

The Story of Ward-Belmont



A JUNIOR COLLEGE, PREPARATORY SCHOOL AND CONSERVATORY
OF MUSIC FOR YOUNG WOMEN • • • NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

FOREWORD

This book is simply to introduce you to Ward-Belmont. For the most part it is a series of pictures and impressions. It can only suggest some of those vital, fundamental things that are the heart of the Ward-Belmont—the friendliness, happiness and health on the campus; the atmosphere that surrounds the students at work and play; the purposes and spirit that pervade the school; the home background of the students; the character and personality of the faculty, staff and administration; the high scholastic standards of the school and the enviable records its graduates make at senior colleges and universities. Insight into the real spirit of Ward-Belmont can be had only by a visit. This we cordially invite you to make.





“OH DUSKY PILLARS, STAND FOREVER
STRAIGHT ABOVE THE CAMPUS GREEN”



THE STORY OF WARD-BELMONT

Ward-Belmont is rich in her heritage of ideals and traditions from Ward's Seminary, founded in 1865, and from Belmont College, established in 1890. Both these institutions deserved the fine reputations they bore. Each realized that education at its best is a steady, even growth and that much more is accordingly concerned than acquiring a few superficial skills. Both wished to touch and cultivate those deep-seated attitudes, loves, and hopes that shape our soul and color our innermost thoughts.

While the union of Ward's Seminary and Belmont College in 1913 as Ward-Belmont resulted in enriched purposes and more abundant facilities, the two dominant aims of the older institutions have continued to abide. The first was to encourage a permanent love and respect for sound learning by providing courses of study based on the best in literature, science, music and the other arts. The second was to foster an equally permanent love for gentle, gracious living. These purposes are reflected in the academic buildings, Acklen Hall, the dormitories, Club Village and the campus surroundings. All bespeak a fine academic and social tradition of more than three generations. The atmosphere is friendly and hospitable and encourages dignity and respect for all good things.

Location

Nashville, located in the hills of Middle Tennessee and readily accessible by plane and railroad, has long been known as a city of education and culture. It is an ideal home for students. Within a few minutes walk of the campus is the nationally recognized University Center, composed of Vanderbilt University with its college and various professional schools, George Peabody College and Scarritt College for Christian Workers.

In addition to the Artist Series presented in the school auditorium and the Community Concerts programs, there

is the Nashville Civic Music Association which sponsors the Nashville Symphony Orchestra, the Youth Orchestra and the Choral Society. Also, Ward-Belmont students enjoy the numerous other concerts, plays and lectures that are presented during the season.

Art students are always particularly interested in the exact replica of the Parthenon in nearby Centennial Park. To the west of the school lies Belle Meade, for many years one of the South's most celebrated stock farms. It is now a beautiful residential suburb of Nashville. The Hermitage, the home of Andrew Jackson, is twelve miles to the east. There are many monuments and places of historical significance nearby.

In this environment Ward-Belmont offers a full and satisfying school life where the more formal studies, music and the fine arts, sports and social life, all receive their proper attention. The setting of the school and its rich historic background attract many visitors to the campus throughout the year. The Registrar is happy to welcome guests at any time.

Alumnae

In the course of the years more than twenty-five thousand women in the United States and foreign countries have attended Ward-Belmont. Many of them have become famous in music, drama, art, literature, education and the professions. There are many active alumnae clubs throughout the country.

Ward-Belmont Today

Ward-Belmont is comprised of the Junior College, the Preparatory School, the Conservatory of Music and the Schools of Art and Dancing. The academic standards are

uniformly high. The College and Preparatory School are members of the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools. The College is also a member of the American Association of Junior Colleges. The Conservatory is a junior college member of the National Association of Schools of Music; and the School of Art holds a chapter membership in the American Federation of Arts. Graduates enter the leading senior colleges, universities, conservatories and art schools and make enviable records. Classes are small and the program of each student is carefully planned in the light of the senior college, university, or professional school to be attended later. Thus the school offers a sound academic program in surroundings that reflect a fine tradition, both academic and social.

The courses of study are varied and many different combinations are possible. A majority of the students elect to take one of the more strictly academic programs composed of English, foreign languages, science, mathematics, history and the social sciences, psychology and philosophy. Others take special work in art, speech, home economics, secretarial training, or physical education. Some combine music with the regular college program and receive a certificate in piano, voice, violin, organ or harp along with their General Diploma. Still others, who intend to continue their studies on a professional basis, give their full time to the Conservatory program. The formal catalogue of the school, which will be sent upon request, gives full descriptions of the courses of study.

Ward-Belmont is not a large, cold impersonal institution with students of widely varying ages, outlooks, and backgrounds. The students are carefully selected, and the faculty and staff are chosen because of their fitness for the particular type of leadership and instruction that the school fosters. Emphasis is placed on *actual teaching*—not research. While predominantly Southern, students and faculty are a cosmopolitan group and come from some thirty-eight states and ten foreign countries. Everything on the campus—from beautiful Acklen Hall to the playing fields and unique Club Village—has been carefully planned for girls. There are unlimited opportunities for pleasant companionship at a most impressionable age. Girls live, work and play together simply and naturally.

By means of regular hours, distractions are kept at a minimum. When work is in order, every student is expected to devote herself wholeheartedly to her studies. When studies are done, every student has ample opportunity to participate in the numerous extra-curricular activities, special interest groups and sports.

Religious Life

The school makes an earnest effort to stimulate and strengthen the impulse toward Christian living. Courses in Bible and the religions of the world are included in the curriculum. There is an active Young Women's Christian Association in which members of the faculty cooperate

with the students. A member of the faculty is director. The influences of the College and Preparatory Y. W. C. A. organizations are vital throughout the school. Through its community service program in the city of Nashville, students are trained for later work in their own communities. Devotional services, conducted by clergymen and other religious leaders, form a regular part of the assembly programs. The spirit of church loyalty is fostered by each student attending the church of her choice.

Special Interest Groups

In the course of the years various special interest groups have been formed under the sponsorship of the faculty. These groups devote themselves to more informal discussions and activity than are possible in the course of regular classroom or laboratory instruction. First, there are the different departmental clubs—art, chemistry, Spanish, French, German, biology, speech, and home economics. Each has its own officers and organization and its own program of activities for the year. The sponsor is usually the head of the department. There are also the special music groups—the Choir and Glee Club; several smaller vocal ensembles such as the College Octet and the Preparatory School Glee Club; the Chamber Music Society; the Southern Belles, a small chamber music group; the Music Club; the Captivators, who devote themselves to popular dance music; and the honorary music fraternity, Mu Sigma Phi.

There are also the groups with more general campus interests. The various Student Government Councils play important roles all during the year. The Athletic Association is campus wide in membership. The Turf and Tanbark is the honorary riding club; and the Naiades is the honorary swimming club. Then there are the students whose interest is in the publications—the *Hyphen*, the weekly campus newspaper; the *Milestones*, the school annual; the *Chimes*, the literary magazine; and the Penstaff Club, for preparatory students who engage in creative writing. Phi Theta Kappa is the college honorary scholastic fraternity; and the Beta Club is composed of those preparatory students who are outstanding for their scholarship, citizenship and leadership. The Round Table Club holds regular dinner meetings where outside guests speak on current problems, especially international affairs. Also open forums are conducted. Each class in the College and Preparatory School has its own officers and organization.

Club Village

Club Village, composed of the ten houses especially designed for the Ward-Belmont social clubs, is the center of student life. It is unique in that the best aspects of sorority life are preserved without its undesirable aspects. The Clubs are: Anti-Pandora, Twentieth Century, Del Vers, Tri K, Penta Tau, X. L., Osiron, Agora, A. K. and F. F. Each has a faculty sponsor. Every house has a large formal



The main part of the Campus is centered about the famous old ante-bellum estate known as "Belmont." The picture above shows the mansion and its formal gardens as they appeared shortly after 1850. Preserved in all of its original beauty, the mansion now called Acklen Hall, overlooks the quadrangle.

club room with fireplace, a music room, a game room, balcony and kitchen, and is fully equipped for all the various student activities and club entertaining.

After a "rushing" period at the opening of the school year that provides opportunity for students to get acquainted, every student becomes a member of one of the Clubs in Club Village. Meals for special occasions, teas, dances, week-ends away from school and all kinds of social gatherings mark the year's activities. Each club fields a team in every sport, thus affording school-wide intramural athletic competition. All Academic and citizenship awards are also an integral part of club life.

Entrance

Admission is, of course, selective. Entrance to the College is based upon the candidate's school record and general fitness for advanced academic work. This is necessarily the case because almost all graduates later pursue their studies in senior colleges and universities. Application is usually made well in advance of the time the student plans to enter. Admission to the freshman class is based upon grad-

uation from an approved secondary school, with a minimum of fifteen acceptable units. These should be distributed principally in the fields of English, foreign language, history, social sciences, mathematics and science.

The Preparatory School offers the regular four years of college preparatory high school work. Students who have completed the eighth grade with good standing are admitted without examination to the first year class. A student who has already attended an approved high school may apply for advanced standing.

Admission to the Conservatory of Music is based upon graduation from an approved secondary school, with a minimum of fifteen acceptable units. Students who are to take a certificate or diploma in special fields such as piano, organ, voice, violin, harp, etc., are expected to have a good foundation in their particular branch of music.

A detailed description of programs of study and individual classes is given in the catalogue, a copy of which will be sent upon request. Early application is advised, for each is considered in the order received. The necessary blanks will be sent by the Registrar upon request.



HISTORIC SOUTH FRONT OVERLOOKS THE SPACIOUS QUADRANGLE

PEMBROKE HALL—THE HOME OF THE SENIORS





The main buildings of the school are grouped around the quadrangle. To the south is the John Diell Blanton Academic Building, pictured above. On the north are Fidelity, Founders and Acklen Hall, the ante-bellum mansion of the celebrated Belmont Estate. To the west are Heron, Pembroke and Hail.

THE QUADRANGLE



SOUTHERN TRADITIONS

The simple beauty and grace of the hanging stairway in Acklen Hall recalls the dignity of the Old South. The stairway and the drawing rooms to which it leads were the center of the gracious living of that time. Ward-Belmont students enjoy their social activities in surroundings reminiscent of this tradition.



THE MAIN DRAWING ROOM IN ACKLEN HALL WHERE STUDENTS WELCOME THEIR GUESTS

ONE OF THE SMALLER DRAWING ROOMS IN HISTORIC ACKLEN HALL





WARD-BELMONT STUDENTS FEEL AT HOME IN THE REALM OF GOOD BOOKS

ACADEMIC

All departments of Ward-Belmont are fully accredited. This assures the quality of the work and successful transfer to a senior college, university, or four year conservatory of music. Preparatory School graduates enter college without examinations, except, of course, at those institutions where entrance examinations are required of all applicants. Varied programs lead to the General Junior College Diploma. Special diplomas and certificates are awarded for intensive study in art, music, speech, home economics and secretarial work. The library contains over sixteen thousand volumes and a large number of current periodicals. The "Browsing Room," adjoining the main library, is an informal reading room.



ADEQUATE LABORATORIES ARE MAINTAINED FOR THE SCIENCES





ART AT WARD-BELMONT



Any student may become a member of the Art Club. The Club is affiliated with the American Federation of Arts and accordingly has representation at the annual national convention of the Federation held in Washington each May. The Club holds frequent exhibits.





MUSIC

The Conservatory of Music is in a building of its own. There are numerous practice rooms, two pipe organs, a music library containing recordings, biographies, the more important works on the theory and practice of music, miniature scores and ensemble works. The Conservatory is a Junior College member of the National Association of Schools of Music.



WITH THE COOPERATION OF NEARBY SCHOOLS,
OPERETTAS ARE GIVEN. AMONG THE FAVOR-
ITES ARE THOSE OF GILBERT AND SULLIVAN.





MUSIC

Members of the Conservatory staff sponsor numerous vocal and instrumental ensembles and other music groups. Among them are the Glee Club, Choir, College Octet, Preparatory School Glee Club, Chamber Music Society, Southern Belles, Music Club, and the "Captivators," who provide popular music.





PLAYS, PAGEANTS AND OPERETTAS ARE FREQUENTLY PRESENTED





TO BE CHOSEN "MARTHA" OR "GEORGE" IS A HIGH HONOR

SPEECH

In addition to the regular work in voice and diction, public speaking, interpretative reading, oral interpretation and acting, the Speech Department sponsors numerous dramatic productions in the course of the year.



THE SCHOOL OF DANCING

Dancing, the oldest of the arts, plays an important role at Ward-Belmont. Among the more popular branches are ballet, character, toe, plastique, modern and tap.





THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE PREPARATORY SCHOOL IN SESSION.



MEMBERS OF THE BIOLOGY CLUB AT WORK

SPECIAL INTERESTS



MANY STUDENTS ENJOY WORKING ON PUBLICATIONS



THE COLLEGE GOVERNING ORGANIZATION MEETS TO DISCUSS STUDENT AFFAIRS





CLUB VILLAGE

The ten houses in Club Village and their furnishings were especially designed for club purposes. Each has a spacious living room with large open fireplace, a music room, a game room, balcony and kitchenette, and is fully equipped for all student activities and club entertaining. After a "rushing" period at the opening of school, every student becomes a member. Thus in Club Village one finds all the best features of sorority life without any of its undesirable aspects.



CLUB VILLAGE ACTIVITIES





Beginning with "rushing," the year's activities include Fag Day initiations, meals for special occasions, teas, dances, week-ends away from school, banquets, all kinds of social gatherings and quiet evenings with congenial club mates. Each club fields a team in every sport, thus affording school-wide competition.



SOCIAL ACTIVITIES





THREE OF THE YOUNGER FACULTY MEMBERS RELAX AT TEA

STUDENTS FROM NEIGHBORING SCHOOLS AND UNIVERSITIES ARE FREQUENT GUESTS





The school owns and operates its own stable of gaited horses. There are regular shows in the fall and spring. In addition to riding simply for pleasure, some students elect to take the full two year course in the theory and technique of riding in order to qualify themselves as instructors in summer camps.





R I D I N G



R I D E R S E N J O Y T H E H I L L S O F B E A U T I F U L T E N N E S S E E



S T U D E N T S L E A R N T O R I D E , D R I V E A N D S H O W H O R S E S



OUTDOOR SPORTS

The climate of Middle Tennessee encourages year-round sports. In addition to the regular physical education program, there is a club team in every sport. Competition among these teams is always keen and is matched only by the enthusiasm of the spectators.



STUDENTS STRIVE TO WIN A COVETED LETTER IN THEIR FAVORITE SPORTS

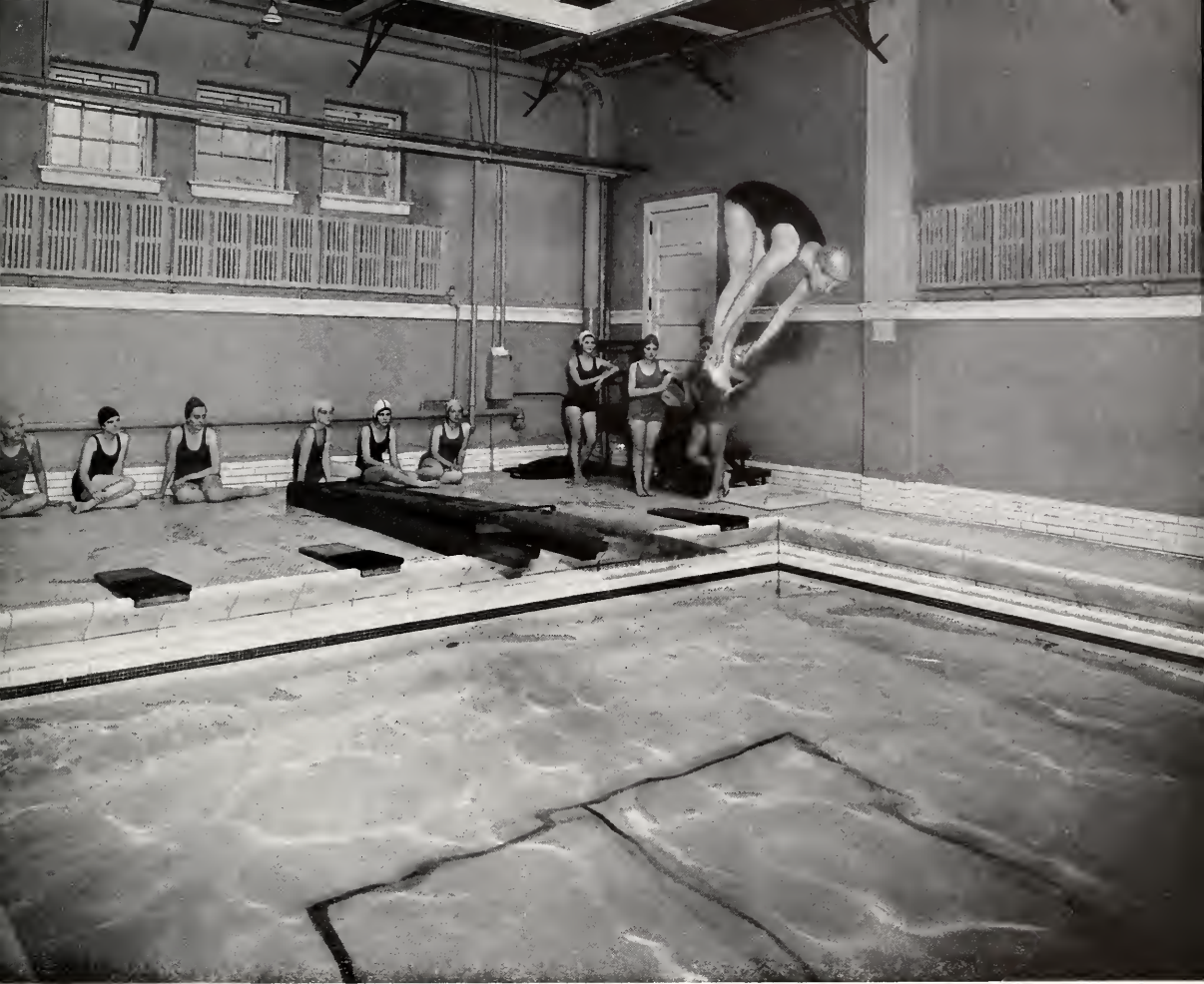




EVERY ONE ENJOYS THE SPRING AND FALL TENNIS TOURNAMENTS

FIELD HOCKEY IS ONE OF THE MOST POPULAR OUTDOOR SPORTS IN THE FALL





SWIMMING

Many happy moments are spent in the light, white-tiled pool. Instruction is given in all aquatic sports. The water in the pool circulates constantly and is purified by ultra-violet rays. No chlorine or other irritating chemicals are ever used.



INDOOR SPORTS

Each student can choose from a wide variety of sports, selecting those she likes best and frequently taking part in several. The Physical Education Building is a complete unit. On the ground floor are the bowling alleys, shampoo room, lockers, dressing rooms and showers. The large gymnasium, the apparatus room and the offices of the staff are on the main floor. A spectators' balcony surrounds the main gymnasium. Adjoining the balcony are the dance studios.

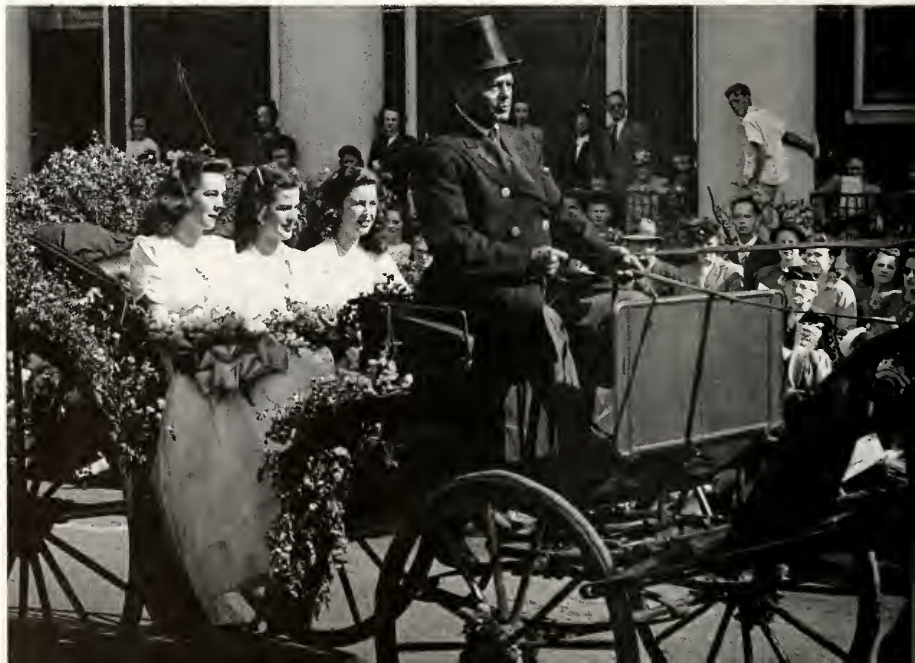
THE BOWLING ALLEYS ARE ALWAYS A FAVORITE MEETING PLACE





THE GYMNASIUM PROVIDES ABUNDANT SPACE
AND EQUIPMENT FOR ALL INDOOR GAMES







MAY DAY

One of the outstanding events of the spring is the traditional May Day Festival. This marks the culmination of the Physical Education Program, in which every student participates. The grand parade, picturesque costumes of the dancers and the May Queen with her Court add a dramatic touch to the celebration which is viewed by several thousand friends, parents and alumnae.



SCENES FROM MAY DAY





TO BE CHOSEN QUEEN OR A MEMBER OF THE COURT IS ONE OF THE HIGHEST HONORS

EVERY STUDENT TAKES PART IN THE TRADITIONAL MAY DAY CELEBRATION



STUDENT LIFE



THE TURF AND TANBARK CLUB



THE STUDENT COUNCIL ENTERTAINS AT AN INDOOR PICNIC



HOLD A SPECIAL MEETING



CORSAGES JUST BEFORE THE FORMAL DANCE



THE PAUSE THAT REFRESHES WITH CHICKEN AND CHATTER IN THE TEA ROOM



SENIOR-SENIOR-MIDDLE DAY FESTIVITIES





“FAG DAY” FUN CELEBRATES PLEDGING IN CLUB VILLAGE



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The marble statues and wrought iron summer houses, collected in Europe by Colonel and Mrs. Acklen for the formal gardens of their ante-bellum estate, are still on the campus.