

A Statement of Policy

by Steve Scott

It seems appropriate that the WEBSTER ECHO make a statement of policy at this time for two reasons. First, there is a new sophomore class which knows nothing at all, or very little about the school newspaper. Second, there is an entire new staff managing the paper.

Basically, our policy will remain the same—i.e. to print, insofar as possible, all the news which is of interest and/or value to the students and faculty of Webster Groves High School.

In the past certain students have voiced complaints that some stories in the WEBSTER ECHO have no interest to the student body in general, but only to a small club or specialized group. However, it should be noted that small clubs and other small school organizations do have a right to a certain amount of news coverage. It will be our policy to see that school organizations get their fair share of news coverage.

The one major change in the paper this year will not be so much a change as an addition. As the enrollment of this school steadily grows larger, it becomes increasingly important that the opinions of individual students on subjects of school-wide interest become known to the student body in general. For this reason, the WEBSTER ECHO will conduct from time to time a "student-opinion" poll, presenting individuals' opinions and giving an overall view of the opinions expressed.

G. W. Brown Assumes Superintendency

The new owner of the house at 412 Sherwood Drive in Webster Groves is by name a Brown, by title a Doctor, and by profession a Superintendent of Webster Groves Schools. In other words a gentleman and a scholar. Dr. Brown comes to Webster most recently from Riverside, Illinois, where he was superintendent of schools since 1955.

Dr. Brown was born August 15, 1917, in Green River, Utah. His father was a Presbyterian minister, and as was the custom at that time the family was transferred to a new home every four or five years.

After living in Utah, Wyoming, and Tennessee, Dr. Brown's family resided in Danville, Illinois, for five years. Here he attended high school. After high school he attended Missouri Valley College in Marshall for two years. As a junior, Dr. Brown transferred to Maryville College, where he received his B.A. degree in Education. With a Bachelor's degree in Education many men feel qualified to pursue any teaching or administrative job, but Dr. Brown is not like many men. He went on to receive his Masters degree in Education from the University of Buffalo, New York, his Ph. D. from the

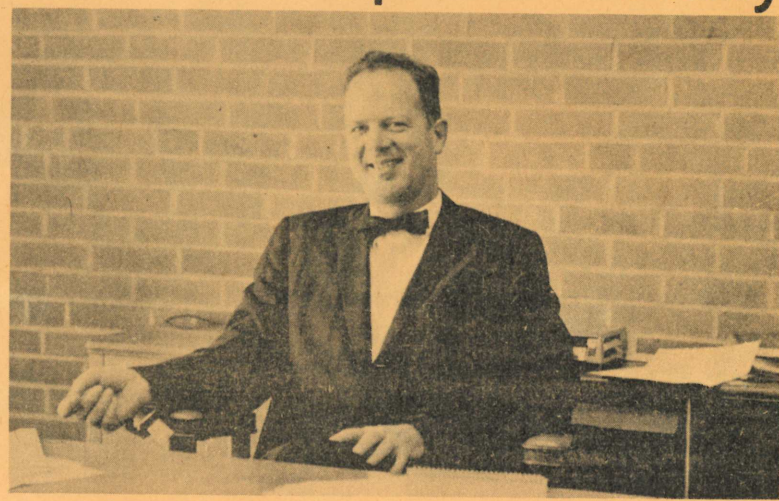


Photo by Hanchett

Dr. George W. Brown smiles as he takes over the duties of superintendent of schools.

University of Chicago, and did graduate work at Columbia and Harvard.

His first teaching job was as an English teacher in Buffalo, New York. From Buffalo Dr. Brown held principalships in western New York state; in Gary, Indiana; and Riverside, Illinois.

As an old acquaintance of Dr. Schooling, and due to Webster's high scholastic rating, Dr. Brown had already learned something about our school system. Dr. Brown has no immediate plans for Webster schools, but does hope to "assist the community in keeping Webster an outstanding school system."

Dr., and Mrs. Brown, whom he met at Maryville College, celebrated their silver wedding anniversary September 1. The eldest of their three children, received his Ph. D. in mathematics from the University of California this spring. The older of Dr. and Mrs. Brown's two daughters was married this August, and will teach French in Oakland, California. The youngest of the Brown clan will be a junior at Northwestern University this fall.

Although very little time is left for leisure, Dr. Brown enjoys an occasional game of golf, although he admits that he sees more of the rough than he sees of the fairways.

In conclusion, the new superintendent of schools said that he felt it a privilege to succeed Dr. Schooling, adding, "He is one of the outstanding men in American education today."

Past Drama Coach Plays Munny Opera

Mr. Eugene R. Wood, the first drama coach at WGHS, was well-liked by the kids. They nicknamed him Woody, rehearsed plays after hours with him, painted scenery and memorized lines under his direction.

Doc, the druggist in "West Side Story", is also popular with a younger generation. His store is the hangout for the gang, and he has an ear for their problems. Woody, acting the part of Doc, is true to character.

When he joined the school's faculty in 1929, the auditorium was inadequate. So Woody sparked the idea for a Little Theatre. He supervised the construction, which followed his own plans. When the building was dedicated, and the first Little Theatre group west of the Mississippi had its premier, the Post-Dispatch had a two page spread, Life magazine gave Woody and his company nationwide coverage, and Theatre Arts published professional recognition.

Woody left Webster Groves for the East: first teaching at East Orange, New Jersey, followed by Army and Red Cross work, then simultaneously a drama professorship at Ithaca College, roles on Broadway and studies at acting school in New York. "I decided I was dividing myself into too many pieces," he said about his frantic schedule. "I enjoyed teaching while I was doing it, but I like to act too much."

The name Eugene Wood has appeared in the credits of TV shows: "Love of Life", "Omnibus" and "Studio One". On Broadway and on the road Mr. Wood has been in successful plays such as "The Lark" which starred Julie Harris, "Look Homeward Angel", a Pulitzer Prize winner and "Subways Are for Sleeping".

Despite the long hours and the rugged touring, Mr. Wood has no plans for retirement. "There's no retirement age," he says of the acting profession, "unless you can't read your lines or you have to be led off stage." He smiled mischievously as he mused, "I think I'll be wobbling around for some time yet."



by Carolyn Vesper

With the beginning of school, each of us leaves something behind, and this year is no different. Our leftover is Elephant Jokes, and after this, they shall no longer be repeated. Alas! They are a product of a bygone era.

Sneaker type:

Why does an elephant wear green sneakers? So you won't notice him as he gallops across the pool table. (Alternate answer: so you can't see him running through the grass - for the more bourgeois jokester.)

Why do elephants have wrinkled toes? From wearing their green tennis shoes too tight.

Flat feet, etc:

Why do ducks have webbed feet? For stamping out forest fires. Why do elephants have flat feet? From stamping out flaming ducks.

(Alternate answer to Riddle of Flat-footed Elephants: From jumping out of trees.)

Miscellaneous-type:

How can you tell when an elephant has been in your refrigerator? By the footprints in the jello.

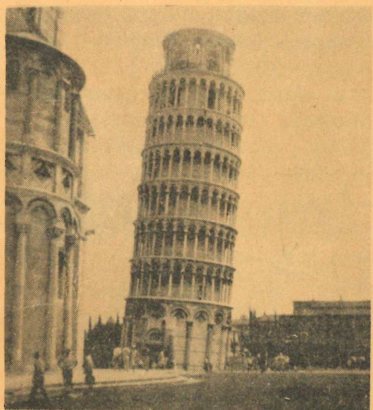
How can you tell an elephant from a hummingbird? One has feathers.

How do you carve an elephant? You get a stone and chip off everything that doesn't look like an elephant.

How can you tell when you've carried an elephant around in a suitcase? By the messy peanut shells all over your shirts.

Okay, folks, now we've all heard these. If you can find a clean, original, witty Elephant Joke -- we would appreciate it if you just kept it to yourself and savored its hilarity in private. How's that for unselfishness?

Webster Student Travels in Europe



Upper left is Diane Munroe on her summer European tour. Other pictures are (upper right) Rialto Bridge, (lower left) the Leaning Tower of Pisa, and (lower right) the Eiffel Tower.

"I don't care what anybody says," Diane Munroe stated flatly, "the canals in Venice don't smell! They're romantic." The 17-year old senior reminisced about her 31-day trip with Sita Student Tour. "The gondolas were exciting and expensive--three dollars an hour. But they were worth it."

During the jet flight from New York to London and back, the passengers enjoyed current movies. "On the way over we saw 'Bye, Bye Birdie,'" she said, "but coming back most of us slept through all of 'Call Me Bwana.'"

"We were in London when Queen Frederica and King Paul of Greece came, and there were all sorts of riots." The royal couple, accompanied by Queen Elizabeth and Prince Phillip, rode through the famous Trafalgar Square-- "in real carriages!" Diane exclaimed. The group visited eleven countries, including England, France, Germany, Holland, Belgium, Italy, Austria, Switzerland, Luxembourg, Monaco, and San Marino. "Just about all the last two do is issue postage stamps," Diane laughed.

"We travelled by bus and all through the Alps I kept thinking we would run off a cliff. We didn't, though." The beautiful scenery in Austria (while she wasn't worrying about cliffs) surprised her. "It was just like in Heidi with goatherds all over the hills."

While in France, the group descended on the Riviera at Nice. "The water was heavenly! The only bad thing about it was the big rocks we had to walk over. Some of the group went to Cannes, where the beach was sandy, but most of us stayed at Nice, rocks notwithstanding."

"One of the best things of the trip was getting mail in strange cities," Diane remembered. "We would bring down the most interesting letters to dinner and pass them around." Homesickness was almost unheard of -- "but it was nice to get something from home."

The friendliness of the Europeans impressed Diane. "They did almost everything to make us comfortable. I left there with only one feeling--to go back as soon as possible."

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