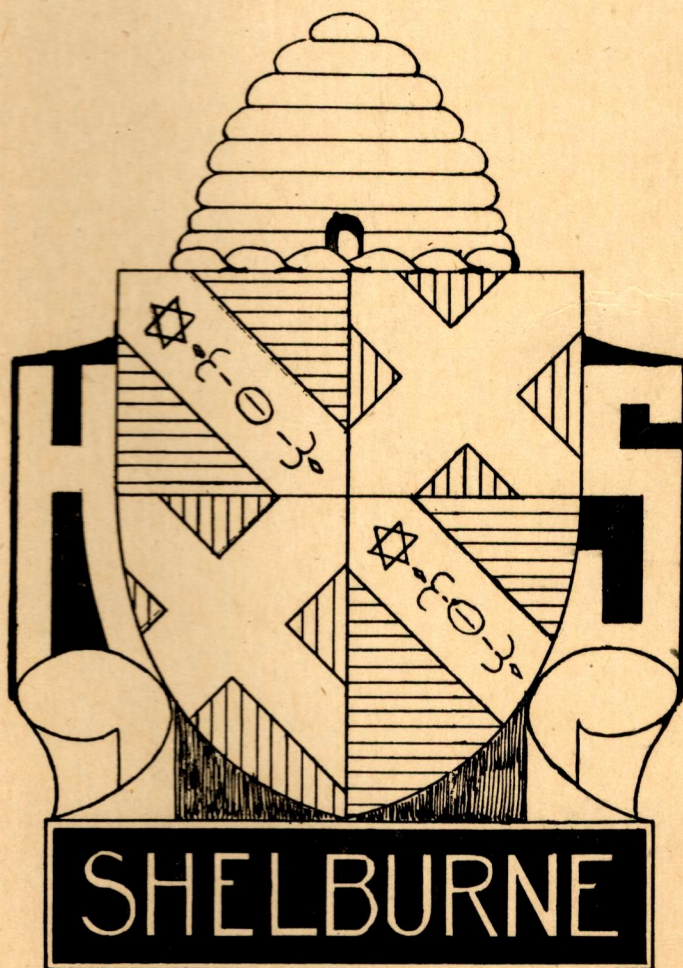


# THE SPECTATOR

COMMENCEMENT ISSUE

1945



## VALEDICTORY

Dr. Noble, Supt. Stackpole, Prin. McGee, School Directors,  
Members of the Graduating Class, Parents, Relatives and Friends:

This class has been a unit during the last four years. We have worked together, had fun together, and argued together. Now we are separating to go into the wide world. We start by visiting New York City, the largest city in the world. We will end - only God knows where.

Our class has been fortunate in having the same principal for three and one-half years. Besides the duties of principal, Mr. McGee has coached our basketball and baseball teams. That was not a part of his duty, but he did it to help us. We will never again have a more fair and understanding teacher.

Our teachers can not go without acclaim. They had much patience, endurance and persuasion.

Our parents had sacrifices to make so that we could go through high school and be on this stage tonight.

This spring, one of the greatest men of this country died. I believe Franklin Roosevelt will live on as a symbol of the type of world he tried to create. Many people, especially Vermonters, did not believe in, or support, all of his practices on national affairs, but his hopes and ideals about international peace were believed in and upheld by a vast majority of Americans.

With V-E Day over and peace much nearer than a year ago, it is everybody's duty to try to understand the plans and arguments concerning a durable and lasting international peace.

We, as future voters of this Democracy, shall try to uphold the principles and ideals of this country.

To our parents, teachers and friends; we thank you for your help and guidance during our days of school, and it is with feelings of both happiness and regret - we bid you farewell.

-Wilmot Irish.

## SALUTATORY

Is Soviet Russia a Menace to the Western World?

The first Soviet Constitution was adopted in July 1918. At the time this constitution was adopted, the former Russian Empire was split into separate but allied Soviet States. In 1924, these states combined in a new Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, and a new constitution was adopted. After the death of Lenin in 1924, Joseph Stalin became the leader of the new regime. Under this leader, the world remembers the tyranny of terror, of famine, torture and bloodshed by which the government now ruling Russia attained its power. Under his leadership, Russia has been transformed from a backward country to the position of the leading industrialized country in Europe and Asia at the expense of human suffering.

When Russia attacked Finland in 1939, the world was amazed to witness the gallant Finnish soldiers successfully resist the Red attack through the winter months of 1939 to the spring of 1940. The country finally reached an agreement with Moscow on which hostilities ceased. Russia, in the summer of 1939, made what was known as the Nazi-Soviet pact, which resulted in the partition of Poland in half- Russia has consolidated into her boundaries the Baltic States of Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, together with portions of Finland, Poland, and Rumania, in the early part of this war.

The English speaking powers have already conceded to Russian influence in these areas, even though the United States, Great Britain and Russia jointly promised Europe's uprooted people the right "to choose the form of government under which they desire to live."

There are no signs of Russia ever becoming truly democratic; the system of government in force is still totalitarian, and will remain so. Political freedom is non-existent in a land where newspapers, radios, books and all education are state-owned and state-controlled, where only one political party exists, and opposition to that party is punishable with death. Economic freedom is non-existent where all means of production are in the hands of the state and conditions of labor, wages, and even the right to work itself, are government-controlled. Religious freedom is meaningless in a country where the church is denied its privilege of instructing the people.

Comrade Stalin is an absolute dictator of the Russian people and he is a convinced anti-democrat. He has never made any pretense that Russia entered this war as the champion of democracy; on the contrary, he has repeatedly made it clear that her entry was a matter of pure self-interest, and that he has no intention whatever of helping us to build the New Europe, which is our announced purpose in continuing the prosecution of the war. His alliance with us is a mere marriage of convenience.

There is considerable evidence to show that the extension of communist rule in Europe is quite probable unless we take steps to prevent it. As late as March 1939, Stalin gave instructions to the world revolutionaries on using international conflict to promote their own ends. Moscow's game in Yugoslavia, where the "Partisans" under Tito, who was a communist revolutionary in the Spanish Civil War, is the real hero instead of General Mihailovich.

In France the communists are by far the most strongly organized of anti-Fascist groups. It is also likely that Spain may go communist. The United States and Britain fear that Germany may also go communist in the post-war period. In the Baltic and Balkan countries, Russia has already started her campaign of assimilating these people to communism.

- John Stacy.

#### PROPHECY

It has been ten years since the Class of '45 graduated from Shelburne High School, and I shall bring you up to date on my former classmates, their careers and affairs.

As head of the Boeing Aircraft Company of Ohio, I have just finished a business trip to Texas, where a former classmate of mine is president of our Texas branch of Boeing Aircraft. Charlie Stewart and I, after finishing college, entered the aircraft industry, and after rising steadily got these very good positions. Charlie has as a hobby, 800 acre ranch where he raises beef cattle. He told me Betty Riley was manager of one of the Boston stores of a large national concern called Miles and Riley.

Betty had been to Business College, and worked at Miles and Riley's in Burlington. When they expanded, Betty was put in as assistant in Boston. Today she is head manager. Tomorrow, who knows, she may change the name to Riley and Riley.

Roberta Richardson and Helen Hanlon are both in Hollywood, California, where Roberta is a makeup and beauty artist for Paramount Studios. She is happily married to her third husband, who was formerly a sailor, after doing a very good make up job on him. Helen is a famous dress designer for the star Judy Garland, and is also a very good friend of the actress. After studying and designing in a well known dress shop in New York, she went to Hollywood where, after working for some minor stars, she got the job and made friends with Judy Garland.

Tony Thomas is one of the directors of the New England Dairy Products Association, which delivers all kinds of dairy products to Boston, New York, and all the Northeast. He has a sideline of a herd of purebred Guernsey cattle which is known throughout American dairy circles.

Anna Goodrich and Jean Thompson are running a large hospital in western Pennsylvania, where they have been for the last five years. After graduating from nursing school, they worked in Vermont for two years and then took the big step. Following a double wedding, they went to Pennsylvania where they have settled.

John Stacy, as you all know, is one of this country's

leading politicians, and is the youngest senator in Congress. After taking a law course, he practiced law for two years, and then ran for senator. He is on the Military Affairs Committee and the International Trade Board, and he has a very high influence with the President.

George Richardson is fulfilling a lifelong ambition and has a trucking concern in Boston, New York, Washington, and all points west.

Art Bissonnette is still in the Coast Guard and now has the rating of Chief Petty Officer.

Glee Babcock is now in the major leagues. At Notre Dame he was star fullback for three years. Now he is playing baseball with the St. Louis Browns, where last year he made 98 home runs and caught 96 of 128 games. He filled in as pitcher in 30 games, and the other two games he warmed the bench. Last year he was voted the best hitter and one of the most valuable players in the American League.

- Wilmot Irish.

#### WILL

We, the Senior Class of Shelburne High School, in our last will and testament, will and bequeath the following to the ones who will come after us:

To Mr. McGee: a reliable bat boy to assure a supply of bats at ball games.

To Mr. Connelly: a mask and chest protector so he won't be afraid to umpire behind the catcher.

To Mrs. Baker: a place nearer her better half.

To Miss Issett: a shetland pony just her size.

To Miss Chapin: a ton of writing paper for her next year's correspondence.

To Wilmot Irish: someone to remove the wheelbarrow that gets in his way.

To Tony Thomas: a doll he can call his own.

To Gleason Babcock: a mechanical pencil to write his autographs when he becomes world's champion catcher.

To George Richardson: an ice pack to keep him cool during a ball game.

To John Stacy: a political-minded wife who will listen only.

To Anna May Goodrich and Jean Thompson: each an escort to see them safely to the Prom.

To Betty Riley: an umbrella to replace the one she broke.

To Helen Hanlon: the exclusive right to a gossip column in a daily paper.

To Roberta Richardson: a pair of lower heeled shoes so she can stay on her feet when she dances.

To Raymond LaForce: a pair of stilts so people can see him.

To Robert Potvin: some one to help him out with his many triple dates.

To Dorothy Depeaux: a trunk in which to keep her jewelry.  
 To Zita Fenwick: a book that won't tear when she throws it.  
 To Roger St. Hilaire: a heavier car so people won't be able  
 to tip it over.  
 To Carol Adams: these dimes so she won't have to borrow so  
 many.  
 To Thelma Casavant: these pills to check her spells of  
 laughing.  
 To Winston Spear: George Richardson's ability to play ball.  
 To Arthur Potvin: a stronger line so that the fish he catches  
 won't get away.  
 To William Bicknell: a girl so he won't make a certain person  
 jealous.  
 To Lawrence Sabin: a doctor to revive him after his wrestling  
 bouts.  
 To Ed Noonan: we will a handy-to-get-at fire extinguisher  
 to put out strange fires which occur in the basement.  
 To the High School, we will and bequeath a bus to take the  
 baseball players to their games- with a trailer attached for the girls.  
 To the Juniors, we will and bequeath the privilege to occupy  
 the back seats in the high school room.  
 We, the Seniors, hereby declare this to be our last will and  
 testament on this 13th day of June in the year nineteen hundred and  
 forty-five.

Signed: The Senior Class of Nineteen hundred and Forty-five.

-Charles Stewart.

#### CLASS GIFTS

We, the Seniors, wish to give to our successors and faculty and members of our class, these gifts:

To Mr. McGee: this card of thanks to show our appreciation for all he has done for us the past four years.

To Mr. Connelly: this bus ticket to Great Barrington so that he can spend the summer at home.

To Wilmot Irish: this scholarship to U. V. M. with all expenses paid.

To Charles Stewart: this billfold so Carol can have one and Charlie too.

To Tony Thomas: this airplane so he won't have to ride his bicycle to all the ballgames.

To Helen Hanlon: this book on "How to be more Courteous to Certain People."

To Jean Thompson: this car so she can get home when she has time off from training.

To Betty Riley: this ball of string so she can keep a certain boy's ring on better.

To Robert Richardson: this ship to remind her of a certain sailor in the Pacific.

To Gleason Babcock: this mitt and baseball to remind him of his position on the baseball team.

To George Richardson: this book on "How to Control One's Temper."

To John Stacy: this catalogue of Encyclopedias to choose the books he wants to study while in the service.

To Madeline Badore: this car so that she will have a way to get to and from school next year.

To Mrs. Baker: these measuring spoons to use when she starts her duties as a housewife.

To Miss Issett: this contract for a teaching position nearer home next year.

To Roberta St. Peter: this soldier to add to her already large collection.

To Shirley Moulton: this book "How to Dance" and we hope that you use it.

To Dorothy Depeaux: this man of her own so that she will leave other girls' men alone.

To Nancy Noonan: this lipstick which she can easily remove before going home.

To Irene Knight: this permit to go out with any of the boys at any time.

To Robert Potvin: this writing paper so that he can correspond with a certain Junior girl who vacations in Massachusetts.

To Raymond LaForce: this alarm clock so that he can get to school on time next year.

To Zita Fenwick: this airplane to remind her of the "Wright" brothers.

To Roger St. Hilaire: this rattle so that he can amuse himself in study hall next year.

To Anna May Goodrich: this book on "How to be More Attractive."

-Anna May Goodrich

-Helen Hanlon

#### MOTTO

"TONIGHT WE LAUNCH - WHERE SHALL WE ANCHOR?"

We, the Senior Class of Shelburne High School, will after tomorrow night, consider ourselves launched, but it will be a great while before most of us are safely anchored.

Some of us will not be anchored until we go on to a higher education, while some of us, due to this great war, may have to wait before we go on.

Our parents, teachers and friends have helped us to be launched, but the most of us will probably have to anchor by ourselves.

A good many of the war materials which are manufactured today aren't fully fit for the great strain of battle. It takes days and months to fully outfit them.

Our life may be compared to the war materials, for as far as our school days are concerned, we may have fully completed them, or we say we are launched, but it will be a long while before we are ready for the strain of life's battle, so it may be years before we are safely anchored.

Our ship may be on rough waters before we can head it for the course we wish to have as our goal, but however rough the waters, if

we steer hard enough, we will reach our goal sometime in the future.

The war has wrecked the plans of a great many of us, -As some of us have to go off and help fight the battles which we all hope will be over in the near future - then we can finish our course toward being anchored.

"Where shall we Anchor" is a question all of us have to decide. It is a difficult question for some of us. We may have to change our plans several times before we become anchored. There are many obstacles in life which may change our course, but if we go over these obstacles slowly, and not try and hurry to be anchored, I am sure we will make out all right.

We are ready to start on our long journey through life. We hate to go, leaving our teachers and schoolmates behind, but it is something that has got to be done. We'll go with a smile and your good will to help us through the trials and tribulations of life.

WE would like to thank our parents, teachers and friends for helping us to be launched, and with your help, we will be safely anchored in the future.

-Jean Thompson.

#### FLOWER

We have chosen that loveliest of lovely flowers, and most distinguished member of a large family world renowned for centuries for beauty and fragrance, the American Beauty Rose.

This rose incorporates the delicacy and poetic grace of its French and Chinese ancestors.

What flower could better represent the future which we face so confidently? It is the symbol of striving from its origin in the dim past to its present supremacy of beauty beyond comparison; and its colour is the very essence of courage and romance.

May we of the Class of 1945 never lose its inspiration!

-George Richardson

#### POEM

'Tis the hour when happy faces  
Smile upon this stage tonight;  
Who will fill our vacant places-  
Carry on our cares so light?

When the waves are round us breaking  
As each paces the deck alone,  
And our eyes in vain are seeking  
Some near shore to rest upon,

Through the mist that floats above us  
Faintly sounds the last school bell  
Like the voice of those who helped us-  
To our teachers we say "Farewell!"

What we would not give to wander  
Where our old companions dwell!  
Absence makes the heart grow  
fonder;  
Shelburne High School, fare thee  
well!

-Roberta Richardson.