

1 1 1 The BELLES 1 1 1 OF SAINT MARY'S

Published every two weeks by the student body of Saint
Mary's School

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REFLECTIONS: II. SNOB SISTERS

In any girls' school it is only natural that the student body should be divided into various cliques; girls have varying interests and tastes, and choose their friends accordingly. Cliques *can* promote satisfying companionships, but they can as well cause trouble. If the interests of a particular snobbish clique interfere with the well-being and well-living of the whole school, some measures must be taken in the interest of the majority.

No clique at Saint Mary's has as yet reached that point, nor probably will any one of them, in our close living quarters, ever achieve this undesirable distinction, but one group at least has not become a good influence in moulding the spirit of the student body this year.

A few days after arriving here in September, an out-of-State student remarked that Saint Mary's is a school for North Carolina girls only. This remark was called forth by her association, at first, with a particularly clannish group of North Carolina students. When introduced to them (old girls), naturally expecting to be welcomed and made to feel somewhat at home, she was asked, "And where did you say you were from?" and told, upon replying, "Gee, you're a long way from home, aren't you?" Without further ado, they then returned to their conversation about what Joe said Saturday night, the dresses for the next dance, and other small talk that completely shut the new girl out.

Her reception was as short and as sour as that, and it speaks poorly for Southern, particularly North Carolina, hospitality.

Fortunately, most of the "groups" at Saint Mary's are not as self-centered and rude as the one mentioned above; in fact, they are definitely on the "nice" side and know the harm this group causes by giving anyone, student, visitor, or faculty member, the impression that North Carolina girls are conceited snobs.

Adjusting oneself to college life, where there is more give and less take than in high school, is difficult enough

without the added disadvantage of having to accustom oneself to being completely ignored by a group of girls who, though pretending civility, plainly reveal, without actually saying so, that they consider themselves superior to everybody else. Such a clique may seemingly do no greater harm than stupidly hurt other girls' feelings unnecessarily and bring down severe criticism on their own heads. But that isn't the end of it. Undesirable as it is, they have their own "stock" of influence, and at present that stock is being quoted at a pretty low figure.

We pointedly suggest an immediate change of policy before that stock and the group itself becomes completely valueless in an otherwise congenial and enviably pleasant student body.

Saint Mary's has no accommodations for snobs.

THINK FIRST

Much has been said of the fleeting quality of time and one's inability to stay it. Although time cannot be stopped, one can make it appear to go more slowly by accomplishing more as it progresses.

The most positive way to gain satisfaction in work is to organize it carefully first. By taking stock of her work, a college girl may plan a way to complete her themes, supplementary reading, and research, besides her other assignments, on schedule.

The advantages of thinking first cannot be over-emphasized. It is as important in other phases of campus life as it is in study. Consideration of the feelings and opinions of friends is essential to community life always. Thoughtless remarks are rarely intentional, and are often regretted, but the pain caused is hard to soften.

It is unfortunate to be one whose continual apology is, "If I'd only thought—" or "The next time I'll—." Doing or saying things without thinking first of the possible disastrous results does not indicate a very high intelligence. It is, however, rarely too late to remedy.

Saint Mary's campus is a tiny neighborhood. To achieve the most congenial atmosphere, we must learn how to be *sympatico*, and this accomplishment involves thought governing action.

Thoughtless action or speech inevitably leads to humiliating apologies. By avoiding the former, we can also avoid the latter.

DEAR CHIPS:

I've a chip that I think is the biggest one yet. Anyway, I'm going to add it to the pile of wood.

It concerns the telephones and calls coming into the office. Every day calls come in, most of which may or may not mean a great deal, but what if a real important call should come through? I know lots of girls who have failed to get important messages until it was too late to do anything about them. Often they don't even know that someone has phoned. Can't something be done about this?

WAITING.

* * *

DEAR CHIPS:

I've got another chip and, believe me, I think I've got one that everyone in school has with me. Here it is: We suggest *several kinds* of Saint Mary's stationery, nice looking paper, that we would be proud to send away. We want variety and beauty.

IMPATIENT.