

HIGH TALES

PUBLISHED BY STUDENTS OF GEORGETOWN HIGH SCHOOL

VOLUME 3, NUMBER 9

Wednesday Evening, March 23, 1955

GEORGETOWN, ONTARIO

Will Semester System Work?

Richard Slanko
An article in the Herald two weeks ago was brought to my attention by the editor and I was asked to comment on it. The article was entitled "Ontario Ladies' College Education Experiment" Here is a brief review of this article.

A new method for student education for Grades IX, XI and XII will be tried out next year at Ontario Ladies' College. Known as the "Semester" System, it has been used in the Province of Alberta for four years and in many U.S. schools, especially in California for some time. By this system the student will take six or more subjects per year. He will take three full subjects the first semester or half term and with a final exam at the end of the semester. The remaining three are taken the second semester or last half of the year. If any of the subjects were failed in the first semester they could be written over again in the final semester. It is obvious from this that the student would likely gain more by concentrating on three or four subjects at once, than by spreading attention (and comprehension) over eight or nine, as is the case at present.

Now this system has many advantages. It would eliminate the piling up of examinations in eight or nine subjects at the end of the year, as now happens. A doctor friend told me recently that an educational system is wonderful but they have no consideration for the human mind and what it can take before it breaks. This splitting of the course literally in two would be very beneficial. A 5th form student could in his first semester take the five hardest subjects in his course. He would write off his exams at the end of the semester and have half his course finished. If though he missed French or English he could add this subject to his second semester course and try the exam again at the semester's end. This might save him repeating a year because he missed one subject.

Also this means that the student has the complete course placed before him in a shorter length of time enabling him to remember the work better and save him many hours of review which he would have to do if the course was spread over the years. The tension resulting from eight or nine final exams at the end of the year is eliminated. One could concentrate on 4 or 5 subjects twice a year or 8 or 9 all at once.

These are some of the advantages of this system. But it has its disadvantages too.

It might mean a drop in our standard of education which at present

STUDENT MEETINGS

Terry Harley
Parent-teacher, or teacher-parent, it does not matter which way you say the name of this organization for there still seems to be something missing. Of course all of us know that the school could operate very well without the pupil but surely someone will feel put out and suggest a "put the student back in school" campaign. This would also counteract the "help the student get out of school" idea which seems to be catching like wild fire. Perhaps a student-student meeting could be arranged. It could be the greatest thing since the days when we used to tie two coke bottles together, paint them black and sell them for binoculars.

I can see it now — a dimly lit, smoke-filled room (it is just a leak in the furnace pipe). The chairman glances over the representatives and rises to speak:

"All right, you crumbs, shut up." The room becomes silent. "We are gathered here... we are here to... we... we are here to..." Some one at the back of the room stands and pounds his desk as he shouts — "Point of order, point of order." The chairman acknowledges: "Yes, what is it?" Student (examining his Ma Perkins' atomic ray gun): "I don't know. I heard a guy say that on TV." The chairman glances once more around the room and seems to be ignorant of the procedure. He turns to his associates and mutters: "What do I say now?" His nervous partner leaves, biting his toe nails for a second to scream. "Anything, anything, but keep the meeting going." Chairman, (climbing up on the desk): "Four score and seven years ago our forefathers..."

Voice from back of room: "I object, I object, I object."

Chairman — "Why?"

Voice — "Oh! Do you have to have a reason?"

It is already evident that any continuation of the meeting would lead to greater confusion, so this little scheme is stopped before it starts. Eleven A is now working on a system where the student receives a train ticket with each report card. This way will not leave home if his marks are

Qualified Musician Directs Our Choir

Sue Crabtree
What kind of a music education is Georgetown High School receiving? Are we getting it from a man who knows his music. I am sure that at one time everyone wonders about this.

Thanks to Mr. Harrison, choir director at our school, I can supply you with information about his education.

To get off on the right foot I am glad to be able to say that Mr. Harrison had all his schooling right in Georgetown and that he graduated from Georgetown High School. He has his A.R.C.T. degree in piano and

is working for this degree in singing as well, which he hopes to obtain this coming June. He had been very fortunate in being able to study at the conservatory in Toronto. Not only has he vocal and piano ability but he has taken organ lessons also.

Mr. Harrison, at the present, is teaching all three schools in Georgetown and also the public school in Milton. Besides this, he is a choir organist at one of the churches in Guelph, and of course has his regular singing and piano pupils. This is Mr. Harrison's third year teaching at the High School.

As to the very good work he is doing, don't take my word for it—judge for yourself—come and hear his choir at their best when they present their effusive concert for your enjoyment.



Editor Don Souther and Marna Mackenzie, while attending the Sportsmen's Show in Toronto, view one of the prizewinning entries in the O'Keefe's amateur photographic contest. Pictures submitted by photographers from all parts of Canada were one of the main attractions at the show.

is one of the highest in the world. This, in turn, would result in a lower standard of living. Our leaders, because of poor educations, could not cope with the major issues of the day. If this plan is adopted our high educational standards must be kept.

It would mean teaching the same material twice a year, instead of once. Since the students would each want to take different options each semester, all the options would have to be taught both semesters. This would mean an added burden to our already understaffed school personnel.

Another disadvantage is: suppose a student took algebra in third form in the first semester and in fourth form geometry in the first semester. When he came to fifth, if he waited until the last semester to take algebra again, he would be hampered by a year and a half's absence from algebra and would need a concentrated review for a subject which is not an easy one at any time.

So here we have added some pros and cons for the system which will be tested at O.L.C. this fall. I do not back the plan, nor do I oppose it until the results have been published; then will I commit myself either way. What is your opinion on the semester system?

High School Girls Tour Guelph Hospital

Leanna Darou
Part of our Guelph trip was a tour of the General Hospital. This was enjoyed by fifteen girls from Grades 11, 12, and 13, accompanied by Miss Pterrey.

At 1:40 p.m. we mobbed the waiting room of the hospital and found for ourselves perching places until 2:00 when we were to be received by Miss Brant. We amused ourselves during this interval by trying to distinguish the ailing from the visiting among the people who were in the room with us. The only ones who seemed sick to us were ourselves and since our illnesses were not of a physical nature, but rather mental, this hospital could do nothing for us.

At 2:00 we were presented to three girls in their first year of training. We were divided into 3 groups of five and thus we began our excursion. The first part of call was the main kitchen. We saw the food for the whole hospital being prepared. The meals looked very appetizing, but thanks to the plentiful supply of food which we had "guzzled" at the O.A.C., we were not tempted to do more than stare and smell. We were shown the cafeteria, and the x-ray rooms. The nurses' cafeteria is very handsomely furnished in blond wood with matching drapes and rugs. In this room there is a small organ that the girls of the third year dedicated to one of their classmates, Janet Elliot of Milton, who passed away. The other floors were visited in succession. Points of interest were

Attend Show Day At Guelph OAC

Gerald Scott

On Wednesday, March 9th, the Ontario Agricultural College opened its doors. At this time the students of the College displayed their skills which varied from the raising of worms to the art and fashions of Paris. This day paralleled the Royal Winter Fair, the idea being to show outsiders the multiple courses studied and the students' significant progress.

In the main, the college provided a guided tour for visitors in the morning. This morning tour was for display purposes and was the Colleges' way of reaching visitors. In the afternoon all were welcome to inspect any building on the premises (except the girls' dormitory). This was the visitor's opportunity to learn of the College. For any who took advantage of the latter opportunity I'm sure it will repaid his curiosity.

The editor of this paper (High Tales) and the writer along with two members of the opposite sex took this latter opportunity. But at 2:00 o'clock our two interested opposites wound up in the Guelph General

Hospital. (Not patients—strictly visitors, they tell us.)

Our morning tour included such buildings as the following: The Massey Hall where all industrial and commercial art and photography were displayed; the Horticulture building where prized displays of flowers—including corsages, fruits and many vegetables from carrots to celery were shown; the Horticulture buildings laying out before us all veterinary equipment especially for farm use, the manifold kinds of sketches used in animal surgery; contour maps for drainage problems on farms, farm architecture both house and farm and an exquisite display of insects and butterflies; the Macdonald Institute where the Home Economics course for girls was also open for inspection.

In the afternoon the editor and writer covered many acres — we never knew the College was so big! We visited the green houses first. To our delight, we thought we were in the tropics. Palm trees, hanging ferns, banana trees, cactus and such varieties of vegetation lined the aisles.

From here we entered the chemistry building. We encountered a student doing an experiment and soon found out he was from Holland. We witnessed an experiment where 140 lbs of spinach was undergoing decomposition into its elements in order to isolate 1/2 gram of bacteria. A very friendly professor appeared and for one hour we talked of the student's work and chemistry in general.

From here we passed to the Soils Building. Quite unexpectedly we witnessed the analysis of some soil by very complicated equipment. We interrupted a professor who was about to begin an experiment but he stopped and talked to us. He explained how he was engaged in research on irrigation, a relatively new field. Not wishing to delay him longer than was necessary we moved to the Bacteriology Building.

To one who knows little of this field we were simply astounded by what we learned. This was the apex of our visit. A very friendly professor was there and appeared very eager to tell us about the subject. He covered the field of bacteria in relation to industry, especially food, canning and brewery industries, wa-

any festival choir ever was. Any one of us would have been glad to stay in that spot much longer, but on we moved.

From the hospital we went through the tunnel to the two residences. The nurses have a well-equipped recreation room, with a ping-pong table, a television and many other entertainments. We saw a film and since by this time we were ravenous, we were fed. We chatted with the junior nurses and everyone was happy to see Beverly Hyde again.

After a full day's excitement we were chauffeured to the bus terminal by Mr. Baxter, where we piled into the school bus for the usual noisy trip home.

BRUCE HARDING



Pianist

Teacher

Studio — Main St. South
TR. 7-2578

Margaret Bradley HARDING

Pianist — Teacher

Studio — Main St. South
TR. 7-3203

These Terrible Headaches to the forehead areas of photo now may be relieved by Trumac.



These sufferers go all out in their search for the wondrous relief from these Tablets. Get a bottle today.
TRUMAC TABLETS
ATOMIC PRODUCTS (CANADA) LTD. STATION B

MacCormack's Drug Store

MAIN STREET TR. 7-3692

PRINTING of Distinction

Let our new printing equipment do a better job for you and give you printing satisfaction

- WEDDING STATIONERY
- TICKETS
- LETTERHEADS
- POSTERS
- ENVELOPES
- FOLDERS
- STATEMENTS
- CHEQUE FORMS
- RULED FORMS
- CATALOGUES

The Georgetown Herald

PRINTERS and PUBLISHERS

Telephone TR. 7-2631

Main Street

May Visit Museum And Toronto 'U'

It is now definite. The University of Toronto has offered us the opportunity of visiting the university any time we wish. The opportunity shall be open to Grade 11, 12 and some Grade 13's. At the same time it may be possible to visit the Royal Museum. We hope this to be soon as many students would like to visit this famous museum.

Lions Honour Goldham With Life Membership

Bob Goldham, ace Detroit Red Wings star, has been honoured by his home town Lions Club with an honorary life membership.

He received his pin and certificate from Mayor Jack Armstrong, who presented them, along with a movie camera, a gift from the town; at the recent night in his honour in Detroit. Bob's father, Harry Goldham, has been a member of the local club.

Education is a matter of provincial administration in Canada.