

THE LEXHIPEP

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Masquers Present Commencement Play

Forty years ago, when Vincent Gilmore's mighty troupe pitched their big one acre tent in a vacant lot on Main Street, Lexington hummed with activity in preparation for the first night performance of Gilmore's troupe in "Uncle Tom's Cabin." The feeling ran high among some of the staunch old southern bloods and hence, cutting scrapes, likker fights and brawls grew out of the first performance.

Kerosene jets sputtered in their iron brackets and cast vague shadows across the faces of high-hatted barkers with their long mustaches and nasal gusto. The price of admission was ten and twenty-five cents to one and all, the beer was free, the show lasted three hours, in five acts with 33 changes of elaborate but scarred scenery.

That was Lexington forty years ago and Lexington has changed in forty years. Even "Uncle Tom's Cabin" has changed: a fellow named Charles Townsend has carefully rewritten the production until a finer element of drama and human appeal has been injected through the medium of such characters as Uncle Tom, St. Clare, Little Eva, Simon Legree, Topsy, Aunt Ophelia, Liza and others.

The "Uncle Tom's Cabin" that the Masquers will present tonight is a new and different melodrama. When Uncle Tom dies, you won't cry, you'll scream with tears in your eyes. When Little Eva goes to Heaven, she won't go on an old Missouri mule, but beautiful lighting effects will give the audience a feeling of proximity to those pearly gates. When Legree comes out of the forest primeval and snaps his blacksnake and sends the long ugly lashes winding about the body of poor Uncle Tom, you'll reach for a Camel and curse Simon Legree and those jangled nerves. St. Clare, the drunken father of Little Eva, will elaborate the set with his soft drawling resonance and trailing mustache and haunting laughter. Aunt Ophelia will take the starch out of your collars when she gets hot-cha and says "Hoity-toity, Parson, take y'all's hand off'n that Leva."

When Liza crosses the river of jagged ice (furnished by the Lexington Ice and Coal Co.), pursued by the dark eyed sheriff and his long eared blood hounds (Donald Wagoner and his Willaria products) you'll stand up and cheer as thousands cheered when Calvacade came down the home stretch three necks in the lead. When Topsy K. O.'s Gumption Cute, you'll forget yourself and yell as if you were at a boxing show.

I have been backstage for the last seven or eight rehearsals and what goes on back there—the hard work, the panning, the criticisms of Director Walser, and the great amount of interest taken in the

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DEDICATION

To our classmates Lillian Bernhardt, Billy Grimes and Fred Smith, whose companionship we miss and whose memory we shall always cherish, we, the class of 1935, dedicate this, our Senior Issue of the Lexhipep.

Jr.-Senior Banquet Enjoyed

On Friday night, May 3, the annual Junior-Senior Banquet was held in the American Legion Hut. Decorations were made carnival style—gaily colored streamers, balloons, place cards and waitresses dressed appropriately as clowns. The waitresses included Sis Clodfelter, Mae Vestal Leonard, Sarah Redwine, Mary Patterson, Edith Ebelein, Jean Witherspoon, Nell Hartzog, Henry Etta Link, Anna Green, Betsy Moffitt, Frances Peeler, Helen Rhodes, Margie Walser, Louise Bingham, Kitty Lou Thompson, Frances Earnhart, Louise Berrier and Sallie Lee Harmon.

The program consisted of humorous addresses by Harold Harrison, president of the Junior Class; Mr. Kicheloe; George Corn, in his toast to the seniors; Foyell Smith, in his response: solos by Lib Revelle and Harold Harrison; and music furnished by the Black Pheasants, a local orchestra.

A delicious three course dinner was served, at the conclusion of which favors were presented to the seniors in the form of attractive boxes of stationery. The banquet was closed with the singing of the Alma Mater. Immediately following the banquet, a dance was given with the music by the same orchestra. Several teachers and parents were present at the dance.

SENIORS IN ACTIVITIES

The senior class of '35 has taken a great interest in all outside activities and is well represented in the various clubs and organizations.

Those who went out for football include Glover Rogers, captain, John Myers, Bill Bailey, Smith Young, Oliver Briggs, Charles Clodfelter, Hale Smith and J. D. Redwine. The basketball stars were Bill Bailey, Glover Rogers, Smith Young, Charles Clodfelter, John Myers and Leonard Surratt. The basketball girls were Stamey Leonard, Sarah Green, Lib Revelle, Louise Ebelein, Mildred Ann Critcher and Virginia Bower. These girls and boys worked hard and should be commended for their splendid work.

The senior class furnished the outstanding members on the Lexhipep staff of '35. Mary Martin has edited this year's Lexhipep with much success and has made it a bigger and better paper. Others on the staff were Helen Wright, assistant editor-in-chief; Virginia Bower and Foyell Smith, literary editors; Arthur Daniel, society editor; Virginia Witherspoon, senior class

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Lexington Wins Honors In Contest

Lexington High School, as in former years, took a keen interest this spring in preparing for the events in the State High School Music Contest held in Greensboro. In accordance with educational procedure the requirements are raised each year, a much more difficult program of music being chosen for contesting this year than in others. Those who prepared the numbers gained much from the experience.

The band under the direction of Mr. Jolly made a creditable showing in comparison with those schools which have full time directors, and with those schools which have much more money invested in instruments which enable them to have a perfectly balanced organization.

As trumpet soloist, Jack Pickett tied for first place with a young man, much more mature and experienced, and will share with this young man from Spruce Pine the honor of possessing the silver cup for the year. Jack was one of the four soloists out of the group of ten who was allowed to compete the solo required.

The trio of girls' voices entered were Macy Watson, Caroline Critcher and Inez Briggs, competing with some ten or twelve other such groups.

Macy Watson, who has entered so enthusiastically for three years in Class B schools, won in her class this year. The favorable criticisms and comments of the judges gave to Macy the scholarship which the Woman's College of the U. N. C. offers each year. This is a signal honor because to do this her voice was judged in comparison with fifty-five other girls' voices from the several classes of schools, from the size of Charlotte and Raleigh

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MISS MORGAN LEAVES FACULTY

Miss Evelyn Morgan, who has been a member of the L. H. S. faculty for the past five years, has accepted a position as society editor for the Burlington newspaper. Miss Morgan taught American history and glee club. Through Miss Morgan's untiring efforts and interest the glee club has reached exceptional heights during the five years that she has been here, and this year won coveted recognition in the contest at Greensboro. During Miss Morgan's career here she also produced many pleasing operettas. She will be missed a great deal in our extra-curricular activities.

Commencement Plans Completed

NINETY-THREE TO GRADUATE

Commencement days are here and with them come many activities in Lexington High School. Commencement really opened with the exhibit which was held on Friday, May 10, in the different departments of the school. These exhibits aroused much interest throughout the student body as well as throughout the town in general. Next on the graduation program comes the play tonight, "Uncle Tom's Cabin," sponsored by the Masquers under the direction of Mr. Walser.

On Sunday night, May 19, the Baccalaureate sermon will be preached in the high school auditorium by Dr. W. H. Fraser, President of Queens Chicora College. The music for this occasion will be in charge of the Glee Club and Miss Morgan, former music instructor, will return here to direct the chorus.

Tuesday afternoon class day will be held on the lawn of Century Oaks. At this time, as is the annual custom, the class poem, prophecy, history, and last will and testament

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HONOR SOCIETY TAPS NEW MEMBERS

The National Honor Society held its final meeting in the auditorium on Tuesday morning, May 14th. Mr. Honeycutt made an inspiring talk relative to the initiation of new members. Following this four old club members gave brief discussions on the four essentials of membership—scholarship, leadership, service and character. Then the new members were called to the stage and pledged into the society. Those taken in are Helen McDade and Roy Hamilton.

NEXT YEAR'S LEXHIPEP STAFF

Below is the Lexhipep staff for the school year 1935-36:

Editor-in-Chief, Jimmy Morris; assistant Editor-in-Chief, Henry Etta Link; Literary Editor, chairman, Carolyn Critcher; Literary Editor, Jean Witherspoon; Literary Editor, Odessa Snow; Sport Editor, Charles Cecil, chairman, Sport Editor, Mae Vestal Leonard; Sport Editor, Ralph Morris; Social Editor, Natalie Krug, chairman; Social Editor, Margaret Spruill; Joke Editor, Homer Billings, chairman; Joke Editor, Mahippa Harb.

Class Representatives

Senior, Sara Starr; Junior, Robert Clayton; Sophomore, Marguerite Thomason; Freshman, Virginia Beck; Sub-freshman, — — — — —???

Business Staff

Business Manager, Leroy Wilson; assistant Business Manager, Clinard Finch; Distribution Manager, Ocko Pickett.