

WHAT BUILDINGS CAN TELL!

"Not to be bragging, I must admit I am a beautiful building, quite large, surrounded by lawns and shrubbery. My wings have spread, my skylights draw the sun, my . . . oh my, I am impressive! But 'twas not always thus. I shall always remember when the class of '56 graduated; it was twenty years ago, and what a year!

With all the hammering and pounding I thought I would fall to the ground. My new rooms were but steel skeletons, and my roof just balanced planks. Here I am now, but where are they, the victims of my encounter? We buildings have rare intelligence not known by all. We retain the words spoken within our walls, and pass them on. And this is what I've heard:

Those F.T.A.'s have really come a long way since '56. Barb Call is frantically chasing kindergartners down the slide, while Winnie Toon and Carol Teeter are ducking erasers here at dear, old M.H.S. Mary Jo Duncan is faithfully teaching little Injuns in a mission school, and Marilyn Stormer is Dean of Women at Swellsley College in the Mid-West. The southern girls of Memphis are receiving voice lessons from Sue Ferguson. The Can-Can of Paris has a new twist with Pat Holt as a dancing instructor. Larry Smith is continuing to debate, but he's gone professional. Lina Uvaas has given up teaching for a career in foreign espionage.

The class of '56 has established a record in sports. Both Delores Moermond and Peggy Shannon have reared basketball teams. All these children try their nerves, so the mammas call on Mary Ann Simmons who is head of "Rock-A-Bye Baby Sitting Service." Tom Roehrich is coaching a girls' football team at Vassar. Bobo Huber lectures on football tactics wherever and whenever anyone will listen. Ramsey Johnson was seen racing Banister around the Square, and David Tucker woke up just in time to furnish the music. Churchill Downs saw Ruth Ann Nash's horse winning the Kentucky Derby. I sure wish Nancy Maescher would make that "hole-in-one."

A lab building told me about Fred Juergens, the "craziest" nuclear physicist. He works with David Miller who is trying to devise a new formula on how to go fishing. In a recent popularity poll Dick Martina was voted "Most Flirtatious Pharmacist of the Year." The Federated Union of Optometrists has voted Ruthie Hughes, "Miss Eyes." Jean Mehnert is "Sweetheart Nurse of the Year."

Of course there are those of our number who must always go to extremes. I was sure of this fact when I heard that Pat Huff was caught stealing a pony's "tale," and that Ruth Gessner was a nationally known counselor for the Society of Overweight Women. Judy Elias is replacing the "laughing lady" at Coney Island's Mirror Maze. Jerry Sundahl has just invented a most convenient and useful "moondial." Bucky Rowland demonstrates reducing exercises on television. On the foreign scene Judy Schuler and Sue Farley are on the spot

artists for an African safari.

Some ultra-modern homes told me of their prosperous inhabitants. It seems that Martha Bredwell is enjoying herself as the wife of an oil tycoon. He sells his oil to Nancy McEwan and Darlene Gehring, joint owners of the Shell Corporation. Bill Pfeiffer manufactures digestible crayons and paste. An atomic powered passenger car was invented by Dale Perkins, and is being sold by Judy Whiteford, Ford dealer on Mars. Fred Johns owns a chain of dime stores. The Construction Firm of Applegate, Dean, and Fee has begun planning the world's largest fish bowl. Homes for the occupants will be designed by Norma Everitt.

In every magazine I see the "Ipana Smile" modeled by Bill Neckel. Don't let those beautiful teeth fool you; his plates were created by Janet Dewire, D.D.S. Carla Schuettler is an airline stewardess—ulterior motive still men. Barbara Kane is quite happy painting the red stripes on candy canes. The town has been completely sewn up by Janet Day. George Schwein has finally learned the fine art of being a gentleman of leisure.

A Broadway theatre told me of the brilliant performance of Jean Prachar in a new musical extravaganza which was reviewed recently by the noted literary critic, Lynn Danby. Ann Clemons is a jazz connoisseur on WCIN, and Levanda Heller is her featured pianist. A guest on the program was Gail Harmon, the official piano tuner for Liberace. Television's comedy "Hall of Fame" has added the names of Banfill and Poynter—second only to Martin and Lewis. Betty Kidd emcees a novel show entitled "Future Contortionists of America." Carol and Nancy Doll recently published a book entitled *I Led a Double Life*, and Carol Jo Henry has just completed her newest novel, *I was a Communist for the S.P.C.A.*

They say Betty Brown is the fashion co-ordinator at Carole Dinkel and Margy Hostetter's exclusive "Tall Girls' Shop." Kay Gilman owns and runs a world-wide boys' camp at which Ardene Coning is the head counselor. With their minds still on food—Becky Walthall is the official cookie taster at Strietmann's, Tom Nugent owns the "Sprucewood," and Chile Mullenix runs the Madisonplace Chile Parlor. Alberta Appel is the chief squeezer at a cider press.

As I said before buildings are quite intelligent, and the following news came to me with no surprise. Of course I knew that Dick Meibers would still be mooching, and like all roots, Bob would still be grasping. Fred Winkler, naturally, is still winking. Tom Gray is still heading west through Fairfax. Betty Lou, without a doubt, is "Wilder" than ever; and Dorothy Mount is ever mounting to higher achievements. My friends, all buildings, have told me these things. From now on may I suggest that you watch what you say, for I know what buildings could tell."

N. E. & P. S.