

✓ ✓ ✓ The BELLES ✓ ✓ ✓ OF SAINT MARY'S

Published every two weeks by the student body of Saint Mary's School

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The Student Body extends its deepest sympathy to Katherine Hancock in her recent sorrow.

CHRISTMASTIDE

On Saturday, Christmas vacation will begin! After the last class on Friday (and unwisely for days before that for some) girls will be turning the place into an uproar. That delicious, delectable job of packing to go home will begin. The necessary frenzy of the whole school embarking at once will be accentuated by bags still not brought up, lost keys, and no room for evening wraps. Hurry! Dilemma! Everyone rushing!

From 5 a.m. on, cars, buses, and trains will carry the merry vacationists away. The north is assured of snow; the south is hoping for it. To all of the girls (whether there is snow on December the twenty-fifth or not) Christmas signifies the same things—wreaths and red ribbon, trees and lights and tinsel, bells, frantic shopping, gifts, home—with the family together once again, turkey, dances and parties, late hours, Santa Claus, charity—

A festival of the nativity of Christ, Christmas should suggest primarily an attitude of charity. Gifts for ourselves need not concern us. Other people will take care of those. It's so easy to buy Christmas seals knowing the worthy cause of the sale and to contribute to local organizations, such as the Community Chest. It necessitates so little effort on our part. The spirit of Christmas involves the act of giving. Since the birth of Christ when the Wise Men brought Him gifts, people have continued to show the same charitable will-

ingness to share the problems of the less fortunate. That same excited, reveling group of girls that will leave Raleigh on Saturday is going to think of these less fortunate people along with the thrills and festivities of the holidays. Then the spirit of Christmas will have a deeper, more profound meaning for each girl.

Profoundly do we hope that the holiday spirit will prove to be as deep as it is broad.

STATUS OF CHIPS

The Belles has been sharply criticised for supposedly lowering the standard of its serious open forum column, *Chips*, by allowing a ridiculous suggestion to be printed. The student who advocated a marriage course for Saint Mary's was in earnest and there are many who feel as she does. The idea is new, since courses in marriage were only recently taught in any college, but its newness still does not prevent it from being a constructive suggestion, and constructive suggestions presented in a serious manner are the *Chips* we want!

REFLECTIONS: V. THE LEGISLATIVE BODY

The Legislative body of representatives from each class and the faculty brought together for the purpose of attempting to solve problems of the student body by revising old rules or making new ones has not been formed.

There is a column in the newspaper for the airing of grievances and a box in the study hall to receive any problems that one does not want made public, but neither of these "forums" can do any good unless there is a committee to investigate and solve difficulties and to estimate the value of suggestions and put them into effect. The Honor Council, representing student control alone, is busy with major offenses, and does not have time to attend to situations that are not immediately important. Maladjustments and problems like those which called forth unnecessary discussion and delay in the last student body meeting could be turned over to this committee.

Difficulties pertaining to any part of school life could be taken to a legislative body. If its members considered a problem one for which the students could offer a solution, it should try to find one; but if the situation arose from a matter already decided upon by the faculty and in which the students had no business meddling, the Legislative body could make clear to the complainant that the affair was already settled and that it would do no good to discuss it further. In this way a great deal of misunderstanding as to the powers of students in forming their own laws could be prevented.

Students have made good suggestions in *Chips* and many of them still have problems to solve. The need for a Legislative body is great; plans have been made to create one. Why not do it now?