South for men or women. At ten o’clock, students, faculty, trustees, and townspeople gathered in chapel for the occasion. Most of the dignitaries of the town were present. With no formal program planned, there were for an hour and a half, the reporter wrote, “brief, bright, impromptu talks.” It was fitting that the first words spoken to the first assembly of the new college were from the Scriptures, and that they were followed by prayer. Following this reading by A. M. Simms and prayer by J. W. Carter, pastor of the First Baptist Church, President Blasingame, introduced by John E. White, secretary of the Convention, spoke for the faculty concerning the place of the new institution. He said that the school had already proved a blessing to the state in the stimulation of activity in other schools.¹ Its distinctive field of work would make of it a friend rather than a rival to any other school. Thomas E. Skinner gave a sketch of the history of the Baptist Female University and told of the unanimous election of its president. Others followed—C. H. Mebane, superintendent of public instruction, who made a plea for teachers for “the thousands of boys and girls who will never know what it is to enter such an institution”; Charles F. Meserve, president of Shaw University; Joseph E. Brown, president of the Citizens’ National Bank, who spoke for the denominations other than Baptist in Raleigh; E. P. Moses, superintendent of the public schools of Raleigh; Henry C. Dockery of Rockingham, a leader in the Convention; and Joseph D. Boushall and N. B. Broughton, both trustees, who represented the Baptist churches of Raleigh.

The assembly closed with the singing of “Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow.” One of the students told of seeing tears of joy on the faces of men and women in the chapel who had toiled to make possible this great day.

With the tears of joy were mingled tears of sorrow, be-

¹ Oxford and Chowan had each reported to the *Recorder* a record-breaking number of students that fall.

cause the man who should have been the heart and center of it all, who had done most for the school in its darkest days, could not share in this day of triumph. Too ill to travel, Oliver Larkin Stringfield had tried to come from Charlotte for the opening and had collapsed in the Raleigh station. In the one small room used temporarily for an infirmary Dr. Dixon had pronounced his illness typhoid fever, and the next morning—the day before the opening—he had been taken to Rex Hospital, where he was for weeks on the edge of death. The fervent prayers offered in chapel were multiplied all over the state. When there seemed virtually no hope for recovery, J. D. Hufham wrote to Mrs. Stringfield: "String won't die. He never does anything like anybody else would do." For more than thirty years "String" lived to prove the truth of the prophecy.

After the assembly, the visitors were shown over the Central Building, on the first floor of which were administrative offices, living quarters for the president and his family, dining room and kitchen, laboratories and classrooms; on the second floor more classrooms (for elementary grades, preparatory, college, and graduate work), the chapel, and the parlors, with two or three cubby-hole bedrooms for teachers; on the third and the fourth floor, bedrooms. The infirmary and the art studio, neither of which was then finished, were also to be on the fourth floor. Later generations dubbed the building "a Gothic monstrosity," but the *News and Observer* voiced the popular opinion in calling it "a delight to the eye, being the most handsome school building in the South." A few years later, when the Presbyterians were planning for a college in Charlotte, the editor of *Charity and Children* wrote: "We would advise the brethren to copy the beautiful building in Raleigh as closely as possible, for it is well-nigh perfect."

The enthusiasm for the University building is understandable when one considers that colleges for women were not infrequently housed in made-over residences and occasionally in old church buildings donated for the purpose. In a southern state the capital of which had been moved to another city, the abandoned capitol was in 1900 converted into a woman's college.

While the visitors exclaimed in admiration and the trustees guiding them beamed with joy, the faculty turned again after the assembly to the task which they had begun the evening before and which continued for several days—classifying the students. It was a difficult task, for there were no entrance certificates and virtually no high school records to be consulted. A large number of students were not fully prepared for the regular college course and had to take part or all of their work in preparatory courses. For instance, there were thirty-seven students in two classes of preparatory rhetoric as compared with forty-four in the two sections of first-year college English. Thirty-nine were in preparatory classes in Latin as compared with fifteen in first-year college Latin. Such a proportion was the rule rather than the exception in most North Carolina colleges then, because the only public high schools were locally supported; in 1900 there were only thirty of these in the state. Raleigh, for instance, did not have a public high school until 1904. Hence, in addition to private and denominational academies, most colleges had preparatory departments with more students, in many cases, than were enrolled in the regular college classes.²

There were other difficulties in classification. Of those who were ready for the college course, some were dismayed by the entrance examinations required in English, Latin, mathematics, and history, and by the requirement of these subjects for a degree. Moreover, some of the young ladies wanted to take all the extras—as music, art, and elocution were called—and nothing else. Some wanted typing and shorthand without the arithmetic and English required in the one-year business course.

In one way or another all the wrinkles were straightened out, so that President Blasingame could write to the *Recorder* on October 23, less than a month after school opened: “In spite of the confusion necessary to the beginning of a large institution, the college work has been organized and is going on as smoothly as if years of experience were behind us.”

² There are a few alumni of the school, for boys were admitted through the seventh grade.

In the *First Annual Announcement* had appeared the following explanation of the listing of courses offered:

It will be observed that no limit as to time has been placed upon the subjects studied. This is purposely planned from long experience. Some students can do more work in a given time than others; and should therefore have the opportunity. Students will take up the subjects consecutively as indicated. Fifteen hours per week will be required of all from time of entrance till graduation. All subjects marked "required" must be pursued, others are elective. From this it will be seen that what is planned as a four years' course for the average student may be done in a shorter or longer time, owing to the aptness and application of the individual student.

Though the listing of courses in the *Announcement* is not quite clear and consistent, from that list, from President Blasingame's report, and from statements of teachers and students of that first year, it is evident that Latin, English, mathematics, history, psychology and physiology were to be required for a degree; and that the other courses offered—Greek, French, German, Spanish, biology, chemistry, geology, physics, pedagogy, logic, and ethics—were elective. The courses in business, art, music, and elocution—the last three being called schools—were described in detail, but not until the announcement for 1900-1901 was mention made of certificates and diplomas for these courses.

Most of the classes met five times a week that first year; chemistry met three times; biology and physiology twice.

For a new school with a debt and no endowment, the faculty was, in the main, remarkably good. The Keslers—he in science, she in history—made such a deep impression on the institution that it is hard to realize that they stayed only three years. His enthusiasm and scholarliness more than compensated for the deplorable lack of scientific equipment that first year. A large part of the summer of 1900 he spent gathering specimens of fungi, his especial interest. Mrs. Kesler, although handicapped by a library virtually non-existent, made of history a vital subject. Both Mr. and Mrs. Kesler had taught in Baptist schools in the South. She was from Missouri; he was a native North Carolinian, the brother of M. L. Kesler, who was a trustee of the school

from 1896 to 1927 and for many years general manager of the Baptist orphanage in Thomasville.

The school had several links with the other Baptist schools in the state. From Oxford College came Ida Poteat, who was for forty years Meredith's great treasure. She was a sister of William Louis Poteat, so long associated with Wake Forest College. She had been graduated from the Raleigh Female Seminary before studying art at the Chase School in New York. Closely associated with Miss Poteat was Sadie Perry who had studied and later taught at Chowan. Before coming to the new school, she had studied Latin at Radcliffe; and while teaching she was granted a leave of absence to do further study at the same institution. Miss Poteat and Miss Perry evidently did much to help the girls feel at home in their new surroundings. Gertrude Gunter was not the only one who remembered with gratitude the brightness of Miss Perry's smile and Miss Poteat's "beauty and sweetness of character, like a madonna." From Chowan also there came a member of the music faculty, Julia Brewer, a graduate of the New England Conservatory of Music. She was a daughter of John B. Brewer, the man chosen in 1893 as president of the Baptist Female University, who had been from 1891 to 1897 president of Chowan College. Lovie Lee Jones, also a teacher of piano, and Hattie Farrior, teacher of the courses in business, were the youngest of the faculty, and were new to college teaching.

At the end of the year Miss Farrior left to marry Dr. Charles G. Crider of Goldsboro. Miss Jones went to Peace College, where for more than fifty years she was valued as was Miss Poteat at Meredith. Miss Perry in 1904 married R. C. Josey of Scotland Neck and made her home in that town till her death in 1963. Miss Brewer also married in 1904. She spent her last years in Rockingham with her daughter, Betty Thomasson London, '39.

These North Carolinians had followed the conventional Victorian pattern for women. Music, art, languages, stenography—these were accepted fields into which a woman who left the safe shelter of home could venture. But Elizabeth

Delia Dixon in becoming a physician in the nineties went into a field which made of a woman an object of curiosity, if not of suspicion. The trustees were pleased with her brilliant record at the Woman's Medical College in Philadelphia, with her first place in the North Carolina State Board examination, and with her travels in Europe and the Orient. They were doubtless more pleased with her reassuring background as the daughter of a well-known Baptist preacher, Thomas Dixon, of Shelby, who during his ministry of seventy years baptized more than five thousand converts. The trustees needed this reassurance when the "female lady doctress," as she was sometimes called, proved a vigorous advocate of woman suffrage.

Radiant vigor marked everything Dr. Dixon did and was during her thirty-four years at the College. Her course in physiology and her famous hygiene lectures were begun that first year. Her own magnificent physique was a powerful aid in carrying out her often expressed determination to "take the halo from around a pill," a determination which helped to create the wholesome attitude toward health which has always marked the college.

With her conservative background and her liberal breadth of interests, Dr. Dixon was a link between the stabilizing influence of those brought up in the traditions of North Carolina Baptists, those who, in Julia Brewer Thomasson's words, had "a common heritage"; and those who "were assembled from the four corners of the globe," whose differences in background and experience kept the new school from being provincial and ingrowing.

Older than most of the faculty, with a quiet poise which came from experience in several other colleges and from two years' study in Germany, Susan Elizabeth Young, of Tennessee, teacher of modern languages, kept clear of any faculty conflicts and furnished a steadiness which the new college needed. With a bearing and personality to command respect, she was a natural choice as dean when that office was created the second year of the school. The older alumnae link her with Miss Ida and Dr. Dixon, and her death in 1928, eleven years after she left Meredith, was to them a personal sorrow.

Sophie Reynolds, a native of New York State, who married after one year on the faculty, had a variety of diplomas and degrees which sound strange to twentieth-century ears—Bachelor of Literature from Alfred University, Master of Literature from Bryn Mawr, "a diploma for general culture" and a teacher's diploma from the Curry School of Expression. She, too, had traveled in Europe. She almost equaled Dr. Dixon in her untiring vigor. She had eleven students in elocution and a physical education class composed of all the students in the University, which met twice a week for an hour's drill. When she had charge of the daily walk required of the entire student body, it is said that fat girls and lazy girls despaired of keeping up with her nimble feet.

Evalina K. Patten, of Nova Scotia, trained in Acadia University and in Harvard, supplemented her teaching of two students in Greek with one class in grammar and two classes in arithmetic. Perhaps the variety of work discouraged a long stay at the school; perhaps the unusual beauty and charm which several students recall led her elsewhere; for after two years at the Female University she married a professor in the University of Chicago.

Miss Patten's two classes in arithmetic must have furnished a welcome relief to Larkin Douglas Watson, who, in addition to five hours a day of teaching mathematics, did the bursar's work, aided only by a student assistant. A graduate of the University of Georgia, he had gone as an instructor to Holbrook Normal College with Dr. Blasingame and thence to the new school. With leave of absence for graduate work at Harvard he stayed until 1912, serving as dean from 1904. He wrote in 1950 that as director of the junior college faculty of Riverside Military Institute in Gainesville, Georgia, he had welcomed the sons of several Meredith alumnae.

English also had need of Miss Patten's help, for Mrs. H. E. Stone taught four hours of college English a day and two forty-minute periods of preparatory work, with 103 students. A native of Kentucky with an M.A. from Connecticut Literary Institute, she was an experienced teacher when she came to the University from Chillicothe, Ohio. Madame

Stone, as she liked to be called, evidently did not concern herself greatly with the drudgery of teaching students to write correctly; but she had a dramatic gift which made literature live for her students. Though one student wrote that she was "the essence of correctness in everything as well as in English," another remembers vividly the spit curls which she industriously made or refurbished as the class proceeded.

Henri Appy, a Hollander, was head of the school of music and taught piano, violin, and theory; his wife, an American, taught voice. Among other dazzling accomplishments, he had been for six years conductor of the Amsterdam Academy of Music. Coming with recommendations superlative almost beyond belief, he lived up to all that had been said of his musical ability; he and his wife were good teachers and extraordinarily good performers. Evidently, however, his background did not fit him for teaching in a small, conservative college.

Soon after the beginning of the session, because of the large number of music students, Henry Gruhler, a German from Philadelphia, was engaged to teach piano; in January his wife was also added to the music faculty as a teacher of voice. Like the Appys, the Gruhlers were excellent musicians; but from the first there was jealousy and ill feeling between the two men, ill feeling which a few weeks before commencement culminated in an actual fight in the hall of Main Building. The Gruhlers left immediately; the Appys at the end of the year, though after her husband's death a few years later, Mrs. Appy returned to the faculty for a short while.

A Virginian, with normal school training and with experience as teacher and principal, Lillian Eckloff was principal of the University Academy, which that year consisted of seventeen boys and girls above the third grade.

Mrs. Mary Seay, a first cousin to Annie Armstrong, for whom the Home Mission offering of the Woman's Missionary Union was named, was housekeeper in the new institution; and Mrs. Laura B. Watson—like Mrs. Seay, a widow—was matron. Marjorie Kesler Thomson, '02, aptly characterized them as "fine women of the homespun variety,

which, in my opinion, is the best yet.” The work of both matron and housekeeper was the harder because of inadequate equipment. There were too few dishes, too few cooking utensils, too little shelf and table space in the kitchen for what they did have.

In her reminiscences Gertrude Gunter gave a student’s impression of her teachers that first year.

When I think of the faculty, I see the faces of Dr. Blasingame, Mr. Watson, Mr. and Mrs. Kesler, Miss Young, Miss Perry, Dr. Dixon, Miss Ida Poteat and Mrs. Stone. I know the sound of their voices as well as if I should hear them reproduced on a record. I entertained a reverent respect for all of them. I admired them for their learning and their patience. I’m grateful that they did not let me get by with lessons unlearned. This was ironclad. However, no ill feelings were engendered. Firmness linked with kindness was their attitude with reference to our work and conduct.

Students and faculty felt the enthusiasm of pioneers who had the honor and responsibility of shaping the pattern of life in a new institution with what Dr. Kesler fifty years later called “a freedom from tradition that was glorious.” There was, of course, some friction, and mistakes were inevitable; but, in the main, students and faculty worked well and lived happily together. Mrs. R. C. Josey, Sr. (Sadie Perry) wrote half a century later: “I loved every member of that first faculty. We seemed like a happy family.” Evidently the statement in the *First Annual Announcement*, that college life was “expected to be essentially a home life,” was no mere flourish of rhetoric. Gertrude Gunter wrote of the student body:

There were not so many that any were strangers, but enough not to become monotonous. Some were financially handicapped; others had too much money to do their best work. A few were brilliant, some mediocre; some studious, others not so studious. A few were very dignified, others jolly and cheerful. Lessons studied in little groups to more quickly solve the more knotty problems, laughter and fun when tasks were done, day by day—these oiled our mental machinery and our tired bodies as well.

On the whole, there was a vein of seriousness, a feeling that the most should be made of our time and advantages in preparation for the real responsibility awaiting us when college was over.

In “Long, Long Ago” in the *Alumnae Magazine* of July, 1949, Margaret Shields Everett gave vivid glimpses of col-

lege life that first year. Her all-day train trip from Scotland Neck to Raleigh was enlivened by a number of Wake Forest boys and by her first taste of "a new beverage, coca-cola." She and her six or eight companions were taken from the railway station to the school in hacks—the forerunners of taxis. Her account continued:

Rooms were furnished in "golden oak"—dresser, student's table, chairs, a washstand on which were a large bowl and pitcher, soap dish, small pitcher for drinking water, and a drinking cup.

The day began with an early breakfast, and a good one. Mrs. Seay was an excellent dietitian, although I doubt if ever she used the word. We came down to breakfast in our "tea jackets," dainty little lace-trimmed garments resembling the present-day bed jacket. Otherwise we were perfectly groomed, hair arranged in the style of the day—pompadour, rats, and all. We sat in companies of sixteen at each table, with two faculty members who supervised our department.

Each day . . . we gathered in chapel for devotional exercises. Mrs. Appy directed the singing; the choir was composed of her "sight singing group." What an inspiration she was! It was in these chapel periods that we learned the value of turning aside from the rush of college life to gain the much needed spiritual uplift. At these chapel periods we heard talks by distinguished citizens and prominent laymen—Governor Aycock, Mr. John T. Pullen, Mr. John E. Ray, Mr. Livingston Johnson, Miss Fannie E. S. Heck, and others.

Each afternoon from five to six o'clock the entire student body was required to walk, accompanied by a teacher. We shopped on Monday mornings in groups of ten or twelve, accompanied by a teacher. We rarely missed a chance to go shopping, as this was our one opportunity to see the "styles of the day"—the only time we were allowed to go on Fayetteville Street. And yet we thought nothing of student privileges or regulations. We were required to wear the standard college cap, the mortar-board, that first year. This was a pet plan of Dr. Blasingame. We did rebel at this requirement, since it was wholly out of keeping with our Victorian dresses. The regulation was abolished after the first year.

Most of the early alumnae agree with Mrs. Everett that they were not irked by the regulations. "In that nun-like existence," one wrote, "I was happy as a bird."

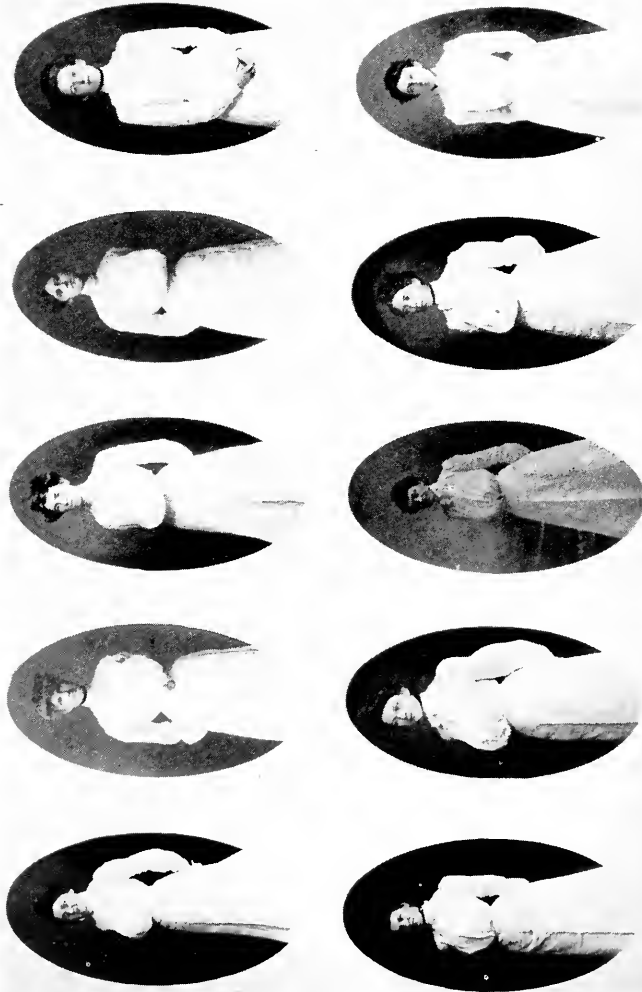
When they went shopping, there was plenty of time for seeing "the styles of the day," since, as Rosa Paschal said, "the girl who wanted a paper of pins had to stay as long as the girl who bought two hats, a coat suit, and a pair of shoes." She remembered going to town to match a spool of

First Faculty of the Baptist Female University



J. C. Blasingame, M.A., Ped.D., President

1. Miss Ida Poteat, Art Department; 2. Miss Sadie T. Perry, Latin; 3. Miss Lillian A. Eckloff, Principal University Academy; 4. Henri Appy, Piano, Violin, Theory; 5. Mrs. Henri Appy, Voice Culture; 6. J. L. Kesler, M.A., Natural Science; 7. Mrs. Kate Hays Kesler, M.A., History and Economics; 8. Miss Hattie Farrior, Stenography and Typewriting; 9. Miss Evalina K. Patten, M.A., Greek and Ethics; 10. Mrs. Laura B. Watson, Matron; 11. Miss Delia Dixon, M.D., Physiology and Resident Physician; 12. L. D. Watson, A.B., Mathematics and Bursar; 13. Mrs. H. E. Stone, English and Literature; 14. Henry Gruhler, Piano; 15. Mrs. Henry Gruhler, Voice Culture; 16. Miss Lovie Lee Jones, Assistant in Music; 17. Miss S. E. Young, Modern Languages; 18. Miss Julia Brewer, Assistant in Music; 19. Miss Sophie Reynolds, M.L., Elocution and Expression.



The First Graduating Class, 1902

Top row, left to right: Elizabeth Parker, Eliza Wooten, Minnie Sutton, Elizabeth Tull, Estelle Johnson.
Bottom row: Rosa Paschal, Margaret Shields, Mary Perry, Sophie Lanneau, Margery Kesler.

thread and staying five hours because she couldn't come home till the chaperon came, even though the University was only one block northeast from the capitol square, with Fayetteville Street beginning on the south side of the square.

Permissions for shopping and visiting were obtained from the matron. Permissions to go out of town had to be given by the president, and he or some other male member of the faculty went with the student to the train and met her on her return. One father wrote of his daughter: "I do not want her to go anywhere or see anybody except in the presence of the faculty." To the president's care most of the students were entrusted personally; and he had endless correspondence with parents about them, with letters ranging from the dismay of a father whose daughter eloped from a picnic which the First Baptist Sunday School held on General Carr's farm to a request that the president go to the depot and arrange for Mary to be refunded the difference between two single tickets and a round-trip rate. One wonders when he found time to teach Uncle Fabius how to manage the furnace or deal with Delaney Dunn, whose cooking was excellent but whose high temper frequently exploded.

The school lived up to Mr. Stringfield's determination that it should provide the best at the lowest possible cost; for tuition was only \$52.50, and room, board, laundry, and medical fee were \$113.00—making a total of only \$165.50. However, even this was beyond the reach of many; to President Blasingame had come numberless pathetic appeals, sometimes illiterately written in pencil on ruled tablet paper. The two which follow are typical of such appeals:

The figures were so far ahead of what I expected them to be until I am almost discouraged, and do not see any way for me to attend your school. Papa could not give me over 25 dollars. . . . If you wish to know whether I am nice and reliable or not, you can write our minister.

I am a poor Baptist preacher with six children, five of them girls, and a salary not much more than it would cost to send one of them to your school for a year.

Two sisters wrote:

We understand that poor girls not able to educate themselves are allowed to enter that school. . . . We heard Rev. O. L. Stringfield lecture here once, and in his lecture he said, "If you have the money, all right; if you *haven't* got the money, all right"; and we have studied over that lecture a great deal and thought probably he meant that if girls were too poor to pay their way, there would be arrangements made for them to go anyway.

Some were more demanding than appealing.

I don't feel I am able to pay this much, and also I can get my daughter in and get all you offer for $\frac{1}{2}$ the amount at other schools.

Another ran:

She is at now, she went on a guarantee that if she was not satisfied she could come home free of college Expenses and her R.R. fare.

Among offers to do various kinds of work were these two:

Are you willing to take two girls in school and let them continue until they graduate—then work and pay back to the college what they spend? They would be willing to stay right on in the college and teach.

I am willing to do most anything in order to go to school. I will teach or do any easy work there I can to pay you for all my expenses.

To needy students, aid was given in different ways. A loan fund of a few hundred dollars was soon exhausted. The trustees allowed notes for tuition to be given by twenty girls; and twelve waited on the tables, thus reducing their board by eight dollars a month.

More far-reaching in its value was the plan whereby girls unable to meet the full expenses could prepare and serve their own meals. Forty-two girls that first year roomed in the Adams house—later called East Building—paying only ten dollars room rent for the year and dividing each month among themselves the actual cost of meals. This varied from month to month; it averaged the first year \$3.51, and the second year continued to be less than four dollars. Such a small amount was the more remarkable since a student tak-

ing the preparatory work, Margaret Ferguson,³ bought the provisions and planned and supervised the work of the kitchen and dining room. Miss Eckloff had charge of the girls in the building.

Thus came into existence the Club,⁴ which in the thirty-two years of its existence was to make a contribution to the life of the College significant beyond its financial aspect, important as that was.

It was fitting that in an institution which, in the words of Miss Heck, "had been planned, prayed, sacrificed into existence"—the bricks of which were "cemented with tears, the roof upheld by prayers"—the first extracurricular gathering of the students should be a prayer meeting. It must have been begun the week after school opened, for President Blasingame in a letter written to the *Recorder* on October 23 said it was organized "a few Sundays since" with the aid and encouragement of one of the teachers. "The zeal and enthusiasm with which the young ladies entered into the work," he wrote, "has been evidenced by the interested faces upturned to Miss Fannie Heck on yesterday when she gave them a beautiful talk on Christian Living, and the ready responses which dozens gave to the call for testimony."

Shortly afterwards a missionary society was organized, with Margaret Shields as president and Ethel Barnes as secretary. In December Miss Heck read to the annual state meeting of the Woman's Missionary Union held in Asheville a message from this newest society, asking the interest and prayers of that body and pledging "our earnest zeal in the field of missions and our faithful efforts to manifest in our work the Spirit of Him Who is our Master." The Meredith Y.W.A. could trace its ancestry to this B.F.U. grandmother.

Miss Heck, whose work in the founding of the school had been of inestimable value, was a vital influence in its life. The trustees had been eager that she should accept the

³In 1963 her husband, Walter G. Sackett, who had taught science at the Baptist Female University when she was a student, gave \$1,000 to a scholarship fund in memory of his wife.

⁴No other connotation of the word troubled the authorities or the students, but an irate parent wrote, "I seriously object to club rooms, particularly for her age, for she is simply a child in years. I cannot allow her to go in a club room so young."

position of lady principal; and when, after serious consideration, she decided that she must continue to devote herself to the cause of missions, they still hoped that "she would have close relations with the college in the capacity of the missionary work of the Institution and perhaps in conducting the Bible class."

Of the relationship Foy Johnson Farmer wrote:

We alumnae of early days can testify that Miss Heck did have close relations with the college, though never in an official capacity. Many an inspiring talk she made at chapel or Y.W.C.A. meetings; she started us out in voluntary Bible classes and mission study classes; her lovely hospitable home was always open to the students; once she was a guest of the college for two weeks, and the time was spent in personal contacts with the students.

Her interest in the activities of the school was not limited to the religious aspect, for from 1904 till her death in 1915 she offered each year a gold medal in the department of art.

In his letter of October 23 President Blasingame also reported the organization of "two Literary Clubs under the guidance of Mrs. H. E. Stone, our gifted and versatile teacher of English." The students were divided alphabetically; half the girls whose names began with A were in one society, half in the other, and so on through the alphabet. The colorless designations of "Club A" and "Club B" soon gave way to Astrotekton and Philaretian Literary Society. The Astrotektons chose from Young's *Night Thoughts* a motto appropriate to their name, "Too low they build who build beneath the stars"; the lovers of learning took as their motto Wordsworth's phrase, "Plain living and high thinking." The flowers were the narcissus and the violet; the colors gold and white, and violet and white.⁵ The colors were chosen because the College colors were violet and gold until 1904 when, at the suggestion of Jessie Louise Jones and W. G. Sackett, maroon and white were adopted as being more dignified. The College flower was then, as now, the iris. The original society songs, written to the music of the *Watch on the Rhine* and the *Marseillaise* were used until 1917.

With no knowledge of parliamentary procedure, with no

⁵ In 1965 the Philaretian colors were changed to blue and white.

money in the treasury, with only a classroom as a meeting place, each society nevertheless went to work with enthusiasm, eager to carry out the purpose the Astrotektons stated in the first issue of the *Oak Leaves* in 1904—“the purpose of inspiring each other with a love for literature and with a desire to promote the higher principles of self government and self control.” Until 1920 the societies met every Saturday night at 7:00—a time incredible to the present day generation for anything in college to meet. But there were no automobiles, no buses, and only a few trains; so a college had not then become what has been called “a springboard for week ends.” With Monday holiday as the only time when the students either went to town or received callers, with Tuesday’s lessons still a comfortable distance away on Saturday night, attendance at society meetings was no problem.

The activities of the new school were well under way before Mr. Stringfield was released from the hospital where he had been ill with typhoid since the day before the opening. He wrote to the *Recorder* an account of that first visit.

On the 30th of November, 1899, a day I’ll never forget, I ate dinner in the Central Building and supper in the University Club Building. It was no longer a dream, for with my own eyes I looked into the faces of the young women who gathered here from one side of our State to the other, and among them a number who could never have entertained a hope of being educated but for the opening of the school. My gratitude was supreme.

Students, faculty, and trustees gathered in chapel to do him honor. “When Mr. Stringfield’s time came to speak,” Mrs. Everett wrote concerning the day, “with a long sweep of his arm he came forward. ‘I am the happiest man in North Carolina to-day,’ he said, amid tears of joy, and ‘Girls, girls, you are the most beautiful girls in all the world.’” “And,” she added, “we believed him!”

As its founders had hoped, the institution became a part of the life of Raleigh, and school and city were fortunate in the relationship. The churches were cordial in their welcome. On October 4 the Baptist churches gave a reception at the University in honor of the faculty, to which the faculties of the other schools and the pastors of the other churches

were invited. The *News and Observer* gave a long account of the occasion.

People prominent in the social, religious, and business life of the city were present to meet and welcome the newcomers to the city, and a steady tide of visitors moved through the brilliantly lighted halls and reception rooms of the university buildings during the hours that the festivities lasted. . . . It was a source of regret to all that the young ladies of the school were not permitted to be present at the reception, except in the dining room, where refreshments were served to the guests.

The young ladies must have been much better pleased when the Tabernacle Church, as part of the celebration of its twenty-fifth anniversary on November 22, served "lunch free of charge" to its members and friends from twelve to three o'clock, and to the faculty and young ladies of the Female University at five o'clock.

The churches of Raleigh offered unusual opportunities to the students, a large number of whom had come from country churches with preaching once or twice a month. John E. Ray, superintendent of the State School for the Blind, taught the Corner Class, organized especially for the University students at the First Baptist, from its beginning till his death in 1918. Maude Reid, who was beginning what proved to be a long term of service with the Tabernacle Baptist Church, taught a class made up of College girls and town girls for the first year or two; after she gave up the class, A. H. Mooneyham was for many years teacher of the class for College girls only. Eventually the large classes at the Tabernacle and the First Church were divided into smaller ones. The annual outings of the two classes were happy events which became well established in the activities of the school. That first year the pastors of both churches were trustees of the school, and they and their congregations made real church homes for the students. In spite of the rigid school regulations, personal contacts were in some ways easier then than they are now, when the College and the churches are larger with the activities of both multiplied.

That the influence of the churches was a vital one can be

seen in a comment such as Margaret Ferguson Sackett made years later:

Though I was a Methodist, I always enjoyed going to the Tabernacle Church, where I gained more inspiration and more old-fashioned religion than at any other church it has been my privilege to attend. I should willingly have walked miles to hear Miss Rosa Broughton and her father sing “Dreams of Galilee.”

Most of the girls of other denominations attended their own churches; and as Methodists in the school have always ranked numerically next to Baptists, Edenton Street Methodist Church was always next to the First Baptist and the Tabernacle in the number of students attending.

Only an occasional student with a real missionary spirit attended the third Baptist church in Raleigh, for its location on the corner of Fayetteville Street and South Street was off the beaten path for the Baptist University students, who walked to church. That church had, nevertheless, the strongest tie possible with the school; for it was John T. Pullen’s church. Its official name was the Fayetteville Street Baptist Church;⁶ its pastors came and went; but it was always known as “John Pullen’s church,” a church which Editor Bailey characterized as “the happiest in Raleigh.” “He was the heart of it,” the editorial in the *Recorder* continued, “and all the poor felt at home there in a degree that they could not feel in any other. . . . They could be neither pitied nor patronized there.” No man in Raleigh ever more faithfully and joyfully ministered to the sick, the hungry, the thirsty, the stranger, the naked and the prisoners than he, or was more concerned that the poor should have the gospel preached to them. He distributed hundreds of thousands of tracts and small copies of the gospels. He was a trustee of the College from 1901 till his death in 1913, but his special interest in the B.F.U. students began before the school opened. That interest originated, no doubt, in his affection for Mr. Stringfield, who at the time he became financial agent of the school was pastor of John Pullen’s

⁶ It is now the Calvary Baptist Church and has been relocated far out on New Bern Avenue. The building on Fayetteville street is now used by the Raleigh Redevelopment Commission.

church. When Mr. Stringfield was carried to the hospital the day before school opened, his last sight, he wrote in his memoirs, was of "those helpless girls, standing in the windows, crying as if their hearts would break." They were girls whom he had urged to come even though they had no money, planning in some way to provide for them when they came. It was John T. Pullen who, learning of their dilemma, enabled "those helpless girls" to stay; and through the years many another girl owed her opportunity for an education to him.

An early alumna, Mary Johnson Lambeth, '06, spoke for generations of students when she wrote: "In writing your history, be sure to mention kind Mr. Pullen and his generosity to the girls. He visited us regularly, bringing candy and fruit." For years fruit and ice cream were served on the campus Monday afternoon of commencement to everyone who came—with no questions asked even of neighborhood children as to who they were or how many saucers they had had, and with no reference to "kind Mr. Pullen" who provided the treat.

To the Club girls especially he was a year-around Santa Claus, coming frequently to dinner or supper with them, and providing a treat of shad, steak, oysters, or chicken, with ice cream for dessert. John A. Oates, writing in the *North Carolina Baptist* of a visit to the school, where he found the students "such a beautiful collection of misses," was especially interested in the Club.

Last month the girls paid less than \$4.00 for board. You ask how this was. Well, economy and John T. Pullen are responsible for most of it. Brother Pullen is so modest. He just does these great things because he loves his Lord.

The second year the president of the University wrote:

Brother John T. Pullen, true to his reputation, is delighting himself with kindness and benefactions to our club girls. He has recently ordered gas for their parlor and carpeted their hall and main stairway.

It was not only in Raleigh that the new school found a warm welcome. The relations between the two Baptist schools just seventeen miles apart were cordial. The Oc-

tober *Wake Forest Student* reported a concert which “the ladies of the Hill” gave for the benefit of the new school. The *Student* listed the representatives of Wake Forest at the Raleigh school—Miss Julia Brewer of the music faculty; Jessie Brewer, Isabelle Gulley, and Joy Parker as regular students; and Ruth Wingate as a post-graduate student. The list could have included Hubert Poteat, then a short-trousered boy; for he, like several boys and men in Raleigh, including Dr. Hubert Royster, studied music at the Female University.

It was Ruth Wingate (Mrs. E. W. Sikes), daughter of the president of Wake Forest preceding Dr. Taylor, who persuaded the University faculty to give the students a holiday that first year to celebrate Wake Forest’s victory over Trinity in a debate.

In a letter to the *Recorder* giving Wake Forest news, President Taylor told of the reception which the woman’s college gave Thanksgiving afternoon for its brother college. “The relations between our college for women and our college for men will naturally become more intimate,” he wrote. “May the Thanksgiving reception prove a happy omen for the future and a forerunner of many others.” The editor of the *Student* wrote that at the reception “the tender buds of North Carolina womanhood appeared in all their radiance and beauty.”

Dr. W. R. Cullom, the first professor of Bible in Wake Forest, in a letter to the *Recorder* wrote of the relationship between the two colleges. The evening before the literary societies of Wake Forest celebrated their anniversary in February, the Appys, the Gruhlers, and Miss Reynolds gave a recital in the brother college. On the anniversary night, Dr. Cullom wrote, Dr. Blasingame presented “a most beautiful bouquet to the speakers from the girls in the woman’s college with their ‘sisterly affection.’” The flowers bore ribbons representing the colors of both schools. “We are coming to feel,” Dr. Cullom wrote, “that it is the most natural thing in the world to have our young and vigorous sister so near us, and the surprise is that she has not been there for many years already.” It was not until the third year that the young ladies themselves were allowed to

come, so that the *Student* editor could write, "There is a ladder extending from the Baptist school in Raleigh to Wake Forest, and angels come and go."

Each of the Wake Forest societies had already shown brotherly affection by a gift of fifty dollars to the "young and vigorous sister." Their action doubtless inspired the gift of fifty dollars which came a few months later from the Dialectic Society of the University of North Carolina.

From time to time there were lectures open to the public; Professor Kesler of the faculty, President Taylor from Wake Forest, Bernard W. Spilman of the Sunday School Board, and Thomas Hume from the University of North Carolina were among the speakers. The *Recorder* commented that Hume's lecture on Shakespeare, "brilliant, instructive, and eloquent, charmed not only the entire school but a host of Raleigh people also." The lecturer, for a brief while a trustee of the Baptist University, wrote of his visit:

I was impressed by the noble and beautiful building, by the 140 boarding students, so earnest and studious, and by the fine teachers, three of whom I heard in the classroom in admirably conducted instructions.

Though the lectures were well received, the entertainments of the departments of music and elocution drew to the school much larger audiences from Raleigh, and evidently pleased those audiences even more. Less than three weeks after school began, Mr. and Mrs. Appy and Miss Reynolds gave a recital that charmed an audience of seven hundred in the college chapel, which then seated only four hundred. "Somebody could always think up a recital for the music faculty to give," Julia Brewer Thomasson wrote long afterwards. In addition to her own solo work at these recitals, she was accompanist for Mr. and Mrs. Appy; hence the hours of practice were so long that "teaching almost became a side issue." In the spring students began to take part in recitals and concerts; a sacred concert by elocution and voice students especially pleased the audience.

The climax of the year's work in these departments was reached in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, given on April 23, Shakespeare's birthday, at the Raleigh Academy of Music.

It was under the direction of Miss Reynolds, but the whole school joined efforts in producing it. The art department made the posters and helped with the pretty, carefully prepared programs bound in violet covers stamped with gold lettering and tied with tiny tinsel thread. A sketch of Shakespeare was on the first page inside, and each section had an appropriate quotation from the play. The English and music teachers helped train the characters, and Professor Gruhler played the complete score of Mendelssohn's incidental music. The costumes for the principal characters were ordered from New York; but making the costumes for the rest of the seventy-five characters was a prodigious task. A few days before the play, when the costumes and staging were far from completion, the whole school took two days' recess and worked frantically to finish them.

The *News and Observer*, which praised unreservedly the whole performance, picked out for special commendation three characters—"Puck, a perfect conception of Miss Eloise Elizabeth McMinn; Bottom the Weaver, a superb impersonation rendered by Miss Jane Lewis Moore; and Oberon, King of the Fairies, a clever piece of dramatic work by a talented young Raleigh girl, Miss Claire Stainback." Two faculty members were among the actors—statuesque Dr. Dixon as Theseus and Mrs. Gruhler, a graceful, tiny blonde, as Titania.

The trustees in their annual meeting in April, besides considering the ever-pressing burden of debt, were faced with a grave problem—the selection of a new president. Dr. Blasingame with his first annual report offered his resignation, which the trustees accepted. Although in neither the trustees' minutes nor the Baptist papers is there any explanation or reason for his resignation, his presidency seems to have been a case of the square peg and the round hole. He was undoubtedly an able man. His five years at Jackson Institute in Georgia had brought that school from the verge of failure to a sound financial basis, increasing the student body from one hundred to three hundred. His stay at Holbrook, though shorter, seems to have been successful. After his election to the Raleigh school, letters of congratulation to the Female University and to the Baptists of the State

had come from various sources. A part of one from his pastor in Jackson, G. W. Gardner, is indicative of the nature of these letters:

Professor Blasingame is, to begin with, every inch a gentleman. He is as clear and as open and as courteous as one could be, and the beauty of it all is enhanced by the fact that his every action is marked by sincerity. . . . Professor Blasingame is one of the most energetic men I have ever known. He seems never to grow weary of hard work, and his enthusiasm knows no bounds. He loves his profession devotedly. . . .

I was his pastor for several years and I never had a better member. He was teacher of the choir and superintendent of the Sunday School, a true, tried and valuable friend to his pastor. He stood up like a man for the right, when had he been a time server, he would have yielded to other influences. . . .

With his love for young people, devotion to his profession, his high sense of honour, and above all, his love for his Saviour, he will make even the lukewarm enthusiastic.

Moreover, his brief administration of the Baptist University proved his ability. That the school, with no endowment and with such small charges, met expenses that first year was not only "a miracle of faith," as the *Recorder* called it—it was a miracle of good management on the part of the administration. The records of those first years show that apparently the bursar, Mr. Watson, all of whose teaching and administrative experience had been under Dr. Blasingame, kept every check stub, every receipt, and copies of every letter concerning the simplest business transaction. There are no carbon copies of the first president's letters; but those which he received were filed, and each is marked with the date answered, usually a day after its arrival, rarely more than two or three days later.

He had been well received when he came to North Carolina. The account in the minutes of the first meeting with the trustees after his arrival concluded, "The Board was very much impressed with the intelligence, energy, and spirit with which he took hold of the work." O. L. Stringfield had written in the *Recorder* of July 26 that he regarded the newly elected president as "a scholarly Christian gentleman; a first-class business manager"; a man able to hold the attention of any audience, with "that tact the Lord gives to few men, to feel comfortable in the palace of a king

or to make those feel comfortable who live in remote, rural districts”; a man trusting implicitly in the guidance of the Lord. The *Recorder* editor had welcomed him cordially. He was popular among the students; and his wife, a person of quiet charm, was also well liked. In a reminiscent letter to the *Alumnae Magazine* of June, 1968, Mary Perry Beddingfield, a member of the first graduating class, referred to “Dr. Blasingame, whom we all loved and admired.”

The beginning of any school presents difficulties even to the most seasoned educator; and Dr. Blasingame was young—only thirty-two—in spite of the long beard he wore then, which made him appear so venerable. Moreover, he acquired a reputation which did not endear him to the good, homespun element so important among North Carolina Baptists—the reputation of being a dude. The white kid gloves he wore to the Convention were remembered after his effective speech was forgotten. In a sketch of her husband written in 1949, Mrs. Blasingame told a delightful anecdote that showed this same criticism and the spirited humor with which he met it. Because his hair was thinning on top, he parted it in the middle.

But on hearing that some of his out-city patrons had spoken disparagingly of having an intellectual dude that parted his hair in the middle as president of their new college, he promptly announced in chapel,

If parting my hair in the middle makes my brother to offend,
I will part no hair while the world stands.

His youth and boundless energy, with no precedents established in the school to guide him, doubtless led him into rash decisions and hasty actions. Moreover, his youth and self-confidence aroused antagonism in some of the more settled members of the faculty, especially Professor Kesler, whose age, ability, and experience seemed to some to fit him for the presidency. Mrs. Thomasson wrote that the weekly faculty meetings were invariably marked by heated arguments between the two.

These conflicts in custom and opinion could, no doubt, have been worked out; there was, however, a difference between President Blasingame and the trustees too deep-

rooted to be adjusted—a fundamental difference in their ideas of the kind of school the Baptist Female University was to be. Though he had been president of the Y.M.C.A. in the University of Georgia and had been active in church work wherever he went, nothing in his education or teaching had given him any experience in a denominational school. In his report to the trustees he wrote:

We do not compel the young ladies to go to church or Sunday School, yet all go very regularly. When we see one remiss we talk kindly with her and urge her to go—if she is a Christian, for Christ's sake, if she is not a Christian that she might come to be. In all these matters we act upon the theory that the religion of Christ is a religion of love and not of force and compulsion. I might say here that our discipline is founded upon the same idea. You may force young women when under your eyes to a certain course of action, but if their spirits are curbed by superior force of will simply, as soon as they escape personal supervision, reaction sets in and you have a dangerous pupil to deal with. On the other hand, if love and reason can succeed in stirring up the best impulses of the heart, a power is developing stronger than any other force that can possibly be brought to bear from the outside, and you have pupils in whom you may safely trust.

Those who founded and supported the Baptist University believed that in a school made possible, in Dr. Hufham's words, "through faith in Him from whom it came, for whom it lives, and by whom it is guided and governed," a school "founded in faith and hallowed in prayer," religious services were equal in importance with classes; and that there was equal or greater reason for requiring students to attend them.

With the underlying principle of discipline stated in the report, no right-thinking person would disagree. Charles E. Brewer once said that the ideal school would have only one regulation—the Golden Rule, as would the ideal nation, or any ideal group. But among the University girls there were, as was to be expected, some too immature or too inexperienced, and a few too frivolous to be ideal students. The maturer, more serious students were troubled by the noisy behavior and unruliness of the "play set," which, unchecked and apparently unnoticed by the President, began to spread. Beulah Bowden, '02, wrote that a little group of these more serious girls more than once gathered to con-

sider the situation. They were disappointed in “not having some standard of behavior that would be worthy of a *Baptist Female University*,” and they desired that “the conduct of Christian girls should be in keeping with the expectations of the Baptist constituency who had made such sacrificial gifts to the institution.” The same feeling prevailed among the more conservative members of the faculty and in the Board of Trustees, and inevitably there came to be criticism of the school and its president among others.

Consistent with his conception of discipline were his academic ideas, and these were even more at variance with the ideals of the founders. The first advertisement of the school in the *News and Observer*, in addition to an announcement of the new and elegant building and the finest advantages in music and elocution, announced also “elective courses leading to the A.B. and A.M. degrees.” In the letter already mentioned, Mrs. Blasingame wrote of her husband as an educator, “His main interest was in the elective system of courses of study.” In the *First Annual Announcement*, which he prepared, only English composition and literature, psychology, and physiology and hygiene are listed as required for graduation; whereas from the reports of faculty and students and from his annual report to the trustees it is clear that to those requirements there were added, as has already been noted. Latin, mathematics, and history. Evidently even before the institution opened there had been a compromise between the president and the trustees.

Apparently the compromise satisfied neither. On October 13, less than three weeks after the beginning of the session, President Blasingame called a meeting of the executive committee of the trustees “to consider the matter of the curriculum of the university.” The minutes of the committee contain the following account of the meeting:

President Blasingame submitted the curriculum as proposed by himself prepared under the idea of the executive committee as he understood them. He did the same, and it was considered.

The following resolutions of Brother Bailey were adopted:

Resolved: That the requirements for the B.A. degree as stated

in the Wake Forest College catalogue for 1898-1899 be adopted as requirements for the B.A. degree in the Baptist Female University, and that these requirements be posted in the university.

That Professor Poteat be instructed to interview the members of the faculty, to visit the institution, and report to the executive committee.

That President Blasingame and Professor Poteat be appointed to arrange the system and details involved in pursuing these requirements toward this degree.

However, in the minutes the second resolution was scratched out.

With their irreconcilable views, the young president of the University and the young professor from Wake Forest must have had a good many stormy sessions, for there appears in the minutes of the executive committee for March 22, 1900, the following:

Ordered that Professor Poteat be not excused from the committee on curriculum and that Brethren Bailey, Ray, and Boushall be added thereto.

Dr. Blasingame's letter of resignation, submitted to the trustees April 10, has both dignity and spirit.

Under the guidance of God, as I believe, I came to you nearly one year ago to take up what I considered to be a high and holy mission. I came feeling that my education, study, preparation, and experience fitted me in some degree for the arduous labors involved. I made great personal sacrifice to take up a work that would put me in closer touch with my denomination, and which if it did not bring to me greater financial gain would put me in position to do a more acceptable work for the Master. I came and threw all my heart and soul into the work. Everywhere I went the hearty hand shake, the beaming eye told me of the place already made for me in the hearts of the people.

Encouraged and inspired by these experiences I dedicated anew all my powers to God and the University.

In reviewing the brief period of time I can see some mistakes—such, however, as wise men would profit by.

I have heard criticism, but not such as would intimidate brave men. I have endeavored to carry out instructions received from the board, and in this discharge of duty have met with, in some instances, opposition. But when any member of this board, or any mortal man rises to that high plane of glorification and deification that he is not criticised and found fault with, then may other mortals hope to escape it.

Confronted with the fact that there has been criticism I calmly and deliberately leave it to this honorable body to decide whether they have made a mistake in their selection of a president and

whether he will hinder or help the Lord's work by continuing to hold the place he now occupies. "All for the glory of God" is my motto in life. Supported by the Board of Trustees I stand ready to make as valiant fight as God will give me grace to make for the success of the Institution to the service of which I had consecrated my all. To fight ignorance and error is glorious; to fight for place or preferment in the noble work in which I am engaged is ignoble, is dishonorable and beneath any christian man.

I, therefore, respectfully offer my resignation as President of the Baptist Female University to take effect on the seventh day of June 1900, or as soon thereafter as you may desire, if in your opinion the interests of the University demand it.

The trustees, after considering the resignation for two hours in the evening, accepted it at their session the next morning, April 11. They unanimously adopted a resolution expressing regret for "the circumstances which prompted Professor Blasingame's resignation" and expressing their "cordial appreciation of the spirit which he manifested in his letter of resignation and of his devotion to the interests of the institution." Throughout the remainder of the session his attitude toward the school and his duties in it was admirable. At commencement he thanked those who had supported him during the year, and expressed his belief in the hopeful future of the school.

The brief comment in the *News and Observer* on his leaving shows discernment both as to the man and the situation:

Dr. Blasingame, the retiring president, has shown himself to be one of the foremost educators of the State. He is up-to-date and progressive in his ideas, and his methods smell of steam and electricity. He is energetic to the last degree, and his retirement from the profession is a distinct loss to the educational work of the State.

On leaving the Baptist University Dr. Blasingame left educational work altogether, and immediately accepted a position with the Mutual Life Insurance Company as superintendent of agents in North Carolina. When a brief time afterwards he left to be the Virginia manager of the New York Life Insurance Company, the *Recorder* commented:

This comes of his successful work for the Mutual Life in North Carolina. He is a loyal Baptist, and some Richmond church will be the stronger for his removal from North Carolina. We take pleasure in Mr. Blasingame's success.

The regrettable misfit and the unfavorable criticism to which it led did not shake the loyalty of the supporters of the Baptist University; nor did it cause any fears for the future of the denomination's youngest child. Mr. Stringfield's comment on the situation was characteristically cheerful.

Indeed, one of the most hopeful things that I can see about this school is that it is in so many people's mouths. If the trustees or the faculty or the students do the least thing out of the way, everybody knows about it. . . . There is one thing that does me a great deal of good to say with reference to what may happen here. If the things that are done here are not entirely pleasing to the Baptist people of North Carolina, they have but to say so. Those principles that are held near and dear in the 1600 Baptist churches in North Carolina will always be respected here, but if they should not be, then our people have only to remind us of what they expect of us, and it shall be done.

J. W. Bailey's editorial at the end of the year acknowledged all the difficulties of the year, and yet was a paean of thanksgiving.

We have come through the first year with great success. The greater trials are behind us. Supreme tests have been withstood. We know now that our institution was destined to succeed. We know now that people love it. Troubles we have had, but they have been turned to blessing, and no man with the love of God or the spirit of man in his heart will use those trials passed to injure the institution. Condemnation, quick and inexpressible, ought to be visited upon anyone who lifts a hand or breathes a breath against this institution planted in prayer and built in the faith and love of a poor but strong people.

The crowds which came to commencement from all over the state, as well as from Raleigh, were evidence that the new school had lost none of its friends during the year and had gained many new ones. Archibald Johnson, always one of the most loyal and enthusiastic supporters of the school, whose four daughters were later graduated from it, wrote on May 17 in *Charity and Children*:

The Baptist Female University is beyond question the most popular college in North Carolina. It sprang at one bound beyond its sisters, both of the male and female persuasion, and stands there today, queen of the realm. Presidents of other colleges laugh and look wise when this assertion is made, but they know as well

as everybody else that this youngest child of the family is the very prettiest, plumpest, winsomest of them all. The commencement occurs early in June. Of course you will go. We are not exactly sure of the dates. They didn't send us an invitation, but we do not care a rap about that, we are going. . . . It will not be hard to fill the biggest hall in Raleigh with friends of this dearly beloved institution. The occasion is going to be one of great rejoicing.

Commencement was indeed "an occasion of great rejoicing," the importance of which was not at all lessened by the lack of a graduating class. It lasted four days, beginning Sunday, June 3, with a missionary sermon by Dr. R. J. Willingham, secretary of the Foreign Mission Board, and continuing with a recital of the elocution class on Monday night, the literary address on Tuesday morning by Dr. Edwin McNeill Poteat, of Philadelphia, brother of William Louis Poteat, the art reception in the afternoon, and the entertainment and reception of the literary societies that evening. Wednesday was the grand climax, with the commencement sermon in the morning by Dr. F. C. McConnell, of Lynchburg, and in the evening the annual concert of the department of music.

"The high order of excellence" of all the events was praised in various papers. The addresses were "scholarly and eloquent, admirably fitted to the occasion" (each speaker took some aspect of Womanhood as his theme). It was the general opinion among the visitors that no college in the state could surpass the Baptist University in the quality of work exhibited by the art department in water colors, oils, pastels, crayon, china, pen-and-ink sketches, and tapestry. To the program of the elocution class, taken largely from Shakespeare, an audience which crowded the chapel listened in such silence that "any time during the exercises the dropping of a pin could have been distinctly heard." The program of the two literary societies was devoted entirely to Tennyson and Browning; "the perfect quiet of an audience that overflowed the auditorium into the halls attested to their appreciation of what is usually a tax on a mixed audience—a literary evening." The annual concert, which lasted "far into the night" was heard by an audience equally large and equally pleased.

Archibald Johnson had as good a time as he had antici-

pated, and his enthusiastic comment spoke for hundreds of Baptists with less facile pens.

The girls are bright and happy as they can be. They are very pretty, too, though it would never do to tell them so. Everything was gracefully and handsomely done, and the hearts of all the people beat high with joy. In fact, we never saw so many happy people together in one place. It was the daybreak of a new era for our people. Long and hard and bitter as the struggle has been, it was not worthy to be compared to this high note of triumph.

Brother Stringfield was all smiles. He said nothing; he only laughed and urged all his friends to have a good time trusting God! The trustees were as happy as schoolboys on their way to the creek; and the people were just as happy as the rest. Some were there who have waited and prayed and suffered and sacrificed for the glory of this great occasion, and many were not there who have likewise, on bended knee, begged the Lord to lead the work along, and they too, are rejoicing that deliverance has come. . . .

We thought we knew Raleigh before, but we did not. We have always thought highly of the people, but now we love them. How kindly and gently they treated the strangers within their gates! Every hour we spent among them last week was filled with delight.

The last evening of commencement was of especial importance. Between Dr. Blasingame's resignation on April 11 and commencement, the trustees had worked earnestly to find a president for the University. They had unanimously elected John E. White, corresponding secretary of the Convention, who, like his predecessor, Columbus Durham, was deeply interested in the Baptist University. Mr. White had declined, giving as his reasons that "he feared he would not have the undivided support of the Board," and that he felt a definite call to the mission work, which he was afraid would suffer if he gave up the secretaryship at that time. He had evidently given the matter serious consideration, for he had asked "thirty-three of the most prominent brethren" for their candid judgment; and their replies together with a number of unsolicited letters had confirmed his opinion that it would be unwise to give up the secretaryship. A few months later he did give it up, however, to go to the Second Baptist Church of Atlanta; so he had probably considered the presidency of the University a dubious undertaking. W. C. Tyree, then pastor of the First Baptist Church in Dur-

ham, later of the First Baptist in Raleigh, had likewise declined.

The election of these two had been immediately and triumphantly announced in the papers; thereafter the trustees, perhaps grown less sanguine and more wise, had not made public the names of the others who were considered.

Thus commencement found the school still without a president—but did not leave it so. Wednesday evening at six o'clock in a called meeting, the trustees pleaded with one of their own number, one who had been the first to be considered, but who, feeling as did Moses his own inability, had begged his brethren not to elect him. When, in spite of his protests, they did so Wednesday evening, he accepted, saying "When our cause calls any man, I do not see how he can withhold even his life."

After the concert W. N. Jones, the president of the Board of Trustees, introduced to the audience the new president of the Baptist Female University—Richard Tilman Vann.

IV

"UPHELD BY THE AFFECTIONS OF A GREAT PEOPLE"

(1900-1915)

Richard Tilman Vann, whom various leaders of the denomination called "the most remarkable man in North Carolina," "the Spurgeon of the State," "the poet of the Convention," "brilliant, scholarly, devout Dr. Vann," spoke of himself as "a man of little strength, small wisdom, and no experience." Where others praised his "valuable and self-sacrificing services," "his wise, aggressive, and constructive management of the school," he himself wrote near the end of his second year, "We have no doubt made a good many mistakes, as we shall again in all probability, and I must ask our good friends to be as patient with us as they can."

The *Recorder* editor saw in him the ideal president:

Brilliant of mind, positive in thought and expression, in deep and perfect sympathy with the failings and the ideals of North Carolina Baptists,—above all a man of God rarely well versed in the Bible—a humble follower of Christ—what more could we ask than that such a man shall determine the ideals of the school for our young women?

The man who was for fifteen years to determine the ideals of the school was born to Albert and Harriet Gatling Vann in Hertford County on November 24, 1851—the year of O. L. Stringfield's birth, the year after Thomas Meredith's death. When not quite twelve years old the boy lost both arms in a cane mill—the right just below the shoulder, the left just below the elbow. With several of his friends he had been converted in a revival meeting; and at the time he with his young companions was to have been baptized, his mangled arms were being amputated. His mother had died when he was five; his father soon after the son's accident.

In 1863, the year of the accident, the life of a boy whole of body was at best difficult, and his future uncertain. Had

not this boy had in him the making of "the most remarkable man in North Carolina," had not in his behalf human kindness been directed of God, life could have been only a burden for Richard Vann.

Of his own difficulties he rarely spoke; of the aid given him by others he has told, especially that of his cousin, Mrs. Rowena Vann Savage:

When I was a youth of sixteen, without hope of a future, she took me into their home free of charge that I might attend Buckhorn Academy, then in charge of Captain J. H. Picot, through whose generous kindness I was prepared for college. During those years I could not discern any difference in the treatment she gave me and that accorded to her own children. As I was leaving for college I learned that, quietly and informally, she and her husband had adopted me as their son. It was mainly through their efforts that I was enabled to take a course in college, and in all the years since, she has been my mother, hardly less real to me than my natural mother, who had gone to heaven in my childhood.

He used well the advantages afforded him, graduating from Wake Forest in 1873 at the head of his class. A report in the *Recorder* of the "Senior Speaking" in December, 1872 praised the oration of Mr. R. T. Vann, "The Proper Study of Mankind Is Man."

It is a very sober, sensible production. The style is excellent, abounding in beautiful imagery, yet chaste. . . . The Lord intends this young man for some good work.

In the accomplishing of that good work a superficial judgment would pronounce a loss such as his a misfortune, an affliction. But these words could never apply to Richard Tilman Vann. His son wrote of him: "The loss of his arms was both a challenge to his ingenuity and the sure foundation of his faith." So great was his ingenuity that grown people seeing him for the first time stared like children as, with only the aid of a leather strap around his left arm, he opened the pulpit Bible to the right chapter and verse; wrote, sealed, and stamped a letter; stirred his coffee, opened a door, or sent a croquet ball through a difficult wicket. A hostess held her breath as he brought a lighted lamp down the steps, but those who knew him thought little of his skill. They judged him by the same standards they

judged those whole of body. They never thought, "How wonderful that he can do this or that!" They took it for granted that he could—a truer tribute than admiration.

"For whatever he lost with those hands," his son wrote, "there was abundant compensation in the realm of the spirit; a divinely ordered answer, he felt, to his mother's suggestion to her boy of four that he might be 'her preacher'." Her wish reached its fulfillment in his ordination as a minister in 1874, between his two years in the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, which was then located in Greenville, South Carolina. Before coming to the Baptist University he had served as pastor in Murfreesboro, Wake Forest, Edenton, and twice in Scotland Neck. He had experience in teaching, for while pastor in Edenton he had taught in an academy for girls, and while in Murfreesboro at the Chowan Female Institute.

In Wake Forest, he was married to Ella Rogers McVeigh, whom he had met when the young graduate of Hollins College came to teach in Chowan Institute. Though always frail in health, Mrs. Vann shared her husband's keen interest in the faculty and students of the school, and her charm and graciousness added much to the life of the College during his administration.

The new president was immediately beset with the problems inevitable in any year-old college with a change of administration, problems which were intensified by the pressure of debt, though strenuous efforts had been made that first year to pay off the debt. With all these efforts, however, the contributions had barely kept the interest paid. Moreover, during the summer applications came in such numbers, especially from girls who wished to board in the Club, that two houses on the square, later called North and South Cottages, had to be bought and furnished to supplement the rooms in East Building. Thus by the beginning of school in September, 1900, the debt was increased from \$35,000 to \$43,000.

Everyone recognized that before the institution could be adequately equipped, endowed, and enlarged, the debt must be paid. Filled with enthusiasm over the success of the first year, its friends were sanguine concerning the task. F. C.

McConnell wrote to the *Recorder*, "Dr. Vann holds the hearts of North Carolina. . . . He could easily pay off the debt, but I hope he will not have to give any valuable time to that small matter." John A. Oates wrote:

Let every Baptist, every lover of his race, everyone who believes in the education of women, put his hand in his pocket and help cancel the debt, which, if not speedily canceled, will hinder our greatest usefulness.

J. W. Bailey was confident of the outcome.

"We shall stand by him; no burden shall crush him, no obstacle deter him. The debt shall be paid, new buildings reared, an endowment raised."

And yet, in spite of all that the faithful could do, the burden was almost crushing. That first fall Dr. Vann wrote to a friend:

If I had known how severe and varied are the trials in this work, I should hardly have had grace enough to come; but, then, that would have been cowardly, because somebody had to go through with it.

Some resented what they regarded as an encroachment on the other interests of the Convention; some with good feeling toward the school had the attitude of one pastor whose congregation was building a church.

We shall be glad to have him visit us for our girls and our hearts; the money of our people is not available just now.

All summer even though imperatively needed at the school, he visited as many churches and associations as possible, "speaking under brush arbors and in city pulpits," Livingston Johnson wrote, "equally at home in either." Even after school began, when, in his own words, "the machinery was still squeaking," he had to be "on the wing most of the time."

Early in the fall he worked out a plan for paying the debt which he explained in letters to various churches and individuals. A portion of his letter of October 9, 1900, to the church in Charlotte will serve to make the plan clear:

My judgment is clear that this perilous situation ought to be relieved within a year. A sudden financial crisis, or an epidemic in the school, would threaten, if it did not actually entail ruin to

us. Nor can we do our work well with this dreadful incubus upon us. I am aware that so large an amount is not going to be raised by church collections. I hope Brother Stringfield will keep these up for the sake of the amounts that may be thus raised and in order to keep the churches in touch with the school. But the bulk of the debt is to come from comparatively few churches and individuals, and this part of the work I am taking on myself. My plan is to ask some twenty churches and individuals to give \$1,000.00 each within the next Conventional year; some thirty others to give \$500.00 each, still others to give \$250.00 each, etc. These gifts are to be made with a view to raising the entire amount, or the donors can have their money back if they like.

I write to ask if you will allow me to come to Charlotte, at a time to be fixed by you, with a view to trying to raise a thousand dollars from your church. This, of course, means no pledge, but only your official endorsement and co-operation in the effort, should I come.

The cordial responses to these letters encouraged Dr. Vann to go ahead with his plans, but the meeting of the Baptist State Convention in December abruptly changed them. The Convention voted to mark the beginning of the new century by an effort to raise during 1901 a Century Fund of \$100,000 for educational purposes. Of the amount raised, half was to go to the Baptist Female University, three-tenths to Wake Forest College, one-tenth to Chowan Female Institute, with the remaining one-tenth to be divided among the academies. Unless otherwise stipulated by the donors, the first \$25,000 was to be given to the Baptist University. A central committee of five—two members from Wake Forest, two from the Baptist Female University, and one from Chowan—with a cooperating committee made up of one representative from each association was appointed “to devise ways and means for securing the co-operation of every church, of every association in North Carolina in this great undertaking.” C. E. Taylor, President of Wake Forest, was the chairman of the whole committee.

Though the plan for the Century Movement was carefully worked out, contributions to the fund were discouragingly slow. A letter to Dr. Vann from J. D. Hufham assigned the same reason that several others suggested:

If we had been left free, we could have raised a hundred thousand dollars for the University this year. We'd have done it with a whoop. But it kills enthusiasm and hope to try to raise a fund to

be distributed among a dozen different institutions. The sum is insignificant for such a purpose; for the University alone it would have been inspiring. To the most of our people there is nothing in the new century; we could have done better in an effort to raise a Christmas gift.

Instead of a hundred thousand, the committee reported at the Convention in 1901 six thousand in cash and "an indefinite number of subscriptions." The committee recommended that the Century Movement be extended one year, with the goal reduced to \$50,000, of which the University was to have \$42,000. Following the adoption of the motion, subscriptions were taken amounting to \$12,800.

The next day was a momentous one for the Female University. President Vann's report brought to the Convention forcefully the peril in which the new school stood.

A debt of \$43,000 on a property worth \$100,000 with no endowment is a load which no enterprise can carry. The income from students has been large beyond all expectations, and yet because of this debt, with its annual interest of \$2,500, we have been compelled to overdraw our bank account and depend on outside collections from our brethren to meet the deficiency. This course, if pursued, can have but one result, and that will be swift and fatal.

After Dr. Vann's report and that of the trustees, Charles Brantley Aycock, who had been a trustee of the Baptist University, with fervor and clear logic made an appeal for the school; and a collection was taken unprecedented in Convention history. With the \$12,800 of the night before, the amazing total of \$42,647 was announced, reason enough for the singing of "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow."

The collection which the governor's address inspired, although a welcome relief to the University, proved to be less than had been thought. A sober second count the next day showed the amount in cash and pledges to be \$39,599 instead of \$42,647. Of the pledges, \$15,065 remained unpaid at the Convention in Durham the next year, 1902. When the expenses involved in the Century Movement had been deducted, and more than \$3,000 had been allotted to the academies, the debt of the University was reduced from \$43,000 to \$21,000.

The school was without a financial agent, for after working a year in a highly organized campaign to raise in a short time a great deal of money for various schools, Stringfield resigned after the 1901 Convention. He felt that his special God-given work, the building of the Baptist Female University, was done—a feeling as clear and definite as had been his call to the school. In a letter to the *Recorder* at the time he wrote, "What God wants me to do is all dark to me, but it is clear to Him"; in his memoirs he said, "I did so love the way the Lord put me in the work and took me out." In the emergency, W. N. Jones as chairman of the central committee of the Century Fund for 1903 undertook almost single-handed, without a penny of profit to himself, the collection of the unpaid pledges, spending, Dr. Vann said, more time during 1903 in that work than he did in his own profession.

In April, 1903, when largely through Mr. Jones's efforts the debt was reduced to \$17,000, Dr. Vann proposed that if the churches would raise \$7,000, he himself would attempt to obtain from individuals \$10,000. In a letter to the *Recorder* proposing the plan, he explained the situation, frankly:

This appeal is not to those who have not given before, but to those who have given, and given often. Those who have not given will not give now. If we are to come out at all, the old reliables who have borne the burden so long must make a final rally.

One of the old reliables was C. B. Justice, who had made the first gift to the library of the school, whom the *Recorder* called "one of the most liberal and beloved men in North Carolina, whose sacrifices for the college were sublime." Mr. Justice wrote to the *Recorder*:

I feel as if many of us could afford to do as the early Christians—sell our possessions and pay the debt that the institution might be raised to that high place of usefulness to which the Lord has called it.

There was staunch support from the *Recorder* editor.

We have built this institution to last as long as Baptists have anything to do with education. We began it with the intention of

giving to it forever—of never ceasing to give to it. It is nothing that many of us have been called on before. We can never be done with giving to a really great cause.

Gifts, large or small, made in such a spirit gave the school the support which M. L. Kesler had desired for it when he wrote:

A great college needs money, it must have money; but to achieve great things it must have a great constituency of great and loving hearts. . . . This institution must be stayed and upheld by the affections of a great people.

With the contributions came to Dr. Vann letters that must have warmed his heart. With a second check for \$100, this one unsolicited, the sender wrote, "Your burden is greater than ours, no matter how liberal we are." Some who were not trained in school had educated hearts.

As per your applan in the B. Recorder, I will Joine the lis of 500 to send you \$1.00 for the B.F.U. hope you will meet with Success.

Enclosed herewith find check for \$100.00 for you to use for the benefit the Femail University. Ought of sent it sooner, But the condition my family is such that keeps me short with my work May the Lord bless you with your work.

Of course there were refusals and at least one contribution which must have been more discouraging than a refusal.

I do not know that you are persecuting, but you are certainly prosecuting with a good deal of vigor. I hand you herewith a New York check for \$100.00 with the distinct understanding that you are not to bother me with this matter any more. I love you, and want you to succeed, and want you to come to see me whenever you are in , but now please do not bother me with this matter any further.

By the 1903 Convention the amount for which the churches had been responsible had been raised; by the end of January, 1904, the success of Dr. Vann's efforts was assured. On February 10 at a joyous celebration the canceled mortgage on the property was burned.

Before the debt had been paid, the school had received three bequests, all to be used for purposes more constructive than debt-paying. In December, 1900, W. T. Faircloth set

aside in his will real estate to the value of about \$20,000 to be given to the College on the death of his wife. In May, 1901, the school received \$25,000 by the will of Mrs. George W. Swepson, and a year later \$20,000 from Dennis Simmons.

William Turner Faircloth of Goldsboro, one of the original twenty-five trustees, was also a trustee of Wake Forest and of the Baptist Orphanage. As the culmination of a distinguished legal career he was in 1895 elected Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of North Carolina. He owed part of his keen interest in the Baptist Female University to Stringfield's plea for the poor girl; for he himself had been graduated from Wake Forest in 1854 at the age of twenty-five with a debt which it took eight years to pay. Another tie with the school was his connection with one of its early trustees, J. Y. Joyner, whose aunt Faircloth had married. Stringfield said that the younger man "greatly encouraged his uncle in this work for Meredith."

It was natural that the next person to make a large gift, Virginia Bartlett Yancey Swepson, would be interested in education. Her father, Bartlett Yancey, whose name is associated with many constructive measures in North Carolina government, is probably best known for his preparation of the first report in 1827 of the "Literary Board," organized in 1825 to administer the "Literary Fund," the first step in the creation of a public school system. The report was more than a clear financial statement with practical suggestions for enlarging the fund; it was a vigorous declaration of the duty of the state to educate its children. Calvin Wiley in his second annual report as superintendent of public instruction called Bartlett Yancey "the immediate father of the common schools."

Thomas E. Skinner, Mrs. Swepson's pastor for years, said that the daughter "inherited the forceful character of her distinguished father, and had the business gifts of a masculine mind united to the womanly traits of a well-disciplined intellect." Her beautiful home in Raleigh,¹ her time, and

¹ The house on the corner of Hillsboro and Salisbury streets, the grounds of which adjoin the grounds of the First Baptist Church, was later bought by R. B. Raney, the donor of the city library. The house was torn down in August, 1958, and the space is now used for a state parking lot.

her wealth were devoted to Christian service in the First Baptist Church. She was a member of the first central committee of the Woman's Missionary Union in North Carolina, created in 1886; and doubtless her association with Miss Heck and with Dr. Skinner deepened her interest in the new university. Other bequests were \$18,000 to Wake Forest College, \$2,000 to the Baptist Church at Swepsonville (named for her husband), and \$1,000 each to the Baptist Orphanage and to the Woman's Missionary Society of the First Baptist Church of Raleigh.

The third donor, Dennis Simmons, a businessman of Williamston, like the other two, was interested in the Orphanage and in the Female University, and to the Thomasville institution left \$100,000 in his will. He had grown up in poverty, with few advantages of education. His unusual success in business under such circumstances attested to his unusual ability; his interest in education to his breadth of vision.

All of the three had been liberal contributors to the Baptist University while they lived, especially Mrs. Swepson, who, Dr. Vann said, to the building of the institution had given more than any other one person.

Judge Faircloth's bequest was used for an urgently needed building. The cornerstone was laid on May 17, 1904,² and Faircloth Hall was ready for occupancy in the fall. Each year students had been refused admission because of lack of space; in 1904-05, the year Faircloth Hall opened, the enrollment jumped from 279 of the year before to 354. Built at a cost of \$23,000, not counting the furnishings, Faircloth Hall had classrooms, practice rooms, bedrooms for ninety-six girls, and on the fourth floor two society halls. Each bedroom had "two iron beds, space for two trunks, a dresser built in the wall, three chairs, a table, a wash stand, and a chamber set,"—the whole costing \$37.50 a room.

² The cornerstone contained a Bible, several early catalogues, a biographical sketch of Judge Faircloth, the canceled note for the last payment on the debt, an invitation from Dr. Vann to the Baptist pastors of the state to the laying of the stone, and three 1904 Indian head pennies. When the building was demolished in the summer of 1960, the cornerstone was given to Meredith. Among those who gathered for the simple ceremony at which it was opened were two who had been at the laying of the stone. Robert Simms was a trustee in 1904 and in 1960; Foy Johnson Farmer was a freshman in 1904 and a trustee in 1960. When the cornerstone of Johnson Hall was laid in 1925, Mr. Simms made the address, and Mrs. Farmer was present.

The next gift comparable to these three was from a woman who had never seen Meredith College, never been in North Carolina—Mrs. Ella Ford Hartshorn of Boston, by whose will the College in 1913 received \$25,000. She was the daughter of Daniel Sharpe Ford, well known as the publisher of the *Youth's Companion*, a zealous Christian who devoted much of his time and large fortune to philanthropic and missionary work. Her husband, W. N. Hartshorn, also a publisher, was not so famous as her father, but was equally devout. Mr. and Mrs. Hartshorn were both keenly interested in Sunday school work; until she became an invalid about 1900 they attended together the meetings of the International Sunday School Convention. It was at these meetings that they knew N. B. Broughton, at whose invitation in 1908 Mr. Hartshorn came to Raleigh. On that occasion President and Mrs. Vann gave a dinner for him, with the mayor, the governor, the executive committee of the school, and all the Sunday school superintendents in the city as guests. Mr. Hartshorn was delighted with the institution; and on his return told his wife that if she wished to help the cause of education, she could not do better than to make a gift to the Raleigh school. The *Acorn* for October, 1913, had an editorial about the gift and the giver. Her ill health did not affect her "delightfully cheerful disposition" or her hospitable nature; her home was seldom without guests. "She was a sort of John Pullen character," the editor concluded; "she spent lavishly her time, her thought, her money, and her entire self for the uplift of humanity."

The Swepson and Simmons bequests were used for the endowment of the College, which in 1908 was only \$50,000. Moreover, the College had again incurred a debt, which by 1908 amounted to \$28,000. The debt was due to the \$3,000 by which the cost of Faircloth Hall exceeded the bequest, to the furnishing of that building, to enlarging the chapel and the dining room and kitchen, and to the installation of one central heating plant for the three brick buildings (the cottages were heated by stoves). Most of this expenditure was necessary because of the increased number of students—"a debt forced on us by our prosperity," Dr. Vann said.

In some years current expenses could not be met; in

others the margin was too narrow to count. In 1902 Dr. Vann wrote in his report to the trustees:

Groceries this year have risen from 12½%, as in case of flour,³ to 20 and 25% in case of vegetables and canned goods; and from 30 to 35% in case of meat, lard, and meal. Perhaps it would be safe to say that groceries have cost us an average of 15% higher than last session.

The reluctant, minute increases in the charges bear evidence of the attempts to provide "the best possible education at the least possible cost." Through 1904-05 the total cost of board, room ("including lights, fuel, and bath"), tuition, medical fee, and library fee continued to be \$167.50, the Club girls paying \$50.00 to \$60.00 less. This amount was increased for 1905-06 to \$193.50, less "about \$54.50 for the Club"; then for 1907-08 to \$194.00, less \$55.00 for the Club; for 1908-09 to \$196.50, less \$45.00 for the Club; for 1909-10 to \$205.50, less \$40.00 for the Club. Yet there were protests in letters to the president and to the *Recorder*, charging the University with becoming a school for rich girls, not for the rank and file of Baptists. A *Recorder* editorial defending the College against this charge was reprinted as a pamphlet in 1909.

No general appeal to the denomination for financial aid had been made since the Convention of 1903. In its report to the 1908 Convention, meeting in Wilson, the College asked permission to start a campaign to raise an endowment fund of \$100,000. The report ended thus:

Experience has taught us that it is impossible to furnish the accommodations, equipment, and grade of teaching that were contemplated by the founders of the University . . . unless we raise our fees beyond the reach of the mass of our people, and thus defeat the object for which the school was established. It has also taught us that seeking to run at cost, and therefore being unable to accumulate a fund from the fees of the School, we are not only subject to temporary embarrassment from fluctuations in the market and in patronage; but we are in danger of serious calamity should an epidemic empty our rooms and close our doors.

The Convention authorized the beginning of the cam-

³ The cost of flour made especially unfortunate the twenty barrels taken in payment of one girl's account which, Dr. Vann wrote the father, would not rise, no matter what recipe the housekeeper used in making it into bread.

paign by its next session in 1909; but the College decided to wait till the meeting of the Convention in 1910, when Dr. Vann presented the offer of the General Education Board in New York to give, up to \$50,000, one dollar for every two the College raised after the payment of all indebtedness. The General Education Board had been created in 1902 "for the purpose of promoting education in the United States without distinction of race, sex, or creed"; for this purpose it had the Rockefeller fund of thirty million to distribute. Two-thirds of the \$150,000 thus to be raised for the College was to be for endowment; one third for permanent improvements.

Following Dr. Vann's presentation of the plan, J. W. Bailey, a trustee of the College from 1896 to 1911, addressed the Convention in behalf of the school. No more fitting person could have spoken than Mr. Bailey, later Senator Bailey; for no college struggling into existence or struggling for existence ever had more valiant support from its denominational paper than the Baptist University had from the *Biblical Recorder* with J. W. Bailey as editor.

During the twelve years of his editorship (1895-1907), he mightily reinforced the efforts of Aycock, Joyner, and other educators in their championship of the public schools. In the paper and in addresses all over the state he fought for prohibition, and he used his brilliant pen in effective support of all the objects of the Convention. But there seemed to be an especially fervent note in his writings about "this youngest child of the Convention, taking her first perilous step." He had been one of a committee to prepare the report of the University for the 1899 Convention and "to see that a great amount of cash be raised." In the spring of 1900 he and John E. White, at the behest of the Convention, had visited the churches in behalf of the University, "traveling together," *Charity and Children* said, "like a couple of Mormon elders." He was a frequent visitor to the College and a frequent speaker for various occasions—chapel, Founders' Day, Society Night, North Carolina Day, and Christmas vespers. In 1908 on an hour's notice he substituted as commencement speaker for Aycock, who had been suddenly taken ill.

The effects of his writings and of the generous space he gave in the *Recorder* to what others wrote of the school is shown in a note which Dr. Vann received in December, 1903, from a contributor in Grape Vine, North Carolina:

Enclosed is another check for \$5.00 to help pay the debt on the Baptist Female University. I never attended any of our conventions or heard any speaker on the University. I take the *Recorder*, however.

After Mr. Bailey's speech to the Convention, a start was made toward raising the \$100,000 by a collection amounting to \$26,566 in cash and pledges. G. E. Lineberry, then educational secretary of the Baptist Secondary School Board, was appointed as an agent to aid the College in obtaining pledges and to have charge of collecting them; and he worked, Dr. Vann said, "with commendable energy, prudence, and patience." The General Education Board granted several extensions of time, and ultimately the full amount was raised.

The grant of the General Education Board was made to Meredith College, rather than to the Baptist University for Women. There had always been dissatisfaction with what Archibald Johnson once called an "Atlantic ocean of a name." As early as 1894 the trustees, on motion of Columbus Durham, appointed a committee to petition the legislature to change the name of the proposed institution from the Baptist Female University to some more suitable name; Durham proposed Yates College, in honor of Matthew T. Yates, distinguished missionary to China, who was a native of Wake County and a graduate of Wake Forest. The committee reported at the next meeting of the board, however, that they deemed a change of name unwise. Twice in 1900 and again in 1902 the name was discussed, but no action was taken. In addition to Yates College other possible names were suggested—Eliza Yates, Faircloth, Swepson, and Stringfield College. W. L. Poteat favored Woman's College as "safe, dignified, and descriptive," adding, "We cannot make a bigger blunder than we now blazon on our forefront."

However, the change was not easily made. There was no

objection to dropping *female*, but there was vigorous protest against the change of *university* to *college*. On April 12, 1904, the change of name was the chief topic for discussion in a meeting of the trustees which began at 7:30 p.m., and at 1:25 a.m. the discussion was still raging. Livingston Johnson made the suggestion which brought the meeting to a close, "that the matter of changing the name be deferred until the May meeting, at which time without discussion every member of the board is requested to express by vote or letter his choice." On May 16, when the vote was taken, the Baptist Female University became the Baptist University for Women.

The stubborn refusal for twenty years to give up the misnomer *university*, chosen in 1889, absurd as it seems now, reflects the high ideal cherished for the school and the sad misuse of the word *college*, especially as applied to schools for women. In 1893 C. T. Bailey, then editor of the *Recorder*, wrote:

Our state and the South is today afflicted with a great number of institutions which their superintendents choose to call colleges that are hardly worthy the name of academies. . . . They are not the result of brains, experience, or higher education motives, but are usually second-class academies that have changed their names to attract students. . . . What we need is more academies and fewer mushroom colleges.

In 1888, the year Col. Polk moved the appointment of a committee to consider the feasibility of establishing a Baptist Female University, one of the better female colleges of the state, then in its thirty-fifth year, began its advertisement in the *Biblical Recorder* of June 13 thus:

Unexcelled in Advantages!

A Primary Department!

A Business Department!

A College Department!

Six Separate Schools of English!

An Extensive Curriculum!

Post Graduate Courses!

Unsurpassed for Healthfulness!

Physician's Services Free!

Nearly in the Centre of the State!

Unequaled in Cleanness!

A Preparatory Department!

A Normal Department!

A Department of Music and
Fine Arts!

Four Foreign Languages!

Nine Members of the Faculty!

Medal for Excellence in any
Department!

Beautiful for Situation!

No Charge for Incidentals!

Nearly 1000 feet above Sea
Level!

The nine members of the faculty consisted of the president, his wife, his four daughters, and three additional teachers. A student could enter at any time and pay from the day of entrance only. In the middle of a term this entire college was moved from one town to another without the loss of a single day of class work.

In 1889 the account in the *Recorder* of the commencement of another female college began: “It was graduating day for three young hearts who had never graduated before.”

With such schools representing the best in female colleges in the state, it is not surprising that the founders and early supporters of the new institution were determined that their school should be sharply distinguished in every possible way from such colleges. An editorial of J. W. Bailey in the *Recorder* of April 19, 1899, expressed the prevailing opinion:

Our Baptist Female University is intended to be no ordinary institution. Its founders have conceived for it an ideal, a scope, a mission that makes it unique. . . . Some have said that the name is high sounding. But those who named it did not fall below their ideal or our duty. Today is the day of small things not to be despised. Tomorrow and tomorrow, who will dare say what they shall bring forth, and who shall strive for less than the highest?

Happily, by 1909 the majority of the trustees had come to realize that a university is not necessarily the top peak in academic accomplishment; that a true college has a function as distinct and honorable and a standard quite as high as that of a university; and that, as the petition which the faculty presented to the trustees pointed out in the reasons for the change, the name was regarded among educated people as “a mark of ignorance,” giving no indication of the high grade of work which the College did. J. W. Bailey, who in 1899 had defended the name, in 1909 pointed out that the term *university* made of the school an object of ridicule:

With culture goes modesty. . . . Let President Vann attend an educational conference. They enroll members. One says, “I am from Smith College,” another, “I am from Vassar,” another from Bryn Mawr, Wellesley, Radcliffe; but President Vann arises and

declares with becoming pride, "I am from the Baptist Female University" — to which, he would suggest, the presidents of these institutions should send their graduates for true university training.

At a meeting of the trustees on May 24, 1909, by a vote of ten to three the Baptist University for Women became Meredith College. The diplomas that year bore both seals; in 1910 the legislature changed the name in the charter. In the beautiful spirit characteristic of him, W. N. Jones, who had led the opposition, moved to make the vote unanimous. His "Hail to Meredith College" was echoed over the State, for the name met with universal approval. Its lack of pretentiousness, its brevity, and its beauty of sound were welcome to the friends of a school which had been "groaning under too much name." Most of all, the denomination was pleased with the tribute to a man who, as Josephus Daniels said on Founders' Day, 1910, "gave to his commonwealth the most priceless gift that any man can bestow, the gift of himself." For the 1910 *Oak Leaves*, dedicated to the memory of Thomas Meredith⁴ Dr. Vann wrote:

While others slept he climbed the height.
He stood alone, with vision strained afar.
And, peering long into the lingering night,
He saw the morning star.

The curriculum of the College more than kept pace with its growth in numbers and in financial stability. A few weeks after Dr. Vann's election he appointed W. L. Poteat and A. A. Marshall from the trustees and J. L. Kesler from the faculty as a committee to prepare the catalogue—an assignment which involved the reshaping of the curriculum. This reshaping was done with the intent of making "the courses, the quality of work, and the degrees. . . in all essential respects equivalent in cultural value to those given at Wake Forest."

The entrance requirements were not greatly changed from those in the *First Annual Announcement*, but were more definitely stated. In Latin, two years were required, the work to include four books of Caesar; in English, gram-

⁴ A brief account of Thomas Meredith will be found in Appendix A.

mar and rhetoric and paragraphing, with the reading of certain classics; in mathematics, arithmetic and algebra through quadratic equations, or to quadratics with two books of plane geometry; in history, "a good general knowledge" of American history, general history, and geography. Greek was a possible alternative to Latin; an elementary knowledge of botany, physical geography, physiology, zoology and physics was listed as "desirable."

The entrance examinations were given the first day of the session; the 1902-03 catalogue gives the schedule of examinations with an hour allowed for each subject.

The courses followed the Wake Forest catalogue closely, as did the entrance requirements. There were twelve schools—Latin, Greek, English, Modern Languages (French, German, and Spanish), Mathematics, Natural Science, Moral Philosophy, History and Political Science, Art, Music, Expression, and Business. The courses were listed in 1900 as junior, intermediate, and senior, with a fourth—called the seminary course—in Latin, Greek, and English. The now familiar division into freshman, sophomore, junior, and senior classes first appeared in the catalogue in 1903. The session was divided that year into two terms instead of three; but as every course ran straight through the year, credits were reckoned by years rather than by semesters.

Sixty-one year-hours (122 semester hours) were required for the degree of Bachelor of Arts, distributed thus: Latin or Greek, eight hours; mathematics, nine; English, six; modern languages, five; and history, moral philosophy, biology, chemistry, physics, and physiology, three each; elective, fifteen—to be chosen from other courses in the required subjects or from art, music, or expression. If chosen from the last three schools, the 1901-02 catalogue indicates, electives were restricted to history of art, harmony and history of music, and Shakespeare.

Of each candidate for a B.A., two theses were required, one in the junior and one in the senior year. The titles of the theses of the first graduating class, 1902, were printed on the program. Two of them were read, Eliza Rebecca Wooten's "The Jew, a Literary Study," and Margaret W. Shields's "Two Exponents of Saxon and Teutonic Races."

In the light of present-day term papers, the edge is taken off the formidable term *thesis* by the length prescribed—a thousand words for the junior and two thousand for the senior thesis. To be granted an M.A., the student must have had fifteen hours of work beyond the B.A., and a thesis of 2,500 words.

A diploma of graduation was granted to a student who had completed the work in music, elocution, or art, together with thirty-one hours, prescribed or elective, of work leading to the B.A. degree. A certificate of proficiency was given to one who had finished the work in those schools without the literary hours necessary for a diploma. The certificate given for the one-year business course was not presented at commencement.

At the first commencement in 1902, Margery Kesler received the M.A. degree (*summa cum laude*). The following received the B.A.: Mary Estelle Johnson, Elizabeth Parker, Rosa Catherine Paschal (*cum laude*), Mary Perry,⁵ Margaret Whitmore Shields (*cum laude*), Minnie Willis Sutton, Elizabeth Gladys Tull, Eliza Rebecca Wooten, Sophie Stevens Lanneau (*summa cum laude*). As he handed these their diplomas, Dr. Skinner used the now familiar phrase, "the immortal ten."

In addition to the degrees conferred, diplomas and certificates were awarded to the following: Virginia Grayson, diploma in music; Beulah Beatrice Bowden, Elizabeth Parker, diplomas in art; Jessie Thomas Brewer, certificate in music; Minnie Daniel, Nell Gray Ezzell, certificates in art.⁶

Of these students who were graduated in three years instead of four, the majority had come from other institutions; a few had been privately taught. For instance, Sophie Lanneau had come from Franklin Seminary; Mary Perry from Oxford College. Rosa Paschal had been taught by her uncle, George W. Paschal.

Both the requirements for entrance and requirements for graduation were gradually increased. Elizabeth Avery Col-

⁵ Four of Mary Perry Beddingfield's daughters are Meredith alumnae.

⁶ Emmie Rogers, who gave a graduating recital and received a certificate in 1901, affiliates with the class of 1902.

ton in the Meredith *Quarterly Bulletin* for January, 1911, estimated that the school had required for entrance the equivalent of 3.5 units in 1899, and the equivalent of five and a half in 1900. In 1909, the first year the College reckoned admission requirements in units, it required eleven and a half; and in 1911, fourteen units. Thus 1915, the last class to be graduated in Dr. Vann's administration, was the first to meet the entrance requirements prescribed by the Association of Colleges and Preparatory Schools of the Southern States. It was also the largest class⁷ to enter up to that time, having seventy-five members entering as freshmen. The largest entering class of any previous session had been thirty-one. As the state system of high schools was extended and improved and as records from high schools and academies became adequate, admission by certificate from approved high schools supplemented and then virtually replaced entrance examinations.

The consistent enforcement of entrance requirements placed in the preparatory department for all or a part of their work a large number of students who had expected to enter as full freshmen. The historian of the class of 1910 wrote in the *Oak Leaves* of their classification in 1906:

Here we were . . . not quite so cheerful as when we landed the day before. It seemed as if every member of the faculty had conspired to classify us as Preps. Seven of us managed to gain their good favor.

Homesick wails went home to parents and teachers; bewildered and indignant protests came back from parents and teachers. Doubtless the cumulative effect of these letters led to the following statement in the 1912 report which President Vann made to the Convention:

And the Convention should understand that, whether rightly or not, we adhere rigidly to our published requirements in admitting students to our Freshman class; that is, they are not permitted to skip and leave unfinished the work of lower classes in order to hasten their graduation or for any other reason.

⁷ The unusual size of the class was due in large part to the effect, just beginning to be felt in the colleges, of the High School Act passed by the General Assembly of 1907, whereby \$45,000 was appropriated for the establishment of 156 public high schools in North Carolina.

This firmness made possible another statement in the same report.

You will be grateful to know . . . that the personnel of the student body shows improvement, particularly in respect to general intelligence and academic grading.

During Dr. Vann's administration there were no decided changes in the requirements for the A.B. By 1912 the requirement of physics had been dropped; the five-hour course in mathematics and languages had been reduced to three; the requirement of one year of modern language had been raised to two, thus giving modern language the same place in the prescribed courses that mathematics and Latin had. One hour of English composition in the junior year had been added, and moral philosophy had become psychology and ethics. The change in mathematics and languages made possible twenty hours of elective work rather than fifteen. Spanish and Greek, for which there had been virtually no demand, had been dropped from the curriculum. Much of what had been done in college courses in 1900 was now being done in high school, so that the college work was more advanced and could be of a better quality. Elizabeth Avery Colton, head of the English department and an authority on college standards, estimated that from 1904 to 1915, the work of college grade in the institution measured by the standards of the Southern Association of Colleges rose from 1.7 years to 4 years. In most departments more advanced classes were added to the offerings. Also, Bible was first given in 1902-03, the single three-hour course taught by the professor of Greek and philosophy being called the "School of Bible."

In 1903 an innovation as unpopular as it was beneficial was introduced, an examination at the beginning of the junior year on the common school subjects—grammar, arithmetic, geography, and history. It was a test, Dr. Vann explained, to show whether any student was "flagrantly and shamefully ignorant on these common subjects," given to safeguard the reputation of the school and of the student. The historian of the class of 1906 wrote in the *Oak Leaves* of these examinations:

To the amazement of the faculty and the delight of the ten, all of us passed the examinations. That was a horrid time, though, when we had the small facts of geography, history, grammar, and arithmetic in a bewildering confusion. Some of us are even yet doubtful whether the Amazon River is in Egypt or Italy, or whether the French and Indian War occurred in France or India.

This class had the unique distinction of being the only class in which every member passed. These elementary examinations, which were in 1907 transferred to the freshman year, were in 1909 discontinued.

An essential part of the growth of the College was the pruning which the curriculum underwent. The one-year business course leading to a certificate was abolished in 1909. With admission requirements limited to "a satisfactory knowledge of grammar, penmanship, the spelling and meaning of words, and arithmetic as far as percentages," the business course had been a sad misfit in a college trying to be standard. By 1911 the granting of all certificates had ceased.

From 1906 to 1909 a new degree appeared—and disappeared. The first teacher of elocution, Miss Reynolds, had been followed for one year by Eleanor B. Watkins, then by Jennie W. Bowman. In 1905 Caroline Berry Phelps came from Adrian College, Michigan, as professor of elocution and director of physical education. A woman of great initiative and corresponding ability, she determined that the course in elocution should lead to the degree of Bachelor of Oratory. A year later, with a greatly improved four-year course, the degree appeared in the catalogue for the ensuing year, 1907-08. In 1909 it was removed. Even Miss Phelps's determination could not keep in the curriculum a separate degree so out of keeping with the academic ideals for which the College was striving, one so intimately connected with the theatre, of which a large number of Baptists were still distrustful. In 1912-13, the whole department was discontinued.

In the spring of 1911 the College ceased to offer an M.A. Only three students had received it—Margery Kesler in 1902, Virginia Egerton in 1905, and Annie Lee Stewart in 1906.

To discontinue the Academy was a longer and more diffi-

cult process. The 1900 catalogue shows that five years of preparatory work were given, beginning with the fourth grade. As the standard of the work done in the University was raised, these five years were gradually lengthened to eight. Also, the first three grades had been added, so that by 1906 the preparatory department was complete from the first grade to college.⁸ The addition was made partly because of local demand and partly with the expectation that the lower grades would be used as a practice school for the University classes in pedagogy. The parents, however, objected vigorously to having their children, for whom they paid tuition, thus taught. In 1909, the first year that the students were classified in the catalogue rather than being in one alphabetical list, there were 117 regular college students and 167 special and preparatory students, in addition to the seventy-nine taking music only and five taking art only.

However, the preparatory department had never been planned as a permanent part of the institution. Most colleges in the South then had preparatory departments which had filled a real need as had the separate denominational and private academies before there was a well-established system of public high schools. With that need rapidly lessening, it seemed no longer wise to struggle with the academic and social difficulties which the mixture of mature and immature students offered. The Southern Association of Colleges,⁹ toward which the College was looking longingly, strongly discouraged the continuation of preparatory departments and laid down rigid rules for their absolute separation in colleges belonging to the Association, a separation to be observed in dormitories and table seating, as well as in classes and faculty.

The elementary school, which had been moved to a cottage half a block away from the College, was dropped in 1912, leaving four years of high school work taught partly by separate teachers and partly by the College faculty.

⁸ Dorothy Vann, '16, and Elizabeth Vann, '17, went from the first grade through College in the institution.

⁹ The Southern Association of Colleges or, where the context makes it clear, the Southern Association is the term used throughout this book for the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. The name was originally the Association of Colleges and Preparatory Schools of the Southern States.

Lucy B. Dickinson was principal of the Academy and teacher of English. One year at a time these four years were dropped, the last in 1917, after Dr. Brewer had become president. There were still many academic conditions among entering freshmen, but these were removed by private tutoring.

To abolish departments which were profitable and popular took considerable courage on the part of a college which was always, in Dr. Vann's words, “under severe and constant financial pressure.” There were grave doubts among some of the staunchest friends of the College as to the wisdom of such a course. But the doubts were soon dispelled, for virtually every year there were applicants beyond the capacity of the dormitories.

The last year of Dr. Vann's administration brought three innovations to the curriculum. The 1914 catalogue announced that the College would give a junior college diploma for two years of work, differing from the first two years required for the A.B. only in the possible substitution of a three-hour course in Bible for any one of the second-year courses. Only a few such diplomas were granted, and the practice was discontinued after four years.

Of much more importance was the introduction of two new four-year courses, one in home economics leading to a B.S. degree, the other leading to a diploma in public school music. For the B.S., according to the announcement in the May, 1914, *Quarterly Bulletin*, the student was required to take “fourteen hours in home economics and thirty-five hours of prescribed work in the regular college literary course, and to elect eleven hours in the literary, art, or music courses.” Katherine Parker, '10, was the first head of the department, returning to the College after training in Simmons College and a year's teaching in the University of Puerto Rico. The next year Laura Bailey was added as instructor, and four hours of textiles replaced four elective hours for students in home economics.

The course in public school music, intended primarily to prepare supervisors of music in city schools, required two years of piano and two of voice instead of four of either; and for some of the advanced theoretical work, courses in

psychology and education were substituted. Two courses in methods were required, in addition to the music pedagogy required of all music majors.

In all these matters, the procedures of the better type of women's colleges were carefully studied; and whether initiated by president, faculty, or trustees, the changes were worked out with the benefit of their combined wisdom and experience.

"I knew very very little about running a college," Dr. Vann said several times when talking of his work at Meredith, "but I had sense enough to let those who did know run it." In this understatement of his own share of the work lay the secret of much of his success as an administrator. In his reports to the Convention and in letters to the papers he always acknowledged Divine Favor, recognizing that the College was "under the good hand of God."¹⁰ He took frequent counsel of the trustees, expressing gratitude often for their "wisdom, self sacrificing service, and loyal cooperation."

It was, of course, with the faculty that he worked most closely. To them he wrote at the end of his administration:

Our relations have been those of co-laborers and comrades. In the struggles and trials through which we have passed together, I have always leaned on you, and I want to say to you, as I have before said repeatedly and publicly, that whatever of progress our beloved institution has made under my administration was and is due for the most part to your faithfulness and efficiency.

The small faculty then had a family-like intimacy which a large group inevitably loses. In the first year of Dr. Vann's presidency they met once a week for the whole evening and discussed academic, disciplinary, and health problems in minute detail. Later, with less need of extended discussion, the meetings were reduced to once a month. The student regulations, which had had to be established, then modified, became for the most part a matter of routine. Eunice McDowell, daughter of a former president of Chowan, who had herself been president of Franklin Female Seminary, came in 1901 as lady principal, remaining at the

¹⁰ The phrase "the good hand of his God upon him" occurs in Ezra 7:8; "by the good hand of our God upon us" in Ezra 8:18.

school two years. Many small matters of discipline were referred to her and to her successors; changes in courses were referred to the departments involved. The faculty voted that "all cases of weak eyes, poor health, etc. be referred to Dr. Vann." In 1907, when assistants had been added in some departments—Latin, French, English, and art—largely to help with the preparatory work, the heads of departments were formed into a senate, also meeting once a month, which became in most matters the legislative body of the faculty, as is its successor, the Academic Council.

Another once-a-month occasion quite different in nature was a faculty at-home, held in the College parlors. The refreshments, Miss Ida once said, were always "very simple, but elegant." Before the month was over, some ladies in the faculty group were expected to return the calls of all those who had not previously received that courtesy.

Most of the faculty of the first year, 1899-1900, continued under the new administration. All of the "literary faculty" returned, as did Miss Poteat, Miss Brewer, and Mrs. Seay. Miss Eckloff returned, but left in the middle of the year; and Mrs. Jessie Earnshaw for the rest of the year took charge of the lower grades in addition to her work as matron. Later she took charge of both dining rooms; when they became too much for one person, she chose to work with the Club.

After Miss Patten left in 1901, the department of moral philosophy and Greek, to which Bible was added in 1902, had as its head in rather rapid succession Grace Lord, Elizabeth Quarles, T. Neil Johnson, J. Henry Highsmith, and E. Freeman Thompson. With a degree from the University of Chicago, Dr. Thompson, at the University from 1907 to 1910, was the first Ph.D. on the faculty; and for several years the school shied away from women with Ph.D.'s, attributing the peculiarities of this first one to her learning rather than to her temperament.

The Keslers left in 1902, doubtless influenced by the attitude of some of the more conservative element in the denomination. Dr. Vann wrote in reply to a pastor who had questioned the scientist's doctrinal views:

Yes, Kesler and his wife have left us, and a severe loss they have given us. For when all is said, Kesler is one of the most devout, spiritual men I know. Both he and Poteat hold some views that you and I do not. . . . They see and state things differently from most people, and their opinions are not commonly understood by those who hear them. . . . As long as our brethren cling so reverently to Jesus Christ as I think these men do, I am personally willing for them to differ with me in some ways and still claim them as brethren.

Eventually Mr. Kesler's chief interest turned from science to religion, for after teaching science in Georgetown College and in Baylor University he went in 1919 to Vanderbilt as professor of religious education. After his retirement in 1936 he and Mrs. Kesler went to live with their daughter, a doctor, in Uplands, Tennessee. Mr. Kesler's place in the Baptist University was filled by Walter G. Sackett; Mrs. Kesler was succeeded by Grace Ruth Gibbs, who was, in turn, followed by Caroline Blair.

For a brief time after the departure in 1903 of energetic Mrs. Stone, English was divided into two schools, with Isabel Harris as professor of English language and Jessie Louise Jones as professor of English literature. The brief experiment was unsuccessful, and two years later the two were reunited under Miss Jones; she was replaced the next year by Agnes Powell. An alumna recalled with rueful humor her dismay when, having as a freshman written themes on such subjects as "The Development of the Arthurian Legend" for Miss Jones, she descended as a sophomore to describing a little girl's first taste of ice cream.

In 1904 Katherine Ford, '09,¹¹ who after her work with Miss Poteat had studied in New York, came to teach china painting and applied design. After that concession to Victorian accomplishments ceased to be offered, she remained in the art department, teaching painting and the course in art history until her marriage in 1911 to Herbert Peele, of Elizabeth City.

William Jasper Ferrell, who was bursar from 1906 until his death in 1929, had come as assistant principal to the Wakefield Classical and Mathematical School soon after

¹¹ She completed the work for her diploma in art while she was teaching.

Oliver Larkin Stringfield had established it. Mr. Ferrell did much to set the standards of the work for which that school was famous. "There was one goal," Dr. W. C. Horton, who had been a student of the school, wrote, "and that was to qualify according to Professor Ferrell's standards. Those standards were high, and when he told you that you were ready to go to college, you could rest assured you could enter college." Mr. Ferrell gave to Meredith the same wholehearted devotion and to his work the same conscientious and scrupulous attention.

The first three years of its existence the school of music had three heads, Carl Hoffman succeeding Mr. Appy and being succeeded in turn by Clarence de Vaux-Royer. The school was fortunate in its next director, Wade R. Brown, who came in 1902. Trained in the New England Conservatory, with two years' study in Germany and several years' experience in teaching, he was a real artist and an excellent teacher and organizer.

He brought to the department, in the main, well-trained teachers of ability who shared his high ideals of teaching. Some stayed only long enough to be known to a few students; others are remembered by generations of students as contributing to the life of the College. Gustav Hagedorn was elected in 1906 as teacher of violin and theory, and remained until 1914. For the first two years he was jointly employed by the Baptist University, A. and M. College, and the Third Regiment Band. In 1907 Helen and Harriet Day came as professor and assistant in voice.¹² Grace Louise Cronkhite, Gertrude Sousley, Elizabeth D. Burt (Mrs. Gustav Hagedorn), Mary Elizabeth Futrell, and Bessie Sams came as teachers of piano, the last named two being Baptist University graduates who had had further training. Mr. Brown himself usually taught the seniors and some of the more gifted juniors in piano and organ, so that most of these majors were graduated with the coveted distinction, "Pupil of Wade R. Brown." Each year several came back for further work with him.

Mrs. Irene Cartwright Ferrell, wife of W. J. Ferrell, came

¹² Their mother lived with them, and the girls nicknamed the three Today, Yesterday, and Last Week. Bessie E. Knapp, who came a few years later as a third teacher of voice, was called Twilight.

with her husband in 1906 as teacher of kindergarten and primary piano, later adding to her work the teaching of music pedagogy. In addition to the individual lessons, she taught the children in classes simple principles of harmony and theory twice a week. Her success as a teacher was evident in the children's recitals, the audiences of which were not limited to the proud parents of the little performers. She was assisted by various teachers, among whom Mabel Augusta Bost stayed longest. Another had a name which delighted the children—Florence Jelly.

When Meredith moved in January, 1926, Mrs. Ferrell continued to teach the children in town, the department being transferred to her as an independent music school. A year and a half later because of its success and growth she gave up her work in music pedagogy at Meredith to devote her whole time to her school.

The music faculty gave frequent recitals and concerts. To the commencement concert, which overtaxed the capacity of the auditorium each year, the Christmas music the Sunday before the holidays was soon added as an annual event. The beautifully trained voices of the Misses Day, of which "glorious" was used more often than any other adjective, were never lovelier than when the sisters sang together Luther's "Cradle Hymn." The long line of white-clad girls, each carrying a lighted candle, singing "Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful!" as they entered, was the perfect beginning of the twilight service, though some staunch Baptists objected to what they considered a step toward Episcopalian ritual.

At various times there were special musical events—celebrations of anniversaries of musicians and concerts given for the meetings of various conventions and associations.

In 1906 Mr. Brown organized the Raleigh Choral Society, which he directed so long as he was in Raleigh. A number of the 150 members of the society were music students in the College. Each year in May the Choral Society held a music festival which usually lasted three days, for which an orchestra and soloists of nation-wide reputation were engaged. The New York Symphony Orchestra under the

direction of Walter Damrosch came twice, as did the Pittsburgh Festival Orchestra. The performance of the *Messiah* given at the festival in 1908 was, according to the account in the *News and Observer*, the first to be given in North Carolina.

Mr. Hagedorn organized and directed a University Orchestra, most of whom played in the Raleigh Orchestra which he had also organized. When Mr. Brown in 1912 went to the State Normal and Industrial College in Greensboro, Mr. Hagedorn was a capable successor as director of the Meredith School of Music.

Nevertheless, Mr. Brown's going was a loss to Meredith and to Raleigh. Since 1902 he had worked steadily toward the fulfillment of a promise made to Dr. Vann in his letter of acceptance:

I want to assure you now of my most loyal and earnest support in working for the welfare of the University, and that whatever ability I may possess shall be given unreservedly to building up a splendid school of music second to none in the South.

From 1902 to 1912 the number of music students and faculty increased decidedly out of proportion to the increase in the "literary" students and faculty. Though the College was in debt, the need of musical equipment had been generously met. Thirty-one new Stieff pianos were bought in 1906; and the same year a pipe organ, said to be the largest in North Carolina at that time, was installed. Counting the installation the organ, bought from a Presbyterian church in Buffalo, cost \$4,700. Much needed as Faircloth Hall was, there was strong sentiment for building in its stead a music hall, with an auditorium seating 2,500; and early in 1904 preliminary plans for such a building were drawn up—a "temple of music" one enthusiast called it. For several years the catalogue carried this statement: "The courses of study are planned after the best schools of music in this country and in Europe." The intensive training necessary to produce the degree of skill in his students for which Mr. Brown strove left little time or interest for anything outside the music itself. Though the art department still kept the requirement, the thirty-one year-hours

of literary work required for a diploma in music when Mr. Brown came was soon reduced to twelve—two years of English and two years of a modern language. All the rest of the work of the four years was theoretical and practical music. When the College required of its A.B. students fourteen units for entrance, the music department required ten.

The tendency in all this was obvious; there was grave danger that the school of music would have a college department, instead of the College a school of music. Dr. Vann in his report to the trustees in 1908 pointed out the peril.

Your excellent school of music has become so noted and so popular that fears have been entertained by some friends of the Institution lest the work done in arts and sciences shall be overshadowed, and false impressions made concerning our ideals and policy. . . . While we believe as good work is being done in other classes as in music, in the nature of the case, none of these schools, with the possible exception of Elocution, can ever make such a popular and sensational showing as Music. It seems important, therefore, that something be done with the view of magnifying the Literary Department in the eyes of the public, and putting it on more equal footing generally with the school of music.

He made three suggestions to remedy the situation: a fee for a series of lectures and recitals open to the public; an effort to make, "as rapidly as possible, the salaries in the literary department more nearly equal to those in the music department"; and an effort to make the equipment of the two in more even proportion.

Though neither salaries nor equipment could be immediately and markedly improved, the "literary department" gradually ceased to be a Cinderella and began to make a name for itself. Miss Young in modern languages, Mr. Watson in mathematics, and Dr. Carroll in physiology carried on their unbroken tradition of sound work. In 1904 Mr. Sackett had been succeeded by J. Gregory Boomhour, a native of New York with degrees from Colgate University and from the University of Chicago. Mr. Boomhour remained at the College except for an absence of two years, 1916-18, until his retirement in 1941. So gentle and unassuming he was that it took time for him to be recognized as one of Meredith's truly great people. While the contro-

versy over evolution was raging in North Carolina, Mr. Boomhour's course in geology presented the theory of evolution so distinctly, yet so unobtrusively, that his students took it as a matter of course. He became dean in 1912, gradually giving up all his work in science except physics. As teacher and as dean he is remembered for his fairness and his firmness. President Brewer characterized him as "a master of details, a sympathetic adviser, an inspiring teacher, an active Christian."

With this solid foundation on which to build, there came to the College in 1908 two women who in quite different ways devoted themselves wholeheartedly to improving the standards of the College. Elizabeth Avery Colton, professor of English, and Mary Shannon Smith, professor of history, were in complete sympathy with the aim Dr. Vann expressed for Meredith when he said: "It has set itself to discover and attain to the best ideals of Southern colleges for women."

Miss Colton, the daughter of missionary parents in the Indian Territory, had lived from early childhood in North Carolina, her mother's native state. She knew from experience the best and the worst of colleges for women; for when she had gone to Mt. Holyoke with an A.B. from a "female college" in Statesville, she had had to spend a year in preparation before she could enter the freshman class. Six years of teaching at Queen's College in Charlotte had preceded her graduate degree at Columbia, and three at Wellesley had followed it.

In her own teaching her aim was that every student should be able to write reasonably clear and correct English and to read with a certain degree of understanding and appreciation. To the lazy or superficial student she was merciless, and her sarcasm was to be feared; to the student who honestly worked she offered abundant help and encouragement. Her concern for the College as a whole was as keen as for her own department. The year after she came she introduced the reckoning of entrance requirements in units and was to a large degree responsible for the increase of the number of units required for entrance from 11.5 to 14 within four years.

In a few years she was recognized as the foremost authority in the nation on the standards of women's colleges in the South. During the years she was at Meredith she made a thorough investigation of these colleges—a task that took patience and courage—and published the findings in a series of candid pamphlets, the best known of which are *Standards of Southern Colleges* (1913) and *The Various Types of Southern Colleges for Women* (1916). Most of her writings were published by the College as issues of the *Quarterly Bulletin*. Presidents of schools classified as “nominal and imitation colleges” were outraged and more than once threatened lawsuits, but none ever materialized, for Elizabeth Avery Colton could prove every word of the writings which Chancellor Kirkland of Vanderbilt called “high explosive pamphlets.” Ill health forced her to give up her work in 1920, though at the insistence of the president and trustees she remained on leave of absence until 1923, a year before her death.

Mary Shannon Smith's work during the ten years she was at Meredith lay more largely within the College itself. A native of Massachusetts, educated at Radcliffe, Leland Stanford, and Columbia, she had never been South before she came to Raleigh; but she adapted herself well to the life of the school, finding no fault with inadequacies or discomforts. “If a cracked cup made more impression on a teacher than the richness of the spiritual atmosphere of Meredith,” she once said, “that teacher did not belong at Meredith.” That she was put on a state committee to locate and mark historic sites in North Carolina was a tribute to a New Englander who had been in the state only a year and a half.

In the life of the students she probably had a more far-reaching influence than did Miss Colton, partly because much of Miss Colton's attention went to her Southwide work, partly because the students found in Miss Smith a warm, friendly interest which they did not find—or did not recognize—in the more reserved teacher of English. Miss Smith's courses in history and economics, to which for a few years education was added, were unusually stimulating. In written work her standards of thoroughness in investigation and accuracy in recording were so high that students from

other departments preparing theses in graduate school remembered with gratitude her sophomore history. And no student of hers will ever forget the importance of getting "the maximum of result with the minimum of effort." The College catalogue was her special responsibility, and its decided gain in clarity and consistency in those years was due largely to her work. After leaving Meredith Miss Smith taught for several years in Greenville Woman's College (now a part of Furman). Then she devoted her time to historical research in Raleigh until her retirement to her birthplace, Lee, Massachusetts. Well over eighty when she died in 1955, she never lost her intense joy in living.

Working closely with the two and no less interested in the standards of the College was Rosa Catherine Paschal, niece of George W. Paschal, professor of Greek in Wake Forest College. One of the "immortal ten," she returned two years after graduation as assistant in mathematics; in 1907 she became lady principal, adding to that office the duties of the academic dean while Mr. Boomhour was away from the College for two years and for a year after his return. She was not daunted by those duties; for, as she once said, "the lady principal did everything from the maid's work to the president's work." When she resigned in 1919 to go to Anderson College as academic dean, she was recognized as one of the constructive influences in the growth of the school from a high school named a university to a real college.

Since her retirement from Anderson College in 1953 Miss Paschal has lived in Raleigh, and her old girls are frequent visitors to her home. A student interviewer for the *Twig* in 1966, sixty-four years after her graduation, characterized her as "pleasant, attractive, and quick."

Lemuel Elmer MacMillan Freeman, A.B., A.M., B.D., Th.D. (how the early students enjoyed those sonorous syllables!), was from 1910 to 1949 professor of Bible, teaching also for a few years each philosophy, sociology, ethics, and education. Up to that time, only Miss Poteat's service was longer than his.¹³ With undergraduate work at Furman,

¹³ Professors Canaday, Brewer, and Johnson were members of the faculty forty-five, forty-seven, and fifty-one years respectively.

theology at Newton Seminary and at Harvard, and New Testament Greek and Bible at Chicago, he was as teacher of Bible a liberal conservative, keeping his students abreast of the best in Biblical criticism without shaking their faith in the authenticity of the Book. By precept and practice he and Mrs. Freeman have always been leaders in interracial equality and understanding long before the need of these was recognized. For several years after his retirement he was a part-time professor in the department of religion at Shaw.

Alice Whittier Meserve in 1907 succeeded Helen Louise Bishop as professor of Latin. She, like Miss Paschal, was an effective ally to Miss Colton in her work; and the organization of the Raleigh chapter of the Southern Association of College Women was due largely to her influence. She was in 1912 succeeded by Bertha L. Loomis. In 1914, Helen Hull Law came as head of the department of Latin, which in 1916 became again the department of Latin and Greek as it had been till 1909. Her depth and breadth of scholarship would have frightened the freshmen had not her charming shyness made them feel that they must put her at ease. In 1927 she went to Wellesley, where she taught Greek until her retirement in 1955, eleven years before her death in Winter Park, Florida.

Mary Hasseltine Vann was professor of mathematics from 1912 to 1917; then she was granted a fellowship at Radcliffe. After this graduate study she went to the public schools of New York, from which position she retired to her home in Aulander in 1954. Strikingly tall and red-haired, she was a contrast in appearance and personality to Miss Law with her slender stateliness and classic profile, a contrast the more marked because the two were often together. The informality of Miss Vann's classes was a pleasant shock to her students, who admired her incredible skill in throwing chalk almost as much as they did her brilliance in mathematics.

Vital to every course in college is the library. President Blasingame in surveying the needs of the University the first year had made an especial plea for books, saying there was "no library to speak of." In the *Recorder* Mrs. Kesler

had begged for books for the history department, giving a list of those especially needed. She, like the other teachers, eked out the scanty supply with her own books.

In 1900 there was a library of 650 volumes, kept in a classroom on the second floor of Main Building, one of the total number of fourteen classrooms. The 1902 catalogue refers to the General Library; in 1904 that one small room was entitled General Library and Reading Room. Two students kept the library open about nine hours a day. Now and then a trustworthy girl would sit at the desk to keep order when both student librarians had classes.

For the ordering of books and the general oversight of the library there was a curator, an office which until the coming of a full-time librarian was held by the professor of natural science—first Mr. Kesler, then Mr. Sackett, then Mr. Boomhour. This curator was requested by the trustees in 1902 to act with two of the trustees as a committee on the library, “to seek in all legitimate ways to increase the usefulness of the library.” For two years books and magazines taken out were entered, in the order of their withdrawal in a big account book formally inscribed *Baptist Female University, Library Record*. That two-year record kept in the book shows, in addition to the books evidently used in class work, certain books to have been general favorites. *Under Gold Skies, Best Things from Best Authors, Woman’s Mission and Influence, Give Me Thine Heart, Phoebe Skiddy’s Theology*—these were chosen again and again from the very small number available.

More magazines than books were taken out. Even current issues were kept out from one to four days. Some of the titles are familiar to present-day readers — *Atlantic Monthly, Etude, Saturday Evening Post, and Ladies’ Home Journal*. Others had titles now forgotten—*Everybody’s, McClure’s, Lippincott’s, Munsey’s, Century, Success*, and the widely circulated *Youth’s Companion*. There were forty-three newspapers and only twenty-seven magazines, each girl having been asked to give the name of her home town or county newspaper to the president of the University, who requested each editor to send a complimentary subscription to the library.

In 1902 Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Johnson of Wake Forest bequeathed their library to the Baptist University. Later donations—various books and gifts in money from individuals, \$300 from the student body in 1911, gifts from the societies and classes, contributions from some of the departments—all have been welcome, but none of them could mean quite so much as did this collection of books when the library was so new and small.

The State Library and the Olivia Raney Library, always useful to the College, were invaluable supplements to the slender supply of books in those meager years.

In 1910 the library, which had grown to 2,500 volumes, was moved down the hall to two classrooms with an archway between them. The books were at that time reclassified according to the Dewey Decimal System, the work being done under the direction of the secretary of the State Library Commission. The next year the first full-time librarian was employed, Miss Emma Moore Jones, who was succeeded in 1913 by Miss Eva Malone.

Margaret Forgeus was the next librarian. Except for two absences because of illness in her family she was at Meredith from 1914 to 1954. Since both times she resigned rather than taking a leave of absence, she has the unique distinction of having been elected to her position three separate times. Marguerite Higgs '15, was her successor in the first interval, Gladys Leonard '25, in the second.

In 1914 a third room, one directly across the hall, was put into use for the library. In it the books reserved for the upper classes were kept; and the juniors and seniors cherished, though they sometimes abused, the freedom from the immediate supervision of the libraraian, mild as her discipline was.

The health record of the College has always been good. For the first two years, ordinary illnesses were cared for in the infirmary by the patients' roommates and by the matron, under Dr. Dixon's supervision. But the physician's marriage to Dr. Norwood Carroll in September, 1900, took her from her combined bedroom-livingroom-office to a home off the campus and made inevitable the employment of a full-time nurse. A trained nurse who came in 1901 was

unsatisfactory and stayed only a few months. In January, 1902, Octavia Norwood came. "She has not been trained in schools," Dr. Vann told the trustees, "but is a woman of experience, energy, good judgment, and fine spirit. She was employed at \$15.00 a month for the spring term as an experiment." The experiment lasted thirty years. That it was highly satisfactory on both sides was evidenced by two incidents. Once when she asked for a raise in her microscopic salary, she explained that if she did not get it she would stay on anyway. (She received the raise.) And in 1913 the senior class petitioned the faculty to give Mrs. Norwood, who could do little more than write her name, a place in the academic procession Sunday morning and evening of commencement.¹⁴

To everyone she was "Son," because that was her epithet for anybody she addressed, from the smallest freshman to a dignified visiting doctor. Often from the fourth floor window would come her ringing command, "The dog's toe, son, get off that wet grass or you'll catch your death of cold!" If the culprit did catch cold, there waited for her the inevitable "castor oil cocktail"—and care as tender and loving as ever a mother gave her child.

A mild case of smallpox early in 1901 quarantined the school for six weeks, with East Building, where the case occurred, isolated from the rest of the College. That the dread scourge did not spread convinced most parents of the value of what had been called "Dr. Dixon's fad of vaccination." Elizabeth Cheers Parks, '03, wrote to the *Twig* of February 12, 1926, her memories of the quarantine. The fifty cents she threw out the window to a passing lady with a request for shirtwaist material brought her enough for two waists, which she made with her fingers. For exercise the prisoners took turns rolling Dr. Vann's baby daughter, Elizabeth, around the building in a wheelbarrow. One morning Governor Aycock played snowball with them. The one really solemn time of the day was when Mrs. Earnshaw gathered them in the living room after supper and read to them the Book of Job. "Somehow as poetical as the book is

¹⁴ Soon after the College moved to its present site, Miss Ida planted a deodora cedar on the east side of Faircloth Hall, on the fourth floor of which the infirmary was then located, and called it the Octavia Tree.

said to be," Mrs. Parks wrote, I have never read it since. . . . For six long weeks the quarantine lasted. Then ablution in bichloride and freedom. Do you remember the freezing day we were tossed out of the building, our long hair a mass of frozen sleet?"

Dr. Carroll's unusual medical skill was at the service of girls who were ill; her sound common sense was at the service of every student. The enchantment of her smile, her breathtakingly dramatic presentation of the simplest principles of health and hygiene, the audacious degree of her exaggeration which an occasional twinkle in her eyes acknowledged—all these made her weekly hygiene lectures and her senior class in physiology never-to-be-forgotten experiences. The health record of the College attests to the soundness of the regulations which she enunciated so emphatically and which Miss Paschal with quiet firmness enforced.

Generations of college students will never forget Dr. Carroll's annual declaration concerning long-sleeved undershirts and high shoes from November 1 to April 1: "Every young lady in this institution is expected to wear a sleeve, and not a lace curtain; and if I find on the first day of November one single girl in low shoes, nothing under high heaven shall prevent her being sent home immediately." It must have been high heaven which warded off pneumonia when before a student function in chapel, especially if it was to be followed by a reception, Miss Paschal occasionally posted the welcome notice, "Students may remove their shirts and high shoes and sit with their friends."

Dr. Carroll always gave generous credit for the good health of the College to the regular exercise which the physical education department required in its classes and encouraged in its games. *Department* is an anachronism here, for not until 1930 was it so recognized; before that year a brief description of its work appeared in the general information in the front of the catalogue, between "Government" and "Hygiene and Care of the Sick." In 1910, however, it ceased to be an appendage to the work of the teacher of elocution, and rose to the dignity of a director of its own. Gertrude Royster had begun in 1905 as an associate

of Miss Phelps the valued service to the College which lasted thirty-six years. In his report to the trustees in 1906, Dr. Vann wrote of her:

"Miss Royster at once won the hearts of the girls by her tact and sympathy, giving inspiration and her most loyal support to every detail of the work."

Handicapped by limited equipment and limited space, by work required but giving no college credit, she nevertheless laid the foundation for an excellent department. Classes had to come in the late afternoons or evenings because the indoor work was done in three Faircloth rooms thrown together—her office and two rooms regularly used for classes. In these two classrooms the chairs had to be stacked each time and put back in order when her work was over. Field Day, the forerunner of May Day, gave the public an idea of the training the girls received. It was a lively affair; several activities going on at once in the small court on the teeter ladders, climbing ropes, flying rings, and giant strides made of it almost a three-ring circus. There were gay folk dances; intricate drills with wands, dumbbells, and Indian clubs; and contests in low jumps, high jumps, and chinning the bar. For these classes and for their sports the girls wore blouses and modestly voluminous bloomers.

The lecture series begun in 1909 added interest and variety to each year's activities. The small lecture fee from the students was supplemented by tickets sold to the general public, and the two hundred or more townspeople added to the student body so filled the auditorium that the speakers had the experience which John Kendrick Bangs on his second visit described as "talking to a size 42 audience in a perfect 36 hall." Most of the lectures were in series of three—two evenings and an extended chapel talk. The girls were charmed with the British accents and the Oxford and Cambridge gowns of Louis Wilkinson and John Cowper Powys. Though Dr. Wilkinson's address, "Browning, the Philosopher and Dramatist," lasted for an hour and a half, the *Quarterly Bulletin* reported that "he held his audience in charmed attention." On each of his two visits Hamlin Garland spoke informally to Miss Colton's class in advanced

composition. (The impressive term Creative Writing was a thing of the future.) Alfred Noyes's reading of "The Highwayman" and "The Barrel Organ" still echoes in his hearers' memories. Dr. Vann was dismayed when Scottish Hugh Black insisted on walking the seven blocks from the station, carrying his own bag.

Founders' Day, first observed in 1909, brought speakers who were North Carolinians or who were associated with the state intimately enough to know the background of the College. Henry Louis Smith, a native North Carolinian, who was at that time president of the University of Virginia, was the speaker on this first Founders' Day. He chose as his subject "Higher Education as a Field for Christian Philanthropy." The next year, 1910, when the change of name to Meredith College was ratified by the legislature, John E. White spoke on Thomas Meredith. Students, faculty, trustees and guests went in a body at the conclusion of the program to the City cemetery, where after a brief service a wreath was laid on Thomas Meredith's grave. On Founders' Day in 1966, which marked the seventy-fifth anniversary of the granting of the charter to the Baptist Female University, a similar service took place.

At other times during the year there were talks by men and women who were leaders in denominational work. Miss Heck in 1903 gave a series of talks, *The Missionary Century*. Secretaries of the various boards, state and southern; foreign missionaries, some of them Meredith graduates; W.M.U. workers—all came to the College from time to time. In 1913-14 there was a series of monthly talks on various aspects of denominational life, each talk by a different speaker. Pastors of churches over the state have always been especially welcome chapel speakers.

Though there were fewer of them, student activities played a larger part in college life then than now because the students' interests were to a far greater extent centered on the campus. After its organization in 1903, the Athletic Association sponsored sports. Mr. Sackett, after being himself instructed by the director of athletics at A. and M., coached the girls in basketball and tennis. The basketball court and the one tennis court were on the northeast side of

Main Building, almost on the street. A high board fence was erected according to the trustees' directions "to protect the young ladies from the gaze of passers-by." There were two basketball teams, the Reds and the Blues. The account in the 1904 *Oak Leaves* of a game played Thanksgiving afternoon ended thus:

Miss Allen, to the dismay of the Reds, secures the ball, making a quick pass to Miss Markham, who scores the third goal for the Blues. The game closes with a score of 6-2 in favor of the Blues. The great Thanksgiving game is over.

That same year the college team played two games with St. Mary's, the result of which Mary Johnson Lambeth, '06, a member of the team, described in a letter written many years later.

The first game was a tie on our own grounds, and the second was a bad defeat for St. Mary's. The idea was abandoned because feeling ran too high. Unladylike language was used on both sides. St. Mary's intimated that we were of bourgeois extraction, while our fans sneered at their educational limitations.

On March 6, 1915, the Athletic Association, of which a junior, Alberta Brown, was president, sponsored the first Stunt Night—establishing a still unbroken tradition. A description of the four stunts was in next day's *News and Observer*:

The Freshmen led off with a "glee club," composed of tin cans, combs, and various other instruments of torture. The several young things were dressed in the styles of the "good old days," and brought forth a sigh of "never more" from the stricken youths out in front. The Sophomore class came backward, dressed backward, and "turned the world upside down." The Juniors appeared in the role of legislators. . . . The bill for consideration was "man suffrage." Each member explained his vote in convincing reasons. . . . They feared "politics would corrupt him," or "would alienate his love of home and family"; hence he was disallowed by a majority of eight. The Seniors concluded with "The Lamentable Tragedy of Julius Caesar." . . . The battle of platter and spoon furnished an uproarious climax and finale. After that, candy and sweetened conversation were served as "delicious refreshments."

Christmas caroling, now sponsored by the Meredith Recreation Association, has also continued as an unbroken tradition. "A joyous prelude to the holidays," the 1960 *Oak*

Leaves called it. In the early days rather than going in the late evening as they do now the carolers went out very early in the morning, singing on the campus, at the homes of faculty members, at hospitals, at the state prison, and at the governor's mansion. A critically ill patient at Rex hospital, wakened at dawn by the singing, thought that he had died and was hearing the angels singing. Later he said, "It was beautiful enough to be the angels' song."

Growing out of the Sunday evening prayer meeting and the missionary society of the first year was the Y.W.C.A., organized in 1901 with the encouragement of Miss Heck and Miss McDowell. Morning watch, vespers, voluntary Bible and mission study classes, and the student volunteer group were all under its guidance. It supplemented and lent variety to the religious services at which attendance was required—daily chapel, Sunday school, and church. The Y.W.C.A. was helpful in preparation for the series of revival services held each year. Within the College and without there was commendation of the growth in Christian spirit, the influence and effectiveness of the Christian organizations. "With no trace of cant or suppression of the natural, bright joy of youth," Dr. Vann wrote in a report to the Convention, "there is evident among our young women a healthy, vigorous religious life."

The Y.W.C.A. was of value also in furnishing a link—until the organization of student government the only link—with colleges of different types in different parts of the country.

The literary societies continued to be an important part of student life. Through the programs of both the Philarettians and Astrotektons usually ran a thread of unity; classic myths, Italian art, German opera, American drama, European cities, famous women were some of the subjects used for a half-year or a year. Programs on a play soon to be given by the Dramatic Club were customary in both societies. For a year or two each society had one program every month on literature, on art, on music, and on current affairs. Before the election in 1912 Taft, Roosevelt, and Wilson, each convincing in appearance and mannerisms, made fiery campaign speeches to a joint meeting of the two so-



Presidents of Meredith College

JAMES CARTER BLASINGAME
1899-1900

RICHARD TILMAN VANN
1900-1915

CHARLES EDWARD BREWER
1915-1939

CARLYLE CAMPBELL
1939-1966

(Continued on next page)



E. BRUCE HEILMAN
President 1966-1971



JOHN E. WEEMS
President 1972-



Livingston Johnson Administration Building

cieties. In "My Favorite Book—and Why," a Philaretian program, the choice varied from *Paradise Lost* to *Peck's Bad Boy*. There were debates within each society and between the two; among the subjects which furnished material for debates were the Russo-Japanese War, compulsory education, child labor, coeducation, and the ever recurrent question of woman's suffrage. Impromptu debates were a favorite diversion, quite helpful if the program prepared failed to materialize. "Is the work of students or teachers harder?" "Is Wake Forest Anniversary or Valentine's day a greater aid to Cupid?" There were other diverting programs to vary the more serious ones. "A Ballad in Black" was the story of Cinderella in silhouette. When attending the moving pictures once a month was still a recent privilege, the Astrotektons pictured the advertisements customarily shown on the screen, among them the Gold Dust Twins, Fairy Soap, Baker's Chocolate, and His Master's Voice.

For both the Y.W.C.A. and the literary societies there were occasional speakers from the city and talks by members of the faculty, whose experiences had been richer and more varied than one might expect in a comparatively new college which could pay only small salaries. Travel talks were especially popular; teachers who had taken summer trips abroad or who had been, in the words of the trustees' minutes, "excused for a year's study" in this country or abroad opened magic casements for the students, most of whom had never been outside the state.

The first two issues of *Oak Leaves*, the College annual, were produced in 1904 and 1905 by the senior classes. In 1906 the literary societies assumed this responsibility. The societies also produced the monthly magazine, the *Acorn*, the first issue of which appeared in February, 1907. The names were a tribute to Raleigh, for which "City of Oaks" was a well-known epithet; and the first annual was dedicated to the citizens of Raleigh.

Sorosis, a name adopted the country over for the organizations which developed into woman's clubs, was an offspring of the societies, begun in 1905 with Miss Phelps's guidance. It continued—though with the interest consid-

erably diminished in its later years—till 1916. With a membership limited to thirty girls who were regular college students, the group strove to raise the standard of work done in both societies. In addition to their study of parliamentary procedure and the duties of officers and committees, they had decidedly practical programs, such as the one which took up the finer points of sewing, with a talk by Bessie Lane, '11, (a Latin major before she was an M.D.) on collars, yokes, ornaments, color, pressing, cleaning, and repairing. The Christmas program of the societies and the Y.W.C.A. might glitter with holly berries and star dust, but Sorosis could not be deflected from its set course. In 1913 the members studied *The Economics of the Home*, and on December 14, the *Acorn* reported, they discussed lighting, water supply, hygiene and sanitation, and plumbing.

The class organizations were not, in the earliest years of the school, of so much interest or importance as they are now, partly because the majority of students were preparatory or special students and thus would not be included in the four college classes, partly because the sharp line between A.B. students and diploma students tended to divide each class. The first class organization was that of the seniors in the fall of 1901, with Minnie Sutton as president. They held their meetings, as did senior classes for years thereafter, in the physics laboratory classroom on the first floor of Main Building. After successfully petitioning for several privileges, such as walking in groups of two without a chaperon, their main business was the planning of class day, which that year came several weeks before commencement and for which the whole school had a holiday. The class song, the prophecy, the will, the presentation to each member of comically appropriate mementoes, the planting of the ivy, the burning of the most detested book—these were climaxed by the presentation of the class gift. In a specially prepared hardwood box with B.F.U. carved on it, each girl in turn placed her contribution. And thus the endowment fund was begun with \$19.75 from the first graduating class.

The class of 1906 as sophomores made the first ivy chain. "It couldn't have been called a thing of beauty," one mem-

ber wrote the next year, “but we, poor things, did our best—ivy was scarce!” They perhaps were not so venturesome as later classes and did not in the darkness of early morning gather frantic handfuls of the ivy which grew so abundantly in Oakwood cemetery; nor did they yet have Mr. Boom-hour’s aid, always so welcome to the makers of the daisy chain. The sprig of ivy planted each year sometimes lived, notwithstanding the cynical comment in the report of the 1907 commencement in the *Quarterly Bulletin*:

The class followed the custom of planting a sprig of ivy in a dust bed at the side of Faircloth Hall, without adding a drop of water, and the ivy followed custom in dying promptly.

Some of the classes followed 1902 in making gifts to the endowment fund. When 1911 presented its gift of \$680, a young man rose from the audience and presented \$615 from the Wake Forest seniors. The class of 1907 delighted its faculty member, Dr. Dixon Carroll, by giving a skeleton, “Brother Bones”—a gift which considerably aided the work of succeeding physiology classes. The classes of 1909 and 1912 gave portraits of Dr. Vann and of Mr. Stringfield; 1915 made its gift to Belgian relief.

It was partly to encourage class spirit and partly to solve the problem of the class of 1906, which had nine members and eight parts in class day, that the crook was introduced at the suggestion of Miss Phelps, who had come to Meredith from Adrian College in Michigan, where a crook was thus used. The ninth member presented to the incoming senior class a shepherd’s crook, full sized, decked with the colors of 1906, with the solemn injunction that it be hidden from the next junior class. The next year to the colors of 1906 was added a huge black bow because of the mistaken confidence 1907 placed in the skill of the Wake Forest youth who volunteered to hide the crook. As the years went on the hiding places became more difficult—one year it was sewed up in the mattress of Mrs. Applewhite, the mother of a teacher. By 1913 enthusiasm had too often given way to ill will; the risk to life and limb in swinging from a fourth to a third floor window was too great—and the crook was summarily abolished, not to be reinstated till 1929. It was

abandoned again in 1948 because of lack of interest. The custom has several times been revived for a short period of time, the latest being in 1969. It was produced on awards day, a few weeks before commencement, rather than on class day.

The Dramatic Club was organized in 1903 and thrived during Miss Phelps's stay. She did not try anything so spectacular as a performance at the Academy of Music, for the much applauded *Midsummer Night's Dream* had brought the school such severe censure that for several years no plays were given, and only on extraordinary occasions were girls allowed to attend the theatre. But the indignation had died down when Miss Phelps began in 1906 a series of Shakespearean plays, *As You Like It*, *Twelfth Night*, *Winter's Tale*, *Merchant of Venice*, and *Hamlet*, which were so well performed that they would have even pleased audiences more critical than playlovers in a town to which few professional productions came. Two of Browning's plays were given—*A Blot in the Scutcheon* in 1909; and in May, 1912, in honor of the hundredth anniversary of Browning's birth, *Colombe's Birthday*.

These plays, like Sheridan's and Goldsmith's, which were also produced, presented fewer difficulties in staging than did modern dramas because cloaks and capes looked considerably better than the skirts—later mitigated to full black bloomers—which the authorities decreed instead of trousers. For plays in modern dress, the men if possible were on the stage when the curtains parted, and moved only when absolutely necessary, standing behind tables or chairs or sofas or leaning over fences wherever such protection could be provided.

In 1905 the school took an important step forward when it introduced student government, apparently the first college in the state to do so, and one of the first in the South. It was no sudden venture; as early as the second year the faculty minutes show that capable girls were being given responsibility, for "nine trustworthy girls" were named to assist the teachers by taking charge of sections of girls in their daily walk. In October, 1900, the faculty decided that

certain girls should be allowed to visit and walk without a chaperon "at the appointed times and within fixed limitations." Such girls must have always been "irreproachable" in conduct and must have made A on at least half their work with no grades lower than B. In 1903 what had two years earlier been a senior privilege was extended to all students—that they might walk and go to Sunday school and church in groups with a student rather than a teacher as chaperon.

Disciplinary measures had almost from the beginning been in part a responsibility of the students themselves. In October, 1900, the Club girls asked the faculty to send away from the school one of their own number who had been guilty of indiscreet behavior. Their decision was upheld; but with the consent of the Club girls, given because her apology showed her repentance, she was allowed on probation to continue in school as a Main Building student.

Four years later the trustees reported thus to the Convention:

The management has inaugurated a modified form of self government by the student body, and with gratifying results. When the one case calling for disciplinary measures occurred this session, the students themselves took the initiative and the faculty sanctioned their action. It is the purpose of the Faculty to approach as nearly as possible the ideal of a well ordered home government.

The next year, after a careful study had been made of good colleges north and south which already had student government, the final step was easily taken. The faculty minutes show that Mary S. Abbott, who had that fall succeeded Mrs. Laura Anderson as lady principal, submitted on October 3, 1905, a plan for student self-government. After a joint committee of students and faculty had worked together over the plan, it was on November 2 adopted without delay. Thus the Student Association of the Baptist University for Women was formed, and officers elected.

Victoria Pickler was president; Margaret Bright, vice-president, and Addie Smith, secretary, with Bessie Williams and Ethel Carroll completing the executive committee. The

president and vice-president were seniors; the other three, juniors. The 1906 *Oak Leaves* gave a clear account of the organization and its working:

The government is almost entirely in the hands of the students themselves, under a set of regulations submitted by the Faculty and adopted by the student body. They have their own Executive Committee, which has the general oversight of the order and department of students, and which reports delinquencies to the self-governed body. Only incorrigible cases are turned over to the Faculty. Students whose department is meritorious and whose grades are passing are eligible to membership on the Honor Roll, after a month's probation; and if at the end of another month they prove worthy those who have reached the age of seventeen are promoted to the self-governed body where they remain until they disqualify themselves by bad conduct or by a poor grade of work. This system tends to promote honor, self-reliance, self-restraint, personal responsibility, and reciprocal helpfulness. It promises the best solution of the problem of discipline that has yet been devised.

Grateful recognition of Miss Abbott's part in the new venture was expressed in the *Student Handbook* for 1907-08:

The Association stands as a monument to Miss Abbott's earnest efforts to realize in our college the highest ideal of womanhood, which her own life in its purity and beauty has exemplified.

As was to be expected, the new system was not established without difficulties. Miss Paschal, who became lady principal in 1907 on Miss Abbott's resignation because of ill health, pointed out that many of the girls, accustomed to the faculty as the disciplinary force, did not accept readily responsibility for one another's conduct, refusing the first year to be proctors. As late as January, 1908, a committee of the faculty was appointed "to investigate and make some provision for girls objecting to joining the honor roll system." Among the preparatory students and in some cases among the college students there were childish attitudes which had to be overcome, some of them boarding-school ideas. Midnight feasts, salt in all the sugar bowls, trunks piled in front of faculty members' doors, flypaper on the footstool of a diminutive teacher, hiding the hat of a faculty member's caller—all these childish pranks seem incompatible with the sweeping skirts, high pompadours and

grave expressions of the young ladies pictured in the *Oak Leaves*. It would be difficult to believe that the line of demure, white-clad girls who always marched down to lectures and concerts in chapel from the third floor, half coming down the staircase to the right, half to the left, would run away and stay all day on April Fool's Day, or another year on the same day keep absolute silence when the first chapel hymn was announced.

Little by little, the girls began to respond well to their new responsibilities, and learned in large measure to put away childish things and to turn their exuberant energy in more constructive channels. As they became more capable and more mature in their points of view, they took more authority in their own hands. In March, 1913, Miss Paschal wrote in the alumnae department of the *Acorn*:

The president of the student government association is more of an authority on equity and law than is any teacher in the institution, and it is into her ears that a transgressor pours out her confession.

Less than ten years after the establishment of student government, the students insisted, sometimes to a degree disconcerting to the faculty, upon the authority belonging to the Association. In 1913, its president, Harriet Herring, presented the request of the organization, that "the Student Government Association be a body of equal power with the senate in the matter of government, actions of the one to go into effect only with the approval of the other." The faculty senate did not think it wise to grant the request, considering the age of the students and the procedure of the best colleges of Meredith's type.

Much credit is due to Miss Paschal and to the Student Government presidents and committees with whom she worked through the difficult, formative years of the Association, when the untried way had to be felt out, inch by inch.

Student Government, Y.W.C.A., the literary societies, and the classes all contributed to the social life, providing entertainment enough to keep Jill from being a dull girl. Gala occasions, small and large, were scattered throughout

the year. There were, of course, informal affairs—parties for the new girls, Halloween, Thanksgiving, and Christmas parties, at which the refreshments varied from scuppernong grapes or candy or peanuts to the more elegant hot chocolate with wafers or ice cream. The junior-senior had not settled into the invariable pattern of a banquet; it might be a porch-party, a picnic, a hayride, or breakfast at the Yarborough—the hotel of Raleigh. (The more plebian Giersch's was the restaurant usually patronized when one merely "ate down town.")

As was the case in most women's colleges in the South, the regulations did not encourage the informal, individual contacts which play so large a part in the social life of college students now. The restrictions affecting the association of the students with men, though in keeping with those of other institutions, now seem absurdly rigid. Rosa Catherine Paschal in 1950 wrote:

In these latter years I have pondered as to why college officials should ever have been so reserved [mild word] about arranging for boy to see girl. Why didn't we realize that we were going against nature?

For years callers were received only on Monday afternoons; and as that was, except for seniors, the only afternoon for going downtown, one chose each week between shopping and dating. Using the telephone was until 1919, according to the *Handbook*, a senior privilege. Students could not sit with young men in chapel "at any function under the auspices of the college," but could do so at any affair under the auspices of a student organization.

Hence the church picnics and parties and the social affairs at the College to which men were invited were the more important. For such occasions there were then, as now, guests in abundance from several nearby colleges. That Wake Forest and A. and M. were the favorite sources of supply is evident from the *Acorn* account of the 1914 Founders' Day reception:

Four classrooms were gay with decorations. The effect of the Valentine room, with its festoons of red hearts, was unusually pretty. Besides the Wake Forest and A. and M. rooms, which are

always with us on such occasions, there was a George Washington room, which was quite patriotic with its flags and hatchets.

There were return courtesies; society anniversary and the Baraca banquet at Wake Forest were important dates on the calendar of the sister college, and invitations from A. and M. were not infrequent.

The climax in formal entertainment was the banquet given each year by the trustees and faculty in honor of the seniors, to which juniors were also invited. It was held the evening of graduation day in the college dining room from six to nine. Ethel Carroll Squires, '07, who as student and teacher knew the early college well, wrote of the occasion:

The tables were arranged in an inverted U. Dr. Delia Dixon Carroll or some other majestic and fluent dignitary acted as master of ceremonies. Proud moment that—when the president of the senior class, after descending from the parlors on the arm of the president of the Board of Trustees, arose in response to the toast to her classmates. One naive junior refused to touch her cup because, as she confessed years later, she thought all punch was wicked, even Baptist College punch. Simple food, rich thought, good conversation, happy fellowship.

Replacing the banquet, a reception with the entire student body as guests was continued till 1919.

Of those commencements from 1900 to 1915 there are many treasured memories. Society Night began the finals, with excitement over which of the long line of white-clad girls, the Astrotektons on the right, the Philaretians on the left of the chapel, would be longer; and who would win the essay medals—the only awards presented on Society Night. The audience, a more intimate one than for the other occasions of commencement, made up mostly of students and their friends and alumnae, enjoyed the music and the address; and with the prospect of the coming reception listened with patient courtesy to the reading of the prize-winning essays. The baccalaureate sermon Sunday morning and the missionary sermon in the evening alternated between the First Baptist and the Tabernacle Church, the entire student body, faculty, and trustees marching from the College to the church. The stately dignity of the first senior class was not assumed for the occasion, for the stu-

dents looked upon the seniors with awe and always called them "Miss." With their high collars, wasp waists, and sweeping skirts they led the academic line quite as impressively as do their black-gowned successors.

After the first year or two when it was held earlier in the month, class day took place Monday morning in the auditorium. It followed each year the pattern grown all too familiar to the casual spectator, but always charmingly new to the graduates and their friends.

It was a tribute to Miss Poteat and Miss Ford that an appreciative throng panted up the three flights of steps to the art exhibit in the studio. Monday evening came the annual concert, with Mr. Brown beaming at audience and performers and with Donis, his ebony face accentuated by gleaming shirt and cuffs, magnificently raising and lowering the lid of the grand piano.

Tuesday was the important day when the baccalaureate address was climaxed by the awarding of degrees and diplomas, with a Bible for each graduate. The earlier classes remember the armfuls of roses brought to the stage for the more popular seniors, a practice that was wisely abolished after a few years. Then, before the seniors marched out, each one half-smiles because the coveted diploma was hers, half-tears because the school was suddenly dearer than she had ever dreamed it could be, before each graduate was taken to the maternal bosom while the adoring father awaited his turn, Dr. Vann made his talk to the graduates. The baccalaureate addresses were usually of high quality; Charles Edward Jefferson, William Lyon Phelps, Leslie Shaw, Robert Stuart MacArthur, and Newell Dwight Hillis were among the speakers. But whether these addresses were ponderously learned or gracefully literary, it was Dr. Vann's few sentences which the graduates remembered longest, talks which, in Ethel Carroll Squires' words, "filled our hearts with nuggets of wisdom and brimmed our eyes with tears."

In 1915 the students listened with especially tender gravity to his talk, his last words as president of the College. Just as fifteen years earlier he had been called to head a new enterprise, so now the denomination called him to a

new work, the executive secretaryship of the recently established Educational Board of the Convention. Of the decision Livingston Johnson wrote:

He felt and pleaded his unfitness, but the members of the board now, like the trustees of Meredith fifteen years ago, believed that he was the best man among us for this new and very important work. Again he yielded to the conviction of his brethren, and accepted the heavy responsibilities which the position imposes.

The College made much progress in the fifteen years of his presidency. The property increased in value from \$75,000 to \$289,050; the \$43,000 debt was wiped out and an endowment of \$127,000 accumulated; the enrollment went from 220 to 383 in spite of the discontinuance of the departments of business and of elocution and the first nine years of the preparatory department. From a female university with rather vague requirements for entrance and graduation, it became a college which commanded respect in academic circles. The intangible values are beyond estimate.

Richard Tilman Vann died on July 25, 1941. To the many who knew him, his memory is cherished; to those who did not, the beauty of the words and music of the "Alma Mater" links his name with the college to which his influence has been and will ever be a blessing.

V

“AN INSTITUTION THAT HAS PASSED THE EXPERIMENTAL STAGE”

(1915-1925)

On February 3, 1916, Charles Edward Brewer, who since the preceding June had held the office, was inaugurated president of Meredith College. In presenting him on that occasion Dr. Vann spoke of the “commanding unanimity” with which the vast Baptist host has chosen the new president. The phrase was justified; for no other name was considered by the trustees, and there was not one dissenting vote.

The academic world was no untried venture to the new president. Born in 1866 at Wake Forest to John Marchant Brewer and Ann Eliza Wait Brewer, the boy had been brought up in the shadow of the college of which his grandfather, Samuel Wait, had been the first president. With an A.B. and an A.M. from Wake Forest and with two years of graduate study in chemistry at Johns Hopkins, the young man had returned to Wake Forest as professor of chemistry in 1889, the year the Convention voted to establish the Baptist Female University. During a year's leave of absence he had finished his graduate work at Cornell, receiving the Ph.D. degree in 1900; he had been made dean of Wake Forest when that office was created in 1912. Hence William Louis Poteat, then president of Wake Forest, had opportunity to know well the man to whom in inaugural greetings he attributed “firmness and geniality, a microscopic care and a cosmic vision, fidelity and initiative, specialism and culture, humility of spirit and a victorious faith.”

The vast Baptist host of North Carolina chose the new president of Meredith not only for his academic attainments, but for his devout Christianity. A deacon in the Wake Forest Baptist Church, he had organized the Glen Royall Sunday school in the mill section of Wake Forest

and was its superintendent until he left Wake Forest. Men and women now growing old still remember the long walks he took with them as children each Sunday afternoon. For more than twenty years he taught the men's Bible class in the First Baptist Church in Raleigh, a class now named the Jones-Brewer Berean Class; thus his name is united with that of the teacher of the class who preceded him, Wesley Norwood Jones. He had been recording secretary of the Baptist State Convention from 1908 to 1915, when he became chairman of the Layman's Missionary Movement in North Carolina. He also served on many important committees of the Convention.

Thus there was no jolt of adjustment when President Brewer took up his new duties. He was well-fitted for the position by his academic and religious background and his experience in a college which had in many ways served as a model for its sister institution. He had wholehearted appreciation of what had been accomplished in the institution to which he came, an appreciation which in no way blinded him to its defects and its needs. Throughout the years he gave to Meredith wise guidance, staunch support, and unstinted love. He remembered the College generously in his will.

Perhaps the most significant aspect of President Brewer's great contribution to the life of Meredith was his keen, individual interest in every person in the school. On the day the College opened in the fall of 1915 he knew the name of each of the 403 students and the town or community from which each came. Within three weeks he recognized the face which went with each name. His unusual ability in winning the confidence of students and faculty was evident from the beginning. His discernment, his patience, his good humor, his sympathy were invaluable to a homesick freshman, to a teacher perplexed with new responsibilities or wearied with old ones.

The editor of the *Acorn* wrote of him in the spring of 1916, his first year:

If there are any difficulties, he helps us to meet and solve them; if there are successes, his commendation helps us to achieve

greater things. Truly we have a friend in our president, for he is ever willing to give us the benefit of his wisdom, his sympathy, and his broader experience.

The same editorial expressed gratitude for Mrs. Brewer's help and advice, her cheering visits to the infirmary, all evidences of "her beautiful Christian character, a constant reminder of what we would like to be." The influence of her quiet, gentle beauty of character and personality continued and deepened throughout Dr. Brewer's presidency. Her home with her daughters at 126 Groveland Avenue was frequently visited by alumnae, and her presence at any Meredith gathering was a benediction. Mrs. Brewer died in 1963; she, too, remembered the College in her will.

The inauguration was a red-letter day for Meredith, with the host of friends which it brought to the campus. William Alexander Webb, president of Randolph-Macon Woman's College, gave the first address, "The Place of the Humanities in a College of Liberal Arts." Dr. Vann introduced the new president, whose inaugural address was, "The Relations and Obligations of the Christian College." With no overlapping, the two addresses had striking unity in the ideals they set forth.

An anthem by the Meredith choir and the Wake Forest glee club was followed by a series of greetings. William Louis Poteat represented the Southern denominational schools and colleges; May Lansfield Keller, dean of Westhampton College, the Southern standard colleges for women; Bertha May Boody, dean of Radcliffe, the Northern standard colleges for women. The state schools were represented by Edward Kidder Graham, president of the University of North Carolina, and James Yadkin Joyner, state superintendent of public instruction. John Alexander Oates, president of the Baptist State Convention, prefaced his greeting from the 268,000 Baptists in North Carolina by an explanation.

They would have all liked to be here, but they just couldn't come. Why, it would take more than fifty miles of passenger trains to bring them here, and forty acres of land to give them good standing room. . . . But if they were all together, and should at one time express their great delight at the inauguration of Dr. Brewer,

they might get into the toils of the law for having an unlawful assemblage.

Edith Taylor Earnshaw, '05, spoke for the alumnae, Mary Olivia Pruette for the student body, and Dr. Freeman for the faculty.

The singing of the Alma Mater brought to a fitting close Meredith's first inauguration, an event which Tom Bost, of the *Greensboro Daily News*, characterized as "a simple ceremony that had little of the ceremonial." He continued, "It was all so delightfully modest and characteristic of a college that is yet so young and deferential when it might be forgivably effervescent, not to say chesty and bumptious."

In his inaugural address, "The Relations and Obligations of the Christian College," President Brewer said that he was coming to "an institution that has passed the experimental stage, and has demonstrated not only its right, but its duty to live." Thus it was natural that for the next ten years, the progress of the College should be in paths already marked out—a progress no less significant because it was steady rather than spectacular.

The new president gave as an essential characteristic of the Christian college "a worthy record of giving excellent training." This worthy record, already established, was strengthened and given wider recognition by the admission of the College to membership in the Association of Southern Colleges and Secondary Schools in December, 1921. A long, toilsome effort had preceded that recognition. As early as January 2, 1905, the following resolution had been recorded in the faculty minutes:

That the faculty recommend to the Board of Trustees the adoption of the College entrance requirements of the Southern Association of Colleges.

The coming of Miss Colton in 1908 and the nation-wide reputation she was gaining as an authority on the standards of Southern colleges had given impetus to the efforts to gain recognition of Meredith as a standard college. By 1911 the College had met the entrance and curricular requirement of the Southern Association. The trustees were pleased with the prospect of an authoritative recognition

of the work of the College; but some of them were dubious about the other requirements of the Association—those concerning endowment, the training and salaries of teachers, the maximum number of hours for each teacher, the maximum size of classes, the number of volumes in the library, the complete separation or discontinuance of the preparatory department. Gradually the doubters were won over or outvoted; and each year as plans were made for the immediate and more distant future of the College, these needs were kept in the forefront, and efforts were made to stretch the slender budget to bring the College a little nearer to the coveted goal of membership in the Southern Association.

“The Southern Association” had become a byword in the College. The 1911 *Oak Leaves* gave a jesting account of a faculty meeting held in a classroom while the students waited at the door.

It is moved and carried that Miss Colton shall go in behalf of Meredith to impress upon all educational institutions that we exist, and by dint of much gnashing of teeth and hard work shall attain to their heights ere long.

Each assuming that inimitable, awe-inspiring, classroom air they file out, and we file in, sorely alive to the fact that we are in the clutches of those whose decrees are the unchanging result of the workings of great minds, yet half-joyful that we are dragged by main strength and awkwardness, whether we will or not, into the everlasting glory of standard colleges.

When on December 21, 1921, Dr. Brewer wired that the College was admitted to full membership in the Southern Association, in half an hour every person on the campus had heard the glad news. One freshman wrote her mother a special delivery letter to tell her that Meredith had at last been taken into the Southern Baptist Convention!

Recognition came from other sources. In 1924 the A.B. graduates were admitted to membership in the American Association of University Women. That the quality of work done at the College was good from the beginning was evidenced by the fact that membership in that Association was open to A.B. graduates beginning with the first class, 1902, rather than with 1915, the first class to offer the fourteen entrance units which the Association then required. Sev-

eral years before the recognition of the College by any accrediting agency, students from Meredith had been admitted to full graduate standing at such universities as Columbia and Cornell, and had been granted the M.A. at the end of nine months' work. In 1928 the Association of American Universities placed Meredith on its list of approved colleges, a distinction which had at that time been accorded to only three other institutions in North Carolina, none of them colleges for women.

There were for the first ten years of President Brewer's administration few changes in the curriculum. With the discontinuance of the preparatory department completed by 1917 and with the number of special students greatly decreased, there were more regular college students, even though lack of space prevented any increase in the total enrollment. With a large and better trained faculty, additional elective courses were given in most departments. Students in art, music, and home economics had so much of their work required in their own respective fields that they could take but few electives. There was, however, need for more guidance of students working for the A.B. degree. To help them to unify their work and avoid smattering, a system was introduced in 1915 which amounted to a major and a related field, though these terms were not used. After meeting the basic requirement of thirty-one year-hours in English, ancient and modern languages, mathematics, biology, chemistry, history, and psychology followed by ethics or sociology, the student chose six year-hours from one of seven subjects—English, French, German, Latin, history, mathematics, and science, with nine year-hours from four or five subjects related to it. For instance, with English one chose nine hours from Latin, French, German, and history; with science one chose from French, German, mathematics, and English. The rest of the work necessary to complete sixty hours could be chosen from the seven subjects listed above or from Bible, education, geology, home economics, and theoretical courses in art and music.

The catalogue in March, 1921, divided the work above

the basic requirements into a major of not less than nine year-hours, a minor of not less than six, with free electives to make up the sixty hours necessary for graduation with an A.B. Physical education was required without credit. Bible and education increased to nine the number of subjects from which majors could be chosen; minors were to come from these, with the addition of Greek and Spanish, which had been restored to the curriculum in 1916 and 1920 respectively. In 1925 for the first time a course in Bible was required of every student for graduation.

In the five years from 1917 to 1922, Miss Poteat in art, Dr. Freeman in Bible, and Dr. Law in Latin were the only heads of departments unchanged. Miss Royster was in her second decade, but physical education was not at that time counted a department. Some departments had two or three successive heads in as many years. Some of the changes were due to retirement or illness; a few to misfits; and a few to post-war restlessness and the much higher salaries which industry and business offered.

In 1916 Donna Marie Thornton relieved Miss Young of the teaching of French; the next year Miss Young retired. She was succeeded as professor of German by Ida Catherine Allen, of Elyria, Ohio. Two years later the two languages were brought into one department—modern languages, with Miss Allen as head, a position which she held until her retirement in 1940. With an M.A. from the University of Chicago, with several years of study and many summers of travel in France and Germany, she was well-fitted for the position. She was a delegate to several of the meetings of the International Federation of University Women; thus she had friends among scholarly women of other nationalities, some of whom visited her. Such contacts had an invigorating effect on the College and helped to broaden its horizons. Miss Allen was always ready for new ventures, from taking charge of a country school at fifteen to hanging by her heels to kiss the Blarney Stone on her seventy-fifth birthday. She died in Asheville on April 7, 1953.

Mary Louise Porter, Ph.D., Cornell, was in the department almost as long as Miss Allen, from 1922 till her re-

tirement in 1941. She is remembered for her deep interest in the spiritual welfare of her students as well as in their academic progress.

Dr. Porter had studied in Europe, as had several others who were in the department for short periods of time—Helen Epler, Laura Jennie Beach, Hortense Badger and Lois Johnson, '15. The Misses Stueven were the first who taught in their native tongue, German. Elisabeth Stueven died in February after her arrival at Meredith in September, 1924; Hermine Stueven, the sister who came in her place, remained five years.

In Mr. Boomhour's absence from 1916 to 1918, John Henry Williams was professor of science; and Dr. Brewer added to his presidential duties the teaching of chemistry, with the aid of Louise Lanneau, '08, who since 1913 had taught science in Meredith Academy. In 1920 Lula Gaines Winston, then teaching in Farmville State Teachers College, was elected head of the department of chemistry, a place which she filled till her retirement in 1938. With a Ph.D. from Johns Hopkins and with membership in a string of learned societies, she was a sound scientist and a clear teacher. It was a delightful surprise to her students and associates to find that with her staid dignity and prim mid-Victorian look she had a colorful personality and a keen sense of humor. Her interests ranged from the writing of sonnets and the reading of the gospel of John in Greek to entering innumerable contests, in which, she admitted, through all the years her sole prize was a cigarette lighter.

Associated with Dr. Winston were Lucretia D. Baker from 1920 to 1923 and Mary Martin Johnson, '21, from 1923 to 1928.

The year 1920 brought to Meredith three people whose terms of service are to be reckoned in decades rather than years — Ernest F. Canaday, Samuel Gayle Riley, and Lattie Rhodes. Dr. Canaday succeeded in mathematics Ida Barney, successor to Marian Stark, who in 1917 had followed Mary Hasseltine Vann. His forty-five years in the position gave the department a stability which could not be attained with frequent changes. He was one of the teachers who were

especially generous with their time in aiding students, and was often to be found by eight o'clock in the morning giving extra help to little groups of those students for whom mathematics was a sad mystery. Dr. Canaday's retirement in 1965 merely turned a leaf in his academic life, because for four years he was head of the department of mathematics at Campbell College. The first year he was at Campbell the mathematics club went from Meredith to Buies Creek to give him a surprise birthday party. "He has," one of his majors wrote, "a permanent position in the hearts of thousands of Meredith students."

Mr. Riley, who came as the head of the department of history and government, had been an undergraduate and graduate student at Princeton, where he studied political science with Woodrow Wilson. Two teachers had come between Mary Shannon Smith and Mr. Riley; each had held the position only one year—Robert R. Hollingsworth in 1918-1919 and Sarah Rice Bradford, daughter of Gamaliel Bradford the historian, in 1919-1920.¹ Mr. Riley was a valued member of the faculty from 1920 to 1947; in addition to his work in the department he served on various committees and was for more than twenty years faculty adviser to the *Twig*. At the special request of the administration he remained the last year when he was beyond the age of retirement. He continued his active retirement for three years as head of the department of history in Brenau College in Georgia, where he formerly had the same position—a position which had also been held by his father. Mrs. Lillian Parker Wallace, who succeeded him as head of the department, came as instructor in history and education in 1921.

"Secretary to the President," Miss Rhodes's official title, gives too faint an idea of her place in Meredith life. "Ask Miss Rhodes" came to be a stock phrase on the campus. And Miss Rhodes for thirty years with cheerful, quiet efficiency met small and large needs of innumerable people. After her retirement in 1951 because of illness she lived with her sister in Scotland County until her death in 1956.

¹ Gertrude Richards' name appeared in the catalogue issued in March, 1919; when she resigned before the session of 1919-20 began, Miss Bradford was elected.

In 1919 education, which had been taught by Miss Smith and then Mr. Hollingsworth in addition to history and economics, was combined with psychology, which had been taught by Dr. Freeman, into a separate department in charge of Edwin McKoy Highsmith. Five years later H. Judson Perry took Mr. Highsmith's place.

The year 1922 brought to the College three teachers who influenced generations of Meredith students—Lena Amelia Barber, Ellen Dozier Brewer, '18, and Julia Hamlet Harris.

When Julia Moeser Haber, who in 1920 had relieved Dean Boomhour of the teaching of biology, gave up her work in 1922, Miss Barber took her place, remaining until her retirement in 1940. Her teaching of science reinforced by her "cheerful godliness" tended to strengthen rather than weaken the faith of her students. Miss Barber died at her home near the campus in 1948.

Since Katherine Parker organized the department of home economics in 1914, the position as head had been held successively by Marie White, Elsie Allen,² Lydia M. Boswell, Josephine Schiffer, Anne Leaming Booker, and Olive Normington. A warm welcome awaited Ellen Dozier Brewer, '18, who came in 1922 after completing two years of graduate work at Columbia. One of the trustees presented her name, and the board unanimously overruled President Brewer's emphatic protest against the election of his daughter to such a position on the faculty. She had in an emergency served one year as instructor in the department of English. Miss Brewer's firm foundation in the humanities, which came with her undergraduate major in Latin and Greek, gave her students a breadth of view not narrowed to their specialty; her knowledge and skill in her chosen field assured their professional training; and her rare qualities of character and personality kept before them a pattern of gracious living.

Julia Hamlet Harris was coming home when she returned from Yale to Raleigh to succeed Mary Susan Steele, '13, who had for two years, 1920-1922, been acting head of the department of English. Dr. Harris, a native of Raleigh and

² Miss Allen of Manchester, Massachusetts, died suddenly after one month at Meredith. Years later her parents sent a hundred dollars to the expansion campaign of the College, a reference to which they had seen by chance.

a graduate of St. Mary's and of the University of North Carolina, had taught in colleges in Georgia, Alabama, and Ohio before finishing her graduate work at Yale. Her insistence on the fundamentals in composition and literature was in keeping with her recognition of the value of the classics in the college curriculum. Her "Lit. Crit." became a tradition at Meredith; and when she retired in 1952 to live in Chapel Hill, the senior majors of the next year were inconsolable at missing the course. Underlying the warm friendliness and the infectious joy in even the smallest aspects of living which drew the students to her was a depth of spirit which kept them as her friends.

In the department, Dr. Harris inherited Mary Lynch Johnson, '17,³ Carmen Lou Rogers, '18, and Mary Jane Carroll, '20; Mary Loomis Smith came also in 1922 and remained until 1930.

After Mr. Hagedorn's resignation in 1915, the school of music—the formidable term continued till 1930—had as director Albert Mildenberg, who had been for one year professor of organ. He was known as a composer as well as a teacher when he came to Meredith in 1914; two of his cantatas had been presented by New York choral societies. Each year at Meredith he gave a recital of his own compositions. Under his direction the Astrotektons presented two operettas, the words and music of which he composed—*Love's Locksmith* in 1915 and *The Woodwitch* in 1916. Each performance crowded the College auditorium and received enthusiastic comments from Raleigh critics.

When in 1917 after three years at Meredith Mr. Mildenberg resigned because of ill health, Charlotte Ruegger, who had come two years before as professor of violin, succeeded him as director of the school of music. A woman of vivid personality, an artist of extraordinary ability, she was in demand for recitals and concerts all over the state. Both she and Mr. Mildenberg were soloists with the Russian Symphony Orchestra, which Meredith brought to Raleigh in 1916. Her excellent English vocabulary, which owed

³ Several of their former students have insisted that the standing argument between the two involved and among their students should be recorded, the argument as to whether Miss Harris or Miss Johnson wrote the worse hand.

much to the study of Shakespeare, was ludicrously tinged by the slang which American friends had taught her without telling her it was slang. One faculty meeting was enlivened by her calm suggestion to an excited colleague becoming red-faced in an argument, "Keep thy shirt on!" After four years at Meredith she opened a private school in Fayetteville.

Her successor, Dingley Brown, an Englishman with a Mus.D. from the London College of Music, had an unusually clear understanding of a liberal arts college and hence an unusually intelligent interest in the institution as a whole. After nine years at Meredith he went to Lenoir Rhyne College.

The calm poise of his associate, May Crawford, was a soothing contrast to the restless energy of Dr. Brown. Coming in 1922, she was for twenty years professor of piano. She usually taught the seniors in piano their last year, preparing them for their recital. Her ability in music was matched by endless patience, a combination which made her an unsurpassed teacher. After her death in 1944 one of her students wrote of her: "She was a teacher in the real sense of the word, an inspiration, a guide, and a very dear friend."

Two fellow countrymen of Dr. Brown were in his department, Mary McGill, instructor in voice in 1918-19, whose delightful accent marked her as Scottish, and Hope N. Portrey, teacher of violin the next two years. Miss Portrey's account of the Epiphany service at St. Augustine's, the Episcopal college for Negroes in Raleigh, was published in the *London Times*. Mary Louise Lenander, who taught voice in 1925-6, was from Denmark; when she once referred to a trustee as a "trusty," Miss Hermine Stueven offered to help her with the intricacies of the English language.

There were in all departments many instructors and some assistant or associate professors who stayed from one to three years. Their brief stay is no indication of the quality of their work or of the contributions they made to Meredith. With a severely limited income the College usually obtained instructors who were young and sometimes inexperienced, with no training beyond college. Hence

other positions, graduate study, and—most of all—marriage took many of them away from Meredith.

The position of dean of women—never an easy position in any college at any time—was in the last few years on the old campus a particularly difficult one. Miss Paschal, who had been appointed in 1907 as lady principal, had kept her relationship with the students in harmony with the changing attitudes implied in the change of title. Nevertheless she must sometimes have felt that she “held a fretful realm in awe.” After her resignation in 1919, there was a period of uncertainty and unrest, increased by the general unrest following the war. Miss Catherine Allen was appointed to succeed Miss Paschal for a year. An older woman, she took the new duties in addition to her teaching only from a strong sense of duty and gave them up with relief.

The next year, 1920, Evelyn M. Campbell came as dean of women from a similar place in Baylor University; earlier she had been executive secretary of the Woman’s Missionary Union of Georgia. Though she died on December 23, 1921, in her brief stay she was of great influence in the school, especially in its religious life. Miss Royster consented to take the position for the second semester, keeping at the same time her work in physical education.

For the next two years, 1922-1924, Alice Zabriskie, who came from Northfield, Massachusetts, was dean of women. It was to her and to Mary Frances Welch, who came in 1918 as dietitian, that Meredith owed the happy custom, continued by the B.S.U., of a special birthday dinner each month.

Evabelle Simmons Covington became dean of women in 1924, was granted a leave of absence in 1925-26, and at her doctor’s insistence resigned the position in January, 1927. Short as was her stay, she accomplished a great deal. With firmness of purpose that did not waver, with deep, kindly concern for individuals and organizations, she put on a sound basis the relationship between student government and the administration. Later her strong interest in teaching led her to accept full-time work in economics at Salem College, a position from which she recently retired.

One of her assistants, Katherine Elizabeth Carroll, '22, had a successful year as acting dean of women in 1925-26, despite the fact that she had been graduated only three years before. Her experience as Student Government president the year of Miss Campbell's illness and death had already proved her ability. Two of the young dean's sisters had taught at Meredith, Ethel Carroll, '07, in Meredith Academy, and Mary Jane Carroll, '20, in the department of English. Still another sister, Bertha Carroll '13, was one of the first two alumnae to be elected to the Board of Trustees; she herself was later to serve as trustee.

The student handbooks from 1915 to 1925—the first ten years of President Brewer's administration, the last ten years on the old campus—show that the regulations at Meredith then, as now, kept a conservatively liberal pace with the times, though they would seem grim to students today. For instance, the use of the telephone was a senior privilege till 1919, when a pay station was put in for the use of the other students. Until 1919 the students shopped only on Mondays and received callers only on Monday afternoons or—provided they had attended the literary society meetings at seven—from eight to ten on Saturday evenings. If they wished to do so, seniors could choose another afternoon or evening rather than Monday or Saturday. Twice a semester on Saturday evenings students could dine with friends in town; twice a semester they could take part in private receptions at school, later called studio parties. So long as there were no Monday classes, the students did not, the handbook records, "attend social affairs or those merely for entertainment on school days." The six-day schedule for classes was put into effect in 1920. Attendance at moving pictures, forbidden till 1919, was then restricted to once a month with a chaperon for the students in general; seniors could attend once a week in the afternoons in groups of three unchaperoned.

By 1925 these regulations, as well as many others, were modified. Seniors could shop alone at any time before 6:00 p.m.; in groups of two the juniors could shop three afternoons a week, sophomores two, and freshmen one.

Dating privileges were increased, with a gradation according to classes from three afternoons or evenings a week for the seniors to one a week for freshmen. In addition the custom known as fifteen-minute dates was introduced in 1925; students were allowed to see for that short period out-of-town guests any time except Sunday and, for underclassmen, study hour. Friends from State College, Wake Forest, Duke, and the University of North Carolina were not considered out-of-town guests. Seniors could dine in town once a month, provided the occasion was substituted for a date night. Freshmen and sophomores could attend moving pictures once a week with a chaperon, provided they went on a shopping day. Juniors could go to ball games, matinees or picture shows in the afternoon in groups of three unchaperoned; seniors had in addition the same privileges at night.

In 1924 along with the time honored extra senior privileges for the last six weeks—senior tables in the dining room, an additional week end, light permission after 10:30—another appeared which is of decided significance. Even though it was cautiously hedged about with provisions, the privilege indicates that the wariness concerning young men was relaxing a bit.

During the last six weeks two seniors with their escorts may go to ball games at the city auditorium and to picture shows at night unchaperoned, provided they are in by ten o'clock and provided this is substituted for a date night, and provided this substitution be made not oftener than once a week.

Chaperonage by especially trustworthy seniors on some occasions in the afternoon had become more and more customary; in 1925 six seniors approved by the executive committee of the faculty could at the discretion of the dean of women act as official chaperons. The number was later enlarged to twelve, then to fifteen; in 1943 every senior became an approved chaperon on the few occasions for which chaperons were necessary.

There were many other rules, some of which at times seemed vexatious and petty. Yet in the main the sentence which prefaced the listing of the regulations in the hand-

book in 1922 and for many years thereafter is a fair representative of the students' attitude.

The following regulations have been adopted to govern college life at Meredith because they embody recognized social obligations and standards, and express the will of the majority as to rules under which they can best live together.

In the early years of Dr. Brewer's presidency war colored the activities of Meredith, as it did those of other colleges at that time. The presence of Miss Ruegger, who as a Red Cross nurse in Belgium had had harrowing experiences and hairbreadth escapes, intensified at Meredith the general sympathy felt for that country. In the fall of 1915 and 1916, faculty concerts were given for Belgian relief. Clothing drives were sponsored by the Y.W.C.A. The classes in sewing bought material and made garments for the Belgian children, which Miss Ruegger sent to the Belgian Ambassador. The student body was thrilled by a letter of thanks from Marie, Queen of Belgium.

In the fall of 1917 a War Activities Committee was organized with Marie White, head of the home economics department, as chairman. A War Conservation Club helped to keep up morale on wheatless and meatless days. "Clean your plate and lick the Kaiser" was a popular slogan. Rolling bandages and knitting sweaters, socks, and mufflers kept nimble fingers busy. Not all fingers were nimble; one knitter tearfully held up for her roommate's inspection a sweater with a cuff twice as large as the armhole. Christmas boxes were packed for the soldiers. To encourage the sale of Liberty bonds, various songs, more patriotic than beautiful were used, such as the one ending:

So we'll lick the Kaiser Bill
And we'll give the world a thrill,
For democracy shall end the war.

The class day program of 1918 was completely military. In heavy white dresses with red ties and with blue and white insignia on the sleeves, the class marched on the platform as a bugler announced the beginning of the day's activities in a training camp. An elaborate flag drill, in-

terspersed with songs, was followed by an evening scene which showed the seniors sitting around a campfire, singing a reminiscent ballad which told their class history. Time has given an ironic twist to the last lines:

And with this ends the life history
Of the only real war class.

The gift of a flag and two hundred dollars in Liberty bonds was presented; then under the guidance of the eagle—the class mascot—each senior picked out an opportunity of service and took her place in the huge service flag which formed the background for the scene.

The volunteering of brothers and sweethearts immediately after the declaration of war in April, 1917, had brought tearful excitement to the campus. In the next eighteen months some of these names with those of others who later went across seas appeared in the casualty lists. The anonymous writer in the 1918 *Oak Leaves* was not alone in her experience.

They put his trophies in my hand;
All golden though they be,
What are they? I only know
He came not back to me.

In the fall of 1918 Meredith became a camp for the whole student body during eight weeks, not merely for the seniors on class day. Because of the influenza epidemic the city authorities quarantined the College in October—a quarantine which was not lifted till the Christmas holidays. The consternation of the students can be imagined. The necessity of keeping up the morale and the physical vigor of several hundred girls cooped up on the diminutive campus presented serious problems. A great aid in their solution was a plan initiated by Dr. Brewer and carried out with the wholehearted cooperation of the students, a movement which, a writer in the 1919 *Oak Leaves* said, "put us all in fine physical trim, furnished great amusement, and saved the whole student body—and, incidentally, the faculty—from nervous prostration." The student body became a military organization which was trained by Baxter Dur-

ham,⁴ a genuine army major, and by Miss Royster, a major *pro tem*. Four seniors—Ella Johnson, Beulah Joyner, Nona Moore, and Isabelle Poteat—were captains of the four companies, with first and second lieutenants, sergeants, and corporals. The account in the *Oak Leaves* continued:

We made it as nearly like the regular army as possible, even succeeding, before the new began to wear off, in making the student body arise before its regular time in order to get an extra drill. So you see we were enthusiastic! . . . Army slang became prevalent among the officers as well as the enlisted men. And so we trudged from one end of our wee campus to the other until every soldier knew every bump and every blade of grass on the entire square.

But finally the day arrived when we were allowed to march proudly down the streets of Raleigh and the Raleigh people on every door step greeted us with bursts of applause. . . . With Majors Durham and Royster at the head, followed by Lieutenant Herring and Sergeant Major Stroud, the army marched with triumphant step, Color Sergeant Higgs proudly bearing the flag before us.

The success of the work of the battalion is proved by the fact that not one flu germ had the courage to attack a one of the gallant warriors. For services rendered on the field the battalion extends to Major Durham its sincere thanks; and to Major Royster, who was in the lead of her men through rain and shine, we extend congratulations and deep appreciation from the battalion.

The quarantine was still in effect when the armistice was declared, and the Meredith parade had to be around the campus square rather than with the revelers on Fayetteville Street.

Much merriment was caused when the men on the faculty, with the exception of Mr. Ferrell, whose duties as bursar necessitated his being on and off the campus, were during the quarantine given living quarters in Mrs. Ferrell's studio on the first floor of Main Building, four cots and a dresser being put in for Professors Boomhour, Gleason (of the department of music), Hollingsworth, and Freeman. "Meredith News and Disturber," inserted in the 1919 *Oak Leaves*, gave spicy bits of news from the "co-eds."

Marked copies of the Handbook have been given to our co-eds. . . . Josiah is proctor on first floor M. B. He is very strict with the

⁴ Baxter Durham was a son of Columbus Durham, referred to in the second chapter.

boys. . . . Eddie is inclined to play rag after 10:30. Lem persists in playing cards and preparing sermons after light bell. Josiah says he can't do much with the boys. . . . Holly led chapel yesterday. Eddie is going to be sentenced to lead chapel if he breaks another rule. . . . Holly and Eddie are going to be made to stand exam on Handbook if they don't observe house rules better. . . . Co-eds are not allowed to use the phone, as this is only a senior privilege.

An outbreak of the disease was inevitable when students and faculty returned after the Christmas holidays; there were more than fifty cases in the infirmary. Dr. Carroll's magnificent work in the epidemic was recognized in the dedication of the 1919 *Oak Leaves*.

To Elizabeth Delia Dixon Carroll, whose skill has, in years past, brought us through so many illnesses; who led us unscathed through the influenza epidemic of this year; whose sunny smile and ever-ready word of cheer has healed so many soul-diseases, we lovingly dedicate this number of "The Oak Leaves."

Before the book was off the press, there was a death from influenza, coming after the epidemic was over. Louise Cox Lanneau, '08, instructor in chemistry, daughter of Professor J. F. Lanneau of Wake Forest College, died on May 3, 1919. With her keen intellect and her enthusiasm for learning and teaching, in her five years on the faculty she made a deep impression on her students and associates.

The military organization was used as a basis for the collection of funds for the United War Work Campaign the first week in November, 1918. Meredith was asked on Sunday night to be a pace-setter for the other colleges in the state, having its campaign that week instead of the next. With no outside speakers and no time for posters or pep meetings, the officers had a preliminary meeting Monday morning after breakfast to make plans; the student body met after lunch; at three o'clock the actual work of collecting began; and by Tuesday noon \$2,500 had been subscribed, \$1,956.50 of this amount by the students.

Hats, coats, dresses, shoes, and trips were sacrificed to make the pledges possible. Some girls swept halls and classrooms, others sewed and mended. More than two hundred of the girls decided to do their own laundry the rest of the

year, with no automatic washers and with only hall bathrooms.

The success of the campaign was the more remarkable as it came two weeks after Meredith had taken part in the effort which the Baptist State Convention was making to raise a million dollars for the Baptist schools in North Carolina. Instead of the \$5,000 for which the College had been asked, the students and faculty had pledged over \$6,000.

Soon afterwards, this state campaign for a million dollars for the Baptist schools became a part of the five-year Seventy-five Million Campaign of the Southern Baptist Convention. At the 1919 State Convention which met in Raleigh the Meredith students presented in the City auditorium the *Victory Pageant*, with Miss Royster as director, which set forth in a series of tableaux the objects for which the campaign was being carried on—foreign missions, home missions, Christian education, aged ministers' relief, hospitals, orphanages, and state missions. A sophomore, Ruth Goldsmith, regal in her crimson gown, in a clear, musical voice introduced each of the twelve scenes. The chorus, directed by Dr. Brown, included all the students except the fifty who were in the cast. The breathless attention of the 3,000 delegates and visitors even more than their prolonged applause proved the effectiveness of the pageant. At various times small and large groups of Meredith girls have added interest to the annual meetings of the Baptist State Convention and the Woman's Missionary Union.

The Y.W.C.A. continued to be, as it had been in Dr. Vann's presidency, an important part of campus life. When the point system was introduced in 1925 to distribute more widely the responsibilities of campus leadership and to prevent the overworking of a few leaders, the presidency of the Student Government and of the Y.W.C.A. carried the largest number of points, thirty-five of the maximum forty. The Y.W.C.A. had services every Sunday evening, morning watch each weekday fifteen minutes before breakfast, and voluntary Bible study and mission study classes. In preparation for the week of special religious services each year the Y.W.C.A. usually had small group prayer meetings.

The collections for student relief in foreign countries as well as the missionary offerings deepened among the students a sense of world fellowship; so did the missionaries whom the organization brought to the campus and the reports given by delegates to Y.W.C.A. and Student Volunteer conferences.

Its community service department was one of its most active departments; Raleigh affords a large and fruitful field for such service. Underprivileged families, St. Luke's Home, the County Home, the Old Soldiers' Home, the city and county prisons, the epileptic patients at Dix Hill — year after year the girls visited them all, often carrying candy, fruit, substantial baskets, clothing, or books and magazines, as the need indicated. Sometimes they went with Colonel Fred A. Olds; sometimes with Professor Charles M. Heck, brother of Fannie E. S. Heck; sometimes by themselves. Hundreds of dolls which they dressed went to hospitals and orphanages and to foreign and home missionaries. For many years boxes of clothing were sent to the Crossnore School, an activity suggested to the girls by Miss Colton, who knew and admired the work of Mary Martin Sloop in that mountain school and community. Many alumnae who never saw Dr. Sloop felt that a friend had received an honor when in 1951 she was recognized as the American Mother of the year. The packing of Christmas stockings for Samarcand, the reform school for girls so dear to Dr. Carroll's heart, was another annual event.

To make possible a closer relationship with the home churches, to furnish what the handbook called "a ready knowledge of her denominational opportunities," a Young Woman's Auxiliary was organized in 1916 with Blanche Tabor as its first president. Thus during the student's college years there was no break with the W.M.U. of her home church. The Y.W.A. continued and extended the work of the missionary department of the Y.W.C.A. It gave programs once a month, promoted the mission study classes taught by students and faculty members, invited returned missionaries and southwide W.M.U. officers to speak at the College, and encouraged the special interests and offerings of the W.M.U. and of the convention. By 1925 there were



The Faculty of Meredith College, 1924

Front row, left to right: Charles E. Brewer, Dingley Brown, J. Gregory Boomhour, Mrs. Octovia Norwood, Ernest F. Canaday.
Second row: Marion S. Phillips, Florence Jelly, Leila Horne, Julia H. Harris, Lena A. Barber, Lula G. Winston, Helen H. Law, William J. Ferrell.

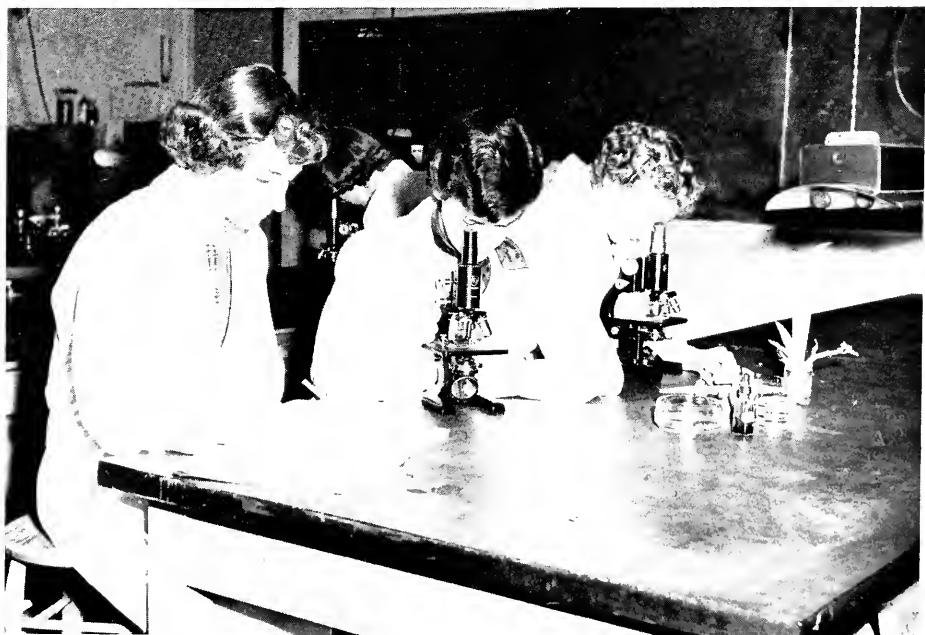
Third row: Lattie Rhodes, Mary Louise Porter, Mrs. W. J. Ferrell, Margaret Forgeus, Lois Johnson, Mary Martin Johnson, Mary Loomis Smith, Mary Lynch Johnson, Esther Lynn, Catherine Allen, Samuel Gayle Riley, Edwin McKoy Highsmith, L. E. M. Freeman, Janie Parker, Genevieve Freeman, Mrs. Lillian Parker Wallace.

Fourth row: Margaret Wyatt, Ida Poteat, Ellen D. Brewer, Goldina de Wolfe Lewis, Alice Zabriskie.

Back row: Carolyn Mercer, Ruth Goldsmith, Annie L. White, Annie Noble, Pauline Nelson, Mary Frances Welch, Mrs. B. W. Cooper, May Crawford, Alice Stitzel, Wilhelmina Crowell.



Art Studio 1899-1925



Biology Laboratory 1959—

two general meetings a month, alternating with the Y.W.C.A.; and ten circles had been organized, named for Meredith foreign missionaries and for state and southwide W.M.U. leaders.

Suggested and encouraged by Miss Campbell, another organization which also strengthened the ties between the denomination and the College was added—the Baptist Young People's Union. It was organized in February, 1921, with about 140 charter members, divided into three sections meeting Wednesday evenings. By 1925 these were increased to nine B.Y.P.U.'s federated into a general organization. Its members were trained, as in their home churches, "in devotion, doctrine, Bible study and missions."

In the spring of 1926 the Y.W.A. and the B.Y.P.U. with the Sunday school department of the Y.W.C.A. formed the nucleus for the organization of a Baptist Student Union, with Mary Frances Biggers as the first president. It was at first coexistent with the Meredith Y.W.C.A.; in 1928 it replaced that organization; and all the religious work on the campus was carried on under the auspices of the B.S.U.

So long as the Y.W.C.A. was the only religious organization on the campus, much of the fellowship of the College centered in it. The student handbook advised the prospective student to "look out for Meredith Y.W.C.A. badges at the Station." The information bureau, that haven of refuge for the bewildered freshmen, was in charge of the Y.W.C.A. The reception the first Saturday night was given by the Student Government and the Y.W.C.A. and another reception in the spring was given by the Y.W.C.A. alone. Informal parties in the Y-room were given for the new girls in the first few weeks.

The Y-room was in active use all the year. Until 1920 the Y.W.C.A. shared a small room in Main Building with Student Government, the Athletic Association, and the publications; then it was given a room of its own in East Building. A kitchenette was fitted up in a nearby room not much bigger than a closet. Often Saturday night dateless parties were held there—evenings far too lively and jolly to be considered merely consolatory. Twice the room was transformed for several weeks into a tearoom, once during the

influenza quarantine in 1918-19 and again in 1922 to help with the expense of sending a delegate to Blue Ridge. The room and kitchenette were often used for small informal parties given by individuals or by organizations other than the Y.W.C.A.

Though the Athletic Association, like the Y.W.C.A., played an important part in college life, its activities were of necessity restricted by the very small campus. To basketball, volleyball, and tennis there was added a limited opportunity for swimming. In March, 1917, a representative of the American Red Cross promoted a Safety First campaign in Raleigh. As part of it a Life Saving Test was held in the A. and M. pool. Kate Matthews, a junior, was the only successful contestant. She took off blouse, skirt, and shoes while swimming twenty yards, then easily completed the set 100 yards without stopping. In 1923 the City Y.M.C.A. opened its pool on Monday mornings from 11:30 to 12:30. Since the Y.M.C.A. was only a block from the College, the girls could have a dip before a twelve o'clock class or after an eleven o'clock; any girl fortunate enough to have both hours free could have a real swim. The Meredith Mermaids, as the swimmers were dubbed, were enthusiastic, even on a morning in March when the water was not heated and they had to break the ice in the pool. The girls were delighted to find Miss Welch, their chaperon, as skilled in the water as she was in planning menus.

Until 1920 the Student Government Association, the Y.W.C.A., the Athletic Association, and the literary societies were the only organizations listed in the student handbook. In 1919 and 1920 two clubs were revived which had flourished briefly in the Baptist University, the Glee Club and the Dramatic Club. Dr. Dingley Brown organized the Glee Club, which continued to be a source of enjoyment to the College and to the various communities in which it gave concerts as well as to its members.

The Dramatic Club formed in 1903 had by 1913 ceased to exist. In 1920 a new one was organized with Laura Eiberg as sponsor. In spite of her full schedule in the music department, Miss Eiberg directed the plays until she gave up her position in 1922 because of ill health. Since there

were no courses in speech or dramatics and no faculty member both willing and able to succeed Miss Eiberg as adviser, the club was not firmly established enough to survive the next year.

But the societies continued their annual dramatic performances, and with less regularity the seniors gave an annual play under the direction of Dr. W. C. Horton, a physician whose avocation was dramatics. He was director of the Community Players of Raleigh, and in 1920 took the part of Sir Walter Raleigh in *Raleigh, Shepherd of the Ocean*, the pageant-masque which Frederic Koch wrote for the capital city's tercentenary celebration of the Roanoke Island colony.

The first play which Dr. Horton directed, Josephine Preston Peabody's *The Piper*, given by the seniors at commencement, 1922, was one of the best of the productions under his capable guidance. Few who saw it will forget Evelyn Baley as the Piper, Beth Carroll as the little cripple, and Beatrice Nye as the child's mother. Mary Tillery's designing of the scenery which the class made under her direction gave promise of the artistic ability which later marked her work as a teacher in the art department.

The Glee Club and the Dramatic Club were open to all students in all departments who were qualified and interested. Coming into existence from 1920 to 1923 were various departmental clubs, which gave an opportunity for the voluntary development of the students' interest in their special fields. The art club adopted the name of an informal organization which Miss Poteat had formed many years earlier, the K. K. K. The International Relations Club, sponsored by the department of history and economics; the Helen Hull Law Classical Club, later the Helen Price Latin Club; the Hypatia Math Club, later the Canaday Mathematics Club; the Colton English Club; the Curie Chemistry Club, later the Barber Science Club; the French Club, and the Home Economics Club all followed in a few years. In time, virtually every department organized its club, though some of these died and had to be revived at intervals.

The presidential election of 1912 had been used as a basis for a mock-serious society program; in 1916 a straw elec-

tion was held in which Hughes received only two votes; in 1920 conventions of the two parties were held on the campus, and vigorous campaigns followed. The week before the elections a mimeographed daily paper appeared, the *Cock-a-doodle-do*, the official organ of the Democratic Party at Meredith, with Louise Fleming as its editor-in-chief. In 1930 this growing interest in politics was given definite direction by the League of Women Voters, sponsored by the department of history and economics but, like the International Relations Club, open to all students.

Dr. Law was chiefly responsible for the organization on March 27, 1923, of Kappa Nu Sigma, the sole purpose of which is the encouragement of scholarship on the campus. Requirements for admission were made high enough for election to be a distinct honor. From the senior class three were chosen on the basis of grades—Ruth Livermon, the president; Alice Lowe; and Ruth Lineberry. At the same time, qualified alumnae members were chosen. Ruth Livermon for several years after her graduation offered a scholarship of \$100 to the rising sophomore making the highest average for the freshman year. This scholarship has been continued by Kappa Nu Sigma and was in 1952 named in honor of Helen Price, who in that year retired as professor of Greek and Latin. With contributions from alumnae members, the fund by 1970 increased enough to provide a scholarship also to the rising junior with the highest sophomore average.

Though most of these organizations brought speakers to the campus—some of general interest, some of interest to their special groups—the regular College series of lectures continued, the quality and variety of which justified the required attendance of all students. There were speakers from earlier years—Alfred Noyes, Hugh Black, and Hamlin Garland—who were enthusiastically welcomed when they returned. Among other speakers were Seumas MacManus, Edwin Mims, C. Alphonso Smith, Vilhjalmur Stefansson, Gutzon Borglum, Frank Parsons, Hamilton Holt, and E. Y. Mullins. Helen Keller's first visit to Raleigh, made in 1916, with her teacher, Anne Sullivan Macy, was under the

sponsorship of Meredith. The children from the State School for the Blind were special guests to hear her address on "Happiness." Sometimes there would be a series of three lectures—two on successive evenings with one at an extended chapel period. William Louis Poteat gave three on heredity; Edward Slosson, on creative chemistry; Norman Angell, on international politics; and Paul Shorey, on language. J. Q. Adams especially pleased his Raleigh audience with the third in his series on the Elizabethan Age, "Sir Walter Raleigh." Stephen Leacock followed his two lectures on the origin of democracy by an uproarious but illuminating talk, "Frenzied Fiction."

The accounts of College happenings and the alumnae news were somewhat flat by the time they appeared in the literary monthly, the *Acorn*: hence the College newspaper, the *Twig*, was a welcome addition to the student publications. Three issues of the newspaper appeared at irregular intervals in the spring of 1921 under the joint editorship of the editors-in-chief of the *Oak Leaves* and of the *Acorn*, Lidie Penton and Evelyn Bridger. Beginning with October 7, 1921, with Ann Eliza Brewer as editor, it appeared first as a weekly, then as a biweekly. Doubtless the idea of a Meredith newspaper received an impetus from the North Carolina Collegiate Press Association organized in 1920 "for the betterment of college magazines and newspapers."

The meetings of this body, of the State B.S.U. and of Student Government councils brought together in wholesome informal companionship the students of various colleges. Joint meetings of the unit organizations in the B.S.U., of departmental clubs, of county clubs, and of junior college clubs on other senior college campuses—especially Wake Forest and State College—multiplied these opportunities, and multiplied the number of young men who frequented the campus.

Once every four years the student body has a dateless evening with never a regret, because the faculty presentation of *Alice in Wonderland* has always been a strictly family affair since it was first given on March 15, 1924. Miss Royster conceived the idea and directed the first five

performances. Miss Poteat planned the costumes and made the fantastic masks. With a list of characters but no names of actors, the first program had as explanatory comment:

In this country of contraries you will see and hear many strange things—a learned Ph.D. who smashes the rules of grammar; a charming contralto whose favorite aria is “Beautiful Soup”, a mere chit of an instructor who lays an audacious hand upon the academic countenance of the dignified dean; the chief of the classicists who snores not in Greek or Latin, but in plain, loud American!

Here also, in delightful confusion, are to be found stately personages of the court and amusing animals—sights not otherwise to be seen about Our Campus.

Come to Wonderland with Alice.

In the first presentation, Carolyn Mercer, '22, instructor in French, was an irresistible Alice, round-faced and wide-eyed, with cross-tied slippers and pantalettes. Mr. Boomhour, the King of Hearts, quailed before the Queen of Hearts, Lois Johnson, “the mere chit of an instructor” whose resounding slap left the print of her fingers on his cheek. As she had merely feigned the blow at rehearsals, the king and the cast were as startled as were the students. The American snore came from Dr. Law, the Dormouse. Dr. Brewer, the Knave of Hearts, played his part in five successive performances, as did Mr. Boomhour. Three actors have taken part in eleven of the twelve performances—Dr. Wallace,⁵ the White Rabbit; Miss Brewer, the March Hare; and Dr. Canaday, the Mad Hatter. The first sad Mock Turtle who danced the lobster quadrille with Dr. Harris as the Gryphon was Alice Moncrief of the music department. The Duchess, Miss Barber; her cook and her cat, Margaret Wyatt and Leila Horne, instructors in mathematics and music; the executioner, Miss Welch; with fairies, pages, guards, and ladies and gentlemen of the court completed the first cast.

The first performance was rehearsed in secrecy, and there was only mild curiosity among the students as to what the entertainment could be to which the faculty had invited them. Hence they were totally unprepared for the startling costumes and masks, the clever lines, the generous sprink-

⁵ Dr. Wallace had the unique distinction of taking part in all twelve.

ling of the latest campus slang, the farcical humor of the action, and especially for the utter abandon with which the whole faculty entered into it all. The faculty who had, in Miss Royster's phrase, "tumbled headlong into dramatics" were equally unprepared for the students' response. In breathless silence the audience watched the fairies dance around the sleeping Alice; and then through the "delightful confusion" their shrieks of laughter and ear-splitting applause increased, becoming almost a riot as the final curtain fell.

The account in the next *Twig* was headed: "Faculty Wows Students." It was accompanied by an editorial comment:

Since we now know positively that the members of the faculty understand our campus colloquialisms, we'd like to take off our hats to them, and term them "plum knock-outs." Discussion varies as to the outstanding star, but all opinions agree at one point—that being the cleverest, best, and most original of all the stunts ever given before at Meredith College. . . . We're challenging the world to produce a more popular or commendable faculty.

The 1964 *Oak Leaves* called it "an unforgettable panorama of color, surprise, and sheer delight."

VI

“THY SUNNY LAND OF PROMISE AND THY HOME” (1926-1939)

The most momentous decision in the history of Meredith since its founding was made on May 23, 1921, when the Board of Trustees approved M. L. Kesler's motion, “that it is the sense of this Board that the site of the College be moved to larger grounds in, at, or near Raleigh.” The decision was not a sudden one, nor had it been easily reached. From the beginning everyone had recognized the inadequacy of the grounds—not even half of the eight to ten acres which the original trustees had considered a minimum in 1890. The pocket-handkerchief of a lawn, the cramped space for basketball and tennis could only by courtesy be called a campus. There were seven buildings on the square; three brick structures and four frame houses hemmed in an eighth which could not be bought. These were supplemented by three other nearby houses used for students' and teachers' rooms; one across Person Street, one across Edenton, and a rented house across Blount.

Crossing these busy streets, especially on rainy days, was a constant danger; and the noise of the traffic had become increasingly intolerable. With buildings so near the streets, the lack of privacy was irking; “friends of the College” sometimes reported to the College authorities such indiscretions as lingerie or heads of hair being dried in the windows. Dr. Vann told the trustees of increasing dissatisfaction with the four-girl rooms.

Moreover, there was no possibility of growth. Except for 1914, when the “European War” had just been declared, students were every year turned away for lack of space; 330 resident students should have been the maximum capacity, and 360 were crowded in. It was almost impossible to buy property, and what had been bought was measured by the inch rather than by the acre.

As early as 1913 Dr. Vann in his annual report “respect-

fully invited" the attention of the Board of Trustees to nine items of business, the fifth of which was "the report of the Executive Committee on various questions referred to it in regard to improving Main Building, moving the site of the College, etc." No action was taken on this fifth item, but at the annual meeting in 1914 M. L. Kesler made a motion that the matter of moving the site be referred to the executive committee to report fully at the next annual meeting, in 1915. There is no mention of the matter either in the minutes of the next annual meeting of the Board or in the minutes of the executive committee. Doubtless the slight decrease in enrollment in 1914, the resignation of President Vann in February, 1915, and the strong doubt in some minds as to the wisdom of a move explain why the idea was carried no further until 1921.

Instead, it was decided in 1916 to work out a plan for a new building, which would, according to the minutes of the trustees, "take into account present needs and the almost certain growth of the future." The high cost of labor and material, together with the campaign proposed by the Baptist State Convention for all the educational institutions, blocked the carrying out of the plan. In May, 1919, an effort was made to buy the N. B. Broughton house, on the corner of New Bern Avenue and Person Street. When that effort failed, the building of a dormitory was again considered. W. N. Jones, C. J. Hunter, J. D. Boushall, and R. N. Simms must have been somewhat disconcerted when on November 11, 1919, G. T. Watkins proposed their appointment as a committee "to erect a building to house 200 girls and other school purposes, finance it, and have it completed by September 1, 1920, if possible." It was not possible, nor could the executive committee carry out the responsibility given it at the same meeting—"to acquire ten acres of land for a playground."

Hence the decision made on May 23, 1921, was inevitable. As soon as the motion was passed, a committee was appointed "to secure options on available sites and to present estimates on approximate cost of the necessary buildings." The committee consisted of Z. M. Caveness, W. N. Jones, C. J. Hunter, J. Y. Joyner, Livingston Johnson, M. L. Kesler,

R. N. Simms, Margaret Shields Everett, '02, and Bertha Carroll, '13, with President Brewer, *ex officio*. After the Convention had in November, 1921, approved the trustees' decision to move, the Committee went to work; and at a called meeting of the Board of Trustees on May 13, 1922, it presented four possible sites on which it had an option: Bloomsbury Park, then just beyond the city limits near Glenwood Avenue; a site near the Country Club; the Mordecai property, through which Mordecai Drive now runs; and the Tucker farm, located about three miles west of Raleigh on Hillsboro Road. The trustees visited all four, but considered only two seriously—the Mordecai place of 97 $\frac{3}{10}$ acres, which could be bought for \$81,000, and the Tucker farm of 135 acres for \$60,000. The other two were much too small. The vote by ballot of eighteen to three in favor of the Tucker site was readily made unanimous. Later, thirty-five additional acres were bought.

Three objections to the site chosen were raised in articles appearing in the *Recorder*, objections which seem laughable now. It was too near the Negro settlement at Method, too near the State prison farm, and too near State College.

Following the announcement of the choice, two offers were made to the College, both of which, after due consideration, the trustees refused. Greensboro, which had been one of the cities considered in 1890, offered Meredith \$65,000 and a site of 135 acres, valued at \$65,000. The offer was made in June through J. T. J. Battle, a physician of Greensboro, long-time friend and trustee of the College. The refusal of the offer in no way estranged Dr. Battle's interest in Meredith; for in 1937 he established a scholarship fund of \$10,250, in addition to the generous help he gave personally to individual students whose need he knew. At his death in 1940 the College received \$35,000 by his will.

The other proposal was made in a letter to the *Recorder* of October 18, 1922, from George W. Paschal, professor of Greek in Wake Forest College. In behalf of the town of Wake Forest, he offered "an adequate site" for rebuilding Meredith near Forestville, about three-quarters of a mile from the Wake Forest Campus. Thus located, Meredith

could easily be coordinated with Wake Forest. A Wake Forest citizen who was enthusiastic about the plan wrote in the next *Recorder*:

I believe the Baptists are too wise to cast their pearls before swine. Think of the happy combination—the new Meredith beside the old Wake Forest, made sacred by its noble traditions. When the college is moved, it will be at home, and your daughters in peace and safety amidst wholesome influences. That will be education of the Baptists, by the Baptists, and for the Baptists.

There had been much discussion on the Meredith campus preceding the decision to move, and the *Twig* had carried several letters *pro* and *con*. But there was only vigorous disagreement with Dr. Paschal's proposal, reprinted in the *Twig* of October 27. In her two-column protest, the editor asked: "Are not the advantages of a site for Meredith in Raleigh worth more than the gift of a site elsewhere?" It would be assimilation, not coordination, to tear Meredith up by the roots and transplant it in a new soil with new environment. Such a move would "threaten the very existence of Meredith as a college with the aims and ideals for which those interested in her have labored these years."

One of the letters in the same issue ended thus:

We like Wake Forest men—we truly do, but we think we'll continue to like them more if we can do so across the space between their campus at Wake Forest and ours at the Tucker site.

President Brewer and the trustees did not consider their decision final until the Convention, which had already approved the move, also approved the site. At the meeting of that body in December, 1922, the executive secretary of the Convention, Charles E. Maddrey, moved that the decision of the trustees to buy the Tucker farm be confirmed. Paul Bagby, pastor of the Wake Forest Baptist Church, offered a substitute motion, that Wake Forest and Meredith Colleges be coordinated. The discussion ran over its allotted time in the morning session and continued for three straight hours in the afternoon. When everyone had had his say and the vote was taken, the substitute was lost with "a few scattered *Ayes*," the *News and Observer* reported, "and a roar of *Noes*." The original motion was carried by about five

hundred to three or four. *Charity and Children* said that the debate was "full of ginger," but that "not one unbrotherly word" was spoken. The vote was followed by the singing of "Blest Be the Tie That Binds."

The next convention, in 1923, authorized a bond issue of \$750,000 and the sale of the property in town for \$250,000¹ to finance the rebuilding of the College. The cost of the buildings, it was estimated, would not exceed a million; the cost of the furnishings and equipment would be sought as gifts.

The actual construction was begun in the fall of 1924. On October 9, after the second annual barbecue in the oak grove at the new place, as the students, faculty, and trustees stood in a circle in the middle of a cottonfield, the first shovelful of dirt was dug by the person most deserving that honor—Wesley Norwood Jones. The other trustees followed in turn; Livingston Johnson's prayer followed by the singing of the Doxology concluded the simple ceremony.

Two months later, during the session of the Baptist State Convention, the cornerstone of the administration building was laid. The address was made, fittingly, by Robert N. Simms, whose father, A. M. Simms, had been chairman of the executive committee of the Board of Trustees when the first building was erected.

The *Quarterly Bulletin* for January, 1925, gave the contents of the box placed in the cornerstone as follows:

A Bible; the minutes of the 1923 Convention; copies of the *Biblical Recorder* and of *Charity and Children*; the 1923-1924 Meredith catalogue; the 1923-1924 official reports; a copy of the 1907-1908 college catalogue; the Polk resolutions adopted in 1899 when the Convention met in Henderson; the charter incorporating the Baptist Female University in 1891; copies of the *Acorn*, the *Twig*, and the Alumnae Association manual of 1924; pictures of the old buildings; a blueprint of Greater Meredith; a ms. copy of the history of Meredith College being prepared by Rev. O. L. Stringfield; ms. of the address delivered by R. N. Simms at the corner-

¹The property brought the expected amount. Faircloth Hall was first bought by the Y.W.C.A.; afterwards it became the McAlpin Hotel, and in 1960 it was razed to give space for the Heart of Raleigh Motel. East Building was converted into apartments, and the small frame houses were either used as dwellings or torn down. Main Building was bought for use as a hotel, the Mansion Park; later it was bought by the state to house the Commission for the Blind; it was torn down in 1967 to make room for a new state office building. By a coincidence the wrecking crew began its work on April 14, the day that the ground was broken for the Carlyle Campbell Library.

stone exercises; coins given by the Commercial National Bank; and copies of Raleigh newspapers and of *Old Gold and Black*.

Six fireproof buildings of Georgian architecture forming a quadrangle were to be the center of the new college. The administration building was to be at the front with offices, postoffice, and parlors on the first floor; the library and day students' room on the second; and the society halls on the third. Four three-story dormitories, each housing about 125 girls, were to form the sides of the quadrangle, with the dining room and kitchen at the back. Each dormitory has a kitchenette, a launderette, and a pressing room; each floor has a social room. The fourth floor of the second dormitory on the east side of the quadrangle (Faircloth Hall) was equipped as an infirmary. Of the three temporary frame buildings east of the quadrangle, one was to serve as an auditorium; another was to be used for science laboratories and classrooms; and the third for classrooms and art studios. The temporary gymnasium was added in 1928.

These buildings were erected according to the plan. It had been hoped that they would be ready for occupancy in September, 1925, so that the College could be moved in the summer. However, the move could not be made until the Christmas vacation of 1925-26, one of the coldest the weatherman has ever recorded.

"To move a family," a *News and Observer* reporter commented, "is trouble enough, but to move a college is something else!" However, the inevitable confusion was reduced to a minimum, largely because of Dr. Brewer's foresight and his practical wisdom and skill in planning every detail. One would have thought that he had made a specialty of moving colleges all his life. Also, he had the industrious and intelligent cooperation of all who were concerned with the move—chief among them his family; Mr. Boomhour; Mr. Ferrell; Miss Rhodes; Miss Forgeus; Miss Welch; Miss Annie White, the house director; and Mrs. Beulah Wright Cooper, the club stewardess. These all worked day and night. Dr. Canaday, Mr. Riley, and Dr. Freeman were doubtless the faculty members whom the *News and Observer* reporter saw in overalls the day before school opened putting the classrooms in order.

The servants who helped with the move deserve more than passing mention. Chief among them was Donis Stroud, who, coming to the Baptist Female University as porter and general handy man, had ruled the place for twenty years. Ed Kirby, Will Nichols, and Joshomore Broadie were indispensable in the move. Richard Simpson, cook for more than twenty years, who was as famous for his skill in the annual cake walk as for his hot rolls, had died the year before the College was moved. The maids who helped were Rossie Jeffers Lyon; Pattie Leach; Sophie Ford and her sister, Arthelia Cole; Catherine Evans and her sister, Lizzie Anderson; and Arnetta Brown. None of these is living now.

The moving of the library was a triumph. Boxes were made exactly the length of the shelves in the stacks, and in undisturbed order the books traveled to their new home. Miss Forgeus first followed the truck loads of books by street car and bus, but the journey was too slow; and soon that dainty, proper little person clambered up on the seat with the driver of the truck.

When the resident students and teachers went home for the Christmas holidays, they left all their possessions packed and marked with the room numbers of the new dormitories. It was almost a miracle that every trunk, box, and bag was placed in the right room without even a temporary confusion to be adjusted. In fact, nothing was lost in the entire move except—of all things—the 200 pound stone sundial, the gift of the class of 1917; and that was eventually found.

That nothing was lost was the more remarkable as the new buildings were far from ready for their occupants. Carpenters, electricians, and plumbers were swarming inside the dormitories finishing up their work as the furniture and equipment of the College and the bags and baggage of 375 teachers and students were being moved in. Rooms had to be shoveled out rather than swept. For several days cooking was reduced to a minimum; the College family lived mostly on bread and cheese. On the day when they discovered at lunch time that the bread had been brought to the new place and the cheese left at the old, a

dinner invitation to all the faculty and staff who were at the College was a godsend. The courageous hostess was Mrs. Z. M. Caveness, the wife of the chairman of the building committee.

Most of the confusion inside the buildings was over before the students returned; and the shiny new rooms in suites of two, with large windows and with a closet for each of the two girls in the room, delighted their occupants. Some of the rooms for two in East Building had been so small that only one chair could be squeezed in the room with the double bed, the dresser, and a small table. Some rooms for four in Main Building to keep the effect of a Gothic castle had only one small round window each, opening outwards. The bathroom in each suite at the new place was an especial delight, because there had been one or two bathrooms to a floor at the old place, the second floor of East Building having one tub to twenty-nine girls. Anyone missing the fifteen minutes for which she had signed had to forego her semiweekly bath. Mary Blount Martin, '25, told of the consternation on the third floor of Main Building the night when a girl put in the bathtub for safe keeping overnight the alligator her fiancé had sent her. Fortunately there was no water shortage in the spring of 1926; Dr. Brewer said that instead of the 7,000 gallons of water a month used in the old place, 50,000 were used at the new.

It snowed hard on top of the frozen mud, Thursday, January 7, the day after school reopened; then it rained, and the ground thawed. The *Twig* editor, Crystal Davis, commented the first week on the snow; then from week to week she gave details of the mud. "Friday was spent in scrunching, sliding, slipping, slopping, and falling." The new Meredith seemed, like Venice, to be built in the sea, but this was a sea of mud. Boards laid for walkways would "rise up and greet you like a long-lost friend. . . . They catapult us along with all the grace and wild abandon of a kangaroo." An inch and a half of mud dried on the shoes she recommended as an excellent substitute for half soles. Even Miss Brewer's cat, Mrs. Polly Wiggles—predecessor of Tommy Tucker, Sir Thomas, and Flush—did not venture off

the board walk. Mrs. Wiggles' one kitten was called Virginia Dare, because it was the first baby born in the new colony.

At first, some of the students wondered if the fireflies and the croaking of the frogs would compensate for the city lights and the come-and-go of people; they wondered if, accustomed to walking one block to the capitol square, they would ever get used to going halfway to town by a bus which came every thirty-six minutes, and then transferring to a streetcar. The long brick dormitories rising angular and raw from the red mud were totally unlike the ivied turrets and pinnacles of "Old Main Building." At the barbecues which for three years before the move had taken place in the oak grove in its autumn glory, rosy plans had been laid for life in this Utopia. And now—

But midyear examinations soon made the College family forget to look backward, and the masquerade party immediately afterwards made them forget examinations. The trips to town on special buses for church services on Sunday mornings and for concerts and recitals, not yet a matter of routine, occasioned much hilarity.

One cause of anxiety to which the *Twig* editor afterwards confessed was groundless. "We thought before we moved to the country that our location would be a sure test of our popularity, and many of us were viewing the dismal prospect with long faces." The last vestige of doubt was swept away by the stampede the first Saturday night, with dates overflowing the parlor and the rotunda and standing in the halls. Concerning the Student Government reception on the night of Founders' Day, the *Twig* editor wrote, "The overworked buses brought representatives from Wake Forest, Carolina, N. C. State, Duke, Davidson, and Elon, . . . all types, Sir Galahads and Dempseys." The Phi play, *Seventeen*, and the senior "three-in-one" entertainment—a musical, an original one-act play, and a minstrel—drew many spectators from the neighboring colleges. The Meredith sophomores entertained the State sophomores; some of the departmental clubs of Meredith and State had joint meetings; and the Wake Forest B.Y.P.U. entertained the Meredith B.Y.P.U. at Meredith. This enter-

tainment the *Twig* called "a signal attention" which was reassuring "concerning our status with Wake Forest."

There had been regrets that the excitement of the State College sophomores' painting the sophomore numerals in maroon and white on the sidewalk in front of Meredith would cease when there was no sidewalk and when the College was a third of a mile from the highway. Instead, Wake Forest added to the thrill by beginning the annual rivalry in which students from Wake Forest and State risked life and limb in painting, painting out, and repainting the old-gold-and-black and the red-and-white insignia on the Meredith water tower. Old timers missed seeing those numerals after the tower was removed in February, 1963, because the city had begun to supply Meredith's water.

Serenaders from Wake Forest and State came with songs both sentimental and ludicrous, as they had done on the old campus. In 1919 the girls had petitioned the faculty to be allowed to give yells whenever serenaders came. The faculty had gravely responded that if the students made a "musical yell" which met with approval, it could be used in response to serenaders as well as at ball games. One can understand why the faculty suggestion was made, for the early *Oak Leaves* records such gems as:

Razzlety, Dazzlety
Hoo Rah Hoo!
Raleigh, Raleigh,
B.F.U.!

By the first week in March when the Woman's Missionary Union held its annual meeting in Raleigh, the mud on the Meredith campus had dried, though the peas which were to carpet the court with green in summer had not yet begun to struggle through the clods. All the delegates were invited to luncheon; and when they came, they found the College shining with anticipation. "Oh, how we scrubbed our floors," the *Twig* reporter wrote, "and put flowers in our rooms, as well as held little group prayer meetings that our rooms might not be found 'lacking' when honored by the visits of the ladies." The ladies so revered must have

been a bit startled when at lunch the student body, after singing the stately "Alma Mater," gave fifteen *Rah's* for the W.M.U.

After lunch, with students to guide them, the delegates were taken over the College from third-floor society halls to basement. "How splendid it seemed," the *Twig* reporter wrote, "to have these lovely women from all parts of North Carolina viewing our new college. They were kind enough to *seem* pleased, and our delight knew no bounds." The afternoon session, held in the Meredith auditorium, was largely given over to the pageant which the students presented, "The Light of the World."

At that session the W.M.U. made a contribution of \$120.00 toward the raising of \$2,000 for beautifying the campus, a campaign which the seniors had begun and into which the students were entering enthusiastically. To make money for the purpose, small businesses sprang up all over the campus; the *Twig* listed "collegiate bootblacks, laundresses, scrubwomen, shampooers, and employment bureaus, to say nothing of the shoe shop business." Some enterprising sophomores furnished dates at a quarter each.

Several of the faculty immediately began gardens which became little spots of beauty against the brick walls of the dormitories. Miss Allen, Miss Rhodes, and Miss Welch worked especially hard. To Miss Allen the College owes the first planting of shrubbery at the gate and the row of crape myrtles east of the temporary classroom buildings; and innumerable roses, chrysanthemums, and irises over the campus were of her planting. Miss Rhodes made a specialty of bulbs; her garden near the chimney—the picnicking spot close to the tennis courts—grew lovelier each year. The most distinctive of Miss Welch's plantings was the garden at the corner of Stringfield Hall and the dining room, with dogwood, cherry, spirea, redbud, and a scuppernong vine. Miss Lillie Grandy, a Chowan classmate and dear friend of Mrs. Charles E. Brewer, gave a bird bath for that garden in memory of Miss Welch. In honor of Mrs. Norwood, Miss Ida planted the "Octavia tree" between Faircloth and the old Bee Hive. The alumnae gave the cherry trees which border the driveway. Much later they planted in memory of

Miss Poteat and Dr. Carroll the two magnolia trees in the oval in front of Johnson Hall.

The terms Faircloth, Stringfield, and Johnson Hall are anachronisms when used of 1926, because Johnson Hall was then merely the administration building; and the four dormitories were A, B, C, and D. Students now sometimes wonder at the keys so marked as they do at an occasional piece of table silver marked B.U.W. In September, 1927, A and B were named Jones² and Faircloth; at the request of the alumnae, C became Vann Hall the next June. Stringfield Hall was named in April, 1930. The reasons for thus honoring the four have been given in earlier chapters.

Johnson Hall³ was named in 1931 in memory of Livingston Johnson, trustee of the College and member of the executive committee from 1901 till his death on February 8, 1931. As secretary of the Convention for fifteen years and editor of the *Recorder* for thirteen, he was called by Tom Bost of the *Greensboro Daily News* "the most influential and best beloved Baptist in North Carolina." In the Centennial issue of the *Biblical Recorder*, January 2, 1935, J. W. Bailey called him "the foremost Baptist of his generation," and added, "Such was the kindness of his heart and the brightness of his faith that few paused to consider his remarkable intellectual capacity or his indefatigable application to his tasks." His level head, his kind heart, and his keen sense of humor were evident in all his relationships. Miss Paschal said that Dr. Vann consulted him oftener than he did any of the other trustees, and that he was known and loved by the whole student body. The minutes of the executive committee show that matters requiring especial tact were most often assigned to him, from investigating the questionable religious beliefs of one teacher to expostulating with another who at the dinner table had called the sweet potatoes "nasty."

Deeply interested as he was in every aspect of the denominational work, he regarded Meredith as "a peculiar treasure." A few months before his death, when the college

² The name was changed in October, 1952, to Brewer Hall. See p. 219.

³ Though it is always called Johnson Hall, the marker recently placed at the doorway gives the full name, "Livingston Johnson Administration Building."

faced the possibility of a foreclosure of the mortgage on it, when Secretary Maddrey wrote the trustees that he saw no way for even the interest due on the Convention debt to be paid unless some "unforeseen, providential miracle intervened," Livingston Johnson offered to be one of a hundred men to give a thousand dollars each to meet the emergency. With a salary too small to make savings possible, he knew that the only way in which he could obtain the thousand dollars was to sell at a sacrifice his only property—the little farm in the sand hills, the value of which as a heritage from his Scottish forefathers far exceeded its material value.

A long series of events lay back of the financial difficulties which imperiled the existence of Meredith in 1930. They were, of course, due in part to the nation-wide depression. In 1923 some of the denominational leaders had believed there should be an appeal for gifts, even if the building were delayed, instead of the bond issue which the Convention had authorized. But the plan which the Convention followed had met with general approval, and at the time had seemed feasible. The five-year Southwide \$75,000,000 campaign in the fall of 1919 had resulted in more than \$90,000,000 in pledges—more than \$18,000,000 rather than \$15,000,000 a year. Of the original quota from this campaign, North Carolina Baptist schools were to have received \$1,209,333.

Moreover, the finances of the College had never been in better condition. Dr. Brewer reported in May, 1923, that since January, 1920, the Meredith endowment had increased from \$139,000 to \$406,000. Of the amount allotted to Meredith from the proceeds of the campaign, the board of education of the Convention had voted that \$15,000 each year could be used for current expenses of the College. Of this amount in the three years, only \$22,000 had been thus used leaving \$23,000 to be added to the more than \$150,000 which the campaign had added to the endowment. The Rockefeller Foundation in New York, by an extension of its offer of one dollar for two made in 1913, had contributed \$73,000 to the endowment. In addition it had in 1921 made an annual grant of \$5,000 for three years to help in meeting

the cost of increased salaries for the faculty. In 1925 B. N. Duke gave \$50,000 for the endowment, at that time the largest gift from an individual the College had ever received. The financial prospects of the Convention and of the College seemed to justify the issuance of bonds.

However, the retirement of \$50,000 in bonds each year in addition to keeping up the interest on the others was an undertaking which grew increasingly difficult for the Convention as it became evident that \$90,000,000 in pledges was quite different from \$90,000,000 in cash. As soon as it had been pledged, the entire \$90,000,000 had been allocated to the various objects of the state conventions and of the Southern Baptist Convention. The total collections of a five-year period fell twenty-five per cent short of even the original goal of \$75,000,000. Moreover, the new plant had cost more than the original estimate,⁴ so that in addition to the original bond issue of \$750,000, the Convention in 1926 had to borrow \$275,000. The interest alone on the whole amount was \$60,000 a year.

At its annual meeting in Raleigh in March, 1926, the Woman's Missionary Union unanimously adopted a plan presented to them by Mrs. W. N. Jones for freeing Meredith from the debt which was crushing the College and handicapping all the work of the Convention.

We, the Woman's Missionary Union, memorialize the Baptist State Convention, meeting in Wilmington in November, 1926, to launch a campaign in 1927 for the payment of the debt on Meredith College by 1930, and thus celebrate the One Hundredth Anniversary of our organized Baptist work in a fitting and worthy manner. We pledge ourselves as an organization and as individuals to co-operate in every possible way to the fullest extent of our ability for the worthy and successful conclusion of such an undertaking.

“Our women have a profound dislike for debt,” Mrs. Jones explained, “and they especially dislike to see their money go for interest charges when there is such need around the world for the gospel of Jesus Christ.”

The proposition, as Foy Johnson Farmer wrote in *Hith-*

⁴ R. N. Simms's final report of the Board of Trustees concerning the rebuilding of the College, which appeared in the 1926 *Annual* of the Convention, gave the total cost of the building as \$1,182,670.55.

erto, the history of the North Carolina W.M.U., "meant in reality that the Union would raise the amount of the indebtedness." Since the W.M.U. has never yet failed in any of its undertakings, it is a reasonable assumption that, even in the depression, it would have been successful in this one.

But the Convention decided otherwise. There were also debts on other schools, debts small but pressing. Therefore the Convention put aside the Memorial, in spite of Mrs. Jones's vigorous protest, and decided to put on a campaign for \$1,500,000 to be raised for all the schools by 1930, the hundredth anniversary of the founding of the Convention.

This Centennial Campaign was launched with a dinner at Meredith for 665 people on September 15, 1927. Directors, sub-directors, chairmen, vice-chairmen, organizers and assistant organizers, with a state-wide committee of 300 went to work. A full page in the *Recorder* each week for months reported the progress of the campaign. Four-minute speakers were sent out from all the colleges to the various churches in the state; more than sixty went from Meredith, some speaking several times.

But the results were disappointing. Each time the payment of the interest alone grew increasingly difficult. It was less than a month before the Centennial Convention in 1930 that Dr. Maddrey wrote the trustees the letter already mentioned, in which he said that he saw no way for the obligations of the Convention to be met except by the intervention of "some unforeseen providential miracle." Between December 1, 1930, and February 1, 1931, a total of \$210,494 in principal and interest had to be paid.

By borrowing from Peter to pay Paul, by re-financing loans and then re-financing them again, such emergencies were met. The 1930 Convention temporarily made a drastic readjustment in the allocation of its funds, realizing the necessity of such readjustment if the Convention was ever to be freed of debt. Fifty-five cents rather than fifty of each dollar contributed was kept for work in the state; of that fifty-five cents, thirty-three went to the payment of the Convention debt. By the 1944 Convention the entire debt incurred on behalf of all the schools had been paid.

In spite of the Convention's rejection of their plan, the interest of the Woman's Missionary Union did not waver. With the generosity of spirit characteristic of Mrs. Jones, as of her husband, she accepted a vice-chairmanship in the Centennial Campaign. In 1928 the Union placed a fountain in the center of the court at Meredith in memory of Fannie E. S. Heck, whose help had been invaluable in the early days of the College. In 1930, when there was much talk of selling Meredith's new plant and merging the College with Wake Forest, the W.M.U. at its annual meeting in March passed staunch resolutions.

Resolved: That the Woman's Missionary Union, Auxiliary to the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, hereby declares that it is whole-heartedly and unreservedly in sympathy with the aims and purposes of Meredith College and hereby commits itself to the perpetual maintenance and support of Meredith College as a separate institution for Christian education for women under the auspices of the Baptist State Convention, and hereby pledges its loyalty and support to that institution.

The following year the entire Heck Memorial offering, \$12,387.55—the largest until 1943—was given to help the Convention meet its indebtedness. In 1951 \$5,000 was allocated from the Heck-Jones offering to help with the furnishing of the new auditorium.

For eight years, 1931-1938, the Convention could give none of the colleges help with current expenses, and for two years longer Meredith received none. Moreover, the returns from the endowment had dwindled because of the depression. Also because of the depression the student body was decreasing rather than increasing. The first full year in the new place, 1926-27, the total enrollment was 491, the largest the College had ever had. The number ran to 551 in 1927-28, a number which still left empty rooms in the dormitories. For the next four years the enrollment steadily decreased, till in 1931-32 and again in 1932-33, there were 419 students.

Then, as the following table shows, the enrollment began

⁶ To honor Mrs. W. N. Jones as well as Miss Heck this offering was re-named the Heck-Jones offering.

to rise, partly from improved financial conditions, and partly from the temporary reduction in cost.

Year	Number of Students	Total Cost for the Year
1930-31	452	\$500
1931-32	419	\$480
1932-33	419	\$450
1933-34	483	\$380
1934-35	546	\$380
1935-36	505	\$425
1936-37	544	\$425
1937-38	590	\$450
1938-39	583	\$450

The drop in enrollment in 1935 was doubtless due to the fact that in the summer of 1935 occurred the first serious epidemic of infantile paralysis in North Carolina.

Temporarily, academic as well as financial adjustments had to be made. In 1924, the College had begun to require 75 quality points on 120 hours of work. In 1927, this requirement was increased to 120. Falling enrollment necessitated a temporary return to the 75 points in 1930. But by 1936 the requirement of 120 quality points was restored, a requirement which meant that each student must make an average of C in all her college work.

Throughout the whole time, whatever of discouragement the president must have felt was never evident to students or faculty. His greetings were as cheery, his plans for the future of Meredith as confident as in the rosy days of 1923.

Next to President Brewer, the burden rested most heavily on Fuller Broughton Hamrick, bursar⁶ at Meredith from 1929 till his death in 1943. He gave to the College the same loyal devotion which had made him for seventeen years so valued a treasurer of the Baptist Orphanage in Thomasville. The position of a bursar is always difficult, and it is especially so when the purse strings are of necessity held tight. It is an evidence of his ability and of his patience that each year—even in the years in which the College received no money from the Convention for current expenses—in spite of lowered income from endowment and the reduction in

⁶In 1951 the title was changed to the more fitting term, business manager and treasurer.

charges, the College lived within its budget, sometimes coming to the end of the year with a small balance.

In these trying years of debt and depression, when no departmental expansion was possible and when the purchase of needed equipment had to be deferred from year to year, the morale of the faculty and staff was excellent. They readily agreed to the inevitable cuts in salary, ranging from twenty-five per cent in 1931-32 to eleven per cent in 1934-35. President Brewer was generous in his praise of their loyalty.

In 1926, changes were made in the courses, as well as in the physical equipment of the College. The catalogue issued in March, 1926, shows more increased flexibility in the basic requirements for the A.B. degree. Reckoned by semesters rather than by years, twelve hours of English, six of religion (Old and New Testament), and three in psychology were required without option. From four courses—Latin, a modern language, history, and mathematics—three were to be chosen; and from three sciences—biology, chemistry, and physics, two were to be chosen. If entrance credit had been offered in any of the three sciences, the student could, if she so desired, take all four courses from the first group, with only one science.

The major and the minor, or the two majors if the hours were evenly divided, were to aggregate beyond the basic requirements not less than thirty-six hours, with not less than twelve in the minor.

This change in basic requirements made possible the obtaining of an A.B. degree by students with a major in home economics or in general science, rather than the B.S. degree formerly granted them. The established major in science was divided into biology and chemistry; and a combination of economics and sociology was added to the list of possible majors for the A.B., thus bringing the number to fourteen. Three years later, Greek was added to the list.

In 1931 an even more drastic change was made in the requirements for the A.B., a change which gave rise to the sharpest conflict of opinion that had ever occurred in the faculty, a change against which the alumnae registered a vigorous protest.

With the requirements without option in English, religion, and psychology unchanged, the requirements with option were divided into three groups, any one of which the students seeking an A.B. could follow. The first group was unchanged from the pattern set in 1926 for all A.B. students, except that economics could be substituted for history. The second group emphasized science, with a requirement of twelve hours in foreign language (ancient or modern) and either two laboratory sciences with mathematics or three laboratory sciences.

The third group was the bone of contention. These students chose twelve hours in foreign language; twelve hours from history, economics, sociology, and religion (courses beyond the basic requirement); and twelve hours from biology, chemistry, physics, mathematics, and geography-geology.⁷ Thus a student could be graduated from Meredith with no Latin and with either one laboratory science or mathematics.

These changes made it possible for a student in four years of college work to meet the requirements for graduation and for a North Carolina elementary school certificate, though she had to use virtually all her major and minor and most of her elective hours toward this certificate. At first a student who counted toward graduation courses in children's literature or methods of teaching in primary or elementary grades was given a B.S. rather than an A.B. After two years, however, this distinction in courses was abandoned; and from 1933 till 1963, when elementary education ceased to be a possible major, students majoring in it were granted an A.B. degree.

In 1937 the prescribed work was again somewhat changed. Two hours of theoretical work in fine arts were added to the courses required without option—English, foreign language, religion, and psychology; and the three groups were merged. All students chose a six-hour course from history, economics, and sociology; a six-hour course from biology, chemistry or physics; and a six-hour course from ancient language, mathematics and a second labora-

⁷In 1937 geology and astronomy were dropped from the courses offered. From 1937 till 1940 an ill-fated major in general science was offered.

tory science. By this plan, though she was even more severely limited in electives than she had been, a student could still meet the requirements for the A.B. with an elementary certificate in the 120 hours.

Since 1932 a student in art has received the A.B. degree instead of a diploma, conforming to all the entrance and curricular requirements for that degree. In that same year theoretical music, which since 1928 had been a possible free elective, became one of the subjects from which a major or a minor could be chosen.

Music was still too highly specialized a course to lead to an A.B. In 1929 the diploma in music was, however, replaced by a B.M. Of the fifteen entrance units, four were to be in English, two in French or German, and nine were elective. The requirements of the degree with a major in piano, voice, violin, or organ consisted of forty-two hours of academic work (twelve of English, twelve of French or German, six of history, and twelve elective), forty-two of applied music, and thirty-six of theoretical work in music. For a major in public school music, only twenty-four hours of applied music was required, with an increase of six hours in the academic requirements and the addition of methods of teaching music and practice teaching. The next year violoncello and composition were added to the possible majors in music.

In 1932 the B.M. was replaced by a B.S., with the requirement of forty-eight hours of academic work, thirty-six of theoretical music, and thirty-eight of applied, making a total of 122 hours. For the first time the music students were required to meet the regular college entrance requirements—four units in English, two and a half in mathematics, two in foreign language, one in history, and five and a half elective. In 1934 as much as twelve hours of practical music was for the first time allowed credit toward an A.B., provided that the hours were balanced by an equal number of hours in theoretical music. Not till 1938 did the music course lead to an A.B.

With the immediate increase in the student body after the move to the new place, necessitating more sections and making possible the offering of more courses, several new

positions were created in the faculty and staff, in addition to the usual replacements. In January, 1926, Florence Hoagland was added to the department of education. In 1928 psychology and philosophy were separated from education, and she was made head of the new department. Her courses were considered among the most difficult and the most interesting in College. She was concerned with every phase of the students' lives, and few people knew how many girls in financial straits were aided by her generosity. On her return from Cornell in 1933 with her Ph.D. in English, she gave in addition to her work in philosophy and psychology two courses in speech, the first to be offered since 1913.

When in 1936 she went to Bethany College as head of the department of English, the work she had been doing at Meredith was divided; Edgar H. Henderson was made head of the department of psychology and philosophy, and Gus-sie Riddle List taught the courses in speech. Frances Bailey, who followed Mrs. List in January, 1938, remained until 1943, when the department of speech was temporarily discontinued. With Miss Bailey's whole time given to speech and dramatics, several courses were added, so that a minor was offered in the department.

Annie Mitchell Brownlee who came in 1926, is remembered as the first instructor added to the department of biology and more vividly as the first faculty member to bob her hair. Her place in 1933 was filled by Elizabeth Boomhour, '31, who, with a leave of absence for obtaining her Ph.D., remained till her marriage to Thomas Kerr in 1942. Her proficiency in biology was especially pleasing to the earlier alumnae, who had known her as "Mr. Boomhour's baby daughter." An addition to the music faculty in 1926 was also in a double sense a daughter of Meredith—Bernice Stringfield, ex-'10, O. L. Stringfield's daughter, who had studied with Wade R. Brown.

That same year Mary J. Spruill was engaged for one year—and stayed seventeen years. Her unusually thorough work in English composition made a valuable contribution to the department, as did the impetus which Lucile Burriss gave to creative writing in the few years she was at Mere-

dith. Sharing a suite, Miss Spruill and Miss Burriss were often confused by the maid in Vann Hall, until she began to call them both "Miss Spruiss." Louise Lanham, who came in 1936, with her gentle steadiness was for eighteen years a force in the department. Her course in recent poetry was as distinctively her course as Literary Criticism was Dr. Harris', and her retirement in 1954 left disappointment among those who had happily anticipated the work with her. Norma Rose, '36, came as instructor in Latin and English in 1937.

As head of the department of classical languages Helen Price, whose father had been professor of Latin and Greek at Swarthmore College, succeeded Dr. Law in 1927. Her scholarly ability combined with her vivid personality made of Latin and Greek live languages at Meredith. The Saturnalia celebration Dr. Price had each year in her home was always so mirthful an occasion that often the students did not realize until afterwards how much the festivity had broadened their knowledge of Roman life and literature. The many Meredith faculty and students who enjoyed her hospitality through the years found that the inimitable pepper-throwing cook of *Alice in Wonderland* had extraordinary culinary ability off stage.

After Dr. Price's retirement in 1952 she spent almost as much time in Greece and Italy as in Raleigh. She was always at home at commencement time, however, and never gave up the Sunday morning breakfast which for many years had delighted returning alumnae. In her wide circle of friends, students and alumnae always had a special place. One of them who visited her less than a month before her death in July, 1968, wrote:

She sent me on my way with a piece of her delicious pound cake and a jar of homemade preserves. She had a great way of walking into our lives and into our hearts simultaneously.

Isaac Morton Mercer was associate professor in the department of religion from 1928 till 1939. Having studied at the University of Leipzig after his graduation from the Southern Baptist Seminary, he was well prepared for the

position. "Brother Mercer" was beloved by his students as he had been by his congregations as a true Christian gentleman. His courtesy was proverbial on the campus. Instead of asking a question, he gently requested an answer, supplying it himself if the student momentarily hesitated.

In 1928, the year that psychology and philosophy became a separate department, economics was separated from history and with sociology formed a department with Nettie Southworth Herndon, who for two years had been acting assistant professor of history and economics, as its head. She kept this position until she went to Duke in 1937 to finish the work for her doctorate. Maude Clay Little, the next head, remained until her marriage in 1941. In Miss Herndon's place Alice Keith came to the history department in 1928.

Following Dr. Brown in 1928, Frank L. Eyer came for one year; then Isaac L. Battin was for three years head of the department of music. In 1932 Leslie P. Spelman was elected to that position. Like Dr. Brown, Mr. Spelman had a comprehensive view of the whole curriculum, for his academic as well as his musical background was excellent. His two years' study of music in Paris had been preceded by an A.B. and an M.A. from Oberlin University, as well as by an Mus.B. In 1937 Mr. Spelman went to the University of Redlands.

Mr. Spelman was succeeded in 1937 by Harry E. Cooper, Mus.D. of Bush Conservatory, a Fellow in the American Guild of Organists, whose term of service, much longer than that of any head of the music department preceding him, brought an expansion of the department, both in students and in courses offered. He took an active part in musical affairs in the City as well as in the College. He was for several years director of the St. Cecilia Club, resigning from that position when he and Mrs. Wallace organized the Raleigh Oratorio Society. He has also been president of the Raleigh Civic Music Association and of the Chamber Music Guild, and has been organist of the North Carolina Symphony Orchestra. Dr. Cooper, an artist with a camera as well as at the keyboard, developed a hobby into

a second profession, and became Meredith's chief photographer.⁸

Edgar Alden, also a graduate of Oberlin, in 1937 succeeded Charlotte Armstrong as teacher of violin. His rare ability as a musician made the more remarkable his patience in teaching, especially in his work with girls who were not music majors, whom he taught in groups of four, rather than singly. When he went into military service in April, 1943, his wife, Dorothy Alden, who often played in concerts and recitals with him, took his work for the rest of the year. The Aldens, now at the University of North Carolina, have a daughter named Meredith. In the program of Christmas music presented at Meredith in 1967 "Voices in the Mist," which Mr. Alden had composed thirty years earlier, was sung.

Except for three years, 1915-18, the department of home economics had been "a flock of one duck," but in 1929 a second teacher was added, Lois Pearman, who took over the work in textiles. Jennie Hanyen came in her place in 1931. The quality of Miss Hanyen's work had striking proof in the success of her students in the annual style show sponsored by the textiles department of State College from 1929 to 1944; for in the sixteen shows given, costumes made and modeled by Meredith students won first place ten times. Illustrating an article on the use of cotton, the *National Geographic Magazine* had a full-page picture in color of the Meredith girls making their costumes for the thirteenth exhibit. Miss Hanyen also had charge of the home management house in which each major in home economics practices for a month the art of home-making.

Maloy Alton Huggins for the three years between his service as educational secretary and as executive secretary of the Baptist State Convention was head of the department of education at Meredith. He was in 1932 succeeded by Bunyan Yates Tyner, who had held a similar position at Winthrop College. Mr. Tyner and Mr. Riley were the first two Meredith faculty members chosen in 1933 to teach in the Meredith-Wake Forest Summer School held for nine

⁸ Dr. Cooper made the first aerial photograph of Meredith.

summers on the Wake Forest Campus. Mr. Tyner was also the capable director of the summer school which the two senior colleges with Mars Hill College had from 1935 to 1941 on the Mars Hill campus.⁹ Like Mr. Riley, he served one year beyond the retirement age at the request of the administration. He was an effective link with the public schools of the State, for until his retirement in 1954 he conducted the Meredith appointments office.

In the department when Mr. Tyner came were two assistant professors, each giving time to other work; Mrs. Wallace was in the department of history; Miss English was adviser to freshmen. Sallie B. Marks was added to the department in 1938 as an assistant professor, remaining till 1941.

Upon the retirement of Dr. Lula Gaines Winston in 1938, Mary Yarbrough, '26, who had been in the department of chemistry and physics since 1928, became its head. The M.S. which preceded her Ph.D. from Duke was the first graduate degree granted to a woman by State College. Dr. Yarbrough's usefulness in the College goes far beyond her department, for her sound judgment and calm poise, unruffled in any discussion, make her an especially valuable member of faculty committees. In 1938 Margaret Cooper and Margaret Kramer came to the department. Dr. Cooper remained two years; Miss Kramer, with a leave of absence in which she received a Ph.D. from the University of Illinois, stayed until 1946, when she accepted a position with the Standard Oil Company in Baton Rouge.

When Miss Covington because of ill health gave up the position as dean of women in January, 1927, Grace Lawrence, an assistant dean, was until 1929 her efficient successor; she later held a similar position in Salem College. Caroline Biggers, '15, who had been since 1924 an assistant, was dean from 1929 till 1936; thus she was the first person since Miss Paschal to hold the office more than three years. As uncompromising in principles as she was warm-hearted

⁹ When Wake Forest withdrew from the trio in 1941, Meredith and Mars Hill continued the school for that summer. Since 1942 Meredith has had its summer school on its own campus, with the academic dean as head. The length of the session was changed from nine to six weeks in 1947, and from six to five in 1970.



The Hut



Mae Grimmer House

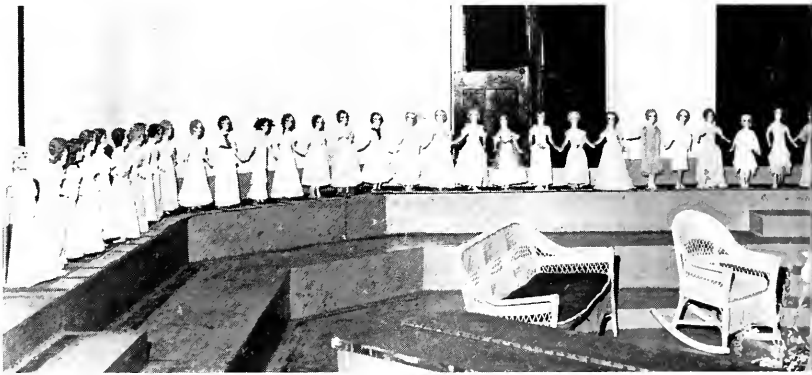
EVENTFUL DAY



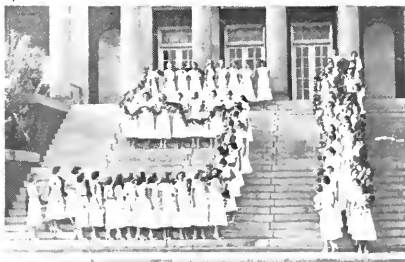
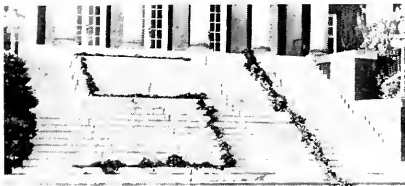
Inauguration of Dr. Heilman



Alice in Wonderland



Alumnae Day

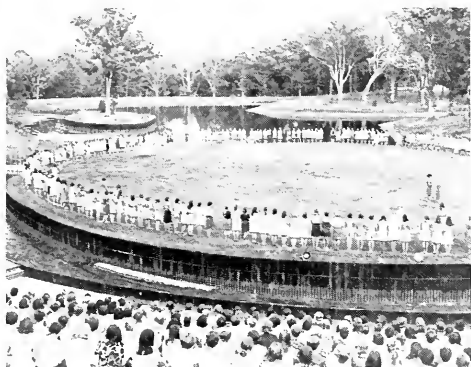


Class Day



Palio

ON THE CAMPUS



Signing of the Honor Code



BOOK-IN—Library Moving Day



Christmas Dinner



Registration

FACES FAMILIAR FOR MANY YEARS



Ellen D. Brewer, Talcott W. Brewer



Will Nichols



Mae Grimmer



J. Gregory Boomhour



Harry E. Cooper



Ernest F. Canaday

in all her relationships, she had a marked influence on every phase of college life. No one was ever more devoted to Meredith than she; no one ever gave to it more whole-hearted, unselfish service.

After Miss Biggers went to Mars Hill in 1936, Mary Susan Steele, '13, who had taught in the department of English at Meredith from 1916 till 1922, came to the dean's office from Judson College, where she had been academic dean and head of the English department. With the experience and the interests of a scholar, Dr. Steele remained as dean of women only one year. Hazel Clarke, who had been Miss Biggers' assistant one year, continued in that place with Dr. Steele.

Anna May Baker succeeded her in 1937. In his report to the trustees in 1932, Dr. Brewer had commented on the unusually good attitude of the student body, confirming what college administrators had said elsewhere of the wholesome effect of the depression upon the behavior and attitudes of college students. He wrote thus:

In spirit and in work, the students were a source of joy. There was very little occasion for criticism or discipline. On the contrary, they manifested unusual interest in their studies as well as in other tasks.

With easier financial conditions, however, problems arose in bringing into accord the ideals and behavior of the students with the more conservative traditions of the College. Hence Miss Baker in 1937 was in a position in some respects like that of Miss Covington in 1924. Miss Baker believed that regulations should be discarded, not when they became difficult to enforce, but when students had given evidence by their conduct that the rules in question were no longer necessary. Toward this ideal she worked intelligently and patiently during the twelve years she was at Meredith before her retirement in 1949, seeking consistently to place more and more of the responsibility for their conduct upon the students themselves.

Coming to the office in 1937, Miss Baker's first year, was Vera Tart Marsh, who after two years as assistant dean of women became registrar, a position for which her experi-

ence with records in the Treasury Department of the United States had well fitted her. "Meredith's Emily Post," as the *Twig* called Mrs. Marsh, several times gave at the request of student body a series of talks on etiquette. She retired in 1964.

Her place in Miss Baker's office was filled by Edna Frances Dawkins, '37, who had begun work in the office as a student assistant. Miss Dawkins did especially good work with the freshmen, the responsibility for whom she inherited from Ethel English, '22, who in addition to her work in the department of education had been freshman adviser.

From the first lady principal down to Miss Baker, that administrative office always had the staunch support of Dr. Delia Dixon Carroll, whose influence went far beyond her classroom and the infirmary and far beyond the College. Raleigh and North Carolina shared the shocked sorrow of the College when she was killed in an automobile accident on May 16, 1934. She was known and beloved by every College generation; for, in her own words, she was "sitting waiting on the doorsteps the day Meredith opened." E. McNeill Poteat paid her fitting tribute in the memorial service held in her honor in the Meredith auditorium on November 4, 1934:

She was utterly impatient of things that cramped the human spirit. Her impatience made her seem militant in thought and in society. She made her modernism serve the largest interests of personality. She did not push a taboo over unless she had a truth to put in its place; neither did she excavate without planning to build firmer foundations.

I saw her just before she went. Her hand was moving restlessly as if with an impatience at delay. But her face was still with an immovable calm. That is my last recollection of her, and it is a parable of her life. Hands always restless, busy exploring, eager discovering, ministering, healing, welcoming, blessing; but on the face that reflected her inner spirit always rested a benign calm that her busy hands or a hurrying, distracting world could not disturb.

The bronze portrait medallion in Delia Dixon Carroll Infirmary—the work of Ethel Parrott Hughes, '08, of Kinston—is considered the best likeness of Dr. Carroll ever made. It was presented by the Alumnae Association, "in whose

el
 motto, '08
 dallin

DC

hearts her enshrined memory is a monument 'more lasting than bronze'."

Only one person could have followed her at Meredith—Bessie Evans Lane, '11, who since her graduation at the Woman's Medical College in Philadelphia and the completion of an internship in the Philadelphia General Hospital had been Dr. Carroll's partner in her Raleigh practice. Small and dainty, with a quiet, reassuring manner, Dr. Lane had already proved herself a doctor of extraordinary ability. For the sixteen years that she was at Meredith her concern was not only the care of girls who were sick, but the guarding of the health of all the students, and with the aid of the physical education department she carried out a constructive health program on the campus.

In 1932, two years before Dr. Lane assumed her responsibilities, Nora Kelly came from Mars Hill to take charge of the Meredith infirmary. She was a registered nurse rather than one of the "homespun variety," as Mrs. Norwood had been. So was Myrtle Barnette, trained at the Baptist Hospital in Winston-Salem, who came as assistant in 1937. Both the soft-voiced, gentle Miss Kelly and the crisply cheerful, decisive Miss Barnette were kindly as well as skilled—in-terested in the students as people, not merely as patients.

An important innovation in the College was the News Bureau. Before 1937 the College news was usually sent to the papers by whoever was capable and good-natured enough to add to regular College duties the writing of this or that event. For several years students, unpaid volunteers, did the work. For one year, 1935-36, these students were under the direction of Elizabeth Foster, a member of the English department who was given this responsibility in place of three hours teaching. But the work was too heavy to be thus assigned; and in 1937, with the coming of Lois Byrd, the Meredith News Bureau was created.

To the new campus, established events and customs were transplanted, often with improvements; and new ones were added. The daisy chain carried on class day by the sophomores, through which the seniors walked to the natural amphitheater in the grove, seemed more at home bordering

the path between the oaks than it had in the narrow aisle between chapel seats. After the bones of the odd class had risen, or the even spirit had reigned, the sophomores formed their class numerals with the daisy chain on the steps of Johnson Hall. The first class to hold its class day in the court was 1933. Their historical pageant, "The Past, the Future—two Eternities," did not lose its appeal even when spectacle and spectators had to scurry to the auditorium to escape the downpour which came in the middle of the presentation.

The first commencement on the new campus was climaxed by a wedding. In the afternoon of her graduation day, the senior class president, Margaret Wheeler, was married to Harvey Kelley, with her uncle, Dr. J. L. Peacock, performing the ceremony in the library. As the wedding party went up the library steps, the sophomores again held the daisy chain, this time singing a bridal chorus, the words and music of which were written by Mary O'Kelley. This first wedding on the new campus was followed by others which have taken place in the chapel, the parlors, and the grove.

A number of the people who saw this first wedding on the new campus had also seen Ruth Couch married to J. LeRoy Allen four years earlier, a few hours after her graduation in 1922. Her classmates in their class-day dresses sang the bridal chorus from *Lohengrin* as they walked down the two aisles of the old chapel. A few who saw both weddings had also seen Katherine Ford married to Herbert Peele in 1911 with Dr. Vann officiating, and with little Hettie Farrior and Elizabeth Vann as bridesmaids. But only Miss Ida Poteat had seen Dr. Dixon married to Dr. Norwood J. Carroll on September 26, 1900, in the chapel. Dr. Vann married them, and "the young lady faculty members," the *News and Observer* reported, acted as bridesmaids. Tradition has it that the wedding had to be postponed a week because the bride's other white coat suit did not come back from the laundry.

Field Day, an annual event on the small campus, gave way in 1926, the first year on the new campus, to May Day, which took place in the grove. In the Astrotektons' big chair

decked with ivy by Miss Ida's clever fingers, Margaret Cone Tucker looked no less queenly for having her train made of a lace curtain. The Sleeping Beauty, Rip Van Winkle, Mother Goose's family, a May day from dawn till sunset, the four seasons, spring around the world, a gypsy festival, an Elizabethan masque—these were among the varied celebrations of May Day which continue to draw in increasing numbers spectators from town. In 1963 the festivities featured the development of North Carolina from a colony to a state, thus celebrating the state's tercentenary.

With plenty of room to grow, athletics grew, especially with the coming in 1934 of vigorous, alert Marian Warner as an associate in physical education. During her three years at Meredith the established sports—tennis, basketball and hockey—increased in popularity and number of participants; and soccer, baseball, archery, and volleyball, as well as several minor sports, were added. Swimming, golf, and horseback riding were provided off the campus in 1934; in 1935 six horses were kept on the campus, and instruction in riding was given. Bicycles were among the additions to the equipment of the Athletic Association, and a complete picnicking outfit added to the zest of hikes. Athletic trophies, monograms, and letters began to take a large place in the awards presented Society Night of commencement. The Association, through its own work and through gifts it obtained from alumnae and other friends, bought a movie camera which has recreated many scenes of interest for students and alumnae and for prospective Meredith students in high schools over the state.

One of the most picturesque of the events it has recorded was Palio, which was in 1935 by Miss Warner, Dr. Price, and Miss Poteat, with Katherine Liles as president of the Athletic Association, adapted to the Meredith campus from a medieval festival held annually in Siena, Italy. An annual event sponsored by the Athletic Association, it was described by its sponsors as "a colorful outdoor contest between classes, a parade, a horse race, singing, and much jolly nonsense." Clever costumes, clowns, huge caricature masks of Meredith celebrities were part of the "jolly non-

sense." The numerals of the winning class each year were placed on a special Meredith banner, the gift of Miss Price. An especially appropriate gift it was, for Palio took its name in Siena from the banner awarded to the winner. The student body of 1951-52 voted to discontinue the gay celebration which for eighteen years had been one of Meredith's distinctive traditions.

Palio was usually given in the afternoon, with Stunt Night following in the evening. The occasion became an official Homecoming Day, with the mid-year council of the Alumnae Association meeting in the morning. It was a full day indeed, because between Palio and the stunts for more than ten years there was step-singing in front of Johnson Hall, when each class in competition sang an original song. Several attempts had been made to introduce college songs for informal occasions, none of which had lived more than a few years till in 1926 was written the song which is almost as familiar to successive Meredith generations as the Alma Mater—"You're the Queen of Our Hearts, Alma Mater." Its words and music were by Mary O'Kelley, '26. Other songs, even more informal, which became traditional are "Hearts are Loyal, Love is True," by Mary Lee, '32; "Rah, Rah, Rah, It's Meredith for Me," by Pat Abernethy, '33; and "Meredith, Our Alma Mater," by Emily Bethune, '38.

Since *A Midsummer Night's Dream* of the first year, no other performance of any sort united the efforts of so many departments as did the two Greek plays given in the court in the spring of 1934 and of 1935, *Iphigenia in Tauris* and *Alcestis*. They were sponsored by the Little Theatre,¹⁰ with Emily Miller and Pauline Perry as presidents the successive years. The plays, given in the court, were directed by Dr. Hoagland, sponsor of the Little Theatre, and Dr. Price, teacher of Greek. The dances of the choruses were directed by Miss Warner; the music of the choruses by Mr. Spelman. The costumes were designed by the art department and made, for the most part, by the students in home economics. The library obtained the music and furnished pictures which gave suggestions for the costumes.

¹⁰ The Dramatic Club in 1928 became the Little Theatre, which in 1952 was rechristened the Meredith Playhouse.

The program for the production of *Iphigenia in Tauris* listed in the cast of characters "Thunder and Lightning—Norma Rose."

In 1938 Miss Bailey introduced the custom of using in the plays men from the neighboring colleges. The acting of Annie Thompson, '11, as Hamlet or of Mirvine Garrett, '38, as Charles Lamb or of Edna Lee Pegram, '36, as Scrooge had showed how convincingly girls who could really act played the part of men, especially in period plays. However, there was the danger of a titter or a roar from the audience at the wrong place. When a girl spoke the lines of David Wylie in *What Every Woman Knows*, they had a double meaning Barrie never intended. "What do I know of the passions of a man! I'm up against something I don't understand."

With Miss Bailey's sponsorship a chapter of Alpha Psi Omega, a national honorary dramatics fraternity, was established in 1938 on the campus in connection with the Little Theatre. Since then modern languages and music also have chapters of their national fraternities, Sigma Pi Alpha and Sigma Alpha Iota.

The organization of Silver Shield in 1935 filled a need on the campus for an honor society more general in its nature than Kappa Nu Sigma, for one in which scholarship would be one of the qualifications for membership, not the sole one. The members of the new organization were chosen from the rising senior class, according to the constitution, "on the basis of constructive leadership, Christian character, scholarship, and service to the school." It speaks well for the quality of leadership on the campus that members of Silver Shield are frequently members of Kappa Nu Sigma also. The charter members were Elizabeth Lee, Catherine Moseley, Alice Bryan, Mary McLean, Margaret Davis, Mildred Moore, and Mamie Lou Forney.

The day students had been inadequately provided for on the earlier campus, first with space to hang coats and leave lunches in an alcove under a stairway on first floor of Main Building, then with a small, dark room on the same floor. With the move to the new campus they were given two large rooms on the second floor of Johnson Hall—one for

study, the other for relaxation. A Day Students' Club had been organized in 1924, with Mary Page Franklin as its first president. These students are now given representation on the Student Government Council, and the presidency of the non-resident student body is one of the major offices on the campus.

It was not only the students and faculty who enjoyed the new campus. It was, in the words of a *News and Observer* reporter, "the Baptist Mecca." There was no summer school on the campus then, nor had the Convention provided assembly grounds at Fruitland and Caswell; and the Meredith buildings were at the service of the denomination all summer. The preachers' school, the annual Convention of the Baptist Young People's Union, and the Sunday school conferences took place at Meredith in June; later in the summer the house parties of the Young Woman's Auxiliary and the Girl's Auxiliary were held there, and the encampment of the Royal Ambassadors. From distinguished theologian to bean-shooting R.A., the visitors were pleased with Meredith's hospitality. "It is a marvel to enjoy such food and such rooms for a dollar a day," A. T. Robertson of the Southern Seminary wrote in the *Watchman Examiner*. Miss Welch, the dietitian, and Miss White, the house director, well deserved the votes of thanks they received at each meeting, especially for their astounding feat of providing meals and lodging several years for more than 1,000 of the 1,500 B.Y.P.U. delegates.

The years on the new campus, which brought new organizations, new customs and traditions, brought to an end one of the oldest of Meredith's institutions, which had been of immeasurable influence in the life of the College—the Club, the cooperative dining room. Since 1930-31 the resident students all eat in the regular College dining room.

The Club was a distinct success from its first day in September, 1899, till its last in May, 1931. It had been fortunate in its managers, beginning with Margaret Ferguson, '04, who successfully carried for two years this responsibility, too heavy for a student. Mrs. Jessie B. Earnshaw became its manager in 1901, keeping the place till 1916, when one of the students she had trained, Mattie

Wood Osborne, took charge of the club until 1918. In that year Mrs. Beulah Wright Cooper, its last director, came.

Successful as the Club had been, the reasons for discontinuing it were sound. With dining room and kitchen space and equipment adequate for more than 500 and with the large saving possible in overhead expenses, it was economically unsound to have between 150 and 175 of the 350 to 450 resident students taking their meals in a separate dining room.

Moreover, conditions had changed since the early days of the Club. Then for nearly all the Club girls the financial aid had been necessary if they were to come to college. But in an interview with Kate Fleming Brummitt, in the *News and Observer* of April 17, 1930, Mrs. Cooper, then director of the Club, said:

There are several reasons why girls enter the Club. The first is that they must save money wherever possible in order to go to school at all. The second is that after the family at home has made a budget for the daughter, she decides to study voice, violin, or some other unprovided-for subject. The third reason is that a girl may want some particular thing badly enough; so she saves board money till she has the desired amount.

The girl who really needed the financial aid the Club would have furnished had no difficulty in earning what she would have saved in the Club. Student waitresses were employed in the main dining room. There were student assistants in the library, in the administration offices, and in the various departments. The N.Y.A. program in the colleges multiplied the opportunities for self help. Records in the bursar's office show that then, as now, any student who wanted work on the campus could obtain it.

The one dining room, as Dr. Brewer pointed out in his report to the trustees, tended to give greater unity to the student body. The location of the Club in the basement of East Building on the old campus had been an unfortunate necessity; on the new campus its location in the basement directly under the main dining room was even more unfortunate, accentuating the division of the students and suggesting a distinction that did not exist.

Though the change was everywhere recognized as wise,

there was widespread regret that the Club had to go, especially among the hundreds of alumnae whose college education it had made possible. Varying at first from month to month, then from year to year, the cost ran from about \$4.00 a month the first few years to \$12.50 the last few years of the Club's existence. Thus a Club girl saved then about \$90.00 a year. In addition, Mrs. Cooper in 1930 told Miss Brummitt, two student assistants made their full expenses and eight more made all their board—"a corn bread girl, a biscuit girl, a linen girl, two proctors, and three utensils girls." All the other girls worked only half an hour a day, the time being arranged after the class schedules had been made. By incredibly skillful juggling the director put together those half-hours so that three meals a day were prepared and served on time, with no confusion or hurry. When she first began her work, Mrs. Earnshaw changed the assigned tasks every six weeks to give the girls training in different phases of housework; but with more students in the Club, this rotation ceased to be feasible.

The only outside help was a colored woman who scrubbed six hours a week. Many Club girls will remember Ellen Moore, employed thus for years, who told proudly of the progress of the missionary society of which she was the "author."

That \$12.50 went a long way in 1930. The College furnished water, lights, and gas; but the Club bought its own equipment—tables, chairs, linen, refrigerators, dishes, and silver, and paid its proportionate part of board money for girls in the infirmary. It was a day of triumph when the Club bought enough forks to go around twice, so that pie did not have to be eaten with a spoon. Meals that were appetizing and well balanced were served at an average cost of thirty-eight cents a day. After studying the daily menus, Mrs. Jane S. McKimmon wrote that she wished all young business women in North Carolina could be sure of being so well nourished as the members of the Meredith Club. Mrs. Earnshaw had been far ahead of her day in her insistence on fruit and green vegetables. Raw carrot salad, which appeared in the Club twenty years before it was generally served, met with widespread approval; a concoction made

of ground dried figs instead of coffee was, fortunately, a short-lived innovation.

In the early days Mrs. Earnshaw arranged simple parties for her girls—square dances, games, and contests. She also gave lessons in general etiquette, as well as in table manners. Ethel Carroll Squires wrote of her, "By precept and example she taught us to glorify everyday tasks and to regard life as spiritual and limitless in its possibilities." She and Mrs. Cooper were alike in their motherly interest in the girls, an interest which went far beyond the three meals a day. Nellie Page Smith, '17, in enumerating the benefits of the Club—financial aid, training in cooking and serving, development of habits of punctuality and thoroughness, ended her account with "good food, pleasant work, happy fellowship." And a student of Mrs. Cooper's time commented, "It's every word true."

The record of the Club girls shows that they lost nothing of college life by being what the founder of Wellesley College, Henry Durant, with admiration called "calico girls." The first seven Student Government presidents were Club girls. Mrs. Earnshaw said that for the first seventeen years the majority of presidents of Student Government and the Y.W.C.A. were from the Club. In 1930, Mrs. Cooper told Miss Brummitt, all four class presidents, the editor of the *Twig*, and the May Queen were Club girls.

The new campus had become the campus by 1939 when President Brewer became president emeritus and professor of chemistry. He had guided the College through the last years on the crowded city campus, through the problem-filled years of decisions concerning the move, through the first years of adjustment on the new campus, through the dark days of the depression. The annual reports of the president and the bursar show that the endowment had been increased from \$127,000 to \$531,162.44; the value of the College property from \$289,050 to \$1,430,568.94. In spite of ten years on the old campus when little growth in numbers was possible, and in spite of the decline for five years in the depression, the enrollment had increased from 383 to 583. The faculty and officers had increased from thirty to sixty-four. More significant, being evidence of a better

selected student body, was the growth of the graduating class from around twenty-five to around a hundred.

On May 29, 1939, when Undine Futrell Johnson, '09, on behalf of the Alumnae Association presented to Dr. Brewer a dozen Meredith plates, her words found an echo in the heart of every listener. "Because of your efforts during twenty-four years, Meredith has come through tribulation, and her robe is still clean and white. At your feet our loyal hearts their tribute lay."

On May 1, 1941, Charles Edward Brewer heard the higher commendation, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant. . . . Enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

VII

“SUBSTANTIAL ACHIEVEMENT AND SIGNIFICANT PROMISE”

(1939-1966)

Carlyle Campbell, the fourth president of Meredith, was the third college president in his family; his older brother in 1934 succeeded his father as president of Campbell College. The father, James Archibald Campbell, forced by financial need to leave Wake Forest after only two years, had opened a school in Harnett County in 1887, beginning with nineteen pupils in a one-room schoolhouse, built at a cost of \$360. That school developed into Buies Creek Academy, one of the denominational academies which were of inestimable value in the educational life of North Carolina before the beginning of the public school system and in its early days. As the public high schools increased in number and improved in quality, these academies no longer met a distinct need; and most of them ceased to exist. In 1926 Buies Creek, still under the guidance of its founder, became a junior college—Campbell College. The naming of the college was a fitting tribute; for Campbell College is, in Emerson's phrase, “the lengthened shadow of one man”—a great man, James Archibald Campbell. His wife, Cornelia Pearson Campbell, was through the years a staunch aid and ally in the work of the school.

In 1911 the future president of Campbell College, Leslie Hartwell, and the future president of Meredith, Arthur Carlyle, were graduated from Wake Forest. The younger boy was only sixteen, the youngest Wake Forest graduate on record. With them their father also received an A.B. When President Poteat picked up the first of the three diplomas, he broke the academic solemnity of the graduation ceremonies by announcing, “The Campbells are coming!”

Carlyle Campbell became president of Meredith in 1939 after three years of graduate work at Columbia University;

twelve years of teaching English, seven at Buies Creek—a term interrupted by military service, two at Coker College, and three at North Carolina State College. Between his terms of teaching at Coker and at State College he was for eleven years president of Coker. The University of South Carolina and Wake Forest College each conferred on him the L.L.D. degree. His breadth of education and experience complemented the solidity of his heritage and early training.

The number and variety of organizations which have chosen him as president bear witness to his executive ability, organizations ranging from the Raleigh P.T.A. to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. These included among others the presidency of the Wake County Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa, the North Carolina Conference of Colleges, the North Carolina Conference of Church-Related Colleges, the North Carolina Education Association, and the North Carolina State Literary and Historical Association.

On May 17, 1954, the esteem and affectionate admiration of the Meredith folk for President Campbell were evidenced by the presentation to the College of his portrait. The picture, painted by Stanislaw Rembski, was the gift of the entire student body, with the frame contributed by the faculty and staff. In accepting the portrait on behalf of the College, William C. Lassiter, a trustee, paid tribute to the man who "vigorously and boldly exerts his mind and strength in leading this great Christian college in the cause of truth." "The portrait," he continued, "will preserve for untold generations to come the physical likeness of Dr. Campbell. It is the character and the soul of Meredith itself that will ever reflect his mind and spirit." The picture is now in the foyer of Carlyle Campbell Library.

"Versatile and scholarly," thus the new Meredith president was characterized by C. Sylvester Greene, who was his successor at Coker. Fifteen years later, in 1954, Maxine Garner, at that time a teacher in the department of religion at Meredith, wrote in the *Biblical Recorder*:

As is befitting the head of a liberal arts college, President Campbell is a scholar with an unusual range of abilities. Whether

taking part in team sports on faculty-student play-day, preparing well-tabulated comparisons of the mid-term reports of the freshmen with their placement test scores, playing the organ for the wedding of a young niece or cousin, or discussing the calling of the Christian college in a faculty meeting, he is genuinely and modestly himself in the process.

Had Dr. Garner been at Meredith in 1950, she would have included the skill in acting which Dr. Campbell showed in the part of Professor Willard in *Our Town*.

His chapel talks deserve special comment; quickness of mind, depth of spiritual insight, freshness of approach, precision and beauty of language—these made each talk one long to be remembered. The humor, keen, rather than broad, added delight.

It was the quality of these brief, informal talks as well as the esteem in which the seniors and the whole College held him that led the class of 1958 to choose him to give their baccalaureate address. The *News and Observer* called the seniors' choice “an honor rarely accorded a college president.” The splendor of his academic regalia on that occasion must have especially pleased the juniors, because the year before as sophomores they had presented him with the cap, gown, and hood.

Mrs. Campbell, the former Marian Lee Newman of Suffolk, Virginia, was before her marriage also a teacher. Soon after their coming to Meredith she established her reputation as an admirable hostess. The Campbells entertained in their home various groups—among them the Wake County Chapter of the Alumnae Association, the executive committee of the Board of Trustees, the faculty, the Faculty Wives Club (which Mrs. Campbell initiated), and the senior class. Their series of informal suppers for the seniors, who were invited in small groups, became one of the happiest traditions of Meredith hospitality. “Mrs. Campbell has special ways of preparing the usual foods,” one of her guests commented, “as well as unusual recipes; and she is very generous about sharing her recipes with the Meredith students.”

Like her husband, Mrs. Campbell takes an active part in church and civic affairs. She has been especially active in the Raleigh Y.W.C.A., and in 1960 she was the Raleigh Mother of the Year.

Dr. Brewer in his inaugural address in 1916 stated that he had come to a college which had "demonstrated not only its right, but its duty to live." In the first five years of President Campbell's administration that right was questioned again and again, and in each case reaffirmed.

He came to the presidency late in the summer of 1939. In the months between Dr. Brewer's retirement and Dr. Campbell's election, rumor ran riot, magnifying the uncertainty as to who was to succeed President Brewer into uncertainty as to the future of the College itself. On April 11, less than two months after the Board of Trustees announced that Dr. Brewer would retire in June, there appeared in the *Biblical Recorder* resolutions which the writer, identified only by the number of a post-office box in Durham, planned to offer to the Baptist State Convention in November. The resolutions proposed the moving of Meredith to the Wake Forest campus as part of one great institution—Wake Forest University. In a long explanatory letter accompanying the resolutions, the same arguments were given which had been advanced in 1923—economy of operation, enriched curricula, the avoidance of conflicting loyalties, with emphasis this time on the debt which had been incurred in the moving of Meredith.

George W. Paschal, who in 1923 had vigorously advocated the coordination of Meredith and Wake Forest, was from January till November, 1939, acting editor of the *Recorder*. He opened the columns to arguments *pro* and *con*; editorially he favored the proposal. In the issue which announced the election of Dr. Campbell, an editorial appeared on the opposite page in favor of moving Meredith to Wake Forest.

"P. O. Box 176" did not offer its resolution to the Convention. The withdrawal was due in part, perhaps, to the response that the idea met in the discussions which took place, as one alumna said, "on every street corner all over the State." Undoubtedly an influencing factor in the dropping of the resolution was the report of a survey of the educational institutions of the Convention, a survey authorized by the Education Commission of the Convention and made by a disinterested authority, the Division of

Surveys and Field Studies of George Peabody College. The report was thoroughly discussed at an open meeting of the Education Commission in Raleigh on November 1, 1939. The Convention three weeks later adopted the recommendations of the report concerning the senior colleges:

That Wake Forest College be continued and developed as a four year college for men . . . and that women be admitted to do post graduate work.

That Meredith College be continued as a four-year liberal arts College in its present location.

A decision of the Wake Forest trustees in January, 1942, led to some trepidation among the friends of Meredith. "While the [General] Board was in session on January 16," the report of the General Board to the Convention stated, "it was learned through the daily press that the Trustees of Wake Forest on the day before had voted to open the doors of the College to young women on the junior and senior level." In November, 1942, the Convention approved the action of the Wake Forest trustees, at the same time pledging to Meredith "as a four-year college for women its continued co-operation and support," and urged the Baptists of the state "to stand solidly behind her."

Subsequently events proved that the Baptists of the state did stand solidly behind her. The enrollment, which with the confusion and uncertainty had dropped gradually from 583 in 1938-39 to 461 in 1942-43, rose in 1943-44 to 516. On October 8, 1943, President Campbell reported to a called meeting of the trustees that the opening of the College in September was "one of the most auspicious in the history of the institution." The minutes of this meeting record the decision of the trustees to begin, with the approval of the Convention, "a fund-raising campaign which would provide \$565,000 for the construction of a chapel and music building, a gymnasium and swimming pool, and a library."

The next year, 1944, again the College had an extraordinarily good opening, with an enrollment that before the end of the year reached 647, the largest number of students that had ever been enrolled. With every dormitory room filled, with the debt paid, with approximately half of the \$565,000

given or pledged in less than a year, Meredith's problems seemed solved.

Then history repeated itself. On October 4, only six weeks before the Convention, there appeared in the *Biblical Recorder* and in the daily papers a proposal that the Meredith property be sold and the College be merged with Wake Forest College as the nucleus of Wake Forest University. The arguments advanced were the same that had been given in 1923 and 1939. The seven proposers explained that they had not consulted with the trustees or with the administration of either college involved. The next day, October 5, the following announcement was sent out from Charlotte to the daily papers of the State.

A Steering Committee which will guide the campaign for the proposed merger of Meredith and Wake Forest Colleges into a large Baptist University has been named following a meeting here of 22 representative ministers and laymen. The Committee is to select the personnel for a State-wide drive to put the merger before some 40 Baptist associations scheduled to meet prior to the Baptist State Convention.

Up to this point, Meredith had taken no official notice of the successive proposals which had involved its very existence. This time because excitement and dismay feeding on rumors had spread over the state like wildfire, W. H. Weatherspoon, president of the Board of Trustees, and LeRoy Martin, chairman of the executive committee, wrote vigorous letters of protest to the *Recorder*. The trustees and President Campbell issued a small six-page folder, *Meredith College Reports to North Carolina Baptists*, a clear, forceful explanation of Meredith's position, with the formal resolutions from the trustees expressing their "vigorous and emphatic opposition" to the proposal and with similar resolutions from the faculty, the student body, and the executive committee of the alumnae. (There was no opportunity for the whole Alumnae Association to act.) With the exception of two dissenting votes in a student body of more than 600, all these resolutions had been unanimously adopted. The students listed five reasons for their opposition:

1. The proposed plan would vastly limit the opportunities for leadership such as we enjoy here in a woman's college.

2. A higher academic rating would not result, for at present a degree from Meredith is equivalent to the bachelor of arts degree from any university in North Carolina.

3. The cultural, religious, and educational opportunities afforded us by our advantageous location in the City of Raleigh would be sacrificed in the event of a change of location.

4. The friendly spirit of co-operation and understanding which exists between faculty and students here at Meredith—a rare and treasured possession—would be almost entirely lacking in a school of the type that this proposal would establish.

5. The spiritual atmosphere, built up through the years, could not be transplanted without loss of identity.

The following resolutions adopted at the 1944 Convention in Charlotte show the outcome of the whole matter:

That Meredith College shall be and remain in its present location as a standard four-year "A" Grade College for young women, and that its plant, facilities and curriculum shall be enlarged and expanded to meet adequately the needs of the young women of our State for an institution of higher Christian education and culture.

That Wake Forest now has and shall continue to have full university status as an accredited "A" Grade University of higher Christian education and culture; that all classes of Wake Forest College shall be open for the admission of young women upon the same basis as young men, and that its plant, facilities, and curriculum shall be expanded and enlarged to meet the needs of the young people of our State.

One more proposal to move Meredith was too short-lived to reach the Board of Trustees. Charles H. Babcock, representing the Mary Reynolds Babcock Foundation, offered to Meredith the Reynolda estate of 150 acres and with it the sum of \$1,000,000, provided that the Presbyterians, who were considering a location for their college soon to be established, would buy the present Meredith campus and that Meredith would move to Winston-Salem. On December 6, 1955, President Campbell presented this offer to the executive committee of the Board of Trustees; on February 13, 1956, he told the committee that the Presbyterians had decided to locate their new college, St. Andrews, in Laurinburg. Thus the matter was closed.

Since the offer was withdrawn in so short a time, no official action was necessary; and it caused among alumnae and other friends only a small stirring of dismay compared to the storm of protest which had risen in 1923, 1939, and

1944. One alumna's exclamation of "Not *again!*" expressed the general reaction concerning the whole matter. Frances Wallace Rankin, the president of the Alumnae Association, concluded her review of the events of the year in the spring issue of the *Alumnae Magazine* thus:

I know that I speak for all of you when I say that we love Meredith and are proud of her as she is—an excellent four-year liberal arts college for women; we are pleased also with her Raleigh location.

The approval of Meredith and confidence in her future that had been expressed by the Baptist State Convention in 1944 was again voiced in 1952 and in 1959, before and after the Babcock offer. In its report to the Convention in 1952 a committee which had surveyed the needs of the institutions and agencies of the Convention and made recommendations for them said about Meredith:

We commend the outstanding work done by Meredith College, and bespeak for it the constant and increasing support of our people.

A similar committee appointed in 1956 reported in 1959 the results of a much more thorough study in which they were aided by Booz, Allen, and Hamilton, consultants in planning and administration. The following recommendation was made concerning Meredith:

That the trustees of Meredith College plan for its continuation as a senior college, and that it seek to increase the student body to 1,000, maintaining its scholarly, cultural, and Christian atmosphere.

In his annual report to the Convention, President Campbell repeatedly expressed the gratitude of the College for the aid of the Convention in making the year, to quote a characteristic phrase, "one of substantial achievement and significant promise."

The students also expressed their gratitude on several occasions. In the *Twig* of November 23, 1949 was an open letter to the Baptist State Convention concerning the visit of the delegates to the campus:

We, the Meredith students, were proud to show the delegates our school, which they made possible—And as the holiday season draws near the Meredith student body gives thanks to you, the Baptist State Convention, for your generosity and kindness.

In 1957, when the Convention refused to allow social dancing on the campus even after the General Board had given its approval to the joint action of the trustees of Wake Forest and Meredith, the students, though woefully disappointed, showed no bitterness in their attitude. Sarah Elizabeth Vernon Watts, '34, president of the Alumnae Association, reported to the alumnae that the students had taken the action of the convention “with deep disappointment, but with dignity.” Nancy Joyner’s editorial in the *Twig* was admirable in its restraint. It ended thus:

Next week we will be scattered in all parts of the state. We will be meeting people with varied opinions of the issues which have called attention to Meredith. Let us tell them—nicely—how we feel.

The relations between Meredith and the denomination have always been cordial. The Convention founded it, has approved each step in its growth, and since 1945 has appointed its trustees. This staunch support of the school was especially significant from 1926 to 1936 when, in the nationwide depression which came so soon after bonds were issued to finance the buildings on the new campus, the very existence of the College was threatened. During that period by far the largest part of the amount appropriated to the Baptist colleges went to the payment of Meredith’s debt. From 1919 to 1935 the College received from the Convention \$1,207,927.37, most of which went into meeting the payments on the bonds. From 1936 to 1943, its share was rightfully much smaller, only \$35,296.77. From 1944—the year that the entire debt which the Convention had incurred on behalf of all its schools had been paid—till 1966, Meredith received \$3,180,311.47.

Meredith, like other colleges fostered by the Convention, has been benefited greatly by the work of the Council on Christian Education, created by the Convention of 1943. The Council is made up of the presidents of the Convention, of the Woman’s Missionary Union, and of the General Board;

the chairman of the education committee of the General Board; and the general secretary of the Convention, with each of the colleges represented by its president, its dean, the president of the Board of Trustees, and the chairman of the executive committee of that body.

Claude F. Gaddy, the first executive secretary of the Council, served from 1946 to 1961. The effect of his wise leadership can be seen in the increased interest in the colleges on the part of the churches and of individuals and in a closer relationship and better understanding among the colleges themselves. Of especial value in encouraging this spirit of cooperation are the meetings which bring together faculty members from the same department in all seven colleges. These meetings, held every two years on the different campuses in turn, afford opportunities for interchange of ideas and discussion of common interests and problems as well as for lighter intervals of relaxation and fellowship. A small monthly publication of the Council was a further tie between the institutions. Of great value also were the campus visitations, which brought to the seven colleges hundreds of pastors and church leaders each year. When Mr. Gaddy retired in 1961, President Campbell paid him high tribute:

Claude Gaddy has rendered invaluable service to Christian education and to the whole denominational program. This service is abundantly manifest in what he himself has accomplished, but it has been more significant if less tangible in what he has enabled or caused others to do. Wherever he is and in whatever business engaged, life ever seems happier and more hopeful.

The steady financial support year by year, with what is even more important, the genuine interest in the College, of which the financial support is evidence, has always been Meredith's mainstay. The annual appropriation from the Convention is much larger than the average annual income from the endowment, which in 1965-66, the last year of President Campbell's administration, was \$63,767.89; whereas the College received from the Convention that year \$209,567.89. With the excellent business management of the College, this Convention support has made the cost to the student of her college education much less than one would

expect it to be in a college of the type and quality of Meredith. In 1965-66 the student was charged \$1,500—\$800 for tuition and \$700 for residence.

This steady support, which included funds for capital needs as well as current expenses, made less dismaying he results of the three special efforts made in 1944, 1952, and 1958 to meet the needs of the College for new buildings, improvements of existing buildings and of the campus, and increased endowment. The 1944 campaign realized about two-thirds of the \$565,000 which had been hoped for; the other two were decidedly less successful. As with current expenses, it was the appropriation from the Convention together with the excellent management of the College officials which enabled Meredith to proceed with the construction of much needed buildings.

In 1949 a new auditorium replaced the temporary wooden one, which had been in use for twenty-three years. Of the \$500,000 which it cost, \$350,000 had been given in the 1944 campaign; but it could not be used then because of the shortage of building material. The Convention authorized the borrowing of the rest. The building was named Jones Hall, in honor of Wesley Norwood Jones, a trustee who was one of the best friends the College ever had; and of his wife, Sallie Bailey Jones, who had also been a trustee and a staunch friend.¹ It is located near the quadrangle southeast of Brewer Hall.

The October, 1949, *Alumnae Magazine* gave the alumnae some facts about the new building:

The exterior is of tapestry brick and the façade primarily of stone. The main auditorium with stage and foyer has been completed and is now in daily use. The exterior work for the additional small assembly hall and other rooms has been completed. When finished² these additions will include the small assembly room, seating 220;³ five classrooms; eighteen small practice rooms with pianos; three large practice rooms with organs; eight studios for instructors; three offices and a reception room; storage and rest rooms.

¹ An account of their services to the College has been given in earlier chapters. The dormitory which had been Jones Hall (see p. 183) was renamed Brewer Hall, in honor of President Brewer.

² It was completed in 1950 and the loan was repaid by June, 1954.

³ The small assembly room actually seats 180.

There is also provision for a music library, a listening room, and a recording studio. One of the five classrooms is used for the work in speech and drama.

The alumnae were especially interested in the "1044 spring-cushioned red seats with backs of natural wood to match the wainscoting on the sides," which were their gift to the college. On the check which one enthusiastic graduate sent she wrote, "One chair for auditorium. Hallelujah!"

The auditorium was dedicated on Founders' Day, September 27, 1949, thus celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of the opening of the College. It was the most important occasion to which the College had invited friends since Dr. Brewer's inauguration, for an engraved card with no formal ceremony had announced the beginning of the presidency of Dr. Campbell. In the morning of the fiftieth-year celebration Senator Frank Graham gave the address, which was preceded by Mary Lynch Johnson's brief historical sketch, "1899 Looks at 1949." Lieutenant Governor H. P. Taylor, chairman of the Board of Trustees, led the audience in the liturgy of dedication. The Meredith Chorus sang in the morning and again in the evening when Ralph McGill, editor of the *Atlanta Constitution*, was the speaker. The usual Founders' Day reception was a birthday party with more than 600 guests. Many of these viewed the collection of publications, pictures, letters, and other items of historical interest which Jane Greene, the archivist of the library staff, had prepared for display in the Library.

Norma Rose in the October *Alumnae Magazine* noted the threefold significance of the "Gold Letter Day":

Fifty burning tapers on a mammoth birthday cake, a backward glance at the founders and early friends, an expression of deep appreciation for the spirit, the service, and the sacrifice that have gone into her first fifty years, a representative from each of her forty-eight graduating classes—these were her tokens of her past. An alert student body, a devoted faculty and staff, and a host of friends present for the dedication of a spacious and beautiful new auditorium—these were her evidences of her present blessings. But equally significant for those who know and love the College was the promise which the day held for the future. With a heritage such as the past has bequeathed her and with treasures such as the present has bestowed, it would have been an unimagin-

tive and dull heart, indeed, which did not thrill to the future challenge of service in her cause.

Two small structures, the Hut and the Bee Hive, one built before the auditorium, the other after, serve the needs of the College community and add to its leisure-hour enjoyment. The Hut, built in 1942 before the College was debt-free, was not financed from the College funds; the students and alumnae worked several years to pay for it. The Hut is in frequent use for the meetings of organizations and for social gatherings of small individual groups. The large room is especially inviting when log fires blaze in the two big stone fireplaces. The sturdy, comfortable maple chairs and settees can be drawn about either fireplace so that a small group is not lost in the room large enough to accommodate a hundred. Two smaller rooms—one with a grill for picnic-style cooking, the other with a stove, refrigerator, sink and kitchen utensils and dishes—facilitate the serving of refreshments and informal meals. A heating system installed in 1957 to supplement the fireplaces increases the comfort and usefulness of the Hut.

The Bee Hive was a remnant which was made into a building. When the old auditorium was torn down in 1950, passers-by wondered why the long, low portion at the back which had been used for music classrooms was left, looking awkward and forlorn. Everyone watched with happy excitement the transformation into roomy, comfortably arranged quarters for the Bee Hive, the College supply store. Painted white, with the site of the main part of the old auditorium green with grass and shrubs, it is a pretty spot. "A modern miracle in face-lifting," the *Alumnae Magazine* called it.

Inside, the wide variety of school and personal supplies — in addition to the text books kept in a separate room added in 1958—attracts hurried shoppers and leisurely lookers. The television set, the magazines and paperbacks of the better sort, the soda fountain and the gay tables and chairs make of the pine-paneled room a pleasant gathering place for friends exchanging news and views over a cup of coffee or a cold drink.

Dru Morgan Hinsley, '52, has been manager of the Bee Hive since 1953, with three full-time assistants and student workers. Having taken courses in store management at Oberlin College, Mrs. Hinsley was in 1964 awarded a diploma in management by the National Association of College Stores. She is a capable successor to Helen Walker, '51, the first full-time manager, who with Mr. Martin's encouraging counsel overcame the many difficulties involved in moving and enlarging the store. Formerly the responsibility had been assigned to a student under the capable supervision and guidance of Dr. Canaday. The change was made when the College assumed the responsibility for the store, taking it over from the B.S.U.

Bee Hive
The much smaller, student-managed store had been in a little house which had been occupied by a worker on the Tucker farm before the College bought it. Except for limited storage space, one rather small room was the only usable part of the building. But crowded and inadequate as it came to be, when the College first moved out from town this newly-christened Bee Hive had seemed spacious compared to its predecessors. The Y. store had begun in the Baptist University for Women, with its entire stock—notebook paper, pencils, ink, and candy to be sold by the piece—kept in a wooden cracker box. Later it was kept in a cabinet at one end of the corridor on second floor of Faircloth Hall, where the articles for sale were spread out on the shelves. Half an hour before and after the evening study hour the wooden doors of the cabinet were opened by the Y. store manager. An hour sufficed for the transaction of business, even though the stock-in-trade was slightly—but only slightly—larger than that which had been kept in the cracker box.

Except for the small but very important Mae Grimmer House, an account of which is given in Chapter IX, there were no new buildings on the campus for seven years from 1949, when the auditorium was built, till 1956. Then they came in what was, for Meredith, very rapid succession—five in six years.

As the wooden classroom buildings, like the auditorium and the gymnasium, had been intended for use only ten

years at the most, the replacement of one after thirty years and the other after thirty-three was an absolute necessity. In an English classroom for more than a year the students knew where the seven leaks were; and when it rained, with maximum speed and minimum confusion they moved their chairs out of the way and brought from the corner of the room buckets and pans to catch the rain. The business manager reporting to the trustees in 1957 the condition of the science building wrote, "It has been repaired so often that we are now repairing the repairs." About the same time Miss Brewer said that the building would undoubtedly collapse if the termites did not hold hands to keep it up.

Hence there was great rejoicing over the new buildings. Meredith and its friends felt as did Frances Wallace Rankin, '46, when she wrote in the *Alumnae Magazine*, "The liberal arts building is under construction, and never have red clay and steel girders looked so attractive!"

In October, 1956, Joyner Hall was ready for use; Hunter Hall after three more years was completed. Located west of the court, both are two-story, L-shaped structures, Georgian in style, made of brick with limestone trim to harmonize with the buildings of the quadrangle. For the humanities, social studies, and art, Joyner provides classrooms and seminar rooms, faculty offices, a large lecture room with facilities for showing films, soundproof recording booths, art studios, and a small art gallery. There is also a lounge with an adjoining kitchenette. Hunter has classrooms and laboratories for biology, chemistry, physics, home economics, business and economics, and mathematics, as well as offices and research laboratories for faculty, a science library, a photographic darkroom, and a reception room. The class of 1956, in addition to its gift of \$280 for the Expansion Program, gave \$300 for the furnishings of the Joyner lounge. A bequest in the will of Dr. Lula Gaines Winston, a former head of the department of chemistry, was used for chairs, tables, shelves, as well as periodicals in the science library in Hunter Hall. Adjacent to Hunter is a greenhouse for the use of botany classes. The total cost of Joyner and its furnishings was \$407,725.83; of Hunter, \$546,468.25. Both were in a few years debt-free.

Joyner Hall was named for James Yadkin Joyner. Elected a trustee of the Baptist Female University in 1894, when Dr. Joyner retired from the Board of Trustees in 1948, six years before his death at the age of ninety-three, he had the unique distinction of having served as a trustee for fifty-five years an institution which had been in existence only forty-nine years. "The longevity of his service as a trustee," Dr. Campbell once said in a chapel talk, "impresses his fellow members much less than the value of his counsels." Elsewhere President Campbell referred to Dr. Joyner's "contagious graciousness, his discerning attachment to the College and to the ideals fostered by it."

This valued trustee of Meredith was an important force in public education in North Carolina. It was by his plans as state superintendent of public instruction from 1902 to 1919 that the state system of public high schools was shaped. Clyde A. Erwin, a later superintendent, wrote in 1944 of J. Y. Joyner:

Due to his leadership, public schools were made an actual part of the life of the State. Taxes were voted, school houses were built, the school term was extended, transportation was begun, consolidations were made, teachers' salaries were increased, libraries were established, and schools in general greatly improved.

It is fitting that Meredith should have honored such a man. The choice of this particular building as his namesake was an especially happy one; for before he held this state office, he was for nine years dean and professor of English in the newly established State Normal and Industrial College in Greensboro. A portrait of Dr. Joyner, painted by Mildred McMullan Rumley of Washington, North Carolina, now hangs in Joyner Hall. The gift of the Joyner family, it was presented by his son, Col. William T. Joyner, who was in 1951 elected a trustee. In this capacity his service has indeed been worthy of his father's son.

Hunter Hall was dedicated on Founders' Day, 1959, when Paul Gross, dean of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences of Duke University and former chairman of the department of chemistry, spoke on "Science in the Space Age." The choice of Dr. Gross was an appropriate one be-

cause the building was named for a scientist, Joseph Rufus Hunter. A Ph.D. of the Johns Hopkins University, Dr. Hunter had been for ten years professor of chemistry of Richmond College⁴ (now the University of Richmond) before he came to Raleigh to be a business associate of his brother, Carey J. Hunter, whose service as trustee of the College in its early days had been of inestimable value.

A trustee of Meredith for twenty-eight years (1923-1951), Dr. Hunter was president of the Board from 1929 to 1941 and chairman of the investing committee from 1931 to 1941, an unusually difficult position in that time of financial crisis. A resolution adopted by the Board paid special tribute to "the cautious, persistent attention given to the College investments throughout this critical period, resulting in the preservation of our financial resources without any appreciable loss." President Campbell wrote of Dr. Hunter as a man "of outstanding integrity. Whatever duty or responsibility he assumed, he endeavored scrupulously to discharge; and to this moral sense was added a soundness of judgment and a spirit of devotion that greatly enhanced his usefulness."

His devotion to Meredith went beyond his long trusteeship; for by his will the College received his entire estate, held during her lifetime by his wife. Mrs. Hunter, who died in 1957, by her will added \$5,000 to her husband's bequest, bringing the total to more than \$141,000. This was the largest gift the College had received from any source except the Baptist State Convention. Dr. Hunter's portrait, presented by the family, is hanging in Hunter Hall.

Before this building was finished, another much-needed one was well under way and was completed in February, 1960—the house in which the senior majors in home economics in small groups have experience in home management. When Meredith moved in 1926, three suites on the first floor of Vann Hall were used for this purpose. The arrangement, intended to be temporary, was never satisfactory. Moreover, a steadily increasing enrollment brought

⁴Roberta Cornelius in *The History of Randolph-Macon Woman's College* noted that Dr. Hunter in March, 1904, delivered an address, *Liquid Air*, "which he illustrated by experiments that even in this atomic age sound quite dramatic."

urgent need of more room for incoming students; and so a house at 1700 Hillsboro Street was rented in September, 1958, for the home management residence. The house itself was more than adequate, but the expense of renting and the distance from the campus were decided disadvantages. This house was used only three semesters; for an excellent friend of the College, Talcott Wait Brewer, came to the rescue.

Until a short time before his death Mr. Brewer was head of one of the oldest and best-known business firms in Raleigh, dealing in farm machinery and supplies. The firm was established in the last century by his father, Samuel Wait Brewer, an older brother of President Brewer and for many years a trustee of Wake Forest and of Meredith. The son, like his father, was also deeply interested in Wake Forest, of which he was a graduate and of which his great-grandfather, Samuel Wait, was the first president. A trustee of long standing, Mr. Brewer was treasurer of that institution from 1912 till his death in 1970. It is fortunate for Meredith that his interest in Christian education was broad enough to include the school which was at one time called "Wake Forest's sister college." Recognizing a particular need, he generously contributed \$62,000, which built and furnished Ellen Brewer House, thus honoring one whose life has been devoted to Meredith.

Ellen Brewer House has every modern convenience for a home. A two-story structure, it has four bedrooms and three baths, study room, office for the counselor, living room, family room, dining room, and kitchen. A portrait of Mr. Brewer, painted by Isabelle Bowen Henderson and presented to the house by Miss Brewer, hangs over the fireplace in the living room. Miss Brewer's portrait in the reception room of Hunter Hall, painted by the same artist, was given in 1967 by the Home Economics Club and by the alumnae who had majored in home economics.

The next two buildings came also in rapid succession—Delia Dixon Carroll Infirmary and a new dormitory, Poteat Hall. The ground-breaking for both took place on September 26, 1961, the day the Board of Trustees held its semi-annual session; both were dedicated on Founders' Day, November 8, 1962, also the day of the Board meeting. Both

buildings harmonize architecturally with the court quadrangle, to which each is linked by a brick arcade, the infirmary being to the west of the dining hall, the dormitory to the east. The cost of the infirmary was \$255,000; that of the dormitory \$498,000. Both are now debt-free.

As was the case with the wooden buildings and the home management apartment, it had been intended that the original location of the infirmary on the fourth floor of Faircloth Hall should be temporary. The freight elevator went only to the third floor, and the narrow, winding staircase which led to the fourth floor was an ascent to be dreaded by a sick girl. Moreover, the space was not large enough for adequate care for the larger student body and lacked much which is now considered essential to a well-equipped infirmary. Delia Dixon Carroll Infirmary has excellent furnishings and equipment, up-to-date in every respect. The air-conditioned building provides beds for thirty-two patients, a physician's consultation room, three treatment rooms, a laboratory, a drug room, and an X-ray room. It has also a small dining room and kitchen as well as living quarters for three nurses.

Poteat Hall provides for 106 girls and two staff members. As in the other living halls, the rooms are in suites for four students with a bath between the two bedrooms; each room has built-in furniture. There are parlors, a large recreation room, kitchenettes, and a laundry room.

No better name could have been chosen for the infirmary than that of Elizabeth Delia Dixon Carroll, college-physician from 1899 till her death in 1934. An account of her work will be found in earlier chapters of this book.⁵

A bronze plaque with the head of Dr. Carroll, designed by Ethel Parrott Hughes ('08) and considered the best likeness of her ever made, is in the infirmary.

Poteat Hall was named for three distinguished members of the same family, each of whom made distinct contributions to the life of the College—Ida Isabella Poteat, William Louis Poteat, and E. McNeill Poteat. The one who meant most to the College, Miss Ida, who was rarely called Miss Poteat, was head of the department of art from its beginning

⁵ See pp. 63-64, 128, 162, 198.

in 1899 till her death in 1940.⁶ Her brother, William Louis Poteat, professor of biology in Wake Forest College and later its president, became a trustee of the Baptist Female University in 1891, the year it received its charter. As a member of the committee on courses of study appointed several years before there was a faculty, he had more part than had any other one person in shaping the curriculum of the school and putting it on a sound basis.

E. McNeill Poteat, nephew of Miss Ida, had a nationwide reputation as theologian, scholar, musician, and poet; but Meredith knew him best and valued him most as wise counselor and friend. Busy as he always was, not only as pastor of Pullen Memorial Church but as a speaker in constant demand elsewhere, he was generous in the time he gave to Meredith. As a chapel speaker he was a favorite with students and faculty and was often on the campus for informal discussions. In 1953 he led the vesper service each evening in the first session of the School of Christian Studies. At the time of his death in 1955, he was a member of the executive committee of the Board of Trustees. That he was a kindred spirit as well as a kinsman by birth of Miss Ida was evident in the discriminating characterization made in an editorial comment in the *News and Observer*, "one who in his goodness and wit, his courage and charm, was as gay a saint as has ever walked our streets."⁷

The next project enhances the beauty of the campus and furnishes a center of activities of various sorts—the lake and Elva Bryan McIver Amphitheater. When the land was bought for relocating Meredith, Miss Ida called attention to the natural slope in the oak grove southeast of the area designated for the College buildings as a place which would be ideal for an amphitheater. Later the discovery of a spring, too small and too choked with roots and tangled weeds to be immediately noticeable, brought the hope that a lake could be made there. However, for Meredith the bare necessities always kept up to the very edge of its income, and it was almost forty years before the lake was more than a hope.

⁶ See pp. 63, 240-241.

⁷ He died on December 17 on his way to church to marry a couple. In his hand was a holly wreath which he had intended to hang on the church door.



Auditorium 1926-1949



Jones Hall 1949—



*Founder's Day—Wreath-laying at
Thomas Meredith's Grave*



Picnic at the Lake

In April, 1963, the landscape architect reported to the trustees that after several consultations an official of the United States Department of Soil Conservation had assured him that "an attractive and self-feeding lake could be developed there at no great cost." The business manager, V. Howard Belcher, encouraged the project; the trustees authorized it; and excavation for the four-acre lake was soon completed. But for eight months the rainfall was discouragingly scanty; and the excavation remained a huge, soggy, red-clay hole in the grove. In October, 1963, an alumna called it "the Big Mud Puddle, which is going to be a lake if our ritual rain dances have any effect." In the late spring of 1964, the mud puddle did become a lake, complete with a large island and a smaller one. Each island is connected by a bridge with the bank of the lake nearest Jones auditorium; the larger island also has a bridge to the bank on the opposite side. Thanks to Miss Grimmer and Miss Warner, a former head of the department of physical education, ten or twelve ducks and ducklings enjoy the lake; and the spectators enjoy the ducks. Miss Warner also started a "Swan Fund," of which Miss Baity, the head librarian, was astonished to find herself custodian. Another gift to the lake was a boat, constructed by its donor, Lacey Coates of Clayton. Mr. Coates was considerate enough to fit its size to the limitations of the lake.

The larger island forms a stage for an amphitheater seating 1,200, overlooking the lake. The amphitheater was used for the first time on Class Day in 1964; the class numerals formed by the daisy chain were quite as effective as they had been on the front steps of Johnson Hall. The setting is ideal for outdoor dramatic performances and for other college programs even though a sudden shower may send audience and performers scurrying to nearby Jones Hall. The graduation ceremonies begun there in 1968 had to be completed indoors.

The lake and the amphitheater were made possible by a bequest from Elva Bryan McIver, of Sanford, a teacher in the public schools of Jonesboro for twenty-five years before she married Dr. Lynn McIver. It is a tribute to the genuineness and breadth of her religion that she, a gradu-

ate of the Woman's College in Greensboro—a Presbyterian who made generous gifts to Presbyterian churches in Sanford and Jonesboro—included in her will a bequest of \$45,000 to Meredith. She showed her interest in education in other ways; for during her lifetime she helped financially many individual students struggling to go to college, and in her will she left \$100,000 to be used for scholarships in the Medical School of the University of North Carolina.

The next addition to the campus provided for horses rather than girls. For four years, 1935-39, horses with the service of a riding master had been available, though the College owned none. The first Meredith horse was brought in 1944 by the father of a homesick freshman. By the end of the year there were five horses; they now number about forty. The first few were kept in a stable originally built for a pair of mules which pulled the campus grass mower. In time, more space was provided and adjacent riding rings were added; but still the facilities were inadequate for Meredith's equitation program, in which for 1965-66 about 200 college students and 120 boys and girls from town took part. In addition, a two-week horsemanship program was begun in the summer of 1965.

In the spring of 1966 a stable-barn complex was built on the northwest edge of the campus. Wade Avenue is between this site and the main campus. An underpass connecting the stables and the main campus is large enough for two-way automobile traffic, pedestrians, and horses. There are in this stable-barn complex more than forty stalls, with a classroom and offices and a lounge for the staff; it has also an interior central riding course, thirty by ninety feet, which can be used for lessons in bad weather. The fifty-six acre lot allows ample space outside for a large student ring, two small training rings, and a hunt course, with pasturage and storage barns.

The cost of the whole, \$50,000, did not come from the regular College funds, but was given by friends interested in the program. In September, 1966, the stables were ready for use in the equitation program; the day following Presi-

dent Heilman's inauguration there was a brief dedicatory service and an open house for visitors.

Virtually all of the horses were given by friends or were born here. Articles in the *Twig* from time to time have given accounts of the horses. Silver Mac, an especial favorite, was retired as a show horse at the age of twenty-four, at which time he was presented with a horseshoe of red carnations. He continues to be used for student riders. Crebilly's Lou, another show horse, was fitted with a contact lens to hide scar tissue due to an accident. Flashing Challenger, also a show horse, was given by a twelve-year-old girl in Columbia, South Carolina. Helen's Firecracker—born on July 4—and Spitfire, a show pony, afford a contrast in names to Ease, a gentle pleasure horse, and Gay Philosopher, a gentle gold chestnut.

In addition to new buildings, the six original ones in the quadrangle received their share of attention. Extensive alterations were made in Johnson Hall, beginning in 1956 with the entrance. The stone steps were beautiful, but they had misled into the library on the second floor many a bewildered seeker for the administrative offices or the parlors which were on the first floor. They were replaced by a terrace bordered with low-growing cedar and a triple-doorway entrance, with the College seal embedded in the center of the floor just inside the middle door. In 1958 further alterations were made so that this entrance led into a spacious lobby, giving a more gracious welcome to visitors than had the doors on either side of the stone steps. The lobby was made by raising the floor and removing the walls from a sunken room in the center of the rotunda and including the corridors which had encircled "the goldfish bowl," as the sunken room was often called. In this new arrangement the post office was moved from the east end of Johnson Hall to an annex added at right angles to the Bee Hive. Thus space was provided for the News Bureau—which had been housed successively in Vann, Brewer, the old auditorium, Jones, Johnson, and again in Jones—and for the office of the director of public relations, which had

also been moved several times. The office of the dean of students was transferred from Vann Hall to the west of the lobby, in space made from the north corridor, the northwest "courting nook," and part of the Rose Parlor, thus bringing into Johnson Hall all the administrative offices.

At intervals between 1955 and 1964 the four original living halls were greatly improved with fresh paint, better lighting, new furniture for the social rooms and bedrooms, and new bathroom fixtures. Also, space was provided for about a hundred additional resident students by converting the attics of Stringfield, Vann, and Faircloth into rooms so attractive that the girls on the other three floors of the buildings almost envied the inhabitants of the "pent-houses." In 1970 the attic of Brewer was likewise converted into living quarters. The dining hall was redecorated and furnished with new tables and chairs; new stoves were installed in the kitchen. A heating plant adequate for existing buildings and for others yet to come replaced the one which had been in use for thirty-nine years.

Welcome as the new buildings were, the quality and morale of the students and faculty had not suffered in less prosperous days, even in the face of the unofficial but persistent questions raised as to the existence of the College. As they worked in what one student called "the disreputable but very dear wooden buildings," they recognized the truth of a sentence which Dr. Garner once posted on her bulletin board, "Excellent teaching in wooden halls is better than wooden teaching in marble halls." With a decreasing enrollment, President Campbell could nevertheless report to the Baptist State Convention in 1939, his first year, that "in spirit and achievement the students and staff are a choice group," and in 1942 that "on the basis of high school records, entrance tests, and reports from the faculty there seems to be a definite improvement in the student body and the quality of intellectual activity going on here."

With the growth of the College, the duties of one important office were divided. Before 1953 there had been a series of field representatives—James M. Hayes, R. H. Holliday, R. H. Satterfield, J. Everette Miller, and Edwin S. Preston, none of whom remained long in the position. They

were responsible for presenting the advantages of Meredith to high school students considering the choice of a college and for presenting the merits and the financial needs of the College to possible donors. Although after 1945 the term director of public relations was used instead of field representative, the duties of the office remained unchanged. After Dr. Preston's resignation in 1951 the position was vacant until 1953. Then the duties of the office were divided, with a director responsible for the financial aspect of public relations and an assistant to work with prospective students.

The search for a director was a long one, and it was not until 1957 that Robert G. Deyton came to Meredith as vice-president in charge of public relations. Mr. Deyton came from Wake Forest College, where he had been for five years vice-president and comptroller; earlier he had been assistant director of the State Budget Bureau. Thus he was well qualified for the position at Meredith. He was giving the Expansion Program capable leadership when because of illness he was granted a leave of absence for 1960-61. Continued illness necessitated his giving up the work at the end of his leave. A year later Sankey Blanton came as director of public relations (a term changed in 1964 to director of development). A native of North Carolina, Dr. Blanton had had experience in the ministry and in educational work both in North Carolina and in New England. For twelve years before coming to Meredith he was president of Crozer Theological Seminary. He made many helpful contacts for the College before he retired in 1966.

Though there was no director in the office until 1957, Mary Bland Josey, '51, came as assistant director in 1953. She had just returned from a year's study with a Rotary International Fellowship in the University of Reading, in England. As assistant director, her work was with prospective students. Her understanding of the purpose and program of the College, together with her friendly approach to high school students made her an excellent representative of Meredith.

As the dormitories had been full since 1946, usually with a waiting list, Miss Josey's responsibility concerning pro-

spective students was somewhat different from that of her predecessors. She had to do more than merely interest students in coming to Meredith; she had to interest the right students. Dr. Campbell set forth in the *Alumnae Magazine* the principles which should guide anyone presenting to high school students the opportunities which the College offers:

We must exercise more care and discrimination in attracting to the institution only those students who give promise of real achievement and leadership. And particularly in these days of confusion and darkness, we must exhibit in its clarifying and curative power the light symbolized in the motto of the College.

The statement met with the emphatic approval of the alumnae, whose contact with high school students has been of inestimable value to Meredith. However much the high school student might wish to come, however enthusiastic her alumnae friends might be about her, in order to enter Meredith the high school graduate must have met definite requirements. After 1931, when the requirement of four units in a foreign language was reduced to two, the distribution of the fifteen units for entrance was until 1943 virtually unchanged — four units in English, one and a half in mathematics, two in a foreign language, and one in history, with five electives, only three of which could be in vocational subjects. In 1943 this distribution was simplified, as the statement in the catalogue shows:

Of the fifteen units presented, four must be in English; eight must be chosen from foreign language, history, social studies, mathematics, and natural science; three additional units are required in these subjects or from electives approved by Meredith College. If a foreign language is offered, at least two units in the language must be presented.

If no foreign language was offered for entrance, eighteen hours had to be taken in college in one language or twelve in each of two. In 1961 sixteen units were required instead of fifteen, including a minimum of two units in one foreign language.

Beginning with 1957, in addition to presenting the necessary units, the applicant was required to take the scholastic

aptitude test of the College Entrance Examination Board; four years later the writing sample given by the Board was added. The student entering in 1965 had to take three achievement tests — one in English (which made the continuation of the writing sample unnecessary), one in a foreign language, and a third in an area of the student's own choice.

The increasingly careful selection of students involved other factors. In 1961 entering students had to be in the upper half of the class graduating from their high school. Most of the successful applicants were already well above that rank; in 1960, the year before the stipulation was made, seventy-five per cent of them were in the upper fourth; in 1965 eighty-nine per cent were in that quartile.

For years a personal interview between an applicant and some representative of the admissions office has been considered desirable; of late years this interview is held in the majority of cases.

In 1961 the catalogue announced the Early Decision Plan, for the unquestionably well qualified student who definitely desires to enter Meredith. . . . On the basis of junior year test scores, the applicant's three-year high school record, together with a notice of courses being pursued in the senior year, and recommendations from school officials, the admissions office will accept the qualified applicant by October 15 of her senior year.

As multiple applications to colleges have become quite customary, involving trouble, expense, and uncertainty on the part of student and colleges, the advantages of the plan are obvious.

Students with advanced standing from other colleges, usually numbering from thirty to fifty, were by 1966 expected to have met the same requirements in units and test scores that the freshmen met. Full credit was given for courses accepted at Meredith if they had been taken in a college belonging to the Southern Association or an association of like rank; credit from other colleges was provisional, to be validated either by an examination or by successful work at Meredith. The completion during her first two semesters of twenty-four hours with an average of C was considered the minimum for such validation.

With more care in selecting students, stricter requirements were introduced concerning the quality of work which the Meredith degree represents. In 1940 for the first time a statement appeared in the catalogue concerning the retention of students.

In general, a student must secure at least six semester hours of credit to return the following year. During the college year a first-year student must secure at least twelve semester hours of credit; a second-year student fifteen hours, a third-year student eighteen hours to be allowed to return the following year.

These requirements, though kept within reasonable limits were gradually raised. A student not meeting them was dropped from the College for one semester; then she could apply for readmission. After 1949 she could be readmitted only if she had completed satisfactorily a semester's work at another approved institution or had in some other way proved to the College authorities that she was qualified for the work at Meredith.

Beginning that same year, in order to receive a degree from Meredith a student must have maintained an average of C in all courses offered for graduation, in all courses completed at Meredith, in all courses completed in the field of concentration and in the major subject, and in all courses completed in the senior year.

Since 1942 a student with written permission from the Dean has been allowed six hours of credit in correspondence courses.

Through the years changes in curriculum as well as in admission took place. In 1940-41, the second year of President Campbell's administration, Dr. W. K. Greene, of Duke University, was called in as a consultant concerning the curriculum. The April, 1941, catalogue shows the changes that resulted from the study made that year.

Of the changes in basic requirements, some were temporary, some of more lasting significance. To the requirement in foreign languages of six or twelve hours—depending on whether the student offered for entrance two or four units—was added the condition that any language which a student began in college in fulfillment of a require-

ment had to be taken for three years. In order that the prescribed number of hours might not be too large, such a student did not have to take the second year of college English. This requirement, with its accompanying exception, was in force only two years, 1941-1943.

History, which in 1940 had been placed in the courses required without option, was in 1941 put with the basic courses in social studies from which two were to be chosen, making a group of four—history, government (now political science), economics, and sociology—to which geography was added the next year. The stipulation was made that unless the student offered two entrance units in history, she must take the six-hour course, *Historical Backgrounds of Modern Civilization*. After 1946 that course was to be taken unless one of the two units was in European or World history. In 1963, history was again required without option.

The requirement without option of three hours in psychology was removed in 1941; and six hours in that subject were added to the group of basic courses in mathematics, biology, chemistry, and physics from which, as before, twelve hours were to be chosen, six of these in a laboratory science. From 1946 to 1961 there was no psychology in the prescribed courses; in 1961 it was added to the group of social sciences.

The requirement of a theoretical course in fine arts was dropped in 1941; two years later a three-hour course in art or music was to be taken; in 1945 the choice was limited to art appreciation, music appreciation, or music theory; in 1946 art history was added to the choice.

Physical education, which had been taken through the junior year without academic credit was in 1941 given two semester hours credit each year and the total number of hours was accordingly raised from 120 to 126. In 1959 the credit was removed, and the total number of hours essential to graduation was again 120. In 1942 an hour of health education each semester of the freshman year was added to the prescribed courses; in 1963 the course was reduced to one hour. An hour of speech was added to the required courses in 1965.

With the changes in prescribed work made in 1941, slight

changes were also made in the general requirements beyond these. In that year the major of twenty-four hours and the minor of eighteen with free electives of twenty-three or seventeen hours (depending on whether the student was to take in college six or twelve hours of foreign language) were changed to a field of concentration with forty-two hours. Of these, eighteen to twenty-four were chosen from one department with twenty-four to eighteen in at least two other departments, with a minimum of six hours from a department. The field of concentration could not include any course open primarily to freshmen. In 1945, the related field was limited to one or two departments; and of the forty-two hours, the minimum for the major was increased to twenty-four, a change which gave the student's work greater unity. Although a Meredith student could continue to meet all the requirements for a certificate on the high school or elementary school level, the major in secondary school education and the major in elementary school education were discontinued in 1953 and 1963.

In 1942 a department of business was added — a new department, for with its majors meeting every entrance and curricular requirement of the College it bore no relation to the one-year business course discontinued in 1909, which had no entrance requirements beyond arithmetic, grammar, spelling, and penmanship. In the new department no course was open to freshmen, and credit in typing and elementary shorthand was restricted for majors in other departments to those who took a related field of eighteen hours in business. In addition to the forty-two hours in the field of concentration, each business major before receiving her degree must have completed at least forty hours of approved, paid work experience.

In 1957 by the merging of the departments of ancient and modern languages, the department of foreign languages was formed. From 1957 till 1963 only enough work in Latin for a related field was offered; in 1963 the major in Latin was restored. Greek has not been offered since 1952, when Dr. Price retired, though it remained hopefully in the catalogue ten more years.

From 1941 till 1969 Meredith offered, in addition to an

A.B. with a major in music, the degree of Bachelor of Music for which the candidate must have already been granted an A.B. or a B.S. An additional year of study confined exclusively to music was usually necessary for a student to obtain this degree. In 1942 the College became a liberal arts member of the National Association of Schools of Music. To the long established majors in applied music and music education was added in 1960 a major in church music.

Graduation with honors—*cum laude*, *magna cum laude*, *summa cum laude*—was restored in 1941. This public recognition of work of high quality had not been given since 1909.

Though the faculty and staff of a college like Meredith must have a loyalty that goes beyond their financial interest, there is evident in President Campbell's reports to the trustees from year to year his steady determination that the College should not take advantage of this loyalty, and that, so far as the budget allowed, the salaries should be adequate. The success of his efforts is evident in the increases in salary made nearly every year.

In the personnel of a college there are always changes due to death, retirement, and resignations. When Mr. Boomhour gave up the deanship in 1941, remaining as professor of physics until 1942, Benson W. Davis, Ph.D., University of North Carolina, came from Stetson University to be dean of Meredith. Upon Dean Davis's resignation because of illness in January, 1945, President Campbell, with the aid of a committee of four from the faculty, took over the duties of the dean, as he did in March, 1946, when Joseph E. Burk, who since September had been acting dean, resigned because of ill health. Dr. Davis returned to Stetson after his recovery; Dr. Burk died in September, 1946.

In each case Dr. Campbell, a master of detail, succeeded well in straightening out the tangles which inevitably occur when the work of a dean is abruptly ended. Hence Charles W. Burts, who came to the position late in the summer of 1946, found a clear desk. As the son of an executive secretary of the South Carolina Baptist State Convention, as associate dean and professor of psychology at Furman, as director for nine years of Camp Ridgecrest for

boys, Dr. Burts was familiar with various aspects of denominational work. He was beginning an efficient administration when, after two years at Meredith, he accepted the presidency of Shorter College, in Rome, Georgia.

Though he had been at a college the very name of which connotes distance—Kalamazoo College—Leishman A. Peacock, the successor to Dr. Burts, was no stranger when he came in 1948. He had grown up in Raleigh and had received from Wake Forest College his A.B. and A.M. before going to Columbia University and then to Pennsylvania State University for his doctorate. His father, J. L. Peacock, for seventeen years president of Shaw University, had been a frequent chapel speaker at Meredith.⁸ With the sound academic ideas and procedures essential to a good dean, Dr. Peacock has a cordial graciousness disarming to irate parents and heart-warming to visitors to the campus. Students and faculty know that this quality goes beyond geniality of manner, that it betokens sincere friendliness and a deep interest in everything which concerns Meredith.

On February 1, 1940, more than a year before any of these changes in administration took place, Meredith lost Miss Ida Poteat, the last member of the 1899-1900 faculty at Meredith. Her position at Meredith was unique. For forty years the College was her home; the folk who worked and lived there were dear to her; and she was most dear to them. Hosts of alumnae whom she had not taught will always remember the happiness of "a cup of tea in Miss Ida's room" in South Cottage or in Vann Hall. At seventy-nine she picnicked in the spring with more enthusiasm, walked in the winter snow with lighter step than many a girl.

By nature and training a creative artist, she devoted herself largely to teaching others to be artists. One of her best students said of her, "She has been my creative urge, teaching me to see, to want to paint, to study wherever I happened to be." To many people who never held an artist's brush she showed the beauty of everyday things—the colors of a sunset, the incredibly soft pinkness of a tiny kitten's

⁸ Dr. Peacock led the first chapel service held on the new campus, reading from I Kings, chapter eight, Solomon's prayer at the dedication of the temple.

ear, the lighted capitol in a heavy mist, the madonna face of a young Negro mother bending over her baby.

At the alumnae meeting in May after Miss Ida's death in February, Katherine Parker Freeman paid her this tribute:

Ida Isabella Poteat, of the classes of 1902 to 1940, a major in the art of living, graduated February 1, 1940, with the highest honors to the campus of the Eternal School, where she fits so naturally that, no doubt, she has achieved advanced standing.

There are reminders of Miss Ida in the daily life of the College. The Meredith seal, adopted in 1909, is her design;⁹ the Meredith plate, designed by Mary Tillery '22 in 1935, bears Miss Ida's signature. A water-color sketch which she made hangs in Mae Grimmer House; her portrait, painted by Miss Tillery is in Poteat Hall.

Mary Tillery, first her student and then her associate in the department of art, was as dear to Miss Ida as any daughter could have been. Though her chief interest was in creative art, she remained at Meredith for a year and a half after Miss Ida's death; then she opened her own studio. She is especially interested and gifted in portraits; four in the College are her work—Mrs. Norwood's, Miss Ida's, Miss Grimmer's, and Miss Mary Lynch Johnson's.¹⁰

Following Miss Tillery at Meredith, Clayton Charles in September, 1941, became head of the department of art, with John Rembert as instructor. The studio was a lively place with these two gifted and enthusiastic young men. It was especially lively on Saturday mornings, when classes were held for Raleigh school children.

Mr. Charles and Mr. Rembert brought to the department added emphasis on commercial art and on recent trends in art. This emphasis was continued with Douglas Reynolds, who was from 1946 to 1957 head of the department. The display boards outside the studio might please or puzzle or outrage the passerby, but they never bored him. With proper lighting one room was made a gallery for the display not only of the work of Meredith students and faculty, but

⁹ She also designed the seal of Wake Forest College.

¹⁰ Miss Ida's portrait is in Poteat Hall; Miss Grimmer's, presented by Miss Tillery to the Alumnae Association, is in Mae Grimmer House; Miss Johnson's, presented to the College by the Colton English Club, is in Joyner Lounge. Mrs. Norwood's was presented to the infirmary by Dr. Lane.

also of other artists. Oriental art was one of Mr. Reynolds's special enthusiasms, and he brought to the gallery excellent exhibits of Chinese and Japanese art.

Working with Mr. Reynolds came a series of instructors and assistant professors, each of whom stayed only a short time. One of these, Marion Davis, introduced a course in ceramics, thus bringing back the use of a kiln, which had not been a part of the studio equipment since 1926, when china painting was last taught.

Ruth Clarke in 1957 succeeded Mr. Reynolds as head of the department; she was followed by Lucy Bane Jeffries, who had come as assistant professor in 1960-61, Mrs. Clarke's last year. Leonard White came as head in 1964. Like his two predecessors, he is chiefly interested in creative art; and like theirs, his pictures have won recognition in various exhibits. Arthur Downs came as second in the department in 1961. He was especially well versed in art history and in 1965 left Meredith to continue that study in England. Dr. Downs was followed by Grove Robinson, who has the work in sculpture and commercial art.

Miss Barber's retirement in 1940 brought to the College as head of the department of biology George A. Christenberry. Though he came with the ink not yet dry on the diploma pronouncing him a Ph.D. of the University of North Carolina, Dr. Christenberry proved to be a capable teacher. He resigned in 1943 to enter the Navy, then went to Furman University. The Christenberrys are happily remembered as the parents of the first faculty baby since Rupert Riley, born in 1923.

Since 1943 Professor or Doctor or Deacon Yarbrough has been an ambiguous title at Meredith; for the present chairman¹¹ of the department of biology is John A. Yarbrough, who came that year from the faculty of Baylor University. Both he and Dr. Mary Yarbrough of the chemistry department are scholars as well as teachers of ability; both have published articles with unpronounceably learned titles. Dr. John was president of the North Carolina Academy of Science in 1958; in 1965 he was given the Distinguished

¹¹ The term *chairman* rather than *head* has been used since 1964.

Service Award of the Academy Conference, a branch of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Of a series of instructors in biology, Helen Parker Kelman was the first since Elizabeth Boomhour to stay more than a year or two. She was at Meredith from 1946 to 1952 and again came as a part-time instructor from 1961 till 1965. James H. Eads, Jr., who came as assistant professor in 1958, fits well in the department; for his field of interest is primarily zoology, whereas Dr. Yarbrough is more concerned with plant life. An Arab-born native of Nazareth speaking seven languages, Georgette J. Campbell was in the department from 1965 to 1967. Her chapel talk on her first acquaintance with the United States will be long remembered for its genuine spirituality, seasoned with lively wit.

Readers of the February 11, 1965, *Twig* were fascinated by an interview with Helen Jo Collins, of the department of chemistry from 1944 till 1969. As a young girl she had experiences unique in Meredith faculty annals. Early in the century her family moved from Denver to Boulder, Colorado, in two covered wagons. Though less than ten years old, she drove one of the wagons most of the six-week journey of two hundred miles. The ranch to which they moved was fifty miles from the nearest railroad station and a hundred miles from the nearest doctor. To the young girl was given the responsibility of breaking in wild horses and training them to be rope horses, used in rounding up cattle for branding. One can imagine the difficulties in education—first as pupil, then as the one teacher of eight grades—in Northwest Colorado, where the winter temperatures ranged from twenty-one degrees above zero to fifty below.

Sallie Melvin Horner, who began her work in chemistry at Meredith, came to that department in 1965. She has given papers at international scientific conventions in Stockholm and Geneva. Her students are often surprised at Dr. Horner's knowledge of literature and her interest in it. It seems natural to them that an English teacher should have a cat named Jeanie Deans or that three kittens were named Gerund, Participle, and Infinitive; but they do not expect a chemist's pedigreed dog to be named Beowulf of Geatland or Heathcliffe.

In 1940 Ellen Black Winston, well known in the state and beyond it, was appointed head of the department of sociology, economics, and geography. She had held different positions with government agencies in Washington; immediately before coming to Meredith she was senior social scientist in the Farm Security Administration. In addition to magazine articles and monographs, Dr. Winston is the co-author of several books, among them *Seven Lean Years* and *The Plantation South* and *Foundations of American Population Policy*.

Dr. Winston was in 1944 appointed Commissioner of Public Welfare in North Carolina. Her successor at Meredith for three years, Clarence H. Patrick, was followed in 1947 by Clyde N. Parker, who had been a pastor in Petersburg, Virginia.

When the next head of the department, Elizabeth H. Vaughan, accepted the position in 1950, she gave up a Fulbright fellowship which had been awarded to her for a year's study in India. Her doctoral dissertation, written at the University of North Carolina, *Community under Stress*, was published by the Princeton Press in 1949. It is a study of the concentration camp in the Philippines where she and her two children had been imprisoned for two years. Written with the objectivity of a scholarly sociologist, it is none the less a moving book.

The year 1953-54 Dr. Vaughan spent with her children in Switzerland with a grant from the Ford Foundation. While she was there, physicians found a malignancy far advanced. Her leave of absence was extended a year; then she resumed her work at Meredith for two years. During that time the shadow of the sword of Damocles was never allowed to darken the lives of her students or of her other friends. A student wrote of Dr. Vaughan's "cheerfulness, her benevolence, and the indomitable courage with which she faced the world."

After Dr. Vaughan's death in September, 1957, Leslie W. Syron, who had been in the department since 1945 and had been acting head from 1953 to 1955, was elected head. Dr. Syron takes an active part in the American Associa-

tion of University Women; she has been president of the North Carolina branch of that organization and has served on two committees of the National Association. In 1968, with Dean Peacock, Dr. John Yarbrough, and Dr. Crook, she took part in the Danforth Workshop on liberal arts education at Colorado College.

After having a number of teachers who stayed only a year or two, this department was fortunate in three who brought to Meredith valuable experience in other institutions from which they had retired. P. Floyd Brookens, who in 1956 came to Meredith from North Carolina State University, taught in all three divisions of the department of sociology, economics, and geography, the last teacher to do so; for in 1961 economics with business formed the department of business and economics. Still vigorous, Dr. Brookens went in 1961 to teach at Campbell College.

With a quite different background Ira O. Jones was at Meredith from 1957 till 1962. Before coming to Meredith he had retired from administrative work in public schools to a teaching position in adult education at the University of Omaha. The faculty choice of Dr. Jones as a member of the student government committee and the student choice of him as Duke on Play Day gave evidence of the regard in which he was held on the campus. His retirement from St. Mary's, to which he went from Meredith, was his fourth retirement.

In 1960 Anna B. Peck, who had retired from the history department of the University of Kentucky, came to Meredith as a part-time teacher of geography. While on the University faculty she was given a year's leave of absence at the request of the United States War Department to serve as one of a group of visiting experts to encourage the German teachers to work for some democracy in their school programs. It was a tribute to the remarkable ease with which she fitted into a small denominational college after thirty-five years in a large state university that the alumnae on her retirement in 1963 made her an honorary member of the Alumnae Association. A part-time teacher for three years, she is one of three faculty members to

have received that honor; Dr. Price for twenty-five years a member of the faculty and Dr. Harris for thirty were the other two.

Two younger members came in two successive years, Vergean Birkin in 1963 and Daniel B. McGee in 1964; the latter stayed only two years. Mr. Birkin is the first teacher to give his full time to geography, and instead of two courses in that subject there are four.

After the long tenure of Catherine Allen ended with her retirement in 1940, the department of modern languages was for several years unsettled. S. Elizabeth Clarke, acting head for one year, was followed by Elliott Healey, who for half of his three years on the faculty had leave of absence for service in the United States Navy. During that time, from January, 1943, till June, 1944, Elizabeth Lowndes Moore was acting head.

Quentin Oliver McAllister, who was head from 1944 till his sudden death in January, 1968, brought distinction to the College with his study of the relationship between business and the liberal arts. He directed panel discussions in regional and national conferences centered on this relationship. In addition to several articles, a book, *Business Executives and the Humanities*, published in 1951, resulted from his research. He was for nine years executive secretary and afterwards president of the South Atlantic Modern Language Association. In meetings of the curriculum committee and of the academic council his uncompromising support of high standards showed his concern for the whole College as well as for his own department. Of his deep interest in his associates in the department Lucy Ann Neblett wrote:

Whenever we took to him the problems and difficulties which arose in our classes, he patiently listened and somehow was able to give us encouragement where we had found only frustration.

Dr. Neblett taught Spanish and French from 1947 to 1963, when she went to Wesleyan College in Macon, Georgia. The daughter of missionaries to Cuba, she did effective work among Spanish-speaking newcomers to Raleigh, helping them in the adjustment to life in the United States. She

was a Fulbright exchange teacher in Trieste, Italy, the first such teacher in that city. On her last day at their school, the students presented her with a gold medallion commemorative of the city. Another teacher came to the department in 1947 also, Susanne Freund, who left her native country, Germany, in the ominous year of 1939. Since her retirement in 1965 she has kept her home in Raleigh, making frequent trips to the ends of the earth. It was fortunate for Meredith that when Dr. McAllister died, Dr. Freund was at home and consented to teach two of his classes the second semester of 1967-68. Before and since her retirement she has been active in the efforts made in Raleigh to bring about right interracial relationships.

William R. Ledford, whose work is primarily in Spanish, came to the department in 1957. The following summer he received a Fulbright grant for study in Colombia, South America. As acting chairman of the department after Dr. McAllister's death, Dr. Ledford met capably the difficulties created by that emergency. Ann Eliza Brewer, '22, President Brewer's daughter, came from Brenau College in 1961. She had been at Brenau College for thirty years; while there she received the Sullivan award, given each year to one outstanding member of the college community. Her mother's ill health brought her home; and as the mother's need for her grew greater, Miss Brewer gave up even the part-time work. It was the second time that she had taught French at Meredith, for in 1925 at the last minute she delayed graduate work a year to fill the place of a teacher who resigned her position two days after the College opened. Jacqueline Beza has been in the department since 1964.

Harold G. McCurdy, successor to Edgar H. Henderson as head of the department of psychology and philosophy, was at Meredith from 1941 to 1948. His ability outside his own field was recognized by the College in the publication of a volume of his verse, *A Straw Flute*. He wrote for Kappa Nu Sigma a one-act verse play, *This Is the Glory*, which that organization has produced several times. Dorothy Park, who followed him as head of the department, was interested in music; she was a member of the College orchestra and of the Raleigh Oratorio Society. She went in 1951 to be a

clinical psychologist in the State Department of Public Welfare.

Ethel Tilley, who succeeded Dr. Park, is a person of many and varied interests; chief among them is writing. She has written for various periodicals verse ranging from delightful nonsense jingles to devotional poems. Methodist, Presbyterian, and Congregational presses have published her books written for use in study courses and in Vacation Bible Schools. Losing none of her vitality or her keen zest for living, Dr. Tilley stays busy since her retirement in 1967, continuing to write, to travel, and to take part in the productions of the Raleigh Little Theater. For three months in the fall of 1969 she was a consultant in the State Juvenile Evaluation Center on the Warren Wilson College campus.

Since Dr. Cooper's retirement in 1970 Stuart Pratt and Beatrice Donley have shared seniority in the department of music, both of them having come in 1942. Like others in the department, they enrich the musical life of Raleigh as well as of Meredith. Mr. Pratt for a number of years directed the production of Handel's *Messiah*—the presentation of which by the Raleigh Music Club was an annual tradition. Among his other activities he has for more than fifteen years served as judge in the contests held all over the country by the National Guild of Piano Teachers. He is also involved with certification of piano teachers on the national level through the Music Teachers' National Association. Miss Donley was for years the contralto soloist in the *Messiah*. Until 1966 she directed the Meredith Chorus, which was formed in 1950 to replace the College choir and the glee club. She initiated and continues to direct the Vocal Ensemble, whose programs are popular on and off campus. In 1962 their program of Christmas music won the Lions' Club award for the best program of the year.

In 1945 Rachel Rosenberger, then teacher of violin, organized a College orchestra. It was continued by Phyllis Weyer, now Mrs. Phillip Garriss, who succeeded Miss Rosenberger in 1951. She is the daughter of a long-time dean of Hastings College, a small undergraduate college fostered by the Presbyterians of Nebraska. To this background is

partly due her intelligent interest in the College as a whole. Like the Aldens, the Garrisses have a daughter named Meredith.

Edwin Blanchard was an additional teacher of voice from 1952 to 1966. Jean Swanson, at Meredith from 1954 to 1963, and Isabelle Haeseler, who has been in the department since 1956, are both Fellows in the American Guild of Organists. James L. Clyburn, who came in 1958, is active in the organization and administration of state and district piano contests of the North Carolina Music Teachers' Association and of the National Federated Music Clubs.

The musicians of the faculty are in wide demand in Raleigh and elsewhere as recitalists and as directors of music in churches.

For the last four years that Mrs. Sorrell was at Meredith, she gave up the active direction of the department of physical education to Betty Barnard Adkerson. Christine White, elected as head in 1942, was followed the next year by Doris Peterson. Miss Peterson accepted the position because she liked to work in a small liberal arts college; thus she came with an appreciation of Meredith's ideals and customs which was reflected in the work of the department. An authority in the field of folk dances, she has a collection of more than a thousand dances, many of which she gathered herself, recording the words and music.

When Miss Peterson returned to her native state of Kansas in 1954, Claire Weigt was her successor. After three years she was followed as chairman of the department by Jay D. Massey. Mrs. Massey is an excellent organizer and with tact and firmness has coped well with the difficulties inevitable in a department with courses which were required but which received no academic credit. The student-faculty relationship in the department is unusually good.

Phyllis Cunningham in this department from 1945 to 1955 was rivaled in unbounded energy and enthusiasm only by Helena Williams, now Mrs. W. R. Allen, who came in 1952. In addition to her sponsorship of the Meredith Recreation Association, Mrs. Allen is an especially popular society and class sponsor. The *Twig* of November 8, 1962, noted that she also has "the unofficial job of helping the

sophomores with their daisy chain." Though all the staff cooperate in the production of May Day, training the dancers has been since 1961 the responsibility of Frances W. Stevens, as is the spring dance concert.

Equitation was first offered in 1945 and quickly grew in popularity. In addition to the Meredith students, children and adults from the city take advantage of this program. Diminutive Mary Mackay, who looked as if managing a Shetland pony would be too much for her but who had managed thoroughbreds since she was seven, took excellent care of the horses and riders, who have won blue ribbons at horse shows all over the State. She was at Meredith from 1952 till 1968.

Clyde Humphrey, the first head of the newly organized department of business, remained only one year, 1942-43. He was succeeded by Estelle Popham, who in 1949 went to Hunter College in New York. Martha Hill, who held the position from 1949 to 1954, resigned to complete her doctoral work. Her successor, Lois Frazier, the present chairman, has given the department greater stability. Dr. Frazier is active in business organizations, having been president of the North Carolina Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, treasurer of the National Federation of Business and Professional Women, and more recently vice-president of the Southern Business Education Association. Ruth Robinson was in the department from 1953 to 1965, when Annie Sue Parnell came. The first year that economics was separated from sociology and placed in the department of business, Dr. Brookens continued teaching economics, as he had in the other department. Then Jack W. Hickman, retired from the United States Army, took his place; but one year was enough to convince Colonel Hickman and the College that military tactics and Meredith were not meant for each other. In 1962 Evelyn Simmons was elected to the position, which she still holds.

When in 1945, four years before his retirement, Dr. Freeman gave up his responsibility as head of the department of religion, Ralph McLain came from the faculty of Shorter College to fill that position. The cordial relationship between the two is evident in the name of the Freeman Re-

ligion Club. The McLains' house on the edge of the campus facing Faircloth Street had a well-worn path to its door. Though they are farther away from the campus now, their doors are still open to students; for the McLains are among the especially hospitable faculty families.

Upon Dr. Freeman's retirement in 1949, Roger H. Crook was elected to fill the vacancy. Dr. Freeman, Dr. McLain, and Dr. Crook all conducted classes in the annual Institute of Religion sponsored by the United Church as did Dr. Tilley. In addition to preparing Sunday school lesson helps for the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, Dr. Crook has written six books, one, *No North or South*, dealing with race relations; the others with marriage and family life. The latest of these, *Christian Families in Conflict*, appeared in 1970.

The earlier directors of religious activities at Meredith—Madeline Elliott, '28, Lucile Knight, and Mildred Kichline, '30—had the title of religious secretary and did no teaching. Cleo Mitchell in 1943-44, and Billie Ruth Currin, later Mrs. H. A. Pruyn, from 1944 to 1952 were given the less vague title of director of religious activities and taught in the department of religion. Maxine Garner, who took Mrs. Pruyn's place in 1952, had just finished two years' study in the University of Aberdeen, Scotland. Her doctor's gown of red flannel instead of black silk, with a John Knox hat instead of the conventional mortar board, added zest to the academic procession. Having once been the associate editor of the *Biblical Recorder*, she was immediately at home in Raleigh.

When Dr. Garner went to Sweet Briar in 1958, John M. Lewis, formerly a member of the faculty of the Southern Seminary in Louisville, succeeded her. His tie with Meredith was not broken when two years later he accepted a call to the First Baptist Church in Raleigh, for in 1963 he was elected a trustee of the College.

For one year Bernard H. Cochran also filled the dual role of teacher and director of religious activities; beginning with 1961 he has given his full time to teaching. In 1962 J. Henry Coffey was added to the department of religion; in 1967-68, his last year at Meredith, he was also dean of

the chapel. Miriam Hollis Prichard, the first full-time director of religious activities since Miss Kichline, served for two years; then in 1963 R.E.L. Walker (Bud Walker to all the students) filled the place.

On Mr. Riley's retirement in 1947 he was succeeded as head of the history department by Lillian Parker Wallace, whose full time after 1944 was given to history rather than being divided between history and education. Dr. Wallace was one of the most versatile members of the faculty. She has been choir director in Hillyer Memorial and in Pullen Memorial Church and vice-president of the Civic Music Association. Her watercolors and pencil sketches have been exhibited in the Meredith art gallery. The establishing of the Wake County Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa was largely due to her, and she was for twenty years its secretary. The University of North Carolina in 1948 published *The Papacy and European Diplomacy*, a copy of which is in the Vatican Library. With all her varied activities Dr. Wallace, the *Twig* reported, "is well known and much admired for her splendid work on the Meredith campus as teacher, counselor, and friend to the students." After forty-one years of teaching, she retired in 1962. Since then she has published *Leo XII and the Rise of Socialism* and has another book ready for publication.¹²

The same year Dr. Keith retired at the end of her thirty-fourth year at Meredith. Her quiet, forceful personality and her careful scholarship made a deep impression on her students; one of them who has both written and edited publications in the field of history said of her:

Dr. Keith always made it clear that we were expected to do our part, but she was more than willing to lead us on for the next step—a step made more interesting and challenging by her guidance.

Dr. Keith's chief work in research was the editing of the John Gray Blount papers. She finished two of the three volumes, one appearing 1953, the second in 1960.¹³

Sarah McCulloh Lemmon, at Meredith since 1947, suc-

¹² Dr. Wallace died on May 30, 1971.

¹³ Dr. Keith died in April, 1971.

ceeded Dr. Wallace as chairman of the department of history and political science in 1962. Under her guidance the department has continued its tradition of scholarly publications. Several articles have grown out of Dr. Lemmon's doctoral dissertation on the public career of Eugene Talmadge, a work which she is now developing into a complete biography. Another book, *Parson Pettigrew of the Old Church* appeared in 1970. She has written articles and monographs dealing with North Carolina history, as have Thomas C. Parramore and Frank L. Grubbs,¹⁴ one of whom came in 1962, the other in 1963. A book by Dr. Grubbs, *The Struggle for Labor Loyalty*, was published in 1968. Dr. Lemmon and Dr. Grubbs have given lectures for the University of North Carolina television series of programs on American history, as has Rosalie P. Gates, who joined the staff in 1965.

After her retirement from the department of English in 1952, Dr. Harris lived in Chapel Hill till her death in 1965. Hers was an active retirement, for she taught the University correspondence course in Shakespeare, as well as one in creative writing. After several years she made a revision of the course in Shakespeare which the University adopted. When she was eighty she took a course in art history at the University.

With the exception of a few personal bequests and \$1,000 to the Shakespeare collection of the library of the University at Chapel Hill, her entire estate of approximately \$135,000 was left to Meredith. According to her wishes the money will be used for scholarships for promising and deserving students. Of the bequest her student, coworker, and friend, Norma Rose, wrote:

This bequest is but additional evidence of the kind of faith and abiding love for Meredith to which Dr. Harris attested in a long career of successful teaching here. To those who knew and loved her, it appears but as an extension of her generous and gracious giving of herself through a long and dedicated life as a scholar, teacher, and friend.

¹⁴ Dr. Grubbs's marriage in 1965 to Carolyn Barrington, also of the department of history, was the first marriage between faculty members to take place since that of Dr. Freeman to Katherine Parker, head of the department of home economics, in 1916.

Dr. Harris was succeeded by Mary Lynch Johnson, who had been in the department since 1918. Dr. Lanham and Dr. Rose continued as her colleagues. Mamie Hafner, who joined the staff in 1952, resigned after two years to complete the work for a doctorate at the University of Wisconsin. In 1962 she returned for four years, then went to East Texas State University.

Sallie Wills Holland was in the department from 1954 till her death in 1959. Her coming to Meredith was for her and Dr. Campbell the renewal of an old association, a pleasant one, because she taught at Coker College when Dr. Campbell was president there. Her bequest of \$1,000, increased by gifts which others made in her memory, makes possible the acquisition each year of a goodly number of records—classical and modern dramas and poems. It is due to Dr. Rose's generosity that the library has a complete set of Shakespeare's plays produced by the Shakespeare Recording Society.

Ione Kemp Knight, '43, who had been for three years head of the department of English in Shorter College in Rome, Georgia, came to Meredith in 1956. On three of her ten trips to England she investigated twelve of the fourteen manuscripts (two in Latin and twelve in Middle English) of a fourteenth century sermon, Thomas Wimbeldon's *Redde Rationem Villicationis Tue*. The Duquesne University Press published the book in its Philological Series; the librarian of St. Paul's Cathedral in London requested a copy for the Cathedral Library.

Dorothy Greenwood succeeded Miss Holland in 1959, remaining till her retirement in 1967. Like Miss Holland, Mrs. Greenwood is remembered by her students with especial pleasure for her courses in contemporary literature and creative writing. Carolyn Peacock Poole, '27, was immediately at home in the department when she came in 1965, because she had taught in it for six years before her marriage in 1935. Though she was ill in the summer of 1967, it was hoped that she could take up her work in the fall. When she could not do so, Betty Simmons Chamberlain, who had resigned in the spring after six years to work toward her doctorate in English, and Nancy Hill Snow,

who had been in the department several years before, were good enough to return in the emergency. A scholarship in memory of Mrs. Poole has been established by her family and friends.

In 1946 speech, which had not been offered for three years, was reinstated not as a separate department, but as part of English. Catherine Hilderman was instructor in English and speech as well as director of dramatics. The combination made the position a difficult one; but after a succession of four instructors in six years, Evelyn da Parma filled it successfully for four years, from 1952 till 1956. Her work in speech with all the freshmen, though limited by the time she could give to it, filled a need long felt in the College. The tape recording which she made of each freshman's voice furnished the basis for constructive criticism for the small groups of ten or twelve into which she divided the freshmen for two weeks. Any special defects which the recordings revealed were dealt with individually. The choice of plays and the quality of their production by the Meredith Playhouse under her direction brought credit to the department. Velma Mae Gorsage and Nancy Hill Snow continued with the combination; Ruth Ann Baker Phillips, who came in 1965, was the first since 1943 to give her full time to speech and drama. Mrs. Phillips acted for several summers in *Horn in the West*.

With Dr. Price's retirement in 1952, David Tatem, who had taught Latin at the Citadel in Charleston, was for one year acting head of the department of ancient languages. This half-time instructor could give professional advice to amateur gardeners, because the other half of his time was spent as a graduate student in horticulture at State College. When in 1953 that versatile young man went to Flora Macdonald College to teach English, Margaret Craig Martin, '30, succeeded him at Meredith. With one year's absence she continued in the position until 1962, when P. A. Cline, formerly a missionary in Taiwan, came in her place, remaining until 1966.

After Mr. Tyner's retirement in 1954, William V. Badger was head of the department of education for one year; then he was succeeded by David R. Reveley. Dr. Reveley's un-

dergraduate major in Greek has enriched his background in teaching the history and the philosophy of education as well as making him a staunch supporter of the classics and of modern languages. Two others, Lila Bell and Harry K. Dorsett, had been in the department since 1941. Miss Bell who retired in 1970, worked with students planning to teach in the elementary grades. She held office in various educational organizations, among them the presidency of the Raleigh Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma, and served as a committee member in the State Department of Public Instruction. Her wood carving, one of her many avocations, fascinates her friends, both grownups and children. Mr. Dorsett must practice his theory that five hours' sleep is enough for anyone, for in addition to his teaching he has been a clinical psychologist first with the State Department of Public Welfare, then with the Wake County Health Center. His versatility is evident in his activity in the Raleigh Little Theater and in his volume of short stories, *A Variety of Edens*. Robert Fracker was added to the staff in 1962.

It is not easy to replace one who has been a valued member of the faculty for forty-five years; it was particularly difficult to find a successor for Dr. Canaday when he retired in 1965. The salaries which experts in mathematics can command outside the teaching profession were astronomical compared to Meredith's salary scale. More than once one of Dr. Canaday's students her first year out of college received a salary larger than his. The year after his retirement the department was in a peculiar situation—with five instructors and with no one above that rank. Three were full-time teachers; of the two who were part-time, one taught the first semester, the other the second. Dorothy Knott Preston, '54, who had come in 1961, was for two years, 1965-1967, acting head, the second year with the rank of assistant professor.

In two years the department of home economics had a double loss. Miss Hanyen after thirty-four years of valuable service, retired in 1965; Miss Brewer who came to the faculty in 1919, retired the same year; but when it seemed impossible to find a capable successor, at the insistence of

the administration she consented to stay another year. Only her deep, self-sacrificing love for Meredith made her willing, and only heroic will power made her able to continue her work in spite of arthritis which made every movement difficult and painful. In 1969 the North Carolina Home Economics Association named its scholarship fund the Ellen D. Brewer Scholarship Fund in recognition of her "distinguished leadership of the Home Economics profession."

The library is essential to every Meredith student and teacher. The freshmen are introduced to it before they meet a single class, because as part of the orientation program Hazel Baity, '26, who succeeded Miss Forgeus as head librarian in 1941, arranges personally conducted tours for the freshmen in groups of twenty or fewer, explaining the plan and workings of the library. Miss Forgeus once said that if she could have picked her successor, Hazel Baity would have been her choice. Miss Baity has the same efficiency, the same devotion to her work that her predecessor had. She understands well the point of view of the faculty, for before coming to the Meredith library she taught English and mathematics in high school and for several summers was a visiting instructor in the School of Library Science in the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Jane Greene, '29, who was head of the acquisitions department in the Duke University library before coming to Meredith in 1945, is in charge of technical processing of books here. She has charge of visual aids and the College archives. Dorothy McCombs, '62, the third trained librarian, has as her particular province readers' service, which includes reference work, the supervision of the circulation of books, the keeping of the vertical files, and the arrangement of special displays.

The staff grew from two librarians with ten student workers in 1938-39 to five librarians with thirty student workers, with work hours totaling 5,397 in 1965-66. The larger staff was necessary with the larger student body, more courses, and more books and periodicals. In June, 1939, according to Miss Baity's reports, the library had 22,313 volumes; by June, 1966, the number had increased

to 49,521. In 1939 the budget allowed \$1,673 for books and \$461 for periodicals, an appropriation increased by 1966 to \$9,688 for books and \$2,066 for periodicals. The library began acquiring microfilms in 1964; in 1966 it had in its appropriation \$2,336 for microfilms.

Meredith girls are not always in the classroom, laboratory, studio, or library; and people other than their teachers are concerned with them. It is the dean of students (a title which in 1949 replaced the term *dean of women*) and her staff who give the new student her first contact with Meredith officials. Lillian Grant, who had been for a year assistant dean of women, succeeded Miss Baker in 1948. Miss Grant had been senior class adviser in several high schools and had served with the Sunday School Board as a worker with intermediates. Hence she understood especially well the background of the entering students. The smile which the *Twig* described as "a smile as welcome as the warm spring sunshine" made them feel immediately at home. In 1950 Miss Grant accepted the position of counselor to girls in the Spartanburg High School. Succeeding her, Louise Fleming, '21, came to Meredith from the National Board of the Y.W.C.A. With an A.M. in history before she began work toward a doctorate in personnel guidance, Miss Fleming kept the academic point of view. In spite of the endless details inevitable in an office which is a clearinghouse for college activities, she never lost sight of the real function of her office, which she defined as "the providing of settings which will help the students to practice democratic living and to learn how to make decisions and accept the responsibility for their consequences." The *Twig* editor commented on "her charm and her delightfully informal manner."

Coming in 1950 as did Miss Fleming, Margaret Schwarz was for three years assistant dean of students. For several years after she left, Miss Schwarz gave an award of a hundred dollars to the freshman who best exemplified the qualities of good citizenship. From 1953 to 1959 Edith Zinn, Madge Aycock, and Anne Maring filled the assistant's place successively. The next two, Lu Leake from 1959 to 1964 and Lucille Peak from 1964 to 1969, were alike in more ways than the euphony of their names. Each had an

M.R.E. from the Carver School of Missions and Social Work; each had been a director of religious activities on a college campus before coming to Meredith; each after five years went to another Baptist campus as dean of women—Miss Leake to Wake Forest University, Miss Peak to Belmont College in Nashville, Tennessee. Each won the confidence and love of the freshmen, the counseling of whom was the special province of each.

Five years before Miss Leake came, a third member was added to the staff, MaBelle Smith. Though she was not professionally trained, Mrs. Smith's sympathetic nature and sound common sense made her a valued staff member until her retirement in 1965. Elizabeth Jones, who succeeded her, was especially valuable in vocational counseling, because she had had much experience in administering significant tests and evaluating their results. Mrs. Jones and the director of religious activities worked together in the guidance of students seeking summer employment.

Succeeding Dr. Lane, William J. Senter became the college physician in 1950. Since 1937 two graduate nurses have been associated with the college physician in the direction of the infirmary and the general care of the health of the students. After Miss Barnette left in 1950, a number of nurses were in the infirmary, none of them staying more than two years, most of them only one. In 1958 the College was fortunate enough to find Edna Hurst and Lucy H. Saunders. The two had been classmates when in training at the Roanoke Rapids Hospital. Mrs. Hurst stayed ten years; then Pauline Bone came as Mrs. Saunders' associate.

Agnes Cooper, wife of Dr. Cooper of the music department, succeeded Lois Byrd in 1941 as director of the News Bureau, keeping this position till 1947 and resuming it in 1957, after a succession of six directors in ten years. Mrs. Cooper was, like her husband, an excellent photographer and was of great aid to him in his photography. She shared his interest in music also, and for years she had a column in the *News and Observer*, “Notes and Half Notes.” She gave up her work at Meredith in 1964 because of the illness from which she did not recover. Mrs. Cooper's never-failing cheerfulness and her contagious friendliness will be long

remembered on the campus. Faye B. Humphries with ten years' experience on the staff of the *News and Observer* and the *Raleigh Times* succeeded Mrs. Cooper, remaining till 1968; she is now with the North Carolina State Commission for the Blind.

There was an especial warmth and tenderness in the welcome given to Margaret Craig Martin as a member of the faculty in 1953, because the College was saddened by the sudden death of her husband, Zeno Martin, on September 1, just ten days before the opening of the session. A graduate of Wake Forest with experience in education and in business, he succeeded Mr. Hamrick as business manager and treasurer in 1943 and in the ten years of his stay came to be regarded as one of Meredith's indispensables. In spite of a severe heart attack several years earlier, he had given up none of the heavy responsibilities or the wide range of activities which were his. The heartiness of his greeting, the vigor of his personality, even his substantial frame made those about him feel that all's right with the world, and that Meredith is an especially favored spot in the good world. Dr. Campbell paid him high tribute in resolutions drawn up at the request of the trustees:

His unfailing kindness and geniality endeared him to a host of friends and entered significantly into the prevailing spirit in which he devotedly served. The financial records and the physical plant bear eloquent testimony to his faithfulness and managerial discretion.

The next business manager and treasurer, V. Howard Belcher, came to Meredith in January, 1954, from a similar position in Lynchburg College. He took up the many complex duties of his office so quickly and adapted himself to Meredith ways with such ease that by commencement he had ceased to be a newcomer. Mr. Belcher went to Randolph-Macon Woman's College in 1963. His successor, David Olmsted, was followed after one year by George Silver, who in 1966 was made president of Chesapeake College, in Eastern Maryland, an institution which at that time was still on paper. Margaret Johnson, cashier-secretary, was in the business office from 1958 till 1970; Virginia Scarboro,

secretary to the business manager, is now in her tenth year; Faye F. Orders came in 1954 and remained for ten years. Two pretty scarlet maples of her planting are flourishing on the campus.

As superintendent of buildings and grounds since 1949 Harry Simmons has worked with five business managers. He carries out his manifold responsibilities with quiet, steady efficiency. In addition to his principal work, Mr. Simmons contributes to the comfort and happiness of residents in the dormitories by his unruffled cheerfulness in meeting promptly their many extra requests for help, extracting a broken key from a lock or rescuing a car from the ditch, producing anything needed from a curtain rod to a moving van. Clock hours mean nothing to Mr. Simmons; seven days a week, any time in the twenty-four hours he is to be found on the campus when needed. It is because of his devotion to his work and to Meredith that Mr. Simmons can say truthfully, “I enjoy every minute of my work.”

It is said that an army travels on its stomach; undoubtedly a college does. Miss Welch, the first trained dietitian at Meredith, retired in 1938 after twenty years of capable and devoted service. Then there came a succession of dietitians and stewards — the less feminine appellation being given to the men — all of whom, men and women, remained for short terms. The first steward, Cleveland Webber, came in 1940. Cafeteria service for breakfast and lunch was begun in January, 1945, when J. A. Cohoon was steward. The opportunity for choice in fruits, cereals, salads, desserts, and drinks added a pleasing variety and the greater elasticity of schedule was welcomed. The family-style dinner in the evening continued, making possible certain amenities of service which kept the table manners of the residents from becoming too carelessly informal.

Complaints about food in college dining rooms are as proverbial as mother-in-law jokes; and through the years at Meredith, some were justified, more were not. They ceased with the coming of Bobbye Hunter in 1957. “From Gripes to Grins” was the title of a *Twig* editorial in appreciation of Mrs. Hunter. The quality and variety of foods and the attractiveness of the service added zest to the daily

meals. The buffet which she introduced for the Christmas dinner and for other gala occasions was a joy to the eye and the palate. The use of two short cafeteria lines instead of one long one for breakfast and lunch facilitated the serving of those meals.

Much as the College regretted Mrs. Hunter's going to Randolph-Macon in 1964, the dining hall and kitchen with Harriet Holler in every way kept up to the high standards her predecessor had set. Mrs. Holler came as assistant dietitian in February after Mrs. Hunter came in September; hence she was thoroughly familiar with the responsibilities of the position. The buffets were just as beautiful and appetizing as before; the everyday meals just as bountiful and tasty. Especially popular were the make-your-own-sandwich meals and Saturday night suppers with the choice of every possible spread for the pancakes. During examination week for several years each girl after lunch was given a little bag of goodies which the *Twig* called "survival kits, ration bags, morale savers." In spite of the extra work and long hours involved, Mrs. Holler always cheerfully went beyond the second mile in arranging for teas, picnic suppers, and lunches or dinners for student organizations and for the administration. When she retired in 1969, the students presented her with a silver chafing dish.

As was the case with the dietitians, there have been since 1938 several dining-room hostesses and assistant dietitians; sometimes the positions were separate, sometimes combined. Lulu Watts, dining-room hostess from 1945 till 1953, developed a remarkable *esprit de corps* among her student helpers. From the first she was Aunt Lu to them; she loved them and they returned her affection in full measure. Because of the illness which proved fatal, she resigned in January, 1953.

After Miss Watts the next hostess who stayed long enough to become a part of the College was Ellen D. Mimms, who gave up a well earned retirement to spend four years as hostess in the Meredith dining hall. She was succeeded by Frances E. Thorne in 1961. Elizabeth Rice was assistant dietitian from 1964 till 1969. She came to Meredith after a

two-year stay in Lima, Peru, where her husband, Dr. John C. Rice, was head of the agricultural mission sponsored by North Carolina State University.

Miss White after twenty-one years as house director at Meredith went in 1942 to Brenau College, where she remained till shortly before her death in 1967. Mary McCoy Egerton took her place at Meredith. Mrs. Egerton's friendliness and eager enthusiasm endeared her to the College community. After ten years she left to take charge of a residence hall in Alabama State College. Agnes Mayes came to the position next, remaining until her retirement in 1956. Influenced perhaps by her three-year residence in France as a student,¹⁵ Mrs. Mayes established the happy custom of afternoon tea in her living room in Faircloth Hall, where one could drop in with complete informality.

Martha J. Whilden, who since 1951 had been assistant to four house directors, was made house director in 1959, keeping the position till her retirement five years later. Mrs. Whilden and her assistant, Lucile Dandridge, who came in 1961, like most of their predecessors, showed genuine artistry in flower arrangements — a gift as distinctive as Miss Welch's and Miss Rhodes's green thumbs. Mrs. Whilden once said, "I can make flowers from weeds if I have to," and she did. Since 1960 Mrs. Whilden's daughter, Mary Whilden Liles, has been laundry supervisor. In 1964, Frances Thorne, leaving her position as dining-hall hostess to Josephine Booth, became house director. In a position which becomes more difficult as residence halls and students multiply and as students have more freedom, she has shown her competence in coping with changing conditions with poise and cheerfulness. Often the maids have spoken appreciatively of the house directors' sympathetic interest in them as individuals, not merely as workers.

Night watchmen come and go, leaving very different impressions on the campus. The older faculty remember Homer Grogan as the son of Roy Grogan, the fireman on the old campus. The younger Mr. Grogan was a staunch

¹⁵ Mrs. Mayes spent the first year of her retirement in Paris in the home of the family with whom she had fifty years earlier lived as a student, having her same place at the table. She now lives with her daughter in Charlotte.

ally to Miss Baker, who sometimes referred to him as her assistant dean of women. Once he reported that a room in Vann Hall would sometimes be lighted until two o'clock in the morning; the culprit proved to be an English teacher, toiling over freshman themes. Another watchman, whose name is best forgotten, was nicknamed Grendel.

Raymond L. Herndon's position on the Meredith Campus was unique. For nine years, beginning in 1959, he was officially the night watchman, like Mr. Grogan and others a faithful, capable watchman. As he wrote once in a letter to the *Twig*, "Meredith girls can sleep tight because I am awake." Unofficially he was father to all the girls; and Pops Herndon, as he was affectionately called, loved them all. He wrote for the *Twig* Christmas greetings to the students, farewells to the seniors, and welcomes to the new girls. In 1964 he told of his reply to an inquirer about the "crop of new girls." "I told him that we had the cream of the crop, as always." Each year he gave the big Christmas tree on the oval in front of Johnson Hall; one year he gave also the trees in the Blue Parlor and the dining hall.

The affection was mutual. His firm step, his warm, contagious smile, his ready jest endeared him to everyone. Notes of appreciation appeared in the *Twig*; the 1962 *Oak Leaves* was dedicated to him; he was chosen Duke of Play Day in 1963.

Even with a larger faculty and staff, there continued to be informal sociability among the members. They, as well as the students, enjoyed the Russian tea served by the dean of students with her staff each afternoon of examination week, a custom begun by Miss Baker and continued by Miss Grant and Miss Fleming. The special occasions when Miss Brewer and Miss Hanyen served coffee and tea before the faculty meetings were always welcome.

The custom of coffee after lunch, served usually once a week by various members of the faculty and staff, has become firmly established. The number of guests is so variable that the late-comer may be urged to drink three cups of coffee or may be offered only a half-cup of half-coffee and half-water—a beverage which Miss Grimmer calls "stump water." Sometimes there is only coffee with crack-

ers; more often, delectable homemade cake or cookies, cranberry bread, cheese balls, nuts, and candy are served. The coffees given in the home economics reception room or in Mae Grimmer House are especially festive events, as is the laboratory Christmas party of the chemistry department, when the guests see fascinating scientific phenomena as they enjoy Christmas goodies with punch and coffee served in beakers. Such gatherings keep something of the quality which faculty relationships had when the College was much smaller. So do the little groups, often made up of faculty and students, to be found almost any time of day in the Bee Hive.

Other entertainments more formal took place when the Campbells, the Peacocks, and other College families were at home to the entire faculty and staff. The Peacocks remained unruffled even when an untimely shower drove into the house the guests who were scattered on the lovely lantern-lighted lawn. An occasion of especial note was the house-warming which Mr. and Mrs. Harry Simmons gave in the house which they themselves had built.

Retiring faculty and staff members then, as now, were honored in various ways. In 1945 those who had served twenty-five years or more were dinner guests of the trustees and were presented with silver appropriately engraved. Mr. Boomhour, Mrs. Sorrell and Miss Allen, who were retired; and the Misses Brewer, Johnson, and Rhodes, Dr. Canaday, Dr. Freeman, and Mr. Riley, who were at that time still in service, were the nine thus honored.

Will Nichols, janitor, and Catherine Evans, maid, were each on that occasion presented with twenty-five silver dollars in recognition of more than twenty-five years of service. When Will Nichols retired in 1956, he had spent thirty-five of his sixty-five years at Meredith. Joshomere Broadie, who was first a cook and then a janitor, exceeded twenty-five years before his death in 1963. Arthelia Cole, maid, who was with the College when it moved to its present site, retired in 1965, three years before her death.

Each year there are at Meredith events of interest to outsiders as well as to the campus. In the concert and lecture series there have been noteworthy people in various

areas. Highlights in the musical events were the organ recitals of Virgil Fox. Thomas and Louise Curtis, organist and soprano, were also on the campus for two days.

The nine members of the Trapp family gave an especially appealing program, the first half being sacred music, the second native ballads and folk songs. The dual aspects of the series met in a lecture-recital, "An Evening of Ballads," when Isaac G. Greer, former superintendent of the Baptist Homes in North Carolina, talked and sang, with Mrs. Greer accompanying his songs on a dulcimer. Suzanne Bloch, an accomplished player of the lute, the virginal, and the recorder as well as a scholarly lecturer in music of the Elizabethan period, gave two lecture-recitals during her two-day visit to the campus.

Some of the lecturers whom the series brought were noted nationally and internationally. Ruth Bryan Owen, daughter of William Jennings Bryan, was a United States congresswoman who earlier held an office which had the flavor of Gilbert and Sullivan, "Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Denmark." "Galaxies and What They do for Us" was the subject of Harlow Shapley, the distinguished astronomer. From England came Rhys Davis, member of Parliament; Marjorie Reeves, lecturer in medieval history at Oxford University; and Charles E. Raven, chaplain to Elizabeth II.

Several times speakers stayed for two days on the campus, so that in addition to the evening lectures and assembly programs there were opportunities for conferences with individuals or small groups in the afternoon. Hollis Summers, poet and novelist, was one of these; Lisa Sergio, another. The official French and English interpreter for Mussolini, she had been at the same time the only woman radio commentator in Europe, broadcasting in French and English. Her criticism of the totalitarian regime had become so daring that to avoid arrest she had fled to the United States, aided in her escape by Guglielmo Marconi, who had earlier encouraged her to enter the field of radio. In this country she soon became a leading radio commentator and was at one time editor of the *Worldover Press Service*. Hence she was well qualified to give "A World's

Eye View of Ourselves." One of the best informed of the speakers on the world situation who have come to Meredith, she was also one of the most effective. After her April, 1961, visit she returned in the fall "by popular demand," the *Twig* reported.

Founders' Day and commencement also brought well-known speakers and preachers. Among them were Marjorie Nicolson, president of Phi Beta Kappa, who in 1942 was the first woman to deliver the commencement address;¹⁶ Reinhold Niebuhr, George Buttrick, and Halford Luccock, theologians and writers; Kyle Haselden, editor of the *Christian Century*; Gerald Johnson, journalist and biographer; Henry Steele Commager, economist and historian; Josef Nordenhaug, general secretary of the Baptist World Alliance; John Marsh, principal of Mansfield College in Oxford University; and Margaret Mead, anthropologist.

Several speakers came more than once, either for different occasions the same year or for the same occasion in different years. Elton Trueblood, philosopher and theologian of Earlham College, was welcomed to the campus for the fifth time when he spoke at an informal meeting of students sponsored by the department of religion. Other departments have brought speakers; the departments of sociology and geography, history, and religion brought Dan Pattir, of the Embassy of Israel in Washington; the economics departments of Meredith and North Carolina State University brought John Kenneth Galbraith of Harvard.

One of Dr. Trueblood's earlier visits had been as a lecturer in the School of Christian Studies. This long cherished plan of Dr. Campbell's reached its fruition first in June, 1953. Its purpose was stated in the announcement issued in the spring:

To bring thoughtful ministers and laymen together in discussion with lecturers who are making major, scholarly contributions to Christian life and thought.

The first program committee was made up of Dr. McLain

¹⁶ Because her train was four hours late, Dr. Nicolson did not appear till after twelve o'clock for the graduation exercises scheduled to begin at 10:30. She was so captivating a speaker, however, that the audience, who had been dismissed at 11:00 to reassemble at 12:00, in five minutes after she began to speak completely forgot the delay.

as chairman; Dr. Campbell; Harold J. Dudley, executive secretary of the North Carolina Presbyterian Synod; Claude Gaddy, executive secretary of the North Carolina Baptist Council on Christian Education; Edwin A. Penick, bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina; E. McNeill Poteat, pastor of Pullen Memorial Church; and Sydnor L. Stealey, president of the Southeastern Baptist Seminary. Each year the program, as well as the committee, cut completely across denominational lines.

The first year Roland H. Bainton, noted specialist in Reformation history, gave in the evenings four lectures on the general theme, *Rethinking the Reformation*. After a half-hour of fellowship and refreshments, another lecture and a panel discussion completed the morning session. In the afternoon there was time for informal conferences with the speakers and time for rest and recreation; vespers after dinner and another lecture in the evening brought the full day to an end. This schedule, except for the substitution of another lecture for the panel discussion, set the pattern for succeeding sessions.

In later years among other eminent speakers came Markus Barth, the authority in the Divinity School of the University of Chicago in the field of New Testament studies, who chose for his four lectures in 1960 *Conversations with the Bible*. Dr. Barth was born and reared in the home of his uncle, Karl Barth. Alan Richardson, canon of Durham Cathedral, spoke in 1960 on *Frontiers in English Theological Thought Today*. Herbert Gezork, president of Andover Newton Seminary, gave in 1965 a series of lectures in *Christian Faith and Crucial Issues*. Spice was added to the 1965 program with a special illustrated lecture "The Gospel According to Peanuts" by Robert Short of the Divinity School of the University of Chicago.

Dr. Campbell showed courage in his decision concerning Nels F. S. Ferré, professor of philosophical theology in Vanderbilt University, the featured speaker in 1954, with his topic, *Christianity and Society*. Dr. Ferré had just become the target of sharp criticism and the center of bitter controversy because of some of his theological ideas. His engagement as a speaker for the Baptist Student Union

Convention had recently been canceled, and another Baptist college and a theological seminary had withdrawn their invitations to him. Dire prophecies were made as to the effect on Meredith if his part on the program of the School of Christian Studies were not canceled. He came, he spoke—and the prophesied tempest was not even of teapot size. No speaker in any year made a more scholarly contribution to the discussions or a deeper spiritual impact on the audience than Dr. Ferré.

The last School of Christian Studies was held in October, 1968, rather than in the summer. To those who came it is inexplicable why the attendance was never large. The "thoughtful ministers and laymen" who did come usually returned year after year and found spiritual and intellectual quickening in the unvarying excellence of the programs. As rooms and meals at a minimum cost were provided on the campus, the "goodly fellowship" drew the small group together, giving opportunities for informal discussions which were both stimulating and relaxing. Kyle Haselden, the late editor of the *Christian Century*, referred to the School of Christian Studies as "the intellectual fertile crescent of the South."

The introduction of the Distinguished Faculty Lecture in 1964 gave the whole Meredith community and the general public an opportunity to add to their knowledge and interest in various fields. These lectures were given each semester through 1966-67; since then they have been yearly events. The ideal, a lecture both scholarly and popular, "just the right combination of meat and froth," is not easily attainable; but the first lecturer, Dr. Rose (from whom the apt phrase above was quoted), reached that ideal. Her enthusiasm for Shakespeare and her thorough knowledge of his plays made her lecture, "Shakespeare's Linnings: A Study of Children in Shakespeare's Plays," an excellent choice for 1964, the four-hundredth anniversary of Shakespeare's birth. A good balance in the year's program came in the spring with Dr. Mary Yarbrough's clear presentation of DNA (the merciful shortening for the layman of deoxyribonucleic acid), "the material which is found in the nuclei of all cells, often called 'the code of

life'." Dr. Tilley's "Deity in Aeschylus, Albee *et al.*" was as clever—and as scholarly—as one would expect it to be. Mr. Blanchard's "Jephtah's Daughter in the Solo Vocal Music of Carissimi and Handel" was illustrated by musical selections from these two composers.

The early years of Dr. Campbell's administration, as those of Dr. Brewer's, were shadowed by war; for each man was in the second year of his presidency when the United States entered a world war. Three of the faculty were given leaves of absence for service in the armed forces in the second world war—Clayton Charles and Elliott Healey in the navy and Edgar Alden in the army. Three resigned to go into service—Charles LaMond, assistant professor of music, to enter the army; George A. Christenberry, professor of biology, to enter the navy; and Marian Brockaway, instructor in sociology, to join the WACS. Though appeals from the WACS and WAVES appeared in the *Twig* and recruiting officers were sent to the campus, no student withdrew from college to enter military service.¹⁷ Evidently parents and students wisely decided that the best service college girls can give to their country in time of war is to prepare for peace.

The College shared in the war activities of other civilians over the country. Mrs. Marsh, chairman of the war activities committee at Meredith, reported that the purchase of bonds by Meredith students, faculty, and staff reached a total of \$43,339.50. This amount with the \$153,440 thus invested by the College was designated for "mercy units," such as transatlantic hospital planes and ambulances for use at home and overseas. In recognition of this achievement, the United States Maritime Commission in 1945 named a ship the *S. S. Meredith Victory*.¹⁸

On the campus there were air-raid drills, blackouts, first aid classes, knitting and bandage rolling, the collection of

¹⁷ Chapter IX has an account of the activities of the alumnae in this period.
¹⁸ *Naval Affairs* in September, 1951, carried an account (later used as the basis of an article in the *Reader's Digest*) of an after-the-war feat of the *Meredith Victory*. As a Moore-McCormack Lines freighter "with space for only 12 passengers and her 46-man crew" the boat accomplished an unparalleled rescue exploit in carrying from Hungnam 15,000 homeless Koreans to a refugee camp in Kojeto. In November, 1966, according to information sent the College by the Maritime Commission, the *Meredith Victory* was taken from mothballs at Puget Sound and prepared for transportation service again.

waste paper and scrap metal, packing of Christmas boxes for soldiers in hospitals, entertainments at the U.S.O. centers—all of which absorbed time and attention. Such activities were of value to students themselves in a time when travel restrictions limited visits to and from the campus, and when many were anxious about relatives, friends, and fiancés overseas.

War marriages took some students away from the College; others with husbands overseas remained as students. The residence regulations were changed in regard to the married student; she was allowed to live in the dormitory if her husband was overseas. Later that condition was removed; and now, with the approval of the dean of students, an occasional married student becomes a dormitory resident, living under the same regulations as do the other resident students.

After the war there was a decided increase in the number of married students living in Raleigh, most of them wives of North Carolina State students. A thriving Mrs. Club was made up of girls going through college, one of the members said, "with Shakespeare in one hand and a pancake turner in the other, muttering 'To be or not to be . . .'" and "One cup of flour, one tablespoon of butter . . ." In 1963 there were about fifty married students, taking work varying from three to eighteen hours, varying in age from nineteen to thirty, some of them with five children. Now and then a grandmother comes.

"Varied activities on the campus blend into a pattern of purposeful living." This headline in the spring, 1947 *Alumnae Magazine* which gave an account of the events of the campus could well be applied to life on the Meredith campus in years of war or peace. Some of these activities are of interest to outsiders; others primarily concern the campus.

Stunt Night, Christmas caroling, the Christmas concert, and May Day are traditions of long standing, as are the dramatic productions. Formerly a play was given each year by each society and by the senior class. Now all the plays are sponsored by the Meredith Playhouse. *Medea*, given in 1955, was the first Greek play since *Alcestis* in 1935. Margaret Tucker, who was *Medea* in the Playhouse produc-

tion, had the same role in 1969 when the Raleigh Little Theater gave the play. *Electra*, *Everyman*, *Midsummer Night's Dream* (the first play given in the Baptist Female University), *As You Like It*, *Twelfth Night*, *The School for Scandal*, *The Heiress* and *The Innocents* (two plays adapted from Henry James's *Washington Square* and *The Turn of the Screw*), *The Chalk Garden*, *The Glass Menagerie*, *The Cocktail Party*, and *The Zoo Story* are among the plays which have been presented.

The exhibit of Christmas foods prepared by the department of home economics and shown each year in Hunter Hall was first given for the Raleigh Garden Club and was usually held at the Woman's Club, though one year it was at the Governor's Mansion. Requests for it to be given outside Raleigh multiplied; one year the traditional cooky tree and the other toothsome dainties must have become travel worn, for the exhibit was moved five times. The spring dance concert and the horse show on May Day also bring interested outsiders in increasing numbers each year.

Other annual events are of interest primarily to the campus. The dormitories vie with one another in the originality and beauty of the Christmas decorations on the bedroom doors, and after the Christmas dinner an award is given for a floor and for an individual door.

Play Day, sponsored by the Recreation Association, was celebrated for the first time in 1941 and for the last in 1969. In April or May classes were suspended for an afternoon, and from the students a duchess and from the faculty a duke were chosen to reign over the sports. In 1941, the *Twig* reported, the duke was given "a gold crown of twenty-four carrots." The four-hour reign always ended with a dip in the fountain.

Tennis, archery, horseshoes, shuffleboard, badminton, and horseback riding attracted the more energetic. Students humored the portly middle-aged or the daintily Victorian members of the faculty by challenges to croquet. In the shade of the big oaks in the court, jackrocks, canasta, scrabble, bridge, chess, and checkers drew spectators as well as contestants. The nonchalance with which Dr.

Canaday played—and won—two games of checkers at the same time, one with his right hand and one with his left, kept an amazed circle around him and his two challengers.

Everything gave way to the softball game later in the afternoon, which with the standbys—Campbell, Peacock, Canaday, Cunningham, Williams, Scarboro—and with others less skilled, the faculty frequently won. Thus they belied the 1953 faculty contribution to the song contest, "The Old Gray Mare, She Ain't What She Used to Be." Occasionally they won in the total number of points scored for the day. It was significant of the *esprit de corps* of the day students that, competing for the first time in 1954 with the four dormitories and with the faculty, they won the coveted award—a tin cup.

The picnic supper in the court was the climax of the day, especially for the faculty children. There were usually between twenty and thirty of them—babies sleeping placidly through the *ooh's* of admiration they excited; toddlers who had to be lifted to see Daddy run in the sack race, the potato race, and the three-legged race; small children who were allowed to win at hopscotch; and long-legged boys who were easily victorious over students playing their best. Whether spectators or participants, the faculty children added charm and color to Play Day.

Corn Huskin', also sponsored by the Recreation Association, came in 1945; in deference to midwestern Miss Peterson, who introduced the event, the shucks are called husks. Couples are often unrecognizable in blue jeans and calico, torn straw hats and sunbonnets, galluses and pigtails, with corncob pipes and bandannas. Through the years Corn Huskin' has become more elaborate; especially so is the parade with which the program begins, and in which each class has a theme carried out in songs and costumes.

The contests bring out unexpected talents. The first year, the *Twig* reported, a freshman was the best chicken caller and was given an egg basket filled with candy-coated almonds. Dr. Freeman, the best hog caller, received a piggy bank. After Dr. Freeman's retirement, Dr. Campbell became the champion hog caller; there are several experts

in chicken calling. The students' nimble fingers give the faculty small chance in husking corn; in bobbing for apples their chances are about even. Other contests are sometimes added for a year or two. The *Twig* announced a pie-eating contest for 1957. For that year also, the *Twig* reported, chicken calling was to be replaced by a cow-milking contest, in which each class was "to make its own cow." The telling of tall tales has become one of the established contests, with tales rivaling those of Baron Munchausen. Relay races, three-legged races, and folk dances end the evening of fun.

The school year begins for the new students and their counselors and the leaders of campus organization earlier than for the other students. In orientation week the dazed freshman is welcomed by every College organization and official; is repeatedly tested (one freshman wrote that her legs were growing into the shape of a lapboard); and is given training in Student Government regulations, in study habits, in the catalogue, and in the use of the library. In every minute not used otherwise the many welcomes are reinforced by many entertainments, from formal receptions to pajama parties. The dazed looks gradually wear off the freshman faces, and the progress of the year proves the effectiveness of the strenuous week.¹⁹ A freshman granddaughter wrote in the account of the semester's happenings in the Fall, 1961, *Alumnae Magazine*: "Within a few weeks the phrasing of the suggestion to return to the dormitory changed from 'Let's go back' to 'Let's go home'."

The first week does not end the special care of the new students—the freshmen and those with advanced standing. They are divided into groups of six or seven, each group having a student counselor and a faculty adviser. A chief counselor with the advice of one of the dean of students' staff has general charge of the program. Each group meets with its counselor and adviser for programs designed to help the newcomers in becoming good Meredith citizens. The group enjoys occasional teas, dinners, or picnics with

¹⁹ Since 1941 the adjustment has been made easier for the new girls by the glimpse of Meredith life which they have at Hospitality Weekend in the spring before they enter.

its counselor and adviser. Each student's welfare is a matter of concern to both of these, and they welcome the opportunity for individual as well as group conferences.

The three major organizations of which all new students are members—and will be so long as they stay at Meredith—are the Student Government Association, the Meredith Recreation Association, and the Meredith Christian Association.

At best, student government always places a heavy responsibility on the officers of the Association, especially on the president. In 1962 a change in the structure of the organization made student government more efficient and somewhat easier. Three boards were established—the Legislative Board, the Judicial Board, and the Student Activities Board—each with a vice-president of the Association in charge. The Student Council is the executive branch of the Association. The Legislative Board seeks to interpret and clarify existing regulations and considers changes in them. The Judicial Board considers all infractions of rules for which the penalties are not specifically given in the *Handbook*. The main concerns of the Student Activities Board are given in the 1966 *Oak Leaves* thus:

To encourage and promote social activities for students, faculty, and administration; to educate the student body in standards of social behavior; and to develop cultural interests.

The findings of all these boards are submitted to the student body. The faculty committee on Student Government was in 1962 also divided into three sections; thus the work of the members is made less time-demanding.

Changes in social regulations which later became much more sweeping were beginning to take place in Dr. Campbell's administration. As students assumed more responsibilities, many regulations of earlier years became unnecessary; and others were modified with changing customs. Otherwise, Meredith would be an anachronism.

Occasionally a raised eyebrow and a shocked exclamation showed the alarmed distrust with which an alumna of the early days read the 1965-66 *Student Handbook*. Freshmen were allowed three afternoon and three evening dates

a week, and juniors and seniors could have "social engagements at their discretion." Freshmen were allowed to go to six dances a year, and seniors nine. Freshmen could have three weekends the first semester and four the second, seniors an unlimited number. On Friday or Saturday nights with late permission a freshman could be out till 1:00 a.m. six times a year; the number increased by classes to nine the senior year. The rule against smoking had been relaxed; not a word appeared in the *Handbook* about wearing a hat. Chaperonage was virtually a thing of the past. "What is Meredith coming to! In my day. . ."²⁰

Occasionally another alumna of the same generation read the same *Handbook* with amused incredulity that Meredith continued so strict. Church attendance was encouraged, rather than required; but chapel attendance five times a week was still required. No dances took place on the campus and students could go to those off the campus only if they were given by approved organizations or institutions. Smoking was not allowed in the classrooms, the laboratories, the dining hall, the library, or Johnson Hall. When she left the campus, the student signed a card showing where she was going, when, with whom, to which was added the exact time of her return. Though there was no longer a light bell (except for freshmen), after the official bedtime of 11:15 students were to be in their suites until rising bell. "You treat them like children!" the emancipated alumna exclaimed.

Either attitude by itself would be disconcerting. The two together were—and are—almost as reassuring as the praise frequently given to the College because of the poised behavior of its students and their ability and willingness to assume adult responsibilities when they become Meredith graduates.

The extremely abbreviated gym suits of 1966 would have horrified the maidens of 1906 as much as the long skirts of 1906 or the voluminous bloomers which succeeded them would handicap the athletes of 1966. Nevertheless,

²⁰ These older alumnae probably forgot or never knew that in the first issue of the *Twig*, April 30, 1921, a report from the Student Government Association stated that "compulsory church and Sunday school attendance ought to be abolished."

the students at the turn of the century would have agreed with the aim of the Meredith Recreation Association (until 1965 the Meredith Athletic Association) set forth in the 1966 *Oak Leaves*:

The purpose of the Meredith Recreation Association is to develop a sound body, along with a sound mind; to promote health, happiness, and a spirit of fair play.

The 1968 *Oak Leaves* pointed out that "the body-builders, the weight-watchers, the fun-minded activists all find outlets in the diverse functions of the M.R.A."

Tournaments in basketball, volleyball, softball, tennis, badminton, and ping-pong are held at various times in the year. Individual sports such as hiking, bowling, bicycling, and horseback riding also have an important place in the activities. The Hoofprint Club, like the Tennis Club and the Monogram Club, is a separate organization under the auspices of the Recreation Association. Its breakfast rides, begun with Mr. Martin's encouragement and aid, have become an established custom.

While athletics continue to predominate in the activities of the Association, the more inclusive term Recreation Association better indicates its functions; for it sponsors Corn Huskin', Stunt Night, Christmas caroling, and May Day. Until 1953 it sponsored Palio; and until 1969, Play Day.

As the Meredith Recreation Association fosters wholesome physical recreation and development, the Meredith Christian Association encourages a like spiritual growth. From 1928 when it replaced the Y.W.C.A. on the campus until 1963 when the Meredith Christian Association began, the Baptist Student Union was the organization which sought to strengthen the spiritual life of the College and to coordinate all its religious activities. Through its study courses, chapel programs, sunrise services on special days, state conventions and conferences, and collegiate and inter-collegiate parties, the B.S.U. made an important contribution to Meredith life. Its council planned and directed the activities of Religious Emphasis Week, always a spiritually significant experience in the school year. After 1963 the activities of the Young Woman's Auxiliary were merged

with those of the B.S.U. and M.C.A. The 1962-63 *Handbook* made clear the place which the Y.W.A. held on the campus while it was a campus organization:

Study led by visiting missionaries, service projects in the Raleigh neighborhood, observance of special weeks of prayer with the privilege of giving make up the Y.W.A. program. All who would develop sensitivity to mankind's hunger can find here opportunities for intelligent action.

The B.S.U. was by no means so limited as its name implied. Students of other denominations found places of usefulness in it, and its community service cut across denominational lines. Nine years before the M.C.A. was organized, there were representatives of other denominations on the B.S.U. Council. It supported the work of the World's Student Christian Federation. Representatives went to interdenominational conferences; for instance, during the Christmas holidays in 1955-56 four Meredith students attended the Ecumenical Student Conference on Christian World Missions held at Ohio State University.

Thus the foundation was well laid for the M.C.A. Continuing as a unit of the M.C.A., the B.S.U. can be more distinctively denominational in its emphasis than it was before 1963, as is evident in the three-fold purpose stated in the 1963-64 *Handbook* and unchanged in 1969-70:

To strengthen, correlate, and unify all the Baptist religious activities into one campus unit with a strong central base of operation; to provide for the Baptist students at Meredith an informative program concerning Baptist doctrine, institutions, and affairs; and to project a dynamic program of missionary education through LISTEN (Love Impels Sacrifice Toward Every Need) and to provide definite channels for contributions and service.

The purpose of the Meredith Christian Association, as set forth in the 1963-64 *Handbook* and in succeeding issues is one to which the most loyal adherent to any denomination can agree:

To provide the means of understanding the truths of God in Christ and the opportunities for expressing them by creative service; to strengthen, correlate, and unify all the separate religious denominations into one campus fellowship with an all-

inclusive program of religious activity; and at the same time to encourage each student in appreciation of her particular denominational heritage.

Whether the religious organization was the Baptist Student Union or the Meredith Christian Association, Catholic and Jewish students felt no less a part of Meredith because of a faith different from their own. A Catholic mother, a Meredith graduate who is a member of the faculty of the Catholic University of America, wrote of the gratitude which she and her husband feel to Meredith for what it meant to their three daughters, all of whom graduated from Meredith:

Our daughters' attendance at Meredith spanned a period of nine years, 1958-1967. In religion classes they were encouraged to do their reading, papers, and reports on their own faith. In vespers and in chapel they were asked to present their Catholic beliefs. In the dorm there were many discussions around the similarities and differences of the various religions represented. We feel that these experiences as they were living in a religious school such as Meredith, a school which stresses Christian belief and behavior, helped to strengthen their faith and to make them better Christians.

An orthodox Jewish student wrote:

As a Jewish student I felt very much at home at Meredith. I loved my years there and cherish warm memories of them. I had my introduction to the New Testament in a course given there. Once when I saw a sign at State College saying, "Attention, all Baptists!" I paused immediately to read it!

The M.C.A. continues the religious activities at Meredith which the B.S.U. had fostered. LISTEN, a southwide program begun among Southern Baptists in 1953 and introduced on the Meredith campus by the B.S.U. in 1955, has the wholehearted support of the Christian Association also. Contributions from students and faculty are supplemented by various moneymaking projects, the most popular being the car-washing week, in which Meredith and the North Carolina State B.S.U. cooperate. At least five Meredith students have been among the summer workers who go out to mission fields as part of this program. One of the five went to Mexico, one to Hawaii, and three to Africa. Some stu-

dents have been summer workers for the Sunday School Board and for the Home Mission Board. Others served with the state program, North Carolina Volunteers. Six Meredith students in 1968 went to the Baptist World Youth Conference in Berne, Switzerland.

The M.C.A. encourages Sunday school and church attendance, which since 1963 has been voluntary. The importance of having a church home in Raleigh is stressed; early in the first semester there is a Join-the-Church Sunday, preceded by a Meet-the-Ministers tea. Buses are provided by the College and the churches to take students to Sunday school and church. The pastors of the churches which the students attend are on occasions guests at dinner, and those who come as chapel speakers are usually introduced by student members of their congregations.

The churches are generous both in financial help and in their hospitality to students. At the beginning of the school year new students are entertained by the churches, sometimes at progressive dinners, sometimes at picnics. Doughnuts-and-coffee breakfasts on Sunday mornings and fellowship suppers Sunday evenings are customary in most of the churches to which students belong. Thus they have the opportunity to mingle with other college students and with other young people. Students sing in church choirs; some serve as choir directors or organists; many more teach Sunday school classes.

However close the church ties may be, however much one may value the "togetherness" of the campus community, there is always a need which Rupert Brooke felt when he wrote, "I have need to busy my heart with quietude." The tiny chapel created in 1965 from an unused storage room in Jones Hall helps to meet this need and encourages students to follow the Biblical injunction, "Be still and know that I am God." Much credit is due Mr. Walker, the director of religious activities who conceived the idea and worked it out. He enlisted the aid of the Meredith art department and of John Hix of the North Carolina State School of Design in planning it. Meredith and State students did eighty per cent of the actual work; the heavy carpentry was done

by the Meredith maintenance men, who contributed their own time to make the wooden benches. The chapel with its steeply slanted walls of cedar shingles, with lights set in the ceiling which throw the shadow of the iron cross over the severely plain altar is strikingly modernistic; a *Twig* writer called it "shocking and beautiful."

In many ways the Meredith students seek to carry out their purpose as stated in the 1953-54 *Student Handbook*, "to translate into attitude and action the truth of the Christian faith." One evidence of the effectiveness of these efforts can be seen in a letter addressed in 1942 to "President Meredith College, City," by the Wake County jailer:

The work your young people are doing at the jails is much appreciated. Yesterday morning the girl who taught the Church School lesson to us captured the attention of all, including two of our roughest men. After she left, their indictments of religion and their invectives against it were softened. They even introduced questions afterwards which developed into long discussions of religion. Just thought you would like to know.

A jail is not an easy place for young, inexperienced girls to hold religious services; but rain, sleet, examinations, or late engagements Saturday night—none of these kept the girls from holding these Sunday services in the county and the city jail and those at the women's prison farm.

More than twenty years later the superintendent of the Raleigh Rescue Mission paid a tribute somewhat like the jailer's to the Meredith girls who came each Wednesday evening with the students from the Southeastern Seminary in Wake Forest:

As for the appreciation for the men and women and their services I cannot say too much. They have really given a lift to the men's spirits and have added a feeling of worship.

And he gave a comment typical of the men's appreciative words:

It is wonderful of them to give their time and to think enough about us to come here to sing hymns and anthems.

The work in the jail and the prison farm began as the responsibility of the World Fellowship group of the B.S.U.,

as did the Cary Street Mission. A large number of the girls worked enthusiastically in the manifold activities of the Mission, giving freely of time and money. To Evelyn Hampton, '43, and Virginia Highfill, '46, each of whom was superintendent for two years, the mission was especially dear. The Baptist churches of Raleigh aided the students financially with the work of the Mission; and when it grew too big for a student project, these churches took it over as the Raleigh Baptist Goodwill Center, with a full-time director. The students, however, kept their interest in the Center and continued to help with the work there.

The *Student Handbook* of 1965-66 calls attention to the opportunities for service which the M.C.A. offers through its extension program, which "includes a reading and visitation program at the State School for the Blind, visitation at Dorothea Dix Hospital, and the opportunities to work with Negro children and to work at the Raleigh Rescue Mission." More than forty volunteers worked at Dorothea Dix Hospital in 1964. A tutorial program begun in 1964 and later developed much further was not listed in these opportunities.

In addition to these continuing programs, important temporary projects have been undertaken. There is a wide variety in such work. For instance, in 1965-66 a group of students spent strenuous Saturday afternoons every other week toiling with Shaw and North Carolina State students in a work camp sponsored by the United Church. In 1964 the M.C.A. helped with the project sponsored by the Raleigh Citizens' Committee to increase the number of negroes in Wake County registering to vote. In 1965, Operation Merry Christmas sent hundreds of packages from Meredith to service men in Vietnam.

The Meredith girls serve not only through the M.C.A. in and beyond Raleigh, but they take part in projects sponsored by other Meredith organizations to which they belong. The two societies have been jointly responsible for the United Fund drive among the students. The Philaretians have had programs varying from year to year, ranging from work at the Cerebral Palsy Center and the Rehabilitation

Center to adopting a Japanese orphan. For many years the Astrotektons have had as their special interest the deaf and the blind children of the Garner Road Division (the Negro division until the integration of the school began in 1967) of the Governor Morehead School. One of the most popular assembly programs each year was that given by the Rhythm Kids from the Garner Road School.

Such work is of value to the societies as well as to those whom they help, for these two organizations have little left of their original purpose. When in 1950 the word *Literary* was dropped from the name of the Astrotekton and the Philaretian Society, the omission merely recorded the change which had taken place over a period of years. Inter-society debates and play contests have vanished. From 1955-56 to 1960-61 the programs of the two were described together in the *Handbook*: "Programs are debates, literary contests, lectures, and social activities of fun and fellowship!" In 1961-62 and in succeeding issues the statement reads thus: "Programs are social activities of fun and fellowship!" The loss of importance of the societies is indicated by the time of meeting—once a month instead of every Saturday evening, their meeting time until 1920. Society spirit is concentrated mostly in the frenzied activities of Rush Week, observed now early in the second semester rather than in the first. On successive days of this week Phi bonfire alternates with Astro picnic, Phi luau with Astro Mardi gras, Phi bear with Astro goat. With corsages, hot dogs, and lollipops, with breakfasts served in bed, the two societies vie with each other for the favor of the newcomers until Friday of Rush Week, which is Decision Day. On that day the new girl, having made a decision which she feels to be of earth-shaking importance, marches into chapel with ear-splitting cheers from the purple or the yellow ranks. Thus in a college where sororities have never existed, where they would be totally inconsistent with the democratic spirit which prevails at Meredith, the new girls have the thrill of Rush Week without the heartbreak which comes to any adolescent who is not chosen.

The departmental clubs as they have grown in number

and importance increasingly give opportunity for the extra-curricular cultural development which was in the beginning the ideal of the literary societies. "Joys in the academic life of Meredith students," one member called these clubs. The students take part in many of the programs, which may have been carefully planned and well carried out or may have been thrown together at the last minute. The Beta Zeta Chapter of Sigma Alpha Iota sponsors an annual recital by members of the music faculty. Tomorrow's Business Women have an attractive yearbook giving their programs, for which there is usually an outside speaker. Members of the faculty of nearby schools, writers, business men, and people in other fields have been generous in coming to speak for these departmental clubs, expecting no honorarium and usually waiving even the small amount a club can offer for expenses.

Some of the visitors speak at assembly programs. The Colton English Club and the Creative Writing Club have from time to time brought North Carolina writers to the campus, among them Ina Forbus, Peggy Hoffman, Sylvia Wilkinson, and Meredith's own Bernice Kelly Harris. Dr. Campbell, whose field of undergraduate and graduate study was English, was especially kind in consenting to speak to the English Club at its annual dinner for many years. The wide variety of his topics shows the breadth of his scholarship—*Oedipus Rex*, Machiavelli, Thoreau, Emerson, Rousseau, Noah Webster, and The Significance of Names. Each year this club cooperates with the English department in giving two or more book teas, open to the whole school. These have no connection with the Voluntary Independent Reading which the department of English sponsors, but they are a decided encouragement to it. In addition to the outside speakers it brings, La Tertulia²¹ Club has brought to the campus Spanish films. Each year the Club celebrates Christmas according to Mexican traditions. The Christmas carols which the Price Latin Club sing in Latin give the season a touch of the medieval.

Working jointly with the M.C.A. and independently, the

²¹ The Spanish word for exchange of ideas.

departmental clubs have done much for the underprivileged and handicapped in Raleigh. Various clubs give Christmas treats to families and institutions. The Tyner Chapter of the Future Teachers of America each year has a Christmas party for the first graders of the Methodist Children's Home. The members of the Sociology Club and of the Psychology Club have done much beyond the time required in the directed activity of certain courses. At various times they have worked with the Travelers' Aid, the Red Cross, the Girl Scouts, and the Wake County Family Service Society; they have directed recreation and helped with occupational therapy in Dorothea Dix Hospital; they have furnished readers for blind social workers taking the merit examinations. Members of La Tertulia Club help the Spanish speaking students at North Carolina State with the English language. Some of its members who have been in Spain have spoken and shown pictures to Spanish classes in high schools in this area.

Part of the work of the clubs is done among Negroes and thus contributes to interracial good will and understanding, the development of which has been marked at Meredith by steady progress rather than by revolutionary flare-ups. The general policy has always encouraged such steady progress. Long before it was the accepted custom, audiences in the Meredith auditorium were non-segregated. There have been joint meetings of various organizations of Meredith and of Shaw University. Such meetings are held on both campuses. Students attend interracial meetings sponsored by the American Friends' Service Committee and take part in their work camps. The work of the Astrotektons for the deaf and the blind children at the Governor Morehead School has been mentioned; the English Club has given records for the blind children there. In 1944 Mollie Huston Lee, librarian of the Richard B. Harrison Library, at that time a library for Negroes, spoke to the English Club about the beginnings of this library and its services. Mrs. Lee, who had organized the library almost single-handed, gave her talk the week before Hubert Poteat, of the Wake Forest faculty, under the sponsorship of the club read *Green*

Pastures for the benefit of the comparatively new library. It was an especially happy choice for reading, since Richard B. Harrison, who had taught at the North Carolina Agricultural and Technical College in Greensboro, was the first actor to play "De Lawd" in *Green Pastures*.

Such contacts were in part responsible for the students' welcome of the announcement made in September, 1962, that the trustees had "voted to accept qualified women students, upon recommendation by the office of admissions, without regard to race or national origin." The students were ready to accept without reservation Negroes as roommates and suitemates. The faculty on October 8, their first meeting after the announcement, adopted the following resolution:

That we express to the trustees our appreciation of their action regarding the admission of Negro students and assure them of our desire to cooperate in the implementation of the decision.

It was a few years before applications came from qualified Negro students; then two were accepted who later were offered elsewhere scholarships which covered all expenses four four years.²²

By the association which the students have had with the churches, with other groups in town, and by their community work, the Meredith horizon is broadened beyond the campus. The activities of several clubs have reached overseas. For instance, the French Club sent food and clothing to students in France, and some of its members have kept up a correspondence with the recipients. So have members of the Home Economics Club, which sent food and clothing to a Japanese graduate of Meredith and furnished much needed materials to a home-making school in Göppingen, Germany. The International Relations Club has sponsored a Korean orphan. The English Club sent CARE packages to Europe, books to a German school, and New Testaments to Korea.

²² Except for a few non-resident students in summer sessions, there were no Negro students at Meredith until 1968, when two came, one a freshman, the other a sophomore from St. Augustine's College in Raleigh. In 1970-71 there were eleven, one of whom was the first Negro graduate of the College, Gwendolyn Matthews Hilliard. She received a Minority Student Scholarship from Columbia University for 1971-72. When she could not accept it because she had signed a contract to teach, the University held it over for her to use the following year.

For six years it paid for the education of an Indian boy, Suthi Joseph, at the Woman's College in Madras.²³

Foreign countries have been brought even closer to the campus by the students coming from outside the United States, of whom there are several each year. Some have been from Panama, Cuba, Puerto Rico, Venezuela, Bolivia and Brazil. Rita Paez, '47, whose father, a minister of the Ecuadorian Consulate in New York, had earlier been President of Ecuador, was followed by Beatriz Tinajero of the same country.

A number came from different countries of Europe. Clair Gouma, '53, from Greece, was the first of eleven Rotary International Scholars who came to Meredith. She planned to teach, as do many of the foreign students. Yolande Jenny, with a Ph.D. from Duke, is teaching French at the University of Minnesota at Duluth. Cornelia Bonhoefer, another prospective teacher was from Germany. Her uncle was Dietrich Bonhoeffer, a victim of the Nazi regime, whose Christian writings translated into English have been widely read in the United States. Gertrude Pichler, who came as a junior, was a home economics teacher from Austria. Cecilie Lofberg also planned to teach. In each of the thirteen years of her preparatory schooling in Stockholm she had a course in Bible. Another Swedish student, Birgit Sporre, was interested in medicine. Kari Nirmal, from Norway, was married in the Norwegian Embassy in Washington just before she came to Meredith. Marjatta Saikkola and Pinjo Kantelinen were from Finland.

Unique among Meredith students were the three Kambis sisters, Alexandra, Juliette, and Martha, who were all at Meredith in 1943-44. With an English mother and a Greek father and with five years residence in France, they had an equal command of the three languages. The language in which the sisters talked to one another or in which they thought, Martha told an inquirer, depended on what they talked about or what they thought.

Kazue Murata who came in 1936, was Meredith's first

²³ These projects of this club are financed largely by the annual book auction, begun in 1958 at the suggestion of Dorothy Merritt, '33, a chemistry major. Dean Peacock, the favorite auctioneer for the sale each year, has made the auction an event as hilarious as it is profitable.

Japanese student; the next was Nobuko Kawano, whose father was dean of the Baptist Theological Seminary in Fukuoka and a vice-president of the Baptist World Alliance. Having come to Meredith as a special student after graduation from a Japanese University, Nobuko went in 1953 to the Carver School of Missions and Social Work. Lillian Lu, from China, also went to the Carver School. The tense situation between their native countries did not mar the firm friendship between the two. Later Nobuko was granted a fellowship for a year's study at the Union Theological Seminary in New York, and Lillian received an M.A. from George Peabody College. Lillian Lu and Junlin Wong, also from Canton, spoke and wrote English with unusual ease and effectiveness, as did Chizuko Kojima, from Japan. Other students have come from China, among them Vida Yao, recommended by General Chenault. Katherine Chung-ho King after her graduation in 1957 went to a medical school.

Khadiga El-Kammash from Egypt, Nasrin Askari from Persia, Liberata Kihohia from Kenya, Fadia Markhan from Baghdad, Canan Akkoc from Turkey, Dalia Haitovski from Israel, Laurice Hlass from Trans-Jordan, Yeun Sook Kim Lu from Korea, Poonsarb Buranakarn from Thailand—the names of people and places seem strange and far away. From every part of the earth they come as foreign students, but from the day of their arrival they are Meredith students. Very soon, as a reporter wrote in the *Twig*, "foreign accents and Southern drawl mix."

One spring day in 1963 Hong Kong and Meredith were closer together than they had ever been before. When Verona Chow was troubled because she had not heard from her parents in several weeks, three friends hastily collected \$21.45, almost enough for two telephone calls to Hong Kong. The assortment of coins—eighty of them pennies—an accommodating neighborhood merchant changed into quarters for the call.

The newcomers widen the horizons of the otherwise homogeneous student body of a small denominational college, giving to the other students deeper appreciation of the

culture of foreign countries—and of their own. The newcomers, in turn, have eager, friendly help from students and faculty in their language difficulties and in adjusting their ideas and habits to a way of life so different from their own. Many have felt as did Anne Gretta Horne, a Danish student, when she expressed her gratitude to "teachers, students and staff members," who worked hard to teach her the customs of the school and the country, "always in a gentle understanding way." Meredith will always be to her, she wrote, "an impulse to growth and a source of delight." Verona Chow said shortly before she returned to China:

Meredith is the fulfillment of a dream for me. I have been overcome with the hospitality of everyone and with the positive Christian approach one finds here. . . . I plan to return to China with this message of Christian love.

Though Kazue Murata Mizoguchi, '39, ten years after her return to Japan wrote to her English teacher that "English is not so well with me as she was," excerpts from a letter in which she told the editor of the *Alumnae Magazine*, "how happy I am to let me write you about myself," reflect the influence of Meredith.

My husband is a professor of Kanto Gakuin College. He teaches architecture. I hope he is a good builder of the new Japan, not a breaker during war-time. I am very sorry I cannot enter my boys at Meredith, but I hope they will find Japanese girls at Meredith as their future half.

We have started our kindergarten department in this College, and we are planning to start our grammar grade school this fall, and our W.M.U. was born last year. . . .

Our Japanese Christian people have slept so long, and did not grow. Now we are waked up by your Christian love and kindness.

Founders' Day in 1966 was really Founders' Days; for the celebration was a three-day event, February 26-28, which marked Meredith's seventy-fifth anniversary. Tradition attributes to ladies the tendency to subtract years from their actual age; Meredith added eight years to hers. The fiftieth anniversary in 1949 was followed by the seventy-fifth in 1966. Either count could be considered correct; the Baptist

Female University opened its doors to students on September 27, 1899; eight years earlier on February 27, 1891, the North Carolina legislature had granted the institution a charter.

The day before the celebration in 1966 an anniversary edition of the *Twig* appeared, with ten pages instead of the usual four or six. It covered every aspect of the history of the school from the four presidents and the College seal to *Alice in Wonderland* and the alumnae dolls. On the front page was the three-day program:

Founders' Day Program—75th Charter Year

Saturday, February 26, 1966

9:30 A.M. Coffee Hour and Registration for Alumnae Seminar

10:30 A.M. Addresses

The Honorable Luther H. Hodges, A.B., LL.D.

Chapel Hill, North Carolina

J. E. Starnes, B.S.

Branch Manager, The IBM Corporation

1:00 P.M. Luncheon for Alumnae and Guests

2:00 P.M. Panel Discussion

Charles E. Bishop, Ph.D.

Department of Agricultural Economics, North Carolina State University

Charles E. Ferguson, Ph.D.

Department of Economics, Duke University

Theresa Demus, M.S.

Consultant, U.S. Food and Drug Administration

Sunday, February 27, 1966

11:00 A.M. Founders' Day Sermon

The Reverend Vernon B. Richardson, B.D., D.D.

River Road Church, Richmond, Virginia

3:00 P.M. Wreath Ceremony at the Grave of Thomas Meredith

4:00 P.M. Annual Founders' Day Reception

Monday, February 28, 1966

10:30 A.M. Founders' Day Address

Lois Edinger, Ph.D.

Department of Education

The University of North Carolina at Greensboro

11:30 A.M. Meeting of the Board of Trustees

1:00 P.M. Luncheon for Trustees and Guests

Lois Edinger, '45, is the only alumna to have had the honor of being asked to give the Founders' Day Address.

The year before she had the nationwide distinction of being the first woman to serve as president of the National Education Association.²⁴

The year 1965-66 brought to an end Dr. Campbell's presidency. His administration of twenty-seven years was truly one of "substantial achievement and significant promise." Although for the first ten years debt and the effects of the financial depression made material progress virtually impossible, by 1962 seven permanent buildings had been added to the original six, three replacing temporary wooden structures. Plans for the new library were well under way, and numerous improvements had been made in the original buildings and on the grounds. The campus had been enlarged from 170 acres to 225; the value of the College property increased from \$1,430,568 to \$5,298,877. The enrollment in 1939-40 was 569; in 1965-66 it was 983. The faculty and administrative staff had grown from sixty to eighty-five, with thirteen other part-time teachers. The average faculty salary increased from \$2,006 to \$8,010 and several fringe benefits were also added.

Statistics, however impressive, can never adequately measure the quality of any man's work. Of the extent of President Campbell's influence Charles B. Deane, chairman of the Board of Trustees in 1966 wrote:

One cannot in a brief statement assess the true value, the sharp intellectual knowledge, and the great respect in which Dr. Campbell is held by his educational colleagues among our North Carolina Baptist Colleges, as well as by the entire educational community throughout North Carolina and beyond.

Important as was his work and influence in North Carolina, esteemed as he was by leaders in denominational and educational circles, it was the Meredith community to whom he meant most, who esteemed him most. The *Twig* editor wrote in October, 1965, of the debt which every Meredith student owes to President Campbell:

That Meredith students serve as an example of his aims and ideals can make every Meredith girl proud and fearful of the task that is hers as a member of the Meredith student body.

²⁴ It is worth noting that Dr. Edinger was the first president from North Carolina since James Yadkin Joyner, then a trustee of Meredith, held that office in 1910.

The incoming editor on May 25, 1966, wrote that Dr. Campbell's mark was deeply stamped on the College, "a mark bespeaking excellence, dignity and dedication." And one especially significant sentence in the dedication of the 1966 *Oak Leaves* finds a grateful echo in the minds and hearts of the Meredith community, past and present, "A true gentleman, you pursue knowledge and inspire in us a desire to know life."

Dr. Campbell would not like for this account to end with a backward look. Meredith must not be unmindful of what he wrote in the *Oak Leaves* of 1962:

It is our privilege and responsibility to insure that what was worthy and hopeful in the past shall have more adequate expression in the present and future.

In the Founders' Day, 1966, issue of the *Twig*, he wrote,

Both past and present are but successive chapters in an ever-unfolding text.

VIII

“THE DOORS ARE OPEN WIDER”

(1966-1971)

A new chapter in “the ever unfolding text” began on September 1, 1966, when E. Bruce Heilman became the fifth president of Meredith College. His election in the preceding May had brought to a successful end the eighteen-month search which a committee with Charles Bennett Deane as chairman had made for the right person to be president of Meredith. President Heilman came to the office with wide experience, unbounded vigor, and genuine enthusiasm for Meredith. He needs all these qualities because the presidency of a college, never a sinecure, has now become an almost impossibly demanding position.

A good many alumnae felt twinges of age when they learned that the new president was born July 16, 1926, about six months after the College had moved to its present site. His accomplishments would do credit to a much older man.

He grew up on a large dairy farm near La Grange, Kentucky, where with other farm chores the boy early began to milk cows, mow hay, and help in curing tobacco. After four years' service in the Marine Corps, he continued his education, receiving a B.S., A.M., and Ph.D. from George Peabody College. He held different positions in quite rapid succession, some of them while he was completing his graduate study. He was a teacher of business in two colleges (in one of them he was also treasurer), business manager and treasurer in another, controller and bursar in another, and vice-president and dean in yet another. He gained experience in a different aspect of higher education as coordinator of higher education and special schools in Tennessee. In 1963 he became administrative vice-president of Peabody College, from which position he came to Meredith.

His background and experience fitted him especially well

for the presidency of Meredith. He grew up in a deeply religious home; and he and the three other children with their parents attended every service held in the Ballardsville Baptist Church, in which his father was a deacon. He himself is now a deacon in Hayes Barton Baptist Church. His first two years of college were completed at Campbellsville Junior College, a Baptist College in Kentucky. Four of his former positions were in church-related colleges, three of them Baptist—Belmont College, Georgetown College, and Kentucky Southern College. In talks to the Meredith faculty and students, in addresses to churches and civic clubs, in interviews with newspaper reporters, and in articles in the *Alumnae Magazine*, he has repeatedly asserted his strong belief in the church-related, liberal arts college. In his first address to the students, faculty, and staff he made it clear that a college like Meredith "must prove that academic excellence and Christian commitment are not mutually exclusive." And in an interview appearing in the *Twig* of April 13, 1967, he said:

Education must embody a core of conviction to which life may be tied. In a Baptist College, this is the Christian faith.

Since the 1969 catalogue, Meredith has been designated as "a college in which the Christian perspective is the integrative principle of all that comprises the college program." The statement of the purpose of the College remains unchanged.

The purpose of Meredith College is to develop in its students the Christian attitude toward the whole of life, and to prepare them for intelligent citizenship, home-making, graduate study, and for professional and other fields of service. Its intention is to provide not only thorough instruction, but also culture made perfect through the religion of Jesus Christ. These ideals of academic integrity and religious influence have always been cherished at Meredith.

President Heilman is also a firm believer in a woman's college, especially Meredith. He chose Meredith rather than accepting one of three other tempting positions offered him, and since coming he has refused the offer of several other excellent positions. In explaining the choice to the trustees at their September, 1967, meeting, when he had been a year

at the school, he told of the conference with the committee appointed to investigate presidential possibilities:

It became evident that this committee and I had many of the same hopes and expectations for church-related, Baptist, liberal arts education for women. . . . I came to have an almost pre-sumptuous feeling that I belonged in such a community.

In an interview which appeared in the *Twig* of December 13, 1967, reprinted from the *Raleigh Times*, he gave as his primary reason for coming to Meredith his conviction that "This woman's college has a real future." He characterized the presidency of a woman's college as "the most delightful experience I have ever had," and said that "Meredith has more potential than I ever dreamed."

To developing this potential, President Heilman devoted himself without reservation. Representing Meredith at sessions of the Baptist State Convention and of Baptist associations, speaking all over the state and beyond to churches, alumnae chapters, and service clubs, conferring with business firms and foundations, he has an almost incredible schedule. Yet the faculty member, the student, or the parent who comes to him with a problem always feels welcomed and assured of his sympathetic interest. It is no wonder that the Board of Trustees in a resolution of appreciation adopted in September, 1968, said that President Heilman "has succeeded in doing in two years what the Board of Trustees had aspired to accomplish in five years or more."

His ability and experience keep him in demand in wider educational circles. Among other responsibilities he served in 1968 as director of long-range planning studies for predominantly Negro colleges for the Academy for Educational Development; and in the same year he was director of the annual workshop of the Council for the Development of Small Colleges. In 1969 he took part in seminars in four countries—Britain, Russia, Austria, and Germany—sponsored by the International Society of Comparative Education. In 1970 he was elected president of the Southern Association of Colleges for Women.

Of his wife and five children Dr. Heilman said, "They are my best supporters and my greatest asset." Mrs. Heilman,

who before her marriage was Betty Dobbins, was described in the *Alumnae Magazine* for December, 1966, as "a petite brunette, who could easily be mistaken for one of the Angels on the campus." Her winsome friendliness and her calm poise make a charming combination. That poise is not ruffled by a whirlwind of a husband, five lively children, a large house to keep, and dinners for various Meredith groups. These dinners are family affairs, with Timmy, the only son and the youngest of the five, receiving guests at the door; Dr. Heilman cooking the steaks to order on a charcoal grill; the girls serving; and Mrs. Heilman keeping everything running smoothly. One or more of the four girls—Bobbie, Nancy, Terry, Sandra—may be baby-sitting, because in addition to being good house-and-grounds help at home the Heilman children find employment elsewhere. Bobbie, a freshman in 1969, and Nancy, who began in 1970, both worked before entering Meredith, thereby earning their spending money, including clothes and textbooks. Terry and Sandra were pages in the 1971 session of the Legislature. The first year that the family were at Meredith, when Timmy was eight, he worked four hours on Saturday mornings, helping to take out trash from the College buildings, for which work he was paid by his father twenty-five cents an hour.

Busy as they are, the Heilmans find time for fun together in a variety of ways, from jigsaw puzzles indoors to swimming out-of-doors. Because Timmy is so far outnumbered by his sisters, the two men of the family occasionally go fishing together. All the family love music, which Mrs. Heilman considers a wonderful means of binding the family together. As "One Man's Family" the five children have frequently given programs for various Meredith groups, for religious and civic organizations, and for television. Their large repertory ranges from hymns through folk songs to rock-and-roll. The group name, though clever, is misleading. Mrs. Heilman first had the idea of the group singing; she arranged for the children's training and encourages them in practice.

The Heilmans had become a well-established part of

Meredith by the day of the presidential inauguration, April 15. The weatherman was kind that day; no showers marred the impressive ceremony, which took place at the amphitheater.

In the procession, spectacular in the rich colors of the academic regalia, were the College marshal, the College chorus, the faculty, representatives of Colleges and universities and of learned societies and educational and professional organizations, the trustees, and the presidential party. The 106 educational institutions represented ranged from Harvard, founded in 1636, to Wilkes Community College, begun in 1964. The twenty-six societies and organizations ranged from Phi Beta Kappa, which dates back to 1776, to the North Carolina Council of Higher Education, organized in 1955.

Luther M. Massey, chairman of the Board of Trustees, presided over the ceremonies. W. Perry Crouch, executive secretary-treasurer of the North Carolina Baptist State Convention, read the scriptures; H. Franklin Paschall, president of the Southern Baptist Convention, gave the invocation. Greetings were brought by representatives of the Meredith community—by Ellen Kirby, president of the Student Government Association; by Cleo Perry, president of the Alumnae Association; by Leishman A. Peacock, Academic dean; and by C. C. Cameron, a trustee. From organizations outside Meredith, greetings were brought by Carl Bates, president of the Baptist State Convention; by Rabun L. Brantley, executive secretary-treasurer of the Southern Baptist Education Commission; by Travis H. Tomlinson, mayor of the City of Raleigh; by Howard Boozer, director of the North Carolina Board of Higher Education; and by Felix Robb, executive director of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

Before the invocation the Meredith chorus sang "Sound the Trumpet"; and before the inaugural address, "How Excellent Thy Name." The Honorable Brooks Hays, introduced by Governor Moore, gave the inaugural address, "The Church, the College, and the Man." Mr. Hays is most widely known for his career in government, having served through

eight sessions of Congress and having been a special presidential assistant to Kennedy and to Johnson. He is also well known among Baptists; he was chairman of the Christian Life Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention and was twice president of that body. Among his honors is the annual Layman's Award given by the ministers of Washington for outstanding Christian service.

The inaugural prayer of T. L. Cashwell, pastor of the Hayes Barton Baptist Church, to which President Heilman and his family belong, preceded the presidential address, "Never Ceasing to Give." In this address President Heilman emphasized the limitless possibilities of Meredith as a small, liberal arts, church-related college for women and discussed those factors to which we must never cease to give attention if these possibilities are to be fulfilled. While the essential purpose of the College—"to provide education for young women who are interested in academic excellence and Christian commitment"—remains unchanged, the President also pointed out that these young women must be provided with "opportunities which result in competence and self-confidence in a world which is in rapid transition."

The title of the address, "Never Ceasing to Give" was quoted from one of J. W. Bailey's fervent editorials in the *Biblical Recorder*, urging support of the Baptist Female University. Near the end of his address President Heilman said:

Step by step through the history of Meredith, those who have gone before us have made possible all that this new administration will build upon. Our heritage is rich indeed. Our past is behind us. That which is ahead is a responsibility for each of us. God grant us the wisdom to fulfill our aspirations.

Here and elsewhere in interviews, letters, and conversations he has paid generous tribute to Meredith's past. "Improving upon success will not be easy," he said to the Alumnae Council a few weeks after his arrival. This recognition of what has been done at Meredith and his confident, far-reaching plans for her advancement give bright promise for the future. As President Heilman asserted in his in-

augural address, “The doors are open wider today than ever before.”

There were other events of the inaugural day—coffee in Mae Grimmer House for the guests before the inauguration, luncheon in the College dining hall after it, and a reception in honor of President and Mrs. Heilman in the afternoon. In the late afternoon the President’s home on Glen Eden Drive was open for viewing. In the evening the Meredith Playhouse presented Stephen Vincent Benét’s *John Brown’s Body*. Ruth Ann Baker Phillips, of the department of English and Speech, directed the beautifully dramatized poem, a production in which she had the cooperation of Beatrice Donley in the music and Frances Stevens, of the department of physical education, in the dances.

In the inauguration ceremonies the linking of the immediate past with the future was symbolized in the presentation of the presidential medallion to the new president by the president emeritus. Used for the first time on this occasion, the medallion, which consists of the College seal hung on a double grosgrain ribbon of maroon and white, the Meredith colors, is to be worn by the president on all academic occasions.

The linking was symbolized in a much more significant way in the ground-breaking for Carlyle Campbell library, which took place the day before the inauguration. As was fitting, Dr. Campbell turned the first shovelful of earth. Following the ceremony a reception was given in Mae Grimmer House in honor of President and Mrs. Campbell.

The need of a new library building had long been recognized. On the old campus three classrooms—two of these put together—had served for the library. Hence when the College moved to its present site, the whole of the second floor of Johnson Hall, with the exception of the rooms in the east wing used by the day students, seemed wonderfully spacious to librarians and readers. But even though additional space was provided by the use of one of the society halls on the third floor, as books, students, faculty, and courses multiplied, much more room was needed.

This need was recognized long before it could be met. In

1944 the goal of the fund-raising campaign, \$565,000, was intended to provide for a chapel and music building, a gymnasium and swimming pool, and a library. (Money went a long way in 1944!) In the 1952 campaign the trustees and administration were less sanguine; and of the \$2,250,000 set as a goal, \$50,000 was designated for improvements in the library. In 1958, of the \$5,000,000 hoped for, \$500,000 was to be used for a new library. Before 1958 Jones Hall and Joyner Hall had been built; and later came Hunter Hall, Ellen Brewer House, Poteat Hall, and Delia Dixon Carroll Infirmary. To the executive committee of the trustees in October, 1960, and again in November, 1961, Dr. Campbell pointed out "the urgent and increasing need for a new library."

A gift of \$50,000 from the Mary Reynolds Babcock Foundation in December, 1962, gave impetus to the plans for the new building. Nine months later, on September 24, 1963, the trustees voted unanimously "that the proposed library building for which gifts are now being received, be named in honor of Dr. Carlyle Campbell." To the Board of Trustees Sankey Blanton reported in February, 1965, that \$110,661.61 had been pledged for the building. A few months after the ground-breaking in 1967, the construction of the building began; it was completed in January, 1969.

On the afternoon of Founders' Day, February 27, 1969, the library was dedicated. In the brief dedicatory service in the auditorium, W. Perry Crouch, general secretary-treasurer of the Baptist State Convention, gave the invocation; William W. Finlator, minister of Pullen Memorial Baptist Church, led a litany of praise; President Heilman welcomed the guests; Elizabeth James Dotterer, chairman of the library building committee, spoke on the naming of the library; Mary Lynch Johnson, senior member of the faculty, gave the dedicatory address; Luther M. Massey, former chairman of the Board of Trustees, offered the prayer of dedication; and Sankey L. Blanton, former director of development, pronounced the benediction. The Meredith Vocal Ensemble, under Miss Donley's direction, sang. After this service, C. Clifford Cameron, chairman of the Board of Trustees, who had in the morning given the

Founders' Day address, made the formal presentation of Carlyle Campbell Library in a ceremony which took place on the mall in front of the library. The building was accepted for the administration by President Heilman; for the library staff by Miss Baity; and for the students by Suzanne Carpenter Wright, president of the Student Government Association. A reception in the library followed the presentation of gold keys to Miss Baity and Dr. Campbell.

The visitors going from the mall into the library for the reception found in the center panel of the entrance a large bronze seal of the College. Within the entrance they faced Dr. Campbell's portrait, presented to Meredith in 1954.¹

The guests found much to see and admire in the new library. On several trips to colleges and universities in different parts of the country Miss Baity and Miss Greene had made a careful study of buildings and the workings of their libraries. Throughout the planning of the Meredith library they were in close consultation with the architect, J. Russell Bailey, a nationally known expert in the architecture of libraries. The library building committee was composed of Hazel Baity, Howard R. Boozer, W. J. Broadwell, Raymond A. Bryan, Elizabeth J. Dotterer, Elizabeth D. Reid, Norma Rose, W. Hal Trentman, and Straughan H. Watkins. Their interest in the project and their conscientiousness were evident in their faithfulness in attending the meetings and their helpful suggestions throughout the work.

The building is ideally located between Joyner and Hunter, set slightly back from them. Like the other buildings on the campus, it is brick, with limestone trim. It is a functional structure which, though different in style, harmonizes with the other buildings. The architect called it "a graceful combination of contemporary and traditional styling."

It has all the equipment of an up-to-date library—an audio-visual center, photo-copy equipment, microfilm files, a special collections room, archives, an art-lending library, and large, well-furnished staff offices and lounge. The circu-

¹ See p. 210.

lation desk was given by the class of 1967. The three floors of the library have ample room for 150,000 books; at present (1970-71) there are 60,600 volumes with 312 periodicals, 1944 public documents, 2,500 reels of microfilm, 348 records, 39 filmstrips, and 50 framed pictures. The appropriation to the library for 1970-71, exclusive of salaries and upkeep, was \$37,276.

All three floors have a generous number of carrels as well as study tables; and on the second floor are nine small study rooms, to six of which faculty members engaged in research have first claim. The library has a seating capacity of 360, exclusive of the lounges.

The books are even more accessible than they were in the Johnson Hall library, where the stacks, though open, were in a separate room. Now the book shelves are in easy reach of the carrels and study tables. In Johnson Hall even a tip-toe resounded; the wall-to-wall carpeting in the new library makes footsteps noiseless and has a quieting effect on voices. The chairs at the study tables and at the desks in the study rooms are comfortable; in the periodical room and in the open lounge at the front of the second floor the arm-chairs and divans are even more invitingly conducive to leisure reading.

Carlyle Campbell Library fully measures up to the ideal of which Dr. Vann wrote in 1911, when the Meredith library was still housed in two classrooms:

A library should be not only ample, airy, and well-furnished, but it should be attractive and pleasant, so as not only to afford eager students opportunities for comfortable reading and study, but to invite the indifferent and cultivate in them a taste for reading and study.

Of the six who make up the library staff, three—Hazel Baity, Jane Greene, and Dorothy McCombs—have degrees in library science; Dorothy Quick is a library assistant, and Rebecca Anders and Josephine Chapman are clerical assistants. Student assistants worked during the year 1970-71 a total of 6,151 hours.

The use of the library began about three weeks before the dedication. February 5 was moving day—Book-In, the stu-

dents called it. There were no classes; and students, faculty, and staff with armfuls of books trudged or tripped, according to the agility of the mover, from Johnson Hall to the new building. Though a few shirkers chose to regard the day as a mere holiday with no responsibility on their part, it was for most a happy, exciting experience. The procedure could have resulted in chaos had it not been for the excellent planning of the library staff and of Dr. Grubbs, chairman of the library committee. In the old library, staff members gave each mover an armful of books and a number; and in the new quarters, staff members were ready to make sure that the books were placed on the new shelves according to the numbers. Coffee, cold drinks, and doughnuts in the morning and afternoon with a picnic lunch at noon gave pleasant breaks between the repeated trips. Dr. Campbell moved the first book, *A History of Meredith College*.²

Before the library was completed, a new dormitory, east of the quadrangle and slightly northeast of the Bee Hive was under way. The ground for it was broken on Alumnae Day, 1968, and it was ready for occupancy in September, 1969. The general structure of the other residence halls was followed—two bedrooms for four students with a bath between the two rooms. The furniture is built-in; for each student there is a bed, a dresser, a wardrobe, two chairs, and a desk with bookshelves. The first floor has a study room, a laundry room with a drying area, a social room, and a family room with chairs, divans, tables, a full-sized stove, sink, and refrigerator. There is wall-to-wall carpeting in the corridors and in all the rooms. A second dormitory, completed in 1971, is almost identical in plan. It is north of its twin and in exact line with it. The two will eventually be joined end to end by a common reception room. The students' enthusiasm for these new dormitories and for President Heilman was evidenced by their nickname for the first of them—the Heilman-Hilton.

The second of the two newest dormitories was built on the site of the old gymnasium, torn down after forty-two years of use. The physical education program had long been

² This was, of course, the 1956 edition of the book.

severely handicapped by inadequacy in size and equipment of that building and by its deplorable dilapidation. The trustees' minutes show that virtually every reference to the urgent need of a library was accompanied by a reference to the equally urgent need of a physical education-recreation building.

Completed in September, 1970, Weatherspoon Building amply meets that need. \$400,000, half of its cost, was given by the family of the late James Raymond Weatherspoon and by his brother, Walter Herbert Weatherspoon. Though such a generous gift would justify the naming of the building for the donors, in accord with Meredith tradition the name has in other ways a significant connection with the College.

James Raymond Weatherspoon was one of the best known and most respected business men in Raleigh. One of the founders of the Durham Life Insurance Company, he was until his death in 1950 treasurer of that company. He took an active part in business organizations in Raleigh and in the state, as well as in the community affairs of the city. As a deacon and chairman of various important committees, Mr. Weatherspoon was an influential leader in the First Baptist Church of Raleigh.

His wife and daughters continue his interest in Meredith. Of the four daughters—Laura Weatherspoon Harrill, Stuart Weatherspoon Upchurch, Margaret Weatherspoon Parker, and Anne Weatherspoon Phoenix—three are Meredith graduates. Mrs. Harrill is a trustee of the College; she is a past president of the Alumnae Association and is vitally interested in all its activities. Mrs. Parker, who has been vice-president of the Alumnae Association, is a member of the Board of Associates. One of her daughters, Margaret Anne, graduated in 1966; another, Mary Stuart, in 1971.

Walter Herbert Weatherspoon is as prominent in the legal profession as his brother was in business affairs. Among other responsibilities is his position as attorney for the Carolina Power and Light Company. He is a director of that company, as well as chairman of the Board of Directors of the First Federal Savings and Loan Association. Mr.

Weatherspoon is active, as was his brother, in the First Baptist Church, where for many years he taught the Jones-Brewer Berean class and where he is a life member of the Board of Deacons, of which he has often been chosen chairman. He was first elected to the Meredith Board of Trustees in 1918; in 1967 he was made an honorary life member of that body, the only one who has received that honor. His experience, his wisdom, and his unstinted use of his time in its behalf are of inestimable value to Meredith.

Weatherspoon Building is as nearly ideal for its purpose as is Carlyle Campbell library for its use. Like Jones Hall and the library, except for the use of brick with limestone trim it breaks completely from the Georgian architecture on the campus. It is an H-shaped building, with the gymnasium in the west side and the swimming pool in the east. The space between provides for a large dance studio, a class-room with audio-visual equipment, faculty offices, a lounge, showers, and lockers. The well-equipped gymnasium has basketball and tennis courts of regulation size, as well as provision for other sports. It has excellent sound equipment and seating for 670 spectators. The six-lane swimming pool has a one-meter springboard and space on both sides which can later provide for seating for spectators. Like Johnson Hall, the infirmary, the library, the dining hall, and the two new dormitories, the building is air-conditioned, as all the buildings will eventually be.

The ground was broken for Weatherspoon Building on May 3, 1968, and it was ready for occupancy in September, 1970. It is located on the northwest side of the campus, with its main entrance facing south. To the north it faces the extension of Wade Avenue, which leads into the belt-line of U.S. Highway 1 and 64.

The dedication took place in the gymnasium on September 25, 1970. Shearon Harris, chairman of the Board of Trustees, who presided, accepted the building for the trustees; Victor Bell for the Board of Associates; President Heilman, Craven Allen Burris, academic dean, and Marie Mason, dean of students, for the administration. Jay Massey, chairman of the department of health and physical educa-

tion, accepted it for the faculty; Eula Hodges Boatright, '28, president of the Alumnae Association, for the alumnae; and Gail Gaddy, president of the Student Government Association, and Jane Kiser, president of the Meredith Recreation Association, for the students. The vocal ensemble paid a tribute in song to the family, the honored guests of the occasion. A group of dancers gave a light touch to the program.

The series of acceptances which looked rather formidable on the program were brief, holding the attention of the audience well. As a climax, Mr. Weatherspoon was presented with a gold key to the building. The tumultuous applause when he rose was a tribute to him as representing all the donors; the redoubled applause after he spoke was a tribute to the wit and the heartwarming quality of his talk.

An editorial, "Brother Builders" in the *News and Observer* of February 28, 1968 paid tribute to the Weatherspoons and to Meredith.

Long before the announcement of their splendid gift to Meredith College, the services and citizenship of the two brothers, Herbert Weatherspoon and the late James Weatherspoon had been appreciated by Raleigh and North Carolina. In public and private enterprise, they led in the generation which made the State Capital the greater and more vital city which it is today.

Also few institutions have so well marked the growth in service to the city and the State as has Meredith College. . . . In its fine plant on its lovely campus, it beautifies and blesses the city with its presence. All who join the Weatherspoons in aiding its growth can be sure that they stretch their hands into a future of service in the education of young women and the endless enlightenment of this community and country.

Two more buildings are under construction—the College Center and the President's home, which President Heilman refers to as the College residence as it will be used for many college functions and special guests. Ground was broken for the first-named on Founders' Day, February 27, 1971, and for the other on the following day. A site south of Weatherspoon Building and west of Joyner Hall was chosen for the College Center; the President's home is on the part of the campus north of Wade Avenue. This house is

nearly finished; it is expected that the College Center will be completed in the spring of 1972.

The College Center, a two-story brick building, is to be decidedly modern in design, with not even a nod of recognition to the Georgian style which prevails on the Campus. In it will be a social center for the College, replacing the structure which now houses the Bee Hive and giving much more space for books, other supplies, and the snack bar. The day students, crowded in a suite in Brewer Hall since the remodeling of Johnson Hall displaced them, have a study and recreational area in the building. Also there are faculty lounges and a dining room, which will be used instead of the alumnae house for meals served by the dining hall for special guests of the College.

From an earlier campaign \$209,861 was designated for a College Center. Also, the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation gave \$100,000 to be used for this building.³ The Kresge Foundation gave \$50,000 to the College to be used in providing facilities in the center for a continuing education program for women in the area.

The College Center has not yet been named, but like Carlyle Campbell Library and Weatherspoon Building, the President's home was named before it was built. The name, Massey House, is not only in recognition of the generous gift of Dr. and Mrs. Luther M. Massey which made possible its construction, but in gratitude for Dr. Massey's long service to Meredith. He has been a trustee for more than twenty years and was chairman of the Board when Dr. Heilman was elected. The choice of the President's home on Glen Eden Drive was made largely by Dr. and Mrs. Massey, as were the preparations for the occupancy of that house.

Three of his honors quite different in nature give an idea of Dr. Massey's activities outside his profession, dentistry. In 1966 he received an award from the Zebulon Baptist Church for "thirty-nine years of devoted and outstanding service" as superintendent of the Sunday school; in 1967 he received the Second Mile Award from the General As-

³ Later this foundation gave an additional \$100,000 to strengthen the financial aid program of the College.

sembly for meritorious service in the field of retirement legislation; and in 1970 he was given a distinguished service citation as an outstanding alumnus of Wake Forest University.⁴

As the new buildings were going up, many improvements were being made in the existing buildings and on the grounds. Summer after summer, workmen swarmed over the campus. Deep red carpeting was laid in the foyer of Jones Hall and in the aisles of the auditorium. The podium given by the class of 1970 adds impressiveness to the stage. The portrait of Wesley Norwood Jones, painted by L. Freeman and presented to the College by the family of Mr. Jones, has been hung in the foyer.

Lighter paint and new doors brightening rooms and corridors, wall-to-wall carpeting in the corridors, fluorescent lights, new furnishings for the social rooms, new tile and built-in cabinets in the bathrooms, showers to supplement the tubs—all these increase the comfort and attractiveness of the four dormitories in the quadrangle—Brewer, Faircloth, Vann, and Stringfield. In the renovation of Stringfield, one room is of especial interest—the Ellie Beckwith Stringfield Room. Wishing their mother to be honored in the building honoring their father, the living children of Mr. and Mrs. Stringfield—Mozelle Stringfield Swain, Preston Calvin Stringfield, Miriam Stringfield Brantley, Bernice Stringfield McKay, Oliver Linwood Stringfield, and Vann B. Stringfield⁵—made a gift to be used for refurbishing and redecorating the first floor social room. They also gave for the room two paintings done by their mother and her portrait, painted by her granddaughter, Dorothy Swain. The room was presented and dedicated on April 30, 1971, at which time Dr. Stringfield in behalf of the family presented to the College the family Bible.

The reminiscent talk which he made on that occasion and at an earlier assembly delighted his audiences. On every visit which he has made to the campus he is warmly welcomed for his own sake as well as for his parents'. Dr.

⁴ The same honor came to Dean Peacock in 1964.

⁵ All three daughters are Meredith alumnae. Another son, the late Lamar Stringfield, was the founder and first director of the North Carolina Symphony Orchestra.

Stringfield is a retired physician of national repute, living in Stamford, Connecticut where the consulting room in the children's wing of the Stamford hospital is named for him. He has been called "an up-to-date physician with the heart of a horse-and-buggy doctor."⁶

Students at Meredith before 1919 remember that using the telephone was then a privilege restricted to seniors; earlier generations remember that there was only one telephone for the whole college. Now extension and pay telephones are on every floor of the dormitories. Since 1968 any student (except first-semester freshmen) may have a telephone in her room, for which she pays the telephone company the regular rate. The number of these phones, 107 in 1970-71, shows the popularity of the innovation, even though one junior commented ruefully the first month that she was paying "\$5.35 a month for nothing but two wrong numbers in three weeks!"

When the library was moved from the second floor of Johnson Hall, sweeping changes were made in that building. With the removal of the floor of the large circular room which had served as reference room and main reading room, the rotunda is now open from the first floor to the dome; thus a stately spaciousness has been given to the reception room, into which the main entrance leads. The four Scripture texts around the wall immediately under the dome, which had a deep significance for the more thoughtful users of the library, can now be seen by everyone who comes into Johnson Hall, which means virtually everyone who comes to Meredith. The inscriptions are more beautiful and more easily read now as the letters are overlaid with gold.⁷

A broad stairway carpeted in rich red directly opposite the main entrance divides halfway up into steps leading to the right and to the left. In the east wing is located the

⁶ The girls in Stringfield Hall have initiated a "String Scholarship," awarded for the first time in 1970-71. For the next year Dr. Stringfield has matched their contribution of \$125.00 to the fund, and plans to continue to do so in succeeding years.

⁷ These are the inscriptions:

Jesus saith, I am the way, the truth, and the life.

Other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

Study to show thyself approved unto God.

Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

president's suite, with the impressive Board Room for meetings of the trustees and for other special meetings. The walls of the suite are finished with walnut paneling with which the gold carpets and drapes harmonize. In this room are the portraits of Thomas Meredith and President Heilman. Thomas Meredith's was painted and given in 1911 by his granddaughter, Mrs. Ada Tolson Ralls; President Heilman's was painted by Charles G. Tucker and presented by Irwin Belk. The portrait of President Vann, painted by Jacques Busbee and presented by the class of 1909; and that of President Brewer, painted by L. E. Gebhardt and presented by the class of 1924, are on the wall obliquely facing the entrance to the presidential suite, one on either side.

In the west wing are the offices for the directors of development and for the director of admissions and their staffs. Mr. Stringfield's portrait, painted by Jacques Busbee and presented by the class of 1912, is on the wall obliquely facing the entrance to the offices of the directors of development.

The removal of all these offices from the first floor gave additional space much needed for the academic dean, the registrar, the business manager, and the dean of students. Plans for the use of the third floor were not fully completed at the end of the 1970-71 session. The offices for the director of the Raleigh Cooperating Colleges will be in the east wing, and the College duplicating office and storage rooms will be in the west wing. An elevator, a gift from the Westinghouse Company, was in 1970 installed in the west wing.

With the newest dormitory not completed, forty-three new students lived for the first semester of 1970-71 in both wings on the third floor. Before coming they all knew of their temporary lodging; and in spite of the inconveniences, there was little complaint, partly because they were grateful to be accepted at Meredith and partly because they enjoyed the novelty of living temporarily in "barracks."

Alumnae coming back for commencement in 1970, remembering how hot and noisy the dining room had been

during the alumnae luncheon, could hardly believe they were at Meredith as they entered the air-conditioned room. The walls are covered with felt which, with the carpeted floor and the acoustical tiles of the ceiling, reduces the noise of footsteps, rattling dishes, and excited voices. The white inner shutters at the windows, the dark, rich hunter's green of the wall-covering with which the shades of green in the figured carpet harmonize, the soft lights set in the ceiling, and the chandeliers transform the appearance of the room. The seven chandeliers, patterned closely after the candelabra used in Colonial Williamsburg, are in keeping with the Georgian architecture of the living halls.

The last of the quadrangle buildings to receive a name, the dining hall is now Belk Hall. Its renovation was made possible by a gift of Irwin Belk, of Charlotte, a member of the Board of Associates since 1967, who made the gift in honor of his wife, Carol Grotnes Belk. Both were present for the dedication of the hall on Founders' Day, February 27, 1970. One of the foremost business men in Charlotte, Mr. Belk, president of Belk Enterprises, was for four consecutive years named one of Charlotte's ten outstanding young men. He is a director of the North Carolina Bureau of Employment for the Blind and has been state campaign chairman of the North Carolina Chapter of the Arthritis Foundation. He is active in the work of the Presbyterian Church.

Ever since the purchase of the present site, the trustees and administration have kept in mind the future growth and development of the College. A master plan for the campus hung in Dr. Brewer's office; one was in Dr. Campbell's; and one is now in Dr. Heilman's. Though through the years there have been changes and additions, the soundness of all the planning is evident in that every building is well placed in relation to the campus as a whole.

The grounds have been improved in many ways. Year after year the need for adequate lighting on the campus was brought up in the trustees' meetings. A gift of \$75,000 from the General Electric Company has since 1968 provided bright lights over the entire campus. The rainy days which made the Meredith campus, to quote the *Twig*, a “flower

garden of umbrellas" also made muddy walks of the sand-clay paths. These have been replaced by brick and cement walks, gifts of several graduating classes having been designated for this purpose. The brick for the first of these walks, those in the court, were given by George Norwood, of Lillington, who has also made later gifts of brick.

The chain-link fence which surrounds the campus looked rather grim in 1969 until pine trees and rosebushes were planted along by it the next spring. Even though they were so small, many of the rosebushes had blossoms when they were set out; and now they are growing so well that, instead of the red roses merely covering the fence, the fence will soon serve as a support for the roses.

Alumnae and other friends have given trees, shrubs, and flowering plants which, as they grow, add each year to the beauty of the campus. The gift of the class of 1960, dogwoods on either side of the driveway, was especially welcome, as some of the Japanese flowering cherry trees given by the alumnae soon after the College moved have died.

On the cover of the *Biblical Recorder* for December 14, 1968, was a picture of the Meredith lake and amphitheater after a snowfall, with this comment:

The Elva Bryan McIver Theater at Meredith College was one of the most beautiful places in Raleigh—or anywhere else—last week as winter came early to some parts of North Carolina.

That winter beauty is now rivaled in the spring when around the lake and on the hillside masses of azaleas flame into bloom.

With the addition of the new buildings—the library, the two dormitories, the physical education and recreation building, the College Center, and the President's home—and with the remodeling of existing buildings, Meredith adequately provides for a thousand resident and two hundred non-resident students, an enrollment which the trustees and administration consider maximum for the foreseeable future.⁸ The limitation in size increases rather than lessens the opportunities for the advancement of the

⁸ As yet no provision has been made for a chapel or for additions to Joyner and Hunter, both of which are in the master plan.

College, as President Heilman pointed out in the *Meredith Advocate* for December, 1968:

At Meredith we use a dollar wisely and well. We do so because of what we are. The big universities need football teams and stadiums; they need medical schools; they need graduate programs; they need urban renewal; they need planetariums. We do not need them. Therefore with a million we can do more for Meredith than many universities can do for themselves with ten million or more. There is nothing to prove that any college or university anywhere has more successfully educated its students than the small college, especially Meredith.

In “Charting Meredith’s Future,” an article in the *Alumnae Magazine* for June, 1968, President Heilman wrote: “By becoming a very large college, Meredith could unquestionably hold and increase the variety of its offerings, but it would sacrifice the precious quality of intimacy.”

Genuine as is the President’s enthusiasm for Meredith, generous as is his recognition of what has been so well done in the past, nevertheless he realizes that not to advance is to go backward. And he is not a man to let the grass grow under his feet—or under anybody else’s. The minutes of the trustees show that by November of his first year plans were well under way for the Advancement Program which was launched in February, 1968.

The immediate aim of this program was to provide \$4,-300,000 for new buildings, the remodeling of some of the existing buildings,⁹ and campus improvements, all of which have been earlier described; and \$700,000 for faculty and staff benefits and for student aid. Of equal if not greater importance is the setting up of a permanent program which will provide for the College a million dollars each year beyond its regular sources of income. The Advancement program has been and continues to be successful, with \$3,-884,609.31 contributed by July 1, 1971. It has at the same time created good will among many to whom Meredith was little more than a name and increased it among those who were already friends and supporters of the College.

⁹ In the spring of 1966 there was a nucleus for the building program. The minutes of the executive committee of the Board of Trustees for March 28, 1966, show that on that date there was on hand \$209,861.77 for a student center building, \$116,178.47 for the library, and \$30,584.34 for equitation facilities.

The Board of Trustees took the first step in support of the proposed program when they gave it their unanimous approval, an assent which was strengthened by their immediate and unanimous agreement to the suggestion of Dr. Massey, at that time chairman of the Board, that the members pledge themselves to be responsible for \$500,000 of the \$5,000,000 in the years 1967-1970, a goal which they far exceeded. From 1889, when the first trustees were appointed, all through the history of the College, the trustees have given it their staunch, unwavering support. Since 1945, when the Convention began in all its institutions the rotation of trustees, it has been impossible to have long, unbroken tenures like those of the earlier trustees. However, there are always deeply interested new members who do good service, and there are men and women who maintain their interest in the school whether on or off the Board. These may be reelected again and again after the year's interval necessary each time for them to be eligible for another term of four years as Meredith trustees.

In 1966-67, the year the Advancement Program was planned and begun, the Board of Trustees consisted of the following:

Douglas Aldrich	Donald G. Myers
Hugh G. Ashcraft	J. R. Noffsinger
W. J. Broadwell	Mary C. Norwood
Raymond A. Bryan	W. Roy Poole
C. C. Cameron	Bland B. Pruitt
Edwin S. Coates	E. L. Rankin, Jr.
C. B. Deane	Elizabeth D. Reid
Elizabeth J. Dotterer	Thomas L. Rich, Jr.
Christine B. Farrior	E. T. Rollins, Jr.
Hayden B. Hayes	D. J. Thurston, Jr.
R. W. Kicklighter	Henry Turlington
Ione K. Knight	W. H. Westphal
John M. Lewis	W. Fred Williams
L. M. Massey (chairman)	
W. Herbert Weatherspoon, Honorary Life Member	

The gifts and services of some of these are noted in this

chapter. To other members of this year and of other years whose gifts have been just as generous—some of them more sacrificial—and services just as devoted, Meredith owes a deep debt of gratitude.

The references from time to time in the accounts of the meetings of the Board to the need for sacrificial giving and for prayer remind one of the earnestness of the early trustees. An alumna trustee who gave to Meredith far beyond her limited means wrote to her classmates:

Will you join me in praying *daily*, with earnestness and faith, that God will put it into the hearts of men and women to enjoy “the luxury of large giving” to our beloved Alma Mater?

Charles Bennett Deane, elected to the Board first in 1959, was also especially aware of this need. Recorded in the minutes of the trustees for September 25, 1962, is Mr. Deane’s urgent plea that “each trustee pray earnestly for one another and for Meredith College.” He asked that “each trustee study his own stewardship program and think about how we as a group can be more forceful in creating a better society in the future.”

Mr. Deane had been a congressman for ten years when in 1956 he lost his seat because of his refusal to sign the “Southern Manifesto,” which pledged resistance by any legal means to desegregation. A resolution adopted by the executive committee of the Board of Trustees on December 15, 1967, said of Mr. Deane’s refusal:

His great stand in sacrificing his seat in Congress for a principle of brotherly love to all men made an impact of Christianity everywhere.

When he was thus freed from national responsibilities, his wholehearted devotion to the forces of righteousness in North Carolina turned defeat into victory.

In addition to the Board of Trustees, made up of Baptists who are residents of North Carolina, another source of great strength to the College is the Board of Associates. Its formation was authorized by the trustees in September, 1966; it was organized in January, 1967. This board, the members of which serve a three-year term and are eligible for re-

election, consists of about fifty business and civic leaders from all parts of North Carolina and beyond. Distinguished for activities in many different fields, these men and women are united in their genuine interest in Meredith. Though the wide contacts which its members have in the business world are of vast importance to the College, their service is by no means limited to that aspect. In the *Twig* of December 15, 1966, Dr. Massey, then chairman of the Board of Trustees, said of the associates:

The group can give the trustees and the College invaluable aid, not only by helping to obtain the money Meredith needs to maintain its position of leadership, but also by lending us both tangible and intangible benefits from their years of experience in the non-academic world.

This new board was fortunate in having as its first chairman a man so well qualified for the position as Shearon Harris. As chief executive officer of the Carolina Power and Light Company and as a director of other important companies in North Carolina and elsewhere, Mr. Harris has great influence in the business world. He also assumes responsibilities as a citizen; he is a director of the Raleigh Chamber of Commerce and a member of its executive committee and is president of the North Carolina Citizens' Association. A devout Christian, the son of a Baptist minister, he is a leader in his local church and in larger Christian enterprises. He is a Sunday school teacher, a deacon, and a trustee in Hayes Barton Baptist Church; a director of the North Carolina Foundation of Church-Related Colleges and of the North Carolina Baptist Foundation; and he has been parliamentarian of the Baptist State Convention.

Yet he saw his chairmanship of the Meredith Board of Associates not merely as one more demand on the time and energy of a very busy man, but as an opportunity for great service which he welcomed. The *Twig* of December 15, 1966, reported a significant comment which he made soon after his election: "I am thrilled and challenged by the invitation to have a part in the development of Meredith's future." And six months later, in the first number (July,

1967) of the *Meredith Advocate*, a small paper issued by the College at intervals, he wrote:

I look upon service on the Board of Associates as a commitment of personal responsibility. In my own case I found it necessary to withdraw from other commitments in order to give Meredith the time and effort that I think she deserves during this important period of her development . . . Meredith stands on the threshold of a new and exciting era in her history.

The relation of the Board of Associates and the Board of Trustees is close. President Heilman characterized the new board as "an extension of the Board of Trustees in that its members will be committed to the ideals of Meredith, to its program, and to its support." The chairman of this board is invited to attend the meetings of the executive committee of the Board of Trustees as a non-voting member, and in the semiannual sessions of the Board of Trustees the two boards meet jointly at dinner. In several cases members of one board have served on the other — the terms, of course, not being concurrent. After three years as chairman of the Board of Associates, Shearon Harris was in 1970 elected to the Board of Trustees and became its chairman. In that capacity he succeeded C. Clifford Cameron, who was in turn elected an associate and was made chairman of that board. In 1971 Mr. Cameron again became a trustee and chairman of the Board of Trustees.

One of the leading business men in North Carolina, Mr. Cameron was a founder of the Cameron-Brown Realty Company, one of the eleven largest mortgage banking firms in the nation, in which he is still a director. He is now president and chairman of the Board of Directors of the First Union National Bank Corporation which has its headquarters in Charlotte. His interest and activities go beyond the business world; he is vice-president of the North Carolina School of Arts Foundation and is a trustee of the University of North Carolina. In 1961 President Campbell commented on "the distinguished service of Mr. Cameron as chairman of the United Fund of Raleigh."

Mr. Cameron came to the Board of Trustees in 1960. Chosen for a second term beginning in 1966, he remained

on the executive committee of the Board even though he had moved to Charlotte. His airplane has been a magic carpet, making it possible for him and President Heilman to have in a few days an almost unbelievable number of engagements and interviews in Meredith's behalf.

In recognition of all of Mr. Cameron's and Mr. Harris' service to Meredith and especially in gratitude for their gifts which made possible the renovation of the presidential suite and of the offices of development in Johnson Hall, these two areas were named respectively the Cameron and the Harris suite.

The rotunda was named in honor of Raymond A. Bryan of Goldsboro, president of the T. A. Loving Company. His service of more than twenty years as trustee and as associate marks him as one of the especially devoted and especially influential friends of Meredith. Avoiding rather than seeking publicity, Mr. Bryan protested the naming of the rotunda for him, a protest which his fellow trustees and the College president overruled.

Another man who deserves special recognition in the Advancement Program is Victor E. Bell, an important figure in the business and civic life of Raleigh. Shearon Harris said that he considered Mr. Bell one of the most significant factors in the financial success of the Advancement Program. As co-chairman of the Board of Associates, Mr. Bell led in the Raleigh campaign. His ability in fundraising and his generous use of this ability in volunteer work has given him much experience by which Meredith has profited. He has been campaign chairman for the Wake County United Fund, the North Carolina Symphony, and the Raleigh Little Theater. Not only his skill and experience in finances, but his ability in other ways has been at the service of the community. He is a past president of the Raleigh Chamber of Commerce and of the College Foundation, and for eight years was chairman of the Raleigh Re-development Commission.

In recognition of the "outstanding contribution of time, talent, leadership, and resources to the advancement of Meredith" made by the first chairman and co-chairman

of the Board of Associates, the trustees in 1969 established the Harris and Bell Award, a certificate to be presented annually by the College "to the extraordinary man or woman, other than an alumna, trustee, or member of the faculty, whose personal influence and achievements are of historical significance to the College." The first presentation of the award was, most appropriately, a double one—to Mr. Harris and to Mr. Bell. In 1970 the award was given to Mr. Cameron.

Mr. Harris made the 1968 Founders' Day address, "To Sway the Minds of Men."¹⁰ Having given high praise to the sacrifices of the founders of the College, he asked two pertinent questions: "What commitment shall we make to the Founders for the future of Meredith College?" and "Will there be a Meredith College to observe the Centennial in 1999?" A thorough, objective consideration of these questions based on research and on discussions with people experienced in education and finances brought him to this conclusion:

I believe we possess a full appreciation of our tradition and we have a clear vision of our obligation and opportunity to serve. With clarity of understanding that we may justify and sustain our institution only by the true value of its service, I am persuaded that so long as Meredith College remains dedicated to and succeeds in achieving the objective charted by its Founders, "to sway the minds of men in behalf of virtue and religion," its light shall continue to beam brightly.

Mr. Cameron in his Founders' Day address, "Man's Most Vital Need," a year later referred to the "stern challenge" of Mr. Harris's two questions. Praising not only the sacrifices of the past, but the generosity of those deeply concerned with Meredith "whose unprecedented support has made this year [1969] one of the most significant of Meredith's seventy-eight years," he, too, presented a "stern challenge." To strengthen this support of "our most intimate friends," he said, "we must seek the generosity of a larger

¹⁰ Mr. Harris took his title from William Hooper's recommendation to the 1836 Baptist State Convention concerning the establishment of a Female Seminary. See p. 3.

circle of friends by creating in them an awareness of Meredith's role in the development of our society." In choosing the causes to which we give, we are preserving our individual freedom; and in giving to worthy causes and encouraging others to give, we are not only improving our community, state, and nation, we are meeting our own and other givers' most vital need—generosity. He applied this principle to the great opportunity which Meredith offers for generous giving:

When we contribute to causes great, such as Meredith, we are enhancing our freedom, our community, and ourselves. When we ask others to give, we are helping them. . . . We are meeting their highest need.

Delivered by men who give freely of their time and influence as well as their means, both addresses were worthy of the business man, the philosophical thinker, and the Christian.

An organization more recent than the Board of Associates is the Public Relations Advisory Board, created in 1969. With Bryan Haislip, of John Hardin Associates, as the first chairman, this Board is made up of experts in various areas of public relations. Its purpose, the May, 1969 *Advocate* stated, is "to strengthen the College's public relations by analyzing projects now in effect and advising Meredith as it seeks to meet opportunities effectively."

The November, 1970, *Advocate* announced the formation of two even newer organizations—the Meredith College Parents' Association and the Meredith College Estate Planning Advisory Council. The first named, composed of parents of current students, as well as former students' parents who wish to join, has as its functions the encouraging of prospective students to apply for admission to Meredith, the fostering of parents' interest in Meredith, and the promotion of Meredith to the general public.

The purpose of the Estate Planning Advisory Council as stated in its constitution is "to add the present and future estate planning program of Meredith College by advising with the President, the Director of Estate Planning and other administrative officials." Working closely with Mr.

Patterson, the Council sponsored a successful estate planning seminar on Founders' Day, 1971. The *Advocate* stated the purpose of the seminar thus:

This short program is primarily designed to inform friends of the College as to why estate planning is necessary, what happens to one's estate when there is no planning, the tax advantages of planning, and the role charitable giving has in estate planning.

The newest organization of them all — thus far — is the Meredith College Student Foundation, created in 1971, and composed of a select number of students who will aid in fund raising and in student recruitment and will represent the College when they are needed to do so.

Together with these leaders among trustees and associates, other influential friends, and student leaders, there are hundreds of men and women all over North Carolina and beyond who each year join enthusiastically in working for Meredith. These have been given the name Meredith Advocates. The nature of the group was explained in the July, 1970, *Advocate*:

In addition to our Board of Trustees and Board of Associates we have a membership roll of Meredith Advocates. . . . Tremendous benefit has been derived from the Advocate group, organized more than two years ago. . . . Not only have many made financial contributions to the College, many have also contributed in other ways—in student recruitment, in transmitting the Meredith story, in sharing ideas with us, and in promoting the good will and interest of Meredith. The results have been extended not only throughout North Carolina and the Southeast, but throughout the country and the world by some of our friends who are far removed from Meredith. . . . The special services rendered and the contributions made are a part of the reason that Meredith continues to serve.

In the past few years with the vital interest and the unceasing work of President Heilman, the trustees and associates, and the Office of Development, grants from foundations and corporations have increased markedly. The 1969-70 report of the Office of Development showed that files have been developed for more than 275 foundations, and grants have been received which varied from \$1,000 to \$100,000. By July 1, 1971, \$354,000 had been thus received.

Meredith's position in appealing to foundations and corporations has undoubtedly been strengthened by the results of two recent studies. One of these, *The New Depression in Higher Education*, a study made by Earl F. Cheit, was sponsored by the Carnegie Foundation and the Ford Foundation; the other, *The Golden Years*, a study made by Hans H. Jenny and G. Richard Wynn, was published by Wooster College, in Ohio.

The New Depression in Higher Education is a study of forty-one colleges and universities for the years 1959-60 to 1970-71, institutions which were chosen as representative of 2,729 colleges and universities in the United States. Meredith was one of forty-one institutions chosen, one of eight in the south, one of two in the state (the other being the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill), and one of two women's colleges in the nation (the other being Mills College in Oakland, California). The study showed that twenty-nine of the forty-one were in financial trouble or headed for it. "Many are continuing to operate," Dr. Heilman reported in a talk to the College assembly in January, 1971, "only through the sacrifice of some of the quality and service normally considered essential to their programs." Of the twelve liberal arts colleges only four were not in trouble or headed for it; and Meredith was one of the four.

The Golden Years, an analysis of the income and expenditures of forty-eight liberal arts colleges in the United States for a period of eight years, showed that about half of the forty-eight colleges studied were operating with a deficit. Meredith was the least expensive of all forty-eight for every year from 1962 to 1970. With one of the smallest endowments of the forty-eight, Meredith has had in recent years one of the higher levels of gift income. The expenditure per student for administration was one of the lowest, and for plant operation and maintenance Meredith's expenditures have been since 1962 the lowest of all those colleges.

President Heilman warned against overconfidence about Meredith's finances. If the College is to continue financially healthy, the enthusiastic support it has received must

continue. With our gratitude for its prosperity must go a determination "never to yield our uniqueness as a small, liberal arts Christian college for women, seeking to be different rather than following in the footsteps of the trends financial or otherwise."

Its place as the least expensive of the forty-eight liberal arts colleges surveyed in *The Golden Years* makes it clear that the increases in the cost of tuition and residence from \$1,500 in 1966-67 to \$2,400 in 1970-71 were necessary. That these increases even though justifiable brought dismayed protests is not surprising. President Heilman told in the December, 1969, *Alumnae Magazine* of the reaction of one alumna:

She asked me the other day how soon we would get 100,000 new volumes for the library, thinking that it ought to be soon. In the next breath she expressed concern for the increasing tuition charges.

Most people, however, realized the inevitability of the move; concerning the response to his letter to the parents in 1967, President Heilman told the trustees of "the very positive reaction received so far to the tuition increases, most responses having been sympathetic and supportive."

The increased cost to the student has not worked the hardship it might have done had not the funds available for student aid greatly increased. President Heilman pointed out to the alumnae in September, 1968, that in spite of increased expenses, "as a result of several years of phenomenal development in financial aid opportunities for college-bound students, we today have at Meredith a number of students who five years ago would have found it financially impossible to enroll here." And in January, 1971, Miss Josey, director of admissions said:

The increase in financial aid is a result of Meredith's commitment to providing opportunities for qualified students who do not have the necessary resources to attend college.

Concerning the student aid available, Miss Josey gave the following information:

The types of aid administered by the admissions office include scholarships, campus jobs and the following federal assistance programs: Educational Opportunity grants for students from low-income families, National Defense Student Loans, and College Work-Study jobs—most often off-campus summer jobs. A program of competitive scholarships has been developed. Each year two renewable merit scholarships are available to National Merit Scholarship Finalists; ten renewable Honor Scholarships to ten freshman applicants chosen by a committee who interview the finalists in the competition; ten renewable Regional Baptist Scholarships; and three renewable Music Talent Scholarships. The stipends for the first three range from \$100 to \$1000 per year; for the last named they range from \$100 to \$800.

The stipends, like those of the general scholarships and grants-in-aid which are available, vary according to need. There are also endowed scholarships, the donors of which in some cases set restrictions as to their use.

From 1965-66 to 1970-71 the scholarship budget of the College tripled. Pay for student employment increased from eighty-five cents to \$1.60 per hour. The total amount of student aid awarded to the 212 recipients of aid in 1970-71 was \$268,658.

Before 1966-67 though a committee passed on all applications, a student applied to the president, the dean, or the business manager according to the type or types of aid she desired. Since that year all the opportunities for financial aid have been coordinated in the admissions office, so that a student makes application to that office for any type of aid.

In meeting these increased financial needs of the school, the importance of large gifts cannot be overestimated. They are necessary to assure the financial stability of the College, to provide conditions under which students can live happily and study effectively, and to maintain the academic excellence essential to Meredith.

However, neither can the value of gifts from individuals with large hearts and small pocketbooks be overestimated. These smaller contributions come from alumnae, from parents of students, from former faculty members, and from some who have no personal ties with the College, but who recognize its value and its need. President Heilman in expressing to the alumnae appreciation for these smaller

gifts reminded them that all of these put together make a significant part of the support of the school. What is more important, they represent a love for Meredith and a loyalty which cannot be measured in dollars and cents. A gift of ten dollars from some individuals can be of greater significance than a gift of thousands from others.

Though the giver is a spinster, what was truly the widow's mite came not long ago from a 1907 graduate who, after a lifetime of teaching spent her last years in one of the Baptist homes for the aged. In spite of being severely handicapped by arthritis, for more than a year she did washing for one of her fellow-residents and sent the money she earned to Meredith. Another gift was from an eighty-one year old alumna who is not a graduate, whose "nest egg has been used up years ago." She wrote:

I am a diabetic and medicine costs a fortune, which I do not have. Would that I could give thousands, but I pray that this mite may be extended as were the loaves and fishes.

These two and many other givers prove the truth of Shearon Harris's words in his Founders' Day Address: "Sacrificial giving is a bright thread woven conspicuously throughout the fabric of the College's history."

Many small and large gifts are from individuals whose names the College will never know. They are given through the Cooperative Program, from the proceeds of which each year the Baptist State Convention appropriates generous amounts to the Baptist colleges for their current expenses and their capital needs.

Since the beginning of the Advancement Program the Office of Development has been a very busy place. In 1966-67, when Grover J. Andrews, who succeeded Sankey Blanton, was director of development at Meredith, plans for the new program were laid and the work was begun. In January, 1968, John T. Kanipe Jr., formerly in the Division of Student Affairs at North Carolina State University, became coordinator of development, a title changed the next year to executive director of development. President Heilman defined Mr. Kanipe's position as "a key administrative post which will encompass the over-all College development

program," and added that the responsibility "is a tremendous weight on the shoulders of a young man who is able to fulfill it." Later in the same year Charles W. Patterson, III, came as associate director. Before assuming his special role as director of estate planning, Mr. Patterson had with a long-established firm of financial consultants a study which, the September, 1969, *Advocate* said, "included key principles of federal, estate, gift, and income tax law, as well as extensive investigation of the fundamentals of various trust investments and life insurance plans." Individuals with whom he has had interviews have commented on his genuine interest in their problems and the general value of his sound financial advice, independent of any benefit to the College. The first gift from an irrevocable living trust was received in 1970 from the estate of Ethel Baugh, a retired school teacher who had been a grammar grade student in the Baptist Female University. In making the gift Miss Baugh was carrying out the wishes of her mother, who was interested in the College.

In an administrative reorganization, alumnae affairs and information services are all a part of development affairs and are thus listed in the catalogue. Carolyn Covington Robinson, who had been for nine years secretary to the director of development, in 1967 became director of publications and in 1968 director of information services. When in 1970 she accepted the position as director of alumnae affairs, W. L. Norton succeeded her.

Much has been going on at Meredith besides erecting buildings and raising money. Three self-studies have insured the College against the unexamined life, which Socrates pronounced not worth living. The first of these was begun in February, 1959, and completed in the spring of 1961. Dr. Campbell had several times reminded the faculty and council that the College should have in mind the importance of keeping abreast of a sound educational program. Deploring the doubtful procedure of adding a course here, changing one there, and dropping one yonder, he had stressed the need of a careful study of the curriculum as a whole. Such a study of the curriculum became part of a self-study of the whole institution which was made for the

Southern Association of Colleges and Schools and which followed the methods and outline suggested by that body. Under the guidance of a steering committee of nine, different areas to be studied were divided among twelve committees of the faculty. Many questionnaires and many committee, departmental, and faculty meetings resulted in a clear presentation of the existing situation in the College with recommendations for the future. All the material was collected and organized into a whole in the spring of 1961, a report which was, the foreword pointed out, "the culmination of two years of study and discussion by the total faculty and staff of Meredith College."

The second study, much more limited in scope, was made in 1963-64 for the Division of Professional Services of the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction. The study covered six standards with which the division was concerned: over-all policies; student personnel programs and services; faculty; curricula; professional laboratory experiences; and facilities, equipment, and materials.

The latest study was the most comprehensive and the most intensive of the three, as is indicated by the length of the report — 370 pages where eighty-seven had sufficed for the 1961 report and sixty-two for that of 1964. The study began in the spring of 1967 as a basis for long-range planning. "Retrospect and Prospect," part of the final report, quoted a sentence pertinent to the situation: "Planning without action is futile; action without planning is fatal." A year later it was decided that this long-range planning survey could well be combined with the self-study which would be necessary for re-accreditation of the College by the Southern Association, a study required of every institution at ten-year intervals.

The survey covered every phase of the College—its history and purpose, organization and administration, educational program, financial resources, faculty, library, student personnel services and activities, alumnae, physical plant, continuing education, and community services. Recommendations were made in each area for the next ten years. As in the 1961 study, the steering committee and the ten committees among whom the work was divided met end-

lessly during the two-year period. Also two three-day faculty workshops, one held before the opening of the school year in 1967 and the next in 1968, were devoted to the project. Progress reports were made by each committee; and its final report, previously distributed to each faculty member for study, was voted on item by item in a series of faculty meetings. The separate committee reports as approved were organized into one report which was in September, 1969, presented for action to President Heilman and to the trustees, each of whom had copies for study before the Board meeting.

On the recommendation of President Heilman the trustees gave their "strong affirmation to the spirit and intent of the report." The endorsement did not mean "final approval of every recommendation. . . . The administration and faculty are to use the self-study as a basis for continued inquiry into the program of the College and to implement the results of that inquiry according to the usual procedures."

This endorsement was in keeping with the statement in the foreword of the report:

It is not intended to be a fixed, unchanged blueprint for the next decade—it is, rather, a thoroughly developed set of guide lines to be used as a tool in charting the course of the College. Although remaining faithful to the objectives of the College, the plan presupposes that the institution will keep abreast of the rapid social and economic changes occurring.

With the trustees' general commendation of the faculty for their work in preparing the report went a special note of appreciation to Roger Crook and to Gloria Blanton, both of whom well deserved special commendation.

Dr. Crook as chairman of the steering committee held frequent meetings of that committee, met at least once during the course of the study with most of the separate committees, and had individual conferences with the chairmen. He presided over all the meetings of the faculty devoted to the project, including the workshops. It was not to be expected or desired that there should be unanimity of opinion among faculty members who in many cases held

widely divergent views. However, these often presented difficulties to Dr. Crook, which he dealt with admirably. While allowing plenty of time for exchange of ideas, he did not let discussions go off at a tangent from the issue under consideration; nor did he let them drift into time-wasting trivialities and repetitions. With tact and firmness he occasionally explained a point which some speaker had not made clear, calmed a speaker who was too excited and vociferous, brought to an end the remarks of another who was too verbose, and never let a timidly raised hand go unrecognized.

Dr. Blanton came in 1967 as coordinator of the long-range planning program. Her work in the final assembling of all the separate committee reports and the organizing of them into a unified whole was a complex, gigantic task well done. To accomplish it she must have had now and then a day of forty-eight hours instead of twenty-four.

For financial reasons no definite date could be set for the implementation of some of the recommendations. Even with the success of the Advancement Program, Meredith cannot say *abracadabra* and immediately add thousands of volumes to the library, produce expensive equipment, and raise teachers' salaries up to the A level on the scale of the American Association of University Professors. But definite goals are set and the College is advancing toward them.

The academic changes began almost immediately; the requirements for admission were modified before the completion of the self-study. Sixteen units are still required; but since 1968 certain ones formerly prescribed are now recommended, as the statement in the 1968 catalogue and succeeding issues shows:

Of the sixteen units, the following are recommended: four units in English, the completion of the second year of algebra, one unit in geometry, and a minimum of two units in at least one foreign language. Additional academic units, to total at least thirteen, shall be chosen from language, history, social studies, mathematics, and natural science. Three additional units may be chosen from the above subjects or from electives approved by Meredith.

Since 1969 an additional statement follows:

The Admissions Committee will consider the applicant whose secondary - school units differ from the recommended program if the over-all course program and quality of work have been strong.

Special consideration is given to a student unusually gifted in music or art.

The achievement tests in three fields are no longer required because the results over a period of six years showed them to be of negligible value as indications of a student's qualifications. For the same reason a transfer student is accepted on the basis of her college record if the college from which she comes did not require the Scholastic Aptitude Test for admission. For several years a student who received a grade of 4 or 5 (on a scale which runs up from 1 to 5) on the Advanced Placement Examination of the College Entrance Board was with the approval of the department involved given advanced placement, sometimes with academic credit. Also a student could receive advanced credit by a satisfactory grade on an examination given at Meredith by the department involved. However, no statement to that effect appeared in the catalogue until 1969. Since that time in both cases academic credit is given with the advanced placement.

The curricular changes which resulted from the self-study were put into effect partially in 1969-70 and carried further in 1970-71. The changes give the student more freedom of choice in shaping her course to meet better her individual needs. The number of definitely prescribed hours in the 124 necessary for graduation has been reduced, as the following table from the March, 1971 catalogue shows:

A candidate for the Bachelor of Arts degree must complete certain prescribed subjects, area distribution requirements, and a major specialization in a selected field, but the College seeks to provide optimum opportunity for choice in the selection of specific courses.

I. Prescribed Subjects

A. ENGLISH COMPOSITION.....	3 hours
B. LITERATURE	6 hours
1. A three-hour survey of major British authors <i>and</i>	

2. A three-hour course in English, American, or World literature; or any literature course in a foreign language.
- C. FOREIGN LANGUAGE0-12 hours
Each student will be required to demonstrate a proficiency level comparable to that attained by the end of the second college year of the language.
- D. RELIGION6 hours
1. A six-hour introduction to the Old and New Testaments or
2. A three-hour introduction to Biblical literature and history and one advanced three-hour course in religion.
- E. PHYSICAL EDUCATION4 semesters¹¹
- F. FRESHMAN COLLOQUIUM1 hour

II. *Area Distribution Requirements
in Addition to Prescribed Subjects*

- A. *Humanities and Fine Arts area*—Art, English, Foreign Language, Music, Philosophy, Religion.
Majors in subjects in this area will be expected to complete: 12 hours in subjects in the Natural Sciences and Mathematics area, and 12 hours in subjects in the Social Sciences area.
- B. *Natural Sciences and Mathematics area*—Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics, Physics.¹²
Majors in subjects in this area will be expected to complete: 6 hours in subjects in the Humanities and Fine Arts area,* and 12 hours in subjects in the Social Sciences area.
- C. *Social Sciences area*—Economics, Geography, History, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology.
Majors in subjects in this area and majors in Business and Home Economics will be expected to complete: 6 hours in subjects in the Humanities and Fine Arts area,* and 12 hours in subjects in the Natural Sciences and Mathematics area.

* Neither applied music nor studio art courses will count in the six hours of work required in the Humanities and Fine Arts area. Speech 353 is acceptable.

The Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in music, first offered in 1938, continues, with the number of hours required in liberal arts and science subjects other than music increased from 60 to 72. The Bachelor of Music degree offered for the first time in 1971 differs radically from the Bachelor of Music established in 1941, described on pages 238-239.

The 1970-71 catalogue makes clear the distinction between the two degrees:

¹¹ Since the March, 1971, catalogue was issued, the Academic Council voted to give academic credit on a pass-fail basis to physical education, with the total number of hours required for graduation increased to 124.

¹² Since the March, 1971, catalogue was issued, the Academic Council voted to add to this group physical geography, which now requires laboratory work.

The Bachelor of Arts in music is intended for the student who wishes music to be part of a total liberal arts program or for the student who may wish to do graduate study in musicology, music history, or composition. It is a non-professional, non-performance degree; it is not intended to prepare the student for a graduate program in applied music.

The four-year Bachelor of Music degree with a major in either Music Education or Applied Music seeks to produce competent, practical musicians who are well versed in the liberal arts.

There is more flexibility in the distribution of the required courses through the four years. Much of the work assigned definitely to the freshman year may now be deferred until later; only English composition, a foreign language, physical education, and the one-hour colloquium are specifically scheduled for the freshman year.

The colloquia, initiated in 1970-71, are discussion groups limited to twenty freshmen, under the guidance of a teacher. They take up significant contemporary issues not dealt with in the regular courses. Some of the topics discussed in 1970-71 were the following:

- Population: Over-population and Ecological Implications
- For Mature Audiences: Contemporary Cinema
- The News Media: Ideal and Reality
- Cults and Isms Today
- Square Pegs in Round Holes: Problems of Conformity and Non-conformity
- Negro Thought in American History
- Black Poetry
- Woman's Liberation: From What and Why?

The colloquia are taken on a pass-fail basis. Since 1968, a pass-fail option has been in effect in a limited number of courses.

Changes which allow more flexibility in major fields of study have been made in the curriculum. Since 1970 a student may have a second major, a plan which had been followed from 1926-27 to 1934-35. In addition to the traditional major in history, one in American civilization and one in non-western civilization, under the direction of Dr. Grubbs and Dr. Gates respectively, have been added. Other interdisciplinary majors and interdisciplinary courses are being planned.

Another curricular innovation is the credit, up to four

hours, allowed for work experience off the campus—community internships. These programs are carried out with the permission of the academic dean and the chairman of the department involved—usually, but not necessarily, the student's major department. The first such work was with the North Carolina Department of Archives and History. In psychology, students have received credit for work under the supervision of the high school guidance counselor, for work with the director of psychological services in the Wake County schools, and for assisting with play activities in the Method Day Center after the regular program. In business, students have worked as saleswomen and as office assistants; in sociology (with the cooperation of art majors) they have at the Africana Gallery made a study of creativity in children, according to age and social background. Other fields also afford opportunities for work experience off campus.

In each department opportunities are offered for advanced study and research, not only in a seminar now required in each department, but in special studies, either group or individual. Special studies, which may be proposed by either teachers or students, must have the approval of the academic dean and of the departmental chairman involved. These, like the freshman colloquia, offer possibilities for study in areas not included in the regular curriculum.

The number of courses open to Meredith students is enlarged by the consortium formed by the Cooperating Raleigh Colleges — Meredith College, North Carolina State University, Peace College, St. Augustine's College, St. Mary's College, and Shaw University. This consortium began in 1967 as a cooperative venture between North Carolina State University and Meredith. The next year the plan was extended to include the other four institutions now in the consortium. Four grants have been made toward the expenses of initiating the program—one of \$7,500 from the Mary Reynolds Babcock Foundation, one of \$11,000 from the Southern Education Foundation, and two of \$10,000 each from the I.B.M. Corporation. In 1971 the Alcoa Foun-

dation gave \$30,000 directly to Meredith in recognition of the leadership given in the program. Dr. John Yarbrough as the first coordinator of the Cooperating Raleigh Colleges had the chief responsibility for implementing the enterprise. He was, therefore, for 1968-1969 relieved of his teaching duties. In 1971 Austin Connors, Jr., was chosen as full-time director.

This cooperation is carried out in several areas — with student and faculty interchanges, library cooperation, student inter-institutional departmental seminars, and foundation support. Each institution retains its distinct identity; no course available at Meredith may be taken in another school; the work must have the approval of the student's adviser, the academic dean, and the chairman of the department involved. In general, the courses taken at any one of the other five schools are restricted to sophomores, juniors, and seniors.

Advanced courses in mathematics, including computer science, in genetics, botany, zoology, and microbiology are available at North Carolina State; courses in radiobiology and radiochemistry at St. Augustine's. Additional work in French, German and Spanish may be taken through this inter-institutional cooperation. Italian is given at North Carolina State; Russian at that school, at Shaw, and at St. Augustine's.

The curricular possibilities for Meredith students go beyond the institutions in Raleigh. For the first semester of the 1969-70 session, Barbara Perry, a Meredith junior, went to Drew University for the special United Nations study course offered by that university; three more took the same course the second semester. Two juniors, Spanish majors, Barbara Curtis and Alice Hill, spent that year at the University of Madrid; the next year two junior French majors, Mabel Godwin and Jane Nichols, were at the University of Lyon. A number of students over the years have had summer courses outside the United States on both sides of the Atlantic. Dr. Neblett, Miss Peaden, and Dr. Galligan have taken groups for study in Mexico, Puerto Rico, Spain, and France. Kyn Dellinger, who in the summer of 1969

studied in Nice, was awarded a fellowship to be used for a year's study in the Interpreter's School of the University of Geneva after her graduation in 1971.

The most recent off-campus course, one which was immediately popular, was a course in skiing at the French-Swiss Ski College at Appalachian Ski Mountain. There were no broken bones among the hundred Meredith skiers during the five-day session in the Christmas vacation of 1970-71, and the innumerable tumbles in the snow in no way chilled their enthusiasm.

Recognizing that, as President Heilman stated in his inaugural address, "faculty members are the heart of the academic enterprise, and the end result depends on their quality," the trustees and the administration have, with increased financial resources, made increases in faculty salaries. From 1965-1966 to 1970-71 the average salary of professors has increased by almost fifty per cent and that of instructors by twenty-five per cent, with proportionate increases in the salaries of the ranks between the two. The increase in the percentage of the salary of professors was greater because in 1965-66 the average salary of the instructors was almost up to the minimum level of the scale of the American Association of University Professors; that of the professors was decidedly below that level. In the budget adopted for 1971-72 the average salary of a faculty member was \$10,300, with medical insurance, life insurance, and retirement pensions making the total compensation \$11,200. The half tuition which had much earlier been granted to daughters of faculty and staff members was in 1967 increased to full tuition and was extended to include wives as well as daughters.

Also, sabbatical leaves are now granted. In 1964 President Campbell recommended that a system of sabbatical leaves be adopted, a system by which the teacher who has a sabbatical may be on leave a year with half salary or a semester with full salary. The recommendation was approved by the trustees, this approval, however, did not provide the necessary funds till 1970-71, when sabbaticals were granted to two faculty members. Dr. Ledford traveled in

Spain the first semester; Dr. Syron studied at the University of London the second. Leaves to Dr. Lemmon for the first semester and to Dr. Knight for the second semester of 1971-72 have been approved.

The First Baptist Church of Greensboro in 1970 gave in each of the seven Baptist colleges in the state an award of \$750 each to a full professor and to one of lesser professional rank as a "recognition of outstanding Christian teachers." Dr. Crook, professor of religion, and Dr. Davis, associate professor of mathematics, received these first awards at Meredith. Dr. Lemmon, professor of history, and Dr. Lynch, associate professor of music, were the recipients in 1971.

The gift of the class of 1971 to the College was the establishment of an endowment fund for a visiting professorship. By commencement the class had given or obtained gifts totaling \$7,000 toward their goal for the first year of \$10,000. As a class they plan to designate their annual alumnae contributions for this endowment fund until the income is sufficient for the support of a visiting scholar for one semester or for two. The professorship was named in honor of Lillian Parker Wallace, professor emerita of history. The announcement was made at commencement just two weeks before her death.

Dr. Heilman could not so confidently assert that "at Meredith we use a dollar wisely and well" were it not for the business manager and treasurer, Joe Baker, who is both penny and pound wise. Mr. Baker came to Meredith in 1966 from Clarke Memorial College in Newton, Mississippi. He has been heavily burdened with responsibilities in the extensive building program of the College as well as in the increasing complexities of its current operation, the budget for which increased from \$1,500,000 in 1965-66 to \$3,000,000 in 1970-71. Yet his poise is never ruffled; his good humor is never failing.

Several other changes in administrative officers have taken place. Craven Allen Burris, who in 1969 came to Meredith as academic dean, could have inherited his interest in Christian education from his father, C. C. Burris, who

for many years was president of Wingate College. That it is a very real interest of his own is evidenced by the fact that between his A.B. from Wake Forest and his Ph.D. at Duke he took a B.D. degree from Southeastern Theological Seminary, not with the intention of entering the ministry but with the purpose of preparing himself better to work with young people in a church-related college. Before coming to Meredith in 1969, Dean Burris was a professor of history in St. Andrews Presbyterian College in Laurinburg. In the second semester of 1969-70 he taught a one-hour course in the Meredith history department, the Politics of Protest.

Dr. Peacock gave up the deanship in 1969 to go back to his first love, teaching, and became a professor in the department of English. His graduate degree was in that field; before going into administrative work he had taught English; and from 1951 through 1962 he taught the course in American literature at Meredith. Of Dean Peacock and his work President Heilman reported to the trustees in 1969:

I cannot say enough for Dean Peacock, his cooperative spirit, his fervent efforts, and his support of all that we have been trying to do. He has certainly had a great part in making it possible.

The year 1969 brought to Meredith a new dean of students as well as a new academic dean. Marie Mason succeeded Miss Fleming, who after twenty years as dean of students retired from one position to another; for she was appointed for 1969-70 as special assistant to President Heilman. In February, 1969, Miss Fleming was awarded by the National Association of Women Deans and Counselors a citation "for outstanding service in the field of education."

Since graduating from Meredith in 1947 with a major in sociology, Dr. Mason has had extensive training and wide experience. She was director of nurses in several large hospitals before receiving a Ph.D. in psychology from the University of Kentucky. Before coming to Meredith she

was professor of psychology and counselor in the graduate school of that university. President Heilman introduced her as "an active Baptist, a church leader, and an able administrator, researcher, and teacher." The students soon found her to be, as the *Twig* of September 23, 1969 noted, "a thoughtful lady with a concern and interest in them and their growth as individuals."

Dr. Mason is the first dean of students to live off the campus. Working closely with her are three residence counselors, all new in 1970-71. In Stringfield is Alva Lawrence James, a 1921 graduate of Meredith with an M.R.E. from the Carver School of Missions and Social Work. Mrs. James was for five years director of Young Women's Auxiliaries in the state and has been a trustee of Meredith and of Wake Forest. Madeleigh Cooper, a graduate of Georgia Southwestern College, was a kindergarten teacher for eighteen years before coming to be counselor in Vann. Terry Fuller, a graduate of Wake Forest who is director of testing and placement, is the counselor in Brewer.

John B. Hiott, who came in 1968 as registrar, is also assistant to the academic dean. Formerly he was at Gardner-Webb as campus minister and dean of students, then at St. Andrews as assistant dean of students and director of financial aid. Scrupulous attention to details and diplomacy in dealing with faculty and students mark his work.

Before Mr. Hiott, Miss Josey was registrar for three years following Mrs. Marsh's retirement in 1964. In 1967 the registrar relieved the overworked dean of the responsibility for admissions. The following year a separate admissions office was set up, and Miss Josey has since that year been its director. Her experience as assistant director of public relations, in which office she interviewed prospective students and evaluated their qualifications, is valuable to her in her present capacity. The responsibilities of the position, always a difficult one, have increased with the growth of the College, the changes in high school education, and the increased number of high school graduates without adequate financial resources who are seeking entrance to college. Working with her are Sue Ennis Kear-

ney, '64, as assistant director; Shera Jackson, '69, as admissions counselor; and Audrey Gardner as financial aid assistant. Mary K. Hamilton is in charge of processing applications for admission.

Charles B. Parker in 1967 succeeded R. E. L. Walker as College minister. Like Mr. Walker, Mr. Parker is popular with the students, speaking their language and using up-to-the-minute presentations of religious themes and ideas. Mr. Parker had an undergraduate major in dramatics before his Th.M. from Southeastern Baptist Seminary and has taken a leading part in several productions of the Raleigh Little Theater.

In 1970 the creation of a new position, that of pastor-in-residence, brought to Meredith Edward H. Pruden, who merits President Heilman's introduction of him as "a man of notable distinction, with many attributes to his name." With a Th.M. from the Southern Baptist Seminary, a Ph.D. from the University of Edinburgh, and graduate study at Yale, Dr. Pruden was for thirty-three years minister of the First Baptist Church in Washington. In that time he was for a year guest professor of English in the University of Shanghai. His larger denominational responsibilities included the presidency of the District of Columbia Baptist Convention, of the American Baptist Foreign Mission Society, and of the American Baptist Convention. He also served as a delegate to the World Council of Churches when it met in Upsala, Sweden. It is not, however, his attainments and offices which have won the hearts of the entire Meredith community; it is his deep spirituality without a trace of the pietistic, his delightful sense of humor, and his understanding interest in every individual—an interest which in conferences and in chapel talks goes a long way toward closing the generation gap.

When the school year began in 1970, the infirmary staff were as new to the returning students as they were to the freshmen. Instead of Dr. Senter, Earl Parker is college physician. Replacing Mrs. Saunders and Mrs. Bone, the two nurses associated with him are Jean C. Merritt and Ruth Ann Gnadt.

In 1969, when Mrs. Holler gave up her work, the Slater Food Service took over the kitchen and dining room. Under the direction of Hoyt Taylor it does not have the impersonality one associates with a professional food service. The entire cafeteria staff was kept; thus the transition was made smoothly. The serving of meals to a thousand girls in a dining room built for a maximum of seven hundred and fifty is not easy, and it is not surprising that beginning in 1970 cafeteria service has replaced the family-style dinner in the evening. However, the President's dinners—formal buffet dinners—are served once a month. These are festive occasions, especially the traditional Christmas buffet. Mr. Taylor has added a pleasing touch to these dinners with his ice carvings. A candle, a bell, a baby doe, a swan, and other figures show a delicacy of detail which molded figures lack.

In February, 1971, Mr. Taylor arranged with the Slater Service for an exhibit, *Alien in His Own Land*, a collection of documents, prints, and reproductions of paintings which showed various aspects of American Indian life.

Any account of Meredith would be incomplete with no mention of those employees who prepare the meals, who keep the buildings clean, who keep them in repair, and who care for the grounds. The directors of their work have often praised their industry and their loyalty. In an interview with a *Twig* reporter, Mrs. Whilden said, "The maids always stick by me when I need them." Mrs. Holler's comment on the kitchen and dining room staff was, "They're each a valuable jewel." Mr. Simmons spoke just as highly of his men—yard men, janitors, and other workers.

The students, too, recognize the worth of these members of the Meredith community. An article about them in the *Twig* of February 25, 1966, characterized them as "these employees who not only serve us but befriend us." An editorial paid tribute to their faithfulness.

The *Twig* staff wants to raise a cheer for the dining hall staff, the maids, the yard men, and the janitors. Neither snow, slush, ice, nor the prospects of a three-mile walk have deterred them from coming to work on the mornings we have blizzards.

A freshman counsel group agreed unanimously with one of

their number who said, "The way our maids mother us helps cure our homesickness."

With many day-by-day evidences of the students' regard for the servants, two special occurrences deserve mention. Mary Booker, a maid in Stringfield who had been toothless for fifteen years, said that she had missed her teeth in eating only when she wanted to crack nuts. Nevertheless, she once confessed to a student, she had always hoped some day to have a set of new teeth made. When sympathetic girls presented her case in student assembly, the appeal produced, the *Twig* said, "a laugh, hearty applause, and \$166.00." "When they told me," Mary said, "I hugged everybody from Dr. Campbell on down." She was never seen without her teeth; and, the *Twig* reported, "she always has a big smile instead of her usual small, shy one." The students' regard was evidenced also in the dedication of the 1971 *Oak Leaves* to William Stewart, janitor in Jones Hall.

That the satisfaction of employers and employees is mutual is evidenced in the many years some of the employees stay at Meredith and in those who bring members of the family to work here. Harry Dunstan, the chief meat and vegetable cook, has been at Meredith forty years, having come when he was sixteen. His wife, Novella Dunstan, was a maid in the infirmary more than twenty years. Among the kitchen workers Bill Williams, at Meredith for thirty years, is next to Harry in length of service. Four of his children have worked at Meredith. Willie Morgan had been here more than twenty years when he died in 1966; his son Henry became a part-time worker when he was eleven. Lang and Georgia Hinton both came to the kitchen staff in 1947; Lang was in charge of breads and desserts, Georgia of salads. Georgia retired in 1969, her husband a year later. Leila Smith, who helped Georgia with salads, was here twenty-three years.

Since Arthelia Cole's retirement in December, 1965, after forty-five years of service, Louise Booker has seniority among the maids, having been at Meredith thirty-two years. Lillie Hayes is a close second with twenty-five years. Thelma Avery, who takes care of the new dormitory, came eighteen years ago. Lou brought her mother-in-law, Mary

Booker (who became the proud possessor of new teeth), as a maid; later two of Mary's daughters came also. Lottie Kearney, who has had varied experience at Meredith as a worker in the kitchen and a maid in Poteat and in the library, had a brother who worked here. Two maids, Bertha Musgrave and Bertha Towns were mother and daughter; and two sisters, Glendora Pone and Hettie Hatfield, were also maids. Hettie's husband was for some time janitor in the auditorium.

Arce Jackson has worked on the grounds for twenty-five years, the longest term of service of any of the maintenance workers. Mr. Simmons says Arce is his right hand man, who "does the running" for him. Competent and trustworthy, he saves Mr. Simmons many a trip to town. James Jeffrey, whose efficiency and cheerfulness Joyner Hall takes for granted, has been at Meredith seventeen years, longer than any other janitor.

In the faculty there have been since 1966 six new departmental chairmen, replacing one acting chairman and five who had been at Meredith many years.

In 1966 Callie Hardwicke succeeded Miss Brewer as chairman of the home economics department, coming from a position with the Agricultural Extension Service of North Carolina State University. The next year when Mrs. Hardwicke accepted a similar position in Virginia, Marilyn Stuber—who two years earlier had taken Miss Hanyen's work in textiles—became acting chairman. Virginia Swain and Kay Ann Friedrich divided Miss Brewer's work in foods. When Mrs. Swain left in 1970, Ruby T. Miller, who had come the year before as a part-time teacher, began full time work. Ruth Current for a year and a half after Miss Hanyen's retirement was in charge of the seniors in Ellen Brewer House. After Miss Current's sudden death late in 1966, Margaret Clarke, retired from the Agricultural Extension Service of State University, assumed that responsibility. Mable S. Rabb since 1968 has been a consultant in the department.

When Dr. Tilley, chairman of the department of psy-

chology and philosophy, retired in 1967, philosophy became a part of the department of religion. Dr. Blanton, in addition to her administrative duties, is chairman of the department of psychology; Dr. Mason since 1969 has taught a course in the department.

In 1967 Charles A. Davis became chairman of the department of mathematics. Mrs. Preston, who had been for two years acting head, remains in the department, as do Martha Bouknight and LaRose Spooner. With a two-year grant from the National Science Foundation, Mrs. Preston is on leave for 1970-72 to complete the work for a doctorate.

Dr. Rose, a member of the English staff since 1937, became the departmental chairman in 1968, in that capacity succeeding Dr. Johnson, who gave up the chairmanship a year before her retirement. A clear thinker and an untiring worker, Dr. Rose is valuable in faculty committees and as an adviser in student affairs. She is the representative at Meredith of the Danforth Foundation and was also for three years one of the committee who read the papers of the applicants for the Danforth Graduate Fellowships for Women and held interviews with candidates in this region. Dr. Peacock filled the vacancy created by Dr. Johnson's retirement in 1969. In the same year graduate study and home responsibilities took away Susan Hull Gilbert and Letitia D. Hamill, both of whom had come in 1966. Frances Pittman Woodard, '37, was in the department from 1968 till 1971; Mildred W. Everette and Helen E. Jones both came in 1969. Linda Solomon in 1970 followed Ruth Ann Phillips as teacher of speech and director of dramatics.

Dr. McLain, while continuing to teach, gave up the chairmanship of the department of religion in 1968. As chairman he was succeeded by Dr. Crook, who had been at Meredith since 1949. Harold E. Littleton, at Meredith since 1968, teaches the courses in philosophy. During Dr. Cochran's leave of absence in 1970-71 four of his classes were taught by John Colin Harris and John Eddins, both of the Southeastern Seminary faculty; and by James Z. Alexander and Charles L. Coleman, both of the Shaw University facul-

ty. With the coming of Dr. Alexander and Dr. Coleman, "without regard to race" includes faculty as well as students.¹³

Helen P. Daniell joined the staff of the department of foreign languages in 1968 and the next year became acting chairman during Dr. Ledford's sabbatical leave. Two years before Dr. Daniell came, Nona Short succeeded Mr. Cline as teacher of Latin. Like the work of Dr. Cooper and Mr. Pratt, Miss Short's photography is of professional quality. For two years after Dr. Freund's retirement, German was taught by graduate students from the University of North Carolina; since 1967 Robert W. Morgan has taught that language. Ann Peaden, who became a member of the staff in 1968, is counselor to foreign students at Meredith.

When Dr. Cooper in 1969, a year before he retired, gave up the chairmanship of the department of music after thirty-two years, W. David Lynch was appointed to that position. Dr. Lynch studied in Salzburg and in Paris, has a D.M.A. from the Eastman School of Music, and has had wide teaching experience. Jane Watkins Sullivan, '46, in 1966 succeeded Edwin Blanchard as a teacher of voice. She also directs the Meredith Chorus and the Meredith Singers. The latter group since 1967 has gone on tour during spring vacation, giving concerts in churches and schools, thus reviving an activity which had been discontinued for more than ten years. In addition to the full-time staff in music, eight special part-time instructors in applied music were added to the staff in 1970.

There have been changes in departments other than these six with new chairmen. Jo Anne Nix, in the department of art since 1966, continues the work in art history which was the special interest of her predecessor, Dr. Downs. Miss Nix's creative ability is evident in the paintings shown at exhibits in North Carolina and in other states. Paul Smith, who came in 1967 to the department of biology, was granted a leave of absence for 1970-71. The chemistry department

¹³ "Without regard to race" was carried further in 1971 with the appointment of Mildred Mallette as a full-time member of the library staff. Miss Mallette is a graduate of Bennett College with a degree in library science from North Carolina Central University and with further study at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

has also a claim on Clara Ray Bunn, '55, who came to the biology staff in 1969, as she teaches the course in biochemistry. Audrey Robinson Allred in the department of education succeeded Miss Bell, who was at Meredith thirty years before her retirement in 1970. Mrs. Allred, who is British, transferred her credits from an English university and graduated from Meredith in 1959.

In health, physical education, and recreation Janie S. Archer came in 1967 with health education as her special field. With Mrs. Archer and her husband as coaches, interest in basketball has increased. In 1971 Meredith won first place in the DUMP tournament,¹⁴ and in recognition of their success Mr. Archer presented the team with the E. Bruce Heilman trophy. In 1969 Luke Huggins replaced Mary Mackay Edwards as director of equitation. Donald Songer came in 1970 to the department of history and political science, the latter being his special field.

Charles Tucker can see Meredith from two points of view because he was a member of the Board of Trustees when in 1966 he was elected to a position in the department of sociology. With a Th.D. from the Southern Baptist Seminary, with graduate study at the University of North Carolina, before coming to Meredith Dr. Tucker taught at Wingate College and also had experience in the pastorate. Ruby Hayes Brooks, '42, and Hugh Livingston Roberts came in 1968 as part-time teachers and were followed in 1970 by Helen P. Clarkson and Ida J. Cook. In 1970 Meredith qualified for constituent membership in the Council on Social Work Education, the highest accreditation offered to a college with an undergraduate program in social work.

The term secretary may have quite different meanings. A secretary may be what was once called a stenographer, often a young girl with no experience in business, or may be one who is virtually an administrative assistant. Much of the effectiveness of the work of the College depends on those who from the length and increasing value of their services have become a vital part of Meredith.

¹⁴The initial letters of the names of the four participating institutions, Duke, University of North Carolina, Meredith, and Peace gave the tournament its name.

Betty Jean Yeager, '47, who since a year after her graduation has been secretary in the dean of students' office, knows well all the ins and outs of the life of the students. She is interested in every phase of their activities and is often chosen a sponsor of student organizations. The keeping of the College calendar is one of her many responsibilities.

Lois S. Renfrow, who came in 1953 as secretary to President Campbell, called herself the president's girl Friday. Since 1967 she has been administrative secretary—a well-deserved title, for she relieves the president of a multitude of responsibilities. No matter how pressing these are, she has a cheerful welcome which puts a bewildered freshman at ease and gives a visiting dignitary a pleasant first impression of the College. Her earlier experience as business manager of the *High Point Enterprise*, which she and her husband owned and published, prepared her for her activities in the Business and Professional Women's Clubs. In that organization she is president of the Raleigh branch, a member of the State Council for Sound Legislation, and state chairman of the legislative committee. Each year since 1952 a group of Meredith girls have enjoyed an Easter trip to New York conducted by Mrs. Renfrow and Miss Yeager.

Mary K. Hamilton began her work at Meredith in 1956 as secretary to Dean Peacock; five years later, when an additional secretary was needed in that office, Mrs. Hamilton worked largely with the processing of applications for admission to Meredith. When in 1968 an admissions office was set up, she continued that work in the new office. Mrs. Hamilton's chief outside interest is in literature and music. Her poetry, which has several times received awards from the North Carolina Poetry Society, won her a place in the *International Who's Who in Poetry*. Her name for the College news sheet, *The School Pigeon*, was chosen from more than fifty suggestions made by the faculty and staff.

Virginia Scarboro, secretary to the business manager since 1961, has had much experience in leading young people in Christian work. A graduate of the Presley School of Christian Education in Richmond, she was for eleven years before coming to Meredith director of Christian education

in Milner Memorial Presbyterian Church. She still teaches a Sunday school class there and is a member of the Christian education committee. Miss Scarboro was a welcome addition to the faculty on Play Day because of her athletic prowess. She once represented North Carolina in the national finals of the Women's Softball Tournament.

At different times members of the visiting committee of the Southern Association of Colleges have commented on the unusual stability of the faculty. At the opening session in 1959 Dr. Campbell reported that there had been no resignations or retirements, "a situation almost unprecedented in all college circles." That year there were eight teachers with a combined total of 279 years of service; in 1962 the average tenure of the faculty was 14.3 years. The average tenure of the ten who retired between 1962 and 1970 (inclusive) was 38.6 years.

The relation between faculty and students, which can be much closer on a small campus than on a large one, is unusually good at Meredith. Judy Kornegay, writing in the May 25, 1967, issue of the *Twig*, gave a Meredith teacher's comment that of all the campuses on which he had been, "Meredith is the only one that possesses a true spirit of community." Then she added her own comment:

Perhaps it is this unique quality that gives our campus the rare sense of family closeness and friendliness which is so often noted by visitors on the campus. It is so ingrained in our pattern of life at Meredith that we sometimes forget it or take it for granted.

The self-study and long-range planning brought faculty and students even closer, for the students had a larger part in making decisions affecting the whole college than they had ever had. Student members were on virtually all the committees appointed for the study and planning. Nor was this working together for the time only; what were formerly standing committees from the faculty are no longer thus limited; except for the faculty affairs and the special appeals committee, students are on every standing committee, with full voting power.

In recent years the relations between students and

trustees are also closer. The students serve as hostesses and guides during the semiannual meetings of the Board. Student leaders have been added to the faculty members invited to dinner with the trustees at their meetings. Also students as well as faculty members have been asked to attend meetings of committees of the Board when matters concerning them are being discussed. A committee on student affairs has been created in the Board of Trustees, the members of which from time to time meet with individual student leaders and with groups. Since 1968 student leaders have read the Scriptures and prayed at the opening of the sessions of the Board. In November, 1970, Cynthia Griffith, Student Government president in 1969-70, was elected to full membership on the Board. The 1970 *Oak Leaves* expressed the gratitude of the students to the Board:

Without their guidance, understanding, and willingness, much of what we have at Meredith today would not have been possible.

In the main the students accept their increased responsibility intelligently and conscientiously, although with their multiplicity of other interests, even those most eager for student participation do not always attend the committee meetings with regularity—an evidence, perhaps, that they are maturing, rather than mature.

The students appreciate the fact that their increasingly important part in College affairs was not yielded grudgingly by the faculty and administration. Shera Jackson's editorial in the *Twig* of March 20, 1969, expressed gratitude for this spirit of cooperation.

This campus, as opposed to some other colleges, has an excellent opportunity to see a unit of faculty, administration, and students. The faculty and administration are not forces opposing the students, but rather, they exhibit the same desire for change.

On May 8 of the same year the new *Twig* editor, Brooks McGirt, wrote concerning the curricular changes:

These changes represent once more the willingness, nay, the determination of the faculty to place more and more responsibility on the shoulders of students who have expressed the desire to have it there.

One "responsibility placed upon the shoulders of students" is set forth in the March, 1971 Catalogue:

Regular attendance of the student in the classroom is indispensable both to herself and to her teachers and fellow students in sharing the benefits of her thinking. She must accept full responsibility for class presentations, announcements, and assignments missed because of absences. Absences tend to affect the quality of one's work, and therefore may lower her standing in courses. Each student must determine for herself what constitutes responsible class attendance.

Throughout the history of the College there have naturally been changes; activities and diversions which now are taken for granted in high school were new and thrilling to college students in earlier days and made a life fuller and more exciting than most of the students had experienced. There were no automobiles to encourage the general exodus which led someone to say that "college serves as a springboard for weekends." Moreover, the number of married students has greatly increased,¹⁵ and their center of interest naturally tends to shift from the campus. Also, students entering now have had twelve years of schooling before college rather than the eleven or even ten which the earlier students had.

The changes which give to students more responsibility, which seek to encourage self-dependence, have been much more rapid in recent years. The revolutionary spirit in the world has been felt at Meredith as it has in colleges and universities the world over. It is greatly to the credit of Meredith students that, while radical changes have been made, the mad tumult of anarchy too often accompanying changes on other campuses has not existed here. That Meredith is a woman's college is partly responsible for this lack of violence, but more important is that the students have always been given and have accepted much responsibility for their own conduct.

Officials and students have noted this admirable situation. As early as 1913 Miss Paschal, who then had the now archaic title of lady principal, wrote in the alumnae department of the March issue of the *Acorn*:

¹⁵ There were 112 married students at Meredith in 1970-71.

The president of the Student Government Association is more of an authority in equity and law than is any teacher in the institution, and it is into her ears that the transgressor pours out her confession.

Fifty-one years later Miss Leake, after five years at Meredith as assistant dean of students, commenting on the great respect for student leadership at Meredith, said: "It seems to me that Meredith students assume great responsibility in keeping Meredith the kind of school it ought to be." Dean Fleming in her 1968-69 report to the president referred to "the traditionally strong student government." Dean Mason in the next year's report wrote that she regards the students as being "mature, responsible, and worthy of self-set goals."

This note runs through many of the students' editorials, letters, talks in assembly, and conversations. Gail Gaddy, the student government president for 1970-71, reminded the students in her first address that "if we are to have freedom, we must accept the responsibilities which justify that freedom."

The praiseworthy attitude prevalent at Meredith was well expressed in Brooks McGirt's editorial in the *Twig* of May 22, 1969. In commenting on students in some institutions who "march, riot, run nude across the campus, barricade the president in his home, seize the administration building for use as a community love-in, camp-in, and wreck-in," she wrote:

We do not agree with nor can we condone the actions of these "students." There can be no excuse for wilful destruction of others' property, no matter how well founded their grievances. In fact, we question the validity of student demands which name the complete demise of any and all rules which tend to keep them from "doing their thing." No governing body, be it national or state government or Board of Trustees, can be expected to grant so many liberties and privileges to students who insist on throwing a temper tantrum and burning another building whenever things don't go their way. . . .

This year has meant many changes, both social and academic, for this school. And yet, not one of them was brought about by rioting or burning. Students, bringing their requests before the Trustees, found a body of men and women eager to hear and to act on these requests. Faculty and administrators have shown

their willingness to cooperate with student wants and needs. . . .

Students at Meredith College have shown their willingness to work, even slave, for what they want—not by staging dramatic protest marches, but by sheer brain and leg power in endless committee meetings, discussions, and studies. And, with a few exceptions, students have shown the still greater attribute of waiting patiently, realizing that nothing good happens fast.

The working together of students and faculty as members of the Meredith community led in 1970 to the creation of an important new committee. Instead of the faculty committee on student government, there is now a student life committee, the function and membership of which are given in the 1970-71 *Student Handbook*:

It shall be the function of the Student Life Committee to direct attention and/or study to the concerns and/or the welfare of the students; give consideration to the spiritual, recreational, and health needs of the students; study and review student organizations and their budgets; and devise plans for working with students and student organizations, as well as periodically reviewing all student life regulations. This Committee shall serve as the responsible body to see that the College's philosophy finds expression in the College community.

The Student Life Committee shall be composed of the S.G.A. President, the M.C.A. President, the M.R.A. President, the presidents of the four academic classes, the Dean of Students or Director of Student Affairs, the College Minister, five faculty (instructional staff) members elected by the faculty, and the Director of the College Center. (When this position is filled, one faculty membership should be withdrawn.) Whatever student board shall be concerned with the specific proposal may send a representative from that board to discuss the proposal with the Student Life Committee.

The Honor Code given below, first adopted in 1947, embodies the principle of the honor system on which all life at Meredith is based, as it has been since the earliest days.

1. Each student strives at all times to be honest and truthful.
2. Each student is personally responsible for her own conduct and for informing herself and abiding by college regulations.
3. Each student is personally responsible for her obligations to the college community.
4. Each student is responsible for seeing that the honor code is, at all times, carried out. If she is aware of a violation of the code by another student, it becomes her duty to see that the offender reports the violation.

No student enrollment at Meredith is complete until she has signed the Honor Pledge:

I do solemnly pledge my honor that as long as I am a student at Meredith College, I will faithfully uphold the principles of the Honor System and will respect and observe its procedures and requirements. I also pledge my support to our system of self-government, an integral part of our way of life at Meredith College. I promise to help my fellow students by calling to their attention any action or attitude that will jeopardize the Honor System or that will weaken the system of self-government. I make this pledge in view of the pledges of my fellow students, thus signifying our mutual trust and our high resolve to keep our honor forever sacred and our self-government forever strong.

The *Twig* of October 6, 1966, said of the special service at which the Honor Pledge was signed:

The symbolic service, consisting of the lighting of candles, the signing of the Honor Code Pledge, and the singing of the Alma Mater was a significant and outward sign of the students' willingness to live under the honor code, a fact already attested to by their presence here.

The ceremony, always impressive in its solemnity and beauty, is especially so now that it takes place on the island in the lake.

Cynthia Griffith, the Student Government president in 1969-70, in telling the Alumnae Council of the increasing "freedom with responsibility" reassured them by adding:

In spite of the changes, tradition is still strong, and the honor system is an increasingly important part of Meredith life.

Obviously a thousand girls living together cannot discard all rules, but so far as possible they have been reduced to a minimum. Rather than following regulations as to dress, students are reminded in the current *Handbook* that "at all times appropriate and socially acceptable standards of dress are expected of Meredith students." Except for first semester freshmen (who may have four day and four evening engagements per week and twelve overnights) the number of day and evening engagements and of overnights is left to the students' discretion; however, parents must give per-

mission for overnight visits. Reasonable quiet is expected in the dormitories at all times, and *Busy* signs are to be respected. Light bell has given way to official bedtime at 11:45 p.m., except for Friday and Saturday, when it is 1:15 a.m. The closing hour for the College is 11:30 p.m. except for Friday and Saturday, when it is 1:00 a.m. Smoking is permitted in the dormitory rooms, the Bee Hive, the Hut, the student lounges, and the smoking room on the ground floor of the library. A junior or senior may with parental permission have a car on the campus.

The 1970-71 *Handbook* makes clear the College policy (which cannot be changed without the approval of the Board of Trustees) concerning alcoholic beverages:

The College strongly discourages the use of alcoholic beverages. Students shall not possess or consume intoxicants on the campus or at College-sponsored functions. Meredith students are expected to represent the College with dignity at all times.

Freedom of dissent is a right always recognized at Meredith. There are, as is to be expected, some students who resent what Dr. Heilman in his inaugural address called “flexible but firm direction”; what one recent graduate commended as “supervised independence”; what a student expressed gratitude for, “a guiding hand offered when needed.” Editorials, letters, and cartoons appearing now and then in the *Twig* express dissatisfaction with various aspects of life at Meredith, as do the gripe sessions held occasionally in the student assembly. Some comments are sound, constructive criticism; some few are peevish complaints. More than once a contributor to the *Twig* has called Meredith a prison; an unsigned letter in the issue of January 13, 1956, attacked “the Supreme Council for the Inquisition (Faculty Committee to some)”; in February 20, 1969 a *Twig* cartoon showed the “Faculty Arsenal” — guns, pistols, daggers, knives and bludgeons labeled *grades, rules, authority, class attendance, and intimidation*.

Such outbursts are wholesome safety valves for a small minority; the decided majority of comments show the maturity and reasonableness characteristic of Meredith students. They do not hesitate to criticize their own attitudes

and actions. Of several answers to criticism of chapel programs one made an excellent point:

It seems that in our search for speakers who know what college students are thinking, we are overlooking someone who can give college students something to think about.

Another discerning editorial said:

We at Meredith often ask the question: "Why doesn't the administration treat us like adults?" Perhaps they can answer it with "Why don't you act like adults?"

And another:

We as college students are against countless things. Have we, however, failed to set up opposing aims; do we know what we are for?

The faculty and administration have small cause to be disturbed by occasional outbursts against them so long as editorials appear such as Anne Stone's "A Top-Notch Faculty" in the *Twig* of November 3, 1967.

Meredith faculty were the real stars of Corn Huskin'. Not only the teaching faculty, but also the administrative staff were well represented. . . . They entered Corn Huskin' not to compete with the students for top honors, but to add to the spirit of fun and community that was at its height during the evening. For this, the student body says "Thank you."

Corn Huskin' is only one of the occasions during the year when the faculty and staff contribute their share and more to campus extra-curricular activities. They head and serve on numerous committees for the improvement of every phase of life at Meredith, act as counsel group advisers, club sponsors, publication advisers, and chapel speakers. They are usually the most enthusiastic participants in Play Day each spring, and once every four years give their traditional production of *Alice in Wonderland*. In past years they have helped to raise approximately four thousand dollars by offering their services at two successful faculty auctions. All the while, faculty and staff members carry full teaching or work loads and maintain an interest in their own church and community affairs. . . . We who feel so busy and imposed upon might look to them as examples of what can be done when one is truly interested, involved, and active.

In the costume parade that year, faculty and staff were dressed as hippies. They carried protest signs demanding

coed dorms and flower power. President Heilman, carrying a huge sign "Down with the Establishment," was dragged away by Mr. Hiott, who was for the evening policeman rather than registrar.

Only a student body and a faculty and staff whose relations were close and cordial could have had such successful faculty auctions as those to which the editorial referred. Originated by the students in 1965 to make money for the Carlyle Campbell Library and repeated for the same purpose in 1967, the two auctions were far more lucrative than the flea market, the original play, the collection of S & H green stamps, or the \$1.00 privilege of wearing bermudas anywhere on the campus for a week or of smoking in the College dining hall for "ten cents a puff."

On the stage of the auditorium more than forty faculty members were brought out from behind prison bars one by one to have their services auctioned off to vociferously bidding students, some in pairs or small groups, others by halls. Steak dinners, picnics, refreshments for hall parties, laundry, the typing of term papers, breakfast served in bed—these and other services were the offerings of faculty women, for which the highest bid was sixty dollars. But the men were the hilarious financial success of the affair. Dean Peacock and Dr. Yarbrough waited on tables at dinner; several volunteered for hall duty. In that capacity Mr. Eads, Dr. Cochran, and Mr. Coffey brought two hundred dollars each. The most applauded slave was Mr. Baker, whose activities the *Twig* of May 25, 1967 described thus:

Mr. Baker, who claimed that he "didn't know what to expect" in volunteering for phone duty, found himself making trips for ice, playing "Twister," and setting hair, in addition to answering the astonished queries of phone callers. Dressed in a colorful housecoat, flapper beads, and a hat direct from the 1967 Mardi gras, he was voted "Mr. America" by Fourth Vann.

In a news letter which the Granddaughters' Club sent to the alumnae at Christmas, 1970, the president, Suzanne Pomeranz, told of a student-faculty swim meet by which the students made money for the United Fund Drive. The account ended with a happy comment: "It's really great to

live on a campus where you can have fun with your professors."¹⁶

It is easier for parents, as well as for students to know the faculty and staff and to feel at home at Meredith than it would be if the College were larger. Parents have always been especially welcome visitors to the campus at any time they will come. In 1967 a special day was designated Parents' Day, with its program planned and carried out by the Students' Activities Board. It was a distinct success; though the College had thought that 500 would be a maximum attendance, 673 came. The next year Parents' Day became Parents' Weekend—a two-day event. Parents were invited to attend classes Saturday morning; and in the evening the stunts winning first and second place were repeated for them. The plan was so successful that since 1969 it has been necessary to limit the invitation to the parents of freshmen and seniors. Saturday afternoon the visitors register in Johnson Hall; and refreshments are served in three residence halls, Brewer, Vann, and Poteat. Later in the afternoon a special program is presented for parents and daughters; in 1969 it was a discussion of careers for women. Supper in the dining hall is followed by a concert, a play, or some other entertainment. After the midday dinner on Sunday, student-guided tours take the visitors to the classroom and laboratories, the library, the home management house, the infirmary, and the alumnae house. From two to four o'clock the faculty are in their offices in Joyner, Hunter, and Jones to talk with parents. The last event of the weekend is a reception in Johnson Hall, when the parents and administrative officers have an opportunity to meet. Greater importance was given to the occasion in 1971 when the first meeting of the Parents' Association was added to the events by which the parents are drawn into the Meredith community.

As they have done in seeking greater freedom for themselves, the students have evinced their interest in the national and world situation without rioting. In order that

¹⁶ The faculty and staff went even further in their cooperation with the students in raising money; they defeated the basketball team of a local radio station, the WKIX Cagers.

as many as possible of the Meredith workers might attend the memorial service for Martin Luther King held at noon in the Raleigh auditorium, students volunteered to take the place that morning of maids and dining room workers. A service in King's memory initiated and planned by the students had been held earlier at Meredith.

A memorial service took place in the quadrangle court for the four Kent State University students who had died in the affray between students and police. Two days later, the students had a "write-in" in the Meredith court, when letters were written to their congressmen and to President Nixon, protesting the killing of the four students and the invasion of Cambodia. On October 15, 1969, a day designated for student protest against the nation's involvement in Vietnam and Cambodia, the students held a lively panel discussion at the assembly period, which the *Raleigh Times* that evening characterized as "sane, sound, but definitely spirited." Some have taken part in the orderly vigils for peace held by concerned citizens each Wednesday at noon in front of the recruiting station at the post office on Fayetteville Street. Two Meredith girls joined in the Washington March against Death in November, 1970.

Their interest in national and world affairs is not limited to these special occasions. Students each year are represented in the North Carolina Student Legislature and in the Model United Nations assembly held in the state. In 1969 for the first time four students went to the national Model United Nations held in New York. The Young Democrats, the Young Republicans, and the International Relations Club foster an interest in politics. Geni Tull, a sophomore member of the Granddaughters' Club, wrote in "Days on the Calendar" in the December, 1968, *Alumnae Magazine*:

The chief interest of everyone was centered on the Presidential election. From the beginning of school, posters mounted on doors and buttons sported on collars revealed student favorites. Friendly gossip sessions grew into heated political discussions, and many students took active interest by campaigning for their favorite candidates. On November 5, the election returns were followed closely, and when the winners were announced, wails, sighs, and cheers were heard all over the campus.

Since the days of the Baptist Female University, the relations between the school and the city have been cordial. Its 225 acre campus still gives Meredith the freedom from the disturbing noise of city traffic that it had when it first moved to its present site. However, with the steady growth of Raleigh westward, instead of there being more than a mile of wooded area between the city limits and the College, Meredith is now well within the city limits and is as much a part of Raleigh as when it was only a block from the capitol.

The place of Meredith in Raleigh was well characterized by the 1967 *Oak Leaves*:

A separate, but not separated community in the city of Raleigh, we at Meredith seek to question, to know, to lead, and to serve. Because we are a part of the whole we take from and give to the community.

Raleigh has given to Meredith in many ways. In the Advancement Program the city by the first of July, 1971, had contributed more than \$1,377,000. In the buildings, new and remodeled, various firms and individuals have contributed furniture, materials, and services. In 1968 Travis Tomlinson, then Mayor of Raleigh, designated April 5 as Meredith Day. Business firms displayed posters and inserted "Meredith Day" in their advertisements. Restaurants had cards on their tables; business men and other citizens wore on the lapels of their coats the affirmation, "Meredith Won Me Over." Radio and television stations, always generous in the time allotted to the College and its activities, gave special salutes on this day. In spite of the steady downpour of rain, the day was pronounced a decided success. A picture of the master plan of the Meredith campus was used for the cover of the Raleigh telephone directory in 1969. The hospitality of the Raleigh churches has been noted in earlier chapters.

Though they are here only four years, the students are regarded as part of Raleigh, as is evidenced by the contests for the title, Miss Raleigh. The Raleigh contest was not held in 1970; but in the eleven previous years, nine winners

of that honor were Meredith students. Patsy Johnson, the 1969 Miss Raleigh, was chosen Miss North Carolina.¹⁷

In many ways the College contributes to the city. In his greetings at President Heilman's inauguration, Mayor Tomlinson said:

Raleigh is fortunate in having many graduates of this institution as her citizens.¹⁸ The recently announced Advancement Program will contribute to our economic growth. . . . Raleigh can and does list the institution when it counts its blessings.

In his proclamation of Meredith Day, he said "Meredith College has been an integral part of the cultural, religious, and social life of the city since 1899."

Most of the faculty and staff have their established homes in Raleigh and are active in the community life. Mention has been made of the work of a few; a complete account would include most of the faculty and staff and virtually every phase of Raleigh's activities.

The students also give to the community. Each year they, as well as the faculty, take part in the campaign for the United Fund, the Red Cross, the March of Dimes, and other such efforts. Before Christmas, 1970, the Astros and Phis joined with the Inter-Fraternity Council of North Carolina State in a city-wide food drive. In addition to door-to-door visits, collection centers were set up in food stores all over Raleigh, and students urged shoppers to buy an extra can or package for the needy of Raleigh. Later in the year Meredith students took part in a city-wide drive to provide books for prisons and prison camps.

More important than these special efforts, however, is the steady, year-by-year volunteer work that goes on at the Baptist Goodwill Center, the Cerebral Palsy Center, the Raleigh Rescue Mission, the Governor Morehead School

¹⁷ Two students had been Miss North Carolina before entering Meredith. The College has also had winners in other beauty and talent contests, either state or regional, some having been given that honor before they entered, others while they were students here. Among them were two North Carolina Junior Misses, Miss Tobaccoland, Miss Consolidated University, Miss North Carolina Press Photographer, Miss Universe of North Carolina, Miss Variety Vacationland, Princess Soya, Rhododendron Festival Queen, Apple Festival Queen, Peanut Festival Queen, Peach Queen, Blueberry Queen, and Watermelon Queen.

¹⁸ More than a thousand Meredith alumnae live in the Raleigh area.

(for the blind and deaf), and Dorothea Dix Hospital. A more recent type of service is the tutorial program, which is under the auspices of the Meredith Christian Association, as is the work at Dorothea Dix. Begun in a small way in 1964 and now much extended, the project provides tutors to work individually two afternoons a week with underprivileged children who are having difficulty with their lessons. The first year six girls volunteered for this work; in 1965 there were seventeen; and in 1966, thirty. That year the program was carried out in cooperation with the Raleigh public school system, and the new volunteers were given two orientation periods by representatives of Youth Educational Services. For several years most of the tutoring was done in the Meredith classrooms; in 1970-71 more than a hundred tutors were scattered over the city in churches, schools, and community centers. Teachers and principals have been pleased with the improvement in grades and social adjustment which the children who are tutored show.

The experience is a happy as well as a helpful one for tutor and child. Now that the tutoring goes on elsewhere, people on the Meredith campus miss their glimpses of the earnest faces of both as they stood at the blackboard working over a problem in arithmetic or grammar. They remember the affectionate pride of the older and the shy eagerness of the younger as they went hand in hand to the Bee Hive for a treat after the lesson, or as on a cold day the tutor knelt to button a tattered little coat.

In the summer of 1971 a new project, HELP (Healthy Environment for Little People,) was added to the Meredith students' volunteer services. With the guidance of Mr. Songer, teacher of political science, a group of students conducted three ten-day sessions of a day camp for disadvantaged children. About twenty-five children were in one of the camps, forty in each of the other two. A variety of planned activities kept them all busy and happy—sports, crafts, and remedial work in subjects where it was needed, with a substantial midday meal. The children were all from Method, and for two of the groups no transportation was available; so the girls walked to Method for them in the morning and walked back with them in the late afternoon.

The accounts of five of these projects, each written by a student for the June, 1971 *Alumnae Magazine*, showed the genuine joy the workers have in this service. Sanne Jones, a sophomore, wrote of the work at the Governor Morehead School:

These young people need the concern, love, and friendship of Meredith girls, and we in turn need theirs. Sharing with others and gaining knowledge of their way of life is a sure way of keeping the Meredith community living and growing.

Renee Elks, a junior, ended her account of the work at Dorothea Dix Hospital with "Happiness is our reward."

Between 250 and 300 volunteers take part in these various programs. Recently their work has been made easier and more effective with the use of a courtesy car, a station wagon seating nine, through the generosity of Robert Murray, president of the Triangle Chevrolet Company in Raleigh. Mr. Murray said that the company would also pay the insurance and repairs on the car; and if the girls took good care of it, they would replace it at intervals.

Lectures, concerts, plays, and other special events sponsored by the College are open to the public without charge. Thus the cultural life of the city as well as of Meredith is enriched.

Outstanding among these occasions was the two-day whirlwind visit in March, 1967, of R. Buchminster Fuller, renowned as scientist, inventor, architect, and philosopher. A joint committee with Dr. Syron of the faculty and Katherine Freeman, a senior, as co-chairmen, planned for more than a year for what was, in Dr. Syron's words, "A new pattern in student-faculty adventure." Mr. Fuller's most famous invention, the geodesic dome, is the lightest for its strength of any structure ever made.¹⁹ His topic, *The Importance and Implications of Cybernetics*, in no way limited the extent of his discussions, which, the *Twig* stated, totaled ten hours. The lectures were the culmination of *Directions '67*, a yearlong consideration of one issue, *Human Adjustment in a Technical Society*.

In order that the hearers might have the greatest possible

¹⁹ The United States pavilion at Exposition '67 in Montreal was a geodesic dome valued at \$9,300,000.

benefit from what the *New Yorker* of January 8, 1966, called "the somewhat overwhelming effect of a Fuller monologue," reading lists were prepared and distributed, and lectures and discussions preceded the two-day visit. During his stay an exhibit of models was set up in Johnson Hall showing the latest trends in structure design. Two of the speakers in the preliminary sessions were especially helpful, Mr. Coffey of the faculty and Dr. H. J. Cassidy, professor of chemistry at Yale. Chosen by the students to speak in the assembly several weeks later, Dr. Knight, also of the faculty, gave a wholesome reminder that in an age of such drastic scientific and technological changes, unchanging values need the more to be stressed.

No event at Meredith has had more widespread recognition than Mr. Fuller's addresses. Fifteen hundred special invitations were sent to key figures in the Research Triangle area, to government officials, and to administrative officials and faculty members of the seven Baptist colleges in the state and other colleges in this area. A feature article about the visit appeared in the May, 1968, *Campus Scene*, a magazine which has nationwide circulation on college campuses.

Other addresses of value and interest have been given by speakers less spectacular than Mr. Fuller. Elizabeth Duncan Koontz, director of the Woman's Bureau of the Department of Labor, pleased those under and over thirty with her talk, *The Generation Gap*. Before coming to the governmental position she was president of the National Education Association — the third North Carolinian, the second woman, and the first Negro to hold that office.²⁰ Houston Smith, professor of philosophy at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, spoke on *East and West in Religion: A Cross-Cultural Dialogue*. Born of missionary parents, Dr. Smith lived in China till he was seventeen; hence he had an excellent background for his extensive research in comparative religions.

Two North Carolina writers were among the speakers— Sylvia Wilkinson, novelist, and Guy Owen, novelist and

²⁰ The first North Carolinian was James Yarkin Joyner, Meredith trustee; the second was Lois Edinger, Meredith alumna, who was also the first woman.

poet. Paul Engle, poet, novelist, anthologist and critic, who is now director of the Program for International Writing, had as his subject, "Poetry and People." Maynard Mack, Professor of English at Yale University and President of the Modern Language Association, made an address both scholarly and pleasing, "An Ecology for Lovers: *Romeo and Juliet*." Frank J. McEwen, a Danforth visiting lecturer, on the campus for two days, gave two lectures and held informal discussions about African art and culture, illustrating the talks with films, slides and recordings. As director of the Rhodes National Gallery, Mr. McEwen in fifteen years has sponsored more than seventy exhibitions of African art, in addition to his own work as an artist, lecturer, and teacher. Earl Wilson, introduced as the most widely syndicated columnist in America, kept his audience laughing with "Confessions of a Columnist." Mr. Wilson, who had dinner with the students and chatted informally with them afterwards, complimented them for "having independent spirits without being radical."

In the faculty lecture series Dr. Johnson chose as her subject "Words: Daughters and Sons of Earth and of Heaven," a choice not surprising for one who had taught Old English for forty years. Dr. Cochran returned from Duke, where he was on leave with a grant from the Ford Foundation, to give "The Anatomy of Puritanism," which cleared away some traditional misconceptions concerning Puritanism and interpreted its essential nature. Dr. Cooper's "From Hoop Skirts to Mini-Skirts" was meaningful not only to those learned in music but to anyone interested in it. Dr. Lemmon's "Toward a Philosophy for a Historian" heightened the interest of her audience in the nature of historical research and its fascination. Leonard White's "An Untitled Hour" provided the variety which the title promised.

Musical events have also benefited Meredith and Raleigh. The piano recital of Fedora Horowitz, permanent soloist of the Israel Broadcasting Symphony Orchestra, was sponsored by the department of music. The Lucktenberg Duo—Jerrie Lucktenberg, violinist, and George Lucktenberg, pianist-harpsichordist—appeared twice, in 1968 and in 1970.

The second time they gave three programs in which they presented the entire Beethoven sonata cycle. These three programs were especially fitting for 1970, the bicentennial of Beethoven's birth. This anniversary was also marked by Mr. Pratt's Beethoven recital.

Variety was given to the concert and lecture series with Rossini's comic opera, *The Italian Girl in Algiers*, given in English by the National Opera Company; with Lords' International Marionettes' production of scenes from *Faust*; with Sartre's *No Exit* produced by the Lyric Players; with three programs given by the Lucas Hoving Dance Company, whose appearance was sponsored jointly by Meredith and the Raleigh Civic Ballet; and with the outdoor exhibit of Edward Brown's very modernistic sculpture.

The installation of the Cooper organ was one of the chief campus events of 1970-71. When Jones Hall was built in 1949, it was thought wise to install the old organ in the small assembly room downstairs instead of in the new auditorium.²¹ It was used until 1961, when Mary Louise Huffman Cornwell, '30, of Morganton, gave \$30,000 for a three-manual organ.²² Other pressing needs in the College delayed the acquiring of an organ for the auditorium until a fund was initiated by Annie Laurie Pomeranz, '41, and her husband, Robert E. Pomeranz, of Sanford, with a gift of \$25,000. Gifts from other friends—chief among them Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Strawbridge, of Durham; Margaret Anne Thomas, '41, of Quincy, Florida; and the late Mrs. W. T. Brown, of Murphey—brought the fund to \$80,000. The Huffman Cornwell Foundation contributed \$6,700. Mrs. Pomeranz made the gift as "a tribute to Dr. Cooper, who has done so much to keep Meredith in a nationally competitive position in the field of music." The organ was built according to Dr. Cooper's own design.

The dedicatory recital of the Cooper organ on December 5 marked Dr. Cooper's first public performance at Meredith

²¹ Renovated several times under Dr. Cooper's skilled supervision, the old organ, bought from a Presbyterian church in Buffalo for \$4,700, survived astonishingly well its fifty-five years of constant use at Meredith. Dr. Cooper estimated that each year it was played as many hours as a church organ in fourteen and a half years.

²² On November 9, 1961, Mrs. Cornwell attended the dedicatory recital of the organ; one month later, December 9, she died.

since his retirement the preceding June. On January 12, 1971, the second organ recital was the first public performance at Meredith of his successor, Dr. Lynch. Both recitals justified the tribute which President Heilman paid the outgoing and the incoming musician when he announced to the trustees Dr. Lynch's acceptance of the position.

I am confident that he will help us to maintain the excellent department for which Meredith has long been noted.

The 1970 Christmas concert was given on December 6, the day after Dr. Cooper's recital, in Bryan Rotunda of Johnson Hall, with the two upper levels and the stairs of the rotunda being used for the musicians. The program was divided into two parts, the first being given from 3:00 to 3:30; the second from 4:00 to 4:30. The Meredith Chorus, under the direction of Mrs. Sullivan, and the Meredith Instrumental Ensemble, under the direction of Mrs. Garriss, gave the first part; the Meredith Singers, also under Mrs. Sullivan's direction, and the Meredith Vocal Ensemble, under the direction of Miss Donley, gave the second. Between the two parts and after the second, performers and audience were invited to the President's reception, held in Belk Dining Hall.

Townspeople come to the campus for their own activities as well as those of the College. The Chamber of Commerce has frequently had its dinners at Meredith, as have other organizations. Before it had an adequate building, Ridge Road Baptist Church used the auditorium for Sunday school and church services. For three years the North Carolina Literary Forum was held in it, and various musical organizations in Raleigh use it for concerts and recitals. The service on Reformation Day sponsored by the churches of Raleigh has taken place in the auditorium several times. The amphitheater is used for the community Easter service of a group of West Raleigh churches. In the summer of 1970 the first Triangle Summer Fest, with five concerts of classical and semi-classical music, took place there. "Culture under the Stars," President Heilman called it. Families were invited to bring suppers for a picnic on the campus before each performance.

In the summer of 1970 there was a wedding on the island in the lake. Neither bride nor groom had any ties with Meredith; they chose the place solely for its beauty. In 1971 a photographer brought for their pictures two wedding parties to the lake. The second wedding was to be a triple ceremony — that of three sisters. One use of the lake the College regretfully but firmly ended. During several days of bitter cold weather early in January, 1970, the lake was completely frozen over. Children and adults from Raleigh joined students in the fun of skating and sliding till the Raleigh Fire Department pronounced it unsafe.

From over the state and the region as well as from the city, organizations and groups have been welcomed at Meredith. In April, 1971, the North Carolina General Assembly of the Disciples of Christ held a two-day session here, and in the summer 400 young people of the Church of Latter Day Saints were on the campus for the weekend. For many years debates and plays from schools in this area preliminary to the state-wide contest at Chapel Hill were held here, with Meredith teachers serving as judges. Workshops and conferences of various types come to the campus. Teachers in virtually every field meet here in sessions from one to ten days.

In recent summers in addition to the College's own activities — the regular summer session of five weeks, the three-week workshop in transformational grammar which Mrs. Jones of the English department directed, the three equitation programs of two weeks each, and three day camps of ten days each for disadvantaged children—visiting groups have made the campus a busy place. They ranged from the South Atlantic Regional Conference of the American Association of University Women and a leadership training workshop for the North Carolina Council of Women's Organizations to a majorette camp and a cheer leaders' camp for high school girls from three states. (Twelve hundred came to the two sessions for cheer leaders in 1971.) One group leaving, laden with baggage, may meet a similar group coming in, with only a few days at the end of the summer between the last group and the incoming freshmen.

In the summer of 1968 under the auspices of the National Defense Education Association, an Institute for Advanced Studies in Asian History was held at Meredith. The thirty-five students in the six-week program were chosen from all over the United States. The faculty and guest lecturers were twenty specialists in Asian studies from several large universities. The work of the session received certificate and graduate credit.

Dr. Gates, who conceived the plan and was director of the institute, is an authority in Asian history. She has spent several summers studying documents in the India Office library and archives in London. She had a grant from the Fulbright-Hays Foundation for research at the University of Mysore in India and from the Ford Foundation for study at Duke University.

She and Mrs. McCombs of the library staff were two of the faculty members chosen from ten schools to be participants in the Middle East Program sponsored by the United States Office of Education. This program, initiated to assist schools in establishing courses in Middle East studies consisted of a summer seminar in the United States in 1970 and summer seminars in Morocco, Tunisia, and Egypt in 1971, with an in-service program throughout the school year 1970-71.

The College always welcomes representatives of the denomination which founded it and which contributes generously each year to its support.²³ The General Board of the Baptist State Convention in its annual session usually has a dinner meeting at Meredith; and when the Convention meets in Raleigh, the College always has an open house for the delegates. In the summer of 1968 young people who were to work in North Carolina for the Convention were at Meredith for a ten-day workshop, sponsored by the Department of Student Work of the Convention. In the same summer the College gave the first of the annual picnic suppers for the workers of the Convention, the December, 1968, *Alumnae Magazine* reported, "just to show ap-

²³ From 1960 to 1970 the Convention has appropriated to Meredith \$1,161,891.

preciation for all they have meant and continue to mean to the College.”

These and other such occasions involve North Carolina Baptists. A program in the summer of 1970 had a much wider scope. The Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention held its eight-week Journeyman Training Program on the Meredith campus. With the general preparation for work on any foreign field, these seventy-one volunteers for two years of mission work overseas were given especial preparation for the country to which they were going and the types of work which they were to do. Meredith was chosen for this training program in 1971 also.

Though Meredith's standing in denominational and academic circles has always been good, the last few years have brought it wider recognition. Part of this recognition is due to commencement and Founders' Day speakers who are important figures in the financial world. Besides Mr. Harris and Mr. Cameron, who are closely associated with Meredith, others have come.

Wallace Johnson, president of Holiday Inns of America and chairman of the Board of Directors of Medicenters of America, gave the baccalaureate sermon in 1969, the first time that a layman has been chosen in that capacity. He is, however, a layman who spends much time in religious activities, being a director of the Memphis Baptist Hospital, of the Memphis Y.M.C.A., and of the American Bible Society. In 1965 he was chosen by the Religious Heritage Foundation as Layman of the Year.

Mr. Johnson was so pleased with Meredith that the following September his niece entered the freshman class; and in October the *Holiday Inn Magazine* had a feature article about Meredith with a full page picture of the campus. This magazine with a circulation of 650,000 is distributed in every Holiday Inn in the nation. A gift of \$50,000 for the College center in 1971 showed his continued interest in Meredith.

In 1970 Donald Regan, president of Merrill Lynch, Pierce,

Fenner, and Smith delivered the Founders' Day address,²⁴ and the next year L. C. Rast, president of the Southern Bell Telephone Company, spoke on the same occasion. The addresses of both these men with high positions in the business world showed a sympathetic understanding of a liberal education.

A full page advertisement of Meredith appeared in the September 13, 1968, issue of *Time*. The usual rate for the full page advertisement is \$6,000, but this one was inserted without charge in accord with *Time's* decision, announced in the December 2, 1966, issue, "to open its advertising pages to messages from institutions of higher learning." As many as fifty free advertisements a year might be run, "provided that the messages demonstrate the imagination and scope that will appeal to *Time's* readers."

After the College rejected copy submitted by two professional agencies, one in New York and one in North Carolina, neither of which seemed appropriately to represent Meredith, Carolyn Robinson, then director of publications, and Faye Humphries, director of public relations, prepared two advertisements, either of which *Time* was ready to accept.

It is obvious that the confidence with which Meredith faces the future has a sound foundation and that this confidence extends beyond the Meredith community and its friends and benefactors. After a visit to Meredith in connection with the Carnegie study of higher education, Charles G. McCurdy, executive secretary of the Association of American Universities, wrote to Mr. Kanipe that, in reporting the visit, he made this comment:

Meredith College is one of the few institutions of higher learning I know about which disseminates good cheer and confidence for the future. I have been mulling over this situation ever since my visit, trying to assign reasons for it, and I believe

²⁴ Mr. Regan's trip to Raleigh brought Meredith's name into financial news which shook Wall Street. Speaking at breakfast to the Chamber of Commerce, he predicted that a drop in the prime interest rate on loans would come in two months. The *News and Observer* reported the next day that before the day was over his talk "was being cited in New York financial circles as one of the reasons for a sharp rise in the stock market."

there are many, not the least of them being that the institution exudes optimism and is able to infuse it into others.

For one who has entertained the thought that small colleges like Meredith are in trouble and may face extinction, I am now obliged to change my thinking and just hope that other small colleges can emulate Meredith and all it stands for.

With all that is new in buildings, in curriculum, in personnel, and in social customs, that which is essentially Meredith remains. The comments of three students are proof that it does. A few weeks before her graduation in 1957, Jo Ann Selley wrote in the *Twig*:

We came not merely for knowledge, for companionship, or for the development of our individualities; we came seeking a way of life that would unify and make meaningful our experiences; we came to fill our spirits with a faith that springs from glimpses of eternal truth that is God.

Immature and human as we know ourselves to be, we know that we have not found truth. But we have found new tools in these years at Meredith; we have learned patience and humility of mind as well as courage of thought; we have met inspiration in flesh and blood as well as in print; and we have known happiness that comes with understanding one another.

Fourteen years later Suzanne Reynolds,²⁵ another senior nearing graduation, wrote:

A few years and many experiences ago when on an application blank I gave my reasons for wishing to come to Meredith, I used the terms "individual attention," "liberal arts," and "church-related college." Today as a senior I still use these terms concerning the College, but in light of the Meredith tradition I use them with more insight. I realize that individual attention means more than routine conferences, that the term signifies Meredith's genuine concern that each girl develop her individuality in all the avenues open to her. When I write "liberal arts" in reference to the College, I know that, though Meredith recognizes the importance of preparing for a career, she recognizes the greater importance of drawing from each day the beauty and richness that enable one to live rather than merely to exist. I know that church-related reveals more than denominational sponsorship; I know that Meredith regards true relationship with Christ as the center of every real life, making all other relationships meaningful.

²⁵ Suzanne Reynolds is the only student who has ever graduated with a grade of A on every course she took during her four years at Meredith.

And in the same year, 1971, Deana Duncan, a sophomore, wrote:

Faith in the traditions and standards for which Meredith is noted led me to choose her as my college and allows me to lay my future in her hands. She will not fail me now.

Through these doors that are open wider enter girls each year for whom Meredith is "an impulse to growth and a source of delight." And through these doors go out each year young women who face life with more confidence, who will be happier individuals, better citizens, more dedicated Christians because of what Meredith has given them.

IX

“AN ASSOCIATION OF DEVOTED DAUGHTERS”

(1902—)

The four presidents since 1900 all noted the devotion of the daughters of Meredith and their value to their Alma Mater. A sketch of the Baptist Female University which Dr. Vann wrote for the first *Oak Leaves*, in 1904, foretold the time when the school, the influence of which was already being felt, would have “throughout this and neighboring states an association of devoted daughters, from whom she may expect great things.” Dr. Brewer in his first year made a statement which several times later he confidently repeated: “Meredith is safe so long as the alumnae love her.” President Campbell in the Summer, 1947, issue of the *Alumnae Magazine* wrote: “We are stimulated by the consciousness of your abiding devotion and the effective way in which this interest is demonstrated.” And President Heilman in the *Magazine* for December, 1968, wrote: “The future of Meredith is to a large degree in the hands of her alumnae.”

“The association of devoted daughters” had already had its beginning when Dr. Vann wrote; for the Alumnae Association of the Baptist Female University was organized by the first class the day they received their degrees, May 21, 1902. Sophie Stephens Lanneau was president; Margaret Shields, vice-president; Rosa Catherine Paschal, secretary; and Margery Kesler, treasurer. So long as the classes were few and small, it was not difficult to keep the alumnae in touch with one another and with the school. However, the class of 1907 added twenty-two members to the fifty of the first five graduating classes. Also the College realized the importance of keeping the loyalty of those former students who were not graduates. The March, 1908, *Quarterly Bulletin* stressed the importance of the alumnae to the institution and made a suggestion which later bore fruit:

In many counties there is a sufficient number of graduates and matriculates to make possible the organization of B.U.W. clubs. These should be organized as fast as possible for the purpose of personal contacts and of discussing the best things for your Alma Mater. Thus you will guard and keep alive her interests and also promote, at the same time, the spirit of higher education for women in your community and in the State.

Meredith clubs were discussed for several years before any definite action was taken. The first ten were organized in 1912-13 by Lulie Dickson, '10, of Wake Forest. With the title "Secretary of the Meredith Clubs" she was elected in the spring of 1912 to "canvass for students" in the summer and to organize clubs over the state during the college year. Membership in the Alumnae Association at that time was restricted to graduates; membership in the clubs was open to anyone who had ever been a student at Meredith, as it has been since 1930 in the Association.

Enthusiastic reports were made from the clubs; and when Miss Dickson after one year went to be assistant director of the Y.W.C.A. in Charlotte, the constructive work she had begun was continued by successive secretaries who gave what time they could spare from their own work during the year. Their expenses were paid for a month to travel over the state to organize new clubs and encourage existing ones. Later the position was an unpaid office in the Association. In 1913-14, under the direction of Minnie Middleton, '11, nine more clubs were organized. Dora Cox, '08, her successor, must have found encouraging the valiant answer which came to one of her letters. "We have only three girls here; but if you think we can have a club, we will organize."

These clubs developed into chapters of the Alumnae Association, of which there are now forty-five. Thirteen are out-of-state chapters; the farthest away are Houston and Dallas in Texas, and Los Angeles and San Francisco in California. Keeping the alumnae in close touch with Meredith, the chapters are increasingly important in the life of the Association and of the College. They take an active part in the financial campaigns; they frequently invite to their meetings speakers from the College; in the summer many of them entertain entering and returning Meredith stu-

dents. The Richmond chapter in March, 1970, with the leadership of Eula Hodges Boatright, '28, was the first chapter to make a day's visit to Meredith. The visitors were welcomed with a coffee hour in Mae Grimmer House; and lunch there was preceded and followed by tours of the campus, with talks on various aspects of Meredith life by College officials. Thus there was opportunity for enjoying the dearly familiar at Meredith and for learning about the new.

After Lulie Dickson's resignation, except for one year, 1925-26, when Susie Herring, '24, divided her time between mathematics and alumnae, there was no paid alumnae worker until 1928. Nevertheless the Association made good progress, because the officers gave the work much time and thought, and the members cooperated well. However, the officers had too heavy a responsibility; no matter how willing their hearts were, their hands were too full with their own duties for them to give the work the attention it needed. Hence in 1928 the trustees, at the urgent request of the alumnae, elected as executive secretary for the Association Mae Grimmer, '14.¹ "Redheaded, enthusiastic, sensible, original Mae Grimmer"—thus she was called by Bertha Carroll, '13, president of the Association in 1928; thus she remained during the thirty-six years she was secretary.

Her capable management and faithful attention to details kept the affairs of the Association running smoothly; her initiative and wisdom provided new activities; her courageous enthusiasm led the members gladly into these new fields. Of equal importance was her genuine friendliness, which made every alumna glad to be at Meredith. Ruth Vande Kieft, '46, characterized her as "a smiling welcome from head to toe of her small, enthusiastic self."

To mark her twenty-fifth year as its secretary, the Association presented to Miss Grimmer a silver bowl and a check for \$715.73. When in 1964 she retired, the alumnae house was named in her honor Mae Grimmer House. Her

¹Miss Grimmer received a diploma in music in 1914 and an A.B. with a major in history in 1941. She taught in the department of music from 1916 to 1920.

portrait, painted and presented by Mary Tillery, '22, is in the reception room of the house. Living in Raleigh since her retirement, Miss Grimmer is still a vital part of Meredith. The years have not abated a whit her boundless energy and enthusiasm, and alumnae are still amazed at her memory. Names, faces, home towns, occupations, children—none of these among the thousands of alumnae elude her.

Many of the current activities of the Association owe their existence largely to Miss Grimmer, among them the Granddaughters' Club, the alumnae seminar, the luncheons at the annual meetings of the Baptist State Convention and the W.M.U., and the preparation of the silver and gold anniversary booklets for the twenty-fifth and fiftieth year reunion classes. The establishment of the Loyalty Fund and of the Alumnae Division of the Meredith Development Program was due to her leadership.

Margaret Craig Martin, '30, for six years, 1964-70, was Miss Grimmer's successor. No other person has served Meredith in so many capacities, and in each capacity she proved herself a tireless, efficient, and cheerful worker. As a senior she was president of the Student Government Association; she returned to Meredith first as the wife of a business manager; then she was twice a teacher of Latin and English. She was a member of the Board of Trustees when she was elected executive secretary of the Alumnae Association.

Mrs. Martin was a most appropriate choice for the position because she knew the workings of the Association well, having served on various committees and as its president for two years. With her guidance the Association continued its progress in various ways which are noted throughout this chapter.

Like Mrs. Martin, Carolyn Covington Robinson, '50, was part of the College community before her election as director of alumnae affairs² in 1970. The daughter of a former house director, she began her work with the College in 1958 and had proved her ability as secretary to the director of development for nine years, as director of publi-

² The change of title from executive secretary-treasurer to director of alumnae affairs was made in 1968.

cations for one year, and as director of information services for one year. Before coming to Meredith as a staff member she was church secretary, Sunday school teacher, and W.M.U. president in the Tabernacle Baptist Church. As president of the Business Women's Federation of the Raleigh Baptist Association she gained a wider acquaintance with denominational affairs. She was also active in the civic life of Raleigh; a past president of the Pilot Club, she went to Yugoslavia as Raleigh's community ambassador in 1956.³ These varied experiences are helpful to her in the leadership of an association which is increasing each year in size, in complexity of organization, and in opportunities for service to the College.

For years Miss Grimmer with only student help was the entire alumnae staff; then several workers, most of them wives of Southeastern Seminary students, were in the office successively for brief periods. Evelyn Posey has been a full-time office secretary since 1962; Kate Matthews, '18, from 1963 to 1967 was a part-time assistant; so was Elizabeth Hostetler Ponton, '41, and Hannah Carter, both of them in the office from 1964 to 1971. Whether part-time or full-time, these four have given whole-hearted devotion to the work.

Alumnae Day at Commencement brings together all the chapters and all the classes. Beginning in 1903 as an alumnae banquet at the Yarborough House on Monday evening, it became first a Monday, then a Saturday morning meeting followed by a luncheon in the College dining hall. In 1971, when the baccalaureate sermon was preached on April 30 and graduation took place on May 15, Alumnae Day was Friday, May 14. For two years after the College moved from the old site, sentiment prevailed over common sense; after the business meeting at the College the Association adjourned to the Mansion Park Hotel, where the luncheon was held in the old Meredith dining room. Now it takes at least half an hour for so large and chatty a group as the alumnae to go from auditorium to dining hall.

³ Two other Meredith graduates have been Raleigh's community ambassador, Alice Jo Kelly, '59, in Taiwan in 1964, and Alma Jo Hall, '68, in Egypt in 1968.

In 1923, with Mary Lois Ferrell, '16, as president, the Association had its first Alumnae Day speaker, Ethel Carroll Squires, '07, whose subject was "The Personality of Meredith." The next year for the first time the meeting was open to the public with Sophie Lanneau, '02, one of the "immortal ten" as speaker, her subject being "Chinese Womanhood and the Tide of New Thought."

These two speakers set a high standard for their successors, whose addresses have been varied and stimulating, showing the breadth of interest of the speakers and their appreciation of Meredith. Some talks grew out of their professional interests. Betty Miller, '44, gave her experiences as pastor of a New England church; Lois Edinger, '45, a pioneer in the use of television in teaching, told of progress in that field; Elizabeth James Dotterer, '30, brought her hearers up to date with "Some Recent Developments in Medicine"; Virginia Highfill, '47, in Japanese costume, took the listeners to the mission field in Japan. On the other hand Pat Smathers Mitchell, '53, did not talk of dentistry in her address, "The Catalyst"; nor did Lina Lee Spence Stout, '32, in "Trained and Commissioned" talk of law. Both in quite different ways emphasized the responsibilities of a college woman in modern society. Lois Johnson, '15, who celebrated her fiftieth year as an alumna by taking part in an African seminar-safari, reminded her hearers of some ancient responsibilities of the modern woman. Elizabeth Lee Haselden, '35, taking her title "A Handful of Seed" from an old Gaelic saying, "I, too, will turn my face to the wind and cast my handful of seed high," showed the importance of a courageous facing of the future. Mae Grimmer in "Separation," Ellen Brewer, '18, in "Acorns and Oaks," and Ruth Vande Kieft in "Ye Shall Know the Truth" combined delightful reminiscences with a reminder that Meredith alumnae are to be concerned about the future as well as the past.

In 1971, forty-seven years after Miss Lanneau's address, Lillian Sung-hsi Lu, '53, a native of Canton, spoke. With undergraduate work at Shanghai University and Meredith, with an M.R.E. from the Carver School of Missions and Social Work, with an M.A. in English—her major at Mere-



dith—from Peabody, and a year of study at Westminster Choir College, she is admirably fitted for her positions as associate professor of foreign languages in National Taiwan University and as youth and choir director in the Grace Baptist Church in Taipei. Her breadth of education and experience gave significance to her address, "The Role of Education toward World Understanding." She has a distinction unique among alumnae speakers; she was for a month alumna-in-residence on the Meredith campus. While she was here, the art department arranged for an exhibit of her paintings in Bryan Rotunda.

The reunion classes are centers of interest at the general meetings, especially the fiftieth-year class. The years have dealt kindly with most of them, and they justify the exclamation of the young photographer who in 1964 took the picture of the 1914 graduates: "You all are the youngest-looking antiques I've ever seen!"

In a half-mocking, half-serious ceremony originated by Mae Grimmer, the graduating class at the luncheon make their traditional promise to be faithful alumnae. Then the president of the class presents to the Association their doll, ready to take its place in the array of class dolls. Miss 1902, prim in her piqué skirt and high-necked shirtwaist, leads a parade of fashion which as it lengthens is of increasing historic as well as sentimental value. The idea was suggested in 1936 by Elizabeth Briggs Pittman, for many years state leader of the Sunbeams, the children's organization in the Woman's Missionary Union. Mrs. Pittman, though not an alumna, was as interested in the College as if she had been.

Margaret Bright, '07, always came for commencement a day early to press the tiny dresses and fluff out the matted hair before placing the dolls on their stands—her gift to the Association—and stayed an extra day to put them away. She was unique among Meredith alumnae, probably among the alumnae of any school; for she was present at every commencement for sixty-six years from 1904, her freshman year, through 1969, only a few weeks before her death. Her care for the alumnae dolls was a symbol of her faithful devotion to Meredith in ways large and small.

Hence it is especially appropriate that the west side of the third level of Bryan Rotunda, where the dolls now have a permanent home, should be named the Margaret Bright Gallery, with a bronze plaque in her memory.

The business meeting which precedes the address and the luncheon is less rushed and more effective since the fall meeting of the Alumnae Council, initiated in 1934, takes care of much of the business of the Association.

Recognized as deserving special honor at the annual meetings of the Association and the Council are the alumnae trustees. In 1918 the alumnae were given the privilege and responsibility of representation on the Board of Trustees. Chosen that year were Margaret Shields Everett, '02, and Bertha Carroll, '13, who was at that time executive secretary of the North Carolina Woman's Missionary Union. The alumnae trustees, varying in number from two to eight, have served as officers of the Board and as members of the executive committee and of other committees. Elizabeth James Dotterer was the first alumna to act as president of the Board. When C. B. Deane in 1959 was elected president of the Baptist State Convention, he resigned his Meredith trusteeship; and Dr. Dotterer as vice-president took his place as president of the Meredith Board, presiding over the February, 1960, meeting. A year later in the illness of LeRoy Martin, president of the Board, Sarah Elizabeth Vernon Watts, '34, at that time vice-president, presided over the February, 1961, meeting. She was in April, 1961, named president for the remainder of the year; hence she was the first woman to sign the Meredith College diplomas.

In September, 1967, for the first time the president of the Association—at that time Cleo Glover Perry, '45—was invited to attend, without voting privileges, the meetings of the Board. Alumnae are also represented on the Board of Associates; five were among its first members.

A third meeting which concerns all the members of the Association has nothing to do with its business. The Alumnae Seminar gives alumnae the opportunity of coming back to Meredith to pretend for a little while that they are students again. The first program, in 1938, was a simple one, a lecture by Miss Ida on Friday evening and three lectures by

members of the English department on Saturday. For five years, 1943-47, because of the difficulty in travel the seminar was not held.

Cooperating with the chairman of the seminar committee, each department, singly or jointly, has sponsored a seminar, most departments more than once. In 1952 home economics, sociology, and history presented the topic, *The Mid-Century Woman*. In 1954 the department of modern languages supplemented Dr. McAllister's talk with talks by Dr. Price, Lois Johnson, Mary Bland Josey, '51, and Anne Gretta Horn—a Danish student—and with folk dances of various European countries. At the coffee hour the Spanish dances of Senorita Neblett, of the modern language department, the cookies, and the tiny recipe books which were distributed added an extra across-the-Atlantic touch. *My Lady's Purse Strings* was sponsored by the departments of business and mathematics in 1956; ten years later *Economic Knowledge for Citizenship Responsibility* broadened the earlier topic. *The Home* was an especially appropriate topic in 1960 because Ellen Brewer House had just been completed. The next year the English department led *A Literary Pilgrimage. Church Music* in 1964 fitted well with the major in that field which had been established three years earlier. Education chose as its chief speaker in 1968 for *New Directions in Education*, Lois Edinger, then president of the National Education Association. *Modern Math and Modern Science for the Modern Woman* in 1970 by the departments of chemistry, biology, and mathematics enlightened some of the audience, mystified others, and interested them all.

The reporter for the first seminar wrote of the delight of hearing again the teachers they had enjoyed. Especially important is the opportunity of making friends with the newer faculty members. To borrow the words of Margery Kesler Thomson, '02, used in another connection, B.F.U., B.U.W., and Meredith girls (they never cease to be "girls") are for a little while "amid the dearness of things long remembered and the charm of the ever new." "Life-reviving alumnae seminars," Ethel Carroll Squires, '07, called them

The members of the Mae Grimmer Granddaughters' Club are invaluable as baby sitters for the Alumnae Seminar and

as pages, ushers, guides, and unofficial hostesses on Alumnae Day. The club was organized as an active group in 1930, two years after Miss Grimmer came to the Association, and was given her name in 1966, two years after she retired. In 1930 there were seven members; in 1970-71 there were 104. These "junior alumnae," as Miss Ida called them, each year sponsor a faculty-student tea. A popular feature of Alumnae Day is the introduction of each Meredith mother by her Meredith daughter; recently grandmothers have in several cases made the mother-daughter pair a trio. Joy Beaman, '24, daughter of Mattie Brooks, ex-'04, was the first granddaughter at Meredith; her daughter, Betsy Brooks McGee, '53, was the first great-granddaughter.

Numerous class notes show the happiness of hundreds of alumnae when their daughters become Meredith students. Several years ago in an informal daily English theme a freshman wrote concerning the day her letter of acceptance came from Meredith: "I wish I could have framed the look in my mother's eyes when she read that letter." Another alumna wrote: "You just don't know how fully to enjoy commencement until you have sent a daughter to Meredith."

Aunts and cousins and sisters are also links between students and alumnae. Three or four sisters are not unusual; four Carroll sisters, Ethel, Bertha, Mary Jane, and Beth graduated in 1907, 1913, 1920, and 1922. Three of them were once on the faculty; two were trustees. The four daughters of the oldest—the only one who had daughters—were Meredith students. Evelyn, Ruamie, and Hildreth Squires graduated in 1932, 1934, and 1935; the fourth, Julia, went to Wake Forest for premedical work her last year. Her loyalty to Meredith was evidenced in the gift of five hundred dollars which she and her husband, Dr. Thomas Adams Witten, made to Meredith in 1971 in honor of her mother's eighty-fifth birthday. The eight daughters of J. D. Hocutt, of Warsaw, undoubtedly set a record not to be equaled. Rosa, the oldest, was followed successively by Berta, Olivia, Naomi, Zelma, Alma, Catherine, and Louise. Alma graduated from Wake Forest; the other seven

from Meredith. From 1912 to 1934, except for two years, one or more of the Hocutts were at Meredith.

All the activities of the Association have been stimulated by the *Alumnae Magazine*, first published in the fall of 1946. It is the culmination of a succession of alumnae publications—a small bulletin which appeared four times in 1905-06; the alumnae department of the *Acorn* from 1907 to 1926; the weekly alumnae column and its successor, the monthly *Alumnae Supplement*, in the *Twig* from 1926 to 1945. In these were letters and news from the alumnae. In addition, from 1937 to 1944 the fall number of the *Meredith Quarterly Bulletin* was an alumnae number, with the alumnae address and with articles written by alumnae or featuring alumnae.

The *Alumnae Magazine*, a quarterly, carries feature articles by or about alumnae with experiences or positions of unusual interest or about some aspect of the College and its life. In addition are its regular features: reports of the progress of alumnae projects, announcements of coming College events or reports of recent ones of interest to alumnae, a glimpse of student activities usually written by a Meredith granddaughter, reports of chapter meetings, and class news notes. The faculty lectures appear as inserts in the *Magazine*, and recently other inserts record the progress of the Advancement Program. Surpassing in interest even the best of Dr. Cooper's photographic illustrations were the pictures of children and grandchildren, a few of the hundreds of snapshots which each year at the luncheon are enthusiastically circulated by doting mothers and grandmothers and patiently admired by the spinsters.

Too much praise cannot be given to Norma Rose, '36, editor of the *Magazine* from the beginning, who is as careful and intelligent in her editing as she is in her teaching, whose work on the *Magazine* is an embodiment of the ideals of journalism which she keeps before the editors of the *Twig*. Of the staff, Kate Matthews, with her long experience on the *Biblical Recorder*, was especially valuable, more than once taking over in an emergency the responsibility of the editor. Working with Dr. Rose in 1970-71 were

Carolyn Robinson, Jane Greene, '29, Mary Lynch Johnson, '17, and Hannah B. Carter.

The latest publication of the Association is the *Alumnae Directory*, which appeared in 1968, the compiling of which was a gigantic undertaking for Margaret Martin and her staff. It lists the alumnae in three categories: an alphabetical list with the address and the class of each; a list by classes, and a geographical list. The directory is of untold value to all alumnae and to anyone seeking information about alumnae. It is to be revised with additions and changes every five years.

The *Directory* had a predecessor in the *Meredith Alumnae Association Handbook*, which was published each year from 1912 to 1926. After an interval of two years, in 1928-29 one more was published. With fewer and much smaller classes then than now, the single list by classes with the address of each graduate sufficed. The *Handbook* also contained the minutes of the annual meetings of the Association and the treasurer's report. After the last *Handbook* was issued, for two years, 1929-1931, supplements appeared, containing only the names and addresses of the new graduating classes.

Meredith alumnae have won recognition from many sources. They are listed in *Who's Who of American Women*, *Who's Who in the South and Southwest*, *Who's Who in Education*, *Who's Who in American Art*. Each year alumnae have appeared in *Outstanding Young Women of America*; ten were in the 1968 issue. One alumna was the same year included in this publication and in *Outstanding Civic Leaders of America*; previously she was Raleigh's Young Career Woman. Numerous city and county newspapers and civic clubs have chosen an alumna as Woman of the Year. Several have been chosen Teacher of the Year; one was Distinguished Citizen of the Year; one was Outstanding Woman in Industry; one was National Singer of the Year; and one was Best Dressed Woman of the Year. Many have been acclaimed Mother of the Year in their cities; five have been named North Carolina Mother of the Year. Several alumnae families have had the honor of being Family

of the Year; at least one was North Carolina Master Farm Family. Without doubt there are other honors not mentioned here.

To these honors the Alumnae Association in 1968 voted to add its own award, designed to be "a recognition and appreciation of an alumna's outstanding achievement in some area and of her significant service and contribution to her community and to Meredith." In accordance with the recommendation of the Committee, four were chosen the first year; four the second, with two each year thereafter. The first awards were made on Alumnae Day, 1968, to Elizabeth James Dotterer, Mae Grimmer, Bernice Kelly Harris, '13, and Mary Lynch Johnson; the second year to Ellen Brewer, Laura Weatherspoon Harrill, '27, Carolyn Mercer, '22, and Sarah Elizabeth Vernon Watts, '34.

November 13, 1953, was a red-letter day in the history of the Association, for on that day the new Alumnae House was used for the first time. The Alumnae Council held its annual meeting there, preceded by a buffet supper served before the fires blazing at either end of the large room. Though the whole Association had worked hard five years for their house, the success of the undertaking was due in large measure to the persistence and wisdom of Mae Grimmer and of Margaret Craig Martin, president of the Association the year it was decided to build the house. Later she was chairman of the Alumnae House Committee. The alumnae are grateful to the late J. M. Kesler, of Winston-Salem, who without charge drew up the plans. Mr. Kesler's ties with Meredith were close. He was a trustee; the son of a former trustee, M. L. Kesler; the nephew of a member of the first faculty, J. L. Kesler; the husband of an alumna, Annie Mercer Kesler, '18; and the brother-in-law of Carolyn Mercer, a former member of the Meredith faculty and president of the Alumnae Association for 1952-1954.

The small brick colonial building in the edge of the grove directly south of Joyner Hall was originally only a large room adjoining which were a small office and an even smaller kitchen with an attic with dormer windows over the whole. Ten years later, in 1963, the wings which

from the beginning were part of the plan, were added. The east wing has two large offices and a conference room; the west wing has four bedrooms—two double and two single—with two baths. Also with the addition of this wing the minute kitchen was enlarged to an adequate size.

In 1964 the house was named in honor of the retiring executive secretary. In 1970 the Association honored her successor by the gift of the Margaret Craig Martin Garden. It is a patio, adjacent to Mae Grimmer House, enclosed by a garden wall, on either side of which are azaleas, camellias, rhododendron, hollies, aucuba, lirioppe, and other plants. The garden is a link between the old and the new, because many of the bricks in the wall were brought from the old campus when Main Building was demolished.

At commencement, 1954, Mrs. Martin presented to President Campbell a key to the Alumnae House. Though it is used chiefly by the alumnae, the house is of great value to the College as a whole, especially since it has been enlarged. The guest rooms, which are available to alumnae at a very modest charge, are used by the College for speakers and for other special guests. The main room is used for luncheons and dinners for small groups who are guests of the College on various occasions and for meetings of departmental clubs and other College organizations. Bridal showers for students and faculty take place there and wedding receptions for faculty members; one alumna, Mildred Ayscue, '62, was married there. Like the Hut, when the house is available it is used by Sunday school classes and missionary societies and circles from the Raleigh churches.

A variety of gifts have come to Mae Grimmer House from alumnae and their friends. Among them are two matching sofas which the Raleigh chapter bought with prize money won by repeated successes in competition with other Raleigh clubs in a radio program, *Time Out*. The class of 1922 gave a walnut banquet table. Sarah Elizabeth Vernon Watts gave a silver punch bowl and tray in honor of her mother, a student in the Baptist Female University; and a silver epergne in honor of three aunts, Verna Cates Stackhouse, ex-'14; Carrie Sue Vernon Walker, '17; and Bertha Cates. Mary Timberlake Stem, '08, gave a Rus-

sian cloisonné vase which had been for four generations in a Russian family who gave it to the Stems when they were in Turkey. Madge Daniels Barber, '20, brought from Italy a linen and lace banquet cloth. A large Chinese vase of the Ming dynasty, given by Belle Tyner Johnson, '05, accords well with the Chinese prints given by Eliza Turner Bingham, ex-'34, in honor of her mother, Myrtle King Turner, who entered the Baptist Female University the year it opened. When Lillian Lu returned to Meredith as Alumnae Day speaker, she gave to the College a garden stool and to Mae Grimmer House a large jar, both of them pieces of beautiful Chinese pottery.

Of associative as well as of actual value is the antique brass fireplace fender given by Dorothy Vann, '16, and Elizabeth Vann, '17, daughters of President Vann. It had been long used in Mrs. Vann's family before it came to the Vanns' living room. Many alumnae will remember seeing in Dr. Harris's living room in Vann Hall and later in Chapel Hill the brass teapot, candle holders, snuffer, and gong, as well as the Greek vase and Chinese ivory chess set which are now in Mae Grimmer House.

Mrs. Campbell, who, like Dr. Harris, is an honorary alumna, gave the two mirrors over the mantels in the main room. Dr. Campbell gave two antique German vases and candlesticks from his uncle's estate.

Valuable antique furniture was left to the house by Lillie Grandy, a Chowan classmate and lifelong friend of President Brewer's wife. The large sideboard, two desks, two chests, small tables, chairs, and the Victorian love seat were all hers. Miss Grandy also evidenced her friendship for Meredith and Mrs. Brewer in her generous bequest of eight scholarships of three hundred dollars each. Another friend has a different tie with the College; Owen Meredith Smaw, an attorney in New Bern, who is not a direct but a collateral descendant of Thomas Meredith, gave to the Alumnae House two Queen Anne winged chairs.

These special gifts are not limited to Mae Grimmer House. In many ways the alumnae have helped to make Meredith a more comfortable and more beautiful place. Ellen Brewer, for many years chairman of the College so-

cial committee, said that the gifts of alumnae—silver services, punch bowls, salad trays, candelabra "have made the serving of a reception in the Meredith parlors a real joy instead of a borrowing headache."

Alumnae have worked on the grounds also. Shrubbery, trees, and flowers have been contributed by them and sometimes planted under their supervision. Virgie Egerton Simms, '04, who had encouraged and directed the students in beautifying the small campus in town, was especially active in providing trees and shrubbery. She was chairman of the committee which was responsible for the planting of double and single Japanese cherry trees on either side of the long driveway leading up to Johnson Hall. Maude Davis Bunn, '10, personally supervised the laying out of six tennis courts and the planting of shrubbery around the outdoor chimney which the Wake County Chapter gave in 1937. The chimney itself was built under the direction of Janie Parker Dixon, ex-'14. Among other donors of plants, Laura Weatherspoon Harrill and Eliza Turner Bingham have been generous with camellias, boxwood, and other shrubbery. Mary Jane Warrick Brannan, '54, and her husband, who have a nursery, gave and planted for the Margaret Craig Martin Garden approximately sixty shrubs and four young birch trees, one at each entrance to the garden.

Loleta Kenan Powell, '41, is working with the buildings and grounds committee and College officials in a project to beautify the oval in front of Johnson Hall. The plans call for the oval to be enlarged, with shrubbery, iris, lilies, and other colorful flowers in addition to the two magnolias which are there now.

Alumnae and their friends are much interested in the Carlyle Campbell Library. Individual alumnae and reunion classes have made contributions to the book fund. Often they give books honoring friends or the memory of friends. Some give as a token of gratitude for specially loved teachers. Some of the books make the regular courses more meaningful; others are rare books or expensive luxuries which the yearly budget cannot afford. Charlotte Wester Cate, '38, gave a rare Shelley pamphlet, "We Pity the

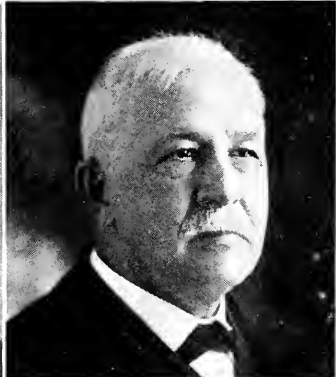
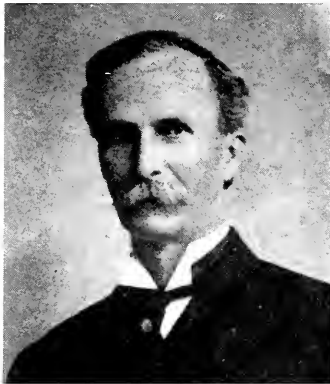
Plumage, But Forget the Dying Bird." More recently she and her daughter, a Meredith student, gave a copy of *The Merchant of Venice* extracted from the Second Folio, the 1632 edition of Shakespeare's plays. Margaret Bullard Pruitt, '37, gave a volume of steel engravings illustrating Scott's, *The Heart of Midlothian*, made in 1873 for the Royal Association for the Promotion of Fine Arts in Scotland.

Another gift of special value was made by Elizabeth James Dotterer and her husband in honor of her father and mother. They gave a beautiful reproduction of the Lindisfarne Gospels, an eighth-century Latin manuscript with an interlinear Anglo-Saxon gloss. *The Oxford Companion to English Literature* calls the manuscript "one of the earliest and most beautiful examples of Anglo-Irish script with magnificent illuminations."

Among other books from their parents' library, Ellen and Ann Eliza Brewer gave an 1813 edition of Isaac Watts, *Poems Chiefly of the Lyrical Kind*, a copy with the autograph of Samuel Wait, first president of Wake Forest and grandfather of President Brewer. Another valued gift is a two-volume edition of *The Letters of Robert Browning and Elizabeth Barrett*, with the inscription, "To Love,⁴ from Charles, December 25, 1899." They also gave the watch given Dr. Brewer by Mrs. Brewer and a scrapbook concerning Dr. Brewer's presidency, beautifully kept by his family.

These and other treasures will find a place in the Meredith Historical Collection—a project which Sarah Elizabeth Vernon Watts, one of the most concerned and active of the alumnae, has generously undertaken. The Julia Hamlet Harris Room, with provision for the safekeeping and display of the collection, will be dedicated to this purpose. Although in it will be preserved the few rare books which the College possesses, its main purpose is the preservation of manuscripts, records, letters, documents, and mementos of significance in the life of the College throughout its history. Much of the success of the project depends on the cooperation of the alumnae in giving to this historical collection material of interest which they have stowed away.

⁴ Mrs. Brewer's maiden name was Love Bell.



Friends of Meredith for Whom Buildings Are Named

OLIVER LARKIN STRINGFIELD
JAMES YADKIN JOYNER
LIVINGSTON JOHNSON

WILLIAM TURNER FAIRCLOTH
SALLIE BAILEY JONES
WESLEY NORWOOD JONES

Buildings are named also for Richard Tilman Vann and Charles Edward Brewer whose pictures face page 132.

(Continued on next page)



Friends of Meredith for Whom Buildings Are Named

IDA ISABELLE POTEAT
J. RUFUS HUNTER

DELIA DIXON CARROLL
LUTHER M. MASSEY
VIVIAN MASSEY

JAMES R. WEATHERSPOON and W. HERBERT WEATHERSPOON

Buildings are named also for Mae Grimmer and Ellen D. Brewer, whose pictures face page 197.

One valued gift came not from an alumna but from a relative of Mrs. Thomas Meredith. Mrs. Charles G. Snow of Chapel Hill gave to the College daguerrotypes of the Merediths' twin daughters, Cordelia and Cornelia. A collateral descendant of Thomas Meredith, Meredith Smaw, gave interesting material concerning the Meredith family, including a pardon signed by Andrew Johnson to G. R. Meredith for "taking part in the late rebellion against the government of the United States." Mr. Smaw also gave a collection of rare coins and paper money, in which is a silver dollar with the Meredith coat of arms, dated 1769. Bronze plaques of the Meredith coat of arms and of the Blasingame coat of arms are among his gifts. The Stringfield family Bible, presented to the college by the family in 1971, will have a place in this room, as will the Bible presented to "Elder R. T. Vann" by the Scotland Neck Baptist Church when he was its pastor.

Elsewhere in the library are evidences of the interest and the influence of alumnae. The class of 1910 established in memory of one of its members the Ella Graves Thompson Picture-Lending Collection. Miss Thompson, at one time a teacher at Meredith, was a cousin of Miss Ida, and was herself a person sensitive to beauty. Fifty pictures were chosen by Mr. White and Miss Baity as the nucleus of the collection. For a nominal fee, a picture may be kept for a year or a semester. The collection was formally opened to the public with an open house in the library on March 29, 1971.

The periodical room was given in memory of Sarah Briggs Trentman, '31, by her husband, Harold Trentman, a trustee of Meredith. The head librarian's office was given by W. L. Wyatt in memory of his wife, Lulie Marshall Wyatt, '09. A bequest in the will of O. J. Howard, father of Frances Hunter Howard, '24, was used for a study room in his daughter's memory. Another study room was given in honor of May Baldwin Turlington, '08, by her family. Another was given by Mrs. James M. Davis and her daughter, Elizabeth Davis Reid, '46. The names of two study rooms, though they have no direct connection with alumnae,

are of great significance to them. One room was given by Mrs. David Coker in honor of Dr. Campbell; another was given by Dr. and Mrs. Heilman.

Both as groups and as individuals alumnae have established scholarships. The Ida Poteat scholarship, originated in the Kinston chapter, is given by the Association each year. Hester P. Farrior, '18, who began her study at the Baptist University for Women in the second grade, from time to time adds to the scholarship which she gave to be used preferably for a student from Mills Home, where Miss Farrior had taught. Madge Daniels Barber, '20, adds at intervals to the scholarship fund she gave in memory of her parents. Frances McManus, '34, has made an initial gift, also to be increased, for a scholarship in honor of her aunt, Margaret Mason McManus. The Mary Lynch Johnson scholarship was established by a mother and daughter, both alumnae, who wished to remain anonymous; other alumnae have added to this fund. In memory of Martha McKeel Whitehurst, '60, her husband and family have established a scholarship.

These scholarships show that the alumnae are increasingly aware of their financial responsibility for the College. Edith Stephenson Simpson, '48, president of the Association in 1968, said to the members:

Surely we who have reaped lifelong benefits from what others have sown should be the first to insure the same privilege to future generations.

Frequent references to the alumnae loan fund and to the endowment fund occur in the early reports of the annual alumnae meetings and of the Meredith clubs. In 1918 the Association voted to raise \$25,000 to endow a chair at Meredith, a project which was a part of the southwide \$75,000,000 Campaign. By commencement of 1919 the whole amount had been given in cash or pledged by members of the Association or through them by their friends, though such a chair was never designated. The alumnae were not organized as a unit in the financial campaign undertaken in 1944, but they took an active part in it. In 1949

they provided the 1,044 seats for Jones Hall at a cost of over \$12,000.

Reactivating the expansion program begun in 1952, the College set a goal for two years—1954-56—of \$750,000. Of this amount the Association assumed \$100,000 as its share. At the October, 1956, Council meeting \$63,869.10 was reported as pledged or given, and by commencement, 1957, the three-year commitments amounted to \$75,368.39. Though the full amount hoped for was not raised, the alumnae efforts were far more successful proportionately than the campaign as a whole.

The enthusiasm of Carolyn Mercer, president of the Association for 1952-54, was contagious; and her wise steadiness was reassuring to the alumnae in beginning this enterprise. The Association was also fortunate in having as chairman of the Expansion Program committee Ruth Couch Allen, '22, one of the best volunteers in the 1944 campaign, who, it was said, could do easily and well twice as much as most people in half the time. Mrs. Allen had come to the rescue of the English department twice in an emergency, had taught German in the College for two years, and for a few months had been Mae Grimmer's substitute. Her death in 1969 was a grievous loss to the Association.

By 1957 the alumnae were, as Carolyn Mercer said, "conditioned by giving for three years to the Expansion Program." An important first step had been taken toward regular, systematic giving to the College with the beginning of the Loyalty Fund in 1940. In a contribution to the Loyalty Fund, everything over the yearly dues to the Association (at that time five dollars) was a gift to the Association or to the College, whichever the giver preferred to make it. This "over-and-above" received increased emphasis and grew steadily. In 1963 the need for alumnae dues was eliminated as the administration of the College made the expenses of the Association part of the College budget. Thus the Loyalty Fund became the Annual Giving of the Alumnae Division of the Meredith College Development Program. By this change, interest in the College has been greatly stimulated among the alumnae, as all of them, regardless of whether or

not they contribute, receive the *Alumnae Magazine* and all other communications sent out from the office of the Association.

Betty Rose Prevatte Wall, '44, was the first coordinator of the Alumnae Division of the Meredith College Development Program. Early in the summer of 1963 she and Mae Grimmer and Elizabeth Davis Reid, Loyalty Fund Chairman for the preceding year, with the vigorous encouragement of Jane Watkins Sullivan, '46, that year president of the Association, worked out the details of a plan whereby alumnae visitors would go to all the alumnae in their hometowns or nearby areas and explain the new plan and ask for gifts to the College. An alumna too far away to be reached in this way would receive a letter making the request—"Person to Person by Postman," Mrs. Wall called it.

The plan was carried out and the results were amazingly good; "Alumnae giving more, and more alumnae giving" became a reality, not merely a slogan. In the year ending June 30, 1963, twenty-two per cent of the alumnae gave to the Loyalty Fund \$16,000. In the year ending June 30, 1964, fifty-two per cent of the alumnae gave \$66,394.24. As one of the few colleges in the nation to reach the goal of fifty per cent participation, Meredith received a check from the Aetna Life Insurance Company through its Incentive Grants Program which brought the total to \$80,810.44. Also the Association for its accomplishment won the incentive award of \$1,000 given by the American Alumni Council to the private college for women which made the greatest improvement in annual giving during the year.

The success of the visits was not solely financial. Many wrote the alumnae office of their enjoyment of the visits; some wrote who for years had not shown a spark of interest in the College. Mrs. Wall in "You—the Making of a Miracle" in the *Magazine* wrote:

There were hundreds of you—going out as a little part of Meredith itself to other alumnae, and bringing a little part of Meredith to them. . . . You went, not just to collect money, but to talk about Meredith and the old days, and former classmates, and Dr. Campbell's twenty-fifth year, and the hopes and dreams for the future.

Though Mrs. Wall gave this well-deserved credit to the hundreds of visitors, the miracle would have been impossible without her excellent planning, endless work, and steadfast belief in what the alumnae could and would do. The Association and the trustees expressed their appreciation of her work.

The active part which the alumnae have taken in the Advancement Program proves that they are indeed "conditioned by giving." The Development Office reported that since the beginning of the program in February, 1968, they have contributed more than \$500,000.

Alumnae give to the College in ways other than financial contributions. The enthusiasm of alumnae as well as students means much in introducing Meredith to high school students. In her first year of teaching, Ella Graves Thompson, '10, wrote to the *Acorn* of one little fellow who listened to her accounts of chemistry experiments and then with eyes sparkling exclaimed, "That's the kind of place I'd like to go to. I b'lieve I'll go to *Meredith!*"

Personal contacts in schools, churches, and neighborhoods; the cooperation of individuals and groups with the College officials in preparation for College Day in the local high schools; the entertainment of junior and senior girls at chapter meetings, where often pictures of life at Meredith are shown—all these are helpful in interesting the right kind of student in the opportunities which Meredith offers. As the number of applicants grows larger each year, the responsibility of the alumnae becomes increasingly important; for with enthusiasm must be blended sound judgment of ability and personality.

The obligations of a Meredith alumna go beyond her relationship with the College. The existence of Meredith is justified primarily by what its students do and what they are after leaving college.

A survey of the alumnae indicates how well the College has succeeded in its purpose, "to develop in the students the Christian attitude toward the whole of life and to prepare them for intelligent citizenship, homemaking, graduate study, and for other fields of service."

In the seventy years from 1902 to 1971 (inclusive) ac-

ording to the records in the registrar's office, Meredith has awarded 6,168 degrees and diplomas. A few students have received a diploma and a degree or two degrees. Approximately 6,640 have attended Meredith who did not graduate. The proportion of non-graduates is high largely because of the number of elementary and high school students and special students in the early days of the institution. A total of 752 graduate degrees have been earned by Meredith alumnae, as shown in the following table:

Ph.D.	32	M.S.	82
M.D.	16	M.Ed.	82
D.D.S.	1	M.A.T. (Master of Arts in Teaching)	21
V.M.D. (Doctor of Veterinary Medicine) ...	1	M.M.	17
M.A.	329	M.L.S.	17
M.R.E.	86	M.M.T.	3

A scattering of other degrees are included in the total number. Also included are twenty-one B.D.'s, three S.T.B.'s, and three L.L.B.'s.⁵ In addition to these, a number of graduates have an A.B. or B.S. in Library Science. Still others have done work not leading to a degree—technical courses or individual study in music or art. Also, four graduates have five honorary degrees: one has an L.L.D., one an L.H.D., and two have three Litt.D.'s

The first M.A. from Meredith was granted in 1902 to Margery Kesler. Of graduate degrees from other institutions, the first master's degree, M.M.T. (Master of Missionary Training), was given in 1908 by the Woman's Missionary Union Training School⁶ in Louisville to Beulah Bowden, '02. The first M.A. from an institution other than Meredith was granted in 1918 by Radcliffe College to Harriet Herring, '13. The first M.D. was granted in 1920 by the Woman's Medical College in Philadelphia to Blanche Barrus, '10; the first Ph.D. by Cornell University in 1920 to Mary Susan Steele, '13.

Among the colleges and universities which have granted

⁵ The three recipients of the L.L.B. are now entitled to a J.D., the degree now usually conferred upon a candidate whose study of law is based on a bachelor's degree, rather than being part of the work leading to that degree.

⁶ The name was changed in 1953 to the Carver School of Missions and Social Work; in 1957 the school was merged with the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

scholarships and fellowships to Meredith graduates are Radcliffe, Smith, Wellesley; Columbia, Cornell, Tulane, Wake Forest, Yale; Florida State, Illinois, Iowa, Michigan, New Mexico, North Carolina, North Carolina State, and South Carolina.

A number of graduates have studied outside the United States for a year or more. The first was Mary Lois Ferrell, '16, a piano student in Vienna for two years. Jeanne Grealish, '57, a Meredith voice major, after graduating from the New England Conservatory of Music studied in Vienna several years. Her study was aided by several important grants—the Frank Huntington Beebe Award, the Schoen-Rene Scholarship, and the Martha Baird Rockefeller Grant. Harriet Rose, '38, with a Cresson Traveling Scholarship awarded by the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts in 1941, painted in Mexico and Guatemala, as well as in the United States. Another artist, Betty Lou Anderson, '42, after five years as associate art editor with Charles Scribner's Sons, was in Paris two years.

Mary Bland Josey, '51, with a Rotary International Fellowship, was the year after her graduation a student of philosophy at the University of Reading. While in England she met another holder of a Rotary fellowship studying at Oxford—Richard Tilman Vann II, grandson of Meredith's second president. Ruth Vande Kieft in 1953-54 worked at Oxford on a doctoral dissertation. Anne Rowe, '61, at the Baptist Seminary in Ruschlikon, Switzerland, in 1962-63 was the only unmarried woman student who had ever come from the United States to that institution.

More than twenty years ago the occupations which alumnae reported to Miss Grimmer fell into ninety-eight categories; the number by this time must be considerably larger. From housekeeping to decorating floats for parades; from computer programming to modeling fashions; from portrait painting to taxidermy; from clinical psychology to the professional reading of horoscopes; from the business management of a dance school to the pastorate of a church—they run the gamut. A few examples chosen from many will give some idea of the occupations.

Teaching, traditionally the most ladylike of the "profes-

sional and other fields of service," always claims more than half the graduates in paid occupations. As in choice of occupations, the alumnae vary widely in the field of teaching. Some teach only a few months; others are veterans like Annie Brackett, '18, who called herself "the dyed-in-the-wool variety." They teach at all levels, from Jane Livingood Collins, '55, with a "Mother Goose Play School" to Carmen Rogers, '18, who gave graduate courses in Florida State University. Kate Mills Suiter, '38, wrote that she was "teacher, principal, superintendent and janitress" of her one-teacher school; whereas Nora Binder, '40, has charge of seventy-two sections of freshman English at Lamar University in Texas. Katherine Weede, '63, in India taught mathematics in the Telugu language; Ellen Brewer said that she was "fortunate to be one of the older daughters whom Mother Meredith lets stay home to help take care of the new sisters as they arrive."

Two alumnae teach in the most distant states of the nation. Edna Lee Pegram Leib, '36, teaches in the pre-school division of the University of Hawaii; Linda Dobson Edwards, '61, in Alaska, began her teaching as principal of a school in Kotlik, a tiny isolated village, with her husband as the only other teacher. The temperature dropped below zero in early October, and for a period of eighty-two days in midwinter the sun did not rise at all. After six years in Alaska she wrote that she found Eskimos a "truly delightful people."

Others have taught outside the country. Versatile Dorothy Turner, an English major at Meredith, went to Mexico to study art and taught Spanish in San Miguel Institute. Another whose range of teaching shows her versatility is Shirley Hurwitz Weiner, '48, who has taught English in every grade from the first through the twelfth, some of the time in Ecuador and Peru. In recent years she has been teaching Hebrew, comparative religion, Bible, and ethics in synagogues and Hebrew schools. At least two were exchange teachers, Nancy Gullede, ex-'26, in Peterborough, England, and Kathleen Jackson, '40, in Osaka, Japan. Some while overseas with their husbands have taught in schools for the children of men in military service.

Two alumnae were college presidents. Annie Dove Denmark, '08, retired in 1953 after twenty-five years as president of Anderson College in South Carolina; Sarah Briggs was president of Penn Hall Junior College from 1944 till her marriage to Harold Trentman in 1955. Academic deans, deans of women, registrars, and numerous college teachers have come from Meredith. One of the teachers, Lois Edinger, professor of education at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, in 1966 had a special recognition from a distant state. That year the Illinois Education Association sent a check for five hundred dollars to Meredith in appreciation of Dr. Edinger's service as president of the National Education Association.

Jeanne Grealish teaches music in the University of New Mexico. Melba Long, '46, teaches art in Converse College; LeGrace Gupton Benson, '29, is teaching in the same field in Ithaca College.

Two highly successful private schools were established more than fifty years ago by alumnae—one by Bonnie Howard, '08, and Pearl Howard, '11, in Birmingham and one by Louise Futrell, '14, in Winston-Salem. The Misses Howard are still in charge of their school; Miss Futrell in her school now teaches children with reading difficulties.

More than twenty have taught or are teaching the deaf and the blind. Lula Belle Highsmith, '33, taught for several years in the state school for the deaf in Florida. Ruth Daugherty Browning, '37, has been teaching the deaf in the Louisville public school system for thirty years. Some of her pupils are children of deaf children she had taught. She has written history, geography, and language books for the deaf. The first teacher of an oral Sunday school class for the deaf in Louisville, Mrs. Browning has written four books of lessons for such a class.

Gladys Currin, '25, retired in 1971 after forty-three years on the faculty of the Governor Morehead School in Raleigh. In 1956-57 she was given a year's leave of absence to teach in Diamond Head School for the Blind in Honolulu. In 1966 she received from the Governor Morehead School a citation with a hundred-dollar award for her "greatness in teaching children to know, to understand, and to love that

which they may never see." Frances Cox Morrison, '31, has been teaching twelve years in that school; Blanche Tabor Burchard, '17, Olive Hamrick Miller, '41, Elfreda Barker Johnson, '41, and Martha Lillian Henderson, ex-'68, have taught there at different times.

Others have taught mentally retarded children. Ethel Parrott Hughes, ex-'08, taught arts and crafts twenty-four years in the Caswell Training School in Kinston, where the children lovingly called her "Little Mama." Demetra Bellios, '61, teaches retarded teen-agers in Atlanta and is an active member of the Greater Atlanta Council for Exceptional Children. In 1971 Elizabeth Kennedy Collins, '66, won the Young Teacher of the Year award, presented by the State Jaycees. She taught deaf children in Kentucky and for the past two years has been teaching a trainable mentally retarded class in Cary.

Working closely with teachers are librarians in schools and colleges. Minnie Middleton Husessey, '11, once a missionary in China, was for more than twenty-seven years readers' adviser in the library of the Woman's College of the University of North Carolina. Before Jane Greene came to the Meredith library, she was chief cataloguer in the Duke University library. In recognition of her thirty-nine years as librarian in the Grainger High School in Kinston, that library was named for Beulah Stroud, '27. The same honor was accorded Ethel Knott Smith, '37, at Wingate College.

As head librarian of the Federal Power Commission in Washington, Paige Leonard Fuquay, '28, had not only the responsibility for the main library of that commission, but also the supervision of the organization and maintenance of subsidiary collections for five regional offices. Ruth Hubbell, '19, who gives a creative writing award at Meredith, was for thirty-nine years on the staff of the District of Columbia Public Library as reader's adviser. Frances Elrod, '47, is head of the children's department of the public library in Mt. Vernon, New York. Doris Lee Tyson, '49, was for eleven years newsroom librarian for the *Winston-Salem Journal* and *Sentinel*.

The tradition of "culture made perfect through the re-

ligion of Jesus Christ" partly explains the large number of Meredith graduates in full-time Christian service. More than fifty have gone to foreign fields as missionaries under the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. The first one, Maude Burke Dozier, '03, went to Japan in 1906. She led in the organization of the Woman's Missionary Union in that country and in the opening of the W.M.U. Training School there. Her daughter, Helen Dozier Pietsch, '33, is in another mission, the Tokyo Bible Centre. Had Sophie Stevens Lanneau not been too young to be appointed as an unmarried woman by the Foreign Mission Board until 1907, she would have been Meredith's first missionary. Like Mrs Dozier, Miss Lanneau from childhood was sure of her calling. In China she became the founder and principal of Wei Ling Girls' Academy. It is said that the Chinese had profound respect for her scholarship in the Chinese language. Virginia Highfill, '47, has been in Japan since 1950.

Rosa Hocutt Powell, '17, was the first Meredith graduate to go to Africa. Her daughter, Mary Hester Powell, '42, was until 1962 a missionary nurse in Nigeria. Stella Austin, '47, is in Africa, as was Eunice Andrews Smith, '49, until her husband's death in 1968. She is now in the Foreign Mission Board headquarters in Richmond. Rosalind Knott Harrell, '51, and Rebecca Knott McKinley, '51, twin sisters, were appointed the same year, but their fields of service in Nairobi, Kenya, and in Gwelo, Rhodesia, are 1,400 miles apart. Mabel Summers, '46, in Lebanon since 1948, is Meredith's only missionary in the Near East. Marjorie Trippeer Bennett, '50, and her husband are the first Southern Baptist missionaries in East Pakistan.

A number of these were interviewed before their appointment by Edna Frances Dawkins, '37, associate secretary for missionary personnel of the Foreign Mission Board. She has the discernment and kindness necessary in determining the fitness of applicants for service in the foreign fields and in guiding them through the preliminaries leading to their appointment. Before coming to the Board, Miss Dawkins was assistant dean of women at Meredith.

Meredith missionaries are not all on Southern Baptist fields. Among those of other denominations, Sarah Liver-

more Kingsbury, '47, was a Congregational missionary in Turkey. Elizabeth Lee Hill, '62, taught three years in the Pressley Memorial Institute, a Presbyterian school in Assuit, Egypt. Rebecca Edge Bideaux, '53, and her husband were Methodist missionaries in Costa Rica. When the Carrolls, Methodists in Southern Rhodesia, learned of the arrival of a new family on their mission field, they invited the newcomers to visit them. When the two wives met, they learned for the first time that each is a Meredith graduate—Virginia Corbett Carroll, '54, and Dorothy Swaringen Hughes, '49.

One whose name ranks high among Meredith missionaries never reached the field of service to which she had dedicated her life. A few weeks before Blanche Barrus, '10, finished her internship at the Philadelphia General Hospital, it was discovered that she had a cancer too far advanced to be operable. She had already been appointed by the Northern Baptist Convention for service in India. After a long rest, fully realizing that her improvement was merely temporary, Dr. Barrus finished her internship because, she said, "I do not want to meet God with an unfinished task." The nurses' home of the North Carolina Baptist Hospital was named in her memory.

Before she went to Woman's Medical College in Philadelphia, she was for five years executive secretary of the Women's Missionary Union of North Carolina, the first full-time secretary of that organization. Five of the first seven who held that position after her were Meredith alumnae.

The Baptist State Convention as well as the W.M.U. has used Meredith graduates in various positions of responsibility. Myra Sherman Motley, '42, has been with the Sunday School Department more than twenty-five years. As an associate in the department, she heads up the Vacation Bible Schools over the state. Nancy Kistler, '53, was for a number of years with the Church Development Department. Mary Lee Ernest, '39, before she went as a missionary first to Hawaii and then to Singapore, was B.S.U. secretary at East Carolina College; Melba Long, now teaching art in Converse College, was for a number of years B.S.U. Secretary at Mary Washington College. Other alum-

nae have held similar positions on college campuses and at the North Carolina Baptist Hospital.

The greatest number of those doing full-time Christian work are in local churches as secretaries; pastor's assistants; and directors of education, young people's activities, and music. Some of these have had further training; many went to their positions straight from Meredith. The places thus filled are not limited to Baptist churches. A Methodist minister, seeking an assistant, explained that he had had a Meredith graduate who was intelligent and devoted to her work—and he wanted another like her.

A number of these full-time workers are teachers. Mildred Kichline, '31, teaches Bible in the public schools of Burlington, being paid by the churches of the city. She has published texts for such study which are used in many other places. Ruth Miller Brewster, '47, one of the state B.S.U. workers before she received her B.D. from Yale, now teaches at Mercer University. Phyllis Tribble, '54, is a professor in the department of religion in Wake Forest. She was a featured speaker at the last School of Christian Studies in October, 1968. With a leave of absence from Wake Forest, she taught at Seinan Gakuin University in Fukuoka and in the two months vacation period studied Zen Buddhism in Kyoto. While in Japan she visited with Virginia Highfill and Nobuko Kawano, ex-'53, who teaches in a Baptist college in Fukuoka. She and Nobuko were suitemates at Meredith, and were both at Union Theological Seminary in New York in 1955-56.

Betty Miller, '44, in 1947 was the first Meredith graduate to become an ordained minister. She was for six years pastor of the First Baptist Church in Reedsboro, Vermont. The church evidently liked having a woman minister, for Addie Davis, '42, began her ministry in 1964 in the same church. Mary Ann Peebles, '28, and Betsy Ann Morgan, '50, are Congregationalists; Elizabeth Hill, '62, and Martha Stone, '65, are Presbyterians. The last-named three were all ordained in 1968.

Law, like the ministry, is not traditionally a profession which encourages women; apparently only four Meredith graduates have entered the field. Flossie Marshbanks, '15,

was the first to do so. After practicing several years in Edenton, she took an administrative position in the State Department of Education. Lina Lee Stout, '32, so successfully combined a legal career with marriage that in 1955 she was voted Durham's mother of the year. Fannie Memory Farmer, '44, used her legal knowledge in the hearings which she held over the state as state welfare administrative assistant for four years. In 1954 she set up the Domestic Relations Court in Cabarrus County and was its first judge, the only woman judge of such a court in the state at that time.

Nancy Viccellio, '34, began private practice of law after teaching Latin and English, serving in the WAVES—where she rose to be lieutenant-commander—and working in the Department of State and the Central Intelligence Agency. In 1969 she successfully represented the residents of a Georgetown neighborhood in a suit against an architect who had built an ultra-modern house without regard to legal restrictions concerning construction. The case brought nation-wide publicity, and was featured in *Time* and *Life*. Inquiries came to her from several other states and even from Switzerland.

More than twice as many alumnae are physicians as are lawyers and ministers together. Elizabeth Vann, '17, was for thirty-eight years on the staff of St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Washington, first as a general physician, later as a psychiatrist. Also from the class of 1917 and also in Washington, Blanche Tabor Burchard is a general practitioner. Elizabeth James Dotterer, practicing with her husband and brother, is in Sanford. Pearl Huffman Scholz, '37, is an instructor in psychiatry at Johns Hopkins and has a large private practice as a children's psychiatrist. Susan Jackson Mellette, '42, an assistant professor in the Medical College of Virginia, has also a private practice and still finds time for a column, "A Doctor Advises," in *Grit*, a national weekly newspaper. Katherine Chungho King, '57, is on the staff of the Metropolitan General Hospital in Cleveland. Ellen Johnson Preston, '46, has the surveillance of all the commercial products of the Robins Drug Company in Richmond, Virginia.

In addition to these doctors, among the alumnae are nurses, laboratory technicians, physiotherapists, medical secretaries, and hospital dietitians. Virginia Marshbanks, ex-'06, was for ten years superintendent of nurses at Rex Hospital in Raleigh. Alda Grayson, '15, has retired after long service as director of a hospital in Lai Chow, China. Kathleen Mallory, executive secretary of the Southern W. M. U., wrote of her, "To know her is not only to love her, but to admire her and her Alma Mater." Miriam Daughtry, '29, once superintendent of nurses at the Baptist Hospital in Winston-Salem, is now executive secretary of the North Carolina Board of Nurse Registration and Nursing Education. Jennie Fleming Severance, '10, trained in physiotherapy, for many years had a nursing home in Asheville with most of her patients "on borrowed time."

Florence Pittman, '37, has been for more than thirty years dietitian at the East Carolina Sanitarium in Wilson. Jeanne Tong Yeh, '57, until she returned to Singapore was dietitian at the New York Presbyterian Medical Center; on her return to this country she went as dietitian to a hospital in Chicago. Verona Chow, '65, cousin to Katherine King, holds a similar position also in a Chicago hospital.

Carolyn Mercer, who was educational consultant with the State Board of Health, was the first layman to be made a member of the North Carolina Dental Society. Lula Belle Highsmith Rich worked with the North Carolina Tuberculosis Association and with the State Board of Health. Catherine Johnson Jackson, '39, with experience as medical editor for the Bowman Gray School of Medicine and for the School of Medicine of Duke University and of the University of North Carolina, is a free-lance editor, reading manuscripts for numerous doctors. Earlier she was assistant editor of the *North Carolina Medical Journal*, a position in which she was succeeded by Louise McMillan, ex-'33.

More and more Meredith graduates are going into various types of social work. They do research, industrial work, family counseling, and psychiatric social work. They work with the Red Cross, the Travelers' Aid, the Y.W.C.A. and the Girl Scouts, and in hospitals, day care centers, chil-

dren's homes, adoption agencies, and innumerable city, county, and state welfare agencies.

Harriet Herring, '13, did pioneer work of distinction in industrial research in the Institute for Research in Social Science at the University of North Carolina. In addition to various articles she has written three books: *Welfare Work in Mill Villages*, *The Passing of the Mill Village*, and *Southern Industry and Regional Development*. Chloris Kellum, '30, was for several years assistant director of the Employment Division of the Works Progress Administration. Emily Miller Lay, '34, is with the Catholic Family and Children's Services in Washington and teaches a course in family therapy at the Catholic University. Her three daughters, all Meredith graduates, have been in social work. Euzelia Smart, '30, has since 1959 been director of the Department of Social Work, North Carolina Memorial Hospital, and associate professor in the Department of Family Medicine in the School of Medicine of the University of North Carolina. Hallie Coppedge, '45, was an instructor in psychiatric social work at the Bowman Gray School of Medicine; Bernice Limer Everhart, who now works with adoptions, family counseling, and unwed mothers in the Family and Child Service Agency in Winston-Salem, was formerly a medical social worker with the department of pediatrics at the same school. Elva Burgess, '32, has a private clinic in Charlotte in which she works primarily with children, though she is also a marriage counselor. Mary Lou Morgan Argow, '63, was youth supervisor with the Raleigh Recreation Department, the first person in that newly created position.

Laurice Hlass, '51, has become an international figure. In April, 1954, the *Alumnae Magazine* reported that she was "the director of a mammoth welfare service for almost 500,000 Palestinian refugees in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan." In 1957, the year she received an M.A. from Columbia University, she was named Columbia's Woman of the Year. She was for five years a representative of the United Nations in Morocco, where for her work among the village women she received from the King of Morocco

the highest honor which that country gives to a foreign diplomat, the Decoration of the Throne. In 1967 she became the first woman plenipotentiary in the Foreign Office in the Kingdom of Jordan.

Home economists are in constant demand. Some have been employed by public utilities companies; Carolyn Knight Nelson, '49, for several years was a demonstrator and service assistant for the Carolina Power and Light Company, and Joan Langley Harrod, '53, had a similar position with the Appalachian Power Company. Martha Ann Riley Fisk, '36, has written several small cookbooks to be used with electrical equipment. She was also at one time in charge of the research kitchen of the Hotel Statler system and traveled through the chain, training supervisors.

Others have been county, state, or federal employees. Flossie Whitley, who retired in 1970 after thirty years as the Chatham County home demonstration agent, was in 1953 recognized for distinguished service by the National Home Demonstration Agents' Association. Ruby Pearson Uzzle, '37, has for more than twenty-five years been a marketing specialist with the Agricultural Extension Service of North Carolina State University. For two years of that time she was on leave of absence in Peru as adviser to the national director of home economics. Nancy Duckworth, '50, was the first home economist in the nation to serve on the meat inspection staff of the United States Department of Agriculture.

Other besides welfare workers and home economists are or have been state or federal employees. Among these Nell Barker, '29, recently retired after more than twenty years as accountant in the North Carolina Wild Life Resources Commission. Corinna Sherron Sutton, '40, is training officer of the North Carolina State Department of Health. Fannie Memory Farmer Mitchell is head of the Publications Division of the Department of Archives and History. Rebecca Knight Clegg, '57, is records management consultant in the Department of Administration. From the same class Edith Brewer Johnson Seifert was editor of *Roadways*, a magazine for the employees of the Highway Commission. Jerry

Martin Stuart, '65, an art major at Meredith, is with the State Highway Commission; she was responsible for the colorful scenes in the 1967 State Highway map.

Before Cora Fender Britt, '30, came to the Federal Supply Bureau in 1949, she worked in the Census Bureau and in the Treasury Department. When she retires in 1972 she will have been in government service thirty-five years. Evelyn Jolley Keenan, '29, who began work in the Social Security Administration in 1936, retired in 1970 from her position as director of the Division of Health Insurance. In 1969 she received a Commissioners' Citation for superior performance in her position. Joyce Causey, '55, senior policy specialist in the Social Security Administration in Baltimore, says that she has "interesting and challenging work in a dynamic atmosphere." Lester Salley Ely, ex-'38, for years a cost accountant in the Bureau of Reclamation wrote of her work, "Remember my final grade in algebra—a 59!—with a note to 'learn a little arithmetic, please!' I never did, but it is amazing what a machine or two can do." Probably the most recent addition to this group is Martha Dicus, '71, who began office work with the F.B.I. soon after graduation.

Meredith has sent numbers of alumnae into publication work of various kinds. Kate Ford Peele, '09, with her husband, Herbert Peele, owned and edited the *Elizabeth City Daily Advance*.⁷ Emily Pool Aumiller, '50, was also co-owner and editor of the *Cherokee Scout*, a weekly in Murphey. A number of daily and weekly newspapers have or have had on their staffs Meredith graduates, some of them just out of college. Jewell Eatmon Pope, '46, wrote of her work on the *Dunn Dispatch*, "The printer's ink from the *Twig* seems to have become a permanent stain." Fifteen or more alumnae are or have been editors or assistant editors of trade journals. Flora Ann Lee Bynum, '46, for several years directed the publicity of the Winston-Salem Chamber of Commerce. Margaret Kerr, '66, as an editorial assistant

⁷ That paper carried a vigorous editorial dissent following Gerald Johnson's article in the *News and Observer* of March 15, 1947, which had asserted that, because of the Reynolds bequest to Wake Forest, Meredith, "skimpily equipped and poorly endowed" was "a gone gosling."

was "abstractor, editor, and indexer" for the National Academy of Science.

Dollie Smith, '65, went from her position as editorial assistant with *Look* to be a reporter for the United Press International. In a letter to the December, 1966, *Alumnae Magazine* she wrote:

UPI's managing editor in New York warned me that the job would be unglamorous, nerve-racking, slave-driving, and poor-paying. It has lived up to his word, but I love every minute of it.

Peggy Wilkins, '62, before her marriage was on the editorial staff of *Business Europe*, published in Geneva.

In the field of publication the most venturesome alumna is Charleen Swanzey Whisnant, '54, who has twice launched a new enterprise. In 1964 she began the *Red Clay Reader*, as editor of which she did not impose upon the contributors "any kind of restrictions or editorial formulas." Designed primarily for Southern writers, the *Red Clay Reader* welcomed "new and experimental work from all over the country." After seven successful issues, Mrs. Whisnant gave up the annual to establish a publishing company which will continue in books her emphasis on new and experimental writing.

Their Meredith background especially fits graduates for work with religious periodicals and publishing houses. Kate Matthews was for more than twenty-five years on the staff of the *Biblical Recorder*; Ruth Andrews Holland, '37, is assistant editor of the *Maryland Baptist*; and Louise Yarbrough, '50, is associate editor of the *Alaska Baptist Messenger*, as well as executive secretary of the Alaska W.M.U. After several years as a newspaper reporter and a free-lance writer, Frieda Culbertson, '40, went to the Broadman Press as assistant to the book editor. Mabel King Beeker, '30, associate editor of periodicals, has been with that press longer than any of the other Meredith graduates who have held positions there. Elizabeth Shelton Smith, '46, in addition to her painting and teaching of art, contributes frequently to the periodicals of the Broadman

Press, as do Kathleen Durham Reaves, '31, and Charlotte Tedder Swift, '30.

Dorothy Hampton, '54, was at one time on the staff of the *Christian Scholar*. After her work with *North Carolina Education* and the University of North Carolina Press, Jean Branch Hamm, '47, went to the American Baptist Publication Society. Elizabeth Henley, '38, is associate editor of *Social Action*, a publication of the Council for Christian Social Action of the United Church of Christ.

Besides innumerable contributions to periodicals, many books have been written by Meredith alumnae. Harriet Herring's books have already been mentioned. Susie Herring Jefferies, in *Papa Wore No Halo* gave an account of her father, a missionary in China. Two of Foy Johnson Farmer's seven books, *At the Gate of Asia* and *Mrs. Maynard's House*, grew out of her experiences as a missionary in Japan; another is a life of Sallie Bailey Jones.

Ruth Vande Kieft's *Eudora Welty*, as well as her edition of a collection of Eudora Welty's stories and numerous articles on English and American authors, gives evidence of her scholarly interest and ability. *Diet and Therapy* was written by Sue Rodwell Williams, '42, who is nutrition consultant and program coordinator for the Health Education Research center, Permanent Medical Group, Oakland, California. Alice Tuttle Steadman, '51, an astrologer as well as a teacher of art in the Charlotte Mint Museum has written *Who's the Matter With Me?*, which has been described as a "self-help health book." Beulah Bailey Woolard, '18, writes plays, pageants, and skits which have been used in over five hundred high schools scattered over every state in the nation. Mary Edith Sullivan Kelly, '21, also writes plays and pageants which have been widely used in schools.

Sidney Ann Wilson, '43, historian of Peace College and of the First Presbyterian Church of Raleigh, is also a ghost writer for many book-club members; but her heart is in poetry, as her poems published in anthologies and her book of poems, *Moonwebs*, show. *Impressions* is a collection of poems by Sarah Cook Rawley, '29. Mary Ella Hall, '53, who has not gathered her poems in a volume, has twice won first place in the nation-wide Southern Baptist hymn-writing

competition. From the hundreds of her poems published in newspapers and magazines, Edith Taylor Earnshaw, '05, selected the poems for a slender volume, *Verses*. The unpretentious title belies the wisdom, the tenderness, and delightful humor of her writing. Another from the same class, Irene Haire Wilde, author of a volume of lyrics, *Fire Against the Sky*, was chosen poet laureate of California.

Mrs. Wilde also wrote a novel, *The Red Turban*, one of the few novels to be credited to Meredith alumnae. The College has a slender claim to Lettie Hamlett Rogers, ex-'39, author of *South of Heaven*, *Storm Cloud*, and *Landscape of the Heart*. She was a Meredith student for one year before going to the Woman's College of the University of North Carolina.

Meredith's most distinguished author is a novelist, Bernice Kelly Harris, '13, who in 1939 with her first novel *Purslane*, won the Mayflower cup, awarded each year by the State Literary and Historical Association. She was the first novelist as well as the first woman to be thus honored, and it was the first novel published by a university press. While picturing vividly and realistically a rural community in North Carolina, the book has a universal quality which brought letters from Vermont and Utah praising its vivid and realistic picture of rural life in those states. Frank Swinnerton called it a "modern transatlantic Cranford." Six novels have followed, the last being *Wild Cherry Tree Road*. She explained that the title of *Southern Savory*, her latest book, an informal autobiography, "is meant to suggest that people in whatever time or region are the seasoning that imparts flavor and spice to the human experience." In the November, 1937, *Alumnae Bulletin*, Mrs. Harris, explaining that a pencil always felt good in her hand, told of the experiment which led her into writing, beginning with the plays preceding her novels, which she modestly called "unpretentious folk, social, and religious plays."

I organized a group of town women into playwrights, with my interest concentrated on producing their efforts.⁸ It promised to

⁸As a teacher of high school English Bernice Kelly was much interested in play production. Her feat in May, 1923, of bringing her high school students to Wake Forest and to Meredith in a surprisingly good production of *Hamlet* is unparalleled in alumnae annals.

be unique and was while it lasted. The women, good friends of mine, met with me out of sympathy rather than much interest or real talent. . . . Surreptitiously I found myself revising and re-writing their efforts, for there could be no directing of original plays without the plays. When my women tired of creating and would compare chickens and gardens at our meetings instead of protagonists and conflicts, I rather hardheartedly took my pencil in hand. The personality, material, and plot of "Ca'line" were offered to my class vainly. So "Ca'line" became my first play, and the damage was done.

Some of the alumnae are mindful of readers who are children. Dorothy Clarke Koch, '47, has written three books for children, *I Play at the Beach*, *Gone Is My Goose*, and *Monkeys Are Funny That Way*. *Gone Is My Goose* was selected by the Institute of Graphic Arts from among 4,000 books as one of the seventy-nine most distinguished children's books published in the last three years. Kate Covington Weede, '37, and Louse White Laughton, '59, write stories for children. In addition to more than three hundred feature stories and other articles, Lou Rogers Wehlitz, ex-'29, wrote *The First Thanksgiving Children*, which went into six editions.

Mary O'Kelly Peacock, '26, is both writer and composer. Her stories and songs, both music and lyrics, have appeared in children's magazines. Also for twenty consecutive years she wrote a Christmas play given in Moorestown, New Jersey, where she lives. Three lyrics from these plays are among the songs which have been published in *Etude* and other music magazines.

Two from the class of 1957 are making names for themselves as singers. One of these, Jeanne Grealish, has been a recitalist and soloist with well-known orchestras in Europe and in this country. A brochure from the National Federation of Music Clubs said of her when she won the Federation's Young Artist award in 1965:

She won European acclaim with recitals of American music as well as glowing reviews in this country. Her repertoire is astonishingly versatile and covers a vast field of literature.

With a Ph.D. in musicology, the only Meredith graduate thus far to earn that degree in the field, Miss Grealish is now teaching at the University of New Mexico and is con-

tinuing her recitals and concerts. Her recital at Meredith in April, 1966, convinced the audience that she deserves the glowing reviews.

In 1966 Marilyn Greene Burriss was chosen as national singer of the year in the competition for young singers held by the National Association of Teachers of Singing. She was soloist in the *Messiah* when the new auditorium of the Baptist Assembly in Southport was dedicated; she was soloist in a concert at a Tri-State Church Music Leadership Conference at Fruitland; she was soloist with the North Carolina Symphony Orchestra in its 1968-69 season. She gave a recital on Alumnae Day of the 1968 commencement, the only time that a recital rather than an address has been the feature of the day's program. Mrs. Burriss has had a number of leading operatic roles with the University of North Carolina Opera theater, among them *Madame Butterfly*, in which Kay Johnson Sewell, '59, also took a leading part.

Mrs. Sewell is interested in drama also, and has had five seasons of summer stock experience in places as diverse as the Barter Theater of Virginia and the Little Theatre of the Rockies in Colorado. Edna Lee Pegram Leib has also gone beyond amateur status in acting. When she was teaching in Honolulu, Maurice Evans saw her in *A Bell for Adano*, produced by the Honolulu Community Theatre, and gave her a part in his production of *Blythe Spirit*, which in the summer of 1945 was being shown in army hospitals and camps in Hawaii, Midway, and Miao. Emily Lay, '67, with a recent master's degree in drama, two summers in a stock company at the Flat Rock Playhouse, and membership in Actors' Equity, is well on the way to becoming a professional.

Thus far, however, only Annie Judson Thompson, '09, became a full-time actress. For years she traveled with the Ben Greet Players, who made a specialty of the production of Shakespeare's plays, giving them out of doors when possible. Her roles varied from Puck in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* to Olivia in *Twelfth Night*.⁹

⁹ Since her death her husband, Paul Hubbell, has each year given books in the field of drama to the library in her memory.

Others have portrayed life on canvas rather than on the stage as actresses or on paper as writers. Dorothy Horne Decker, '38, is well established in portraiture, having painted the portraits of about three hundred persons. Her paintings of two West Virginia governors are in the capitol in Charleston. Beth Turner, ex-'62, is another artist who is not going to starve in a garret. "Have You Heard?" in the December, 1966, *Magazine*, reported that half of the twenty-five paintings in her recent exhibit in Palm Beach sold for up to a thousand dollars each. Her pictures are on the walls of homes in twenty states from Maine to Florida.

Another Meredith artist, Effie Ray Calhoun Bateman, '37, in addition to her painting has made an amazing success of her gallery for exhibits and art sales, despite its location in a very small place, Belhaven. Frances Woodard Pittman, '37, writing in the December, 1970, *Magazine* of a visit to the gallery said that since its opening on July 3, 1969, Mrs. Bateman had "sponsored eighteen shows by more than fifty artists, attracting nearly 19,000 visitors from all fifty states and twenty-five other countries." Of double interest to Meredith was the open house held on September 28, 1969, with an exhibit of the paintings of two of Mrs. Bateman's art teachers. The artists thus honored were Meredith alumnae—Ethel Parrott Hughes, ex-'08, and Lucy Sanders Hood, ex-'14, both of Kinston.

Mary O'Kelley was the first of a number of alumnae to go into the field of radio; before her marriage she was a program director for WPTF in Raleigh. Rebecca Calloway and Jean Forbes, both in the class of 1955, were copy writers for that station, which has employed several other Meredith graduates. Margaret Hines, '36, with the professional name Margaret Arlen attained national prominence as a news commentator for WABC in New York; she also appeared in television. When Alyce Epley Walker, '54, was asked about her part in *The Castle in the Clouds*, a daily program for children shown for two years over WBTV in Charlotte, she answered that she not only played Princess Alyce, but "wrote the script, designed and made the puppets, made the costumes, planned the shows, and in general, did everything." Although she "loved every minute of it," she

probably finds less strenuous the real estate business in which she is now engaged.

Martha Stuckey, '62, with experience in different publishing companies, went into television, where she "worked on several big shows, got to know stars by their first names and their neuroses, and worked eighteen hours a day for several weeks at a time." Currently, she wrote in the summer of 1971, she is "working for a film director who is preparing to make a big candy-puff musical in Europe next year." But she is leaving the "promised land, sunny southern California" in September and is planning to move into a new area altogether, "something more intimately involved with the human condition." She believes that "the world can get along without movies and television shows, but it can't get along without a little love and justice and concern for others, plus a few things like good paying jobs and houses without rats."

Mary Jo Clayton, '46, who as editor of the *Acorn* wrote a feature article on Margaret Arlen, knows another side of television. She was one of two people responsible for the first weekly style show of Hutzler Brothers in Baltimore, telecast over WBAL. This responsibility, she wrote to the *Alumnae Magazine*, was "on top of regular copy writer chores concerning ad proofs lineup, schedules, and such, and the commercials for the Hutzler radio program—which managed to keep me busy before television ever reared its demanding head." With Ketchum, MacLeod and Grove, an advertising agency in New York, Miss Clayton writes a variety of television commercials as well as newspaper and magazine ads. Recently she wrote copy for Chinese fortune cookies which are the product of a Japanese firm.

Meredith graduates know from experience aspects of business less recent than radio and television. To choose a few among many, Anne Ashcraft Brooks, '17, was for years a buyer at Macy's. Nancy Harris Cording, '46, held a similar position at Miller and Rhoads in Richmond. Mirvine Garrett Okrasinski, '38, was on the personnel staff of Lord and Taylors; later she was personnel director for a large store in Huntington, West Virginia. She is now with Stewart and Company in Baltimore. Margaret Bullard

Pruitt, is secretary-treasurer for three of the six divisions of the Bland Pruitt Industries. Her daughter, Margaret Pruitt Benson, '64, was for some time an investigator for the Wachovia Bank. Billie Parker Barbee, '63, is personnel manager for all thirty-three branches of the First National Bank of Eastern North Carolina. Donnie Simons, '57, is system analyst at the Chase National Bank in New York; in 1971 she received an "outstanding citizen's award" from that bank. Martha Ellen Walker, '68, with a summer's experience in the Stock Exchange in Baltimore went immediately after her graduation to take a position with the London Stock Exchange.

Numerous alumnae have businesses of their own. Marvel Carter Campbell, '12, has a catering establishment in Winston-Salem, from which she sent a cake for Queen Elizabeth's coronation. Amy Wyche Holden, '46, was owner and president of a New York ship brokerage company. Lorine Smith Caveness, '57, owns the Lemon Tree Restaurant in Louisburg. Anne Britt Smith, '61, has her own advertising agency in Chapel Hill.

Virgie Harville Tomlinson, '25, has in Thomasville a successful real estate agency, which she began thirty-seven years after she graduated. In Thomasville also is Katherine Covington Lambeth, '38, president of Erwin-Lambeth, Inc., a furniture manufacturing firm which she organized in 1947. With showrooms in High Point, New York, Philadelphia, Dallas, Denver, and Chicago, the firm is currently selling around \$2,000,000 worth of furniture from coast to coast.

Powell's Gardens near Princeton is a flourishing business which Loleta Kenan Powell has developed from the beginning. Although she grows many kinds of flowers, her specialties are the daylily and the iris, which is the Meredith flower. Among the five hundred varieties of iris in her gardens are many which she produced by crossbreeding, some of them national award winners. "Meredith," registered and introduced in 1968, she described as having "standards of creamy white and falls of maroon neatly edged with white." Mrs. Powell is versatile, for she writes columns for two weekly newspapers and has had patterns for children's dresses accepted by *Vogue*.

Emilia Kutchinski, '51, was Meredith's first airline hostess. A more recent hostess, Ann Freeman, '66, a 1969 Pan American Airways brochure described as "a pint-sized schoolmarm from Dunn, North Carolina, who has sprouted wings and is soaring westward over the Pacific—to Hawaii and the South Seas, and over the North Pole route to London."

Though women are in the overwhelming majority in this occupation, according to the reports in the *Magazine* this comparatively new venture has attracted only about a dozen Meredith graduates. In some well-established fields there are even fewer because women have been generally considered not to be fitted for them. Roxie Collie, '32, is unique in the work she chose—taxidermy. After a five years' apprenticeship and several years' experience in the North Carolina State Museum, she has a position in the Smithsonian Institute in Washington. Two more graduates are unique in their fields. Pat Smathers Mitchell, '53, is a dentist; after ten years of practice in Chapel Hill she went in 1969 to the faculty of Emory University. Joyce Rudisill Donahoe, '67, began in 1971 her practice as a veterinarian in Georgia. She is also on the faculty of the University of Georgia. Dealing with animals in a quite different way and probably also unique among graduates is Donna LeRoy Newell, '66, who with her husband owns and operates the Don-Mar Ranch near Raleigh, with stables for thirty-five horses. Rachel Leonard Smith, '37, and her husband for several years raised chinchilla rabbits; one pair, she reported to the *Alumnae Magazine*, they sold for \$11,000.

Katherine Stinson, ex-'40, is the first woman to hold the position of chief of the specifications staff of the Aircraft Engineering Division, U. S. Civil Aeronautics Administration in Washington. Ida Leane Warren, '36, went much earlier into a similar field. After teaching in Creswell with fourteen Spruills, thirteen Phelps, and nine Davenport on her roll, she worked in Washington with the War Department as a cryptographer, taught engineering students at North Carolina State, and in 1944 was given the responsible position of aerodynamist with the Piasecki Helicopter Corporation of Philadelphia, with highly trained men and

women working under her supervision. The aerodynamics department, she explained, "estimates the performance of a helicopter, determines airloads, solves vibration problems, and analyzes flight test results."

It was war which led Ida Leane Warren to leave school-teaching for a new venture. War, with its aftermath of more wars and the problems of occupied countries, brought other Meredith women into fields new to them.

In the first world war, the activities of the alumnae were limited to volunteer work such as rolling bandages, making soldiers' kits, and participating in Liberty Loan drives. Apparently only one alumna did duty overseas—Fay Memory, '11, who went to France as a nurse.

In the second world war, many were diverted from their regular occupations, either temporarily or permanently. It was an abrupt change for Mary Kate Collier, '39, who wrote that she had jumped from teaching home economics to using a monkey wrench. Among the volunteers were seventeen WACS, three WAVES, one WASP, one marine, and three camp librarians. At least two were among army nurses who went overseas—Swannanoa Branch, ex-'29, and Marie Mason, '47. The latter served both in Europe and the Pacific area, then returned to finish the college work which her term of service had interrupted.

Most of those who went overseas were army or Red Cross recreational hostesses. Pat Abernethy, '33, began her work with the Army Service Clubs in 1941. She was sent overseas in 1945 and built up the Special Service Clubs Program in Germany after the war and was director of army hostesses in the European theatre of war. Since 1949 she has been director of the entire Army Service Club program, with headquarters in Washington. A feature article in the *Raleigh Times* quoted in the October, 1960, *Alumnae Magazine* paid tribute to Miss Abernethy as "head of a vast network of army service clubs which stretches from Tokyo to Berlin, from Alaska to San Juan—perhaps the biggest recreation job in the world." Among those in charge of service clubs were Nina Binder, '36, in Europe and in the Philippines, and Patricia Eberhardt, '54, and Patricia Maynard, '58, in

postwar Germany. Mary Lou Morgan, '63, was in Korea fourteen months with the Red Cross.

A hopeful aftermath of war is the Peace Corps, in which a dozen graduates have served. Mary Kiser, '56, the first volunteer, went to the Ivory Coast of Africa. After her term of service she married a business man in that country and still lives there. Katherine Weede, '63, in May, 1966, less than a year after her two years' term in India, became special assistant to the director of training for all Peace Corps volunteers. In 1967, when the training of volunteers was given to four regional offices, each with a training coordinator, she was made central training coordinator. Thus she was responsible for coordinating all phases of the training of approximately 10,000 volunteers a year. Since her marriage in 1969, she works with the Southern Regional Education Board, coordinating their resources development program in South Carolina.

The army hostesses, the Red Cross workers, and the Peace Corps volunteers were in other countries for varying lengths of time, but were not planning to stay permanently out of the United States. However, there are Meredith alumnae living all over the globe—in Canada, Mexico, Puerto Rico, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Venezuela, England, Belgium, Denmark, West Germany, Switzerland, Greece, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Egypt, Ethiopia, Rhodesia, the Philippines, Japan, India, Indonesia, Malaya, Malaysia, and East Pakistan—the list is almost a roll call of nations. Some of these came to Meredith from foreign countries and have returned; some are missionaries; some wives of army officers, of government officials, or of business men. Their letters add an exciting foreign flavor to the class notes.

Dorothy Myers Millinder, '40, wrote from Japan that in preparing to sail she packed three important books—"my Bible, a dictionary, and a cookbook."¹⁰ The combination could be symbolic for most of the Meredith alumnae. They are Christians; they want to continue to learn; and the over-

¹⁰ The first articles carried across the threshold of the foods laboratory in Hunter Hall were a Bible, a broom, and bread.

whelming majority of them are homemakers, whether they continue in paying positions after marriage, and—to quote one of them—“do housekeeping in a haphazard fashion,” or are recorded in the census as having no occupation; whether they buy olives on the streets of Kavalla, Greece, or carrots at the A and P on Main Street, U. S. A.

Women's colleges have been called medieval cloisters; one writer called them “spinster factories.” Meredith alumnae disprove this charge. A study made by the alumnae office in 1954 of the classes from 1930 to 1939 shows that of these graduates, who have been out of college from fifteen to twenty-five years, 84.4 per cent are married—760 of the 900. A similar study made in 1971 of the classes from a comparable period, 1947 to 1956, shows that of these graduates, 92 per cent are married, 1,111 out of 1,205.¹¹

The class notes in the *Magazine* give vivid glimpses of happy, busy lives.

A farmer's wife, busy from dawn till bedtime. What with chickens, milk and butter, cooking, canning and other household duties—well, I never have to be rocked to sleep. Then there are various church and community interests to be looked after. It's a strenuous life, but ever so fascinating.

We expect a Ph.D. and a baby this spring.

Our baby cries with a Yankee accent, but soon we shall be dipping his heels in North Carolina tar.

I have a new boss, six months old. He is entirely merciless in his requirements, and has never heard of a 48 hour week.

I am learning how to be a preacher's wife and run a five-ring circus on the side.

I am still writing, but with attending a house, husband, family, two turtles, a dog, a cat, four kittens, and a horse, life is FULL.

I still have my job as a cost accountant. I am also hopelessly in love with a handsome young man—my grandson.

My [library] job is full of hard work, fun, and great variety.

¹¹The high percentage speaks well for the attractiveness of Meredith students; however the location of the College, with North Carolina State in the neighborhood and Duke, UNC at Chapel Hill, and Southeastern Seminary less than thirty miles away, encourages matrimony. The students from these institutions almost have to be swept off the breezeways.

Also I teach a Sunday school class of eight-year-old boys, am chairman of a Business Women's Circle, and serve as library hostess at the USO. All this, in addition to my housekeeping chores of washing, cooking, and cleaning! Life is never a bore.

I have never had a career outside the home, but with home, church, school, and civic duties, my life has been so full and abundant that I would like to live to be a hundred and take a lease on another hundred.

Spinsters can have happy home lives also. Two—one of them twenty-nine years, the other forty-seven years after graduation—wrote:

Honors such as "Best Teacher of the Year" or "Best-dressed Woman in Tidewater" have eluded me, but my five-year-old great-niece gave me this tribute: "Nobody can play *Old Maids* like Aunt Lou!" . . . I grow prouder and fonder of Meredith all the time. Don't you?

For days on end I have tried in vain to sandwich a respectable letter between the multiplied April duties of house and garden. . . . Just being alive in this beautiful world, with boundless interest in many small things is really adventurous.

In preparing her 1945 Alumnae Day address, "Meredith and the Woman's Missionary Union," Foy Johnson Farmer sent out a questionnaire to 1,300 presidents of missionary societies in Baptist churches of the state. The 350 answers bear witness to the usefulness of the alumnae, married and single, in community as well as church. Mrs. Farmer summarized the results thus:

A study of the replies of the presidents brings the gratifying realization that our alumnae are filling important offices in every department of the work of the Baptist churches,—clerks, treasurers; S.S. teachers and secretaries and superintendents; educational directors; B.T.U. leaders; officers in missionary societies, counselors of junior organizations of the W.M.U.; music directors, organists, pianists, and soloists. It is evident, too, that they are active in all movements that make for civic righteousness, leaders in bond drives, Red Cross drives, and Red Cross work; workers in USO centers, registrars for ration boards, members of County Boards of Education, directors of art galleries, service leagues, tubercular associations; participants in nurses aide training, loyal supporters of Parent-Teacher Associations. Many spoke of the fine influence and outstanding work of Meredith girls who are public school teachers.

The class notes in the *Magazine* show that the alumnae continue their volunteer work in causes which Mrs. Farmer cited in 1945—and have added to these causes. Sunday school teachers and missionary society presidents continue to abound; indeed, there is no church office, large or small, which has not been filled by a Meredith woman. Among other community activities they take part in innumerable fund drives; they are volunteer workers in children's hospitals, mental hospitals, nursing homes, prisons, and community centers; they are grade mothers and den mothers.

Patricia Lay Dorsey, '64, as a trained social worker, is of especial value in the children's division of the Detroit City Hospital. In Washington, Cora Fender Britt, '30, has made recordings of textbooks for the use of the blind. Mary Ann Brown, '60, working for a Ph.D. at the University of North Carolina and teaching a section of freshman English, finds time to lead a Brownie troop. Elizabeth Davis Reid is a docent in the North Carolina Museum of Art.

One volunteer project of short duration went beyond the community. For a month in the summer of 1963 Nancy Wallace chaperoned thirty-four students from eighteen foreign countries on a bus tour over parts of the United States. The trip, one of seventy-four such from various parts of the nation, was the climax of a yearlong program sponsored by the American Field Service. Miss Wallace was well qualified for her responsibility; before she entered her profession as librarian she was for more than two years a guide in the United Nations Building.

Only a few have written to the *Magazine* of their political activities. Some have taken part in precinct meetings. Marilynn Ferrell Gay, '46, was chairman of the Kinston City Board of Education. Rebecca Calloway Daniel, '55, who was once a ghost writer for a candidate for one of the most important state offices, was in 1962 coordinator of the Democratic Women's groups and of the Young Democrat Clubs in the State. Mabel Claire Hoggard Maddrey, '28, was state head of the Women for Preyer in the Democratic primary in 1963; the following year Sarah Mull Gardner, '43, was vice-chairman of the North Carolina Democratic executive committee.



Gymnasium 1928-1970



Weatherspoon Building 1971



Old Faircloth Hall 1904-1925



New Faircloth Hall 1926

Presidential positions which alumnae have held are numerous and varied. Mabel Claire Hoggard Maddrey, '28, was president of the North Carolina Federation of Woman's Clubs; she was also the 1966 state chairman of the Red Cross Christmas Seals Sale. Louise Craven Godwin, '29, was president of the North Carolina Parent Teachers Association; Ethel Knott Smith, '37, of the North Carolina Division of the American Association of University Women; Elizabeth Jackson Middleton, '39, of the North Carolina Family Life Council. Marguerite Preslar Irwin, '33, was state president of the Women of the Presbyterian Church. Outside North Carolina, Madeline Elliott Buchanan, '28, was president of the Delaware State Board of Education, and Mary Louise Edwards Durham, '30, was for three years president of the Episcopal Women of Michigan.

Everywhere in North Carolina Meredith alumnae are leaders in the work of the Woman's Missionary Union. In his expression of gratitude for their furnishing the small assembly room in Jones Hall in 1951, President Campbell noted that the retiring president, the current president, the first and second vice-president, and the recording secretary of the North Carolina W.M.U. as well as the president of the Business Women's Federation were all Meredith graduates. Chairmen of state committees and associational leaders in the organization are everywhere.

From the W.M.U. another alumna, Velma Preslar McGee, '31, was in 1965 elected first vice-president of the Baptist State Convention, the only woman thus far to hold that office. Madeline Elliott Buchanan was in 1969 elected second vice-president of the American Baptist Convention.

Lena Honeycutt Mitchiner, '34, a member of the Foreign Mission Board, and her husband, William A. Mitchiner, a member of the Home Mission Board, have taken the world as their mission field. Mr. Mitchiner's highly successful business in Oxford enables them to devote themselves unreservedly to learning about missions firsthand and to creating and increasing interest in missions. In doing so they have visited twice every area at home and abroad in which Southern Baptists have mission work. In their eleven trips abroad they have made a collection of twenty thou-

sand color slides which picture vividly the countries and their customs, the missionaries and every aspect of their ministry, together with national costumes and artifacts from many countries. These furnish the material for the two thousand programs which they have given in churches, schools, camps, retreats, and conventions in sixteen states. It is truly volunteer work, for the Mitchiners have paid every penny of expense involved in the half-million miles they have traveled and will accept no honorarium or expense money for the programs they give.

It is impossible in this chapter to do justice to the variety and extent of the volunteer work done by Meredith alumnae. They deserve the tribute President Heilman paid to them in a talk which he made to the Alumnae council, reported in the December, 1966 *Magazine*:

Social, civic, and church leadership responsibilities are well provided for when a Meredith alumna is at hand. In this state and the nation at large, it is fantastic what has been done and is being done by the women of Meredith.

There are, of course, exceptions. Meredith alumnae are not all industrious, civic-minded angels. There are some self-centered alumnae, some lazy, indifferent, incapable alumnae. Yet only three of the 350 replies to a query Mrs. Farmer made as to the influence of Meredith alumnae in their communities were adverse criticisms. These that follow are typical of the other 347.

It is the exception rather than the rule that a student of Meredith College does not come back to the local church with a deepened religious life, ready to take her place in the program of the Kingdom in our community.

Meredith girls have made Christian homes that are an asset to any community.

Vision has been brought to our community it could never otherwise have had.

With the added testimony of letters and comments concerning the alumnae which come to Meredith officials and teachers unsought from school superintendents, pastors, and other citizens all over the State, it is evident that the College does, to a gratifying degree, "develop in its students

the Christian attitude toward the whole of life and prepare them for intelligent citizenship, graduate study, and other professional fields of service."

One is a college student, normally, for four years. President Campbell says the average tenure of a faculty member is ten years. But an alumna is an alumna the rest of her life. She never escapes the solemn obligation which Dr. Vann pointed out when he addressed the alumnae in 1904 as women "to whom much has been given and of whom much will be required." Forty-two years later Betty Brown MacMillan Green, '41, in her stirring Alumnae Day address, "The Fields Shall Blossom," stressed the fact that in the third verse of his "Alma Mater" Dr. Vann was not merely making a prophecy; he used the emphatic *shall*—a stern imperative to the daughters of Meredith when he wrote:

In thy paths the fields shall blossom,
and the desert shall rejoice;
In the wilderness a living fountain spring;
For the blind shall see thy beauty,
and the deaf shall hear thy voice,
And the silent tongues their high hosannas sing.

“UNDER THE GOOD HAND OF GOD”¹

We have built this institution to last so long as Baptists have anything to do with education. We began it with the intention of never ceasing to give to it. . . . We can never be done with giving to a really great cause.

Thus J. W. Bailey wrote in the *Biblical Recorder* in 1900. This same certainty as to Meredith’s future is expressed in a line of President Vann’s “Alma Mater,” written in 1904.

Thou are born unto a kingdom, and thy crown is all of light.

President Brewer in an address to the graduating class in 1921 said:

We must build, not for today, but for generations to come, with an everlasting faith in God, in our people, in our institution.

These assertions find their echo in a phrase President Campbell used in 1952 as the title of a brochure concerning Meredith’s future, “The Fair Beginning of a Time.” And President Heilman in June, 1968, wrote to the alumnae:

Meredith has had a distinguished role in the past. We think it will play a very dramatic and dynamic role in the future.

As is the case in any wholesomely growing college, there will always be among those who guide the policies of Meredith differences of opinion as to methods and procedures, disagreements as to whether this decision or that is a step forward or backward. Yet never in the eighty years since it was chartered has there been any doubt or wavering as to the purpose of the College. That purpose was foreshadowed in Thomas Meredith’s proposal of “a female seminary of high order . . . modeled and conducted on strictly religious principles.” The same purpose is in Dr. Vann’s significant phrase in the catalogue issued in

¹ See p. 114.

1900, "Culture made perfect through the religion of Jesus Christ." A statement which first appeared in the 1940 catalogue is still included in each issue:

The purpose of Meredith College is to develop in its students the Christian attitude toward the whole of life and to prepare them for intelligent citizenship, homemaking, graduate study, and for professional and other fields of service. Its intention is to provide not only thorough instruction, but also culture made perfect through the religion of Jesus Christ. These ideals of academic integrity and religious influence have always been cherished at Meredith.

The academic integrity of the work has been proved by the success of Meredith students in graduate schools, in professional training, and in a wide variety of professions and other occupations. Maintaining its standards has not always been easy for Meredith, a college never heavily endowed and more than once heavily burdened with debt, dependent for patronage as well as much of its financial support upon the good will of its constituency. The admiration of North Carolina Baptists for a college "of high order" is evident not only in the 1938 resolution, but in later resolutions which the Convention has passed from time to time recommending the continuance of Meredith as a standard liberal arts college for women. But it becomes a different matter when Ann Doe, a trustee's daughter, does not meet the entrance requirements; when Mary Roe, daughter of an influential pastor in the state, does not make the number of quality points required for graduation; or when Susan Smith, an orphan who has borrowed money to come to college, does not pass enough work to return a second year. Such cases have brought and still occasionally bring letters of indignant and pained protest from parents, school principals, pastors, alumnae, and other friends. The faculty is keenly aware of this pressure upon the administration and is appreciative of the courageous firmness with which each administration has resisted it.

There is no cleavage at Meredith between the clever and the good, no conflict between intellectual development and spiritual growth. Those in authority recognize the truth and importance of Dr. Vann's words written in 1900:

But for the desire that the higher education of our women should be definitely, positively Christian, the Baptist Female University would never have been reared.

The same recognition of the paramount importance of Christianity at Meredith is in President Heilman's statement made sixty-eight years later:

At Meredith the Christian perspective will be the integrative principle of all that comprises the College program.

The administration has always been definitely, positively Christian and has always kept the Christian ideal uppermost in the selection of the faculty. A gratifying number of faculty and staff members take an active part in the religious activities on the campus, in the local churches, and in the work of the conventions and conferences of their respective denominations. Religious organizations have always had an important place on the campus.

Spiritual influence is a term so bandied about that one hesitates to use it, but an excerpt from a personal letter written by a college teacher from another state who had visited on the campus gives evidence of that undefinable yet unmistakable quality at Meredith.

What impressed me most about your wonderful college is the genuineness of the religion there, the wholesomeness and depth of the spiritual life. It delighted me to see such essential goodness without ostentation or fanaticism.

Though the College holds fast to the ideal of intellectual and religious development—which William Louis Poteat in a Founders' Day address at Meredith called "illumination keeping step with penetration"—how near it comes to that ideal is impossible to determine. Spiritual values are not so easy to measure as material. We can say so much endowment, so many buildings, so many books, so many faculty members, so many students; but we cannot say so much intellectual illumination, so much spiritual insight, so much sensitivity to beauty in art and in life and—above all—to the beauty of holiness.

However, that these values can be recognized, if not measured, is evident in the comments from letters of three Meredith graduates.

One wrote a personal letter to a teacher; the other two wrote for the *Alumnae Magazine*. The first writer was a graduate student at a western university who has since received a Ph.D. and has published scholarly articles and books. She wrote:

To me the spirit of Meredith has meant the spirit of enlightenment and fearless intellectual activity, combined with and guided by Christian principles, a combination which seems to me, with my limited experience, almost unique. At Meredith a girl can develop intellectually, emotionally, and spiritually if she has only half an inclination to draw from the infinite resources offered her.

The second, a teacher who is now working towards a Ph.D., wrote two years after her graduation from Meredith:

I hold in near reverence the fact that in every course at Meredith I was taught how to think, how to use the intelligence with which God has endowed me. Living in a community of young women students, the invaluable companionship with faculty members, the emphasis on living Christianity—all these contributed to the goodness of my education.

Of equal if not greater significance is a comment from a housewife who did not formally continue her education after graduation, but who has continued to grow intellectually and spiritually. Ten years after she graduated, she wrote to the *Alumnae Magazine* a letter, "To Meredith—With Thanks." One paragraph read thus:

You helped me feel that I belonged to a community of seekers whose coming together under your guidance made it possible for many girls who came from their cozy little cocoon-like world of home town and family to emerge after four years as mature women, full of ideas—ready to apply them when given the opportunity. . . . I came not only to know but actually to feel that God as revealed in Christ is the most powerful force in the world today.

The host of students who feel thus about Meredith gives proof that through the long, hard struggle in the darkness to bring the College into being, through the crises which more than once threatened its existence, up to the present, when "the doors are opened wider," Meredith has been "under the good hand of God." No better prayer could be made for its future than that it continue to be.

APPENDIX A

THOMAS MEREDITH

(1795-1850)

Thomas Meredith was of Welsh descent; his great-great-grandfather, Simon Meredith, came in 1708 from Montgomeryshire to Chester County, Pennsylvania. Nearly a century later, on July 7, 1795, in Warwick Township in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, Thomas Meredith was born—the oldest of eight children of John Meredith, a prosperous farmer, and of Charlotte Hough Meredith, a Quaker. Her great-great-grandfather, Richard Hough, who had come from Cheshire, England, in 1683, was a personal friend of William Penn.¹

John Meredith was not a member of any church until several years after his son had left home. After the father's death on April 8, 1843, Thomas wrote of him in the *Recorder*.

He was truly and emphatically a good man. By nature diffident, gentle, kind, and accommodating to an unusual degree, all these virtues were eventually enhanced by the power of religion.

Twenty years before he died the elder Meredith became, in his son's words, "the subject of divine grace," and united with the New Britain Baptist Church near his home. Mr. Speight found the tombstone of John and Charlotte Hough Meredith in the New Britain churchyard, "one grave-length from the rear wall of the church."

From early childhood, according to William B. Sprague, who wrote in *Annals of the American Pulpit* a biographical sketch of Thomas Meredith, the boy "evinced great sprightliness of mind, quickness of apprehension, and an unusually tenacious memory." From the neighborhood

¹The information about Meredith's ancestry was furnished by Francis Speight, who obtained it from records in the Bucks County courthouse, in Doylestown, and from the writings and clippings of E. Mathews, a descendant of the Merediths. These papers are now owned by Carl Myers, another descendant of the family. Mr. Speight, formerly a member of the faculty of the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts and now at East Carolina University, had his first lessons in art at Meredith College from Miss Poteat.

school he went to Doylestown Academy, a classical school famous in its day. He was, in the opinion of his master, the Reverend Uriah Dubois, "a vigorous and successful student," amazing his teacher by his Latin scholarship. Once after the Christmas holiday, young Thomas recited page after page of his Latin grammar without error or pause till Dubois interrupted him. "Thomas, will you never finish? Surely, you have feasted yourself on Latin instead of mince pie!"²

Encouraged by his teacher's insistence that a boy so highly gifted should continue his education, young Meredith in 1813 entered the University of Pennsylvania, intending to become a lawyer. There he found especially helpful training in the newly organized Philomathean Literary Society, the programs of which consisted almost wholly of the debates and orations of its members. The next year the nineteen-year-old boy was called home by the serious illness of his mother. The earnest concern which she expressed on her deathbed for his spiritual welfare intensified the deep impression her years of consecrated living had made upon him, and the boy became "the subject of divine grace." Returning to the University, he decided to become a preacher rather than a lawyer and began to prepare himself for the ministry.

The commencement program of January 4, 1816, shows that Thomas Meredith, one of nine graduates, delivered the "Valedictory Oration," choosing as his subject "Christianity."³

The year 1816 he spent in Philadelphia studying theology with Dr. William Staughton, pastor of the Sansom Street Baptist Church, into the membership of which the young student had been received by baptism after an earnest study of the New Testament had led him to the Baptist faith. On December 30, 1816, he was by the Sansom Street Church licensed to preach.

²J. D. Hufham, in preparing for the September 18, 1889 issue of the *Biblical Recorder*, asked J.H.A. (whom I have not been able to identify) for information about Meredith's early life. This incident was included in information which, J.H.A. wrote, "was imparted to me by members and connections of the Meredith family."

³Until 1857 the University of Pennsylvania followed the British custom of conferring on a graduate after three years, with no further work required of him, the M.A. degree.

In 1817 he came as a missionary to eastern North Carolina, sent in all probability by the Board of Missions of the Triennial Convention,⁴ which had been organized in 1814. Upon his arrival in Edenton late in 1817, he met Martin Ross, that tower of strength among North Carolina Baptists. It was Ross who in 1809 had made the proposal in the Chowan Association which led to the formation in 1811 of the North Carolina Baptist General Meeting of Correspondence, soon to become the North Carolina Baptist Benevolent Society, forerunner of the Baptist State Convention. Ross was fifty-five, Meredith twenty-two; and the deep affection between them has been compared to that of Paul and his "son in the gospel," Timothy. In one of a series of papers, "The Baptists in North Carolina," in *North Carolina Baptist Historical Papers*, July, 1899 J. D. Hufham wrote of the relationship of the two:

There are few things in the history of the denomination more touching than the devotion of these two men to each other. To him [Ross], this earnest handsome young man, fresh from the city and the university, seemed a gift of God sent in answer to his prayers for a teacher and leader of the people. And Meredith, in this new country to which he had come, with strange ways and people, had found what he sorely needed, a wise and faithful friend, counselor, and guide. On the one hand there was the spirit of a proud and gracious father; on the other the admiration and loving reverence of a son.

The elder man introduced him to the ministers and the churches of that section. The two drove together on evangelistic trips, on one of which, Dr. Hufham wrote, the church at Tarboro was organized. The minutes of the Chowan Association show that Meredith was in 1818 assistant secretary of that association, and that near the close of the year he was ordained "to the full work of the gospel ministry," with Martin Ross presiding at the ordination service.

In March, 1819, Meredith accepted a call to the pastorate of the church at New Bern. While there he married Georgia Sears, whom he had met when she came to Edenton as

⁴ Thus this convention was called because it met triennially. Its full name was The General Missionary Convention of the Baptist Denomination in the United States of America for Foreign Missions.

a schoolgirl, perhaps in the school kept by William Saunders, in which Thomas Meredith had taught for two years before he became pastor of the New Bern church. Her father, George Sears, had been lost at sea when Georgia was a baby; and her mother, Mary Sears, had married William Hancock of New Bern, who was as devoted to his two stepchildren, Elizabeth and Georgia, as if they had been his own.

Thomas Meredith, who called his wife "the only really beautiful woman I ever saw," was himself "a man of dignified and commanding presence," Hufham wrote, adding that many would come to the churches of which Meredith was pastor as a young man just to see "the handsome young preacher and his beautiful bride." T. H. Pritchard, who knew the older Meredith well, wrote of him:

He was tall, spare, and very erect, with something of a military bearing. His appearance was most striking and impressive; his features were delicately chiseled and still gave evidence of the manly beauty for which he was greatly distinguished in the years of his youth and health. His brow was high, his eye singularly brilliant, and his whole manner dignified and stately.

This impression is substantiated by T. E. Skinner's description in an address he made to the Convention in 1898 on "Four Able Baptists."

I knew Thomas Meredith, and remembered well his person and facial features. The only man that ever reminded me of him was Jefferson Davis. The portraits we have of Meredith are totally unlike him. He was tall, and slender, held his head very erect when walking, and swung his arms from the elbows only, not with stiffness, but gracefully, which was mistaken sometimes for pride and bombast, while in truth it was unconscious grandeur displayed by dignified Christian manhood.⁵

⁵The College has two portraits of Thomas Meredith and one of Mrs. Meredith. In 1911 Ada Tolson Ralls, granddaughter of Thomas Meredith, copied a portrait, the work of Anne Peale, and presented it to the College. It is now in the Board Room in the presidential suite in Johnson Hall. The portraits of Meredith and his wife Mrs. Ralls inherited from her mother, Claudia Meredith Tolson, who believed them to be the work of Gilbert Stuart, painted about 1820, when Meredith and his bride were in Philadelphia soon after their marriage. Mrs. Ralls, who lived to be ninety-nine, intended to give them to the College. After her death Claiborn Landers, of Winter Park, Florida, encouraged the sons, Claude and St. John Ralls, to carry out their mother's wish, and in 1966 Dr. Landers brought the pictures to Meredith. An expert in New York to whom the portraits were sent to be restored did not consider them to be Gilbert Stuart's work, but he valued each at \$2,500. The portraits will be hung in the Julia Hamlet Harris Room in the library, for which articles of significance in the history of the College are being collected.

In July, 1822, Meredith and his wife went to Savannah, where he held a pastorate for two years. A daughter, the oldest of eleven children, was born there.⁶

In 1825, after a visit of a few months to his father's home in Pennsylvania, Thomas Meredith returned with his wife and daughter to Edenton, where for nine years he was pastor of the Baptist church. After the death of Martin Ross, in 1827, Meredith was for a short time Ross's successor as pastor of the Bethel Baptist Church, nine miles from Edenton, the only country church he ever served.

In 1830, five years after his return, the historic meeting took place in Greenville, when without a dissenting vote the Baptist Benevolent Society transformed itself into the Baptist State Convention. Martin Ross, in whose "consecrated brain," Livingston Johnson said, "the Baptist State Convention was conceived," had been dead for more than two years; but he had talked much with Meredith about the proposed convention—its importance, its feasibility, and the best means of organizing it. Samuel Wait wrote in his journal that Meredith, when he went to the meeting in Greenville in 1830, "having anticipated the wishes of his brethren, had drawn up a constitution such as he supposed would substantially embrace their views." It was adopted with only slight changes; then Meredith was instructed by the new convention to prepare a letter to the Baptists of North Carolina to be attached to the minutes of the meeting, explaining the necessity of the new enterprise, so much larger in scope than its predecessor, and its vast possibilities. Of this letter, covering sixteen pages of fine print, G. W. Paschal in the *History of Wake Forest College* wrote:

As a statement of principles and an apology for a new enter-

⁶ The children were Laura, Claudia, Marcus, Bettie, Cordelia and Cornelia (twins), John, Luther, and three who died as infants, one in New Bern and two in Edenton. Four daughters and two sons survived him. From several references to them it is clear that the good looks of the parents were inherited by their children. R. H. Lewis in his reminiscences of the First Baptist Church in Raleigh wrote that Meredith's "two beautiful daughters frequently came into town to attend preaching, and at these times some young gentlemen were in the audience who were not in the habit of condescending to become one of a congregation made up largely of the poor and needy." J. S. Farmer, editor of the *Biblical Recorder*, in the centennial issue of the *Biblical Recorder*, January 2, 1935, included with other valuable information about Thomas Meredith an account of his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

prise, it is hardly too much to say that it ranks with the Declaration of Independence. It has the same clear statement and interpretation of pertinent facts, the same lucid reasoning, the same enthusiasm for the new undertaking, the same calm courage and the same vision of future success.

Two years later, Thomas Meredith again "anticipated the wishes of his brethren" in another way. When Samuel Wait drew the attention of the Convention in 1832 to the need of "a well-conducted religious journal," so that "much information on important subjects could be imparted to the churches and our congregations at large," Thomas Meredith announced that he had made definite plans for just such a journal. On January 17, 1833, he published the first number of *The North Carolina Baptist Interpreter: a Monthly Periodical Devoted to Sacred Criticism, Moral and Religious Essays, Miscellaneous Selections and General Intelligence*. It was printed at the office of the local paper in Edenton.

Encouraged by the success of the *Interpreter*, and realizing "the convenience and importance of a weekly publication in connexion with the *Interpreter*," Meredith in the sixth issue of the *Interpreter*, June, 1833, proposed the publication of a weekly and in September gave more details of his plan. The new paper was to be called the *Biblical Recorder and Journal of Passing Events*. Its price was to be two dollars; that of the *Interpreter* was one dollar.

It is evident from the announcement in September, 1833, that Meredith originally planned to begin publishing the weekly in January, 1834. In that year one single issue did appear on January 4, to which he referred as "a specimen of the size, form, type, paper, etc., of the *Recorder*." The delay of a year was due in part to his unwillingness for the new publication to begin without an adequate subscription list. In March, 1834, he wrote:

The lists of the *Recorder* are increasing slowly. The question of its existence will be decided during the present and ensuing months. . . . As we said before, it is left entirely up to the Baptists of the State. Should they see proper to put forth their hand, the paper will live; if not, it must die. We shall wait with patience to learn their decision.

The delay in publication may have been due also to Meredith's indecision as to his own future plans; for in May, 1834, he was offered the chair of mathematics and moral philosophy in the Wake Forest Institute which was to open in the fall, a school in which he was deeply interested. When Meredith came to North Carolina in 1817, he was so far as the records show, George Paschal wrote, the only Baptist minister in the State with a classical education. The Benevolent Society had made no mention of education in its constitution; one of the three purposes of the Convention stated in the constitution Thomas Meredith drew up was "the education of young men called of God to the ministry." When Samuel Wait, a native of New York and formerly a member of the faculty of Columbian College—now Georgetown University—came to Edenton in 1827 with William Staughton, who was financial agent of the college, Meredith warmly welcomed the newcomer. It was natural that Meredith should befriend Wait, who came as a stranger to the new section as Meredith had earlier done, and who was a companion to the man who had baptized Meredith. When Wait decided to stay in North Carolina, it was on Meredith's recommendation that he had been called as pastor to the church in New Bern. Meredith was one of a committee of three to whom was entrusted the responsibility of choosing a president of the school to be established; and according to Wait's journal it was Meredith who, on the porch of his house, persuaded Wait to become the first president of Wake Forest Institute. From the time it was first proposed, Meredith gave to the school staunch editorial support in the *Interpreter* and in the *Recorder*. In 1838 he was elected president of the Board of Trustees.

Hence it is possible that the pastor and editor was tempted by the offer of a professorship at Wake Forest and, until the decision was made, did not fully establish the new weekly. It was not until March, 1835, that he sent to the trustees of Wake Forest his formal refusal. By the end of 1834, however, his mind must have been made up; for at that time he became for the second time pastor of the church in New Bern, and there the regular publica-

tion of the *Recorder* began on January 7, 1835. Both this issue and the earlier specimen sheet were labeled Vol. 1, No. 1. Instead of being an additional publication, as was originally planned, the weekly *Recorder* replaced the monthly *Interpreter*, the last issue of which appeared in December, 1834.

From the beginning the weekly publication proved its value. In his report for the committee on periodicals made to the Convention in 1935, John Armstrong said:

The *Biblical Recorder* succeeds the *Interpreter*, and during the last year it has been a powerful auxiliary to the benevolent efforts of the age. The publication has met with universal approbation and produced much good in removing the unfortunate prejudices from well-meaning but misguided brethren and diffusing correct information.

For three years the paper was published in New Bern; then it was moved to Raleigh, where it is still published. The first issue appeared there on January 13, 1938. The *Raleigh Register and North Carolina Gazette* on January 1 of that year copied from the *New Bern Gazette* the following note:

The *Biblical Recorder*, published here for several years, will hereafter issue in Raleigh. We regret the removal of its Editor, the Rev. THOMAS MEREDITH. He is a gentleman of talents and cultivated mind, agreeable in his intercourse with the world, and in all respects worthy of the esteem and respect of society.

The capital of the State, geographically the center of Baptist population, a city accessible by stage coach and railroad, Raleigh was a natural place for the *Recorder* to be published. At first, Dr. Skinner said in "Four Able Baptists," Meredith and his family lived in a frame house east of Fayetteville Street, torn down in 1898, not far from the residence of the late Dr. W. H. McKee. Soon they moved to a farm west of the city on "the Great Western Thoroughfare," in Meredith's words. It was half a mile south of what is now the junction of Western Boulevard and U.S. Highway One—two and three-tenths miles from the gate of Meredith College. There the *Recorder* was printed in a small building near the dwelling house. The print shop was

torn down some time ago; the square two-story frame house—"for that day an elegant residence," the *Recorder* editor of 1889 called it—was razed in 1953 when a new residential section was developed. In this residence was housed Warwick Institute, of which the first chapter gives an account.

Soon after the *Recorder* was moved to Raleigh, the South Carolina Baptist State Convention gave to the North Carolina paper the subscription list and good will of the *Southern Watchman*. From March 3, 1838, till the end of 1941, when the South Carolina convention withdrew from the merger, the paper was named the *Biblical Recorder and the Southern Watchman*.

From the time that he moved to Raleigh until his death, the publication of the *Biblical Recorder* involved Meredith in serious financial difficulties. He no longer had the small but certain salary the pastorates of Edenton and New Bern had supplied. When he began the printing as well as the publishing and editing of the paper in Raleigh, he went into debt to provide a new press and other equipment, together with a large variety of type, all of the best quality. If subscribers paid up and if there were enough advertising and job printing, the editor wrote, he thought he could manage.

But if this much be not done, and if it be not done pretty soon, the first that will be known of us is that we shall be off to Tennessee or some other remote country where corn and potatoes cost nothing, and where a common spike nail if stuck in the ground will soon become a crowbar.

Though the subscription list grew, delinquent subscribers were an increasing problem; they were in the columns of the paper repeatedly urged to pay. To save expenses, Meredith's wife and daughters helped with setting type and running off the paper. Financially, matters went from bad to worse; and on July 31, 1841, and for several issues thereafter he ran a notice that he would sell the paper for \$2,000 and that he would "continue to edit it for a modest salary." No buyer responded, and at the end of the year he ceased to publish the *Recorder*, with no intention of be-

ginning again. The next year, 1842, he published a four-page monthly, called *The Southern Christian Repository*.

The lack of the *Recorder* was keenly felt in the state, and at the 1842 Convention a committee was appointed "to confer with Elder Meredith" about the *Recorder*. During his entire career he neither asked nor received from the Convention or from any association a penny of financial aid, only their good will. The committee urged the Convention to give the *Recorder* "united and vigorous support," and on January 14, 1843, Meredith resumed the publication of the paper, "with the most cheering anticipations with respect to the future," he assured the readers.

The editorial work itself he enjoyed, and of it he wrote:

The duties of the editorial department, strictly so considered, we have always found agreeable. The exercise of preparing a weekly supply of matter for our readers, occasionally supplied with a little of the controversial—always seasoned by the reflection that we are working for eternity—and not unfrequently diversified by the vagaries of some anomalous correspondent, altogether comprises an occupation singularly interesting and acceptable. In truth, could we be freed from the annoyance of financial arrangements, we would not exchange our vocation as editor of a religious periodical for any other calling with which we are acquainted.

However, the problems were not all solved. With his establishment five miles from the post office, there were inevitable delays in receiving communications and in sending papers to subscribers. The paper on which the *Recorder* was printed was not always shipped promptly from New York; and when it arrived, it was sometimes of disappointing quality, for which the editor more than once apologized. In his prospectus Meredith had promised his readers a journal "plainly and neatly printed on a royal sheet of good paper." Present-day readers of the *Recorder* of Meredith's day, with its print clearly legible on paper still intact after more than a hundred years realize that he kept his promise, whatever the cost to himself.

Although at successive sessions of the Convention in the report of the committee on periodicals the importance of subscribing to the *Biblical Recorder* was stressed, the paper

went from one financial crisis to another. On January 6, 1849, Meredith made a desperate appeal for a loan.

The Editor wishes to borrow from one to two thousand dollars to be refunded in from two to three years. He will pay semi-annually, and will give any sort of security desired. His object is to do justice to his creditors and free himself from embarrassment and to furnish his readers a better paper. *Could he collect what is due him, such arrangements would be unnecessary.* May we not hope that out of hundreds of worthy Baptists and others who read this notice the present call will receive an early and favorable response?

In reviewing the financial difficulties which had reached such a culmination, Meredith wrote of the kindness of friends in "those trying times whose sympathy and aid have greatly tended to lighten our burden and dissipate the gloom that so long hung over our path." He was especially indebted to "an aged gentleman," not a Baptist nor the son of a Baptist, Meredith explained—a man on whose friendship he had not the slightest claim.

And yet the man does not live to whom we are half so much indebted, either for the support of the *Recorder* or for our own preservation from financial ruin. In our darkest hour he stood firmly by us. The time has not been when we could apply to him for aid and did not get it. He has ever been our chief, and often our only endorser. Again, and again, and again he has helped us to meet a crisis when, we know, he thereby subjected himself to personal inconvenience. And what is more than all, what he has done for us has been done with a cheerfulness and a cordiality which has more than doubled the favor conferred. We have only to regret that we shall never have it in our power to repay this friend for one of a hundred of his acts of kindness.

Ill health aggravated the difficulties of publication, and was in turn aggravated by them. John Armstrong wrote to Samuel Wait in 1833:

Brother Meredith has been confined for about two weeks, and this, together with disappointment in not getting paper from New York, has delayed the appearance of the *Interpreter*.

Wait praised the courage of Meredith in undertaking the publication of the *Recorder*, "single-handed and alone, with feeble health and limited means." Through the years there are in the *Recorder* recurring references to his health.

The indisposition of the editor this week must account for the scarcity of the editorials. . . . His general feebleness of health is the reason for his neglecting many valued correspondents.⁷

After an absence of three weeks we returned to our post with health considerably improved and with many pleasant recollections of kind friends seen during our peregrinations.

The year 1849 must have seen some improvement in Meredith's health; for in April he began the publication of the *Southern Baptist Review*, a monthly composed of "Reviews, Criticisms, Essays on Theological and Scientific Subjects, Historical and Biographical Sketches, Discussions, Statistical Documents, etc." It was intended, the editor wrote, "to occupy a sort of middle ground between the scholastic stiffness of our northern quarterlies and the commonplace familiarity of our weekly newspapers." In July he reported the new periodical as still alive with an increasing subscription list and as "making some progress toward usefulness."

Early in January, 1850, Meredith wrote that his financial prospects were better than ever before. Accounts were to be sent out to those subscribers who had been "indebted two years and upwards," and he was sanguine about the results.

Whether the financial relief was real or only a temporary respite, Meredith did not live long to enjoy it. In April, 1850, the *Southern Baptist Review* ceased publication because "the precarious health of the editor has become such as to peremptorily forbid the accumulated labors connected with the publication of that periodical." On September 22 the *Recorder* said that "the Editor contemplates an absence of two or three weeks, with a view to some improvement of his health." He went to Philadelphia, where he wrote to the *Recorder* of the changes he could see in the city as he looked from his hotel window, hoping in a day or two to go out and see more on the streets. By October 5 he had returned to Raleigh, and wrote in the *Recorder*:

⁷ Sometimes he was unable to be in the office for five or six weeks in succession, during which times Mrs. Meredith assumed most of the responsibility for printing and sending out the *Recorder*. This experience was of value to her after her husband's death, when for three years before going to make her home in Georgia she with the help of her son Marcus published the *Recorder* with J. J. James as editor, chosen at her request by the Convention.

Although the Editor may not perhaps have much to promise himself on the score of improved health, yet he has reason to be grateful for many mercies still enjoyed.

Because of "the enfeebled condition of his health" he was not able to attend the 1850 Convention in October.

Early in November he went back to Philadelphia, this time to a hospital, where he rapidly grew worse. He died on November 13, 1850, being conscious to the end. His death, Staughton wrote, "was perfectly tranquil—worthy of his elevated character and eminently useful life." "Dropsy of the lungs"—now called pleural edema—was a merciful termination to the chronic ill health which doubtless would soon have become complete invalidism. Meredith had said he dreaded "the slow wearing out of the old machinery."

The funeral was conducted on November 18 "at 11 1/2" in the Baptist Church in Raleigh. The Presbyterian choir sang and the Presbyterian minister led in prayer; Thomas W. Tobey, pastor of the Baptist Church, preached the funeral sermon from Hebrews 4:9. The burial took place in the Raleigh city cemetery, where his little son Luther was buried. Over Meredith's grave seven years later the Baptist State Convention erected a monument.

To the Reverend Mr. Tobey, recently arrived in North Carolina, the text, "There remaineth, therefore, a rest for the people of God," no doubt seemed most appropriate in view of the vexatious difficulties, the debt, the ill health which for so many years had harassed Thomas Meredith. But to those of his own generation who really knew him and to future generations, the inheritors of his labors, one of Paul's vigorous utterances would have better fitted the man who could have said with Bunyan's Mr. Valiant-for-Truth when he came to the river of death:

"I am going to my Father's; and though with great difficulty I have got hither, yet now I do not repent me of all the troubles I have been at to arrive where I am. My sword I give to him that shall succeed me in my pilgrimage, and my courage and skill to him that can get it. My marks and scars I carry with me to be a witness for me that I have fought His battles who now will be my Rewarder." . . . So he passed over, and all the trumpets sounded for him on the other side.

Never once did difficulties daunt Thomas Meredith; never did financial necessity force him to yield a jot in a matter of principle; ill health took its toll of his body, but never of his spirit.

James McDaniel, president of the Convention from 1849 to 1867, was, he said, "in relations of more confidential intimacy" with Meredith than was anyone else outside the family. In a letter to William Sprague, who was preparing the biographical sketch of Meredith quoted earlier in this chapter, he gave an excellent account of Meredith's personality and character. Beneath the reserve and grave dignity which impressed Hufham, McDaniel recognized a warmth and geniality which the younger Hufham missed.

Though he seemed reserved, yet he really possessed a very social disposition. He was never otherwise than dignified in social intercourse, but he was often facetious and playful, and would sometimes make himself the life of the company into which he was thrown. No one could be his guest or companion without finding himself attracted toward him in an unusual degree.

He was distinguished for a high sense of honour, and would make any sacrifice rather than incur the suspicion of a mean or disingenuous action. . . . He was liberal in his contributions for the advancement of the cause of Christ or the relief of the suffering poor,—perhaps beyond his ability. He possessed the most warm and genial sympathy which it was easy to call into exercise, while yet his passions were kept under strong and steady control. His religion was more a matter of principle than of emotion. He had little confidence in any demonstrations of piety that were not associated with an habitual uprightness of life. Neither the force of opposition nor the prospect of gain nor the persuasions of friendship nor any earthly consideration could lead him to compromise in the smallest degree his conviction of God's truth.

J. J. James, editor of the *Recorder* for ten years after Meredith's death, commented on three qualities most characteristic of Meredith—innate love of truth, independence, and perseverance. His devoutness is evident in the minutes of the 1843 Convention, one of the years in which he was president:

It being late in the afternoon when the Delegates assembled, it was agreed to postpone the organization of the meeting until Saturday and to spend the evening in prayer.

His powerful influence was due in part to his ability as

a preacher. None of his sermons are preserved; a volume he himself had selected for publication was destroyed in a fire. He apparently had none of the tricks of the orator, although James as a student memorized several pages from Meredith's commencement address and used the selection successfully in a declamation contest. McDaniel wrote of Meredith's preaching:

His manner was dignified and impressive, and his voice, though by no means powerful, was very pleasant, but yet he was not an impassioned speaker. He addressed himself to the understanding and conscience, rather than the passions. His language was always chaste and appropriate, but plain and easy to be understood. He was one of the most perfect extemporaneous speakers to whom I ever listened.

William Carey Crane, an eminent clergyman called in the *Southern Baptist Encyclopedia* "one of the South's greatest scholars and educators," wrote to Sprague in 1859 concerning Meredith: "As a preacher he did not sway men by touching appeals so much as by presenting the truth to them with irresistible power." "A clear, forcible, and able expositor of the Scriptures," James called him.

As was to be expected, he was much in demand for sermons on special occasions. He preached at the Convention of 1830, of 1832, and of 1837. In 1840 he preached the sermon at the dedication of the new building of the Baptist Church in Raleigh.⁸ In 1842, a Foreign Mission Jubilee year celebrating the fiftieth year of William Carey's going to India, Meredith was chosen to make the opening address at the Convention. In 1846 at the meeting of the Convention in Raleigh, he preached the sermon at the ordination of Matthew T. Yates.

His chief influence was, of course, through the *Biblical Recorder*. To it, in Hufham's words, "he devoted himself with perfect singleness of heart." To the work he brought, Hufham continued, "a vigorous, well furnished intellect, courage, both moral and physical, to an extraordinary degree, great decision of character, which took small account

⁸The pastor, Amos J. Battle, offered the dedicatory prayer. The clerk of the church wrote in the minutes of the service: "May Almighty God bless that sermon and answer that prayer until the church that worships in it shall be multiplied and the glory of God be seen to rest upon it."

of obstacles or opposition, and patience which held him to his undertakings where others would have given up."

A survey of the *Recorder* throughout Meredith's entire editorship shows how successful he was in producing a paper such as he had proposed in the prospectus:

The periodical now proposed will be strictly a Baptist publication, and will be primarily devoted to interests of our Denomination in the region of the country through which it is destined to circulate. It shall, however, be conducted on principles of Christian liberality, and shall so far contain information touching the interests and operations of other evangelical societies as shall give it some claim at least to the notice of friends of religion in general. Its contents will be, of course, chiefly of a religious and moral character; but it shall so far embrace matter of a literary and miscellaneous cast and shall give such notices of the passing occurrences of the day as shall render it not unacceptable to the general reader.

There were letters from pastors with news of their churches, accounts of great revivals in other parts of the country, letters concerning Wake Forest, letters from Luther Rice with news from India and from mission fields of other denominations.

It is, of course, Meredith's own writings rather than the contributed material which is of most interest to the college which is his namesake. A reading of his editorials bears out Hufham's observation:

The chief characteristics of his style are simplicity and strength. One might read through whole columns of his editorials without finding a single obscure sentence.

His ability in controversy was a matter of especial comment. McDaniel wrote that in argument Meredith "showed much tact and ingenuity." Crane wrote that in controversy Meredith "wielded a Damascus blade."

His most formidable opponent was Alexander Campbell, founder of the Disciples of Christ, a denomination which differed with the Baptists on the question of immersion, holding it to be an essential to salvation rather than a symbol of salvation. Campbell's trip through the State resulted in serious cleavage in some of the Baptist churches, among them the churches in Edenton and in Raleigh. Meredith

wrote for the *Interpreter* a long series of papers called "Campbellism Examined," and from time to time arguments against "Campbellism" appeared in the *Recorder*. Concerning this controversy C. T. Bailey, the eighth editor, wrote:

In these contests and in others. . . Meredith bore himself grandly, and amply justified the wisdom of his brethren in choosing him to the leadership of the denomination.

From Alexander Campbell himself Meredith's courtesy won praise. In his own paper, the *Millennial Harbinger*, in an article attacking Meredith's arguments Campbell wrote:

We must do him the justice to say that he writes like a gentleman. Courtesy and good manners are qualities so extremely rare that it affords one pleasure to find an opponent, even one in a hundred, that has some respect for himself and for what is commonly called "good breeding."

Meredith could and did on occasions use sharp sarcasm. In the *Recorder* of October 13, 1838, he wrote:

When the editor of the *Vermont Telegraph* begins to talk about sweetness of temper, we expect to see mustard and cayenne and nitric acid give out in philippics against heat.

Commenting on the complaints of those from whose name "Reverend" or "Elder" had been inadvertently omitted, he wrote:

Those who are so very tenacious to their little dignities will do well to write out their notices, *titles and all*, just as they wish them to appear in print. In that case they will not have to complain of being slighted, especially in matters of such momentous importance.

He would have liked Thomas E. Skinner's comment in "Four Able Baptists."

Perhaps you have noticed that I have called him Mr. Meredith, and not Doctor. He was far too great a man to be doctored.—Men were men in those days, but now it seems fit to help the weak brethren and call them *Doctor*.

The organization of the Southern Baptist Convention in 1845 was much discussed in the columns of the paper.

Meredith deplored the prospect of a break with the Triennial Convention; and only a month before the Southern Convention was organized, he expressed the opinion that "so long as union on honorable terms is possible," there should be no separation. However, he added, "After it shall appear that our brethren are entirely cut loose from the north, we reckon that we shall have to go with them."

Slavery he held to be "an evil of great magnitude," which he would rejoice to see removed. That end would be brought about, he believed, not by creating in the slave "a restless, insubordinate, and rebellious disposition," but by "improving his moral and mental condition, and thus qualifying him for the enjoyment of freedom while it renders him worthy of its blessings." The gospel, he asserted, "tends to the ultimate extinction of slavery, as well as of all other evils which lie in the way of human happiness on the broadest scale."

Much of Meredith's best writing was in his answers to questions sent in by readers. Some of these were doctrinal questions, and he gave clear, forceful expositions of passages of Scripture. Others were concerning moral issues which arose in contemporary living. Whether a single sentence or several paragraphs, these answers are remarkable for their sound common sense and for his recognition of a general principle underlying the specific question. More than once he was asked questions concerning slaves. To a query as to whether or not it was right for a Christian to sell separately slaves who were husband and wife, he answered:

For the sake of convenience, this question might be stated thus: Jesus Christ has said concerning man and wife, "What God hath joined together, let not man put asunder," but pecuniary interest very strongly urges me to separate my slave from his wife;—what shall I do? Shall I obey the prohibition of Christ or the impulse of my own selfishness? If a person is at liberty to violate one moral precept because his interest is supposed to require it, it is difficult to conceive of a crime which might not be committed on the same ground. Besides this, the gospel teaches that when private interest happens to conflict with moral duty, the former must be sacrificed to the latter, even to the cutting off of a right hand or the plucking out of a right eye.

Concerning a new translation of the New Testament he wrote:

To find fault with the version now in use is an easy matter, and indeed, in some instances it is liable to exception, but to produce a better one, and especially such a one as shall receive the general concurrence of different Christian denominations is altogether another piece of business.

To an inquiry as to the sinfulness of the use of coffee and tea, as well as liquor, he answered thus:

We would, therefore, give it as our opinion that all the wise and the good—all the patriots and Christians of the land, should direct their individual energies against intemperance, properly so called, *alone*, that is, against the habitual use of distilled spirits in all their forms, and if some persons should think proper to drink coffee or tea, rather than buttermilk or cold water,—to use loaf sugar, rather than honey or molasses,—or to wear a coat made of broadcloth rather than one of sheepskin or camel's hair,—let them go according to their liking. To undertake too much, especially if it be on improper principles, is but little better, if any, than to attempt nothing at all.

Contemporaries of Thomas Meredith pronounced him the leading Baptist of his generation. W. C. Crane wrote in 1859, "He was the acknowledged leader of the Baptist denomination in all its enterprises in behalf of Education or church extension." Hufham wrote that Meredith's insight, strengthened by education and experience, made him the most valuable member of the Convention in the first twenty years of its history: "There was no other member whose opinions were so often sought or so much relied upon."

In later generations he has been accounted by those who know well the history of the denomination as the greatest single influence on Baptist history in North Carolina. Thomas E. Skinner considered him "undoubtedly the ablest man who has yet appeared amongst us." Charles E. Taylor, president of Wake Forest, wrote: "He organized the denomination into unity and diffused the information which was necessary for the missionary enterprise." J. W. Moore, author of the *History of North Carolina*, said of Meredith:

In North Carolina Baptist history the name of Thomas Mere-

dith surpasses all others in importance. . . . He was largely and nobly ordered; many wise and godly men upheld his weary hands, but he was both Moses and Aaron in this new Exodus, and was *facile princeps* amid the noble spirits.

J. W. Bailey, himself editor and son of an editor of the *Biblical Recorder*, wrote of Thomas Meredith's influence on North Carolina Baptists:

In his twenty years as editor he brought them into unity of faith and work; he set their standards, cast their mold of thinking, and fixed the purpose of their lives and of the lives of hundreds of thousands who came after them.

Appendix B

TRUSTEES, 1889-1971; FACULTY AND STAFF, 1899-1971

TRUSTEES

A Meredith trustee is elected for a four-year term of service. In keeping with the policy of the Baptist State Convention in effect since 1945, one year must elapse after the expiration of a trustee's term before he or she is eligible for re-election. In the following list, no account is taken of brief intervals in the service of a trustee who is thus re-elected. In each case the dates following the name indicate the first and the last year of membership on the Board.

<p>Abbott, Annie Sarah B. 1952-55</p> <p>Abbott, Carroll, 1946-49</p> <p>Abernethy, C. M., 1955-58</p> <p>Aldrich, Douglas, 1966-69</p> <p>Allen, Madeline May, 1951-54</p> <p>Ashcraft, Hugh G., 1964-</p> <p>Avera, Thomas Arrington 1923-43</p> <p>Aycock, Charles Brantley 1893-94</p> <p>Ayers, William Andrews 1923-36</p> <p>Bagnal, L. N., 1952-60</p> <p>Bailey, Josiah William 1896-1911</p> <p>Baker, Annie Ruth Caldwell 1947-50</p> <p>Baker, Horace M., Jr., 1970-</p> <p>Barefoot, Culbreth C., 1969-70</p> <p>Barrett, Ruby McKay, 1930-37</p> <p>Battle, Henry W., 1889-92</p> <p>Battle, John Thomas Johnson 1911-40</p> <p>Baucom, C. D., 1969-</p> <p>Biggs, Noah, 1908-14</p> <p>Binkley, Olin T., 1956-58</p> <p>Blalock, Joseph Gooch, 1921-22</p> <p>Blanton, Sankey L., 1943-45</p> <p>Bone, Claudilene S., 1953-62</p> <p>Boozer, Howard R., 1963-66</p> <p>Boushall, Joseph D., 1895-1938</p> <p>Bowers, Bartlett Anthony 1936-37</p> <p>Bowers, Claude T., 1962-63</p> <p>Bradshaw, William Rufus 1918-35</p> <p>Brewer, John B., 1894-1901</p> <p>Brewer, Samuel Wait 1896-1918</p> <p>Briggs, F. H., 1892-93</p>	<p>Briggs, T. H., 1895-1902</p> <p>Brinson, Samuel Mitchell 1911-21</p> <p>Britt, Everett Johnson, 1934-53</p> <p>Britt, J. N., 1960</p> <p>Broach, Claude U., 1949-52</p> <p>Broadwell, W. Jethro, 1964-</p> <p>Brogden, Willis James, 1912-14</p> <p>Broughton, Needham Bryant 1889-1914</p> <p>Brown, Lynne, 1969</p> <p>Broyhill, Faye A., 1970-</p> <p>Broyhill, James Edgar, 1938-46</p> <p>Bryan, Raymond A., 1954-</p> <p>Bunn, Maude Davis, 1933-64</p> <p>Cade, Baylus, 1889-92</p> <p>Caldwell, Harry B., 1940-47</p> <p>Cameron, C. Clifford, 1961-</p> <p>Carr, Warren, 1963-64</p> <p>Carroll, Bertha Lucretia 1919-32</p> <p>Carter, J. W., 1889-1900</p> <p>Caveness, Zebulon Marvin 1919-48</p> <p>Chambers, Walter Roy, 1948-49</p> <p>Cheek, T. E., 1892-94</p> <p>Clark, Buna Lawrence, 1946-</p> <p>Coates, Edwin S., 1965-</p> <p>Coleman, W. R., 1953-54</p> <p>Collier, James L., 1970-</p> <p>Cooke, C. M., 1891-1903</p> <p>Council, Commodore Thomas 1937-61</p> <p>Cox, Amos Graves, 1913-29</p> <p>Craig, Hubert M., 1962-65</p> <p>Craig, Locke, 1912-17</p> <p>Creech, Oscar, 1933-43</p> <p>Currin, James Madison 1889-91</p> <p>Daniel, Walter E., 1899-1908</p> <p>Davis, Eleanor L., 1963-</p>
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- Deane, Charles B., 1957-69
 Deyton, Robert, 1948-52
 Dixon, Janie Parker, 1938
 Dorsett, Vet Molette, 1939-45
 Dotterer, Elizabeth James 1956-
 Duffy, H. B., 1897-1900
 Durham, Columbus, 1889-96
 Early, Paul, 1961-64
 Earp, R. Elmore, 1951-59
 Edwards, Henry, 1937-45
 Edwards, William W., 1969-
 Eford, J. B., 1951-54
 Elliott, Hatcher S., 1961-64
 Evans, Holt, 1956-59
 Everett, Margaret Shields 1919-48
 Faircloth, William Turner 1889-95
 Farmer, Foy Johnson, 1932-63
 Farrior, Christine Bordeaux 1964-67
 Feezor, Forrest Chalmers 1939-42
 Finlator, W. W., 1955-63
 Ford, Howard J., 1948-51
 Franklin, T. S., 1906-09
 Freeman, Lidie P., 1953-55
 Gaddy, Claude Fisher, 1946-47
 Gardner, Mattie M. N., 1957-60
 Gardner, O. Max, Jr., 1948-50
 Gilbert, Robert H., 1958-61
 Goodwin, Edwin McKee 1892-1937
 Greene, G. W., 1889-91
 Gregory, Randolph, 1953-62
 Griffin, Lloyd, 1953-56
 Griffith, Cynthia, 1971-
 Gwaltney, W. R., 1889-92
 Hale, Fred D., 1907-09
 Hance, Laconla H., 1969-
 Harrill, Laura W., 1970-
 Harris, Shearon, 1970-
 Hayes, Hayden B., 1961-69
 Hayes, James M., 1944-47
 Hicks, W. J., 1899-1903
 Hill, Basil, 1968-
 Hodge, Ray K., 1971-
 Holding, Jesse Newton 1892-1911
 Holmes, E. C., 1957-59
 Holton, C. E., 1904-10
 Horne, R. B., 1909-10
 Horne, Samuel Ruffin, 1912-18
 Howerton, Richard T., 1952-55
 Hubbard, W. D., 1900-04
 Hufham, J. D., 1889-91
 Humber, Robert L., 1948
 Hume, Thomas, 1891-96
 Hunter, Carey Johnson 1892-1922
 Hunter, Joseph Rufus 1923-51
 Huntley, Benjamin Franklin 1914-25
 James, Alva Lawrence, 1953-56
 Jenkins, C. A., 1901-07
 Johnson, Livingston, 1901-30
 Jones, Bertram A., 1968-
 Jones, Broadus E., 1948-50
 Jones, Sallie Bailey, 1929-32
 Jones, Seby B., 1968-
 Jones, Wesley Norwood 1889-1928
 Josey, Anna Kitchin, 1933-48
 Joyner, James Yadkin 1894-1948
 Joyner, William T., 1952-60
 Justice, C. B., 1899-1910
 Kesler, J. M., 1948-57
 Kesler, Martin Luther 1896-1927
 Kicklighter, R. W., 1965-68
 King, Doctor Franklin, 1889-91
 Kitchin, Lydia Josey, 1951-59
 Kitchin, W. W., 1894-96
 Knight, Ione Kemp, 1952-70
 Lamb, Elroy, 1970-
 Lane, Grace Olive, 1949-53
 Lasater, Roberts, 1963-66
 Lassiter, James H., 1889-94
 Lawrence, Ruth, 1958
 Leathers, W. W., 1957-60
 Ledford, Hubert F., 1971-
 Lethco, Mary P. 1931-34; 1947-50
 Lewis, John M., 1964-67
 Lumpkin, George Thomas 1927-33
 McCracken, Sallie, 1928-32
 McCraw, Carl G., 1946-49
 McIntyre, Stephen, 1901-25
 McManaway, A. G., 1889-93
 McNeill, Gladys E., 1955-56
 Maddrey, C. Gordon, 1952-59
 Maddrey, Mabel Claire, 1939-46
 Marsh, R. H., 1889-96
 Marshall, Alexis A., 1900-03
 Martin, LeRoy, 1940-61
 Martin, Lister Allen, 1941-48
 Martin, Margaret Craig 1963-64
 Martin, R. Walker, 1960
 Masee, Jasper C., 1902-08
 Massey, Luther M., 1949-
 Mebane, Lily Morehead, 1936

- Milford, Charles O., 1959-62
 Moncrief, Adiel Garrett
 1910-11
 Montgomery, W. A., 1893-95
 Moore, Beeler, 1910-19
 Myers, Donald G., 1965-68
 Noffsinger, J. R., 1967-70
 Norwood, Mary C., 1959-68
 Oliver, W. B., 1895-99
 Overby, R. R., 1889-91
 Owens, R. Eugene, 1970-
 Parker, C. E., 1958-61
 Pearce, Winnie R., 1949-53
 Penton, Daniel Harris, 1921-38
 Petty, William C., 1889-1906
 Plemmons, W. H., 1949
 Poe, William Dowd, 1935-36
 Polk, Leonidas Lafayette
 1889-91
 Poole, C. Parker, 1956-59
 Poole, W. Roy, 1965-68
 Poteat, E. McNeill, 1953-54
 Poteat, William Louis
 1891-1938
 Prickett, Carlton S., 1952-62
 Pritchard, Jeter Conly, 1911-17
 Pritchard, Thomas Henderson
 1889-93
 Proctor, Edwin K., 1889-1902
 Pruitt, Bland B., 1964-68
 Pruitt, Thomas P., 1948-51
 Pullen, John Turner, 1901-13
 Rankin, Edward L., Jr., 1962-70
 Rawley, Sarah C., 1970-
 Ray, John Edwin, 1894-1917
 Reid, Elizabeth, 1966-69
 Rhinehart, Herman A., 1961-62
 Rich, Thomas L., Jr., 1964-67
 Riddick, William Oscar
 1918-41
 Riggsbee, Robert Henry
 1913-43
 Robertson, Virginia L., 1961-65
 Roland, H. M., 1949-52
 Rollins, E. T., Jr., 1966-69
 Rominger, C. A., 1889-92
 Russell, Ernest P., 1961-64
 Savage, Joseph E., 1968-
 Scarborough, J. C., 1891-98
 Shaw, Henry M., 1971-
 Shields, Charles G., 1947
 Shields, Frank Percival
 1916-19
 Simms, Albert Meredith
 1893-1900
 Simms, John M., 1958-61
 Simms, Robert Nirwana
 1902-45
 Slate, Marvin L., 1960-63
 Smaw, Owen Meredith, 1968-
 Smith, Alfred J., 1944-50
 Smith, Baron D., 1970-
 Sneed, Jack A., 1968-70
 Spikes, L. E., 1947-50
 Spilman, Bernard W., 1900-02
 Stevens, John A., 1963-66
 Strawbridge, Nelson, 1971-
 Stringfield, Oliver Larkin
 1892-1910
 Sturdivant, William K., 1969-
 Taylor, Beth Carroll, 1938-51
 Taylor, Charles E., 1889-92
 Taylor, H. Pat, 1947-56
 Taylor, Preston J., 1961
 Taylor, Vernon E., 1971-
 Thomas, Roscius Pope, 1889-94
 Thomas, William Atha, 1911-45
 Thurston, D. J., Jr., 1953-67
 Trentman, W. H., 1963-
 Tucker, Charles R., 1964-66
 Turlington, Henry, 1967-70
 Turner, James B., 1949-52
 Tyree, William Carey
 1896-1911
 Upchurch, W. G., 1889-96
 Van Deventer, R., 1893-94
 Vann, Richard Tilman
 1889-1900
 Varser, Lycurgus Rayner
 1927-33
 Wagoner, Elizabeth T., 1958-61
 Watkins, George Thomas
 1918-32
 Watkins, Straughan, 1962-
 Watts, Sarah E. Vernon, 1959-61
 Weatherspoon, W. Herbert, 1918
 (Honorary Life Member)
 Westphal, William H., 1964-
 Whisenhunt, Eph, 1937-57
 White, John E., 1896-1900
 White, John L., 1889-92
 Wilder, Jack B., 1958-61
 Wilkins, J. D., 1952-55
 Williams, W. Fred, 1960-68
 Williams, William Harrison
 1935-45
 Winston, Robert W., 1903-09
 Wood, Virginia L., 1962-65
 Yates, Edwin Walker, 1946-49

FACULTY AND STAFF

The dates after the name of each faculty member in giving the length of his or her term of service are those of the academic rather than the calendar year. Thus two dates, e.g., 1960-61, indicate only one year; whereas for a trustee they indicate two. The name, position, rank, and dates of each faculty and staff member are those appearing in the College catalogue. In each case only the highest rank obtained is given.

- Abbott, Mary S., Lady Principal, 1904-07
 Adams, Betsye Howard, Assistant Secretary to the Bursar, 1938-39
 Adams, Katharine D., Instructor in Physical Education, 1951-52
 Adkerson, Betty Barnard, Director of Physical Education, 1937-41
 Aiken, Pauline, Assistant Professor of English, 1938-39
 Alden, Dorothy Peterson, Part-time Instructor in Music, 1943-46
 Alden, Edgar H., Assistant Professor of Music, 1936-46
 Alexander, James Z., Part-time Visiting Lecturer in Religion, 1970-71
 Allen, Cora B., Assistant Professor of Music, 1900-01
 Allen, Elsie Ruth, Professor of Home Economics, September-October, 1918
 Allen, Helena W., *See Williams, Helena.*
 Allen, Ida Catherine, Professor of Modern Languages, 1917-40
 Allen, May Eva, Acting Professor of Latin, 1918-20
 Allen, Myerl R., Acting Nurse, 1931-32
 Allen, Ruth Couch, Instructor in Modern Languages, 1937-41; Instructor in Modern Languages and English, 1944-46
 Allen, Virginia, Instructor in Modern Languages, 1946-47
 Allred, Audrey R., Assistant Professor of Education, 1970-
 Allred, Fred J., Instructor in Modern Languages, 1945-46
 Anders, Rebecca, Clerical Assistant in the Library, 1968-71
 Anderson, Emma V., Instructor in Music, 1904-05
 Anderson, Janet, Instructor in Music, 1951-52
 Anderson, Laura, Lady Principal, 1903-05
 Anderson, Lois, Instructor in Modern Languages, 1946-47
 Anderson Ritchie, Director of Play Life, 1929-32
 Andrews, Grover J., Director of Development, 1966-67
 Andrews, Rena M., Associate Professor of History, 1946-47
 Applewhite, Mary K., Professor of Education, 1906-10
 Appy, Florence B., Instructor in Music, 1899-1900, 1904-07
 Appy, Henri, Professor of Music, 1899-1900
 Archer, Janie S., Instructor in Health and Physical Education, 1967-
 Armstrong, Charlotte E., Professor of Music, 1928-36
 Armstrong, Katherine, Professor of Music, 1925-26
 Armstrong, Ruth Melba, Professor of Music, 1926-28
 Arnold, Maurice, Professor of Music, 1914-15
 Arrington, Leonard, Part-time Acting Instructor in Economics, 1945-46
 Arrington, Linda, Part-time Instructor in Music, 1968-
 Ashley, Helen, Instructor in Music, 1946-53
 Atmore, Gertrude Louise, Instructor in Music, 1915-17
 Austell, Catherine, Part-time Assistant in Art, first semester, 1945-46
 Averde, Bess P., Assistant in the Library, 1958-59
 Axworthy, Suzanne, Instructor in Music, 1952-57
 Aycock, Madge M., Assistant Dean of Students, 1954-55

- Bacon, Laura I., Professor of Art, 1920-21
Badger, Ruth Hortense, Instructor in Modern Languages, 1921-23
Badger, William V., Professor of Education, 1954-55
Bailey, Frances M., Instructor in Speech, Director of Dramatics, January, 1937-43
Bailey, Laura Warden, Instructor in Home Economics, 1915-18
Bailey, Ruby, Secretary in the Department of Education, 1964-71
Bailey, William S., Assistant in the Development Office, 1967-68
Baird, Barbara S., Secretary to the Director of Information Services, 1969-71
Baird, Jean V., Dining-Room Hostess, 1956-57
Baise, Pauline, Secretary to the Bursar, 1941-44
Baity, Hazel, Librarian, 1933-34, 1940-71
Baker, Anna May, Dean of Women, 1937-49
Baker, Joe, Business Manager and Treasurer, 1966-
Baker, Lucretia Douglas, Associate Professor of Chemistry, 1920-23
Baker, Ruth Ann, Instructor in English and Speech, 1965-70
Ball, Marion Terrell, Dietitian, 1937-38
Ballenger, Stanley T., Part-time Acting Associate Professor of Modern Languages, 1944-45
Bankhead, Virginia, Secretary to the Registrar, 1961-63
Barber, Lena Amelia, Professor of Biology, 1922-40
Barbour, Frances L., Secretary in the Department of Music, 1964-69
Barham, Helen D., Secretary to the President, 1951-53
Barker, Addison, Instructor in English, February-March, 1956
Barker, Nell, Secretary to the Bursar, 1937-41
Barkley, Mabel Achsa, Assistant Professor of Biology, 1929-32
Barnes, Charlotte S., Part-time Consultant in Home Economics, 1967-69
Barnett, Das Kelley, Part-time Acting Associate Professor of Religion, 1944-45
Barnette, Myrtle Julian, Nurse, 1937-50
Barnette, Ruth W., Secretary to the Academic Dean, 1949-50
Barney, Ida, Professor of Mathematics, 1918-20
Barrington, Carolyn, Instructor in History, 1963-
Basbas, Louise E., Instructor in Music, second semester, 1967-68
Basham, Mary W., Assistant Dining-Hall Hostess, 1966-69
Battin, Isaac Lucius, Professor of Music, 1929-33
Battis, E. M., Professor of Business, January, 1904-07
Battle, Joan P., Instructor in English, 1969-70
Baumgartner, Mary Wanda, Instructor in Biology, 1952-53
Bayne, Charles K., Part-time Instructor in Mathematics, 1970-71
Beach, Laura Jennie, Associate Professor of Modern Languages, 1921-22
Beam, Kenni, Part-time Laboratory Instructor in Biology, 1970-71
Beamon, Naomi F., Secretary to the Dean, 1953-55
Beavers, Margery S., Instructor in Music, 1946-47
Beck, Ada, Assistant in Piano, 1907-08
Beers, Pauline C., Assistant in the Library, 1957-58
Belcher, V. Howard, Business Manager and Treasurer, January, 1954-63
Bell, Helen C., Assistant Dietitian, 1967-69
Bell, Janet T., Nurse, 1951-52
Bell, Lila, Associate Professor of Education, 1941-70
Benbow, Sallie, Housekeeper, 1904-05
Benton, Margaret G., Bookkeeper, 1944-45

- Betts, Vivian Gray, Instructor in Preparatory Mathematics, Latin, and French, 1912-1917
- Beza, Jacqueline, Instructor in Foreign Languages, 1964-
- Biggar, Joanne C., Part-time Instructor in Sociology, first semester, 1965-66
- Biggers, Caroline Robinson, Dean of Women, 1925-36
- Biggers, Martha, Instructor in Preparatory Music, 1925-26
- Bilisol, Anne W., Secretary to the Registrar, 1963-64
- Birkin, Vergean, Assistant Professor of Geography, 1963-
- Bishop, Dorothy A., Assistant in the Library, 1959-60
- Bishop, Helen Louise, Professor of Latin Language and Literature, 1905-07
- Bissette, Doris W., Instructor in Sociology and Economics, 1950-52
- Blair, Caroline Winifred, Professor of History, 1905-08
- Blalock, Sarah Lambert, Professor of Music, 1917-21, 1925-30
- Blanchard, Edwin K., Assistant Professor of Music, 1952-66
- Blanton, Gloria H., Associate Professor of Psychology, Special Assistant to the President, 1967-
- Blanton, Sankey L., Director of Development, 1962-66
- Blasingame, James Carter, President, Professor of Psychology and Pedagogy, 1899-1900
- Blinn, Jennie E., Instructor in Music, 1906-07
- Blount, Mary E., Substitute Primary Teacher, 1904-05
- Boggess, Bessie Eleanor, Dietitian, 1917-18
- Boggess, Elaine, Instructor in Physical Education, 1945-48
- Bond, Josephine C., Part-time Instructor in Art, second semester, 1962-63
- Bone, Pauline, Nurse, 1968-70
- Bone, Shirley, Assistant in the Library, 1951-52
- Booker, Anne Leaming, Professor of Home Economics, 1919-20
- Boomhour, Elizabeth Gregory, Instructor in Biology and Chemistry, 1933-39
- Boomhour, J. Gregory, Professor of Natural Science, 1904-16; Professor of Physics, 1918-1942; Academic Dean, 1912-16, 1919-41
- Booth, Josephine, Dining-Hall Hostess, 1965-69
- Bost, Mabel Augusta, Associate Professor of Music, 1912-21
- Boswell, Lydia May, Professor of Home Economics, 1917-18
- Bouknight, Martha L., Instructor in Mathematics, 1966-
- Bowman, Jennie W., Professor of Elocution, 1903-05
- Boyce, Helen A., *See* Ashley, Helen.
- Boyd, Emily, Secretary to the President, 1915-16, 1919-20
- Boyd, Harriet Martha, Instructor in Biology, 1929-30
- Bradford, Sarah Rice, Professor of History and Economics, 1919-20
- Branch, Virginia, Instructor in Music, 1929-37
- Brand, Robert F., Assistant Professor of Modern Languages, 1944-45
- Branscome, Reeves R., Assistant Dietitian, 1951-52
- Bremer, Lynette A., Secretary to the Registrar, 1955-56
- Brewer, Ann Eliza, Assistant Professor of Modern Languages, 1925-26; part-time, 1961-63
- Brewer, Charles Edward, President, 1915-39; President Emeritus and Professor of Chemistry, 1939-40
- Brewer, Ellen Dozier, Instructor in English, 1919-20; Professor of Home Economics, 1922-66
- Brewer, Julia H., Assistant Professor of Music, 1899-1904

- Bridge, Gladys Graham, Secretary to the Dean, 1941-42
Bridger, Margie, Secretary to the Business Manager, 1953-54
Bright, Margaret Irene, Instructor in Elocution, 1908-10
Brockway, Marian, Instructor in Sociology and Economics, 1943-45
Brookens, P. Floyd, Acting Associate Professor of Economics, 1956-61
Brooks, Ruby H., Part-time Instructor in Sociology, 1968-70
Brown, Bessie Myers, Assistant Professor of Psychology and Education, 1938-39
Brown, Dingley, Professor of Music, 1919-28
Brown, Grace, Bookkeeper, 1944-47
Brown, Madeleine, Instructor in English, 1929-30
Brown, Margaret Highsmith, Part-time Lecturer in Music, 1929-34
Brown, Mary Parker, Principal of Meredith Academy, Teacher of English and Mathematics, 1916-17
Brown, Wade R., Professor of Music, 1902-12
Brownlee, Annie Mitchell, Instructor in Biology, 1926-29, 1936-37
Brownlee, Cornelia, Assistant in Piano, 1907-10
Bryan, Peggy J., Secretary to the Dean of Students, 1966-67
Bunn, Clara R., Assistant Professor of Biology, 1969-
Bunn, Rebecca S., Secretary in the Alumnae Office, 1949-51
Burbage, June W., Part-time Instructor in Music, 1969-70
Burian, Almut, Part-time Instructor in Music, 1970-71
Burk, Joseph E., Acting Academic Dean, 1945-March, 1946
Burkhead, Frances, Professor of Business, 1900-01
Burnette, Mary Grady, Director of News Bureau, 1956-57
Burris, Craven Allen, Academic Dean and Professor of History, 1969-
Burris, Nancy R., Nurse, 1955-56
Burris, Sara Lucile, Assistant Professor of English, 1925-30
Burrus, Marjorie Lovelace, Assistant Librarian, 1942-45
Burts, Charles W., Academic Dean, 1946-53
Burt, Elizabeth Divine, Professor of Music, 1903-06, 1910-1912
Butler, Anne McCanless, *See* McCanless, Anne.
Byrd, Lois Tomlinson, Director of News Bureau, 1936-41
Byrd, Mary, Dining-Room Hostess, 1955-56
Calza-Bini, Oisette, Professor of Music, 1921-22
Cameron, Elizabeth, Instructor in Physical and Health Education, 1942-45
Campbell, Carlyle, President, 1939-66
Campbell, Evelyn Mildred, Dean of Women, 1920-December, 1921
Campbell, Georgette J., Instructor in Biology, 1965-67
Canaday, Ernest F., Professor of Mathematics, 1920-65
Cannady, Gail B., Secretary to the Registrar, 1967-68
Capps, Mildred Mae, Secretary to the Registrar, 1957-59
Carey, Kathryn Mildred, Instructor in Music, 1927-28
Carey, Margaret, Instructor in Health and Physical Education, 1949-51
Carl, Catherine C., Acting Instructor in Music, 1939-40
Carroll, Elizabeth Delia Dixon, College Physician, Professor of Physiology, 1899-1934
Carroll, Ethel, Instructor in Preparatory History and Latin, 1910-12
Carroll, Katherine Elizabeth, Assistant Dean of Women and Instructor in English, 1924-25; Dean of Women, 1925-26

- Carroll, Mary Jane, Instructor in English, 1920-24
 Carroll, Nancy A., Assistant Dean of Students, 1965-67; Instructor in History, 1967-68
 Carlton, Dawn, Nurse, 1954-55
 Carter, Corinne, Instructor in Music, 1909-10
 Carter, Hannah B., Assistant in the Library, 1964-68; Secretary in the Alumnae Office, 1968-71
 Cate, Katharine R., Acting Instructor in Foreign Languages, 1958-59
 Causey, Joyce, Assistant Dean of Students, 1961-62
 Chamberlain, Elizabeth S., Part-time Instructor in English, 1961-67
 Chapman, Josephine, Clerical Assistant in the Library, 1970-
 Charles, Clayton H., Associate Professor of Art, 1941-46
 Chesley, Sanborn, Instructor in Mathematics, 1965-66
 Christenberry, George, Professor of Biology, 1940-43
 Clark, Carol, Instructor in Biology, 1943-45
 Clark, Hazel Ruth, Assistant Dean of Women, 1936-38
 Clark, Margaret E., Part-time Instructor in Home Economics, January, 1967-71
 Clarke, Ruth A., Assistant Professor of Art, 1957-61
 Clarke, S. Elizabeth, Associate Professor of Modern Languages, 1940-41
 Clarkson, Helen P., Part-time Assistant Professor of Sociology, 1970-
 Clifford, William B., Part-time Visiting Lecturer in Sociology, second semester, 1970-71
 Cline, P. A., Instructor in Foreign Languages, 1962-66
 Clyburn, James L., Assistant Professor of Music, 1958-
 Cochran, Bernard H., Associate Professor of Religion, 1960-
 Cockerham, Kay, Assistant in the Admissions Office, 1967-69
 Coffey, J. Henry, Jr., Assistant Professor of Religion, 1962-68
 Cohoon, J. A., Steward, 1944-48
 Coleman, Charles, Visiting Lecturer in Religion, 1970-71
 Collins, Elma Tyson, Dining-Hall Hostess, 1954-55
 Collins, Helen Jo, Assistant Professor of Chemistry, 1944-69
 Colson, Chester, Instructor in Art, 1952-54
 Colton, Elizabeth Avery, Professor of English, 1908-23
 Cook, Ida J., Part-time Instructor in Sociology, 1970-
 Cook, Nancy H., Secretary in the Admissions Office, 1967-68
 Cooper, Agnes, Director of Publicity, 1941-47, 57-64
 Cooper, Beulah Wright, Stewardess for the Meredith Club, 1918-30
 Cooper, Harry E., Professor of Music, 1937-70
 Cooper, Madeleigh, Resident Adviser, 1970-
 Cooper, Margaret Moore, Assistant Professor of Chemistry, 1938-40
 Covington, Carolyn, Secretary to the Director of Public Relations, 1958-67; Director of Publications, 1967-70; Director of Alumnae Affairs, 1970-
 Covington, Esther T., Assistant House Director, 1947-50
 Covington, Evabelle Simmons, Dean of Women, 1924-January, 1926
 Covington, Lois, Acting Assistant in Art, 1907-08
 Crane, Judith R., Instructor in Foreign Languages, 1965-66
 Crawford, May, Professor of Music, 1922-42
 Crenshaw, Josephine D., Secretary in the Alumnae Office, 1951-54

- Crenshaw, Mary Elizabeth, Acting Assistant Professor of Art, 1943-44
- Crittenden, Cynthia, Part-time Instructor in Music, 1969-71
- Cronkhite, Grace Louise, Professor of Music, 1906-09
- Crook, Roger H., Professor of Religion, 1949-
- Crowell, Wilhelmina Bayer, Professor of Music, 1920-25
- Cunningham, Phyllis, Instructor in Physical Education, 1945-55
- Current, Ruth, Part-time Instructor in Home Economics, 1965-January, 1967
- Currin, Billie Ruth, Director of Religious Activities, 1945-52; Instructor in Religion
- Dandridge, Lucille, Assistant House Director, 1961-71
- Daniell, Helen P., Assistant Professor of Foreign Languages, 1968-
- Davidson, William W., Assistant Professor of Religion, 1927-29
- Davis, Benson W., Academic Dean, 1941-January, 45; Professor of Ancient Languages, 1941-43
- Davis, Charles A., Associate Professor of Mathematics, 1967-
- Davis, Gwen P., Chief Accountant, 1963-December, 1970
- Davis, Jessie M., Principal of the University Academy, 1900-07
- Davis, Marian, Instructor in Art, 1951-52
- Davis, Ruby Kathleen, Assistant Librarian, 1927-29
- Davis, Shirley M., Secretary in the Alumnae Office, 1956-57
- Davis, Susan Elizabeth, Assistant in Mathematics, 1900-02; Assistant in English, 1905-10
- Dawkins, Edna Frances, Assistant Dean of Women, 1937-42
- Day, Ethel Kathryn, Instructor in Modern Languages, 1931-38
- Day, Harriett Louise, Professor of Music, 1907-21
- Day, Helen Marie, Professor of Music, 1907-21
- Dean, Eva Louise, Instructor in Modern Languages, 1920-23
- Decker, Lilliore Clarke, Professor of Music, 1903-05
- Dehoney, Martyvonne, Assistant Professor of Art, 1957-58
- Derr, Dailey J., Part-time Instructor in Political Science, second semester, 1967-68
- Devir, Janet R., Assistant Dietitian, 1949-50
- Deyton, Robert G., Director of Public Relations, 1957-62
- Dickinson, Eliza, Assistant in Physical and Health Education 1941-44
- Dickinson, Lucy B., Principal of Meredith Academy, Teacher of English, 1910-16
- Donley, Beatrice, Associate Professor of Music, 1942-
- Dorsett, Harry K., Associate Professor of Education, 1941-
- Dowell, Gladys Leonard, *See* Leonard, Gladys Boone.
- Downs, Arthur C., Assistant Professor of Art, 1961-65
- Dugger, Dot Towles, Assistant in Physical Education, 1948-49
- Duke, Helen S., Secretary to the Business Manager, 1958-60
- Duncan, Sharon E., Instructor in Foreign Languages, 1963-64
- Dunwoody, Marion F., Professor of Music, 1900-03
- Durham, John T., Acting Instructor in Latin, 1956-57
- Dyer, Marguerite A., Assistant Dietitian, 1950-51
- Eads, James H., Jr., Assistant Professor of Biology, 1958-
- Earnshaw, Jessie, Matron of the Club Buildings, 1900-03; Housekeeper, 1905-07; Stewardess for the Club, 1907-16
- Eastland, Cornelia, Assistant Librarian, 1945-46
- Eberhardt, Constance, Professor of Music, 1924-25
- Eberle, Mary H., Instructor in Music, 1945-47

- Eckloff, Lillian A., Principal of University Academy, 1899-1901
 Eddins, John, Part-time Visiting Lecturer in Religion, 1970-71
 Edwards, Fred, Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds, 1942-49
 Edwards, Mary M., *See* Mackay, Mary.
 Egerton, Mary McCoy, House Director, 1942-52
 Eiberg, Laura, Professor of Music, 1919-22
 Eide, Katherine M., Assistant Professor of Music, 1937-40
 Eliason, Nancy Blair, Instructor in Biology and Chemistry, 1937-39
 Elliott, Mary Madeline, Religious Secretary, 1928-31
 Ellis, Mabel Eva, Instructor in Business, 1944-49
 Ellison, Nellie H., Instructor in Business, 1952-53
 Endo, Joyce S., Assistant in the Library, 1955-56
 English, Bessie Sams, *See* Sams, Bessie Emerson.
 English, Elizabeth W., Secretary in the Alumnae Office, 1949-50; Secretary to the Business Manager, 1950-52
 English, Ethel Evangeline, Assistant Professor of Education and Geography, Adviser of Freshmen, 1931-41
 Ennis, Barbara Sue, Assistant Director of Admissions, 1966-
 Ennis, Betty H., Secretary to the Registrar, 1960-61
 Epler, Helen F., Associate Professor of Modern Languages, 1920-21
 Etchells, Betty Adkerson, *See* Adkerson, Betty.
 Everette, Mildred W., Instructor in English, 1969-
 Eyer, Frank L., Professor of Music, 1928-29
- Falter, Evelyn D., Bookkeeper, 1952-53
 Farlowe, Vivian, Assistant Professor of Biology, 1956-58
 Farmer, Fannie Memory, Acting Instructor in History, 1949-50
 Farrington, Betty Jo, Part-time Instructor in Music, 1969-
 Farrior, Hattie, Professor of Business, 1899-1900
 Ferrell, Hattie H., Secretary to the Bursar, 1925-29
 Ferrell, Irene Cartwright, Professor of Music, 1906-27
 Ferrell, Sarah W., Secretary to the Dean and the Registrar, 1950-51
 Ferrell, William Jasper, Bursar, 1906-29
 Fleming, Julia Frink, Cashier and Secretary, 1946-49
 Fleming, Louise, Dean of Students, 1950-69; Special Assistant to the President, 1969-70
 Forbes, Nell, Assistant in Health and Physical Education, 1943-45
 Ford, Katherine, Professor of Art, 1904-11
 Forgeus, Margaret, Librarian, 1914-17, 1921-27, 1929-41
 Foster, Elizabeth Sophie, Instructor in English and Speech, 1935-36
 Foster, Emeline, Part-time Assistant in Physical Education, 1944-47
 Fowler, Earl B., Professor of English, 1907-08
 Fracker, Robert G., Assistant Professor of Education, 1962-
 Frazier, Lois, Professor of Business and Economics, 1954-
 Freeman, Genevieve, Instructor in Preparatory Music, 1923-26
 Freeman, Lemuel Elmer MacMillan, Professor of Bible and Philosophy, 1910-18; Professor of Bible and Social Science, 1918-27; Professor of Religion, 1927-49
 Freund, Susanne H., Associate Professor of Foreign Languages, 1947-65; second semester, 1967-68
 Friedrich, Kay A., Instructor in Home Economics, 1967-
 Frink, Nan, Nurse, 1952-53
 Fuller, Terry, Director of Testing and Planning, 1970-71
 Futrell, Mary Elizabeth, Professor of Music, 1907-17

- Gaboda, James, Assistant Professor of Art, 1956-57
 Gabriel, Elsie S., Secretary to the Executive Director of Development, 1970-71
 Gales, Anna, Assistant in Mathematics and Latin, 1903-04
 Gallaudet, Elizabeth N., Secretary to the Dean, 1962-63
 Galligan, Katalin Yvonne, Part-time Assistant Professor of Foreign Languages, 1969-
 Galt, Martha Caroline, Professor of Music, 1925-31
 Gardner, Audrey, Financial Aid Assistant, 1969-
 Gardner, Rosalyn Howard, Acting Instructor in Modern Languages, 1940-41
 Garner, Maxine, Associate Professor of Religion, Director of Religious Activities, 1952-58
 Garriss, Phyllis, *See* Weyer, Phyllis.
 Gartner, Ruth C., Secretary to the Business Manager, 1960-61
 Gates, Rosalie P., Assistant Professor of History, 1965-
 Gatling, Joelle P., Instructor in Foreign Languages, 1965-68
 Gay, Pauline, Bookkeeper, 1964-71
 George, Walter, Instructor in Foreign Languages, 1965-66
 Gibbs, Ruth Grace, Professor of History, 1901-05
 Gilbert, Susan H., Instructor in English, 1966-69
 Gleason, Edward, Professor of Music, 1917-19
 Gnadt, Ruth Ann, Nurse, 1970-71
 Godwin, Mary Leah, Assistant to the Dean of Women, 1942-44
 Goff, Richard D., Assistant Professor of History, 1961-64
 Goldsmith, Ruth, Professor of Music, 1921-24
 Gooch, Margaret M., Assistant Professor of English, 1967-71
 Gorsage, Velma Mae, Instructor in English and Speech, 1956-64
 Gower, Ruth L., Assistant in the College Store, 1959-
 Grant, Lillian, Dean of Women, 1947-50
 Graydon, Mary Elizabeth, Instructor in Latin, 1927-30
 Green, Marie, Instructor in Music, 1944-46
 Greene, Jane, Librarian, 1945-
 Greene, Mary Lou, Chief Accountant, December, 1970- July, 1971
 Greene, Mattie R., Nurse, 1953-54
 Greene, Melba Hunt, *See* Hunt, Melba.
 Greenwood, Dorothy P., Instructor in English, 1959-65
 Gregory, Margaret H., Instructor in Business, 1949-52
 Grimmer, Mae Frances, Instructor in Music, 1916-20; Executive Secretary to the Alumnae Association, 1928-64
 Grubbs, Carolyn B., *See* Barrington, Carolyn.
 Grubbs, Frank L., Associate Professor of History, 1963-
 Gruhler, Henry, Professor of Music, 1899-1900
 Gruhler, Mrs. Henry, Teacher of Music, 1899-1900
 Gwyer, Betty L., Secretary to the Business Manager, 1949-53

 Haber, Julia Moesel, Professor of Biology, 1920-22
 Hackney, James Carlyle, Assistant in Chemistry, 1937-38
 Haeseler, Isabelle, Assistant Professor of Music, 1956-
 Hafner, Mamie, Assistant Professor of English, 1953-55, 1962-65
 Hagedorn, Elizabeth, *See* Burt, Elizabeth Divine.
 Hagedorn, Gustav, Professor of Music, 1906-15
 Hall, Alma Jo, Assistant in the Library, 1968-70
 Hall, Edna Estelle, Professor of Music, 1914-15
 Halliburton, Georgia, Assistant House Director, 1945-47
 Halpern, Marjorie Keiger, Instructor in Modern Languages, 1943-44
 Ham, Vicki, Part-time Instructor in Music, 1970-71

- Hamill, Letitia, Instructor in English, 1967-69
Hamilton, Mary K., Secretary to the Academic Dean, 1956-67;
Secretary in the Office of Admissions, 1967-71
Hamilton, Ruth H., House Director, 1956-57
Hammond, Alice H., Professor of Music, 1900-04
Hamrick, Fuller Broughton, Bursar and Treasurer, 1929-43
Hamrick, Martha, Instructor in Music, 1948-51
Hanchette, Mary, Instructor in Music, 1944-45
Hanyen, Jennie M., Associate Professor of Home Economics,
1931-65
Happer, Carolyn M., Part-time Instructor in History, 1964-66;
first semester, 1967-68
Hardwicke, Callie, Professor of Home Economics, 1966-67
Harkins, Ruby, Nurse, 1950-52
Harmon, Diana, Instructor in Art, 1964-66
Harris, Doris, Assistant in the Library, 1949-51
Harris, Isabel, Professor of English Language, 1902-05
Harris, John Colin, Part-time Instructor in Religion, 1970-
Harris, Julia Hamlet, Professor of English, 1922-52
Harris, Minnie Caldwell, Part-time Acting Instructor in Phy-
sics, 1945-46
Harrison, Linda, Switchboard Operator, 1970-
Hart, Sharon G., Secretary to the Academic Dean, 1967-69
Hartness, Elva, Assistant Dean of Women, 1932-33
Hatfield, Margaret D., Records Secretary in the Office of De-
velopment, 1969-
Hatley, Mary Lagene, Director of News Bureau, 1952-53
Hauser, Doris, Nurse, 1954-55
Hawley, Eleanor, Secretary to the Academic Dean, 1952-53
Haynes, Minnie Ruth, Instructor in Music, 1909-13
Healey, Elliott, Professor of Modern Languages, 1941-44
Helguera, Byrd S., Assistant in the Library, 1957-58
Heilman, E. Bruce, President, 1966-71
Henderson, Edgar Herbert, Professor of Philosophy and Psy-
chology, 1936-41
Henley, Elizabeth, Secretary to the Academic Dean, 1942-45
Henley, Mary, Instructor in Modern Languages, 1933-37
Herndon, Nettie Southworth, Professor of Economics and Soci-
ology, 1926-37
Herring, Susie, Instructor in Mathematics and Education, 1924-25
Hersh, Rosalie P., Financial Aid Secretary, 1968-69
Hewett, Thelma D., Assistant Dining-Room Hostess, 1947-48
Hickman, Jack W., Assistant Professor of Economics, 1961-62
Hicks, William Norwood, Part-time Acting Professor of Sociology,
1945-46
Higgs, E. Lucille, Assistant Librarian, 1946-49
Higgs, Margeurite, Librarian, 1918-21
Highsmith, Annette Paris, Instructor in Mathematics, 1922-23
Highsmith, Edwin McKoy, Professor of Education, 1919-24
Highsmith, John Henry, Professor of Philosophy and Bible,
1905-07
Hightower, Odessa, Instructor in Biology, second semester,
1928-29
Hilderman, Catherine, Instructor in English and Speech, 1946-49
Hill, Anne, Part-time Instructor in Art, 1963-64
Hill, Martha Frances, Associate Professor of Business, 1949-54
Hinkley, Nancy E., Part-time Instructor in Foreign Languages,
1970-71

- Hinsley, Dru M., Manager of the College Supply Store, 1953-
Hiott, John B., Registrar, Assistant to the Academic Dean, 1968-
Hitt, Miriam T., Director of Equitation 1949-52
Hoagland, Florence Marian, Professor of Psychology and Philo-
sophy, 1927-36; Professor of Speech and Director of Drama-
tics, 1933-36
Hoffman, Carl, Professor of Music, 1900-01
Hoffman, Mrs. Carl, Instructor in Music, 1900-01
Hoffman, Juanita M., Nurse, 1955-56
Holden, Ellen G., Instructor in History, 1904-05
Holder, Florence, Nurse, 1956-57
Holgate, Catherine Farnum, Instructor in Modern Languages,
1942-43
Holland, Sally Wills, Assistant Professor of English, 1954-59
Holler, Harriet, Dietitian, 1958-69
Hollingsworth, Robert R., Professor of History, 1918-19
Hollis, James W., Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds,
1941-42
Holloway, Mary A., Assistant in the Library, second semester,
1967-68
Holt, Arlie, Bookkeeper 1945-46
Hood, Virginia J., Instructor in Health and Physical Education,
1962-66
Hope, Lelia Dickson, Housekeeper, 1907-10
Hopkins, E. Louise, Professor of Music 1903-05
Hoppe, Charlotte, Secretary to the Registrar, January, 1971-
Horn, Leila Noffsinger, Associate Professor of Music, 1917-21,
1923-25
Horne, Connie Mae, Instructor in Modern Languages, 1926-30
Horner, Sally M., Assistant Professor of Chemistry, 1965-66, 1967
House, Sonnet W., Instructor in History and Political Science,
1968-70
Howard, Louella Estelle, Instructor in Preparatory Science,
1908-11
Howell, Doris M., Acting Instructor in Geography, 1954-56
Howell, Robert N., Assistant Professor of Economics, 1954-56
Howerton, Martha H., *See* Hamrick, Martha.
Huckabee, Elizabeth R., Instructor in Modern Languages, 1948-57
Huggins, Luke, Director of Equitation, 1969-
Huggins, Maloy Alton, Professor of Education, 1929-32
Humble, Barbara Ann, Part-time Instructor in Music, 1970-
Humphrey, Clyde W., Associate Professor of Business, 1942-43
Humphries, Faye B., Director of Public Relations and Informa-
tion, 1964-68
Hunt, Melba Cleo, Instructor in Biology, 1933-39
Hunter, Bobbye, Dietitian, 1957-64
Hunter, Elsie, Professor of Business, 1907-09
Hurst, Edna, Nurse, 1958-68
Hurt, Donna Dull, Assistant Director of Admissions, 1965-66
Hussey, Kathleen L., Instructor in Biology, 1942-43
Hutchens, Betty, Secretary to the Registrar, 1960-61
Igoe, Ann B., Part-time Instructor in Physical Education, second
semester, 1960-61
Ihley, Bernice J., Nurse, 1957-58
Irwin, Kay, Acting Assistant Professor of Art, 1944-45
Ivey, Melville, Instructor in Sociology and Economics, 1942-43
Ivie, Edith J., Acting Instructor in Modern Languages, 1949-50

- Jackson, A. C., Professor of Music, 1904-06
 James, Alva L., Resident Adviser, 1970-
 Jeffries, Lucy B., Assistant Professor of Art, 1960-64
 Jelly, Florence T., Instructor in Preparatory Music, 1922-26
 Jernigan, Jean, Secretary to the Academic Dean, 1946-49
 Johns, Alice Caroline, Housekeeper for Main Building, 1911-12
 Johnson, Agnes W., Bookkeeper, 1962-63
 Johnson, Bess Cowles, Instructor in Music, 1919-20
 Johnson, Betty S., Instructor in Sociology and Economics, 1948-50
 Johnson, Betty Sue, Manager of Office Supplies and Services, 1964-
 Johnson, Foy Elisabeth, Principal of Grades 1-8, Teacher of Grades 7 and 8, Meredith Academy, 1908-11
 Johnson, Frances Lucile, Registrar, 1938-40
 Johnson, Katherine Campbell, Instructor in English, 1914-16
 Johnson, Linda N., Secretary to the Registrar, 1968-71
 Johnson, Lois, Registrar and Instructor in English, 1917-19; Instructor in Modern Languages, 1923-24
 Johnson, Margaret L., Cashier-Secretary, 1958-71
 Johnson, Mary Lynch, Professor of English, 1918-69
 Johnson, Mary Martin, Associate Professor of Chemistry, 1923-29
 Johnson, T. Neil, Professor of Greek, Philosophy, and Bible, 1903-05
 Jones, Elizabeth B., Assistant Dean of Students, 1965-70
 Jones, Emma Moore, Librarian, 1910-13
 Jones, Helen H., Instructor in English, 1969-
 Jones, Ira O., Assistant Professor of Sociology, 1957-62
 Jones, Jessie Louise, Professor of English Literature, 1903-06
 Josey, Mary Bland, Assistant Director of Public Relations, 1953-64; Registrar, 1964-68; Director of Admissions, 1968-

 Kanipe, John T., Jr., Executive Director of Development, 1968-
 Kearney, Barbara, *See* Ennis, Barbara Sue.
 Keith, Alice Barnwell, Professor of History, 1928-62
 Keith, Annie, Dining-Room Hostess, 1934-37
 Kelly, Catherine E., Secretary in the Admissions Office, 1968-69
 Kelly, Nora, Nurse, 1932-41
 Kelman, Helen P., *See* Parker, Helen.
 Kesler, J. L., Professor of Natural Science, 1899-1902
 Kesler, Kate Hayes, Professor of History, 1899-1902
 Kichline, Mildred Bachman, Religious Secretary, 1936-40
 Kidwell, Avis Leone, Acting Associate Professor of English, 1920-21
 Kitchin, Hesta, Instructor in Latin, Assistant Dean of Women, 1930-32
 Knapp, Bessie Amelia, Instructor in Music, 1916-18
 Knight, Ione Kemp, Secretary to the Dean of Women, 1945-47; Associate Professor of English, 1956-
 Knight, Mary Lucille, Religious Secretary, 1931-34
 Kramer, Margaret, Assistant Professor of Chemistry and Physics, 1938-45
 Krause, Emma Marie, Assistant Professor of Modern Languages 1924-25
 Krummel, Eleanor, Assistant Professor of Foreign Languages, 1962-65
 Kutchinski, Christian D., Part-time Instructor in Music, 1933-34

- Lamb, James M., Instructor in Music, 1970-
LaMond, Charles D., Assistant Professor of Music, 1941-42
Landers, Effie, Instructor in Modern Languages, 1917-18
Lane, Bessie Evans, College Physician, Professor of Physiology,
1934-1950
Lang, Irma, Instructor in English, 1952-53
Lanham, Louise, Associate Professor of English, 1936-54
Lanneau, Louise, Associate Professor of Chemistry, 1913-19
Lanneau, Sophie S., Assistant in Latin, 1903-05
Lashman, Louis Edward, Lecturer in Playground and Recreation
Work, 1916-17
Lasley, James B., Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds,
1940-41
Lassiter, Frances W., Part-time Instructor in Sociology, first
semester, 1967-68
Lassiter, Hazel Martin, Instructor in Music, 1940-41
Law, Helen Hull, Professor of Latin and Greek, 1914-27
Lawhon, Gladys Barns, Instructor in Music, 1945-47
Lawrence, Grace E., Dean of Women, 1926-30
Lay, Anne Mitchell Brownlee, *See* Brownlee, Anne Mitchell.
Leach, Dixie W., Professor of Art, 1902-04
Leake, Lula M., Assistant Dean of Students, 1959-64
Ledford, William R., Assistant Professor of Foreign Languages,
1957-
Lee, Elizabeth, Instructor in Music, 1938-40
Lee, Mary Pettigrew, Instructor in Music, 1935-36
Leinwand, Ellen Marcia, Part-time Instructor in Music, second
semester, 1970-71
Lemmon, Sarah McCulloh, Professor of History, 1947-
Lenander, Mary Louise, Professor of Music, 1925-26
Leonard, Gladys Boone, Librarian, 1926-29
Lewis, Goldina deWolf, Professor of Music, 1922-24
Lewis, John M., Associate Professor of Religion, Director of
Religious Activities, 1958-60
Lewis, Patricia H., Secretary in the Alumnae Office, 1960-61
Liles, Mary W., Laundry Supervisor, 1960-
Lipscomb, Imogene F., Assistant Dean of Students, 1962-63
List, Gussie Riddle, Instructor in Spoken English, 1936-Jan., 38
Litchfield, Doris Allen, Secretary in the Alumnae Office, 1957-58
Litchford, Lucy West, Associate Professor of Art, 1913-15
Little, Maude Clay, Assistant Professor of Economics and So-
ciology, 1937-40
Little, Ruth W., Secretary to the Business Manager, 1956-57
Littleton, Harold E., Jr., Assistant Professor of Religion, 1968-
Liverman, Carolyn, Secretary to the Registrar, 1951-54
Livermore, Mary H., Assistant in English, 1905-January, 1907
Livingston, Lois S., Dietitian, 1950-51
Loadwick, Lila LeVan, Instructor in Music, 1945-47
Lockmiller, David A., Part-time Visiting Lecturer in Geography,
1941-42
Long, Mary Vincent, Instructor in Latin and English, 1921-22
Loomis, Bertha L., Professor of Latin, 1912-14
Lord, Grace, Professor of Violin and Piano, 1903-04
Lord, Lucy, Professor of Greek, 1901-January, 1903
Loving, Juliette, Instructor in Piano, 1911-15
Lowry, Edward M., Assistant Professor of Biology, 1954-56
Luther, O. T., Steward, 1942-44
Lyday, Cecelia R., Secretary to the Registrar, 1965-67

- Lyles, Pat B., Secretary to the Academic Dean, 1970-
 Lynch, W. David, Associate Professor of Music, 1969-
 Lynn, Esther G., Instructor in Latin and English, 1923-25
 Lyon, Grace, Assistant in Piano, 1906-07
- McAllister, Quentin Oliver, Professor of Foreign Languages, 1944-
 January, 1968
 McCall, Elizabeth Harlee, Supervising Teacher of Primary Grades,
 1907-11
 McCanless, Anne, Secretary to the Bursar and Treasurer, 1929-37
 McCombs, Dorothy, Assistant Librarian, 1962-71
 McCullers, Mary Elizabeth, Instructor in Music, 1916-18
 McCurdy, Harold G., Associate Professor of Psychology and
 Philosophy, 1941-48
 McDonald, Clarence Heylin, Part-time Lecturer in Playground
 and Recreation Work, 1917-18
 McDonald, Lynn A., Instructor in Health and Physical Educa-
 tion, 1965-67
 McDonald, Margaret Janet, Stewardess for Main Building,
 1913-18; Matron, 1919-21
 MacDonald, Mary LeBesse, Instructor in Modern Languages,
 1943-45
 McDowell, Eunice, Lady Principal, 1901-02
 McFadden, Alice Little, Instructor in Art, 1940-42
 McGee, Dan, Assistant Professor of Sociology, 1964-66
 McGill, Mary, Instructor in Music, 1918-19
 McGuire, Ann, Secretary to the Registrar, 1954-55
 MacIntyre, Thelma, Instructor in Biology, 1930-31
 McKeever, Kay, Assistant in the Library, 1954-55
 McLain, Juanita B., Acting Instructor in Religion, first semester,
 1950-51
 McLain, Ralph E., Professor of Religion, 1945-
 McLamb, Judy G., Assistant Dean of Students, 1963-65
 McLeod, Mary S., Instructor in Health and Physical Education,
 1956-60
 McMillan, Aileen, Assistant Professor of Music, 1931-41
 McMillin, Beva, Professor of Music, 1926-27
 McSween, Sudie Lucille, Instructor in English and Latin, 1922-23
 Mackay, Mary, Director of Equitation, 1952-69
 Malone, Eva Earnshaw, Librarian, 1913-14
 Manson, Allison Ray, Part-time Associate Professor of Mathe-
 matics, 1966-67
 Maring, Ann, Assistant Dean of Students, 1955-58
 Marks, Sallie B., Assistant Professor of Education, 1937-41
 Marsh, Vera Tart, Assistant Dean of Women, 1937-40; Registrar,
 1940-64
 Marshall, Lulie Baldwin, Instructor in Science, Meredith Acade-
 my, 1912-13
 Marshbanks, Flossie, Secretary to the President, 1916-19
 Martin, Geneva, Instructor in Mathematics, 1957-66
 Martin, Ida E., Instructor in Music, 1902-03
 Martin, Margaret C., Instructor in Latin and English, 1953-56,
 1957-62; Director of Alumnae Affairs, 1964-70
 Martin, Pat P., Secretary to the Academic Dean, 1969-70
 Martin, Zeno, Business Manager and Treasurer, 1943-53
 Mason, Marguerite, Religious Secretary, 1934-36
 Massey, Jay D., Assistant Professor of Health and Physical Edu-
 cation, 1957-

- Matthews, Kate, Assistant in the Alumnae Office, 1963-68
Mayes, Agnes S., House Director, 1951-56
Mayes, Judith, Instructor in English and Speech, 1950-52
Melvin, Rose M., Instructor in Art, 1958-60
Mendenhall, Mary, Instructor in Chemistry, 1919-20
Mercer, Carolyn, Instructor in Modern Languages, 1923-24
Mercer, Isaac Morton, Assistant Professor of Religion, 1929-39
Merritt, Jean C., Nurse, 1970-
Meserve, Alice Whittier, Professor of Latin, 1906-12
Middleton, Minnie Lee, Assistant in High School English, German, and Science 1910-12
Mildenberg, Albert, Professor of Music, 1914-17
Miller, J. Everett, Director of Public Relations, 1946-47
Miller, Ruby T., Assistant Professor of Home Economics, 1969-
Mimms, Ellen D., Dining-Room Hostess, 1957-61
Minor, Julia Brent, Assistant in Languages, 1907-11
Mitchell, Cleo, Assistant Professor of Religion, Director of Religious Activities, 1943-44
Mitchell, Virginia, Dining-Room Hostess, 1941-45
Mixner, Rebecca Locke, Instructor in English, 1909-11
Moncrief, Alice, Professor of Music, 1921-24
Moniz, Lucille B., Secretary to the Academic Dean, 1945-46
Moore, Elizabeth Lowndes, Acting Associate Professor of Modern Languages, January, 1943-44
Moore, Frances McKenzie, Assistant in Biology and Chemistry, 1946-47
Morgan, Jessie Lois, Assistant Secretary to the Bursar, 1936-38
Morgan, Robert W., Part-time Instructor in Foreign Languages, 1967-
Morris, Sarah, Acting Professor of Latin, 1908-09
Moseley, Catharine Mason, Instructor in Art, 1938-40
Mowrey, Nelle C., Administrative Secretary in the Development Office, 1968-70
Mullin, Martha Alexander, Professor of Music, 1920-22
Murchison, Maggie, Housekeeper, 1907-08
Murphy, Delphine, Instructor in Speech and Drama, 1949-50
Murray, Mary E., Instructor in Modern Languages, 1919-20
Mustian, Robert David, Part-time Visiting Lecturer in Sociology, January, 1971-

Nance, Robert B., Instructor in Modern Languages, 1941-45
Nay, Frances L., Secretary to the Director of Development, second semester, 1967-68
Neblett, Lucy Ann, Assistant Professor of Modern Languages, 1947-63
Nelson, Medra, Secretary in the Admissions Office, 1969-70
Nelson, Pauline Tourjee, Professor of Music, 1922-24
Nichols, Isabelle Chase, Instructor in Music, 1918-19
Nicholson, Ruth H., Instructor in Physical Education, 1951-52
Nix, Jo Anne, Assistant Professor of Art, 1966-71
Noble, Anne Stephens, Instructor in Art, 1915-25
Normington, Olive, Professor of Home Economics, 1920-22
Norton, W. L., Director of Information Services, 1970-
Norwood, Octavia Scarborough, Nurse, 1902-32
Norwood, Zona C., Secretary to the Registrar, 1965-67

O'Brien, Vivien, Associate Professor of Music, 1920-21
Olmsted, David G., Business Manager and Treasurer, 1963-64

- Orders, Faye F., Bookkeeper, 1955-63
 Osborne, Mattie Wood, Stewardess for the Club, 1916-18
 O'Steen, John, Instructor in Music, 1953-54
 Otterson, Ragna Margretta, Assistant Professor of Music, 1935-39
 Owens, R. Eugene, Part-time Visiting Professor of Religion, 1966-67
 Oswley, Louise Burton, Professor of Music, 1925-29
- Padgett, Ruby M., Dining-Room Hostess, 1940-41
 Paren, Kathleen Kellard, Secretary to the Bursar, 1946-47
 Park, Dorothy G., Associate Professor of Psychology and Philosophy, 1948-51
 Parker, Ann C., Secretary to the Director of Estate Planning, 1969-
 Parker, Charles B., College Minister, 1967-71
 Parker, Clyde N., Professor of Sociology, 1947-50
 Parker, Earl, College Physician, 1970-
 Parker, Elizabeth Burden, Instructor in English, 1925-29
 Parker, Eugene F., Assistant Professor of Modern Languages, 1945-46
 Parker, Helen, Instructor in Biology, 1946-52; Part-time 1961-65
 Parker, Janie Baldwin, Instructor in Preparatory Music, 1922-26; Assistant Dean of Women, 1933-35
 Parker, Katherine, Professor of Home Economics, 1914-16
 Parker, Mattie E., Part-time Instructor in History, 1959-61
 da Parma, Evelyn Bozeman, Instructor in English and Speech, 1952-56
 Parnell, Annie Sue Perry, Instructor in Business, 1965-71
 Parramore, Thomas C., Assistant Professor of History, 1962-
 Parrish, Grace G., Professor of Business, 1902-December, 1903;
 Parrott, Lillian Ethel, Acting Professor of Art, 1913-14
 Parry, Grace, Associate Professor of Music, 1921-22
 Parry, Jane Wood, Assistant in Modern Languages and English, 1905-06
 Parsons, Emily, Professor of Voice, 1924-30
 Parsons, Preston D., Assistant Professor of Sociology, 1962-64
 Pascal, Louise, Instructor in French, 1928-29
 Paschal, Rosa Catherine, Assistant in Mathematics, 1904-07; Lady Principal, 1907-19; Academic Dean, 1916-19
 Pasewark, William R., Acting Associate Professor of Business, 1951-52
 Patrick, Clarence H., Professor of Sociology, 1944-47
 Patrick, Rembert Wallace, Acting Assistant Professor of History, 1939-40
 Patten, Evalina K., Professor of Greek Language and Literature, 1899-1901
 Patterson, Charles W., III, Associate Director of Development, 1968-71
 Paulson, Wayne C., Part-time Instructor in Sociology, 1967-68
 Peacock, Carolyn Arnold, Instructor in English, 1929-35; 1965-67
 Peacock, Leishman A., Academic Dean 1948-69; Professor of English, 1969-
 Peaden, Ann B., Instructor in Foreign Languages, 1968-
 Peak, Lucile, Assistant Dean of Students, 1964-69
 Percy, Henry R., Part-time Associate Professor of History, 1962-63
 Pearman, Lois Ashley, Associate Professor of Home Economics, 1929-31

- Pearson, Iva Lanier, Instructor in Music, 1913-15
 Peck, Anna B., Part-time Instructor in Geography, 1960-63
 Penny, Ruby Genevieve, Instructor in Music, 1912-16
 Perry, Helen, Assistant to the Lady Principal, 1904-05
 Perry, Herbert Judson, Professor of Education, 1924-29
 Perry, Laurel, Bookkeeper, 1953-54
 Perry, Sadie T., Professor of Latin Language and Literature, 1899-February, 1905
 Peters, Laura C., Professor of Music, 1925-26
 Peterson, Doris, Associate Professor of Health and Physical Education, 1943-54
 Petit, Madeline Whittier, Acting Professor of Music, 1908-09
 Pfohl, Ada Margaret, Assistant Librarian, 1938-42
 Phelps, Carolyn Berry, Professor of Elocution; Director of Physical Education, 1905-13
 Phelps, Dorothy, Instructor in Music, 1940-43
 Phillips, Marion Stuart, Professor of Music, 1922-25
 Phillips, Ruth B., *See* Baker, Ruth Ann.
 Phillips, Mrs. T. M., Assistant Nurse, 1936-37
 Pike, Barbara, Instructor in Music, 1929-30
 Pittman, Connie, Secretary in the Public Relations Office, 1967-68
 Platt, Lucy Meil, Director of Recreation and Dramatics, 1927-28
 Podell, Deanna S., Accounting Clerk, 1969-
 Ponton, Elizabeth Hostetler, Assistant in the Alumnae Office, 1964-71
 Poole, Carolyn P., *See* Peacock, Carolyn.
 Poole, Karen Ann Ellington, Instructor in Music, 1914-16
 Poole, Peggy B., Secretary to the Dean of Students, 1966-68
 Popham, Estelle Loraine, Associate Professor of Business, 1943-January, 1949
 Porter, Mary Louise, Associate Professor of Modern Languages, 1922-41
 Porter, Sue, Principal and Supervising Teacher of Intermediate Grades, 1906-08
 Portrey, Hope N., Professor of Music, 1919-21
 Posey, Evelyn R., Secretary in the Alumnae Office, 1962-
 Poteat, Anne, Part-time Acting Instructor in English, second semester, 1945-46
 Poteat, Ida Isabella, Professor of Art, 1899-February, 1940
 Potter, William Arthur, Lecturer in Public School Music, 1929-32
 Powell, Agnes B., Professor of English, 1906-07
 Pratt, Edith G., Assistant Dean of Women, 1948-50
 Pratt, Gayle A., Secretary to the President, 1967-
 Pratt, Stuart, Professor of Music, 1942-
 Preston, Dorothy K., Assistant Professor of Mathematics, 1961-
 Preston, Edwin S., Director of Public Relations, 1949-50
 Price, G. Norman, Assistant Professor of Religion, 1940-43
 Price, Helen, Professor of Latin and Greek, 1927-52
 Price, Lorraine D., Assistant in the Library, 1969-70
 Prichard, Miriam H., Director of Religious Activities, 1961-63
 Pruden, Edward H., Pastor-in-Residence, January, 1970-
 Pruden, Virginia, Assistant in the Library, 1960-68
 Pruyn, Billie Ruth, *See* Currin, Billie Ruth.
 Quarles, Elizabeth, Professor of Greek and Philosophy, second semester, 1902-03
 Quick, Dorothy, Assistant in the Library, 1970-

- Read, Ann E., Instructor in Art, 1909-10
 Ream, Mary Alexander, Instructor in Art, 1946-51
 Reekie, Joy S., Part-time Instructor in Chemistry, 1966-67
 Reid, Elizabeth Davis, Director of Publicity, 1947-51
 Rembert, Jenny, Part-time Assistant in Physical Education, 1945-46
 Rembert, John Lamar, Assistant Professor of Art, 1942-46
 Renfrow, Lois S., Administrative Secretary to the President, 1953-
 Reveley, David R., Professor of Education, 1955-
 Reynolds, Douglas Wolcott, Associate Professor of Art, 1946-57
 Reynolds, Sophie, Professor of Elocution and Expression, 1899-1900
 Rhodes, Lattie, Secretary to the President, 1920-52
 Rhyne, Janet, Assistant Dietitian, 1948-49
 Richardson, Louise, Librarian, 1917-18
 Rice, Elizabeth E., Assistant Dietitian, 1964-69
 Rieger, Marilyn R., Accounting Clerk, 1964-68
 Riley, Samuel Gayle, Professor of History and Economics, 1920-47
 Robbins, Ruth, Professor of Music, 1913-14
 Roberts, Hugh L., Part-time Instructor in Sociology, 1968-70
 Robinson, Carolyn Covington, *See* Covington, Carolyn.
 Robinson, Grove, Instructor in Art, 1965-71
 Robinson, Lolita, Dietitian, 1952-55
 Robinson, Ruth B., Instructor in Business, 1953-65
 Rodiger, Mildred Mary, Professor of Music, 1921-22
 Rogers, Carmen Lou, Instructor in English, 1920-25
 Rogers, Mabel G., Dietitian, 1951-52
 Rollings, Grace D., Instructor in Modern Languages, 1947-48
 Rollins, Henry B., Instructor in English, 1955-56
 Rose, Norma Virginia, Professor of English, 1937-
 Rosel, Alverda, Instructor in Music, 1930-35
 Rosenberger, Rachel, Instructor in Music, 1945-51
 Rowland, Ethel M., Associate Professor of Music, 1929-42
 Royster, Gertrude, Director of Physical Education, 1906-1941
 Ruegger, Charlotte, Professor of Music, 1915-19
 Rutledge, Mabel B., Secretary to the Dean of Women, 1947-48

 Sackett, Walter George, Professor of Natural Sciences, 1902-04
 Sams, Bessie Emerson, Instructor in Music, 1907-13, 1916-17
 Sams, Eva C., Assistant in Music, 1904-08
 Satterfield, R. H., Director of Public Relations, 1942-46
 Sauls, Cleo, Switchboard Operator, 1968-70
 Saunders, Lucy H., Nurse, 1958-70
 Sawyer, Elizabeth D., Assistant House Director, 1950-51
 Saxe, Doreen, Part-time Instructor in Foreign Languages, 1966-69
 Scarboro, Virginia, Secretary to the Business Manager, 1961-
 Schiffer, Josephine, Professor of Home Economics, 1919-20
 Schulenburg, Jean, Assistant in the College Store, 1969-70
 Schuster, Elizabeth, Assistant in Music, 1907-09
 Schwarz, Margaret, Assistant Dean of Students, 1950-53
 Seay, Mrs. George W., Housekeeper, 1899-1904
 Senter, William J., College Physician, 1950-70
 Sharp, Helen Thrasher, Acting Instructor in Music, 1939-40
 Shearin, Ada Louise, Instructor in Music, 1908-12
 Sheppard, Lee, Acting Associate Professor of Religion, 1944-45
 Shipman, Gladys Mabel, Assistant Nurse, 1941-43

- Short, Nona Joan, Instructor in Foreign Languages, 1966-
 Silver, George, Business Manager and Treasurer, 1964-66
 Simmons, Evelyn P., Assistant Professor of Economics, 1962-
 Simmons, Harry, Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds, 1949-
 Skelton, T. B., Lady Principal, 1901-03
 Slate, Carolyn M., Secretary in the Registrar's Office, 1967-68
 Smith, Anna Green, Assistant Professor of Sociology and Eco-
 nomics, 1946-47
 Smith, Jeannette R., Secretary in the Alumnae Office, 1958-60
 Smith, Joan M., Part-time Instructor in Music, 1970-71
 Smith, Lois, Dietitian, 1948-50
 Smith, MaBelle, Assistant Dean of Students, 1955-65
 Smith, Mary Loomis, Associate Professor of English, 1922-30
 Smith, Mary Shannon, Professor of History, 1908-18
 Smith, Mary Sims, Acting Assistant Dean of Women, 1925-28
 Smith, Paul E., Instructor in Biology, 1967-71
 Snider, Blanche E., Professor of Music, 1920-22
 Snow, Josephine F., Secretary to the Director of Public Rela-
 tions, 1950-51
 Snow, Nancy Hill, Instructor in English and Speech, first se-
 mester, 1964-65
 Snyder, Julia M., Part-time Instructor in Health Education,
 1960-61
 Solomon, Linda, Instructor in Speech and Theater, 1970-
 Songer, Donald R., Instructor in Political Science, 1970-
 Sorrell, Gertrude Royster, *See* Royster, Gertrude.
 Soursley, Gertrude, Professor of Music, 1909-12
 Sparks, Louise, Dietitian, 1955-57
 Spearman, Elizabeth H., Assistant in the Library, 1966-67
 Spell, Carolyn L., *See* Liverman, Carolyn.
 Spelman, Leslie P., Professor of Music, 1932-37
 Spinks, W. Robert, Assistant to the President, 1970-71
 Spooner, LaRose F., Instructor in Mathematics, 1967-
 Spruill, Mary James, Assistant Professor of English, 1926-43
 Steele, Mary Susan, Associate Professor of English, 1920-22;
 Dean of Women, 1936-37
 Stagg, Ella McRae, Instructor in Modern Languages, 1938-41
 Stallings, Janet, Acting Instructor in Religion, Director of Re-
 ligious Activities, 1955-56
 Stallings, Margie Ruth, Dining-Room Hostess, 1937-39
 Stark, Marion Elizabeth, Professor of Mathematics, 1917-18
 Staunton, Mary, Nurse, 1956-58
 Steedly, Georgia Etta, Instructor in Music, 1906-07
 Stephens, James A., Instructor in Mathematics, 1965-67
 Stevens, Edith S., Part-time Instructor in Foreign Languages,
 1969-
 Stevens, Frances W., Part-time Instructor in Physical Educa-
 tion, 1961-
 Stewart, Jean Marie, Acting Instructor in Music, 1939-40
 Stilwell, Marie Adele, Professor of Music, 1920-22
 Stitzel, Alice F., Professor of Music, 1920-25
 Stone, Mrs. H. E., Professor of English Language and Literature,
 1899-1902
 Stone, Lossie Belle, Teacher of Grades 4-6 in Meredith Academy,
 1908-11
 Strickland, Shirley, Acting Instructor in Sociology, 1953-54
 Stringfield, Bernice, Professor of Music, 1926-27

- Stuber, Marilyn M., Assistant Professor of Home Economics, 1965-
 Stuckey, Helen, Secretary to the Registrar, 1956-57
 Stueven, Elisabeth, Assistant Professor of Modern Languages, first semester, 1924-25
 Stueven, Hermine Caroline, Assistant Professor of Modern Languages, February, 1925-30
 Stumpf, Vernon O., Instructor in History, 1961-63
 Sullivan, Jane W., Instructor in Music, 1966-
 Swain, Anne, Bookkeeper, Secretary to the Bursar, 1948-50
 Swain, Virginia, Part-time Assistant Professor of Home Economics, 1967-70
 Swanson, Jean, Assistant Professor of Music, 1954-63
 Sydnor, E. Q., Professor of Elocution and Physical Culture, 1902-03
 Syron, Leslie W., Professor of Sociology, 1945-

 Taney, Grace B., *See* Brown, Grace.
 Tatem, David, Instructor in Ancient Languages, 1952-53
 Taylor, Anabel S., Secretary to the Academic Dean, 1950-52
 Taylor, Hoyt, Manager of Food Services, 1969-
 Teague, Beatrice, Instructor in Modern Languages, 1918-21
 Teague, Janet, Nurse, 1947-51
 Thatcher, Lucille J., Secretary in the Office of Admissions, 1970-
 Thomas, Joy M., Stenographer to the Academic Dean and the Registrar, 1948-49
 Thomas, Pat, Nurse, 1951-52
 Thompson, Effie Freeman, Professor of Bible and Philosophy, 1907-10
 Thompson, Ella Graves, Instructor in English and Preparatory, German, 1912-14; Instructor in English and Latin, 1925-27
 Thorne, Frances E., Dining-Hall Hostess, 1961-64; House Director, 1964-
 Thornton, Donna Marie, Professor of Modern Languages, 1916-17
 Thrasher, Amanda Lee, Instructor in Business, 1943-44
 Ticknor, Ruth Nesbitt, Assistant Dietitian, 1917-18
 Tillery, Doris Katherine, Instructor in Mathematics, 1925-40
 Tillery, Mary Paul, Associate Professor of Art, 1925-41
 Tilley, Ethel, Professor of Philosophy and Psychology, 1951-67
 Todd, Sue R., Records Secretary in the Office of the Academic Dean, 1968-
 Townsend, Frank C., Part-time Instructor in Mathematics, 1969-70
 Townsend, Rebecca B., Acting Assistant in Music, 1950-51
 Troy, Joan B., Part-time Instructor in Mathematics, 1966-69
 Tucker, Charles R., Assistant Professor of Sociology, 1966-
 Tucker, Rebecca, Assistant in the College Store, 1968-
 Tucker, Sylvia, Secretary to the Business Manager, 1954-55
 Tulloch, Robert, Instructor in Biology, 1953-54
 Turn, Charles R., Instructor in Music, 1955-58
 Tyner, Bunyan Yates, Professor of Education, 1932-54

 Vance, Betty Sue, Nurse, 1953-54
 Vann, Mary Hasseltine, Professor of Mathematics, 1912-17; Registrar, 1913-15
 Vann, Richard Tilman, President, 1900-15; Professor of Moral Philosophy 1900-02
 Vaughan, Elizabeth Head, Professor of Sociology, 1950-57

- de Vaux-Royer, Professor of Music, 1901-02
Vestal, Alice M., Assistant in the Publications Office, 1968-69
Wagar, Pauline, Assistant Professor of Music, 1935-37
Wakeman, Harriet Almeda, Professor of Music, 1924-25
Walker, Edith B., Assistant Dietitian, 1952-53
Walker, Helen, Manager of the Supply Store, 1951-53
Walker, Nancy, Director of Publicity, 1951-52
Walker, R. A. L., Director of Religious Activities, 1963-67
Wallace, Lillian Parker, Professor of History, 1921-62
Wallace, Winnie Cobb, Matron, 1907-12
Walsworth, Louise E., Professor of Music, 1926-29
Walters, Virgie R., House Director, 1958-59
Ward, Betsy J., Secretary in the Alumnae Office, 1954-55
Warner, Marian, Assistant Director of Physical Education, 1935-38
Warnick, Phyllis Genevieve, Instructor in Music, 1942-45
Warren, Carrie Lee, Instructor in Health and Physical Education, 1955-56
Watkins, Eleanor V., Professor of Elocution, 1900-02
Watkins, Will Ann, Assistant Dietitian, 1956-57
Watson, Larkin Douglass, Professor of Mathematics, 1899-1912; Bursar, 1899-1906; Academic Dean, 1904-1912
Watson, Laura B., Matron, 1899-1900
Watts, Lulu, Dining-Room Hostess, 1945-January, 1953
Webber, Cleveland G., Steward, 1940-42
Weigt, Claire, Associate Professor of Health and Physical Education, 1954-57
Welch, Mary Frances, Dietitian, 1918-38; Instructor in Physiology, 1925-28
Weldon, James R., Instructor in Business, second semester, 1948-49
Wendt, Robert L., Instructor in Sociology and Economics, 1952-54
Wertz, Lana H., Part-time Instructor in Foreign Languages, 1966-67
West, Doris, Instructor in Sociology and Economics, 1950-51
Weyer, Phyllis, Assistant Professor of Music, 1951-
Whilden, Martha J., House Director, 1951-64
Whitaker, Forrestine, Assistant Professor of Music, 1950-54
Whitaker, Shirley B., Acting Instructor in Foreign Languages, 1953-54
White, Annie Lee, House Director, 1921-42
White, Christine, Associate Professor of Physical and Health Education, 1941-43
White, Leonard, Associate Professor of Art, 1964-
White, Loyce, Instructor in Art, 1954-56
White, Marie, Professor of Home Economics, 1916-17
White, Peggy Ann, Instructor in Physical Education, 1948-49
Whitehurst, DeCelia, Secretary to the Registrar, 1964-65
Whitford, Larry, Visiting Professor of Biology, 1968-69
Whittaker, Catherine, Assistant Dean of Students, 1967-70
Whitwer, E. Eloise, Instructor in Biology, 1945-46
Wiggins, Ann B., Secretary to the Business Manager, 1955-56
Wiggins, Mildred Elizabeth, Instructor in Music, 1927-28
Wiggs, Bonnie J., Secretary in the Alumnae Office, 1955-56
Williams, Catherine Jessie, Associate Professor of Music, 1917-18
Williams, Eleanor Edwards, Part-time Acting Instructor in English, 1944-46
Williams, Helena; Assistant Professor of Physical Education, 1952-

- Williams, James Oliver, Part-time Instructor in Modern Languages, 1966-67
Williams, Janie, Assistant in Music, 1901-03
Williams, John Henry, Professor of Natural Science, 1916-18
Williams, Margaret Ann, Assistant Professor of Latin, 1926-28
Williams, Myra Allene, Instructor in Biology, 1938-42
Wilmot, David L., Assistant Professor of Music, 1947-50
Wilson, Annie Caroline, Assistant Nurse, 1943-47
Wilson, Edwin, Professor of Music, 1907-08
Winstead, Donna J., Secretary in the Development Office, 1967-68
Winston, Ellen Black, Professor of Sociology, 1940-44
Winston, Lula Gaines, Professor of Chemistry, 1920-38
Winston, Sanford, Part-time Visiting Lecturer in Sociology, 1941-42
Wiser, Betty H., Part-time Instructor in Sociology, second semester, 1965-66
DeWitt, Ann, Secretary to the Registrar, 1964-65
Woodall, Eva A., Assistant Librarian, 1929-30
Woodard, Frances P., Part-time Assistant Professor of English, 1968-71
Woodman, Ruth S., Instructor in Music, 1946-52
Wooldridge, Martha C., Secretary to the Academic Dean, 1963-68
Wray, Amelia, Matron, 1906-07
Wray, Carolyn, Instructor in Psychology and Latin, 1935-37
Wyatt, Margaret Elizabeth, Instructor in Mathematics, 1923-24
- Yarbrough, John A., Professor of Biology, 1943-
Yarbrough, Mary E., Professor of Chemistry and Physics, 1928-
Yeager, Betty Jean, Secretary to the Dean of Students, 1948-
Yeandle, Frederic G., Associate Professor of Modern Languages, 1945-47
Young, Eleanor Mary, Assistant Professor of English, 1925-26
Young, Karen B., Acting Instructor in Music, 1965-66
Young, Stephen E., Assistant Professor of Music, 1963-69
Young, Susan Elizabeth, Professor of Modern Languages; 1899-1917; Dean, 1900-01
Youngs, Geneva, Professor of Music, 1925-26
- Zabriskie, Alice Mabel, Dean of Women, 1922-24
Zinn, Edith, Assistant Dean of Students, 1953-54

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(The index does not include every name or subject mentioned or every occurrence of a name or subject. It does attempt to include every significant reference. In most cases, the maiden names of married alumnae are used in the text of the book except in references to their activities or positions after marriage. In the index their maiden names are used for the main entries, with cross references for the married names. Before the names of alumnae, members of the faculty and staff, and other College employees known to be deceased, asterisks are placed.)

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