

# SCHOOL NEWS

"GHIT-CHATS" in the person of Miss Vera Clark has done gone and got her self married. It's Mrs. James Herrick now. We hope this change in status will not mean her departure from these pages which she has enlivened with her peppy inimitable chatter. I asked one of the younger set to give me a complimentary description, a sort of testimonial of Vera and this bounced back at me - "Just say she's a hep chick with heaps of jive in her jargon."

I don't know how that citation sits with you older guys but for me it means if I can pass the entrance exams next fall I should go back to high school to complete my education in contemporary English.

It is our daily custom each A.M., to detour by the Scotch Plains post-office on our way to work to pick up The Scotch Plainsman mail. In this way we manage to meet a few of the fellows who have returned from overseas service.

In the midst of a seemingly endless rainy spell, we met and were happy to shake hands with Lieut. Joe Blohner, a bit drawn after his long prison camp experience. We apologized for the unpleasant weather which greeted his return but he said any kind of weather in Scotch Plains was OK with him.

Met George Vernon too (back from Italy with the 15th Airforce) dunking a doughnut in his pop's Park Lunch. The way George is diving into the food, there won't be any profit in this month's operations but we're sure Pop and Mom Vernon don't care. They're so glad he's back and so proud of him. Well! Why shouldn't they be.

It would tickle your heart-strings to see Lieut. Bob Campbell parading along Park Avenue with his new-born baby in his arms. He makes a real proud poppa.

Pop Stoker introduced us to son Homer, back from the Aleutians, and loaned us the Presidential citation awarded posthumously to Harry Stoker, Scotch Plains' first war casualty. A photographic copy of it will be made for The Scotch Plainsman archives.

Spotted Henry Kitz in his oar, home on a 10 day leave from Bainbridge Maryland. Promised us a picture in his summer whites for our Honor Roll.

Mrs. Emil Hoffman writes that her husband is now in the Philippines having moved there from New Guinea. His unit was awarded the Meritorious Service Plaque for outstanding work in New Guinea and they have been authorized to wear stars and insignia. Corporal Emil has been in the Army two years, fourteen months of it overseas. His son Kenneth is now 26 months old.

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The Class of 1945 filed into the auditorium for the commencement exercises to the tune of the now traditional "Pomp and Chivalry" played by the High School Orchestra. Diplomas were awarded to a class of 81. Mr. Shreve, President of the Board, made these presentations to the graduates and to the parents of those boys who, although members of the class, are now in the armed services. Boys in the service awarded diplomas in absentia were: Herbert Buckley, John Carl Dineen, Albert C. Jost, Robert F. Loeffler, Robert S. Long, Floyd W. McCormick, William F. Pearce, Charles W. Persson, Michael Wreszin,

Albert Gausz, a member of the armed forces, was able to be present and receive his diploma on the stage. His snappy salute to President Shreve added a military touch to the exercises.

The Salutatory Address was given by Emma Di Nizo while the Valedictory was given by Barbara Lea. Honor addresses were given by the president of the class, Peter Lamscha and Jean Peterson. John Hull played a mellophone solo and Grace Stride sang a beautiful number - "This Day is Mine." Sada Thompson presented a most interesting reading in a selection from St. Joan by Bernard Shaw.

A number of awards were made to the graduates by Mr. Adams. The Citizenship Award was presented by the PTA was given to Margaret Baker for her excellent work as editor of the Fascotian. The Fanwood College Women's Club announced the award of a scholarship to Rose Musmici. The Exempt Firemen's Citizenship Award was given to Peter Lamscha while the Rotary Achievement Cup was presented to Preston Ehmann. The athletic award given each year by the Booster's Club went to Jack Todd, a four letter man in the class. Public speaking awards were presented to Rose Musmici and Jean Peterson. The Danforth awards for outstanding character and leadership went to Hulda Ronn and Jack Todd. The following were elected to the National Honor Society for their fine scholastic work and their citizenship and leadership: Jean Peterson, Virginia Stern, Rose Musmici, William Pearce, David Winston, Peter Lamscha, Doris Starbuck and Dorothy Cowell.

The Eighth Grade Commencement was featured by two awards from the local Legion Post and Auxiliary. The Community Post #209 presented its award for outstanding citizenship and leadership to Peter Pinto while the Legion Auxiliary made its presentation to Della Baraldi.

There will be several changes in the high school faculty when school resumes in the fall. We are sorry to report that Henry Gutknecht has resigned his position here to take a similar position in the Nutley schools. Many of you will remember him a teacher of Science and once leader of the band. Mrs. Holt, who has been with us in the music department in the past two years, has resigned and is now leaving the position to live at home.

The now traditional award assembly was held Thursday morning of the closing week of school. Besides the many awards several of the alumni members spoke. Lt. Bob Campbell gave a fine talk to the group which was received with much enthusiasm. The singing of the class song of the Class of 1945 was accompanied by the usual tears and the juniors scrambling for the seats vacated by the seniors.

Mr. Adams has announced that a number of the boys of 1945 have already made arrangements to enter the armed services. The following boys took the ASTRP examinations in our local school and were accepted for the special service training: Don D'Amato, Deanne Donnelley, Richard Goltra, John Hull, Peter Lamscha and William Schacht.

Preston Ehmann took the V-5 examination and has been accepted in the Navy. He will report to Bethany Col-

lege, W.Va., in the very near future.

Soon to enter the armed services as indicated are, Donald Finter (Navy), William Schacht (Navy), James Shreve (Army), James Stonehill (Maritime Service), John Todd (Army), and David Winston (Army).

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Throughout the year the pupils of the three elementary schools have been busily collecting scrap paper. The total collected has been 93,115 lbs. The paper was brought to school in wheel-barrows, wagons, sleds during the winter, and many other little devices. There was keen competition among the elementary pupils and paper trooper awards were given for pupils who brought in a specified number of pounds. The proceeds of the sale of paper in the case of two schools will go for visual education equipment.

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FELLOWS IN THE ETO --

Does time hang heavily on your hands

Looking for something to do?

Here's a suggestion!!!! Hop into a picture studio and have your picture make for our Picture Honor Roll. We have pictures of about 300 fellows and gals but have about 500 more to go.

*Parisian Photo Studio*



So, send us your picture and with it a short service biography so we can print both in a future issue of The Scotch Plainsman

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The American Citizen of Tomorrow, young students of Schools #1 and #3, are being trained in their duties as coming citizens through the medium of Junior American Citizenship Clubs sponsored by the Scotch Plains Chapter DAR, and directed by members of the school faculty.

Five "during school-time" clubs, named after famous Americans, George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, Paul Revere, Betsy Ross and Abraham Lincoln, function with a definite program planned to show the young girl and boy members why the USA deserves their loyalty. They are told of practical ways to demonstrate their respect and devotion to their country through service at home, at school and in the community.

The young members wear a JAC pin close over the heart and give the JAC salute - a right-hand, military salute with finger-tips touching the JAC pin rather than the forehead.

Among their activities, the JACs have made 350 hand-made Xmas cards for men at Camp Kilmer, USO scrap books, and have furnished jams and jellies, and toys and games to children at Bonnie Burn Sanatorium.

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