

# Salem Begins Christmas Plans



William Laurence

## Author Of "Hell Bomb" To Lecture

William Laurence, author, lecturer and science editor of the New York Times, will speak at 8:30 p.m., January 8 in Memorial Hall.

Mr. Laurence is the second speaker in the Salem College Lecture Series, 1950-51.

**Hell Bomb**, a book about the atomic bomb, and written by Mr. Laurence will be released from the publishers on the day that the author appears at Salem.

Mr. Laurence was the first newspaperman to write of the discovery of Uranium 235 and the fact that it held the key to the utilization of atomic energy. Subsequently, he was requested by the War Department as the sole newspaperman to cover the Nagasaki bombing. He is the only civilian who has seen four of the five atomic bomb explosions.

Mr. Laurence is a two-time winner of the Pulitzer Prize. The first one was conferred in 1937 for his coverage of the Harvard Tercentenary Conference of the Arts and Sciences. The second was for his reporting on the A-Bomb.

He is the author of **Dawn Over Zero** and of numerous magazine articles. He has written several plays.

## I. R. C. Hears Dr. Singer

An informal discussion of the present world crisis was led by Dr. Singer at the regular meeting of the I. R. C. held at 6:45 Wednesday night in the living room of Biting.

He began the discussion by throwing out five major statements:

- (1) World War III is here on a limited scale.
- (2) The duration is entirely in the hands of Russia.
- (3) We are now reaping the mistakes of 13 years of foreign policy.
- (4) We are on the wrong foot in Korea.
- (5) A free government cannot be saved by total war, because total war in itself breeds totalitarianism.

From this point the discussion was continued by a series of questions and answers.

At the business meeting it was decided that the I. R. C. will help the student body keep abreast of the times by posting daily news headlines on dormitory bulletin boards.

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## Seniors Will Hold Vespers

The seniors will light the Moravian bees-wax candles at the traditional Christmas Vespers at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, December 10, in Memorial Hall.

Bishop Howard E. Rondthaler will speak on "What Christmas Should Mean in 1950". The senior solo will be presented by Betty Lou Pfaff, soprano. Reverend Edwin A. Sawyer will give the Scripture and Invocation, and Dr. Charles G. Vardell will be organist.

In the traditional manner seniors in caps and gowns with their sophomore pages will distribute lighted candles among members of the audience. An invitation to attend the Senior Christmas Vespers is extended to members of the faculty and student body by Cammy Lovelace, president of the Senior Class.

## Robert Merrill To Sing Here

Robert Merrill, Metropolitan Opera star, will appear in a concert sponsored by the Winston-Salem Civic Music Association at Reynolds Auditorium at 8:30 on Friday, December 15.

Throughout his early youth, Brooklyn-born Mr. Merrill was active in amateur musicals and private entertainments in addition to choir work. His first professional appearance as a mature artist took place aboard the S. S. Rotterdam en route to Havana when he sang three concerts and was enthusiastically acclaimed.

At the world famous Metropolitan Opera House, Merrill has sung leading roles in over a dozen major operas.

The thirty-year-old star of the RCA Victor "Music America Loves Best" radio show is versatile in both singing style and personality; he is equally at home in operatic arias of songs of Victor Herbert or Jerome Kern.

## High School Pupils Perform

High school students were presented in a student recital by the Salem College School of Music at 5:00 yesterday afternoon in Memorial Hall.

Among the composers whose music was represented on the program were Chopin, Bach, Beethoven, Schubert, Debussy, Sibelius, Handel and Rachmaninoff.

## AAUW Meets

The Salem College alumnae were hostesses for a joint meeting of the American Association of University Women and the Salem College Alumnae Club of Winston-Salem at 8:00 p.m. Thursday, December 7.

This meeting was held in the Day Students Center of the College and was highlighted with a discussion, "Behind the Scenes of the Lost Colony," by Dr. Elizabeth Welch, assistant stage manager of the production, and Mr. James Hart, Minister of Music, First Presbyterian Church, organist, composer and arranger of the music for the past five seasons.

They related some interesting facts about the background, history and actual production of the play. Dr. Hart brought with him a singer

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The Home Economics Practice House was one of the first buildings on campus to be decorated for Christmas. Mr. Gorsuch, the night watchman, did the angel head over the door.

## Scholarship Institute Sends Speaker

Miss Nuvart Parsghian, a representative of the Institute of International Education in New York, is a visitor today on the Salem campus. She has come to talk to the foreign students on the campus who are here under the Institute's sponsorship and to persons interested in foreign student activities.

The institute that Miss Parseghian represents has over 2,000 students in the United States under their sponsorship. They arrange for qualified students to come to the United States, arrange their transportation, and then keep a record of the students' progress.

While at Salem, Miss Parseghian will also talk to students who are interested in the Fulbright scholarship for study abroad.

## Birckel, Pooser Win Contest

Catherine Birckel and Sis Pooser won the two cartons of cigarettes given in the contests held last week and this week, it was announced today by Clara Belle LeGrand, campus representative for a nationally advertised cigarette.

## Home Ec. Tea Given

The annual Home Economics Club Christmas Tea was held December 7 in the practice house.

Those included on the invitation list were the faculty of both the College and the Academy, the Trustees, parents of the home economics majors, the foreign students and patrons of home economics at Salem.

The house was decorated in the usual Christmas reds and greens; a contrast of white and silver was used for the center piece on the table. The decorated tree and the greens, the little cookie church and the poinsettias all added to the holi-

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## Day Students Give Party

The day students will have a decorating party from 6:30 until 8:00 tonight prior to the time of the judging for the Christmas decorating contest.

A large tree will occupy the center of the room. Florence Spagh, head of the decorating committee will build a miniature putz on the piano. The windows will be painted with white ink and covered with snowflakes. Green candles and snow will be used. The doorways and walls will be strung with wreaths made of laurel, and artificial poinsettias will be sprinkled on the front part of the wall. Assisting in design are Bobbie Lee, Polly Hartle and Fay Fuller.

Carolyn Johnson, head of the refreshment committee, will serve cokes and cookies to about thirty day students who will assist with the decorating.

The day students plan to celebrate their annual Christmas Party in the Center sometime next week.

## Juniors Plan Banquet

The annual Christmas banquet, which is given by the Junior class in honor of the Seniors, will be held at 6:00 p.m. Tuesday, December 12 in the Salem College dining room.

The room will be decorated for Christmas, with a Christmas tree as the center of attraction.

Dr. Howard Rondthaler will give the invocation after which Ann Sprinkle, President of the Junior class, will welcome the guests. A toast to the Seniors will follow. Cammy Lovelace, President of the Senior class, will then respond with a toast to the Juniors. Dr. Gramley, speaker for the evening, will be followed by Bobbie Lee singing "The Christmas Song" and "Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer". Florence Cole will accompany Bob-

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## \*Putz, Cookies Play A Part In Christmas

Salem will celebrate Christmas this year with traditions which have been in practice for many years.

One of the oldest Christmas customs is the Putz, built in Brothers' House by members of the Moravian church. This Putz always depicts in miniature some scene in old Salem.

Two other traditions originated by the Moravians are the Christmas star, hung in Memorial Hall and in front of the dining hall, and the Moravian cookies which are served at school before the holidays.

There are two Christmas customs reserved especially for the Seniors. The last Sunday before going home the Seniors hold their annual Christmas Vespers. They entertain the students with caroling the night before the holidays begin.

One custom which encourages much originality and enthusiasm is the decoration of the dormitories. Each dorm holds a party to exchange gifts, sing, and play games.

A formal Christmas banquet is always given by the Juniors to honor the Senior class. The dining room is decorated with a huge Christmas tree, and the banquet is climaxed with a visit from Santa Claus himself.

## Noel Customs Are Explained

Mrs. Howard E. Rondthaler, who was hostess at Salem for forty years, spoke in chapel yesterday. Her topic was "Traditions and Customs of Old Salem".

Mrs. Rondthaler told of the simplicity of the Moravian Church which is five hundred years old and began in Europe. "The Christmas star is in every Moravian Church and home and is composed of twenty-five points which are easily put together."

"The orthodox Christmas cookies are always prepared, and there used to be a school holiday when this baking was done. Many families have had the same cookie cutters for years."

The next topic was that of the Christmas Putz and the making of the beeswax candles. Both of these were exhibited in the Brothers House yesterday and today from 2:00-9:00 p.m.

Mrs. Rondthaler ended with "I want to wish you all a very Merry Christmas with lots of joy, excitement"

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## Gramley, Hixson Attend Meeting

Dr. Gramley and Miss Hixson represented Salem at the meeting of the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools held from December 4 through 6 in Richmond, Virginia.

## Contest Closes

The I. R. S. Christmas Decorations Contest will come to a close tonight.

The social rooms of Biting, Strong, Sisters, South, Clewell, and the Day Students' Center will be judged on originality and attractiveness. A prize will be given for each of these qualities.

The general plan and cost of decorations will also be considered by the judges — Mr. Shewmake, Miss Hodges and Mrs. Heidebreder.