



Our Dean steps out from behind his desk three times weekly to pick up his baton and lead his conducting class.

## Dorm Doings . . .

Charlotte Burgess

Any resemblance of the dormitories to beehives is purely coincidental. With the Christmas season here we really don't know whether we are coming or going.

The lobbies are full of seemingly double-jointed acrobats, who, in reality, are just girls trying to do away (inf our days) with the results of four months' over-eating. It's worth trying, though. On the other hand, the snack rooms are amply caring for the few who are trying to regain what four months of hard study has taken from them — also the numerous poor creatures without will power.

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There are actually times when a deathly silence reigns through the halls. It could be due to the fact that Shakespeare and Hygiene term papers are in the making - aided, of course, by Mr. Miller's and Miss Anderson's reading lists.

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The monitors on duty are being led a merry chase during study hall. The air is fairly singing with secrets that can't wait to be told. One monitor when asked what caused her numerous frowns gave an answer which may be boiled down to this: "She who

loveth the sound of her own voice raised in argumentation." "She who lighteneth study hall with mirthful conversation and plentiful food." and, "She whose whereabouts cannot be discovered after room bell."

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We wonder at times how some girls rate so many different dates. They seem to come in shifts. What is going to happen when number two shows up five minutes early and finds number one in the act of saying goodbye? Ed-in-chief, we are asking you!

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We hear that Maggie is the owner of a silver coffee pot that is never empty, and in which coffee never grows cold. It would certainly be a blessing during exam-studying time. Some claim that this coffee pot really exists, but my guess is that it is another of Maggie's poems. You might check up on the rumor.

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Outsiders would be quite astonished if they could hear all our talk about angels and mortals this week. The good deeds were well worth their time, and loads of fun too. The new girls - if they can still be called such - have summed it up with "nice work."

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Good will seems to reign, and why not? It's Christmas!

## The Story Of Dean Hollis's "Eight Little Conductors And How They Are Growing"

By Betty Gibbs

"Good morning, students" is the cheery call which greets Dean Hollis's conducting class; and an equally cheery answer come back, "Good morning, Dean Hollis," for there are eight young ladies in school who are "rarin' to go" when class time rolls round. Yes, Pat, Betty, Jerry, Mary Lily, Catherine, Agnes, Barbara, and Mirta break all the unwritten rules of before-class behavior by arriving in the Chapel early to practice and can be (and often are) seen, with book in one hand, baton in the other, going through motions which, though sometimes questionable now, will someday direct choral groups.

The first part of the year's classes were spent in getting the "beat patterns" mastered. To those who raise an eyebrow after reading that sentence, beat patterns consist of the movements the hands make according to the time signature of the different pieces of music. You know - one, two, three, or one, two, three, four, etc! But now, the Dean is introducing the uses of the left hand; and though the girls say they KNOW how it's done, they just can't quite manage these new motions yet! Says the Dean, "It all comes with practice!"

So far, "The Hymnal for Christian Worship" and "The Presbyterian Hymnal" (referred to as the green one and the blue one) have been the text books; but the plan is to start working on anthems soon. This seems like a big step to the girls - and is a good sign that they're getting to know something about this business of conducting. Don't let it be a surprise if one day you find eight newly-organized little choirs on the campus, with one of these young "To be's" behind the batons. They're all bubbling over with enthusiasm.

Dean Hollis is sometimes surprised by a sudden bit of gracefulness on the part of his students - and is always pleased with evidences of serious practice. He has a winning way of encouraging good work and he feels that the girls are doing well.

The class sometimes varies from the usual procedure by a discussion of the latest concert, such as the Robert Shaw Chorale, or the part music plays in the worship service. Dean Hollis feels that this is a good way to acquaint the girls with the many things with which the conductor must be familiar.

When the class is over, the girls usually come out humming and waving batons - to the distress of any who have to pass by in the halls - and wait impatiently the time for the next class.

—Our own Cordie Hylton got a by-line for a front page article in the Asheville TIMES. We're proud of her indeed!

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