A Northfield, Massachusetts High School Newspaper
This Cover Depicts a Trip to New York City in February of 1945
N. H. S. REVIEW*

Introduction

This is a copy of an original issue. I have re-typed the pages for the purpose of preserving the many "words of wisdom" contained therein. The original N.H.S. REVIEWS were produced using a state-of-the-art mimeograph machine and printed on cheap yellow paper to conserve vital war materials. As a consequence, the editions were not exactly of archival quality. My own copy - which reposed in the bottom of a trunk for forty years - deteriorated to the point of being virtually un-readable in some places, and the ink, being blue in color, can hardly be photo-copied even by today’s sophisticated machines.

I have attempted to re-type the pages word-for-word in the original format inasmuch as possible, but have taken the liberty to correct some typographical errors while letting others stand; and possibly entered some of my own. I have also altered the format in some cases to improve readability on a computer screen.

This issue was dedicated to the Senior Class and our New York Trip, and is therefore of special interest to those of us who graduated in 1945, and to our friends and relatives. The first part describes preliminary news and a fundraising project, "Sunbonnet Girl."

The main story is entitled "We Really Left Home."

A section called "We Wonder" will trigger many nostalgic memories, and not a few present day "I wonders" about just what did happen then.

Our editor, Rua Jones, waxed prophetic when she wrote, "Some of these we wonders may not be understood by the general public, but this issue is dedicated to the seniors and in the years to come they will read them over and remember their trip much more vividly. It will be something for us to show to our grandchildren and tell them about."

Forty-odd years later some of us do have grandchildren, and now’s the time to "tell them about it".

Respectfully,
George A. Phelps, Class of ’Forty-five

*N. H. S. REVIEW was the student-produced Northfield High School paper.
I dedicate this issue to the Seniors and their New York Trip.

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Buy War Bonds and Stamps
SPRING

There is a touch of spring in the air these days. After the long hard winter it seems mighty good. It bolsters your morals [sic] and puts a spring in your step. You come up with the idea that life is worth living after all.

Your thoughts begin to wander away from school and it won’t be long before we see little holes, scattered about where the youngsters have been playing marbles.

We all gain a new perspective and begin to look on the brighter side of things.

It won’t be long now before school is over, completely for some of us, for some it will be vacation and then they’ll be back. There is a touch of spring in the air but let’s not let it show in our school work! — at least for a few more weeks.

MAKING MOVIES

Movies were shown at the town hall last Friday night on skiing at Northfield by some of the boys of this town. The picture was made in and around the hostel. The shots were prepared by Gene Cullum, before anybody came up Friday morning a few weeks ago.

When we got up there he started right in taking shots. He took them of people going down the chute, slewing and of everything in general. Gene had to really take two sets of pictures as the first set he took didn’t come out. There were shots taken of Floyd, Dwight, David Kidder, Marian Avery and many other people.

A few weeks after these were taken they were shown down at the Town Hall. They were really very good and everything that happened looked natural. On the whole they were a big success.

We Wonder

Why Rua had to stay after Economics class one day.
Why Helen Howard had such an interest in Spencer’s Garage (thinking of buying a car, Helen?)
Why Beverly cannot keep boy’s addresses straight (After all, they are all overseas.)
Why Sophie and Alfred are sporting bandages.
Why Eugene puts paper in innocent peoples desks.
Why Bill had the nerve to sit on a girl, during one sixth period.
Why George studies so late nights.
Why there are such arguments in U.S. History class.
Why the Seniors don’t have their graduation pictures taken.
Why some people don’t believe in honest books but consider them only propaganda.
How everyone likes the muddy weather.
Why Blanche is so afraid Mr. Parker won’t get his lunch on time. (That’s almost as good as breakfast in bed.)
“Sunbonnet Girl”
The N.H.S. Glee Club Operetta
[Fundraiser]
It’s terrific !!!

Cast
Susan Clifton - Sunbonnet Girl - Portia.
Miranda - Daughter of Mrs. Meadows - Lorraine.
Mrs. Meadows - President of Local Music Club - Norma.
Luella Lumptton - A village maiden - Marguerite.
Hiram Meadows - A kindly Farmer - Eugene.
Evalina - Abijah and Mrs. Scroggs daughter - Barbara B.
Reuben McSpavin - The constable’s son - Edward.
Ezra McSpavin - The Constable - Kenneth.
Mrs. Coleman - A wealthy patron of music - Isabell.
Bob Coleman - Her son - Neil.
Barbara Coleman - Her daughter - Helen H.
Jerry Jackson - Bob’s chum - Russell.
Mrs. Scroggs - Abijah’s better half - Sophie.
Sadie Simpkin - Another village maiden - June.

ALSO
A chorus of village boys and girls!

That’s our cast and it’s a swell one too. Can’t you just see Portia as the Sunbonnet Girl and Bob (Neil) her one and only? And Mrs. Scroggs (Sophie) picking on the Sunbonnet Girl and on her better half Abijah (Robert)? We have soloists, such as Portia, Lorraine, Barbara B., Isabell, Neil, Edward, and many others. We have dancers that can dance to any kind of music. Yes, we have what it takes. There’s not a dull moment during the whole performance.

So - when the time comes, BE SURE AND BE THERE!!!!!!!!!!!!
Make sure this operetta will be a sellout. SHOW YOUR SCHOOL SPIRIT.

Wait - another thing we have that might interest you a little more are the costumes. See the girls in lovely evening gowns and the boys will be dressed to kill.

Be sure and come - won’t you? And spread the news around, if you have friends bring them too. They will thank you for it.
We Really Left Home

On Saturday February 17, bright and early in the morning, Mrs. Thompson, Mr. Parker, Eugene Hutchinson and the Senior class (except Bill and Neil) left for New York City. We bid goodbye to Northfield with tears in our eyes and wondered if all those things people had been telling us about the big, wicked city were true.

We arrived safely at Grand Central about one o’clock and got settled at the Hotel Taft. Ah! What a place! But what was missing? Oh, yes Bill and Neil. They arrived Sunday morning then everything was okay. (Excuse us, it was Bill and George that were the lost boys.) I think our greatest surprise was seeing Miss Lawley and Miss Austin and what a nice surprise! Miss Austin was looking fine and it was a great pleasure to see her again.

We did so many things and had so much fun I don’t know what we did enjoy the most. Let’s see what each one thinks about that.

Barbara liked the vultures at the Bronx Zoo. I don’t know why. Maybe they reminded her of someone. She liked Radio City too. Central Park was pretty nice, wasn’t it, Barbara?

Helen thought the Statue of Liberty was grand and also the ferry out and back. She liked the monkeys at the zoo (her cousins), the subways, observation roof at Rockefeller Center, and dodging taxis. Those taxis always seemed to be chasing her. And, oh, those sailors!

June enjoyed the museums, shows, eating in the hotel room, and the Statue of Liberty. The poor girl had to spend half her time explaining things to Eugene. She had to tell him that “bovine”[?] was a certain expression; not a soup, and Horse’s Neck was a drink; not what it seems. She thought the waitresses were so nice—so very polite.

George liked the taxis and all those polite New Yorkers. Ha! Ha! He also enjoyed the short wait for the main show and all the sleep. Sleep! We didn’t even know what the word meant.

Ralph said he expected to see more and was surprised that the buildings were so small. He was also surprised at the reactions of different ones. He didn’t like the subways, but thought the Statue of Liberty and the basketball game were great. Ralph got stuck in a revolving door once, but we just had to get used to those things.

Elizabeth liked the Statue of Liberty, the monkeys at the zoo, revolving doors, and Radio City. She disliked the elevators though. Those at the Taft seemed to be the worst (or the best). Although Elizabeth liked New York, home looked pretty good to her.

Rua thought the view from the Statue was gorgeous and she liked the observation roof at Rockefeller Center which was 70 stories high. She thought the subways were swell and living at the Taft was wonderful. Rua says New York is a good place to spend money.

Paul says he liked everything in general but he didn’t care for the weather at the last. He enjoyed the escalators, elevators and all lazy man things.
Neil liked the taxis, or rather “battle wagons” as he called them. The Negro chambermaid and swing orchestras interested him and also the Tom Collins advertisements in conspicuous places.

Mr. Parker says he still has nightmares. He had quite a time getting us across the streets without someone getting bumped off. He liked it all, but when Monday morning came around it wasn’t so easy getting out of that comfortable bed.

Mrs. Thompson enjoyed the art galleries, museums, long walk with June at the zoo, telephone calls, Statue of Liberty, and rushing for seats. She says there were plenty of surprises. Oh, yes, she had quite a time caring for those wicked brats. One day she went to the grocery store for four quarts of milk, then she was informed that she could have only two, she immediately explained that she needed it for her fourteen children. This aroused the man’s sympathy, and imagining fourteen starving children he gave her the milk.

Eugene liked the penny arcade, shows at two in the morning (and that’s putting it mildly), the prompt service we got in restaurants, and elevators. He was amazed that the cars travelled so slowly. Eugene would like to add that anything said in the paper about June spending all her time explaining things to him was a lie because she didn’t have time to even speak to him. Could that be true, June?

I think we all enjoyed the show at Radio City Music Hall, Ed Wynn’s broadcast, and “Hats Off to Ice”. The costumes and scenery in that show were masterpieces of color and design.

I sincerely hope that all you Juniors who will be taking the trip to New York City next year will have as much fun as we did. Let me give you a little advice however. Don’t be afraid to shove people aside when you want to get somewhere (they’ll do it to you first if you don’t watch out), don’t go to bed at night (you may miss something), sleep [in] in the morning once in a while instead, stay at the Taft, the best hotel in the city, don’t pay any attention to the taxis (your life is insured anyway, isn’t it?), and, for goodness sake, take a good comfortable pair of sport shoes. New York is certainly wonderful—just ask any one of us.

We Wonder

Why Elizabeth looked so healthy?
Why Helen and Norma took so long to get some aspirin.
Why Eugene wore his pajamas both day and night.
Why George stayed under the blanket. Why June was mad at Eugene on Thursday morning.
Why the boys in 317 wouldn’t get up at 7:30.
Why Mr. Parker came in so late Wednesday night (Is the Diamond Horseshoe connected with horse-racing?)
Why Paul is not as bashful as we thought.
Why Ralph didn’t pick up a girl.
Why Rua went into so many corner store[s].
Why Bill made a phone call.
Why Paul liked to go to bed early.
Why the boys were always late for breakfast, the girls were always on time?
Why the boys were picked up by the hotel detective.
Why Barbara took a shower in 206 at 4:00 A.M.
Why Mr. Parker walked so fast.
Why Bill and Neil didn’t go to the Museum of Science.
Why George doesn’t want to play any more chess (and Mrs. Thompson does.)
Why there were so many phone calls for 317.
Why Rua blushes so easily.
Why Helen expects a letter from a sailor.
Why Norma wants to stay in New York.
Why Eugene couldn’t find a horse’s neck in the pocketbook, we all went into a bar down near the Battery. June and Mrs. Thompson had personal business to attend to.
Why Elizabeth doesn’t like high places.
Why everybody slept late mornings.
Why Eugene sat down on every sofa in the Metropolitan Museum.
Why Ralph and Paul were especially comfortable on the trip home.
Why Eugene told Mrs. Thompson his life history.
Whether Mrs. Thompson is as innocent as she tries to appear.
Why Elizabeth doesn’t like elevators.
Why Bill and George were so elated over the parting at Brattleboro station.
Why everyone enjoyed the shows???
Why Elizabeth was always the first girl ready to go out.
Why Eugene sat in one certain spot staring at a picture for sale. (The horses were beautiful weren’t they?)
Why everyone particularly enjoyed ”Objective Burma” (and Barbara didn’t)
Why it was so hard getting George into the zoo and Eugene out.
Why Mrs. Thompson has such a poor sense of directions.
How people enjoyed the 5th avenue buses,
Whether Mr. Parker was travelling incognito (or why the dark glasses?) Why the boys thought they had to be out of their rooms by 12:00 noon on Monday.
Why Mrs. Thompson and June flipped a coin one morning merely to plug In the toaster.
Why Barbara was almost always the first up in 217.
Why the man looked so queerly at Mrs. Thompson when she said her 14 children would starve if they didn’t have the milk.
Why Barbara was so disgusted when June crawled all over her. After all, she told her to ! ! ! !
Why everyone came out different exits from the Museum of Natural History.
Why the train had to be late in the first place.
What got Mr. Parker up in order to catch the train to New York.
How Eugene got to his room after the poker game.
Why spitting is unlawful in New York. Could it be that even New Yorkers get exasperated?
How much the subways lost on “combined entrances”.
What the average was for the total amount of sleep on the trip.
Why Bill and Neil came back to Brattleboro and not Northfield.
Why Eugene’s vocabulary is so poor and if it has improved any since February 17.
Why it was such a comfort to see Paul’s hat or head up front in the crowd (all others were out of sight).
Who saved who the most times from death by an iron monster (taxis - natch!).
Why midnight shows seemed to be such a fascination. (Mmmmm- mmmmm)
If Norma left anything for anyone else to buy at the jewelry counter in the lobby of the Taft.
How many times we heard “Accent-tchuate the Positive.”
Why Eugene had to go upstairs so often to brush his teeth.
Why “stinker” was such a popular term.
Why Paul slept through the “Star Spangled Banner” during one midnight show.
Why Mr. Parker suffered from nightmares.
What color New York was after we left it.
If we could act as guides for our part of the city.
If the chambermaid is wearing Rua’s blue socks.
Why Mr. Parker waited up for Barbara.
Why June was so careless about one crumb (darn it!)
Why the boys complained about Mr. Parker’s snoring.
Why the boys never had any gum.
Why Bill discarded his handkerchief.
Why Eugene complained about carrying two little suitcases and George the safe deposit box.
Why June was carried from the 2nd to the 3rd floor.
If the boys had a “searching” party Wednesday night.
If Neil got tired of juicing oranges.
How everyone enjoyed solid orange juice.
How Bill enjoyed the Rockefeller Center tour (especially the guide). Why Eugene talks so much with his hands and why he accuses other people of telling lies.
Why June was forced to stay in the closet.
Why 317 made so much noise that 217 couldn’t sleep.
How we were able to get seats for “Roughly Speaking”.
Why George always insisted on washing the glasses.
What Mrs. Thompson felt she had to hide under the blankets.
Why Eugene and Neil had to write back home as soon as they arrived.
Why no one was so very enthusiastic about the New York waitresses.
Why everyone got tired of rushing to and fro and then enduring a “short wait for all seats.”
Why Norma and Barbara enjoy Southern accents.
Why Norma and Helen hum “Frankie and Johnnie”.
Why Ralph should be mad at Norma on account of two or three little pieces of soap.
What would happen if Bill had found a WAC or a WAVE.
Why Elizabeth should have been glad to get home. (It’s so peaceful in the country.
Why the girls in 206 don’t answer when nice people knock on their door.
Why Rua slept with her housecoat on one night.
Why the boys had to comb their golden tresses so often.
Why Eugene always acted so sleepy. (Sleepy: synonym for dopey)
(Eugene, a synonym is a word that means the same as another word.)
What the boys in 317 were doing with snowballs, trying to commit suicide?
Why Mrs. Thompson and June borrowed Rua’s flashlight in the dark of night.
Why Eugene had so much to do with a certain little woman who sat in front of him. (She wasn’t as good-looking as all that—but you should hear him tell about it.)
Why Mrs. Thompson didn’t want June to climb all the stairs at the Statue of Liberty.
Why all the girls got so dizzy climbing the stairs in the “old Girl”. (They were not dizzy in the first place; Eugene, and the rest of you boys keep still, too.)
Why Ralph never ate his sandwiches and Neil his sardines. (After all, Neil, sardines really don’t make too good a tip for the chambermaid unless you leave a can opener and crackers with them.)
Why so many people have heard about the trip. (Interesting, Huh?)
What we would have done without a napkin to write all this stuff on.
Why we ever came home!!!
Why we didn’t always get two glasses of milk in the cafeteria. (I only got two hands, lady.)
Why we didn’t feel the butter shortage.
Why Mr. Parker objects to butter substitutes.
How Eugene got out of washing dishes at the cafe the night he lost his meal ticket. (Talk fast, brother!)
Why we were so neatly arranged in couples at the Radio City Music Hall.
Why George and June never complained of cold hands (or a number of other people for that matter).
Why Bill and Eugene “drooled” at the ice show.
Why George didn’t sit with June and Eugene at “Objective Burma”.
Who found the pennies Eugene threw from the 70th story.
What Mrs. Thompson was doing under the bed before breakfast one morning.
If Ralph’s blisters are better.
Why George has such a good disposition and Eugene is so crabby (Answer, sleep. One being used to it - the other because of lack of it.)
Why Mrs. Thompson spoke to so many keepers at the zoo and what she found out because of it. (The Lion House was nice, wasn’t it?)
If the girls enjoyed their banana (less) splits at Woolworths.
Why the girls in 206 were always the last to get up.
How everyone enjoyed hearing Vincent Lopez’ orchestra during lunch.
Why Norma enjoyed the experience of extracting her suitcase from the checkroom.
What the man who sat opposite us in the train home was thinking. Eugene does act a little queer doesn’t he? And George, too.)
Why Mrs. Thompson didn’t understand Bill’s joke.
Who started telling jokes in the first place. (Nobody remembers them anyway.)
Why Ralph tried to discard Helen’s suitcase in Grand Central Station. (She really ought to thank somebody for picking it up.)
What Mrs. Thompson did to get us into the forbidden part of the Metropolitan Museum.
Just a word - Some of these we wonders may not be understood by
the general public, but this issue is dedicated to the Seniors and in
the years to come they will read them over and remember their trip much
more vividly.

It will be something for us to show to our grandchildren and tell
them about, I’m sure you will get a laugh out of most of them whether
they make sense or not.

And now just another word - this time about the paper itself. If
any of you have any criticism to make about the paper, the way it is
arranged, what is printed or anything at all, will you please come to
me and make some helpful suggestions instead of going around muttering
that you don’t like something or other.

The paper is published for you but I still haven’t any sixth
sense that tells me what you like or dislike about it. Write me a
letter if you are too bashful to speak to me.

THE EDITOR
Lee Hammond, who was reported missing last month is now a prisoner of war in Germany.

Ruth Dawe went to see Robert Johnson last week. Robert is in South Carolina. Mr. Johnson also went.

Warren Randall is home on a 30 day leave. He has the Purple Heart.

Stanley Johnson is on Luzon Island.

Jim Callaghan has just come out of the hospital. He was in for his nerves.

John Hurley is in Italy.

Private Leland Lawrence is home on leave. He reports back to Fort Meade, Maryland.

Our deepest sympathy goes to George Phelps whose brother-in-law Albert Cembalisty was killed in action.

Norman Bolton has passed his physical and will go in the Navy any time from three to ten weeks.

Clint Holton was home on a furlough last week.

Irving Scott has been promoted to the rank of Sergeant and is now in Germany.

Harlan Randall, class of ’44, is stationed at Camp Gordon, Ga.

Tom and Ed Hurley were home last week end.

Aiden French and his wife are visiting his sister Mrs. Shattuck. He will report back to Camp Meade, Md.

Word has been received that Bob Gingras has been promoted to Sl/c.

Nellie Brassor is assistant manager in a store in Turners.

Kenneth Bolton was home on a leave last week.

Delvy Field is on Iwo Jima with the 3rd Marine Division.

SENIOR NEWS

On February 22 the Seniors, sleepy, tired but happy, arrived at East Northfield. They had just completed an eventful six days in New York City.

The Senior trip was very similar to those in previous years with the exception of a few minor incidents which helped to distinguish it as our trip.

The Seniors saw the show at Radio City Music Hall Saturday night. The ice show “Hats Off to Ice” under the direction of Sonja Henie, at Center Theater was wonderful.

They visited Bronx Zoo, Statue of Liberty and took a tour through Rockefeller City and saw all of New York from the top of the R.C.A. building.
I was deeply impressed by the height of the buildings and by our luxurious rooms at the hotel.

The Seniors were greatly impressed with New York and we saw and did so many things while there that it would be impossible to relate all the happenings in this short article.

The Sophomore assembly was very well liked by the Seniors. Eugene pretended that he was on the corner of Broadway and 42nd street. He interviewed passersby which of course were some of the Seniors.

SOPHOMORE NEWS

The Sophomore assembly was given on Friday, February 16th. It was a weather report, commercials on Kickapoo Juice and a play. The name of the [play] was “Mildred is My Name.”

The cast was:

Mildred - Marilyn Dresser
Mother - Lois Stearns
Donald - Edward Fortier
Grandpa - John Lyons

The announcer was Russel Roberts.

Those doing the commercials were Carolyn Miller, Eugene Hutchinson and Russell Roberts. Gordon Leavis set up the “mike” and did the sound effects.

The second radio program was “The Rambling Reporter,” Eugene Hutchinson. He was at the corner of Broadway and 42nd street in New York interviewing people. He interviewed George, Willy Willy, “Mrs. Thompson, Rua Jones, June Cleopatra, Simon Legree.

Eugene Hutchinson went with the Seniors to New York because he expects to be in the service before the class of ’47 gets there. The Seniors are glad he went.

The Sophomores have 84% in stamps and bonds for the month of February. What’s the matter with 100%?

Here is what some of the Sophomores did during vacation.

Robert Hubbard - stayed upstreet (and skied?)
Muscles - went to New York.
Marion Kenney - nothing.
Carolyn Miller - stayed home(?)
Lorraine Gingras - What didn’t I do?
Lois Stearns - sleep?
Esther Bentley - worked.
Viola Sytnik - that would be telling.
Shirley Gould - celebrated my birthday.
Gordon Leavis - was sick.
Marilyn Dresser - had a sprained wrist.

FRESHMAN NEWS

We are all glad to have Beverly B. back to school again with us.
New York, New York!
NHS Class of '45

[Photo added]