SPRING FORMAL A SUCCESS

The eighteenth annual May Ball held in Russell Hall Gymnasium on Saturday evening, May ninth, was welcomed with the usual gaiety and success by Gorham Normal Students and their guests.

Attractively dressed and mannered, the young men and women were graciously received by Dr. and Mrs. Walter E. Russell, Dean Nellie W. Jordan, Miss Bolton, Mrs. Clifford O. T. Wieden, Mr. and Mrs. George A. Brown, and Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence N. Cilley.

The gymnasium, transformed into an attractively decorated ballroom under the supervision of Miss Helene Wilry of the Art Department, proved an ideal setting for the delightful music of Stan Blanchard's orchestra of Portland. Refreshments were served at intermission by a committee in charge of Miss Evelyn Littlefield of the Home Economics Department.

We feel that those who attended this year's dance spent a most delightful evening and went away with a desire to be present at future occasions of this sort.


The entertainment committee responsible for the arrangements of music and program was: Mr. Woodward, Mary Sleeper, Paul Metcalfe, Phyllis Lamsiter, Evelyn Thomas, Ada Senior, Alan Payne, Arnold Walker, and Walter Akerley.

Y. W. C. A. ELECTS NEW SENIOR CABINET

The Y. W. C. A. has elected the following members to serve as its 1936-37 cabinet: President, Eleanor Sherburne; Vice-President, Evelyn Foster; Secretary, Eleanor Buck; Treasurer, Barbara Stiles; with the following chairmen: Finance, Louise Sanborn; Program, Frances Oliver; Recreation, Elinor Brown; Social Service, Lorraine Fitzpatrick; World Fellowship, Roberta Henry; Publicity, Evelyn Lord.

The Annual Retreat of the retiring cabinet and the newly elected one will be held at Ocean Park the week-end of May 22. Miss Ethelyn Upton of the advisory board will accompany them.

GORHAM HAS A BIRTHDAY

For the past three weeks, the town of Gorham has been decorating its important historical buildings and homes. Along highway and the square, waving American flags, proclaim the two hundred anniversary of the town of Gorham. A splendid program of a two day tribute to the town and its noble history was dedicated on May 25 and May 26.

The celebration began with a parade at nine o'clock on Monday morning. This parade paused at noteworthy sites in the village, places of singular significance with relation to the progress and growth of Gorham. In the afternoon of the same day John A. Waterman delivered an address.

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POETRY CLUB PRESENTS ONE ACT PLAY "THE LITTLE MIRACLE"

MOTHER'S DAY PLAY GIVEN IN RUSSELL HALL

"The Little Miracle," a play in one act, written by Zoe Akins, Pulitzer prize winner of 1935, was presented in the Russell Hall Auditorium, Monday night, May 18, by members of the Poetry Club. The play was part of the program given by the Poetry Club in observance of Mothers' Day.

The scene of "The Little Miracle" was laid in the humble carpenter's home in Nazareth where Christ spent his boyhood days. It was just after Christ was found talking to the Doctors at Jerusalem, causing a three day delay in the journey, that the play opened. Some of Mary's neighbors came to warn her that she was spoiling the Child because she allowed Him to worry her by such deeds. They predicted a sad end for such waywardness. But Mary, strengthened by faith and love, was not swayed. She steadfastly denied their charges and all three of them, as a sign that her courage was good and found favor with God.

Milton Nelson, Mrs. Ten Eyck, because of her ability to save puppies from being run over, added an unexpected twist to the familiar story of a carpenter's wife, and mother of the Christ child, as interpreted by Eunice Kelley. Her cousin, Elizabeth, an old, mild woman, was played by Reita M. MacDonald. The part of Johanna, the "mother of grown sons," was taken by Ethelyn Pillsbury. Louise Dow portrayed Mary's mother, gentle, fair. Her daughter, Martha, was played by Ann Alden. Burton Merrifield took the parts of children of the village.

Beverly Frye was Wardrobe Mistress and Olive Draper, Property Manager. Paul Chapman was Stage Electrician.

Before the play was presented, Virginia Brown, accompanied by Elizabeth Kelley, pianist, and Virginia Hagen, violinist, sang Schubert's "Ave Maria."

FACULTY ATTENDS ALUMNI MEETING

Several members of the faculty motored to Boston to attend the annual meeting of the Southern New England Branch of Gorham Normal Alumni Association which was held at the Hotel Touraine, Saturday, May 16. They were, Dr. and Mrs. Russell, Dean Nellie W. Jordan, Miss Stone, Mr. Packard, Miss Pike, Mrs. Gross, Miss Prout, Miss Wetherell, Miss Pederson, Mr. Anderson, and Miss Hastings.

SENIOR CLASS ODE CHOSEN

The ode written by Arthur C. Comeau of Gloucester, Massachusetts was selected by a faculty committee of judges as the one to be sung at the Commencement Exercises on June 16. Mr. Comeau's ode was written to the Cornell University tune, "Far Above Cayuga's Waters" and was chosen from a group of odes composed by several senior class members.
THE ORACLE

THE POINT SYSTEM AT GORHAM NORMAL

The merits of the Point System as a means of limiting student office holding has been the topic of discussion at Civic Committee meetings for some weeks. This plan of assessing points for each office to which a student is elected is designed for the purpose of giving more students a chance to participate in school affairs. In some schools it has been necessary to establish the system because of the rule of a few dictatorial students. This is not a reason for advocating its adoption here. Students at Gorham are not dissatisfied with those who have shown initiative in directing affairs here. Many feel, however, that it is an effective means of bringing more reticent but none the less talented persons to the front.

MENTAL SHOCK-ABSORBERS

It has been said that one of the most effective "mental shock-absorbers" is a well-developed sense of humor. Indeed, many a catastrophe has been avoided because someone recognized the amusing aspect of a hapless situation. As any good teacher will readily testify, the difference between disorder and tranquility in the classroom often lies in the attitude with which one faces the troubles that arise.

We have the story of a lad who, being seriously burned with acid, threw himself about in a state of hysteria. His teacher, a very smart professor, in whom a sense of the ridiculous was not lacking, quieted the boy, and even amused him, by calling attention to the deplorable condition of his charred clothing. Akin to this teacher is the one who always maintains a cheerful atmosphere in her school. She laughs when there is truly something to laugh at; she shows her disapproval good-naturedly, when children in their amusement would be cruel to one another. Under her direction, children learn to appreciate real humor and become the happy, tolerant individuals who are ideal as citizens of any community.

Then there is the unfortunate teacher whose idea of discipline is so ill-conceived that she thinks only of suppressing laughter and fun in the schoolroom. Because her countenance easily registers shock or indignation, she is constantly harassed by children's pranks. She is invariably the one who finds the incwky tied to a curtain cord, or the helpless mouse trapped in someone's desk. If, however, she had a little sense of humor, children would soon discover they could not tease her, and their boisterousness would cease.

Therefore, let us, as teachers, enter enthusiastically into the wholesome fun of the classroom; it is our duty to teach our pupils, through example, the art of appreciating the more joyous aspects of life. Develop a fine sense of humor yourself, and you will find that you have little difficulty in getting along with other people.

SUMMER SESSION

Opens June 29

Gorham Normal School, alternating with Farmington Normal School since 1932, will have its summer session this year. Registration for all students will be on Monday morning, June 29, in Carrell Hall. Courses will be offered in all departments of advanced work over a period of six weeks, the session closing on August 7. At the present time, the school office is sending out suggested programs, encouraging prospective students to indicate choices of courses in order that final arrangements may be made on the basis of the wants and needs of teachers desiring to improve their preparation and teaching abilities.

At press time, Dr. Russell announced the following tentative program:

Evolution of American Education

Walter E. Russell

Educational Psychology

Gertrude L. Stone

Child Psychology

Gertrude L. Stone

Mental Hygiene

Gertrude L. Stone

Tests and Measures

Clifford O. T. Wieden

Economics

Clifford O. T. Wieden

Sociology

Clifford O. T. Wieden

Science Survey

Louis B. Woodward

Politics

Louis B. Woodward

Economics

Louis B. Woodward

Maine History

Alice M. Morrill

European History

Florence Black

Latin American History

Florence Black

Geographic Background of History

Charles E. Preble

Primary Arithmetic

Lois E. Pike

Primary Reading

Lois E. Pike

History of Art

To be announced

Advanced Drawing

To be announced

Music II, III

Miriam E. Andrews

Junior High School Mathematics

Evelyn Upton

Trigonometry

Evelyn Upton

History of Mathematics

Evelyn Upton

Survey of English Literature

Bea Lewis

Literature of Junior High School

Bea Lewis

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

May 22—Baseball, Fryeburg, there

May 23—Fraternities Field Day

Y. W. C. A. Retreat

Poetry Club Picnic

May 25—Kindergarten Doll Sale

May 27—Gorham Bi-centennial

May 27—Baseball game at Kent's Hill

Exhibition game

May 28—House Committee Tea

June 4—Y. W. C. A. Picnic

June 5—Campfire House Party

June 6—Fraternity Outings

June 12—Last day of classes

June 13—Alumni Day

Senior Class Play 8 P. M.

June 14—Baccalaureate Sermon, Russell Hall, 4:15 P.M.

June 15—Graduation Exercises, 10 A.M.

JOURNALISM CLASS PUBLISHES ORACLE

The members of the Senior Journalism Class have aided the Editor-in-Chief and his assistants in preparing this issue of "The Oracle" for publication. The following Seniors served in place of the regular department editors:

News Department

Lena Dow

Literary Department

Altha Cushing

Fine Arts Department

Florences Tibbetts

Alumni and Exchange

Mary Dow

School Organizations

Grace Perry

Editorial Staff

Eleanor Porter

Make-up

Reita Marsh

Calendar and Summer Session

Florence McIntyre

Typist

Mary Lovejoy

POETRY CLUB PRESENTS

CHAPEL PROGRAM

The Mothers' Day chapel exercises sponsored by the Poetry Club on May 18 were a very appropriate tribute to all mothers. The program included responsive reading, led by Louise Dow; Prayer, by Louise Castland; Reading, Lena Dow; Fynn; Picture, "A Modern Mother," posed by Roberta Henry, Mary Jane Bogos, Jerry Talbot; Song, "Little Mother of Mine," Richard Barbour, John Rand, Arthur Comeau, Arnold Walker.

STUDENTS ATTEND EASTERN CONVENTION

Arthur Comeau, a Senior; Eunice Kelley, a Junior; and Miss Wood and Mr. Packard of the faculty boarded the Maine Central for New York on April 2 when they attended the Eastern States Convention of Professional Schools for Teachers at the Hotel Commodore. Mr. Comeau represented Gorham Normal as a chairman of one of the six round-table discussions. Mr. Comeau's subject was "The Limitation of Student Activities by a Point System or by Other Means." Miss Kelley served as a representative of Miss Wood as faculty adviser. Mr. Comeau's summary of the discussion was brief, "We thought that there were advantages to be gained by limiting student participation and that the method most generally in use is some type of point system in which a student is assessed on a number of points for each activity, and he may not carry over the maximum number set by the committee who organizes the system."
THE ORACLE

Page 3

THE SHOP

This is the second in a series of articles written on the activities of the shop. The junior boys take machine work, machine drawing, wood turning, and forging.

The class is divided for wood turning and machine work. A half year is allotted for each. In machine work the boys get rough castings for vises from Westbrook and machine them into working vises. All work such as thread cutting, milling, shaping, and turning enters into this, leaving very few, if any, phases of machine work.

Wood turning teaches the boys the correct method of turning and gives experience in all cuts and patterns. There are turned out each year some excellent and beautiful pieces of wood work. Among the projects are nut bowls, jewelry boxes, lamps, and gavels.

Forging, although rather dusty and warm work even in midwinter, is about as interesting as any of the practices offered. It takes in all forms of the subject and can best be explained through a visit during working hours to see some of the boys at work. The chief objective is not to make something nice to look at but to teach in the use of heat, hammer, and tongs. Even though blacksmiths are now a thing of the past in most communities, the industrial world would be lost without a blacksmith's ability in the ever increasing use of iron and steel.

In the course of machine drawing, parts of machinery are measured and sketched in detail. From these notes, finished drawings are made, showing both assembly and detail views. It is by these that machinists do their work. There is also, aside from this, a one-quarter course offered in gear drawing.

For further details, visit the shop and find out the whereas of things first hand. Watch the next issue of the "Oracle" for the last write-up on the shop. It will concern the activities in the shop course for senior boys.

SENIOR PLAY CASTE CHOSEN

The annual senior play to be given on Alumni Day, June 13, has been chosen and the cast picked. The play, an adaptation by Maria Lovell of Friedrich Holm's "Der John der Wilderniss," is known under the name of "Ingomar the Barbarian." Because the men of the senior class are, as usual, occupied with baseball and N. Y. A. work, the cast is completely made up of women.

THE CASTE

Ingomar
Parthenia
Polydor
Andromeda
Myron
Necles
Athenas
Meneme
Abydor
Elpenor
The Timarch of Massilia
Lykon
Elinor Dolloff
Trinobantes
Clere Cotteral
Tribonates
Blanche Hutchins
Lena Dow
Eleanor Parker
Emma Martin
Corine Palmer
Zelda Fenlason
Ethel Chapman
Florence Tilbetts
Helene Smith
Elinor Wyllie
Janet Kelly
Clare Cotteral
Grace Perry
Elinor Chipman
Virginia Maines
June Jordan
The play will be presented at 8 P. M., D. T. S., in Russell Hall. The school orchestra will furnish the music under the direction of Miss Andrews.

Miss Littlefield has charge of the costumes.

IT IS TO LAUGH

Mr. Wieden (in a quiz): What is a sacred cow?
Selwood: Righteous bovine.

Mary Lovejoy (reading a paper on Elinor Wyllie): "She was very fond of old Scotch (long pause) and Irish ballads."

Did you see her new slave bracelet?
Mr. Wieden: No, where does she wear it?
On the third finger of her left hand.

A woman's promise to be on time carries a lot of wait.

A hitch-hiker has a philosophy all his own: "Thumb fun, eh kid?"

Policeman: Hey you! You're going sixty miles an hour!
Miss Lewis: Isn't that lovely! I just learned to drive yestereva.

Provenal: Why the narrow part on an hourglass, Ada?
A. Senior: To show the waste of time.

THINGS AS THEY "THEME"

Dr. Russell: "May I?"
Miss Jordan: "Lights Out."
Miss Ryan: "One Little Rain Drop."
Miss Keene: "I Saw Stars."
Miss Upton: "Take a Number from 1 to 10."
Miss Harris: "Rhythm in My Nursery Rhymes.
Mr. Wieden: "Take Me Out to a Ball Game."
Miss Wood: "The Beautiful Lady in Blue."
Mr. Woodward: "Was That the Human Thing to Do?"
Miss Wyhry: "It Must Have Been Moon-Glow."
Miss Andrews: "The Music Goes Round and Round."

MR. DUBBS ADDRESSES LIBRARY CLUB

The Reverend Mister Dubbs spoke to the Library Club, May 4, on books. Mr. Dubbs illustrated his talk with old books from his collection. Only a very few of these rare and beautiful volumes can be mentioned here. Among the more interesting were:

A curious 15th century manuscript of 146 leaves written in Gothic characters and bound in original doeskin over wooden boards. It is a treatise on Aristotelian philosophy.

A Reformation Tract of five leaves in Gothic letters and a fine woodcut of Lucifer's presenting his bull to the Pope which is supported by other ecclesiastics. It was published about 1520.

A Tavern Bible printed by John Day, in 1551. This version printed an interesting mistake on Psalm 91:5—"So that thou shalt not need be afraid for any bug's bright."

An almost perfect copy of the Bishop's Version of the Bible printed in 1575. A large folio Greek Bible, bound in tooled pigskin and printed in Nuremberg, 1708. This finely illustrated Bible was brought to America by Mr. Dubbs' ancestors, Jacob Dubbs, in 1752, who emi-

Continued on Page 4 Column 2
GORHAM GIRLS WITH MISS FLINT ATTEND OPEN HOUSE DAY AT WELLESLEY

Ethel Changman, president of the Women's Athletic Association, with Barbara Gammons, president of the Out-Door Club, accompanied Miss Dorothy Flint of the faculty to Wellesley College to attend Open House Day.

The visitors attended the Chapel Program in the first part of the morning and completed the forenoon by visiting classes. Early afternoon entertainment was provided through a series of Greek plays, followed by tournaments in tennis and archery.

The program concluded with a concert at which Miss Flint assisted Wellesley in providing an orchestra.

Tennis and baseball for girls is in full swing. Archery is unusually exciting this year with Elinor Doloff and Evelyn Lord breaking all previous records of the school.

GORHAM WINS FIRST GAME

The Gorham Normal baseball team got off to an excellent start with a victory over Keene, our most formidable foe. This is the first time Gorham Normal School has ever beaten Keene in either baseball or basketball. It was indeed an exciting game as the team scored twelve runs in the second inning only to find that "Gus" Higgins held our boys to four hits with four runs. The winning run was made by Gus Higgins brought in by Eddie Bachelder making the final score 6-5.

The team is fortunate this year in having five veteran players: Rusty Willis, catcher; Eddie Bachelder, first base; John Rand, center field; John Ham, third base; and Gus Higgins, pitcher. Other members of the team are Calvin Austin, pitcher; Ernest Doyle, second base; Philip Gerber, left field; Blyn Felker, shortstop. Rusty Willis and Edwin Bachelder have been elected co-capitains for this year.

Two more games are scheduled as follows:
- Fryeburg (at Fryeburg) — May 22.
- Kent's Hill (at Gorham) — May 27.

GORHAM 2—BRIDGTON 9

On May 9, G. N. S. boys bowed to a fast moving, hard hitting Bridgton Academy team to lose 9 to 2. The Academy boys knocked Ackerley and Porter out of the box in succession only to find that "Gus" Higgins could hold their hits within the infield. Strong infield work on the part of our boys helped materially in keeping the smooth-running Bridgton aggregation within bounds.

EXCHANGES

In the Keene Kronicle the editorials stand out, particularly the one on "Teacher and Democracy." Praise is also due the department of "Club Activities," and the article headed "Educational Notes." We were amused and pleased to see their bit headed "Marriages!"; it goes to prove there is still hope for us teachers. We have one question to ask, however—where are all the "budding poets?"

From the Farmington State Normal School, we observed that the headlines, pictures, and general make-up of the first page is very attractive. The department on "Organizations and Activities" is noteworthy, and under the "Library" department the article on Robert Frost is excellent.

The Anchor of Rhode Island College of Education has an editorial on "Women and War," which interests us, probably prejudiced slightly by being women ourselves. Their article headed "Worth Mentioning" is a clever idea. Again we lament the omission of poetry in this paper as well as in the Keene Kronicle and we search in vain for a "Human Department." After all, isn't humor an essential to a successful teacher's personality?

Continued from Page 3, Column 3

GRANTED FROM ZURICH, SWITZERLAND TO PHILADELPHIA THAT YEAR.


A Dutch translation of Machiavell's "The Prince" published in 1615, and bound in old vellum. This copy is autographed by Peter Stuyvesant (Dutch governor of New Amsterdam (?)). The Reverend P. S. Ten Broeck one of the early rectors of the Episcopal Church in Portland, Maine, and Reverend Reuben Emerson, the first principal of Gorham Academy.

The Blutige Schau platz oder Martyrer Spiegel von T. J. V. Bragt with engraved plates and title page printed in Ephraim in Pa., 1748-1749. This is the largest book printed in Colonial America.

ALUMNI NEWS

Frances Huse and Henrietta Lidback are teaching in the South Paris Junior High School. The former is teaching English in the seventh and eighth grades. The latter is teaching Mathematics in the same grades.

Louis Jensen, a senior at Boston University, has received an offer for next year as an assistant to the professor in the Physics Department of C. L. A. He will continue his study for a Master's Degree in Science. Other Gorham students at the University studying for a Bachelor's Degree are Mildred Turner, Mildred Nelson, Mary McCarthy, and Vaughan Ketchum.

Keith Jordan is a teacher and principal of the Rangeley Junior High School and he has just completed a successful season coaching Girls' Basketball.

Our rural school teachers include Helen Abbott at North Lovell and Sena Jensen at the Blake School.

Ruth Bailey and Marjorie Keene have teaching positions at South Portland. The former is an assistant in the seventh grade of the Lincoln School, and the latter is an assistant in the fifth grade of the Roosevelt School.

Forrest Wardwell is teaching Manual Training in the junior high and high school grades of the Pennell Institute, Gray, Maine.

Bertha Warren is at Teachers' College, Columbia University. She expects to receive a B.S. Degree in August.

Jean Morrison has gone in training for nursing in the Maine General Hospital.

Elizabeth Foss, who is a teacher of the upper grades in Bryant's Pond, recently underwent an appendectomy operation at the Rumford Community Hospital.

ONLY A DAY

Only a day!
Yet it held on high
The dazzling blue of a summer sky;
And breezes laden
With perfume sweet
Waved blossoms gently round its feet.

Only a day!
And it quickly passed
Like a sudden joy that cannot last,
But the cooling breeze
Fanned a withered cheek,
And strengthened a soul that once was weak.

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