CIRCA:
O'Connor's Early Years
To avoid the noxious St. Vincent's habit of sharing, Mary Flannery brought castor oil sandwiches "so nobody would eat her lunch," Savannah, c. 1931.

As Regina O'Connor decided which girls were worthy, some mothers preferred that their daughters stay away from Mary Flannery. She was known to have tied a little playmate to a chair, Savannah, c. 1934.
CHIL DREN:

Are your hands clean?
Are you a Roman Catholic?
Will you let Mary Flannery decide what you play?
Do you know what a novena is?
Who are your people?
Do they own property?

Regina was selective about Mary Flannery's playmates, even to the extent of making a list.
Savannah, c. 1935.

Regina brings Mary Flannery and a friend to see Mrs. Semmes before a dance. Mary Flannery shows off a mouthful of snuff, determined not to act "the pretty little girl," Savannah, c. 1937.
Mary Flannery entertained the Girl Scout troop by bringing Aloisius, a pet chicken dressed in gray shorts, white shirt, jacket, and red bow-tie, Milledgeville, c. 1938.

Although claiming a "fine ear," Mary Flannery played several instruments, including the accordion. Sometimes she played it at school 'devotionals' at which the Protestant ministers' lugubrious declamations amazed her, Milledgeville, c. 1939.
Mary Flannery refused to "play pretty." "At the Farm, she liked to push people into the pig pen and turn the wilder horses over to in-experienced riders." Milledgeville, c. 1939.