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## 'Blithe Spirit' Cast At Work

Cast members for the first dramatic production, "Blithe Spirit" have been selected from a large number that turned out for the tryouts and are already at work.

Gene Arnold will play the part of Charles Condomine, a writer, and Peggy Jones is Ruth Condomine, his wife. Sue Yelverton is Elvira, Charles's first wife who returns from the dead. Bill Toler and Norma Savage are Dr. and Mrs. Bradman, friends of the Condomines. Janice Pierce is the maid in the Condomine household.

Lucinda Oliver plays Madam Arcati, an eccentric medium whose actions disrupt the entire household. She holds a seance as requested by Charles; but when she brings his first wife back from the

dead, he doesn't like it at all. Doris Cooper is the voice of Daphene, Madam Arcati's connection with the other world.

### Stage Is Set

Action of the play, a highly improbable farce in three acts by Noel Coward, takes place in the living room of Charles Condomine's house in Kent, England. It is the story of a writer who wants to experience a seance given by a real medium. At first he doesn't believe in the powers of Madam Arcati, but she convinces him differently.

### Behind The Scenes

There is much activity backstage as well as on the stage when a play is produced. Main "actors" backstage are Erwin Robbins,

business manager; Mimi Brewer, student director; Mae Davis, heading the advertising for the playbill and in charge of the ushers. Mary Buchan is doing make-up, and Judy Kabo supervises the costumes and poster making. Billy McIntyre is stage manager, and with his are Judy Brewer and Carolyn Rabil, who are in charge of properties. Larry Gupton designed the set, Foy Bradshaw is head of ticket sales and Myra Floyd is head of the prompters.

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Have you used the guidance program?

# THE BLACKBIRD

Do you eat a good breakfast everyday?

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ROCKY MOUNT, N. C. TUESDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1954

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## Speaker Urges Perfection

"Don't try to just get by; aim for perfection," said the Reverend Thomas Smyth, local minister, in his address at the annual fall tapping ceremony of the Romonoca chapter of the National Honor Society in the school auditorium, Friday, October 22.

Reverend Smyth, who is the Episcopal minister in Rocky Mount, was the guest speaker for the service.

Peggy Whitehurst, Jeanette McIntyre, Joyce Ann Hayes, Joyce Pierce, Carolyn Rick, Nancy Newbold, Mary Frances Warren, and Wiley Shearin are the eight outstanding seniors who were tapped in the impressive candlelight ceremony.

Jane Hatchett and Erwin Robbins opened the program, Jane conducting the devotional and Erwin singing, "I Walk With God." Bobby Savage, president of the society explained the principles and ideals of the organization.

Audrey Kennedy, representing character; Julian Aldridge, service; Bill Kincheloe, leadership; and Kay Williford, scholarship, explained the four basic qualities

one must possess in order to be eligible for membership. During the tapping background music, "Clair de Lune" was provided by Faye Batts.

Students are chosen for membership by the members of the society and the faculty. One third of the necessary average is determined by the students, another third by the vote of the teachers, and the individual scholastic averages count another third.

Juniors will be given their first opportunity for membership next spring and the seniors their last.

## Project Display

"Have you done your project yet?" is a familiar and oft heard question around school these days since almost everyone is working on either a French or English or a biology project.

In room 116 the "French Quarter" in RMSH, maps have the boundaries of this sector covered. On the maps you'll see Paris, the mountain ranges and all the surrounding countries and bodies of water.

(See Projects On Page 6)

## Musettes Active, Help Teachers, Give Coke Party

"Achieving Through Participation" is this year's theme for the Musettes, and it describes them as one of the most active clubs in school.

This organization is for students who are interested in becoming teachers. Throughout the year, the Musettes sponsor many worthwhile projects such as placing a "Thought For The Week" on the bulletin, writing a letter of welcome to new teachers, helping them on the first day of school, and giving a Coca-Cola party for new teachers.

Bids were issued to Margaret Williams, Myra Floyd, Patsey Higson, Shirley Parham, Sylvia Poland, Katherine Batten and Bruce Miller. The first meeting of year was a social hour honoring them. Following the social hour a report of the CTA Convention was given by Jessie Pittman. Mrs. R. H. Baker, a member of the Delta Kappa Gamma, the teacher's service organization which sponsors the Musettes, entertained this group at her home for its second meeting of the year.

(See Musettes on Page 6)

## Sales End, Sophs Lead

As the magazine campaign drew to a close, it was evident to the entire student body that the school was falling short of its 9,000 dollar goal even though the final tabulation has not been announced.

Mr. Doak, representative of the Curtiss Publishing Company, conducted an assembly, October 6, to explain the campaign and show the prizes that would be awarded the high salesmen of each day and the winner of the annual project.

## Magician Here

Chan Loo, famous magician, appeared today directly from the Mystery Spectacle, Sim Sala Bim in China.

Chan Loo, a deft and skillful finger, wove a magic web of wonder and romance as he performed the feats which have been carefully guarded secrets of ancient China's Imperial Court for thousands of years.

In China, the oldest civilized country in the world, secrets of magical mysteries have been carefully guarded for many thousands of years. This is the setting from which came Chan Loo, who is also known as the mad mandarin.

The overall salesman will have the opportunity to select 35 dollars worth of merchandise from a local firm. Other prizes given are watches, fishing sets, knives and the high homeroom receives a free trip to Raleigh to attend the Ice Capades.

Part of the money received will stay in the school. Each class keeps one third of its earnings.

Mr. Doak wrote a challenge to the students: Goldsboro — 13, Rocky Mount — 13; Goldsboro — \$9,000, Rocky Mount — ????

## 3 RMSHS Boys Attend Congress

Bobby Savage and Fred Ruben were representatives from RMHS at the State Student Council Congress. Marvin Barnes was a representative at national congress so he went to the state congress to lead a discussion group.

It was voted by the student council to invite the SSCC to be RMHS's guest next year. If they accept, RMHS's president would automatically be treasury for the congress. In case they refuse, Fred Ruben would be nominated for an office.

Marvin lead a discussion group on "Projects for the Student Council."

Shelby was the host of the state congress this year. Bobby drove the boys down on Sunday, October 24 to register and got back the 26.

## Seniors Get List Of Privileges

Attention, all students!

Seniors have been granted the following privileges for 1954-55. So read, take note and enjoy if you are a senior, but respect if you are an underclassman.

After considering the suggested privilege sent in by senior homerooms, the administration granted the following:

1. All seniors will be dismissed for lunch at 12:33. (They get a two-minute start for lunch on underclassmen.)

2. During the first five minutes of lunch all seniors may break in either cafeteria line in front of the juniors and sophomores. (Another jump toward getting lunch earlier.)

3. The walk by the flagpole will be known as "Senior Walk" and may be used by seniors only. (Teachers, of course, are seniors,

but underclassmen are requested to stay off.)

4. Seniors will be dismissed first from assemblies with the underclassmen remaining seated until the last senior has left. (This is to prevent their being trampled to death before they finally get that little piece of sheepskin.)

5. The senior class meeting will be turned over entirely to class business, excluding group guidance. After the business is completed, the seniors will be dismissed for lunch. (That's what they get for having so much business!)

Members of the Privileges Committee were Jane Hatchett, Jackie Davis, Pat Edwards, Ronnie Felton, Bill Toler, Kenneth Killibrew and Doris Cooper, chairman. They were appointed by Nancy Newbold, the president of the senior class.

## Shrine Bowl Yells

Another laurel was added to Rocky Mount's honor crown with the announcement that the local cheerleaders have been selected to be the yell leaders for North Carolina in the Shrine Bowl at Charlotte, December 6.

This game will be played between Senior all stars of North and South Carolina. The players are to be selected later by the coaches and sports writers.

Gene Arnold is head cheerleader, others on the squad are Charles Bateman, Margie Parker, Bill Nelms, Sue Yelverton, Marvin Barnes, Nancy Newbold, Ray Joyner, Judy Carr, and Peggy Daniels. The group will receive an all expense paid trip to Charlotte for the contest sponsored by the Shrine Club to benefit worth while charities.



Chan Loo