

# THE COLLEGE NEWS

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BRYN MAWR and WAYNE, PA., WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1941

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## U. S. WAR DECLARATION STIRS CAMPUS

### Drastic Naval Losses in Pacific Sustained by U. S., Says Sheean

#### Germans Are Behind The Japanese Attack

Goodhart, December 8.—During the past 36 hours the United States has suffered its greatest humiliation, said Vincent Sheean, famous war correspondent, in his lecture Monday evening. "In 36 hours we have lost more ships to the Japanese than England has lost during the entire war," he said, and described the Hawaiian attack as "the greatest reverse of its kind in the history of the world."

This attack has been planned for weeks. The Japanese attacked in the German fashion. They struck everything possible at once. "The Germans made the plan, and they'll come into this when they are ready," stated Mr. Sheean.

"Although the attack itself has taken place, the realization of its significance has not yet reached the American people." A few weeks ago when he was talking with naval authorities, they stated that in the event of war, Japan would "withdraw everything to her own bases."

Experts believed that the East coast would be bombed last night.

Between September 9, 1940, and April 22, 1941, the Pan-Siberian railway was open. During this time German planes, better than any we possess, and thousands of German technicians went into Japan.

Japan's ally, Germany, has been successful in every venture so far except in the Rostov campaign this past week, stated Mr. Sheean. He is mystified by the dispatch from Berlin stating that the Germans have given up the attack on Moscow for this winter, believing it may lead to a Russo-German truce.

Guam, Wake Island, and Midway Island, our stepping stones to Japan, have all been captured. And "with our present naval forces in the Pacific, we are unable to recapture them."

"Tonight," said Mr. Sheean, "I hope American bombers are flying over Tokio, from Vladivostok, with loads of incendiary bombs."

#### Alliance Enlists Many; New Courses to Add To Defense Activity

The Alliance hall meetings held on Monday evening to enlist workers were met with great response. Eighty per cent of the student body enrolled immediately for service on the committees for Forum, Speakers' Bureau, Research, and community work.

The declaration of war gives the Alliance added momentum and added responsibility. Its board is considering work on emergency measures—among them a course in occupational therapy for shell-shock victims. New activities which the Alliance should sponsor will arise, and the scope of the committees now formed has already been enlarged. Announcements of immediate innovations will soon be made. Suggestions of all kinds will be received by Mary Gumbart, Denbigh, or by any other members of the executive board.

#### Sheean Reemphasizes Fears in Interview

We rode into North Philadelphia with Vincent Sheean, to help him catch his train. He did not enlarge on the facts and indicated figures which he had presented in Goodhart; but his conversation and state of mind were even more serious than we had felt before. He believes the United States has suffered the greatest defeat it has known, that our prestige is gone and that we are on the defensive, completely.

For one thing, Mr. Sheean was deeply alarmed by Russia's failure to declare war on Japan. He believed that Stalin may come to terms with Germany and we may have to do without the base at Vladivostok which, he declared, we must have.

We asked about retaliation on Japan. He said that we can bomb Tokio; but that the city burns every winter, and every winter is rebuilt—that therefore bombing Japan is not efficient. He was more concerned about the possibilities that San Francisco, the Panama Canal, and the eastern seaboard, were to be bombed that night; he said that the Roosevelts had expected such bombings on Sunday. He admitted, however, that he had not spoken to the President at all. He did not give any of the sources of his rather sensational news from Washington.

We liked Mr. Sheean very much. We are sure that he believes implicitly that the facts and the situation that he revealed to the audience in Goodhart on Monday night were true. We admire his  
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#### Health Problems and Pay Day Discussed At Council Meeting

The Infirmary—its functions and relation to college life, and possible changes in the Pay Day system—made up the chief business of the December meeting of the Council. A college, Miss Park said, ought to train itself in keeping well; health should be a major concern of every student.

The most discouraging aspect of her work at the Infirmary, Dr. Leary said, is to see that a large percentage of all illness is a direct result of students having let themselves get run down. There is nothing glamorous about staying up all night, nothing interesting about being run down.

Possible changes in the Pay Day system were discussed. \$15,532 (\$3,448 in cash) was the total amount collected from the first Pay Day this year. Such a large turnover means that there is likely to be a great deal of money in students' rooms before Pay Day, and also that the Pay Day mistresses are given too great responsibility. To remedy these problems, it was suggested that everyone be required to pay by check; that the Inn and Deanery send out their bills separately; that a one per cent interest be charged to organizations using the convenience of Pay Day; and that organiza-  
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#### Calendar

Thursday, December 11

Arundell Esdaile. *The History of the British Museum.* Goodhart, 8:30 P. M.

Friday, December 12

French Club Christmas Pageant, Wyndham Music Room, 8:00 P. M.

German Club Christmas Pageant, Common Room, 9:00 P. M.

Saturday, December 13

*Margin For Error.* Haverford, Roberts Hall, 8:30 P. M.

Sunday, December 14

Christmas Chapel Service. Reverend Andrew Mutch, Goodhart, 7:45 P. M.

Monday, December 15

Carol Concert by the combined choirs of Bryn Mawr and Haverford, Roberts Hall, Haverford, 8:30 P. M.

Tuesday, December 16

Bryn Mawr Summer Camp Christmas Party. Common Room, 4 to 6 P. M.

Maids' and Porters' Carolling.

Currents Events, Miss Reid. Common Room, 7:30 P. M.

Thursday, December 18

Hall Christmas Parties. Choir Carolling.

#### Problems Described By Past Presidents Of Self-Government

Goodhart, December 10.—Fifty years ago, Self-Government was begun at Bryn Mawr. President Eliot said to Miss Thomas, then Dean, "I give you six months before you will have to close the doors of Bryn Mawr College." Today at the anniversary assembly, Kitty McClellan introduced Presidents of Self-Government, who each explained the problems in her time of the organization which was to have been the "downfall of the college."

Mrs. Richard Fitzgerald, was President in 1893 "when the attention of the world, as well as of the funny papers, was focussed upon us." The problem then was to relieve the faculty of disciplinary activities while conforming with the standards of the day.

Mrs. Edward Evans, president in 1907-08 felt "horribly superior" at the first intercollegiate Self-Government conference at Vassar; installed proctors in Taylor to keep students quiet in the halls between class rooms and when cuts were announced; and controlled cheering in the dining room.

In 1914 Mrs. Russell Wilson found noise her chief concern. A young man who constantly swooped over Taylor in the newly invented aeroplane, attractive Haverford Youth, smoking and the "Young Temptations" added to her worries. The latter were young, unattached professors, against whom Miss Thomas warned the students at the opening assembly.

In 1928-29 Self-Government, under Miss Rosamund Cross, now head-mistress of Baldwin School, shook the civilized world by permitting smoking, simplified the rules, allowed athletics after two o'clock on Sunday and tried to curb sloppy dressing.  
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### College Assembles in Goodhart To Hear Roosevelt's War Speech

#### Mr. Cameron States Air Raid Precautions

The college at the request of the Federal Government has instituted a system of air raid precautions. To this has been added an organization to provide emergency first aid. The problem of fire fighting is scheduled to be taken up immediately.

We print below the statement of Mr. Alister Cameron, chief air raid warden of the college, and the instructions issued to the college at the general meeting in Goodhart on Wednesday at 1.30 P. M.:

"Air-raid precautions are being taken in the college because the country is at war. In itself the fact that we are at war is sufficient justification for an immediate and thorough establishment of an air-raid protection system. Our hunches about strategy or our sensitivity to unfounded reports should have no effect on procedure. The college is now ready to deal with an air-raid alarm. The success of our execution of our emergency plans depends upon the efficiency of our air-raid wardens and the intelligent response of the whole college community to the directions of the wardens.

The general statement of our arrangements, thus far, follows:

The air raid wardens for the area of Bryn Mawr College have been appointed and are as follows:

Senior Air Raid Wardens: Alister Cameron, Donald W. MacKinnon, Julia Ward.

Air Raid Wardens: Karl L. Anderson, L. Joe Berry, T. R. S. Broughton, Anne Coogan, Winfield Daugherty, Alice Hawkins, Dorothy Macdonald, Eleanor Nahm, Clea O. Robbins, Joseph C. Sloane, Jr., Arthur C. Sprague, Edward H. Watson, Dorothy Wyckoff, Dora Benedict, Patricia Saint Lawrence.

Air Raid Wardens for the Halls:

Denbigh Hall: 1. Mary Gumbart, 2. Sally Jacob.

Merion Hall: 1. Jocelyn Fleming, 2. Edith Vorhaus.

Pembroke East: 1. Christine Waples, 2. Barbara Bechtold.

Pembroke West: 1. Vivi French, 2. Frances Matthal.

Radnor Hall: 1. Mabel Long, 2. Rosalie Hoyt.

Rhoads North: 1. Helen Resor, 2. Betty Nicrosi.

Rhoads South: 1. Barbara Cooley, 2. Josephine Perry.

Rockefeller Hall: 1. Eleanor Harz, 2. Katharine MacAusland.

Wyndham: 1. Janet Dowling, 2. Laura Schlageter.

The air raid wardens for the halls will work with the regular wardens.

In case of an alarm the signal  
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#### Motionless, Silent Students Hear News

Faculty, students and graduates gathered in Goodhart to hear the President's war message to Congress. The meeting was silent, motionless, during the long description of historical precedent, of the Presidential escort, and during the speech itself. Impressive was the unanimous restraint of the college, and its quiet reception of the National Anthem at the end.

Sunday, the aftermath of the dance disappeared quickly. As word of the Pearl Harbor attack spread through smoking rooms and show-cases, Army and Navy escorts of the previous night left precipitously for their posts. Far into Monday morning people sat around radios. At lunch tables Congress' decision blared from portables.

In smoking rooms crowded with listeners the silence was broken only by scattered remarks: "My brother is in Honolulu." Then more silence. But by Monday the inertia had been translated to a need for action. There was talk about leaving college; people called up their families; rumors circulated, emotion mounted.

Although some classes considered the subject of America's entrance into the war, there was a general lack of co-ordinated discussion. A meeting on Tuesday evening for the planning of air raid precautions was the first step taken by the college as a whole in the direction of united action on the war emergency.

#### May Day Defeated

Fifty-five per cent of the undergraduates voted last Thursday not to give a Big May Day in 1942. Forty-six per cent voted in favor of the 1942 production. Most halls were fairly evenly divided with the margin against May Day. Rhoads showed a much greater percentage con, Rockefeller pro. There will be no May Day this spring, the president of the Undergraduate Association announced.

### Faculty Voices Back to Work Sentiments; Remembers College Reaction to Last War

Faculty reactions were superficially scanned after the first two days since the outbreak of the war. The opinion most often expressed was that students should not allow their emotions to obscure the importance of what at present may appear to be unimportant—their academic work.

#### Mrs. Manning

The war will not immediately affect the college, Mrs. Manning explained. It will take some time before facts are tested in Washington and regulations put into effect here. "People had better work very hard and get their minds off of it," she said.

#### Miss Gardiner

Miss Gardiner was a junior at Bryn Mawr at the time the United States declared war on

Germany in 1917. War was declared, however, at the beginning of spring vacation so that when students returned a week later there was nothing comparable to the situation here Sunday and Monday. There were then only six weeks remaining in the college year, so that despite talk of instituting preparedness courses immediately, little was actually done until the following fall. Miss Gardiner remembers particularly that there was always an American flag flying from Taylor and "We sang the Star Spangled Banner every time we turned around." Miss Thomas in chapel continually stressed the importance of trained minds in the next generation and urged students to remain at college rather than follow their first  
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# THE COLLEGE NEWS

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## What Sureties?

There aren't many sure things left. History is subtle; it plays with the same cards, but the deal is different, and there is no one who can say what will lie ahead. There is no one who can be right about the meaning of the past. No one who could point to the course of the war; it has no prescribed direction.

After the radio told us about the Japanese invasion, after the banner heads told us about the losses, after the President's voice rang through Goodhart, after Shean made us visualize defeat, was there anything left to think? Is there anything sure?

The sudden unity of purpose; that's sure. That came as fervently and spontaneously to Bryn Mawr as it came to the Nation. And the growing determination, that is sure.

We have learned since Sunday, that it's important to keep in step, to move efficiently in our own paths, to stick to clear, feasible goals, to work hard at the immediate problem.

We have learned:

- The need for teamwork, endurance, patience.
- The need for long-range thinking, for calm, for decision.
- The need for training ourselves here and now in science, social leadership, of training for freedom.

We have been fighting for the facts throughout the last few days. They haven't been plentiful. But through the midnight broadcasts, the air-raid drills, the incredible drama of real war, there are these sureties:

- We know what we're after.
- We know that we'll win.
- We know our immediate task.

## Mr. Cameron States Air-Raid Precautions

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will be a prolonged blowing of the power house whistle.

Every person in the college community must follow immediately the instructions of the air raid warden in whose area she finds herself at the moment of the warning.

### General Instructions for Night Warnings

All persons, in the residence halls will take a blanket, turn out their lights, shut their doors and proceed to the place of shelter in the hall designated by the air raid warden.

Persons in other buildings will proceed to the place of shelter designated by their air raid wardens.

### General Instructions for Day Warnings

1. For Taylor and Dalton: Students from Pembroke, Merion and Denbigh will proceed immediately to the places of shelter in their own halls.

Faculty, staff, non-resident students, and students from Rockefeller, Radnor, Rhoads and Wyndham will proceed immediately to shelter in the basement of the Library.

2. For the Chemistry-Geology Building, the Library and the Gymnasium:

## Problems Described By Past Presidents

Continued from Page One  
Barbara Colbron, president in '36-'37, said Self-Government was practically the same then as now. Her board got "sick and tired of the triangle between Miss Park's, the Deanery and the Power House, and extended the smoking area to Taylor steps.

Miss Park who concluded the Assembly stressed her belief in Self-Government as a self-educating agent and in its power to shape our attitudes toward civilized society. She defined college as "a place where young individuals are coaxed, driven, argued or allured into a state of maturity." Bryn Mawr's objective has always been preparedness for the future and Miss Park believes "no one can meet the future better than young women who have not only been taught, but who have taught themselves."

All persons will proceed at once to the shelters in these buildings.

3. For Goodhart: All persons will proceed immediately to the place of shelter in Rhoads.

If out of doors on the campus and not within easy reach of shelter, lie flat on the ground and don't look up."

# OPINION

## Colorful Fenwick Contributes To Yale-ISS Conference On Americas

To the Editor of the COLLEGE NEWS:

In this time of crisis it is fitting that the students of the world look at the future in concrete terms. This past week-end at the Political Union at Yale University the International Student Service convened a group of students and experts from all over the Western Hemisphere to consider "The Role of the University in Hemisphere Solidarity."

The purpose of this conference was to bring together informally students and professors to discuss as equals this problem of vital interest. On Saturday a Panel Discussion concerning the economic, political, social, and cultural aspects of the subject opened the conference with four experts holding the floor. Our own Dr. Fenwick provided the pep and color: he provoked the liveliest of discussions by saying regional solidarity is shortsighted. The welfare of both Americas depends on Europe and Asia as well as on each other. Mr. Hubert Herring, author of the best-seller "The Good Neighbors," spoke at dinner on the difficulties in attaining a harmony of inter-American cultural relations: the difference in language, the dissimilarities of the so-called romantic Latin-American and the hard-headed North American, the presence or absence of too much politeness, and the deep cleavage in the inherited Anglo-Saxon and Iberian psychologies, besides the different views of government. However, "American Solidarity is an imperious necessity."

The main work was done in three commissions on Sunday morning. The first commission considered Latin American Studies in U. S. Curricula and concluded

that the basic study needed was Spanish or Portuguese. Many colleges already were found to have ample courses for the proposed, practical inter-departmental major in cultural Latin-American studies. This major would cost little to set up as many courses could shift emphasis to include Latin-American problems, e. g. Sociology, Trade Relations, etc. Correlation is the keynote.

In Commission II, U. S. Students in Latin America was the subject. The personal contact was considered invaluable for students of both hemispheres as those students of today will be the leaders in education, diplomacy, trade, and so forth tomorrow.

The exchange students in both continents were considered in Commission III. The attitude of the student was considered most important; he should not go only for fun but in order to study what is most valuable for himself and his country.

Looking on at the conference a fellow delegate remarked, "Every author of the secondary sources we use in Latin-America relations courses is here!" Professors Munro of Princeton, Inman of Pennsylvania, Bemis of Yale were present. One of the most encouraging aspects of the conference was the large number of students from Latin America, who spoke with as much frankness as the North American collegian.

As Louise Morley, Bryn Mawr, 1940, and Secretary of the I.S.S., said in her concluding speech, the criteria of a conference are stimulus of speech, realism of approach, and constructiveness of suggestion. This conference more than adequately fulfilled these conditions. It was well-organized and earnest; prepared individuals who had something vital to say collaborated smoothly.

CONSTANCE ATHERTON MURPHY—1942.

## Nuts and Bolts

By Isabel Martin, '42

### Bill of Rights

Smith publications have been running afoul of the authorities. The *Tatler*, a literary publication, was recently suspended because of a story on a maid when there was the threat of a labor shortage.

Now, from an unofficial source, comes this tale of newspaper woe. It seems that the *Smith College Associated News*, popularly called *Scan*, was running a campaign against two campus secret societies. The room of the president of one of these organizations was raided by two reporters, not acting on authority. After a fruitless search, the latter spied a huge chest the size of a desk. Believing this contained The Dope, they quick-wittedly tied a fire rope around it, and with the aid of two porters, they dropped it out the third story window. Finding the needed material, they copied and returned it. But before they could replace the chest they were discovered and reported. The Administration handed down a decision that the two reporters must be expelled from the staff of the paper and that *Scan* must not print anything concerning the societies. Claiming the right of freedom of the press, the editor of the paper went before a Conference Committee where the decision was in part revoked. The newspaper promised not to print information illegally obtained or any information concerning the societies which had not been previously approved by the authorities. On their part, the authorities agreed to consider the irregular action of the reporters as in the realm of personal misdemeanor and unconnected with the

newspaper. All is once more serene on the Smith front but behind that front there is the threat of administrative limitation of the college press.

ALICE ISEMAN, '43.

A mob riot of 1,500, with shouts of, "Let's go to Tokyo," "To Hell with Hirohito," was Yale's reaction to the declaration of war. Princeton met the news with a "Victory Bonfire." A "war-body" at Dartmouth, "The Dartmouth Expedition for Tokyo," was quickly organized.

Out and out belligerency, with a fierce jubilation in it, was the tone of the Monday newspapers of the three colleges. The editorial in *The Dartmouth* expressed relief—the final release from the hypothesis; "all-out aid short of war;" a release from worry about "Wheeler's" and "Lindberghs." It is a relief, to be able to say: to Fascists: "You had best try your best to kill us, because whenever the time comes for us to do it, we shall certainly try to kill you, here and in all lands, at any time, and by any possible means."

"Princeton Presents United Front as United States Faces Total War" streamed across the top of the *Princetonian*. But it must be a disciplined unity, rational patriotism.

The role of the undergraduate body in the face of the crisis was the major concern of the editorials in these issues. "Keep cool," "Be calm," "Maintain order." These were felt to be the immediate duties. The diligent continuance of college work "is more valuable than an hysterical enlistment." "Strong loyalty is just, but equal to loyalty is discipline."



There are lots of people, and they're all different. We watched them lately, when we weren't filling sandbags, and we think you ought to know just what they're like.

First, Type A. She said: "I knew it all along." She wanted to talk some more, but she remembered that she had a book reserved and started for the library.

Then, Type B. She said: "Oh!" and ran for the phone booth. Her mother said, "This will all be settled soon, dear. Drink Ovaltine."

Then, Type C. She said: "Johnny's in danger." And she ran to the Western Union office, knitting all the way.

Then, Type D. She said that Yucatan was staying neutral, and stood transfixed, quivering like an antenna, while the smoking room ignored her.

Then, thank goodness, Type E. She said: "This is serious, but I'm going to bed." She set her alarm at 770 kilocycles and turned off the light. And she only woke up every hour, on the hour.



On Sunday when it began, Philadelphia had an air-raid shelter. On Monday Philadelphia had no air-raid shelter—we gave it back to Pittsburgh (on urgent request). They had lent it to us for Defense Week. On Tuesday came the news that a full anti-aircraft regiment is on its way to Philadelphia. It is expected to total approximately 1,500 men.

Furthermore, Mayor Samuel who has just been appointed defense coordinator for the Philadelphia Metropolitan area plans to discuss with the Philadelphia Transportation Company the use of the subways by civilians in the event of air raids.

Philadelphians were quiet when and after the news came—they read the papers and kept quiet and 1,500 people crowded into the City Hall office of Deputy Chief Air Raid Warden all day Monday to volunteer as air raid wardens and watchers. In the last three months the service had only been able to get 3,000 people.

The Philadelphia Defense Council chose Paul B. Hartenstein to fill the vacancy created by the recent resignation of Dr. Hubley Owen. Mr. Hortenstein's valet will soon be out of a job, for the last we heard he was Japanese.

City Council ordered an additional \$500,000 appropriated to the 1942 budget for civilian protective services.

Every fire station in Philadelphia has become an air raid alarm center. Fire engine sirens are to sound the alarms. To eliminate confusion ambulance sirens are silenced.

All Federal Agencies in the city, including the F.B.I., Department of Justice, U. S. Attorney's Office and the secret service are now on a 24-hour basis.

State Defense machinery is also moving at an accelerated rate. State police were dispatched to guard highways and bridges and to assist industrial police in protecting railroads and utilities. All private aircraft was ordered grounded at the State's 170 airports.

Meanwhile factory workers and management pledged to exceed their production quotas. At Baldwin Locomotive Works the first sixty-ton tank, "regarded by military experts as the most deadly of tanks" came off the assembly-line and was turned over to the government. The Navy Yard adopted war-time security, anti-sabotage measures as the work-pace stepped up to a new high.

By Jessie Stone, '44

## 'Stage Door' Given By Varsity Players and Haverford Club

Heyniger, Dowling, Warren Perform Most Convincingly

By Nancy Everts, '43

Friday and Saturday evenings the Varsity Players' Club, in conjunction with the Haverford Cap and Bells, presented *Stage Door*. Although the play seemed flat with little build-up of suspense, the production was appropriately cast and effectively staged. Many individual characterizations were outstanding.

There was a discrepancy between the two performances. The one on Friday night was more uniformly satisfactory than the second one. On both nights the coordination of a large cast consisting of many small parts, the assurance of the actors and some completely convincing portrayals were remarkable.

Anne Heyniger made the character of Terry Randall understandable and human. The naturalness of her acting, even in the emotional scenes, was the most unifying element of the play. Mrs. Orcutt, a difficult part, was also played with absolute competency and finish by Janet Dowling; these two performances were sustained and consistently effective.

The other girls' parts were done with understanding, especially those of Bernice, Judith and Susan. Carla Adelt as Judith and Nancy Scribner as Susan seemed to act with more spontaneity and conviction than the others. Judith's witty, but it is entirely to Carla's credit that every one was delivered with punch. Louise Allen gave an original and varied portrayal of Jean Maitland, and Vivi French handled intelligently, though hardly brilliantly, a role in which she seemed miscast.

The boys, on the whole, were less successful than the girls. Dick Warren as Keith Burgess was the most convincing. David Winder seemed too mannered, not forceful enough, in his portrayal of Kingsley.

The parts of Mattie and Frank were played amusingly, with complete naturalness, by Pearl Edmunds and Louis White.

The chief fault of the production, which was expert in lighting, staging, and direction was perhaps that of the play itself. The lines were not always lively and many of the scenes seemed unnecessarily repetitious. The ambition, the aim at professionalism of such a presentation is encouraging, as a step

## Dancing Angels of Plaque in Dean's Office Present Varied Mystery and Amusement

By Alice Crowder, '42

"They always ask that," murmured Miss Donaldson typing busily through the murmur. "The students who come to sit and wait always ask what it is and why it is here."

The mystery plaque of the dean's office is a common-place to Miss Hatch and Miss Donaldson who type and telephone on through generations of curious students gazing and questioning and laboriously translating the Latin: *Hic est panis vivus qui de caelo descendit*.

Painfully these students go through the inscription scrolled beneath the feet of angels in relief who dance lightly into a distance two inches away. "No two get the same result," sighed Miss Hatch.

The sub-freshmen are by far the most avid of the translators, Miss Hatch adjured. And no matter what the product of the violent mental gymnastics to which they put themselves—whether nearer living bread descending from heaven or vivid pans descending from the ceiling—there follows a fit of hysterical giggling. Through giggles faintly comes the gasp of a small question. "Why is it in the dean's office?" How easy it would be to snap out, "I don't know," which is the expected answer to such a question and which is certainly what Mary Poppins, the enigma of omniscience, would have answered. But Miss Hatch and Miss Donaldson have a certain pride in the Thing beneath which they work day after day. Besides, they are so inured to the oft repeated formula that the end of it, the answer, rolls off the lips with-

## German Club Offers Traditional Pageant

The traditional Christmas pageant of the German Club will be presented on Friday, December 12, at nine P. M., in the Common Room. There will be German Christmas carol singing and refreshments at an open house in the German House after the play.

Harriet Case will appear in the play as Mary, Margaret Magrath as Joseph; Laura Schlageter, Elise Cowan and Barbara Coe as Shepherds; Mary Lang, Mary Armstrong and Esterlee Hutzler as the Kings; and Penelope Smith as the Angel Gabriel.

toward more polished and coordinated college plays. *Stage Door* was effective, but unevenly so.

out effort while their minds are occupied with numbers, names and addresses.

The plaque once hung on the walls of the chapel. There are many difficult implications of the simple answer. "Why was the chapel in the dean's office?"—more giggles. It is really all quite normal. The old chapel, which served some of the uses of the Goodhart Auditorium before Goodhart was erected, once extended from the south end of the second floor to the corridor adjacent to the dean's office. It extended, too, through the present second floor ceiling to the third floor where now large tomes collect the dust of ages. A gallery in these upper regions held the overflow of the lower when the college increased in size.

The plaque was not the only *objet d'art* in the chapel. Much more conspicuous in the old days were the Della Robbia singing boys above a platform approximately where Miss Park's office is now. And hanging over them was Savonarola—looking very cross. Now, with the golden toothed Athena in the Library, the dean's office angels are the survivors of a ghostly race of academic plaster Greek gods and goddesses which once peopled Taylor and the Library. But now that angels have so fallen from a high place among the great, Miss Hatch made the parting remark: "That's like one of those things they put in the daily newspapers—you know, so many bushels of wheat are grown—just to fill up the space."

## 'Mademoiselle' Holds Short Story Contest

*Mademoiselle* is sponsoring a short story contest open to anybody under thirty. The small number of regulations for the contest is unusual. The stories may be on any subject, not longer than 4000 words, and any number may be submitted by one person. They should be sent to *Mademoiselle* with a stamped, self-addressed envelope by February first, 1942. Five prizes will be awarded, one of 500 dollars, one of 250 dollars, and three of 50 dollars each. Winning stories will be published in *Mademoiselle*.

## "THE MANNA BAR"

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## Dr. Cole Discusses The Nervous Impulse In Tennent Lecture

Dalton, December 6:—"Yes, but what makes it go?" All the research that has been done on the functioning of a nerve fiber, Dr. Kenneth Cole said, has not yet been able to answer this question. Dr. Cole, associate professor of physiology at the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Columbia, has spent part of the last two or three years working toward a solution of this problem.

*The Nerve Impulse* was an appropriate topic for the second of the Tennent Memorial Lectures, which are sponsored by the Committee on the Coordination of the Teaching of the Natural Sciences, for, as Dr. Cole pointed out, it involves physical, chemical, biological, as well as mathematical and psychological phenomena.

The presence of nerves and their transmission of stimuli have been recognized for centuries, and many theories have been evolved about them. It was thought for a long time that a nervous impulse was carried by a liquid flowing in the nerves. Later, until someone looked at the cut end of a nerve in the dark, a beam of light was held responsible. Nerves were the last stronghold of the "imponderable spirits." It was not until 1850, when Helmholtz accurately measured the velocity of nerve transmission and found it to be 70 miles per hour, that research in this field was put on a scientific basis.

In 1910 Bernstein proposed the significant hypothesis that the transmission of a stimulus was based upon the difference in electric potential between the inside and outside of a nerve cell, resulting from the semi-permeability of the cell-membrane.

With a few modifications, scientists accept this theory today. A stimulus passing through a nerve changes the character of the cell membrane in such a way that its permeability is increased, and an outward flow of ions result. Since the loss of impermeability produces a loss in electric potential the nerve is incapable of transmitting stimuli until after a period of recovery. Mr. Cole has evolved a "Venetian blind" or "flip-flop" model, which, he says, "has come in for unfriendly comment," to illustrate the way the period of recovery follows the nerve impulse. "Only a nerve works better," he said.

Recently, through use of television, cathode ray, ossilograph, the study of nerve impulse has been put on a more quantitative basis. Dr. Cole has been working with the nerves of squid, which are particularly large. When one electrode of a circuit is pushed up into the center of a squid nerve and a current is passed through the nerve membrane, both the resistance offered to the current by the membrane may be measured, and also the capacity—the stacking up of ions which can not pass through one side of the membrane. When the nerve is then stimulated, it is seen that the resistance is lowered, indicating that the ion-permeable part of the membrane becomes still more permeable, whereas the capacity remains unchanged.

Semi-mathematical graphs may be made of these electrical relations, but many inexplicable phenomena persist to show, Dr. Cole said, that this field of research has been scarcely opened.

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IMPORTANT—It is expected that on account of a heavy volume of Military furlough travel, as well as civilian holiday traffic, passenger travel during the forthcoming Christmas-New Year's Holiday period will be extremely heavy this year. If it can possibly be arranged for students to leave school December 17th or before and return to school January 7th or later, it is urged they do so. It will also be found easier to make reservations and more comfortable to travel on or before December 17, 1941, and on or after January 7, 1942.

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### Defense Industry's Labor Problems Are Discussed by Hanson

Common Room, December 3:—The criticism directed against labor and the attempt to place the entire responsibility for stoppages in production on labor are not justified by fact, said Alice Hanson, at the Industrial Group Meeting in the Common Room, December 3.

Discussing the attempts to regulate strikes now on foot in Congress, Miss Hanson said that we are in for some regulation of strikes. She pointed out, however, that in the last few years more strikes were settled by peaceful mediation than ever before. She described most of the Congressmen urging anti-strike legislation as "a group of people headed mainly by Southern Senators, who have been consistently anti-labor, and who are now hiding behind the cloak of defense interest—dressed up in the American flag." Miss Hanson said that even if Lewis had never called the strike in the captive mines they would have raised "a hullabaloo on some pretext."

The other side of the picture, said Miss Hanson, is too often neglected. A number of employers, notably Vultee, Bethlehem, and Kearny, refused to bargain with labor. In most cases labor's demands are not unreasonable. Profit figures in industries basic to defense are "simply astounding" said Miss Hanson. In steel, shipyards and automobiles, 75% increase in profits of this year over last is a low figure.

Labor's increase this year over last is approximately 10%, said Miss Hanson, and this is "not nearly enough to keep up with the anticipated rising cost of living." Labor is not ready to defend jurisdictional strikes, said Miss Hanson.

Strikes are used by labor only as a last resort. If the right to strike were taken away from labor, said Miss Hanson, labor would have no power to enforce its demands. When labor demands are called Red demands (as they are particularly in emergency periods) labor has lost its "power to struggle on anything like equal terms."



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### Japanese Question Discussed by D. Hall

Haverford, Thursday, December 4:—A make-shift round table discussion by the International Relations Clubs of Bryn Mawr and Haverford on the imminent danger of a Japanese war replaced a scheduled lecture by Mr. Duncan Hall on *The British Commonwealth in the Present Crisis*, Thursday. Mr. Hall, arriving late, emphasized the strategic importance of Singapore in the Far-Eastern conflict.

Informed on Far-Eastern relations, Mr. Hall called Singapore "the front door of Australia." The concentration of British, Australian, and Dutch ships and troops there makes this area virtually impenetrable.

In view of this barrier, with the possibility of a coalition of Great Britain, Russia, the United States and Holland against her, Mr. Hall feels that Japan's position is not to be envied.

Mr. Hall implied that United States aid was needed to keep the Far-Eastern bases safe from a Japanese offensive. If Japan were to wedge her way to Siam, she would be able to prey on British shipping and thus seriously threaten the communications of the British Empire south of Cairo.

The round table discussion brought out two factors which favor an immediate declaration of war by the United States on Japan. Japan is steadily increasing her navy with both Japanese and German ships. Thus, a postponed war would strengthen her. Actual participation in war, moreover, would boost the morale of this country and unite defence efforts.

### French Club to Give Christmas Pageant

The French Club will present *Le Mystère de la Nativité*, the traditional Christmas play, on Friday, December 12, in the Wyndham Music Room at 8 P. M. The cast is:

|                                   |                       |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Prologue . . . . .                | Prudence Wellman      |
| Epilogue . . . . .                | Prudence Wellman      |
| Joseph . . . . .                  | Janet Dowling         |
| Marie . . . . .                   | Emily Tuck            |
| First Angel . . . . .             | Edna Sculley          |
| Second Angel . . . . .            | Anne Heffinger        |
| Third Angel . . . . .             | Louise Allen          |
| First Shepherd . . . . .          | Viola Moore           |
| Second Shepherd . . . . .         | Florence Spencer      |
| Third Shepherd . . . . .          | Elizabeth Marie Jones |
| Spokesman of the People . . . . . | Barbara Bechtold      |
| Jaspar . . . . .                  | Lorraine Pirrung      |
| Merchior . . . . .                | Toni Michel           |
| Balthazar . . . . .               | Patricia Delaney      |
| Herod . . . . .                   | Therese Exton         |
| Messenger . . . . .               | Mary Ellis            |
| The Scribe . . . . .              | Spencer Barroll       |
| First Knight . . . . .            | Natalie Saltsman      |
| Second Knight . . . . .           | Mary Stuart Blakely   |
| Director . . . . .                | Janet Dowling         |
| Costumes . . . . .                | Sally Alexander       |
| Scenery . . . . .                 | Natalie Saltsman      |

### Maids Acquire Work And Recreation Room

A combined work and sitting room has been provided for the maids in the basement of Taylor. The room was formerly used as a recreation room for the maids but had to be abandoned because of dampness. Now Mr. Stokes has had the floor repaired so that it will remain dry throughout the winter.

The maids have donated money to rent three sewing machines, and Miss Terrien has lent books from the Library that can be taken out according to Library regulations. The room is divided in half.

Several students, however, preferred an economic blockade to actual warfare.

### Field-Trippers Analyze Invisible Landscape; Pea-Soup Atmosphere Obscures Full Moon

By Alice Weil, '43  
 Nature was unkind to the undergraduate, since the pea-soup atmosphere last week obscured at least the scenic aspects of a full moon.

But on Thursday, the fog affected the more serious side of our academic existence. In a true London fashion, its impenetrability detained Mr. Duncan Hall, speaker for the International Relations Clubs of Haverford and Bryn Mawr, in Media. The result: 7:30—no Mr. Hall. With the celerity of a quick-change artist, and the continuity of Wit's End, a planned speech on *"The British Commonwealth in the Present Crisis,"* evolved into a round-table discussion on Japan. As the United States was about to decide on whether or not to go to war, Mr. Hall miraculously appeared. Without further ceremony, the discussion was transformed into an impromptu speech by Mr. Hall on Australian-Japanese conditions. To the budding geologists, or


Long work tables and cabinets for sewing materials line one side, while the other is furnished with couches, lamps, rugs, a piano, and a writing table.

The maids meet here officially on Wednesdays and Thursdays but the room is open at all times.

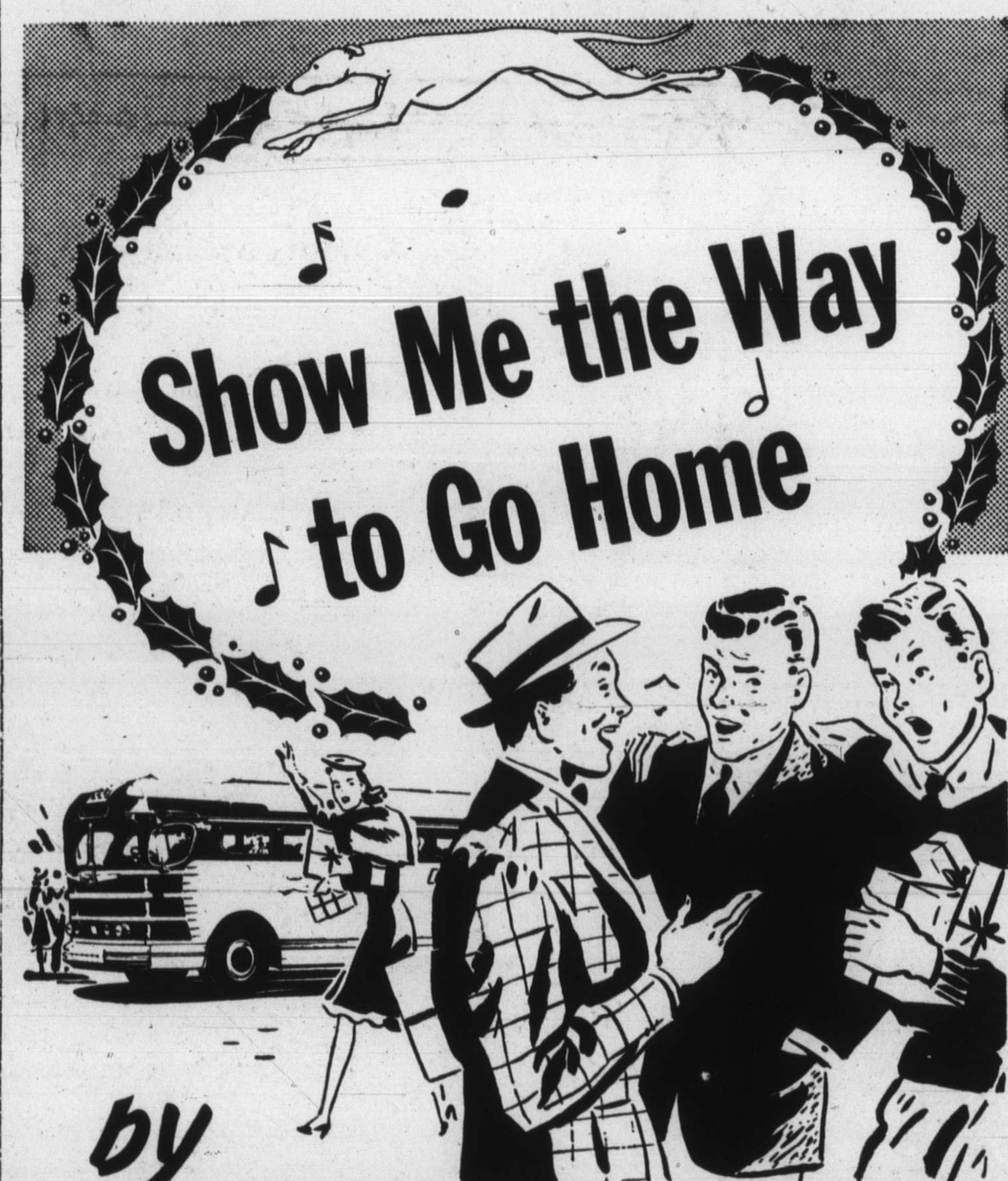
more particularly to Mr. Watson, the fog presented a more hopeless obstacle. The usual Thursday afternoon Field Trippers left Pem Arch in bright sunshine which lasted exactly until they arrived at the Valley Forge Observation Tower. There Mr. Watson suddenly found himself faced with the difficult problem of pointing out topographic features on an invisible landscape. *What* happened to the Octoraro phyllite?

The Last Straw: the junior who said she couldn't take her required sport on Thursday because she was unable to find the gym.

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| Buffalo . . . . .    | 6.15    | 11.10      |
| Cincinnati . . . . . | 9.50    | 17.10      |
| Chicago . . . . .    | 11.75   | 19.80      |
| Cleveland . . . . .  | 7.00    | 12.60      |
| Harrisburg . . . . . | 1.55    | 2.80       |
| New Haven . . . . .  | 2.40    | 4.35       |
| New York . . . . .   | 1.35    | 2.10       |
| Pittsburgh . . . . . | 5.25    | 9.45       |
| Providence . . . . . | 4.10    | 7.40       |
| Richmond . . . . .   | 3.70    | 6.70       |
| Washington . . . . . | 1.95    | 3.55       |

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You'll find that on any telephone, the best results come from speaking not too loudly, nor in a whisper, but in a normal voice. Speak distinctly with your lips one-half inch from the transmitter and you'll be heard without trouble.

Good Telephone Habits Are a Business and Social Asset



**Certified Blood Donors**

Dr. Leary has arranged with the Bryn Mawr Hospital that blood donors certified by her should go there Wednesday, December 17.

**Combined Choirs To Give Song Service**

A Christmas song service will be given in Goodhart Hall, this Sunday, December 14, at 7.30, by the combined choirs of Bryn Mawr and Haverford, under the direction of Mr. Willoughby. The program will include the following:

- "Shepherds Shake Off Your Drowsy Sleep" ..... Besancon Carol
- "Hush My Dear, Lie Still and Slumber" .... Arr. Martin Shaw
- Solo—Mary Rambo, '43
- "The Wassail Carol"
- Warren D. Anderson
- "Fanfare for Christmas Day"
- Martin Shaw
- "Born Today" (Five part Motet)
- J. P. Sweelinck
- "Fantasia on Christmas Carols"
- Vaughan Williams
- Solo—Richard Bauer, '42

Vaughan Williams, composer of the "Fantasia on Christmas Carols," was the Flexner Lecturer in music in October and November of 1932.

The sermon will be given by the Reverend Andrews Mutch.

**Current Events**

**Miss Reid**

Turkey's statement of neutrality is ominous, stated Miss Reid, since Turkey has usually followed Russia's policies. Stalin has called a meeting with his commissars for tomorrow. Russia's stand is extremely important to the United States. Territory there is valuable for bases from which to launch air attacks on Japan.

"A day or two will see a breach with the axis as a whole," said Miss Reid. There are hints that in his speech tonight the President will stress the "axis pattern of the present war."

The constitutional effects and the international aspects brought about by the war, as well as the belligerent rights of the United States now that we are actively engaged in the conflict, were discussed.

"China's declaration of war against Japan, Germany, and Italy is very interesting," said Miss Reid. It points to a war united on a world-wide basis.

**As Dance Whirls Through Happy Confusion, Penn Musical Magic Makes Fifth Disappear**

By Anne Denny, '43

The *Gymnasium*, Saturday, December 6. — Telescoping twelve dances into a short two hours, the Varsity Club Orchestra of the University of Pennsylvania worked wonders with time on Saturday night.

At first, all ran smoothly: each dance was of normal length, the floor not too crowded, and the cutting moderate. Then faster and faster Time closed in, and each dance grew shorter and shorter, the music faster and faster, until

suddenly the fifth dance disappeared. The chairman of the Dance Committee, having looked forward to the fifth dance, indignantly demanded its restoration, and to make up for this omission the orchestra leader presented her with two seventh dances. Then he solved the time shortage problem by announcing every other dance and leaving the participants in a complete state of confusion.

Through it all, the faculty amused themselves with an unprecedented game of cards, which looked suspiciously like "old maid."

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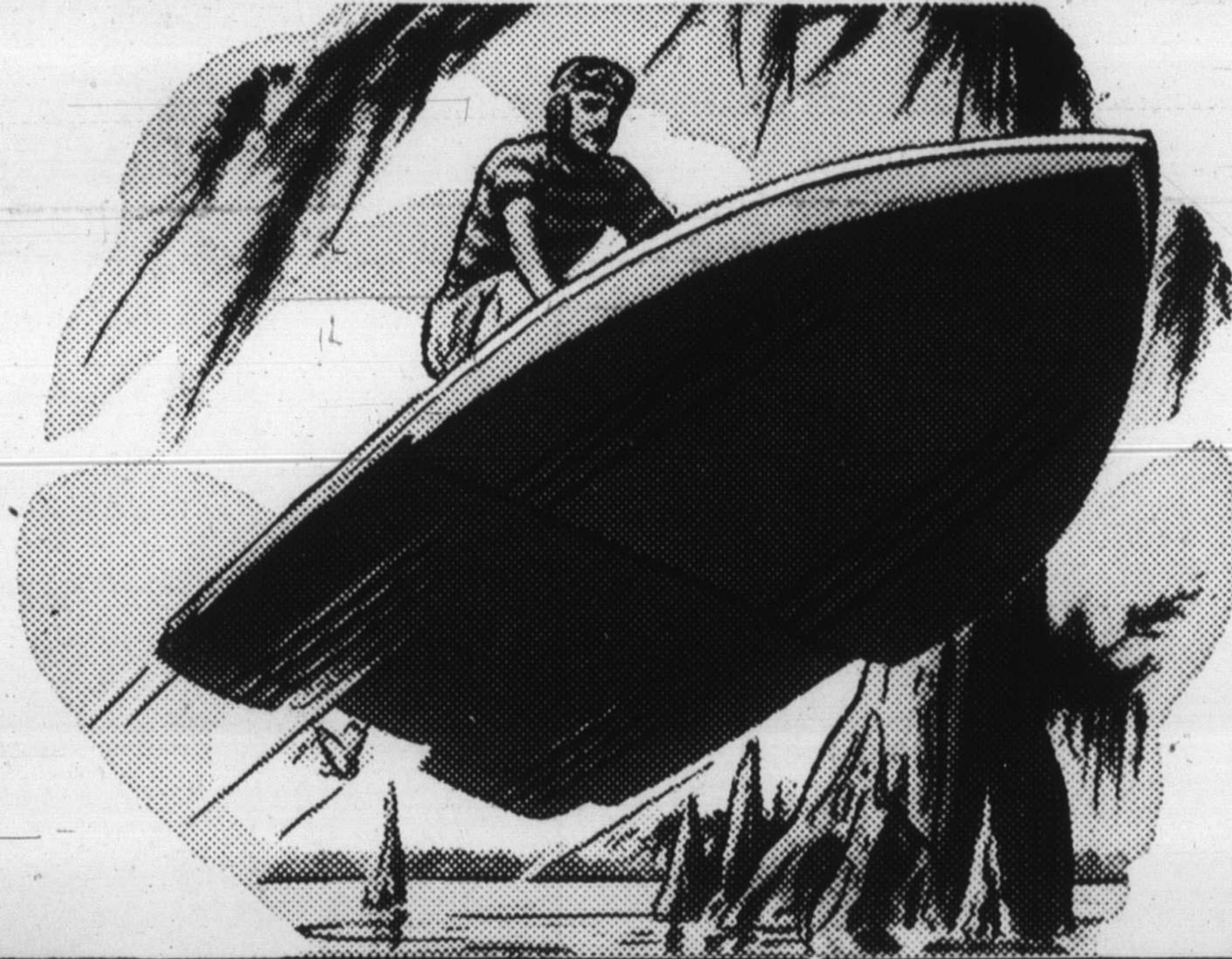
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THAT GOES DOUBLE FOR ME. A CAMEL IS JUST WHAT I WANT

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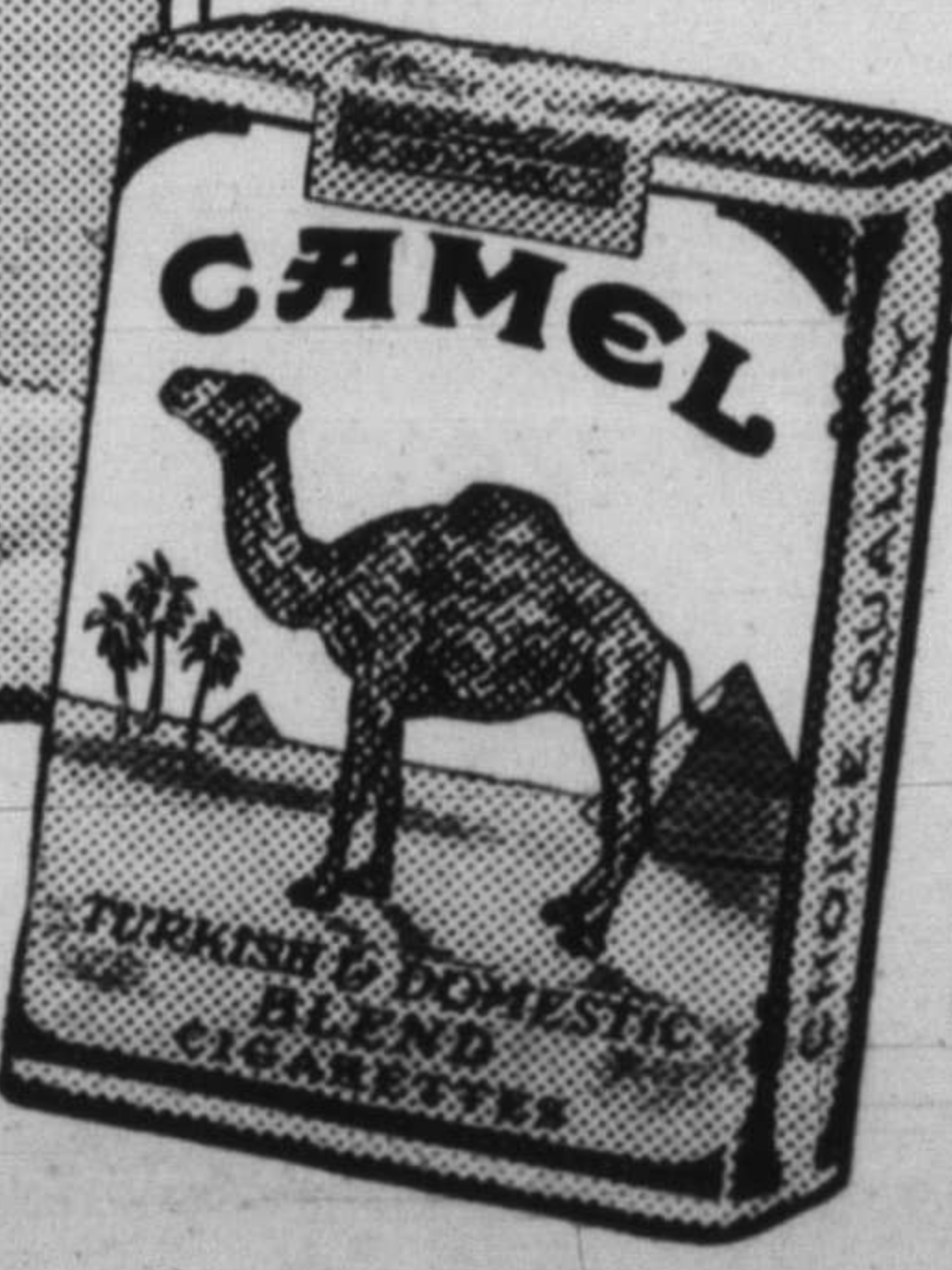
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**Problems of Health Discussed at Council**

Continued from Page One  
 tions must not be allowed to make unexpected charges.

The district around Bryn Mawr is interested in our defense courses. The Ardmore Red Cross has asked to have the nutrition course repeated for the community. They admire our auto mechanics instructors, and would like to use our kitchens.

**Faculty Emphasizes Importance of Work**

Continued from Page One  
 impulses to volunteer their services in the emergency. Dr Gray of the history department enlisted immediately. Other faculty members enlisted in the fall.

**Mr. Miller**

Mr. Miller said that it was of supreme importance that the United States obtain Vladivostok as an air base. Vladivostok is only seven hundred miles from Japan while the closest United States owned base is Dutch Harbor, in the Aleutian islands which is out of the range of small bombers.

**In Class**

In classes professors calm the tension. "There is a rumor," said Mr. Sprague. "The rumor is that Hitler is in the dean's office and if you have a copy of *Mein Kampf* you can take it up there and have it autographed. —And that's just as true as all the other rumors you hear."

"We must all concentrate on the English renaissance," declared Mr. Herben.

**Particular Questions Stump B. M. Quizzites**

The third annual current events quizz between Bryn Mawr, Haverford, Temple, Rosemont, and Swarthmore, was held Thursday, December 4, at Haverford under the auspices of the Haverford International Relations Club.

Despite the guessing ability of Rebecca Robbins who accurately approximated the population of Moscow at 4 million, Bryn Mawr achieved a poor fifth, with thirty-eight points compared to eighty-eight for the winning Temple.

Ivory tower tendencies, however, need not be feared for the questions were rather particular. The respective ages of Hitler and Chamberlain, and the full name of Winston Churchill might stop any authority on international affairs.

Temple has won twice and Haverford once. To retire the plaque a team must win three years in succession.

Miss Reid of Bryn Mawr, Mr. Herndon of Haverford, and J. Morton Pennock of Swarthmore, served as judges.

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**Sheehan Reemphasizes Fears in Interview**

Continued from Page One  
 integrity and the sense of public duty which prompted him to reveal his information. We thought of Cassandra, but we also remembered that last November Mr. Sheehan believed that England would fall within six months. We thought also of the boy who cried "Wolf!" before the time had come.

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