

Merry Christmas

# The Hilltop

Happy New Year

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## Dorms Hold Annual Christmas Parties

Christmas parties will be held in the four girls' dorms tonight following the Campus Choir concert.

Each dorm will present different programs. Some of the features of the programs will be an original skit, a talent show, carol singing, and a visit by "Saint Nick."

After the programs refreshments will be served in an informal style from tables decorated to carry out the Christmas theme. The dorm parlors are also decorated in keeping with the season as multi-colored and blue lighted trees and Christmas arrangements give the rooms the Christmas atmosphere.

Humphrey cottage will hold its annual Christmas party tonight from 5-8 p.m. The residents of the cottage will escort their dates to dinner and return to the cottage for a program of entertainment and refreshments after which they will attend the Campus Choir concert.

The Christmas Tea given by Mrs. W. Spurgeon Sparks was held in Treet parlor Sunday, December 8.

Treet residents, their dates, members of Mrs. Sparks' Sunday School class, and several out-of-town guests were present.

L. D. Young, chairman of the program committee, Tom Lawrence, Joe Purcell, Ralph Cauthen, Tom Randall, and Jim Williams presented several Christmas selections and led the guests in singing carols.

## Nursing Club Holds Supper

The Nursing Club had as its regular meeting a Christmas supper at the Infirmary, December 6. Highlights of the evening's program were a reading of "The Littlest Angel" by Robbie Duff, the singing of Christmas carols, and the exchanging of gifts.

At present plans are being made for the club members to visit and make a tour of Mission Memorial Hospital in Asheville. The purpose of the club and its program is to provide information for girls who plan to enter nurses' training.

The officers of the club are Lynda Crawford, president; Barbara Lawrence, vice-president; Joan Anderson, secretary-treasurer; Robbie Duff, chaplain; and Peggy Hester, social chairman.

## Robertson Enters Art Exhibition

Mr. Joe C. Robertson, head of the Mars Hill Art Department, is represented in the Twentieth Annual North Carolina Artists' Exhibition in the Museum of Art at Raleigh, December 4-29. His entry is an oil painting entitled "The Beach." It is one of the sixty elected to be shown from three hundred entries.



Featured as soloists and accompanists in the Touring Choir concert are seated (l. to r.) John C. Christian, organist, and Rufus N. Norris, director; standing (l. to r.) Jim Williams, tympanist; Jean Cox, alto; Tommy Teague, baritone; and Rayford Sowell, pianist. (Photo by Smith)

## Bach's "Christmas Oratorio" To Be Sung By Touring Choir

Johann Sebastian Bach's *Christmas Oratorio* will be sung by the Touring Choir in its annual Christmas Concert Sunday, December 5, at 8:00 p.m., in the Mars Hill Baptist Church.

Featured soloists will be Katherine Logan, soprano of Asheville; Jean Cox, alto, of Hartsville, S. C.; and Tommy Teague, baritone, of Winston-Salem. Rufus N. Norris, voice instructor in the Department of Music, is director of the fifty-four voice choir.

Accompanists are John C. Christian, of the college Department of Music, organist; Rayford Sowell, pianist; and James Williams, tympanist.

The *Oratorio* was composed in 1734, when the author was forty-nine years old. The Lutheran version of the Scriptures is used as a basis for the words. The harmonization of the Chorals is an illustration of the composer's powers of combination.

The *Oratorio* was intended for the Festival of Christmas as celebrated in the Reformed Church of North Germany, where it begins on the 25th of December and ends on the 6th of January. The German Festival particularly solemnizes the 25th, 26th, and 27th, of December, New Year's Day, the Sunday after, and the Feast of the Epiphany, or the Wise Men's following of the star, or the dispersion of the light among the Gentiles. The six parts of the *Oratorio* are defined as suitable for performance on these six days, respectively.

## Bingham, Snelson Fete Students

Miss Frances Snelson and Miss Mildred Bingham entertained the eleven foreign students attending Mars Hill with a buffet supper and Christmas Party at their home on High School Road Monday evening, December 9th.

## Campus Choir To Present First Performance Tonight

The Campus Choir under the direction of John C. Christian will present a Christmas Concert tonight at 7:30 p.m. in the college auditorium.

The program will be in three sections with an orchestral ensemble, conducted by Mrs. Hobart Whitman, featured in the first section. The orchestra will play "Christmas Concerto Grosse" by Corelli.

Five choral works will compose the second section of the program. The choir will present "Break Forth, O Beauteous, Heavenly Light" by J. S. Bach; "There Shall Be a Star From Jacob" by Felix Mendelssohn; "Fanfare for Christmas Day" by Bortniansky; and "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" by Praetorius.

*The Childhood of Christ*, a cantata by Johann Christoph Bach, will be the final selection of the evening. Under the direction of Mr. Christian, the mixed-voice choir, orchestra, and soloists will present the cantata.

Featured as soloists are the following: Mabel Smathers, soprano, as an Angel; Tom White, bass, as the first shepherd; Bob Freund, tenor, as the second shepherd; Jacqueline Wyke, contralto, as Mary; and Bryan Miller, bass, as Simeon. The soloists are voice students of Mrs. Whitman.

## Students Observe Week Of Prayer

The Foreign Missions Week of Prayer, sponsored by the Young Woman's Auxiliary, was held the week of December 2-7.

This week is observed throughout the Southern Baptist Convention by the Women's Missionary Society and its organizations. The YWA was in charge of all the chapel programs during the week. A skit, "Her Lengthened Shadow", concerning the life of Lottie Moon, was presented.

Nina Faye Kirk played the role of Miss Moon.

A movie, "Missionary to Walker's Garage," was shown in chapel also.

Dr. James Belote, missionary to China, spoke in both chapels on the topic of world-wide mission opportunities. Dr. Belote originally of Washington, D. C. attended Columbia Bible College, Wheaton College, George Washington University, and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. He received his doctor's degree at New Orleans Seminary.

He has served on the mission board for five years in the Hawaiian Islands, three years in China, and for the past six years in Hong Kong. At present he is president of the Hong Kong Baptist Theological Seminary. James Belote, Mars Hill student, is Dr. Belote's son.

The programs of the dormitory meetings held Monday night, stressed the importance of the Lottie Moon Christmas offering. This offering, with a goal of \$500 for the campus, climaxed the Week of Prayer.

## Students Place In Forensics Contest

Four Mars Hill students placed in the Appalachian Forensic Tournament held at Appalachian State Teachers College, in Boone, December 5, 6, and 7.

Tom Lawrence placed second in poetry reading; Conrad Whitley, second in problem-solving; Oleta Murphree, third in oratory; and Patricia Sechrist, third in extemporaneous speaking.

Mars Hill did not enter the debating events.

## Student Night Is Annual Observance

"We believe — so we speak" was the theme of the model student night presented in Chapel December 11 and 12.

David Haynes, B. S. U. president, introduced the program. Jimmy Collins read the scripture, followed by talks by Sue Campbell, Allen Page, and Eugene Funderburke on the program's theme. A verse choir presented a reading and a double quartet sang.

Student Night at Christmas has become a popular annual observance in the life of Southern Baptist churches. Students at home for the holidays share their college spiritual experiences with the friends and loved ones through the medium of this special Sunday evening service.

Southern Baptists are interested in conserving their college students for Christ. Student Night helps to strengthen the tie between the student and the church while at the same time it acquaints those who are in high school with the spiritual ministry of the Baptist Student Union on the college campus. In this way the program serves a dual role of conservation and preparation.

This night is important to all college students in that each one should take part in this annual event in order to get the most from his Church and its student programs.