

STOCKINGS!

# The Belles

STAMPS!

OF SAINT MARY'S

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February 12, 1943

## C.M.A. Presents Comic Opera, *The Bat*

American Artists Present Production In Contemporary English; Written by Johann Strauss

The Philadelphia Opera Company will present "The Bat" in a Civic Music Concert Monday. This is the second group concert the C.M.A. has presented this year, and the opera, written by Johann Strauss, is promised to be most entertaining. A modern organization, the Philadelphia Opera Company embodies these ideals: grand opera in understandable contemporary English; and a brilliant company of all-American artists.

"The Bat" (*Die Fledermaus*) is a comic opera in three acts. At the beginning of the opera Herr von Eisenstein has been sentenced to prison for contempt of court. His friend, Doctor Falke, persuades him to ignore his sentence and attend the ball given by Prince Orlofsky. Meanwhile Rosalinde, von Eisenstein's wife, receives a visit from a former admirer, Alfred. The warden of the jail comes for von E., and Alfred allows himself to be taken by mistake.

At the ball everyone is disguised; so Rosalinde succeeds in carrying on a flirtation with her husband. In the jail the next morning everything is confused and complicated. Alfred, who does not recognize von E., confides his story in him, and Rosalinde taunts her husband with the fact that he was flirting with his wife at the ball.

The score of "The Bat" is excellent. Johann Strauss, the waltz king, furnishes quantities of charming dance music, and waltzes, polkas, and drinking songs abound.

## Burns and McNeny Elected New Marshals

As a result of the late marshal election, Mary Burns, of Fayetteville, and Pauline McNeny, of Henderson, have been announced as the two new marshals at Saint Mary's. They will fill vacancies left by Jane Council and Ticky LaRoque, who have withdrawn from school.

Mary Burns served as a marshal in high school, where she also was secretary of the Hi-Y Club and a member of the annual staff. At Saint Mary's, aside from her new office, she is secretary of the Political Science Club, a member of the Orchesis, and a dance marshal.

Pauline McNeny was president of the Beta Club, a member of the Dramatic Club, and a member of the Glee Club in high school. At Saint Mary's she was elected to serve as vice-president of the present senior class. Pauline is serving her second year as vice-president of her hall. She is also active in the Dramatic Club, Political Science Club, and Orchesis.

## The Hughes Give Paper Shower for Miss Cruikshank

This afternoon Mr. and Mrs. I. Harding Hughes entertained at their home for Saint Mary's bride-of-the-month, Miss Olive Cruikshank. The guests, members of the faculty, began to arrive at four-thirty o'clock laden with presents—much to the honoree's surprise. (It's a paper shower, so bring anything from "paper napkins to a war bond," Mrs. H. had advised.) Besides this, each person brought a card. On one side of each one of these cards was the favorite recipe of the donor, and on the other side was written some good sound personal advice on marriage. All the cards were placed in a filing cabinet and presented to Miss Cruikshank.

Evidently the faculty took Mrs. H. at her word, for amid the flurry of wrapping paper and string, stationery, cook books, and war stamps could be distinguished.

After the excitement of opening the presents and during the reading of the sage words of wisdom set forth by the Saint Mary's intellectuals, everyone settled down to enjoy delicious refreshments.

The BELLES sale of war stamps for the year has been as follows:

|                   |          |
|-------------------|----------|
| October 23, 1942  | \$ 44.00 |
| November 7, 1942  | 50.00    |
| November 20, 1942 | 60.00    |
| December 11, 1942 | 40.75    |
| January 22, 1943  | 46.75    |

This makes a total of \$242.00 for the first semester. Can't we do better than this?

## 247 Persons Are Polled In Belles Survey

### S.M.A. Participates In Victory Book Drive

Every Girl Will Be Asked to Contribute One Good Book to Collection for Armed Forces

The Victory Book Drive, sponsored by the American Library Association, the American Red Cross, and the United Service Organizations, will be held this month at Saint Mary's. Though packages may not be sent by families to boys overseas, the Victory Book Drive does send them reading matter.

To make this possible, every girl in Saint Mary's is asked to contribute one book. If girls do not have a good book, they may buy or write home for one; but they should be sure it will be interesting to the boys in the armed forces.

The organization has plenty of the standard classics. What is most popular among service men are current best sellers—both popular fiction and popular non-fiction, mystery, and detective fiction, humorous books, Pocket Books on such subjects as those just named, as well as technical books dated not earlier than 1935 on subjects such as mathematics, chemistry, photography, and mechanical drawings. All books should be in good condition.

The contributions should be placed in a carton in the reading room of the library before February 22, when the drive ends at school.

"Any book you really want to keep is a good one to give."

Survey Conducted to Determine Number of Articles Read In School; 32 Boarders, 6 Day Students, and 11 Faculty Read Entire Paper

This week the *Belles* conducted a survey among the students and faculty to determine the most widely read articles in the paper, and to average opinions and suggestions. A hundred and ninety-six boarders, 30 day students, and 21 faculty members took part in the survey.

The survey was a mimeographed sheet as follows:

#### Belles Survey

| Do you read these articles?        | Yes | No |
|------------------------------------|-----|----|
| News Articles:                     |     |    |
| Concerts . . . . .                 |     |    |
| Elections . . . . .                |     |    |
| Drives . . . . .                   |     |    |
| Features:                          |     |    |
| Interviews . . . . .               |     |    |
| Columns:                           |     |    |
| Campus Notes . . . . .             |     |    |
| Sigma-Mu . . . . .                 |     |    |
| Pender Looks at the News . . . . . |     |    |
| At the Theaters . . . . .          |     |    |
| Saint Sallies . . . . .            |     |    |
| Like Poetry? . . . . .             |     |    |
| Belles . . . . .                   |     |    |
| This Year—War . . . . .            |     |    |
| Mus Musculus . . . . .             |     |    |
| Clothes Line . . . . .             |     |    |
| From Page to Page . . . . .        |     |    |
| Inquiring Reporter . . . . .       |     |    |
| On the Dial . . . . .              |     |    |
| Suggestions . . . . .              |     |    |

The seven most widely read articles the boarders picked are: At the Theaters, Campus Notes, elections, interviews, Mus Musculus, Saint Sallies, and the Belles. The seven most widely read articles the day students chose are: Campus Notes, Belles, Mus Musculus, interviews, Saint Sallies, Pender Looks at the News, and This Year—War. The seven most widely read articles the faculty picked are: Campus Notes, interviews, At the Theaters, concerts, drives, Inquiring Reporter, and the Belles.

Only 32 of the boarders, six of the day students, and 11 of the faculty read the entire paper. Articles about concerts were read least of all by the boarders, articles on drives were scarcely looked at by the day students, and Mus Musculus was declared by several of the faculty as "not worth the effort to try to read something with no periods and capitals."

In general the student suggestions and comments tended toward the informal, as did the faculty's. For instance, students asked for more jokes, interviews, gossip, light material, and stories, whereas several of the faculty expressed the opinion that "more casualness would be fitting for Saint Mary's," and that

(See P. 3)

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## PENDER LOOKS AT THE NEWS

"The historic battle near Stalingrad has ended with a complete victory for our troops." These words were part of a triumphant communique from Moscow last week. On battle fronts far to the west other segments of the returning German forces are encircled or pinned against the Sea of Azov. Red Army legions are pressing hard on the heels of the retreating *Wehrmacht* toward one of the chief objectives of their whole winter offensive, the key city of Rostov. North of Rostov, Red Army units on skis and motorized sleds, pushing steadily over the Donetz valley, threaten the German hold on the Ukrainian metropolis of Kharkov. A third drive from the Voronezh region is directed toward the important rail center of Kursk. Moscow claimed German losses of 44,000 on this front alone. Behind this news looms a vast shift of fortune on the snowy plains of Russia. Hitler's once formidable war machine is in retreat along half of the

1,500-mile front from Leningrad to the Caucasus. The military initiative, so prized by generals, has passed from the Swastika to the Hammer and Sickle.

The importance of German reverses grows when placed against a world background. Statesmen and military leaders of the non-Axis world had held important conferences at Casablanca and in Turkey. In those talks there is but one meaning. New and more powerful assaults will be launched upon the German positions in the West even as the Russian front is draining German strength in the East. The two-front war that Prince von Bismarck had warned against, that the Kaiser had waged and lost, that Hitler had boasted would never be forced upon him, is drawing closer every day.

In the Battle of Tunisia, confined to thrusts and parries in the past few weeks, Germany has the advantage of terrain, interior lines of communication, and a