



Speech League Elections

At the meeting of the Chicago High School Speech League on Tuesday, Feb. 15th, a Loretto senior, Betty Norris, was elected President of the organization. This group is composed of a number of high schools of the Chicago area, both Catholic and Public. It meets once a month, each school being represented by two delegates. Among the members are: St. Phillip, St. Rita, Mercy, St. Ignatius, Providence, Hyde Park, Alvernia, Morton Township high schools, De Paul and Loretto, all of whom were represented at the last meeting.

When interviewed, Betty seemed delighted with her new position although it will mean a great deal of work. She revealed that there had been three other nominees for the office of president, one from Alvernia another from St. Philip High School, and a third who represented De Paul Academy. Kathryn O'Malley, the other delegate from Loretto, proposed Betty's name. In all there were five officers chosen, two of whom were from non-Catholic schools.

After being elected, Betty took over the chairmanship of the meeting from the retiring president, Frank McGarr of St. Ignatius. I inquired if she had been frightened. Betty replied, "I was a little, but it really wasn't very bad."

According to its competent president, the League is planning a series of debate tournaments. I also gleaned the information that the affairs of the League are handled by the students themselves. In the spring they will conduct their annual speech contest. Last year Anne Coyle (Loretto Woodlawn, '37) won first place in this event.

Kathryn undoubtedly had a happy thought when she nominated Betty. She is admirably fitted for the place and I am confident that her desire to be a worthy officer and a creditable representative of her school will be fulfilled.

ELAINE HARTMAN.

Happy birthday to the Goblin! Exactly two years ago the Goblin peeked out of his musty corner and decided to tell a little of the gossip. And here it is two years later and the Goblin still going strong. Congratulations, we say. And exactly one year ago the first feeble copy of the Spire pushed its shy way into our ken. Don't you think it has grown? We do. So, Congratulations, too, to the Spire. Long may it falter on!

Ye students of Loretto take notice! On March 16, the youngest members will act as hostesses at a party. This party is to celebrate the feast of the glorious St. Patrick. Price of your Shamrock—20c.



The Senior Class Officers meet to discuss the coming Loyola Debate. Left to right they are: Marie Beyer, Secretary;

Mary Agnes Cmarik, Vice President; Marie Sheehan, President; and Kathryn O'Malley, Treasurer.

DEBATE WITH LOYOLA

March 4 has been set as the tentative date between Loretto Academy and Loretto Academy. It will probably be held about 2:30 p. m.

Three Loyola students will represent the negative side of the question, "Resolved That the Several States Should Adopt a Unicameral System of Legislation." Muriel Kelly, Lor-Ayne Kinsella and Elaine Hartman are the affirmative speakers.

The question, "Resolved That the Several States Should Adopt a Unicameral System of Legislation" means that each of the forty-eight states should adopt a plan of legislation that merges the representatives of the people into one house instead of two. Under this system there would be no State Senate or State House of Representatives. They would be merged into one house. This plan doesn't apply to the Federal government at Washington but only to the separate state governments.

This will be a practice debate and no decision will be given.

ELAINE HARTMAN.

Street-Cars

Stand together—loyal band
Sit together if you can
This may be the great free land
But not when riding the street-car
There its jerk and sway
And catch that strap
Though long your way
Don't take a nap
For the car will stop
With a jar and a snap!
And there you'll be
In somebody's lap
Oh the joys of a crowded street-car.

Do You Know an Alumna?

The Alumnae are looking forward expectantly to their annual "Day of Recollection" which this year will be on Sunday, March 13.

Chairman of the Retreat is Mary Petrie, who is hard at work on arrangements to make this the most memorable of days for all who attend. Other committee members are: Margaret Burke, Nancy Lowe, Gertrude Boudreau, Margaret Cmarik, Kathleen Valenta, and Alice Stahl.

In former years the "Day of Recollection" has been one of the most successful of Alumnae activities. It is a spiritual opportunity of which all who possibly can should avail themselves. The quiet and peace of the day should refresh the spirit—there is Mass and Holy Communion in the morning, conferences, meditations, spiritual reading, and finally, as the perfect climax, an inspiring and awesome Holy Hour.

The "Day of Recollection" should be particularly interesting this year, as the Retreat-Master will be the Reverend Keane, who has come into prominence as the director of the Novenas in honor of Our Lady of Sorrows, concerning which there has lately been a great deal of publicity.

MARY AGNES CMARIK.

HIGHEST AVERAGE FOR SEMESTER ENDING JANUARY 30

Senior—Elaine Hartman
Junior—Ellen Beyer
Sophomore—Nora Lowe
Freshman—Margaret Mary O'Ryan.

LORETTO SPIRE

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 Brink.

Editorials:

Lent is here again. This season al-
 though a season of penance is one of
 the most beautiful and impressive of
 the Church year, and is a season of spe-
 cial observance. Lent begins, as we know,
 on Ash Wednesday. On that day ashes
 are put on our foreheads to remind us
 that we are dust and to dust we will
 return. The Lenten season carries with
 it a spirit of mortification and self-de-
 nial. Our dear Lord fasted and prayed
 for forty days in the desert and it is
 fitting that we should practice some
 acts of mortification.

UNHAPPY LAUGHS

The old pawn broker was on his death
 bed. His entire family had gathered in
 the little bed-room back of the pawn
 shop and there were wails and tears a-
 plenty. At last the old pawn shop broke
 roused himself as if to speak, and his
 wife and children pressed forward to
 hear his last words:

"Is mother here?" he painfully asked.

"Yes, father."

"Is my daughter Jane here?"

"Yes, father."

"Is my daughter Rita here?"

"Yes, father."

"Is my son Emmanuel here?"

"Yes, father."

"Is the hole family here?"

"Yes, father."

The father sprung up in bed and
 shouted:

"Then who is out front taking care
 of the shop?"

Tom was out on his first date and
 after having accompanied his girl to
 a Movie, he took her around to an arm
 chair lunch for dinner. As they sat
 down he smiled at her and said: "No,
 don't go and eat yourself sick 'cause it
 isn't costing you anything!"

Father—How much is two times two?

Son—Six.

Father—No, John, that's the wrong
 answer. It's four.

Son—I know the answer, father, but
 I wanted to see you bargain.

VOCATION

Have you ever thought seriously of a
 vocation, or perhaps thought that one
 would come to you from some unseen
 source and that it would come just at
 the right time? Life is no Bed of Roses
 would induce recollection, as well as
 and what we really want, we must go
 and find it. God isn't going to hand
 us a vocation on a silver platter or ap-
 pear to us in a vision, but WE must
 think and pray for a vocation and with
 the grace of Almighty God, we will
 choose the one best suited for a happy
 life.

Each state in life demands from the
 individual a great sacrifice. Many peo-
 ple have asked the question, "OUGHT
 I TO MARRY?" but this question de-
 pends upon another, Do I think myself
 capable of filling the duties of a mar-
 ried life? Married people should live
 together in love and endeavor to please
 each other and to live for one another,
 and to bring up their children in the
 fear and love of God. Last but not
 least, one of the chief duties of married
 couples is that they should live together
 in concord, love and conjugal fidelity
 until death. They must remain togeth-
 er, until God shall break the bond be-
 tween them, then and then only can
 they remarry again.

The Three important sacrifices of a
 Religious vocation are obedience, chastity
 and poverty, but when a young girl re-
 alizes that she is leaving a good home
 and putting aside all the opportunities
 in the world for God, she will regret
 nothing. The Religious State is one
 most pleasing to Almighty God, for not
 only does it glorify the individual, but
 it aids those in the world. If you feel
 a calling to the Religious state, have
 the necessary dispositions, and a love
 of sacrifice for Holy Mother the Church
 and Our Lord Jesus Christ, place your
 trust in God and He will lead you in
 the right path.

On the other hand, a girl may not
 have a desire to follow the previous vo-
 cation, but may wish to remain single
 in the world. This vocation also is a
 great sacrifice. One may think, "Oh,
 what good am I, alone in the world,
 why has God implanted within my soul
 the desires of the Religious or Married
 Life when I can't follow either?" But
 let us always remember that God orders
 all things for the best, and we may do
 a great deal more in the world by be-
 ing single and helping others than either
 following the Religious or Married state.
 In a vocation that we choose, we should
 pray for light and strength that we
 may always do God's Holy Will and go
 accordingly.

JEANNETTE SELZ.

Clerk—Sir, there's a customer in the
 store that wants to know if those all-
 wool unshrinkable shirts will shrink.

Employer—Does it fit him?

Clerk—No, it is too large.

Employer—Well, then it will shrink.

Irate Customer—Look here! all the
 buttons came off this coat the first
 time I wore it.

Clerk—Oh! Yes! So many people
 admire that coat, that you swell up with
 pride and bust the buttons off.



The Goblin feels rather ancient to-
 day. Two years and still alive. That's
 a record of some kind, isn't it? I think
 I ought to get a telegram like the mys-
 terious ones that the Seniors got last
 Valentine's Day. And I'd like to know
 "Who is this 'Cuz", Genevieve Bako-
 vich? We'd all like to meet him or her.

Why is Agnes Oudshoorn's pet aver-
 sion being called "Aggie."

Frieda Huber can vie with Patou for
 dressmaking honors.

Did you ever notice that cute, Can-
 adian accent of Jean Cunningham's?

Why does Mary Frances Fairfield
 want her name in the Paper?

Where did a little Freshman like
 Kathleen Mulligan get such beautiful
 eyes?

Where did Dorothy Curry learn to flop
 like a scarecrow?

Why didn't Dolores Gunzer tell us
 sooner that she could Tap-dance so
 well?

Where did Margaret Elson get that
 protective air towards a certain Senior?

Why doesn't some aspiring cartoon-
 ist cartoon for our sheet?

Why don't you put contributions in
 the "Twice-as-good-as-ever-before-Spire-
 Box at the end of the first floor hall?
 You don't have to sign your name.

GOBLIN, Inc.

Want Ads

WANTED—Information as to who plays
 the principal part in "Snow-White and
 the Seven Dwarfs." Please write an-
 swer.—Mrs. I. M. Inquiring, 222 W.
 2nd St.

WANTED—To Borrow a report card
 consisting of all "A" grades. Will re-
 turn in perfect condition.—Miss R. U.
 Smart, Foo School,—VIII-Z

WANTED—Contributions to Spire.

WANTED—2nd Hand Book-reports. Not
 particular what or how many. Can
 use anything and everything.—Miss
 O. U. Senior, 0000 Any St.

WANTED—Position as Worrier. Best
 in city. Have all your worries taken
 off your mind. Very low rates.—Miss
 S. M. Pathy.

WANTED—Holiday on St. Joseph's
 feast day as well as on St. Patrick's.
 —Miss M. A. Smark, Otterol Academy.

Mary Mc Elvain

Scoop—Bookworm Found

We have found the Bookworm. Last night the Bookworm sent us a call for aid. She was at the 12th Street Police Station, being held for questioning. She was accused of killing Time. Under pressure of the 3rd degree she sobbed, "I'm guilty but there were extenuating circumstances. There was Time, sneering at me and telling me I couldn't do it and daring me until at last I did it. I snatched up 'Beardless Counselor' and 'Candlelight Attie' by Cecily Hallack and let fly. And Time went down. Oh, it was horrible—horrible." Here she broke down. The matron was going to take her away when in limped Time. "Stop," he cried, "the girl is innocent. I'm responsible for I told her she couldn't read those books because she had too much homework. But I see now that I was wrong and I'm going to make reparation. From now on the Bookworm can have a thirty-hour day!" When she recovered her powers, the Bookworm threw her arms around Time and we had difficulty in getting her away. She babbled happily all the way home. "A thirty-hour day. Thirty—day—oh." It is indeed sad to see one of the finest brains of our generation believing that she has a thirty-hour day for now she puts everything off until too late.

JOYCE McARDLE.

Fashion Notes and Tips

As Winter fades into Spring a woman's thoughts turn to clothes. After many weary months of serviceable clothing, the first new fashions are as welcome as the violets and tulips of Spring which are their contemporaries.

Suits are always in good taste and the new one are particularly alluring. A navy blue with a crisp white blouse may be worn with a navy sailor of straw and British Tan accessories. To brighten up your wardrobe it would be wise to select one of the exciting printed silks perhaps in the newest surplice style.

For you sub-debs, tweed coats and felt hats may be worn with one piece silk linens or bright pastel woolens. For dress, select a silk in one of the latest shades of dusty rose, candy blue, beige, or red earth.

And with the new clothes, clean, shiny hair, well-kept nails and skin are important.

BETTE GLEASON.

SUPPORT THE SPIRE

Minute Biographies



Marcia Pawlicki — Reddish-blond, brown-eyed. She has a very artistic nature, being a ballet dancer of some distinction. An active member of St. Michael's Study Club, she ardently promotes Catholic action by teaching catechism every Sunday. Her favorite sport is volley ball, and she goes in for ice cream sandwiches.



Kathryn Reitz — The black-haired, blue-eyed President of the Sophomore Class comes from the West. She has traveled extensively in the United States. She plays the piano. Her favorite subject is Math and her favorite



Geraldine Ford — Brown-haired, blue-eyed President of the Freshman Class likes to be known as Gerry. She is a native of River Grove and not of Chicago and wants everyone to know it. Her ambition is to be a nurse. She collects pictures especially the 3 for 10c variety.

VIRGINIA LA MOTTE.

Captain—All is lost! We cannot save the ship.

Joe—Did you hear Jack, the ship is going to sink.

Jack—Well, let it sink! What do we care? We don't own it, do we?

Did You Know That—

Patsy Burke saved transfers in order to play house?

Frances Donnelly's newest nickname is 'rubra'?

Mary Anita Gerber has so many (?) books that she must carry an overnight bag to school?

Lillian Kubala is a "never-miss-a-street-car" girl?

Certain Freshmen feel that they are full-fledged nurses since they received their certificates?

Pat Kerwin takes things as they come—even her classes?

Betty Nicholson and Mary Anne Schuman could be termed the "devil and the deep blue sea" in the 12:40 Latin class?

Frances Jummrick will know her "Macbeth" when she finishes her English course?

Virginia Baird is going to the General Meeting?

Most of the Physics Class' experiments are always about 98 per cent in error? They never get the same answers nor the one from the book?

The box at the end of the hall with the big, green letters is for Spire Contributions, comments, and criticisms? You need not sign your name.

Those received into the Sodality of Mary on February the 2nd, 1938, were:

Christine Purpura
Ann Proctor
Lorraine Kinsella
Bernadette McNally
Dorothy Finn
Winifred Clancy
Irene Cismoski
Marcia Pawlicki
Frances Ward
Alice Lister
Josephine Caruso
Silvia Clemens
Colette Brink
Mary Elizabeth Darrow
Ellen Beyer
Mary Anne Schuman
Jean Rush
Betty Nicholson
Patricia O'Connor
Marie McNicholas
Eleanor Rooney
Jeannette Selz
Anita Schuman
Nora Lowe



Anita Esch — Black hair and blue eyes. Secretary of the Sodality, and former teacher at vacation school. Her ambition is to have 21 cats and to be an undertaker (she means it). Her nickname is "Swish," and her favorite subject is Math.

St. Patrick's Prayer

A master-hand sweep o'er the strings
Of life's rich harp, and wondrous
sweet,
The music of that life is waked,
In pulsings evermore to beat!

O Erin, holy land of saint,
Of hero, sage, and minstrel grey,
Awaiting touch of master-hand
To wake its chords, they spirit lay

'Neath Druid spell; and, save the gleam
Of Baal—fire flashed from oak—
crowned height,
Scant ray shone through the pagan
gloom,
To pierce the darkness of thy night.

Nor vocal yet thy song of praise
To Him Whom made thy valleys fair;
Though dowered with Nature's richest
gifts,

Thy spirit yearned for boon more rare.
Lift up thy gaze, O Land of Eire,
Whence cometh help! . . . O'er thy green
hills

Hope's star is beaming, Lo, one comes!
With Faith, with Love, his bosom thrills.
From lane Croagh-Patrick's summit—
hoar,

His prayer ascends;—"Into my hand
The fate of Erin's children give,
O Holy God, and bless this land,

That, like to him who, 'neath the Cross,
Beside Christ's Mother faithful stood,
Her sons may stand; fate—firm and
true

To One Who died on Holy Road.

Be mine to wake the answering chords
In her life's harp, that, unto, Thee,
Through weal or woe, its strains may
rise

To praise Thy name eternally!

In joy of answered prayer he stands
And blesses Ireland. Through all time
Thy sons, O Erin, shall keep the Faith,
And bear it unto every clime.

From shore to shore of that blest isle,
Glad chants arise from holy fane,
And Faith's grand hymn finds echo
clear

In exiled hearts beyond the main.
Saint Patrick still wakes Erin's Harp—
A master-hand still sweeps the string.
Evoking richest harmonies
From haliest depths, from hidden
springs.

In Irish hearts! Where'er they be
On Emerald Shore or alien strand,
They throb to-day with changeless love
For God,—for thee, loved Motherland!

M. ATHANASIA, IBVM.

ST. PATRICK

"When Irish Eyes Are Smiling Sure
They'd Steal Your Heart Away." Do
Irish eyes ever smile more brightly than
in this month of March, when the day
of day in an Irishman's life comes.—
St. Patrick's Day? For who put that
twinkle in his eye; who put that smile
on his lips but St. Patrick?

Patrick's first glimpse of his beloved
land, the land of the Shamrocks, so
dear to the hearts of the Irish, was not
a happy one. He was filled with the
desire to help and teach these people.
This wish became a reality. He taught
them the love of God, he taught them
to be merry and happy, he put the light
of faith shining in their eyes. He gave

them faith and took away despair, he
took away sadness and made them mer-
ry.

It is any wonder that the Irish look
forward to the seventeenth of March;
that they might honor St. Patrick, the
patron saint of all Ireland; that their
eyes might shine even more brightly
with the light that St. Patrick instilled
there. So, even if you are not Irish be
Irish in spirit, keep a twinkle in your
eyes and a smile on your lips in honor
of their patron St. Patrick.

MURIEL KELLY.

TO SAINT JOSEPH

At times, within the little shop,
St. Joseph all his tools would drop
And kneel in reverent lowliness
That Jesus' love his soul might bless
Dear Saint, help me to learn thy ways
That 'mid distracting busy days,
My heart may pause and lift its cup
That Jesus' love may fill it up.

M. AGATHA, IBVM

SAINT JOSEPH

On the nineteenth of this month, we
celebrate the feast of Saint Joseph, Pat-
ron of the Universal Church. We are
told so little of him, and yet we seem
to know so much. We are told nothing
of his birth, nothing of his death, and
nothing, except by inference, of his life
at Nazareth. But then we know his
office, and we know that God endows a
man according to his rank, and that
as Saint Joseph was chosen Guardian
Spouse of Mary Immaculate, foster-
father to Jesus the Son of God, he must
be privileged above all other mortals.
A lily of purity was Saint Joseph be-
cause he had to guard the Virgin Moth-
er and the Spotless One; the most pruden-
t of counsellors, for he had the secre-
ts of the Most High in his keeping;
the most tender of fathers, for he had
to foster the Babe of Bethlehem, feed
Him, and guard Him and hide Him;
the most Godlike of workmen, for he
had to teach the Divine Boy. All this
was Saint Joseph, Carpenter of Naza-
areth. Must we not look to him in our
striving after holy purity, to him when
oppressed with care, to him when the
trials of life weigh us down, to him—
Father—when our hearts are sore? Will
not the remembrance of the little arms
once twined round his neck, the little
hands held in his with loving confi-
dence, rouse us to confidence and love?

MARY AGNES CMARIK.

Some Lenten Suggestions:

Daily Mass and Communion is a fine
Lenten practice as it is so pleasing to
Our Lord.

To stay away from amusements (such
as movies and dances) remembering
Lent is a time of penance.

To deny yourself candy during Lent.

To keep in mind the passion of Our
Lord, the Stations every day would be
an excellent practice.

To spend a few minutes every day
in spiritual reading.

Silence in places where silence is
asked would be a fine practice for it
keeping the regulations.

Remember that even if you break one
of your resolutions for one day don't
give up, start all over again.

Correspondence

Loretto, Niagara
February 17

Miss Mary Agnes Cmarik,
Vice-President of Senior Class.
My Dear Mary Agnes:

Through you may we send to the dear
girls of Loretto Woodlawn our heart-
felt gratitude for what you have done
for us. Your generous gift meant more
than just material help—for your com-
ing to our aid so wonderfully has been
a real comfort and support. May our
dear Lord and His Blessed Mother re-
pay you for the sacrifice you made for
us! We assure, Girls of Loretto Wood-
lawn, you are high on our list of ben-
efactors, and our Lady of Loretto will
bless you for us.

Very gratefully in J. C.

M. CONSTANCE,
IBVM

St. Elizabeth High School
410 So. Michigan Avenue,
Chicago, Illinois.

Many thanks for your generous don-
ation. Your school has been the first
to open its doors to our song birds.

Kindly extend our thanks to all the
Sisters and Students—

God bless all—

Gratefully,

SISTER M. ROBERT.

West Baden, Indiana.

Loretto Academy,
Woodlawn,
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Stamp Savers:

I received your fine package of stamps
and am immensely grateful. The good
that is done through saving stamps is
simply appalling; and please do not for-
get that the Jesuit missionaries and the
little Patna India children are ever
bringing down rain showers of grace
upon you by their Masses and prayers.
And surely the Heart of Christ glows
with warmth at delightful contempla-
tion of your spirited argosy for souls.
In your glorious kindness, please con-
tinue to save stamps for Patna Mission,
India, and to storm Heaven's gates with
prayers for it.

In the Sacred Heart of Jesus,

F. T. HECHT, S. J.

It was a hot day:—

"Father, give me a nickel."

"Why do you want a nickel, son?"

"I want to buy an ice cream cone."

"And why do you want to buy an ice
cream cone?"

"Father, it makes me feel nice and
cool."

"Oh, that's all right, John, father will
tell you a ghost story and make the
shivers run up and down your back."