Spring 4-5-1934

The Oracle 04/05/1934

Gorham Normal School

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During this school year, our principal, Dr. Walter E. Russell, has proved his influence by attending many worthwhile educational conferences. The most extensive of these was the American Teachers’ Association conference which was held in Cleveland, Ohio, during the last week of February.

During a Chapel assembly, Doctor Russell reported in an interesting manner the main facts concerning the conference. In a brief summary, he said, "Of the greatest importance to us, as potential teachers, was the lecture of President Rowland of State Teachers’ College at Shippensburg, Pennsylvania. Dr. Rowland emphasized the vital points as to why a teacher training school education is better adapted to the teaching profession, than is a liberal arts education. He said that there was a fundamental difference in the philosophy of the pupil. That the social programs of the teacher training institution are a two fold idea, in that it teaches us what is good, and secondly, how to utilize this gained knowledge. The teacher training institution is a public institution with its aim the development of scholarship to a high degree of attainment. In its practice teaching the pupils receive vital knowledge through practical experiences. In contrast with the liberal arts graduates, the teacher trained students devote their life and ambitions to their work, instead of using the profession as a stop-gap to a different occupation."

Further trends of education as voiced by prominent speakers during many of the convention meetings were reported.

Life certification for teachers of experience which has been common in Maine is being abandoned in many states. State certification for elementary school teachers in the more progressive states is based on graduation from a teacher training course. A course that in some states requires two years and in others three or four. Individuals who have left the teaching profession and their employment are not being permitted to re-enter the profession unless they take further preparation to meet the advanced requirements for certification.

If these conditions now applying in the more progressive states and approved by the American Teachers’ Association were made common in all the states our trained teachers would have a reasonable chance of employment. This would not only improve the quality of teaching in our public schools but would encourage the able graduates of our secondary schools to prepare for the teaching profession.

**COMING ACTIVITIES**

A reply has just been received from the National Archers Association saying that we are eligible to compete in the National Collegiate Telegraphic Archers’ Tournament. This ability to make a relatively high score in the Columbia Round, is necessary for you to be able to participate. Let us not let this revival of the revised maxim, "Good practice makes perfect," and see how high we can put Gorham in the final count.
This quotation might well be taken as the Gorham Normal School's motto in training its teachers. Through directed observation, practice in formulating plans and finally through the activity of teaching, this ideal is carried into effect.

Often before a pupil enters normal school, he or she may ask, "What benefits will I derive from such a short period of practice teaching?" Supervisors have set forth many definite objectives for a student to accomplish during this nine or ten week period. Some of these more evident aims are here listed:

1. To aid the student teacher in developing the knowledge, skills, attitudes, interests, and appreciations required for successful teaching.
2. To give the student definite and concrete experience that he can interpret in his own situation when he enters upon the actual work of teaching.
3. To help develop in the student those personality traits which are desirable for teaching success, such as sympathy, tact, perseverance, sense of humor, sense of justice, enthusiasm, courtesy, and personal appearance.
4. To develop in the student an adequate knowledge of child nature and of the learning processes.
5. To develop in the student the ability to create learning situations and to guide classroom activities in which pupils do the purposing, planning, executing, and judging.
6. To help develop a professional attitude on the student's part.
7. To give the student the opportunity to observe good teaching throughout the training period.
8. To aid the student in co-operating theory courses and subject matter courses with practice teaching.

The purpose of the spring quarter, the Advanced Senior class will have a second quarter of practice teaching. This is the first time that such a privilege has been given the third year division. Their assignments are:

Practice Teaching Appointments for Seniors of the Three Year Course April-June 1934

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<tr>
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<th>Grade 9</th>
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<tr>
<td>Minerals</td>
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<td>Social Science</td>
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<td>History</td>
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<td>French</td>
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<td>Physical Education</td>
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MEETING A FAMOUS PIONEER
By Ronald Hallett

There are few remaining American pioneers. One of these, who perhaps more than anyone else has instilled in our youth the ideals of the pioneers, is Dan Beard. Since this name and the type of manhood it represents is well known to most readers, we will not here delve into his interesting and adventurous life.

I chanced to meet this distinguished scout is an interesting story.

Last summer while a counselor in a Boy's Camp in Pennsylvania, I was enjoying a day's leave from camp and its responsibilities in company with two other counselors. We had hiked to the outskirts of a small town near Scranton. At a fork in the road, we were surprised to confront the following sign: "12 miles to Dan Beard's National Scout Camp." None of us had ever seen this venerable frontiersman although we had read his articles in the Boy Scout Handbook and the magazine he edits, "Boy's Life."

Our destination now became fixed and definite. We searched on, brimming with zeal and interest.

Later we came in view of the famous camp. It was the dinner hour, so we found the even more remote camp not deserted. The sole occupant of one tent, however, showed us the interior of his tent with its cot and chest, his first aid kit, and his cooking utensils with which he always prepared his own food. After that he showed us some very cleverly carved totem poles and some skillful craft work in the shape of an early pioneer's costume. It was he who ushered us into the presence of the man who pushed back the Kentucky frontiers of wilderness.

Dan Beard greeted us cordially and urged us to be informal. He was wearing a searing uniform although apparently he was very old and feeble. His Van Dyke beard reminded me of pictures of George Bernard Shaw, although Mr. Shaw might not deny the comparison.

I became aware of another similarity between Messrs. Shaw and Beard in the characteristic of their views. When Mr. Beard discovered that we were from the Y. M. C. A. experimental camp, his attitude changed. He became very cordial and immediately conducted us through his camp not losing any opportunity to make evident any superiority of his camp to ours. His comments on the Y. M. C. A. projects were not complimentary. His chief grievance seemed to be his idea that the Y. M. C. A. movement is superfluous and unnecessary in light of the Boy Scout movement. I judged that he felt that the Y. M. C. A. is a rival to his "own cause and that no function of the Y. M. C. A. movement prepares boys so adequately to face life and its various situations or fulfills the need of boyhood as well as does the Boy Scout organization.

I have belonged to both organizations, and I have never felt that there is any quarrel between them. Indeed it seems to me that one is the complement of the other. Between them there should be harmony and co-operation.

When we left after a curt farewell, we felt distinctly uncomfortable and were not quite sure whether the wide homage paid Dan Beard was an exalted sense of his own importance or whether the ravages of time and wearing experiences did play havoc with an otherwise amiable disposition.
WHAT THE Y. W. C. A. IS DOING  
"Aunt Abagail's Bomb" has burst and the clever one-act play which was presented Thursday night, March twenty-second was a "booming" success.

This drama was based on the story of two aunts who had been reading in the newspaper of a woman who received a bomb in the mail. Since Aunt Abagail had that very morning refused a beggar food, she felt positive on receiving the box, that they were two more "bomb victims." But, just in time, the charming niece arrives and explains the mysterious contents to be an alarm clock. And again "Aunt's Well that Ends Well."

The following Y. W. C. A. members comprised the cast: Alice Tuck, Aunt Abagail; Marie Clark, Samathy; and Roberta Hooper, the nieces.

Another unusual event to be sponsored by the Young Women's Christian Association was the social held in Center, Saturday evening, March twenty-fourth. Games were played and an entertainment given by girls of the association. This program included a piano duet, by Avis Hinds and Sonia Cohen; a violin solo, Ruth Corey; readings, Doris Lincoln and Emily Stilles. As a featured event, Ruth Stappes, Cleo Stevens, and Ennice Reed presented a play, "The End of the Rainhow."

Such exciting games as motor romance, matching advertisements, pillow-case slipping relay and cracker eating contest proved to be fun for everyone. Enthusiasm became contagious especially at the awarding of prizes for the "beat team."

The committee in charge were: general chairman, Mary Lovejoy; finance, Elva Cotter; program, Evelyn Moulton; refreshments, Ruth Staples; decorations, Retta MacDonald; publicity, Arah Pohle.

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THE ORACLE

POETRY CLUB

Do you know what work the new Poetry Club has done this year and is still doing? Do you know how it started? If not, here is your chance to find out.

Although organized only last November it has a large membership roll and many more would-be poets are waiting to be admitted. When the call was issued by Miss Lewis in October, 1933, about fifty students responded to form the group known as the Poetry Club which meets every Wednesday at 3:30 o'clock. The purpose is to study and enjoy poetry and to form an acquaintance with American poets of today. At the first business meeting the officers were chosen as follows: Stella Nichols, president; Rebecca Miller, vice-president; Winifred Thornton, secretary; Sonia Cohen, treasurer; Bertha Warren, librarian; and Anne Rubinsky, representative to the Club Committee.

Through the efforts of a program committee, books containing the programs for the whole year were printed and sold to the club members. These books contain valuable information for anyone interested in poetry, such as the poets laureate of England, Pulitzer Prize poetry winners, and study questions concerning poetry.

Besides the regular meetings, the club has had several afternoon teas, held in the art room. At one of these social meetings last December, Mr. Woodward, our own Gorham Normal School poet, read his verse to the group. So many requests came for a copy of his poem, "A Little Girl on a Rainy Day," copies of it were printed and given to the members of the club. At another tea, held in January, Mr. Silas Perkins, the poet of Kennebunk, was the guest. His original verse was appreciated by a large audience. At a later meeting, Miss Wood spoke on Emily Dickinson. The speaker at the March tea was Mr. Stewart, who took for his subject "Poetry in the Scriptures."

In February, a Valentine party was held, each member bringing a Valentine on which was written an original verse. Red and white decorations, games and refreshments were provided by a special committee. This party stands out as one of the most enjoyable social times of the year.

When Wilson MacDonald visited the school he presented to the Poetry Club a gift of one of his collections of verse which is prized as a very valuable book in the club library.

There are two branches of the regular club which deserve credit for work accomplished this year. The first, the verse speaking choir, includes all the members of the club. Practice in poetry reading takes place at almost all regular meetings. The second branch of the club is the creative group, which is studying the structure of poetry and experimenting in original versification. Its aim is to write and have printed a pocket of poetry before the end of the year.

THE MIXING BOWL

Are the girls in the dorm taking cooking lessons? Here is a "Recipe for a Spirited Dorm" which was found on one of the study tables.

Mix together a "Pat" Elwell and a "Bee" Soper. Add a "Bee" Cook and an Ella Johnson. Mix well together. Close the "Oven" door and the mixture will rise! (It might be added that this has been tested and approved.)

R. Bennett (looking at the statue of Minerva in the library): "What do you think she is doing, Hattie?"

H. Eaterbrooks (believing the reference to be made to a student): "She is studying library science."

And have you folks heard that Cleo Stevens has "golden hair"? She acquired it at the Y.W. Social. (Maybe she used peroxide!)

Miss Trask (to a little girl at the training school during the preparation of the Art Exhibition): "Are you supposed to be here for a rehearsal?"

Little girl (evidently not hearing just what was asked): "Oh, no, I am an angel."

Well, folks, here is some "Food for Thought."

What is your opinion? We wonder, too, how the members of our faculty would react to such bits of "wisdom."

1. The legislative makes the laws, the executive enforces the laws, and the judiciary interrupts the laws. 2. Ideas are thoughts that strike your brain. They are very important. 3. Ruskum recognized Socrates as his son by a mark that was made when a safety pin was stuck in him when he was a baby. 4. Starches are changed by the saliva into maple sugar, and then the gastric juices into grape.

Miss Keene in Physiology class: "Now Miss MacDonald, where does the color in your lips come from?"

Heard in a loud whisper in the back of the room: "Mine comes from the five and ten cent store."

Curley: "There are several things I can always count on."

Bunny: "What are they?"

Curley: "My fingers."

Keith Jordan

MY HOPE

I think that I shall never see,
A man that's good enough for me,
A man that's tall and blond and fine,
Who to me will devote his time.

A man who has a bright new car
To take me near and take me far.

A man who is so nice and kind,
Who has me always in his mind.

One who has money free to spend,
And to my wishes makes it blend.

A man like this is hard to see
A phantom dreamed by fools like me.

From C4 English I,
With apologies to Joyce Kilmer.

From C4 English I

Brown Street

Milton Nelson

South Portland

Broadway

Henley Grammar School

Geography 8

Hazel Lynch

Arithmetic 7

Ruth Beal

Geography 7

Pat Moody

Literature 7

Winifred Thornton

English 7

Leona Barnes

Pleasant Street

Grade 2

Mary McCarthy

KATHY JORDAN
BOYS' ATHLETICS

BASKETBALL

With the election of Dwight Webb, star guard of the thirty-four team, the season was officially terminated. This year's team has compiled a record of five victories and seven defeats, but in contrast with previous years the schedule has been a difficult one.

The highlights of the season were two victories over Cheverus High School, and a close fought, but unsuccessful effort to avenge an earlier season defeat at Keene, N. H. The varsity lost the game 35-33.

A resume of the season's games is as follows: Gorham 51, Alumni 22; Gorham 28, Bridgton Academy 44; Gorham 49, Portland University 11; Gorham 53, Cheverus 25; Gorham 29, Westbrook High 36; Gorham 36, Salem Teachers College 59; Gorham 21, Westbrook High 28; Gorham 31, R. I. State Teachers 25; Gorham 39, Keene Normal 37; Gorham 28, Salem Teachers College 41; Gorham 33, Keene Normal 55; Gorham 26, Cheverus 19. In total points scored the Green and White team has outscored all opponents 389-367.

After a difficult one.

The team has compiled a record of five victories and Juniors and Seniors, belong the color team honors. The scores of the games:

- Red 13 Green 12
- Yellow 25 Green 12
- Yellow 27 Green 13
- Red 11 Green 12
- Yellow 19 Red 5

JUNIORS WIN BASKETBALL CUP

The color team games served as a good practice period for the class games. In the first class game, Captain Evelyn Martin led her team in a sweeping victory over the Seniors 20 to 12. Then, cheered on by good class spirit, the Juniors found no difficulty in defeating the Advanced Seniors 24 to 6. The Oracle editors wish to extend congratulations to the Juniors.

Although they were overpowered by the Juniors, the Advanced Seniors and the General Seniors put up a good fight for second place. This game ended, fairly satisfactory to all, 17 to 17.

BASKETBALL BANQUET

An invitation was extended to the members of the class teams to attend the banquet held in East Hall dining room, March 29, 1934. After dinner speeches were made by Miss Flint, Stella Nichols, Beatrice Cook, and Ethel Chapman.

Ethel Chapman was elected basketball manager for the year 1934-1935. The members who attended were:

- Stella Nichols, Burnette Bailey, Sebina Regina, Marguerite Boyce, Elinor Dollof, Doris Hunt, Ethel Copeman, Arlene Daggett, Clare Cotteral, Bertha Bridges, Patricia Elwell, Harriet Estabrooks, Arlene MacMillan, and Miss Flint.

VOLLEY BALL

March 22 opened the volley ball season which should give us some interesting class games. Beverly Soper has been chosen as volley ball counselor. Deck tennis is to be scheduled at the same time.

GORHAM NORMAL SCHOOL BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

The third annual small schools basketball tournament conducted by the Gorham Normal School was held in Russel Hall gymnasm March 2nd and 3rd.

Eight teams representing the winners and runners-up of Cumberland and York County leagues participated in the play. Gorham High School, the defending champions, Scarboro High School, Buxton High School, and Falmouth High School, were the winning teams in the first day's play. On Saturday afternoon Gorham defeated Scarboro, and Falmouth defeated Buxton. The final game saw Gorham High School defeat Falmouth High School and win the championship for the second consecutive year.

Following the final game trophies were awarded by Dr. Russell, Principal of the Normal School.

The tournament committee consisting of Dr. Russell, Mr. Wieden, and Mr. Packard carefully handled all the detail necessities by the tournament and are responsible for the great success it proved to be.

ALUMNI NOTES

We wonder how many of you realize a relatively large number of our faculty are graduates of Gorham Normal School. Gorham Normal School graduates may look forward to playing on larger than elementary fields especially if they have had the opportunity of furthering their education.

After receiving her diploma from Gorham, Dean Nellie W. Jordan continued her studies for a B. S. Degree at Boston University. Miss Jeanette Johnson was graduated in the class of 1925 and later received a B. S. Degree from Boston University.

Miss Ethelyn Upton received both a Bachelor's and Master's Degree from Columbia University after she had completed a normal school course at Gorham.

Everett S. Packard, George A. Brown, and Lawrence N. Cilley, instructors in the Industrial Arts Department, have also received diplomas from the Gorham Normal School.

At the Gorham Training School more than half of the supervisors have been graduated from Gorham Normal School. Hayden Laverne Anderson, Principal; has received a Bacheilor's Degree from Boston University after graduation from the normal school. Other Gorham graduates teaching in the Training School are Miss Laura Theberson, Miss Ruth Miller, Miss Alice Wetherell, and Miss Lois Pike.

Miss Mary Pederson, supervisor of the Modern Rural School at West Gorham, is also a graduate of Gorham Normal School.

EXCHANGES

The Keene, New Hampshire, Kronicle is a source of an exchange item worthy of note.

"The Oracle, Gorham Normal School, Gorham, Maine. A very interesting article is contained in a recent issue of this paper, in which the library club in the school, where the library system is under the charge of the students. The literary department is extremely well done."