

Class History

As we probe into the history of the class of '53, we recall many happy and sad events.

When we entered the sacred halls of Mount Zion Institute in the year, 1948, we received our first glimpse of high school life. This was the big year! Students from Everett and Mount Zion Elementary Schools met to form a new class--the class of 1953. Shortly after the year began, our initiation faced us. The girls were required to wear men's clothing and the boys were forced to wear girls' clothing, including highheels. Initiation ended in a week, but the torment lasted the rest of that year, for we were lowly sub-freshmen, known better to the seniors as "Jr. High Hiccoughs". When an upperclassman was near, we were afraid to move.

The next year, we felt that we were more nearly a part of the high school life. Everybody started treating us as if we were human beings. Many of us joined various clubs, took part in Glee Club, band, J. H. A., F. F. A., and other school activities.

When we became 10th graders, we felt as if we were really living. We were beginning to feel our importance. We were not afraid of the upperclassmen, and we had been here long enough to ridicule the underclassmen. That year we had the privilege of serving at the Junior-Senior in grass skirts, bare feet, and much pancake makeup. Most of us tried our hand at Dramatics, but none proved to be Ethel Barrymore or Basil Rathborne.

The time had gone by quickly. Soon we were Juniors. As we look back on that particular year, we remember many things--managing concessions at the football games, planning for and giving the Sweetheart Ball, presenting our Junior Play, "Inner Willie", and most of all--planning our Junior-Senior. Our theme, which was considered very beautiful, was "Hitch your Wagon to a Star". This year, too, some of us were initiated into the Beta Club. In February, we received our class rings. For a long time we walked about with hands outstretched admiring our rings and hoping everyone else was doing the same thing. Some of us were fortunate enough to be chosen as marshals and ushers at graduation.

1953--the big year for which we had all waited and worked. At last we were Seniors! We really thought we were "the stuff". Most of us who did not make the Beta Club last year, found the way in this year, and attended the annual Beta Club Convention in Columbia. We chose for our Senior Play "Pride and Prejudice" which was a marked success. We were guests at the Junior-Senior Banquet on May 1. The theme was "May Day". Everything was lovely. We tried all year for Senior privileges, but somewhere along the way they "flubbed the dub". Close to the end of the year, we began choosing Senior Superlatives, Mascots, Marshals and Ushers. This caused us to realize that our time was short and that graduation would soon be upon us. It is with a little sadness and a great deal of happiness that we look back on the history of our class--the class of 1953!!!

Alice Pleyler
Class Historian



"History teaches everything, even the future."