

# The Font

FONTBONNE COLLEGE, ST. LOUIS, MO.

Vol. 1

DECEMBER 20, 1926

No. 8

## FLORENTINE RUTKOWSKI REPRESENTS COLLEGE

**Member of Senior Class Is  
Popular Choice as Maid  
For St. L. U. Conclave  
Dance**

Excitement has been rife for two weeks—who will she be, the fair maid who will represent Fontbonne at the St. Louis University Conclave Dance, and perhaps—but who can tell? At last it has been decided, and all are agreed that the maid chosen well represents the college.

Florentine Rutkowski, of the senior class, was elected by the Student Association at its meeting Tuesday of this week. The other nominees were Genevieve McElroy, Lucille Perry, and Margaret Holloran. Miss Rutkowski, a St. Louisan, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter L. Rutkowski, of 6031 Waterman avenue. She is editor-in-chief of *The Font*, president of the Press Club, and holds offices in the Dramatic Club and the senior class. She came to Fontbonne in 1925, having finished her earlier work at St. Teresa Junior College, Kansas City, Mo., which is also conducted by the Sisters of St. Joseph.

The Conclave dance, to be held Feb. 17, is the second one of its kind at which all the corporate colleges and departments of the university are represented by young women from whose number a queen is chosen. The queen of last year's function, who will retire formally at the coming prom, is Bernice Simpson, representative of Visitation Junior College, who is now a student in the junior class here.



Florentine Rutkowski

To its readers and to all  
friends of Fontbonne  
THE FONT  
extends hearty wishes for a  
Merry Christmas  
and a  
Happy New Year.

## Christmas Spirit in Evidence

Religious preparation for Christmas is being given as important a place as Christmas shopping at Fontbonne. Through the five school days of last week jubilee visits were made processionally at noon. Students are reminded that the special Confession and Holy Communion which is a condition for gaining the jubilee indulgence must be made before Dec. 31.

At 5 p. m. each afternoon since Dec. 16, the novena in preparation for Christmas is being sung during Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Rev. H. R. Sheldon, C.M., chaplain, officiating.

Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament was held all day Sunday, as is usual on the third Sunday of the month.

## CLAYTON HAMILTON ADDRESSES STUDENTS

**Critic Discusses Literature  
and Culture; Praises Re-  
sults of Catholic Educa-  
tion.**

"The only nature a dramatist need know is human nature," said Clayton Hamilton, one of the foremost American authorities on the drama, in an address to the students in last Thursday's assembly. Modern drama, he explained, studies the human nature of the individual in his relations to his social environment, while the two great dramas of the past take man under other aspects; the Greek, in his relations to the universe, and the Elizabethan, in his relations to his own soul. Dramatists, and with them all artists, Mr. Hamilton divided into two classes, broad-minded great men and narrow-minded great men; into the former class he put Dante, whom he considers the greatest man of all time, and into the latter, Ibsen, whose knowledge and literary practice were oddly confined to his one line of playwriting.

Culture, according to Mr. Hamilton, is never acquired after an individual has passed the age of eighteen, and taste can never be given after one is twelve, but education can be gotten at any time. These and other stimulating remarks were enthusiastically received by Thursday's audience, which was entirely appreciative of Mr. Hamilton's capacities as author, editor, and critic.

Speaking to a representative of *THE FONT* after the address, Mr. Hamilton stressed the fact that he considers Catholic educational institutions a bulwark of culture in this age of materialism and industrialism, and that he accounts them almost the only influence working against the zeal for strictly professional and technical training and for utilitarian purposes which is abroad today.

## The Font

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### The Birthday of Christ

Christmas is Christ's birthday. Yet how many of the early-Christmas-shopping throngs that are to be found in any downtown section of the city really remember that December 25 is Christ's birthday? How many, while pushing and shoving to buy presents for one another, are preparing a present for him?

Nineteen hundred years ago, Christ, though a king, came to His world as a poor little babe in a manger. He came provided with only the barest necessities of life, and, we are told, the first to worship Him were shepherds, who from a worldly viewpoint were no more fortunate than He. The present they brought Him, however, was the only one He wanted and the only one He has continued to want ever since. Christ was poor, and so were the shepherds, yet that present they gave Him was in richness fit only for the King of Kings. It was their heart. It was love and charity and simple adoration.

Far off in the little town of Bethlehem, by the light of one guiding star, man was shown what Christ holds dearest of all gifts. Has man forgotten? Is this indefinite feeling called "good will," that Hillaire Belloc defines as "a general kindness towards people whom one has no particular reason for disliking" an acceptable substitute? It is not, for it is not love for Christ, and only love for Christ brings the "peace on earth" which is the real joy of Christ's birthday.

### Sleigh Riding

When our boarder from Georgia decided on Fontbonne as her school, one of the inducements was undoubtedly the thought of indulging in winter sports. Sleigh-riding, a pleasure the South has not experienced, was one of the lures.

Who has not been thrilled as she sat cuddled up in an open sleigh back of two prancing steeds, snow all around her, under foot, over head, glistening on the horses' backs, crunched under their feet with a soft sigh? Who has not known other nights when the snow lay still and white on the ground, while the silvery moon rode high in the sky and the stars glimmered like tiny icicles, while she glided, warm and exhilarated, over soft white velvet? Who has not known it? Boy, page the City Directory.

### Head of Fathers' Club Explains Its Purpose

*Editor's Note: This is the first of a series of articles, contributed by Mr. John E. Riley, president of the Fathers' Club, which will treat exhaustively of details of organization, past accomplishments, and future possibilities of the club.*

As the name implies, the Fathers' Club of Fontbonne is an organization composed of the fathers of girls who are at present attending, or have in the past attended, Fontbonne College. Established in 1925, it is an auxiliary body having as an objective the promoting of any activity that may advance the welfare of the College, the students or the faculty.

The term "auxiliary body" is used advisedly, as the Fathers' Club has no purpose or ambition other than to be as helpful in as inconspicuous a manner as possible. Any influence it may have, collectively or individually, is always at the disposal of the faculty. Any of the minor activities of college life, which often assume major proportions in providing pleasure and contentment for the student body, are fostered by the Club to the limit of its ability. The extent of this ability to accomplish is largely a matter of the number of members, and the interest they manifest in the affairs of the Club.

## Faxencrux



We take this opportunity to wish a Merry Christmas to all, and especially to the out-of-town girls. May they find their hometown sweethearts still true to them!

The more one sees of steps, the better one likes elevators.

Freshman in library: "I want the life of Julius Caesar."

Miss Jones: "Sorry, but Brutus is ahead of you."

Last year's Scripture Class please note:

A man, who said his name was Joshua, was brought before a judge. The judge said:

"Are you the man who stopped the sun?"

"No sah," he replied, "I'm de man what made de moonshine!!"

Sweet thing: "Mother, has my mail come yet?"

Mother: "Dear, you must stop using that terrible slang!!"

Absence makes the marks grow smaller.

"Your daughter recites very well, doesn't she?"

Fond parent: "Yes, all she needs is a short course in electrocution to finish her off!"

Cinnie: "Whenever I fight with Cecilia, I put it in my diary."

Gin: "Oh, I see—you keep a scrap-book."

This is the time of the year when Mother is told confidentially but emphatically just what is expected for Christmas, and Dad begins to write checks.

Distance lends enchantment to but few—when it comes to walking to the car line.

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### Swimming Meet Soon

An inter-mural swimming meet is to take place after the Christmas holidays. Since the class gaining the greatest number of points through individual and team victories wins the meet, it is advantageous for each class to enter as many competitors as possible.

Among the events to be held are: diving, side stroke, breast stroke, free stroke, back stroke, and a relay race. For these events points are to be awarded as follows: first place, five points; second place, three points; third place, two points. Each member of the winning relay team merits five points. Winners of ten or more points will be awarded school emblems. Since swimming points are applicable to the number required for the college letter, it is advisable to enter two events in addition to the relays.

### Riding Prospects Rise

Prospects for equestrians are brightening. Students interested in horseback riding are requested to inform Sister Marietta. If a sufficient number apply, this healthful as well as delightful sport will take its place in the department of college athletics.

### Library Recently Enriched By Valuable Collections

Two valuable collections of old and rare books have recently come to Fontbonne's library from her devoted friends. Rev. R. G. Jacques, of Escanaba, Mich., has presented a German collection of some three hundred volumes, a number of which are extremely rare and valuable, for the most part religious and historical in subject matter. Mrs. Adele Hornsby, and her daughter, Miss Madeleine Hornsby, both of St. Louis, made a most generous gift of a notable French collection, including some eighteenth-century editions of religious and philosophical treatises, a complete 1821 edition of Fenelon from the publishers Delestre-Boulogne, and a number of two-century-old calf-bound volumes.

Other recent gifts are a collection of 187 volumes, including two complete sets of Shakespeare's

works, sent in by Mr. A. J. Noble, of the Fathers' Club; the Life of Christ as illustrated by Tissot in three volumes, from Mr. J. E. Riley, president of the Fathers' Club; from the Cathedral School, St. Louis, a complete set of "The Queens of Scotland" by Agnes Strickland, and one volume of Italian literature and religious history; from Miss Alma Meyer of St. Joseph's Alumnae Association, three works for the journalism collection, "A History of American Journalism," Lee, "Practical Journalism," Shuman, and "Newspaper Editing," Hyde.



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### Glee Club Rehearses

The Glee Club held its meeting Friday, Dec. 11, at two p. m., in the Fine Arts building. In the course of the meeting a motion was carried to allow each member two more "cuts" this semester; those who excuse themselves oftener will forfeit their membership. The president announced that regular choral club practices will be held every Tuesday and Friday at 12:30 p. m., in preparation for the annual spring concert. Plans for the proposed musical comedy will be announced soon.

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ings at 10:00.

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### Academy Spiritual Council Plans an Active Campaign

The Students' Spiritual Council was organized in the academy last week. It is composed of twenty members, including the officers of the sodality, of the C. S. M. C. Unit, the chief promoters of the League of the Sacred Heart, representative members of the Ladies of the Blessed Sacrament, and one representative from each class. The members of the council are: Helen McKee, Marjorie Whalen, Mary Alice Sheehan, Almeda Nobel, Susanne Corrigan, Eleanor Riley, Ruth Schulte, Helisy Galeski, Ann Laughlin, Ellen Sullivan, Dorothy Bartels, Stella Marre, Margaret Watson, Mary Louise DeLisle, Marcella Graf, Margaret Walsh, Eleanor Reynolds, Catherine Anson, Helen Daily and Adele Thompson.

The regular monthly meeting of the Sodality was held Thursday, Dec. 16. After a short business session, the office of the Blessed Virgin was recited. Sunday, Dec. 19, was the regular monthly Communion day for the sodalists.

The academy unit of the C. S. M. C. held its meeting in the Fine Arts building, Dec. 10, Susanne Corrigan presiding. The initiation pledge of the freshmen and a letter from Rev. Frank A. Thill were two important features of the meeting. A committee composed of three girls from each class is to be appointed to carry out the plans suggested by Father Thill.

The academy will close on Tuesday afternoon, Dec. 21, for the Christmas holidays. The last hour of the afternoon session will be spent in the auditorium, where the students will be entertained with a short program by the members of the Choral Club, the Music Club, and the Dramatic Club.

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### Christmas Forty Years Ago

Christmas in the old days at the Academy is very well described in the following extract from a letter written Jan. 11, 1886, by "M. F. M." and published in the *St. Joseph Journal*: "Christmas has come and gone! Its joys and beauties are over for the year; is it not a pity that this happy festival should so quickly pass? Quite a number of the 'boarders' spent their Christmas-tide at the academy and had a very pleasant time; the minims especially were in ecstasies over the 'tree' besides numerous gifts from 'Santa Claus.' Last but far from being least, comes the midnight Mass; I've never had the pleasure of assisting at the holy sacrifice at that hour as I am a day pupil, but from the many descriptions I've heard of it, I shall try to give you at least a gleaning. The chapel, always beautiful, is most heavenly on that blessed night; the solemn, impressive ceremonies, the sweet tender notes of the singers, the weirdness of the hour all serve to render it a foretaste of paradise."

### Author's Lecture Postponed

The meeting of Miss Inez Specking with Fontbonne's students, which was to have taken place Wednesday, Dec. 15, was postponed, on account of the illness of Miss Specking, until after the holidays. Then the author of the Fontbonne story, "Martha Jane at College," with a view to encouraging students to write for publication, will attempt to arm them against the difficulties which meet young writers during their apprenticeship. She will also give readings from her stories. Her program is under the auspices of the Press Club.

### Spiritual Council Organizes

At the meeting of the college division of the sodality, Dec. 16, real work was begun on the Students' Spiritual Council. The various chairmen of the committees composing the council were chosen as follows: Alice Igoe, publicity; Vera Visconti, literature; Charlotte Whalen, apostolic work; Louise Bartels, Eucharistic promotion; Jule Marie Kirk, membership; Mary Louise Mee, C. S. M. C.

### In Cicero's Rome

Imagine, you who are interested in Latin, studying the gruesome details of Cataline's conspiracy in the dim light of the Mammertine prison, and hearing the fancied echo of Cicero's "vixerunt," "they have lived," uttered as the unfortunate prisoners meet their doom.

This was only one of the interesting experiences which Miss Helen Donnelly, A. M., head of the Latin department of the University City High School, recounted to the student body of Fontbonne Monday, Dec. 6. Miss Donnelly spent the summer in Europe attending the American Academy in Rome, which offered a course on Roman ruins in which lectures were delivered on the scene.

"But there are many Romes," continued Miss Donnelly, "apart from Classic Rome, there is Sacred Rome, and this is the particular delight of the Catholic visitor." She told of her interview with Our Holy Father, "a wonderful figure in white," and her awe in the great St. Peter's, which is best praised "by amazement and silence."

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