

/// The BELLES /// OF SAINT MARY'S

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

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Member North Carolina Collegiate Press Association.

AWAKENING

With the beauty of spring and the refreshing appeal of the grass and flowers, it is very fitting that we should celebrate another rebirth, the Resurrection of Jesus Christ, at this appropriate season. Through the centuries Easter has come to be the one day especially commemorated to the celebration of Christ's rebirth. Because of what it means it is a day for rejoicing and happiness.

Probably the first Easters we remember were vague conglomerations of parties and baskets and Easter eggs and bunnies. After some few years the symbolic love and belief in baskets gave way to more sophisticated cotillions and precious pastel taffeta party dresses with bonnets to match and Sunday school. Soon mother decided we were old enough to know and observe Lent, and Easter, those years, meant we could eat candy or go to the movies again. The chief concern of our sixteenth Easter was that somebody besides dad might send us a corsage.

Easter eggs and rabbits are only pagan symbols, and clothes and corsages are the modern celebration of the day. It's easy to overlook the deeper significance of the occasion and to forget that Easter means far more than any of these things. Childish custom and gayety have given way to new ideas. Easter is a glorious day which is set aside to commemorate a gift—the gift of a life—to save man. After that life has been crushed—its rebirth, Christ's Resurrection!

MY DUTY TOWARDS—

A student body president has been elected. A self-governing body has chosen the person it deems most fitted to direct and set an example for its business and behavior. It has given her the most difficult office in the school community to do well; for although her actual productive work may not be as specialized and exacting as that of others, she is held responsible for all the good and evil she and the members of the student body may do.

As in judging everything else, so in criticizing the student government, it is always easier to find fault than

to praise. The student body president must have a strength of mind, a quiet temper, and self-confidence, and capacity to take the criticisms she will undoubtedly receive. She must have initiative to build on the structure left by her predecessor, and poise and self-control to conduct her meetings. You have given her a hard order to fill, school. No man is perfect; and yet that is what men demand of their leaders and teachers. Rest assured that she will do her best to serve you, but be sure to give her the allegiance, the coöperation, and determination to develop a better school that you owe her in return.

FAMILIARITY BREEDS RESPECT

In a large university, the library is principally an impersonal source of information, of reference books, periodicals, and novels. In a small school, such as Saint Mary's, however, there is an opportunity for the library to become the center of the school, a center of recreation and pleasant work.

There are some who come to it reluctantly to obtain hated but necessary information. There are others who come automatically, and work without any particular feeling for or against it. There is a third group which comes, as everyone should, realizing that the library contains a wealth of material to give interesting knowledge and infinite pleasure.

The first group, the rebellious individuals, might well realize that the library is more than just a place to work reluctantly for several hours a week. It contains much interesting information if they would only seek it in the reference books, reserve books, and periodicals. Many of the new books, particularly, bring an easy conversational style to the abhorred parallel reading.

The second group, the indifferent people, may find in the library a place of real enjoyment. Old and new novels are numerous; and the periodicals, varied. Whether the individual desires illustrated magazines, musical journals, health news, or literary information she may easily find it. The bulletin board calls attention to interesting reading topics, and individual standards display the latest books.

The third group, even that conscious group, may still add more pleasure to its use of the library. Recent surveys within the school have shown that most students could profitably spend time on current events, which are authentically recorded in *Time* and the *New York Times*. Also, the reviews of the latest books and best books may be found in approximately a third of the magazines in the library, including the *Saturday Review*, *Harper's*, and *Scribner's*.

Let each student of Saint Mary's, therefore, find her place in one of these groups and then endeavor to raise her standards to a higher level to make the library a center of the school.

EASTER AND THE DOGWOOD

The cross on which Jesus Christ was hung was made of a dogwood tree, people say. As He bore the great burden on His shoulders through Jerusalem He promised that the dogwood tree would never again grow large enough so that a cross could be made and a Christ hung on it. So the growth of the tree was stunted and it has always appeared weak and fragile since that day. Also to commemorate His death for us the blossoms are shaped like a cross, so that when we see the dogwood tree we shall be reminded of Christ's magnificent sacrifice for man.