

On Being A Gal....

By Jayne Bell

HAVE YOU EVER . . .

. . . Seen the January issue of the *Junior Bazaar*? It offers good suggestions on being a gal, and also how to avoid a "Sandpaper Face" this haily weather.

. . . Heard Spike Jones' version of Chopin's *Polonaise* or *Mayonaise*, as he calls it? On the back is *Begin the Beguine* chopped up as only Spike can do it. Another solid fast piece is "*Honey Dripper*."

. . . Run into the Book Store and heard Mr. Snavely say, "I'm sorry there are no more term paper covers!" This happened Monday morning. Could there be a reason?

. . . Seen the new movie projector? It's supposed to be a secret, but it has been publicly revealed. South Hall has been publicly revealed. South Hall has a new pair of steps also.

. . . Come into the smoke house and heard, "Now, listen! What's this: 'Da, da, da, daa—da, da, da, daaa' . . . ? 'I know Beethoven's Fifth!' This is a listening test victim. They're everywhere!

. . . Participated in a Higgins' Spelling Bee? He shoots you a big scientific word and you give the formulae, if fear hasn't gripped your throat.

. . . Been to Sunday breakfast and missed the sugar bread? Tradition was broken last Sunday for the first time in years; there was no sugar bread there!

. . . Heard of Nancy Schneider?

. . . Slept with seven other girls in one room? Well, eight Bittingites have! What a night! "And I keep telling you my name isn't Muriel," said Mr. Organ Spiegel's wife Hazel.

TEN BEST:

With the happy new year 1946 in; folks have been picking out the best this and the best that in 1945 from wash rags to clothes pins.

Strictly judging from smoke house talk, these are the 1945 pick-of-courses at Salem:

1. Miss Bonney's History of Religion.
2. Mr. Weinland's Philosophy.
3. Mr. Campbell's Biology.
4. Dr. Anscombe's Modern World History.
5. Miss Byrd's English Literature.
6. Miss Hedgecock's Practice House.
7. Miss Covington's Marriage course.
8. Mr. Evett's Art History.
9. Mr. Curlee's Algebra.
10. Miss Read's Music Appreciation.

But this indicates only which courses cause the most conversation!

THREE BLIND MICE . . . who ain't really blind.

For how could they see to eat treasured Hershey bars and my favorite pants? And "tripping the light fantastic" over a trap is only the beginning. In vain I have tried to catch them.

When they start moving the dresser out in the hall, that's when I'm leaving. The desk is all right, but not my dresser. Or my bed, which is not a play ground.

Oh, that those mice were blind!

WHAT SOMERSET MAUGHAM SAYS ABOUT DOROTHY PARKER:

"Helen could make a scholar immortal with a kiss. She (Parker) can make a fool immortal with a jive . . . She can no more help being amusing than a peach tree can help bearing peaches . . . She seems to carry a hammer in her handbag to hit the appropriate nail on the head."

WHAT DR. WILLOUGHBY SAYS ABOUT TIME:

"Time is a convention indicating intervals."

THE STORK

Speaking of Time, the Stork will arrive at the following homes of Salem alumni in the near future: Helen MacMillan Rodgers, Mildred Garrison Cash, Betty Harris Rhyne, Annie Hyman Buna Hunter, and Joyce Wooten Tennielle. He has already arrived at Jane Garrou Lane's house.

COME JANUARY 25

Well, unto death us do part . . .

CLAPP CHATS

There's nothing better than inspiration just before exams . . . and who could ask for more when we have Helen Traubel to do the inspiring! . . . According to some people that ought to know evesdrop—great aid to column-writing), Miss Traubel 'way outranks most of the other "great" sopranos at the Met . . . her voice is one of the GREATEST ever heard in the history of opera . . . which can hardly be said about some coloraturas chirping nowadays . . .

Helen Traubel is as American as a chocolate soda—daughter of a St. Louis druggist . . . and very fond of chocolate sodas and baseball games—(can't you imagine Brunnhilde yodeling HO-YO-TO-HO at the World Series??) The extraordinary quality of Miss Traubel's voice was never doubted . . . she studied with Mine. Vetter-Karst for seven years and in 1939 made her debut with the St. Louis Symphony under Rudolph Ganz. But after a year of appearances in New York and elsewhere, she—to everyone's amazement—retired, and devoted herself to the achievement of her greatest goal: Wagnerian opera . . . she was coached by the late Guiseppe Boghetti, and only a year ago when the new Traubel was revealed, critics hailed the return of "a vocal magnificence that has virtually lapsed for two generations." Since then her name has made musical headlines . . .

In addition to her extensive work at the Metropolitan, she has made two cross country tours, appeared with Toscanini and the NBC Symphony; with such conductors as Stokowski, Ormandy, and Rodzinski; (made many famous recordings,) and been guest on popular radio programs: the Telephone Hour, Ford Sunday Evening Hour, and Kraft Music Hall . . . at home she is Mrs. William Bass, grows Marjoram, rosemary and thyme in her Central Park apartment, puts up cinnamon clove plum jam, and practices several hours every day (note to the B. M.'s: you'll never get through gals!). "My hobby is singing," says Miss Traubel—a lady who smiles at the least provocation and who possesses a laugh that booms and echos through the largest crowd . . . what thrills her most of all is the sound of an orchestra tuning up—any kind of orchestra, anytime . . .

Here's hoping you Salemites will lend an ear Saturday night to "one of the great voices of opera, a voice which is never spared, never exhausted;" with it Miss Traubel bears a presence which suggests "the prima donnas of the golden age, and a simplicity which is America today." (all quotes from Mary Ellis Peltz) . . . (thank you, Miss Peltz!)

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What Lies Ahead?

Flashback of 1945 . . . Preview of 1946?

With the beginning of a new year, the world tries to slump back into the routine of the good ole days.

During some quiet, sober moments when the new year toddles in, people of the nations look back on their past year.

Most of the events America remembers are war events. In February there were two important dates. February 17 MacArthur captured Bataan. February 24 Manila was liberated, as reported by MacArthur.

In March the scene of the date moves to the European theatre. Here on March 8th the Americans crossed the Rhine at the Remagen bridgehead.

Roosevelt's death April 12th was an untimely event of 1945. Still another date to be remembered, however, was April 29th when Mussolini was killed by Italian Partisans.

May was one of the months that brought with it a decided glimpse of future peace—May 6th the Nazis announced Hitler's death; May 2 Berlin fell to the Russians; May 7 Germany surrendered; and May 8th was V-E Day.

The first atomic bomb, which was dropped on Hiroshima on August 6th, caused the world to sit up and take notice of man's lack of importance and size in this world. The next historical events to take place were on August 8th when Russia declared war on Japan; and August 14th when the Allied nations accepted the Japanese surrender offer.

September brought real victory. On September 2nd the Japanese surrender was officially signed in Tokyo Bay V-J Day.

With the close of 1945 one event which the American people love as much as popcorn and hot dogs, occurred on December the 1st—the Army-Navy football game—Army won.

Now that 1946 is here, what will it hold for the world?

Will occupational troops still be stationed in Europe and the Pacific? Will the Chinese unite as a nation? Will the Bretton Wood's monetary agreements be just another paper document? Will the labor unions continue to strike for higher wages and shorter hours? Will Hawaii be annexed as the 49th state of the union? What part will the atomic bomb play in the future generations—dropped for destruction or harnessed for usefulness? Will the luxury tax be removed completely? Will plane transportation become the way of travel?

And the biggest question—will the United Nations Organization be a success?

No one can determine what lies ahead—not even the much-quoted Nostradamus. 1946 is still a blank book. May its pages be filled with worthwhile accomplishments!

Library Has "Best Books"

Salem's library shelves contain many of the books considered the "Best books of 1945" according to the *New York Times*. Lists of outstanding books written last year were contributed to the *New York Times Magazine* (December 2, 1945) by "Ten people, whose business it is to read many books . . ." critics, publishers and editors.

Six of these lists contained *Black Boy*, by Richard Wright, which has been in Salem's Library a long time. It is one of the leaders in non-fiction of 1945, according to these lists. In fiction, the leading books are *The Folded Leaf*, by William Maxwell, which is on the rental shelf, and *Cass Timberlane*, by Sinclair Lewis, which is on order for the library.

There is also non-fiction among the best books of 1945, much of which can be found in the Salem Library. *The Age of Jackson*, by Arthur Schliesinger, Jr., is given on three lists. Also included are James Thurber's *The Thurber Carnival*, *Puritanism and Democracy* by Ralph B. Perry, and W. H. Auden's *Collected Poetry*. Among non-fiction, *The Teacher In America* by Jacques Barzun was included by two critics, one of which was Edward Weeks, editor of the *Atlantic Monthly*, who will speak at Salem in the Spring.

Mr. Weeks also listed, as one of the best books among fiction, E. B. White's new fantasy, *Stuart Little*. This is among the books acquired by the library in December. Other such books which received recognition on the N. Y. *Times* lists are: John P. Marquand's new novel, *Repent In Haste*; *Days and Nights* by Konstantine Siminov, which is the story of the siege of Stalingrad; and *The Egg and I*, by Betty MacDonald, which is a humorous account of life on a chicken farm. These recently acquired books may be found on the rental table in the Library.

So, you see, there are plenty of new books to be read. Add to these the hundreds of not quite so new ones and the hundreds of really old ones — it couldn't be lack of material which prevents pleasure reading. What is it?