

FILTH COLUMN REPORTING:

Ah-choo! Yes, we've all got it, and ain't it a shame? Looks as if the flu epidemic at least could've flew by here. With dormitories being confiscated for infirmaries, it seems it's time for somebody to start getting well!

But in spite of all the drooling eyes and chills and fever, the student body has been active enough to fill this column to overflowing. Take the dance for instance—

How did the attractive Capt'n Harrison and his wife get there? You might see one of the Adele Chases from second Clewell—And now we know why Lib Jones got dates for ten seniors—We wish the Lehman girls had had more of their own. How does it feel to crawl, girls?

For once, there were plenty of men around, thanks to Normie.

Frances Elder should have Walter up more often—it really was a pleasure to see them dance. . . . The week-end brought Mary Lib Allen a jeweled infantry pin from Bond Street—Helen Phillips acquired an ardent lover at the dance. . . . Margaret West didn't even want to go. Could it be the Carolina Minister?

Mac and Jenny had one wonderful long week-end with John and Malone—not only Malone for Mac but Gregory, too. Bravo!

What's this about H. Walton's letter? It seems she was expecting \$5. . . . Vawter Steele, lucky girl, is trying to get rid of a man. Harold's just a friend from now on. . . . Betsy, what's this about your dulling Buger's taste for women?

Hear the Bullock sisters declared a truce. . . . "Bull", how was Lee, or did you get to see him? Eva Martin's new mind-twister, by the way, shows how postage stamps help the war effort.

The Army came through, at least with a few—"Bubba's" here and Mary Frances is grinning from ear to ear—where does this leave Egglebert?—If Carroll Bell looks happy, Junior's furlough would be a good reason—Acky Kincaid surely is generous with that good-looking cousin who created such a disturbance in the dining room Wednesday.

Josephine says everything comes at once—For two week-ends now she has had dates to spare—Now she's in the infirmary—Pink's gone high-brow, girls, and now plays badminton with the faculty.

The "Philadelphia story" was too much for Betty Jean. Wonder if she's sick or just sleepy?

The Little Red Man must be on the ball again, this time intercepting telephone calls—Luanne's "unexpected" guests Sunday had just finished talking to her on the telephone—Confusing?

Congratulations to Jeanne Hodges, Mary Miller, and Helen Robbins on their radio program, to Betty Moore for confuting us all in Chapel—and to Hyatt on the new hair do.

Wonder why Jean Fulton's so suddenly gone sour on the world? Never see her in the smoke house any more.

Ticka Senter's Bear certainly was a hit at the dance—Not to mention Peggy Bollin's Dick Richardson—And Melvin Webb made such a sensation that Marie really got worried—Take it easy there!

Carolyn Cauble's really going to do it! Good picture in the paper, Carolyn. And speaking of happy people, anybody can tell that Toherow's favorite is home. Kitty has another fish on her line. The Russian's already sending her flowers. Sarah Lou, bless her soul, has rescued Ben from the Wiles of that blonde bomber that was guest at the dance the other night. Doctor Proctor is operating on the faculty now. . . . Guess who! The Three Unconquerables are just as potent as ever. . . . what a crew! They trade men around like horses. . . . Norma is treading dangerous ground. Just ask her! So much for the Day Student Center, except drop in and look at the Christmas tree.

Peg Nimocks surely did manage a cute blind date for the dance. Kitty M. did some managing, too. She not only took Ellie's best beau to the dance—but she double-dated with her! Coit, poor thing, found out that Lea wasn't the one after all. . .

You've Rationed Presents; Now Camouflage Them

A table was piled high with exciting boxes, all white like clean washed faces of girls waiting for bright spots of make-up. How, where, and in what proportions this make-up is applied makes the face. In parallel, the paper, the ribbon, the seals, all in relationship to the size of the box and to each other—these act as a pleasant or unpleasant introduction for your gift.

As the diary reports: one lovely afternoon you are forcibly dragged from the last installment of "Dragonwyck" and informed that you have been drafted to wrap the family Christmas presents. "That's lovely," you say, looking like a toothpaste ad who had her face dropped. However, it can be lovely—and fun, too!

First, there's Naney's powder (which looks like her, too—thirouffage that, and make a candle out of it: the candle stick in white tissue-paper, wide fluffy red cellophane base, stiff metal tape handle in a graceful arch, and gold ribbon or red cellophane flame on top. Or, try a candy-stick circling of ribbon with a large stiff bow on top.

Then there's the other personality powder for Jane, who is more the 5x5 type. Being tom-boyish, she'd appreciate the patriotic drum effect of criss-crossed bars of blue scotch-tape on the sides and red tape around the rim of the top. Drum sticks can be made from red cellophane straws. Or, to make a face on top of the box with colored stars for the eyes, a red circle for the mouth, and fringed paper or wool for hair, is original.

Added attractions for plainly wrapped packages: a sprig of holly, evergreen with cones, or mistletoe, little bells or toy Santa Clauses, miniature Christmas trees of tiers of round scrap pieces of cellophane crushed in the center and strung together, a striped candy cane tied in with the bow for children, or dried sycamore balls and acorn shells painted bright colors for a rustic effect. To be patriotic, use defense stamp dolls or corsages with red, white, and blue wrappings. Try printing "To June" in little silver letters (from the 5 and 10c store) on the top with a big silver bow.

Wool—one of the most effective and easily obtained decorations! Bright colors, large bows, little round pom-poms to attach to bows, and original dolls of brilliantly colored wool or string are fun to make with scraps of wool, good to attract attention, and easy to pack.

In the more sophisticated package, sprinkle different sizes of silver stars on a blue cellophane background, with a moon in one corner. Effective, also, is the use of multi-colored round ball stickers.

Many variations and much individuality in decoration can be made with Christmas Scotch tape. Faces, candles with stars for the flame, Christmas trees, or geometric designs are most typical.

Try a few of these suggestions and give personality to your Christmas gifts.

Tommy Foreman evidently can't choose between Patty and Martha Lou. . . . Marguerite Worth managed to keep up the interest of both Carolina and State this week-end. . . . How does she do it? . . . That swell charm bracelet from Les could have caused Dunning's speedy recovery from the flu. . . . In that case, we need more charm bracelets—and quick! Take care of yourself!

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'Twas Ten Days Before Christmas

By Sarah Merritt

'Twas ten days before Christmas and all through the school Not a student was studying, 'twas against every rule.

The bags were all stacked in the halls with great care In hopes that the express man soon would be there.

The "in-mates" had finished dissembling their beds, While visions of parties danced in their heads;

My room-mate and I, all off-key doomed to sing, Had just settled our minds for a good Christmas fling,

When down in the Smokehouse there arose such a clatter, I sprang from my packing to see what was the matter!

Away to the door then I flew like a flash, Just in time to get trampled in a maddening dash,

For a rumor escaped that a cab had arrived And with bags and tall boxes some eighty-three dived—

"To the bus," "To the train?" "Just up town let us fare!" "Coming back?" "Where's my trunk?" "Hold the train—I'll be there!"

Like bees in a hive they swarmed 'round that poor man And he whistled and shouted to save his poor van:

"Now, Janie! now Ruthie! Don't push quite so hard! Off, Dottie! off Betsy! What I need is a guard!!

To the top floor of Clewell! to the 'end of each hall! Now dash away! dash away! dash away all!"

How I finally got home is a mystery to me— 'Guess my elbows are sharper than I thought they could be!

(Apologies to Clement Clarke Moore)

BUT I LIKE THESE—

love poems in musty books
the smell of rain on dusty roads
white cottages
children
the dear names in autograph books
odd pansy-faces and lilacs
the lonely cry of boats, fog-bound
the sharpness of salt-water
Emily Dickinson
circuses and popcorn
candlelight and faint music.
—Rosemary Cleveland.

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From A to Z---The New Way

A—Is for the alphabet by now we hope you know—but in case you don't—this article is dedicated to you.

B—Because there has been quite a bit of sickness, the author of this piece of junk does not guarantee a lot of news.

C—Christmas Banquet is tomorrow, gals!!!! Got that dress all pressed?

D—Dungarees and plaid shirts are rapidly becoming Salem girls' everyday clothes.

E—Epidemic of Flu just flu in—Here's hoping it will fly away.

F—Farewell to Hockey—Hello Basketball.

G—Greensboro seems to keep visiting two girls in Strong. Betsy and Peggy howsabout an introduction.

H—How did you like the gym decorations? Looked just like Old Saint Nick had been there didn't it? Thanks to the IRS committee it was super.

I—If you've been wondering where the presents under the tree in the Gym disappeared to—try peeping in the Day Student Center under their Christmas tree.

K—Knitting is due Tuesday—I guess it will mean some hard work on the part of those who are doing knitting.

L—"Noel."

M—Meiklejohn, Betsy, says she's leaving Salem Wednesday, December 15, 1943, for Pawtucket, Rhode Island at 5:20. Anybody that is not busy, you can see her off. . . .

N—Nancy Snyder how's the "snake in the bed?"

O—Only twelve shopping days left to Christmas.

P—Prue Coyte has at last received the picture.

Q—Quinerly is all I can think of—but isn't that enough?

R—Rats, rats, leave the girls alone!?!?!?

S—Specials and Senter!!!!!!

T—is for Christmas Turkey, and good times;

For gosh sakes we can't make a rhyme—

U—U heard about Strong's infirmary

"As proudly her name we bear."

V—Vicks and Vapor instead of cold cream and curlers.

W—What's this we hear about the record player playing of its own accord in Sisters?

X—Xmas has entered Lehman—go and visit.

Y—You, you and you. We are proud of you—the ones that are buying a share in America.

Z—Zounds, it's time I signed off.

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