

Grosse Pointe Victors

MAPLES 2ND IN TRIPLE MEET

Baldwin Tracksters Top East Detroit, Trail Grosse Pointe

TROWBRIDGE GAIL WINS FIRST PLACE IN ORATORY

Baldwin Students Win Victories In Forensics

him the Maple high point man with 6 counters.

Clayton Bresford won the high jump for Baldwin's first place, as well as taking third in the 880-yard run.

The season's first dual meet, at Mt. Clemens, has been changed from Friday until this afternoon.

The summary of last week's triangular meet follows:

120-yard high hurdles—Trimble (G.P.), first; Lynch (B.), second; Boesen (G.P.), third. Time: 18.7.

100-yard dash—Ritchie (G.P.), first; Mason (G.P.), second; Guckelberg (B.), third; Blakey (B.), fourth. Time: 11.4.

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Mile run—Broun (G.P.), first; Owens (B.), second; Wagner (E.D.), third. Time: 13:30.

D.), third; H. Bresford, (B.), fourth. Time: 4:53.

Shot put—Ghesquia (G.P.), first; Springer (G.P.), second; Denton (B.), third; Forester (B.), fourth. Distance: 36' 11".

440-yard dash—Rein (G.P.), first; Zeh (G.P.), second; Hunt (B.), third; Day (E.D.), fourth. Time: 55.5.

220-yard low hurdles—Trimble (G.P.), first; Kamischke (G.P.), second; Canever (B.), third; Harris (B.), fourth. Time: 2:08.

880-yard run—Wernert (G.P.), first; Granger (G.P.), second; C. Bresford (B.), third; Wright (B.), fourth. Time: 2:48.

220-yard dash—Mason (G.P.), first; Kamischke (G.P.), second; Donaldson (B.), third; Stewart (B.), fourth. Time: 24.5.

Pole vault—Lynch (B.), first; Steffe (B.); and Dufield (G.P.), second; Hanneman (G.P.), fourth. Height: 9' 4".

Broad jump—Wagner (E.D.), first; Dixon (E.D.), second; Dufield (G.P.), third; Stewart (B.), fourth. Distance: 19' 7/8".

High jumps—Bresford (B.), first; Canever (B.), Marsh (G.P.), and Harms (G.P.), second. Height: 5' 6".

Relay—Grosse Pointe, first Birmingham, second; East Detroit, third. Time: 1:30.5.

Place High In Annual South-eastern Association Contests

Trowbridge Gail, Baldwin High School senior, was awarded first place in oratory in the annual Southeastern Forensic Association contests at Ferndale Friday.

Bliss Jane Asch, a student in the 9A grade at Baldwin, won second place in the declamation contest. Both students had previously won first places in their respective divisions in the county contests at Mt. Clemens on April 15.

Some of the strongest high school forensic competition in the state is represented in the Southeastern Association, which is taking part in Friday's contest were Birmingham, Wyandotte, River Rouge, Royal Oak, Ferndale, Pontiac and Fort Huron.

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Coaches Act As Judges

Gail, speaking on "Why Capital Punishment" won first place from John Ashman, Ferndale, who was awarded second honors. Miss Ash was defeated in the declamation part by Dan Blakey, Ferndale, in the declamatory division. She delivered "Free Citizenship."

Coaches of the competing schools acted as judges. H. Earle Corvont, Baldwin coach, was Birmingham's representative.

Gail's winning oration was as follows:

"The age-old topic of crime, in its different phases, which has been a problem of each successive generation to the end of the ages. Adam on down to the present day, has been covered by thousands in pamphlets and speeches. Yet crime is still prevalent throughout the civilized world and it will be for a long time to come."

Reformation Needed

"There always have been criminals and there most likely always will be. Crime cannot wholly be eradicated. Of course we can regulate or minimize it but until we have rejuvenated the social order can we hope to do away with crime. Crime is a disease of society. We are indirectly responsible for the criminal being what he is because society as a whole has created conditions which breed criminals.

"One of the steps then in the solution of the problem would be to work with the criminal and not against him, to try to reform him to educate and develop him socially. This we fail to do when we inflict capital punishment, because the murderer is put permanently out of the way by the simple expedient of death and the chances for any reformation go when he goes.

"It is my purpose in this speech to point out a few of the facts about the death penalty so that you can more plainly see its futility. I shall discuss three reasons why we should abolish it nationally. First, because it is uncertain and therefore not a deterrent. Second, because innocent people suffer, and, third, because it is brutalizing.

Few Murderers Executed

"In discussing the first let me point out that no punishment can be an effective deterrent that is uncertain. It is the certainty and not the severity of the sentence that is feared.

"I take the former Chief Justice William H. Taft as the authority for the statement that only one out of every 37 murderers is executed. The hardened criminals realize that if he does get caught he has 36 chances to one of escaping the death sentence.

"Most murderers of this type are willing to take a chance any way. The death penalty holds no terror for them. The other kind of murderer who kills in the heat of the moment or without premeditation is not deterred either. He thinks of nothing but his desire to kill. The majority of all murderers fall in this class.

Why Not Public Executions?

"Ladies and gentlemen, why do we practice the death penalty in public places if it is a deterrent? If its object is to be an example to the public, why don't we haul out the old death machine and use them, why don't we draw and quarter our murderers or flay them alive as formerly?

"That would be better than the way we do it now. Why do we haul them privately in little dark rooms and try so hard to keep the public out? If the death penalty is a deterrent why were there so many more crimes per capita of all sorts, other than murder, while the death penalty for them existed, than after it was repealed?"

"If the fear of death is a deterrent why do men openly commit murder in prison where there is no prospect of escape and chances of detection are thousands to one?"

"If capital punishment is a deterrent why was the homicidal rate twice as high in the capital punishment states, 26 in all, from 1919 to 1928, as in those which had abolished it? If it is a deterrent why did the execution of the notorious Kemmler a few years ago at Auburn Prison bring on 24 murders in New York, 10 in New Jersey, and 10 in Pittsburg all within 30 days.

Recent Suffer

"Several years ago, a Boston schoolboy won a prize for an essay in which he praised the electric chair as a punishment for murderers. His essay, beyond a doubt,

the heart is beating faintly and that there is a slight twitching of the lips.

"The current is turned on again. Again the body lurches forward and the face bulges as if it would burst, and every muscle is stretched taut. A long while the mystic fluid burns its way through blood and brain; for this time the man must be irrevocably killed. Then once more the current dies away, and the law has taken a life for a life, and society is revenged."

"This is not a fictitious case, but was actually witnessed, and proved by Wall Durant. How can society hold up its head in face of such a degrading practice?"

"I pray Almighty God to cause this disgraceful sin to pass from our land and to cleanse our land from blood."

VARSITY CLUB DANCE TO BE HELD MAY 13

The annual spring dance of the Baldwin High School Varsity Club will be held in the Community House Friday evening, May 13. It was announced yesterday. Proceeds will be used for the George Johnson Memorial Trophy.

Dancing will be held from 9 P. M. to midnight, with music and novelty skits by Max Gail and his orchestra, well known in and around Ann Arbor and Detroit. Tickets are now on sale by members of the club.

9A'S WIN BASEBALL TITLE AT BARNUM

The 9A class team at Barnum School won the interclass baseball championship Monday by defeating the 8A team, 22 to 11.

At the end of the regular series both teams had lost one game Monday's play-off resulted in an easy victory for the 9A's.

The batteries were: 8A's—Scott, Teeple, Hoodnagel, Harney and Clark; 9A's—Bell and Beier.

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Plan 2nd Exhibit At Barnum School

Plans are now under way for the second annual Barnum School exhibit, which will be held on the evening of May 18.

Miss Miriam Brown and Ernest Engel, physical education directors in the school, have made elaborate plans for a gymnasium exhibit, planning for each class to participate in an Olympic exhibition to last for nearly an hour.

The program includes exhibitions on the parallel bars, horizontal bars, flying rings, horse, ropes and tumbling mats.

Each class also will give a folk dance representing a country entered in the National Olympics.

—Photos by Arnold Studios Trowbridge Gail

contained all the stock arguments about the criminals' fear of that kind of punishment.

"The other day this same school-boy, now grown to a youth of 20, was electrocuted in the Massachusetts State Prison for the murder of a policeman. How much effect did the death penalty have in that case? No, ladies and gentlemen, I'm afraid capital punishment fails, and fails badly, to be an effective deterrent."

"Let me show you how innocent persons suffer. William Heilwagner was hanged at Rock Island, Ill., for the murder of his daughter-in-law. He has been fairly tried and well defended. The judge was humane, upright, careful. He had every delay, every opportunity, every presumption in his favor."

"The trial lasted many days. The evidence was narrowly searched. Appeal to a higher court showed that there was nothing in the proceedings. He was hanged in the jail-yard before a group, mostly newspapermen, as he was led out on the scaffold he looked down at the crowd and said steadily, 'I am innocent. I am innocent of this crime.'"

Writes Confession

"No one believed him, yet he told the truth. Ten years later a wretched man sat in a lodging house at Quincy, Ill., and wrote a confession of the crime for which William Heilwagner died. He then committed suicide. Did that bring the executed man back to life? Did that correct the terrible injustice done?"

"You may say that this is but one case, but Warden Lawes of Sing Sing recently listed 45 cases of convictions for murder in the first degree in which the accused were saved from execution by last minute confessions or newly discovered evidence.

"Forty-five cases, think of it! When Thomas Mott Osborne was warden of Sing Sing he found that of the 39 men executed during those two years, four were absolutely innocent and probably more. In New York State, eight women have been executed and one of them was innocent."

"About 40 years ago a man named Fitzpatrick was hanged at Sanisich, Mich., convicted of the murder of a girl. Two years later a man named Sellers confessed on his deathbed that he was the murderer. Twenty-three years ago Jesse Lucas of Mt. Carmel, Ill., was sentenced to the penitentiary for slaying a neighbor.

"Recently George Pond, another neighbor, made a death-bed statement that he was the slayer. Luckily, the state hadn't forfeited Lucas' life in the name of justice and he was soon freed."

Many Other Cases

"It is possible to go on naming numerous cases of innocent persons paying with their lives. Should we as Christian-minded people living in a civilized, enlightened age tolerate or stand for such a thing?"

"Let us see how capital punishment is brutalizing. Imagine that you are my guests and we are at Sing Sing. An execution is scheduled there today. Seats are provided for us and for certain important persons, so that we may witness the execution and ease the climax of civilization. It is a little ashamed of the motive that have brought us here, we sit for the most part in silence, looking at the chair. The light is on the gallows, and the executioner is visible. It is a clumsy mechanism, this final chapter of so many admirable chapters of the human race. The prisoner hardly walks in; he is lifted along by strong men on either arm. The strap him down, body and head and limbs, and adjust the wires. The attendants stare carefully at the suddenly the imprisoned body plunges forward as if catapulted into the air; all its muscles are strained to the utmost, and every drop of agitated blood rushes to strengthen them; surely those bonds will snap, and the man whom we are killing ruthlessly, will leap upon us and slay us all."

"Then the noise of the current is stilled, the body relaxes, the blue swollen face falls loosely into a horrible repose. A doctor bends over him and reports that

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