



Vol. 41 No. 1 Printed at The Farm and Trades School, Boston, Mass. May 1937

Entered November 3, 1903 at Boston, Mass., as Second Class matter, under Act of Congress, of July 6, 1874

### The Band Concert

The Band played its annual Spring concert on April 23, at Faneuil Hall, before an audience of about six hundred. This was the first of this kind ever played off the Island and was a success in every way. The program consisted of many types of compositions, and all were warmly received. The roster of the band, and the music played is listed in this Beacon.

A large number of graduates, most of them former band boys, were present to enjoy the concert. Without doubt, it was the largest gathering of graduates to intown event in many years. Nearly all the graduates present remained after the concert to introduce themselves to the boys in the band, and to congratulate individual members. The splendid attendance of the graduates was very greatly appreciated, and shows once again the group spirit and loyalty of our Alumni which is always shown when opportunity offers.

President Arthur Adams, who attends every school function possible, was present and we were very happy that he could be with us.

The program was carefully prepared and rehearsed. Its presentation was a distinct credit to the Band. All the compositions were received enthusiastically by the audience and encores were demanded steadily. Mr. Frank L. Warren, the Band

Conductor, was in charge of the program and had prepared an excellently balanced musical entertainment.

The choice of Faneuil Hall was a happy one. Last minute changes were made by the Trustees of the Hall and everything we needed was quickly provided. We thank those in charge of Faneuil Hall for their most excellent cooperation.

To everyone who helped make this event the complete success that it was we say "Thank you". Our Band may well boast of its large number of kind and generous friends, who are always ready to help make anything our Band does a complete success. Everyone connected with the Band is very grateful to those who assisted, and we take this method of expressing our appreciation.

### Programme

MARCH	National Emblem	<i>Bagley</i>
OVERTURE	Sir Galahad	<i>Hildreth</i>
CORNET SOLO	Flocktonian	<i>Casey</i>
	William Chester Parsons	
BRASS QUARTET	(a) There is a Tavern in the Town	
	(b) Grandfathers Clock	
TROMBONE SOLO	Wanderer	<i>Fred P. Harlow</i>
	Horace E. Fader	

BASS TRIO	<i>Howard</i>	John C. Simens Robert F. Durant
Song of the Deep		
SELECTION	<i>arr. Lake</i>	Altos
Yankee Rhythm		Myles Standish Howard M. Colpitts Thomas S. D'Intinosanto
MEDLEY		Arthur E. Mathieu
Victor Herbert's Favorites		Richard J. Nelson
OVERTURE	<i>Zamecnik</i>	John V. Johanson
Scarlet Mask		
MARCH	<i>Albee</i>	Drums
The Farm and Trades School Band		Raymond M. Bean James R. Langton William J. Bevans Weston O. Page Warren A. Danner
The Star Spangled Banner		
Roster of Band		
Mr. Frank L. Warren, Director		
Mr. Clifton E. Albee, Assistant		

### Boy Scout Activities

During the past two or three weeks many important Boy Scout activities have taken place. There is a camp at the northern part of our Island named Camp Bowditch and just recently the scouts have been there, getting ready for the good times to be had there this summer. Of course the Scouts are not the only ones who use the camp and therefore others, who enjoy the summer fun at the camp, come over with us and help. Every day that our Scout leader can he takes us over to the camp and we have accomplished much. So far each patrol has chosen its area for headquarters. The council ring is almost ready, and will be as soon as we get a few more logs, which we use for seats. A dodge ball court has been set up and everyone enjoys this fine game.

Last week we finished our second class tests, at least most of us did. The cooking test was the last one. To do this each scout had to build a fire and cook meat and potatoes without using any utensils. First we made a small fire in a hole then piled wood criss-cross fashion on top of the small fire. After awhile the hole was filled with coals. We scooped out half the coals and put in the potatoes, then covered them up again with the coals. Finally a thin layer of earth was spread over the

#### Cornets

William C. Parsons  
William C. Burns  
David W. Kenvin  
Edwin L. Smith  
George F. Connors  
Thomas C. Kenvin  
William E. Brewer, Jr.  
William N. Dodge  
Warren M. Linnell  
Russell L. Letson, Jr.  
Rupert H. Gould  
Robert J. English

#### Clarinets

Francis S. Sheldon  
William M. Meacham, Jr.  
William F. Reagan  
Charles F. Averill  
Eugene Proctor  
Stephen H. Vinal  
Raymond B. Harrington  
George R. Davis  
Donald L. Rice

#### Baritones

Myron A. Pratt  
Gordon K. Goodwin

#### Trombones

Horace E. Fader  
Warren O. Filz  
Raymond L. Beck, Jr.  
John Dunn  
William D. DeLorie  
Edgar R. Aldrich

#### Basses

Russell G. Jones  
Norman H. Chausse  
George A. Krebs, Jr.

fire. While the potatoes were baking we made another fire and heated a flat rock large enough to cook meat on. It takes about an hour for the potatoes to bake so we had time to get a good flat stone, scrub it well, and allow it to heat. When it was sizzling hot we cooked our meat. Most of the scouts had never cooked before in this outdoor way and, strange as it may seem, everything was cooked thoroughly and nicely. All the scouts passed the test. Most of the boys in the troop are now ready to start to become first class scouts.

Robert J. English

### The Machine Shop

Nearly all the boys enjoy working in the machine shop. It is located on the north side of the first floor in the power house building.

The shop is equipped with two lathes, drill press, milling machine and a set of emery wheels. The most important machines are the lathes. One is operated by electrical power and the other by foot. Lathes will turn metal into almost any shape desired, put threads on bolts and do other such work. A small model steam engine has been turned out on the lathe.

The drill press is not a difficult machine to operate, and, when used properly will last many years. It is used often in our shop.

The milling machine is used for cutting gears, reaming and other such work. This machine is not used as often as the others.

There are five grinding wheels, each having a different degree of coarseness. Nearly all the tools used on the Island are sharpened on these grinders.

Two long benches and a cupboard for storing tools complete the equipment in our shop.

William E Brewer, Jr.

### A Movie

One morning, not long ago, I noticed a list posted on the bulletin board. It was a notice of a theatre trip, and I was surprised and pleased to see my name included. We left the island at one o'clock and went to the Orpheum Theatre. The theatre was crowded for everyone apparently wanted to see the picture, which was "Maytime". We got good seats in the orchestra, although we had to wait for awhile. The picture was very good, and I am sure everyone enjoyed it very much.

Robert MacSwain

### My Vacation

I have already planned what I am to do during vacation. In the first place I am going to build some model airplanes and model boats. When they are built I am going to try them out. A few yards from my house is a pond called "Goldfish Pond" and I shall sail my boats in this pond.

I expect to go on a trip for two or three days to visit my friends at Bradford, New Hampshire.

Also, when I go to the movies I am going to pick out good wild west pictures to see.

Allan Woodman

### Playing Marbles

The game of marbles is a skillful game, for a player must make every shot count. If he is careless his opponent will quickly take advantage and probably win. The game is played by all the boys, and we use glass marbles, called "glassies". The most popular competitions are called "chase", "poison", "bunny in the hole", "pops", and "ringer". Most always the games are played under the Old Elm, but when it is raining we go to the Gymnasium.

Karl G. Hulten

# Thompson's Island Beacon

Published Monthly by

## THE FARM AND TRADES SCHOOL

Thompson's Island, Boston Harbor

A PRIVATE SCHOOL FOR BOYS OF LIMITED  
MEANS. SUPPORTED BY ENDOWMENTS.  
TUITION FEES AND SUBSCRIPTIONS

WILLIAM D. DELORIE - - - - - *Editor*

ROBERT ENGLISH - - - - - *Assoc. Editor*

Vol. 41 No. 1 May 1937

Subscription Price - - - One Dollar Per Year

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Contributions may be mailed to  
AUGUSTUS P. LORING, JR., Treasurer  
82 Devonshire Street, Boston

This year marks the 80th anniversary of our band and is of historical significance not only to our school but should also be of Nation-wide interest. Our school had the first boys' band in America. Like the spread of other great and worthwhile movements little did its founders suspect that this little brass band would be the pioneer of the great nation-wide adoption of youth musical organizations.

We hope shortly to present a short but comprehensive historical article of the development of the band at The Farm and Trades School.

The Superintendent's diary of June 29, 1859 relates: "A pleasant, but a very warm day. We left the island at 11½ A. M. for the city in the Steamer "Nantasket", it being the occasion of the boys' annual visit to the city. After passing through several streets, we visited the Aquarial Gardens in Bromfield Street, thence to the office of the "Traveller" where our band played from the balcony, creating a great sensation. We then went to the old Cradle of Liberty, had refreshments, etc., then to the Boston Atheneum to view the statuary and paintings, thence to the Common where we were kindly received by Capt. Partridge of the Boston Light Artillery and escorted within the lines, and seated ourselves in the shade of the noble elms which grace the Mall. We left the city at 6 o'clock, landed at Spectacle Island, and arrived at our home at dark, without an accident of any kind."

The same source under date of June 14, 1860 says: "A lovely day and the day for our visit to the city. We left island at 8½ A.M. Met Dea. Grant and others at the wharf in Boston. Went first to City Hall, where the Band played, and we were addressed by Alderman Clapp in the absence of the Mayor. Thence to Dea. Grant's home in Cambridge St. to rest and partake of lunch. At 11 o'clock two large

double cars took us out on the Cambridge Road as far as the Colleges, returning us in season for dinner at Faneuil Hall. At 2½ we marched up State St. with Band playing and banner flying. Went into the Merchants Exchange where after various exercises, and playing more in the Street, we went to Bumpstead Hall to pay our respects to Gen. Tom Thumb, treating him in turn to some of our music. All enjoyed it much. Left the city at 5 o'clock and arrived home before 6. We had a good day and everything passed as pleasantly as we could wish."

### A Distinct Loss

The passing of Walter M. Smith, distinguished musician, on May 1, was a distinct loss. Known to millions through his nationally broadcast radio concerts he achieved fame and distinction as America's premier cornet soloist. He maintained a deep interest in the F. T. S. Band and assisted materially from time to time. As a friend he had no peer. We regret his passing, and extend our sympathy to his family.

### Topics in Brief

Spring activities have proceeded smoothly. The boys have chosen their plots for individual flower gardens and have them well underway. The tennis court and baseball diamond have had their share of attention and are now in daily use. Cottage Row shareholders have commenced getting their property in condition for an enjoyable summer season.

Our Band has been very busy during the month. On April 23 the boys played a concert in Faneuil Hall which was successful in every way. Next month the Band will take part in the Massachusetts Music Festival at Lowell on May 15 and in the New England Music Festival at Gloucester on May 22.

Patriot's Day was observed in a happy manner. Probably the principal event was the baseball game, opening the season on the Island. Two teams were organized in the morning, and the resultant contest was backed with excellent play. Others enjoyed the day on the tennis court. A large group of the boys took part in a dodge ball contest.

The Boy Scout troop passed second class cooking tests on April 18. This consists of preparing a meal in the open without the aid of utensils. Although most country boys can do this expertly our boys come principally from the cities and the experiences of some of the Scouts will long be remembered. Most of the members of our troop have now passed Tenderfoot and Second Class work and have begun studying for the First Class work.

Three excursions to town took place during the month. One group attended the Vermont Association of Boston Sugar Party; another the motion picture "Maytime" while another group visited the huge Edison Electric Illuminating Company's plant at South Boston.

The baseball schedule is made up of contests for six teams, and the first game was played on April 23. Manager S. V. R. Crosby gives trophies to the best player in each position, and a silver shield to the winning team.

The farm work has progressed smoothly and many of the crops are already in the ground. The range for the poultry has been laid out and additional pasture land fenced off for the cattle. Extensive repairs have been made on the roof of the main barn, and minor ones on the roof of the storage barn.

Adjustments and repairs have been made on the steam traps throughout our heating system.

Calendar 50 Years Ago, April 1887

As Kept by the Superintendent

1 Monthly report. Boys in school, ninety-eight. Admitted during the quarter: Homer Frye Thatcher, Frank Patten Wilcox, Wm. Bird Winters, and Charles Lord. Discharged Stephen Grover and Ed. Chas. Colson. There has been no sickness to mention during the quarter.

2. Another severe storm from the N. E., thick snow.

12. To town. Paid many bills. Went to East Boston to see about sawdust for our ice.

20. Went to Natick this P.M. taking Wm. Morse Ackers to Mr Baker, a small farmer who lives a mile north of the Depot. Quite a pleasant place, I should judge.

26 Went to city to get the Dr. for Edna Haskins who is quite ill. Dr. Homans came in P. M.

27 Two masons and tender at work on resetting boilers in the laundry. Two plumber came to fix pumps, etc. Two painters to work on steamer.

29 2 masons, 1 tender, and 2 plumbers here. Mr. J. R. Morse came to instruct band.

30 Trim took our steamer over to the Club Wharf where the boiler was filled with water and fixed so she came home under steam. Got some lumber for floating stage. 2 painters, 2 plumbers, and 2 masons here.

25. Received a visit from Messrs. J. I. Bowditch and S. E. Brackett, the latter of whom addressed the boys.

26. E. C. Deming cut the boys' hair.

28. Sowed onions, parsnips and beets.

30. Moses Grant, Esq., with the friends of the boys made a visit in the steamer Mayflower, being the first steamboat visit this season. Caleb Bates, Esq. of Hingham stopped over night and addressed the boys the next day. Admitted Benj. Goldman and Michael McMahan.

April Meteorology

Maximum Temperature 70° on the fourteenth.

Minimum Temperature 32° on the first.

Mean Temperature for the month 46°.

Seven clear days, six partly cloudy, and seventeen cloudy.

The Farm and Trades School Bank

Statement, April 30, 1937

RESOURCES

Savings Bank . . . . .	\$1192.88
Cash . . . . .	82.72
	<hr/>
	\$1275.60

LIABILITIES

Boys' Deposits . . . . .	\$468.91
Trading Co. Deposits . . . . .	554.13
Cottage Row Deposits . . . . .	4.01
Photo Company Deposits . . . . .	36.04
Surplus . . . . .	212.51
	<hr/>
	\$1275.60

Calendar 90 Years Ago, April 1847

As Kept by the Superintendent

13. Hiram W. Ordway, by direction of his parents, was sent to Kittredge & Loring's factory in Bellingham. Received a visit from Mrs. Pickering and Mrs. Penhallow of Portsmouth.

16. Admitted Alired Spaulding and Ephraim Phillips, both of Boston.

Moonlight

Have you ever watched the moon rise over a beautiful lake on a clear summer night? It is a very pretty sight.

Let us imagine we are seated on the shore of a large lake somewhere in Vermont. At the further end of this lake large pine trees come to the water's edge.

A few miles back we see a large mountain range already turning purple as the clear summer night creeps into the sky.

While we are watching the shadows lengthen we notice a little speck of golden light begin to creep over the top of the mountain. We watch this light keep growing in intensity until the moon rises complete in its golden splendor. It shines its light down upon the waters of the lake, which are slightly ruffled from the summer breeze. Soon we notice its rays upon the beach, making the sand look like millions of tiny jewels.

George F. Connors

### The Marathon Finish

It was a recent April 19th, Patriot's Day, and the time of the B. A. A. Marathon. I was waiting at the corner of Exeter Street, where the finish of the race is located. I always like to watch marathons, and to study the expressions on the faces of the various runners. The crowd began to get restless, and I was tired. Someone shouted that the runners would never finish. Then a large automobile came by, and a man in the car announced that the leader was coming down Commonwealth Avenue. That meant about ten minutes more to wait. In just about that time John Kelly, No. 1, of Arlington, was coming up Exeter Street. The crowd cheered enthusiastically and noisily. One could see that he was making great effort to finish. It seemed that he barely had strength enough to carry him across the line. His face carried an exhausted expression, but one could see that he was happy.

Charles Grant

### Graduating Class Banquet

On April 15 the Graduating Class held a banquet, which was attended by President Arthur Adams, the Faculty and

members of the Freshman and Junior classes.

The Class, with the guests assembled in Chapel, where a program was staged by the members of the Graduating Class. There were skits, instrumental solos and specialties. A brief period of dancing followed.

We then passed to the dining room where the banquet was held. The room was cleverly decorated and arranged by the entertainment committee. The menu was selected after many class discussions, and everyone felt that a very fine choice was made.

A few representative members of the three upper classes spoke and were followed by Headmaster Meacham and some faculty members. To put a happy conclusion on the event President Adams was asked to address the class, which he did in a most interesting manner.

William D. DeLorie

### The Jester's Comments

—Baseball being what it is, and the umpires being subjected to occasional bruises, Charlie Pecce offers a new and decidedly novel idea for umpire protection. During the winter our hydrants are covered with a round wooden structure, equipped with holes for coupling hose. Charlie thinks that one of these small hydrant houses might be placed behind the pitcher's box for the protection of the umpire. The official could repose snugly in the structure, with a comfortable chair and a light lunch from time to time. The peepholes give a clear vision of each base.

Maybe Charlie has never heard, but in the early days of baseball the umpire was provided with a soft-seated rocking chair placed near third base. In those days decisions were made by a sweep of the umpire's cane.

## The Alumni Association of The Farm and Trades School

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Dorchester, Mass.

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77 SUMMER STREET, BOSTON  
G. GEORGE LARSSON, '17, Historian  
Hyde Park, Mass.

WILLARD G. SCHROEDER, '24, is now stationed at the Telephone Office, Fort George Wright, Spokane, Washington.

JOHN R. MACDONALD '35, who has done so well in every way since his graduation from F. T. S. finished 14th from a large field in the recent ten mile marathon. This graduate has made an excellent record at Weston High School, and we are proud of his achievements. Maybe we have another marathon champion in the making.

CLARENCE H. DEMAR '03, was accorded a tremendous reception as he gave another splendid exhibition in the B.A.A. Marathon on Patriot's Day.

JAMES A. PALEY, '24, is a member of the group trained to administer First Aid at the many huge projects being undertaken by the W. P. A. administration.

IVERS E. WINMILL, '25, was recently appointed to the Boston Police Department. Competitive examinations were given a list of candidates and this graduate received a high rating. His home address is 67 Moreland Street, Roxbury, Mass. Our other two graduates, who are members of the Police Department, Inspector Lieut. WILLIAM LEBLANC '97, and FRANKLIN GUNNING, '14, have received transfers. Lieut. LEBLANC is now at the Jamaica Plain station and Traffic Officer GUNNING is now stationed at Tremont and Beacon Streets.

JESSE MANN, '35, visited us over the weekend of April 23. He lives in Norfolk, Mass., and is now preparing to graduate from Walpole High School, where he is a Senior.

ALLEN B. SCOTT, '30, writes interestingly of his work at the New Colonial Hotel, in Washington D. C. He is acting as assistant to the steward. His home is 1116 F Street, N. E., Washington, D.C.

One of our Florida graduates, Mr. EDWARD A. MOORE recently wrote at some length of his activities in Florida. He is kept busy as Chairman of the Water Board and Street Committee in Interlachen, where he was formerly Mayor. He is also Deputy Sheriff of Putman County and Administrator of Estates. He is looking forward to coming North this summer and visiting the School.

JACK HOBSON '27, has recently been in the hospital for a serious operation. His home address is 31 Power St. Norton, Mass., and would no doubt appreciate letters from his schoolmates.

WILLIAM MUMFORD, '74, manager of the Shedd Farm, Hillsboro, New Hampshire, died in that town on January 30.

Mr. Mumford gave to the Shed Farm a period of service which is outstanding. In 1879 he entered the employ of the farm as hired man, and worked there continuously until his death.

Mr. Shedd the owner of the farm died in 1916 and the management of the farm was then given to Mr. Mumford. Miss Estelle Shedd and Mrs. Elmer S. Evans, daughters of the owner, continued to operate the farm.

Mr. Mumford's parents, who were of English birth, were married in Boston by the celebrated Theodore Parker in 1856 and their son was born there April 8, 1858.





Vol. 41 No. 2 Printed at The Farm and Trades School, Boston, Mass. June 1937

Entered November 3, 1903 at Boston, Mass., as Second Class matter, under Act of Congress, of July 6, 1874

### In Appreciation

The Band has enjoyed four excursions recently, through the kindness of our friends. We have undertaken to thank each of those who thoughtfully and generously contributed to the Band Fund. This was impossible in some cases, because of anonymous gifts. We appreciate greatly the full response, and take this method of saying "Thank You" to all those who assisted in any way in making the 1937 Band Fund a complete success. The spirit and helpful cooperation of our friends has been a source of great inspiration to the boys, and to everyone connected with the school.

### The Band Excursions

The Band has enjoyed four trips to town recently, made possible by the kindness of friends of the school, whose contributions were ample in providing the necessary expenses.

The first of these trips was to Faneuil Hall, where the annual spring concert was played on April 23. The last issue of the Beacon contained an article about this concert, and the program. Since then praise has been continuously heaped upon the Band for its very finished musicianship displayed at the concert. It is a privilege to print on page four a letter from the Board of Managers commending the boys.

On May 15 the Band went to Lowell to participate in the Massachusetts School Music Festival. There were assembled in Lowell the finest school bands, orchestras and choral groups in the state. Our boys were rated highly by our Judge who was especially thrilled by the performance of our trombone section. On his report he stated that this section was "the finest school band section he has ever heard." Our solo cornet player was also highly praised. The various units paraded in the afternoon, and because of threatening weather, the closing features were conducted in the very fine municipal auditorium. This building was thronged with spectators, anxious to see and hear the young musicians. Our boys staged a drill exhibition which was warmly received.

On May 22 the Band took part in the New England Festival, in Gloucester. This included the finest school bands from the New England states. We played in the splendid high school auditorium before a nationally known music critic. It was our great pleasure to receive from this critic a rating of Superior. This was the very highest rating possible, and we were happy that our Band was so highly successful. The Brass Quartet took part in the ensemble division playing the "Recession-al" of DeKoven. They were judged as Superior, an honor rating. The judge

*Please turn to Page 8*

### Joyce Easter Meacham Competition

Some ten or twelve years ago a plan was inaugurated to provide a regular track meet on Memorial Day. This proved to be very popular with the boys, and the experiences of the early years proved valuable so that the meet was continually improved. The chief objection was the fact that it was difficult to organize two teams and provide good opportunity for participation by the younger boys. This objection was overcome last year. Four groups were organized, the Varsity and Senior and the Junior and Cubs. As the names indicate the boys were grouped according to age and ability. The 1936 meet was a tremendous success, and proved that the difficulties and objections of other plans were at last overcome.

This year, on Memorial Day, the same plan was followed. The events commenced early in the morning and continued throughout the day. Ten events were programmed, and each class operated independently of the others. Points were awarded for the first five in each race or competition, and prizes were given any contestant finishing among the first three in any event.

When the meet was over and the figures averaged for the day it was found that Charles Pece was the outstanding athlete of the day by winning 48.5 points in his class, the Cubs.

The Varsity meet was won by Raymond L. Beck, Jr., with a total of 40 points. He had five first places, and finished in every event. William D. DeLorie finished second, with a total of 20 points. He placed in seven of the ten events.

The Senior meet was won by Thomas S. D'Intinosanto who had 25 points. He placed in eight of the ten events. Howard Colpitts was awarded second place. He earned a place in each event he entered, and had a total of 14 points.

The Junior meet was the hardest fought. Frederick W. Russell had 30.5 points to lead the field. He finished first three times, and tied for first in another. In all he placed in eight of the events. Richard Martin finished second with 27 points. He placed in eight of the ten events.

The Cubs were led by Charles Pece, who had eight first places, tied for first in another, and finished second in the other event for a total of 48.5 points. Winthrop Davidson with 20 points was declared second place winner.

Others who did well in the track and field competition included:

Randolph English  
David Kenvin  
Weston Page  
Lewis Goodwin  
Francis Sheldon  
Arthur Hammond  
William Brewer  
Charles Grant  
George Davis  
Edgar Aldrich  
Warren Danner  
Murdock Moore  
Harold Malmgren  
William Pratt

As was stated in the opening paragraph, the contestants who placed in either of the first three places were given a prize. The principal objective of the boys however, was to win a Joyce Easter Meacham trophy. These were given the two boys who earned the most points in each group.

These trophy winners were:

Raymond L. Beck  
Howard M. Colpitts  
Winthrop Davidson  
William D. DeLorie  
Thomas S. D'Intinosanto  
Richard A. Martin  
Charles A. Pece  
Frederick W. Russell

The meet was a complete success and all who had a part feel satisfied in every way.

### First Friends' Day

The first Friends' Day of the 1937 season was looked forward to by the boys for a long time and when the day finally came we were all very happy and excited. The weather was fine and it was very hard to keep our minds on our work during the morning.

About one o'clock we went to the locker room and got out our best suits and dressed carefully and then we hurried to the wharf. The boat was seen coming and the band began to play. Everyone could hardly wait for it to land.

Our time with our friends passed by swiftly and I never realized time could go so very quickly. We took our friends to the wharf and as the boat sailed for Boston we gave three cheers and a tiger. With much waving of hands it was swiftly out of our sight and we returned to the house happy and gay. I hope each Friends' Day is as nice as this one was.

Robert J. English

### Type Was Made to Read

By Berton Braley

"Type," said the Foreman, "was made to read,  
And that is a maxim it's well to heed,  
For the printer frequently gets a start  
With a craze for 'beauty,' a bug for 'art,'  
Which holds him fast in a fearful gripe  
And keeps him trying mad stunts with type,  
With seventeen fonts and seventy styles  
And borders by thousands and rules by miles.

"Type," said the Foreman, "was made to read,  
But the printer, oftentimes, in his greed  
For novel features and 'class' and 'tone,'  
Forgets this fact he has always known  
And sends out work that is fine to see  
As 'smart' and 'natty' as it can be,  
A job with a swagger and high-bred look,  
But as hard to read as a Chinese Book!"

I have always liked this piece ever since I first saw it and set it up as a printing lesson. Now that I have noticed different printed matter careful I yfind that it

would seem that some things are printed to teach people something and all they do is puzzle them. All this because someone thinks that something fancy will catch the eye.

William E. Brewer, Jr.

### A Straight Tip—

When someone seems determined to be disagreeable and bother you—

When you do not know which way to turn to avoid an argument or escape a quarrel,—here are some suggestions which may help the situation:

*Don't talk back—remain silent.*

Restraining your tongue is not only good self discipline, but also it effectively stops an argument and preserves your self respect.

Two people may fall and at first only one be at fault, but if the quarrel keeps up, both become guilty.

The real reason a quarrel continues is because both parties are weak.

Put it this way: When two people keep up a fight, the one with the most sense is the most to blame.

### The Dogs on the Island

There are six dogs on the island and they are all great pets of the boys. The oldest one has been here for eleven years and is now very old for a dog but she is liked by everyone. Her name is "Trixie."

The largest dog on the island by far is "Lady," a Newfoundland which belongs to Mr. Meacham. She is just a pup but she is very large and quite full of fun.

The other four dogs are all Rat Terriers and they are running everywhere most of the time. They are very good natured and their only fault is that they seem to have to bark all the time to keep their courage up. The names of these dogs according to age are; Trixie, Webbie, Judy, and Lassie.

# Thompson's Island Beacon

Published Monthly by

THE FARM AND TRADES SCHOOL

Thompson's Island, Boston Harbor

A PRIVATE SCHOOL FOR BOYS OF LIMITED  
MEANS, SUPPORTED BY ENDOWMENTS,  
TUITION FEES AND SUBSCRIPTIONS.

WILLIAM D. DeLORIE - - - - - *Editor*

ROBERT ENGLISH - - - - - *Assoc. Editor*

Vol. 41 No. 2 June 1937

Subscription Price - - - One Dollar Per Year

## BOARD OF MANAGERS

Arthur Adams, *President*

Edward Wigglesworth, *Vice-President*

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William M. Meacham

At the meeting of the Board of Managers held on May 4 the work of the Band at the Spring Concert given in Faneuil Hall on April 23 was highly praised. As the result of this discussion it was voted that the Board write Headmaster Meacham offering congratulations. The letter speaks for itself and we are happy to print it.

The letter, printed in its entirety, follows:

Mr. William M. Meacham, Headmaster  
The Farm and Trades School

My dear Mr. Meacham:

At the meeting of the Board of Managers held this day, and on motion of Mr. Saltonstall, it was voted that the secretary write a letter to the school, complimenting the band on the splendid success of the concert given in Faneuil Hall, Boston, on April 23, and congratulating Mr. Frank L. Warren, director, and Mr. Clifton E. Albee, assistant director upon the proficiency shown by the band in this department of school work.

The members of the Board of Managers are proud of the Band and of its accomplishments.

And in sending this message to you for the members of the band and the directors, may I take the opportunity to add my own personal congratulations as a former member of the band, and to express the opinion that not in the eighty years of the history of the band has it ever reached a higher plane of excellence than it occupies today.

Very truly yours,

William Alcott,  
Secretary protem

Board of Managers  
The Farm and Trades School

Contributions may be mailed to  
AUGUSTUS P. LORING, JR., Treasurer  
82 Devonshire Street, Boston

### Topics in Brief

Cottage Row Government has officially commenced upon its summer season, and the cottages are being put into good condition. This unique feature of our school is most interesting to visitors, giving as it does, practical lessons in government policies.

Seeds have been distributed and the annual competition for the individual flower gardens is well underway. Each boy selects a flower bed, plants what he likes, cares for the garden throughout the summer and at periodic times his work is noted. Prizes are given to those who do best in this splendid hobby.

It was our pleasure to have Mr. John McNamara, manager of Station WBZ, as our guest on May 11. Upon learning that the eighth grade was engaged in a radio project he kindly volunteered to come to the island and assist. A series of thirty questions was prepared which Mr. McNamara answered. Nearly a hundred other queries were answered during the evening. We thank Mr. McNamara for a very pleasant and most instructive evening.

Our annual war on mosquitoes has begun. These pests have been well controlled on the island but it is a continual effort to prevent the breeding of millions of them. We are annoyed mostly by the swarms which come to the island with every high breeze. We have taken care to see that there are no breeding places on the island.

The Island is particularly beautiful at this time of year, and much has been accomplished in the way of landscape gardening. A rock garden is being made at the

north end of the front lawn. The Adams House grounds have been given attention. The gravelled areas and lawns about the buildings, and the innumerable flower beds have never appeared to such advantage.

Major changes have taken place in the Main Building. The Offices are now located in the lower apartments, formerly occupied by the Headmaster and his family. The upper rooms are used for instructors' living quarters. The old office makes an admirable sitting room. Altogether the erection of the Adams house has given us much needed room in the Main Building, eliminating the cramped conditions formerly experienced.

A group of boys had the privilege of attending the circus at the Boston Garden on May 7. The performance, as usual, was especially good and greatly enjoyed. This was another in the series of recreational excursions.

The baseball season has progressed smoothly, and this grand game is played by nearly all the boys. Manager S. V. R. Crosby gives individual trophies to the best player in each position, and a silver shield to the team winning the championship. The older boys have played three games, all closely contested and featured principally by good pitching.

The young stock has been put to pasture for the summer. About fourteen head of cattle will remain pastured until cold weather sets in this fall.

The Pilgrim III has been given its annual spring overhauling. The hull has been beached, scraped and painted. The decks have also been painted, as was the cabin interior. The original white paint in the cabin has been removed and the interior given a mahogany stain and varnished. The engine has been overhauled where necessary.

## Calendar 50 Years Ago, May 1887

As Kept by the Superintendent

2. Fine and calm. Two masons whitewashing and jobbing. Two plumbers on pumps and their connections. Two painters on desks, and drawers in clothes room. Two farmers came to work on farm.

3. Monthly report. Discharged during the month of April: Fred'k Wm. Mason, Edward Fisher Teague and Wm. Morse Ackers. The same number of workmen as yesterday.

7. The first Visitors Day of season. Managers Lyman, S. G. DeBlois, and Grew present. Had a lot of supplies come down on the boat.

27. Mr. and Mrs. Merrill went to city in A.M. and back at 1 o'clock. Rev. Edward Osborne came at eve., and gave a very interesting entertainment of the life of our Saviour from stereoptical views. Very fine.

28. A cold wet day. Mr. Osborne left this A. M. A bad time crossing. Went in the P. M. for lime and hair for new plastering of school room.

31. Met Managers about painting and general repairs. Got oil, flour, etc.

This has been a month of repairs beginning with laying up the boilers in the laundry, new cesspools or water drains were put in the laundry and boys' wash room, also 2 iron bath tubs, pumps fixed, new pipes put in, etc. The schoolroom completely renovated, seats newly varnished and marked. Drawers in clothes room newly marked and varnished. And much more is already laid out to be done in various places. It seems to be a year for general repairs.

## Calendar 90 Years Ago, May 1847

As Kept by the Superintendent

4. Six boys were discharged to-day:

Joseph B. Rodriques, Domingos Rodriques, Charles S. Flanders, Lewis B. Soule, Horatio P. Newell, and Chris. Worster. The last named came back with the boat and left the next day. He has been a well behaved and efficient boy and during the year past had the charge of the boats and frequently been intrusted with business which has always been done correctly.

7. Planted muskmellons. Today Ann Morrison came home from her school in Boston.

20. Sowed carrots.

22. Took up the drain through the flower garden.

23. Received a visit from Mr. DeBlois, also Austin and John Kimanjo Wesley. Mr. DeBlois addressed the school and Wesley who is a native of Western Africa gave some account of the people of that country.

24. Ann Morrison went to Mrs. Burrill's School, S. Boston, and the next day Augusta went to the game.

36. Messrs. Belser & Houghton took a part of the hay sold to them.

31. Moses Grant, Geo. H. Kuhn, B. A. Gould, and Francis Bacon, Esqrs., with the friends of the boys, made a visit to this island in the steamboat.

## The Farm and Trades School Bank

Statement, May 31, 1937

## RESOURCES

Savings Bank . . . . .	\$1192.88
Cash . . . . .	80.55
	<u>\$1273.43</u>

## LIABILITIES

Boys' Deposits . . . . .	\$479.46
Trading Co. Deposits . . . . .	538.36
Cottage Row Deposits . . . . .	4.01
Photo Company Deposits . . . . .	44.09
Surplus . . . . .	207.51
	<u>\$1273.43</u>

### May Meteorology

Maximum Temperature 92° on the thirty-first.

Minimum Temperature 44° on the twelfth.

Mean Temperature for the month 61°.

Nine clear days, eight partly cloudy, and fourteen cloudy.

### Working in the Dining Room

Every boy takes his turn working in the dining room. I am working there now. There are five different jobs to do, and we each spend a week on each one. I am now dishwiper, and I do this work after dinner and also after supper. Altogether there are five of us who help in the dining room.

Winthrop Davidson

### Tennis

Tennis is a good sport after a player has practiced so he can play well. When a boy first begins to play he is liable to hit the ball most anywhere.

Last year in the tournament I played Linwood Meacham, and came out ahead in the set. This year we are going to play again. We were well matched last year and we should have good sets this summer.

John V. Johanson

### The Coronation

Most of the boys listened to the crowning of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth. The broadcast was very clear. Such an event occurs so seldom, and is of such importance, that it is a great privilege to listen to one. All of the classes in the school were suspended so we could hear the clear description.

Richard J. Nelson

### Outdoor Sports

About two weeks ago the equipment for outdoor spring sports was made ready for the track meet. The most used is the shot put. There are two of these, one for the older boys, and one for the smaller.

Pole vaulting is another popular track sport. This takes much skill and practice before it can be done well. The boys in the upper classes are good at this, and the smaller boys are learning.

Many are training for the cross country run, and the other shorter runs and dashes.

Charles A. Pecca

### My First Day

I am a boy who just came to this school. Some of the boys showed me around the island. I saw the pigs, cows, chickens, horses, bees and all the shops and other places. The school looks very interesting and I think I shall enjoy being here very much.

Robert Ryerson

### The Jester's Comments

—Just because "Ozzie" Page knows Lincoln's Gettysburg address is no reason why he should write him a letter.

—Bill DeLorie and Ray Beck are open to challenges for a hopscotch contest. Both practice most diligently. We suggest that "Red" Chausse and Ray Hadfield accept the challenge.

—"Fat" Simens, having returned from the wars at the City Hospital has already proceeded to enliven things a bit in the Senior Dormitory.

—Charlie Averill and Ed Willey, those dignified members of the Graduating Class prepared speeches for presentation in a recent English class. The first named spoke on "Doorknobs" while the latter chose "The Ideal Root Beer" for his subject.

## The Alumni Association of The Farm and Trades School

HOWARD B. ELLIS, '98 President  
Dorchester, Mass.

HAROLD W. EDWARDS, '10, Treasurer  
Arlington, Mass.

WILLIS M. SMITH, '22, Vice-President  
Somerville, Mass.

MERTON P. ELLIS, '97, Secretary  
77 SUMMER STREET, BOSTON  
G. GEORGE LARSSON, '17, Historian  
Hyde Park, Mass.

### The Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the Alumni Association was held at 40 Court Street, on Wednesday May 12. President Howard B. Ellis was in the chair. Secretary Merton P. Ellis read the minutes of the last meeting, and later the reports of the Treasurer, Richard Bell Candy Fund Committee and the Historian's Report. These various reports were of unusual interest.

Present from the school was Clifton E. Albee, who was requested to speak, particularly about the Band. Most of those present were present at the Faneuil Hall Concert and spoke highly of the splendid concert.

Discussion was held pertaining to the Alumni Field Day and various problems were solved.

Motion pictures of Florida were exhibited by Malcolm E. Cameron, who has entertained in that state during the past winter.

### The Band Excursions

*Concluded from Page 1*

added to his written report "Worthy of first rating. Very fine quartette. I want to say that the music work at this school is of a very high calibre and worthy of the highest commendation." In the soloist division, our cornet soloist, William C. Parsons, played the "Remembrance of Liberati" selection. He earned high praise from his Judge, who said, "Very good

work technically and musically. Worthy of the first rank."

It is especially important to note that we were the only band in our class which received a rating of "Superior". Bands are classed according to the size and age of the pupils, running from Class A for the large city high schools to Class E for the smaller and younger schools. We are in Class CC.

The street parade and field exhibition were held as scheduled, in spite of weather which threatened to cancel some of the activities. We took part in these events, and the boys did their usual very fine work. The Gloucester festival, as well as the one held a week previously in Lowell, were carefully planned and both festivals were highly successful in every way.

On May 28, through the invitation of Mr. Thomas Yawkey, the band attended the baseball game between Boston and Washington, at Fenway Park. A concert was played from two until three o'clock, which was warmly received by the thousands assembled. The boys played occasionally during the game and drew praise from the crowd. Mr. Fred Hoey announced the Band over the network during his description of the game, and we thank him for his kind words. Needless to say, the game was thoroughly enjoyed and we thank Mr. Yawkey of the Red Sox for the kind invitation.

It is apparent that the spring has been a busy one for the Band. These fine trips would not have been possible except for the generosity of our friends. Everyone connected with the School is deeply grateful for the kindness shown.





Vol. 41 No. 3 Printed at The Farm and Trades School, Boston, Mass. July 1937

Entered November 3, 1903 at Boston, Mass., as Second Class matter, under Act of Congress, of July 6, 1874

### Graduation

Rev. Dana McLean Greeley, pastor of the Arlington Street Church, in Boston, gave the address of the day at the occasion of the Graduation Exercises on June 10. His address was the outstanding part of the program, and will be long remembered, not only by the Graduating Class, but by the audience of about three hundred.

In the purpose of achieving success in life, Mr. Greeley declared, the prime requisite was a good start, the right kind of a start. He paid tribute to the excellent training the class had received at this School. The theory that chance possibly has much to do with ultimate success was dispelled by Mr. Greeley who gave apt and compelling illustrations to prove his points. The desire to succeed depends primarily on the individual, and there are no limitations where the desire is present. Perseverance and concentration conquer all things, and where the will is present true success is assured, declared Mr. Greeley. The keynote of his address was reached when he spoke briefly about the class motto "We are the architects of our future." He praised this excellent motto, and urged the class members to remember it always. He closed his address by stating that the light of faith disperses all darkness, and that true success comes

by fortitude and preparedness and not by chance.

The diplomas were presented by President Arthur Adams. Fourteen boys were graduated. Six boys received sloyd diplomas, six forging, one received an agriculture diploma and certificates were awarded the seven members who completed the Junior year of high school work.

The Charles P. Curtis Mathematics Prizes were then awarded. Charles F. Averill, '37, and Eugene Proctor, '38 received them, they having earned the highest averages in this subject during the school year. These prizes of ten dollars each are to be awarded annually to the members of each of the two highest classes who has the highest average in mathematics.

President Arthur Adams spoke concerning the progress of the school, and paid special tribute to Mr. Frank L. Warren, who has been Bandmaster since 1923, and under whose direction the band has won high honors.

At the conclusion one diploma remained unrepresented and Mr. Adams announced to the assemblage that it was his happy privilege to call Headmaster William M. Meacham to the stand so that the Headmaster's son, William, Jr., might receive the diploma from the hands of his father.

The Class Banner ceremony was prettily enacted. This banner is symbolic of what the School represents, and was, in 1925, given the school by Manager Waler B. Foster, '78. Each year at Graduation the banner is entrusted to the president of the incoming class to hold and cherish. William D. DeLorie, the President of the Graduating Class presented it to George A. Krebs, Jr., who received it for the Class of 1938, of which he is President. The presentation speech and the speech of acceptance were very well given, and it is to be regretted that Manager Foster was unable to be present, for we are sure he would have been deeply impressed by the ceremony, even as all who were present.

The program opened by the Class Processional, the music by Clifton E. Albee, '21 and the Class Marshall being Thomas C. Kenvin, '38. The Band followed by playing the overture "Scarlet Mask", by Zamecnik. Rev. William P. Green, who delivered the Bacalleaurate Sermon on June 6, then gave the Invocation.

The Salutatory, was given by William F. Reagan, and was followed by an essay entitled, "Modern Washington," which contained a description of the principal buildings and plans for the newer ones. Following this William C. Burns gave a clever prophecy, in which only best and happy futures awaited the class members.

William C. Burns, '37 and William C. Parsons, '36 then played a trumpet duet with the accompanient by the band. This piece was in the form of a polka, well played and enjoyed by everyone.

The Class Will, in which the individual members of the class donated whatever they wished was given by William M. Meacham, Jr. This gave a touch of humor to the proceedings.

The Valedictory was given by William

D. DeLorie. His essay was entitled "How the Printer Prints." The processes of ordinary job printing were told clearly in a most interesting way.

The exercises were held on the south lawn, a beautiful setting. All those who took part deserve great praise for their fine work.

The members of the Graduating Class were:

Charles Francis Averill  
Hudson David Brenner  
William Charters Burns  
William Daniel DeLorie  
Randolph St. Clair English  
Horace Evans Fader  
Russell Gilbert Jones  
Leonard Markley  
Arthur Elbridge Mathieu  
William Maxfield Meacham, Jr.  
William Francis Reagan  
John Christian Simens  
Edwin Lincoln Smith  
Edwin Cleve Willey

Those receiving Sloyd Diplomas were:

Raymond Marland Bean  
William Daniel DeLorie  
Thomas Charles Kenvin  
Leonard Markley  
Myron Alvin Pratt

Those receiving Forging Diplomas were:

Charles Francis Averill  
William Charters Burns  
Russell Gilbert Jones  
Leonard Markley  
Myles Standish  
Edwin Cleve Willey

Those receiving Junior Year Certificates were:

Raymond Lee Beck  
Norman Howard Chausse  
Lewis Chester Goodwin

Francis Daniel McAuliffe  
 William Chester Parsons  
 Myles Standish  
 Ralph Talbot

Russell Gilbert Jones received a diploma for the four year agricultural course.

The Officers of the Class of 1937 are:

President: William D. DeLorie  
 Vice President: William F. Reagan  
 Secretary and Treasurer: William C. Burns  
 Entertainment Committee  
 Horace E. Fader: Chairman  
 William M. Meacham, Jr.  
 Charles F. Averill  
 Randolph St. C. English

The complete program was as follows:

CLASS PROCESSIONAL *Clifton E. Albee*  
 Thomas C. Kenvin, '38, *Class Marshall*  
 OVERTURE—Scarlet Mask *Zamecnik*  
 INVOCATION  
 Rev. William P. Green  
 SALUTATORY *Modern Washington*  
 William F. Reagan  
 CLASS PROPHECY  
 William C. Burns  
 CORNET DUET—Polka Caprice  
 William C. Parsons William C. Burns  
 CLASS WILL  
 William M. Meacham, Jr.  
 PRESENTATION OF SCHOOL BANNER  
 William D. DeLorie, '37 George A. Krebs, '38  
 VALEDICTORY *How the Printer Prints*  
 William D. DeLorie  
 INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER  
 Headmaster William M. Meacham  
 ADDRESS  
 Rev. Dana McLean Greeley  
 PRESENTATION OF DIPLOMAS  
 President Arthur Adams  
 MARCH—National Emblem *E. E. Bagley*

Vacation Time at F. T. S.

During the last few weeks the boys have been looking forward to vacation very much. Vacation time starts Graduation Day and ends July 12, which is about 32 days. The boys do not go to school during this time and instead of going to school we work all morning and have all afternoon off. This is a new plan and I think it works very well.

Certain boys leave to go on their vacation Graduation Day and have as long a vacation as they have earned. Other boys leave on different dates and come back at different times. There are always enough boys left here to get the work done properly.

The longest vacation this year is 23 days which Weston Page has earned by being on the Headmasters List. Raymond Bean also has 21 days which is the second longest vacation. Boys with demerits have one week and boys that have under seven credits or no credits at all have nine days. Other boys have more days according to the amount of credits they have earned. The boys go home and see who they want and do what they please on their vacation but when they come back they must settle down to the rules and regulations of the school.

The reason for such short vacation is that the boys only go to school half a day and we have to start school earlier than the public schools because of this.

The boys usually all have a fine vacation and I am looking forward to my vacation which is yet to come.

Robert J. English

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Leverett Saltonstall

Charles Wiggins, 2nd

Edmund Q. Sylvester

John L. Batchelder

Moses Williams, Jr.

William Alcott

William M. Meacham

### A Notable Trip

Our Band has recently returned from a trip to Wolfeboro, New Hampshire, where it participated in the Fourth of July observance. Twenty-five of our youthful musicians made the trip.

Arrangements for the trip were made by Dr. Leon Barrow, Commander of the Wolfeboro American Legion Post, the sponsor of the celebration. He was assisted by Mr. Roy Foster, chairman of the holiday program committee. Our bandmaster, Mr. Frank L. Warren, a personal friend of these gentlemen, supervised the details of the excursion and he in turn was aided by Clifton E. Albee, assistant director of the band.

Our School is known to the Wolfeboro townfolk through association with many of our graduates who have attended school at Brewster Academy. One of our graduates operates a farm near Wolfeboro and another is in charge of Brewster Academy buildings, equipment and grounds.

The boys passed a very busy three days in the town. A fine modern bus was provided for transportation, and when the outskirts of the town was reached a delegation welcomed the Band. The boys then went swimming at a private beach. Proceeding into the town the boys were taken to the splendid Carpenter School building, which was their home during the tenure of the visit.

Meals were served in a restaurant and were wholesome, well cooked and fine in every way, and the boys were delighted by the appetizing and nicely served food.

During the afternoon the boys went on a tour of Lake Winnepesaukee via the fastest speedboat on the lake. To many, this was the high spot of the trip from the viewpoint of pure entertainment.

Being located only a few minutes from the lake it was natural that swimming

Contributions may be mailed to

AUGUSTUS P. LORING, JR., Treasurer  
82 Devonshire Street, Boston

should be of great popularity. And so it was. Most of the spare time was passed at the swimming beach.

On Sunday evening the boys played a characteristic concert, including the two compositions which were studied during the winter for presentation at the school music festivals. The entire concert was an unqualified success. Soloists on the program were William Parsons, cornet; Horace Fader, trombone; Charles Averill, Francis Sheldon and William Reagan, clarinetists.

On Monday morning the band led the parade, which commenced at ten o'clock. At its conclusion Governor Murphy of New Hampshire was told briefly of the school and the boys played a selection for him. The Governor then gave a patriotic address which was particularly effective.

"A Day at the Races" with the Marx Brothers was the movie attraction and to which the boys were invited. This comedy was greatly enjoyed.

At three o'clock a field drill was staged on the ball field. This was particularly effective and such was the effect upon the audience that the drill was repeated in the evening, this time in the town square.

A baseball game was played in the afternoon between the town team and our boys. The town team, as is the case with many small town nines, proved to be a fine team. Our boys failed to do much with the opposing pitcher in the early innings. The crowds in the stands begged and pleaded for hits and finally the boys came through with some well placed blows. The final score was 11-8 with Wolfeboro in front. The boys did remarkably well when consideration is given to the fact that the Wolfeboro team was organized of much older players, and that our team was limited in ability to

the boys who went on this band trip.

The square was jammed that evening at 7:30 when the boys repeated their exhibition drill. The work of the boys was enthusiastically received and the crowd voiced its appreciation.

The final concert and appearance of the band took place immediately following the drill. Here a program somewhat similar to that presented the previous night was given. In addition to some of the popular medleys some of the boys were brought up for individual presentation. Norman Chausse, tuba; William DeLorie, trombone; Myron Pratt, baritone; William Burns, cornet, and Warren Danner, perched high above the band with his cymbals all made a decided hit.

The Band was most capably handled in its street work, drills and so forth by our youthful drum major, Thomas Kenvin. This lad has worked hard in striving to master the rudiments of drum majoring, and is making decided progress.

A magnificent display of fireworks was given following the band concert, and all the boys had ideal seats. This was a pretty sight as Wolfeboro bay was crowded with boats from all over the lake and the many thousands of spectators were in holiday mood and attire.

The Band was treated most generously by the American Legion Post, and were in reality adopted by the town. Invitations to other activities were received but it seemed best to terminate the trip on the following day, July 6. The boys were given an hour or two for a farewell swim in Winnepesaukee and then began the tour back to Thompson's Island.

It was a splendid excursion for our boys. We feel proud of the excellent impression our Band made, and always makes. We are grateful to the Legionaires who conceived the excursion and so carefully worked out the plan in our behalf.

### Topics in Brief

Graduation, proved as usual, to be of great interest. The Class of 1937 was fortunate in having the Rev. Dana McLean Greeley, Pastor of the Arlington Street Church as the Speaker of the day. Fourteen boys were graduated. Academic honors went to William D. DeLorie, Valedictorian and William F. Reagan, Salutatorian.

Commodore Herbert M. Sears invited the School to a harbor sail on his beautiful yacht "Constellation" on June 9. This excursion is an annual occurrence, made possible because of the interest in the School of Commodore Sears and of his brother, Mr. Phillip S. Sears, who is a member of our Board of Managers.

Headmaster and Mrs. Meacham invited the Graduating Class to a dinner party on June 15. For some years now this event has taken place annually and is an eagerly anticipated part of our Graduation Week. The Junior Class, comprised of seven post-graduates had a reception at the Headmaster's home on the following evening.

Rev. William P. Green delivered the Baccalaureate Sermon to the Class of 1937 at the Philips Congregational Church on June 6. The service was quiet and dignified and we thank the pastor for his inspiring address. The school brass quartet assisted with musical selections

The summer vacation began on June fourth. From this date, through the next six weeks or so the boys will be home on vacations. These vacations range from a week to six weeks, depending entirely on the conduct, effort and class of the individual student.

President Arthur Adams invited the Graduating Class to make an excursion to the Benson Animal Farm in Nashua, New Hampshire. The trip was made by bus, and proved to be highly interesting. A similar excursion is provided each graduating class as the personal gift of President Adams. The boys anticipate the trip for months and it is without doubt the most enjoyable part of our graduation calendar to the members of the graduating class.

Last year a small group was selected to comprise the the Headmaster's List. These boys were given additional privileges and responsibilities. The plan was tried in the nature of an experiment and after a year of practice it is unanimously agreed that it is worthy of permanent installation. The members of the Headmaster's List for this year will be named soon, and will be selected according to age and previous conduct and effort achievements. This plan of giving the more responsible boys added privileges will prove a fine method of adjusting the students to accept more and greater responsibilities which they are certain to encounter as they proceed to college age.

The Recreational trip program which was inaugurated last year will be carried out even more fully this year. It is hoped that these excursions may be scheduled far enough in advance so that the boys' friends may participate in so far as possible. Many parents and relatives of the boys enjoyed some of the outings last year with the boys and this year it is hoped that even more may be able to take part.

The Alumni Association has supplied the Thompson's Island Boy Scout troop with six army tents, admirably suited to assist with our Scout work. We are grateful to the Alumni for the interest shown in this newly developed work.

**Calendar 90 Years Ago, June 1847**  
As Kept by the Superintendent

7 Messrs. Marsh and Nottage came to see the buildings at the request of J. D. Williams, Esq. George H. Dennis and John W. Smith had permission to visit their friends in the city. John Hennery was admitted.

12 James S. Kennedy, a former pupil, made us a visit. His manners and appearance were such as to reflect credit on himself and the family with whom he resides. Dennis and Smith returned from their visit.

14 Benj. A. Gould and Francis Bacon Esqrs., made a visit to the School and examined the wharf with a view of extending it.

24 The U. S. Surveyors took an observation from the roof of the house.

29 B. A. Gould, J. I. Bowditch, and R. W. Bayley, Esqrs., with a few of the friends of the boys visited the school in the steamer Mayflower. On account of the reception of the President of the United States by the authorities of Boston to-day but few of the boys' friends came to see them.

30 The boys were allowed this as a holiday and supplied with figs and pineapples.

**Calendar 50 Years Ago, June 1887**  
As Kept by the Superintendent

2 Rainy and foggy. Went to get meat, fish, potatoes, pictures, glass, paints, oils, etc.

4 Mr. J. R. Morse came to give band lessons.

7 The 2nd visiting day of the season. Managers Lyman, DeBlois, Bowditch, Eliot, and Parker present.

8 Let Alden Brooks and Clarence Sidney Hefler return to their father, John C. Hefler, City. They are two nice little boys.

29 Very warm indeed. Remained home. Mr. Chapman went to attend the exhibition of the Sherwin School of which my brothers Mr. Frank Appelton Morse is master, and Mr. John Ripley Morse is sub-master. Mr. C. enjoyed it much.

30 Mr. and Mrs. Merrill went to city in A. M. Let boy Lind go to see his brother at Church Home. This has been another month of repairs: on new floor in lower playroom, new floors in two closets, repairs on new and old barn, etc. Tradesmen have had to be boated over every night and morning and waited upon continually. It is very tiresome.

**June Meteorology**

Maximum Temperature 74° on the thirty-first.

Minimum Temperature 59° on the twelfth.

Mean Temperature for the month 66°.

Five clear days, nine partly cloudy, and sixteen cloudy.

**The Farm and Trades School Bank**

Statement, May 31, 1937

**RESOURCES**

Savings Bank . . . . .	\$1192.88
Cash . . . . .	49.17
	<hr/>
	\$1242.05

**LIABILITIES**

Boys' Deposits . . . . .	\$435.37
Trading Co. Deposits . . . . .	546.19
Cottage Row Deposits . . . . .	4.01
Photo Company Deposits . . . . .	48.97
Surplus . . . . .	207.51
	<hr/>
	\$1242.05

## The Alumni Association of The Farm and Trades School

HOWARD B. ELLIS, '98 President  
Dorchester, Mass.

WILLIS M. SMITH, '22, Vice-President  
Somerville, Mass.

HAROLD W. EDWARDS, '10, Treasurer  
Arlington, Mass.

MERTON P. ELLIS, '97, Secretary  
77 SUMMER STREET, BOSTON  
G. GEORGE LARSSON, '17, Historian  
Hyde Park, Mass.

### Alumni Field Day

"What is so rare as a day in June?" was the apt query of everyone who gathered at the Island on June 12 for the annual Alumni Field Day. The weather was ideal, one of those rare June days, which set the beauty of the Island off admirably. The committee had endeavored to reach all the graduates, and the attendance was gratifying.

Previous to the day, arrangements had been made to engage a boat for transportation, rather than bother the school with this work. The "Francis" was hired and made the trips throughout the day.

Although Graduation had preceded the Field Day, and most of the more accomplished band boys were away from the Island the Alumni were met by the remainder of the band, which certainly made a good impression with its music. The graduates, with their friends were escorted to the Adams House, where Headmaster and Mrs. Meacham held open house, so that all might see this fine new building. Most of the graduates recalled that their signatures were imbedded into the cornerstone of this building. All were happy that this splendid building had been possible of erection.

The group then assembled on the front lawn where short addresses were made by President Howard B. Ellis, Secretary Merton P. Ellis, and Will F. Davis, Chairman of the Committee. Headmaster Meacham spoke briefly and welcomed old and new alumni. Chairman Davis then spoke of the Scout troop on the Island and the Association promptly raised funds to provide the boys with six tents, a gift which is certainly appreciated by the Thompson's Island scouts.

Lunch was served on the North Lawn. Although nearly everyone had brought a generous box lunch, few could resist the temptation to have a serving of Thompson's Island beans, "best in the world" as one graduate remarked. Gallons of milk were served, also coffee.

The baseball game provided much merriment. The married men evidently had been too long out of practice, or else the single men were too professional with the bat and ball. After an hour or so the single men became so weary of running around the bases that they were finally put out. Much fun was in evidence, both by the contestants as well as the spectators.

The principal feature of the afternoon was the program of sports, games and races staged by the undergraduates. There were a wide variety including potato, crab, obstacle, three legged and other types of races. An impromptu amateur program was staged and some of the boys showed much talent. This included hill-billy music, baton twirling exhibition, tumbling and other entertaining features. The closing event was the pie race, without doubt the funniest feature of the day. Choice juicy blueberry pies were devoured without the use of hands or any kind of tools. The boys simply put their faces into the pies and went to work. A generous and ample list of prizes were awarded, and it is doubtful if any entry failed to receive a prize.

The presentation to Headmaster Meacham of funds to equip the scouts with tents was then made. Mr. Meacham thanked the group, and expressed his appreciation of the loyalty and devotion which the Alumni continually show to F. T. S.

Regretfully the group then began leaving for the wharf, and the journey home. All agreed that the day could not have been improved upon, and all voted much deserved thanks to the committee in charge, which had made the excellent preparations which insured the happy occasion.





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Vol. 41 No. 4 Printed at The Farm and Trades School, Boston, Mass. August 1937

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Entered November 3, 1903 at Boston, Mass., as Second Class matter, under Act of Congress, of July 6, 1874

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### Camping Out

One day last week our Scoutmaster got all of the tents out and inspected each one. After they had all been fixed and made ready they were given out to the members of the scout troop. Each tent was for the use of three boys and we all were permitted to have a tent with our friends. These tents are just the right size to enable three boys to sleep in them comfortably and we were all excited over having a tent to call our own.

That night at seven o'clock we each took our tent and set it up on the lawn by the laundry. Each group had their own to put up and as this was the first time many of us had ever erected one of them there were a number of mistakes made. We were all helped by those who knew how to put them up properly and it was only a short time before they were all up. The tents were put up an even eight paces from each other and they made a pretty picture all standing along the lawn with the ocean for a background.

At first we were to just put the tents up for practice but after we had them up we all wanted to sleep in them for the night. We formed a committee and

asked our Scoutmaster if we could sleep in them for the night. Finally it was decided that we might and we all went to the dormitory and took the necessary blankets and other things that would be necessary. In about ten minutes we were all prepared to turn in and as first call sounded we entered our tents and got ready for sleep. By the time taps sounded we were all half asleep.

About one o'clock we were all awakened by a yell from one of the tents and most of us went out to see what it was all about. Down the line of tents we were all surprised to see a break and no tent where we had seen one before we retired for the night. Another yell came and we could just make out where one of the tents had fallen down and it had fallen in such a way that those inside were having a hard job getting out from under it. We all pitched in and soon had it up again and all went to bed again to sleep until morning.

This was a fine experience for us and the next time we go out camping it will be much easier as we know now just what will be needed and all about the tents.

The scouts on the island are all very grateful to the Alumni of the school for their help and cooperation in getting these tents for our use.

Robert J. English

### Haying

Haying is considered one of the hardest jobs on the farm as it has to be done in the hot weather and right out in the sun. Usually the boys dislike this work very much, but this year for some unknown reason this work went off much better and easier than ever before and all of the farm boys are very proud of their work.

We have put in a little over one hundred tons of hay, and thanks to the tractor and other appliances for making it much easier for us to accomplish and in such a short time. This year we have the largest crop of hay that we have had for quite a number of years. One reason for this I think is the fact that with the tractor the loads are easily taken into the barn and the danger of their tipping over is very slight. When a team of horses are used the time taken in bringing the hay into the barn is much longer and even with the most careful care a few loads are always tipped over and much extra work is involved.

Haying was started about June 8, and as this is the time that the boys begin to go on vacation we were rather short of help at times. However we finished July 28, and this is considered good time when the haying weather has been taken into consideration.

After reading this short article you will agree with me in saying that we have had a very successful haying season.

Robert W. Woodman

### Making a Two Tube Radio

The first step in making a radio is the construction plan. When this is finished you know what the radio will look like when you have it finished and also the parts you are going to need.

After the plans are drawn you make the cabinet, then the work begins. On the front you have a tuning knob for

your condenser, a switch to turn the radio on and off with, and a volume control to make it possible to get just the right power for tuning in a station.

The parts needed for this type of radio are as follows; One tuning condenser, one volume control, a switch, two fixed condensers, a gridleak an audio transformer, a coil and two tubes with sockets. After these are all installed in the cabinet you connect the different parts. Then you are ready to connect the batteries and begin to test your set and make a few adjustments. You can usually get about ten stations on a radio of this size.

Allan Woodman

### Baseball News

Baseball is in full swing now and most of the boys are enjoying the games. The Club teams have played five games with Club A the victor four times and Club B once. These games have been very close and three of them have been decided by one run. It seems that Club A has been closing with a rush in the last few innings and have managed to score the winning run near the end of the game.

We have played a number of choose up games and also one with the faculty. All in all I think that we are having one of our better baseball years and that is the way we like them.

Weston O. Page

### Swimming

Not very long ago the boy's swimming float was fixed and put into the water. The boys spend much of their time while swimming on this float as there is a spring board on it and most of the boys like to dive. We also have two ladders attached to the wharf and this makes it very easy to get back on the wharf after diving from it.

Arthur M. Hammond

### Ancient History

Ancient History is the subject I like best of all. It seems to me interesting and exciting. In a way it is like a story book. It is so interesting to me that I would like very much to go back into the year 4000 B. C. to see just what life really was in those days. Their living conditions must have been a bit strange but it has all had a large part in the development of our present day standards. I should like very much to learn more concerning the Pharaohs in Egypt. These men were more than kings it seems and yet to really understand all about them it would take a lifetime of study and research. Without doubt the outstanding building feats were the building of the pyramids. It is estimated that it took 20,000 men 2000 years to build a pyramid. The greatest builder of these was Khufu who constructed the Great Pyramid at Gizeh. This is called "the greatest mass of masonry that has ever been put together by mortal man." Yes I can think of nothing better than to be permitted to study more about all of these ancient wonders of the world.

Charles H. Grant

### Kittens

There are a number of kittens on the Island and the boys have been having a great deal of fun with them. They have all received a name, and some of the names are: Garbo, Mike, Amos, Punch, and Blackie. They are all full of fun and are playing all the time. They all eat a great deal and they never seem to fill up. We all hope that they will stay small for a long time but each day they grow larger.

Lionel Willey

### My Vacation

One day I took a trip to Nantasket Beach on one of the boats that run from Boston to the beach. While there I went in swimming and also went on many of the amusements. I had a very fine time and I hope to go again next year on my vacation.

William Schlegel

### A Trombone Solo

Our bandmaster recently purchased a few trombone solos and so I decided to ask him if I might take one of them and learn to play it. The name of the piece that he gave me is, "Nellie Gray", with two variations. I have been practicing it for two weeks and hope to play it with the band soon.

Warren O. Filz

### The Jester's Comments

—Percie Berry invites all to witness his exhibition of butterfly diving. Johnny Simens is his latest pupil. Both are getting ready for the water carnival, to be held soon.

—Thomas C. Kenvin receives so much mail from admirers that he tears many letters to shreds with one reading. We wonder whether or not Tommy answers all his mail.

—Eugene Emerson attempting to pronounce early French vocabularies sounds like a broken record. He who laughs last laughs best, though, and the fact is that Eugene has eclipsed many of his classmates in this subject, even though his attempts at French, as it should be spoken, provoke much fun.

—We congratulate Tom D'Intinosanto who, it seems is about to wrestle the beginners' swimming championship from Dave Moseley and Red Morton.

—"Today I am a man," said Johnny Dunn, as he left the laundry to help on the farm. Well, maybe!

# Thompson's Island Beacon

Published Monthly by

## THE FARM AND TRADES SCHOOL

Thompson's Island, Boston Harbor

A PRIVATE SCHOOL FOR BOYS OF LIMITED  
MEANS, SUPPORTED BY ENDOWMENTS.  
TUITION FEES AND SUBSCRIPTIONS.

WILLIAM D. DELORIE - - - - - *Editor*

ROBERT ENGLISH - - - - - *Assoc. Editor*

Vol. 41 No. 4 August 1937

Subscription Price - - - - - One Dollar Per Year

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AUGUSTUS P. LORING, JR., Treasurer  
82 Devonshire Street, Boston

We take considerable pride in relating certain facts concerning the addition of the third year of High School work which we added to our course of study a year ago.

This change, of course, necessitated considerable thought and planning. It was a major change destined for great success or a very mediocre failure. It was difficult to foresee just what the results would be.

The addition to our course of this third year of high school work was made because more and more of our boys were demanding further education. Our graduating class averages about twelve to fourteen members and it has been a considerable problem for the boys to continue school.

We have found that about half of each of our graduating classes wish to remain here for the post-graduate work. To make this possible the curriculum has been rearranged. The boys who have developed strong liking for agriculture or some trade are given additional opportunity to specialize in these fields. Those definitely preparing for college are guided towards this end.

Definitely, we are proud to state that this addition to our course of study has been a decided success. Time will prove, we feel, the wisdom of our making this change. Everyone will agree, without qualifications of any kind, that this opportunity will prove of great benefit to our graduating class members, who will be thus enabled to go on with further education which would not otherwise be possible.

### Topics in Brief

The third Friends' Day of the season took place on July 30. The visitors arrived on a steamer of the Nantasket Boston Steamboat Company shortly after two o'clock, leaving at about five o'clock. These days are of course very happy ones for the boys.

Tennis has grown to tremendous popularity with the boys during the last five or six years. It was in 1933 that Ernest B. Walston, Principal of the School, inaugurated the policy of having annual tennis tournaments. These have continued with great enthusiasm year after year. We have two meets, one for the boys fourteen years of age and younger and another for the older boys. More than fifty boys are participating this year, and the tournaments are well started and providing a great deal of interest.

The American Red Cross series of Life Saving and First Aid lessons are being taught the boys by Raymond Thomas '26. Mr. Thomas passed the Senior Life Saving tests some years ago and his further study culminated with an intensive course of instruction at the Red Cross Aquatic Camp last month. He is now a qualified examiner and instructor in this subject. Most of the boys are taking this course and at its conclusion a pageant will be presented, staged entirely in the water.

This has been a busy month for our farm, and much has been accomplished. Haying has taken much of the time, and ideal weather prevailed so that we completed the haying on July 24, much sooner than other New England farms. More than 100 tons of hay has been taken into the barn. Our gardens have supplied us with peas, string beans, spinach, cucumbers and summer squash with other vegetables in ample quantities.

We thank the Granite State News of Wolfeboro, N. H. for its fine articles pertaining to the recent trip of our band to Wolfeboro. Extra copies of the paper were sent so that the boys in the band might have them for their scrapbooks.

The School year commenced on July 13. The teaching staff remains the same with the exception of our principal, Ernest B. Walston, who is on a year's leave of absence doing graduate work at Harvard University. Mr. George Ronka will act as principal for this year, and Mrs. Ronka has been engaged to take Mr. Walston's place. With few exceptions, all of the boys were promoted, and the class work is now progressing smoothly and very efficiently.

The Steamer Pilgrim has been sold, and was floated from her cradle on our beach on July 3. She has since been painted and her new berth is at the South Boston Yacht Club.

Our visitors are always impressed with the various flower gardens which add so much to the beauty of the Island. Most interesting, probably, is the section devoted to the individual gardens cared for by the boys. Each of the boys cultivate, plant and care for a small plot in which the entire project is dependent upon the initiative shown by the boys. A little later we shall print a list of those earning prizes for excellence in flower gardening.

During the summer informal parties and games add to the enjoyment of our school life. Picnics on the beach are held often, and are generally followed by a swimming party. Occasionally baseball games are played in the evening by teams informally chosen. On July 28 one of these games was played between a boys' team and faculty team, and resulted in an 8-7 victory for the latter.

### Algebra

The first subject that we have in school in the morning is Algebra which starts at 7:30 and ends at 8:15. This is my favorite subject and is taught by Mr. Ronka one of our teachers. Thus far I am doing fairly well in the subject and I hope to continue doing as well or even better, in order that I may have a chance to win the ten dollar prize which is given at the end of the year to the boy with the highest Algebra average. This money is given by Manager Charles P. Curtis who takes a great deal of interest in mathematics himself and who wants the boys to become good mathematicians. The reason I find Algebra quite easy is because our teacher explains it to us very slowly and carefully then if we don't understand it he repeats it again very slowly and clearly until it is understood by everyone in the class. I think that any boy that listens and pays good attention will find that learning Algebra is quite easy.

Fredrick W. Russell

### Going to School

I started to go to the Farm and Trades School this year. I study Arithmetic, English, History, Geography, Nature Study and Spelling. I think that I shall like to go to school here very much.

Darwin C. Baird

### The Sewing Room

As my first work on the Island I was sent to the Sewing Room and I like this work very much. The work here is very interesting and I am kept busy repairing all kinds of clothes.

The jobs I do most of all are, to sew on buttons, fold mended clothes and take them to the Clothing Room where they are sorted and put in the boys numbers as they are needed.

James St. Coeur

### Life Saving

During the latter part of June Mr. Thomas our Supervisor went to a camp to get his examiners license for Life Saving. Shortly after he returned he started two Life Saving Classes. One of these classes is composed of the boys who have already taken Life Saving but are renewing it. The other class is made up of the boys who are taking this course for the first time.

In Life Saving there are many holds and carries which must be learned. Some of these may never be used in rescue work but they must be learned in case of emergency. The main thing to remember when going after a victim is to keep your eyes on the person all the time and to be very careful in your approach that they do not have a chance to get hold of you.

At the end of the classes Mr. Thomas hopes to hold a water carnival and all the boys are very excited about it as this is our first chance to be in any thing of this kind.

George F. Connors

### A New Job

Recently I was given the position of Clothing Room boy. My job is to handle all the clothes that come in and go out of the clothing room. I also fit each boy in the school twice a week with clean clothes. I am also in charge of the locker room and this means that I have to open it after each meal so the boys may get things from their lockers that they want. I also must see that the boys are out of the room in time for all lineups. At present I am rather busy getting the suitcases all tagged and put into the proper place for their storage.

Stephen Vinal

Calendar 50 Years Ago, July 1887

As Kept by the Superintendent

4. We had the usual Independence pow-wow to-day and a very fine display of fireworks in the evening. Mr. Willie Morse was with us.

21. Visiting Day. Mr. and Mrs. Lyman, Managers G. L. DeBlois, Dexter and Grew were present.

29. Very rainy in A.M. Mr. Merrill went away in P.M. Mr. Brown went over. Mr. Mitchell went over. Miss Carrie Hammond commenced work as chamber girl. Mr. Allard cut boys' hair.

27. Went for box of blueberries for boys. This has been just as busy a month as any that preceded it. Plenty of workmen and repairs.

Calendar 90 Years Ago, July 1847

As Kept by the Superintendent

4. William W. Fowler came to pass Independence with us.

5. The boys of the school with Roskell and Fowler, two former pupils, made an excursion to a grove in Quincy, where they made themselves happy and amused themselves until the afternoon, when they returned to the Island where a good dinner was provided for them. Suitable refreshments were furnished them in the grove. William H. Frain another pupil was at the house on our return and on the next day George McDuff called to see us. He was a member of the school about five years since and is now learning a trade in Haverhill.

11. The religious services were conducted by Moses Grant, Esq.

18. B. A. Gould, Esq. and Rev. Mr. Carswell of Boston visited, the latter of whom addressed the School. George Lane was admitted.

25. Mr. Ayer of Harvard University spoke to the boys.

27. Jesse Bird, Esq. visited.

July Meteorology

Maximum Temperature 93° on the twenty-fourth.

Minimum Temperature 62° on the thirteenth.

Mean Temperature for the month 69°.

Eighteen clear days, six partly cloudy and seven cloudy.

The Farm and Trades School Bank

Statement, July 31, 1937

RESOURCES

Savings Bank . . . . .	\$1192.88
Cash . . . . .	18.29
	<hr/>
	\$1211.17

LIABILITIES

Boys' Deposits . . . . .	\$427.42
Trading Co. Deposits . . . . .	536.52
Cottage Row Deposits . . . . .	4.01
Photo Company Deposits . . . . .	36.71
Surplus . . . . .	206.51
	<hr/>
	\$1211.17

The Gardens

Many of the boys have the opportunity of being able to grow and take care of a garden of their own. There are many different varieties of flowers used for boarders. Many of the boys have firebush for their border, while others use marigolds. When all the gardens are in bloom, they are very pretty with the many varied colors. Most of the boys water and cultivate their gardens before breakfast and also in the evening. Later in the year many prizes are awarded to the boys who have the best designed and best cared for gardens. When the boys receive the money for these prizes, they deposit it in the bank.

Richard Martin

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Hyde Park, Mass.

WILLIAM E. BROWN, '89 has written from Philadelphia. Most of his life has been spent on the sea. His shore leave in Boston has been very limited. Although he has passed by the Island numerous times he has not been able to visit us. He writes of hearing the band play as he came up the harbor.

CLARENCE H. COLBURN, '21 after having graduated from Alton N. H. high school and later the University of New Hampshire where he specialized in Agriculture, has been operating a farm at Alton for some years. He was an interested spectator at Wolfeboro when the band made its excursion there last month.

ALBERT A. PETERSON, '21 has been recently appointed an umpire in a Boston twilight baseball league. He umpires a game each evening and enjoys this work.

ROBERT W. MITCHELL, '32 has accepted a position with a very prominent Chicago television corporation, and will shortly leave for that city. For some years this graduate has been employed by the Norwood Press. He used his salary to further his education and has completed a number of advanced courses in radio-television so satisfactorily that this fine position was offered him. We extend our congratulations.

HORACE A. TAYLOR, '30 has recently begun work at Saco, Maine where he is employed on dam construction work.

RUSSELL G. JONES, '37 went to work shortly after graduation from here last June at Sutton, Mass., where he is employed on a farm.

KENNETH M. CASWELL, '33 writes of his interesting experiences at the Massachusetts Army Reservation on Cape Cod, where he is on a tour of camp duty with the 101st Medical Regiment. Many of our graduates enjoy the touch of military life which the National Guard brings, and are enlisted with the various regiments.

FRANCIS D. MCAULIFFE, '36 is working for the summer at 11 Storer St. Kennebunk, Maine.

JACK HOBSON, '27 is recovering from a serious operation. His address is 31 Power Street, Norton, Mass. It would be fine if a few of his classmates would write him, for a few cheerful letters would aid him greatly on the road back to health.

JOHN A. PALEY, '29 is employed by the Cundy-Bettoney Company, Boston. This is a nationally known company manufacturing musical instruments. This graduate is doing carpentry work in the plant.

FREDRICK S. VERY, '33 is employed by the Buck Printing Company, and has held this position for the past year. He enjoys his work, and is making a decided progress. He is one of the leaders in young people's work at the Ruggles Street Baptist Church.

GEORGE GERARD, '86 of Stoughton, advertising photographer, visited the school recently and took additional pictures for his Thompson's Island collection. He has a fine album of F. T. S. pictures, and visits us each summer to take photographs which will add interest to his collection.

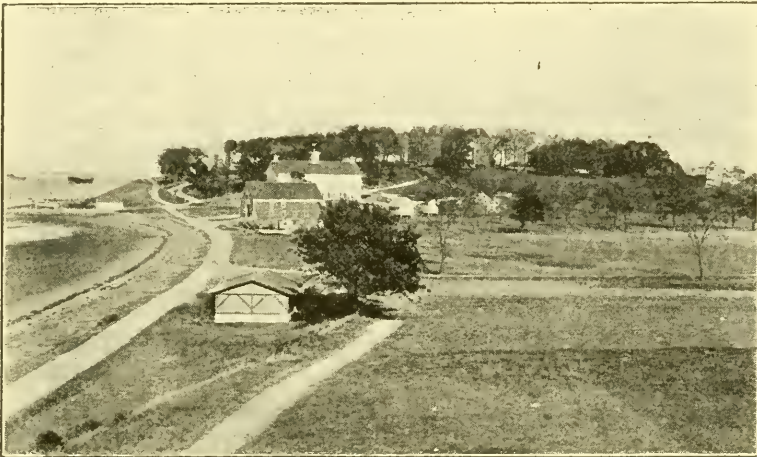




THOMPSON'S ISLAND  
**BEACON**

Vol. 41 No. 5 Printed at The Farm and Trades School, Boston, Mass. Sept. 1937

Entered November 3, 1903 at Boston, Mass., as Second Class matter, under Act of Congress, of July 6, 1874



View From Observatory Hill

Many of our readers have not had the opportunity to visit our School, and this picture gives an excellent conception of the size of the Island. About a third of the 157 acres which comprise Thompson's Island are shown. The shore line pictured is the West beach.

The buildings in the illustrations are mainly farm structures, although the Main Building with its stately Bulfinch columns

may be seen on Mansion Hill. Most of the buildings are hidden in the foliage of the numerous groves of trees which dot the Island.

The spaciousness of our Island gives us opportunity to develop many projects which would be impossible in less space. Every bit of our Island campus is devoted to a worth-while educational project designed to give our boys the best training possible.

### 2nd and 3rd Team Baseball Games

After the first team games were played the second and third team games started. The boys were glad that the opportunity to play these games had come. The second team played its first game Tuesday August 17, in the evening. This was a hard fought contest in which Club B won by the score of 15-8.

The third teams first game was played Thursday August 19, in the evening. This was a very closely contested game which found Club A winning by a late rally.

The second game played by the second teams was played on Saturday August 21 in the afternoon. This game was a complete failure as far as Club B was concerned. We could not seem to get started and the final score was Club A 25 and Club B 0. We have been practicing hard for the next game and we hope the Club A pitchers won't be as good as they were the last game.

A great deal of interest is shown in these games and a number of the boys on these teams will be on the first teams next year. The batters seem to be ahead of the pitchers and the fielding is very bad at times but with practice we expect to have some excellent averages at the end of our season.

Robert J. English

### Power House Notes

We have been very busy repairing all month and now have things running well again. The pumps have all been packed and are now in first class order. New faucets have been installed where needed and now little if any water is lost. The coal in the bunker has lasted well this summer and is of a good grade. As a result the ash pile has not increased very rapidly.

Thomas D'Intinosanto

### School

I have been going to school for nine years now and each year I seem to like it better. Before I came to the Farm and Trades School I attended grammar school in Hanover, Massachusetts. When I graduated from there I came here. I have been at this school for three years now and hope to be here three more years.

I like the school life here and also the fine home that it makes. Here I know that everything possible is being done for me and the folks here are all fine. The boys are lots of fun to play with and I would not be as happy anywhere else as I am here.

Maxwell M. Clark

### Playing Ball-Tag

Yesterday as I went up the gym stairs I heard boys laughing and shouting. Suddenly I heard a bang. I looked up and saw that it was a screen that had fallen on the floor. Then a ball whizzed over my head. A boy came over and told me I would be it if I wanted to play tag with them. I said that I would like to play very much and I had to stand in a circle and try and hit the boys as they ran around the gym hiding anywhere they could. After a very trying time I managed to hit someone else and then I had a chance to try and dodge the ball. Then after a time I was it again but just then another boy came up and he was it instead of me. We played this game most of the afternoon and it was a great deal of fun.

Robert A. MacSwain

### Fall

It is becoming very obvious that fall is near as the leaves on the trees are beginning to turn and fall to the ground. It is always very pretty in the fall and I like this the best of any season of the year. The leaves and flowers are all turning

many different colors and there are a number of different shades of the same color and the contrasts are better than any man can make I think. Fall is just the opposite to the spring, as then all of the plants are coming up but in the fall they are starting to rest for the springtime. When fall comes winter can't be far behind and so you had better be getting all ready for old man winter with his chilling winds and snow.

Eugene S. Emerson

### Hi-Li

A number of the boys have a ball tied to a paddle with an elastic string. The object of this game is to see how many times you can have the ball hit the paddle without a miss. The boys are all interested in this game and a number of them have become quite proficient in the game. The record to date is 500 times without a miss. All the boys are trying to better this mark and we hope to raise it to 1000.

Warren A. Danner

### A Book I Have Read

I have finished reading a book which I borrowed from the Boston Public Library and the title of this book is "Beneath the Shadows of the Skyscrapers" which gives one the impression that the scene is laid in a large city, and this is true.

The story tells of a brother and sister, who with their mother, are reduced to poverty by the death of their father. A gruff old lawyer proves his friendship by arranging for them to have rooms, even though these living accommodations were in the slums. The children soon become fast friends with an Italian family next door. They soon formed a club and helped capture a gang of smugglers.

The book also gives a good description of life in the slums.

Murdock C. Moore

### Hill Dill

This is a game that all the boys like to play as the cool weather comes. This is a game that has a number of the same plays that football has. To start the game the players all race to a given line and the one that gets there last is it. He has to catch the boys as they run from one end of the field to the other. As the boys are caught they have to help catch the others. As soon as everyone is caught the game is over.

Gerald J. Connor

### Our Horses

Horses are not so important to our farm since we had an automobile and a tractor. Yet there is work which horses can do better than any of the machines.

We have three horses, and a pony. They are named Frank, Tom and Ned. Ned is a western animal. The pony's name is Blackie. The boys all like to work with horses.

Stanley C. Morton

### Scouting

I belong to Troop 1, Thompson's Island, B. S. A. What I like most about Scouting is that you are given an opportunity to learn about so many interesting things. We learn how to tie many kinds of knots, to build several different kinds of fires out-of-doors, how to set up tents, and nature study. I am working hard to pass my different tests so I will be able to do advanced Merit Badge work. I am very interested in drawing, and I am going to try to earn a Merit Badge in this subject. Then I am going to study for one on Insect Life. My next goal will be a Merit Badge on Astronomy.

William N. Dodge

# Thompson's Island Beacon

Published Monthly by

## THE FARM AND TRADES SCHOOL

Thompson's Island, Boston Harbor

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WILLIAM D. DELORIE - - - - - *Editor*

ROBERT ENGLISH - - - - - *Assoc. Editor*

Vol. 41 No. 5 September 1937

Subscription Price - - - One Dollar Per Year

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### A Thought

In our School Song there appears in the second stanza a line upon which volumes could be written, and the truth of which has been proved countless times much to our great satisfaction. This line, "For we have been prepared in many ways to face the world," has been sung by our boys with all the enthusiasm of youth and with the realization that the daily training they are receiving really prepares them to "Face the world". Truly the author, inspired by the valuable preparation which our boys receive for a full life, had little difficulty in visioning the true worth of an F. T. S. training.

Our courses in agriculture and trades, together with the wide number of useful occupations in which the pupils participate are organized solely with the view of giving the boys a comprehensive and practical knowledge,—a full education the value of which is proved day after day by our Alumni. Academically, our graduates are given full credit by other secondary schools and colleges and in many cases are considered superior because of the practical training they have received.

How well The Farm and Trades School has prepared its boys "in many ways to face the world" may best be shown by the records of its graduates. Our Alumni are leaders in the fields of theology, business, agriculture, literature, advertising, journalism, music, law, radio, engineering, public service, chemistry and other professions and vocations.

In truth our graduates achieve such distinctive successes that we take justifiable pride in reporting them.

### Topics in Brief

The Headmaster's List has been announced, and is composed of seventeen boys. The Junior Class has six members on the list, the Sophomore Class has seven, the Freshman Class three, and the Eighth Grade one. The complete list of the boys so honored follows:

#### Junior Class

Charles Francis Averill  
William Daniel DeLorie  
Leonard Markley  
Arthur Elbridge Mathieu  
William Francis Reagan  
John Christian Simens

#### Sophomore Class

Raymond Marland Bean  
Eliot Bernard  
David William Kenvin  
Thomas Charles Kenvin  
Myron Alvin Pratt  
Weston Osgood Page  
Eugene Proctor

#### Freshman Class

William Joseph Bevans  
Howard Merrill Colpitts  
Murdock Clayton Moore

#### Eighth Grade

Raymond Beedle Harrington

The Crosby baseball competition has come to its conclusion, with Club A winning the silver shield awarded annually by Manager S. V. R. Crosby. This team was captained by Weston O. Page and won five of the seven games played. Several of the games were of much interest. The other teams are still playing their series and the complete schedule will not be completed until Labor Day.

We are installing a tank for fuel oil on the north lawn. It will be underground and oil will be pumped to it from the wharf. Oil used in our kitchen range and bakery oven will flow from the tank

by gravity. The tank weighs 5000 pounds, is 18 feet long with a seven foot diameter. It will hold 5000 gallons. It was transported to the Island on our freight barge.

Rather an unusual occurrence took place on August 12, the day when we had scheduled the Fourth Friend's Day of this season. On the evening preceding this date, a strike tied up the sailing schedule of the Nantasket-Boston Steamboat Company, preventing the steamer from bringing the boys' friends to the Island. Headmaster Meacham went to Rowe's Wharf and many of the boys' friends who had arrived there went to City Point where another boat had been engaged to transport them to the Island. Of course many of those who were planning to attend heard the news broadcasts regarding the strike and did not go to Rowe's Wharf, which is the Boston dock of the steamer line. The labor difficulties have been settled, and we hope that the season's schedule of visiting days will not be again disrupted.

The course in Life Saving and First Aid has been completed. Most of the boys participated and satisfactorily passed the American Red Cross requirements. The tests included both Senior and Junior Life Saving requirements, as well as the various swimmers' tests.

Our weekly assemblies commenced with the beginning of the summer term, and some fine programs have been presented. One of the classes gave the story of Shakespeare's life and told of the methods used in staging plays during that era. Another class dramatized the life of Christopher Columbus. Another program was based upon famous episodes in English Literature.

Work has begun on the changing of our heating system from high pressure to low pressure. This will be a big job, but when completed will be a distinct advantage in many ways. The entire job is being done by contract with a Boston concern.

### Calendar 50 Years Ago, August 1887

As Kept by the Superintendent

2. Monthly Report. Number of boys in school ninety-four. Discharged during July Wm. Byrnes and Horatio Alphonus Colby.

8. Mr. Merrill took charge of boys on turnip, cabbage pieces at south end today.

11. The carpenters who have been here steadily for many weeks past left today for good, and we are glad. The painters and roofers are still here.

12. Mr. John R. Morse came to drill the band.

13. Sent Harold Brenton to Exeter to visit his mother.

16. Mr. Merrill went to city to meet the managers. Boy came. Roy Robinson admitted. Mr. J. R. Morse came to drill the band.

19. Visiting day. Manager Grew present. The boys sang "Sweeping Through the Gate" with fine effect and with band accompaniment. They also had a song with organ played by Mr. Merrill, very good.

27. The 60th anniversary of Mr. Morse's birth. Several friends visited us and we had a fine time all around.

29. A girl came to instruct on our new Singer sewing machine.

30. Fine day. Went up with the steamer for Messrs. Bowditch and Grew who took lunch and returned to city again at 1:45. Still the repairs go on. Painters and roofers still at work.

### Calendar 90 Years Ago, August 1847

As Kept by the Superintendent

1. John Bull, Esq. of Salem, accompanied by his son, came and addressed the school.

2. Mr. Holmes of Plymouth came to see his brother.

Hon. Theodore Lyman made a visit to the school.

Sent the wool, the produce of the present year, to Royal H. Claffin to be manufactured into cloth for the boys' use.

10. Messrs. Grant, Gould and Bayley with the friends of the boys visited the school in the steamboat. Charles H. Stearns returned home with his grandmother to Roxbury. Admitted Wm. J. Moulton and Charles Chadwick. Edward E. Souther visited his friends in Boston.

14. Caleb Bates, Esq., of Hingham, brought his annual present of whortleberries to the family and boys and on Sunday, the 15th, addressed the school.

16. Mary Duffy was temporarily employed in making bedding for the new bunks.

19. Commenced digging a cellar at the hog house.

20. B. A. Gould and Francis Bacon, Esqrs., visited the school.

John Couch Esq., Lady, and Mrs. Yale from Connecticut made us a visit.

Mr. S. E. Brackett with Mr. Calendar made us a visit and addressed the boys.

### August Meteorology

Maximum Temperature 94° on the fourteenth.

Minimum Temperature 62° on the first.

Mean Temperature for the month 71°.

Fourteen clear days, eight partly cloudy and eleven cloudy.

### Repairing Band Music

Recently we have gone over two sets of the band books and have repaired where necessary and also where the music has been torn beyond repair new music has been inserted. This must be done each year as the books are used a great deal both for individual practice and band rehearsals. We have three sets of march books and three sets of overture books. These books are played through at least once each year and in addition we use a large amount of music which is placed in folios for different concerts. It is quite a job to keep all of this music in repair and a great deal of time is involved doing this work. We have a band librarian who is responsible for the music and it is his job to have all the music that will be needed in the band hall for every practice session and for each concert.

William D. DeLorie

### Weather

During the past month the weather has been very changeable and quite difficult to forecast. The first few days of the month were very hot and from this hot spell we were immediately given a rather cold spell. The cooler weather was welcome except that it was also a wet spell and very raw and uncomfortable a large percentage of the time. A great deal of rain has fallen and it has done little good as far as the crops are concerned as we got it just a little too late in the season. We are now expecting a change in weather most any day now and it will be nice to be able to go swimming again. This has been quite the most changeable month this summer I think.

Eugene Proctor

### When I Was Seasick

My most painful recollection is the harbor cruise we had last summer. On

that trip I got very seasick. There were long swells which made my head whirl like a top. It seemed as though I never would survive long enough to get on good earth again. The other boys laughed and had a good time, but I certainly didn't. After being in this awful condition for hours and hours, it seemed to me, the cruise was over and we were tied up at our wharf. The boys tell me that most everyone gets seasick once, and since then I have been on several other trips without having anything but an enjoyable time.

Leonard I. Scott

### A Comet

One night not long ago the boys were looking up at the sky hunting for the comet which the newspapers had printed so many articles about. All of a sudden one of the boys said he could see it; we gathered around him and asked him to show us where it was. It was located just above the second star in the big dipper. After much discussion we were finally convinced. We were glad to see it, for it is a very rare sight.

Winthrop Davidson

### Pilgrim III

The Pilgrim III has recently had her engine rewired with a special wire made for marine engines. This wiring has been a big help and the engine has caused little trouble since having this done.

The decks have had a new coat of paint and the hull has been scrubbed each day. The windows are washed with fresh water before each trip.

New lines have been cut and bumpers have been made from the old lines. These new lines are good to handle and we are glad that we have them now so that they will be well broken in before the cold weather comes. Several logs have been towed from south end for a new float.

Leonard Markley

## The Alumni Association of The Farm and Trades School

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We have received a fine letter from JOHN P. DAVIS '36. During his vacation from school he is working at the Weirs, New Hampshire. With his earnings he has purchased a clarinet and is actively engaged in amateur musical work. Very shortly he will return to his studies at Laconia High School.

FRANKLIN M. PIERCE '35, has completed his high school work at Melrose, Massachusetts. He has had a busy time in school, being engaged in as much extra-curricular work as possible. His plans for the fall are uncertain. He lives at 71 W. Wyoming Avenue, Melrose.

JOHN R. MACDONALD '35, is another of our high school graduates who received his diploma this year. He was busily engaged in all the activities which Weston High School offered. During his Senior year he had the leading part in "The Mikado", the music department's annual operetta. Known for his ability in athletics, for he was a member of every varsity team, he decided to specialize in distance running last spring and finished well in the Amateur Athletic Association's recent ten mile race.

CHESTER P. LINDGREN '28 continues his work with a prominent Boston food concern, where he has been employed for about eight years. He visited us on the Alumni Field Day and had a happy time. He regrets his work keeps him from more frequent visits.

HERBERT A. ROKES, '34 is doing carpentry work in Framingham Mass. His

address is Edgell Rd., General Delivery, Framingham.

RICHARD HANSON, '21, has been a member of the First Corps Cadet band for many years. He enjoys this touch of army life, and particularly the summer camp period. His address is 11 Rogers Avenue, Somerville.

RUSSELL G. BARTHOLOMEW, '36, is assisting his parents on their poultry farm at East Lempster, N. H. Mail addressed to that town will reach him.

CARL A. CARLSON, '28, is working at the Fore River Shipyard. Occasionally he has idle periods of a week or two and this time he devotes to the painting of buildings. He certainly keeps busy and enjoys it. His address is 63 Euston Road, Brighton, Mass.

THEODORE L. VITTY, '28, is employed by a Boston insurance concern. He has built himself a private business in this line, devoting his spare time to study and practice of insurance methods. His home address is 28 Sweetster Street, Wakefield, Mass.

LEWIS C. GOODWIN, '36, is working in Wellesley. This fall he is to attend high school. His home address is 90 Lewis Street, Needham, Mass.

JAMES T. RITCHIE, '36, and NORMAN H. CHAUSSE, '36, were visitors at the school on a recent Friends' Day. Both have spent an excellent summer vacation according to their reports.





Vol. 41 No. 6 Printed at The Farm and Trades School, Boston, Mass. Oct. 1937

Entered November 3, 1903 at Boston, Mass., as Second Class matter, under Act of Congress, of July 6, 1874

### At Camp

Our Boy Scout troop went over to Camp Bowditch recently. We camped out for nearly a week. We returned to the house each morning to do our regular chores.

We have five patrols and each patrol had its own camp site. Each scout had certain responsible jobs to do and his patrol leader acted as guide or leader. Each camp site was nicely raked and cleaned each day. Different members of the troop took turns in keeping the area around the Council Fire neat and tidy.

Every afternoon a check was made to see that we had all necessary things. The troop got these things and we began our evening program shortly after supper. Every night, at sunset, the bugler played "Retreat" and we stood at attention as the flag was lowered. Then we played games, went swimming and did other stunts until about 8:15.

At this hour we gathered at the Council Fire site. Murdock Moore, leader of the Eagle Patrol was the fire-lighter and soon the Council Fire was burning merrily. Council Fires are always lighted with ceremony. Around the fire we told

stories, sang and had a grand time. Most always we had refreshments. The council fire closed a little after nine o'clock and we sang "Taps" and went to our tents.

When all were in their tents and all was quiet the bugler played Taps, and all went to sleep.

We all had a grand time.

William L. Schlegel

### Mal Cameron's Visit

Mal Cameron is a graduate of F.T.S. and returns every fall to give a show. After being introduced Mr. Cameron was welcomed gladly. He began by doing some magic tricks. Then some more involved magical stunts were presented. He did such things as taking a rabbit out of a hat, doing a trick according to directions from a phonograph record and producing a magic soda fountain from which all kinds of pop was made.

The last part of his program was given over to the showing of moving pictures which he took during the past year. To close he showed a reel of Alumni Field Day stunts and races taken last June as the boys did them.

Everyone was glad to see Mr Cameron's show.

Maxwell M. Clark

### Honor Roll—Summer Term

Junior Class: Charles F. Averill, 89.8; William F. Reagan, 87.7.

Sophomore Class: Weston O. Page, 94.4; Warren O. Filz, 94.0.

Freshman Class: James R. Langton, 88.8; Wesley C. Gustafson, 87.3.

Eighth Grade: Warren A. Danner, 86.9; Winthrop Davidson, 86.3; Richard J. Nelson, 86.3.

Seventh Grade: William L. Schlegel, 90.9; John V. Johanson, 84.8.

Sixth Grade: James F. St. Coeur, 93.0.

The following boys have received a mark of 90 or over in scholastic effort for the past term:

Junior Class: Charles F. Averill; William D. DeLorie.

Sophomore Class: Warren O. Filz; Thomas C. Kenvin; George A. Krebs; Weston O. Page; Eugene Proctor.

Freshman Class: William J. Bevans; Wesley C. Gustafson; James R. Langton; Leonard I. Scott.

Eighth Grade: Warren A. Danner; Winthrop Davidson; Henry S. Dixon; Charles A. Pecce; Robert G. Ryerson.

Sixth Grade: James F. St. Coeur.

### My Avocation

My avocation is to be a great speed swimmer, and to be proficient enough to become a member of an Olympic team. Ever since I can remember I have liked swimming and water sports. My mother gave me my first lessons when I was five years old. She taught me how to use my arms and legs, how to breathe and other necessary swimming requirements. I learned very much in Lexington a few years ago, when a swimming pool was erected there.

My time now for the twenty-five straight-way swim is twenty seconds.

This is slow compared with champion swimmers. I have a long way to go to be a speed swimmer, but I am going to keep trying.

George F. Connors

### Printing

The seventh grade, which consists of Gerald Connor, Donald Griswold, David Mosely, John Johanson, William Schlegel, Ralph Pratt, and myself have begun to take Printing.

The first thing we had was to learn what the following were, and how they were used; Composing stick, pica, lead, news case, em-space, line gauge, type and the nicks.

We are now learning where the letters are located in the type case.

Linwood L. Meacham

### First Aid Class

The First Aid Class, of which I am a member, is getting along fine. It started three weeks ago, and we have two lessons a week. When we first come into class we have a test on the previous lesson. A new lesson is given us after each test. The last twenty minutes are devoted to bandaging and we learn a few new ones each lesson.

I took this course because I am a Boy Scout, and it is important for every Scout to know First Aid. There are Merit Badges awarded for excellence in this subject.

Leonard I. Scott

### Organizing for Football

Because of the longer football schedule for the School team Mr. Meacham decided to alter somewhat our intra-mural football program. To do this he first asked the opinions and ideas of the boys' supervisors.

Then he announced the change, which excluded the varsity from the intra-mural program. The squad consists of twenty-two and they play a six game schedule.

The other boys then met in the Assembly Hall and the change was explained and questions answered. Then the boys chose three of the best players for captains of the intra-mural teams. These captains then proceeded to select their teams. Each team has eighteen players. After the teams were chosen each group selected its name. They are the All-Stars, Shamrocks and Crusaders. A member of the varsity squad is coach and sponsor for each of these teams.

Manager S. V. R. Crosby gives the player judged the best in each position a trophy; he also gives a silver shield to the championship team. The shield has the names of the players on the team inscribed upon it. Naturally we are very proud of these athletic trophies.

The squads of the three teams are as follows:

#### ALL-STARS

William D. DeLorie—Coach  
 Frederick W. Russell, Captain  
 Richard A. Martin  
 Francis S. Sheldon  
 Charles H. Grant  
 Arthur A. Roulston  
 William J. Bevans  
 Winthrop Davidson  
 Donald F. Griswold  
 Russell L. Letson, Jr.  
 Axel R. Hallberg  
 Edgar R. Aldrich  
 Raymond L. Perry  
 Eugene S. Emerson  
 Calvin L. Wilder  
 William B. Pratt  
 Linwood L. Meacham  
 Franklyn S. Harris  
 Dennis C. Reardon

#### SHAMROCKS

Weston O. Page—Coach

George F. Connors, Captain  
 Warren M. Linnell  
 Warren A. Danner  
 Karl G. Hulten  
 George R. Davis  
 Robert J. English  
 Richard G. Bemis  
 Robert A. MacSwain  
 Wesley C. Gustafson  
 George W. Jefferson  
 John H. Bonsey  
 Murdock C. Moore  
 James F. St. Coeur  
 John V. Johanson  
 William F. Etheridge  
 William H. Britton  
 Albert E. Wilder  
 James H. Rolston  
 George W. Harris

#### CRUSADERS

David W. Kenvin—Coach

Thomas S. D'Intinosanto, Captain  
 Maxwell M. Clark  
 Charles A. Pece  
 Harold K. Malmgren  
 Henry S. Dixon  
 Raymond B. Harrington  
 William L. Schlegel  
 Gordon K. Goodwin  
 Robert G. Ryerson  
 William N. Dodge  
 James G. Connor  
 Donald L. Rice  
 Theodore R. Davidson  
 Ernest Burns  
 John J. McGraw  
 Richard J. Nelson  
 Ralph E. Pratt  
 Stanley C. Morton  
 William C. Morse

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A check of the brief articles written by the boys and printed in Volume 40 of the BEACON (May 1936-April 1937 inclusive) shows 122 stories on 52 different subjects. In each case the writer of the article selected the topic of one of his immediate interests, an event in which he was participating at the time or in which he had recently been engaged.

There were 20 articles in 8 different branches of sports, basketball and baseball leading with five articles each. Trips away from the School took next place with 16 articles. The band and the farm show great interest with 12 articles each. Tabulation indicates the diversity of interests and the number of articles each. This list does not show all of the interests of the boys nor does it show the exact relative interest in each subject.

Sports 20	Boats 2
Trips 16	Boy Scouts 2
Band 13	Graduation 2
Farm 13	Movies 2
Printing 7	School Program 2
Department Changes 5	Thanksgiving 2
Scenic Beauty 3	Wood Work 2

The following subjects had one article each in the BEACON, Volume 40.

A Grand Time	Future of our School
Academic	Halloween
Art	Headmaster's List
Assembly Program	King Philip's War
Automobile	Laundry
Birds	Library
Burning Marsh	Moving Tel. Poles
Class Election	New Boys
Cottage Row	New House
Dancing Lessons	Painting
Debating	Patriot's Day
Dining Room Plan	Photography
Entertainment	Radio
Flower Gardens	Senior Dormitory
Francis Shaw Scholarship	Thinking
	Viewing Searchlight

### Topics in Brief

The month of September has been one of much activity. The fall term of school commenced on September 13, nearly all of the boys completing the summer term with excellent results. The usual work at the school has been accomplished satisfactorily and many new projects completed. Our farm crews have been especially active with the harvesting of the crops.

Football, as usual, commands the interest of the boys at this time of year. The Varsity has played two games, one with Manning High School of Ipswich which resulted in a 7-7 tie and another with Punchad High School of Andover which resulted in a 40-0 loss. This game was played on September 25. Four more contests are scheduled tentatively for the Varsity. Our squad consists of 22 boys and the smaller boys play an intra-mural schedule.

Our Boy Scout troop has had the pleasure of an extended camping-out period during the month. Bowditch Grove, called Camp Bowditch by the troop is used for the camping site. Thirty boys are members of the troop and the camping-out experiences will be more fully described in the boys' articles on other pages.

Our athletic program, revised in 1930, has again been modified, so as to give even more boys an opportunity to participate in regularly scheduled and properly supervised games. This revision was made because of the increasing growth of interest in the games played by the varsity and because the varsity has rather full schedules in football and basketball. The change was also influenced by other factors which tended to unbalance the club teams. Our

new program retains the excellent advantages offered under our well known club system and yet we believe adds other greatly to be desired benefits.

Briefly the varsity now plays its own contests and members are thus permitted to earn their athletic letters, which will be presented with a certificate. The other boys organize teams to compete for the Shield and individual trophies given by Manager S. V. R. Crosby in football and baseball, and by Manager Philip Sears for basketball.

To date this plan has worked with much success, and we are confident that a step forward in the athletic program has been reached.

The tennis tournaments are completed the matches being played on Labor Day. The senior tournament was won by William DeLorie, and Weston Page was the runner-up. The junior tournament was won by Harold Malmgren and Richard Martin was the runner-up.

Thirteen of the older boys, who are members of the Headmaster's List have been granted the Senior Dormitory privilege.

Fifteen boys, who were accepted for admission to the School at the meeting of the Admission Committee on Sept. 2, arrived at the school during the month.

Rev. Clyde Taylor will again have charge of our Sunday Services and the general religious instructions of the boys. The very fine Bible Study group which was organized last year will be continued. The winter term of Sunday School will begin soon. A number of the boys have been helping in the Sunday Evening Services. We have also been favored with special music each Sunday.

## Calendar 50 Years Ago, September 1887

As Kept by the Superintendent

3 At home but boated a good deal. Acting as engineer for five round trips.

6 Admitted in August, Joseph Curtis Robinson. Discharged Chester H. Smart, Bertie E. Holmes. In school at date ninety-three.

8 Went to get a freight of slate, salt, etc. Sweetzer and Marden ran the boat. Both had been engineers on her.

9 Went for another freight of slate, and lumber for corn barn. The slate for the roof of house.

10 Let Fred B. Turner go to Mr. Wm. Parker, North Reading.

17 Visiting day.

## Calendar 90 Years Ago, September 1847

As Kept by the Superintendent

8 The steamer Mayflower made her fifth visit to this island to-day with the boys' friends, and Moses Grant and J. I. Bowditch, Esq. of the Board of Managers. Number of boys present, seventy-four.

28 Rec'd a horse from Mr. Bird.

29 The boys visited the city in the "Vision" and went to the State House and Museum.

## September Meteorology

Maximum Temperature 92° on the third.

Minimum Temperature 46° on the twenty-second.

Mean Temperature for the month 63°.

Fifteen clear days, eight partly cloudy and seven cloudy.

## The Farm and Trades School Bank

Statement, Sept. 30, 1937

## RESOURCES

Savings Bank . . . . .	\$1192.88
Cash . . . . .	55.40
	<u>\$1248.28</u>

## LIABILITIES

Boys' Deposits . . . . .	\$467.32
Trading Co. Deposits . . . . .	538.89
Cottage Row Deposits . . . . .	4.01
Photo Company Deposits . . . . .	45.55
Surplus . . . . .	192.51
	<u>\$1248.28</u>

## Football

Saturday September 14, our school team played Manning High School in Ipswich, Massachusetts. The boys played a hard game and in the last quarter a touchdown was made via the air from a pass DeLorie to Pratt. The extra point was scored by a pass Krebs to DeLorie.

We are all looking forward to a game with Cohasset, which we hope will be in October.

James R. Langton

## Strange As It Seems

It seems strange that most of the well known games are played with a ball. There are different shapes, sizes and weights to these. I believe the hardest is the golf ball; the softest the sponge ball; the largest a pushball; the smallest the golf ball and the lightest is the ping pong ball. Here are some of the games balls are used in: baseball, football, basketball, tennis, lacrosse, soccer, Jai Jai Ali (a game played in Latin American countries mostly) and a host of others. Some of the materials balls are made of are wood, leather, felt, cellophane, rubber, steel and many others.

Murdock C. Moore

### Friends' Day

We have Friends' Day at least once a month beginning in May until late in the fall. Our folks come on a Nantasket steamer most of the time. Sometimes another smaller boat brings our friends.

The last Friends' Day we had was on September 28. It was a cold, rainy day. About 250 people came and we had a short program in the gymnasium. The boat made two trips and while we were waiting for the second trip the band gave a concert.

Some visiting days many people are here to see me. On this one only my father came. My brother and I had a fine time showing our father around the school. Among the things my father brought us was a radio, which we are enjoying very much.

My father always likes to visit the different departments and talk with the instructors. First he always calls on Mr. Meacham, then he goes to the sloyd room, classrooms and other places. In this way he discovers what progress my brother and I are making.

After awhile it was time to leave for the boat. Most everyone went to the wharf in a group and said goodby until the next Friends' Day. Even though the day was rainy I am sure everyone had a good time.

Albert E. Wilder

### A Surprise

When walking around the West side of North end awhile ago I happened to see a small tree on the bank. I went to examine it and when I got about two feet from the tree five birds flew out. They looked like partridges or quail. I then found out the tree was a sumach. After that I continued on my walk, keeping this tree in mind for another visit when I will again surprise the birds.

Harold K. Malmgren

### Working with the Bees

Around the first of September is the time to take the surplus honey out of the bee hives. That is the honey which the bees have stored up in the super and which they do not need to carry them through the winter.

The first thing to do when working with bees is to get ample protection from getting stung by the bees. This consists of a veil over your head and gloves that reach up over your elbows. To calm the bees a small amount of smoke is blown into the hive through the entrance and later on after the hive is open from the top.

In order to get the bees out of the super a bee escape is put in the center of a wooden partition which is placed below the super. This escape allows the bees to go down into the body of the hive but not to return up into the super. In a few days all the bees will be out of the super so it can easily be removed on a warm day.

Bees are very interesting creatures and easy to take care of if a person knows just how to do it. A bee hive contains only one queen, several hundred drones, and many thousand workers.

Wesley C. Gustafson

### My Hobby

My hobby is Sloyd. Almost every afternoon I work down at the Sloyd Room after my Dining Room work is done.

The Sloyd Room is one of the busiest places on the island. There are boys in it from 7:30 in the morning until 9:00 at night.

At the present I am working on my book ends. I like Sloyd very much.

William B. Pratt

## The Alumni Association of The Farm and Trades School

HOWARD B. ELLIS, '98 President  
Dorchester, Mass.

HAROLD W. EDWARDS, '10, Treasurer  
Arlington, Mass.

WILLIS M. SMITH, '22, Vice-President  
Somerville, Mass.

MERTON P. ELLIS, '97, Secretary  
77 SUMMER STREET, BOSTON  
G. GEORGE LARSSON, '17, Historian  
Hyde Park, Mass.

IRVING R. DAVIS, '89, visited the School on September 28. After leaving Thompson's Island he spent a year at the Isle of Shoals working in a hotel there. Then he returned to Cambridge, where he assisted his grandfather in the gas fitting trade. After a period he left this work, going to Marlboro where he learned the shoe manufacturing business. While in Marlboro he studied music, specializing in vocal training. He became a member of the Schlegio Male Quartet, which, at that time, was an outstanding musical organization.

He married in 1903 and engaged in the book binding business with his father-in-law. This work appealed to him greatly and he left his small business to enter the employ of the Boston Bookbinding Company, where he has held a position for the past twenty-three years. Mrs. Davis died in 1917. He has one adopted son, now 28.

Mr. Davis is a Sunday School teacher at the First Church of Christ Scientist in Cambridge. He is a member of the Mother Church, having joined in 1902.

He has always taken an active interest in the Masonic Lodge, and is a member of the Meridan Lodge of Natick. He also belongs to the Natick Royal Arch Chapter and the Natick Commandery.

Mr. Davis has always been tremendously interested in the School, even though his contacts have been infrequent with us, and with our graduates. His work has entailed considerable traveling making frequent visits here out of the question.

Two members of recent classes are attending Montpelier Seminary at

Montpelier Vermont. They are Raymond L. Beck Jr. and William M. Meacham, Jr. Both were here for a short visit recently. They have many interests in common and both are members of the Varsity football team.

MYLES STANDISH, '36 is attending Canton High School. Another classmate Ralph Talbot is attending New Bedford High School.

FRANK J. DOW, '30 visited the School recently. He lives in Burlington, Vermont, at 290 College Street.

GEORGE JEFFERSON, JR., '39 has informed us of the death of his uncle, CHARLES R. JEFFERSON, '14, in Charlotte, North Carolina.

CLAIRE R. (BIG BROTHER BOB) EMERY, '16 has been featured for some weeks now over the coast to coast Mutual Broadcasting System on his programs entitled "Rainbow House" and "Old Time Spelling Bee". The former program is heard every Sunday morning, and the latter each Sunday evening. The Boston station is WAAB.

KENNETH C. KEARNS, '25 continues in the employ of the Manchester Union. He has been with this New Hampshire paper since his graduation from the University of New Hampshire some years ago. Those interested in football will enjoy his analysis of the games which he broadcasts over some of the New England stations.





THOMPSON'S ISLAND  
**BEACON**

Vol. 41 No. 7 Printed at The Farm and Trades School, Boston, Mass. Nov. 1937

Entered November 3, 1903 at Boston, Mass., as Second Class matter, under Act of Congress, of July 6, 1874



### Learning by Practical Experience

#### Development of a Herdsman

One of the most interesting parts of our school life is the enthusiasm of the boys for the work about the farm, and in particular, the barn. These boys are selected from a large list of volunteers who have proven their trustworthiness and general ability. There is a certain mark for the boys to reach and they look forward and work for the time when they will be depended upon to oversee and accept responsibility for the accomplishment of the chores about the barn.

When one of the younger boys is finally granted permission to take care of the horses he takes great pride in telling everyone he is a "horse barn boy". True,

he has asked repeatedly for the job and he has had to wait for his opportunity. He is given two or three horses to feed, water and care for twice daily. Little difference does it make that he must arise before the other boys and remain on the job longer to do his chores.

After he has proven his responsibility in this chore he becomes a "calf boy". He attends to the feeding and other duties necessary to the rearing of calves. He has been promoted from the horse barn to the newer and more modernly equipped cattle barn. In working with the calves he acquires a general knowledge of cattle, which, after all, has been his objective.

After doing his chores as "calf boy"

he is promoted to milker. This is nearing the height of his ambition for it is only to the most dependable and trustworthy boys that this work is assigned. He spends a period of time learning to milk and is then given complete charge of a certain number of cows, including the weighing of grain for feed. He milks twice daily and takes great pride in his work. Yet there is another goal for him to reach.

After being horse boy, calf boy and twice-a-day milker this "chore boy" is given opportunity to be a "test milker". He now milks selected cattle three times daily and his cows are on an official test, conducted by the American Guernsey Cattle Club. He does all the work incidental to his cattle and is under the supervision of not only the farm instructors but also the Examiner who scrutinizes his work carefully as he prepares his official test papers. It is a great honor to be chosen as a "test milker" as the boys realize, for the test milkers, of which there are three, are the herdsmen of our herd of 40 registered Guernseys.

It may be seen then, that this work is most excellent preparation for the life ahead. All these duties are accomplished by the boys in their spare time which proves conclusively that the boy is learning the true value of industry and that a task well done reaps its own rewards.

### The Costume Parade

We had a Halloween party on October 29, which was on Friday. One of the nicest parts of the party was the Costume Parade. There were 23 boys in various costumes. All the costumes were fine, and some were very funny. I was fortunate to win first prize and was in the costume of a negro mammy. Robert MacSwain and Richard Martin, dressed as future co-eds of F.T.S., won second prize. Weston Page won third prize for his

act showing the dream of a boy visiting Dr. Timmins for the first time.

Other awards were won by Darwin Baird as a cowboy, and Joyce Meacham as a Little Old Lady. Charles Grant, dressed as a chinaman won much applause.

The parade was very interesting and many could not distinguish the identity of the performers for some minutes. Some said it was the best parade ever on Halloween.

William L. Schlegel

### A Trip to Town

On Saturday, October 23, the Boy Scout troop numbering 30, and the 22 members of the varsity football team attended the contest between Boston University and Western Reserve University football teams. We had known for a week that we were going to the game, and we looked forward to the contest.

We left the Island after dinner and had excellent busses which transported us to Fenway Park. Rain had fallen during the morning and we were fortunate to have seats under cover, which were not wet. The game was won by Western Reserves 7-0. Andrews ran a punt back for a touchdown towards the end of the game. This seventy-yard run featured the game. It was very exciting, with plenty of blocking, tackling, passing, kicking and running which was excellently performed from the opening whistle.

During the second half it rained very hard and it became difficult to distinguish the players of the two teams, even though Western Reserve used white jerseys. Players sometimes skidded for ten or twelve feet when tackled.

The entire group enjoyed the trip very much and we want to thank the Athletic Association of Boston University for giving us tickets.

William D. DeLorie

### The Jester's Comments

—Bill Meacham, Jr.'s famous query "What will my father say?" shows power of cautious restraint. Linwood throws caution to the winds and becomes very aggressive. At a recent class meeting an Assembly program was being planned. "It might be too long" suggested someone. "Well", said Linwood, "If it isn't very long my father will make a speech to take up the time."

—Various and sundry letters to many young lady friends are found in the most unusual places. It seems that Bill DeLorie writes on the installment plan and goes from one letter to the other as inspiration warrants. The letters pop up in cupboards, drawers, type cases, and other such places, all ready for completion.

—The meetings of the Eagle Patrol, it is said, are confined to discussions by Edgar Aldrich, Murdock Moore and Robert English. The latter can't quite keep up in the train of thought and is getting tired of the brilliant minds of the former two. Recent periods of study with the Scout manual, English hopes, will catch him up in his ability to discuss.

—In the First Aid Class Karl Hulten was writing answers to a test. He said, "I get a pain answering these questions." Not to be outdone the teacher replied, "Yes, and I get a pain correcting them."

—Charlie Averill certainly choses excellent company when he visits the movies. The other day he was pleasantly greeted with "Hello" in an intown theatre. Unfortunately Charlie had neglected to secure permission to go to the movies and his cordial friend was Mr. Meacham, who chanced to occupy the next seat. Charlie assures everyone that permission will hereafter be secured.

—Boys, this is your column. Help by reporting true humorous incidents.

### Joining the Band

Every year, in the fall, all the new boys are invited to join the teacher-pupil contest. Mr. Warren, our bandmaster, gives a prize to the pupil who makes the most advancement and another prize to the teacher who instructed the beginner. When the older band boys have chosen their pupils the beginners are organized into a band, and they learn scales and easy pieces. Soon a few of the more musical become quite good players and as soon as enough progress is made they are given the opportunity of joining the school band. Around Graduation time Mr. Warren invites a prominent musician to come to the school and hear the pupils perform. Then the best teacher and best pupil are selected and announcement of the prize winners is made. When the fall season arrives the pupils then are able to join the contest, but this time they become teachers and select a younger boy to teach. Thus the Band always has the smaller boys learning and awaiting their chance to become members of the Band.

Stephen H. Vinal

### Being Sick

I have been sick for the past few days, and have been in the Infirmary. On Friends' Day my friends all came to see me, and instead of walking about the Island we stayed in the Infirmary. I was glad when I could get up and run around with the other boys. It is not very good fun to be sick. Most of the time I read and many of the Instructors brought me books and magazines. Sometimes I listened to the radio.

Wesley C. Gustafson

### Radio Programs

All the boys like to listen to radio programs. Some of them follow the serial stories which are heard every day, or nearly every day. Jack Armstrong and Tom Mix are listened to each night.

George W. Harris

# Thompson's Island Beacon

Published Monthly by

## THE FARM AND TRADES SCHOOL

Thompson's Island, Boston Harbor

A PRIVATE SCHOOL FOR BOYS OF LIMITED  
MEANS, SUPPORTED BY ENDOWMENTS,  
TUITION FEES AND SUBSCRIPTIONS.

WILLIAM D. DeLORIE - - - - - *Editor*

ROBERT ENGLISH - - - - - *Assoc. Editor*

Vol. 41 No. 7 November 1937

Subscription Price - - - One Dollar Per Year

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One hundred years ago railroads were practically unknown. In 1917 there were 254,000 miles of railroad in this Country. The swing has now started the other way at the rate of about a thousand miles per year decrease.

In Denver 75 years ago there were 13 children in school, to-day the enrollment is 65,000.

Fifty years ago telephones were practically non-existent. To-day in the U. S. there are over 87 million miles of telephone lines carrying over 30 billion calls each year.

Thirty-five years ago the annual manufacture of automobiles in the U. S. had reached 9,000. Ten years later there were a million cars registered in the U. S. and in 25 years that number has increased to 25 millions.

Twenty years ago radios were unknown. To-day the world has about 50 million sets.

Fifteen years ago travel by air was most uncommon. During the past year 600,000 passengers in the U.S. travelled about 50 million miles by air.

Ten years ago television was discovered. It is generally supposed that its practical use is "just around the corner".

A new telescope 200 inches in diameter is now being made ready for use at Mount Wilson Observatory. It will have four times the power of the present largest in the world. "A half billion stars that cannot now be seen by any telescope will be revealed."

The really great job of adults is to help develop youth to "carry on" in this changing world. Character, with a wholesome respect for divine guidance, good judgment, hard work, pleasing personality, and as many of the tools of learning as possible, form the basic foundation of this great development.

Contributions may be mailed to  
AUGUSTUS P. LORING, JR., Treasurer  
82 Devonshire Street, Boston

### Topics in Brief

On October 23 the varsity football squad and the Scout Troop enjoyed a trip to Fenway Park to witness the Boston University and Western Reserve football game. This was a fine trip for the boys and we appreciate the kindness of the Boston University Athletic Association.

Columbus Day was observed as a holiday with various sporting events taking a principal part in the holiday program. Those not engaged in athletics used the day advantageously working on various hobbies.

The seventh Friends' Day of the season was held on October 26. Among those present was President Arthur Adams of the Board of Managers. About 225 visited the school. The boat "Francis" transported the guests from City Point.

The Junior Class was the guest of Mr. and Mrs. George Ronka, its academic teachers, on the occasion of an excursion to town on October 30. The excellent moving picture "The Prisoner of Zenda" was of much interest to the boys.

Our Scout troop was very active during the month with re-registration and other preparations incidental to the beginning of a new year. Our troop is now one year old. A two day camping period was the outstanding event of the month.

The boys are enjoying a very fine football season. The intra-mural teams are very well balanced and each of the three teams has an excellent opportunity to win the championship and the Crosby Shield. The All-Stars, captained by Frederick Russell, seem to have the edge and are now in first place.

Halloween was celebrated in a happy, gay manner. A tasty supper, served in the spirit of the occasion opened the festivities. Then followed a costume parade, which was second to none; in which nearly half of the boys took part. The costume parade was followed by a series of stunts and contests featuring such time-honored feats as bobbing for apples and ducking for marshmallows in flour. The celebration concluded by an entertainment in the Assembly Hall which consisted of a most enjoyable program of one act plays and musical selections.

Our fuel oil tank is now in service and a job has been completed for which our farm crew should receive much praise. Pipe has been laid from the wharf to the tank through which the oil is pumped from the tanker, thus removing the task of transporting oil about the school. From the tank it runs by gravity feed to smaller depositories in the Main Building and the Adams House. The only work remaining is to fill in the various trenches in which the pipes were laid.

A most worth-while activity has been inaugurated this month. The course of Junior First Aid instruction is being taught to a class of sixteen of the younger boys, who are members of the Boy Scout Troop. Raymond Thomas, our Supervisor, is directing the course, he having attended the summer Red Cross Camp where he took the teacher's course of instruction. It is hoped that time will permit all of the boys to take this course, and another class will be organized late in December, when this first group will have completed the course. This is under the auspices of the American Red Cross. Certificates are awarded those who satisfactorily complete the course.

**Calendar 90 Years Ago, October 1847**  
As Kept by the Superintendent

8. The steamboat May-flower made her sixth and last visit for this season with the friends of the boys. Present—Moses Grant and George H. Kuhn, Esqrs. John H. Schwarman went to live with William Hilton, a shoemaker in Holliston. James W. Cooper went with a Mr. Lapham, a farmer in E. Bridgewater.

15. Mrs. Morrison and children went on a visit to Manchester, N. H.

17. Mr. A. J. Coolidge of Cambridge addressed the boys.

27. The carpenters brought four more bunks which including 32 brought on the 8th inst, make 36, for the new sleeping room.

**Calendar 50 Years Ago, October 1887**  
As Kept by the Superintendent

22. Cool and windy. Went up to get stove pipes and man to come and fix furnaces all around. Had them put in order also stove for girls room. Went over at night and went down to East Weymouth to visit T. J. Evans. Mr. Allard and Miss Hammond went to the city. Called on Sam'l Denton and Preston Lewis while there. Also on James Speare—all of them are my boys.

31. The last visiting day for this season.

**The Farm and Trades School Bank**

Statement, Sept. 30, 1937

RESOURCES

Savings Bank . . . . .	\$1192.88
Cash . . . . .	22.57
	<u>\$1215.45</u>

LIABILITIES

Boys' Deposits . . . . .	\$458.34
Trading Co. Deposits . . . . .	523.85
Cottage Row Deposits . . . . .	4.01
Photo Company Deposits . . . . .	37.74
Surplus . . . . .	191.51
	<u>\$1215.45</u>

**October Meteorology**

Maximum Temperature 74° on the fifth.

Minimum Temperature 32' on the seventeenth.

Mean Temperature for the month 54°.

Six clear days, twelve partly cloudy and thirteen cloudy.

**My New Trumpet**

I have been in the Band for three years, first on the trombone and next on the baritone. I could not seem to make much progress on either of these instruments and decided to learn how to play trumpet. After practicing for a few months I was invited to join the band last January as a member of the cornet section. I practiced hard and enjoyed cornet playing very much.

After graduation several of the best players left the section and I was appointed solo cornetist, which was a great honor. I used an old cornet, which my grandfather gave me. Although it played all right it was not as good an instrument as I needed and finally to my great surprise, I learned that my grandfather was going to get me a new trumpet. He was very much interested in my progress in music and was surprised I could play so much on the old cornet he had at first given me.

About a month ago I received my new trumpet. It is all silver plated and it plays much easier than I thought a trumpet could play. It is a beautiful instrument and I am going to take the best care of it possible. Also I am going to practice as much as possible so that I can show my grandfather how much I appreciate his wonderful gift.

Robert J. English

### A Halloween Entertainment

One of the best parts of our Halloween was the program given in the Assembly Hall. It began with some of the favorite songs which the boys like to sing and some pictures of the School shown on the screen.

Dennis C. Reardon gave a sketch entitled "The Bad Man". He tried to be very brave, but was not very successful. Ralph E. Pratt then gave a reading which showed how a boy acts when he goes on the stage for the first time. He was assisted by his brothers, Myron A. Pratt and William B. Pratt. These two sketches were followed by more pictures shown on the screen.

David and Thomas Kenvin then gave a play entitled "Joshing the Janitor" which was very well acted and very funny. Everyone enjoyed it. David was a colored janitor while his brother was a business man, spending his time "joshing the janitor".

According to many the hit of the evening came next. This was a skit by six boys, headed by Walter R. Nelson, called "When Boys Become Instructors." This play showed some of the possibilities if the boys were told to run the school. It was filled with various suggestions which were all very funny. Walter Nelson was very competent as the "Headmaster".

A dramatic sketch based on the words: "The Mills of the Gods grind slowly, but they grind exceedingly fine" was next on the program. Charles F. Averill did a fine job in the leading part. William D. Delorie was his assistant. As an encore the boys did a very funny stunt, and very appropriate for Halloween.

Hollis R. Gould then entertained with two tenor solos. Most everyone was surprised that we had such a good singer among us. He sang especially well and we enjoyed it very much. His songs were

"For You" and "Dear Old Girl".

The football squad was given a place on the program and some of the F.T.S. football songs were sung and dedicated to the squad. Pictures of the boys practicing were shown.

"The School of Rhythm" a very clever schoolroom play was next on the program. This was done very capably by the cast of seven boys. Edgar R. Aldrich acted the part of the schoolmarm. Some very novel and distinctive features in classroom conduct were displayed to the great amusement of everyone.

The program closed with the singing of the F.T.S. Pep Song, sung with much enthusiasm. It was a fitting close to a fine evening of entertainment.

Edgar R. Aldrich

### Beachwalks

Nearly every Sunday we have a beachwalk, and often on holidays. Sometimes large groups of boys go, and other times a few. One of the Instructors usually suggests a beachwalk and everyone goes who wants to. Sometimes the instructor tells us stories and sometimes we play games. Once in a while we just walk and talk about things we see.

The most popular games with the boys are Capture the Flag, Duck on the Rock, and Relievo. Usually there are enough boys to make good sized groups for the team games. Nearly all the boys like to join and play, although there are two or three who would rather watch. Then the boys who watch settle the arguments if there are any.

We see all sorts of odd things on beachwalks, which have floated up onto the beach. Sometimes the boys bring souvenirs to the house.

Ernest Burns

## The Alumni Association of The Farm and Trades School

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Somerville, Mass.

MERTON P. ELLIS, '97, Secretary  
77 SUMMER STREET, BOSTON  
G. GEORGE LARSSON, '17, Historian  
Hyde Park, Mass.

RICHARD BOLINGBROKE, '32 and Mrs. Bolingbroke have a son born August 5th. Congratulations. Their other son, Richard, Jr., is about 15 months old. Mrs. Bolingbroke was Emily M. Randall, sister of Reginald Randall '32.

WILLIAM S. WILSON, '34 continues his studies at Northeastern University, where he is a Sophomore.

JOHN A. BAILEY, '36 is a Senior at Kents Hill School in Maine. He was in Boston recently with the Kents Hill football squad for a game with a Boston school which the boys from Maine won easily. Playing center on the football squad is but one of the many school activities in which this graduate participates.

Secretary MERTON P. ELLIS '97 of the Alumni Association visited the School on Oct. 26. He is most actively interested in the School and its work and makes frequent visits.

The editorial columns on the sporting pages of the Boston Herald have once again referred to the brilliant athletic progress of GEORGE G. HAMILTON '31. Besides being an excellent student, he is making a name for himself in collegiate athletic circles by his outstanding ability, particularly in football. He attends Miami University.

ROBERT J. DUNSHEE, '27 is an artist with the Buck Printing Company. He has earned high honors in his profession. His schoolmates will recall his great interest in drawing and the fine work he accomplished while at the School.

WILLIAM W. FISH '34 recently visited the school. He maintains his residence 59 Alden Street, Whitman, Mass.

HAROLD B. DELORIE, '35 is at Kimball Union Academy where he is completing the preparatory school course. He is earning his way by working as assistant chef. During the summer he was a councilor at Lincoln Hill Camp.

MALCOLM E. CAMERON, '19 our genial Alumni-Entertainer has been very busy making a series of appearances in schools in the Greater Boston area. A recent photograph tells of his performance with a huge children's program, staged by a Boston business concern.

ERNEST F. PETERSON, '36 was a recent visitor at the School. He has been busy doing such kinds of work as painting and general repairing. His home address is 2789 Washington Street, Roxbury, Massachusetts.

ELVIN C. BEAN, '36 is employed at a Melrose bakery. He is an ardent and staunch rooter for our football team and seldom misses a game.

JOHN E. MAGEE, '34 is working for a Boston milk concern. He is a frequent visitor at the School. His home address is 36 Atlantic Street, Winthrop, Mass.

LEWIS C. GOODWIN, '36 is enrolled in the senior class of the Wellesley High School. His home address is 130 Oakland Street, Wellesley Hills.



THOMPSON'S ISLAND  
**BEACON**

Vol. 41 No. 8 Printed at The Farm and Trades School, Boston, Mass. Dec. 1937

Entered November 3, 1903 at Boston, Mass., as Second Class matter, under Act of Congress, of July 6, 1874



### Varsity Football Squad 1937

Left to right, rear row: Coach Raymond Thomas, Arthur E. Mathieu, Percy R. Berry, Hollis R. Gould, William, E. Brewer, John C. Simens. Leonard Markley, David W. Kenvin, Myron A. Pratt. Center row: George A. Krebs Jr., Robert W. Woodman, Charles F. Averill, Captain William D. DeLorie, Howard M. Colpitts, Weston O. Page, Walter R. Nelson. Front Row: Eliot Bernard, John Dunn, Eugene Proctor, Thomas C. Kenvin, James R. Langton, William F. Reagan, and Leonard I. Scott.

### Football Season 1937

The football season was not as successful as we would have wished, but every member of the squad knows that the team

played as good sports should and that we lost to better teams. We defeated the Weymouth High School second team and tied Manning High of Ipswich. We lost

three other contests, one to Punchard High 40-0, another to Cohasset High 18-0, and the other loss was by Story High, which defeated us 13-0.

The season opened on September 18, when we played Manning High at Ipswich. It was a hard-fought tense game throughout. There was no scoring in the first half. Shortly after the third period opened, our oponents scored a touchdown and converted the extra point. We did not yield the victory but kept plugging, and finally with but three minutes to play Myron Pratt scored a touchdown on a pass from William DeLorie. George Krebs then passed to DeLorie for the point, making the score 7-7.

On the following Saturday, September 25 we went to Andover where we played Punchard High School of that town. Not very much can be said about this game, excepting that we were completely outclassed and outplayed, losing 40-0.

We had a long wait before we played the third game. We did not play from September 25 until November 6 and we all realized that this long layoff would not do us much good. So it proved in the Cohasset game. Cohasset had a team which had been undefeated and was striving desperately for a perfect season. We opened up and actually outplayed our opponents during the first half; but failed to score. In the third period we held them scoreless until the end of the period when they scored a lucky touchdown. By this time the strain of the game was telling on our team and we were weakening. Robert Woodman was injured, and he is an important part of our line. Finally the Cohasset team showed its greater strength by scoring two touchdowns in the final quarter, making the final score 18-0. We were not such a

good team that is all I can say. After the game we had sandwiches and cocoa at the high school cafeteria.

Our next game was with the Weymouth High second team, which we played on the Island on November 11. This was also a Friends' Day, and a good crowd was present. We started the game with our regular first team, with the exception of Robert Woodman and David Kenvin. The latter, one of our good backfield men hurt himself during practice. In this game, which ended 13-0 in our favor we played good ball and really began to play as we had earlier in the season, before our long layoff. Late in the third period an end sweep by DeLorie, plus some excellent blocking scored a touchdown and Myron Pratt immediatly converted the extra point by a line rush. As the second half opened DeLorie again scored a touchdown by a 65 yard run, on the first play after the kickoff. Weymouth had opportunities to score but we held. Everyone played good football, and had to, for Weymouth had a very deceptive team and it was not any too easy to gain the victory.

Our last game of the season was with the Story High team of Manchester, Mass. This game was scheduled for Nov. 20, but was postponed a week, because of unfavorable weather, so it was actually played on November 27. The score was 13-0 in favor of Story. In the second period our opponents scored a touchdown by gaining ground a little at a time. At the close of the third period a pass scored another touchdown and the extra point was converted. We had many opportunities to score but could not capitalize.

On behalf of the squad I want to thank Coach Raymond Thomas '26, who worked hard all season drilling us. In all our games we made a good impression

and all the fine things which were said about our team were the direct results of his deep interest. The squad takes this means of expressing its deep appreciation.

William D. DeLorie, *Captain*

### Our Football Band

Last year, for the first time in many years, we played an interscholastic game on Thompson's Island. Hingham High second team was our opponent, and we tied them 0-0. For this game we had a big football rally, organized a football band and had a cheering section. I think the reason our team did so well was because of the support it received.

This year another game was arranged and we played Weymouth High second team on Armistice Day. We organized another football band and even went to the ball field during practice and played football songs. The night before the game we had a big rally and sang all the football songs, had cheers, and some impromptu speeches.

On the day of the game, which was a Friends' Day, the football band met the guests and escorted them to the house. The game started at about 2:30 and the cheers and music of the band attracted everyone to the field. F.T.S. won this game by the score of 13-0. We have a fine team this year, but we are sure the band and cheering by the boys helped our team to victory.

Some of the songs the football band played were "There's a Red Light on the Wharf," "F.T.S. Victory Song," "F.T.S. Pep Song," and "Down the Field."

Robert J. English

### Thanksgiving Day

Thanksgiving Day, November 25, was celebrated by the boys by one of the best football days of the season. At about

9:30 we had a six-man football game, the first one to be held on the Island with regular officials and rules. Following this game pictures were taken of the School Varsity squad. Then the school team had a practice session, and ran through a few plays.

At noon the main event of the day took place, the Dinner. We repeated Grace in unison and then Eugene Proctor, Mayor of Cottage Row, read his Proclamation. Then we began. There was Roasted Stuffed Turkey, celery, gravy, sweet potatoes, white potatoes, squash, onions, cranberries, and other things. For desert there was pumpkin pie, mince pie, plum pudding with hard sauce, dates, candy, and nuts.

The big event of the day was the fine dinner, but the football game between the All-Stars and the Crusaders had everyone interested as the Crusaders expected to win, and the victory would earn the Crosby Shield for that team. The Crusaders did win, 12-6, but it was a bitterly fought game.

In the evening about fifty of the boys who were not too tired went to Chapel, where there was sort of an entertainment. We had various phonograph records as well as the recording of the "Our Neighbors" program which was broadcast from here last winter.

We all had a good time Thanksgiving.

Edgar R. Aldrich

### Notes

The boys in the sixth grade gave a program of readings pertaining to American History at our weekly assembly on Nov. 15. Many of the familiar historical poems were given.

The Assemblies are held on Monday evenings, and our Band takes a prominent part in each program.

# Thompson's Island Beacon

Published Monthly by

THE FARM AND TRADES SCHOOL

Thompson's Island, Boston Harbor

A PRIVATE SCHOOL FOR BOYS OF LIMITED  
MEANS, SUPPORTED BY ENDOWMENTS.  
TUITION FEES AND SUBSCRIPTIONS

WILLIAM D. DELORIE - - - - - *Editor*  
ROBERT ENGLISH - - - - - *Assoc. Editor*

Vol. 41 No. December 1937

Subscription Price - - - One Dollar Per Year

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## Faculty

AND YEAR OF APPOINTMENT

WILLIAM M. MEACHAM, B. S., Headmaster, 1926

## Farm Instructors

MARK C. BAIRD, Head Farm Instructor, 1928

ROBERT R. KITCHING, Poultry, 1928

CARLTON W. STILES, Crops, 1936

EDWARD E. ANDREW, General, 1937

## Academic

GEORGE R. RONKA, B. S., Principal, 1936

R. CARROLL JONES, B. S., Agriculture, 1937

MARJORIE F. RONKA, B. A., High School, 1937

ETTA CHRISTIANSEN, B. S., Upper Grades, 1937

## Supervisors

CLIFTON E. ALBEE, Recreation Director, 1926

RAYMOND THOMAS, Supervisor and Coach, 1930

JOHN R. MACDONALD, Night Supervisor, 1937

## Trades Instructors

B. Y. KIHLSSTROM, Sloyd, Forging, 1919

EDWARD H. HAYNES, Engineer, 1930

JAMES H. JARDINE, Boats, 1933

ARTHUR H. PICKARD, Printing, 1936

BENJAMIN A. WEBB, Painting, 1937

## Executive Office

WILHELMINA B. THOMAS, Secretary, 1931

ISABEL L. STILES, Bookkeeper, 1937

## Household Departments

MARION L. NICHOLS, Head of Kitchen, 1913

HENRIETTA COFFILL, Kitchen Instructor, 1929

MAY B. VARNEY, Head of Dining Room, 1929

MARY F. MATHEWSON, Kitchen Instructor, 1931

GRACE WILLIAMS, Sewing Instructor, 1934

MARY C. B. JONES, Laundry Instructor, 1934

MAY MITCHELL, Dormitory Instructor, 1935

LAURA L. FISHER, Dining Room Instructor, 1937

### Topics in Brief

Thanksgiving Day was observed in our usual happy way, with the holiday activities including plenty of football. An experiment in the morning was made of the newer type of game called "six-man football" which has become extremely popular in the West. The varsity squad had its photograph taken and then followed with a drill. Our very fine turkey dinner delighted everyone. In the afternoon a hard fought football game was played and which was won 12-6 by the Crusaders. In the evening an informal party in the Chapel was held.

The recreational program for the boys was, as one might imagine, centered on football during the fall months. Our modified club plan proved to be highly successful and of great interest to the boys. Three teams played a schedule of nine games and the winner of the Crosby Shield was not decided until the last game. The Crusaders defeated the All-Stars 12-6 on Thanksgiving Day to win the Shield. This final game was replete with fine football and no one will forget the second half, with every moment filled with tense excitement and great enthusiasm for the followers of both teams.

On Armistice Day we held our eighth Friends' Day of the season, it being one of the most pleasant and happiest days which we have had for a long time. The main attraction was a football game played with Weymouth High School second team which our boys won 13-0. The boat "Francis" transported the guests to the Island. Among those present was Manager William Alcott, '87.

The game was well played and either team might have won, for the competition was close. Our points were scored by two

fine touchdown runs by Captain DeLorie and the point after the first touchdown was scored by Myron Pratt who went through the line. Excellent sportsmanship was in evidence at all times.

The Community Federation of Boston invited all participating agencies to hold "Open House" so that the general public might be given an opportunity to witness the actual work of these agencies. We held "Open House" here on Nov. 12. The guests arrived on our boat and were welcomed by President Arthur Adams of the Board of Managers, and Headmaster William M. Meacham. A concert by the band preceded the tour of inspection. All of those present expressed their appreciation of the opportunity of visiting the School and all were most favorably impressed with the work we are doing.

Our Sunday Evening services are conducted by Rev. Harold Taylor, who is assisted by two boys each Sunday. The boys are chosen from a list of volunteers. Our religious work is conducted on a dignified plane and we have been fortunate in having fine men directing and guiding the boys in religious study. Members of the regular staff assist with classes in Bible study in our regular Sunday School. The boys volunteer to help lead the evening service, and it is gratifying to find them willing and eager to so participate.

Our football game with Cohasset High resulted in a loss to our boys. Cohasset has a fine team this year, losing but one game. Our boys held them scoreless for three-quarters of the game but tired near the end and the Cohasset eleven scored three touchdowns, making the score Cohasset 18 F.T.S. 0. The game was played on November 6.

**Calendar 50 Years Ago, November 1887**  
As Kept by the Superintendent

3. Mr. DeBlois came to-day. I went for him and returned him again and got articles for house. Mr. Allard, Miss Barnes and several boys went to the Fair in the evening.

8. At home all day, sent Smeaton for mail. Sumner Parker from Natick was admitted to the School.

24. Thanksgiving Day. About forty present, had a very pleasant time. The young men all greatly enjoyed these gatherings and I think them very productive of good and no harm whatever.

29. Met the Managers. Bought the dory, etc. The month has been pleasant as a whole but going out with a blizzard. Cold and windy.

**Calendar 90 Years Ago, November 1847**  
As Kept by the Superintendent

2. John M'Guire of Boston was admitted.

13. Julia and Bridget Fahy left. John Greer returned to his mother in the city. Timothy Donovan was admitted.

25. This being the day appointed for the Annual Thanksgiving the boys were furnished with a good dinner consisting of turkies, chickens, mince, apple and pumpkin pies, sweet potatoes, squash, etc. The poultry was supplied, as heretofore, by the liberality of the Hon. Theodore Lyman, President of the institution. They were also supplied with nuts and closed the amusements of the evening with play of blindman's buff. Thomas Mills and Domingoes Rodrigues came and spent the day and evening.

30. The teacher, Mr. Holmes, went to Plymouth on a visit. Mr. Moses T. Brown of Manchester, N. H., came to the Island as teacher.

**The Farm and Trades School Bank**  
Statement, Nov. 30, 1937

RESOURCES	
Savings Bank . . . . .	\$1192.88
Cash . . . . .	100.42
	\$1293.30
LIABILITIES	
Boys' Deposits . . . . .	\$505.75
Trading Co. Deposits . . . . .	542.91
Cottage Row Deposits . . . . .	7.06
Photo Company Deposits . . . . .	46 07
Surplus . . . . .	191.51
	\$1293.30

**November Meteorology**

Maximum Temperature 67° on the ninth.

Minimum Temperature 24° on the twenty-third.

Mean Temperature for the month 44°.

Eight clear days, eleven partly cloudy and eleven cloudy.

**The Crusaders' Triumph**

At the beginning of the football season all the boys not on the Varsity were organized into three teams. A schedule of nine games was arranged and the team winning the most games thereby earned the title of "Champions" and the Crosby Shield.

The three teams were the Crusaders, All-Stars, and Shamrocks. The All-Stars first took the lead. Then they lost two hard fought games and the Shamrocks moved into first place. The Crusaders began creeping up on the leaders and by winning the final four contests won the Shield.

We did not play so well at the beginning of the season, and not many of the

boys thought we could win the Shield. Then we got some good coaching and fought hard for victories. We were glad when the Shield was won.

Thomas D. D'Intinosanto

### Scout Meetings

Every Wednesday we have a Scout meeting. The patrols take turns in directing. Plans for each week are made on Sunday when we have our Troop Leaders Council assembly.

I am leader of the Eagle patrol and last week my patrol had charge of the meeting. We opened by listening to remarks by the Junior Assistant Scoutmaster, who then turned the meeting over to our Patrol. We first saluted the Flag. Then the Troop Scribe gave a report of the last meeting. The troop then went to their patrol formation, where each patrol leader worked with his scouts. After this we reassembled and played some games. The most popular game was Punch Soccer. When the time was nearly up we fell into troop formation and our Scoutmaster spoke to us for a few minutes. Then we recited the Scout Oath and the Junior Assistant Scoutmaster dismissed the troop.

Murdock C. Moore

### The Jester's Comments

"Should auld acquaintance be forgot...."

The fact that boys attending school here become fast friends is evidenced always at the various alumni gatherings. Indeed, it might well be said that they become brothers, for in reality we are one large family. Following graduation the boys meet informally for various trips and recreation of one kind or another. We have boasted of fine alumni ball teams, dramatic groups and even alumni bands.

This story concerns six of our younger graduates. Elven C. Bean, '36 not long ago purchased a car and called upon Lewis C. Goodwin, '36. The two then

decided the schedule for the day and then John R. Macdonald, '35 joined the party. Harold B. Delorie, '35 was visited as was Raymond L. Beck '36 and James T. Ritchie, '36. These three boys were enjoying Thanksgiving recess from school.

After a slight delay here and there, because some of the latter trio had decided to spend their vacation days by late slumbering, the sextette visited the public landing at City Point for a view across the bay to Thompson's Island. Then they proceeded to a South Boston ball field where a football team was drilling. It was not long before everyone was introduced to everyone else and a game was started. The official scorer could not keep up with the F.T.S. "T" formation, which resulted in a great many scores. However the South Boston boys scored once in a while so everyone was happy.

Following the game the sextette visited a doughnut factory where five doughnuts and several overstuffed crullers were loaded into the car. Then onward to the Story High-F.T.S. game proceeded the group. While repairing a flat tire one of the boys felt a blow upon his extremities, but, believe it or not, the other five insisted it was a passing five ton truck.

At the game a cheering section was organized, and although there were more cheerleaders than cheerers, the volume was tremendous. During the second half most of the townfolk joined the sextette, giving F. T. S. a grand cheering section.

Following the game the sextette visited one of the boy's homes and there enjoyed a "feed", which according to the boys could not be improved upon. The head of the household agreed that the volume consumed could not, regardless of the ability of the sextette of chefs.

We agree that this was the most unusual informal F. T. S. alumni gathering undertaken in some time.

## The Alumni Association of The Farm and Trades School

HOWARD B. ELLIS, '98 President  
Dorchester, Mass.

WILLIS M. SMITH, '22, Vice-President  
Somerville, Mass.

MERTON P. ELLIS, '97, Secretary  
77 SUMMER STREET, BOSTON  
G. GEORGE LARSSON, '17, Historian  
Hyde Park, Mass.

HAROLD W. EDWARDS, '10, Treasurer  
Arlington, Mass.

GEORGE T. FORD, '60, is our oldest living graduate. He lives at 502 West Granada, Phoenix, Arizona. Mr. Ford, although well along in years is in good health. He appreciates hearing news of Thompson's Island, where he spent happy boyhood days more than three quarters of a century ago. His father was lessee of one of Boston's earliest fine houses of the drama. Mr. Ford has a nephew residing in Somerville.

JOHN D. MACGREGOR, '31, has followed the sea since he graduated six years ago. He first took a course of instruction at the Franklin Union Technical Institute. His home port is San Francisco and he is sailing from that port to China and Japan. He occasionally sends odd and unusual items from the East, and we are always glad to hear from him.

CHARLES RUSSELL, '04, Federal Inspector of steam boilers is now located in Portland, Maine. His office is in the Federal Building, that city.

Rev. CLIFFORD H. TAYLOR, '15, is Pastor of a church in South Berwick, Maine. He is a fine singer and appears o'ten as soloist at religious gatherings.

RALPH TALBOT, '36, is attending New Bedford High School. In a recent letter he enclosed a picture of the high school band in a parade. He plays drums in the band; as a matter of fact he plays three sets of drums. He lives at 307 Pleasant Street, New Bedford, Mass.

The Annual Get-Together of the Alumni Association will be held on Wednesday, February 9th. Details later.

EDWARD F. WEST, '34 after completing his high school work entered the employ of a Cambridge printer. He enjoys this work and is making good progress.

ALBERT H. THOMPSON, '31 and DARWIN CHAPDELAINE, '31 are working at Wellesley in the Community Playhouse.

HAROLD F. BENT, '35 having graduated from Parsonfield Seminary in Maine last June, is now attending the Gorham Normal School, preparing himself for the teaching profession.

HORACE E. FADER, '37 is living at 27 Grove Road, Overbrook Station, Wellesley and attending Natick High School.

LESLIE E. ALDRICH, '29 became a proud father on October 29, Barbara Jean having arrived on that date.

WILLIAM C. BURNS, '37, is attending North Quincy High School. He is taking an active part in school activities, and is solo cornetist in the high school band.

The following members of the Class of 1937 are taking post graduate work at F. T. S. This covers the third year college preparatory course.

Charles F. Averill  
William D. DeLorie  
Leonard Markley  
Arthur C. Mathieu  
William F. Reagan  
John C. Simens

News pertaining to our graduates will be appreciated.—Editor





Vol. 41 No. 9 Printed at The Farm and Trades School, Boston, Mass. Jan. 1938

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### Christmas Morning

The brass quartet opened Christmas Day by playing "Joy to the World". Although this hymn was meant to arouse the boys it was hardly necessary, for the boys had been awake for some time examining the contents of the stocking which had been found at the foot of each bed. Each boy was thus given candy, fruit, peanuts, novelties, and games of one kind or another.

After breakfast all the necessary chores were accomplished very speedily and at 9:30 the boys went to the wharf to greet Santa Claus. Meanwhile the presents had been placed in our Assembly Hall, which was nicely decorated. Santa was given a hearty welcome and escorted to the Main Building by means of a small carriage pulled by as many of the boys as could get a grip on some part of the vehicle.

The boys and instructors assembled and were greeted by Mr. Meacham, who then asked the boys' opinions regarding the identity of Santa Claus. Most of the boys were of the opinion that Santa was John A. Paley, '29, and after unmasking we found this to be true.

Santa, assisted by some of the boys, then began distributing the presents. There were so many of them that it took a long time to do it. Then there were gifts for groups of boys to be distributed

and many cards to be announced. Finally the trees were bare and everyone agreed Santa had done his work well, for which he was cheered lustily.

We then left the Assembly Hall and took our presents to various places where we enjoyed examining them. I'm sure all the boys had a very happy Christmas morning.

William D. DeLorie

### Singing Carols

On the night before Christmas a group of boys and some of the Instructors go around Mansion Hill singing Christmas carols. As a great many of the boys wish to do this those who participate are chosen from the boys taking part in the Christmas Concert. Sixteen of the boys made up the carol choir, and the accompaniment to the singers was furnished by Myron Pratt who played a set of bell-chimes.

We began singing shortly after half past seven. The first carols were sung in the courtyard of the Main Building. Then we proceeded to the north wing where more carols were sung. Our next location was at the west dormitory, where the boys listened to us. Then we proceeded to the Adams House where we made history by singing there for the first time. This is the first Christmas that Mr. Meacham and his family have occupied

the new Headmaster's residence.

After leaving here, we sang more carols about the building and closed our program by singing in the front hall.

Mr. and Mrs. Meacham invited us for refreshments after we had finished singing, so we went to their home where we played games and had cocoa, cookies and cake. At various places the boys and instructors gave us coins and the money was counted. It amounted to about six dollars and we decided to send it to the Salvation Army.

We all had an enjoyable time singing the carols.

Robert J. English

### The Scouts' Christmas Party

The Scout troop thought it would be a good idea to have its regular weekly meeting be a Christmas party so plans were made for this. First the names of all the scouts were written on individual slips of paper and each scout drew a name. Then he was to present that scout with a gift. This plan insured gifts for all. The party was held in the scout room, which was gaily decorated. In the center of the room was a Christmas tree. Committees of scouts had charge of plans for the party. The scoutmaster's job was to select an impersonator for Santa Claus and he fooled nearly everyone.

We assembled in the gymnasium where we were met by the troop committee. After a brief introductory ceremony we did a round-about snake dance to the scout room. Upon arrival there Santa shook hands with each scout. After being seated we guessed at the identity of Santa. It proved to be William DeLorie, but most of us thought it was Mrs. Ronka, wife of the chairman of the Troop Committee.

Santa Claus, after being given cheers and greetings, then began distributing the

gifts. There was one for everyone. After the gifts were given out each member of the Troop Committee was given three loud cheers. The patrols were then awarded gifts. There were guests of the troop present and they were presented with gifts.

Following this refreshments were served by patrol leaders and grubmasters. There were cookies, punch, sandwiches, and candy. After this we talked for a while and then closed the meeting.

Murdock C. Moore

### President Adams' Gift

Every year President Arthur Adams, of the Board of Managers, provides an entertainment on Christmas Day, as his gift to the school.

This year the story of Robin Hood was presented by Mr. Clemens and his company of marionettes. The story was given in five acts. Most of the boys could understand the mechanical part of the performers, but were surprised at the many different voices Mr. Clemens had as he caused the marionettes to "speak." There were at least twelve different voices and sounds produced, no two of which were alike.

During the last act Mr. Clemens removed the stage curtain and showed how he manipulated his marionettes.

At the beginning of the performance each boy was given a pound box of candy, the annual gift of the Alumni Association.

We all enjoyed the afternoon very much.

Edgar R. Aldrich

### The Ayrshire Breed

My choice of a breed of dairy cattle would be the Ayrshire. Ayrshires are the best of rustlers and grazers, and will make the most of pasture land.

This breed makes good beef, and has

a carcass value that enables breeders to secure very satisfactory returns for cows that have outlived their usefulness, or from the sale of surplus males as steers. Ayrshires may be depended upon to produce annually from 8,000 to 10,500 pounds of milk per animal. Individual cows have produced as much as 1,000 pounds of butter fat in a year.

Ayrshire calves are not difficult to raise, are good feeders and unusually thrifty and active. They make good under almost any conditions and may be developed with the minimum amount of labor and shelter. They are particularly noted for their long period of usefulness and freedom from ordinary cow ailments.

The Ayrshire bull will cross well with grade cows, especially those of beef-breeding. The results of this are big capacious animals of attractive type and the ability to produce four percent milk.

The Ayrshire Breed ranks second among the four major breeds of cattle in size and weight. Most Ayrshires weigh from about 1,100 pounds to 1,400 pounds depending on the period of lactation.

This breed is very rugged and have excellent constitutions. Individuals of this breed are often still producing milk, and in good health, at the age of fifteen years and over. More Ayrshires have produced lifetime records of over 100,000 pounds of milk than individuals of any other breed.

Considering all these facts I think the Ayrshire breed is a very desirable one for any breeder to select.

Gordon K. Goodwin

### Winter Sports

One of the sports the boys best enjoy is skating. We went skating practically all of the Christmas Vacation Week.

The larger boys play hockey while

the rest just skate around or play tag on the ice.

There have been two or three hockey games in which the Instructors have taken part.

There have been approximately five days a week of skating.

It is a lot of fun to just glide around, you feel like you have wings.

Sliding and skiing came next. It's the first time since 1935 that there has been enough snow for this.

We use the front avenue for the sliding, you can coast practically all the way down to the wharf. One day last week the avenue was all icy and you could go farther than before. Some of the boys took their sleds and decorated them like fancy cars.

The tobogganing was very good too, the boys made jumps and good hills for this sport.

Skiing is the most fun of all, the boys like to ski because it is a great sport for developing your sense of balance.

We have a Scout Troop on the Island so we have many scouting activities combined with our winter sports.

We have had a great deal of enjoyment so far this winter, we hope that the snow and ice will stay for a long time.

Winthrop Davidson

### The Jester's Comments

—The story of Franklyn "Peewee" Harris and his wanting to serve the football squad still is causing many laughs. It seems that "Peewee" asked our Coach, Raymond Thomas, if he could go on the school team trips and "clean the cleats of the players" between the halves. "Peewee's" innocence was respected but he suspected something when it was suggested he take a brush to dust off the player's football armor.

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AUGUSTUS P. LORING, JR., Treasurer  
82 Devonshire Street, Boston

December 17, 1937 at 11:15 P. M. a Boston Globe reporter telephoned the Headmaster of our school asking what we planned to do with the \$5,000.00 given by the Charles Hayden Fund. In a few days we received official confirmation of this gift. This contribution is the beginning of a building fund.

The late Charles Hayden indicated very clearly in his Will that he foresaw the great need and advantage of providing for the development of youth. One provision in his Will states:

To aid and assist in charitable and public educational uses and purposes for the moral, mental, intellectual and physical well-being, uplifting, upbuilding, and development of boys and young men of this country.

The late Mr. Hayden's gift of the beautiful bronze statue to youth at the Boston English High School indicated his interest in youth. At another time speaking of the needs of M. I. T., his alma mater, he said, "The boys need better housing."

From an article by Louis M. Lyons in the Boston Globe we find further indication of Mr. Hayden's high ideals and advice to youth.

"Severe in the demands he made upon himself, he was rigorous also with others. Almost the only published views of his life in his life-time are little sermons to young men on the old-fashioned virtues of hard work and right living."

"The text of his will is quite largely a sermon to youth on the principles of right living and the importance of shunning evil influences. His best advice to youth was, 'Industrious application to one steadfast purpose invariably wins out.' It is a recipe for success that he proved himself."

The purposes of our school are in complete harmony with Mr. Hayden's ideals, and in building additional facilities for the boys here, we know that the trustees of this fund are fulfilling his wishes.

### Topics in Brief

Christmas was observed in our traditional manner. On the Sunday preceding the holiday the boys gave a beautiful program in our Chapel. Featured at this concert was the Christmas play "Three Wise Men" by Dorothy E. Allen, which told the message of Christmas in an inspiring manner. Other parts of the program included selections by our well trained choir, readings and musical solos and quartets. The Christmas concert was a distinct credit to all those who had a part in its preparation.

The holiday itself was ushered in by the singing of carols by sixteen of the boys. The boys went to the various places about the buildings and sang the lovely Christmas melodies, thus beginning a period of great joy and happiness to all the boys.

"Santa Claus", in the person of John A. Paley, '29 arrived early Christmas morning to begin the distribution of gifts, of which there were the usual large amount. In the afternoon, through the kindness of President Arthur Adams of the Board of Managers, we were privileged to watch a distinctly superior marionette performance of "Robin Hood".

The holiday season was one of great activity to everyone on the Island, and for nearly a month preceding the event we were all very busy. Nothing occurred to mar the beauty of the season, nor was the true spirit of Christmas allowed to be forgotten. All in all, it was a very Merry Christmas to everyone at the School.

During the month most of the boys have enjoyed a performance at an intown theatre. The three competing football teams for the Crosby Shield each enjoyed attending the Metropolitan Theatre.

Another group went to another theatre. The members of the Junior class have had a trip to town, and some of the boys have been guests of instructors on other excursions. On many of these trips the boys were met by their parents who joined the theatre parties.

Fifteen of the boys were privileged to attend the Boston-New York hockey game at the Boston Garden on December 28.

We have made much progress with our usual winter work of painting and general repairing. The dormitories are being refinished at this time.

Mr. William L. Barnard, world traveler and photographer, came to the Island on December 16 and showed several reels of life on the Balinese Islands. A musical accompaniment to the pictures was much enjoyed. President Arthur Adams arranged for the visit and was present with Mr. Barnard. We appreciate Mr. Barnard's interest and thank him for bringing his pictures here.

During the month most of the boys' interests were centered on Christmas. The Sloyd Room was particularly active as most of the boys sent handiwork to their folks for gifts. There was little time for anything else excepting Christmas. Skating was enjoyed, this being the principal outdoor sport while indoor games in the gymnasium were played when the boys wished. Our regular winter basketball program begins on January 1.

The weather promises excellent outdoor sports during the winter. So far the skating, tobogganing, sliding, skiing and other ice and snow activities have been greatly enjoyed.

**Calendar 90 Years Ago, December 1847**

As Kept by the Superintendent

7. John Ball, Esq. of Salem came with William D. Balch and Lewis K. Plummer from that city.

8. Charles H. Mann was sent to Mr. Ezra Curtin, a shoemaker in Lynn; and Jabez J. Lewis, to a farmer, in Brewster. James Cloney was admitted.

16. Went to Dr. John C. Warren's with Geo. H. Savage who had injured his elbow. The Dr. made an extension of the arm while he was under the influence of ether which he had inhaled and which made him unconscious of the operation.

22. Mr. Ahira Holmes, the former teacher, left.

**Calendar 50 Years Ago, December 1887**

As Kept by the Superintendent

6. Carried corn to the city to be ground. Got 4 webs for sheets.

26. "Christmas"—As it was to be our last tree we were anxious to have it a good one. This makes my 31st Christmas and 29th tree. How many pleasant associations cluster round these trees, and how many fond recollections revert to our past pleasant Christmas times.

31. We close up with ninety-three boys.

We have admitted during the year Homer Frye Thatcher; Frank Patten Wilcox; Chas. Ford; Wm. Bird Winters; Wm. Albert Goss; Richard Francis Goss; Wm. Franklin Galuecia; Harry Ed. Loud; Clarence Wm. Loud; Samuel Henry McKewen; Wm. Phillips; Sumner Wyman Parker; Fred Lynden Crawford Powers; Fred Francis Roberts; Joseph Curtis Robinson; Edward Steinbrick; Carl Steinbrick; Geo. Maynard Taylor; and Edward Mason Parker.

Those discharged were: Alden Brooks

and Clarence Sidney Hefler; Joseph Henry and Chester Havelock Smart; Fred. Wm. Mason; Wm. Ed. McNally; Wm. Perkins Colby; Horatio Alphonzo Colby; Wm. Marlin Byrnes; Wm. Morse Akers; Geo. Albert Skinner; George Gerard; Ed. Chas. Colson; Ed. Fisher Teague; Edward Dunham; Jas. Henry Speare; Sylvester Brown; Stephen Grover; and Edward Mason Parker.

**The Farm and Trades School Bank**

Statement, Dec. 31, 1937

RESOURCES	
Savings Bank . . . . .	\$1192.88
Cash . . . . .	100.42
	\$1293.30
LIABILITIES	
Boys' Deposits . . . . .	\$505.75
Trading Co. Deposits . . . . .	542.91
Cottage Row Deposits . . . . .	7.06
Photo Company Deposits . . . . .	46.07
Surplus . . . . .	191.51
	\$1293.30

**December Meteorology**

Maximum Temperature 51° on the eleventh.

Minimum Temperature 17° on the fourteenth.

Mean Temperature for the month 33°.

Eleven clear days, ten partly cloudy and ten cloudy.

**Books**

There are always a number of fine books in our library for the boys to use. Each month we have a new set from the Boston Public Library and this makes it possible for us to read a number of different books each month.

Robert J. English

Honor Roll—Fall Term

Junior Class: Charles F. Averill, 86.5;  
William F. Reagan, 86.0.

Sophomore Class: Warren O. Filz,  
93.7; Thomas C. Kenvin, 91.6.

Freshman Class: Murdock C. Moore,  
91.2; Wesley C. Gustafson, 90.2.

Eighth Grade: Axel R. Hallberg,  
90.6; Warren A. Danner, 88.8.

Seventh Grade: Ralph E. Pratt, 92.0;  
John V. Johanson, 86.0.

Sixth Grade: James F. St. Coeur,  
90.0; William H. Britton, 85.0.

The following boys have received a  
mark of 90 or over in scholastic effort for  
the past term:

Junior Class: Charles F. Averill,  
William D. DeLorie.

Sophomore Class: Warren O. Filz,  
Thomas C. Kenvin, Weston O. Page,  
Myron A. Pratt, Eugene Proctor.

Freshman Class: William J. Bevans,  
Wesley C. Gustafson, Murdock C. Moore,  
William B. Pratt.

Eighth Grade: Warren A. Danner,  
Winthrop Davidson, Axel R. Hallberg,  
Russell L. Letson, Jr., William C. Morse,  
Robert G. Ryerson.

Seventh Grade: Ralph E. Pratt.

Sixth Grade: William H. Britton,  
Ernest Burns.

Christmas Concert

On Sunday evening December 19,  
1937 our annual Christmas Play was staged.  
This year the play was presented in an ex-  
ceptional manner and everyone was favor-  
ably impressed with the entire program.  
Following is the program as presented:

Program

Hymn 219 O Little Town of Bethlehem  
Congregation

Invocation Mr. Taylor  
Selection by the Choir Joy to the World

Recitation Kriss Kringle

Ralph E. Pratt

Trombone Solo Warren O. Filz

Accompaniment by Myron A. Pratt

Recitation A Christmas Greeting

Darwin C. Baird

Choir Selection We Three Kings

Recitation The Shepherds

William H. Britton

Clarinet Solo O Come All Ye Faithful

Francis S. Sheldon

Recitation Christmas

Linwood L. Meacham

Selection by the Quartet

Robert J. English William N. Dodge

William D. DeLorie Myron A. Pratt

Christmas Play Three Wise Men

Closing Hymn 215 Silent Night

Congregation

Benediction Mr. Taylor

Play Cast

The Three Magi

Gasper R. Hollis Gould

Melchior Eugene Proctor

Balthasar Thomas C. Kenvin

The Three Brothers

Hal David W. Kenvin

Don Theodore R. Davidson

Phil Wesley C. Gustafson

A woman Edgar R. Aldrich

Members of the Choir

Sopranos

Wesley C. Gustafson John V. Johanson

Linwood L. Meacham Richard A. Martin

Altos

Winthrop Davidson Richard J. Nelson

Ralph E. Pratt

Tenors

Robert J. English William F. Reagan

Thomas S. D'Intinosanto

Basses

Warren O. Filz Myron A. Pratt

George F. Connors

## The Alumni Association of The Farm and Trades School

HOWARD B. ELLIS, '98 President  
Dorchester, Mass.

HAROLD W. EDWARDS, '10, Treasurer  
Arlington, Mass.

WILLIS M. SMITH, '22, Vice-President  
Somerville, Mass.

MERTON P. ELLIS, '97, Secretary  
77 SUMMER STREET, BOSTON  
G. GEORGE LARSSON, '17, Historian  
Hyde Park, Mass.

CLARENCE H. MCLENNA, '27 was married on New Year's Day to Miss ELEANOR BAILEY, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. EDWARD C. BAILEY of South Lancaster, Mass. The ceremony was performed at the bride's home, which was beautifully decorated with a variety of floral displays.

Mrs. MCLENNA is a very popular member of the younger social set and has a wide circle of friends. She is a graduate of the Hanover high school and the Faulkner School of Nursing. Mr. MCLENNA, after graduating from F. T. S. in 1927 attended Mechanics Arts high school and the Worcester Trade School from which institutions he graduated. He is employed by the Heald Manufacturing Company as an experimental engineer.

On September 19, 1937 Miss LORRAINE BERTHA RONSING became the bride of SAMUEL OLNEY HALL, '30. We have received a fine letter telling of this couple's first Christmas together, which was celebrated at the home of Mrs. HALL's parents in South Deerfield, Mass. The couple reside at 53 Heath St. Somerville. Mr. Hall is with Swift and Company in Boston, where he has been located for some time.

ROBERT W. MITCHELL, '32 has been employed by the Norwood Messenger since 1933. During this period he has been studying Television and he has accepted a position in this field with a Chicago concern. He left for his new work recently. The Norwood Messenger comments in part: "We've sad news to relate. ...one of our boys is leaving to head

West. Bob Mitchell, at last, after years of downright plugging, sacrifice and heart-breaking endeavor will swing into the last leg of the course which he hopes and we KNOW, will take him over the finish-line into his field of chosen endeavor, Television. We wish for him all those things which the world knows as success. We shall miss him very much, yet if our loss is his gain then we say, 'On your way Bob to better, finer, and greater things, for your success will bring us all much joy.' "

May we add our wishes for his continued success.

CHARLES A. BLATCHFORD, '04 writes from Cleveland, Ohio, where he is employed by the River Terminal Railroad Company. He has subscribed for the Beacon. His home address is 11508 Miles Avenue, Cleveland.

JOHN D. MACGREGOR, '31 sent his Christmas greetings from the S.S. President Polk, which was at sea from Kobe to Hong Kong. He went to sea soon after his graduation from here and has spent most of his time in crossing the Pacific ocean.

Do not forget the Annual Alumni Get-Together at the Hotel Bradford on February 9. A fine program has been prepared and the committee in charge hopes for a large attendance.

Any news of graduates would be greatly appreciated. Such items will appear on this page.





THOMPSON'S ISLAND  
**BEACON**

Vol. 41 No. 10 Printed at The Farm and Trades School, Boston, Mass. Feb. 1938

Entered November 3, 1903 at Boston, Mass., as Second Class matter, under Act of Congress, of July 6, 1874



This group has been entertained by our Band. Since 1857 the concerts by the boys have been warmly applauded.

### News of the Band

The Band has been very busy this winter and has performed three times in town. A concert was given for the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Morgan Memorial in the Church of all Nations on January 14. On January 24 the band took part in the pageant of the Community Federation agencies at Mechanics Building. Later that same week the Band gave a concert for the solicitors of the Community Federation at the Boston City Club. At all of these events nothing but the most favor-

able praise was given the boys upon their fine performance.

Our readers will be happy to know that already friends of the Band are conducting a campaign to outfit the boys with new uniforms. The present uniforms have been used for nearly two decades and have given excellent service. It is hoped that the campaign will be successful, and that the boys will have a colorful, neat dress for their spring appearances.

The Band has four concerts already

scheduled. It will appear in a Boy Scout Music Festival in South Boston on Feb. 23 at the Phillips Congregational Church. Late in April the boys will present their Annual Spring Concert in Fanéuil Hall. In May they will join with hundreds of other school boys and girls in two Festivals, one at Fall River and the other at Burlington, Vermont.

Our many friends are cordially invited to attend any of these concerts.

### The Library

In our Assembly Hall we have a small branch of the Boston Public Library in which we have many books that have been loaned to us from there. The school has also its own library of fiction, facts, and fancy.

Many magazine subscriptions give us added enjoyment. A few of these are Popular Mechanics, Popular Science, Boys' Life, American Boy, American Forests, and many others.

The Boston Public Library books are being used most commonly now and are going to be changed it is believed at the end of each month.

Many of the boys donate their books to the library to be used for the enjoyment of the other boys.

There are also a great number of volumes in our new study room for reference in our school work.

Murdock C. Moore

### Our Study Hall

The boys' reading room has been completely renovated and refurnished. It is now used as a study hall. Three large tables with chairs are used for study. Two large bookcases accommodate the volumes, most of which are for refer-

ence work. Here the boys who particularly need study go for assistance from their teachers. The study hall is very quiet and furnished so that the boys enjoy using it.

Richard G. Bemis

### Tank Trouble

The oil tank which is situated near the flag pole has risen from the excavation in which it has been lying for the last few months. The rising of the tank was caused by the water from the melting snow and ice settling in the cavity. The soil is largely clay and the water could not seep out. The first attempt to make it settle was to place large rocks on the exposed part of the tank. This did not help. The water was then pumped out and the farm crews are now digging around the tank. The proposed plan is to lay cables over the tank and fasten them with granite blocks. According to mathematics it will take about 35,000 pounds to hold the tank firm.

Arthur A. Roulston

### Winter Activities

We enjoy the winter sports very much. Some of the boys own sleds, and some of the others have made good ones from old ones. Coasting is always very popular and good fun. Other snow sports are skiing and tobogganing. Many of the boys received skis for presents and they have learned to use them well.

The Scoutmaster takes all the Scouts, and others who want to go, on skating parties quite often. We go after supper. We build a fire and have a good time.

The boys all enjoy the wintertime.

Albert Wilder

### A Word Picture

Imagine that you were sitting in our Gymnasium on most any Thursday evening. The boys' team and instructors' team are practicing for the basketball game which is to begin in a very few moments. The Instructors are just tossing the ball around, while the boys are lined up taking shots from passes in rotation. There's the whistle! The game is on, and already the Instructors have advanced the ball up the court and scored a field goal. The boys take the ball. The guards pass it to a forward who passes it to the center. A shot, and the ball rolls around the rim of the basket and finally goes through the netting. The score is tied. Basket after basket is made by the teams, and the score is nearly even throughout the game. With but one minute to play the Instructors gain possession of the ball. It is passed from player to player until a clear shot is obtained. The goal is made and the Instructors are ahead by one basket. The boys now have the ball. They are closely guarded. Just as the Instructors' defense is being broken the timekeepers' horn sounds the end of the game, and the Instructors have won.

Linwood L. Meacham

### My Book Report

In a few days book reports will be due from the members of the Freshman Class. My report will be on Scott's "Quentin Durward." One of the most interesting parts of the story is the opening, when Quentin proves his bravery by remaining to meet a large group of people, while the others ran away. Quentin was made a prisoner and was sentenced to be hung. An archer of the Royal Guard intervened and Quentin was saved. He became a member of the Royal Guard. He had many exciting adventures, and once saved

the life of his king. The adventures of Quentin Durward took place in France, about the time when Louis XI was ruling.

Howard M. Colpitts

### Kentucky and Tennessee Pioneer Days

During the time that President Jefferson was in office the early pioneers were the people who found life difficult. These pioneers were mostly young, and had the spirit and desire to succeed. They were brave, being willing to give their life for a comrade.

The clothing worn consisted mostly of animal skins for the men, and simple house dresses for the women. The living accommodations consisted of a rude cabin with simple furniture. While the men worked hard clearing the land, the women took care of the cabin and made clothing for the children.

Celebrations were held once in a while. The men would accomplish feats of strength to gain honor. A feast was prepared by the women.

Schools and teachers were not very numerous, and the children did not receive a very good education. The principle subjects taught were reading, writing and arithmetic.

Winthrop Davidson

### Ice Skating

This winter we have had some very good skating. The cold weather froze the pond in back of the storage barn as smooth as glass. There is about an acre of ice. There are two or three hockey rinks besides areas for the boys that don't like hockey to have some fun playing tag, snap the whip or some similar game. All in all we had a pretty good year for the boys that like ice skating.

Leonard I. Scott

# Thompson's Island Beacon

Published Monthly by

## THE FARM AND TRADES SCHOOL

Thompson's Island, Boston Harbor

A PRIVATE SCHOOL FOR BOYS OF LIMITED  
MEANS, SUPPORTED BY ENDOWMENTS.  
TUITION FEES AND SUBSCRIPTIONS.

WILLIAM D. DELORIE . . . . . *Editor*

ROBERT ENGLISH . . . . . *Assoc. Editor*

Vol. 41 No. 10 February 1938

Subscription Price . . . One Dollar Per Year

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The following letter came to our attention and as it seems to be indicative of Farm and Trades School training we pass it along to our readers. It was not written for publication but the writer has granted our request for permission to print it. The letter was written to Mr. Howard B. Ellis '98, President of the Alumni Association by Mr. Frederic F. Burchsted '01.

"I will be unable to attend the F. T. S. Alumni Banquet as I am attending a lecture on Metallurgy at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. I feel that this lecture is very important to me, as I am doing a good deal of research work on metals for the Beverly Hospital.

"Little did I dream as I stood by the forge in the blacksmith shop at the old school of ours, that that very training was some day going to lead me to invent new surgical instruments and devices which have saved human lives, made cripples able to walk again and reduced pain and suffering, but I must not lose sight of the fact, that after all, this inventing and research work would be utterly useless if it wasn't for the skilled surgeons who are using it.

"The financial rewards have been small up to date, but there is a wonderful satisfaction which I cannot express in words, in knowing that through this work some of the misery has been taken from this world, and I want to share it with the school which gave me my first training. So when you think of the farm, the printing office, the schoolroom, the band, the sloyd and many other useful vocations taught at the F. T. S. don't forget the blacksmith shop which has helped to save human lives and bring health and comfort into this old world of ours. Now just a good word for the hospital where through months of pain, I learned the need of new

Contributions may be mailed to  
AUGUSTUS P. LORING, JR., Treasurer  
82 Devonshire Street, Boston

surgical instruments and surgical appliances. Where they fought for me, night and day until finally they saved my life and leg and I learned to love them all.

“..... Wishing you all a very pleasant evening, I remain as ever . . . .”

Fred Burchsted

### Topics in Brief

Winter activities have progressed excellently during the past month. There has been considerable cleaning, painting and refinishing various parts of the Main Building. Necessary repairs upon our stock barn have been accomplished. Much work has been accomplished upon farm equipment in anticipation of spring.

The basketball tournaments are progressing nicely. We have eleven teams playing regularly scheduled games. Six or more games are being played each week. The Varsity squad won all of its games during the month. The Juniors, composed of smaller boys, have met and conquered other teams of similar age. The Sears' Trophy competition is providing a maximum of interest. The other league, composed of the smaller boys, is having a very successful season. Our gymnasium has been greatly improved with modern heating devices, all of which have helped in making basketball gain greater popularity with the boys.

Our weekly assemblies have been featured with excellent programs by the various classes. These programs, which occur weekly on Monday evening, are based exclusively on some phase of classroom work and show in an interesting manner the progress the boys are making.

The boys always enjoy reading, and our library is very busy during the winter months. Much has been accomplished in

assisting the boys to cultivate good reading habits. Each pupil is now preparing a book report on standard authors. Our collection of books is supplemented by shipments of volumes from the Boston Public Library and we are thus privileged in securing books on nearly any subject.

A meeting of the Admission Committee was held on January 5, at which time five boys were admitted to the school. These boys are members of the sixth and seventh grades.

The Crosby Football Shield and Trophies were awarded on Jan. 17. This is the twenty-seventh year that these have been given. The Shield is given to the championship team, and individual trophies are given to the best player in each position. Needless to say, the boys value these awards very highly and the kindness of Mr. Crosby is very greatly appreciated.

The annual corporation meeting of the School was held on January 25. The outstanding achievement of the year was the completion of the Adams House, the first unit in a building program which will be carried to completion as soon as funds are available. The certification of seven members of the Junior Class, the first boys to complete the third year of high school work here, was a very important event during the year.

Our Printing department has received a fine letter from the Secretary of The New England Home for Deaf Mutes. We have printed 2,000 reports for this association, a twelve page job with cover. The directors of the Home were pleased so much by the quality of the printing that the Secretary sent a note congratulating the printing department. We appreciate this kindness very much.

With one exception, all who took the course in First Aid have passed the requirements and have been awarded certificates. Another class with nearly twice as many boys, is now taking the course.

The current issues of the Orchestra Monthly and the Band Monthly, published by the Walter Jacobs Company contain an article giving the historical background of our School Band. It is far more complete than anything yet published and the manuscript has been carefully scrutinized to insure a most complete and accurate history of our band. It is illustrated by three photographs, and contains the description by Nathaniel Hawthorne written after his visit to the School over a century ago, in 1837.

**Calendar 90 Years Ago, January 1848**  
As Kept by the Superintendent

1. Pupils belonging to school - 72.
2. David Paige, Esq., of Boston visited the school, addressed the boys and presented each with a book.
10. The cold increases. The wind strong from the West—Thermometer at 10 P.M. 2° above zero, barometer at ten P.M. 30.16 inches.
11. Thermometer at 8 A.M. 5° below zero, barometer at 8 A.M. 30.32 inches. Thermometer at 10 A.M. 2 below, barometer at 10 A.M. 30.35 inches after which it began to fall. Catherine Cleary came back from the city this evening, as washer.
24. The boys commenced their writing lessons.

**Calendar 50 Years Ago, January 1888**  
As Kept by the Superintendent

21. A very cold rough day. Mr. Partridge and Smeaton crossed and when they came home the snow ice had formed along our shore so that it was impossible

for them to get through. We ran boards out on the ice far enough to throw a line to them and they were drawn to the shore.

22. The Supt. officiated all day. The harbor full of ice. Could cross on it to point if desired.

23. 2° above zero. Boys skating on ice east of the island. There are 50 pairs of skates on the isle, also 1½ doz. sleds and 4 toboggans so that our boys can have great fun on the ice when not too cold.

24. A fine, clear day though cold. Crossed on the ice to the "point" and got meat, fish, beans, etc.

25. Gave the boys and family rides with the horses and sleds. Had a jolly time and made all happy. Mr. Partridge went to city in P. M. and Mr. Spencer in eve. Some rain in the night.

28. People all around us on the ice. Chas. and George Bridgham and Arthur Fearing skated over to see us. Chas. Young also came, and Chas. Wallace. Sent Mr. Brown for mail.

30. Went over with horse and pung, carrying a lot of trunks, boxes, etc. to send to Natick, and to get articles for house. Meat, rice, oil, etc. Drove west from our wharf until across the channel, there straight to Club Wharf.

**The Farm and Trades School Bank**

Statement, Jan. 31, 1938

RESOURCES

Savings Bank . . . . .	\$1192.08
Cash . . . . .	60.90
	<u>\$1252.98</u>

LIABILITIES

Boys' Deposits . . . . .	\$444.97
Trading Co. Deposits . . . . .	592.80
Cottage Row Deposits . . . . .	7.26
Photo Company Deposits . . . . .	56.57
Surplus . . . . .	151.38
	<u>\$1252.98</u>

### January Meteorology

Maximum Temperature 57° on the seventh.

Minimum Temperature 5° on the nineteenth.

Mean Temperature for the month 29°.

Eight clear days, twelve partly cloudy and eleven cloudy.

### Basketball

The boys chose up teams January 6. We have five teams playing in the Nut League. These teams are called the Walnuts, Chestnuts, Beechnuts, Doughnuts, and Peanuts. I enjoy playing in this league very much.

Theodore R. Davidson

### Going to School

I came to the School last month, and am in the seventh grade. Our class then had only seven members but some other boys have come since then, and now we have ten boys in our grade. We go to school every morning. One of our classes each day is printing. We have learned the case and other things about printing well. Now we are learning the point system.

Of course we don't go to school on Sunday. On that day we have Sunday School in the morning. In the afternoon we go on beach walks, or do other things.

I am sure that I like being at F. T. S. very much.

Roland Hallberg

### Basketball and the Junior Team

Last year Mr. Thomas organized a Junior team from among the smaller boys. We played two games and won both. This year he is coaching a similar team.

None of the players are over fourteen years of age. We have played three games this season, defeating the Trinity Church Juniors and the Buker team of the Ruggles Street Baptist Church. The Y.M.C.A. Pioneer defeated us in a hard-fought contest 28-26.

Edgar R. Aldrich

### Learning to Play Cornet

A number of the boys are learning how to play cornet, so they may become members of the Band. Sometimes boys start and get discouraged and drop from the Beginners' Band. Then after awhile they begin again. I have been practicing often and hope to get in the Band soon.

Most of the boys enjoy music, and the cornet is one of the most popular instruments. Many learn to play especially well.

Wesley C. Gustafson

### First Lessons in First Aid

In our first lesson we studied the reasons why First Aid is necessary, and the most important things to do, and not to do. We learned the pressure points. In the second steps we were taught the general steps in the control of breathing. In the next lesson we were taught how to give first aid to wounds. Now we are studying shock.

Ralph E. Pratt

### Looking Back

I have been at the School for almost four years, and can look back and see how much the School has done for me. The first thing about the Island that I can remember was the steamer Pilgrim, which was tied up near the wharf. It had not been taken out of the water, but was being used for hauling freight and other work. I came here on July 27, 1934.

Maxwell M. Clark

## The Alumni Association of The Farm and Trades School

HOWARD B. ELLIS, '98 President  
Dorchester, Mass.

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Somerville, Mass.

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77 SUMMER STREET, BOSTON  
G. GEORGE LARSSON, '17, Historian  
Hyde Park, Mass.

We regret deeply to report the death of Edward, infant son of RICHARD L. BOLINGBROKE, '32. Funeral Services were held from the parents home, One Longmeadow Street, Upham's Corner

JOHN E. MAGEE, '34, has been employed by the H. P. Hood & Sons milk company for several years. He takes an active part in his community and Church life. Recently he brought his Christian Endeavor class and Pastor, Rev. Meserve, to the Island where the group had charge of our Sunday Service. The program offered was fine in every way. This graduate lives at 30 Atlantic St., Winthrop.

WILLIAM C. BURNS, '37, is attending the Quincy Trade School. He lives in Wollaston, at 222 Arlington Street.

WILLIAM C. PARSONS, '36, is succeeding admirably in his work at Plymouth. He earns his living accommodations by being "man of the house" for a Plymouth lady, whose son is engaged in business in Boston. This graduate attends Plymouth high school and has taken a most active part in all of the school's extra-curricular activities.

We are happy to report that JACK HOBSON, '27 has recovered from a rather serious illness to the extent that he was dismissed from a hospital recently. He is at home recuperating and would be glad to hear from his F. T. S. friends. His address is 31 Power Street, Norton, Massachusetts.

W. MARSHALL HALL, '27 has been for some time in the employ of a large oil company. His spare time is spent in the music profession, he having been a member of the 101st Engineers' Band since his graduation from F. T. S. His home address is 7 Brogan Rd., Medford, Mass.

THOMAS W. EASTTY, '31, was a recent visitor. He is married, has two children and makes his home in South Boston. He is employed at the Edison Electric power station on Summer Street in South Boston. His hobby continues to be music, at which he is especially adept.

EDWARD L. VERY, '36, has moved to 94 Lincoln Street, Winthrop. He is attending Winthrop High School, and plays Tuba in various amateur organizations in that city. He is working after school hours on an express route.

WALTER BISHOP, '35, was a recent visitor at the School. His address is 196 Warren Avenue, Roxbury, Mass.

ROBERT DUDLEY, '16 has been actively engaged as a salesman for the confectionery trade for many years. He lives at 25 Clyde Street, Belmont, Mass.

C. WILBUR DURGIN, '21 is living at 21A Pinckney Street in the Beacon Hill section of Boston. He has one son, Cyrus Peter, born last November 8. Mr Durgin writes much of the music material which appears in the Boston Globe. Particularly noteworthy are his comments upon the Boston Symphony Orchestra concerts. His writings may be identified by his initials which follow most of his work.





Vol. 41 No. 11 Printed at The Farm and Trades School, Boston, Mass. Mar. 1938

Entered November 3, 1903 at Boston, Mass., as Second Class matter, under Act of Congress, of July 6, 1874

### The Snow Fight

Each year, on February 22, it is the custom for the boys to have a snowball battle. Two teams are chosen and ordinarily the boys spend two or three weeks building snow forts. This year the snow melted and the ground was bare until two or three days before the battle. Just when we thought we could not have a snow fight we had a snowstorm of a few inches. By changing the rules a little we made this small amount of snow serve the purpose and we had our usual game.

The two armies were led by Lionel Willey of the Settlers, and William E. Brewer of the Indians. The Indians used plenty of paint and feathers to make their appearance more realistic.

The battle began shortly after two o'clock and took place near the East beach. There was an attack by each army, and a general free period when both armies were on the offensive. Each army had an area in which supplies were stored that were to be defended. The other army attacked and whatever supplies were captured were credited to its score.

The Indians attacked the Settlers to open the battle and earned 140 points.

The Settlers counter-attacked and earned 122 points, thus failing by eighteen points to equal the Indians. In the third and final period all supplies were placed equidistance from both forts, then when the whistle blew both sides rushed out and tried to gain possession of them. This period was filled with hard fighting, as both sides knew that the result depended upon a few minutes of hard work.

As the signal for the close of the war sounded the scorers began counting points. It was found that the Indians had won, by the close score of 228 to 214 points. The Indians joyfully went to the Main Building and began preparing to receive the trophy of war, which consisted of good things to eat.

The winning team received, as the "trophy of war", bananas, doughnuts, candy, oranges, and peanuts. The happy members of the army generously divided with the boys on the losing side. Although I have been in these battles for four successive years, this is the first time I have been on the winning side. Everyone enjoyed the battle and wish to thank the instructors who organized the game.

Edgar R. Aldrich

### Photo Company

Each year two boys from the upper class are selected and trained in photographic technic. All the work of taking pictures, developing the negatives and making the prints are done by these boys. Although every step in photography must be done carefully and with utmost care, perhaps the most difficult is the proper mixing of chemical solutions. We do not use any ready-made solutions, but mix all our developing and printing solutions.

This work is in the nature of a hobby, as the time used is the leisure time of the boys. Those who enjoy photography could imagine no better way to spend their playtime than in our darkroom.

Many of the instructors and boys give our darkroom all their picture work, and we are busy most of the time. We have several fine cameras, enlarging apparatus and good equipment for developing and printing all the more popular sizes of pictures.\*

William D. DeLorie

### Essays

Each year, about this time, each member of the graduating class writes an essay of about two thousand words in length. The subjects are chosen by the boys. The essays must be written in correct grammatical form.

Most of the winter term is spent gathering material for the essays. The boys use reference books of all kinds, and usually some of the papers are written from practical experience, when the essay has to do with some of the school courses.

The essays are corrected by the teacher of the English class and the mark the boy receives is very important. The essay is copied, with all corrections made, and delivered to the office about the first of May. It is placed in the school files, where it is kept permanently.

On Graduation Day the essays prepared by the Valedictorian and Salutatorian are delivered as part of the Graduation Day program.

Robert J. English

### The Jester's Comments

—Charles Averill, who is learning the printing trade, is evidently looked upon with suspicion by some of the other printers. When advancing towards the type cases he picked out one from which to set Beacon articles. Imagine his great surprise, which turned to indignation, when he found the following message; "Averill Keep Out." Of course it is easy to mix up a type case, but probably one of the other boys (Bob English perhaps) may know something about it. Whoever thought Averill could get a case mixed?

—Leonard Markley did a stunt quite similar to the man who built a boat in his cellar, and then couldn't take it out because the door was too small. Anyway Carpenter Markley made a mirror frame and searched for a good flat surface to glue the joints. He found it. 'Twas the bed of the bandsaw he used and his frame was nicely glued. Then, sad to say, he found the bandsaw blade running through the middle of his frame. This blade, about one-half inch in width is continuous and the problem was to remove the frame. He, like the the man who built the boat in his cellar, had to take his work apart and assemble it in another place.

—Bobby MacSwain of the freshman class waits on table for the Junior Class. He is not awed by these peers of wisdom. As far as the Juniors appetites go the following was heard: "More potatoes please," to which the young freshman replied, "You've had enough". Look out frosh, you're treading on dangerous ground. (Inserted by the Juniors).

### The Class Play

The seventh grade put on a play recently. It was to remind the boys to use better English. All the seventh grade and some of the sixth grade boys were in it. The boys like to put on plays because it is fun.

Roland Hallberg

### Printing

Printing is taught to the Sixth and Seventh grades. We are taught how to lock up chases, run presses, set up type and other things. Printing is very interesting and educational.

David N. Moseley

### Marble Season

We have just begun playing marbles, and this is a sure sign of spring. The most popular games are: poison, bunny in the hole, ringer, chase, and popsies.

John V. Johanson

### Sewing Buttons

I work in the sewing room and we have a great many clothes that need buttons sewed on. It is not hard to sew buttons on white shirts, but on work clothes there is usually a hole where the button is supposed to be. So we have to mend the hole before we put the button on.

James E. McCarthy

### Scout Sunday Program

On February 6, which was Boy Scout Sunday, our troop had a special service. It was in charge of our minister, Reverend Harold Taylor. The Scout Troop sat in front in Chapel and all those who had uniforms wore them. The service was mostly patriotic, and Mr. Taylor told about George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. It was a fine service.

Ralph E. Pratt

### Pop Corn on the Beach

Several times our Scoutmaster has taken the scouts to the camp and we have popped corn. We made some poppers

out of tin cans. The corn pops fine if a bed of real hot coals is made. After we have popped all the corn we want, the grubmaster gives us marshmallows which we roast. This is lots of fun.

Donald F. Griswold

### Horse Barn Work

Two other boys and I do the chores in the horse barn every morning and also in the evening. There are four horses and a pony and it is our duty to feed and clean them. We first brush the horses and clean off any dirt that is caked. Then we give them grain and hay. Usually we have to go in the haymow and get down hay for them. The horses are given all the water they want to drink.

William L. Schlegel

### Working on the Farm

I find working on the farm very interesting. Most of the farm boys are very strong, because they work outdoors. All the boys have their own work to do. Now we are getting the fields ready for spring planting.

Ralph E. Hunnewell

### Summer is Coming

We have already had some warm sunny days and nearly all the boys are looking forward to summer. Swimming is the chief summer sport and I think all the boys want to pass the Red Cross swimming and life-saving tests. We shall all be glad when summer comes.

Gerald J. Connor

### Surveying

The other day some men came to the Island to survey. They measured the land around all the buildings and then measured some of the fields. It seems to me that surveying must be very interesting work, and a surveyor needs a good education to do his work well.

Linwood L. Meacham

# Thompson's Island Beacon

Published Monthly by  
THE FARM AND TRADES SCHOOL

Thompson's Island, Boston Harbor  
A PRIVATE SCHOOL FOR BOYS OF LIMITED  
MEANS, SUPPORTED BY ENDOWMENTS,  
TUITION FEES AND SUBSCRIPTIONS.

WILLIAM D. DELORIE - - - - - *Editor*

ROBERT ENGLISH - - - - - *Assoc. Editor*

Vol. 41 No. 11 March 1938

Subscription Price - - - One Dollar Per Year

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The following poem was printed in the South Boston Gazette of February 25, and was written by the brilliant young pianist, Ernest Weidner. The excellent appearance, deportment and spirit of the Band, as it participated in a Boy Scout musical festival on February 23, prompted Mr. Weidner to pen this tribute.

## A TRIBUTE

(To the boys of Thompson's Island, and especially to the boys of the band who participated in the Music Festival Wed. night.)

The spirit that all schools once had  
Has slowly died away.  
It's left the college campus, and  
The place where fellows play.

It's found no more in High School.  
And true! It seems quite sad  
To think they've lost the grandeur  
Of the spirit that they had.

But from a harbor island came  
A band of happy lads  
Whose taste for art and culture, far  
Out run this world of fads.

They live apart from jazz and noise  
And crashing trolley cars.  
They love God's hills and meadows green,  
His seas and sky of stars.

The words both peace and quietness mean  
Much more to them than us,  
For we are ever trapped by noise,  
And swamped in mires of fuss.

They seldom know the feeling of  
A life that's broke and blue.  
They only know the splendor of  
A friend that's tried and true.

The spirit that these lads possess  
I hope will never die,  
Because, it is the truest thing  
I've found beneath the sky.

Contributions may be mailed to  
AUGUSTUS P. LORING, JR., Treasurer  
82 Devonshire Street, Boston

These friendly boys, both live and learn  
 And struggle side by side;  
 A band of lads all pure of heart,  
 They're "Boston Harbor's Pride"

A bow I make, unto you all.  
 Believe me this is true,  
 I'd like to visit some fine day  
 Your teachers, school, and you.

But now let's hail the band that came  
 To cheer us for a while,  
 And say, "God, in thy mercy bless  
 The boys of Thompson's Isle."

—ERNEST WEIDNER.

### Topics in Brief

The Alumni Association held its annual Get-Together on February 9, at the Hotel Bradford. A large number of graduates were present, and the meeting was presided over by President of the Association, Howard B. Ellis, '98. President Arthur Adams, of the Board of Managers, was present and spoke interestingly of the School and the progress made in 1937.

Three members of the School staff, and the Brass Quartet attended the meeting. William M. Meacham, Headmaster, told of the constructive changes being made and others under consideration.

On February 23 our Band assisted in a Musical Festival sponsored by Boy Scout troop 6, of South Boston, at the Phillips Congregational Church. The boys played excellently and received high tribute from the audience of nearly 600. The program was of a very high order, and we were happy to have a part in its presentation.

The High School classes have prepared excellent book reports, a feature

of the English Department. The boys have enjoyed reading more and more as the winter has progressed and they have been encouraged to read real works of merit. The School has recently added a number of standard volumes to its library of schoolroom classics.

Sufficient snow arrived two days before Washington's birthday to enable the boys to enjoy the traditional snow fight on February 22. William E. Brewer led the winning army, although the losing side, captained by Lionel Willey lost by such a small margin that the fight might well have ended in a tie. The trophy of war, consisting of a variety of good things to eat was presented the winning army, and the boys on that side cordially invited the losers to join in the victors' party.

Manager Alfred C. Malm, and Mrs. Malm were here for the day and witnessed the battle.

A number of boys enjoyed a visit to the Sportsman Show at Mechanics Building during the week. The exhibitions of all the latest in "how to enjoy the outdoors" was very much enjoyed. Of course the outstanding part of the trip was the log-rolling, canoeing, and other contests.

Cottage Row Government gave a Valentine Party on February 14, which was very ably directed by Mayor Eugene Proctor and his staff. The principal event was dancing, the boys' orchestra furnishing the music. There were other events, all of which helped to make a very pleasant evening's entertainment.

The favorite winter sport continues to be basketball, and the boys have enjoyed a fine season. Three groups are playing a rather full schedule. The Varsity have won most of their games, and have

played several Church and Y.M.C.A. teams. The Sears Trophy League, composed of four teams have had very fine competition, neither of the four teams having yet definitely won the Silver Shield awarded annually by Manager Philip S. Sears. The smaller boys have another league, composed of five teams called the "Nut League" and these teams also have enjoyed a season of high competitive order.

From our Poultry Department has come an egg, weighing nearly six ounces, which is perhaps a little more than three times the size of a normal egg. Although we have had a great many eggs of unusually large size, this one is the largest of which we have any record. The egg measured nine inches around the shell.

**Calendar 90 Years Ago, February 1848**  
As Kept by the Superintendent

- 6. The Superintendent read from Abbott's School Boy on the "Other Worlds."
- 20. The religious exercises were conducted by the Superintendent on this and the preceding Sabbath.
- 23. John Quincy Adams died this day in the city of Washington.

**Calendar 50 Years Ago, February 1888**  
As Kept by the Superintendent

- 1. Went to the city taking horse and pung and getting another load of articles from Laughlin's store to the door of which I drove.
- 10. The 64th birthday of the Sup't, 37 of which have been spent on this Island.
- 13. Warm. Slushy on the ice. Self went over in dory. Got caught in the drift ice. Delayed an hour. Was surprised on my return to find Willie Morse had driven on the ice from Neponset.

- Coming from Natick.
- 16. 2° below 0 this morning. A drop of 40° in 36 hours.
- 20. Manager Grew with Mr. & Mrs. Bradley came to see the School.
- 21. Went to town and met the Managers, and Mr. & Mrs. Bradley.
- 22. Were visited by Chas. Wallace, who goes west to-night at 9 o'clock, via B. & A. R. R. He goes to Colorado ranching.
- 24. Went to city in P. M. with Chas. Hafley, who goes to try the position as messenger for Col. Whiton at Deer Island.
- 28. Managers in executive session.

**February Meteorology**

Maximum Temperature 52° on the seventh.  
Minimum Temperature 9° on the nineteenth.  
Mean Temperature for the month 31°.  
Six clear days, seven partly cloudy and fifteen cloudy.

**The Farm and Trades School Bank**

Statement, Jan. 31, 1938

**RESOURCES**

Savings Bank . . . . .	\$1192.08
Cash . . . . .	85.29
	<u>\$1277.37</u>

**LIABILITIES**

Boys' Deposits . . . . .	\$465.36
Trading Co. Deposits . . . . .	595.30
Cottage Row Deposits . . . . .	4.01
Photo Company Deposits . . . . .	62.32
Surplus . . . . .	150.38
	<u>\$1277.37</u>

**A French Program**

Recently at a Monday evening Assembly, the combined Sophomore and

Freshman classes gave a very fine program entirely in French.

A French play was first given. The cast consisted of fifteen boys. The entire dialog was in French. It was necessary for an English interpretation to insure the audience's understanding of the script.

One of the best numbers on the program was a solo sung in French by a member of the Sophomore Class. We were amazed at the ease in which the entire song was sung.

Another song was presented in the form of a duet by two members of the Junior Class. This was most excellently given.

This program was arranged by Mrs. Ronka, our French teacher, in order to give the French Classes an opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge of the French language. This they did very effectively.

Robert A. MacSwain

### Mother Nature

Some people don't realize what Mother Nature does for them, but I think that she is as good as the most wonderful person in the world to us. She provides us with all the green grass, the white snow and trees to climb or for the birds to frolic in.

If it wasn't for her I think this world would be a very gloomy place in which to live. The people would always be in complete darkness, with no food to eat.

I think that we should all appreciate what Mother Nature does for us.

Winthrop Davidson

### Copying a Picture

A few years ago a very unusual picture was taken of the Island. A small box camera was used and six different

"snaps" were made of the west side of the Island. When printed the result was an unusually fine panoramic view. Many of the boys framed the picture.

This year one of the negatives became scratched, and it was feared that the six negatives might become useless. The picture could not be taken again, as the sky, tide, season and so forth never would be exactly duplicated.

Although I had never done it before, I tried to copy one of the prints. I used a 5x7 view camera, with a focusing screen. After some experimenting with lights, distance and exposure I made another negative. I was very much surprised to find, that after developing the negative, it was sharp and clear.

Since then I have copied several pictures which the instructors wanted. This is a valuable method of preserving old prints, for a new negative is relatively inexpensive and as many prints as are wanted can be made at little cost.

Charles F. Averill

### The Sportsman Show

A group of the boys had the opportunity to visit the Sportsman Show last month. We left the Island on the one o'clock boat and arrived at the Mechanics Building without delay. We immediately began examining the various exhibits, of which there were a great number. About everything that is used by sportsmen was on display. There were airplanes, boats, guns, tents and sleeping equipment, outfits for cooking, and everything essential to outdoor life.

There was an exhibition of log-rolling, canoe handling and fishing by experts who showed the proper manner of doing these rather difficult things.

We all greatly appreciate the opportunity of visiting the Sportsman Show.

Murdock C. Moore

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G. GEORGE LARSSON, '17, Historian  
Hyde Park, Mass.

HAROLD W. EDWARDS, '10, Treasurer  
Arlington, Mass.

### Annual Alumni Dinner

The Annual Alumni Reunion and dinner was held on February 9, at the Hotel Bradford. Graduates were present from 1874 to 1937, as were also undergraduates from the class of 1938. The Association was proud to have President Arthur Adams, of the Board of Managers, present as guest of honor.

Howard B. Ellis, '98, President of the Association presided and Will Frank Davis, '79, was master of ceremonies. Entertainment was provided by community singing, and a brass quartet from the school played several selections. A professional entertainer gave an excellent program on several unique types of musical instruments. Several reels of pictures were shown by Norman Morse, who lives in Hingham.

The speakers included, first of all, President Arthur Adams who expressed his happiness at being present and told of the steady progress the school is making. He was followed by Headmaster William M. Meacham who spoke of tentative plans for new buildings.

Other speakers were Managers William Alcott, '84, and Alfred C. Malm '00. Greetings were given from several other graduates, among them being former Chief Henry A. Fox '79, of the Boston Fire Department and the Association historian, G. Geo. Larsson, '17.

### Band Uniforms

For some time the graduates of the School who live in and around Boston have wished that the Band could have a more modern dress. The School discontinued the practice of providing uniforms

for the boys three years ago. The Band has continued to use the same set, however, and has used them for nearly two decades.

The present uniform was excellently tailored and was in every way a splendid dress for the school. However the years have taken their toll, and naturally the boys do not appear to their best advantage.

A committee was appointed to look into this uniform problem and it was the decided opinion that the necessary amount (\$2000) could be raised if the friends of the school were acquainted with the facts.

The Band has achieved high honors all over New England and is worthy of all the assistance which can be given. Although the School has managed to maintain all of its fine services during this prolonged depression-recession it cannot provide for items not essential to the education of the boys.

However, there is nothing to prevent the graduates,—most of them former band boys, and other thoughtful, kind friends of the school to accept this opportunity of providing the band with the colorful, modern uniform so necessary to the school band of today.

Everyone is invited to contribute to the Fund, and it is suggested that all the donations be sent directly to Headmaster William M. Meacham, Thompson's Island, Boston.

The Committee earnestly desires your sincere cooperation, and hopes that you will endeavor to do everything possible, so that our Band will continue to maintain its high place.

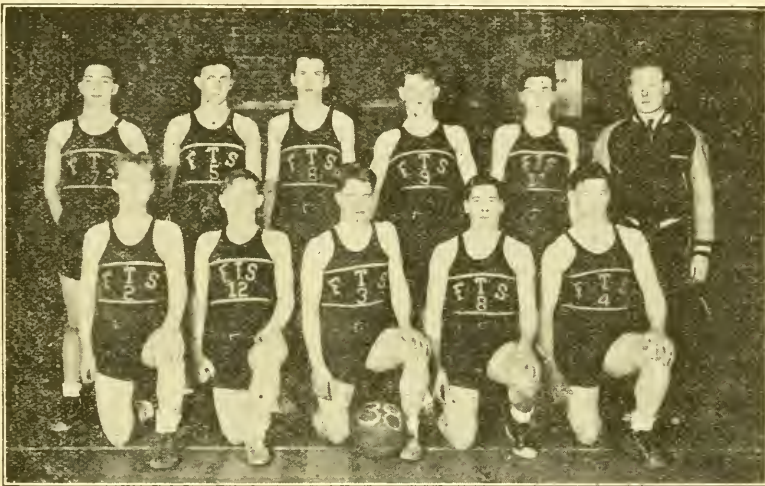




THOMPSON'S ISLAND  
**BEACON**

Vol. 41 No. 12 Printed at The Farm and Trades School, Boston, Mass. April 1938

Entered November 3, 1903 at Boston, Mass., as Second Class matter, under Act of Congress, of July 6, 1874



### Varsity Basketball Squad 1938

Back Row, left to right: Myron A. Pratt, Eliot Bernard, Leonard Markley, David W. Kenvin, William F. Reagan, Coach Raymond Thomas.

Front Row, left to right: Eugene Proctor, Thomas C. Kenvin, Capt. William D. DeLorie, Stephen H. Vinal, Raymond M. Bean.

### Summary of School Team Basketball

The 1938 basketball season saw the varsity win seven games and lose four games. It was coached by Raymond Thomas.

The starting lineup was composed of the following: Leonard Markley, center; Eliot Bernard, right forward; Myron A. Pratt, left forward; William D. DeLorie, right guard; and Raymond M. Bean, left guard. The second team, most of whom played in a considerable part of the games was: David W. Kenvin, Thomas

C. Kenvin, and William F. Reagan, forwards; and Eugene Proctor, and Stephen H. Vinal, guards.

The season opened on January 8 with a contest with the Quincy Baptist team which we won 42-30 in a fast and hard fought game which we were fortunate to win. We won our second game on January 22 defeating a Y. M. C. A. five 39-25. Our third game was won on January 29 when we defeated a team from the Ruggles Street Baptist Church 41-23. Another win, the fourth in suc-

cession was registered on February 5 when we won 40-20 over another Y. M. C. A. quintet.

The team went into a slump on February 12, losing to the Trinity Church five 34-18. We could not get going in the second half, but should have won the game easily.

By the score of 32-25 we beat the Ruggles Street Church team on February 18. We followed this fifth win with another loss, this time to the Shawmuts, the Y.M.C.A. champions. This game was played on February 26 and we lost by a score of 48-28. Our third loss was given us by Gordon College on March 1, when we were conquered 28-14.

On March 5 we had a return game with the Shawmut team which had previously beaten us. We were determined to even things up, which we did 54-30. Gordon College had defeated us and the return game with this fine team was played on March 10. Not until the last few seconds of play was the issue decided and we were fortunate to eke out a 28-25 victory in the best played game of the season.

Our final game of the season was with the Village Five, a Y. M. C. A. quintet. We played our best, but could not seem to get the results we should have and lost 30-27. This game was played on March 12.

We had a very successful season and all the credit goes to our coach, Mr. Thomas. Also the team showed excellent cooperation and good sportsmanship throughout the season making the 1938 season one long to be remembered.

William D. DeLorie, *Captain*

#### Basketball Averages Season 1938

Team	Won	Lost	Percentage
Varsity	7	4	.636
Juniors	4	2	.666

#### Sears Trophy League

Coyotes	7	2	.777
Panthers	6	3	.666
Tigers	4	5	.444
Wildcats	1	8	.111

#### Nut League

Beechnuts	8	2	.800
Peanuts	7	3	.700
Doughnuts	5	4	.555
Walnuts	2	7	.222
Chestnuts	1	8	.111

#### The Jester's Comments

What Would F. T. S. Be Like?

If Raymond were an "onion" instead of a Bean?

If Percie were a "prune" instead of a Berry?

If Weston were a "book" instead of a Page?

If Robert were "geography" instead of English?

If John were "finished" instead of Dunn?

If Robert were a "fireman" instead of a Woodman?

If William were "duck" instead of Dodge?

If Ernest were "cold" instead of Burns?

If Lionel were "Chile" instead of Willey?

If Gordon were a "bad one" instead of a Goodwin?

If Donald were "barley" instead of Rice?

If George were "square" instead of Connors?

If Murdock were "less" instead of Moore?

If Charles were "refuse" instead of Grant?

### Honor Roll—Winter Term

Junior Class: William F. Reagan, 89.3; Charles F. Averill, 86.5.

Sophomore Class: Weston O. Page, 93.0; Warren O. Filz, 92.0.

Freshman Class: Wesley C. Gustafson, 92.3; Murdock C. Moore, 89.5.

Eighth Grade: Warren A. Danner, 91.4; Axel R. Hallberg, 89.4.

Seventh Grade: Ralph E. Pratt, 93.9; James E. McCarthy, 90.7.

Sixth Grade: William H. Britton, 92.4; James F. St. Coeur, 91.7.

The following boys have received a mark of 90 or over in scholastic effort for the past term:

Junior Class: Charles F. Averill, William D. DeLorie, Arthur E. Mathieu, William F. Reagan.

Sophomore Class: Warren O. Filz, Thomas C. Kenvin, George A. Krebs, Jr. Weston O. Page, Myron A. Pratt, Eugene Proctor, Stephen H. Vinal, Calvin L. Wilder.

Freshman Class: Howard M. Colpitts, Wesley C. Gustafson, Murdock C. Moore.

Eighth Grade: Warren A. Danner, Winthrop Davidson, Axel R. Hallberg, William C. Morse.

Seventh Grade: Charles Gilbert, Jr. Roland Hallberg, James E. McCarthy, Ralph E. Pratt.

Sixth Grade: William H. Britton, Ernest Burns, Donald L. Davis.

### Spring Work

Each year, about this time of year, there is much work needed to be done in beautifying our school for the summer months. During the winter, because of snow and ice, not much can be accomplished out-of-doors so in the spring we have a general cleaning campaign.

The lawns are raked, cleaned and fertilized. Then they are rolled with a

heavy machine. All this tends to make the lawns grow better. Woodwork has to be washed and painted. The garden plots are all made ready for planting. Shrubs are trimmed, trees pruned and hedges spruced up. A quantity of gravel is screened and used on the walks and avenues. The roads, avenues and other places are being put into proper condition after the heavy winter storms. The baseball field has to be made ready for the summer schedule, as does the tennis court.

We have already accomplished much of this work, but there is a great deal left to do.

Robert J. English

### A Birthday Party

Each year, on March 2, which is Mr. Meacham's birthday, we have some type of special entertainment. The program begins at about six o'clock when we have supper in the gymnasium, at which time Mr. Meacham cuts his birthday cake.

After the supper many of the boys and instructors began preparing to take part in an entertainment in the Assembly Hall. The show was a complete success. There were skits, novelties, instrumental solos and duets and various tricks. Everyone enjoyed it very much.

Near the end of the program Stephen Vinal was called forward and presented with a birthday gift, for March 2 is his anniversary. Then he presented Mr. Meacham with remembrances of the day. Mr. Meacham spoke briefly and thanked everyone for arranging such an evening of pleasant diversion.

Edgar R. Aldrich

Fifteen of our boys had the pleasure of assisting at the Annual Sugar Party, conducted each year by the Vermont Association of Boston. The party took place on April 9, at the Hotel Vendome.

# Thompson's Island Beacon

Published Monthly by

## THE FARM AND TRADES SCHOOL

Thompson's Island, Boston Harbor

A PRIVATE SCHOOL FOR BOYS OF LIMITED  
MEANS, SUPPORTED BY ENDOWMENTS.  
TUITION FEES AND SUBSCRIPTIONS.

WILLIAM D. DELORIE - - - - - *Editor*

EDGAR R. ALDRICH - - - - - *Assoc. Editor*

Vol. 41 No. 12 April 1938

Subscription Price - - - One Dollar Per Year

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Contributions may be mailed to  
AUGUSTUS P. LORING, JR., Treasurer  
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We regret the tragedy which occurred Sunday afternoon, March 27, when five boys, ages fourteen to seventeen, from South Boston, capsized in Dorchester Bay. The boys set out from City Point in a rowboat. When about a mile from the Point, about 300 yards northwest of channel buoys numbers three and four, they decided to change seats. This act, in a choppy sea, caused the boat to capsize.

The Steward of the South Boston Yacht Club telephoned the School that some boys in a rowboat were capsized off Half-tide Rock and he asked that our boat be sent.

James H. Jardine, Boat Captain, and his crew of two boys, Leonard I. Scott, 16, and William J. Bevans, Jr., 15, immediately took the School boat PILGRIM III and started for Half-tide Rock which lies between Thompson's Island and Squantum, about a mile and a half south of our wharf. After covering nearly half the distance they sighted the overturned rowboat to the west of the Neponset channel towards "Cow Pasture".

Upon approaching the overturned craft, the crew of the PILGRIM III discovered four boys clinging to the sides. The fifth member of the group did not have the strength and endurance to maintain his hold.

Captain Jardine and his two boat-boys quickly hauled the four nearly exhausted lads to the deck of the PILGRIM III. They were unable to recover the body of the fifth member, James Barry, 16. The crew of the School boat worked over John McDonald, 15, who had water in his lungs, was exhausted, and had become unconscious. The boat cruised around the area about five minutes searching for the body of the other lad, then after the police boat, the William H. McShane, appeared at the scene of the disaster, our

boat headed for City Point with the other four boys. Soon afterwards another police boat, Coast Guard boats and seaplanes joined the search for the missing body. The four boys were taken from the school boat PILGRIM III to hospitals by ambulances which were waiting at the Public Landing.

The alertness of the South Boston Yacht Club Steward, Robert Wallace, the quick response of our crew, the initiative and ability of James H. Jardine, the judgment and skill of the two boys, Leonard Scott and William Bevans, and upon arrival at City Point the efficiency of the police department and ambulance service, were all links in the rescue which doubtless saved some lives.

There were others who directly and indirectly played a part in this rescue work, including Clifton E. Albee, Scout Master at Thompson's Island, through whose efforts Bevans and Scott became Scouts, and especially the teaching of First Aid and the prone method of resuscitation by Raymond Thomas, Supervisor of Boys at the School, as a part of the Red Cross Life Saving and First Aid work.

The rescued boys were: John McDonald, 15, Vincent Zandi, 14, Harold Haywood, 16, and Joseph Oldsworth, 17, all of South Boston.

We extend our sympathy to the boys involved in the tragedy and especially to the bereaved family.

We are happy that members of our School could be helpful in this emergency and we are proud of the individuals who rendered this service. The Boston papers of Monday, March 28, were very generous in their commendation.

### Topics in Brief

The Band will give its annual Spring Concert at Faneuil Hall on April 29.

Invitations may be obtained by writing the School.

The boys use every possible means for staging parties of one kind or another, and we have had several entertaining evenings during the winter. At one of these events the entire program was in charge of the faculty. Another, given on March 2, was composed of a variety of musical, dramatic and comedy stunts given by both boys and faculty. Cottage Row Government has sponsored parties during the winter months.

Our older Boy Scouts have reached the stage where they may begin earning Merit Badges, and several have qualified for these honors during the month. Excellent opportunities abound for proficiency in this work, which results in honor ratings for Boy Scouts.

This month has been one of great activity and we have accomplished much of the necessary spring work. Our many lawns have been given careful attention, fertilizer being applied, sections chosen for resodding and all have been rolled. The numerous flower beds have been made ready for planting. The tulip areas give promise of eclipsing even the excellence gained in other years.

We are continually painting, cleaning and repairing the various buildings and have concentrated during the month upon the stairways, halls and exterior woodwork of the Main Building. The farm crew has done an excellent job of repairing needed portions of our stock barn.

The basketball season closed this month. The Coyotes, captained by Charles Pecce, won the Sears Trophy League championship and will soon be

awarded the Sears Silver Shield, awarded annually by Manager Philip S. Sears. The Nut League, composed of five teams made up of the smaller boys closed its season with two teams tied for first place and a post season contest was played, the Beechnuts, captained by Warren Danner defeating the Peanuts, captained by Gerald Connor. The Varsity won seven and lost four games. This is one of the best basketball seasons we have had in years.

A group of the boys was privileged to witness the unusual motion picture "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" during the month.

The winter term of school ended on March 25, and the ensuing week was given over to our regular spring vacation for the boys. This week ordinarily heralds the beginning of the baseball season here, and it was so this year.

#### Calendar 50 Years Ago, March 1888 As Kept by the Superintendent

15. The Superintendent and Matron—Mr. & Mrs. William A. Morse—retire from this institution this day and will be succeeded by Mr. & Mrs. Charles H. Bradley who have our most hearty good wishes for their success and happiness in their work.

I came to this island April 1st, 1850. I became Superintendent July 1st, 1856. Mrs. Morse came here in January 1855. We have admitted and sent out to the work of life eight hundred and fifty-four boys.

There have been three marriages here, viz., Mr. Thomas M. Thompson and Miss Annie E. Morrison, Mr. Frank Marshall and Miss Julia Barker, Mr. Gibson and Miss Mary A. McClellan.

There have been three births. The

first was the child of Mr. and Mrs. Thompson. The second was Willie Austin Morse, child of the Superintendent and Matron, and the third Norman Foster Morse, child of Mr. and Mrs. John R. Morse.

Improvements have been made on the farm of an extensive nature—About thirty acres of salt marsh have been reclaimed and made fresh land which bears good crops. Sea walls have been built. Trees both fruit and ornamental set out, etc.

Large additions have been made to the main house, an industrial building, a barn, a cow-barn, a hennery, etc., been built.

Of the teachers longest here I might mention Mr. J. R. Morse, two terms, sixteen years; Mr. F. A. Morse, eight years; Mr. Lewis L. Hobbs, six years.

#### Calendar 90 Years Ago, March 1848 As Kept by the Superintendent

5. A sermon accompanied by the usual religious exercises was read by the Superintendent.

6. Chas. H. Phillips went to live with Mr. Nathaniel Wilson, an apothecary, in Lawrence.

10. The remains of J. Q. Adams arrived in Boston and were interred in Quincy on the next day.

11. Received a visit from Dr. John Morrison of Alton, N. H.

20. Eugene C. Lincoln from Roxbury was admitted.

#### March Meteorology

Maximum Temperature 78° on the twenty-third.

Minimum Temperature 7° on the first.

Mean Temperature for the month 40°. Seven clear days, eight partly cloudy, and sixteen cloudy.

RESOLUTION

This resolution was adopted by the Board of Managers Tuesday, April 5, 1938, and placed on record.

WHEREAS, The Board of Managers of The Farm and Trades School has learned of the rescue in Dorchester Bay on Sunday afternoon, March 27, 1938, by two pupils and an instructor of said School, of a capsized boat-load of South Boston youths, four of whom were safely pulled on board the School's launch where approved methods of first-aid were immediately applied and continued for their resuscitation until other aid could be given to them, be it

RESOLVED, That this prompt demonstration of intelligent and effective work on the part of the two pupils, William J. Bevans, Jr., aged 15, and Leonard Scott, aged 16, together with the action of the instructor, James H. Jardine, captain of the launch, fills us with pride in their achievement, and typifies in high degree the sort of training which is given at The Farm and Trades School.

We sympathize with the family of that other youth who, exhausted in the icy waters, lost his hold on the overturned boat and sank from sight before aid could reach him.

With the families and friends of the four rescued youths we rejoice in their deliverance from a similar fate and in their recovery.

Therefore, we desire to place on record our appreciation of the valuable aid rendered in that emergency by and through The Farm and Trades School.

Boston  
April 5, 1938

Marching Drill

During the past month the band has been preparing its marching drills for the

coming spring contests. Mr. Warren, our bandmaster, is supervising these drills. At first our marching was very poor, but now we are improving greatly. Some of the maneuvers we have been taught are left and right flank, to the rear, counter-marching, and others.

All of these are to be used in our marching drill at the Contests. The band plays five numbers from memory and the boys can thus concentrate on marching instead of reading music.

Murdock C. Moore

A Troop Leaders' Meeting

Last night the Troop Leaders' Council had a special meeting to begin organizing for our summer camp. This council is made up of the patrol leaders, with the Junior Assistant Scoutmaster in charge.

It was decided to operate on a strictly patrol basis. Each patrol will have its own camping area and will keep it throughout the summer.

The troop has grown from 17 to 35 scouts so we have the job of getting more material, such as tents and so forth.

We expect to have a fine camping season. Bowditch Grove, where we have our camp, is a very good location.

Eugene Proctor

The Farm and Trades School Bank

Statement, April 1, 1938

RESOURCES

Savings Bank . . . . .	\$1192.08
Cash . . . . .	<u>106.65</u>
	\$1298.73

LIABILITIES

Boys' Deposits . . . . .	\$484.48
Trading Co. Deposits . . . . .	595.50
Cottage Row Deposits . . . . .	4.01
Photo Company Deposits . . . . .	64.36
Surplus . . . . .	<u>150.38</u>
	\$1298.73

## The Alumni Association of The Farm and Trades School

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Hyde Park, Mass.

We are happy to print the following letter, written by one of our older graduates. It will undoubtedly prove of great interest.

Plant City, Fla. 3-31-38.

Mr. Wm. M. Meacham, Headmaster,  
Farm and Trades School,  
Thompson's Island,  
Boston Harbor,  
Boston Mass. P. O. Box 1486.  
Dear Sir:

Some time ago I received a request for assistance in providing a uniform for the band-boys, and today I received a request for assistance in defraying the prospective expenses of some trips that the band expects to have this year, so I enclose my check for five dollars for you to use as your judgement decides, I regret that I cannot make it much more; but I probably am the oldest, or at least one of the older boys, as I am now eighty eight years of age, and my earning days are past, and I am alone down here. I don't dare to go farther north because of the climates of different portions of the country.

I will give you some facts that I doubt anyone else can duplicate.

My father was born in the Kennebec Settlement, which was under the Bay Colony of what is now Massachusetts, and he was on the "Old Ironsides" the Constitution when she fought the English Ship Guerriere, and he was seventy years of age when I was born in 1850, so our lives are longer than the life of the United States (162 years). (One hundred sixty two years).

The Kennebec Settlement was on the Kennebec river in what is now the state

of Maine, and except relatives of my deceased wife I know of no relatives; but she left me a lot of nieces and nephews who seem to care a great deal for me, but they are well supplied with families and I have none, so I think it best to live at home here.

Yours truly,  
JAMES D. SMITH  
Route 2 Box 223 C  
Plant City, Florida.

"The Craftsman Shop" operated by three of our young graduates commenced business this month. The shop located in Brighton, is the venture of Harold E. Floyd, '29, John A. Paley, '29, and Warren N. Pratt, '29.

We are happy to report that JAMES H. GRAHAM, '79, has returned to his home after treatment at the Whidden Memorial Hospital, in Everett. He was the recipient of numerous messages while at the hospital, all of which tend to show the esteem in which he is held by all who know him.

HAROLD E. FLOYD, '29, has been engaged at the School for the past few Saturdays renewing upholstery. He does a fine job.

### Uniforms for the Band

We take this opportunity of informing our friends how we are progressing in our attempt to outfit the band with new uniforms. Contributions are coming in almost every day. At present we are facing a deficit of \$150.00, but we trust this will be met by our generous contributors.