

N. B. H. S.

Messenger



OCTOBER

1923



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North Bennington, Vt.



THE MESSENGER

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A CLEAN SCHOOLHOUSE

When the scholars returned to their studies this fall they found a clean schoolbuilding.

What relief it is to know that the marks, pencil, finger, and otherwise, have found a just fate in a dish of soap and water or rest out of sight beneath a coat of paint.

Our friend Shakespeare has taken up his abode in a corner and someone has mercifully removed the paper-wad from his left eye. Needless to say his appearance is much improved.

The pictures have changed places and the fly-specks have been removed so that Ira Allen and Admiral Dewey no longer present freckled faces and the shower of hailstones on the heads of the praying peasants has ceased. The floors have been oiled to an almost perilous slipperyness and the office has been finished and painted.

Yes, the townspeople have done much for our comfort and we thank them very much.

—ELLA C. WINN, '25.

THE PARENT-TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

Almost everybody knows what the Association is, because there has been so much about it in the newspapers, but what does it do? That is a harder question to answer.

There are many things that we want to do, but we can't do them all, and we can't do any of them in a minute. However, one of the first things that we must accomplish is to get every single parent as a member, an active member. One who will come to the schoolhouse to our meetings and talk things over.

Every school needs more than anything else the interest of all the parents and every parent needs knowledge of the place where, and people with whom his child spends the greater part of each day.

Play, indoors and out, is one of our interests. We should like to see a playground equipped with swings, see-saws and slides for the younger children; while the older need a good place to play baseball, football, basketball and tennis. Some day we mean to see these things.

We should like to see, too, mothers, lots of them, getting together to read and learn how better to understand their boys and girls, how better to enjoy them and have fun at home in the long winter evenings.

These are only three of our aims. There are plenty more. Come to our meetings and tell what you would like to do.

—MRS. HAMLIN.

THE POLICE SQUAD

At the beginning of this year, Mr. Houston formed a Police Squad, consisting of three boys and the leader who do the work around the school for a given period of time. The duties of this squad are to keep the school yard neat and free from all waste material. It is now cleared every night, keeping it in fine condition.


Boxes have been placed in convenient places to receive the scraps of food which is left around by the students who eat their lunch at school.

People going by form a better opinion of the school if the outside is clean, this showing that the police squad is a good thing.

—KENNETH WORTHINGTON, '25.

MARY'S RESCUER

It was a quiet day in late September, the bees buzzed about the wild asters, and the blue-fringed gentians were nodding merrily in the cool breeze. In the woods the red squirrels and chipmunks were busily hiding their winter store, while the grey squirrels were chattering at the blue jays that flew around their heads.



Mary sat contentedly under the maple tree by the brook and thought what a beautiful day it was. She had had a vacation from school that afternoon and now it was late and she must go home.

She heard a queer sound several times behind her but paid no attention. Finally there came a low but distinct whine. Mary jumped up and looked around. In a small hollow a short distance away lay a large shepherd dog. He looked at Mary and whined as if begging her to help him.

For a minute Mary hesitated, she had heard that dogs were dangerous when hurt. The poor dog whined again and struggled to his feet. Then she saw that his foot was caught in a trap.

Her courage came back and she went to the dog and patted his head. Only a moment was needed to open the trap and release the foot. It was bruised badly and Mary wound a piece of her handkerchief around it. Then with a final pat on the dog's head she started home.

The log which Mary had to cross was not safe and she walked out on it carefully. When she was half-way across, the log began to roll and threw Mary into the water.

It was not very deep there but so swift that she was thrown off her feet at once. Mary was not a good swimmer and was whirled down stream like a leaf. She cried out several times before she was drawn under the surface.

To the frightened girl it seemed queer rumbling noises were about her. She tried to breathe but succeeded only in getting her lungs filled with water. Everything was dark and she felt helpless.

Then dimly Mary knew that something was pulling her through the water. She opened her eyes and saw that her rescuer was the shepherd dog. He swam close to the bank and Mary pulled herself up by the help of an overhanging bush. The dog climbed up beside her.

For a few minutes Mary could do nothing but gasp for breath. The dog stood watching her anxiously until she patted him on the head. When Mary was able to walk she started for home. The dog stood watching but made no motion to follow until she whistled, then he came limping after her.

The next day Mary put an advertisement in the paper, but no one claimed the dog so she kept him. In a short time Bruce, as she named him, followed Mary everywhere and she never attempted to go very far without him.

—RUTH LANE, '24.

VIOLET SCENTED

John Brown was dead. He had been murdered, that was evident. The police suspected Jim Bowens, the chauffeur. These thoughts ran through Nan Craven's mind the morning that the master was found dead.

Jim had asked her to believe in him and prove him innocent. She had promised, for Jim was her lover.

Sadly she worked to put the room in order. It was the room in which Mr. Brown had been found dead. As she moved the big chair which he always occupied a strong scent of violets greeted her and on the floor under the chair she found a piece of a string of beads.

"This is one clue," she thought. Certainly a lady has done the work.

Just then the little Japanese girl, whom Mr. Brown kept at his house to add the Japanese atmosphere to the place, entered and smiled at Nan. Nan hated her for smiling at this sad time so she left the room. She wandered to her own room on the top floor still asking herself the same question, "Who killed Mr. Brown?"

Suddenly she remembered his lady friend to whom he was engaged. She remembered of hearing her say that she would marry him for his money. "She was just the one," thought Nan. "I wonder if she was in the house that morning? I'll ask Tsing Ku." But as the last thought came to her, she suddenly remembered that Tsing Ku had a secret room in the house.

That night Nan was looking for a clue in some of the personal letters of the late Mr. Brown. The room was darkened except for the candle that Nan had lighted.


A scream from the street caused Nan to faint. When she came to her senses a white cat was purring at her feet and the butler was forcing water into her mouth.

He kicked the cat aside and spoke to Nan.

"I wish that cat would shut up," said the butler.

Nan picked up the cat and put it out from the room. That same violet scent was on the cat. It startled Nan so that she let the cat fall to the floor.

The cat walked over to a large picture that covered one side of the room and began to scratch at one side of it. The Butler thought there was a mouse behind it that the cat wanted so he moved the picture and found a small door leading up a small flight of stairs.



He called Nan and together they followed the cat up the stairs which paused at a small door. Nan opened the door and found herself in the room of Tsing Ku. And again the strong scent of violet greeted her.

She entered the room and found the girl lying on her bed—dead. On the stand near her Nan found the following note: “I killed John Brown. He was going to marry Hilda. I swore she would never have him. Now, I go with him. Tsing Ku.”

Nan read the note and started out.

“Where are you going?” the butler shouted.

“To Jim,” Nan called back.

—MADALYN FOX, '25

PREPARE FOR LIFE BY STAYING IN SCHOOL

That period of life subsequent to the elementary school course is a time of vital importance. That is the time when one prepares himself for the service he is to perform in the world. One can prepare during these years for a service in which he will reach the fullest expression of his life. To do this a person must educate himself.

The high school is practically the only instrument at hand to aid in the task of fitting the individual for the work of his mature years. Yet we hear so often of boys and girls leaving school at the completion of the elementary course, or leaving sometime during the high school course. Statistics show that only fifteen per cent of the pupils entering the first grade graduate from high School and only three percent of those so entering graduate from college. This great mortality is deplored by educators the country over.

Many of the changes in education during the last few years have been wrought with the idea of holding out more inducement and making school more attractive to retain more pupils.

Those years following elementary school are precious, it is the formative period of life, it is then largely determined what sort of person the individual will be and what his status will be among his fellows. It is logically a time of preparation.

There are different reasons why pupils leave school but chief among them is employment. Workers at such an age are unskilled, irresponsible and therefore can command only a small wage. To the eyes of youth the recompense looks alluring but

in reality it is trifling. He who exchanges the infinitely precious years of life for the meagre fruits of employment is striking an exceedingly poor bargain.

The world needs every individual's best service. That best service will promote the welfare of the individual. The individual therefore, owes it to himself and to society to be so prepared that he can give his best.

—A. G. ARTHUR HOUSTON.

SCHOOL NOTES

Oct. 5. The three upper classes gave a reception in honor of the Freshmen. An address of welcome was delivered by the Senior President, Robert Merikangas. A Pantomime, "The Batchelor's Reverie," was presented by the Junior class. This was followed by a one-act play, "The Precious Pickle," given by an all-star cast, the Senior class. The Freshmen entertained by their class song, "The Wearing of the Green," and initiation conducted by members of the Sophomore class. Refreshments were served after which dancing followed. Murray's four-piece orchestra furnished music for dancing.

—HELEN M. CARROLL, '24.

Sept. 4. North Bennington Junior-Senior High School opened with a total enrollment of seventy-eight.

The faculty this year is as follows:

Principal—A. G. A. Houston

Teacher of English—Harriet E. Knight

Domestic Science—Dorothy Dorrance

Mathematics—Mary Patriquin

French and Latin—Kathleen O'Leary

Sept. 6. Mr. Houston organized a Police Squad, made up of boys from the seventh grade. It is their duty to keep the school yard and schoolhouse in order.

Sept. 16. The Seniors had a splendid evening for the weener roast which they held in McCullough's woods. This gave the teachers and students an excellent opportunity to become better acquainted.

Sept. 21. The first of four assemblies to be given by the seniors took place on this date. The program was musical, but for a pantomime entitled "The Bachelor's Dream." Kenneth

★
Worthington, as the bachelor, sat before his fireplace dreaming of his old-time sweethearts. These appear before him, but he chooses to place his lot with the last to come who is his mother. Helen Carroll took this part admirably.

Sept. 26. The second of the Senior assemblies was book day. After a song by the school, Miss Knight gave a little talk on books and how to read. She compared the different classes of books to a prism of different colors.

Then the characters from various books appeared before us. These we were to guess. There were such characters present as Ichabod Crane, the duchess from "Alice In Wonderland," Priscilla, Evangeline, Carmen, Little Red Riding Hood, Captain Kidd, Robin Hood, Silas Marner and Eppie, Alice and Cora, from "The Last of the Mohicans" and Hester of the Grants. The last named character sang the chorus of "Crinoline Days," with which selection the program ended.

Sept. 26—The several classes have held class meetings at which the following officers have been elected:

Senior—

President—Robert Merikangas
Vice-President—Clarissa Nelson
Secretary—Vivian Mattison
Treasurer—Vernona Evans

Junior—

President—Kenneth Worthington
Vice-President—Gladys Bromley
Secretary—Julia McCarthy
Treasurer—Madalyn Fox

Sophomore—

President—Therese Goodermote
Vice-President—Doris Dunham
Secretary—Dorothy McGinnis
Treasurer—Ruth Lane

Freshman—

President—Rudolph Elwell
Vice-President—Kathleen Corcoran
Secretary and Treasurer—Mildred Hart

8th Grade—

President—Nellie Olin

Vice-President—Josephine McGinnis

Secretary—Amelia Green

Treasurer—Alice Hager

7th Grade—

President—Maurice Haswell

Vice-President—Leland Dunham

Secretary—Mary McCarthy

Treasurer—Ray Beagle

Oct. 1. The Sophomore class set out a list of by-laws for the Freshmen. The rules are as follows:

1. Be kind and courteous to all upper classmates.
2. Open and close doors for them. If asked to do anything, as sharpen a pencil, must obey.
3. Boys must take off hats to all upper class girls. When addressing upper classmen must say Madam or Sir.
4. Girls must wear green ribbons around their heads until the night of the reception. Their hair must be parted in the middle.
5. Georgia Powers must see that the blackboards are clean before leaving on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday nights.
6. Pheobe Remmington and Mildred Hart are to see that all papers are picked up off the floor before leaving on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday nights.
7. Kathleen Corcoran must dust all desks before leaving on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday nights.
8. The boys are to part their hair in the middle and wear green neckties.
9. Neither boys or girls are to wear jewelry of any description.

All those refusing to obey these rules will be punished at and after the Freshman Reception which is to be held Friday evening, October fifth.

—HELEN CARROLL, '24.

ALUMNI NOTES

'21

Carroll Wilson resides at his home in Hoosick.

Helen Mattison is a junior at Russell Sage College, Troy, N. Y.

Ruth Lape has employment in the office of H. C. White Co.

Catherine Eddy resides at her home on Bank Street.

Marion Gaul has employment with H. T. Cushman Mfg. Co.

Helen Worthington is in training for a nurse. She has been at Clifton Springs Hospital but is in New York at present taking up a special course.

Catherine Kinney resides at home in Bennington Falls.

Mariam Goewey resides at her home in Arlington.

'22

Harry Harrington is now a Sophomore at Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Ralph Reed resides at his home in West Shaftsbury. He was a student at U. V. M. last year.

Elliott Worthington has employment at H. C. White Co. He was a student at U. V. M. last year.

Dennis McCarthy has employment as a carpenter in Springfield, Mass.

Doris Biddle is in training for a nurse at the Brattleboro Memorial Hospital.

Helen Monta is a Sophomore at Adelphi College, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Mabelle Haswell (Mrs. Walter Becker) is married and resides in Bennington.

Lilah Harwood is in training for a nurse at Brooklyn City Hospital, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Mary Meagher is a senior at North Adams Normal School.

The following are employed in the office of H. C. White Co.: Sue Huntington, Grace Hathaway, Mary Walsh, and Marion Jones.

'23

Percy Graves is a student at Bates College, Lewiston, Maine.

Fred Myers is employed in Shaftsbury.

Adelbert Evans is a clerk in the J. E. Meagher Store.

Daniel McCarthy and Charles Austin are working at H. C. White Co.

Priscilla Bromley is a student at U. V. M.

Margaret Murphy has employment at the Allen A. in Bennington.

Irene and Inez Smith are students at Castleton Normal School.

Ann Gaul has employment in the office of H. C. White Co.

Lillian La Batt is taking up a medical course at U. V. M.

Mable Mears has been elected vice-president of her class at Castleton Normal.

Marjorie Frost has employment in a book store at Springfield, Mass.

—HELEN M. CARROLL, '24.

OCTOBER

The sun is shining brightly,
The sky is hazy blue,
And flowers are nodding blithely—
Flowers of autumn hue.
The lowland trees are scarlet,
Jack Frost has made them so;
But mountain tops are purple
With white clouds hanging low.
Here are some purple asters
Watching the upward flight
Of the silky seeds of the milkweed
Now gleaming in the light.
We are always glad to follow
Wherever the road may lead,
Whether on mountain top or in hollow,
For nature satisfies every need.

—Anon.

A CONGLOMERATION

Biology, biology,
Queer kind of school-ology,
Cortex, unsprouted grain of corn,
Periblem, section of apple, a pome.
Pod and loment follicle, capsule,
Nut, grain, berry aggregate, multiple

Pollen grain sprouted and growing thru style
Pollen grain entering the micropyle
Stamen and stigma, corolla nucellus,
Can we remember one-half that they tell us?
Dehiscent, inflorescence. Oh, what a fright,
We make a wild guess and hope we are right.
Corymb, head, thyrses and compound raceme,
All of them enter to further the scheme.
Catyledons, akene, clustogamous,
Anther, plumule, sepal papus,
Protein and starch scutellum embryo,
We could not remember it were we to try it.

—ELLA WINN, '25.

JOKES

McCarthy: "What subject do we have next period?"

Greene: "Nothing."

McCarthy: "That's a good subject. I like it."

Teacher: "Can you see an abstract noun?"

McCarthy: "No, it is abstracted from your eye."

During discussion concerning whether the commercial course was to be given inside or outside of school hours. Mr. Houston: "I think if we have it, it will probably come outside."

McCarthy: "I am not going outside this winter in the snow and cold to study any commercial course."

Miss Knight: "Will a couple of you boys move this desk?"

Mr. Houston immediately goes up and helps move it.

Richard McCarthy informs us that he hopes to go to Europe next summer to study Biology and English.

Miss Dorrance: "Tell about the noble's house and family inside and out."

Recitation in English III: He appeared to have no arms.
(She meant weapons.)

Miss Knight: Give a description of the cave. Where is it?

Miss Knapp: In the book.

Miss Dorrance: "Are you absolutely sure?"

Sarah: "No, but I am pretty."

Worthington: "The book said the horse went 60 mi. an hour, but I don't believe it. Spark Plug could only do 45 an hour."

Neighbor: "Is not your son pretty young to join the army?"

Mother: "No, you see he is joining the infantry."

Mr. Houston in History 6: "What were the nationalities of the colonists?"

V. Mattison: "They were mostly all protestants."

Miss Evans in History: "The Indians were friendly with the Colonists and in the spring they had a big Thanksgiving dinner."

Richard R. Dwyer

DEALER IN

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—:—

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General Merchandise

—:—

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1872-1884

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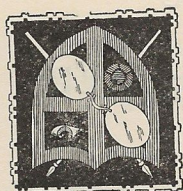
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Bennington, Vt.

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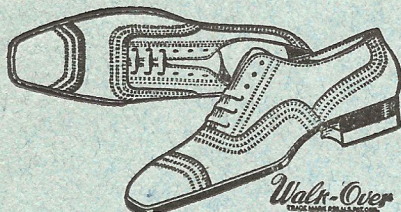
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