

It seems appropriate in this last issue of the High Times to air the thoughts of several graduating seniors. It is my pleasure, as editor of this year's edition, to relinquish the space customarily devoted to the editor's opinion for this purpose.

Ann Jones, Editor

THOUGHTS ON LEAVING HIGH SCHOOL

--two essays and one poem by
Seniors at SHS.

Graduation is an event that all seniors await with mixed emotions. This one ceremony marks the culmination of twelve long years of arduous work. At the same time it is the commencement of a new way of life.

The old buildings we've known for so long and grown to love will no longer be our "second home". No more will we share the joys of homecoming and letter day. The thrill of newly-arrived annuals will be a thing of the past. There will be college annuals and homecoming days, but old friends won't be there together to share this excitement.

We've known what to expect when the summer came to an end. This year an unknown world is waiting to engulf us. A freedom we've never possessed stares us in the face as we travel to work, trade school, business school, college, or university.

Graduation is really a big step forward. Best friends will be separated by hundreds of miles. Home will be a place we visit, rather than live there with Mother and Dad.

Happiness is appropriate at this time, as is sadness. Joy prevails because a big milestone has been reached. Fear or hesitation to venture into the unknown tends to dull the excitement, but only slightly. Elated to finish high school and leave home? Or melancholy to leave the place that holds so many memories?

Every senior must honestly confess that graduation brings tears of joy and sorrow.

Gloria Little

When I think of God's creating the earth in only seven days, I stop to think what I have to show for my four years of high school, only to realize that these four years have created, in a sense, me. I have made an effort to analyze my ideas and ideals and found that each year has played its role in developing and deviating my personality. I, like many others, realize that I am standing on the last rung of the ladder now. The top of the ladder causes one to look back and, perhaps, wish he could relive those incidents of the past. Knowing that I cannot relive all of my mistakes, I am comforted by my philosophy that realizing is learning.

Have I earned the label "dignified" which is associated with the senior? I can only say that my eyes have opened wider and have seen farther into the depths of the meaning of true ambition. With graduation this year, I shall leave much knowledge behind which I might have taken with me had I put forth more effort on those school nights when I had more important duties than lessons. Still, there are those things I have obtained. The many mathematical, historical, and grammatical facts I have learned will have a chance to play their hand in college. Then, there are those things which have helped develop the real me which can never be taken away.

Yes, leaving high school is a very important step. I only hope I take this advancement without falling even though I may stumble at times.

Lou Powell

Oh, those days of high school,
How will I ever forget them?

I can soon remember them as cool,
When I have passed out of those doors.