

Class History

It was a happy occasion, September 1939, when about thirty little girls and boys, not knowing what awaited them, began their school life in Mrs. Irene Ackerman's first grade room of the Cottageville School. Our other teachers in the grammar school in the years that followed were Mrs. Jennie Williams, Mrs. Vineta Johnson, Mrs. Carrie Lou Ackerman, Mrs. Bernice Buchanan, Mrs. Evelyn Horton, and Mr. McRay Galloway. Mr. R. E. Gaskins was our superintendent.

Even though we learned readin', 'riten, and 'rithmetic we thought school was more play than work, not realizing then that we were developing in a natural situation, working together on a common problem toward a common goal--a developed personality.

High School at last! It was a sunny day in 1947 when the group, appropriately excited, entered the high school section of the Hall of Education of the Cottageville School.

During our first year we acquainted ourselves with the different subjects and the general routine and our new name--freshman. Some of the girls served at the Junior-Senior Banquet and made a first attempt at high school basketball.

Soon we found ourselves ready for the sophomore class. We began with enthusiasm still not exactly becoming "book worms."

Some of us were guests at the Junior-Senior Banquet. Honors during this year were bestowed upon Julia Alice Smith for highest scholastic grades, Betty Rilee for best-all-round, and Madelyn Ackerman for most outstanding in music.

In fall of 1949, we entered school this time as juniors. You can be assured that we felt our importance because of the duties and responsibilities that rested upon our shoulders.

A chance came to show off our dramatic ability in, "He Who Hesitates." Edward Redman stole the show as "Ollie."

The next occasion that opened the door to our social life and made us feel that we really "belonged" --our Junior-Senior Banquet. It was a grand affair and we felt that the seniors had nothing on us.

Then came our rings. How proud we were of them and how proudly we displayed them!

Honors during this year were given to Julia Alice Smith and Wendell Adams for most intellectual and to Vermelle Gatch for most outstanding in music.

Crawford Ackerman left us to join the United States Army. He is stationed in Korea.

Seniors! Our class had dwindled down to fourteen. We had finally reached the goal of all high school students, but we had to exert ourselves even more than before. Sports! Senior Play! Senior Superlatives! Senior Privileges! Senior Honors! Holidays! Examinations! Annual! Junior-Senior! Graduation Plans! Caps! Gowns! Invitations! Etc.

We have had great happiness and great sorrows during one time or another. These will soon be memories which we will cherish the rest of our lives. By this time next year, seniors will be studying and training for positions of all kinds; many will be in the armed forces of the United States, but whatever the task, it will be met with the grim determination and sincerity which Cottageville School has given us. We have learned to do our best with what we have whether it be great or small. Our aim in the future is to carry on with what we have learned.

We hope that students of the past and future remember the motto, "Education Is A Possession Of Which Man Cannot Be Robbed."

--ELVA ACKERMAN--