

## MARGARET WEBSTER GIFTED DIRECTOR WILL LECTURE HERE

### Subject To Be Development of Acting Styles

Margaret Webster, cited as one of the ten most outstanding women of 1939, will lecture on the development of styles of acting as direct outgrowths of dramatic literature in the Saint Mary's Auditorium on November 22. Miss Webster, an actress of real merit, having won especial fame in the role of Masha in *The Sea Gull* and of Mary Magdalene in *Family Portrait*, will herself illustrate the main points of her discussion.

Miss Webster is best known as a director of Shakespearean drama, and also as many critics have acknowledged, the only contemporary woman director of note. In 1939 George Jean Nathan of *Theater Week* acknowledged her work as the "Best Direction of the Year," basing this citation on Miss Webster's staging of *Hamlet*, *Richard II*, and *Henry IV* in partnership with Maurice Evans. Miss Webster also directed Lunt and Fontaine in *The Sea Gull*.

Miss Webster is an American by birth. Her father is Benjamin Webster, a distinguished Shakespearean actor, and her mother is Dame May Whitty, famous English actress and star of several American movies. Thus like many actresses Miss Webster spent most of her childhood in and around the theater. She played her first important role at eighteen in *Hamlet* with John Barrymore.

## The House of Connolly Playmaker Production Received With Acclaim

### Douglas Watson Wins Praise As The Dashing Hero

"L'amour, l'amour"—yes, in every feminine heart for a solid two hours last Monday night. The Saint Mary's Dramatic Club attended the Chapel Hill version of "The House of Connolly" *en masse*. This play was a story of the Old South ably interpreted by a score of Carolina Playmakers. To our girls, however, the secret of its success lay solely in the performance of one Douglas Watson—"Ye Olde Time Hero." We sat quietly in our seats, turning purplish-green with envy, while he made love to "Patsy Tate," *alias* Jean McKenzie. The Southerners in the crowd enjoyed a brief moment of pure bliss when Robert Connolly, played by Harry Davis, so capably deflated the Yankees.

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## EDITORIAL

The interpretation of man's cruelty to man through the historical development of individual nations demands not only a critical point of view but also an unbiased, restrained presentation. Man's inhumanity during a single phase of history reflects more than the ruthless injustice of that time. Inhumanity is of all time—a terrifying embodiment of human intolerance and greed.

Injustice breeds further injustice. Harsh judgment towards a single period in history even from a contemporary point of view is dangerous. To condemn the passionate zeal of the Germans who seek revenge and a return to world

power is to condemn in a sense the inherent nationalism of all men.

We neither condemn nor justify the causes of this war or the motives of the men who guide its course. Rather we deplore those supposedly conscientious individuals who in the self-satisfaction and security of their own lives refuse to accept the responsibility to do more than talk and deplore world conditions. Each individual is a part of those seemingly irresistible forces which threaten to obliterate human rights. Let us have more than passive regret. Let us combat these forces now while we are strong.

## Four City Colleges Sponsor Appearance Of Jerold Frederic

### Young American Pianist Plays at Pullen Hall

Jerold Frédéric, spectacular young American pianist, played to an appreciative audience last night. The concert, which was held in Pullen Hall at State College, was sponsored by Meredith, Peace, Saint Mary's, and State College.

Mr. Frédéric played in a strikingly original style. Tirades of tone marked the interpretation of most of his selections. His soft, melodic tones, however, lacked fullness and were often overshadowed by a too heavy bass. His failure to achieve proper tone-balance between the hands resulted in many melodic passages unconvincing either in melodic beauty or in natural harmony. These qualities were especially evident in his opening number, a Liszt transcription of Bach's *Grandes Variations*.

Technically Mr. Frédéric was much more of an artist. His runs, played at a rather amazing speed, were smooth and effortless. Liszt's transcription of the Chopin *Chant Polonoise*, which he included in his second group, displayed his technical control and ability rather well.

Mr. Frédéric's interpretation of two Chopin nocturnes was the most conventional of his whole program. Unlike his Liszt selections, they were not dramatic, but were played with restraint and quietness.

The real key to an analysis of Mr. Frédéric's style was in his playing of a Liszt Hungarian Rhapsody. In this work alone did all his tone seem justified, and he achieved, in a very real sense, an orchestral effect.

## First Civic Concert Presents Rubinstein World Famous Pianist

### Enthusiastic Crowd Hears Rendition of Classics

Artur Rubinstein, world famous pianist, played to a capacity house in the first of the series of concerts presented by the Raleigh Civic Music Association in the Memorial Auditorium on November 12.

Critics have cited Mr. Rubinstein as a most perfect technician, but have qualified their praise by saying that his restrained playing lacks emotional feeling. In his Raleigh program Mr. Rubinstein included few selections which were in the truest sense dependent upon the emotional make-up of the artist. For the most part he chose works of great technical difficulty and brilliance.

Mr. Rubinstein opened his program with Busoni's piano transcription of Bach's *Toccatina in C major*, written originally to display the technique of the performing organist. Mr. Rubinstein's interpretation was indeed magnificent, for the very nature of the work demands perfect execution. To conclude his first group Mr. Rubinstein chose Beethoven's "Appassionata" Sonata.

Most outstanding in the second part of the program was Mr. Rubinstein's rendition of four works by Chopin. His playing of the A flat major valse was especially notable, for aside from its technical nature this work demands a decided rhythmic acuteness.

Other works included on the program were three modern compositions by Isaac Albeniz.

## SAINT MARY'S BEGINS VIGOROUS CAMPAIGN FOR AID TO BRITAIN

### Aim to Reach Goal of \$1,000 By April 1, 1941

A campaign for British War Relief began at Saint Mary's during assembly on November 8, with pleas voiced by Elizabeth Toepelman, Miss Nell Battle Lewis, and Mrs. Cruikshank.

As Elizabeth Toepelman, president of the Political Science Club, explained the project to the student body, money is to be raised through voluntary pledges by individuals, through entertainments given by various organizations in the school, and through voluntary contributions collected at other affairs sponsored by the students. This money will be sent to England to be used to buy surgical supplies and to provide for the homeless. The goal, set at \$1,000, must be reached by April 1, 1941.

Miss Nell Battle Lewis, who is an admitted "pro-Britisher," endorsed this plan as a means of fostering interest and sympathy for a worthy cause. "England is defending ideals near and dear to us," Miss Lewis declared. "Our Christian religion and constitutional liberty are the two moral elements of controversy of the war."

"The spirit of the British in the defense of London is one of the greatest things in human history." Quoting from her newspaper column, *Incidentally*, she stated that war is always the test of the strength of a nation; just as adversity is the test of a man. The noble spirit of the British and the remarkable war in which they have risen above their problems might, according to Miss Lewis, set a worthy example for all Americans. "Let us give them admiration, gratitude, and a silent prayer," she continued. The speaker pleaded that by helping Britain now Americans might save the lives of many young men, whose fates are hanging in the balance during this crisis. Miss Lewis closed her plea with the awe-inspiring lines of "The Spires of Oxford."

Following Miss Lewis, Mrs. Cruikshank gave her support to the undertaking and expressed her faith in the generosity of Saint Mary's girls. She announced that the British War Relief campaign would get under way with a talk by Governor Hoey. The talk will be held in the school auditorium on November 20, and the voluntary contribution to be collected there will be the school's first effort toward saving the lives of Britain's homeless and wounded.