



Sir Austin's Page

Austin O'Brien High School

Edmonton Alberta

Vol. 1

No. 2



On Opening Day



Archbishop MacDonald blesses our school.



His Grace blesses the school crucifix.



Sr. Lillian accepts the portrait of Sir Austin O'Brien as Sir Austin and Mrs. O'Brien look on.



Mr. Demco, chairman of the Board, presents Sir Austin with the spade with which his wife turned the sod when construction began.

"I wish I had it this good when I was young." This remark by a parent seemed to express the feelings of all the visitors when Austin O'Brien High School was blessed and officially opened last Sunday, November 24. The ceremonies began at 2:00 P.M. with "O Canada", followed by a silent minute of tribute to the late John F. Kennedy, and perhaps an unspoken prayer for a world without him.

Then, Jerry Lang welcomed the visitors to the school. Following this, the guests of honor, including Sir Austin O'Brien and his wife, were introduced. The music students then entertained, and were admired by everyone for their sparkling performances under the direction of Sister Loyola. Speeches were made by provincial and civic representatives, Sir Austin O'Brien, and Sister Lillian, who also introduced the teachers. A portrait of Sir Austin O'Brien was presented to the school, and a miniature spade was presented to Sir Austin O'Brien, in commemoration of the sod-turning ceremony. The formal ceremonies then came to an end, and everyone went sightseeing.

About half a dozen distinguished-looking gentlemen were going through a second childhood in the language labs, and everyone was amazed by the well-equipped science labs. Refreshments were carefully but cheerfully rationed out to the pleased (we hope) taxpayers by the ladies of Sr. Michael's C.W.L. The students co-operated well, inconspicuously leading parents away from the half-empty library. A few students, using devious methods and a lot of ingenuity, kept parents away from the cafeteria in order to help make the refreshments last.

In spite of these few small inconveniences, all went well, everyone admired the school, all the students showed the old "esprit de corps", and

Sir Austin O'Brien himself put it in better words than anyone:

"I am pleased to have my name associated with such a fine school."

And a school is only as fine as the people in it. Let us strive to make Austin O'Brien one of the best.

Frank Burgess

TEACHER SAYS

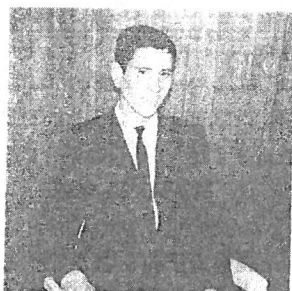
Among the many characteristics of Austin O'Brien High, I see two that are most outstanding. I should say, I "feel" two. They can't always be spotted but they can be felt. One is quality. The other is spirit. Both are powerfully potential. Sometimes they are obvious and take the form of success in exams or cooperation and enthusiasm at games and dances. At other times however, this quality and spirit is kept hidden and yet you know that it is there. Think of a man standing with a fifty-pounding gold nugget in his hands. "What do I do with it?" Cash in on it of course!

Quality has to be cultivated and spirit has to be channelled, self-directed. Anybody can take advice or direction but this is not enough. It's a matter of wanting something or not wanting it so badly that you have to act. In other words whatever you do, you do it because you want to.

I feel that there is terrific quality in the school and the same about spirit. Because of the newness of the school, everything is original and imaginative. The school is overwhelmingly potential.

Miss Piri

INTRODUCING!



JERRY LANG
President of our Student's Council-- he says he never lets anything interfere with his duty.



GLORIA BRUCHAL
Jerry's Vice-President, and our Co-editor. One of the few in the school who understands Latin.



PAT HOLLAND
The Student's Council's Secretary, "Good things often come in small packages."



LINDA MICHETTI
Our capable and efficient treasurer. She's always trying to borrow money.



PENNY RODWAY
The busy, busy, busy Social representative. "Where's the Party?"

This is the first in a series of articles on the teaching staff of Austin O'Brien High school.

Miss Piri....

Young and vivacious Miss Piri is a member of Austin O'Brien's young teaching staff. She has dark brown hair and grey-green eyes that are always sparkling. Miss Piri is very patient with her classes and is well liked by all the students.

Miss Piri was born on September 11 of an unknown year and has lived most of her life in Edmonton. Her elementary schooling was completed at St. Anthony's. After completing Grade 9 at Mount Carmel, Miss Piri attended St. Mary's High School. At the age of eight, Miss Piri started to take violin lessons which she even now has not completed. Miss Mickle and Miss Piri have been close friends ever since Grade One. Since her high school days Miss Piri has driven the 1954 Pontiac that is now ever present in Austin O'Brien's parking lot.

Miss Piri is teaching three subjects during seven periods a day as well as supervising a study. In order to help the school orchestra, Miss Piri has taken over the responsibility of the string section. Studying piano, violin, and harmony, along with playing the violin in Edmonton's Symphony orchestra, takes up any spare time that she may have.

Two years from now Miss Piri would like to go back to university in order to further her studies in French. Studying in Europe would also be nice, says Miss Piri. Next year will see Miss Piri once more gracing Austin O'Brien with her presence.

Betty Anderson

FASHIONS AT AUSTIN O'BRIEN

Fashions are always changing through the years. Centers of the fashion world are at New York, London, and Paris. The newest fashion center in Edmonton is Austin O'Brien High School.

Here are the newest fashion flashes straight from the halls of Austin O'Brien.

- A-line skirts are in, as are suspenders and herring bone tweed matching and skirts and vests.
- Stacked heels and mohair sweaters are in the wardrobes of many of the well-dressed girls at Austin O'Brien.
- Jumpers, either fitted or shift style, are very popular here.
- Knee-socks and running shoes are becoming increasingly popular after the cheer-leaders wore them for the cheers at the cycle drag.
- Ski jackets are the style for out of school events.

The boys are by no means missing in the fashion world at Austin O'Brien.

- Suits are often worn by some.
- Sweaters and slim pants seem to be the style for boys at school.
- There are very few boys wearing blue jeans and the number is slowly getting smaller.

Anyone who walks down the halls at Austin O'Brien will agree that everyone is appropriately dressed for school.

Betty Anderson

SOCIAL CHATTER

by Lorraine Pernisch

October the 31st was to have been the date of our Halloween Dance, but since the Alberta Teachers Association was giving a dance for our teachers, we could not obtain chaperones and, therefore, the dance was postponed.

Thus, November 8th was the night of our big dance of the month. It was called "The Paper Caper" and was once again semi-closed. It was a mild success; that is, more people came than were expected, since St. Mary's was having a Victory Dance for our football heroes.

Dale Partridge was the master of ceremonies. At intermission, refreshments were served by the Newspaper Staff as they sponsored the dance. After intermission, we had various people display their natural talents. Linda Michetti, better known as "Bonnie", sang two songs, with Pat Holland accompanying in one selection. We also have a Trio in Austin O'Brien, known as "The Trashcan Trio." They sang one of the Kingston Trio's favourite songs, "The Merry Minuit". They did a pretty good job of it, even though they kept insisting on going off key. Records were once again played on the turntable and the dance was officially over at about 11:40 P.M.

The Newspaper Staff, headed by Judy Arnusch, did a beautiful job of decorating the gym. We thank them for their thought, work, and effort. Also we must thank our chaperones; Mr. Maguire, Father Otterson, and all the Sisters.

Adios!!

C.C.C.J. REPORT

The Canadian Council of Christians and Jews sponsored a high school seminar on Saturday, October 23. The purpose of the C.C.C.J. is to promote justice, unity, understanding, and cooperation for religious, racial and other discriminatory groups in society. The seminar had as its theme, intergroup prejudice, with more inflection on an element of prejudice in Canada, Edmonton, and right here in our own high schools.

Dr. Habart, a sociologist from the University of Alberta, made many interesting points on the subject of biculturalism in relation to Canada's plight for nationalism. He indicated most strongly in his lectures "unity without uniformity". That is to say "Can Canada become strong as a nation without losing the cultural heritage of its people?" Canada does not follow the United States in the "Melting pot" theory. We have biculturalism in Canada, therefore, this ideal is impractical. It seems with biculturalism we have discrimination and prejudice, which manifests itself today in French-Canada. The best solutions to the problem are: first- better instruction in our Canadian schools with regard to respecting and understanding other racial and religious groups in Canada. This instruction should be administered to both conflicting groups involved. Second, more exchange students and exchange should be made more frequently. Third, a single and more important a uniform national anthem. These symbols

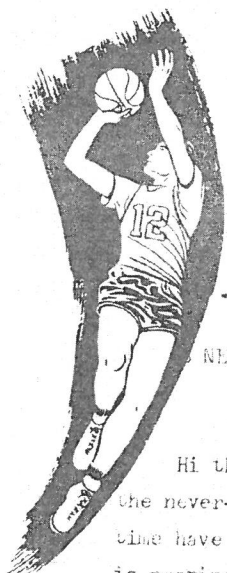
are vital for widespread acceptance of nationalism.

Another question which arose involving prejudice but prejudice in only a mild form was "who suffers discrimination in our high school". Prejudice is not present in the biological aspect. The kind of discrimination I speak about is the "your not my friend so beat it" type of prejudice. In other words there are "cliques" in Austin O'Brien. This prejudice, however moderate it may seem, is contagious and grows within you once you have contracted it. Cynicism, belligerence and the other extreme -snubbery are earmarks of these unfavorable groups. The "clique" may be labelled bad and degrading however elite it may seem to the outsider. Until these little societies are destroyed the phrase "fellow Obrienite" can never be used in the halls of A.O.B and our school spirit shall be lost.

In retrospect, the seminar was decidedly effective in achieving its goal. It brought out into the open, for all those present, the importance of stamping out prejudice and promoting brotherhood, not sympathy. Charity has taken a twisted meaning in modern society. We give to charitable organizations more out of pity than charity. We do not feel charitable toward under-privileged but rather we pity them. In conclusion then, basic prejudices will have to be overcome by universal love and appreciation of equal amounts from both disputing sides.

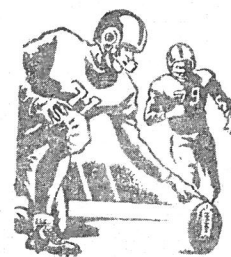
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SPORTS PAGE



NEWS

Congratulations to Gordon Harris, Bernie Senikuk, Gordon Larson and Roland Dvorak for their contribution to St. Mary's victory.



Editor - Wayne Cissell

Hi there sports enthusiasts! Well the never-ending grasping claws of time have stolen the weeks and now it is nearing the end of November. But time has been well spent by the basketball leagues, and up to now for the games played the score stands as such:

Major Teams

House Alpha wins over Gamma 7 to 6

House Delta wins over Beta 10 to 9

Minor Teams

Delta 8 wins Alpha 1, 16 to 10

Delta 7 wins Alpha 2, 12 to 6

Gamma 6 wins Beta 3, 12 to 9

Beta 4 wins Gamma 5, 6 to 4

Jokes or What?

A lawyer reading his clients last will and testament to a circle of expectant relatives "And so, being of sound mind, I spent every darn cent I had before I died."

Jack and Jill went up the hill, To fetch a pail of water; Knowing it was Accident Prevention week, They took a taxi home.

SPORTS REPORT - GIRLS

The girls have started their house-league volleyball games. The girls games are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays in the gym. Much interest has been directed toward this activity. The girls themselves are full of vim and vigor adding more excitement to the games.

The standings (present) of the Girls League so far are:

I. A. Teams

1. Delta - 2 points

2. Beta and Alpha - 1 point each

3. Gamma - 0 points.

II. B. Teams

1. Alpha and Delta- 2 points each

2. Gamma and Beta

The school teams are doing fairly well. The Juniors have won 5 games to date; the Seniors have won 3 games to date. Keep on winning girls!

The standing to date for the Soliciting for advertisers for our Year Book is as follows.

1. Alpha
2. Delta
3. Gamma
4. Beta

When all is finished we will see if these same positions will apply.

Keep scoring!

Penny Roadway

WE ASKED FOR IT!

"The world can ill afford his loss."

The tragic news of the assassination of President John Fitzgerald Kennedy caught the world off guard. Has anyone man made such impact on the world? I don't think so. We all felt we could count on him as one of our personal friends. We knew him as a politician, a writer, a war hero, a father, husband, and a man. As Prime Minister Pearson said:

"The world can ill afford his loss, and no country will feel that loss more than Canada. To us it is a heart-breaking, personal tragedy. He was young, a man of courage in peace and war. He fell in action...He met death on duty."

A great deal of credit must be given to the late President's wife, Jacqueline. We share her great loss.

Education? It's for whom....?

The way our teachers and parents, and Alfred E. Newman play it up, education is the most important thing there is. You "gotta eat, sleep and work with school on your mind." Can you imagine what it would be like if it was as bad as all that? I take you now to Fort Saskatchewan jail.....

Warden: "Look, 657924, ever since you became my right hand man, my roses have been wilting. Watsa matter, you?"

657924: "You know we don't have no guys here wit' a grade twelve education necessary for that job."

Warden: "Well, what about that guy, hummm, what's his name, mmmmmm,

GIRLS:

When we won Universal Suffrage we didn't know what we were in for.

At the bus stop hordes of boys battle their way through the bus door. After all the boys are in, the girls are allowed to enter. When the bell rings, the boys are out in a shake and the girls, because they are allowed to leave last, in two shakes. If any girl around our school dropped her hankie in front of a boy he'd probably step on it. What are we complaining about, we're being treated as an equal aren't we?

Of course, there are many places where "First come, first served" is the rule. Seriously, there are many boys that have acceptable manners but as for the others.....Well, isn't this what we fought for? Or is it?

Gee-bee

yes, number 472316? He used to do the work.

657924: "Yes, but we found out he was falsifying his high school diploma. He applied for a job with the Mafia, but was turned down because in his letter of application he used split infinitives."

Warden: "How about my car. It's got a flat to be fixed."

657924: "Like I said, we don't have anyone with a grade twelve education and it takes a technician to undo the bolts under the new by-laws. But it's a good thing too. Since we don't have any guys with university education, there can't be any jailbreaks under the new Criminal Code."