IT'S WINTER(?)

# The Belles

OF SAINT MARY'S

IT'S SPRING(?)

Vol. IV, No. 13

RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA

April 11, 1941

#### Saint Mary's Places In Drama Festival Held at Chapel Hill

Member of Cast of "The Devil And Daniel Webster" Gives Personal Account of Event

During the week beginning Sunday, March 30, to Friday, April 4, the Carolina Dramatic Association presented its 18th Annual Festival and State Tournament for the season of 1940-41 at Chapel Hill.

For its entrance in the tournament, the Saint Mary's Dramatic Club, under the direction of Miss Florence Davis, chose Stephen Vincent Benét's one-act play, "The Devil and Daniel Webster." Saint Mary's entry reached the finals and placed second in competition with Mars Hill.

A personal account . . .

On Wednesday, April 2, a group of thirty-four would-be Thespians in costumes of 1840 vintage settled themselves in two of the best looking red and black buses that Carolina Trailways had to offer. We were Chapel Hill bound with The Devil and Daniel Webster, the fruit of two months' hard work that had achieved its degree of perfection only through Miss Davis' coaxing and coaching.

A bag lunch of the simplest kind had to suffice, because Miss Davis was determined the Mr. Scratch's beard shouldn't suffer from the ravages of peanut butter sandwiches. There were cookies and sandwiches and enough Hershey bars to supply the German Club with lots of tinfoil for Great Britain.

The trip over was uneventful except that Mary Emily and the jury scared half a dozen women drivers off the road; other drivers who saw what they thought was a cargo for Dix Hill gave us the road.

On arriving at Chapel Hill we went directly to the Memorial Hall to arrange for competing in the preliminaries. We had only one competitor for the selection of the Eastern Division finalists, and they presented "Pierrot, His Story."

There was a lot of noise back stage when we went to give our play and people wandered aimlessly back and forth as we set the stage. We were tense with excitement as the curtain went up, but it was all over before we knew it. Nobody remembered anything about it except the persistent clock off stage that bonged any hour at any opportunity in the most disconcerting tone.

After we were through we went out to sit in the audience to watch some of the competitors for the Western Division preliminaries. Mr. Parker then told Miss Davis that we had won the preliminaries and that we would compete in the

(Continued on page 4)



-Courtesy of News and Observer.

The editors of the student publications for next year are, from left to right, Carol Cobb, editor of the STAGE COACH; Mary-Gene Kelly, editor of the BELLES; and Kathryn Norman, editor of the BULLETIN.

#### Enthusiastic Audience Hears Betty Hilker In Splendid Program

Marked Musical Talent Is Expressed in Performance of Mature Works

Betty Watson Hilker, pianist, presented her certificate recital in the Saint Mary's Auditorium on April 4. The enthusiasm of the audience intensified the impression that this recital was an expression of much more than ordinary talent. There was not the least hesitation in Betty's approach. She played with power and conviction, though at times she lacked the perfect control of a seasoned performer.

The program consisted of the first movement of the Sonata Pathétique by Beethoven, the Prelude in A flat, Opus 28, No. 17 by Chopin, Valse Oubliée by Liszt, the Rhapsody in B Minor by Brahms, Rachmaninoff's Polichinelle, La Fille aux Cheveux de Lin by Debussy, and the Malagueña by Lecuona. Not only the technical difficulty but the emotional character of these works marks them for performance by a mature pianist. Betty seemed to play them all equally well. Her grasp of the intense tragic basis of the Sonata Pathétique was most remarkable. Throughout all her program she evidenced her

(Continued on page 3)

### Dramatic Effects Of Ballet Appeal To Raleigh Audience

Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo Dances to Full House in Last Civic Concert

The Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo danced to a full Memorial Auditorium on April 2nd, and each dancer did her part to delight the Raleigh audience.

"Tschaikowsky's Serenade" opened the program, but it did not seem to be appreciated by the audience as much as the other numbers. Tamara Toumanova and Igor Youskevitch were the principals in this flowing Serenade. Toumanova danced a little jerkily, but her expert pirouettes showed that she is capable of perfect technique.

The fairies of our dreams were brought to life in "The Nutcracker Suite," another of Tschaikowsky's melodious works. Snowflakes and Sugarplums danced against a tinsel background led by Mia Slavenska, and Igor Youskevitch. Slavenska was flawless. The beauty of her face and figure, the grace of her movements, and the exactness of her technique held the audience spellbound.

In the last ballet, "Le Beau Danube," with the music of Johann (Continued on page 2)

## Redwood Elected President of Y.P.S.L., Willcox Is Secretary

Service League Council Elects
Officers for 1941-42
School Year

The Y. P. S. L. Council has selected Sophia Redwood, of Asheville, North Carolina, as its president for next year. She is well versed in Y. P. S. L. duties, having held offices in her own league of Trinity Church, Asheville. She attended the convention of the Young People's Christian Association at Greensboro several weeks ago and secured many good ideas for next year's work.

ideas for next year's work.

Heretofore the Student Body has elected the Y. P. S. L. officers, but the Council felt that it was better fitted to select the girls because it knew their individual characteristics and recognized the qualifications necessary for good officers. The vice-president will be elected from the incoming class next year.

Betty Willcox, of Norfolk, Virginia, is the newly elected secretary-treasurer. She has served on the council this year at Saint Mary's and has been active in the Leagues of Christ Church and Saint Luke's in Norfolk. The League will have as its project next year, as in the past, the care of the little orphan at the Thompson Orphanage, Charlotte.