

## THE PORT WEEKLY

Vol. XXVIII, No. 8

Friday, November 20, 1953

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## Thanksgiving, 1953

When we begin to see symbols of turkeys and Pilgrims displayed in store windows, we become aware of the fact that Thanksgiving Day is drawing near. Although this day has been celebrated for over three centuries, we still hear Americans today ask the question, "Just what is Thanksgiving and what do we have to be thankful for?"

To answer the first half of America's question, the first Thanksgiving Day was celebrated in 1621 by the Pilgrims at Plymouth. At this celebration white men and Indians sat side by side at a long table where the products of a year's toil out in the fields were exhibited. In enjoying this enormous feast that apparently lasted a couple of days, all differences between the Indian and the white man were forgotten in their common enjoyment. Although many years have elapsed since that historic meal, there is still an inclination to maintain the spirit of the Pilgrims in sharing what we have and giving thanks for the blessings we have received throughout the year.

To answer the second half of the question, "What do we have to be thankful for?", I would refer you to your home. Take a tour around your home and think of the many things you have which our foreign allies are lacking. Such items as homes, cars, salaries, and numerous other articles we consider, necessities we merely accept as part of our daily life. What would we do without them? We don't stop to realize that there are very few countries that do have any of these so-called necessities, and they seem to carry out their role of life successfully or otherwise. On Thanksgiving Day we should take time out between courses of study and pumpkin pie to give thanks for these things that we deem a definite part of our everyday life. When we stop to think of the great abundance of blessings, both material and spiritual, which we receive during the year, it is ridiculous to ask the previous question. Let us be thankful that it is still possible for us to celebrate Thanksgiving Day in America and to give thanks for the blessings that have made our year a success.

## Senior Privileges

This year, as every year, the seniors are making a plea for more senior privileges. At present they have two, which are the right to use the main entrance of the school and to leave the assembly first. Sophomores and juniors, put yourself in the place of a senior. Do you think these are enough senior privileges?

Probably you do. At the present time, it is likely that you don't pay much attention to senior privileges, since they do not concern you. However, they eventually will, and your classes may go through the perennial routine of trying to attain more senior privileges.

It would be advisable for the present sophomores, and especially juniors, to be seriously thinking of some reasonable privileges they would like to have when they are seniors, and try to set them up for their senior year, not halfway through it.

It is also hoped that the juniors and sophomores will give this year's seniors their interest and support for more senior privileges, since what they may attain may be the gain of future senior classes.

## Corpse Is Found In Locker Room

The other day I came across a figure, clad in a football uniform, lying face down on the floor of the locker room. The coach and the team had overlooked him because they were used to seeing fellow players in that position, but I knew he would never fight for the "Blue and White" again. After the corpse was carted off in the long black car, I set about to find the reason for this unfortunate incident. With a little difficulty I located some friends of mine who were mediums and arranged for a seance. I knew the spirit of that recently departed gridiron star would have an unusual tale to tell and I stop at nothing to get a good news item. My leaders to the outside world joined hands and after much knocking we made contact with the outer world. It took a little time but my female art of persuading got him to "spill the beans." Life had become too involved for him.

It all started when the top of his uniform didn't fit. The shirt was the one his sister had borrowed to wear in gym and had shrunk when she washed it. When he pulled this article of clothing over his head, it made his padding slip to unusual places. He was nearly laughed out of the gym. One wise guy asked him if he had forgotten to change after being in the pep assembly.

After getting the situation in hand, he reported to practice, late. The exercises didn't seem so hard as usual because his mind was occupied with thoughts of the cheerleader he had accidentally bumped into during last Saturday's game. While having a scrimmage game, he awoke from his day dreaming long enough to tell the coach of his wonderful plan for making a touchdown. After relating his idea with vivid descriptions of all the blocks and tackles to be used, the coach told him in no uncertain terms that the play wasn't worth repeating. Thoroughly crushed, he started back to the locker room. Half way there he saw the cute cheerleader. Bolstering his courage he asked her to accompany him to the party after the next game. With very little tact she told him she was going steady. He stumbled on towards the locker room feeling very depressed. His world had been knocked from under him. The reason for his very existence was taken from him by those few sharp words. What's the use of being a hero if no one appreciates you. He decided to end it all. With an old "pigskin" he hit himself over the head. His last thoughts were of whether or not stars were used as footballs where he was soon to be.

That's the way he told it to me. So you see, football players lead a hard life if they have the courage to lead it at all. If you're wondering how I got into the boys' locker room in the first place, that's a secret I won't even tell a daisy.

## WITHIN THESE PORTALS



## Art Students Win Awards

A competitive exhibition was held at Hofstra College for all art students in Nassau and Suffolk county high schools. P.D.S.-H.S.'s art students who won honorable mention in the exhibit are: Doug Murray, for a pen and ink drawing of a sailing ship; Judy Fleet, for a pen and ink line drawing of giraffes at a watering hole; Winifred Schultz, for a watercolor painting of a marine subject; and Christina Tapsell, for an original group of fashion designs for women's clothing.

## Clio

On Monday, November 9, Clio had as their guest speakers Mr. Bacon and his Korean wife. The program began with an explanation of Korean history from its beginning to the Korean War. Mr. Bacon showed some slides which he had taken during his tour of Korea two years ago.

## Student of the Week

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berships. Taking an active part in his homeroom's activities, he serves them this year as their secretary. In spite of all these extra-curricular activities, Ron ranks tenth among ninety boys in the graduating class.

It will surely be P.D.S.H.S.'s loss when Ron moves to Smithtown, Long Island in January.

Upon graduation in June, Ron hopes to attend Massachusetts Institute of Technology and major in aeronautical engineering.

## Assembly Dec. 10 Features the Blind

On Dec. 10, at 10:30 A.M. Mr. Niles Welch, Mrs. Welch, Mr. Robert Smithdas, and Mr. John Spainer, will discuss the various services offered by The Industrial Home for the Blind.

Mr. Niles Welch, a member of the Special Education and Information Staff of the Industrial Home for the Blind in Brooklyn, Queens, Nassau, and Suffolk, was a stage, screen, T.V. and radio star for the past 25 years. His career was interrupted by the onset of blindness four years ago.

Elaine Baker Welch, his wife, is a successful singer and actress. She assists her husband with his work.

## Harvest Moon Ball

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dates are certainly going to be disappointed when you hear from your friends how successful the dance was, and how much fun it proved to be. Because this dance, by all implications, will be a senior ball second to none and equalled by few!