Salem Professor Spends Her Time Teaching, Creating Interest In French, Entertaining



Mrs. Mary L. Melvin By Eleanor Fry

"Come back anytime, girls," Mrs. Melvin said as she stood in the for the French to recognize Ameropen door of her home on Waughtown. She always welcomes Salem shoes," she explained. "Parisien students who frequently drop in to women have more of a flair for see her. The comfortable grey sofas in her living room, the open fire and the record collection of popular French songs are a pleasant change from dormitory routine.

Mrs. Mary L. Melvin came to Salem to teach French less than two years ago, and already she has aroused a new interest among her students for France and the French language. She has formed a French table in the dining hall and has placed some of her own records in the listening room for her classes. Besides this she has open house every other Tuesday night for her conversation class to give clothes than we do." them an opportunity to speak every day French.

One wonders how she finds so to tutor at Clark University in much time to spend with her students, for she has three lively boys to mother and amuse in her "spare time." They are David, Butch and work for the OSS. After four Ronnie, who continually turn flips years of this work, she came to over the backs of her grey sofas or play hide and seek in the cabinets under the kitchen sink.

Mrs. Melvin's greatest ambition is to go back to France. She spent a year there in 1939 teaching English at the University of Paris just after her graduation from Pembroke. Her first disillusion came the day that she asked directions in her "most perfect French," of a French policeman. He immediately replied in English.

She still insists that he must have recognized her nationality by her American-styled clothes and not by her American accent. "It is easy

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When war broke out in Europe, she returned to the United States Worchester, Mass. In 1945 she was again in Paris doing special Winston-Salem and accepted a teaching position here.

Mrs. Melvin was amazed when she heard several days ago that she was elected by the freshman class as their advisor, for she hardly knew what being an advisor meant. "I still don't know exactly!" she claims. But the students have no doubts about their choice. For one hardly thinks of her as a teacher but as a friend.

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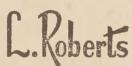
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