

The Belles

OF SAINT MARY'S

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

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THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT

As Christmas time draws near and we think of going home to our families and friends, inevitably we feel that magic joy known as the Christmas Spirit. It spreads over the campus and invades every corner.

Indeed it is good to have Christmas here again and to feel happiness at Christmas time. Yet would it not be still more wonderful to carry our happiness into the coming year? I remember the old lady I read of in the December *Readers' Digest* who wouldn't give gifts at Christmas, but who one day in January took one of her friends a present with this card, "To my dear friend, Lizzie Osgood, with daily love from Eliza Ann Chase." And again we catch this daily spirit of love in Henry Van Dyke's words:

"I am thinking of you today, because it is Christmas, and I wish you happiness. And tomorrow, because it will be the day after Christmas, I shall still wish you happiness; and so on, clear through the year. I may not be able to tell you about it every day, because I may be far away; or because both of us may be very busy; or perhaps because I cannot even afford to pay the postage on so many letters, or find the time to write them. But that makes no difference. The thought and the wish will be here just the same. . . . Without pretense, and in plain words, good-will to you is what I mean, in the Spirit of Christmas."

Merry Christmas to you all, and may you keep the Christmas Spirit throughout the coming year!

FRESHEN-UP WEEK

Saint Mary's has the valuable reputation of having some of the nicest and best-dressed girls in the South, a reputation it has every reason to be proud of. The term best-dressed, of course, means appropriately dressed and well groomed. The "nicest" part remains, but it is the "best-dressed" part we need to concern ourselves with. When a school has a reputation like this, it is often hard to keep it intact, but this can be done. Naturally when lessons come thick and fast and there are so many things to do, it is hard to keep one's personal appearance from suffering. It can be done, however, and only a few minutes a day are sufficient for this purpose. It pays to do away with all the sloppy Sally Janes. How about a Freshen-Up Week?

"LOOKING BACKWARD"

Although the last few days and even weeks which have preceded Christmas vacation have been trying and somewhat difficult to live through, in years to come we will turn our thoughts back and remember not only our eager haste to be going away from school, but also

the gayety and happiness of Saint Mary's own Christmas festivities.

We will remember marking days off the calendar and counting the remaining ones with an almost unholy glee; we will remember the first signs of Christmas appearing in brightly bedecked and tinsel rooms; we will remember buying train tickets, purchasing "knocks" and presents, Mrs. Marriott's wonderful Christmas dinner, and the sweet harmonious voices of the servants caroling.

We will long to be among those who gathered in the beloved, dimly lighted chapel where the Christmas pageant unfolded to the music of the organ, now rolling and swelling, now tender and sweet, and none will forget how the star shone above the altar like the star of Bethlehem.

We will feel young again remembering bountiful feasts eaten on the last night, tumbling into bed for a few hours of fitful sleep and disturbed dreams, and drowsy seniors who sang familiar carols lustily as they shivered in the early morning air.

We would even be glad to be among those rising at four o'clock to catch the northbound train, and although we could not eat a morsel, going to breakfast merely to enjoy the contagious excitement which lighted up everyone's eyes and wreathed their faces in smiles would be fun.

We will chuckle as we remember Miss Davis as she stood on the steps like a flurried hen and shooed her chicklets and their assorted baggage into waiting buses and taxis. And how poignant will be our memory of our last glimpse of the school as the bus rounded the summer house.

LETTERS TO SANTA CLAUS

DEAR SANTA,

I am a great big boy with luscious brown eyes and a weakness for brunettes. Please bring me some smarter seniors and a muffler for Hak Kendrick. I would also like a big, red horn for my iddy biddy auto. Thanks loads.

Your "cutest" one,

CHARLES ALBERT PETIGRU MOORE.

P.S.—Please give me some advice on child psychology, for some of my English Juniors are really getting me down.

DEAR SAINT NICK,

I am just a pleasing plump maiden with plenty of "OOMPH." Of course, you've heard of my Turk. Well, please bring him a new collar and some tiny shoes to wear in the library. Don't forget your vitamins!

Your good little friend,

MARJORIE LALOR.

P.S.—Please inject some life into my Biology students.

DEAR MR. CLAUS,

Whew! What a year! I'm a very busy little girl who lives a tough life. Please deliver to me in person (if possible) some girls who can keep their slips straight. How about a few expression students with a little life? On the way out please disconnect the phone.

Thanks, Big Boy,

"FLOSSIE" DAVIS.

DEAR SANTA CLAUS,

We are just a bunch of little girls with all the characteristics of the feminine sex. Please bring us some noiseless radios, mouth zippers, and "an angel" tread. If you don't run out of plumbing, how about a few baths?

A M-M-erry Christmas,

SECOND FLOOR EAST WING.

DEAREST SANTA,

Hohum! Say, Big Boy, would it be asking too much if you could bring us more sleeping privileges and fewer test weeks? Also, slow up the clocks about 7:30. We would also like to have another girl-break dance, and a couple of Dekes of K. A.'s in our stockings.

Unanimously,

SAINT MARY'S.

TURKEY

He's a very remarkable dog. He looks like Rudy Vallee in the face, because his eyes slant downward and his lashes are very long. But his bark isn't the least bit musical, only he doesn't bark much. He's a dog of amazing patience, and he's beautifully behaved.

You probably don't know him very well, for he is Miss Lalor's heart and soul. He doesn't care a thing about any other person on the campus and is constantly at her beck and call (though she doesn't even need to call him: she just wiggles her finger and up dashes Turkey).

Mainly Turkey likes to walk, and as for mountains, Miss Lalor says he would rather climb them than eat his dog biscuits. He is anything but "facetious" (that's why Miss Lalor likes him), and she forgets he's in the lab, he's so good. The other day he was there for two whole hours without her knowing it. He is the only individual allowed to make noise in the library.

Everybody envies Turkey his permanent wave, and to Miss Lalor he is invaluable, for Turkey is always being invited out to supper and she "of course must go along."

CAMPUS NOTES

The Y. P. S. L. Council has elected two new members, Helen Ford and Marie Watters. Other members of the council are Laura Gordon, Mary Guy Boyd, Agnes Hayes, Tibbie Tucker, Carolyn Norton, Page Marshall, Adelaide Curtis, Catherine Gant, Gray Woodard, and Mary O'Keefe. The orphan the Y. P. S. L. has formerly been taking care of has left the orphanage, and the council has a new protege, Ruth Pendleton.

A box of Christmas gifts has been sent to Sewanee, Tennessee, for the underprivileged children in the neighborhood of the Sewanee missions.

Annemarie Dumuzelmann has gone home to recuperate from an illness. She is expected to return after Christmas.

Dr. Harry Taylor, missionary to China, spoke to a combined meeting of the Woman's Auxiliary of Saint Mary's and the Y. P. S. L. Sunday night, December 10.

The Doctors' Daughters' Club had charge of the sale of Christmas seals to the student body during the past two weeks.

Dr. Hornell Hart, of Duke University, was the delightful speaker in church Sunday, December 10.

On Thursday afternoon, December 7, Miss Scott's pupils gave their first studio recital. The following girls played: Dixie French, Mary Guy Boyd, Ann Geoghegan, Daisy Shankle, Anna Jean Rodgers, Laura Gordon, and Edla Walker.

Mrs. Marriott entertained the faculty at an informal party after Miss Horn's recital.

GYM NOTES

Since November 1 a beginners' tap dancing class has been meeting on Friday at four o'clock under the direction of Miss Goss. The members of the class are: Mary Martha Cobb, Alice Yount, Bettie London Wooten, Mary Huske, Winifred Rosenbaum, Sarah Lance, Elizabeth Peale, Margaret Parker, and Peggy Arrington.

After Christmas a class will be open to those who are interested in more advanced work.

A ping-pong tournament is now in progress between the Sigma's and the Mu's. Margaret Kitchin manages the tournament in which 30 girls are taking part.