Campus Comment, April 1929

Bridgewater State Normal School

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Few, if any, students realize how important alumni weekend is to the graduates. It not only gives them a chance to renew their ties with the school, and former classmates, but shows them that Bridgewater is standing ready to aid them professionally.

The program opened with the Glee Club concert given on Friday evening, April 5. This presented an opportunity for those who appreciate the highest arts to spend an enjoyable evening. The addition of soloists from the Boston Symphony Orchestra to the carefully trained Glee Club that the school may well be proud of, raised this evening to one of highest musical value.

On Saturday a conference was held for graduates who wished help in solving problems. Sectional group meetings were held by experts in each line of work, comprising lectures, demonstrations of principles, and discussions of problems. To a young teacher meeting practical schoolroom situation, this type of conference was particularly worthwhile. Bridgewater is a progressive school, not only interested in graduating students, but in helping them as they begin their career and showing them a practical way of meeting their difficulties.

For those who remained after luncheon an informal tea was held. In the evening the Student Government and the Weymouth High School. The program included a report from our delegates, Helen Fox and Elizabeth Matlock, to the Boston Scholastic Press Association Convention at New York. Both of their brief talks were concerned chiefly with technical points in the general make-up, appearance, type, and news of the school paper. The other speakers were Mr. Leonard Ware, Jr. of the Boston Herald, and Mr. Harlan R. Ratcliff of the Boston Transcript, both of whom told of newspaper life in the light of their own experiences.

**CHAPEL DATES**

- April 28 Dramatic Club.
- May 2 Mr. Sinnott.
- May 7 W. A. A.
- May 9 Miss Nye.
- May 14 Pro and Con.
- May 16 Miss Beal.

**EXCHANGES**

We gratefully acknowledge the following exchanges:

- "THE ANCHOR", Rhode Island College of Education, Providence, Rhode Island.

**COMING EVENTS**

- April 24 Woodward Open House.
- April 26 Library Club Social.
- May 8 Dramatic Club Annual Shakespearean Play—"As You Like It.

May 10 Not decided.

**ALUMNI WEEK-END**

Thursday night, April 18, Helen Pealy and Ruth Schenck, newly elected president and secretary of next year's Student Government Association, and our delegates to the Student Conference, left for New York City. Their week-end was a very busy one. Friday night they attended a banquet at the Hotel Pennsylvania, Saturday morning at one of the meetings Helen gave a short speech on "Conferences for Graduate Teachers." These conferences at Bridgewater for the benefit of our alumni are rather unique in the educational world, and we like to tell others about the new things which we are doing.

The conference at New York was sponsored by Dr. Suhrie of New York University. Our delegates returned Monday morning, April 22.

**THE SCHOOL LIBRARIAN'S CREDITS**

**EDWIN OSGOOD GROVER**

I believe in boys and girls, the men and women of a great tomorrow; that whatsoever the boy sows he shall reap. I believe in the curse with this query, "Are you in the library all the time? Don't you ever go to school?" However, I considered the following most enlightening: At the first part of the year it is not uncommon for freshmen to take out, and apparently read diligently and with enjoyment some of those anti-quated, dusty volumes on education and methods which are found in the library. They seem to disdain the more modern, valuable, and interesting texts. Both freshmen and upper classmen often request Miss Vining to interpret a paragraph or two which are unable to comprehend. According to Miss Vining the most popular sections of the library are the Browsing Corner and display cabinet. Many have learned to stop a moment and gain a little more beauty or knowledge at the latter.

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**DELEGATES SPEAK AT WEYMOUTH**

Bridgewater will always cut new circles of interest. On March 27 the third quarterly conference of the Southeastern Massachusetts League of School Publications was held at the Weymouth High School. The program included a report from our delegates, Helen Fox and Elizabeth Matlock, to the Columbia Scholastic Press Association Convention at New York. Both of their brief talks were concerned chiefly with technical points in the general make-up, appearance, type, and news of the school paper.

**NEW OFFICERS GO TO NEW YORK**

**MISS Vining**

One of the most important, most neglected, and least appreciated phases of our education at Bridgewater is the library. This is a resume of an interview with Miss Cora Vining, our Assistant Librarian, and graduate of this school in 1928.

The most pleasing part of Miss Vining's position is, she asserts, her opportunity to know other members of the faculty more intimately, and to meet, at some time, almost every student in the school. There is also the personal contact with the appren­tice librarians.

But these are, of course, certain difficulties, chief among them being the necessity for mind reading. Such a statement did not sound plausible until I was assured that frequently a cross examination is necessary in order to know what the student requires. A frequent question is, "What does this teacher want me to do?" Most foolish questions actually come from the older students rather than the freshmen, but Miss Vining gave two or three illustrations of incidents which happened to concern the latter. Some have been known to sign merely their first name, apparently reverting to high school days. At the first of the year Miss Vining was accosted with this query, "Are you in the library all the time? Don't you ever go to school?" However, I considered the following most enlightening: At the first part of the year it is not uncommon for freshmen to take out, and apparently read diligently and with enjoyment some of those anti-quated, dusty volumes on education and methods which are found in the library. They seem to disdain the more modern, valuable, and interesting texts. Both freshmen and upper classmen often request Miss Vining to interpret a paragraph or two which are unable to comprehend. According to Miss Vining the most popular sections of the library are the Browsing Corner and display cabinet. Many have learned to stop a moment and gain a little more beauty or knowledge at the latter.

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CAMPUS COMMENT

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Editorials

JUST IN APPRECIATION

There are a great many of us who do not seem to appreciate the people with whom we are in daily contact. In our homes our mothers and fathers become mere automatons. We do not realize, nor fully appreciate how they sacrifice and feel for us.

The same thing applies to our faculty here at school. In our cynical moments we belittle their efforts, and in our fadistic moments we make fun of them, but after all they haven't really done more for us than we see on the surface.

They have held us up to the highest sort of ideals. They have labored hard to make us the best possible teachers for the younger generation.

Few of the students appreciate the time spent by the faculty in preparing, planning, and guiding outside activities. These things are accepted as a matter of course, and only on rare occasions is credit given to those who are most responsible for our good times.

The faculty helped plan our building, and now they are continually working to make it beautiful, and in still in us a love for the artistic. Flowers, vases, wall hangings, and pictures have appeared by magic this year, and they lend an atmosphere which few schools have. This practically all due to faculty supervision and faculty planning.

Think it over. Do we appreciate those who are doing the most for us?

We have had our fun, now let's get down to business. All this year CAMPUS COMMENT Board has

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Alumni Notes

Quite a number of recent graduates returned this past week-end for the Alumni Conference held Saturday morning. After the luncheon the girls visited friends in the dormitories.

In the afternoon tea was served in the Normal Reception Room. A few of the Alumni attended the dance given by the Student Government Association in the Albert Gardner Boyden Gymnasium.

Among those who returned were Helen Andrews, Helen Brown, Emmonns, Alice Birkett, "Al" Murphy, Mary Lins, "Billy" Gomley, Clara Almead, Arlene Wardwell, "Freddie" Mitchell, Marion Morse, Eunice Morse, Thelma Peterson, Mary Byrne, Olive Orral, Jane Hicks, Alice Crossley, Dorothy Crossman, Etta Allen, Bessie Crumb, "Marvy" Bixl, Mabel Prichard, Helena Stanley, and Katherine Lynch, all of the class of 28. Others were Doris Leavitt '25, Ruth Swift '27, Thelma Conserment '27, and Bob Kiley '27.

During the week Mary Wood '26, Miriam Sherwood '25, Amy Lawson and Mary Sullivan, again with Isabel Marshall '25, visited the school.

SHAKESPEARE CALLS

ON B. N. S.

Well, sir, "Just what do you think of our town?" I asked Bill as we walked up to school from the train. Bill, one of the best possible teachers for the younger generation,

-Few of the students appreciate the time spent by the faculty in preparing, planning, and guiding outside activities. These things are accepted as a matter of course, and only on rare occasions is credit given to those who are most responsible for our good times.

-Thinking about our school, I am in a most unusual frame of mind. I am of the opinion that we are not interested in window boxes—which seems to have been the only concrete problem they set forth. However, we boys and girls stick together, and I hope those women will begin to realize that though the dear men are willing to let the girls rule their lives when they're moonlight on the pond, they prefer to do it in the daytime.

-Joe Waterburg tells me that although Ringling's Circus is thrilling, Boston is much better. In a few weeks we are going to have one here that will make me sit up on my tip-toes on my lily- pad. I do hope they put the tents down near me so that I can see the fun. I have heard a great deal about the strange animals that are going to be on the campus that night, especially the monkey. I'm certainly going to be watchin' for Campus Carnival, aren't you?

-I have heard that there is another Eric Robot, and he is right here in Normal, too. He is that "Master-Mind," Nazarian, so-called because he multiplies so fast.

-Sally Polywog heard a rumor that the English Composition class was returning to poetry and considered it a most satisfying and inspiring novel. The instructor is quoted as saying, "I'd be a blank if I studied art." The possibilities of filling in that blank with suitable musings is great. Submit suggestions now.

POETRY

WHEN DAY IS DONE

When day is done and night is nigh, The sun retreats—and o'er the s, How the days are filled with these events. The sun retreats—and o'er the sun, How the days are filled with these events. The sun retreats—and o'er the shining sun, How the days are filled with these events. The sun retreats—and o'er the shining sun, How the days are filled with these events. The sun retreats—and o'er the shining sun, How the days are filled with these events. The sun retreats—and o'er the shining sun, How the days are filled with these events.

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NEW BOOKS IN OUR LIBRARY

Gift of the Library Club:
- Most of the following books were obtained through the club's membership in the Literary Guild and Book-of-the-Month Club. The statement of this fact is sufficient recognition of their value. The books have been added to the Cora A. Newton Collection in the Borrowing Corner, so that the entire school may take advantage of this gift.

"Jean-Christophe" by Romain Rolland
"Black Majesty" by Vandercook
"Old Pybus" by Deeping
"Sixty-four Ninety-four" by Mottram
"Trader Horn" by Lewis
"Bridge of San Luis Roy" by Wilder
"Vanguard" by Ludwig
"Napoleon" by Jean-Christophe, by Romain Rolland.

Jean-Christophe lived a long and varied life during which he won fame and recognition as a musician, alone to lose his prestige, regain it, and again lose it. The book was first written in French, but the translation is now available. More enjoyable than the narrative is the beautiful, musical prose in which it is written. The author uses throughout the book the simile of the river, the great theme, life, running on, washing over everything, giving up nothing. The end is reached and death remains, everything is lost.

WINTER WORDS IN VARIOUS MOODS AND METERS" by Thomas Hardy. Macmillan, 1928

-This rhymed volume contains many lighthearted unpublished poems and many which are not included in Ciale Poems of Thomas Hardy that is already in the library. The interesting fact about these later poems is that they contradict the usual criticism: "Hardy's prose is poetry; his poetry, prose.

-C. M. Vining, Librarian.
CUSPIDOR, THERMIDOR AND HUMIDOR

"Gimme that! Cut it out you two! Let it alone! Now you just remember Jesus, and do as I say!"

Thermidor and Humidor, at this juncture, hastily dropped the bicycle they had been vainly trying to ride, and, with an air of great apprehension, retreated slowly to the porch and simultaneously lowered themselves onto the bottom step. For Cuspidor took his position very seriously, in fact so seriously that he made his brothers, Thermidor (known to his mother as Thomas Page Clarke) and Humidor (alias: Alden Clarke) slightly uncomfortable when he began to expound in a religious vein.

The sole trouble with Cuspidor was that in his efforts to disclaim an evangelistic meeting and had since that time been striving zealously to convert everyone he met. One night, the harrassed mother of the three having guests awaiting her, had tucked them into bed and said, "Now I don't want you to come downstairs on any account. Say your prayers and go right to sleep". She was startled a few minutes later by Cuspidor, who flung himself into bed, crying, "Mummy, I said my prayers to Jesus, and he told me to come right down and say them to you."

Thomas and Harold lay suffering in bed. They could think of no device whereby they might get a lift from the boys; then Charles came triumphantly to bed and said, "I've got them into bed, reporting that the company had called him a dear boy, and he me to come right "down

As Cus wobbled out of sight on his reclamation bicycle, Therm and Humid reflected on the best way to spend the next half hour which came before their bed-time. They brightened up considerably on seeing George Martin, their sister Sally's boy friend, come striding down the street. George was usually good company, and he often showed the boys intricate ways of pitching curved balls, but tonight he seemed very nervous and only gave them a precocious nod as he went into the house.

Soon Cus appeared, and in the very short seconds in which he dared to let go of the handle bars he frantically waved a piece of paper. He fell off at a carefully planned moment and immediately the three boys went into what they termed a "huddle", from what they emerged with new life. Henry, upstanding, and with an air of great apprehension, said in a syrupy tone, "Oh how sweet of you, George. Are these for me?"

A hoarse voice from the hall whistled, "Close up now." On this advice George was seized by the collar, and as asked if he wasn't going to strangle, so red did he get in the face. For the words had a familiar sound. He was startled, but "our club in preparation or won't be our pleasure."

"At this point, Cus, who had been patiently awaiting his turn, strode in with the thunderous bellow of "But not that young fool gone home yet? I never did think he was very bright. What does he think this is, anyway, a boarding house?"

"Sally could stand no more. She seized Cus by the collar, but as she dragged him from the room, he delivered his final blow by saying, "What's the matter? That's just what Pa always says and you know it."

For the next ten minutes Cus religion did him no good, as was testified by the shrieks which rent the air. George said cautiously to Therm and Hume who were listening delightfully to Cus' words, "Did Sally really say that about my proposing? All right, here's a quarter. Now give me that paper and clear out of here."

Lucile Benson.

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CLUB NOTES

THE LIBRARY CLUB

Two items on the social calendar of the Library Club have taken place this past month. The faculty of the Normal School and the faculty of the Training School were entertained by the Club. April 26 an entertainment by the students of the Emerson College of Oratory is to be given in place of the annual Social.

At our first April meeting we held a reception for the faculties of the Normal and Training Schools. Several of the girls of class C presented the play "Grandma Pulls the Strings", which was coached by Grace Buckland. The Library appeared at its best with the workaday tables cleared away and easy furniture and plants brought in to add a festive appearance. The club feels that this innovation was successful.

GTEE CLUB

The Glee Club has two more important events on its calendar for this year, namely: Baccalaureate and Commencement. It will be our pleasure to furnish the music on these occasions, as in the past.

We are welcoming new members to our club in preparation for two concerts which we are planning to give next year. Interesting announcements concerning programs and guest artists will be made later.

GIRL SCOUTS

Now that spring has come has given the Girl Scouts turned to outside activities. During the past few weeks they have been map-making. Plans are also being made for a week-end party at East Marion.

MRS. Vining

(Continued from page 1)

Although Miss Vining has noticed a broadening growth in the attitude of Bridgewater students since they entered, there is still much that could be improved. The library in the old school building was only one room, and library classes were held at the same time that other students read. Now we have a beautiful background providing the quiet, artistic environment for all that a library should mean. But "few students here seem to like books, either for their cultural value, or for their content; they do not enjoy the library; they use it merely as a study hall. They expect

(Continued on page 4)

COMPLIMENTS

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"If you wish to become popular on the Spanish team, you must learn to adapt to the culture of the country," he said, "but with practice, anyone can become an expert."