



# The Oracle



"FREEDOM OF THE PRESS — YOUR RIGHT"

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NEW YORK STATE AGRICULTURAL & TECHNICAL INSTITUTE, DELHI, N. Y.

DEC. 12, 1947

## Homecoming Dance

The Homecoming dance sponsored by the Theta Gamma Fraternity was held Friday evening, December 5. Despite the ice and snow, approximately 200 people in the gym danced to the music of "Stew" Crandall and his orchestra.

The gym was decorated in red, white and blue, the streamers were flared out from an old wagon wheel that suspended from the ceiling. In the corners and the overhead there were streamers in order to give a lattice effect. The furniture was placed around the gym to accommodate the faculty, guests and students. A refreshing punch was served during the intermission by the refreshment committee.

The couples that moved about the floor to the music were alumni, faculty, and students. All enjoyed dancing to a successful social affair.

The dance lasted until one o'clock in the morning having a large crowd until the closing number. The dance chairman, Jim Beach, announced over the microphone the Theta Gamma's appreciation for the fine showing of the orchestra and all for coming.

JULIA GROTEVANT

## Christmas and You

Christmas, the word that brings joy and cheer to people young and old all over the world. With a past war still fresh in our minds, we here in America stop and give thanks. We give thanks for our food, for our Homes, and for the freedoms which we as free people enjoy.

We here in Delhi Tech, are all old enough to realize the real meaning of Christmas. But have you ever stopped to think what it would be like not to be able to have a Christmas? It's not pleasant is it? Just to give you an idea, lets let our minds go to St. Lo, France or even Bastone, Belgium. Here we find the people still with that cheerful spirit and the same look on their faces. But wait, no, it isn't the same look. There is something different about it. Their faces are thin and show hunger, their clothes are worn and patched. Some are not sure of a place to stay through the night, but even with these looks you can't mistake that look of Christmas. For they too, are giving thanks to God for the thing that is more important to man than anything else—Life.

by JENNINGS



## Grange Speaking Contest Activities in Freshman Construction

On November 25, the elimination contest was held to select the school representative in the extemporaneous speaking contest sponsored by the State Grange at its annual meeting. The local contestants were Nestor Alzerez, who spoke on "The Farmer Takes Notice", and George Robertson, whose subject was "Chemurgy and Agriculture". Robertson was judged the victor and represented the Institute at Oswego on December 11. His subject deals with the use of surplus agricultural products to replace industrial products through use of Chemistry. A \$10 prize was donated by the local Kiwanis Club for division between the contestants. Judges were Director Smith and the Rev. Carlisle of Delhi.

DECKER

## Tri Atlier

The Tri Atlier Club's last meeting was held on December 3rd. A discussion was held on the selection of Tri At pins, and plans for the Semi-Formal Dance sponsored by the club were mentioned. Orders for T shirts with the club emblem were taken.

The club members decided to have every Wednesday night as a work night, which will give the members a good chance to construct a worth while project for their own use.

The next business meeting of the club will be held on the first Wednesday in January at 7:00 p.m. All members are urged to be present at this meeting.

Ed. Note: Read the next issue of the "Oracle" for more news about the Semi-Formal Dance.

LOTT, Sec.

Everyone seems to have recovered from our wonderful Thanksgiving dinners and we are once again hard at work. That word "work", should recall familiar situations to most of us. There is no denying it, we are eager to get the most from our course at Delhi Tech. We have an excellent group of instructors who are really bearing the burdens of seeing that we do get the stuff. (that they must dish out)

We should by now be familiar with the techniques of Mr. Wassmer. Right fellows? Don't forget, "Keep Smiling", there is no room for a sour puss. We knew nothing in the beginning about the subject of Architectural Drafting, but Mr. Wassmer is guiding our ship of toil on a good straight course. We have the usual echos in the drafting room where all good fellows get together. "Turn that triangle over now, and use that "F" pencil for printing." This is the correct method as we all know, but it seems that some of us still like to get our pals goat. Remember that session in Masonry fellows. It seems that Mr. Wassmer will teach regardless of subject matter. Who is Mr. Wassmer's best pal? Shall we say none other than Al Garbuglio.

Mr. Sommers, Mr. Clark and Mr. Smith are giving us plenty of valuable information. Actual construction experience has aided in producing excellent know how qualities. At some date, we also hope to capture these techniques and skills.

With Mr. Clark's friendly attitude and untiring efforts, our Carpentry Class has become an interesting home-like place in which to work. We are now

Continued on Page 4

## The Freshman Aggies

As the days shorten and the wind begins to blow snow flakes through the air, the Freshman Aggies settle down to complete their first term at Delhi Tech. With plenty of tests and assignments to keep us busy we find very little time for fun.

It seems to all of Mr. Shallock's group that their tests are getting harder and harder. Could it be they don't study enough or something else?

Every so often it seems that our instructor gets the roaving fever and sends us out on a field trip. So far we have been at the Fraser Milk plant, the Delaware County Farmers' Co-op Creamery and the Gerry estate. Another field trip is planned for the near future to the Iroquois farms in Cooperstown. We are looking forward to it very much. These trips have been interesting and we feel that they will benefit us in the future.

It seems that three Building Construction boys were mistaken for Ag Students and shot themselves because of this insult to their pride. It's just as well anyway for we feel that farming is no job for a softie.

Poultry class is coming along very nicely now that we have found out what to feed our chickens. But we are still wondering how that last test was marked. We all aren't that dumb are we?

If anyone should see an aggie yawning about 10:30 in the morning don't think they didn't get enough sleep the night before. It's just because they saw a movie in class.

Well it seems as though that just about covers the Aggies, so we end here leaving you all (especially the Construction boys) with one thought—Civilization is like a tree, Agriculture being its roots, transportation and commerce - - its leaves and branches. When the roots die the leaves drop, the branches break and the tree dies. So long until next time and Merry Christmas. JENNINGS

On Tuesday, December 2, most of the students here visited the snowy wastes of North Labrador. We were taken there through the showing of the film, "Ice to the Starboard", which was presented and explained by Mr. James V. Stowell, who is a noted explorer and photographer. Before the film was shown Mr. Stowell gave a very interesting talk about Labrador and the many things he had seen and done in his twenty-one years exploration of the Arctic regions.

BASKIND

## THE ORACLE

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### EDITORIAL

#### "The Delhi Mystery"

Dances and games will do their bit, parties and smokers will help a lot. But lets start boosting the school spirit at the foot of the hill. We want to be proud of our school, and our school to be proud of us, but we object to our school being billed "State School", which implies a correctional institute in anyones language.

For the mutual benefit of the student body and the faculty; for the advertising achieved; and for the enlightenment of the seeking motorist, we propose a sign reading "New York State Agricultural and Technical Institute, Delhi, N. Y." be erected in eye-catching view at the foot of the hill. The project of replacing the misleading, poorly located sign on the hill is a worth while undertaking for the building construction gang.

We hope that by our action we can replace the picture of the perplexed student with a picture of a sign indicating our true name and location.

#### Eggs Aren't Eggs

A complaint, if you please! Why must we eat frozen eggs when we have thousands of chickens on our own farm, who, I suppose, are laying eggs every day. If it's attractive, colorful meals you want—use frozen eggs. When it's flavor you want, frozen eggs are not so good. Several mornings ago we had scrambled eggs for breakfast which looked appetizing but did not taste good at all. Because of this, a great amount of eggs were thrown away. This was very wasteful, both in food and our money spent for something we could not eat. What we want to know is do we want satisfied students or a garbage pail full of eggs?

(name withheld)

### Theta Gamma

The fraternity has taken a few constructive steps in improving the interior decorations of the fraternity house. We are in the process of repainting the fraternity. We are planning to get additional furniture in the near future.

The concrete class and fraternity, under the supervision of Mr. Wall, helped to improve the appearance of the grounds surrounding the fraternity house, by laying a walk extending from the road to the house.

A formal meeting was held Monday, December 1st, at which time we discussed the possibilities of a new, larger building with better facilities for the benefit of the future members.

After the business meeting coffee and cookies were served as refreshments, which were planned and served by Ronald O'Brien and Bill Chaffee.

The pledges that were taken in last month are now full members of the order. Thus far they have proven to be very active in participating in the fraternity activities.

For the past 3 weeks the fraternity members have planned, arranged, and executed the Home Coming Dance which was held on Dec. 5th. All members were selected for various committees and all co-operated whole-heartedly in making the dance a success. JOE PETAK

### Home Economic News

The senior girls under the direction of Miss Moss have started a series of demonstrations. Their first one was demonstrating the use of various pieces of equipment in the cafeteria. Marion Hall, assisted by Dorothy Lillie, gave a demonstration on soft-ball candies with delicious samples of Penuchi, Chocolate Fudge and Divinity.

Home Management House Practice is now under way at the Davis House under the Direction of Miss Duncan. The first meal was served on December 2nd. In a twenty-five day period five girls will have five duties of five days each. These duties are housekeepers, waitress, cook, hostess and manager. While on each of these stations the girls will not only put into practice what they already know, but they will learn new things through experience.

The Junior girls are busy in Crafts class making Christmas presents. The most popular of these projects has been the shell jewelry and small, painted wooden boxes. Almost every girl has a knitting project of either socks or mittens. Many things have been unraveled and started anew but we hope they will be finished by Christmas!

In the English classes each section of girls is preparing a short Christmas program, for the enjoyment of the other section, faculty members and house mothers. In section 1, each girl

### Sr. Construction News

From all reports the Senior Construction fellows enjoyed their Thanksgiving vacation and have already started to plan their Christmas holidays.

Well, it looks like we will have to find a new excuse for not having our home work done for Strength of Materials class, as the Engineering books have arrived. So that's the reason for Mr. Wassmer's abundance of smiles lately.

Glancing over at our main project, the Dreyfus house, we find that the brick chimney is almost finished. When it is fully completed and the furnace connected we will have the long awaited warmth that we have been doing without. The main structure of the house is completed which means we are no longer exposed to the elements of nature.

Work has been progressing so rapidly that when nailing the sub flooring, Stan White failed to get out of the way of the hammer fiends and found his shoes were nailed to the floor with him in them! With Stan in this serious situation, Ben F. jumped to the rescue, grasping a "straight" claw hammer, rushed to Stan and withdrew the nail from the shoe, thus proving to Ben that there is a use for "straight" claw hammers.

We had a very intellectual and interesting Construction assembly which enabled the fellows to look into the phases of insurance in the Construction field. A prominent insurance Representative of Delhi was the guest speaker. We are sure that this valuable information will be carried on into our future work.

B. LOTT

### Horn and Hoof Club

The last meeting of the Horn and Hoof Club on Wednesday evening, November 19; was well attended by old and new members. There was some discussion at the beginning of the meeting concerning a dance and the possibility of holding a judging contest for the members. After the business of the club was discussed, the guest speaker of the evening was introduced. Dr. Dickson, one of the local veterinarians, gave a very informative talk on the diseases of dairy cattle.

At the conclusion of the club meeting the members all enjoyed light refreshments.

The next meeting on December 17th will feature a talk by a local breeder who has been to the Isle of Jersey, which is the home of the Jersey breed of dairv cattle. PETAK

has selected a foreign country and will talk about the Christmas tradition there. We have found this interesting because many of our own customs originated there. Section 2 has concentrated more on the religious side of our Christmas activities

**Chatter Box**

We see Wisconsin will soon have a hearty football team—"Onward, Wisconsin"

What is wrong with Academy Hall, Bob Lott? Does Ben F. snore that loud?

Jennings, you are supposed to scrape dishes when you are working in the cafeteria, so keep your eyes off Doris.

We wonder how Cy Simmons' car ever passed the Pennsylvania motor vehicle inspection? Well, at least he can see his nurse on week-ends.

What's the matter Ronnie? Are you too bashful to ask Bogart for a date?

By this time most of the freshman building construction students have heard of Mr. Smith's pet remark concerning our first attempts at constructing practice walls. Before checking the brick wall for defects, Mr. Smith exclaims, "Which is the face side?" (face side defined as the side which is built to specifications)

It is beginning to be a common sight that wherever there's music and a place to dance you'll see "Bert" Lacey and Bob Lott.

I wonder who it will be next, Dick Haberstroh? Dizzy or Dottie? The other fellas are waiting for your decision—they want a chance, too.

Vic Paliotta, we see you finally made up your mind to go to the dance.

Why did the battery in Dick Welsh's truck go dead? Tsk, tsk, Dick, you ought to remember to turn off the front fog lights. Or was it Dave Decker's fault?

What well known bowling "figure" do you suppose had his ups and downs this week in bowling practice—mostly downs. Another 6 inches and he would have hit the pins before the ball. Could it be Dick Lee?

**Do's And Don't By The Scraper Boys**

1. Don't leave gum on trays and dishes.
2. Don't put napkins in glasses.
3. Please do not rush the tray table.
4. Be courteous by opening the doors.
5. Don't pile trays on top of the silver basket.
6. Don't pile trays one on top of the other.
7. Last but not least, keep smiling.

LOTT & JENNINGS

All men are born free and equal, but most of them get married.

**Cross Country — 1947**

Broncos .....	22
Morrisville .....	33
Broncos .....	27
Canton .....	28
Broncos .....	15
Cobleskill .....	40
Hartwick .....	25
Broncos .....	30

This season's cross country team was one of the best ever developed at the Delhi Institute.

Only one boy, Kenneth Stalter had run in high school before coming to Delhi.

The team developed nicely through the season and the good balance of the team overcame individual brilliance exhibited by several of the opponent teams.

In the final meet of the year with Hartwick College the fine running of Hartwicks three starring runners gave them the first three places and the meet. Delhi's entire squad of seven men crossed the finish line before Hartwick's fourth man. However the first three runners were superior enough to give Hartwick the meet.

The team exhibited excellent condition throughout the season. This condition enabled them to win the Canton meet when Canton had the first two runners in the meet.

Six boys were awarded letters for the season. They were Robert Strobe, William Rolff, George Kouri, Kenneth Stalter, Raymond Salazar, and Frances Gielskie.

Frank Wright and Merwin did not win letters but showed consistent improvement through the season. They finished ahead of many of the opposing runners from other schools through the season.

The 1947 season was marked by as fine and consistent a squad performance, as any cross country team at Delhi. Credit should also be given the managers, John Bozar and Richard Haberstroh, for their efforts and to coach Merritt for a fine coaching job.

**Question of the Month**

Each month the "Oracle" will publish the results of interviews with typical members of our student body in order to determine student opinion on topics of timely interest to all.

**THE QUESTION** Have you ever been on a blind date? How did it turn out? Do you approve of them?

Dick Grace, Freshman Ag student.

Yes, I have been on several blind dates. They turned out very well, and I had several additional dates with a girl in South Carolina as a result. I don't approve of them as a rule because they don't usually come up to your expectations of what a date should be. Then there is the chance that she would be too tall or have different interests.

Continued on Page 4



**Aggies vs. Alumni**

The opening basketball game for the Delhi Aggies was won by the Aggies at a lop-sided score of 53-26. The Aggies outplayed the Alumni team throughout the game. The standout players for the Alumni was Archibald. He seemed to be everywhere on the court giving our boys some competition. Bill Greaney was the outstanding player for the Aggies racking up 12 points for the team.

The team really showed action in the last part of the game using a combination man to man on defense and beautifully worked fast breaks on the offense. This seemed to tire out the opposing team much faster.

The starting line up was as follows:

- Parodi (f) Greaney (f) Hoffman (c); Boczar (g); Almond (g).

BILL DRANE

**Cheerleading**

Maybe you don't want to admit it but the cheerleaders are doing a good job and they deserve credit for it. They were rather disappointed at the number of students who turned out at the Pep Rallies. What's the matter with you students? Where's your school spirit?

The girls really enjoy cheerleading and have spent a great deal of time practicing. They have also had green uniforms with a white "D" on them made, which are very nice.

We must also give credit to Ben who has coached the girls and kept them going when they

Continued on Page 4

**Basketball Schedule**

- December
  - Friday, 5th—Alumni.
  - Saturday, 6th—Hartwick at Oneonta.
  - Friday, 12th—Cobleskill Institute (here).
- Vacation
  - Saturday, 20th—Farmingdale Institute at Farmingdale.
- January
  - Friday, 9th — Utica Institute (here).
  - Wednesday, 14th — Albany Pharmacy (here).
  - Friday, 16th—Albany Business College at Albany.
  - Saturday, 17th—Oneonta State Teachers (here).
  - Friday, 23rd—Canton Institute at Canton.
  - Friday, 30th — Cobleskill Institute at Cobleskill.
- February
  - Friday, 6th—Binghamton Institute at Binghamton.
  - Saturday, 7th—Oneonta State Teachers at Oneonta.
  - Wednesday, 11th — Hartwick College Frosh (here).
  - Saturday, 14th—Albany State Teachers Jayvees at Albany.
  - Wednesday, 18th — Albany Pharmacy at Albany.
  - Saturday, 21st — Farmingdale Institute (here).
  - Thursday, 26th—Utica Institute at Utica.
  - Friday, 27th—Binghamton Institute at Binghamton.
  - Saturday, 28th—Albany State Teachers Jayvees (here).
- March
  - Friday, 5th—Canton Institute (here).
  - Friday, 12th—Albany Business College (here).

### Eight Miles Away— At Night

With the clatter of dishes and  
the dropping of trays  
We rush for the exit  
to be on our way.  
It's a race to the cars and  
a roll down the hill  
To keep our engagement that  
has to be filled.  
We make a turn right as we  
look at the gas  
And are quite disappointed as  
we know it won't last.  
We dig in our pockets for  
all our loose change,  
Which we give to the  
attendant in exchange  
For the petrol we need to  
keep our car running  
To the spot down the road  
which we are hunting.  
After a ten minute jaunt to  
the goal we have sought  
We dash in before its all  
bought.  
Within range of our vision  
familiar faces appear  
We have a reunion which  
brings us good cheer.  
Old tales and old jokes  
are told once again  
As the laughter and noise  
starts to begin.  
The hours fly by and jokes  
grow old,  
'Tis time to depart,  
that's what we're told.  
So it's back to our car  
and home once again - - -  
That's all we can think  
of, so this is the end.

LOTT & JENNINGS

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### Question of the Month Continued from Page 3

I would consider a blind date as a fill-in for a Saturday night in Delhi. (How about one in Quarryville?)  
\* \* \* \*

Eleanor Erickson (Stubby),  
Junior Home Eco. student.

Yes, I have been on one. I didn't like it! (so she says) I don't approve of them. I might like blind dates if I hadn't gotten stuck with the one I did have. (she says he was a marine)  
\* \* \* \*

Bill Drane, Freshman Ag student.  
(Ex-marine)

Yes, I have been on a few. They didn't turn out so good—wait a minute, there was one blind date that was very nice. My buddy fixed up a date with his girl's sister. She was a Powers model - - - ummmmm. No, I don't approve of them very much. It all depends on the circumstances. (Bill was hard to pin down on a definite answer)  
\* \* \* \*

Dorothy (Dottie) Lillie, Senior Home Eco. student.

Yes, I have been on one blind date and it was very nice. Yes, I approve of them. (See, boys, Dottie approves of them)  
\* \* \* \*

Jean Mac Gibbon, Senior Home Eco. student.

I have never been on a blind date, but I approve of the idea.  
\* \* \* \*

Don Hansen, Senior, Building Construction.

Yes, quite a few times, and I've had good luck! I will approve of them until I get a lemon. (You can squeeze lemons too, Don)

D. DECKER

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### Freshman Construction Continued from Page 1

planning our individual projects. This should prove to be an interesting venture indeed. With many math formulas and also knowledge of the steel square, we proceed on our gallant way.

Had you realized that there were so many different types of materials involved in the Construction field? Mr. Sommers has carried us to the land of Plasters, Lath, Wallboards and also Brick and Clay products. Specifications also entered upon our blue horizon. Remember that nice liberal assignment fellows? We learned quite a bit though.

Mr. Smith competes with an occasional out burst from our little feathered friends above the Masonry shop. Don't those gals really rip loose at times though? If you see a bit of chaff filter through the flooring, don't get alarmed, it is only our chicken friends hard at work. Mortar and brick go nicely together—mortar will mix nicely also. Or will it? Mr. Smith has excellent talent for dishing out terms and technical views on a given subject. You mean to say that you are not familiar with terms? Just drop around and see us sometime.  
by D. ALLEY

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### Cheerleading

Continued from Page 3  
felt like quitting.

Our school is represented by our team and our team needs support from the cheerleaders. The cheerleaders should be supported by the student body, but they haven't been as shown by the 10% attendance at the Pep Rallies. The girls are doing an excellent job and we know that they are going to be a success.

by DORIS SHAFER

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