

THE WARD-BELMONT ALUMNAE JOURNAL

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COVER: Late in November many a southern "belle" at Ward-Belmont had the thrill of seeing snow for the first time. Having fun imitating a Floridian are, left to right, Jessamy Hines, a student at the University of Oklahoma who was back for Thanksgiving; Joyce Rakestraw, Albuquerque, N. M.; Maurine McDonald, Bessemer, Ala.; Sarah Ann Stebbins, Pensacola, Fla.; Mary Jane Heine, Bartlesville, Okla.; and Norma Jean Locke, Shreveport, La.

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Campus Mourns Death of Miss Annie Allison

Miss Annie Claybrooke Allison, principal of the preparatory department of Ward-Belmont from 1927 until her retirement in 1945, passed away September 29 at her home in Nashville. Although she had been in failing health for several months, Miss Allison remained active until a few days before her death.

Born October 6, 1872, in Franklin, Tennessee, Miss Allison came to Nashville as a child following the death of her parents. Her early years were spent in the homes of two uncles.

After receiving her B.A. degree from Peabody College, Miss Allison did graduate work at Columbia University, the University of Colorado, and the University of Chicago. She was awarded the M.A. degree at Peabody in 1929.

Miss Allison's teaching career began as a tutor to the children of two Nashville families. Later she taught in the Asheville, N. C., schools and at Mrs. Blake's School

in New Orleans before founding her own Girls' Preparatory School in Nashville. Ill health forced her to close the school in 1923 and the following year she went to Ward-Belmont as a teacher of Latin and French. Four years later she became principal of the preparatory school.

Although she retired from Ward-Belmont five years ago, Miss Allison frequently returned to the campus to attend programs or to teach an occasional class.

Many of the students in her later classes were children of former students. Of them she once said, "I call them my grandchildren. Some are better than their mothers; some, I fear, are worse. For these I blame the fathers, whom I did not teach."

A Memorial Library Fund has been established in honor of the late Miss Allison. The fund will be used to purchase books for the preparatory school library. A special book plate has been designed to identify them.

Ward-Belmont Loses Valued Friend

Mrs. Katherine Armistead Motz, founder of the recently organized Southern California Ward-Belmont Alumnae Association, passed away in Los Angeles December 16.

Mrs. Motz was reared in Nashville and educated at Ward's Seminary. In 1914 she was married to Caleb C. Motz, an architectural engineer who designed the Belle Meade Country Club and was co-designer of the Hermitage Hotel.

Several years ago Mr. and Mrs. Motz moved to Washington, D. C. where he entered government architectural service. In Washington Mrs. Motz was one of the organizers of the Ward-Belmont Alumnae Club and she remained an active member until she and her husband moved to Los Angeles a few months ago.

Besides her husband, she is survived by a son, Caleb Armistead Motz; a granddaughter, Susan Motz, both of Los Angeles; a sister, Mrs. Joel J. White of Nashville, and three brothers, R. P. Armistead

and E. C. Armistead, both of Nashville, and H. H. Armistead of Los Angeles.

Former Business Manager Enters Armed Forces

Captain Vernon M. Nelson, former business manager of Ward-Belmont, was called back into the service last August. He had been associated with Ward-Belmont since the early spring of 1946.

Recently Captain Nelson was awarded his fourth Oak Leaf Cluster, having received three others during World War II. Three years ago he joined the Reserves.

During the last war Captain Nelson served in Africa, Italy, England, France, and Germany for a period of nineteen months. He participated in D Day operations and was stationed in Paris at the end of the war.

Captain Nelson, whose former home was in Chicago, attended Northwestern University at Evanston. His wife is the former Wallace Burns and they have a daughter, Karen.