

12-15-1955

## The Amplifier - v. 2, no. 6

Associated Students of the Montana School of Mines

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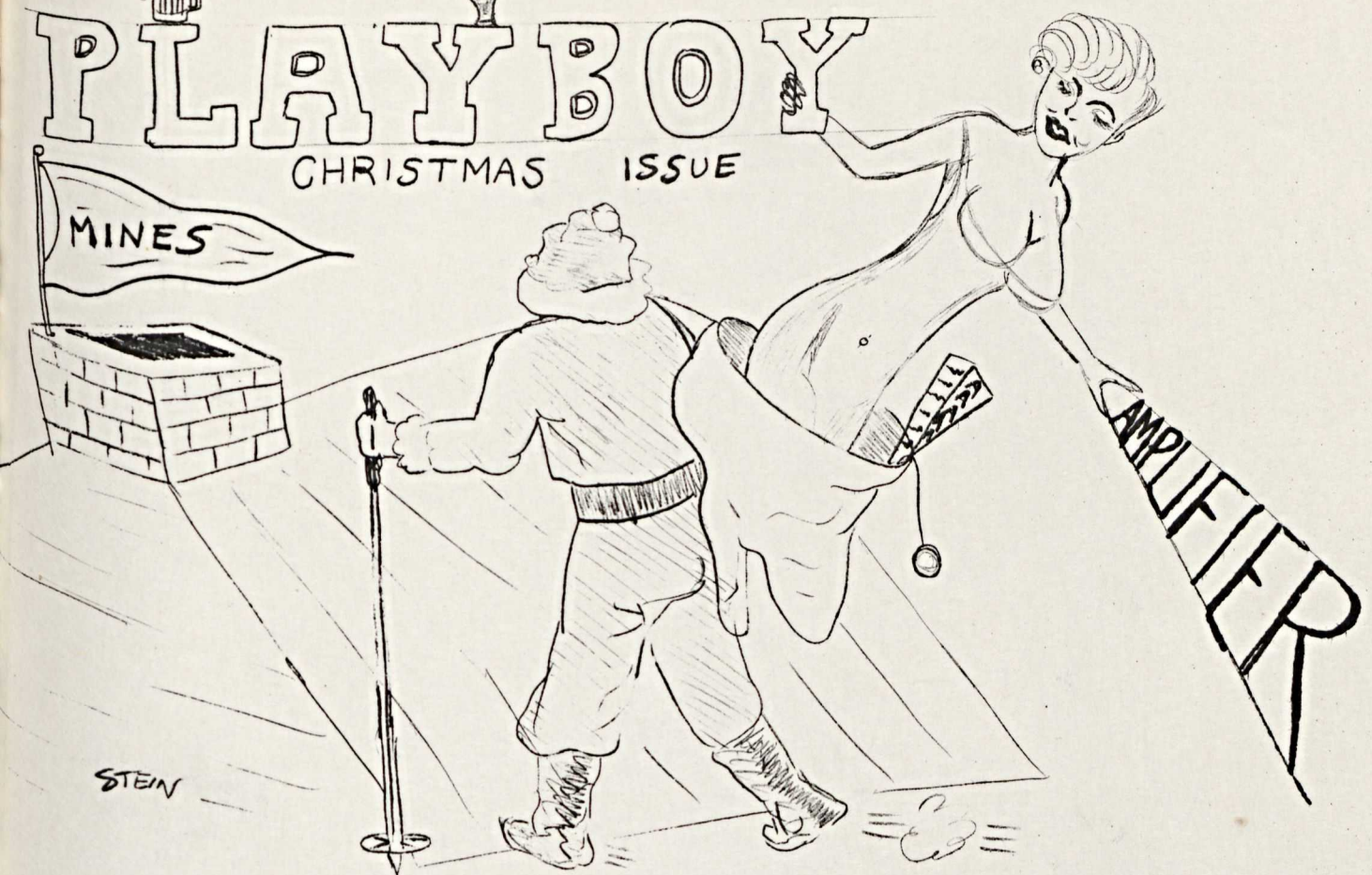
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# PLAYBOY

CHRISTMAS ISSUE



December 15, 1955 VOL. II 6th Edition

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# THE PARKING AND TRAFFIC PROBLEM

A committee of the Student Council, consisting of K. R. Dorman and J. B. Weber, recently worked out and submitted recommendations to improve parking and traffic conditions on the campus. This report is now being studied, and it looks very good. Congratulations to the committee for a job well done! We should see some action on their recommendations soon after the holidays.

## SKATING

It looks like a good winter for skating. I'm glad to see that the rink in Leonard Field has been set up and is getting some use. A little time spent on snow removal and flooding will pay off in recreational pleasure.

## ROTC

Elsewhere in this issue is a news story announcing the plans to discontinue ROTC studies in 1957, and to eliminate air science as a graduation requirement. Here is how this will work:

Students now taking Air Science I will complete that course this year and A.S. II next year.

Students now taking Air Science II will complete that course this year, and will not be enrolled in A.S. III.

Students now taking Air Science III will complete that course this year and Air Science IV next year, and may be commissioned in June, 1957.

Students now taking Air Science IV will complete that course this year and may be commissioned in June, 1956.

Freshmen entering next fall will not be enrolled in ROTC.

The great majority of our students came to this institution because of its leadership in mineral engineering. Their purpose is to prepare themselves for a successful engineering career. The entire institution is geared to do this. Until a couple of years ago the Air Force was glad to place our ROTC graduates, in many cases, in work of an engineering nature. Today, however, the Air Force is mainly in need of flight officers (pilots and observers) rather than men to occupy technical positions. Only a small minority of our students are both interested and physically qualified in this type of training. Hence the unit no longer serves the purposes of most of

our students.

The absence of an ROTC program will have no appreciable effect on the draft status of Mines students. Voluntary enlistments are at such a high rate that very few college students anywhere are being drafted, and engineering students are deferred even more than liberal arts students. The country needs engineers just as much as it needs men in uniform; Russia is producing engineers more than twice as fast as we are. Running our vast American industrial plant is highly important to our security as well as to our peace-time life, and Selective Service recognizes this fact by giving serious engineering students adequate deferments.

For those who wish to become candidates for a commission the program of the Marine Corps which has been running successfully for 21 years will be available to all students at the School of Mines. This program is unusually good in that it does not take any time during the school year but involves summer training only. Army and Navy enlisted reserve programs are also geared to encourage college men to apply for officer training after some enlisted service.

On the campus, omission of ROTC programs will greatly simplify the scheduling problem, may eventually reduce the total number of hours of class and laboratory work per week, and will do away with the long-standing inconvenience caused by some juniors and seniors substituting ROTC for important technical courses which they need.

The Air Force detachment on this campus is a splendid group of officers and airmen, and they have done a fine job. I'm sure the students as well as the faculty and staff will stand by them and support them during the difficult period of the next year and a half when they will be winding up ROTC affairs.

## MUSIC--ALL KINDS

Engineers are well known for their interest in music. It is a satisfaction to see the Glee Club and the Band so active this year, and also to note the extent to which the hi fi record collection is being used.

Wisdom is knowing when to speak your mind and when to mind your speech.

\*\*\*\*\*

The best way to make your dreams come true is to wake up!

\*\*\*\*\*



This is the last issue of AMPLIFIER for the year 1955. The student body eagerly awaits the last day of school; Christmas is almost here.

"Last issue of AMPLIFIER for the year?" Oh, well - - it's not much of a publication anyway." Many students feel these words are true. Sure, we're not an "honest to goodness" college newspaper in the sense that AMPLIFIER is run out on a multilith machine! Heck, the persons who write for the paper are just amateurs. Still, the staff deserves plenty of credit. They have tried to cover the events at Montana Mines as best they could. The paper tries to broaden its scope every issue. Don't be hasty in your judgment; if you are dis-satisfied with the paper, plan to serve it by writing articles yourself!

Christmas is fast approaching. AMPLIFIER extends to everybody connected with the Montana School of Mines a very MERRY CHRISTMAS. The President, the faculty, the office help, all striving to give students the best education attainable. The students, potential leaders of American industrial plants. A very MERRY CHRISTMAS to you all!

### MEET YOUR FACULTY

by Bill Lees

Mr. Henry S. Tropp joined the mathematics department this fall as an instructor. Mr. Tropp has a B.S. from Purdue, 1949, and a M.S. from Indiana, 1953. He has had extensive teaching experience since 1949 at Southern Indiana and Chicago high schools.

In 1945, Mr. Tropp joined the air force but left in 1947 to advance his education. He was partly financed his way by working summers for U. S. Steel at Gary, Indiana. He feels that this is an important part of an education, and, that all students should avail themselves of every opportunity of working in allied industries.

Mr. Tropp is married and has one little son, aged 2 mos. He is fond of all sports and music, playing the clarinet to proficiency. Montana, in his estimation is tops for scenery and beauty but not for weather! He maintains that is there was a student union building or even a coffee shop, school spirit would improve. MSM is one of the top engineering schools in the country, therefore, students should set no limit to their ambitions. A business degree in conjunction with an engineering degree will push a man right to the top.

I once worked for a supervisor who had a saying, "What we like around here are self-propelled metallurgists."

This term self-propelled might well be applied to students regarding the business of studying. Some characteristics of a self-propelled student are:

A self-propelled student has a clear idea of why he came to college and where he is headed.

A self-propelled student puts studies first above other activities.

A self-propelled student develops an early curiosity about his chosen profession. He is aware of important developments going on in his field and is interested in his professional society. The freshman year is not too early for this.

A self-propelled student comes to class with his lesson prepared. To him, the classroom is merely a place to have difficulties cleared up.

A self-propelled student reads the preface (and index!) of his textbook as well as the text proper. When the reading assignment is ten pages, he is not afraid to read the eleventh page. When three problems are assigned he is not afraid to do four.

Are you a self-propelled student?

Freshman: "Gosh, I have a lot of trouble with eczema."

Roommate: "How long have you had it?"

Freshman: "I haven't got it, I just can't spell it."

\*\*\*\*\*

Freshman (in barber shop): "How long will I have to wait for a shave?"

Barber (after close inspection): "About six months or a year."

\*\*\*\*\*

"My roommate and I got a hundred in the exam."

"How come?"

"We got fifty apiece."

\*\*\*\*\*

Freshman: "Do you pet?"

Coed: "No."

Freshman: "Do you kiss?"

Coed: "No."

Freshman: "What do you do?"

Coed: "I tell lies."



MONTANA SCHOOL OF MINES  
ELIMINATES AIR FORCE TRAINING  
AS GRADUATION REQUIREMENT

Effective July 1, 1957, military courses taught by the Air Force will be eliminated from the graduation requirements of Montana School of Mines, President J. R. Van Pelt has announced. On that date the Air Force ROTC unit will be discontinued, and the time thus saved in the curriculum will be devoted to instruction of more direct value to engineers.

The decision to eliminate Air Force instruction originated in the Air Force for reasons of economy. It was concurred in by the Local Executive Board and the administration of the School of Mines in the interest of greater flexibility and continued improvement of the engineering program of the institution. Dr. Van Pelt stated: "When we first set up the ROTC unit, its mission was the training of engineers, then in great demand in the Air Force. Today, the requirements of the Air Force for engineers have been drastically reduced, and the current demand is mainly for pilots and observers. Most of our students prefer to serve Uncle Sam in a capacity utilizing their engineering training. With this change in emphasis, the ROTC unit has become too costly to the Air Force, and its training program no longer coincides with the professional interests of the School and the student body.

"We heartily approve this action, not only for the good of our students but also as a matter of national policy. It will allow more of our graduates to work in the professional field for which they have been trained. The shortage of engineers is a serious national problem. Russia is reported to be producing 50,000 engineers per year; we are producing less than 25,000 to staff and manage our vastly greater industrial plant. It is undesirable for national security as well as for economy to employ our nation's small supply of engineers at less than their fullest professional capacity."

A number of other Air Force ROTC units of small size will also be discontinued in the interest of economy, Dr. Van Pelt said.

Future students at the School of Mines will not be required to enroll in any ROTC unit, but several programs will be open to those interested in receiving military training. None of these will take class time on the campus. One such opportunity is the Marine Corps Officer Training Program established in 1934. Under this plan,

a student may receive his officer-candidate training in two six-week summer periods, following the freshman and sophomore years, or in one ten-week period following graduation, with pay in either case. He then serves on active duty as a Marine officer for three years, including such advanced training as may be assigned. Advanced training and duty assignments may include engineering, electronics personnel administration, and other fields valuable to engineers. Army and Navy reserve programs will also be available to college students, subject to various requirements of active duty.

For those not interested in officer training, the draft law and regulations provide for deferrment of many college students, particularly engineers. It has been the actual experience of Montana School of Mines that very few of its engineering students have been drafted within recent years prior to graduation.

Students at the School of Mines will benefit in several ways from this change. Students already affiliated with the Army or Navy Reserve can continue their reserve connection in the branch of their own choice, without dividing their efforts by Air Force affiliations. The academic loads of freshmen and sophomores will be reduced by the 1 1/2 semester-hours each semester now allocated to ROTC. Juniors and seniors formerly enrolling in the advanced ROTC will not be compelled to omit a course in their own professional field in order to take ROTC. By freeing class time now assigned to ROTC, the academic schedule will be simplified and it will no longer be necessary to schedule some classes at odd hours.

"The relations of the faculty and students with the Air Force have been most pleasant," Dr. Van Pelt said. "We have been greatly pleased with the personnel assigned to the detachment here in Butte. At all times they have cooperated with the School to the fullest extent possible. Many have been and are active in community affairs and their assistance in community-school relationships has been most appreciated. We are glad that we shall not have to terminate these relationships until July 1957."

All students currently enrolled in the program will continue their work for the academic year 1955-56. During 1956-57 those who at present are freshmen will have the opportunity to continue their work in the sophomore year, while currently enrolled juniors will be able to complete their work toward a commission in the U. S. Air Force.



## GRADUATING SENIORS

by R. Westerman

George L. Wilhelm a senior in Mining Engineering, is originally from Oregon, where he made his home until a year or two ago. He was born in Eugene in 1934, and received his grade school and high school education at Grants Pass. After he began his studies at the School of Mines, his family moved to California, so he calls California home.

George, (or Willy), is interested in extra-curriculars, and has participated in AIME, Copper Guards (he held position of Duke), Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities, and Mineral Club. He received the American Smelting and Refining Company Scholarship in Mining Engineering in 1955.

George has a steady girl friend, Patty Harrington, of Butte, who is now attending Marylhurst College in Oswego, Oregon.

Like many other mining engineers, George realizes the value of actual mining experience. He works in the mines on weekends, and has done so since his freshman year. Last summer he worked at Hand's mine near Dillon, and the previous summer he worked at Climax, Colorado. It follows that his favorite courses are mining courses.

His future plans include the army, then a job in South American. If at all possible, he would like to work for the American Smelting and Refining Company.

## SECOND-HAND NEWS

by Ed Westerman

As you have noticed, there are not too many activities taking place in Butte on weekends; there are not many places to go to, besides the U&I and the It Club, when you are looking for companionship of one sort or another. I am sure that many of the young fellows here at the Mines would like to go to a dance once in a while, but they feel out of place (quite naturally so) at a high-school mixer, and often have a hard time getting dated up for a school affair. Well, to make a long story short, there may be a remedy for this condition. The students of the Montana School of Mines are invited to a mixer next Saturday, December 17, at the Youth Center in the Miner's Union Hall. These dances are for the young folks of high school age and older, and represent a good chance for you fellows to get acquainted with some of these cute Butte girls (including student nurses, incidentally). The admission price is 25¢; enter through the Hamilton Street entrance

to the Miner's Union Building. If they get a big turnout, they'll be able to hold these dances every week. So-----if you want to have some place to go on weekends, patronize these dances.

The Youth Center is being sponsored by the Miner's Union. They have provided a large room, nicely furnished, containing a snack bar and a TV set, I understand. This room will be open every day from 6 to 11 p.m., with admission being charged only for the dances. I have been invited to attend these Youth Center meetings; I'll try to go and see what there is in it for us.

## ROOM 114

Next Monday's bound to be one of those days, you know the kind, that type of day that comes after a rigorous week-end and a stiff session of tests. You'll feel rather worn out, and the brain will be hazy; the medicine for you is a very strong stimulant. Room 114 is the place to get it - a steaming hot cup of coffee. (Fooled you, didn't it?)

The Coed Club's annual coffee party will be held December 19th, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. All students and faculty members are invited.

Dr. Evelyn Seedorf, English Department, Montana State University, accompanied by pianist, Don Stagg, opened the December 6, 1955, Convocation with her impression of the negro race. With appropriate music and Vachel Lindsay's The Congo, Miss Seedorf brought to the audience the African negro in his savagery, his religion, and his humor.

During her stay in Europe, the lady learned a great deal about the French people. She presented the French to the listeners at three historical periods, the French Revolution, World War I, and World War II. Highlight of this part of the program was the six character monologue, entitled The Enemy; in this, the psychological warfare of the people and their intense love for France was brought out clearly.

The enthusiastic reception of the audience brought Miss Seedorf back for one encore after another. These included Renascence by Edna St. Vincent Millay, a humorous monologue about a virtuous girl, and last but not least the one about the Irishman who couldn't count past four.

For those who braved the storm, Dr. Evelyn Seedorf's interpretive reading was indeed ample reward.



## PERSONALITY NO. 1

by Art Weizer

In the true Democratic Way, the Amplifier now pays tribute to one of America's most lovable sons. From Lewistown, Montana, we now present you with the life of Norman (The Swede) Erickson. At the age of 12, Norm began his public career by wrestling in the Helena Gardens under the name of "Superman Apollo, the Swedish Marvel". Deciding this way of making a living was too tame, he entered the School of Mines. Now at the age of 22 and after five long years, he is a senior in Petroleum Engineering. During this half decade, Swede has been active in sports by lettering in football, basketball, and track. Presently holding the position of head sports manager, he can be classified as a real athletic supporter. Far gone are the old days when he shined women's shoes at the U & I. For now he's a top ranking Inspections Officer in AFROTC. He hopes to become a Second John in flight school upon graduation. But on occasions, he has been heard to sing, "I Rather Be A Dog Face Soldier."

Lately he and Dale Barnum (better known as Mutt and Jeff) have been quite interested in X-ray techniques. But we had no idea that the lectures lasted till such late hours.

Besides setting an inter-collegiate record for the hammer throw, (done at a spring picnic when he aided Florence Chadwick in a channel crossing), he also holds the title of being "The Most Sacked Out Person" here at school. However, the much discussed senior trip disturbs him so much that he threatens to join the Foreign Legion.

## THE INQUIRING REPORTER

by Art Weizer

Because the Christmas season is upon us, we applied the old adage, "It's better to give than receive", to this column. Instead of the regular format of selecting a question for public comment, we switched the procedure to our answering their queries. As many of these put us on the spot, only a choice few were selected. May it be understood that the following inquiries do not in any way represent the opinion of the writer.

H.B. "How's a guy living in the dorm supposed to study when 3/4 of the inmates here are whooping it up in the halls?"  
Ans. Try the U & I. It's noted for a quiet atmosphere.

J.H. "Yeah, I got a question. In what way is the dielectric constant of a transparent substance related to the optical refractive index of the same substance?"  
Ans. That process is too lengthy to mention here.

S.K. "Has anybody seen Sammy? He's my pet snake. Been missing for a week now."

Ans. ...shudder...

L.W. "What kind of cigarettes do you smoke?"

Ans. Camels

L.W. "Well, what do you know - that's my brand too. How about one?"

X. "About the food . . . . . About the cooks . . . . ."

Ans. No comment.

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## MINES STUDENT AWARDED SCHOLARSHIP

George Huber (Benny) received the Viola Vestal Coulter Award for the year 1955-56 in the amount of \$200.00. The scholarship is restricted to junior and senior men who have earned a grade point average of at least 1.75 during their freshman and sophomore years, and who, during those years, have been awarded at least one letter in athletics. Benny is a Butte student, graduating from Butte High four years ago. He has earned a letter in football for each year in college. A mining engineer major, Ben spends Friday and Saturday nights underground where he gains valuable experience. AMPLIFIER wishes to congratulate Huber on receiving the award. He has shown that his capabilities in all things are above average.

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## COPPER GUARDS DECORATE CHRISTMAS TREES

The School of Mines Copper Guards, under the able direction of Duke Gene Lanier, aided by an appropriation from the student council decorated two large fir trees in front of Residence Hall. The trees look very "Christmasy" with the large variety of colored lights adorning them. Electrical connections were strung through the roof and the trees are lit up every night. The trees can be seen from the downtown district and have received much favorable comment.

Congratulations to the Copper Guards for their contribution to the Residence Hall students!



## WHAT THEY'RE SAYING

by Jon Langfeldt

### IN THE RESIDENCE HALL:

McNeil: "Those Quant grades weren't too hot."  
Svee: "No, five of us added up our scores and we still can't get a passing grade."

\*\*\*\*\*

Trev: (To Morris and Berthelote, who are in a heated argument). "Were you two at the Geneva Conference?"

\*\*\*\*\*

### AT THE DINNER TABLE:

Overheard by quite a few: "I don't see a thing wrong with this food. Why, there aren't even any bugs in my cake."

\*\*\*\*\*

### IN GEOLOGY LAB:

Hoc: "This is a very closed book test."

\*\*\*\*\*

### POETRY CORNER:

Oh, sorrow, oh sorrow, many tears are being shed,  
For a terrible thing has happened which we all dread.  
This terrible event which should really be stopped,  
Is the fact from our schedule, ROTC will be dropped.

## THE OLD ORDER CHANGETH, YIELDING PLACE TO NEW

by G. R. Parker

In 1935, three hundred and ninety feet in 31 days was the record for shaft sinking. In September of this year seven hundred and sixty three feet (almost double the depth) were sunk in Transvaal, South Africa. Full details of this engineering feat can be read in the December issue of the Mining World. Here are some interesting facts and figures:

Rectangular shaft (20 x 12 ft.) fully timbered, sets on 7 1/2 ft. vertical centers, two 3-ton sinking skips were used, 5 deck skeleton service cage.

Machines and Methods: 3 in. jackhammers, integral steel with chisel type carbide

(tungsten) bits. Ventilation duct 22 in. dia. (10,500 ft.<sup>3</sup> air delivered/min.). Fixed blade fan on surface. Shaft was collared in July, 1955, by Sept. 30 it reached 1,711 ft. A wedge cut 78 holes each 6 ft. deep was used.

Time and Material: Work was done in 4 six hour cycles. Mucking and equipping took 2 hours and 40 minutes. Drilling took 30 min. (1000 gal. of drilling water per round were removed). In September, 14,000 tons of rock were broken, 6,000 ft.<sup>3</sup> of timber were used, and 14.6 tons (60%) powder were used, skip traveled a total of 4,161 miles. Some 231 men, including all surface workers were employed on all four cycles. Twenty-six muckers, fourteen drillers were used on each cycle.

This is not only an engineering feat but one of efficient organization. In the words of the master sinker, "The achievement was due to intensive organization and teamwork, careful attention to detail, and planned storing and movement of material near the bank."

## ALUMNI NEWS

by B. Brown

Marvin Lanphere has sent word that he is still going to school. Here is what he had to say about it:

"At present I am engaged in graduate work in geology at the California Institute of Technology and expect to complete the work for a Masters' Degree by August 1, 1956. I am employed by the school as a teaching assistant in geology for which I receive free tuition (\$750.00 per year) and a stipend of \$1200.00 in nine monthly installments. The work is very stimulating as some of the top geologists in the country are on the Cal Tech faculty."

Marv's address is as follows:

Division of Geological Sciences  
Calif. Institute of Technology  
Pasadena, California

## ANNOUNCEMENT

THERE WILL BE A "BACK TO SCHOOL" COPPER GUARD DANCE ON JANUARY 6, 1956. EVERYONE SHOULD PLAN TO ATTEND.

Papa Rabbit: "What is Junior so happy about?"

Mama Rabbit: "He is very proud. He learned to multiply today."

And then there was the time Papa and Mama Rabbit were being chased by a coyote. Said Mama Rabbit to a very tired Papa Rabbit, "Don't give up, Papa, we'll outnumber him soon."



NOTES FROM THE OFFICE

ALICE RAE

This little lady is a familiar sight in the President's office. A winning smile and pleasant personality awaits anyone who needs Alice's services.

She came to M.S.M. August 1, 1954, as assistant secretary to the President.

Her husband, Bob Rae, is basketball coach of Butte High's varsity squad. She has three children, Patty, who is a sophomore at Butte High; Donny, a seventh grader at Whittier grade school, and Charlene, a little scamp of just 2 1/2 years.

Alice is kept quite busy with her job here at M.S.M., but finds time to do all kinds of fancy baking at home and all kinds of housework. When she is not busy at home, she tries to attend meetings of the Gamma chapter of the Beta Sigma Phi sorority and Eastern Star.

Accustomed to having all kinds of errands to run on her lunch hour or after work, and giving people rides here and there, just call on Alice - she'll be there to lend her services. (Be careful though, she has been known to have a habit of running out of gas).

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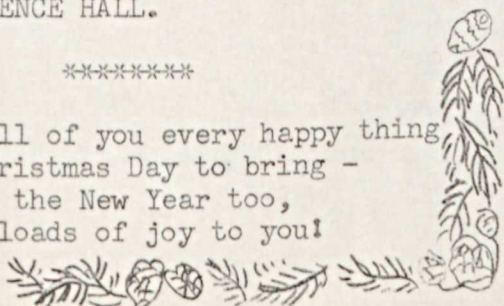
The story about the lion who ate bull is just in time for hunting season. The lion felt so good he roared and roared; and the hunter heard him and shot the lion. The moral of course is "when you're full of bull, keep your mouth shut."

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WE FROM THE OFFICES TOO, WISH TO COMPLIMENT THE COPPER GUARDS FOR THE NICE TREE-TRIMMING JOB AT THE RESIDENCE HALL.

\*\*\*\*\*

Here's wishing all of you every happy thing. You want this Christmas Day to bring - And then we hope the New Year too, Will bring just loads of joy to you!



The basketball team, playing its first game, lost to Carrol College on December 13 at Helena. The team was unable to loosen up. Although they about equaled their rivals on shots, their accuracy was only 13% in the first half. The final score was 82 to 43. This was a non-conference game.

		G	F	P	T
Cloudy	f	0	0	2	0
Eastrom	f	4	1	4	9
Peterson	c	1	1	3	3
Campbell	g	3	1	1	7
Lavis	g	0	0	2	0
Mathis	g	1	2	2	4
Roberts	c	0	4	2	4
Vinton	f	5	0	1	10
Coolidge	g	3	0	4	6

The Intramural Basketball League is going full swing with plenty of enthusiasm. Some of the players are showing up very well. Statistics given out:

Team	Won	Lost
Tau #1	1	1
Tau #2	0	2
Tau #3	1	0
Rho #1	1	0
Rho #2	1	1
Butte Rats	0	3
Squirts	3	0
Kats	3	0
Kappers	0	2
Tigers	1	1

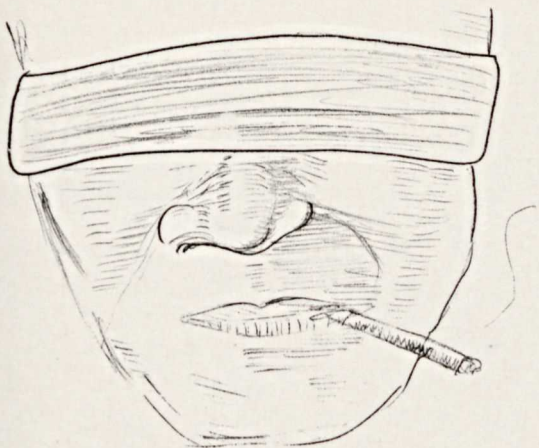
Point Standings - Intramural as of Dec. 8:

Independents	115
Tau	75
Rho	50

The Fencers are practicing regularly under the critical eye of John Kavanaugh. John, as you may know, is a fencer par excellent. He has won medals in the Olympic Games and in the Pan American Games. He is planning an inter-club competition in early February. From this he will select a team to compete with outside teams. Keep up the good work, John! And while going through the tunnels on your way to practice, take a flashlight, Glada Ann!

Hockey practices have started. The rink was finally completed but still has rough ice. Ross Wayment has been appointed team manager and coach. About 18 are trying out for the team. Arrangements are being made to practice at the Civic Center twice a week. No games have been set as yet.

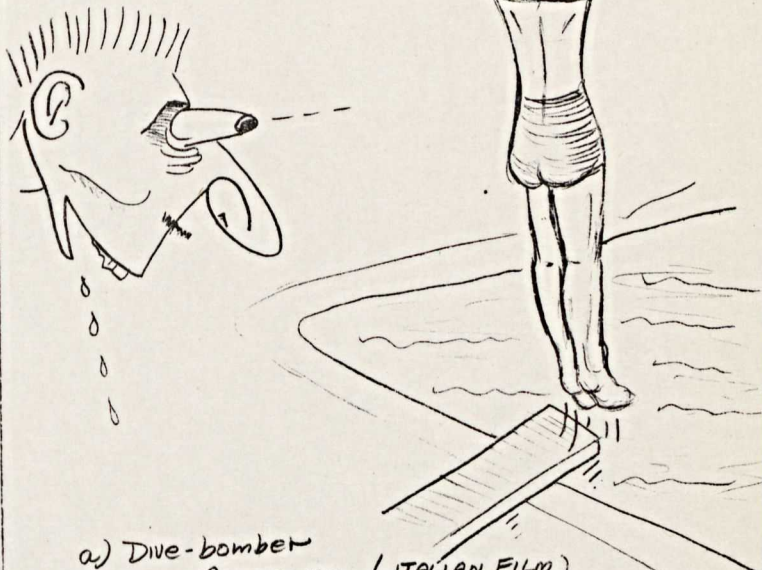




WHAT CIGARETTE DOES THIS MINES GRADUATE  
SMOKE?

- a) VICERAY
- b) OP'S
- c) MARIJUANA
- d) BUTTE SPECIAL
- e) SHREDDED ARMY BLANKETS

WHAT RECENT MOVIE IS THIS SCENE  
TAKEN FROM?



- a) Dive-bomber
- b) MIA MAMMA MIA (ITALIAN FILM)
- c) One Summer of Happiness (Swedish)
- d) Submarine Patrol
- e) "The BED" (FRENCH FILM)



"I told you not to try and raise  
the grade curve"

STEIN



YEA! BUT COACH, THIS  
IS BASKETBALL NOT  
FOOTBALL SEASON