



# Middlesex School

## · ALUMNI BULLETIN ·

CONCORD, MASSACHUSETTS

MAY, 1963

In this, our sixty-second winter and the first of the Wolsey Pratt hockey rink, we were a hockey-minded School. Unexplained bruises even appeared on some of our basketball players, for whom the urge to skate under such dramatic conditions proved irresistible.

The building is strictly utilitarian in design, and its newness and unabashed functional good looks emphasize the age and some of the inadequacies of our venerable gymnasium, now approaching its forty-seventh birthday. We are working on a master plan, toward the completion of which the first step will be taken this summer. For a comparatively modest sum we think we can renovate the gymnasium to serve us adequately.

Our scholastic life, for which master plans are somewhat more difficult to carry through, has been a happy one for those of us who have helped the class of '63 find their way in the confusing maze of college entrance. In the all-important Verbal Aptitude Test their median score is 645, and in the Mathematical, 646. These figures mean little to pre-war graduates, but for six hundred of you who have left school since V-J Day, and happily for College Deans of Admission, it is easy to understand why we are proud of this year's crop.

Of more lasting significance, perhaps, is the plan for this summer's modest enlargement of our facilities for the teaching of Biology. We shall capture, for the book and supply room, that large space in the southwest corner of Eliot where once your old friend Joseph Palmucci dispensed haircuts and down-to-earth philosophy with a North Italian accent. A greenhouse will appear outside the window of the lab, and the old book room will at last house small animals on purpose.

Of tremendous interest to biologists and laymen alike is the exciting proposal to establish the woodland on the other side of the pond as a wildlife sanctuary. Retired hut-builders and those of you who, in the sturdy early days of skiing, wandered through the winter woods to Punkatasset, will not be surprised to hear that the School land abuts the largest piece of uninhabited property within seventy-five miles of Cambridge. In it, out of sight of highways and split level ranch houses, living as they always have, are deer and fox, coon, otter, and muskrat, porcupine, weasel and woodchuck. The Harvard Museum of Comparative Zoology and the Town Conservation Commission of Concord are working with the School to try to make this dream come true, and in the studio at the top of Eliot we are preparing a contour map covering the whole 1,400 acres under consideration. In time we hope to see our older students helping college graduates with research projects centered on these woods. Surely the grandsons of boys now in School will rejoice to live beside this quiet, protected area.

*Lawrence Terry*

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