



CENTENNIAL GRADE 13 graduates are: front row, left to right, Martha Hoey, Susan Clarke, Rita McCrea, Kathryn McKenzie, Nancy Winter, Eleanor Heard; centre row, Dan Arbic, Betty Cook, Linda Linham; back row, Gayle Withers, Vern Denny, Merl Harris, Joanne Landsborough. (Staff Photo)

## Valedictory, speaker, awards: commencement fills h.s. gym

A record-number of award winners and graduates marched briskly across the high school platform Friday evening in happy formality. Despite 74 items on the commencement program, the presentations and hand-shakes were undertaken with dispatch, leaving plenty of time for the evening's highlights, the guest speaker, the valedictory address and the Glee Club.

All 13 grade 13 graduates were present. These centennial year students will be the last to receive the hard-earned honor diplomas in this way. The final examination system is to be altered.

Congratulatory applause of a full house of over 350 went to the top students, Dan Arbic, Susan Clarke, Betty Cook, Vern Denny, Merl Harris, Eleanor Heard, Martha Hoey, Joanne Landsborough, Linda Linham, Rita McCrea, Kathryn McKenzie, Nancy Winter and Gayle Withers.

Bouquets of carnations in the school colors, red and white, decorated the platform. School board members were seated on the platform with the principal. Some of the 27 staff members joined in making presentations. Participating stores, businesses, industries and local groups had

representatives making their own awards.

(A full list of awards appeared in last week's Free Press.)

Enthusiastic applause followed the brisk and humorous address to the students given by the Rev. Canon John Bothwell of Burlington, a cousin of Mrs. E.A. Hansen.

If they wanted to recall what he "said", they could just remember "SED", he advised. These three letters stood for the three characteristics that determine what happens to graduates. They might become rich or famous. Would they be successful? Comfortably well off? Or were they doomed to frustration and failure?

S stood for self-discipline. There is no quick way to develop character, integrity and ability, but with self-discipline one has made a good start.

Education, as we've all been told, pays off. But that's not the real reason we want it but because of what we become due to it. As well as its technical importance, it opens a world of music, books and art.

The third characteristic is devotion to high ideals. Teacher Ross Lambour introduced Canon Bothwell and he was thanked by Susan Perry.

After a lapse of several years the Glee Club was formed again at the high school, and the group of attractive young girls sang three selections led by Principal Hansen.

First was the ever-popular Over the Rainbow and next bouncy Czech Dance Song.

Then they sang Acton's favorite centennial year number, Hymn to Canada. Composer Herman Freuler rose to acknowledge applause and spoke a few heartfelt words to the students expressing the gratitude for the past and hopes for the future.

In her valedictory address, pert Rita McCrea kept the close attention of the audience with her thoughtful remarks. She called the school their second home where since the first days they were guided by the staff to their various goals. They weren't easy years, she said - but not overly hard. "Each failure brought an understanding of success."

She admitted they weren't perfect examples of youth but the children were now prepared to face life and think for themselves. They will develop their own personal place in the community.

Education isn't limited to the school; parents gave direction at home. "We were pretty smart kids . . . but we couldn't have done it alone."

Keep your goals in sight . . . aim high and good luck! "We are walking into the world which we will help shape."

She received the traditional valedictory medal from Anne Shortill.

After the program, students, parents and friends were served refreshments in the school corridors. They left the gymnasium clear for the crew of energetic boys and girls who were beginning the crash program of completely transforming the big room into a Swiss landscape for the Edelweiss ball the next night.

### Daughters of Knox name new officers

The Daughters of Knox held their November meeting in the Miss Ellen Anderson room. Mrs. Dora Coles opened the meeting in the absence of the president Mrs. Betty Ashley. Living for Jesus was in unison and all repeated the motto.

Mrs. Diane Spielvogel read the minutes and the roll call was answered by 18 members with their orders for the minicent.

The nomination committee of Mrs. Dora Coles and Mrs. Diane Spielvogel presented the 1968 slate of officers as follows: past president - Betty Ashley; president Diane Spielvogel; first vice-president - Rene Watson; recording secretary - Rae Hansen; corresponding secretary - Dora Coles; treasurer, Supply and Camp convener - Helen Otterbein; assistant treasurer - Betty Ashley; Glad Tidings and Literary - Lena Nelles; press reporter Marg Phelan; welcome and welfare - Joan McKnight and Joyce Sprout; card convener - Georgina Van Fleet; music committee - Anne Moore; Faye Pink; kitchen committee - Anne Moore, Margaret Toth; Group leaders - Donna Riseborough, Vivian Swallow and Rene Watson. Plans were made for the Christmas meeting.

They were favoured with a duet by Cathy Ashley and Corie Maxwell playing their ukuleles and singing.

Mrs. Rene Watson and her group conducted the Study Book with a discussion on the similarities of the different religions of Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam and Anitism. The worship service was opened with the hymn "Take up Thy Cross" and the scripture Col. 1:15-20 and Acts 17: 22 - 28 was read by Helen Otterbein followed with prayer by Donna Riseborough. The hymn "Rise up O Men of God" and prayer closed the meeting. Lunch was served by the group in charge.



TRUDY MORRIS, left, and Susan Clark were among the top prize winners at Friday's high school commencement exercises. Beardmore chemist John Griefeneder congratulates the two girls after presenting them with awards from the company. (Staff Photo)



EDNE HOPKINS, left, shows valedictorian Rita McCrea her award presented by Ted Tyler Jr. at high school commencement exercises Friday night. The auditorium was filled for the lengthy program which featured an outstanding address by Canon John C. Bothwell. (Staff Photo)

## Rules, rate set for renting h. s. gym board queries evaluation of grade 13

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charity. "We wish to assure you we would adhere to any reasonable rules" they promised.

Board members agreed they should have a broad policy for renting of the gym to outside groups.

Added chairman Tom Watson, "It's time we drew up something and got this gym open to the public."

If Project Action rents the gym for dances, neither the school board nor the school will have any direct responsibility, the board stated. If rules are not strictly adhered to, rental will no longer be available.

Grey Coach Lines will not be beginning bus service for students to Georgetown and Brampton - not yet, at least. A letter read at the board meeting Monday from Grey Coach Lines said an 8 a.m. bus east had been given

careful consideration and it was decided there was not sufficient evidence of need.

School board had written the company stating their feeling there was a need for the bus to take students to high school in Georgetown and to Sheridan college in Brampton.

The letter, said another bus might be put on, beginning in April or September. Considerable study is required before each change and changes are usually only made in April, June, September and October.

The present bus at 7 a.m. is "an hour too early", members agreed.

Return bus service is satisfactory. Board secretary Fred Salt will write the company asked them to re-consider.

Staff members were commended on work done on the new agriculture room, as yet unfinished. The property committee was to

see the teachers concerned about the completion of the work. Murray Young, program consultant in agriculture, had stated his approval of the room but pointed out the possibility of using specific grants for its completion.

(When a new addition is added to the high school, this room at the far south-east corner will revert to a change room, and all equipment is movable.)

Further adjustments are necessary to the new boiler before final approval is given.

Principal Ted Hansen's reports showed Christmas examinations will begin Nov. 22.

He pointed out to board members there are about 100 examinations to be typed and mimeographed, with the new streaming system. He was authorized to hire extra secretarial help if it is required. This has been done in previous years.

A meeting of high school staff and public school staffs will be held Nov. 15 with a panel discussion of topics of mutual interest. School board members will also take part in the panel.

Three staff members expect to attend a program at the University of Waterloo presented by the Computer Society of Canada. Career opportunities are also included in the program. The date is during the exam schedule and arrangements will be made for their absence.

Miss Ruth Gregory, program consultant in commercial, was at the school Oct. 26 and Mrs. Bagshaw, program consultant in library, was there Oct. 31 to discuss a new library setup with Mrs. Hallman, Mr. Hansen continued.

In his mimeographed report on parents' nights held on Oct. 25 and Oct. 26, Mr. Hansen stated:

"An attempt was made this fall to get more of the parents into the school whose children are having difficulty. In the past, when we extended a general invitation to parents, those who reported to the school were usually the most interested whose children, for the most part, were doing well. The majority of these parents had no difficulties to discuss with teachers.

"To try to attract more of the people whose children were having trouble, we officially informed people of our parents' nights in the September and October re-

ports which were sent home October 2nd and 19th respectively. These reports were given only to students who were achieving below the 60% level in one or more subjects.

"A total of 304 families were informed of the parents' nights in the October report and asked to return the report indicating whether or not they would attend.

"The 304 students thus represented were shown to be experiencing difficulty in 613 subjects; an average of just over two subjects for each student. Of the parents informed, 82 chose to come to the school on Oct. 25 and an additional 65 on Oct. 26.

"In short, 49% of parents chose to attend. Fifty parents (18.5%) signified that they would not be coming to the school at all and an additional 107 (34.5%) gave no indication regarding whether or not they would attend.

"In cases where a student had consistently falling marks in a subject, the parent was specifically asked by the teacher involved to come to the school. A total of 169 parents received 261 such requests which amounts to 1.6 requests for each student. In addition, parents themselves made 96 requests to see individual teachers.

"Of the 169 parents specifically asked to come to the school, 135 or 80% agreed. Of these, 12 parents did not keep their appointments; and an additional 8 could not meet their appointments but made other arrangements to see the teachers involved. In fact, then, 73% of the parents who were specifically asked to come to the school to discuss their children's difficulties actually arrived.

"Aside from those mentioned above, the parents of 25 additional students who had not been officially informed of the Parents' Nights in either of the September or October reports came to the school to keep a total of 52 interviews.

### Clothes allowance

Health Unit nurses were granted \$165 plus tax with which to purchase complete summer and winter uniforms, plus an additional \$25 per year for clothing allowance. The decision was made at the last county council meeting.



DAN ARBIC, RIGHT, assures Vern Denny their honor graduation certificates are genuine after receiving them at the high school commencement Friday night. (Staff Photo)

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