White Gift Service is Held by Y. W. C. A.

The White Gift Service, which is held by the Y. W. C. A. the last Sunday night before the holidays, is one of the most really beautiful traditions handed down to us at Hollins. In it, each class offers as a gift an ideal which they seek to realize in their life as a whole—a high goal toward which each member of the class may strive, experiencing the elevation sought by looking upward and gaining strength in feeling that she is one of many.

A holy, delightful atmosphere is created in the Chapel by the white cross shining above the altar, the white chrysanthemums, the tapering cathedral candles burning in the windows and on the chancel, and the simplicity of the white dresses worn by the girls. The story of the first Christmas, which is ever new and inspiring in its wealth of beauty both again and the choir sings anthems of praise and rejoicing. The climax is reached when the entire body rises to join in the exultation of Addam’s Holy Night.

Va. Players Present “The Perfect Alibi”

On Saturday evening, December 6th, the Virginia Players presented “The Perfect Alibi,” a detective comedy by A. A. Milne, in the Little Theatre.

“The Perfect Alibi” is based on the type of murder story wherein the murderer is known throughout by the audience, but has to be discovered by one of the members of the cast. In this case, Susan Cunningham, with the aid of Jimmy Ludgrove, solves the crime and proves that murder, not suicide, has caused the death of Arthur Ludgrove.

The “midnight” scene in which Susan and Jimmy are interrupted by the mysterious opening of the door proved to be the most thrilling moment of the play, although the final scene, in which Jane West and Susan trap the murderer, was second only to it. Jane West was excellently portrayed by Pat Kelly, ex-va.

The action of the entire play took place in Arthur Ludgrove’s private sitting room at Heron Place, Sussex.

The Virginia Players deserve much commendation for the work they are doing. They are earnestly attempting “to make the theatre mean to this country what it means to other countries—an institution cherished and prized by the people, holding a high place in their hearts, minds and esteem.”

Princess Der Ling Delivers Address at Hollins Friday

On Friday night, December 12th, Hollins had the opportunity of hearing a Princess of China speak on her experiences in the court of the late Empress Dowager, Tzu Hsi. The Princess Der Ling gave her lecture, which took place in the Little Theatre, in the costume worn at the Manchu Court. Her talk was most delightful, giving accounts of life at the Manchu Court, and telling some things about the Empress Dowager’s and her own life.

The Princess Der Ling was the daughter of a distinguished Chinese diplomat and progressive leader, who died in 1905, while the Princess was the Empress Dowager’s first and favorite lady-in-waiting.

The Princess was educated in several countries, wherever the father’s service took the family, but the principal part of her education was in Japan and France. In the latter country she also studied under Sarah Bernhardt and Isadora Duncan. For many years Princess Der Ling has written books and lectures all over the world.

Christmas Pageant Presented Sunday

MARGARET BROWN IS THE MADONNA

The annual Christmas Pageant was presented Sunday evening, after the White Gift Service in the Little Theatre. The Pageant is always given by the members of Ye Merrie Maskers Honorary Dramatic Society, and this year was written by Mary Adams Holmes.

The scene of the Pageant was laid on the road to Bethlehem, where Mary and Joseph are traveling. But the way has been hard and Mary is too tired to go much farther. So Joseph leaves her while he tries to find an inn that is not crowded and where he is gone a young girl enters, discouraged and weary of life under Roman Rule. She talks to Mary and offers her father’s barn as a place to stay. Just as Josephreturns a wonderful transformation seems to come over Mary, and a look of radiance on her face, she stands forth, the Madonna.

The cast was as follows:

Joseph... SETH HULSE
Mary... MARGARET BROWN
Young Girl... BETTY TREMBATH

Choir to Sing Carols in Early Morning

In the early morning of the day we go home to start our merry round of holiday celebrations, we are roused from our sleep by the clear call of a bugle. And, as we lie awake in bed, we hear the choir singing carols in the quadrangle before it starts on its way through the halls.

The music will become very faint or perhaps even die completely away as the singers enter one of the buildings; then later we hear them coming nearer us and they stop outside our own door—Silent Night is softly sung. They pass on into the distance and soon are heard no more. But as we look out at the black limbs of the trees outlined against the gray sky and see the starlight shining through, we are more nearly conscious of the true beauty and meaning of the night in Bethlehem, almost two thousand years ago.
Holllins Student Life, December 17, 1959

The Night Before Christmas

It was the night before Christmas and all through the house Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse.

I heard that the sleigh bells were jingle-jangle in the stove And on top of the stove sat a rainbow colored stovepipe.

When suddenly with a crackling and a hissing The fireplace broke into flames and the house started to hiss.

The flames were so bright that the Christmas stockings were lit And the trees turned into cookies when the stockings went by.

The stockings were hung by the chimney with care In hopes that St. Nicholas would soon be there.

The children were snug in their beds sleeping soundly and unaware.

The only sound was the crackling of the fire as the Christmas stockings were filled with toys and surprises.

And so the night passed, and the next morning The stockings were empty, and the magic had passed.

But the memories of the night before Christmas would always remain, a cherished tradition, a symbol of the true spirit of the holiday.
SOCIETY

Elizabeth Hutchinson and Betty Engel spent last week-end in Philadelphia. Kay Field went to her home in Baltimore, Maryland, last week-end. Mary Anne Griffith and Dorothy Sorg attended the Dramatic Convention held at Hood College, Frederick, Maryland, last week-end. Charlotte Patch spent last week-end in Washington. Helen Stevenson visited Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Woody in Danville, Virginia. Catherine Mizell was in New York last week-end.

Frances Boykin and Louisa Candler spent last week-end in Lynchburg. Mary Alice McConnell visited Mary Creech at her home in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, last week-end. Jerry Garber spent last week-end at her home in Winston-Salem.

Mary Barksdale, '28, of Lynchburg, was on campus last week. Mrs. R. C. Quinn, of Richmond, Virginia, visited her granddaughter, Evelyn Sale, last week-end.

Mrs. Ernest Straver, of Harrisonburg, Virginia, spent last week-end with her granddaughter, Katherine Wilson.

Anne Harrison, ex '35, recently visited Eleanor Weaver.

Mrs. Milton Morgan, of Eagle Rock, has been visiting Miss Matty and Mrs. Babsee. Miss Matty recently entertained at tea for the Senior Class at her home, Eastnor.

The Coition Club gave their annual Christmas dance last Saturday evening in Keller.

Miss Tutwiler and the student officers of West Building presided at a tea for the girls in West last Tuesday.

The drawing room is decorated for Christmas and there Miss Blair read a Christmas story on Sunday night.

The Junior Class had their Christmas banquet at the Patrick Henry Hotel Saturday night.

The Sophomores had a Christmas banquet at the Hotel Roanoke last week-end. The Seniors will have their annual Christmas Party on Wednesday night.

ATHLETICS

With the Odd and Even game over, the shin guards checked in, the tunes packed away and the sticks oiled and put in their places, hockey will not come up again until next September. But there is one more word yet to be said on the subject—the announcement of the manager and assistants for the 1931 season. Janet Stirling, '32, is Manager of Hockey; Kay Locke, '31, and Eleanor Cadbury, '34, are Assistants. Congratulations.

Now that hockey is a thing of the past our thoughts turn to basketball. The season opened Wednesday, December 14; however, the class teams will not begin practice until after Christmas. Before Christmas, the elementary class, for those Freshmen (and any others interested) who have never played basket ball, or have played only a little, is being held under the direction of Dorothy Sorg, Manager of Basket Ball. Much interest is being shown in the class and splendid results are expected.

One week from to-day—some of us will be on the train and some—at home! Merry Christmas, Merry Christmas!

Here's to the Sophomore Banquet, May it be as successful as the one the Juniors had last year.

Is it to enhance the Christmas spirit in emulation of Santa's reindeer that bells are being rung in the Library?

What a furor was created last week by the announcement that vacation would start at ten o'clock instead of eleven on Friday.

"Lift up thine eyes..." and many eyes were lifted up when the Goodyear blimp passed over Hollins.

No one that gets lost on campus has a "perfect alibi" now that the Hollins maps are on sale. And no ignorance about the date is excusable with the new calendars accessible.

Did you see Maxine (girl) and Maggie (her stead) when they stopped by Hollins on their way from Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, to California? Bon voyage, Maggie!

Red and green decorations in the shops, tinsel-trimmed trees, cold weather, carols, the pageant, women selling mistletoe and holly, vacation in a few days—Christmas!

The situation existing for a few moments during the presentation of "The Perfect AId" should have been of interest to Miss Scott and her history students as a vivid illustration of the "reign of terror."

It is hoped that the hard hearts of the Faculty are touched by the sight of students racing each other the length of the "quad" to be the first to reach the Library.

The example of those who are reducing for vacation (and the number is large) should instill habits of asceticism into the rest of the school. As a result of this, will attenuated, emaciated shadows of former daughters greet the fond families and friends who are waiting for trains?

In the dining room of the Patrick Henry last Saturday night, a crowd of Juniors sat radiating Christmas cheer—it was the occasion of their second class banquet and how they did enjoy it!

Another source of speculation and controversy denied us! We all know who the Madonna is!

Those who are fortunate enough to live in West did so enjoy the tea that Miss Tut and

JOYLESS JINGLES

"To be sung by a hungry chorus of fainting females"

We're tired of peaches and apples and pears,
Of lettuce and grapefruit and chops,
Of spinach and greens
Prepared by cuisines
That cater to capricious caps!

We're bored with a melon,
We feel like a lemon
When slicing a small bit of butter;
We loathe the tomato,
We long for potato
With yearnings too bitter to utter!

We're weary of cantaloupes, lemons and beets,
Of collisions and endives and chard,
Of sprouts, sarmassened Brussel's,
Of elegant tases
With celery, worldly and hard!

We pray when we're older
And callous and bold,
We'll eat what we want if we die—
And suffer and suffer
We'll yell for a platter
Of pudding and doughnuts—and Pie!

——Saturday Evening Post.

the House Committee gave in Keller last Tuesday—charming hostesses, simply delicious "tea" and exciting decorations—Christmasy, of course.

In addition to knowing that money will go to the poor as a result of our Golden Rule Dinner here on Sunday, there was the added satisfaction of passing the Sabbath without the too-familiar sight of chicken, peas and potatoes.

Anyone wishing to buy a Hollins compact or calendar before Christmas, please see Sue Rutherford in 330 West, Wednesday, December 17th, is your last chance.

SEE THE SOPHOMORES

Green Elephant

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