

THE LEXHIPEP

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LEXINGTON, N. C., APRIL 28, 1925

THE LITERARY CUP

Lexington High School is to be congratulated on winning the literary cup with such a large margin. It is interesting to note that every contestant in the literary events from Lexington won some honor, and that both speakers were from the freshman class, giving promise of future success. We are hoping to be winners for two more years at least, this securing permanent possession of the cup.

We are proud indeed of the members of our Tennis Doubles Team, who have won for us the first state honors Lexington High has possessed. The fact that our boys team is the champion of the state should encourage the girls to put more effort and work into theirs.

Now that the Washington trip is definitely decided upon for the seniors, they are eagerly planning details, and expectantly looking forward to the time to start. We think this is the finest thing of its kind that has ever been provided for Lexington High School students, and hope it will become a settled custom in this school. Seniors appreciate greatly the cooperation and excellent spirit shown by the Parent-Teachers Association and other organizations in

town in consenting to help in the financial part of the trip.

PYTHAGORAS, THE MATHEMATICIAN

First among the interesting figures in the history of mathematics is Pythagoras, who was born at Samos sometime between 584-581 B. C. He was the son of Mnesarchus and was thought to have been the pupil of Pherecydes. Pythagoras was known as a man of great learning in Ionia, but he moved in 530 B. C. from Ionia and settled at Crotona in Magna Graecia. At Crotona he formed a society, which attracted men and women from throughout Italy. The purpose of the club was religious, not political, but it became involved in grave struggles with the people. The meeting house of the Pythagoreans was set on fire and only a few escaped, (it is not known whether Pythagoras was able to escape or not).

He travelled from Persia to Gaul in search of wisdom. He learned many things, but never committed any of them to writing; that is why Plato and Aristotle knew nothing about him and his works.

Among the secret teachings of the Pythagoreans are found these prohibitions: "Never sit on a quart measure, never step across the beam of a balance, never eat beans or the heart of an animal, never stir fire with iron, never look in a mirror beside a light". These facts go to show that they were a primitive and superstitious people.

The followers of Pythagoras were very fond of arranging things in pairs and in finding ten such pairs. They were the first people to assert that the Earth was round, but they believed it revolved around a central fire (not the sun) which was invisible. The heaven of stars, the sun, the moon, the five then known planets, and the earth made only nine things, so the Pythagoreans invented a counter earth to make ten, so they would have their favorite number.

Geometry was founded by the Ionic school, but the Pythagoreans were the first to make Geometry a factor of liberal education, by improvement in definition, by systematization, and by the use of deduction. Pythagoras is given the credit of the theorem

"The square on the Hypotenure of a right triangle is equivalent to the sum of the squares on the other two sides", although this fact was known before this time. He was the first to use Geometry in a specialized form, and through his followers mathematics became a factor in education.

ARNOLD WEAVER.

DID YOU KNOW?

That this is the fourth straight year that our debating teams have gone to Chapel Hill?

That the affirmative team went into the semi-final round, undefeated?

That the negative team drew a tough competitor in the first round?

That three of the four debaters will finish this year?

That L. H. S. can boast of the best doubles tennis team in North Carolina?

That L. H. S. won her first state honors this year?

That Greensboro was defeated in the final round for the championship?

That our doubles team has won 8 matches and lost none?

That every member of the team is a senior?

That this is the first year that we have been represented in track at the state meet?

That our boys put up a brave effort, but in vain?

That Hutchins won his heat in the 220 yard dash?

That Joe Moffitt couldn't find his shoes, and therefore got to rest?

That Benny, Bud, Bill and Bob had tough luck?

That every man will return next year?

That we are expecting big things of our track team next year?