

THE POINTER

Published every Wednesday by the Students of High Point High School



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We sincerely hope that the inventor of the yo-yo made hay while the sun shone in the matter of his brain-child's success. His income from this particular source will probably dwindle rapidly for the next few months. Despite much evidence to the contrary, the public experiences occasional intervals of lucidity.

The Student Opinion column carries in this issue a letter expressing disapproval of the habit of passing notes. As the writer has covered her subject with commendable thoroughness, there remains little for us to add. In our opinion, anything which disturbs a student's mental processes during school hours is out of place; and it will be easily understood that no other agency, with the possible exception of a torpedo or cannon-cracker, can accomplish this quite so effectively as an imbecilic note.

Even the great are not secure from our old acquaintance, the "flu" Mr. T. Wingate Andrews has been so thoroughly incapacitated by its malevolent activities that he had to forego the pleasure of addressing the student body last Friday. It's tough on the superintendent (we refer to his illness, not to the fact that he was unable to speak before the students), but flu is no respecter of persons. An extremely deplorable feature it boasts is that one may contract it almost any number of times. Most depressing, eh, what?

Although we have not the honor of knowing personally Miss Mildred Walker, who recently became a member of the faculty, we have complete confidence in the discretion of those who selected her, and we do not doubt that she will prove to be an efficient and likable teacher. Any fair-minded person will admit that she faces a rather difficult situation, as she is taking up another teacher's work at mid-year with an unfamiliar group. Personality works miracles, however, not one student out of a hundred can resist it. If Miss Walker possesses this attribute, the "it" of teacherdom, her success is assured.

CODES OF CONDUCT

Man may be classed as a gregarious animal, since he is usually unhappy when forced to remain by himself for any considerable length of time. This "herd instinct" often works to his seeming disadvantage. Complete liberty is impossible for him while he is associating with others of his kind, as he must conform to the sentiments of the majority. If he breaks this rule, disregarding the rights of his fellows, he will have inflicted upon him the punishments which society has devised for those who infringe her laws. It is well to learn early in life, therefore, the fact that in the complex life of today no man can act with absolute independence and get away with it consistently. If each man treated his neighbor as he himself would be treated, the world would begin to attain a Utopia-like state. Unfortunately, the frailty of human nature precludes the complete success of this plan, although it doesn't hurt to give it a trial. If one business man breaks a contract he has entered with another, the injured party may sue him. Life is on a parallel with this, a contract signed by the human race; and those who break it must pay the penalty. The strictly honorable man never evades his duty by either technicality or falsehood.

student opinion



To the Editor:

The machinery of High Point High is well under way and is doing its work beautifully, but there is one question that I have wondered about.

Our clubs are splendid organizations, but it seems to me that outside of the Hi-Y and one or two more, the programs are the effort of a few to entertain a more or less uninterested audience. Most of the clubs try to instruct as well as to entertain, and in many there is not enough interest to hold the attention of the club while trying to put across something that would faintly resemble study. Were it possible to obtain a group of students who were practically machines in their cooperation, our clubs would be much more successful than they are, but, while we have the very highest type of cooperation, we are all very human and likely to lose interest. Do you think it would solve this situation, (real or imaginary) if the type of program used in the Hi-Y, consisting mostly of discussion in which all may take part, were used?
 P. MOFFITT, '30.

To the Editor:

There are many little interruptions in the classroom that serve to distract the pupil's mind from his work. The most annoying, I find, is the useless passing of nonsensical notes.

In my Latin class, there is one boy who is continually passing absurd notes. "At exactly quarter past two everybody sneeze!" Or, "At two o'clock everybody drop his book!" Some days it is this, "Everybody who thinks — is crazy, sign below." A large "Pass On" always appears at the top of the sheet.

When these notes are passed around the room, row by row, each student's mind is distracted from his work at some time during the period. Perhaps it is at the time when the teacher is explaining the hardest sentence in the next day's lesson. Later some pupil will come across that sentence when studying, and he will not understand how to construct it.

I do not mind passing notes which are very necessary, if there are such things, once in a while. However, it is distracting to be receiving, continually, notes which convey foolish meanings.
 MARGARET YORK, '30.

In a Library

This place is wonderful; here old romance,
 Delicate fantasy and high emprise
 Quickens the pulses and make big the eyes
 Of Youth; and here strong manhood
 has the chance
 To parley with its peers; and maidenhood
 Is sweetly ripened for love's crowning good.

This is Imagination's room; and here
 Keen Science, with a crystal-piercing gaze,
 Wipes from the brain the mystifying haze
 That doth hold back a world; the atmosphere
 Is luminous with truth to God most dear.

Yea, 'tis a chosen chamber of the Lord,
 A place where mind and soul learn Freedom's way;
 Hence, meet it is, upon this Freedom's day,
 When all Americans in vast accord,
 With thunder of gun and paean of bells proclaim
 Their country and her righteousness of fame,
 To open this fair hall and consecrate her name.
 —Richard Burton.

The teachers of the high school were asked, as were all the wage earners in the city, to pay one dollar each to the Community Chest fund. The money given to this organization goes toward the Welfare department, and other charity work carried on in this city.

ARNOLD COOK

The joys of the coming holidays were shadowed for many high school students by the news that death had claimed a former schoolmate. Arnold Cook, son of Mr. and Mrs. B. H. Cook, died at the Guilford General hospital on Saturday night, December 14. He had been sick for only a few days. He was operated on for appendicitis on Friday, but it was too late to save his life.

During the years he spent in high school, Arnold was highly esteemed by his teachers, and was especially well-liked by his friends and associates. Although he was not one of the best-known members of his class, yet he leaves behind him a record which is worthy of emulation.

Those who knew him best recall his pleasant smile and the unflinching courtesy of his manner. He was known for his obliging disposition and for the interest he showed in all the activities of the home room group. In his studies he stood well, showing a clearness and vigor of intellect that placed him above the ordinary student.

His fellow students and his teachers mourn his loss and extend their sincere sympathy to his parents and other members of his sorrowing family.

JOE HARRIS BARKER

It is with deep regret that members of the student body and friends of Joe Harris Barker, son of Mrs. F. G. Barker learned of his sudden passing at his home on Steele Street, early Sunday morning.

Joe Harris, by virtue of his character and scholarship was prominent in school affairs. For three terms he has been a home room captain and this year was vice-president of the Chemistry Club.

SCHOOL EXTENDS SYMPATHY

Miss Grace Henderson, member of the Latin department, was called home to Monroe last Friday afternoon on account of the sudden death of her father.

Members of the high school extend their sincere sympathy to Miss Henderson in this time of grief.

COMMENTS FROM THE CLUB EDITOR

Clubs! What do they mean to a high school student? One might say, "They do not mean anything to me," while other students will say that they mean half of their school life in both social and educational channels. Personally speaking, school life would not be merely the same if it were not for the clubs.

With a little observation the club editor finds that a great many more students should join the various clubs. Why do they not do this? Have the various clubs not been stressed enough? New pupils come to H. P. H. S. every month. They do not yet know the splendid work accomplished by the various clubs; therefore it has been deemed advisable to say a few words in explanation. It seems to be true that almost all boys and many girls are interested in science, if not in one phase, they are in another. For these there are the Radio club, which interests the boys mostly, the Edison Science club, and also the Chemistry club.

Where is there a student who does not admire a well-performed play, or a well-delivered speech? There is very much to learn about acting in the Junior and Senior Dramatic clubs, while the Oratio Club offers training in speaking.

Persons who know how to appreciate art and can paint even a little bit are considered cultured. Our Art club does much to increase apprecia-

tion for pictures. The French club makes the study of modern languages much more interesting and teaches many to enjoy learning about other countries.

But wait! The best of the clubs seems to have been forgotten. What do the Girl Reserves and Hi-Y clubs do for students? Ask a member of either, and he or she will be quick to say that they promote good character to the fullest extent.

Students miss much who do not join one of these clubs.



A friend, who wishes his name to remain unknown, has donated a handsome set of books to the library. The set, consisting of twenty volumes, is called "Messages and Papers of the Presidents." The books are beautifully bound and illustrated.

Eight etchings were displayed last week in the library. One of these, "Vigilantes," by Marguerite Krimse, attracted much attention. The etching was of a pair of police dogs watching for someone, probably their master.

For some reason, we have failed to comment on the autograph book in the library. In this book most of the visitors to H. P. H. S. sign their names.—The debaters from Greensboro were the first to write in the book.

BOOKS I WOULD LIKE TO OWN AND WHY

By John Gurney Briggs
 (Continued from Former Issue)

4. The Art of Lawn Tennis—William T. Tilden, 2nd.

Little can be said about this book, except that it is the most comprehensive guide to lawn tennis to be found in this country. Tennis enthusiasts will enjoy it.

5. Paul Bunyan—James Stephens.

In another story that I have read, the author has one of his characters relate different legends of the great North woods hero. Bunyan, it seems, could shoot the wildest rapids without wetting the calks of his boots. Once, says this old man, Bunyan rode through water safely that was so rough, so he said, that it would have torn an ordinary man in two to drink the water. Bunyan also tried to keep some bees, but the bees would come into his cabin at night and carry off his boots, so he was forced to abandon bee-keeping. Someone mentions the Great Drought of 1876, and the old gentleman is equal to the occasion. "That," he says, "was the year the Chippewa went dry. Paul Bunyan was keeping his cows at the headwaters of the Chippewa that year, and he got to feeding 'em too much salt." To my mind, however, the masterpiece goes something like this: Bunyan was noted for his speed when poling a log; that is, standing on a log and pushing with a long pole. It seems that he started south to attend his mother-in-law's funeral. He left for New Orleans on a Friday and got there the previous Tuesday.

I should like to see that book. I know that I should find several hearty laughs between its covers.

6. A Laugh A Day Keeps the Doctor Away—Irvin Cobb.

America's foremost humorist narrates his favorite anecdotes. If it is anything like the works of Cobb that I have read heretofore, it is a book chock full of laughs from cover to cover. However, the perfect library always contains some light reading; therefore this volume will not be out of place in this list.

7. Revolt in the Desert—T. E. Lawrence.

All boys have heard of Colonel T. E. Lawrence, that modern Hannibal, who mustered the wandering tribes of Arabia to the British colors, severely harassed the German troops in his vicinity, and—refused knighthood. He tried to enlist at the beginning of the war, but he was refused, and he went to Arabia, trying to help his country in that section. This is Colonel Lawrence's own account of this feat, which should make the book doubly interesting.

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