

Miss Annie Is Fancy Dress Honor Guest

Played Role of Director and Hostess at The First Ball

SUCCESSIVE DANCES BECOME ELABORATE

Still Looks Back on First Ball As Being The Best Of All

When Washington and Lee holds its twenty-seventh annual Fancy Dress Ball tonight, its most distinguished guest of honor will be a tiny wisp of a woman, some seventy-odd years old, with gentle eyes and almost snowwhite hair. As one of the chaperons of the "Ball of the Grandees" she will recall the time, twenty-six years ago, when she played the roll of director and hostess at Washington and Lee's first Fancy Dress Ball.

For it was Miss Annie, as she is affectionately known to students of recent years, who first conceived the idea and laid all plans and preparations for the original Ball. Back in 1907, as Miss Annie R. White, popular University librarian, she directed a University play which netted forty-seven dollars. With this munificent sum she proceeded to arrange for costumes, to design all decorations, to hire an orchestra, and to rent a hall for the dance. It wasn't a big place by any means, for only a limited number of invitations were extended. Every guest was known personally to Miss Annie, and she was the final authority in the matter of inviting outsiders.

Balls Are Fancier

Each year the Ball took place, becoming more and more elaborate than its predecessor. And it was. Enthusiastically she planned, arranged, designed, took care of innumerable details, met all emergencies, and directed with patience and skill. She was as indispensable a part of Fancy Dress as the orchestra; more so, in fact, for there were innumerable orchestras but only one Miss Annie.

Catastrophe Occurs

Then something in the nature of a catastrophe occurred. One year, back in the early twenties, the students learned that physicians had ordered Miss Annie abroad. Fancy Dress Ball was only a few weeks off. Consternation ensued, and Miss Annie, just as she had disregarded sickness and ill health to attend Balls of recent years, was all for defying the edicts of the doctors and remaining to carry on her usual work. However, she left America, and back on the campus of Washington and Lee considerable speculation was being voiced as to whether or not there would be a ball. No one seemed to know just where to start or what to do. Finally, several students cooperated with the faculty and plans were worked out to hold the Ball.

The next year Miss Annie returned to find the annual affair well under control. The student body was more than willing that she become the presiding genius once again, but she believed that time propitious for an abdication of the throne she had held for so many years, and ever since then the active direction of Fancy Dress Ball has been entrusted to a president elected each year by the students.

Miss Annie looks forward to tonight's Ball. She has seen the idea grow from that of an ultra-private function of twenty couples to a nationally known event attended by thousands each year. She has seen it grow in pomp and brilliancy, in decorative magnificence, and has watched the introduction of new and modern themes of ornamentation. But with an apologetic and modest smile, she frequently says that "the first ball was the most beautiful of them all."

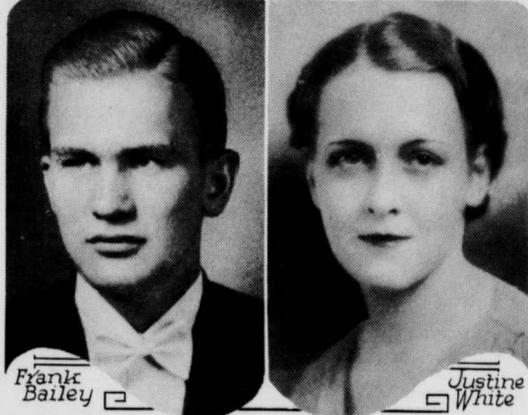


Upper right: Arthur Lamar, publicity director of Fancy Dress Ball.
Upper left: George McClure, a group leader as the Count of Granada
Lower left: Frank Bryant, president of Junior Prom.
Lower right: Billy Wilson, business manager of Fancy Dress.



Emily Woodruff

Pickens Walker



Frank Bailey

Justine White

Dance Leader



Carl Vickers, who will lead a group tonight as the Count of Salamanca



Miss Justine White



Eli Finkelstein, secretary-treasurer of the Fancy Dress Ball this year



Eugene Martin, president of Finals 1932



Miss Annie White



Jack Ball, who leads a group in the Fancy Dress figure tonight as the Marquis of Villena

Ball Repeats Grand History In Old Madrid

Grandees of The Realm Honor The King and Queen Of Spain

DANCE TONIGHT WILL CLIMAX HOLIDAYS

Set Closes Tomorrow Afternoon With Dansant in Gymnasium

Beautiful girls in dresses of assorted color combinations, with tight bodices, full skirts, and mantillas to match accompanied by forty-two men wearing broad brimmed hats, with plumes on the side, short jackets with puffed sleeves, trimmed with lace on collars and cuffs, full trunks to the knees, and short capes hanging over the shoulders, will repeat history tonight when the figure of the twenty-seventh annual Fancy Dress Ball marches down the floor of the Doremus Gymnasium, decorated to represent the ballroom of the royal palace in Madrid.

Upon a break in the music and a fanfare of trumpets, Their Majesties, the King and Queen of Spain, will arrive. Frank Bailey, president of the dance set will appear as King Philip IV, and Miss Justine White, of Huntington, West Virginia, will be his queen, Elizabeth. Assisting Their Majesties, will be Miss Emily Woodruff, of Columbus, Georgia, and Pickens Walker, vice-president of the ball, as the Duke and Duchess of Aragon.

Grandees of the realm, led by the Duke and Duchess of Avila, the Count and Countess of Granada, the Count and Countess of Salamanca, and the Marquis of Villena, will be assembled to celebrate the king's marriage with "The Ball of the Grandees."

Ball Is Climax

The ball tonight will be the grand climax of a three-day holiday period. Last night the Junior Prom opened the dance set with Frank Bryant, president of the class, leading the figure with Miss Nona Hill Ewbank. William Thomas assisted.

Two fraternity dansants filled the day with gaiety and excitement.

Tomorrow the set will end with an afternoon dansant in the Gymnasium. This dance will be held from 2:30 until 5:00 P. M.

Music for the dances is being furnished by Bernie Cummins and His New Yorkers. This celebrated band played for the Fancy Dress Ball last year, and one hour of the music was broadcast as part of the regular Lucky Strike program. A repetition of this event was made impossible this year by previous contracts on the part of the advertisers.

Van Horn Costumes

Costumes for the Fancy Dress Ball were again furnished by Van Horn and Company, of Philadelphia. All students and guests who have costumes are asked to return these to the gymnasium during Monday afternoon.

Arrangements for the Fancy Dress Ball this year were in charge of Frank Bailey, president of the set; Pickens Walker, vice-president; Eli Finkelstein, secretary-treasurer; William Wilson, business manager; and Arthur Lamar, publicity director. These men have been working on the plans for "The Ball of the Grandees" since early in the fall. Mrs. Beverley Tucker has been the official decorator of the Ball, with Mrs. Lucius Junius Desha designing the figures for both the Fancy Dress and Junior Prom.

All the pomp and splendor of medieval England visited Doremus Gymnasium in 1931 when the theme of the Silver Anniversary Fancy Dress pictured the reconciliation of Robin Hood and the Sheriff of Nottingham by Richard Cœur de Lion. William Tallyn led the ball that year with his sister, Miss Miriam Tallyn.

Last year the theme of the ball followed the nation-wide Washington Bicentennial celebration. The gym was decorated to represent a garden at Mount Vernon. Here James Sparks and Miss Ellen Kent Milsaps received their guests as George and Martha Washington.

Pictures of these dances will be found elsewhere in this paper.



The Ring-tum Phi

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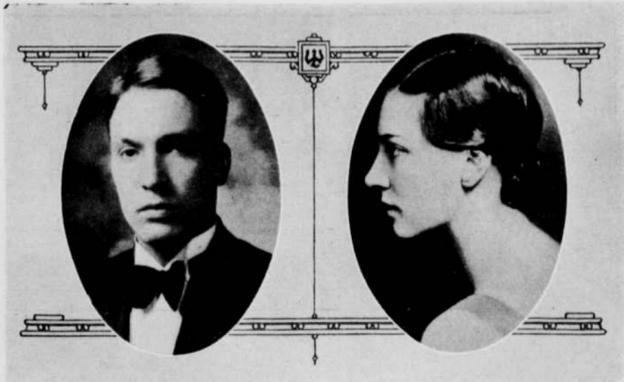
Martin Burks, III, secretary-treasurer of the Fancy Dress Ball 1932



Miss Ellen Kent Milsaps and James Sparks as Martha and George Washington in the Fancy Dress Ball of 1932



James Sparks, president of Fancy Dress 1932



Miss Mirriam Tallyn and her brother William Tallyn, who led the Fancy Dress Ball in 1931 as Richard Couer de Lion and Maid Marion



Miss Mary Welch with Bob Hornor, who was president of the Cotillion Club in 1931

THE TWENTY-SEVENTH BALL

Tonight witnesses the outstanding collegiate social event of the South. For the past twenty-six years Washington and Lee has sponsored a dance that is known throughout the entire country as being the epitome in brilliance and splendor, a dance unusual in itself and outstanding in its theme. The twenty-seventh annual Fancy Dress Ball tonight will relive the gay and colorful hours that marked the court life of Philip IV of Spain.

Commencing with a figure that will embody the notables in the Spanish court, a court which at that time surpassed any in Europe for sheer pomp and brilliance, the Ball will display the dazzling pageantry and gaiety that will combine to make this Fancy Dress dance as successful as previous ones.

Coming as it does between the first and second semesters, the Ball offers a period of relaxation from the dull routine of past examinations. It is a time for play and for unstinted enjoyment. The ceaseless worries of study may be forgotten. Among the symbols that surround Fancy Dress is this symbol of relaxation, of care-free happiness, and of "joy unconfined."

Through the efforts of this year's Fancy Dress officers, Washington and Lee is provided with a dance that will equal any in bygone years. Recognizing present conditions, they have co-operated with the student body by reducing prices for the dance, by giving costumes at substantially lower costs, and yet maintaining the high brand of music that has always characterized our dances. They have keenly realized that Washington and Lee always desires its dances to be of the highest standards, and they have successfully worked to meet this desire.

Last year the dance was broadcast over a national network under the sponsorship of a well-known program, giving the University a considerable amount of outside attention. It also gave the alumni an opportunity to once more feel themselves close to their alma mater, regardless of the distance that really separated the two. The broadcast brought to people over the country the fact that in Virginia there existed a school who for one hundred and seventy-three years has given the nation some of its greatest and most prominent figures, men who had served their country ably and unselfishly in the hour of need, that there was a school which still embodied the ideals of the Old Dominion.

This year the opportunity of a similar broadcast has not been given to the officers of the Ball. But they have not thought of national publicity for the sake of such. Rather have they thought of what the students themselves might think of their work. Handicapped by a smaller budget than in previous years, they will nevertheless present tonight in splendid fashion one of the largest chapters in Washington and Lee's social year.

To the freshmen Fancy Dress will be a captivating event, something to remember and look forward to. To the seniors it will mean a spectacular swan song to their college career at this University. For until a student has seen Fancy Dress, he has undoubtedly missed part of Washington and Lee. The spectacle of students representing and reliving the glory of yore, with all the spirit of unity, of common happiness, is something to evaluate in terms that defy a practical weighing.

Remember that Fancy Dress with its gay splendor comes but once a year. Tonight you play. Tomorrow you study. Make the most of tonight and the spirit of Fancy Dress Ball.

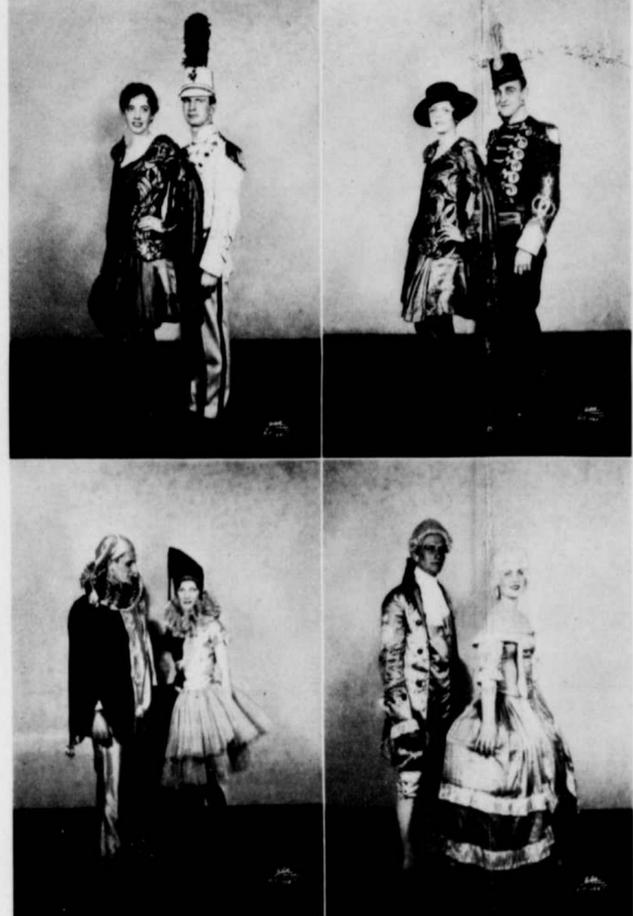
FANCY DRESS BALL, 1930

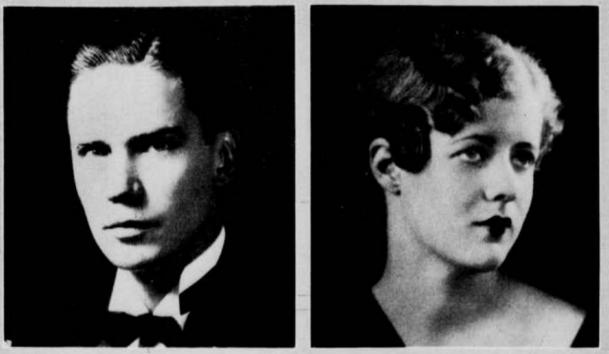


Roby Sutherland, president of Finals 1930

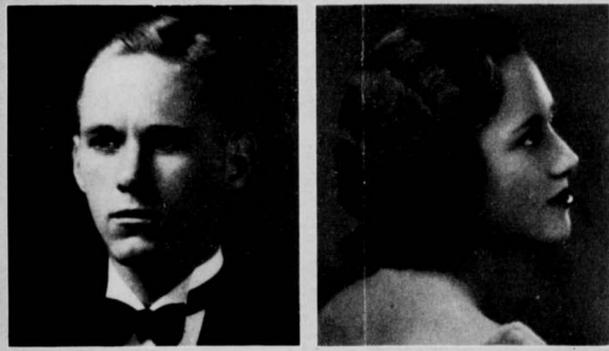


Van Gilbert and Miss Bebe Saunders, who led the Fancy Dress Ball in 1930





Miss Christine Hughes and Paul Wofford, who were assistant leaders at the Fancy Dress Ball 1932

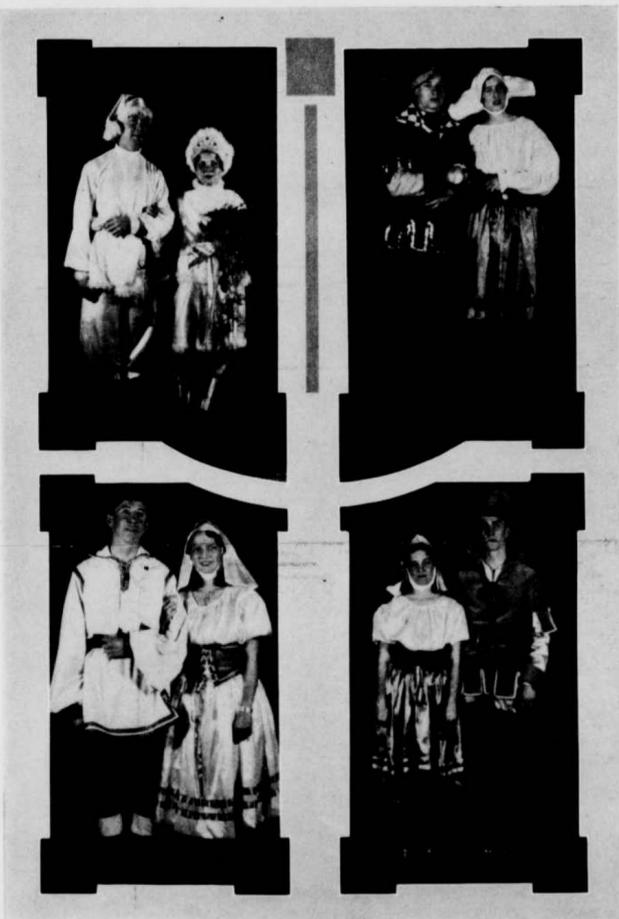


Miss Dorothy Bear and Joe Bear who led the Junior Prom figure last year

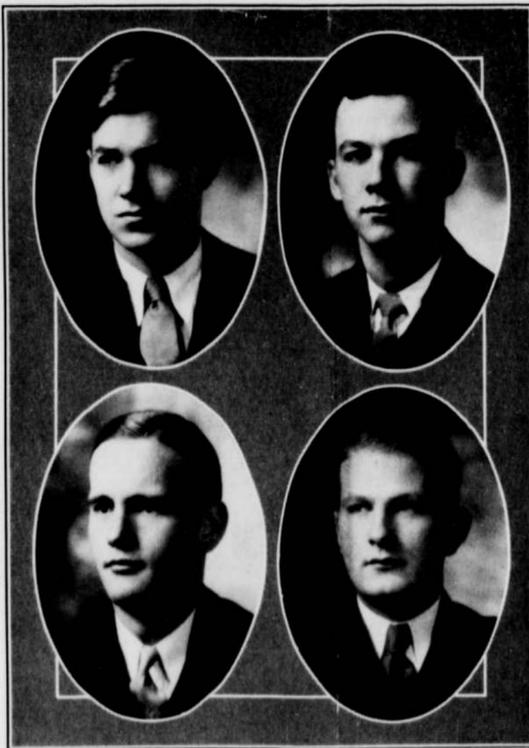


Ray Ade and lady who led Junior Prom in 1931

FANCY DRESS BALL, 1931



Charles Day, president of Finals 1931



Upper left: Harry Fitzgerald, business manager of Fancy Dress last year and group leader tonight. Upper right: Bob Horner, a group leader last year. Lower left: Ross Malone, a group leader in the figure last year. Lower right: Graham Morison, a group leader last year.



A Few Scenes From the Fancy Dress Ball of 1932

