

Opportunity Knocks

There are a few students in High Point High School who fully realize and take advantage of the opportunities that are offered in extra-curricular activities in order to become better citizens and to improve their abilities in certain fields. Unfortunately, however, there are only a few who take advantage of these opportunities.

Many organizations have been established in our school to encourage better character, service to the school and community, scholarship, leadership, improvement of speaking, writing, music ability, and Christian attitude. Clubs like the National Honor Society, Beta Club, Masque and Gavel, and Key Club offer memberships to students who have amply proved their ability and earnestness in these things. Gaining membership in one of these organizations does not mean completing a project and accepting the award. It has a much higher and deeper significance. Indeed, it is recognition for effort that is to be carried on just as faithfully into later life. After a student has accepted membership into one of these organizations, he should work further to better himself and his fellow students.

Every day, every classroom holds the opportunity for students to develop leadership, speaking ability, character, scholarship, and a desire to serve. Taking part in class discussions, offering suggestions where they are needed, making oral reports in the classroom, performing duties that are given them, volunteering to do jobs that present themselves, practicing honesty and dependability, improving scholastic standing—all these things take students a rung higher on the ladder of self-improvement.

Not only in the classroom can higher attainment be achieved, but also in activities outside the regular clubs, such as the Future Homemakers of America, Future Teachers of America, Junior Classical League, Y-teens, Hi-Y, and Library Club are open to most students and are glad to receive their membership.

The National Forensic League is open to all students, its purpose being competition in community service in public speaking, debating, and parliamentary and governmental processes. The debate team is chosen from students who wish to try out for it. Our radio station, of which we are very proud, was the first of its kind in the state and one of the first in the South. The Radio Guild is open to members of the WHPS staff. The experience gained in this field would prove invaluable to anyone.

The Pointer and Pematic staffs offer experience in writing and the mechanism of publishing newspapers and yearbooks.

The music department of High Point High is excellent. The boys' and girls' choruses are open to all interested students. The A Cappella Choir is a chosen group. The band and orchestra provide the best in instrumental training.

It seems shameful that every student of High Point High does not take advantage of at least one opportunity offered in clubs and organizations.

Uncle Sam Beckons

To borrow a phrase from a well-known manufacturer—"There's a uniform in your future."

Americans, who have known little of peace-time armies, find that prospect an unnatural and often distasteful one. For many teen-age boys, the prospect of military service puts a damper on high school life and plans for college or a career after high school graduation.

The boy in high school may help to make his days in uniform a profitable interlude in his life, by realizing while he is in high school that the call to service must be faced, and approaching the situation maturely.

There are three specific things he can do:

- (1) Finish high school and get as much further training as possible.
- (2) Take math courses. They may swing a better job for him.
- (3) Learn all he can about what the services have to offer.

Yes, there's a uniform in your future; but that uniform can bring travel, education, and experience, which will be useful for the rest of your life. Since it has to be done, that uniformed future may as well be planned so as to pay the greatest dividends possible.

THE POINTER



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Station Breaks In Hounds



WHPS staff members await the signal to begin broadcasting from the high school radio station. They are, from left to right: first row; Paul Fine, Shelby Jean Grady; second row: H. J. York, Bob Marsh, Ellen Foscoe; third row: Bob Blair, Max Parrish.

Picture if you can, a telephone conversation such as this:

First Boy: "Say, who has the radio station key?"

Second Boy: (Pause) "Well, H. J. York said that Don Jacobs was going to give it to Dan Odum; and then Larry Ledbetter said that Lee Groome took it by to Max Parrish, who gave it to Bob Blair for him to give to somebody to give to Don Jacobs."

A rather complicated matter. And here's a tip—the reason Betsy Lewis goes around with a savage gleam in her eye and Bill Bailey seems ready to jump out the window any minute, is simply because the worry and work of being WHPS program directors is beginning to tell on them.

Yes, strange things go on when harassed students try to broadcast. Undoubtedly the strangest thing that ever happened to these future engineers and announcers of the radio world, was the first time they ever laid their unbelieving eyes on the tiny room off the stage, professionally known as WHPS.

In the first place, the build-up is terrific. The steep, narrow, winding stairway; the rickety old door with a broken pane, just for convenience; and the sign, apparently written in blood, which warns "Keep Out!"

Then they see it. The homey little room in which happy con-

fusion seems to be the whole theme. At first it all seems a maze of records, scripts, and machines with dials all over them. The newcomers are patiently taught the ropes until at last they are ready to announce or engineer on their own.

Of course there are many ups and down . . . downs, like when an announcer rolls through a station break as smoothly as possible since the beating of his heart almost knocks the microphone down, only to discover, when all is calm (?) again, that the mike never was turned on! But the ups (bless em!) make up for everything else, and it isn't long before all those radio hounds decide that, after all, they really truly love it!

Silence Is Golden

If you have trouble talking to a friend of yours, keep in mind that **Men of few words are the best men. A wise head makes a close mouth. And after all, Brevity is the soul of wit. You know that Still water runs deep. And you may agree that In deepest water is the best fishing.** But do accept a word of caution: **Beware of a silent dog and still water.**

With all of this wisdom, you, too, may become the strong, silent type. Silence is a friend that will never betray.—Copied from 'Read.'

Pointer Personalities

ALMA YIP

If you ever go into a classroom and see a certain pleased look on a teacher's face, you'll know Alma Yip has been there. Her reputation of all A's makes her well-known and well-liked all over school.

However, her all-A record isn't all, by any means, that makes her so popular among her friends. Her cheerful, smiling face would do the trick alone; but add her wonderful personality and she can't be beat.

Alma is national treasurer of the J. C. L., which is quite an honor. Because of this, she had the privilege of going to Cincinnati last summer, where a meeting of all officers was being held. Alma is also in the A Cappella Choir, and she says it is her favorite subject.

Since this little dark-haired girl's favorite sports are football and basketball, you'll nearly always see her at one of the games, bursting with school spirit. Her favorite hobby is helping her little brother with his favorite hobby, photography.

Nothing pleases Alma more than to sit down with a big hunk of her favorite food, strawberry shortcake (drool); and watch her favorite comedians, Dean Martin and Jerry Lewis. No one but Alma could accomplish such a task—eat and watch Martin and Lewis, all at the same time. How does she do it? "Simple," she says.

Alma loves to travel, and for this reason she says she wants to go as far away as possible to college. At present she plans to go to the University of Maryland where, at the present moment, she thinks she will major in chemistry.

BUDDY SHAPARD

The following is dedicated to the "unfortunate"—those who have not yet met blonde-haired, blue-eyed, witty Buddy Shapard.

Buddy moved to High Point three years ago, and since that time has made many friends. If it's possible for you to drag him away from the water (the kind you swim in) long enough to talk to him, you'll find it quite an interesting experience. However, be sure you are in a laughing mood, because Buddy is quite a wit. You can be sure you'll be laughing before you leave.

Buddy is an outstanding member of the swimming team, and recently spent two weeks in Florida at a swimming clinic. He is also a member of the J. C. L., Monogram Club, Hi-Y, A. Y., and A. A. U.

When asked about his favorite subject, Buddy's heartbeat quickened, his eyes gleamed wickedly, and he replied, "Lunch and girls, or should that be girls and lunch?" Oh yes, he also mentioned something about chemistry, with all due respects to his English, history, geometry and typing teachers. Between hot tamales, his favorite food, Buddy devotes his spare time to his hobby, collecting guns, which are dated as far back as 1861.

Buddy's other hobby, which he took up in the middle of last summer is hypnotizing. This, as Buddy says, is a lot of fun, and proves to be very interesting.

By the way, if you ever see Buddy, and he isn't in his usual state of cheerfulness, here's a pass word that makes him light up like a neon sign: Greensboro.

After graduation Buddy plans to attend U. N. C.

All Wise Students May Profit From Parable Told In Dream

Mid-Term Eve was upon us again. My books upon the table lay in orderly confusion. The words before my eyes did play an optical illusion.

My head nodded, and I slept. And while I slept I dreamed a dream:

In the far corner of a rocky field I saw a mother bird giving her three youngsters a flying lesson.

The first youngster began at once his daily lessons, eager to see new sights and reach more lofty heights.

The second announced that he could fly tomorrow, but today he would watch the sights go by.

The third cried that the nest was cozy, and he cared not to fly but would remain where he was.

Now I saw in my dream a huge mower approach the cozy nest. Upon seeing it, the first bird flew swiftly out of danger. As it drew closer, the second made a desperate effort, and escaped. The third was crushed as the mower passed over.

This parable was then to me explained.

The mother bird was a teacher; the young, three types of students. The mower loomed as terrifying as a mid-term exam. The first is a wise student who reviews steadily, is serious about his work, and is ready when the day arrives.

The second represents the foolish student who waits and "crams," gets panicky, and isn't fully prepared.

The third is the useless student who cares nothing for study and hardly looks at a book.

Exams are over now. There's a feeling of relief in the air, mixed with a suspense as to what tales the report cards will tell. Perhaps they will be the cause of some overdue New Year's resolutions.

There will be other occasions for us to personify the first wise little bird—let us try.

From Party Poopers To Cats, Teen Slangage Is Real Gone!

Teen talk and crazy fads are everywhere in the United States. The teen-agers have a language all their own, and they've "got it made in the shade" ("if they don't mess up").

Slang terms change from year to year, and this year they are crazy, man, crazy! Real gone!

If a teen-ager asks for "the mill" so he can "shag to the moon with a slick chick," don't be alarmed. He isn't crazy! (at least not yet) He just wants the car so he can take his girl to a drive-in movie.

If a teen-ager says "Shall we let's," he means "let's go"; and "Lesent" means "No, let's not go." If he is upset, he's "all shook." To "tool it" means to hurry, and if he makes a mistake he has "pulled a boo-boo."

A "party pooper" is a "killjoy," a "wheel" is an important person, and an "odd ball" is what used to be "a square." (Before that, it was someone who wasn't "hep to the jive.")

In 1944 a girl who was going steady polished only the nail of her third finger, left hand. If she liked a certain boy but wasn't going steady, she polished them all except that one nail. And if she was "just looking" she polished them all.

Today, however, the fad has changed. A girl who is going steady laces her shoes backward—from the top down; and if she isn't going steady, but likes a certain boy, she laces one shoe backwards. Shoes laced right mean "just looking."

Teen-age boys just there are only two ways to dress:

A "cat" wears suede shoes, yellow-corduroy peg pants or black draped pants, and a narrow belt.

A "stomper" wears low, western-cut levis, western shirts with the three top snaps open and a wide leather belt with his name on the back and a big silver buckle.

It just wouldn't pay to learn new fads or expressions. By the time you learned them a "cat" would be a "space kitty" and a "stomper" a "beat feeter."

Small Talk

If you are coming around the corner at Tower Two, and hear a voice say, "Hurry up, Becke; its your move," don't be alarmed. Gail Armstrong seems to have acquired a portable checker board, and Becke Blackwell is her favorite opponent.

Richard Hallman would have firm grounds for a case of forgery against several people in Mrs. Steven's fourth period geometry class. It seems Richard decided to start a letter saying "no more homework"; and as he passed it on, everyone signed Richard's name instead of his own!

Who are the mean characters who would strangle the poor fish in Miss Smith's aquarium by pouring green ink into it?

Maybe you have noticed the addition of several iron posts at the end of the sidewalks around school. According to Mr. Vance, these posts are to keep cars off the campus where they don't belong. Chains keep both cars and people out, but posts permit people walking to pass through.

If you happen to be walking down the hall and a friend of yours who's a Junior comes running up flashing his hand around in your face, don't think he is trying to blind you. Probably your friend is just overly enthusiastic about his new class ring!

Class Rings Are Still Stylish

For approximately twenty-five years High Point High School students have worn a class ring that is distinctly different in design and shape from those of most schools and has changed very little in pattern.

It is thought that Mr. T. R. Johnson designed the ring in the early 1920's when he was principal of High Point High. The Star Engraving Company took the contract to make the rings then, and has continued to do so ever since. Probably one of the artists from that company completed the final design of the ring, using Mr. Johnson's suggestions.

At that time the ring could not be obtained with a stone; this feature was added in later years. There have been a few minor changes made in the design since 1920, but the main idea is still the same.