

EDITOR'S THOUGHTS, STATISTICS, AND ASSORTED MUSINGS

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Dear 'Golden' Class of 1950,

We may have come to the end of this particular venture: Making mini-annuals ('Memory Books') for reunions, that is. For, whether or not we have future reunions, they may never be of this kind again: exclusively for our class, that is, and with a 'year-book' for the pleasure of the faithful who come to celebrate.

Indeed, several members of the Reunion Committee have firmly announced that this is to be their last gasp, Reunion-wise. Others on the Reunion Committee, however, have said, just as firmly, that they hope and expect to be doing Reunions 'INDEFINTELY.' So, who knows what will happen?) But, it might make sense to hold joint get-togethers, in future, with the classes on either side of ours (1949-1951, for example) and plan to have a much simpler agenda. What do you think?

The response to the Mini-Annual forms was more (ummm) mixed, than in years past. We had more than 100 who actually spent 33-cents to return the forms to us, but, from the standpoint of the editors of this material, there seemed to be less enthusiasm expressed by the responders to the questions than on previous occasions. Now, that may have been because we tried to make the form cover broader interests than just family successes... or, that people simply aren't very interested any more in keeping one another abreast of their lives....or, in taking the time to write it all down. Several folks wrote, or said, that "we just aren't into this, anymore." And they may be right. For those of you who did respond, either enthusiastically, or through duty, we thank you for sharing whatever you cared to tell us, and we hope we managed to get it copied down faithfully.

The feature that turned out to please me the most, (I don't know why!) was the very simplest one of all: Birthplaces. Before this question was asked, I had no idea where we all came from, so, the names of our birthplaces interested me. There is a certain fascination in knowing that we all were born during the early 30's in such a diverse set of locales, and then, at some time or other, before 1950, our parents moved themselves, and us out to Tucson, AZ. Musta been FATE? How else to explain that we all got together, one evening in May, 1950, on the front steps of Tucson High School? An extraordinary coincidence, otherwise! We were all dressed up in caps and gowns and ready to hear our school administrators, teachers, friends, and family proclaim that we were now ready to go out into the real world.(READY OR NOT, WORLD, HERE WE COME!) We were very Bright-eyed and Bushy-Tailed. (I remember that well. I'll bet you do, too!)

Of the 100-ODD responses to the Mini-Annual Questionnaire, Tucson, AZ, turned out to be the birthplace for more than 50 of us; Bisbee, AZ, was the birthplace for 6 of us, while Chicago, IL, was the home port for 5 of us. Do New York City and Manhattan, NY, amount to the same place? If so, they produced two of us. Ditto, Champaigne and/or Champagne, IL... two. And, so did El Paso, TX, and, Prescott, AZ... two, too..

The rest of us were hatched in: St. Joseph, MO; Indianapolis, IN; Los Angeles, CA; Cathy, ND; Kansas City, MO; Duluth, MN; Flora, IL; Hot Springs, AR; Yuma, AZ; Amherst, OH; Williamsport, PA; Lamar, CO; Anson, TX; Galena, IL; Cleveland, OH; Berkeley, CA; Buffalo, NY; Detroit, MI; Steubenville, OH; Boise, ID; Dodge City, KS; Madison, WI; Kokomo, IN; Pearce, AZ; Schenectady, NY; Ann Arbor, MI; La Jolla, CA; Flagstaff, AZ; Logan, UT; Ft. Sheridan, IL; Tiffin, OH; Rochester, NY; Wichita, KS; Prescott, AZ; Minneapolis, MN; Evanston, IL; Keswick, IA; Phoenix, AZ; Lake Arthur, NM; Oklahoma City, OK; Ancon, Panama Canal Zone; Ajo, AZ; Story County, IA; Globe, AZ; St. Louis, MO; Fresno, CA; Berkeley, MA; Templeton, IN; Clarion, PA; Woodbury, NJ; Elkhart, IN; La Follette, TN; Columbia, SC; Douglas, AZ; Humboldt, KS; Brule, NE; Binghamton, NY; Memphis, TN; Oberlin, KS; Oceanside, NY; Antigo, WI, and 'Kansas.'

On the back side of the Mini-Annual form was a short questionnaire which was promised to be for statistical purposes, only. It was a small indicator of CHANGES: (Numbers in parentheses represent responses.) Not everyone responded to this questionnaire, nor did everyone fill out each section... so, it will never 'add up.' But, it is interesting as a small census of 1/7th of our class.

THEN

NOW

POLITICS

Conservative (31), Moderate (22),
Liberal (14), turned-off (7),
Independent (5). Other:
Unaware (1), Uninformed (1)
Did not care (2), Mixed up (1),
Rebel (1), Ignorant (2),
Respectful of politics (1), Disinterested (2)

Conservative (35), Moderate (21),
Liberal (13), Independent (13),
Turned off (6)
Other:
moderate conservative (4), Who cares? (1)
Disrespectful of politics (1), Disillusioned (1)
Progressive to Radical (1)

HEALTH

Vibrant (54), good (41), fair 1), declining (1) Good (57), Vibrant (24), Fair (10), Declining (4)

WISDOM LEVEL

Fair (37), Callow (15), savvy (14),
Excellent (12) OverConfident (1)

Fair (31), Excellent (29), Savvy (17),
Still learning (3), Callow (2), Who knows? (1)
