

The Belles

OF SAINT MARY'S

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

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WELCOME

With the beginning of another school year Saint Mary's again opens her doors to a large number of old and new girls. It is particularly to these "new girls," however, that *The Belles* wishes to speak a word of welcome.

Naturally, it is confusing at first to live with a number of strange girls under an unfamiliar routine, but soon every new girl of the school becomes acquainted with everybody else and begins to feel at home. We of *The Belles* staff have a feeling that already each girl is absorbing something of the Spirit of Saint Mary's.

At any rate, *The Belles* extends a hearty greeting to every newcomer, knowing that all the "new girls" will soon be "old girls" in spirit as in fact.

PEACE

Peace! How often the word is spoken among our diplomats, statesmen, and even among ourselves. Twenty-five years ago it was an unsettled word in the United States, as it is now. Europe has once again begun a war, and the grave question, "Is it up to the United States to support England and France?" is again the topic for discussion. In 1916 we were led to believe that our aid to these countries would help put an end to wars. Has this come true? Our sacrifice of men and boys proved our friendship with England and others, whom we believed in, at that time. This time we must stay out of their troubled world.

Think clearly and carefully of seeing your brother, or perhaps your father, in battle line, of all the bloodshed and horrors of fighting; these things turn your thoughts to the flag of the United States and what it stands for. Can we not do our part to help preserve peace?

SMOKING AT SAINT MARY'S

For a long time there have been certain traditions of this school which are time-worn but true and honored. At Saint Mary's there are rules against smoking, not because it is considered dishonorable, but for other reasons.

The buildings are old, and though well protected against fire hazards, a fire in any one part of a building would spread rapidly, causing no end of damage. Also, the fact that Saint Mary's is a Junior College with high school students makes smoking impossible.

Understanding the reasons for this rule, why should we try any "sneak smoking"? Such an act serves but to undermine, and surely no thoughtful Saint Mary's student wishes to set a bad example by deliberately disobeying a necessary regulation, and therefore go against the spirit of the school.

"LEST WE FORGET—"

Three weeks ago England and France declared war on Germany because that country had violated Poland's borders.

Actually, this declaration of war was somewhat of a relief to the rest of the world as well as to the peoples of England and France. With the exception of two or three countries, the world was agreed that Hitlerism and his Nazi Madness had to be stopped, if the European democracies' peace were to survive. It seemed hard, in the light of 25 years past, that France and England should have to do the job, but there it was. And then from all parts of the world came nations' declarations of their neutrality, not the least of these being the United States of America, fervently, sincerely, and prayerfully. Once more, on Friday, we heard Mr. Roosevelt again declare his (and our) intention of keeping out of War.

But since the declaration of war three weeks ago, things have gone badly with the Allies. With a speed amazing even to herself, Germany has overrun half of Poland and helped persuade Russia to close the pincers on that nation's unprotected back. She has sunk twenty-odd British ships, including one airplane carrier, and has unquestionably bested the Allies in the war of propaganda. By contrast, the Allies have sunk three or four ships and appear to be taking their time in attacking Germany's West Wall.

And now, because three weeks of war have appeared to lessen the chances of the Allies' cause, there has arisen a dangerous *provocateur* among our generally peaceful ranks. This *provocateur* would have us join the Allies at once to save them from the savagery and brutality of their common enemy.

This point of view, plus unrestricted submarine warfare in 1917, took us into a war from which varying lessons have been learned. We cannot speak for others nor do we wish to try to, but the lessons we learned from World War were bitter ones, which had to do with prostituted Idealism, vengeful conquerors, greedy victors, cynical debtors, sneering borrowers, "and a sense that the world was mad."

It isn't our fight. We neither encouraged it, nor helped to bring it on. Rather, in a feeble sense, we tried to prevent it. So let's stay in our own front and back yard, maintain the strictest neutrality, and "view with alarm" those who, forgetful of America's 100,000 dead in France, would increase this number by other hundreds of thousands for the sake of historical sentimentality. QUINCUS.

REGISTRATION

Terrific heat did not prevent the "smart girls" from wearing their new fall clothes when they came to Saint Mary's on Registration Day. Automobiles filled the drive in front of Smedes as girls began to arrive. A few "old girls," who were endeavoring to see that the "new girls" knew what to do and where to go so that on the very first day they would be made to feel at home, scurried back and forth across the campus. Boxes, bags, and trunks were seen everywhere as "mother" saw that they were taken to the room. Neatly tied packages told that she had carefully packed for Mary Sue. These new girls (everyone says that they are the most attractive group in the history of the school) eagerly followed advice to register quickly and to arrange their courses at once. They asked last minute advice before seeing Mrs. Cruikshank, and when they obtained their schedule they wanted to know if it were arranged to the best advantage in order to make that full week-end at Carolina. Shouts of welcome sounded above the other noise as "old girls" began to come. Saint Mary's seemed literally to be overrun with people.

The results of registration showed a capacity enrollment of 222 resident students and 55 day students. The Juniors take the lead with approximately 122, the Seniors follow with 62. Then come the Sophomores with 36, Business with 33, the Freshmen with 24, and 2 Specials. These figures are unofficial, as yet.

FIRST IMPRESSIONS

First impressions are always lasting ones, and as my big-sister came to escort me to the Old Girl-New Girl Party, I thought then how wonderfully everything was carried out at Saint Mary's. Hearts beat faster and spirits rose higher as the swish of taffeta was heard in the halls, for this was many a girl's first college party. We descended the stairs and stood in the midst of the crowd admiring the beautiful evening dresses.

The conversation which had previously been very loud gradually ceased as our group filed by the receiving line. Of course, it wasn't an ordeal, but everyone breathed easier as she shook hands with the last faculty member. I got a grand seat on a cushion near the center of the room and watched the antics of the old girls, which included a hilarious pantomime entitled *Horace*. When it was over, Ann Bunn sang, "I'll Follow My Secret Heart" and "Roses of Picardy."

During refreshments Miss Horn sang two of my very favorites, "Danny Boy" and "I Love Life." The New Girl-Old Girl Party put a spark to that special spirit that all Saint Mary's girls seem to have.

YOUR CENTENNIAL

And this is not another club we're asking you to join! The Drive Committee has been in progress for many years at Saint Mary's, but never before has it been in such dead earnest. In 1942 Saint Mary's Centennial will be YOUR Centennial—your year, and we all want to make it the best centennial possible. Making this project successful requires the complete backing of every girl in school, a helping hand from each and every one, and an entirely unselfish attitude from the whole student body.

This matter can no longer just ride through each year; it must be active, have something which demands student interest. Like other schools, Saint Mary's will have her centennial, but *what* it really will amount to will depend a great deal on this year's student body. Any suggestions offered as to how to make money for the Drive will be gratefully received.

The Drive Committee has many plans for this year, and we hope that all of you will help us to make the most of every single one. In the near future there will be a bridge party in the parlor, with a door prize, refreshments, and lots of fun. A small admission will be charged to help the Drive. Also, there is a surprise scheduled for more fun some night in the gym. Details are not quite completed.

For the first month or so there will be a temporary Drive Committee. This committee consists of the following girls: Sara Bell, Todie Boykin, Adelaide Curtis, Gene Davis, Mary Davis, Erwin Gant, Phyllis Holloway, Kitty Sigmon, Betty Vann, Edla Walker, Phoebe Withers, and Hak Kendrick. A final committee will be announced later.

SEEING OURSELVES

After I was given this job, my first impression was that none of the new girls had any impression of Saint Mary's at all. The majority of people offered amazingly unhelpful comments, such as, "Oh, I like it fine." However, after considerable sleuthing a few of the much desired "impressions" came to light. "The school is so different from what I expected, but really it isn't half as strict as I thought it would be." "There are so many bells." "I was impressed with the chapel. It is so sweet and quaint." "You know as a group the girls are the nicest and the cutest looking I've ever met anywhere." Hm-, we'll have to see what we can do about that. "I like the surroundings and the—well, atmosphere, I guess." Lots of the girls confessed to homesickness—in varying degrees of acuteness. One was a bit worried because she wasn't homesick. "I'm afraid something's the matter with me,