



Class Prophecy

My, how time flies! It is already nineteen hundred and seventy-four. Almost twenty years have passed since the Class of 1954 donned their caps and gowns, and received their diplomas on the stage of Mariemont High School.

Having purchased a new auto run by atomic power, I set out a year ago to locate each of the seventy-three seniors of nineteen fifty-four. I traveled far and wide to find them. While quite a few remained around the United States, several took their vocations over the blue into foreign countries.

First I will tell about those who remained around good old Cincinnati. I saw in the paper the other day that Barbara Bechtel and Bob Stuessi, nationally acclaimed stunt artists, parachuted off the Carew Tower. Charles Hodges and Phyllis Neckel, photographing scenic views of the Fountain, recorded them in the act.

Fritz Wagner and Gil West are now co-owners of the Mariemont Laundry. The other day I met Louella Parsons (I mean Betty Jo Koenig) who told me that Phyllis Riedeman had just received the lead in a new Broadway production. I believe she said that Dave Martin had the male lead in the same play. Ann McCormack is recording for Capitol. Mike Nickles is her agent. Wirt Whittaker and Don Romhilt also vied for this position, but Wirt is now president of the Fifth-Third Bank, and Don plays tournament bridge with Joanne Coward.

Shirley McAfee is now head cashier at Alber's Supermarket. Lynn Howard recently received a twenty-year merit saleslady medal from Mabley's. Sue Redway is a local auctioneer. She could always sell anything to anybody.

Jerry Schlotterbeck's band, featuring Georgia Spengler with her saxophone, is now playing at Castle Farm. Karl Roller is head-waiter at the Farm.

Jim Rasor has established his own dance studio here in town. Sandra Strippy and Jim Jones model clothes at Gidding's and Burkhardt's respectively. Nancy Andrews is the first female teacher at Purcell. Betty Ann Merydith and Suzie Gilbert made their debuts as lady wrestlers at the Parkway Arena this summer.

Flash! Joy Crouch just won the Women's World Tennis Championship. Jim Cooley now plays for a pro football team. John Mallen is an athlete, I think he said. He just spent the last five days trying to break the world's push-up record. Louis Margolen spends most of his time fishing in the Little Miami.

Barb Billington heads the Girl Scouts of America. Fred Cooperider is a hat blocker for Stetson's. Arlene Radke is librarian at the Congressional Library. Barb Verdon has two sets of quadruplets. E. B. Leedy holds the mayor's office in Indianapolis.