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# BESSE BREEZE 

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Published Annually
by BESSE HIGH SCHOOL

Albion, Maine


For everything you have done for us.
With loving kindness you have given
To us, the students at Besse High,
And everyone who has come your way
A helping hand, a guiding light.
And so to you we dedicate
With deep appreciation and sincere respect
Our yearbook, the Besse Breeze.


## Administration



## Yearbook Staff



Seated, left to right: Alice McKiel, Maxine Harding, Audrey Drake, Carolyn Fowler, Robert Littlefield, Charles Spearrin, Menetta Meader. Standing: Judith Meader, Raymond Marks, Ronald Littlefield, Ronald Lee, Everett Drake.


## Fighest Fonors <br> High Honors <br> anars

## Semiors

Shirley Barton 1
Audrey Drake 2
Carolyn Fowler 2
Maxine Harding 2
Robert Littlefield 2
Ronald Littlefield 2

## Zuniors

Judith Meader 2
Menetta Meader 2

Everett Drake 2
Alice McKiel 2
Ronald Marks 1

## Freshmen

| Scott Dow 2 | Raymond Meader 1 |
| :--- | ---: |
| Mary Fuller 2 |  |
| Christine Rackleff 2 | Carleton Brann 2 |
| Ronald Hayward 1 |  |



## Seniars

"FORWARD BE OUR WATCHWORD"
Class Rall

| SHIRLEY BARTON | ROBERT LITTLEFIELD |
| :--- | :--- |
| DOROTHY BASTARACHE | RONALD LITTLEFIELD |
| AUDREY DRAKE | RAYMOND MARKS |
| CAROLYN FOWLER | CLAYTON MASON |
| MAXINE HARDING | GERALD MASON |
| RUSSELL HAYWARD | CHARLES SPEARRIN |

Class Officers
President . .........................................................
Vice President ....................................................

Treasurer ...............................................................
Class Reporter ......................................................

CLASS FLOWER
Carnation
CLASS COLOR - Maroon and White

CLASS MARSHAL - Maxine Harding

## Commencement Exercises

Baccalaureate ..... June 3, 1956
Last Chapel

June 1, 1956

Graduation
June 5, 1956

"Whatever is worth doing at all, is worth doing well"

Basketball 2; Basketball Manager 1, 3, 4; Softball 1, 3; Editorial Board 1, 2, 3, Girls' Sport Editor 1, Assistant Printer 2, Assistant Typist 3; Commercial Club 3, 4, Commercial Club Reporter 3,4; Commercial Club Play 4; BAA 2; Librarian 2; Prize Speaking 3; Graduation Usher 3; Honor Roll 1, 2, 3, 4.


DOROTHY BASTARACHE

Thompsonville, Conn.
Aug. 18, 1937

COMMERCIAL
PROPHECY
"Lost time is never found again"

Transfer to Besse 4; Commercial Club 4, Commercial Club Play 4.


## AUDREY MARILYN DRAKE

Albion, Sept. 5, 1938
"Audrey"
COMMERCIAL
VALEDICTORY
"There is no cosmetic for beauty like happiness"

Minstrel Show 1; Ed. Board 1, 2, 3, 4, Assistant Editor-inChief 1; Assistant Lit. Ed. 2, Lit. Ed. 3, Feature Ed. 4; Basketball 1, 2, 3, 4, Captain 4; Softball 1, 2; Cheerleading $1,2,3,4$; Student Council $1,2,4$, Secretary 4 ; Class Secretary 2, 4, Treasurer 1; Delegate to Girls' State 3; Graduation Usher 3; Commercial Club 3,4; Junior Play 3; DAR 4; Glee Club 1,4.


## CAROLYN ERDINE FOWLER

Albion, Nov. 3, 1938
"Carolyn"

COMMERCIAL
SALUT ATORY
"Laughter is sunshine in any man's house"
Class Secretary 1, 3, Class Reporter 2,4; Copy Editor 4, Assistant Editor-in-Chief 2, 3, Alumni Editor 1; Student Council 1, 3, 4, Secretary 3, Bookkeeper 4; Glee Club 1, 3,4, Maine All State 1, K.V.C. 4; Commercial Club 3,4, Secretary 3; Prize Speaking 3; Grad. Usher 3; Junior Play 3; Commercial Play 4; BAA 2; Basketball 1, 2, 3,4 ; Softball 1, 2, 3, 4 ; Cheerleading 1, 2, Head-Cheerleader 3, 4; Librarian 1, 2, 4; Honor Roll 1, 2, 3, 4.


MAXINE MAE HARDING

Albion, August 27, 1938 "Macky"
COLLEGE
MARSHAL
"Many wish to possess knowledge; Few are willing to pay the price"

Basketball 1, 2, 3, 4; Softball 1, 2, 3, 4; Cheerleading $1,2,3,4$; BAA 2 ; Librarian 3,4 ; Class Reporter 1 ; Editorial Board 1, 2, 3,4; Class Reporter 1, Girls' Sport Editor 2, 3, Photo Editor 4; Perfect Attendance Award 1, 2, 3; Honor Roll 1, 2. 3, 4.


RUSSELL JAMES HAYW ARD

Milford, Mass., Jan. 19, 1938
"Brut"

GENERAL
CLASS GIFTS
"We must always have old memories and young hopes"

Baseball 2; Basketball Manager 4; Baseball Manager 4; Commercial Club Play 4; Commercial Club 3,4; Junior Play 3; Second Place Junior Prize Speaking 3; Salesmanship A ward 2, 3, 4.
"Do not squander TIME for that is the stuff life is made of"

Editorial Board 1, 2, 3, 4, Editor-in-Chief 4, Art Editor 1, 2, 3; Basketball 1, 2, 3,4, Co-Captain 4; Baseball 1, 2, 3, 4; Class Vice President 4; Class Reporter 3; First Prize Junior and Regional Prize Speaking Contest 3; Junior Play 3; Graduation Usher 3; Student Council Vice President 4; Boys'State 3; Honor Roll 1, 2, 3.4.


## RONALD GEORGE LITTLEFIELD

Albion, Jan. 18, 1938 "Ronnie"

COLLEGE
Second HONOR ESSAY
"Learning without thought
is labor lost"

Basketball 1, 2, 3, 4; Baseball 1, 2, 3, 4; Class Vice President 2 , Treasurer 3,4 ; Student Council 2, 3, 4, Treasurer 4; Editorial Board 2, 3, 4, Assistant Humor Editor 2, Humor Editor 3, Advertising Manager 4; Prize Speaking 3; Graduation Usher 3; Science Award 3; Junior Play 3; Honor Roll 1, 2, 3, 4.


RAYMOND BRUCE MARKS

Albion, Jan. 16, 1938

GENERAL
CLASS WILL

> "A light heart lives long"

Editorial Board 1, 2, 3, 4; Student Council 1, 2, 3, 4, Vice President 3, President 4; Class Vice President 1, Class President 2, 3,4; Commercial Club 3,4, Treasurer 4; Prize Speaking 3; Junior Play 3; Basketball 1, 2, 3,4, Co-Captain 4; Baseball 1, 2, 3,4; Librarian 3,4; Commercial Club Play 4; Class Marshal 3; BAA 2.


CLAYTON LEWIS MASON

Albion, July, 16, 1939
"Clayt"

GENERAL
PROPHECY
"It's better to know nothing than to half-know many things"

Minstrel Show 1; Baseball 2; Junior Play 3; Graduation Usher 3; Commercial Club 3,4; Commercial Club Play 4; Prize Speaking 3.


GERALD ELMER MASON

Albion, April 20, 1937

GENERAL
CLASS GIFTS
"Slow but Sure"

Minstrel Show 1; Baseball 2; Junior
Prize Speaking 3; Graduation Usher 3; Commercial Club 3,4, Commercial Club Play 4.

CH ARLES DANIEL SPEARRIN

Unity, Dec. 31, 1937
"Charlie"

GENERAL
ADDRESS TO UNDERGRADUATES
"I give advice, but I do not inspire conduct"

Basketball 1, 2, 3, 4, All Star 4, Waldo County All Star 3, Fowl Shooting Contest 4; Baseball 1, 2, 3,4; Class President 1, Vice President 3, Treasurer 3; Student Council 1, 2, 3; Editorial Board 1, 2, 3, 4, Assistant Joke Editor 1, Joke Editor 2, Assistant Advertising Manager 3, Business Manager 4; Prize Speaking 3; Junior Play 3; Graduation Usher 3; Commercial Club 3, 4, Commercial Play 4; Honor Roll 1, 2, 3,4.

## Class History

On September 9, 1952, eighteen boys and girls climbed aboard a ship of good fortune to gain knowledge, to become good citizens, and to learn sportsmanship. Early on our voyage, we lost the Russell boys, Wilfred and Joseph. By the end of our first year on our trip to success, by selling refreshments at games and by having a Valentine's Dance, our treasury had a balance of about $\$ 55.00$. Fifty per cent of our class made the honor roll and fifty-six per cent of our class went out for sports. Our class advisor was Miss Cyr.

And then came the second year of our voyage, September, 1953. Sixteen enrolled in our class, but at mid-year, we lost Joseph Brown. During the year, we sold refreshments at two basketball games and sold Christmas wreaths, boosting our bank account to $\$ 73.94$. This year seventy-five per cent of our class went out for sports and thirty-seven per cent of our class was on the honor roll. Again our class advisor was Miss Cyr.

September 8, 1954, back to the third year on our trip to success were thirteen Juniors. We were sorry to lose Leland Fitch, George Bourque, and Roberta Vannah. Our new class advisor was Mr. Bickford. After weeks of hard work, the Juniors presented a successful play called "Here Comes Charlie." We sold refreshments at basketball games, and we boosted our financial standing to $\$ 213.00$. This year fiftyeight per cent of our class were on the honor roll and sixty-four per cent went out for sports.

September 6, 1955, back to school for our last year came thirteen Seniors, all anxious to end our successful journey in June. We had one addition, Dorothy Bastarache, to complete her journey with our class. Miss Mitchell became our class advisor and our class elected the following officers:


We picked potatoes for Mr. Edgerly and made $\$ 350.00$ of hard earned money. We sponsored a roast chicken supper with all the fixings, and cleared about $\$ 140.00$.

In December, the loss of Rita Rowe left twelve to complete our journey. A larger per cent than ever made the honor roll -- eighty-three per cent, and seventy-five per cent went out for sports.

And now as we go to press, the Senior Class feels that its trip to Washington, D. C. will be a most important event in our journey through Besse High School.



Seated, left to right: Maxine Harding, Audrey Drake, Dorothy Bastarache, Carolyn Fow ler, Shirley Barton.
Standing: Charles Spearrin, Robert Littlefield, Gerald Mason, Raymond Marks, Clayton Mason, Russell Hayward.
Absent from picture: Ronald Littlefield.

Our school career fades away . . . graduation over . . . a new life . . .col-
lege, work, marriage . . .cherished old friendships . . .plans made and bro-
ken . . . into the future . . . a world to be conquered . . . for some, fame -
fortune, others disappointment . . . all striving for success . . . remembering
the class motto . . . "Forward be our watchword."


## Vunior Class



Seated, left to right: B. Cole, W. Robbins, M. Meader, J. Sylvester, J. Meader, R. Lee, B. Rowe. Standing: Mr. Audet, Advisor; N. Fletcher, M. Rowe, E. Wiggin, M. Cookson, G. Shores.

The Junior Class has twelve members this year. We had thirteen when the school year started, but Helen Pottle left us in the fall. She is now working in New Hampshire.

We chose class officers at the first class meeting, September 9, 1955, they are:


Our class advisor is Mr. Jerome Audet, the basketball coach and seventh and eighth grade teacher.

We have a total of $\$ 99.25$ in our bank account.



## SOPHOMORES

## Sophomare Class



Seated, left to right: E. Drake, P. Emery, R. Marks, A. McKiel. Standing: Mr. Harrison, Advisor; B. Fletcher, N. Willette.

Our class of 1958 is composed of six members. Ilene Fitch and Lawrence Gordon left us at the beginning of the year. Lawrence is in the Army stationed at Fort Lee, Virginia. Our class officers are: President, Ronald Marks; Secretary, Patricia Emery; Treasurer, Everett Drake; Reporter, Alice McKiel; and Class Advisor, Mr. Harrison. These members are in Student Council. Alice McKiel is Student Council Reporter and Everett Drake was chosen from our class to attend the State Student Council Meeting held in Waterville. Editorial Board members from our class are Ronald Marks, Boys' Sport Editor; Everett Drake, Joke Editor; and Alice McKiel, Literary Editor.

We initiated the Freshmen at Freshmen Reception, October 3. Members of our class presented a Christmas play with the Freshmen under the direction of Miss Aaskov. Three of our classmates won prizes in the annual magazine drive, Everett Drake winning first prize of $\$ 10$.

We have about $\$ 80$. in our treasury.



## Freshman Class



Seated, left to right: M. Fitch, G. Wiggin, C. Rackleff, S. Dow, M. Fuller, R. Meader, D. Pottle. Standing: Miss Aaskov, Advisor; R. Young L. McChesney, N. Young, C. Brann, M. Emerson, R. Hayward, L. Willette.

The Freshman Class, at it s first meeting, elected the following officers: President, Scott Dow; Vice President, George Wiggin; Secretary, Raymond Meader; Treasurer, Christine Rackleff; and Class Reporter, Mary Fuller.

We voted to bring $\$ 1.00$ dues.
Our class started with sixteen inembers. We were sorry to lose Leo Thompson, who left in November.

The Freshmen and Sophomores combined to present a play called "A Child is Born," by Stephen Vincent Benet.

On March 2 we plan to present two one-act plays; namely-"For Whom the Telephone Rings," and "Whodunit."

We sold refreshments at the Searsport and Brooks games.
We have been writing to pen pals this year. They are from England, Africa, New Zealand, and Hawaii.



JUNIOR HIGH

## Zuniar High



Seated, left to right: Marks, Raven, Littlefield, Treasurer; Green, Vice President; Keay, Secretary; Overlock, Harding. Standing: Rowe, Fletcher, Fletcher, Hendsbee, Donahue, Shores, Richardson, Waddell, Alexander, Reporter; Miss Aaskov, Advisor. Third row: Hodges, Harding, Crosby, Rowe.


Seated, left to right: Bennett, Fish, Hodges, President; Wriglesworth, Rowe. Standing: Higgins, Emery, Crosby, Walcott, Meader, Cole, Mr. Audet, Advisor. Third row: Quimby, Towers, Mason, Overlock, Pottle.


ORGANIZATIONS

## Student Council



Seated, left to right: C. Fowler, A. McKiel, R. Littlefield, R. Marks, R. Littlefield, R. Lee, A. Drake. Standing: P. Emery, S. Dow, J. Meader, E. Drake, R. Meader, Miss Mitchell, Advisor; G. Wiggin, J.Sylvester, C. Rackleff, R. Marks, M. Meader, M. Fuller.

Besse High's Student Council consists of the officers of the four upper classes. The officers of the Student Council were chosen by the governing body as follows: President, Raymond Marks; Vice President, Robert Littlefield; Secretary, Audrey Drake; Treasurer, Ronald Littlefield; Bookkeeper, Carolyn Fowler; Auditor, Ronald Lee; and School News Reporter, Alice McKiel.

For the first time this year Besse High School was represented at the State Student Council Convention which was held at Waterville High School, November 18 and 19. The delegates chosen by the student body were Ronald Lee, Robert Littlefield, Everett Drake, Raymond Marks, Scott Dow, and Carolyn Fowler. Audrey Drake went in Robert Littlefield's place, due to Robert's illness.

The main purpose of the State Student Council is to elect officers and to take helpful information back to the school. We went to lectures on "The Aroostook Basketball Plan," "Safe Teen Driving," "Should a Student's Activities Be Limited? " and "Student Courts. "

The student body has voted that they are in favor of the "Teen Club" after basketball season is over, and will cooperate in so far as possible with the P.T. A. in starting this new club. Our thanks to P.T.A.


## Gee



Seated, left to right: L. Willette, M. Rowe, C. Fowler, N. Fletcher, A. Drake, C. Rackleff, L. McChesney.
Standing: B. Cole, M. Meader, A. McKiel, B. Fletcher, P. Emery, M. Fuller, M. Fitch.

The Besse High Glee Club has fourteen members this year. They are: altos, Nancy Fletcher, Betty Fletcher, Maxine Rowe, Mary Fuller, Lynda Willette, Christine Rackleff, Marilyn Fitch, and Patricia Emery; sopranos, Audrey Drake, Leota McChesney, Carolyn Fowler, Alice McKiel, Beverly Cole, and Menetta Meader.

The Glee Club made two appearances this year, one at the Church Christmas Program and at the Commercial Club's plays.

Carolyn Fowler and Menetta Meader have been selected from the Glee Club to be in the Kennebec Valley Chorus. Menetta Meader has sent in her papers to be in the Maine All-State Chorus. We are going to sing at the Senior Baccalaureate.

Our instructor is Miss Regina Conroy. Miss Conroy is also the music teacher in the Junior High and in the Elementary School. She has been teaching in Albion for two years. In the Elementary and in the Junior High, she is teaching instruments to those who want to take lessons.


## Commercial Club



Seated, left to right: B. Rowe, R. Lee, S. Barton, W. Robbins, M. Meader, R. Marks, N. Fletcher, C. Mason. Standing: B. Cole, C. Fowler, A. Drake, M. Cookson, R. Hayward, C. Spearrin, J. Sylvester, G. Mason, G. Shores, M. Rowe, Miss McGowan, Advisor.

The Commercial Club of Besse High School has twenty members and is directed by Miss Barbara McGowan.

At the first meeting the following officers were elected: President, Walter Robbins; Vice President, Ronald Lee; Secretary, Menetta Meader; Treasurer, Raymond Marks; Reporter, Shirley Barton; on the Standing Committee are Audrey Drake, Carolyn Fowler, Clayton Mason, and John Sylvester.

For activities during the year the Commercial Club took a trip to Bangor in November and visited the following places: Filter Center, Husson College, Bangor Auditorium, and the Bangor Daily News Building. In December we sponsored two plays: Battle of the Budget and Don't Open Till Christmas. We have also tried to be active in other civic undertakings this year.



The library is one room in our school building which is busy nearly every period. Thirty per cent of our students use the library every day for studying, reference, borrowing books and browsing. We have new books every month through the Junior Literary Guild. Historical novels of the Cavalcade series and many other well-known teen-age books have been purchased. These, plus gifts from the State Library and Falmouth Memorial Library, total 125 new books this year.

Every six weeks we look forward to the coming of the bookmobile. Each class goes out separately and everyone hunts frantically for a book which he thinks he will like.

One student librarian is in charge of the library each period. These are Raymond Marks, Robert Littlefield, Audrey Drake, Carolyn Fowler, Maxine Harding, Judy Meader, and Alice McKiel.

Miss Aaskov (top center), over the past two years, has done much to organize our library. The Dewey Decimal System is used, the fiction books are in alphabetical order, the card catalog has a good start, and many other improvements have been made. We are grateful to Miss Aaskov for the time and effort she has contributed.



Boys' State is a function sponsored by the American Legion. The purpose is to create a democratic sense of responsibility and to teach the principles of State Government. This is accomplished by simulating the State Government in every possible way. Delegates from all over the state act as citizens, run for office, become the political and party leaders, and do all other duties which the citizens of a state do.

Dirigo Boys' State is a full week's program of events. This year approximately three hundred twenty boys arrived at the University of Maine campus Sunday afternoon. The formation of towns, counties, and political parties provide the basis for further political and social organization. I was a member of the Federalist party, a citizen of the town of Cutler located in Corbett Hall, in the county of Weston, and, of course, a citizen of the State of Dirigo. Almost immediately after registration, campaign parties were busy putting up posters everywhere. Friends were made easily and quickly. General assembly was held Sunday night. Guest speakers gave talks on the principles of town government, followed by informal town meetings and campaigning for county and town offices. Monday morning was the real beginning of a week packed with fun, sportsmanship and tests. An average day at Boys' State consists of: being awakened sharply at 6:00 army style, roll call, cleaning quarters, announcements, breakfast, inspection of quarters by staff, general assembly, daily tests, noted speakers, political organizing, dinner, political activity, sports, roll call, supper, more political activity, lectures, and campaigning.

I found Boys' State to be more than a place to learn politics and state government. It is a place to thoroughly enjoy yourself by taking part in the activities and playing the roll of a citizen, a town leader, a party leader, a legislator, a commissioner, or perhaps even the governor. Enthusiasm and competition run high. It is greatly inspired by the fact that some of Maine's leading officials act as guidance instructors and speakers. Some of these were selectmen, town managers, Maine senators and representatives (including the Clerk of the Maine House of Representatives and the Secretary and President of the Maine Senate), a Probate Judge, a member of the Executive Council, The Maine Tax Commissioner, The Attorney General, and the Governor of the State of Maine, Edmund S. Muskie.

At Boys' State there were two main parties, the Federalists and the Nationalists; the remainder were Independents. In the Federalist party, I got to be a State Committeeman and on the Gubernatorial Platform Committee. It was our duty to influence the Independents to vote Federalist. One of the biggest events of the week was the State Election where our candidate for governor, Gerald Amero, won; I got to be one of the thirty senators. Our party had a majority of two to one in the Senate; with a good majority in the house, also, our party was well in control.

The remainder of the two days at Boys' State, after the State Election, was devoted to the hearing of and voting on bills submitted by various legislators. I had the very great honor of being appointed Chairman of The Taxation Committee which is a joint standing committee composed of both senators and representatives. To me, this was the most interesting and colorful part of the week's activities because of our excellent instructors and lively debates.

In conclusion, I believe that the background obtained at Boys' State would be very hard to duplicate, and that it would be a privilege for any student to go and enjoy it as I have.

Robert Littlefield '56

## PUPPY for LITTLE JOANIE

Joanie saw the puppy she wanted as soon as she and her mother entered the pet shop. He was right up front in the big show window, his little black button of a nose pressed against the wall of his pen.

The proprietor, a little jolly, gray-haired man, bustled forward to wait on them. Mrs. Henderson explained that they wanted a puppy for Joanie.

The proprietor smiled, "He is a cutie, isn't he?" He picked up the little puppy and placed it in Joanie's arms.
"Oh, he's the best dog in the whole, wide world," cried Joanie. Joanie patted and talked to him, just like he were a real person. Suddenly, the puppy wriggled out of Joanie's arms and scampered across the floor.

Mrs. Henderson, speaking rather sharply, said, "I can see where he would be hard to handle. "

Joanie's heart sank. She had to prove that she could handle the puppy easily-she just had to! She would just simply die if she couldn't have that puppy! So, she tiptoed up to the puppy, but every time she came within inches of him, he would run away.
"I think I know how to handle the puppy," said the proprietor, "Just watch me." He picked up a folded newspaper, walked over to the puppy, and he whacked the pup right across the rear with the paper. "Now you, let me pick you up, young man," he ordered. Sure enough! The puppy let him do just that!
"You see, little girl," said the proprietor, "love without discipline can be very harmful. Allowing our loved ones to do just as they please, even when they're wrong,
doesn't mean we love them any more. "
"I think I understand, " answered Joanie in a small voice, holding the little puppy close to her heart. Mrs. Henderson paid the proprietor and a few minutes later, a very happy little girl walked down the street with two wonderful presents--a little puppy with a black button of a nose and a big lesson in the meaning of love.

Audrey Drake '56

## DANNY 'S TRAGEDY

"Mommy, my head aches!" These are the words that Danny's mother, Mrs. Nelson, will always remember for they are the words that were spoken by her son the day he was stricken with polio. Little Danny was but five years old at the time he was taken ill with this terrible disease.

Danny had always been a healthy little boy; for this reason, when he complained of not feeling well, he was immediately taken to the doctor. Of course, Mr. and Mrs. Nelson felt very bad about their son's sudden illness, but were told that it was a very slight case and that Danny would soon recover. However, as time passed, Danny became worse instead of better and had to be put into an iron lung.

After a long period of about seven months, Danny slowly began to recover and was removed from the lung to be placed in his home-town hospital. As a result of exercising his muscles, Danny became much stronger. Each day he was lifted gently into a wheel chair and wheeled out to the sun porch of the hospital. How this delighted the little fellow! Mom and Dad Nelson were joyous over their boy's improving condition.

What a shock it was when Danny's parents were told that their son would never walk again. "But look how much better he is!" "It can't be true." "How can we ever tell him this?" These are the remarks which the doctor heard.

Mr. and Mrs. Nelson were told that it would be best for them to tell their son at once. So, Danny was informed that he would never be able to walk again. He was so young that he didn't take it too hard, as Mom and Dad encouraged him and explained that he must be brave and make the best of his handicap.

This is just what Danny did, facing his handicaps with determination and courage. It was only a short time before Danny was on crutches and managing them with no trouble at all. Today Danny Nelson is a senior at high school planning to go on to college this fall.

Danny is one out of the millions of children who have been crippled by this dreadful disease. For this reason, I think we should thank God that a vaccine has been discovered to prevent polio.

WHO ARE WE TO SAY

Who are we to say
who are the best?
Who are we to say
what will happen to the rest?
Who are we to say
what is right and wrong?
Who are we to say
if we'll be happy long?
But we are Americans
and so we'll say,
"Just live and let live
while you may!"
Alice McKiel '58

SKIING

It is very fun to ski
And very simple as can be, Just stand up straight With head bent low
And very soon, you'll really go
Right through the farmpond gate.
But keep on trying, just the same,
And pretty soon you'll learn the game
Of how you turn, and dodge and swing, And turn the corners skillfully,
And make the children shout with glee. Oh, it's a very easy thing!

Marie Alexander '60
(Published in National Anthology of High School Poetry)

FALL

The leaves are falling,
The winter winds are calling, Soon the snow will be falling.

Cool September brings the fall,
When school beckons one and all.
Nights, so frosty wet with dew, Color leaves with every hue. Red and yellow bright as gold,
Soon will leave us in the cold.

The Basketball Team of Besse High, Won most their games without a sigh. High scorer for this year was Big Charlie Spearrin, Who from the sidelines got a lot of cheerin'. Guard Ronnie Lee is next in sight, Who always puts up a very good fight. Then there's Robert and Ronald, the Littlefield twins, Who did their utmost to help get wins. Next are the Marks brothers, Ronald and Ray, Though pretty fair players, they seldom get $A$. There's Everett Drake, who has two more years To help this team have no fears. Then there's Cookson, whose first name's Mayo, When on the floor he gets his kayo. Then there's Raymond, George, and Scott by name, Though in their Freshmen year, play many a game. Our coach is Mr. Audet, and though he's only $5^{\prime} 6{ }^{\prime \prime}$ When on the floor makes us boys look some sick. Last are the managers, Roy, Ronald, and Russell, When work's to be done there's quite a tussle. Well, that's the end of Besse's Basketball Team, And to us there 's none better--or so it seems.

Ronald Marks '58

## THE FRESHMEN

On the 6th of September last, In came our Freshmen Class. Before long a reception came our way, The Sophomores really gave us a day. In lipstick red and burlap sacks We went through our paces and put on a good act. Now I'll name us one by one, You'll know us all before I'm done. First comes Carleton, a witty lad, Always joking and never sad. Next is Christine, a tall lass, Really smart with lots of class. Then comes Dorothy, another girl, She can really give a basketball quite a whirl. Now we have George, really quite tall, If he should slip, he'd have a great fall. Leota is a girl who lives quite far, But soon makes it in her boyfriend's car. There is also Lynda, who is a blonde, Of all sports she is very fond. We have a Marilyn F. and a Marilyn E., From care and worry they are always free. Now comes Mary, right from the start, With a smile on her face and a song in her heart.

Then there is Nickie, who has charm, Likes trains, but lives on a farm. Raymond is a boy who takes delight In driving his car around at night. Now Ronald H. likes to fool, Whether he is in or out of school. But Ronald Y. has hair that curls, He makes a hit with all the girls. Then there's Scott, so they tell, Who does everything well.
Although Roy is last on our list, If he stays home, he's surely missed. Now if our good luck holds out, We'll surely be Sophomores next year, no doubt.

Marilyn Emerson '<br>'59

WELL-KNOWN PERSONALITIES
HILDA CROCKER Is she all there? Judy Meader
PETE PORTER … .... A speaker of his own thoughts Mr. Audet
FRANK SMITH Mr. Harrison
CLARK GABLE Charlie Spearrin
GEORGE GOBEL Ronald Littlefield
AUDREY HEPBURN Alice McKiel
DAGMAR Beautiful blond? Menetta Meader
LIBERACE The way he acts and talks Carleton Brann
SUSAN McNAMARA - . . . . . - - All a flutter Dorothy Bastarache
BOB CUMMINGS ..... Dark and kind of cute ....... - Bob Littlefield
ELIZ ABETH TAYLOR Coal-black hair Carolyn Fowler
ANN BLYTHE Tiny Maxine Harding
OUR MISS BROOKS ..... Miss Mitchell

NAME
M. Harding
A. McKiel
M. Meader
E. Drake
C. Fowler
D. Bastarache
A. Drake

Bob Littlefield
R. Lee
R. Hayward
J. Meader
C. Spearrin
C. Mason

Ron Littlefield
G. Mason
S. Barton
R. Marks
EXPECTED TO BE

Ensign's wife
Home Ec. Teacher
Opera singer
Math teacher
His (A.B.) Private Secretary
In the Waves
Milkdriver's Wife
Professor at Colby
Owner of Lee Bros.
Chief Cook and Bottle Washer Gossip Columnist
Professional Basketball Player Farming
Second Einstein
Married
Picking Blueberries Working on Farm

CAUSE OF DEATH

Writing love letters
Nightmares of Raymond?
Parking
Arguing
Love
Sho(r)t
Lifting milk cans
Absence of mind
Plowed under
Indigestion
Laughing
Women
Tractor arguments
Exploding Atom?
Driving too fast!!!
Jerry
Potato fight with --- ?

Clayton: "Tell me how long cows should be milked. " Everett: "Milk them the same as short cows."

```
Mr. Marks: "You ask too many questions, Kenneth. Remember, curiosity killed the cat. "
Kenneth: "Daddy, what did the cat want to know?"
```

Charlie: "Eating carrots is good for the eyes."
Raymond: "How can you prove it?"
Charlie: "Well, you've never seen a rabbit wearing glasses, have you?"

Norris: "How about making a bet on the game tonight?"
Mr. Audet: "What's the odds?"
Norris: "Your car against mine."

Milkman: "Did you ever see a three dollar bill?"
Housewife: "No."
Milkman: "Well, here's one. You owe me three dollars for milk for the last three weeks."

Miss Aaskov: "Use the word 'bewitches' in a sentence."
Brann: $\quad$ I'll bewitches in a minute."

Miss Mitchell: "Should you say, that hen's setting or that hen is sitting?"
Eric: "It doesn't make a bit of difference. But, when that hen cackles, you'd better find out if she's laying or lying. "

Mr. Harrison: "Take 23 from 45. What's the difference?"
Scott: "That's what I say. What's the difference?"

Robert: "Why is hay like a mouse?"
Raymond: "I don't know, why?"
Robert: "Because the cat'll (cattle) eat it."

Miss McGowan was driving across the turnpike when her car started giving her trouble. She got quite sore at it, and when stopping at a toll bridge the keeper said - 20 cents, Miss McGowan shouted, "Sold!"



Besse Cheerleaders

## '56

## Girls' Basketball



Standing, left to right: D. Pottle, M. Harding, G. Shores, A. Drake, Captain, M. Emerson, C. Fowler, J. Meader, A. McKiel, M. Meader, B. Rowe. Kneeling: S. Barton, Manager; Mr. Audet, Coach.

| Freedom | 55 | Besse | 26 | Freedom | 73 | Besse | 44 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Searsport | 40 | Besse | 49 | Searsport | 41 | Besse | 30 |
| Liberty | 36 | Besse | 52 | Liberty | 26 | Besse | 38 |
| Stockton | 38 | Besse | 44 | Stockton | 49 | Besse | 52 |
| Unity | 36 | Besse | 35 | Unity | 53 | Besse | 54 |
| Brooks | 36 | Besse | 26 | Brooks | 64 | Besse | 45 |
| Monroe | 40 | Besse | 45 | Monroe | 37 | Besse | 51 |
| Winterport | 58 | Besse | 71 | Winterport | 51 | Besse | 55 |
| Clinton | 24 | Besse | 46 | Clinton | 42 | Besse | 51 |

The Besse girls are pretty well satisfied with their record this year. We hold third place in the league. Of the eighteen games we played, we won twelve and lost six. We had eleven girls out for basketball at the beginning of the year, but Rita Rowe left us after the second game.

We are sorry to be losing Audrey Drake, Carolyn Fowler and Maxine Harding through graduation. We'll miss you girls.

We had a new coach here at Besse this year, Mr. Jerome Audet. Thanks, Mr. Audet, for all your time and effort. We would also like to thank Mr. Harrison for helping out when he was needed.

## Softhall



Seated, left to right: B. Rowe, D. Pottle, A. McKiel, M. Harding. Kneeling: M. Fuller, M. Emerson, C. Fowler, J. Meader, M. Meader, B. Cole, Miss Mc. Gowan, Coach.

| * Freedom | 4 | Besse | 10 |
| :--- | ---: | :--- | ---: |
| Brooks | 6 | Besse | 5 |
| Unity | 10 | Besse | 12 |
| Freedom | 1 | Besse | 8 |

* practice game

We had eleven girls out for softball this year. Rita Rowe and Helen Pottle left soon after the season was done.

We are tied for first place in the league. This spring's games will tell whether we get first place or not.


## Baseball



First row: R. Marks, R. Littlefield, S. Dow, M. Cookson. Second row: R. Marks, R. Littlefield, C. Spearrin, R. Lee. Third row: E. Drake, Manager, R. Hayward, Manager, E. Wiggin, J. Sylvester, G. Wiggin, Mr. Harrison, Coach.


The boys started this fall with twelve players under the coaching of Mr. Harrison.

| Unity | 1 | Freedom | 4 |
| :--- | ---: | :--- | :--- |
| Albion | 15 | Albion | 1 |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  | Erskine | 8 |
| Brooks | 4 | Albion | 9 |

## Varsity Basketball



Standing, left to right: Mr. Audet, Coach; R. Marks, E. Drake, R. Littlefield, R. Meader, R. Lee, C. Spearrin, G. Wiggin, M. Cookson, R. Littlefield, R. Marks, S. Dow. Kneeling: R. Hayward, Manager.

Besse had a successful season this year winning 16 games and losing 5. The Owls placed second in Waldo County league competition with a 14-2 record. Both of these losses were to Freedom. Besse also played two extra games with Clinton, both of which were lost.

Instead of playing in the Waldo County Tournament this year, Besse played in the Upper Kennebec Valley Tournament. In the first game Besse defeated Carmel 67-46. In the second game we defeated the previously undefeated Solon team 61-57. To Besse this was the greatest victory of

JUNIOR HIGH BASKETBALL
 the season because in defeating Solon we won the District No. 4 Regional Tournament and also a berth in the Eastern Maine Tournament. In the Eastern Maine Tournament Besse was defeated by a sharp-shooting Easton team 54-63. This year's team was the first Besse team to play in the New Bangor Auditorium and to have a game televised on television.


Total Points 237
Game Average 11


RONALD MARKS - Sophomore
Total Points 176 Game Average 8 ROBERT LITTLEFIELD - Senior CoCaptain Total Points 131 Game Av. 11

RONALD LITTLEFIELD - Senior Co-Captain Total Points 33 Game Average 4 RAYMOND MARKS - Senior Co-Captain Total Points 212 Game Average 10

# Besse 58, Unity 43 

 by ALBinN, Jañ. 20 -Besse High of Albion captured its 11th win C) 13 starts in the Waldo County mefenity here tonight, defeating Has mity, 58 to 43. Overall it was pre the team's 11th in 14 starts. at The Besse boys went out and adident of the first chapter, and He made it 28 to 12 at half time with nes Bondy Littlefield, Charlie Spear the ${ }^{\mathrm{in}}$ and Ronnie Lee leading the at-tack.
F However, Unity came back on strong in the third session with tor 30 points' and brought the edge We down to 40 to 32 with eight minqutes left in the contest,
ope An 18 point fourth stanza gave strith? winners a bit to lean on and Fit $w$ as an easy 15 point margin sertor the win
Co Paul Daigle and Gerry Stevens Le were high for the losers, with 14 Sta and 10 . Ay The girls game The the best of the evening with ser Thuty winuang 36 to 35 .
MifBesse ( 58 ) Goals Fouls Pis

Winterport Routed By Alhion, 95-64 Besse Socks Besse Rolls Over Stockton, 89-68 WINTERPORT, Feb. 3-Besse High of Albion rang up its highest score of the season here tonight, turning back Winterport, 95 to 64 in a Waldo Connty league game. Brooks73-59: Besse In Rout Over Searsport, 65-46 ALBION, Jan. 27-Besse High;h of tnis community had little trou-so ble in subduing Morse High of Brooks in a Waldo County League: game here tonight, 73 to 59 .
For Besse it was the team's ${ }^{\text {in }}$ 12th win in 14 starts, the only' SEARSPORT, Jan. 6-Forward| were Searsport's best bets with 1 etwo losses being at the hands of Bob Littlefield, back from a bout points each. points each. league leading Freedom. Freedom : with pneumonia, hit for 18 points tonight as his Besse High Owls smacked Searsport 65-46, in Waldo County League action here.
It was Littlerield's first aparance on the court since the pening game of the season, and cheering sight it must have been for Coach Jerry Audet of he Owls. liminary with ease, 41-30. Besse (65) Ron Marks $f$ Drake Robt. Littlefield Ron Littlefield Cookson. Spearrin c Wiggin Lee f Meader
Ray Marks Dowe Total Searsport (46) O'Brien $f$

. G The first two periods just about 06 as periods of 22 points and $255^{\text {m }}$ 000 smothered the opposition. Besse $6 \quad 618$ was in front 22 to 13 at the end! 11 of the first chapter and 47 to 21 00 at the half.
721 Brooks le 721 Brooks came up with a solid iv 00 session in the third, 26 points. $3: 5$ while Besse had but 11 and this 00 made the score 58 to 47 goingipl 04 into the final framn ti 00 Charlie Spearrin, one of the 17 65 league's pest centers, had 28 its $^{1}$ F Pt points to lead the Besse crew and so $02_{\text {Bob Littlefield of the same citub }}$ 1 I 2 had 14

Sta Littlefield, rf $8 \quad 0 \quad 1$ grecord to eight out of 11 games. $\begin{array}{llll}\text { Sta Littlefield, rf } & 8 & 0 & 4 \\ \text { Hit Cookson } & 2 & 0 & 12 \\ \text { ves. Spearin } & 4 & 4 & 12\end{array}$

FWis

## me Ler ARay net I Thi

# Trips 

## Solon,

 61-57 Ma $P$. melrol Ste Besse (B7)Ron Marks, rf Goals Fouls Pts. Ron Marks, rf ${ }^{2}$ Ron Littlefield 2
2 0 Rob Littlefield, If KRon Littlefield Ne Rob. Littlefield ${ }^{10}$ Spearrin, c Spearrin, c $8-15$ $\begin{array}{lll}{ }^{0} \text { Lee, rg } & 2 & \text { C } \\ { }^{29} \text { Ray Marks, } 1 \mathrm{~g} & 6 & 2\end{array}$ 6 folks of Eastern Maine who trek-on their shooting. Shot after wit Cookson

| 1 | 0 | ${ }^{2}$ Ron Littlefield |
| ---: | :---: | :---: |
| 0 | 0 | 0 Rob Littlefield, $1 f$ |
| 4 | 2 | 10 Spearrin, c |
| 0 | 0 | 0 Lee, rg |
| 11 | 7 | ${ }^{29}$ Ray Marks, $1 g$ |
| 2 | 0 | 4 |
| Total |  |  | 0. spectacular Bangus $\begin{array}{lrrr}\text { Total } & 21 & 19 & 61\end{array}$ 10 Sol (57) ... Goals. Fouls Pts. favorites gave chem the victory. Ron Marks, rf $\begin{array}{llllll}10 & \text { Albion } & 1 & 26 & 47 & 6 \\ 0 & \text { Solon } & 16 & 25 & 23 & 5\end{array}$ spectacular.

The underdog abbion club hat-sizzling pace.
tied the crack cluh of Arvostook
down to the final buzues, and only Easton (63) Goals Fouls Pis. ?/
a great shonting exhibition by the Besse (54) Goals Fouls Pts.
quf Wiggins
pay Lee, rg
Th Drake
Th Ray Marks, $1 g$ lg to Dow to
set
the Carmel (46) $\quad \begin{gathered}\text { Goals Fouls } \\ \text { Pts. }\end{gathered}$ Solon

FORM HOLDS OUT The Bears of Coach Frank Tap-Ron Littlefield
pre The rebounding of big Cnarlie All four teams which scored vic
ories yesterday were favored ${ }^{64}$ ley bunned the nets with 16 bas- Bob Littlefi
kets in 34 attempts dwing the Spearrin, c
$\qquad$ for Spearrin and Ronnie Lee coupled tories me with the marksmanship of Srear- the pre-tournament ratings. But at strictly Albion's ball game.
let rin and Ray Mass catapuited the took a same between the big fav-
 Mo ously unbeaten
wil night's finale.
bion, to provide the greatest num-fight, but was plagued throughout inf for the basketballithe second half by terrible luck Referees: Merrill, Wentworth.

| Besse | 38 | Freedom | 42 | Besse | 89 | Stockton | 68 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Besse | 50 | Searsport | 43 | Besse | 61 | Liberty | 37 |
| Besse | 75 | Liberty | 41 | Besse | 58 | Unity | 43 |
| Besse | 66 | Stockton | 49 | Besse | 73 | Brooks | 59 |
| Besse | 63 | Unity | 36 | Besse | 62 | Monroe | 40 |
| Besse | 58 | Brooks | 40 | Besse | 95 | Winterport | 64 |
| Besse | 69 | Monroe | 53 | Besse | 49 | Clinton | 71 |
| Besse | 63 | Winterport | 57 | UPPER KENNEBEC VALLEY TOURNAMENT |  |  |  |
| Besse | 34 | Freedom | 44 | Besse | 67 | Carmel | 46 |
| Besse | 48 | Clinton | 52 | Besse | 61 | Solon | 57 |
| Besse | 65 | Searsport | 46 |  |  |  |  |



ACTIVITIES

## Prize Speaking


C. FOWLER - R. LITTLEFIELD - R. HAYWARD - A. DRAKE

On April 26, 1955, the annual Junior Prize Speaking Contest was held at the Elementary School. All members of the Junior Class participated and, although all couldn't win, each one did his best.

First prize in the girls' division went to Carolyn Fowler, speaking "Nocture." Second prize was awarded to Audrey Drake, speaking "An Order by Telephone."

First prize in the boys' division went to Robert Littlefield, speaking "Without A Song." Second prize was awarded to Russell Hayward, speaking "Wanta Borrow A Jack. "

Carolyn Fowler and Robert Littlefield represented Besse High School at the annual Waldo County Regional Prize Speaking Contest. Robert Littlefield brought a trophy back to the School by winning first prize.

Thanks to Miss Mitchell, Miss A askov and Mr. Bickford for the time they so willingly spent on us.


## Commercial Club Plays



## Senior Class 1956



Gerald + Clayton Audrey + Carolyn Maxine


Shirley


Robert + Ronald


Charles
Russell


## Alumni

CLASS of '55
Floyd Blaisdell
Laura Brockway
Gladys Brown
Leon Fowler
Kelvin Higgins
Milton Higgins Karl Keay
Roger Lawrence
Richard MacDonald
Harvey Quimby
Rodney Reynolds
Arthur Rood
Herbert Shores
Sherrill Spiller

CLASS of '54
Arthur Blaisdell
Barbara Knight
Ralph Fuller
Walter Gordon
Faith Hendsbee
Charles Scribner
Ralph Meader
Mary Lyn Nelson
Carroll Harding Jr.
Thelma Woodbury
Lloyd Pottle

MARRIED TO

Marie Cross
Arthur Rood

Patricia Harding

Laura Brockway

| CHILDREN | WHERE | OCCUPATION |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | Albion | Tannery, Clinton |
|  | Albion | Housewife |
|  | Albion | Home |
|  | Albion | Charles Rowe's Store |
|  | Albion | Ferrell's Store |
|  | Connecticut | New Departure |
|  | Maryland | Annapolis Naval Academy |
|  | Illinois | Air Force |
|  | Illinois | Air Force |
|  | Farmington | Teacher's College |
|  | Massachusetts | Clerk |
|  | Albion | Chicken Plant, Winslow |
|  | Albion | Working at Home |
|  | Virginia | W.A.C. 'S |
|  |  |  |
|  | Albion | Thomas Business College |
|  | Albion | Office Work, Warren Champlin |
|  | Norridgewock | Working in Mill |
| Germany | Army |  |
|  | Bangor | Eastern Maine General Hospital |
| Georgia | Army |  |
|  | Albion | Barrows Transfer |
| Albion | New England Telephone \& Transfer |  |
| Albion | Thomas Business College |  |
| Albion | Thomas Business College |  |
| Germany | Army |  |
|  |  |  |


| CLASS of '53 | MARRIED to | CHILDREN | WHERE | OCCUPATION |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Nancy Blanchard | Wesley Drake | Timothy | Albion | Housewife |
| Kathryn Keay | George Sawtell |  | Albion | Housewife |
| Wesley Drake | Nancy Blanchard | Timothy | Albion | Working at Jones' Garage |
| Frederick Shores |  |  | Albion | Working at Home |
| Kenneth Gould | Priscilla Harding | Drucilla | Albion | Farming |
| Robert Sylvester |  |  | Albion | Working at United Farmer's |
| Virgil Coffin | Shirley Lowell |  | New York | Word of Life Camp |
| CLASS of '52 |  |  |  |  |
| Stephen Fowler | Beverly Dinsmore | Anthony, Terri | Albion | Working at McCormick's Garage |
| Althea Hendsbee |  |  | Waterville | Hathaway Shirt Company |
| George Gould | Charlene Smith |  | Albion | Farming |
| Allen Higgins |  |  | Albion | Raising Broilers |
| Barbara Quimby |  |  | Waterville | Hathaway Shirt Company |
| Lawrence Reynolds | Evonne Henderson |  | Bath | Bath Iron Works |
| Harold Crosby |  |  | France | A ir Force |
| Maurice Scribner, Jr. | Betty Perro | Andrew | Connecticut | Navy |
| CLASS of '51 |  |  |  |  |
| Ida Marks | Elwin Stevens |  | Massachusetts | Secretarial Work |
| Virginia Mason | Earl Dow |  | Bangor | Housewife |
| Dexter Higgins | Marilyn Miller |  | Canaan | Farming |
| Keith Noyes | Mary Lou Nelson | Karen | Albion | Farming |
| Charles McKiel | Marilyn Hannan |  | Orono | Attending U. of M. |
| Nelson Bezanson |  |  | Illinois | Training to be a Missionary |
| Guy Higgins | Betty Lincoln |  | Albion | Carpentering |
| Osward Cash Jr. |  |  | Palermo | Working in the Woods |
| Rosamond Keaf | Richard Bouchard | Richard, Jr. , Michael and Linda | Augusta | Housewife |




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| :---: | :---: |
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Clyde Higgins
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Bradstreet Farms
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Harvey Hall
Harry Tuttle
Henry Taylor
George Littlefield
Clive Bagley
Harry R. McKiel
John Gould
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