

## A REQUEST FOR ADDITION TO COLLEGE CURRICULUM

College students of today have often been called the Silent Generation because they seem to have no interests outside their individual worlds and to have no ideas of their own. History is being made all around them, yet they take no interest in events other than those which immediately concern them. They refuse to speak up concerning matters which will later become extremely important to them. Little do they realize that what happens today in the world outside their college life will have an important effect upon their future lives. Students are supposed to be learning how to correct the mistakes of the present generation. But how can they take on such a task if they do not know what the present generation is doing?

Older and wiser people can talk until they are blue in the face but still have little effect upon our plodding generation. They realize the serious harm we are doing ourselves by our lack of interest, yet our dull minds will not accept their wisdom. It seems that there is no way to inspire students to prick up their ears and listen. We know; we've been told. We've been told a thousand times over, yet we go our monotonous way, learning only enough to pass the next test, with never a thought to the future.

How then are we to get students interested in world affairs? BELLES thinks it has come up with an answer—a new course added to the college curriculum. Call it what you may—contemporary history, current events course, or what have you—this course, designed for the average student, should become a required part of all schools' curricula. It need not start as an accredited course but merely as a discussion group. Such a group could meet once or twice a week with a teacher to lead the group and to help them interpret current events as to their effect upon the future. With the help of some well-informed faculty member, this group could inspire enough interest among students and faculty here at St. Mary's so that they would all want such a course added to the regular schedule.

## "REC" ROOM POSSIBILITIES

Have you been down into the "rec" room lately? If so, you probably found a dusty room with a dustier floor and an even dustier group of chairs. The room doesn't invite anyone to stay for long. This room is one of the few on the campus that is not used to its fullest advantage. How often have you wished for a place to get together with some friends that aren't on your hall for a few minutes? How often have you wished your club or class committees could meet in a different place? The "rec" room could be the answer to all of these questions, if it were given a little attention.

With a good cleaning, a rearrangement of furniture, and curtains at the windows, the room would assume a new personality. Then groups could enjoy going to it for a period of relaxation after study hall. If some interest were shown in the room it could become the brightest place on campus. A Coke machine is already in Holt basement, and if enough encouragement were given, perhaps candy and Nabs could be sold there. Would you be interested in making the "rec" room a social room? If so, why not talk to your friends and start some positive action to begin a cheer up campaign for Holt basement? Let's make "Meet you in the 'rec' room for a Coke" a familiar saying on our halls.

## IS THE TIME PROBLEM NECESSARY?

The time element is generally considered by the students as extremely troublesome at St. Mary's. A truly satisfactory solution to the time problem is probably impossible, but students are continually making suggestions for improving it. Some of these are worth bringing to the attention of others.

At certain times during the year, such as the week before Christmas and the weeks before exams, students are much more pushed for time than usual. This push is caused by trying to crowd too much into too short a period, and it could be fairly easily avoided. Some of the events which take place during these rushed periods could easily be scheduled for a less rushed time. It is a practice in some schools not to have quarterly tests the week before exams. If this practice were in use here at St. Mary's it would certainly lighten the schedule the weeks before exams. Meetings and practices should be scheduled so that they would not occur during these rushed times. In fact, all but the absolutely necessary events should be cut out during these more rushed periods.

The time problem, however, is a year-round one. Nearly everything at St. Mary's is compulsory. Students realize that everything they are required to do and attend is for their good, but often they simply do not have time for everything. According to the St. Mary's formula, if students just do certain things at certain times all of their work will get done on time. It just does not work that way, however. Sometimes a required concert or similar event comes on the day before a student has several big tests. She is required to attend the concert and is also expected to do well on the tests. To do both is practically impossible. If the student had the freedom to arrange her time as it best suits her she could get everything done with much less worry and would probably do a better job. She would also gain experience in managing her time, experience which she will certainly need after she leaves St. Mary's.

## "Diet Baby" Tells Of Starvation Life

The story that I have to tell is fictitious, but don't let it happen to you! My name is "Diet Baby." I am listed in the files as 77-66-55-000. My credentials—none. My life—exciting! My stomach—empty.

It was Friday night of any week of any of my school years at St. Mary's. I was nervous. I had a project—I was hungry, but I could not, I must not eat. I had meal cuts. I always had meal cuts—not oatmeal (which is already cut) and not meat (which needs to be cut), but meal cuts—those nasty little things that make one starve. As Friday night wore on, I wore out. No, I didn't make war; I just flaked. The Little Store had been selling all sorts of good, nasty sweet things that morning—chocolate candy bars; nut candy bars; marsh-mellow, caramel, cocoanut, mint, cherry, and jelly candy bars; doughnuts; cookies, sandwiches; potato chips; greasy french fries; and peanut butter crackers. All my friends were indulging. Ha! They would be fat ones.

There was a party, I recall, a nice big party with lots of fats, starches, and carbohydrates. I was invited but I couldn't go. I was too weak to be congenial at a party.

Tick-tock, tick-tock, tick-tock. What was that? Ah! My friend tap dancing on the roof. My time is running out. I must calm myself. I can't. Why am I shaking? Why is the school vibrating? It must be the heat finally going on. I am so hot; now I am cold. My face is green. Oh! I see them coming. They are running. Do they want me to have some of their food? They are always asking me to eat with them—

Yes, that's how I came to be what I am today. I was taken to the judge and the jury pronounced me guilty. My sentence—three good meals a day.

And so, I advise you to eat heartily, my friends.

## St. Mary's Leaves Decided "Mark"

St. Mary's definitely leaves her mark on each of her students. She gives them a good education and often bags under their eyes. She gives them desirable character traits and a taste accustomed to chicken bones and pineapple. She also gives them a peculiar way of holding their hands when they are not carrying a load of books.

Look at the girls hurrying to meals or to chapel or to any other place when they aren't carrying books or a pocketbook. Notice anything different? That's right. Where else do you see so many people walking around with their arms folded in front of them?

Most girls say that they never walked that way before they came to St. Mary's. What is it about this institution that causes such a peculiar habit? Several people have offered solutions. One solution is that the girls become so accustomed

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### MEMBER OF N. C. C. P. A.

Dr. Brown: Give me a definition for electricity.

Student: Electricity is like love. You can't see it, but when it hits you, you can really feel it!

We have all of us sufficient fortitude to bear the misfortunes of others.—La Rochefoucauld.

to carrying books that they don't know what to do with their arms when they don't have books. Another answer is that the first girl who did it did it to keep her exceedingly long arms from flapping in the breeze, and others copied her for no particular reason. Still another possible answer is that the habit is developed from an effort on the part of those who are too sleepy to find a coat in the morning to keep warm on the way to breakfast. Someone else wonders if it is a sign of some sort of complex, stemming perhaps from a desire to hide gnawed fingernails. Maybe the habit was first introduced by girls from one of the Rocks who were merely trying to get their arms out of the way to save space.

Whatever the reason, this phenomenon will probably continue from year to year. Maybe some day it will even become so much a part of St. Mary's tradition that every new girl will be instructed in how to twist her arms together properly so that the right arm is on top, the fingernails are entirely hidden, and the watch on the left arm is visible.