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The Oracle 03/31/1939

Gorham Normal School

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Second Back to Gorham

Back to Gorham Day was heartily welcomed by students and faculty as well as the alumni. Students participating, faculty presiding, and alumni reminiscing—all contributed to a worthwhile and memorable occasion.

A large number of alumni were on hand to discuss their teaching problems in the afternoon. While this rather serious business was going on, the undergrads found a chance to make good use of the gym and recreation room.

The tea which was held in the library gave opportunity for a general reunion. Everybody seemed to have a pleasant and enjoyable time. The highlight of this affair was Miss Flint’s novel method of pouring tea.

Following the banquet, that genial master of ceremonies, Charlie Loomis, introduced the after-dinner speakers. The first was Mr. Cilley, who extended in behalf of Dr. Russell the greetings from the faculty. Then Burt Curtis, president of the Civic Committee, spoke briefly, but nevertheless entertainingly, in welcoming the alumni. Mr. Anderson, from the training school, was the final speaker.

How the entire crowd got from the dining room to the gym in such a short time is still a riddle. Everybody was on pins and needles waiting for the Gorham band to do its stuff. And did those green-clad basketeers go to town!!!

During the warm-up period our new band made an auspicious debut. That “Grand Old Grad” added just the right touch before the game.

The climax of the day’s activities was the dance in center.

Much of the credit for the success of this day is due to the general chairman, Charlie Loomis. The committees who worked on different phases of the program also deserve commendation. The committees were: letters to alumni, Irving Pike, chairman; Donald Cressey, Ralph Hanson, and John Grindle; round table discussion, chairman, John Farnham; Ann Gardner, Theresa Langevin, and Irving Pike; banquet, Helen Lord, chairman; Florence Wood, and Doris Whitley; sports, Paul Stevens, chairman, John Cambridge, and George Albert; tea, Miss Littlefield, Helen Allen, Margaret Anderson, and Evelyn Knight.

Kappa Delta Phi Presents

“Three Taps at Twelve”

Kappa Delta Phi members on March 18, presented “Three Taps at Twelve,” a mystery melodrama in three acts.

In the course of the play old Jamieson Edwards, Ernie Doyle, invites a group of very congenial friends, Dr. Hull, Jerry Sweet; Harvey Dingoe, John Graves; and his wife Martha, Bill Carey; Mrs. Jane Baker, Paul Roberts; and Edwin Dahlbeck, played by “Bone” Erementon, to his home to play “Murder.” The congenial part of this group was their hatred for each other. During the game, old Jamieson is killed.

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Music Notes

The Music Clubs of the school have been exceedingly busy since the Christmas recess. January 21—the Girls Glee Club gave a party in the art room. Highlights on this occasion were a Baby Show directed by Miss Andrews and a group of Musical Pantomiming games.

The Band made its first appearance at the Farmington game and repeated its performance at the Bowdoin game with a “howling success.”

February 17—The Girls Glee Club

Continued on page two, column three

DELEGATES TO N. Y. C.

This year the students of Gorham Normal School have elected one young woman, Helen Lord from the third year class, and two young men, Edward Jess from the fourth year and William Carey from the sophomore class to represent them at the N. Y. C.

Our delegates will leave Gorham on Thursday, March 30, for New York. The convention will be held in the Pennsylvania Hotel. Delegates attend meetings at which educational problems are discussed and then the banquet and ball held for their enjoyment. Incidentally it is a grand chance for them to see New York.

Miss Upton and Mr. Cilley will go as our faculty representatives. Miss Lewis will serve on the editorial staff of the periodical to be published about the convention.

With such a fine group of students and faculty members attending, we feel sure that Gorham will be well represented.

New Moving Picture Machine

At Gorham Normal School improvements follow each other rapidly. 1938 brought us the new recreation room, and with the coming of 1939 we have a new moving picture machine. No longer must we bemoan the fact that Gorham is without movies, for at last we have our own machine. Although at its first public appearance it seemed that the new addition to the school was afflicted with stage fright and was not going to work, it was finally persuaded and made a very impressive appearance. It is a sixteen millimeter machine bought by the school for use both in the auditorium and in the classrooms. At club night the sound machine introduced two films, one a sports picture and the other a film about fishing. On one other occasion a basketball picture was shown. This is only the beginning and all the students of G. N. S. are looking forward to further enjoyable experiences with the machine.

The excellent spirit of G. N. S. is one of its outstanding characteristics. I shall always have pleasant memories of the school.

Carl Green
“The Oracle” for 1938-39

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BOYS’ CLUBS

(Abstracted from a report to the Senior Psycholog. Group by March 21, 1939, by George Albert, Physical Director of the Portland Boys’ Club and a Senior at Gerham Normal School.)

Welfare agencies today do their utmost to keep abreast of a modern and fast moving business world, so many changes have been necessitated in the past few years, especially in Boys’ Clubs which are an important part of the social work field.

The chief aim of the Club is to reduce juvenile delinquency in the community and substitute for it a program that will build “Character in Citizenship,” which has become the motto or slogan of all our Clubs. The official Club emblem is the keystone, and both these speak well of themselves as a choice in this field. When we say “Boys’ Club,” we include Settlement and Fraternity houses, Youth Centers, Federations, and other institutions of which there are over 400 major ones affiliated with the National Boys’ Club Federation of America.

The present showing of “Boys’ Town,” the Club movement has been brought to the front; and at present, good organizers and leaders are in demand.

Our own Club in Portland has over 3,000 members, besides some 500 girls in the swimming department. The boys represent 31 nationalities, and in Portland this Club stands out more than any other for its work with underprivileged boys. In addition to the well known parts of the program in the Club, such as the regular routine known to all the Normal School Students, a great many behind the scenes services are continually being performed. The shy, retarded boy is brought forward and enabled to take care of himself; the pampered and brayed lad is taught to see that others are as good as and usually better than he thinks he is; the fatherless child is given some masculine supervision that his boyhood needs; the mal-adjusted boy is studied and steps are taken to correct his handicaps. To cite one example of service; last year over 600 boys were given complete physical examinations

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The Sad About

“The apple blossom” of Central Teachers College, Mount Pleasant, Michigan, is the latest to report a son of the Clubs. In fact, the pictures of MacBeth, Hamlet, and Lady MacBeth looked quite professional.

And the boys will be interested in this. “Striped shirts with purple collars of a 1919 vintage are very popular with the male element.” (We can understand why their popularity is limited to the male element.)

* * *

How’s your personality rating?

Key: 1-4 bad traits—Most likeable.

5-10 bad traits—Not too bad.


16-25 bad traits—Well, you’re honest, but how do you live with you?

1. Do you gush?

2. Are you always trying to be funny?

3. Do you talk glib to find your way to our files. Looking through it, we notice a decided prevalence of Thespian ventures among the students of Central.

4. Do you laugh too much at your own jokes?

5. Are you a goody-goody person?

6. Are you fussy about having things just right?

7. Are your feelings easily hurt?

8. Do you consider yourself superior to others?

9. Do you make fun of people behind their backs?

10. Are you too bold in correcting others’ mistakes?

11. Are you a grouch?

12. Do you talk too much?

13. Do you flatter others unnecessarily?

14. Are you artificially dignified?

15. Do you borrow too frequently from others?

16. Do you boast of your accomplishments?

17. Do you monopolize conversation?

18. Do you try to make a good impression?

19. Do you keep yourself and clothes neat and clean?

20. Do you brood over personal grievances?

21. Are you ready to bood success of others?

22. Can you be depended upon to do what you say you will?

23. Do you go out of your way to help others?

24. Do you return promptly what you borrow?

25. Can you see a joke on yourself?

(We borrowed the questions from the “Log,” Salem Teachers’ paper. They certainly give a wide scope for self-analysis.)

And now to cheer you up after letting you find out for yourself what your best friend won’t tell you, we quote the following from the “Recorder,” New Britain, Conn.

Peek-a-boo

Roses are red

Violets are blue

I know, ’cause I saw them hanging on the line.

The Dramatic Club Play a Success

On Friday evening, March 3, at eight o’clock, the Dramatic Club presented a New York hit of 1927, a three act comedy, “The Late Christopher Bean” by Sidney Howard. This play was presented in the Russell Hall by special arrangement with Samuel French and Company of New York.

Alexander Cumming played the part of a small town physician, Dr. Haggett. His wife, Hannah Haggett, was ably played by Ernestine Davis. The role of Abigail Dyer, housekeeper was played by Miss Flanagan, was portrayed by Rose Flanagan. In the supporting cast, were Viole, Gage, and Rose.

Although the success of the play depended on the hard work of the cast, the cooperation of the various committees who contributed much cannot be overlooked.

A great deal of thanks should also be extended to Mr. Mayor and faculty adviser of the club, for his untiring efforts to make this a success.

By the performance of “The Late Christopher Bean,” the Dramatic Club has presented one of the top club programs of the year.

Sophomores Introduce Club Night

The second year class presented an original program. When they initiated “Club Night,” the purpose of the contest was to stimulate interest among the various organizations in the school. Seven clubs competed to determine which could present the best entertainment. First Prize was awarded the Alpha Lambda Beta Swing Band. This group, composed of Del Foss at the piano, John Grindle at the drums, Spin Hill and Joe Pelletier with their trumpets, and Harold Bent and his trumpet, had a chance to demonstrate again at the Commuter’s Club Dance held in Center the following Saturday.

Second prize went to the Y. W. C. A. members who presented a skit entitled “Mother Goose” scene. The Drama Club came third with a group of Mother Goose scenes.

Other entertainments were the singing duet by Knapton and Charlton who represented Kappa Delta Phi; the moving pictures presented by the Y. M. C. A., and the Outing Club’s presentation of an old-fashioned school and selections by the Glee Clubs’ mixed quartet.

Between numbers, Irene Perrault sang solos which met with much approval. Katherine Finherty of the Freshman Class did a toe dance. Miss Flint presented an interpretive dance, and piano solos were played by Miss Eames and Miss Gagne.

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went to the South Gorham Church for a social evening. Miss Edith Kelly, pianist for the club and a graduate in the class of 1937, and Miss Lewis were the guests. The piano solos and playing games. We had the pleasure of hearing Miss Lewis as soloist in an impromptu appearance.
The Old Gym

I've reached at last the topmost stair
Now gives me time to get some air
My heart! my head! it spins and whirls,
What hazy sight the gym unfurls.
Before my eyes I see a wheel
Of blue and red and green and teal,
The color wheel! oh, yes, I know.
What makes those colors rotate so?
Perhaps if I could just sit down.
And let potential energy reach my crown,
Or is it kinetic I need so much?
Or perhaps I could use a fraternity crutch.

Look! look! What's that before my eyes?
It looks like birds. I see them rise!
They're coming toward me! I know, oh yes,
Quick now, their names,—no need to guess.
They're gone at last. They must have flown
Downstairs again. Stuffed birds I might haveknown.
But over me there bends a tree,
Well don't ask me. I cannot tell
most persons girls in school, Bertha
"Do babies cry real tears at birth?"
Since her freshman year, she has been
They're gone, but now I've got to know
If orchids in Alaska grow.
Well don't ask me. I cannot tell
When Rome was burned or Ninevah fell.
This one is worse. A flower pot
Supplies the world with wheat. I thought—
Over, why think? One never knows—
California's tank farm grows
Tomatoes twelve feet tall on pills,
Some water, sawdust too; a scientific mill.
Now that front step, it weighs,—let's see.
Oh, dear, I cannot find its density.
Here's one. How many points is this one worth?
"Do babies cry real tears at birth?"
If any tears are to be shed,
Make room for me, I'm seeing red.
Perhaps I'm blue from this queer test,
It meant so much, and all the rest.
Please, Socrates, come back today
And for each Q give me its A.

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Dick Edward Baker, Club President, who is the nephew of old Jamieson, appears just after the murder and plays the sleuth in solving the crime. His college roommate, Carl Franklin, Harold Chariton, is the Watson of the play. The romance between Dick and Cassandra Dabihals, Bob Track, adds flavor to the story. And were we surprised when Harmon turned out to be the viper.

Highlights of the evening—Mrs. Baker's shoe, a Peplita light foot steps in the hall, Cassie's stockings, Jamieson's smirk, and Harmon's confession.

Pledged to this frat are: Staton Curtis, James Bowman, Orlando Alberiti, Alexander Cumming, Eugene Mahoney, Dean, Durward Paul Stormers, Theodore Vail, Donald Ward, Louis Pillsbury, Gordon Williams, George Etzel, Lawrence Pelton, and Tony Pecoraro.


New Students

To students of Gorham Normal School who are not freshmen but are attending Gorham, for the first time this year, the "Oracle" gave this invitation: Tell us what you think about our school. These people were very kind in their replies and gladly consented to meet our request. We have chosen only a few to reproduce here but the general trend of opinion is expressed in the following statements. Following the person's name is the school he attended previously.

G.N.S. LESSON PLAN

Subject: US History
Topic: Outstanding Characteristics
Less-on Type: Information

Teacher's Aim:
To help students in every way we can to become whole integrated personalities—thus good citizens and fine teachers.

Student's Aim:
To enter whole-heartedly into curricular and extra-curricular activities so that we may be able to get 100% in cooperation and development.

Results Expected:
1) That the textbook will be more meaningful to the student.
2) That his mental outlook will be broadened.
3) That he will form lasting friendships.
4) That he will develop social poise.

The beautiful campus with its excellent view of Mt. Washington on clear days, alone justifies coming to Gorham; even if one didn't take into consideration the excellent courses offered and the dormitory life. I have had a year which I shall not soon forget.

Edith Taylor,
Lesley Kindergarten School.

Chatter

Oh Say—

Have you heard the latest? Miss Eames is learning to ride a bicycle and we think it would be worth your while to watch her perform. Whoops! Easy there! Whoops! Slipped that time! Whoops! Whee!

Have you heard the Tale of Names?
Once upon a time a Brown Behr Chase(d) a Young Dog, and Heath to Martin's Mead. Up Hill and down Dale, through the Valley(by the rare led, until a big Buck leaped forward from a Patch of Alder(s) and lowered his Horn(s). A (S)killing seemed inevitable, but suddenly a Watch Bowman, dressed in Green, stepped out of the Brush, and took aim at Chute the Behr. The Buck took to his Heel(s) and the hunter shouted for Joy at his catch. Bent nearly double with the load, he Cary(d) the Behr through the Wood(s) back toward the Fogg(s) of London. As he approached, he Hur(d) a noise and upon looking he beheld the black-Smith, who was also digger of Graves, Shevlin a Tree for a newly occupied Coffin. The hunter approached and to Seymour clearly, he pereed on a Stone and began to tell of his good luck. The Smith, Bean too Smart to let the hunter get started Bluin, complained that the Frost was too thick to dig and he moved on.

Did you see those simply adorable little berries, and the spotted neckties the fraternity pledges wore? We thought they were just too ducky for words.

Third Year Class Holds Meeting

After the entire third year class, whose members were present at the first practice teaching, was reunited at the half year, class officers were elected. John Graves was elected president for the second time. Ralph Hanson was chosen vice-president. "Long" John Cambridge was voted in as secretary and Edward Race was elected treasurer, making a complete male landslide.

We have heard from a reliable source that the third year class is planning to have a dance in Center on April 22.
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for strenuous activity by physicians and
nearly 200 cases of defects, serious and
minor, were referred to the public health
nurses for check up. A good deal of the
city case work originates this way,
through the agency of the Club, and all
throughout the state, and are done, in a
case, unassuming manner, so that the
boy will not be stigmatized or socially
hurt.

In talking to this group today, a great
deal could be said on any one of the
many parts of the Boys' Club set-up, partly
because about the program, but we will
take it at the moment to say
that next to physical educational activi-
ties, vocational work seems to be the
keynote of interest. Grant it is true that
they have a gymnasium, and if for-
tunate enough, a pool. One thing is
definite and that is, the greater the
range of activities in the Club, the more
successful the program. Leaders every-
where recognize a drastic need for a
wider variety of activities, especially in
early boyhood, this being the time when
a boy cuts the patterns for his future.
Dr. Hermann of Sargent acquaints us
with the new character which he terms
the physical illiterate—the individual
who participates in only one sport and to
his sorrow is helpless at others.
Later life often becomes a social burden.
He asserts that variety must be in the
program, to make such things as track,
basketball, swimming, varied crafts,
social activities, and numerous other
things, most of which have a carry
over value and tend to correlate them-
sef with their success in later years, his
career and habits today must get as a
foundation as those that men received 50
years ago; though his temptation and his
distractions are more numerous, except in
the Boys' Club. Foundations cost money,
so leaders consider the boy's character
building foundation, which is more im-
portant than granite. It costs Mr. Tax-
payer about $550 yearly to keep a boy in
the State School, to which most boys are
sent because of repeated misdeemners,
due to a lack of something better to do
with their excess energy. On the other
hand it costs the public only $11 a boy
per year to operate a fine club and spon-
sor a worthwhile program for him that
some day should show a carry-over
profit of which any community might
well be proud.

The average schoolboy has approxi-
ately 80 hours of leisure time each
week. A normal boy has unlimited
energy, most of which is reserved for his
leisure time activities. We all know that
leisure time leads to self-destruc-
ction or to self-improvement according to
the use made of it. The usage depends
chiefly on environment and influences,
good or bad. In our courses here at
school, we have learned to enumerate a
long list of evil influences and substi-
tutes for them that are to be encouraged.
Wherever you teach boost the Club Idea!

In closing, I would like to add that
during last year, seven of the visiting
teams from out of town were handled or
under the direction of Gorham Normal
School graduates. One thing is cer-
tainly true, since I have had an oppor-
tunity here to learn the difficulties and
intricacies that accompany an educa-
tional program, conflicts between league
and school officials have been very few.
This is due to a better understanding of
each other's problems. This year Gor-
ham Normal School Fourth Year Men
handled four of our teams, and the re-
results have not only been pleasant and
successful, but also very encouraging to
those who will follow them. I hope our
future teachers will at least favor the
exchange problems with the "Character
Education" agencies.

Basketball News

With the basketball season over, Gor-
ham's basketeers can relax and take life
easy until next year. This year Gorham
has played twelve games and lost only
four; unfortunately those games lost
were conference games. Perhaps those
losses can be explained by the fact that
out of the seven conference games played,
five were away from home.

Gorham's success this year is due
largely to the playing ability of "Phil"
Gerber who has captained the team and
led the pack in scoring, "Red" Austin, a
very dependable player when the going
is rough, loaned a hand by his excellent
passing and shooting. Charlton's work
on the backboards, Castelucci's long
shots, and Vail's one-handed pop shots
kept Gorham out in front with only four
exceptions. "Bones" Knapton, Gorham's
sure shot ace, kept the five rolling by
sinking shots just when they were needed.
With all but Gerber of the var-
ity squad expecting to be back for next
year, Gorham is looking forward to a
successful season.

Because official results have not been
received, Gorham's standing in the con-
ference is not definitely known, but un-
officially Gorham is near the leaders.

Volley Ball

The 1939 volleyball season brought
forth enough volleyball enthusiasts for
class teams. Volley ball is played
Tuesdays and Thursdays after school
under the direction of the counselor
Evelyn Knight.

About 35 young women participated
during the practice period. After six
preliminary games, the following class
captains were chosen: third and fourth
year seniors, Capt. M. Smart; second
year, Capt. L. Whitely; D1 division,
Capt. C. Bennett; and D2 division, Capt.
F. Leach.