

# The Salemite

Motto—"Sail on, Salem"

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## SENIOR CHAPEAUX TOSSED INTO FIRE

Senior Hat Burning, the ceremony performed at Salem College every year by the senior class on the occasion of their donning the academic cap and gown, was fittingly celebrated last night on the historic old back campus of the college. The ceremony was impressive and pleasing and presented a picture never to be forgotten, as the seniors, clad in white, paraded across the campus singing their songs before they put on the symbol of their new dignity and honor.

Preceding the exercises proper, the seniors were hostesses to the members of the Rotary Club at a dinner given in honor of the Rotarians. When the Rotarians had been seated in the college dining hall, the doors opened and the senior class filed in singing "Alma Mater." Miss Evelyn Thom, president of the senior class, made the address of welcome, and E. W. O'Hanlon, president of the Rotary Club, responded. Mr. William Breach, director of community and public school music, led the young ladies in the singing of Rotarian songs. As an interlude the Juniors, Sophomores and Freshmen gave yells and songs for the seniors and the Rotarians.

After this, the young ladies went to the back campus. There they went through the ceremony which began some years ago, of the burning of their hats. It is symbolical of the doffing of frivolities and of easy ways, and of the taking up of the serious duties which are incumbent upon the members of the class. On this occasion the hats are burned and the Seniors received their caps and gowns which are to be worn thereafter wherever they may go.

When the audience, composed of the members of the other classes, the Rotarians and other visitors had assembled, the bugle blew. Then from the campus the Seniors began their Marching Song. Dressed all in white, wearing their paper hats of white, they came in single file, nineteen strong, with the clear lights of the flambeaux which they carried, casting a glow upon them, in front of the crowd and on the tennis court. Just in front of the audience the members of the Sophomore class, chosen to wait upon their respective Seniors, attended with the caps and gowns of each on her arm. There they met and in double file proceeded up the walk to the end of the courts where they turned, came back and divided again into single file, the Sophomores group-

ing themselves in one line opposite the Seniors. In the center of the natural theater there, a chair had been placed. Miss Evelyn Thom, as president of the Senior class, asked Dr. Rondthaler to bestow the caps and gowns upon them, and the president of the college responded with a few well chosen words. He then stepped forward on the dais and each Senior in turn came forward. Each was met by a Sophomore, carrying the cap and gown, who assisted her Senior to don the gown and then handed the cap to Dr. Rondthaler, who placed it on the head of the Senior. When the ceremony had been completed, the Seniors took their paper hats and cast them on the flames, singing the song for the occasion as they trooped around the flames of the bonfire.

After this they stood in the center of the court and gave songs and yells to the President of the college and other members of the administration; also to the Rotarians and under-graduates. The ceremony was one of the most beautiful ever seen on the campus.

### A VISITOR'S IMPRESSION OF SALEM GIRLS

Homer was a cheerful soul at times  
He wrote of many men and maids and  
climes  
And later Roman Horace  
Could scarce be called a novice  
In appreciating damsels fair in  
rhymes.

Even Dante found a subject fit for  
fame:  
Francois Villon, though a scamp, yet  
made a name,  
By writing songs and rondoes  
To his lady loves and beaux  
And many other Frenchmen did the  
same.

The bards of Merrie England sang in  
praise  
Of the beauty of the ladies and their  
ways;  
From dark ages up to brighter  
You cannot find a writer  
Who failed to make them subjects for  
his lays.

If each writer in the calendar of note  
Could now choose the ones concerning  
whom he wrote  
It's simply common knowledge  
That the girls of Salem College  
Would get every single solitary vote.

FRANK C. PAGE.

### SALEM CELEBRATES THE ANNUAL "GET-TOGETHER" MEETING IN A UNIQUE FASHION.

The first Saturday night of the College year at Salem is always a memorable night, for it is then that the entire college and academy and faculty "Gets Together." They come first to learn to know everybody that they have not known before; to know better all those they have known before; and third to have a general good time.

The "Get-Together" affairs this year was an exceptionally interesting one. Instead of meeting in the library, as is generally the custom, promptly at seven-thirty on the evening of September 18th the crowd anxiously gathered around Annex steps.

The program was arranged under the auspices of the MacDowell Club with Dr. Rondthaler acting as Master of Ceremonies. Several selections from a student stringed orchestra, under the direction of Miss Webb, announced the beginning of the program.

After a short greeting, our President, first introduced to us the new faculty members. Then each freshman and new Academy girl was summoned by him in alphabetical order and requested to make her most graceful bow before the assembly.

Then came the usual greetings from girls representing our college organizations, Miss Hettie Bethea of the Student Self-Government Association; Miss Eliza Gaston Moore of the Y. W. C. A.; and Miss Helen Streett of the Athletic Association. Dean Shirley also favored us with a short talk.

The program was made still more inspiring by the enthusiastic singing of some of our most cherished songs: "The Star-Spangled Banner", "Dixie", "America the Beautiful", and our "Alma Mater."

The Academy girls displayed their usual amount of "pep" in their parade.

The last feature was a triumphal procession composed of the four college classes dressed in costumes illustrating the methods by which they raised most of their Endowment pledge of last year. This procession followed by the remainder of the crowd, terminated in the library which was arranged for dancing.

About ten o'clock—when the "Get Together" meeting was over—the hilarious assembly left the library, unanimously voting this year's "Get Together" just the "best ever" and each new girl feeling that Salem spirit was really something that each girl was bound to absorb before she had been at Salem even a week.

M. S. P., '22.

### THE FRESHMEN DELIGHTFULLY ENTERTAIN THE JUNIORS

Saturday night, November the 7th, from seven-fifteen to ten-fifteen, the Gym was the scene of one of the most joyous occasions of this year.

"'Twas something the Freshmen Gave to their Sisters  
A dance with refreshments too;  
There's one big point to emphasize,  
All Juniors were there  
The fair and the wise."

The Gym was decorated with autumn leaves and purple and white crepe paper, a tasteful tribute to the Juniors, for royal purple and white are colors of the class of '22. The center light was screened by a purple and white shade from which radiated streamers of the same color to the four corners of the room. Each window was hung with a purple and white drapery, and from one corner, made cozy with rocking chairs and a shaded light, Miss Stipe, Miss Farrar and Miss Manson watched the festive affair.

Inspiring music was furnished by a stringed orchestra and throughout the evening deliciously refreshing fruit punch was served.

As the dancing progressed, gaily colored ribbon confetti entangled the dancers, and small, colored stars and circles fell in becoming showers.

The refreshments were the most tempting ice cream topped with a cherry, and cakes.

Towards the close of the evening, the Juniors were requested to form a line, march to one corner of the room before an attractively decorated booth. As they passed by, each was given a dainty little purple basket filled with white mints.

The affair was delightful and unique in every detail.

M. S. P., '22.

### McDOWELL CLUB REORGANIZES

One Saturday afternoon, October 9th on the back campus the McDowell Club inaugurated the season of 1920-21 by entertaining the one-hundred per cent membership at a eral camp-fire supper. The first part of the program consisted of the indulgence in those things called "cats"—fried oysters, pickles, rolls, doughnuts, coffee and apples.

There was a general jollification in the playing of real old fashioned games. While everyone was sitting around a huge bon-fire, there appeared, one at a time, three ghosts, who told such tales as were typical of their nature. Through the efforts of Dean Shirley and his co-workers, this event proved to be one of the most enjoyable of the college year.

A. T. A., '22.