

CENTRAL HIGH REGISTER

Vol. LIV, No. 4

CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL, OMAHA 2, NEBRASKA, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1959

TEN CENTS

Omaha High, 1859

On November 10, 1859, the first session of Omaha High school took place in the old State House at Ninth and Farnam streets. This was the modest beginning of Omaha Central High school.

However, Omaha did have several private schools before this, dating back to 1885.

The Omaha public schools system was not authorized by the territorial legislature until 1859. The state house had to be used for classes because the city owned no buildings of its own at this time.

Different locations of Omaha High school between 1861 and 1872 were Ninth and Douglas, Thirteenth and Douglas, Fifteenth and Douglas, Sixteenth and Douglas, Douglas between Fifteenth and Sixteenth, Fifteenth and Capitol Avenue, Sixteenth and Chicago and, finally, at the Episcopal school at Fourteenth and Jackson streets.

The search for a permanent site was headed by J. H. Kellom and S. D. Beal. Twelve years later when the state capitol was moved to Lincoln, their dream was realized as the ten acres of weeds and the obsolete capitol building at Twentieth and Dodge streets, then known as Capitol Square, became a school site.

The former Capitol building, however, was pronounced insecure, and the Board of Regents decided to remove it and erect a new structure. The new four-story school, containing 18 rooms, was completed in 1872 at a cost of \$225,000.

In the 1885 New Year's edition of the Omaha Bee, the following was written about the school:

"The High School occupies the most prominent position in the city. . . . It combines the advantages of comfort, convenience, and architectural beauty. The spire is 390 feet above the Missouri river and commands a view of the entire city of Omaha."

In spite of its size, the new building, housing both the high school and Central grade school, soon was unable to accommodate its enrollment; and in 1887 the seventh and eighth grades were transferred to other buildings.

Central Excels in Sports

Can you imagine Central without sports? Since the turn of the century, CHS has excelled in the production of outstanding teams and athletes.

Football, basketball and track have dominated the main sport activities since the early 1900's, with the track and football teams consistently snatching intercity and state championships.

In the early 1900's, when the teams were forming into the powerhouses that they are today, most of the games were of intra-mural nature. In 1910 the school took a state track tournament for two consecutive years and then snagged the only basketball state championship in Central's history.

Girls' sports appeared on the horizon, consisting mainly of intra-mural sports and rifling and swimming teams.

With the roaring 20's came wrestling victories, the formation of O-Club, by Coach Frank Y. Knapple, and GAA. The school skims over the 30's, waiting for the better but not much brighter years of the 40's.

Hail the 50's! Cheerleaders switch from a co-ed to an all-girl group. The female members drift out of the competitive sports picture, leaving rifling and swimming to the boys. Central students see track victories and almost see another state basketball victory.

As our majestic school enters the 60's, what prospects do the unpredictable teams bring for CHS?



Top: Central High school in 1918 prior to lowering of Dodge Street hill. Bottom: Central during reconstruction of Dodge Street.

Have you ever wondered as you climbed the many stairs to Central's east entrance why a school was ever put on such a hill? Well, the answer is that the hill came after the school.

Forty years ago Dodge street was torn up from 17th to 22nd streets. In places the grade was lowered as much as 20 feet, and the main entrances to some buildings were dropped a full story or more. The grade was changed from 12 per cent to a gentle climb of 7 per cent because Omaha motorists petitioned that it be lessened (their model T's couldn't take it like our present cars).

Steam powered shovels dug away at the slope and eventually left Central atop a cliff with a sheer drop of 20 feet to Dodge and 20th streets. It was a slow process and took many months to complete.

The adjoining streets had to be lowered to meet the new Dodge street leaving Central high and dry on three sides.

The straight drops were soon replaced with beautiful sloping terraces and several flights of stairs. That is how the Centralites now rate the title of the "Hilltoppers".

1859 Is Year For Famous Events Including Central High's Beginning

Of course, to loyal Centralites the year 1859 is important because of the founding of Omaha High school; but the world did not stop that year just because of this momentous event.

The year 1859 is famous for many other happenings. It was in this year that John Brown was hanged for his raid on Harper's ferry; that the first oil well was dug in Titusville, Pa.; that Chester A. Arthur married Ellen Herndon.

1859 was the year of the Colorado Gold Rush and the year of the birth of French scientist Pierre Curie. During this year Dan Emmett composed the song later to play such an important role in the Civil War—"Dixie".

Back in the pioneer state of Nebraska, the Pawnee Indians were busy raiding settlements on the

Platt, and Nebraskans were first petitioning for the route of the Pacific railroad to pass through the Platte valley.

J. Sterling Morton was Acting Governor early in the year, and the sixth session of the territorial legislature convened in Omaha, then the capital, in December. At this session a bill was introduced abolishing slavery in the Nebraska Territory.

Omaha City was a village of 4,000 inhabitants and a grand total of 1,500 buildings. The first wholesale grocery house in the city opened up that year and tri-weekly stage routes were set up between Omaha and Council Bluffs.

This was the scene in which the first building of Omaha High school stood.

Liberty Bell Stays By Miscalculation

Central High school's Liberty Bell has come to us and stayed with us because of a miscalculation.

The bell was made by the J. L. Brandeis Company as part of an advertising stunt.

After the publicity was gained, Brandeis gave the bell to the Omaha Board of Education to be rotated among the various high schools. Central was chosen to be the first to display it.

The big symbol of freedom stood in the east hall for several weeks. It was then to be transported to another of the secondary schools.

Someone thought the base should be measured to see if the bell would fit through the doors of the other buildings. It didn't; consequently, Central kept it.

Central High, 1959

The building as we know it today, with the exception of the new auditorium in the north wing, has existed since 1912. However, the school wasn't called Central High school until 1915 when J. G. Masters suggested the name.

In 1901 the construction of the present building began, and in the same year the east wing was completed. After the west and south wings had been built, the old building was torn down and the dismantled pieces were carried out through the north side.

Afterward, the north side of the square was completed; and Central High school acquired its quadrangular shape. However, the entire building was not finished until November, 1912. The total cost of construction was \$750,000.

In that same year Commerce High school, now known as Technical High, moved to a site on Leavenworth street where it remained until 1923. At that time Tech occupied its new home on 30th and Cumming.

When J. G. Masters became principal in 1915, he believed that since Omaha High was no longer the only high school in the city, it should be called "Omaha Central High School."

Although the new name was never officially adopted, it has gradually replaced the former title and is now the accepted name of the school.

Central High school was still destined to grow. On Feb. 3, 1930, the school board voted approval of the addition of a gymnasium and auditorium. The new auditorium was to boast an orchestra pit and a greater seating capacity.

On May 6, the project was approved at the polls, and the north addition of Central High school was soon completed. The cost of this construction was \$250,000.

In June, 1867, Central's first graduation class had but 13 members; in June, 1959, it had 396. Year by year Central had grown and increased its fine reputation as one of the finest schools in the country.

ROTC Program Grows

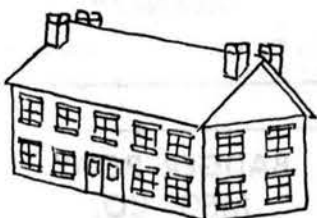
How old would you think ROTC is at Central High school? Has it been in existence here since the Second World War? The First World War? No, ROTC at Central started even before the Spanish-American War.

ROTC at Central started as a battalion of four companies trained by an officer from Fort Crook in 1893. In the second year and years following, this officer was assisted by commissioned and non-commissioned cadet officers.

In 1937, the cadet battalion was officially reorganized and made a regiment by the War Department. Four years later it again became a battalion. It was soon restored to regiment status and it remained so until June 1959.

In September of this year it was announced that, along with the regular army, the CHS ROTC was to be reorganized according to the new pentomic system. Central's ROTC now consists of a battle group, commanded by a cadet Lieutenant Colonel.

Central's ROTC uniforms have varied with those of the regular United States army from year to year. The doughboy uniforms were seen in the years during and following the First World War. Later the cadets wore the Eisenhower jackets of World War II. Just this year a new uniform has been added. Seniors and juniors with the rank of sergeant or above are wearing the new "shade 51" dark olive green uniforms.



1859-1860, Ninth & Farnam

1860-1872, one of nine locations

1872-1912, present location

1912-1959, present building

Bleicher, Guss, Kaslow and Weddle Participate in Missouri Valley Debate

Central will be host to the Boys' Missouri Valley Debate Tournament, Nov. 12-14.

Nine public and parochial schools from Omaha and Council Bluffs will participate in the tournament. CHS participants in the debate are Sam Bleicher, Steve Guss, Dick Kaslow and Dave Weddle. Alternates are Ed Sidman and Larry Kohn.

Miss Donna Miller, debate coach, says that as host, Central will coordinate the various aspects of the tournament to facilitate its smooth running.

The preparation will be managed by Centralites. Renee Rimmerman, Diane Buehler and Bette Jafek are in charge of registration.

Barbara Shrader will act as hostess. Madeline Kripke is in charge of ballots.

Timekeeping will be taken care of by Donna Kaiman, and charting of the tournament results will be handled by Hannelore Neutzner.

Judy Siegler and Cathy Damme will also assist.

The tournament, sponsored by NFL, is highly competitive, and the award is a coveted trophy.

NFL members also participated in the University of Nebraska Speech Clinic, Oct. 24, and the Mercy High School Meet, Oct. 18. Bette Jafek, Madeline Kripke, Donna Kaiman and Renee Rimmerman won top speaking awards at the latter.

Presentation of CHS Fall Play Excellent

"A Roomful of Roses," Central's annual fall play, was successfully presented by the Central High Players, Oct. 28-29.

The members of the properties committee for the play were accidentally omitted in the story appearing in the last issue of the Register. Nancy McGlee headed the committee. Other members were Peggy Bryans, Dan Danberg, Carolyn Dolgoff, George Douglas, Linda Gould, Larry Mayer, McCoy Ransom, Tim Schmad, Paula Scholder, Michele Simon and Jean Wardle.

HR-Representative List Is Lengthened

Homeroom representatives whose names didn't appear in the last issue are: 22C, Steve Rosenquist; 131, Neena Beber, Kay Borchman; 218, Jim Chile, Janice Christensen; 232, Jackie Plamer, Beth Makiesky; 235, Mel Cunningham, Steve Sloan; 237, Sandy Kasin, Marchia Hanek; 311, Frances Cooperman, Linda Lieb; 313, Arnie Altsuler; 315, Kathy Friend, Bob Gross; 319, Sharon Kumke, Don Taylor; 320, Suzie Makiesky, Blair Jolley; 328, Majes Capellupo, Roni Meyer; 347, Elizabeth Anderson, Duane Mannon; 425, John Bligh, Mary Ann Ferzley.

Others are 318, Kay Showell, Glen Hadsell; 120, Mike Pederson, Leeann Borchman; 221, Peter Miller, Susan Gilinski.

Did You Know?

... that the American Legion presented an American flag to CHS during an Assembly, Nov. 11.

Gene Kohn '56 received a Phi Beta Kappa Key in his junior year at Dartmouth.

Steve Bergquist '59 is on the present staff of the yearbook, Olla Podrida, at Wesleyan University.

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Nine Weeks to Work . . .

Greetings and salutations to all you wonderful people! You girls have had nine weeks to work on that real cool guy who sits next to you in English.

Now that you're dating him all the time you'll need some really sharp clothes to keep him!

The strangest thing happened the other day. "Cool" Carol was walking down the hall in her new white pleated skirt and matching blazer and a dozen guys were crawling behind her in a line.

(Some people have it tough!) I must admit, she **did** look sharp. Sue and Bill were going down the hall together last week and he just couldn't take his eyes off her. No wonder — in her pale lavender skirt and sweater Sue looked really great!

Come to think of it—most boys like pastel colors (they always wear light blue shirts!) and the Junior Colony at Brandeis has gobs of matching pastel skirts and sweaters.

The skirts are pleated or straight, and the sweaters are plain or novelty. The colors: powder blue, mint green, pink, lavender, and yellow. A print blouse looks just as terrific with these skirts.

Study halls also provide the opportunity to work on the guy who sits behind you and always stretches his legs under your desk! From now on have him staring at you the whole forty minutes.

Arouse his curiosity! Shaggy skirts and sweaters are the answer. He won't know whether to pull the fuzz off your collar or just blow it around.

He'll be so fascinated with your outfit that he'll start calling you and dating you all the time. He really wants to get to know you well enough, so that he can ask you what the heck you're wearing! Believe it or not, clothes can be a great help in your love life.

Ruth was at the game with Bob; the next night she had a date with John, the next with Steve, and then Howard—and she has

a date every night! You ask what her secret is?

She hasn't got one—Ruth simply shops on the Third Floor at Brandeis. She was wearing the sharpest outfit at the game! Her slacks were coral, green, and white houndstooth check and her blouse was a matching green. The vest added that extra "something" that Ruth always has.

She topped this with a green courderoy car coat with a racoon collar. Bob didn't leave her side, and I don't blame him. The next day at school Ruth was wearing the same outfit—except instead of slacks she had on the matching straight skirt.

A different guy met her after every class!

For someone who doesn't keep up with the styles it would look like Central has turned into an animal school instead of a people school. (At least I'm sure of our genus and species if no one else is!)

Actually, the kids haven't changed, but their coats have! It's awfully strange, but everyone seems to have a ring of fur around his neck. Blonde fur, brown fur, black fur, long-haired fur, crew-cut fur, soft fur, scratchy fur—**ALL KINDS OF FUR!**

You just aren't "in it" if you didn't have at least one coat with a fur collar. Any kind of coat can be found with one at the "Colony" on the Third Floor at Brandeis.

Dressy jackets, school coats, and raincoats. Some are "Wild 'n Woolly" all over! Lynda was wearing her shortie at the dance and did it ever look cool! It only came to her waist and the sleeves are elbow length. (Long gloves would look tough with that!)

For the kids that are really big and can drive, they come in a car coat length. The long coat is perfect for you frosh and sophomores.

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by Bill Horwich

Central's mid-season slump has left Hilltop hopes for an Intercity first-division berth hanging on the outcome of the upcoming final week's action.

Chosen in pre-season ratings for fifth place in the nine-team circuit, the Purple and White kicked up their heels against early opposition. So impressive were their displays in the South, Lincoln and A.L. contests that for a few weeks the Eagles hovered in second position in *The Omaha World-Herald's* all-state rankings.

But that second-half bugaboo that had hid in the shadows during the September conquests came out in full force to haunt the gridmen in three straight outings last month.

Now, with the footballers' league competition concluded, the Smagaczmen are on the fifth rung, one-half game behind a surprising Benson eleven.

So when the Eagles close the season with their only non-Intercity opponent, Lincoln Northeast, Friday, Central rooters will be keeping a watchful eye on the Benson-Lincoln clash.

The Bunnies, prime contributors to the Flyboy fall, hold a shaky claim to fourth place in the conference. However, they face a pesky problem in the likes of Zollicoffer, McWilliams, DeBrown and the rest of the Capital City crew.

A Benson loss to the Links could move Central back into the class of the respected in the toughest Nebraska high school league.

South races North in the only other circuit contest on tap Friday. This game, always a thriller, has its customary bearing on the state football crown. The Vikings, if victorious, can claim a share of conference riches. A convincing North margin might even clinch the number one state rating for the Norsemen.

All other league teams either have already completed their schedules or face non-conference rivals as the high school grid season comes to a close this week.

Flyboy Features: An unusual statistic in the Prep game summed up the season of Central's third consecutive setback. Creighton ran 79 plays; the Eagles, only 27. Midway through the third quarter in the same game the Register sports staff discovered a short in the PA system microphone. Fortunately, the difficulty came at a time when Eagle fans didn't want to hear what had happened—Prep had just scored their 13th point in 53 seconds.

Since the freshman season finished earlier than usual, Reserve Coaches Anderson and Davis had the opportunity to call up promising frosh for a look-see. Freshmen getting the once-over were Tony Bradford, Bill (Moose) Dodd and Eugene Barker. While on the subject of freshman football spectators at Baby Eagles games this fall may have noticed the absence of the best freshman fans—the first-year cheerleaders. However, Miss Treat promises there will be frosh yellbelles present at basketball contests.

A schedule oddity: Although Central was host team to both Benson and Prep, the games were played on the opponents' own fields. With Vernon Breakfield missing the Benson and Creighton encounters due to a sprained ankle, Gale Sayers shot into the Purple scoring lead. Sayers scored three of the Hilltop's four TD's.

Item for consideration: Wally Duff, fleet Benson halfback, and Doug Fiala, the Junior Bluejay bombardier, were sidelined by injuries when their teams met Central. Didn't seem to hurt them.



Story below

photo by Buddy Herzog

Frosh Finish Runners-up In First Alpha Campaign

by Bill Horwich

A battling group of Central freshman footballers saw their hopes of an undefeated season and an Alpha league championship vanish at the hands of South's Packers, Oct. 26, at South's field.

The final score read South 13, Central 7. But this told only half the story of a Central eleven which dominated play until wilting late in the second half.

The Baby Eagles received the opening kick-off and, paced by the power running of Bill (Moose) Dodd and Eugene Barker, moved from their own 25 to the South 24. There the Packer defense took charge and halted the Central attack.

But after an exchange of punts the Andrewsman re-applied the pressure and raced to the Packer 20 with Fullback Dodd eating up most of the distance in two 15-yard spurts.

With the South defense bunched on the line, Quarterback Tony Bradford lateraled to Barker, who found Ulysses Kribbs alone in the end zone. A successful extra-point plunge by Dodd sent the frosh to a 7-0 half-time edge.

South came back strong after intermission. On the first scrimmage of the second half, Jesse Lariza caught the Flyboy defenders napping and uncorked a 45-yard pass to the Central 35. After a series of short gains, Don Loftus barreled over on a one-yard plunge from the one. The successful conversion tied the score at 7-7.

Late in the third quarter Dodd's 40-yard jaunt carried the Purple deep into South territory. But Packer size

was beginning to tell, and the drive sputtered on the 28-yard line. This was Central's last offensive threat.

South, taking possession at mid-field, ground out yardage to the 20. Then Lariza again pitched to Loftus, who scored with ease. The conversion was no good, but the damage had already been done. South played out the clock to finish unbeaten and qualify for the inter-league play-off.

Dodd's offensive power and defensive adeptness, Bradford's sharp quarterbacking and the alert tackling of Barry Goldware and Roger Schmidt were highlights in the Eagle performance. And, as is typical of Coaches George Andrews and Charles Downing's frosh gridmen, the Baby Eagles presented a well-organized, hustling squad while finishing second in their new league.

Central's Sharpshooters Bow To A.L. Marksmen

The marksmen of Central's ROTC rifle team failed to match the skill of the Abraham Lincoln riflemen in a match Oct. 27. The CHS sharpshooters were bested by a score of 916-862.

The scores:

A.L.—total	916
Central	
Shamblin	180
Herzog	163
Peter	177
Ryneerson	177
Stepanek	165
Total	862

The five high scores for the A.L. squad were 189, 185, 183, 180, 179.

Win Over Westside Breaks Loss String

by Dean Thomas

Central again found the win column in the Intercity football chase as they downed the Westside Warriors 26-6 at Creighton Stadium last Saturday afternoon.

The Eagle offensive attack was led by Gayle Sayers who streaked for two long TD's. Ken Allen and Ronald Allen accounted for the other two touchdowns.

Thus in spite of muddy playing conditions, Central rolled to its fourth victory against four defeats.

Season's Finale Friday Against Visiting Rockets

The 1959 football season comes to a close for Central's Eagles this Friday as they face their only non-league opponent, Lincoln Northeast.

Northeast, an added attraction, brings an unrated team for its third week of Intercity action. But the Rockets, coached by Art Bauer, are capable of upsetting their foes in the clash scheduled for Benson Stadium at 2:30.

Sparked by a line featuring two 205-pounders, Northeast includes Hastings, Fairbury and Westside among its wins. And the Rockets will be gunning for a 5-4 season mark in their season finale.

Central, slipping from early-season success, still will offer a swift backfield unit that has scored on every rival. But the Eagles must "hold that line" against an aggressive and hefty Rocket forward wall.

Players to watch on the Black and White include backs Jim Grabowski and Ron Peet, along with the two behemoths on the line, Mike Draper and Larry Sipp.

Eagle Gale Sayers, frolicking in recent games, will be the marked man for Central.

Junior Eagles End With Loss to Tech

Central's reserve football team closed out its 1959 season Thursday, Nov. 4, by dropping a 14-0 decision to the Tech High Trojans.

Thus the Junior Eagles rolled up a final Intercity record of two wins, five losses and one tie.

Central's reserve football team added two defeats to its record with losses to North and South, the Intercity's one-two punch.

In the South game played Oct. 28, the Packers roared to victory by scoring once in each of the four periods. Since the Packers found it difficult to run through Central's forward wall, they resorted to the long pass to bring them to the Eagle goal line.

North High, thus far leading the Intercity in reserve competition, defeated Central 19-0, on Oct. 22. North gained its victory by scoring in the first, second and fourth quarters while the Viking defense successfully contained the Eagle offensive threat.

Bob Dacus, Mac Young and Don Francis continue to stand out among the Eagle reserves.

Central's footballers stumbled to their second and third straight defeats of the season by falling to the surprisingly determined Benson Bunnies, 21-19, and by yielding to the powerful Junior Jays of Creighton Prep, 26-7.

In the Prep game, played Oct. 28 at Creighton stadium, Central showed signs of rebounding when, on the third play of the game, halfback Gayle Sayers ripped through the Prep defense and sped 56 yards for the touchdown. Fullback Roosevelt Mason added the extra point to give Central a 7-0 advantage.

Creighton, however, battled back and midway through the second period drove deep into Eagle territory. With 7:41 remaining John Bozak tallied on a one foot plunge to cut the Eagle lead to 7-6.

In the second half Creighton, beaten only by North in Intercity campaigns, launched a scoring flurry that crushed Central's hopes for an upset.

Prep first struck late in the third quarter as Central was driving toward the Blue Jay goal line. Prep lineman Pat O'Neil broke through Central's forward wall, highjacked an errant Eagle lateral and sped 53 yards to give Prep a 13-7 lead.

Seconds later Prep struck again, this time through the air as quarterback Pat Dugan and Mike Lynch combined for a 39 yard TD. Leo Daly added the extra point to race the score to 20-7.

Midway through the final period Prep's Jim Connolly added an insurance tally to ring up the final score of 26-7.

As has been the case all too often this season, the Eagle offense was completely stymied in the second half.

The Benson contest, played at Benson stadium Oct. 23, featured Benson minus its star halfback Wally Duff and Central without the services of fleet fullback Vernon Breakfield.

With halfback Gayle Sayers putting the zip in the Eagle offense, Central jumped to a 12-7 half time lead. Sayers scored in the first and second periods on end sweeps of 24 and 45 yards respectively.

Benson, however, came from behind in the second half to score their upset victory. They scored in the third period on a 15 yard pass from quarterback Chris Beutler to Bill Donahoo and again in the fourth period on Dave Johnson's second two yard plunge of the evening.

Central had several scoring opportunities in the second half but capitalized only in the third period when Charles unn swept right end for a 47 yard TD.

Still a victim of those "second half blues," the Eagles found the Benson defense surprisingly stout and were unable to get those last, precious yards. Thus the Eagle record fell to 3 wins and 4 losses.

Stars Of The Week

Halfback Gayle Sayers continues to put the zip in Central's offensive attack. In the Benson and Creighton Prep games he personally accounted for three of our four touchdowns. Following in the footsteps of his brother, "Rocket Roger," Gayle ranks very high among Intercity scoring leaders and seems well on the way toward landing a position on the All-Intercity team.

End Reed Emsick has continued to be a standout member of the Eagle defensive unit. In the Benson game, Reed was accredited with 18 tackles, a new individual high for the season. Against Prep he played a very important part in containing the Junior Blue Jays until that fatal second half. Tackle Don Fiedler, seeing only limited action until the Benson game, has been a very pleasant surprise for the Eagle faithful in the last two games of the season. In the Creighton game Don made 15 tackles to bulwark the right side of the Eagle defense. Big Don at 193 pounds is only a junior and shows great promise of developing into an outstanding lineman.

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Teen-Agers' Viewpoint:

No Plan for Education?

Ed. note: The opinions in this column are not necessarily those of the Journalism department, the faculty or the administration of Central High school. They are merely the individual feelings of the person whose initials appear at the end of this story.

Seventy-five years ago, the High School, the Omaha High paper, published an editorial asking for changes in the goals of high school education. At that time, as an unknown editorial writer stated, "The highest object of the American High School of today is to prepare a student for a college course."

However, as editors are forever wont to do, this writer asked for a change in policy. These were the goals he suggested for high school education:

"We want to rear men fit and ready for all spots and crises, prompt and busy in affairs, gentle to little children, . . . sharp in a jury box, tenacious in a town-meeting, . . . not likely to jump into the first boat at a ship-wreck, . . . reverent and punctual at church, not going about with an air of perpetual apology for being in the world, brave in action, patient in suffering, fervent in spirit, and serving the Lord. This is the manhood that our age and country are asking of its educators."

This ideal, although unsuited for our age, is at least an ideal. Today, although secondary education has purposes other than preparing the student for college, most American educators can think of nothing more worthwhile for a goal than "keeping up with the Russians."

Much attention is now being focused on American education; and it is surprising that out of all this concern, no definitive, worthwhile goal for secondary education has been adopted.

In order for education to continue to grow and develop, it is imperative that everyone concerned with this field know for what he is striving. Seventy-five years ago, high schools existed to train "the children of the wealthy" for a college education "abroad." Today high school education has become so complicated that no one can point to a definite purpose for all our schools.

Ask the average student why he is attending high school. If he does not answer, "to get a diploma," or just blankly stare you in the face, it would be mildly surprising.

Why? The answer is simple: because most students, also, do not know the goals of high school education. And why don't students know these goals? The answer is that there is no specific plan behind the growth of American education. Other than the vague "to prepare students for life" or the traditional "to prepare them for college," there is no ideal or goal common to American secondary schools.

Of course, there are some isolated communities and schools that know for what goal to aim and how to reach it. But as a whole there is no blueprint for the growth of American education.

Whether any goal which may be adopted is possible to reach in the near future is unimportant. America, itself, strives toward the idealistic goal of giving all men equal opportunity, although it is actually impossible to reach such a state of equality. Why shouldn't American education also have an ideal?

It is not the intent of this article to propose a blueprint for the growth of American high schools. It is only intended to suggest that it might be wise for American educators to know where they are going before they try to get there.

RC

There's Still Hope

Some students are, no doubt, faced with a very serious problem as report card time draws near—the problem of failure.

To the freshman who did not attend a junior high, high school is strange and bewildering. He is possibly aware of his approaching failure but probably does not know what to do about it. He is timid about consulting his teachers or counselor, and yet neither does he want his parents to interfere.

Freshmen, however, are not the only students faced with the threat of failure. Some students, regardless of their grade, have not learned to adjust themselves to the demands of high school.

Failure often results in tension at home and at school, students' dropping out of school and delayed graduation. Therefore, it is necessary that the student and his parents know how to cope with the threat of failure.

School systems and courses are not always sufficient for some individuals. When a student is faced with failure, perhaps an adjustment in a subject, a teacher, or study habits may be the remedy. A conference with the teacher, counselor, or principal may also benefit the student and help him see his way to improving his work.

Failure notices or failing grades should not mean the complete giving up of hope by the student or his parents but an incentive to correct the situation before the final grade cards are issued.

J.B.

Kennedy, First Educator

Did you know that one of the relatives of a CHS student was a pioneer in Omaha education?

Mr. Howard Kennedy, the late great-grandfather of Janie Kennedy, was the first superintendent and principal of Omaha public schools.

One hundred years ago this month, Mr. Kennedy traveled from New York state at the request of an Omaha lawyer, Mr. Phineas Hitchcock, to take complete charge of organizing the Omaha public school system. Mr. Kennedy was hired for one year at a salary of \$1,000.

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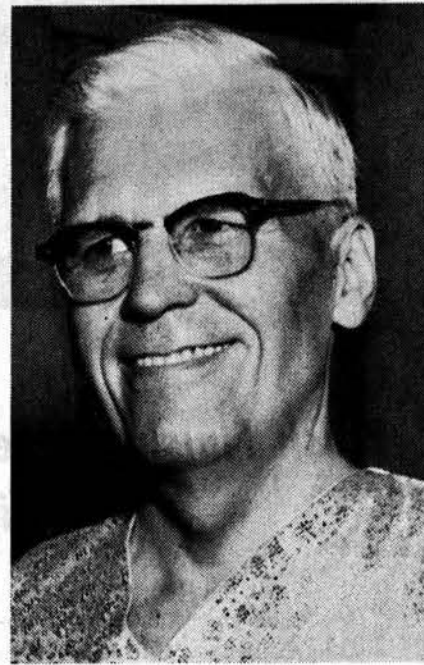
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CHS Profile Royal Alumnus Peter Kiewit



World-Herald and O-Book Photos

Because this issue is dedicated to the history of Central, the editors of this page felt that a profile of an alumnus would be more appropriate.

From quartermaster of the third battalion at Central High school to King Ak-Sar-Ben LXV; this is the history of this week's profile, Mr. Peter Kiewit.

When, at this year's Ak-Sar-Ben coronation, the portal slowly opened to reveal a smiling Mr. Kiewit; few people realized that this man was a graduate of Central High.

Yes, Mr. Kiewit is a 1918 graduate of Central. During his four years at this school, he was quite active in ROTC, serving as second lieutenant and quartermaster of the third battalion. The Road Show and football were among his activities. During his spare time after school, Mr. Kiewit worked at his father's construction company.

After completing his high school education, Mr. Kiewit attended Dartmouth College. However, after one year there, he returned to work at his father's company.

But this man was not the only alumnus of Central High, for all the Kiewit family's children were former Centralites. His cousin, Margaret, now teaches at Belle Ryan school, his cousin, Elizabeth, was a teacher at CHS; and his cousin, Roberta, is presently teaching at Benson High

school. His sister, Ethel, also worked for the Omaha School system.

At the age of 31, after rapidly working his way up the ladder of success, Mr. Kiewit became president of the firm, Peter Kiewit Sons, Inc.

From this time on, the company has progressed rapidly to become the nationally known firm that it is today. Not only can Kiewit Construction Company boast of having erected such buildings as Joslyn Art Museum and the Union Station in Omaha, but they can also be proud of the fact that they have built numerous other buildings, air and missile bases all over the country.

Needless to say, Peter Kiewit leads a very busy life. Being a trustee of Clarkson Memorial Hospital, a director of the Omaha YMCA, Northwestern Bell Telephone Co., Omaha National Bank, Northern Natural Gas Co. and Governor of the Knights of Ak-Sar-Ben are only a few of the many positions that Mr. Kiewit now holds.

He and his wife, the former Evelyn Stotts, have also given a great deal of time and money to various Omaha charities.

Yes, Mr. Peter Kiewit has advanced a long way since his days at Central; but there are few who would not agree that he has earned all of the honor and success that has been bestowed upon him.

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100 Years Later . . .

This issue of the Register commemorates the first 100 years of proud CHS history. That first group of students who entered the primitive, old building called the "Omaha High school" in 1859 probably had no conception of the long list of civic, political and business leaders that were to come from the school's graduating classes.

Those first graduates were the leaders of a growing community in the late 19th century. Central's alumni have studied in the nation's top colleges. Some have made successes of themselves on the stage and in motion pictures.

Others have made contributions in the field of science. The minds of all who have attended Central have been enriched and broadened by their experience here.

But tradition, like a plant, has to be continually fed; or it will wither and die. Central's record of high academic standing will mean very little 20 years from now unless each Centralite does his part in living up to the high standards while he is here.

Tradition doesn't just happen; it is made over a long period of time. In the past, it has been made by a first-rate faculty working with students who applied themselves to their work. This tradition can be kept alive only if each student does his share.

A hundred years from now, there will probably still be a Central High school. It may not be in the same building or even in the same location, but someone, somewhere will inherit the memories and traditions of CHS.

Whether the students of 100 years hence will look back on today's Centralites with pride or with shame depends entirely on how well Centralites accomplish their tasks now.

BB

Register's History

For a few minutes let us probe into the deep secrets of history and trace the development of our present school paper from its origin 75 years ago.

The High School was the first publication of Omaha High School (then the only high school in Omaha). The first issue came out in February 1874, and besides serving students, the paper was read by many residents of Omaha. The motto of The High School was "Devoted to the Interests of High School and Omaha Amateurs."

The first Register was published Dec. 2, 1886. It was issued once every two weeks and was privately owned until 1902. Originally students elected the editor and business manager; the rest of the staff was appointed.

Then in 1921 the High School Register and the Register Annual became the Register and the O-Book.

The following year the Register was renamed The Weekly Register, a name plate which it retained until 1931.

The 1921 paper contained six pages and was five columns wide. It reported on all phases of school life, including sports, which was featured on the front page. In 1922 two more columns were added and the number of pages was reduced to four.

In 1931 the name was changed to the Central High Register. Later the Central High Register became a six-column, four-page paper published 15 times a year.

From 1921 to 1958 the Register has been a member of the National Scholastic Press Association. For financial reasons the membership was discontinued in 1958.

In 1957 the Central High Register was named the best printed paper in a large Nebraska high school by being presented the Omaha World-Herald Merit Award.

Two years ago the Nebraska High School Press Association convention began giving an annual Sweepstakes Award to the most qualified high school staff. The Central High Register has obtained this award both times.

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