State Highlights 1/12/1944

Western State High School

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Debaters Hold Meet

Many activities have been planned for State High's debate teams in the near future. All debaters plan to go to Lansing, Wednesday, January 12, for debates with Lansing Eastern High, last year's state champion. In addition to several practice debates, two radio debates are being planned for the trip.

Debates among members of the squad, with nearby schools, and the college teams are being planned to get the team in shape for the West Michigan Debate League Tournament, which will be held on or around January 19. Since State High's team won all four debates in the first contest, two more decisions will entitle them to enter the State Elimination Tournament and would put them in top place in the district.

The district champion is awarded the J. of M. plaque for excellence in debating. It is presented by the Detroit Free Press. State High has won seven of these plaques in past years and the debaters this year are anxious to add another to the collection.

Red Cross Club Acts

Under the supervision of Miss Sophie Reed, the Red Cross Club of State High, which meets every Thursday in the Barracks, is one of the most active and useful organizations in the school.

The thirty members of this club have been knitting socks, mittens, and wristlets, making duffel bags and tray covers, and collecting coat hangers for the V-12 Program.

A meeting of representatives from various Red Cross clubs in southwestern Michigan found Barbara Stevens as the representative from State High. The conference, which was held at Grand Rapids, was called principally for the purpose of discussing better organization for Red Cross clubs.

June Albertson Honored

June Albertson has been selected by the senior girls as the outstanding senior in regard to dependability, service, leadership, and patriotism in a project sponsored by the D.A.R.

One girl is chosen annually from each school in a nationwide contest. Questionnaires will be sent to each of these girls known as Good Citizenship Pilgrims and on the basis of the results, a Pilgrim will be selected from each state. When the state conference is held in Kalamazoo towards the end of March, the Michigan Pilgrims will be honored at a luncheon.

War Stamp Sale Short of Goal

Sales to Date Total $1,490, Less Than One-Half of $3,500

$3,500 is State High's war stamp goal for this semester. To date, the receipts total a little more than one-third of that goal. There are two weeks remaining in the semester. These are the facts in a situation which must become the individual responsibility of each State High student.

Thus far in the semester, there has been a strong tendency for students to let the other fellow buy the stamps. The goal was not set with this in mind. It was made with the view that every student would buy at least one 25c stamp every week. The goal also depended upon many students bringing bonds to the salesmen for credit.

Each student has not done his part in the drive. There is still time for each and every student to make up for the previous weeks when he has not bought a 25c stamp.

The above picture is what the war stamp chairman, Bob Heath and Francis Hamel, have to dream about. State High students must make this crowd around the table in the hall a reality rather than a dream.

This drive is not only an individual responsibility, but a class responsibility. Each class is counted on to buy approximately one fourth of the $3,500 dollars' worth of stamps. The juniors and seniors are coming somewhere near their goals, but the sophomores and freshmen have fallen short. The class competitive spirit of State High has always been strong with all classes doing their full share.

The war stamp drive is certainly no place to shirk one's full responsibility. The weekly sales thus far have averaged about $100. During the next two weeks they must average nearly $1,000. State High did it last year. Why not do it again?

Following the Three Rivers game, War Stamps will be on sale at the next dance, given by the freshmen, January 14, in the Women's gym.

Calendar of Events
Jan. 14—Dance after game, Women's gym.
Jan. 25—Sturgis, there.
Jan. 26—Marks in office.
Jan. 28—South Haven, there.
Jan. 30—Semester ends.

Let's Make This Crowd A Reality

The faculty and students of State High extend their sympathies to Mr. and Mrs. Duane Plough on the loss of their eight-months-old baby, and to Dr. Charles H. Butler on the death of his wife.
State Highlights

The STATE HIGHLIGHTS is published biweekly by the students of Western State High School

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Future Perfect

Prolific pens have given us many reasons why it is advisable to purchase more and more War Bonds. They have told us of the solid investment entailed; they have spoken of the value of a twenty-five-cent War Stamp to our fighting men on the battle fronts of the world. This of course is advisable, for it shows us today the practical value of the War Bond and its present day worth to us as an individual and to America as a nation.

But a War Bond is more than just these things, an investment in dollars and cents. When you purchase a bond, you are in reality buying for yourself $18.75 worth of the future, a future that you know nothing about, but a future you can look forward to with assurance because now in the present you have locked away a slice of future happiness. When you put away this piece of paper signed by Uncle Sam it may mean very little to you. However, in ten years it may be the down payment on a washing machine, or it might pay the painter for putting “John Jones, Attorney at Law” in big black letters on that first frosted door, or it even might buy Junior’s first tricycle. But the fact remains that whatever you do with that bond tomorrow, it still, today, is one of the few tangible links with these future desires.

Yes, a War Bond gives to the purchaser a part of the future, but in a larger sense it gives to every man on the face of the earth a bit of future happiness in the world to come—a world in which the pages of our newspapers will no longer shriek and rasp forth tales of blood, sweat and tears, but instead melodiously extoll champion hogs of Iowa, hillbilly politicians, and football games in October. We look toward a world of peace but yet to a world with more than peace, a world of security for all men. For peace alone is not enough. England could have had peace long ago, but the English did not fancy the sound of hobnailed Wehrmacht boots in the stately halls of Buckingham Palace. We Americans also could have had peace if we had chosen to ignore the white crosses of Pearl Harbor and allowed our bowing brethren from across the sea to dictate the terms of our future from the steps of the White House. But we chose instead security.

Therefore, we see that our future world must have both peace and security. It must be a world of the people, by the people and for the people. And what is our stake in this coming world? The piece of paper called a War Bond. It is the agent of the future, the building blocks from which shall rise the structure of this seemingly Utopian goal of our desire. Is a War Bond, then, too great a pledge of your faith in this new world?

—Bill Gilbert.

Whereabouts and Activities of Grads

Probably you have caught sight of ‘43 grads on Western’s campus. Those former State High students attending the college are Joanne Morton, James Morgan, Beverly Smith, Joan Spitters, Norma Stevens, Tom Todd, Bob Maloney, Barbara McLaughlin, Betty Little, Dean Hicks, Barbara Bowman, Larry Lage, and Phyllis Daub.

After spending the holidays with families and friends in Kalamazoo, Joan Gerpheide and Betsy Lang returned to the campus of Miami University, Oxford, Ohio.

Two girls from the ‘43 class have decided upon nursing as a career. They are Barbara Bigelow and Florence DeLano. Both will take their training at St. Luke’s Hospital in Chicago, Ill. Barb entered school last fall, while Flossie is attending Kalamazoo College for a semester and will not be enrolled until February.

The last time we heard, Arlone O’Leary was working at Willow Run; Dora LeRoy was an inspector in a war plant, while Pete Kakabaker had turned farmer.

Ruby White and her husband were back from Texas for the holidays.

Another ‘43 grad who was back for the holiday festivities is Mary Greene, who is enrolled at Knox College, Galesburg, Illinois.

Among those from last year’s graduating class who are attending the University of Michigan are Barbara Sisson, Joan Read, Ann Hansenman and Ralph Oakland.

Did you know that you’ll find Frances Donoghue and "Tottie" Harbeck working at Bell Telephone Company?

Michigan State College at Lansing, Michigan, is the alma mater of Lois Schneider, another ‘43 grad.

Since Nancy Wood moved to Chicago with her family, she has been flying for the Civilian Air Patrol besides working in a doctor’s office.

The following ‘43 graduates are in the service:

Army—Joe Cox, Felix Flaitz, Gale Krisinger, and Howard Winchell.

Army Air Forces—Brad Adams, Joe Anderson, John Folz, Dick Hanna, Dean Ruple and Bill Smith.

Navy—Jim Field, Bob Fuller, Henry Griffon, Oscar LeMieux, Stanley Tavis, Bob Maloney, Bill Meier, and Dick Neeb, and Jim Sweetland.

Marines—Norman Rabbers, Don Seelye, and Bill Skinner.
Handball Tournament To Commence Soon

Several of the sports which it is possible for the high school boys to play are not open to inter-school competition. The main one of these is a little known, but well-liked sport called handball. There is seldom much said about this game, mainly because it requires a special court to play in, and courts are few and far between. Kalamazoo, however, is very fortunate in this respect. In addition to having the two finest courts in Southwestern Michigan at the Y. M. C. A., Western itself has also a pair of courts in the men's gym.

As exercise, handball is an excellent pastime. It played swiftly and with a great deal of zest, it is recommended by boxing trainers as equivalent to a five mile run. However, when played by most high school and college students it is not nearly so strenuous.

Since a good many of the male members of the high school play this sport quite frequently, last year Coach Robert Quiring inaugurated the custom of having a handball tournament for the sake of determining who was the best player among the ranks of State High. Top honors went to Bob Jones and David Fooey, who won the doubles tournament with Jim Knauss and Bill Gilbert as runners-up, and again Bob Jones who won the singles tournament, with Bill Gilbert again runner-up.

This year, in spite of the shortage of rubber for new handballs, the tournament will again be played. Medals will be awarded to winners as they were last year. The tournament should be held very soon now, and it is hoped there will be a big turnout.

Cubs Lose Thriller To Vikings, 20-18

By losing a thriller to Niles with a score of 20-18, State High Cubs dropped into second place Friday, January 17, in the basketball game played at Niles.

State High held the lead at the end of the first quarter, the Cubs controlling the ball most of the time, though they could not find the hoop. By halftime, the Niles Vikings were on top with a score of 8-6 as the period ended.

During the last half the air was filled with the sound of the referee's whistle with two minutes left in the game. The Vikings, however, were not able to locate the hoop, missing a total of 24 out of 33 shots, went down fighting.

STATE HIGH (18)

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Substitutions:

- Thompson, f
- Skoubes, g

STATE HIGH TOTAL: 6 6 13

NILES (20)

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Substitutions:

- Wilson, f
- Peterson, c
- Peterson, cc
- Graham, g

NILES TOTAL: 1 2 1

What Say
by BIL GILBERT

A new competitive sport was added to the Cub agenda during '43, to wit, Pitch. Now, Pitch is an old and honorable card game that has been played for many years, but as played atop this hill it is new, varied, and extremely interesting. To play this game you need a voice like an Iowa hog caller, a physique like Charles Atlas, the perseverance of a Fuller Brush salesman, and the general all-around character of a combination John Dillinger - Count Dracula. This game turns Casper Milquetoasts into Jack the Ripper. Lifelong friends, after finishing a game of Pitch, are liable to say each other without a second thought. In fact, many features of this State High pastime have been recently incorporated into the British Commando course. So here's to another year of Pitch!

What with the ponds freezing, the new year arriving, and the Russian advance in Poland, the "S" club has decided to organize a hockey league for State High. Up to now about 40 boys have signed up for this exciting sport. At present there have been four teams organized. During Christmas vacation many of the boys were out practicing for the first match. We were down by the Park Street pond the other day and saw Glen Mellingaer with two pairs of skates. It was pretty pitiful for a minute, deciding what he was going to do with four skates, but after watching him we found out not only what he was using them for but where he'd better use them.

Seeing that this is a War Bond issue, it might be a good idea to have What Say get in the swing. We decided to interview that mighty mite, Karl Hokenmaier, on his views on that tasty treat, War Bonds. Karl says, "There is nothing I enjoy more in the morning than a bowl of delicious, crispy, sweet as a nut War Bonds, especially if you have sliced peaches on top."

"If it is good enough for Karl, why don't you try some War Bonds in the morning? They come in three sizes, 10c, 25c, and the handy, economy $18.75 package."

Tuesday, January 11, the football awards were given to the football team of '43. Those on the first squad who received awards were John Aube, Dave Auxter, Karl Hokenmaier, Francis Hamel, Bill Lee, Jerry McKinney, George Moran, Harry Parker, Bill Perrin, John Skoubes, Mark Thompson, and Bill Watson, who was injured early in the season.

For a letter writer who played part of the time were Doug Beebe, Bill Cox, John Dunham, Chuck Klein, and Jack Young.
Mental Mutt Makes News

State High was privileged on Dec. 16 to receive a visit from a distinguished Beagle hound, Miss Ilka Blump. She is the author of several books, notably: "How to Raise an Only Pup," and "On Making a Cheerful Kennel for Your Husband." She also wrote one novel, "The Burrying of the Bone."

Miss Blump appeared on the campus about noon at which time the Highlights correspondent found her begging a meal from a handsome cadet in Spindler Hall. She was escorted to the Ad building so that an interview might be obtained. Miss Blump was rather non-talkative at first, only saying, "Bow," but later she qualified this statement with "Wow!"

She was then introduced to Dr. Bryan who was immediately charmed by her cunning ways, especially as he was going hunting the next day. He remarked afterward that she was an extremely good beagle.

Miss Blump was deeply impressed by the courtesy shown by the students of State High. They thought nothing, according to Miss Blump, of leaving their classes to assist her. One girl even left her math class to go to Walwood Hall to buy the dog a sandwich.

She was not sure as to her next public appearance, but on leaving she told us that she expected shortly to meet Mrs. Roosevelt on the corner of Lovell and Rose streets. When we told her that Mrs. Roosevelt was not coming to Kalamazoo, she only replied, "Give her a little time," and left us rather hurriedly.

Today's Bonds Tomorrow

Some of the State High students have been contacted and have revealed what they intend to do with their War Bond cash ten years from now:

Shirley Chapin — "Buy my trousers."
Burton Upjohn — Buy a paper doll.
Caroline Richardson — Travel and buy a car.
Judy Ogden — Buy a helicopter.
Jack Van Boven — Finance another trip to Chicago to see an operetta.
Phyllis Cady — Put it in the American National Bank of Kalamazoo.
Mary Roberts — Use it for a worthwhile cause. (Noble girl!)
Carl Cooper — Finance his honeymoon.
Jane Britton — Buy a good convertible.
Dunny Clark — Revive "Good Night Ladies" unless it's still running.

Better Late Than Never

'Twas three nights before Christmas, and all through the school, not a creature was stirring, not even a ghoul. The books were all left with the merriest shouts, for it was vacation, and school was let out. These conditions existed from three-thirty till nine.

For five and a half hours the campus lay supreme. But shortly before the clock struck nine, by one of the doors, there formed a strange line of men in blue coats, each carrying a case. Of men in blue coats, each carrying a case. Of course you do! You're perfect!

Well, make and break, that's the way it goes when just this once gets into the picture. It's just no use.

Genie Joe Whiz

Finally Cornered

Well, folks, after a long, hard search we have finally managed to track down that mathematical genius, Joe Whiz. Genie Joe was hunting for a book among the dictionaries. When finally cornered he snarled the following facts about the importance of War Bonds:

Eleven 25c stamps will buy a steel helmet to save the life of a soldier; six 25c stamps would pay for a hand grenade to kill an enemy, and fifteen 25c stamps would buy a pair of shoes to torture a soldier's feet on long hikes. After giving this information we could not hold him any longer and so he jumped back into the dictionary.

Happy Birthday

January 11—Frances Spitters
January 13—Maryellen Ward
January 16—Connie Dehollander
January 19—Joy Roelof
January 21—Bob Kistler
January 24—Pat Abrams
January 26—Jean Vanderberg
January 29—Jim Amos

Dig Down and Cough Up

Buy War Bonds! Buy War Bonds!
United States War Bonds and Stamps!
Your money! Your dollars! Your pennies!
Win in the War! Win the world from those tramps!
All our efforts are bent to the task of removing the men who started this war,
Building and improving the world and the peace.
Of all the nations who have suffered thus far,
Not one of those brave men in planes,
Should feel that the people at home aren't with them in everything until peace is won.
Never stop buying those bonds and those stamps.
Dig down and remember it's only a loan. You're saving and fortifying your life to come.
The life that will start again after we've won.
Millions and billions of dollars are needed to pay the cost of our freedom and peace.
So invest all you can and then invest more, until all the need of your money shall cease.

Make and Break 'em

New Year! You feel virtuous. You grab paper and pencil and get to work. You write down all your faults; then you correct them—on paper.
"I'll resolve": Oh boy! No more procrastinating on assignments; every paper is going to be in on time, neatly done and every word spelled correctly. You're going to be a kind, loyal, honest person. Isn't it wonderful? You have a Joan-of-Arc-at-the-stake expression on your face. Do you feel something gleaming around your head? Of course you do! You're perfect!

Then... For once you decided to listen to the radio but there's a history assignment. Well, just this once won't matter. Watch out! Isn't that halo fading? Your shoulders feel lighter. What happened to those little feathered things that used to be there?

Well, make and break, that's the way it goes when just this once gets into the picture. It's just no use.

STATE HIGHLIGHTS