

Class History for '38

BY JOE MILLER ELKINS

Dear friends: If you will give me your kind attention for a few moments, I will relate to you the story of a marvelous class—the most wonderful class that ever happened at old Murphy, namely the class of 1938. Its life continued but four short years, yet every day of those four years was crowded with events. When the members of this remarkable class have all achieved the fame on honors that are bound to come to them, the memories of these four years will linger in the hearts of each and every one.

It has often been remarked that history has a peculiar way of repeating itself, and so to a certain extent the history of this class is much like the history of classes which have gone before, and of others which will follow.

So remembering that to many people history is a rather dull subject except to those who have taken part in it personally, the historian of the Class of 1938 will strive to be as brief as possible, to touch only upon those subjects which are of significance not only to the class but to others.

This class started out its life together as freshmen in 1934. At that time the total enrollment was 138. By the next year, however, 43 dropped by the wayside to bring the sum to 115. In 1936 99 Juniors were worrying their teachers and at the present time there are 86 Seniors in this, the historic class of '38.

Early in our High School life, a class organization was formed and the following officers selected by way of class leadership. These have been succeeded from time to time as follows:

In the eighth grade the class of 1938 was split into several small groups and these selected various officers. In the ninth grade, however, these were united under the leadership of Billie Jackson as president, assisted by Sara Witherspoon, vice-president, Joe Elkins as secretary and treasurer. In the tenth C. H. Townson served as President, Oscar Taylor was vice-president and Mildred Hill Secretary and Treasurer. This year we are under the guidance of Mildred Hill as president with Billy Jackson vice-president and C. H. Townson as secretary and treasurer.

We believe that the experience gained and the leadership developed will be of decided advantage in the years to come. How often it happens that men and women of affairs have been officers in their class groups at school in class societies which it was an honor to join.

This would appear to be almost enough, but it does not complete the telling of the story by any means. Socially our activities have been all that could be expected of us and perhaps all that it was wise for us to undertake without infringing upon more serious business of classroom, study hall, laboratory and workshop.

We will all look back with pride and happy memories to the Junior-Senior banquet of 1937. The airplane trip around the world was ably led by Pilot C. H. Townson, Co-Pilot Oscar Taylor and Stewardess Mildred Hill and enjoyed by all present despite the fact that winter weather hovered around outside.

The students taking part in the Senior Class Play this year proved themselves to be actors with real talent. The following will be long remembered for the dramatic possibilities they showed in 'What About Betty', Claude Gross as William Grayson, the millionaire broker; Billie Jackson as Margaret Grayson, his wife; C. H. Townson as Richard Grayson, his son; Mary Willard Cooper as Millicent Grayson, his daughter; Francis Calhoun as Lenora Blackstone, a median; Mildred Gentry as Marie Blackstone, her daughter; Jack Barnett as Lord Gifford Bentley, A fortune hunter; Jack Hunt as Joshua Bing, the uncle; Geraldine Shields as Mrs. Clifford, a seamstress; Harold Wells as Charles Clifford, her son; Frank Baker as a bank president; Mildred Hill as Betty, the maid; Joe Elkins as James, the butler.

In point of scholastic attainments, our class has not lagged behind other and year by year the following honors, prizes, and medals—most of them earnestly contested, have been won by good old 1938ers. Oscar Taylor was honored by being elected the Best Citizen for the 1936-'37 and best athlete and friendliest member of the Senior Class.

Before Claud Gross entered our school he was the Best Citizen in 1933

at Coul Creek, Tennessee. Mildred Hill took 2nd place in the State Art Contest in the eighth grade and was Best Citizen in her Junior year.

Billie Jackson has won three outstanding awards in music during her four years in high school and Jack Barnett represented the school in a declamation contest at Mars Hill in 1935.

The marshalls chosen for their three years average last year were:

Chief Marshall: Francis Calhoun who continued the good work this year to become Valedictorian, and Joe Elkins, Mildred Hill, Edith Engle and Anna Jean Grant.

On the field of athletics our class has also been fortunate. The following have distinguished themselves in Football, Basketball or Track.

Oscar Taylor was captain of the Basketball team in his Junior year, chosen for the best all around basketball player in both Junior and Senior years and served as Captain and Quarterback of the football team in his Junior year. Cap'n Dutch Zimmerman won a Letter Award for basketball in 1935-'36, and '37, was Captain of the basketball team during the recent season and captured the award for high scorer in a tournament at Murphy recently.

Claud Gross besides winning a letter in football and basketball in 1936, also placed on the All-Tournament Basketball Team in the Tri-State Tournament at Andrews.

For the girls Louise Leatherwood took first place in the high jump and second place in the broad jump in a track meet in 1936.

Mildred Hill distinguished herself in basketball and won a letter award in her junior year.

Hattie Johnson won the first award, a gold football, in a ticket-selling contest held during last football season by selling 5 dollars worth of tickets.

Since we were Juniors, four of our group have chosen to wed. They are: Oscar Taylor, Jack Hunt, Helen Johnson Leatherwood, and Thelma Newman Hampton. It is but a matter of simple justice to bear witness to the fine friendships formed and the splendid ideals firmly established.

As a class we feel that we have been especially favored in executive and faculty leadership. Who of us will not feel a deep warmth of feeling and tenderness for Superintendent Bueck Principal Wright, Mrs. Lee, Miss Overton, Miss Godfrey, Miss Dennis, Mr. Carrol, Mr. Pitzer, Mr. Chambers, Miss Benton, Mr. and Mrs. Cobb and Miss Whitaker.

During our four years here we have seen many changes for the better in the buildings, equipment and grounds. Several new courses are being offered and more practical training is now enjoyed by quite a number of the students.

Our class motto has been "Out of the Harbor, Into the Channel". Our class colors are blue and silver. Our class flower is the lily.

On every sunny hillside we expect to find shrinking violets which must be looked for in out-of-the-way, shady spots, and at this time we would express our fondness for those of our number whose modesty and retirement have caused them to leave the places of prominence and honors to others. We are not unmindful that the cleverest and most skillful of generals could not win a campaign of any kind without the privates in the rank, without those who, saying little, still do much to add to the comfort and success and happiness of those about them. Who shall say that their service is the less that it is not emblazoned in letters inches high?

A history does not deal with the future. Its function is to tell of the past and the present, but we trust we shall be pardoned if we pause for a moment and with hand shading eyes, look into the years beyond.

What we see may more truly belong to the class prophet, but we cannot refrain from expression of the belief that no class ever has or ever will go forth from this institution with a finer and clearer record than has been made graduating class of 1938. And further, we have firm confidence that in the "Who's Who" of the years ahead, many of our number will appear and reappear, and that all, without a single exception, will find the lasting satisfaction which life well lived in bound to hold.

The curtain is going down on the history of the Class of 1938, but in reality the Big Parade is just commencing. The bugle calls—Forward March!

LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT

BY RICHARD McIVER

We give and bequeath to the dear faculty a sweet and unbroken succession of restful nights and peaceful dreams. It has been a hard strain on them for seniors are said to be difficult to manage. But they have done their duty and verily now shall have their well earned reward. Also we give to the faculty all the amazing knowledge and starting information we have furnished them from time to time on our exam papers. We know that much we have imparted to them in this way must have been entirely new to them as well as to all students and teachers everywhere. We trust that they will also feel at liberty to give out such of this information to the world as they may feel the world is ready to receive.

We give and bequeath to our beloved Superintendent, Prof. H. Bueck, our sincere affection, our deepest reverence, our heartiest gratitude, and the whole unlimited wealth of our eternal memory. In an attempt at partial payment for all he has done for us, we make over to him, here and now, a heavy mortgage on our future in the great unknown beyond.

We leave to Murphy high school as a whole our song, motto, and yells.

We give and bequeath to the 'Cherokee Scout' all the events of our lives, past, present and future. We leave to the juniors the Senior class room, our mirror and pictures. We hope the Senior girls will make use of our mirror to improve their looks as the seniors of 1938 have done.

We give to the following people these personal things:

To our home room teacher, Mrs. Lee, the profound admiration and ever enduring friendship of the class

of 1938. To the football team of next year the ability of Cecil Newman, Bill Queen, Donad Ramsey, Oscar Taylor, and Joe Elkins. We don't know whether we can persuade C. H. Townson and Harold Wells to surrender theirs or not.

To the basketball team the ability of Walter Zimmerman, Oscar Taylor, Claude Gross, and Carlton Wells.

Upon behalf of the class of 1938 Murphy High School of the City of Murphy, State of North Carolina, I ask you on this solemn and serious occasion to listen to her last will and testimony and to receive from her dying hands the few gifts she has bestowed in her last moments. Such things as she has, she hereby gives unto your possession. Listen then one and all, while I read the document as duly drawn up and sworn to.

We the class of 1938 being about to pass out of this sphere of education in full possession of a crammed mind, well trained memory and almost super-human understanding, do make and publish this our last will and testament, hereby making void all former wills or promises made by us at any time heretofore, as to such estate as it has pleased fate and our own strong hands to make and win for us, we do hereby dispose of the same as follows: porcommandhsDft:ewelgdeolowhb-hyj To Dorothy Sneed Mary Willard Cooper's lipstick.

To Barbara Meroney, Jack Barnett's gift of music.

To Wallace Arrant, Warren McDonald's ability but not his beauty. Warren couldn't be coaxed into leaving it behind even for Wallace, who needs it badly.

To Fred Johnson, all of Hubert Well's plans for a perpetual motion

machine, which he has given up hope of ever completing.

To Hob Taylor, J. G. Martin's ability to draw funny pictures.

To the freshman class, any overlooked ends of gum Mildred Hill may have left on the under side of desks or any other likely or unlikely places.

To the Juniors our rightful successors, our seats in the classroom and chapel. Second our Senior dignity; may they uphold it forever. Third any stubs of pencils, erasers, or scraps of paper, that we may leave behind.

Erwin Straus of Berlin began composing music at the age of 9, and at 19 has written four operattas which are enjoying much popularity.

At the sound of a fire alarm 65 blind inmates of New York institution marched from the seventh floor to the street in perfect order in one minute and 40 seconds. No damage of any kind was done, it being only a fire drill.

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