

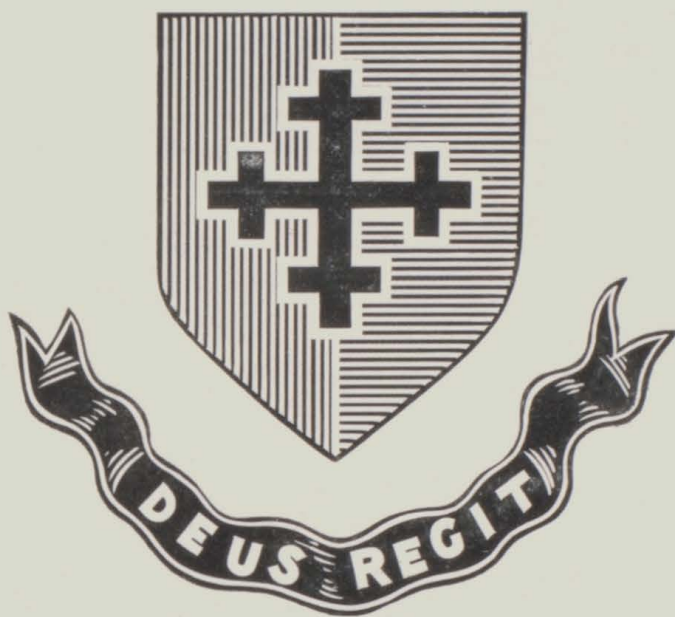
The Owl



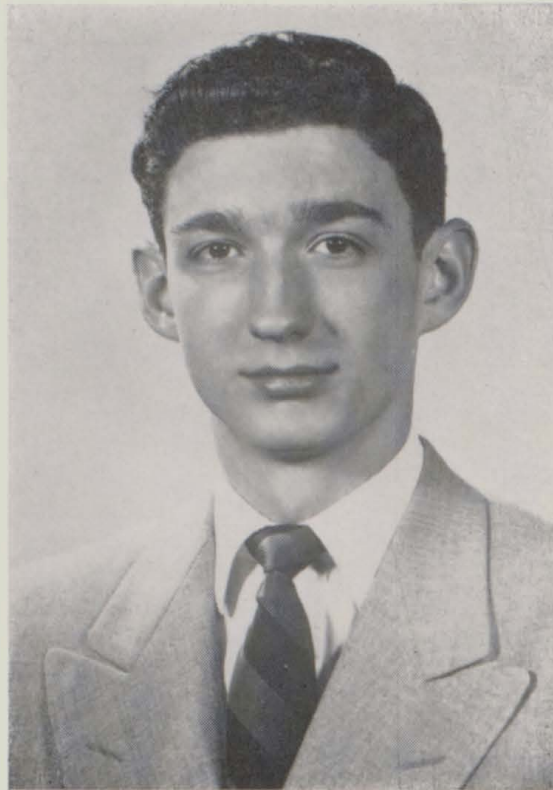
1955



Die



Welt



Dedication

To Dave Bliss goes the dedication of the 1955 OWL. This is one of those rare times when the yearbook is dedicated to an alumnus. We feel that credit goes to him who deserves it and Dave is one who certainly has been a tremendous factor in the progress of the school.

Through his efforts as Editor-in-Chief, the hard-bound cover and the format of the OWL were made possible. In reward for his responsibility as a leader, he was elected Senior Prefect and under his able leadership the school was kept on an even keel.

We of the Senior Class are indebted to Dave for his contributions to Hoosac and the whole student body.

The Owl Board

Editor

PHILIP W. NASON

Business Manager

GERALD A. GUILD

Assistant Business Managers

DAVID GOODRICH

EDWARD ELLIOT

News Editors

THOMAS IMMERMANN

JAMES KEENAN

School Editor

HARRY WIARD

Sports Reviewer

JOHN HIGHLAND

Art Editors

WILLIAM HANNUM

THOMAS IMMERMANN

Exchanges

GEOFFREY BALL

Faculty Adviser

MR. ARTHUR L. HOWARD

The Faculty

THE REV. MEREDITH BEND WOOD, A. B. (Yale); B. D. (Episcopal Theological School); Ed. M. (Harvard)	<i>Rector-Headmaster</i> <i>Sacred Studies, Mathematics</i>
THE REV. KNIGHT W. DUNKERLEY, Ph. B. (Brown); STB (General Theological Seminary)	<i>English, Sacred Studies,</i> <i>Librarian, Science</i>
ARTHUR LINCOLN HOWARD, A. B. (Trinity)	<i>History, Sacred Studies,</i> <i>Fine Arts</i>
JOHN FRANCIS LOCKE, A. B. (Tufts); M. A. (Harvard)	<i>French, Latin</i>
THOMAS HUNTER CLARK, A. B. (Dartmouth)	<i>Mathematics, Chemistry,</i> <i>English, General Science</i>
HARRY HOLTON	<i>Mechanical Drawing</i>
HAZEL FRANKLIN, Qualification Certificate, State of Vermont	<i>Lower Forms</i>
FRANK CHARLES BUTCHER, Mus. B. (Durham)	<i>Music, Choirmaster,</i> <i>Director of the Boar's Head and Yule Log</i>

The Staff

HAROLD G. GREEN	<i>Bursar</i>
EMILY WALSH	<i>Nurse</i>
HAZEL FRANKLIN	<i>Dietitian, Bookkeeper</i>

Student Council

Philip W. Nason	Senior Prefect
Richard E. McConnell	Junior Prefect
Gerald A. Guild	Sixth Form Council Member
William Shaw	Fifth Form Council Member
Malcom Bliss	Fourth Form Council Member



Faculty: Standing left to right—Mr. Locke, Mr. Howard, Mr. Green, Mr. Clark. Seated left to right—Mrs. Franklin, Mr. Butcher, Fr. Wood, Fr. Dunkerley, Miss Walsh.

Foreword

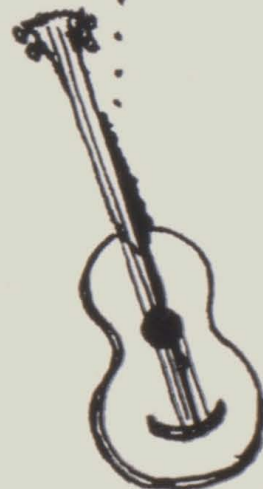
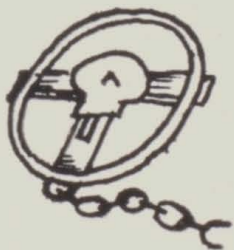
The Sixth Form and the Owl Board take great pleasure in presenting to you the first hard bound edition of THE OWL in more than thirty years. This was made possible through the efforts of the Business Manager and his assistants. Gerald Guild and David Goodrich figured prominently as Business Manager and Assistant Business Manager respectively.

THE OWL is divided into four parts, Seniors, Activities, Festivals and Sports. This format was introduced by David Bliss two years ago. We have added a new picture to the Sports section this year. It is the "H" Club which has been a prevalent part of our athletic program.

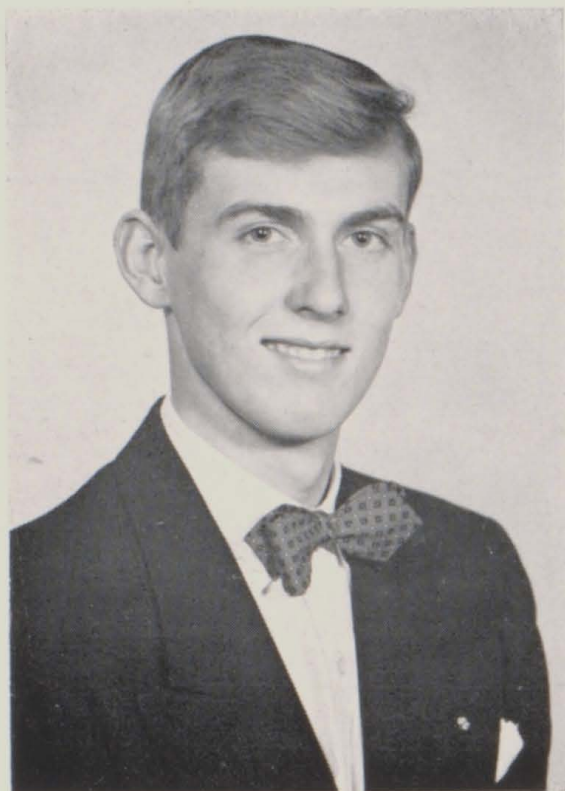
This is THE 1955 OWL. It is a verbal and pictorial condensation of the more important activities and events of the school year presented to you for your enjoyment.

SENIORS

55



Philip Wentworth Nason



Activities:

Student Council (V); Senior Prefect (VI); Owl Board, News Editor (V), Editor-in-Chief (VI); "H" Club (V, VI); Social Committee (VI); Glee Club (V, VI); Liturgical Choir (V, VI); Pantry Boy (V); Yule Log Properties Committee (V, VI); Antonian Club (V, VI).

Boar's Head and Yule Log:

King Balthazar (V); Elizabethan Chorus (VI).

Athletics:

Varsity Soccer (V, VI); Varsity Basketball (V, VI); Co-Captain (VI); Varsity Baseball (V, VI); Taconic Conference All-Star Soccer Team Goalie (VI); Tied for position on Taconic Conference All-Star Basketball Team (V).

Cups and Prizes:

Intermediate Mathematics Prize (V).

A head ducks around the corner. "Where's the article?" These words are characteristic of Phil Nason, our editor-in-chief, as he calls on a member of the Owl Board. As the chief of the school's publications, Phil was able to extract various contributions from his cohorts on the Board. But this is only one of Phil's activities in the school.

On the field of battle, during soccer season, Phil was the last bulwark between victory or defeat. His success as goalie was such that the president of our Conference decided to bestow an All-Star rating on him. As if this wasn't enough, Phil did the same in Basketball. His prowess as a pitcher was outstanding the past two seasons.

Sports are just one small part of Phil's activities. Having only been here a year, he was elected Senior Prefect. This made him B. M. O. C. He walks softly but, oh, what a big stick. Ask the eight room. In his spare time, Williamstown is foremost in his mind. We don't mean Williams College either. Now, we know why he wanted to be on the Social Committee. Phil is the Baritone section of the Glee Club along with possibly a few others. If the Baritones go flat we know why. Despite everything, any college Glee Club will welcome him as a valuable asset. We will miss him here.

Richard Egan McConnell

Activities:

Junior Prefect (VI); Field House Dormitory Prefect (VI); School Student Chauffeur (VI); Social Committee Member (VI); Waiter (VI); Manager of the School Store (IV).

Boar's Head and Yule Log:

Beefeater (VI).

Athletics:

Varsity Soccer (VI); Varsity Basketball (VI).



Oh no! not another trapper and all he got out of it was \$3.75. Was it worth it? "Gar" is not only the Junior Prefect but he is also a Field House Boy. You ask why those three words are capitalized. Just ask Dick; he knows. As Junior Prefect, he takes great pleasure in doing a little writing while in class. This writing is in the form of names and demerits. He just wants to see a few guys at the Sunday Council Meeting.

"Gar's" symbol is a steering wheel for he drives the school bus. We couldn't understand it but he always got us to where we were going. Dick likes to send packages home but does the sweat break out on him when the temperature goes up. Someone will get the BANG of his life. Only a select group has seen "Gar's" little black book. It contains names, dates and times with the B. B's.

Ranger McConnell is attending next year Paul Smith College. Gosh, look at that man in the lumber shirt!

David John Goodrich



Activities:

Dormitory Prefect (VI); Owl Board, Assistant Business Manager (VI); "H" Club (V, VI); Glee Club (V, VI); Liturgical Choir (V, VI); Head Bellringer (VI); Library Committee (V); Pantry Boy (V), Head Pantry Boy (VI); Graftonian Club (V, VI).

Boar's Head and Yule Log:

Mustard Bearer (V); Sword Dance (V, VI); Elizabethan Chorus (VI); Jester (VI).

Athletics:

Varsity Soccer (V, VI); Junior Varsity Basketball (V); Varsity Baseball (V, VI); Soccer Team Sportsmanship Award (V).

Dave came to us at Hoosac in his Junior year from Norwich, Vermont. It wasn't long before he became a regular citizen of our school and gained positions of responsibility and respect. His drive and spirit for the soccer team have proved invaluable and, of course, being from Norwich, Vt., he's a "natural-born" skier.

In his Senior year, "Goody" was the Prefect of the Second Floor Dormitory. This, while being one of the highest positions that can be given to a student, is also one of the busiest jobs to be found anywhere. On top of this, he was Head Bellringer. This meant keeping the school running on schedule from morning to night. Goody was also Head Pantry Boy. He had to see to it that the kitchen ran smoothly and in well organized fashion. If all this didn't prove to be sufficient entertainment for him, he studied hard, and now he plans to enter The University of Vermont next fall. Best of luck, Goody.

Gerald Andress Guild

Activities:

Student Council Representative (IV); Student Council Member (V, VI); Owl Board, Assistant Business Manager (V), Business Manager (VI); "H" Club (VI); Library Committee (III, IV); Pantry Boy (IV); Head Dining Room Sweeper (IV); Waiter (V, VI); Railroad Club (III); School Store (V); Liturgical Choir (V, VI); Glee Club (V, VI); Graftonian Club (III, IV, V, VI), Captain (VI); Dormitory Prefect (VI).

Boar's Head and Yule Log:

Beefeater (III); Wassail Bearer (III); Corporal of the Beefeaters (IV, V, VI); Elizabethan Sword Dance (VI).

Athletics:

Junior Varsity Soccer (IV); Varsity Soccer (VI); Soccer Manager (IV); Junior Varsity Basketball (VI); Varsity Basketball (V, VI); Varsity Baseball (III, IV, V).

Cups and Prizes:

Junior Mathematics Prize (III); Intermediate Mathematics Prize (IV); Senior Mathematics Prize (V); Senior Language Prize (V); Senior Social Studies Prize (V); John Spargo Sacred Studies Prize (IV); General Information Cup (IV); Ranking Scholar (V).



"Would you be interested in placing an ad in the Owl, sir-r-r-r? Please! Well, how about a donation of twenty-five dollars?" These familiar words came from the mouth of Gerry Guild. If they hadn't been spoken, you would not be holding a hard-bound edition of the OWL in your hands.

A certain party in the school, who doesn't know what he is talking about, says that Gerry is Nason's side-kick, but you've got to admit that they are roommates. When it comes to throwing pebbles at windows, they are very proficient. Gerry is the mastermind of the school in more ways than one. When it comes to fast thinking, Mr. Guild excels in school work and athletics. No wonder he got his "H" in Soccer. The only thing he slips up on is using a broom and dust rag. He'll never make a good bachelor. He doesn't plan to be one, though!

Gerry looked forward to the mail break each day for he liked to get something for his efforts. This tyrant is another on the council. He has a very bad reputation for wielding a bigger "stick" than Nason. Again ask the eight room.

Some day Gerry hopes to build an aeronautical engine operated by a breeder reaction which gives out energy as it disintegrates. At the end of the reaction more fissionable material is present. How about that! I guess he will make out all right at Brown University next Fall.

John George Highland



Activities:

Owl Board, Feature Editor (VI), Sports Editor (VI); Yule Log Properties Committee (VI); "H" Club (III, IV, V, VI); Library Committee (II, III, IV, V); Head Dishwasher (V); Infirmary Basket Head (II, III, IV); Pantry Boy (III, IV); Waiter (VI); Railroad Club (II, III); Vestry (II); Hoosacian Club President (II, III); Antonian Club (I, II, III, IV, V, VI), Captain (VI).

Boar's Head and Yule Log:

King's Page (II); Minstrel Bearing Hard Sauce (III); Minstrel Bearing Mustard (IV); Minstrel Bearing Plum Pudding (V); Mummer's Play, Jack Finney (II, III, IV, V, VI).

Athletics:

Varsity Soccer (II, III, IV, V, VI), Captain (VI); Junior Varsity Basketball (III, IV); Varsity Basketball (IV, V, VI); Varsity Baseball (II, III, IV, V, VI); Taconic Conference All-Star Soccer Team (IV, V, VI); Taconic Conference High Scorer in Soccer (V).

Cups and Prizes:

Junior Social Studies Prize (II).

Here he comes now; you might not recognize him behind that beard but it is "Unca" Highland in the raw. Over his shoulder is flung a soggy old muskrat just taken from one of his many traps. "Beware of the Evil Day," is John's motto. This is also the warning given to our athletic rivals for when there's a John Highland playing against them, the Evil Day has arrived. If anybody wants to buy an "H", John is the man to see. He has collected so many that he uses them as a wallpaper pattern.

One of "Unc's" favorite days is Arbor Day. All he needs is a thousand pine trees from the Government.

Bill Stern has nothing on John. Not only does he take a big part in our sports but he also gives the OWL and OWLET subscribers a play-by-play description of each game, soccer, basketball, or baseball.

I bet you can guess where John is going next year. You're right, he's going to Syracuse University, Forestry Department.

Thomas Milton Immermann

Activities:

Owl Board, Events Editor and Art Editor (VI); Liturgical Choir (VI); Glee Club (VI); Antonian Club (VI).

Boar's Head and Yule Log:

Beefeater, Chorus and King of Africa (VI).

Athletics:

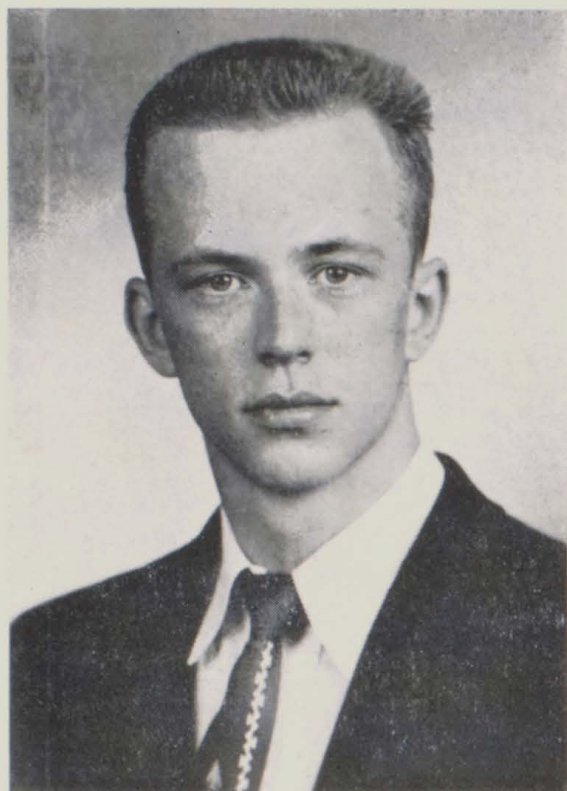
Soccer (VI); Basketball (VI); Baseball (VI); High Scorer for Soccer Team (VI).



Tom is the school's "Lord of Risrule" in everyday life. He keeps everyone laughing with his unending series of impersonations and his many hilarious dialects from morning to night. Tom is one of those distinguished, immortal Field House Boys.

Tom, an all-around athlete, was high-scorer for the soccer team. He is Liturgical Choir, a great hater of Algebra, and a great lover of Cambridge, N. Y., and he just got here last September. Tom plans to enter Brown University next September. We wish you all the luck in the world, Tom.

David Thomas Moss



Activities:

Owl Board, Social Editor (V, VI); "H" Club (VI); Glee Club (V, VI); Liturgical Choir (III, IV, V, VI); Social Committee (IV, V, VI); Pantry Boy (VI); Vestry (V); Library Committee (III, IV, V, VI); Waiter (VI); Dormitory Prefect (V, VI); Manager of the School Store (VI); Graftonian Club (III, IV, V, VI).

Boar's Head and Yule Log:

Eastern Torchbearer (III); Star of the East (IV); Mustard Bearer (V); Elizabethan Chorus (VI); Elizabethan Sword Dance (VI).

Athletics:

Varsity Soccer (V, VI); Varsity Baseball (V, VI); Taconic Conference All-Star Soccer Team (I).

Dave is the guy who can usually be found sleeping soundly in the upper bunk in his room at the top of the stairs leading to the third floor. We think he puts himself away just to dream about a young lady in Potsdam, N. Y., but that's just a guess.

Dave is the pride of the soccer team. His hard play has earned him a position on the Taconic Conference All-Star Soccer Team for 1954. His other interests stem from working on the Owl Board to singing for the Choir, Glee Club, and the "Four Counts" vocal quartet. Dave's voice is the mainstay of the bass rank.

Dave is a "four-year" man at Hoosac. He has been an active member of the Social Committee for three years and has achieved a good all-around record here. He plans to enter either Union College or Hobart, where our beloved alumnus Tom "Roy Acup" Ross abides. Good luck, Dave.

Harry D. Miard

Activities:

Library Committee (III, IV); Stationery Store (IV); Head Dining Room Sweeper (III); Owl Board (II, III, IV, VI); Choir (V, VI); Glee Club (V, VI); Antonian.

Boar's Head and Yule Log:

Shepherd (II, III, IV, V, VI), Father Christmas (P. G.), Mummers (VI).

Athletics:

Soccer (VI, P. G.), Manager (VI); Basketball Manager (VI); Grounds Committee (IV, V, VI).



Harry has one main passion in life---Jazz. Harry knows more about jazz than any member in the student body. His collection of records has stimulated many a dance and has brought the jitterbuggers from the corner. Aside from jazz, Harry has worked continuously for six years on his guitar. Progress has been slow, but he's getting there. Because of his records Harry usually is seen at the door of one of the master's rooms asking them for the use of their record-playing machines.

Recently Harry's interests have been turning in other directions. Hoosick Falls seems to be the place to visit and not Mr. Noveck's record store. As long as Harry has been here, he has been the focus for much fun and merriment. Life will be quite different at Hoosac without him.

Class History

In the beginning was a first former, John Highland, who was the foundation of the class of 1955. That was back in the fall of '49, even prior to the Korean War. He spent most of the year, while not working for the Council, up at the Watts. Long will the tales of the Old Meeting House and the Village School be remembered.

The third form year started with a bang, quite a few in fact from the dome in the History classroom, and Gerry Guild and Dave Moss helped Highland spend the year working on the grounds for the "powers that be" and making the dump a gathering place for the JSC. The prefects were besieging in the Meeting House by our heroes, using pillows or anything else that was handy. The Mansion was invaded by our illustrious members in the Spring to see if it would be suitable for us.

At last the school moves to the Mansion but Gerry Guild remained down at the Old School to wake Mr. Howard up with bottles bouncing off the roof. Soccer team won the Conference Championship. Nothing else happened, everything was as shipshape as a hotel, a wood hotel.

Phil Nason and Dave Goodrich join the gang as the Soccer team won its second Championship. The Field House is invaded by Dave Goodrich and Mr. Clark rules over him replacing Mr. Lloyd. Mr. Clark also tried to find time to teach classes. Bennington and Hoosick Falls are investigated as the clan finally is able to enjoy its free afternoons. Dick McConnell decides to join us in the Spring and is promptly elected Junior Prefect in the elections. Phil Nason and Gerry Guild also are elected to put the Council in their hands. The year ended with fond memories of Cobb's.

Bruce Fuller and Tom Immermann make the class complete as the year of years finally arrived. The school was fortunate to have a sargent to help us run things. The Soccer team moves up to its new field but fails to retain the Championship in the final two minutes of the last game. The Yule Log is moved up to the Mansion. Phil is confirmed in our new chapel. The Owl gets a new hard bound edition. In between times Guild, Immermann, Moss and Nason find time to take weekends to colleges. All in all we decided we weren't such a bad bunch of guys, at our final meeting, and had shown some signs of improvement especially when it came to Williams College Fraternity Flags.



The Faculty and Student Body

Rector's Letter

"I opened my mouth, and
drew in my breath."

There is a lot of talk going on these days, some of it good and some not so good. People are talking in their homes and communities, in schools and colleges. There is talk in our newspapers, in magazines, and over the air. Congressmen have much to say. There are debates in the United Nations Assembly and in various world conferences. Preachers talk from their pulpits—and I suspect even headmasters have been known to get in a word or two as well!

I shall not say much to the graduating class except this one thing. I hope you will increasingly have something worthwhile to say as you move ahead in your lives, for the world needs good talk, based on accurate information, and illumined by insight and understanding.

Perhaps the best way to gain such wisdom is to follow the example of the Psalmist quoted above, who, when he opened his mouth to speak, first drew in his breath I wonder why? Was it because he wanted to think before speaking? It may have been so. In any event, it would be well if a lot more people would open their mouths, take a deep breath—and say nothing more, until they had something really worth while to expound.

On the other hand the Psalmist may have taken a deep breath in order to speak

boldly about something he really believed in, and with true knowledge and wisdom. I suspect that this was the case because he goes on to say that his one joy is to know the commandments of the Lord:

"I opened my mouth, and drew in my breath; for my delight was in thy commandments."

It is interesting to examine this great psalm carefully. It has 176 verses in all. In nearly every verse there is some reference to the commandments of God. It literally bubbles over with the recognition of the sovereignty of the Almighty, using the word commandment or some synonym again and again. Here are the more important ones and the number of times they are used:

Commandments: 43 times

Statutes: 42 times

Word: 36 times

Law: 28 times

Testimonies: 23 times

Judgments: 18 times.

Every verse but three has such a word in it. This shows clearly the utter devotion of the Psalmist to God's righteous will, as revealed in the Ten Commandments and the Laws given to Moses. Is it any wonder that he had something to think about which led him to draw in his breath before he started talking with such conviction? He knew that this world is law-abiding.

Everybody knows that this is a law-

Rector's Letter . . . continued

abiding universe—at least in the material realm where the laws have been so clearly set forth by science. We are not quite so sure about its being law-abiding in the moral sense.

It looks very simple to use the material things of this world for our own selfish purposes, without any regard for the moral law. We see people apparently getting away with it for a long time, and they do, but not forever. In the end, the moral law catches up with them. That is the lesson which stares us in the face throughout the Bible. Again and again we read of the judgments of the Almighty—Adam and Eve, Noah and the Flood, David and Bathsheba, the fall of Samaria, the Babylonian

Captivity, not to mention the judgments of our Lord Himself.

My hope is that you who are graduating will take with you not only much information and the many skills which you have learned here, but also that you will lay hold firmly on the deeper truths of God as expressed in the moral law. When you are tempted to speak, take a deep breath and stop until such time as you really have glimpsed the will of the Almighty. Then I hope you will start talking with conviction and will work hard to make your talk come true.

My best wishes for happy and useful lives in these challenging times.

Sincerely, your friend,

MEREDITH B. WOOD.

Lower Than Those

by Gerry Guild and Harry Wiard

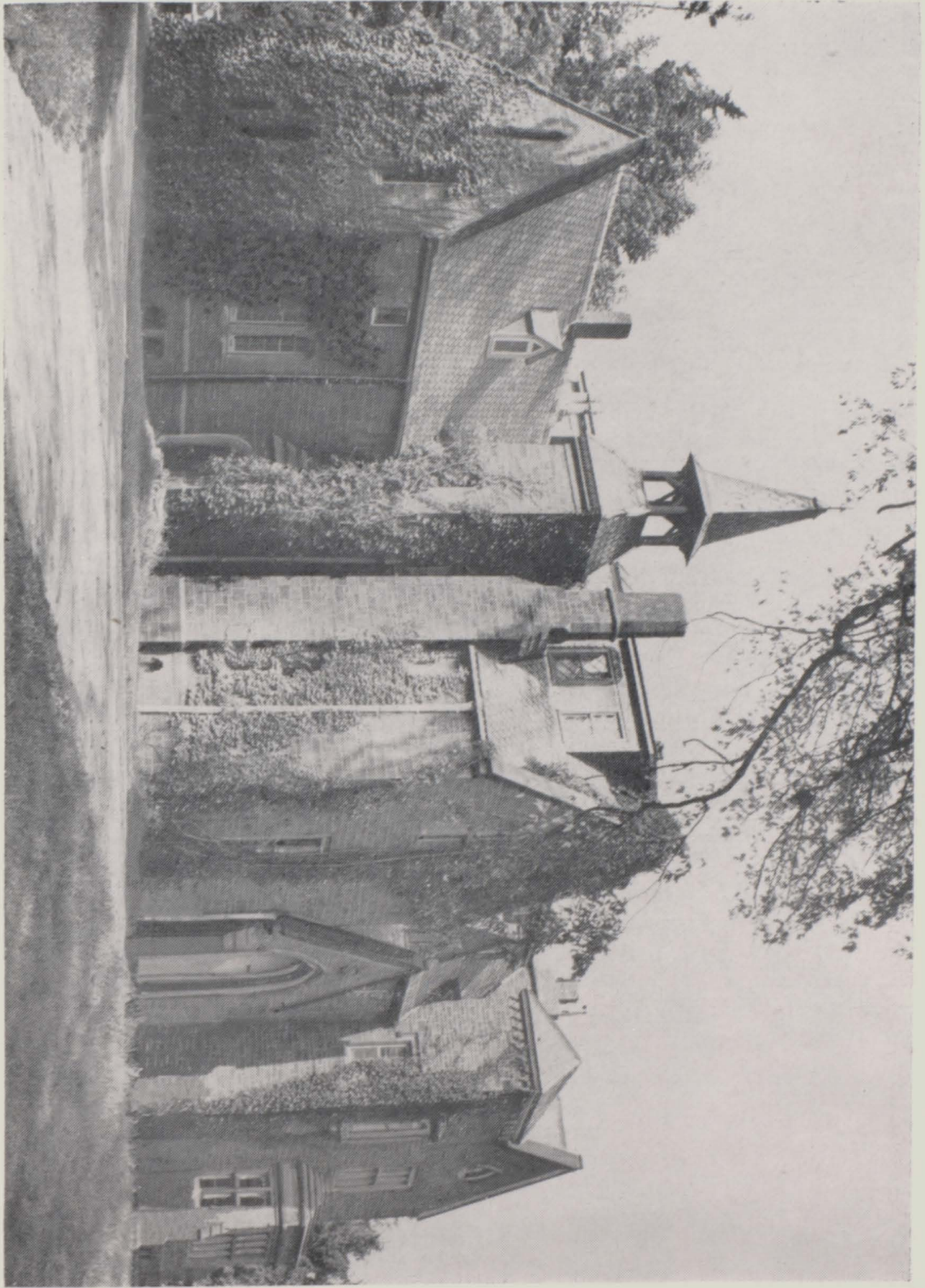
We, representing the Seniors, feel that a small portion of our yearbook should be dedicated to those who hope to attain that glorious rank sometime in the future. It is with this thought in mind that we dedicate this article to those lower than Seniors.

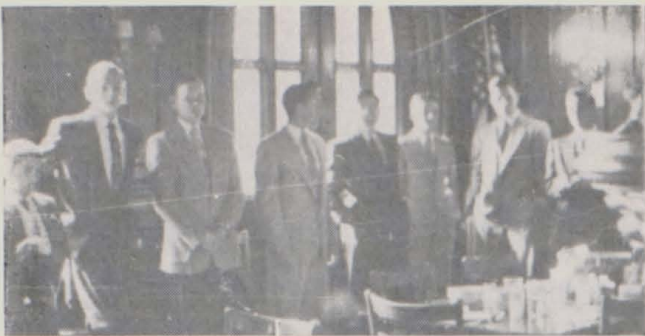
First we come upon Geoff Ball, one of the more official members of the third form. He is Head Candle Snuffer and Hymner and plans to advertise toothpaste next year. Next we have another advertising man, Jerry Benzinger. He is on the posing staff for Charles Atlas. Then there's Malcolm Bliss, the James Michael Curley of Hoosac's lower forms. From the Prefecture we hear a loud bellow; no, it is not a pet elephant, it is "Scollay" "Gravely" Britton in his usual tone of voice. Tink Elliot is heard making his "contributions (?)" in class downstairs in the basement. Bill Hall, who is always right, is now having his regular excursion to Shaw's room for council meeting and is heard proclaiming his innocence louder than the Hi-Fi set. Hear that bang? That's Pete Hanks, the school's official and only supplier of fireworks, real Chinese ones at that. He also excels in a limited Chinese vocabulary. Bill "Excrescence" Hannum is quelling, or rather trying to, a riot in the eight room. Sorry you fans, you won't be seeing any more of his excellent sports articles; he is now Assistant Art Editor. Jim "Trapper" Keenan, Petch's chaperone, is a great guy and the best trapper in school; just ask him. Bill Kemp is Hoosac's Chess Champion and Triangle Runner. He's rivaling Bill Hall. Ron Klebes, after seeing "The Caine Mutiny", has been drilling the third form to repel any aggressors. Our newest edition, Jim Lanier, reminds us old-timers of THE BUDDY COX ERA. Terry Loftus, when he isn't too enthralled with letters from Saint Agnes, readily enters into the ruckuses in the three room. Bill "Ruditis"

Mills hasn't been the same since the new Buick Roadmaster came out. Mike "Peanut" Peterson isn't as innocent as he or someone else we know would like us to think. Bill Schultz, the prefect's nightmare, is up to his old tricks antagonizing the job supervisors. And of course we can't bypass Charlie Rexford, Frank Romary and Wally Robbins. Charlie is the person to ask if you want to know any baseball statistic after 1900. Although he is slow physically his baseball knowledge is phenomenal. Frank Romary, fortunately, is one of those rarely found lads who takes great pleasure in letting his feelings be known. Da Da Da Wally Robbins' favorite pastime is tinkering with radios and it often means that the third floor is without lights due to this electronic genius. Besides radio Da Da Da Wally is also famous for "Here now boys, look out of the way." Bill "Rinky-Dink" Shaw is still expounding about the hurricanes on the Cape. We at Hoosac wish they had never happened. "Did you ever hear about the time I was caught in the Ohio River floods . . .". Bill "Cat" Watkinson would like to be referred to as Gene Krupa or Arthur Murray, although he isn't TOO adept at either of these men's professions. Stan "Marlon Brando" Wegner is a motorcycle maniac and also has a certain attraction for Hudson. Jack Williamson, although only a third former, has a weakness for cars, and sleep. He spends his remaining time building himself up for the Mr. America contest. Last but not least we have John "HeHe" Woodruff, who has great respect for Bliss's paddle.

These are those lower than Seniors. We are greatly indebted to them for all they have done for us and the school. Without their help our various school activities would not have been possible. Good Luck to the Class of '56 from the Class of '55.

Thibbitts Hall









Student Council—Standing left to right: Shaw, Guild, Bliss Seated left to right: Nason, Fr. Wood, McConnell.

Student Council

The Student Council, under the auspices of Father Wood, is the group that plots and guides the course to be followed throughout the school year. Senior Prefect Philip Nason was the head of the Council and he was assisted by a very able group of Council Members. Richard McConnell was efficient as Junior Prefect, and Gerald Guild was a valuable asset as Sixth Form Council Member bringing his two years experience with him. Malcolm Bliss of the Fourth Form did an excellent job and completed the roster of a well composed Council.

The merit system, or as they are commonly called, "soaks", was continued from last year. The Council Members took turns in alphabetical order in handling the detention and this system seemed fairly successful.

The routine matters were handled at the usual Sunday Morning Council Meeting. These matters were usually lads who made the mistake of getting six or more demerits, and they were invited to attend the next meeting. These invitations were not presented too often although some of the students came to the conclusion that the Council was only a disciplining body.

Besides setting the tone of the school year the Council represents the opinion of the students to the faculty; the discussing of problems and suggestions of the students; and takes care of a major part of the disciplinary action.

All the Council Members are to be commended for their fine effort and attitude. They played an important part in making this school year a fine one.



The Owl Board Back row left to right—Mr. Howard, Ball, Immermann, Keenan, Wiard, Mills, Moss. Front row left to right—Goodrich, Highland, Guild, Nason, Hannum, Watkinson.

The Owl Board

It is apparent that this year the Owl Board has accomplished more work than any other board previous to 1955. The contribution of this Board lies in the leather bound edition you hold in your hands. In order to have this binding the board, especially the business department, had to work hard. The business managers did an excellent job and the school wishes to thank them for their efforts.

The main figure on our staff is of course the editor-in-chief. This is a very trying job to undertake, but Phil Nason has come through in all our issues with a fine OWLET as the school's paper is called. The recently elected editor-in-chief for next year is Bill Hannum. Bill has been on the board for two years, and has showed himself to be a very capable person for the job.

The advertising has been exceptionally good this year. The Board is greatly indebted to the business manager, Gerry Guild and his assistants, David Goodrich and Tink Elliot for this year's edition of the OWL. These three boys made it possible for the leather bound edition. It took many days and long hours of strenuous work, but it was well worth it.

Working as a team, Tom Immermann and Jim Keenan covered all the special events here at the school. There were weekly speakers, banquets, festivals, especially the Yule Log and the Bleeze, that had to be written up. Both boys did well in informing the public of the special events at Hoosac. Tom not only wrote on events, but he also was one of the contributing artists of the drawings in the OWL.

The school dances and parties have been covered by Dave Moss and Bill Watkinson. These boys were the Social Editors, with the responsibility of writing up the dances

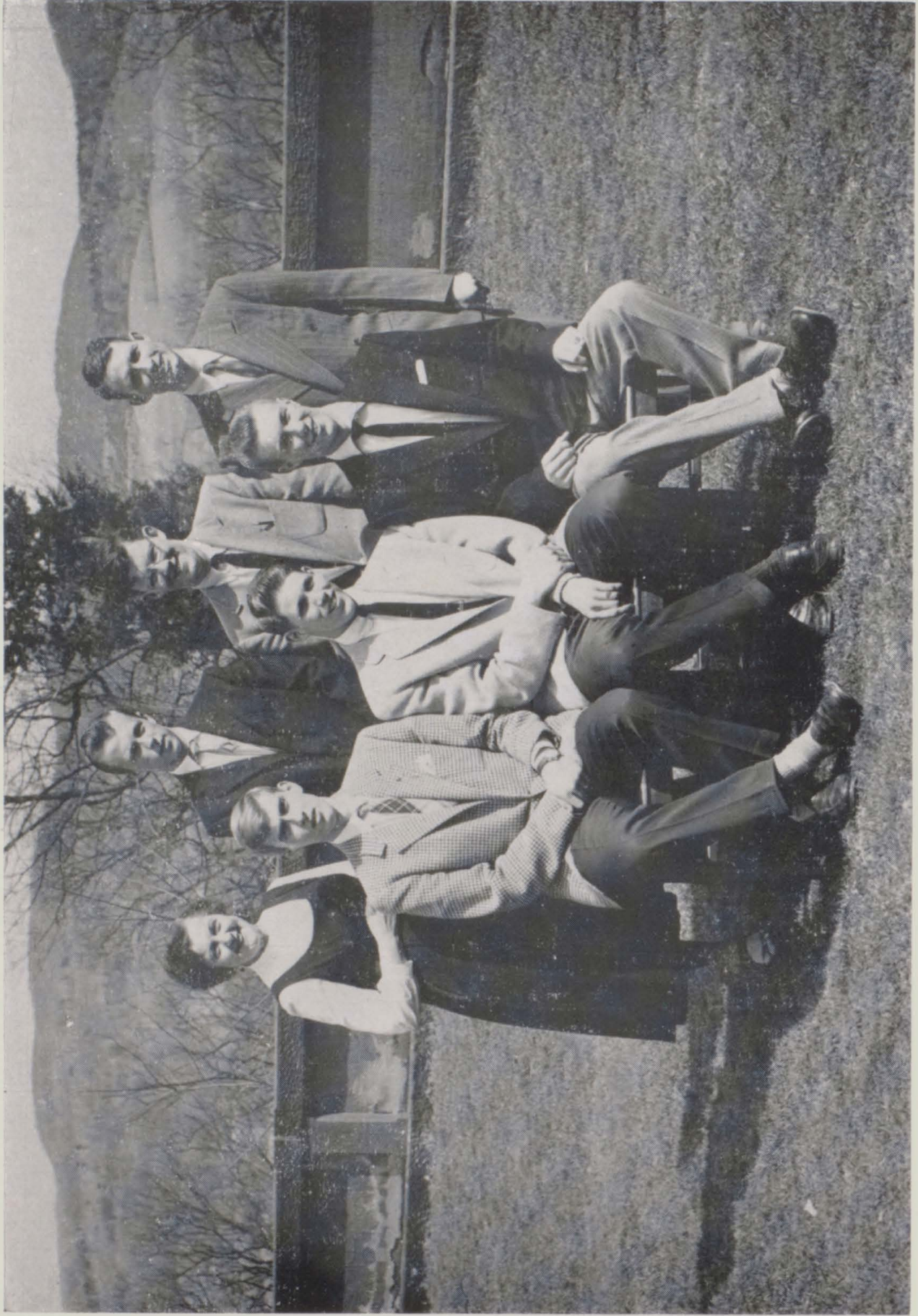
with St. Agnes and Albany Academy. Both these boys contributed a lot by giving the school the news of the social side of things.

To keep up with all the news and rumors of the school was Harry Wiard and his well known "Harry's by-lines". Harry was the one who wrote the little things while you weren't looking and published them. It was a good column and added humor to the OWLET.

The outstanding writer on the Board this year was John Highland. John was the busiest member on the board because he took on special assignments to make the OWLET more interesting. He encouraged many boys in their various activities in sports through his reporting of the games we played. He put the extra punch into his articles which made the difference between a good and a bad article. His SPORTS CHAT was a summary and estimate of the season just past. Perhaps the most interesting of all his work was the column in which he ventured into the deep dark woods to return and report on his observations on the wild life of the area. Being the typical woodsman he was very capable for this assignment.

Geoffrey Ball kept the exchanges in good order. This is a small task, but an important one since if the schools we exchange papers with are not kept straight we will never know what is happening in these schools.

The Board is deeply grateful to Mr. Arthur L. Howard, faculty adviser to the Board, for the very wonderful job which he has done. There is no person who can say Mr. Howard has not worked devotedly and hard on the OWL and OWLET. The School wishes to thank Mr. Howard and the Board for publishing such a wonderful yearbook.



Social Committee--Back row left to right--Mrs. Franklin, Moss, McConnell, Mr. Howard. Front row left to right--Nason, Elliot, Hannum.

Social Committee

This year, the Social Committee was indeed a fine one. Under the guidance of Mrs. Franklin and Mr. Howard, a new height was achieved in the social realm of Hoosac.

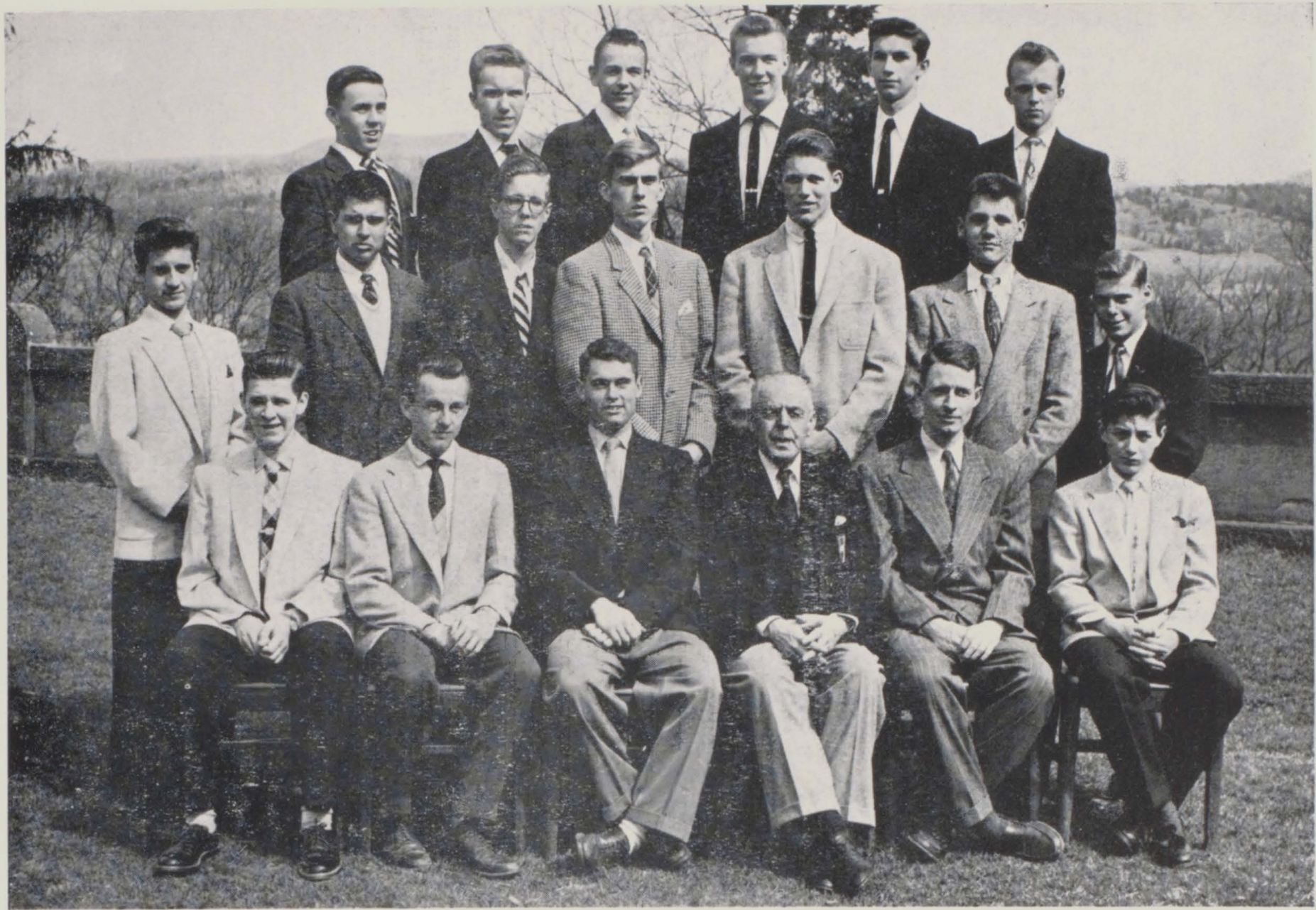
On the committee were Phil Nason and Dick McConnell, Senior and Junior Prefects and from the ranks of the school, Dave Moss, Tink Elliot, and Bill Hannum, sixth, fifth, and fourth form members respectively.

October twenty-third was the night of the first dance of the school year. St. Agnes was our guest. It was a fine dinner-dance and everyone enjoyed himself immensely, but "behind the scenes" it was all brought about by the Social Committee. The "date maker" was Bill Hannum. He took care of little details such as informing the young ladies of various schools that they are invited to spend an evening of fun with the boys of Hoosac. But before they could be invited, it was up to Phil and Dick to get certain un-named individuals who preferred to visit neighboring homes instead of the dance, to attend it. But finally the girls were all invited and most of the immediate details were completed. But, oh yes, while there was scampering on the stairs and censored mumbling in the rooms about no more hot water, Tink Elliot could be found still at work putting the final touches on his fine job of decorations. Dave Moss would probably be by Tink's side, balancing umpteen records precariously in one hand and with other, trying his darndest to screw a plug into a wall socket. But so it goes and soon the young ladies arrived. Right from the start it wasn't difficult to see that it would be a wonderful evening of fun and merriment.

And so comes and goes the dance but it isn't too long before we have another bus

parked in front of the Mansion. Only this one bore the name, Albany Academy for Girls. Winter came but not the chilling the hearts of the Social Committee and another St. Agnes dance came to be. This time, however, it was held at St. Agnes School in Albany and they were indeed, fine hosts. As the snow melted, the Mardi Gras Party became more than a circled date on a calendar. The Social Committee was hard at work preparing and checking each and every detail. Cambridge joined with Albany Academy for Girls this time and we were most happy to have them both. By Spring, a special invitation dance had been drawn up and approved by our Headmaster and girls flocked from all parts of the tri-city area. But soon that lay in the past and the limelight was placed upon the Hoosac School Prom. Preparations were made months in advance and as the weekend drew closer, the twenty boys' thoughts could be observed wandering from the school books. It was indeed one of the finest Proms I believe Hoosac has been privileged to have in many years. John Keenan and his band from Albany supplied the fine music. The young ladies came from all parts of the country, even from the far away land of Potsdam and Oxford. I believe that we shall always hold in memory this Prom, for next year many will be away at college with Hoosac being only a memory; a memory capped by such events as the Hoosac School Prom.

And so we'd like to congratulate the Social Committee on the truly fine job they did this year and we are sure that with Tink Elliot and Bill Hannum stepping back into the familiar spots of the Social Committee and with new members being initiated into the fun-makers guild, Hoosac will not be deprived of a wonderful social year.



Glee Club and Choir-- Back Row left to right—Goodrich, Keenan, Benzinger, Hannum, Robbins, Moss. Middle Row left to right—Watkinson, Immermann, Guild, Nason, Elliot, Williamson, Romary. Front Row left to right—Loftus, Wegner Mr. Clark Mr. Butcher Mr. Howard Bliss.

Glee Club and Choir

The school year has been a strenuous but indeed an outstanding year for the Glee Club and Liturgical Choir. This is only the second year for the Glee Club but it is a well balanced and accomplished group. The Glee Club's excellent progress is due to its fine direction and the efforts of the members. Last year's members had a solid base upon which to build. In the Glee Club, under the direction of Mr. Frank C. Butcher, assisted by Mr. Thomas H. Clark, we have the following members: Bill Watkinson, Terry Loftus, Malcolm Bliss and Stanley Wegner as First Tenors; Mr. Arthur L. Howard, Gerry Benzinger, Dave Goodrich and Frank Romary as Second Tenors; Phil Nason, Gerry Guild and Bill Hannum as Baritones; Dave Moss, Tink Elliott, Tom Immermann, Jack Williamson and Wally Robbins as Basses.

The Liturgical Choir is the school's oldest singing organization and it is widely known as an accomplished choral group. The Choir is directed by Mr. Frank C. Butcher with the aid of Father Knight W. Dunkerley, the Assistant Director. It is composed of the best singers in the school and the better singers in the Glee Club. Bill Watkinson and Terry Loftus are the First Tenors; Mr. Arthur L. Howard, Gerry Benzinger, Dave Goodrich and Jim Keenan as Second Tenors; Phil Nason, Gerry Guild and Bill Hannum as Baritones; Dave Moss, Tink Elliot and Tom Immermann as Basses.

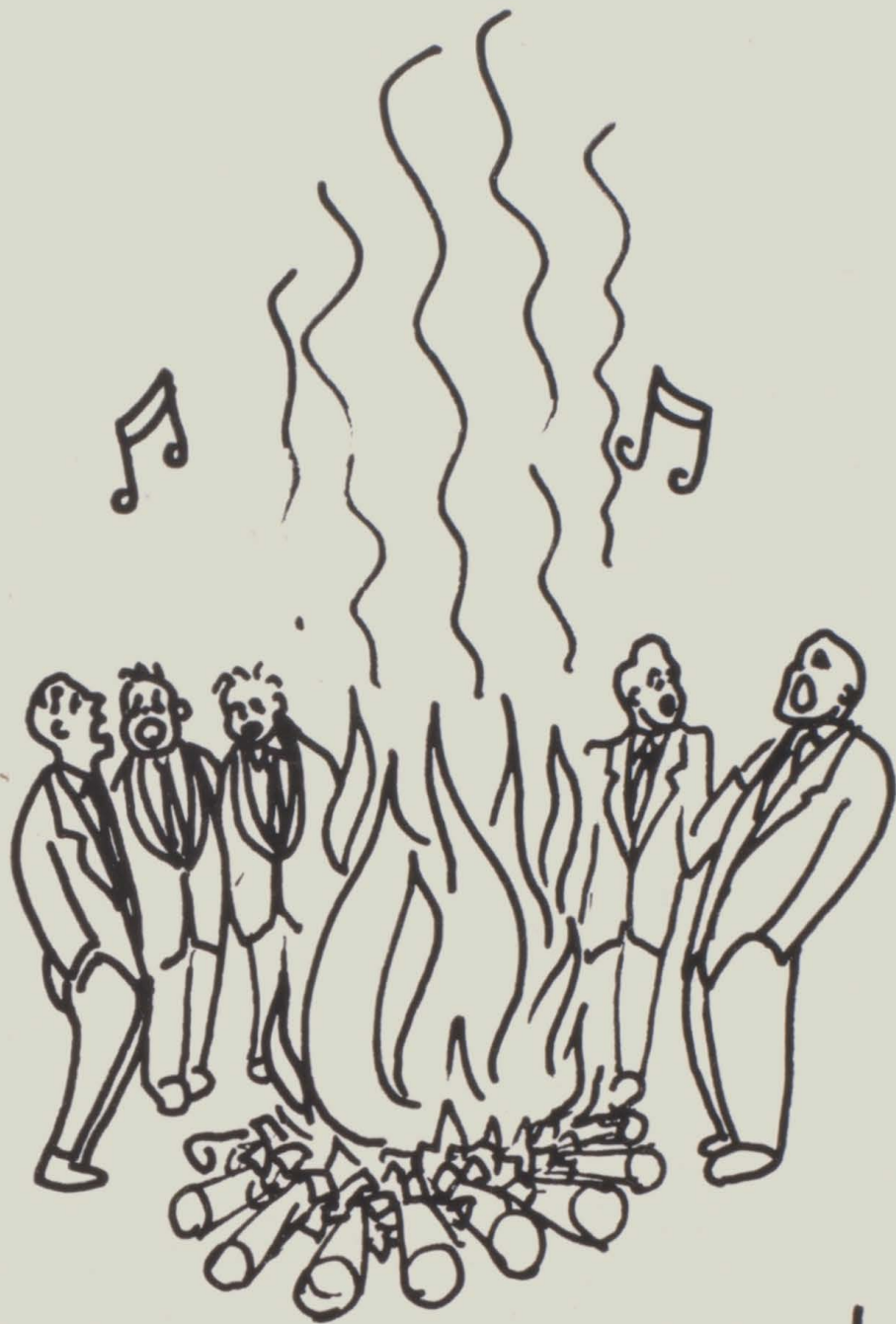
These organizations were involved in various school activities like the Halloween Banquet, the Boar's Head and Yule Log, the Bleeze Banquet, Alumni Weekend and Prize Day Exercises. Besides these occasions the Choir and Glee Club participated in various special performances. Some of these were: A special service, at which the Choir sang, at St. Peter's Church in Bennington on April 24; a joint concert with Albany Academy for Girls on April 29; participation at the Albany Choir Festival on May 13; and a weekend trip to New Haven, Connecticut, for three performances involving both organizations.

The Choir and the Glee Club are to be commended for their excellent job. With most of the boys coming back next year we should expect another fine year for these organizations.

Exchanges



Academe	Albany Academy for Girls
Bleatings	St. Agnes School
The Clock	Emma Willard School
The Crimson and White	Milne School
The Dragnet	St. Peter's School
The Green and Grey	The Berkshire School
Kent News	The Kent School
The Loomis Log	The Loomis School
The Pegboard	Darrow School
The Pigtail	The South Kent School
The Pontefract	Promfret School
The Spirit of Clairvaux	St. Bernard School
The Westminster News	Westminster School



FESTIVALS

The Yule Log



The two Beefeaters, Mr. Locke and McConnell guard both sides of the fireplace while the Jester, David Goodrich, and his Sprite, Michael Peterson, do their antics.

It was on Christmas Eve in 1866, that the future founder of Hoosac School, then seven years of age, first saw and heard the Yule Log Festival celebrated by his relatives in the Tibbits Mansion up on the hill. Twenty-six years later, Dr. Edward Dudley Tibbits introduced the festival to the boys of Hoosac School, which he had founded three years previously. For sixty-two years this old English festival was held down at the old school, first in the common room and then in the dining hall built and designed especially to house the festival. When the school moved up to the Mansion, the festival continued to be celebrated in the old dining hall for two more years. This year it finally returned to its original birth place. So it was with great joy that the sixty-third Boar's Head and Yule Log Procession was celebrated this year.

Despite the disadvantage of less space than the old dining hall had to offer, all three performances were successfully directed by Mr. Butcher and Father Dunkerley. The members of the Costume Committee were most helpful in assuring the success of the festival.

Because of the new surroundings the order was changed somewhat. With the lighting of the Yule Candle, the main festivities began. The Elizabethans "decked the halls with boughs of holly", followed by the Jester and that little imp, the Sprite. This year's Jester, David Goodrich, won the admiration and applause of the audience with his pranks and

general good humor. After dancing the Gavotte with several fair damsels (and receiving his reward under the mistletoe) he cried, "Let the Revels now commence!" and the Yule Log was brought in by two beef-eaters and fired.

Then the trumpet sounded, heralding the Boar's Head Procession, and in strode the Beef-eaters and Elizabethans carrying the Boar's Head, pierced with the flags of the United Nations, accompanied by the fine English condiments (mustard, spices, fruit, and flaming plum pudding). The Waits and Troubadors then caroled and sang to the blazing fire which drew them near. All of a sudden, the Mummers rushed in—the Dragon, Jack Finney, the Turkish Knight, Sir George, the King of Egypt, and the Doctor—all were involved in the plot of **St. George and the Dragon**.

After wassail had been served to the tune of the lively **Wassail Song** the Elizabethan Sword Dance was performed to the tune of Mr. Butcher's delicate **Minuet Caprice**. A presentation of the Nativity followed with the Adoration of the Shepherds and the Procession of the three Kings.

With the singing of the school ode and the blessing by the Boy Bishop (a new innovation this year) another great Yule Log Festival came to a close. The audience agreed, after the performance, that this had been one of the best in many years.

Halloween

Since the day of reckoning for the new boys, namely October 31, arrived on a Sunday this year, Father Wood thought it more appropriate to celebrate the greatly anticipated event on Saturday. Thus the school was awarded the pleasures of a long gala week-end.

At Hoosac Halloween is not a day of goblins and witches and masks and pranks, but a day with a more serious tone. It was on this day some sixty-five years ago that Dr. Tibbits founded the school. So the day goes down in the history of the school as Founder's Day, and each year the benefactors, friends and all associated with the school are remembered. It is also part of the All Saints' celebration. Thus it is appropriate that the deceased friends of the school be remembered as still part of the life.

This year the usual events occurred. The new boys were "prepared" for their admittance into the Hoosac family the week before. The dinner was an excellent one and the speeches by the new boys, especially the one by Michael Peterson, the school's budding orator, were

presented well. After the dinner and the portion was over the Reverend Laman Bruner, on **Athletes of God**, the new boys were duly initiated into the fold.

This year a kind invitation came from Mr. and Mrs. Lucien Hanks of North Bennington for a cider and donut party around a bonfire in their back yard. Everywhere pumpkins carved in weird faces confronted us. The fire took the chill off a cool fall evening, and Mrs. Hanks saw to it that each boy had his fill of cider and donuts. Mr. Clark started informal singing and Mr. Hanks entertained us with stories about the Indian tribes he had studied in Canada.

November 1st was on the Monday following the banquet. This is the traditional Mountain Holiday for the school. Mass was celebrated at the Church and following breakfast and jobs, lunches were given out. As usual Miss Walsh had her hands full with aching muscles the next day. Thus ended one of the more pleasurable festivals we have, one in which all (except a chosen few) can relax and enjoy life.



The Bleeze

Outside of the Yule Log, the Bleeze comes next in importance in our series of Festivals we have punctuating the year. The Bleeze signifies the end of the Christmas season at the school. The pine ropes festooning the assembly hall come down and are placed on the lawn outside of the Mansion ready for the match to light them. The tables are decorated with a candle at each place and the Yule Candle is set in the center of the Head Table.

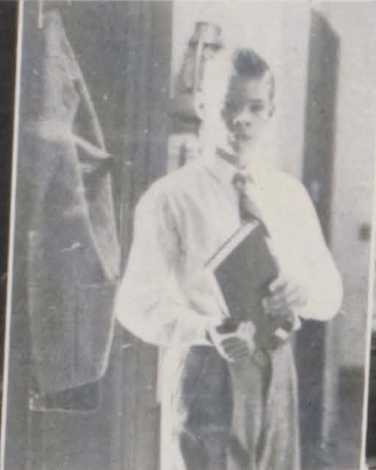
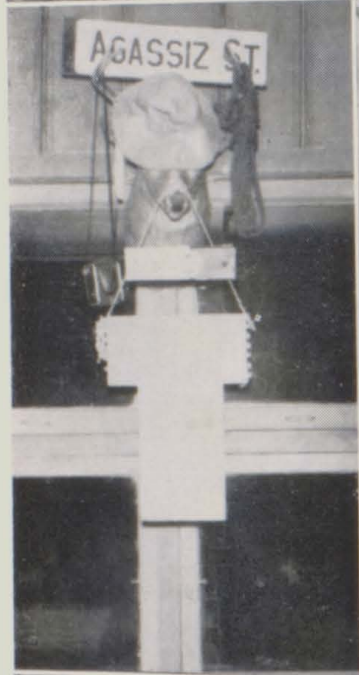
Thus the evening approaches. The day, February 2, is significant in the Church's year. This is the feast of the Purification, the commemoration of the day when Jesus was presented in the temple. It was on this day that old Simeon recognized Jesus as the man who would one day die for our sins and rise again to be our Savior. It is a day which emphasizes light as a symbol of Christ lighting the world. Thus it is appropriate that the greens which bedecked the halls of the Mansion be taken down and burnt, lighting the entire campus with their glow. The candle at each place is light from the Yule Candle, so that each person through the evening's meal and entertainment can be reminded of Christ's mission to the Gentiles.

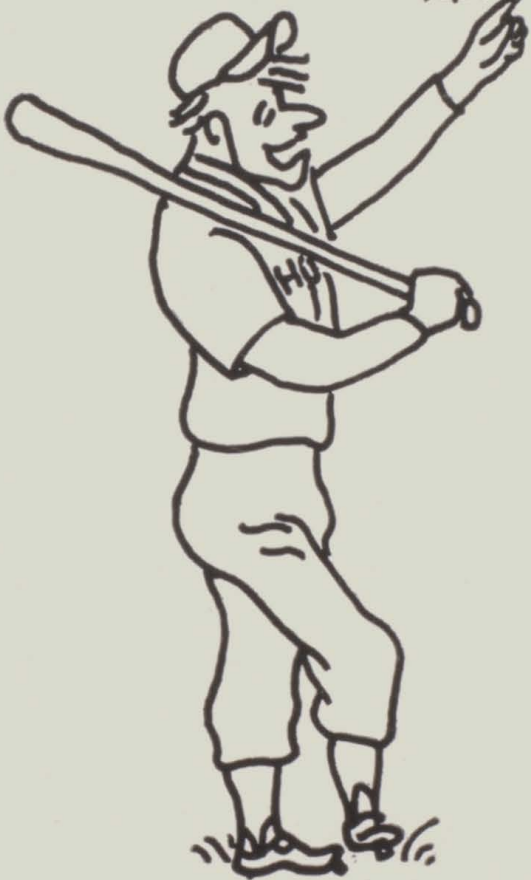
The 1955 Bleeze was unusual for its spontaneity and friendly atmosphere. The dinner was a fine one with beef steak as the principal

attraction on the menu. After the eating portion was over The Reverend Laman Bruner, Rector of St. Peter's Church in Albany, gave us a few hints as to how to live the Christian life a little better. Then the fun began. Three skits were on the program all of which had had little or no rehearsing done on them. The second form gave their version of what happens in their room after lights are out, giving us a good idea as to how to heckle a prefect. The third form, under Mr. Clark's direction gave us an idea as to what "hot" news really is. Geoff Ball was reporting events before they exploded on the spot. The hit of the evening was a faculty skit portraying the events that occur on their usual Tuesday evening reading meetings. Father Dunkerley was the reader who left the audience with aching sides with his interpretation of Milt Gross's story of "Kink Midas".

All in all everyone had an excellent time and a good laugh. It has been rumored about that Fr. Dunkerley's group will be appearing on television in the not too distant future.

With this festival the Christmas season comes to an end and the reign of the Jester ends also. Father Wood dethroned the "Lord of Misrule" and the school got back to normal routine.





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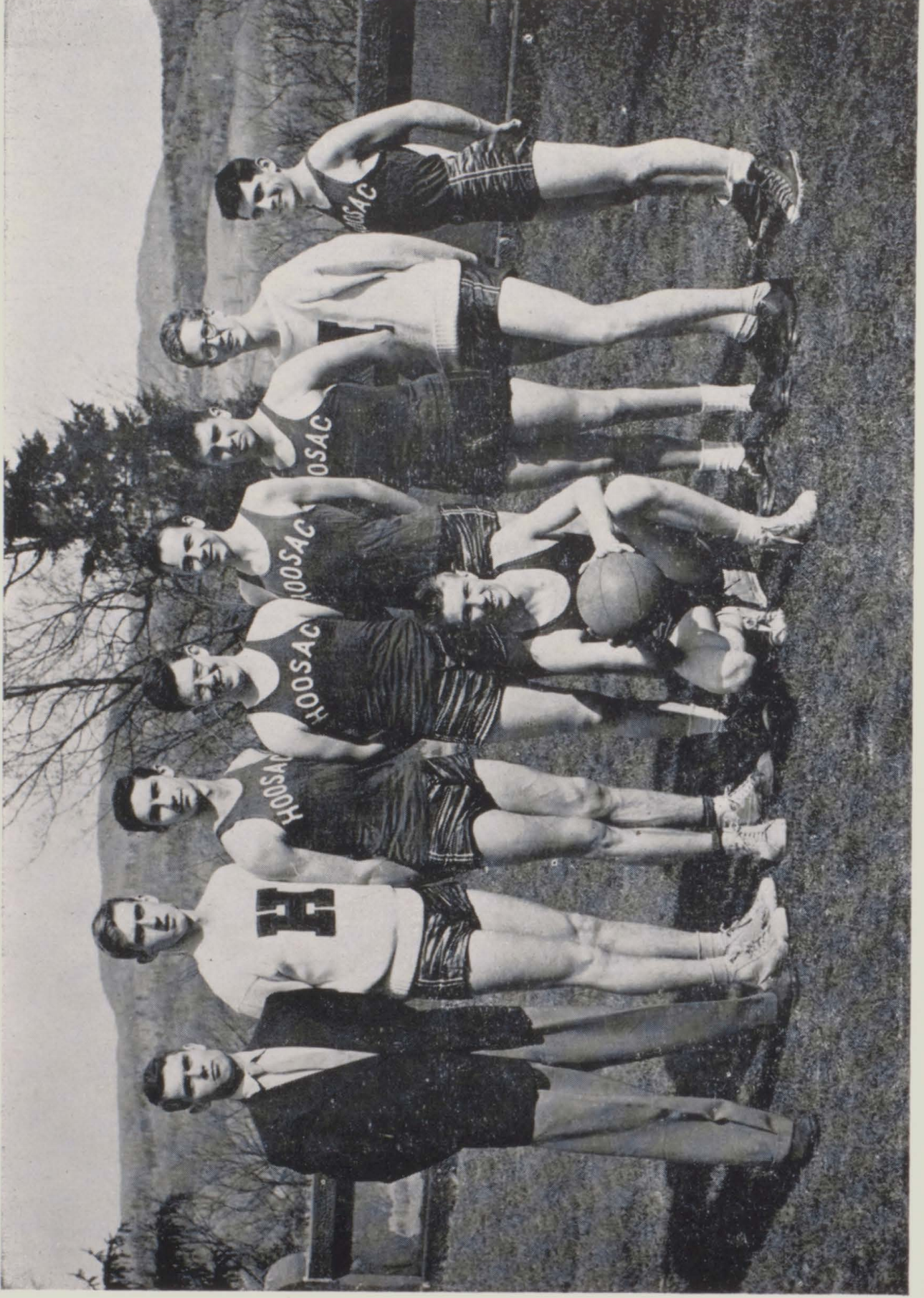


Baseball Team Back row left to right—Mr. Clark, Immermann, Robbins, Nason, Elliot, Hannum, Loftus, Moss, Benzinger. Front row left to right—Keenan, Goodrich, Highland, Britton, Romary, Watkinson.

Baseball

Fourteen boys turned out for the first baseball practice of the season. Anyone's first thought would be, "Boy what a small squad, they must not have much on the ball". Well, wipe that thought out of your mind, because eight out of the fourteen were last year's Varsity, three were subs, and the two new boys have played Varsity ball elsewhere. Let's say you're going up to bat against the Owls. The first person to greet you would be our comedian catcher, Walter Robbins playing his second year Varsity. Glaring down at you from the mound would be either Phil Nason, a second year man, or Tink "Speedball" Elliot, a first year man. If you were lucky enough to get a hit, the next person you would see would be Dave Moss, our lanky first baseman and second year man. Now say you want to steal, better hurry 'cause Johnny Highland, a five year man is down at second ready to put the tag on you. Oh, yah made it huh, well let's see you go down to third. To do that you will have to run by Jim Keenan, our shortstop and first year man, into another first year man at third, Tom Immermann. Ha, ya didn't make it, well, while you're still on the ground, take a look at our outfield as they trot in. There's Jerry Benzinger, the left fielder who retrieved your single. He's a first year man. There's our center fielder, Dave Goodrich, and our right fielder, Bill Watkinson, both second year men. Have you changed your opinion yet? These are the boys who fought Vanderheyden right down to the wire and won in the last inning, ten to eight. Although there was only one game before we go to press, I'm sure that the boys will come home with the bacon, and if not, you can be sure they tried hard enough.

As in Soccer and Basketball, the Owls will compete in the Taconic Conference and the Varsity H's will be handed out to the boys who deserve them most. So far as I have said, Coach Clark has put a very surprising good team on the field and let's hope they keep it up.



Basketball Team-- Mr. Clark, Nason (Co-Capt.), Robbins, McConnell, Benzinger, Immermann, Guild, Highland, Kneeling, Hannum (Co-Capt.)

Basketball

The 1955 pre-season practices were very promising. On paper, it looked like we had the team to beat. At first though, the boys had a rough time getting used to the idea of handling the ball with their hands instead of using their heads or throwing their body at the ball as they did in soccer, but when all reflexes were conditioned to this minor defect, the team began to shape up nicely. About two weeks before the first game, the Owls suffered their biggest defeat of the season. Veteran and co-captain, Phil Nason, became very ill and it was announced that he would be out for the whole season. Quickly, Wally Robbins was brought up from the Junior Varsity and before long, he began to work in beautifully with the Owl plays. Opposite Wally in the other pivot position was co-captain Bill Hannum. Bill, a varsity man last year, held down his position very well and came out of the season with seventy points to be the third highest scorer on the team. On the outside in the A man position was Johnny Highland, playing his third year Varsity and Johnny was the second high scorer on the team with seventy-three points. In B man position was Jerry Benzinger, a newcomer to the Owls. Jerry poured in one hundred and thirty-two points to lead the team in scoring. The C man position was held down by Tom Immermann and Dick McConnell, both first year men and both boys were in there fighting every minute.

On defense, the Owls were very tight, letting only Berkshire get over fifty points off them. Time and time again Benzinger and Highland would steal the ball away from the opponents and pass the ball criss-cross all the way down the court to score on a typical Highland-Benzinger fast break.

Although they were knocked out of competition for first place early in the season, the Owls fought hard to be runners-up to the first place, but a stunning upset was handed to them by Buxton in mid-season that enabled Buxton to tie for third with the Owls. The outstanding game of the season was the very last game with Windsor Mountain. The Owls held the league champs to only thirty-one points, Windsor's lowest of the season, while the Owls themselves scored twenty-nine points. In this game, Wally Robbins was the rebound ace and Immermann, Benzinger and Highland stood out on the defense. For their hard efforts, determination and sportsmanship, Hannum, Robbins, Benzinger, and Highland were awarded the Varsity H. Benzinger was chosen to the All Star Conference team for his all-around playing. With three lettermen returning, you should be able to guess the outcome of next season already.



Soccer Team-- Back Row left to right—Mr. Clark, Moss, Guild, Elliot, Hannum, Immermann, Wegner, Watkinson. Front Row left to right—Benzinger, Keenan, Romary, Highland (Capt.), Goodrich, McConnell, Nason.

Soccer

On the afternoon of November 20, 1954, the Hoosac Soccer Team walked off the field at Windsor Mountain. They were muddy, some even bloody and they all had the look of defeat on their face. Casually they congratulated Windsor Mountain, then they boarded the vehicles to return home. They had failed to do what they had set out to do, mainly, keeping the Taconic Conference Championship Plaque, which they have held for the past two years. No matter how you look at it though, they were as outstanding in that championship defeat as they were in all the other Conference victories. Let us start with the first game of the season and follow the team that missed its third straight championship by two minutes. It was a nervous but spirited team that took the field against Vanderheyden that sunny Saturday back in September. The front line was from left to right, Romary, Guild, Immermann, Hannum, and Highland. The halfbacks from left to right were: Moss, Elliot, and Goodrich. The fullbacks were Keenan and McConnell and the goalie was Nason. Vanderheyden scored an early goal and led all the way, but with four minute overtime was over, the Vanderheyden boys were wondering just what they were doing in an overtime. Final score, five to one.

Hoosac's next league game was against Buxton. Tom Immermann went, "Ape" scoring all four goals, with Highland assisting with three and Guild one. Goodrich, Moss and Elliot did a terrific job of booting the ball out of Hoosac territory every time Buxton entered it. Final score, four nothing.

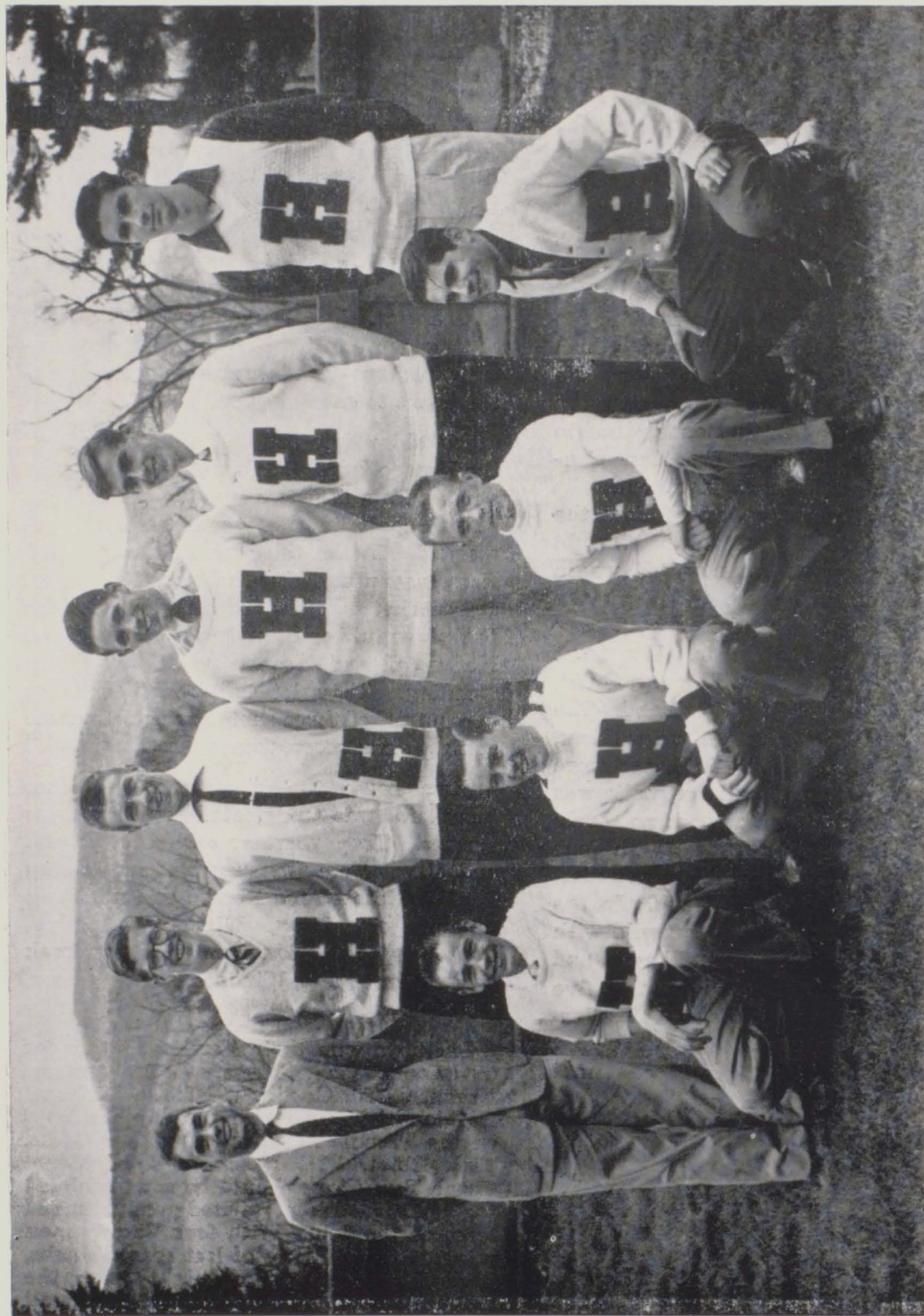
Next the Owls played Stockbridge, the

team that gave them a rough time in the 1953 season. The left side of the line, Romary, Guild, and Immermann controlled the ball almost the entire game but Hoosac had a rough time trying to put it past the Stockbridge goalie. Guild scored in the second period assisted by Highland, and Highland scored assisted by Guild in the fourth period. Goalie Nason, although letting one slip by him, made three sensational stops out of three sure goals. Final score two to one.

Berkshire then felt the mighty wrath of the Hoosac Owls. Highland opened up the game with a fifty-two second goal then he scored again in the second quarter, unassisted. In the third period, he assisted Immermann and then he scored again on a free shot awarded to him because the Berkshire fullback roughed up Dave Moss. McConnell and Keenan were very outstanding. They let the Berkshire team take a total of three shots during the whole game. Final score, four to nothing.

Then came the big game. Windsor Mountain was undefeated and so was Hoosac. They went at each other, hook and claw. Tom Immermann and Johnny Highland scored for Hoosac and with two minutes remaining, Windsor Mountain broke the game wide open with two freak goals. Final score, Windsor Mountain four, Hoosac two.

Six boys won their Varsity Letters for outstanding play. The six Lettermen are, Nason, Guild, Goodrich, Elliot, Moss, and Highland. Hoosac also placed four boys on the Taconic All-Star team, Dave Moss, Tink Elliot, Phil Nason, and Highland. Coach Tom Clark should be congratulated for placing such a spirited well rounded team on the field. With four Varsity men returning, and many of last season's subs, it could mean that we might have the plaque back on the Assembly Hall wall next year.



“H” Club — Back Row left to right—Mr. Clark, Guild, Hannum, Elliot, Nason, Robbins. Front Row left to right—Benzinger, Goodrich, Moss, Highland.

“H” Club

Boys who are on a Varsity team and show lots of fight, determination, team spirit and sportsmanship are the boys who win their Varsity H. This year, nine Varsity players made up the H Club. The first and oldest member is Johnny Highland. Johnny won his first letter in the eighth grade for baseball and since then, he has run up a whole wardrobe of them in every sport. He was also on the Soccer All-Star Team for the past three years. Last year, Phil Nason won his letter for being the league's No. one goalie and a top notch pivot man in basketball. The next member to enter the club was David Goodrich. Dave won his letter for being one of the hardest working right halfbacks ever to don a Hoosac soccer jersey. The next man to join the rank was lanky Bill Hannum for his great basketball ability. This year, Tink Elliot scared everyone on the soccer field with his size and big boot and he won himself an All Star selection and an H. Gerry Guild kept plugging and despite the many pairs of glasses he broke, he came through with an H. Dave Moss playing his second year Varsity soccer butted, kicked and headed onto the All-Star Team and he won himself an H for his outstanding play. Last season's basketball team placed two new boys into the club, Gerry Benzinger and Wally Robbins. Gerry's one hand pushups, put him on the All Star Basketball Team and enabled him to win his H. Wally's rebounding and sportmanship on the court paved the way for him. All of these boys are the reasons why Hoosac boasts about its athletic teams so much. It is a pleasure to know them, play with them, or even watch them at their desired sport. This year Highland, Nason, Guild, Goodrich, and Moss depart from the club leaving four original members to carry on. With them, though, go the H's which will always be cherished and remembered as a symbol of their sporting ability on the Hoosac athletic teams.

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