

✓ ✓ ✓ The BELLES ✓ ✓ ✓ OF SAINT MARY'S

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

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VALE

It may seem out of place for the old administration to have a word to say when the masthead already shows the election of a new editor, but such an occurrence is not strange on a paper in which so many other seemingly misdirected things have happened. The first year, it is said, is always the hardest. If so, the paper has met its greatest difficulties, and the way is clear for its development as guide of the attitudes and opinions of the student body.

The rapid turnover of students in a Junior College causes hindrances in the publications as well as the student government administration, but these barriers cannot be changed and must be overcome as successfully as possible. The newspaper must wait for the greater part of its staff until the Juniors come in the fall. The old students, though less in number, must try to carry over the principles and policies of this year to the next. One scarcely "gets the hang of it" before it is time to withdraw in someone else's favor.

In spite of obstacles, the student government and the newspaper have improved. It was the purpose of the old newspaper staff to begin a printed paper that would mirror the life of the school in an entertaining as well as informative manner. In some ways it has failed; in others, it has succeeded over previous attempts.

The new administration has great room for expansion not only in the size of the paper, but in the subjects it covers. In such a small school where news, besides gossip and adversely critical editorials, takes time to collect, the newspaper might, besides attempting to direct the students' ideas and to give them memoranda of their college life, keep them in touch with the outside world.

There is no end to the suggestions for improvement. Staffs for many years to come must progress slowly toward the perfection of longer established papers. The

outgoing staff has enjoyed the beginning of an interesting enterprise; may subsequent staffs enjoy as much its unfolding.

—ATQUE AVE

In taking over the editing of *Belles*, the editor wishes to express her sincere and grateful appreciation to those who elected her, and to the best of her ability, she promises to maintain the standard that has been achieved this year and to make whatever improvements may seem desirable. Realizing the effort which such an undertaking requires, she shall devote herself earnestly to the task. She will endeavor to secure for the *Belles* the newest and most interesting pieces of information, in every issue concerning general school activity, and in frequent issues concerning unusual things. In addition, she will devote herself to the duty of making this paper for everyone, not only for those who are, for one reason or another, famous around the school. An attempt will be made to editorialize matters of vital and timely interest and it is hoped that the readers will be conscientious in reading them. Information from persons outside the staff will be more than welcome, for we believe that in this way only will the paper be truly the school's. It is with these views that the new editor takes office, and hopes for the support and interest of the entire student body and faculty.

ARE WE MEN OR MICE?

or

AN EDITORIAL ON EDITORIALS

The other day it was learned, quite by accident, and as a complete surprise, that at least one student and one faculty member of you agree that *Belles* editorials have been hypercritical and perhaps unsympathetic so far this year. The apologies of the *Belles* staff are due you and anyone who may feel they have been unjust. We are sorry for tendencies that may have been too brusque. The staff is not incapable of a very wholesome and complimentary production. Such an issue is quite possible. Encouragement and congratulations are naturally conducive to the greatest success of the most efficient schemes and any failure in this our duty—to express appreciation and understanding, as well as to criticize—has been absolutely unintentional, perhaps negligent.

The honor system continues to become more firmly established. The legislative body is remarkably efficient though it's only a few weeks old. The students have taken the vital problem of cheating in hand and have proved that they will not tolerate any form of dishonesty. An obsolete study hall system has been replaced by a new system of independent study for responsible students. Cooperation has decreased considerably the number of reports for untidiness of the rooms and the campus.

These and other equally worthy accomplishments have gone uncomplimented but not unrewarded. The resultant pride which each student must feel who has conscientiously done her part to the betterment of her own life and that of her school seems sufficient.

New privileges have involved new responsibilities, and the chance to prove our capabilities has stood a difficult and trying test, but not in vain. A fine group of girls has successfully survived the various differences of a common search for new standards of honor, justice, and fraternity.