

## U. Merion School District Offers Second Salk Shots

Upper Merion School District will offer second Salk vaccine shots on Wednesday, Jan. 23, to the hundreds of students of the township who received their first inoculations on Dec. 19, as well as third shots to those who need it.

One team, headed by Dr. Robert D. May, will start out in the high school at 8:15 A. M. on Jan. 23, to administer 130 second shots here. In the Salk program, the second shot in the series is given about a month after the first, and a third shot about seven months later. Some 10 students in the high school happened to be ready for their third shot this month and wished to request the service.

In the Gulph Road elementary school, another team will start about 9 A. M., with second inoculations for 103, including Gulph students as well as those from Swedeland, Gulph Christian Church kindergarten and seventh grade. About 10 here, also, will be getting a third and final shot due at this time.

In Candlebrook School that same afternoon, a team will take care of a total of 57 second inoculations for children of this school as well as Port Kennedy, Candlebrook Church kindergarten and Mother of Divine Providence children. At Sacred Heart Parochial School in Swedesburg next morning, Jan. 24, a total of 88 will get second and third shots.

The same group of doctors, registered nurses, volunteer mothers and Future Nurses Club girls of the high school will aid in the program as carried out the operation in December. Heading up the several teams will be Doctors Robert D. May, Richard B. Greenberg, Richard R. Loughlin and Harold Furman, while school nurses will be aided by volunteer R.N.'s Mrs. Francis J. Gillen, Sr., Mrs. George Chambers, Mrs. Charles F. McCracken, Mrs. Clarence F. Murray and Mrs. John W. Bond. Volunteer mothers will be Mrs. Frederick C. Babb, Mrs. Gerald Capp, Mrs. Frank M. Hallman, Mrs. Woodson Knight, Mrs. H. Walker Peters and Mrs. Frederick J. Whalen.

## MISS M'CRACKEN IN TOURNAMENT

Miss Eileen McCracken, editor of the Upper Merion High School newspaper, "Grapevine," participated in the Temple Press Tournament held at Temple University.

It marked the first time that any Upper Merion student has entered the tournament which is intended to stimulate interest in journalism among the high school students.

Miss McCracken entered in competition with students of other high schools, her particular field of competition being page makeup.

In the future Upper Merion hopes to send an entire team into all fields, editorial writing, sports, proof-reading, copyreading, head writing, feature writing and publicity.

With the recent establishment of a journalism class in Upper Merion the emphasis is placed on technical "know how."

1/2/57

---

## School Board Expects State Approval Soon for 2 Schools

State approval of much needed school buildings may be forthcoming shortly according to a report of Dr. Warren H. Cocklin concerning his recent visit to Harrisburg, at last night's meeting of the Upper Merion School Board.

Dr. Cocklin, School Superintendent, told the Board he was accompanied to Harrisburg by High School Principal Robert R. Strine and Darwin S. Wolcott and was discouraged to learn at the outset of the trip to the State Department of Education that no action has been taken. The report turned in by the State Survey Team after its October 16, 1956, visit in Upper Merion was "deemed incomplete." Harrisburg officials were reportedly embarrassed to find that Upper Merion was not notified earlier of inadequacies in the team's report. The information omissions were supplied on the spot by Dr. Cocklin who expects to be called back to Harrisburg "in a week or two" to help State authorities to expedite approval of room schedules for two new elementary school buildings at Belmont Terrace and Croton Road sites and the reconversion of the present Gulph Road Elementary School into a high school.

Vice President George C. Whittam presided at last night's meeting replacing president Fred Baehr who was absent due to ill-

### Class Trip Approved

The Board heard and approved a request by fifth year teacher Mrs. Henry Greiner concerning a week-long expedition for her class to a nearby camp site having been asked for a complete schedule of activities which was supplied in minute detail by the teacher together with 100 per cent. written approval from the parents of all her students. The Board members were satisfied that Mrs. Greiner had considered possible hazards of such an experimental venture and that her educational program was satisfactory. Parents who offered to chaperone the group were named and such factors as coverage by school insurance and the presence of a school nurse plus cooperation of nearby hospitals and fire company facilities were checked out by the

ernment Day last Jan. 21, were present accompanied by sponsoring teacher Frank Yutz. The students have been encouraged to extend their study of the Board and their interest in its activities beyond the one-day appointment. Asked by Whittam to comment at the meetings, a spokesman for the group hoped the Cub Scouts would be granted approval of their request for use of school facilities on Sundays, and expressed interests in the procedure to be used regarding the tetanus shots for athletes.

Approximately 25 interested residents attended.

ties were checked out by the Board. The week-long experiment is supposed to take place sometime in May.

#### Teacher Resigns

J. Arthur Buehler, Chairman of the Personnel Committee noted a resignation was received from Swedeland kindergarten teacher, Mrs. Eleanor Bernon, reluctantly resigning her post on March 1 to devote more time to her family. On a recommendation to Dr. Cocklin she is to be replaced by a temporary employe, Mrs. Emily Perkins, of Wayne, at a salary of \$4,000.

A clerk was authorized to help out in the high school office of Principal Strine. Applications will be viewed and a clerk hired in a short time.

A discussion of the advisability of breaking with school policy to permit Cub Scout Pack 319 to meet one Sunday afternoon a month in the Candlebrook School resulting in a motion made by H. Walker Peters was deadlocked on a vote of three in favor and three opposed. The matter is to be referred to the Building and Grounds Committee for consideration as the three objecting members admitted that opening a school building for Sunday gatherings should be studied in view of the valid reason advanced by the Cubs represented by Pack Committee Chairman A. Dean Swift, Jr.

Approval was given on a recommendation by the school's Athletic Medical Department that "inasmuch as competitive sports are of such a nature as to result in frequent unavoidable serious accidents, we are asking the Board to approve local regulations that would require a family physician-signed certificate from each student who expects to go out for sports stating he has had a tetanus shot or a tetanus booster within the last two-year period. "The students are to understand they cannot practice until they have this certificate."

This regulation will insure athletes of protection against tetanus, or lockjaw, that sometimes occurs after certain types of injuries. The recommendation was prompted, according to Dr. Cocklin, by the presence of a case of lockjaw affecting an Upper Merion student resulting from an injury he suffered at his own home recently. The regulation is to go into effect just before practice and play of Spring sports in Upper Merion.

Asked for a report on the activities of the newly formed committee to investigate secondary education in the school system, Chairman Peters noted the group held its organizational meeting on Feb. 4 and would meet again in open session on Sunday, Feb. 17 at 7 P. M.

Five students, of seven, elected by classmates to serve as "School Board Members" on Student Gov-

# Dr. W. H. Cocklin to Retire As U. Merion Superintendent

Widely Known Educator, Head of Township's Schools  
for Last 19 Years, Notifies Board of  
Resignation Effective June 30

Retirement of a well known educator, Dr. Warren H. Cocklin, as superintendent of Upper Merion Public Schools, is to be effective next June 10, it was disclosed today.

In charge of the fast-growing township district for the last 19 years, Dr. Cocklin is retiring because of health reasons.

His retirement is permissible as result of length of service—a required 35 years in the public school district of Pennsylvania. One also may retire after he has reached 65 years of age, according to the Pennsylvania State School Law.

It has been learned copies of the resignation have been sent to each member of the Upper Merion schoolboard, stating the resignation is effective June 30, 1957.

This is to be read at the next monthly meeting of the schoolboard, Monday night, March 11, in the Gulph elementary school building.

## Enrollment Doubled

Dr. Cocklin, who resides on Montgomery Ave. in the township, has been a leader in the rapid progress of the public school district there. When he assumed the post 19 years ago, the school enrollment was upwards of 1,000. Since that time it has doubled to the present enrollment of approximately 2,000.

Through the years of growth, many difficulties were capably handled by Dr. Cocklin as emergency schedules had to be arranged.

Despite these responsibilities, the Upper Merion educator successfully directed progress in curriculum and building needs.

Dr. Cocklin was with the Lower Merion school district for 13 years before coming to Upper Merion. He held the office of vice principal in the Lower Merion High School at the time.

He attended Shippensburg State Teachers College and graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree at Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster. His Master's degree and Doctor of Education degree were received at the University of

## Educator Retires



DR. WARREN H. COCKLIN

Pennsylvania.

In receiving his Doctor's degree, he was commended for his thesis on "An Ungraded Primary School" by Dr. Ralph C. Preston, associate professor of Education at Penn. Dr. Preston said "Mr. Cocklin has prepared one of the most significant doctoral dissertations in the field of elementary education, if not in the field of education in general to be produced at the University of Pennsylvania since I have been here. We regard him as one of the really outstanding superintendents of the Philadelphia area and as a chairman of his doctoral committee."

Another well known school educator, C. C. Smith, of Bridgeport, is eligible to retire for length of service. The Bridgeport superintendent of schools, who now resides in Jeffersonville, has not disclosed any retirement plans as yet.

## Board to Make Settlement On Land for Belmont School

The Upper Merion Township School Board, at a meeting held in the Gulph Elementary School last night, gave permission to solicitor Anthony L. Differ to proceed with negotiations for the purchase of more than eight acres of land for the Belmont School site, an issue which has been under discussion for nearly six months.

The land, a site for one of two new schools, will be purchased by the Board for \$29,848 requiring a \$3,000 down payment. Final settlement on the property is to be made Mar. 26 with the legal and equitable owners Richard and Dorothy Schwoebel and Harry and Goldie P. Sall.

Conditions included in the purchase require the Schwoebel's to remove the nursery stock located on the land by April 26; the School District is to have a temporary right-of-way through the property, and Sall's are to install roads in the nearby subdivision within two years.

The issue was reaching the point where the Board may have been forced to carry through on condemnation proceedings since an amicable settlement couldn't be made.

Also approved was the motion to purchase an additional one acre of ground 400 feet wide to the North of the Belmont school site owned by Thomas E. and Beatrice Sheppard. Cost of the additional land is reported at \$3,000 with the sellers to pay all of the transfer tax.

Both issues were put before the Board by Solicitor Differ who spent many weeks on the negotiations.

Another major issue brought before the Board was the letter of resignation submitted by Dr. Warren H. Cocklin, Superintendent of Schools. In the letter, Dr. Cocklin stated his resignation was forthcoming because of health reasons. The resignation was regretfully accepted by the members, but all joined with President Fred Baehr who told Dr. Cocklin that "both as a Board member and a personal friend, his presence and unlimited work in the school district would be missed beyond words." Immediately after acceptance

of the resignation the Board adopted a motion that Dr. Cocklin's salary be increased to \$15,250 retroactive to the beginning of the school year. This is a \$4,000 increase and was voted through unanimously. The raise was given with the intention that Dr. Cocklin will be enabled to retire at an income of at least \$100 a week.

The Board unanimously adopted a motion to send a letter to Harrisburg officials approving the room schedules for both the Belmont Terrace and Croton Road schools which were received by Dr. Cocklin on a trip to State officials.

The room schedules allow less square footage for State reimbursement than was permitted at Candlebrook. However, this does not limit Upper Merion, regarding the size of the rooms. Dr. Cocklin's report on the room schedule for the high school is to be delayed until the next meeting.

Another resolution adopted by the Board was in reference to tax collection read by Lester J. Rinehart. The resolution reads: "that the compensation of the tax collector for the School District of Upper Merion Township, effective Jan. 1, 1958, shall be fixed as follows; A. on the collection of all school district taxes up to the amount of \$960,000 in each fiscal year, a commission of 1 per cent. of the amount so collected; B. on the collection of all school district taxes in excess of the amount of \$900,000 in each fiscal year, the commission of one half per cent. of such amounts collected; C. the school district shall pay its proportionate share of the cost of the collection bond; D. the school district shall pay its proportionate share of the cost of postage for tax billing; and E. the tax collector shall pay all other costs and expenses which he may incur in the collection of all taxes."

#### Approve Sunday Use

Approval was given for Cub Scout Pack 319 and other Cub Scout organizations to use the Candlebrook School on Sundays for a meeting place. The Board passed the motion that any organized group of 12 or more children would be allowed to use the school on Sundays for the purpose of promoting health, welfare and education. Pack 319 will hold its meetings the fourth Sunday of each month at 3 P. M. Dean Swift, Pack Committee Chairman, thanked the Board for its action.

Joseph Wigmore, Upper Merion

architect who designed the Cambridge School, agreed with the Board to accept a five and three-quarter per cent. fee to design the two new schools, Belmont and Croton Rd., and to convert the Gulph Elementary School into a high school.

Further discussion on the Belmont School resulted in the Board's decision to have the front of the building facing in a Southernly direction. Of two schemes presented to the Board, one on a high location, the Board selected to use the lower portion of the land since it would require less grading and would be the most suitable location as far as temporary roads are concerned.

After this motion was adopted, solicitor Differ was given permission to arrange for surveying of the additional one acre of ground to connect with the Belmont site.

Permission was granted to proceed on preliminary plans for the Croton Road School after it was decided to have this school face Croton Road.

Fencing is to be placed around the entire school for the protection of students from traffic. Members discussed plans for a play area in the rear, a picnic area, and fire places in a natural wooded area.

Other matters brought before the Board included the proposal by Board President Baehr to send a letter of commendation to Up-

# U. M. Student Board Submits Report; Other Board Notes

Members of the Upper Merion High School Student Government School Board attended a meeting held Monday night in the Gulph Elementary School, and submitted a report resulting from meetings of their own particular group.

Esther LaSorda student president of the Board was given an opportunity to present the junior board's report.

Under new business Miss LaSorda declared there was a discussion concerning potential half-day sessions. Questions on the subject were, would the half-day sessions affect the high school or would it be limited to the elementary school? Should the Kindergarten be discontinued? What can be done to relieve the overcrowded conditions until new schools are built?

## Half-Day Sessions

Discussion on these subjects, according to the junior Board, dwelled on the facts that half-day sessions would mean an entire new teaching staff since a teacher would be required for each session. A greater demand would be placed on the school buses which would mean that a larger sum of money would be needed for repairs. Half-day sessions in the high school would mean a new setup of the present sports program which now takes place after the present school hours. Further discussion revealed that the junior Board thinks if there were half day sessions it would mean some students would have sports practice in the morning and classes in the afternoon, meaning the whole team would have few, if any, practice sessions together. This would not be fair either to the coach or the team.

Also students holding jobs would be hampered in this respect because the hours they would have to attend school.

The Board also felt that the senior high years are the most important years in a student's schooling, and by this reasoning they believe the senior high school should be among the last to have half-day sessions. If the population should demand the senior school to have half-day sessions they should attend the morning sessions due to the previous stated reasons of jobs etc.

The group made a motion that grades one to three and 10 to 12 should attend sessions all day. Grades four to six and seven to nine should attend half-day sessions if the enrollment demanded it. If not, Junior High pupils should be allowed to continue all-day sessions as long as possible.

## Pre-Fab Construction

pre-fabricated school room. The group was commended by Baehr and encouraged to attend future meetings and hold meetings of their own.

## Other Board Notes

Other minor subjects brought before the regular School Board at Monday's meeting included the resignation of Mrs. Betty Jo Payne, Upper Merion music supervisor, because of physical reasons. The resignation was accepted and Miss W. J. Frances was named to replace Mrs. Payne for the remainder of the school term.

Permission was given to open bids for painting of the Swedeland, Gulph Road Elementary and the high school. The painting would be required on the outside of the buildings and would consist of just one coat.

The heating systems in the Swedeland and Upper Merion High Schools are to be surveyed for the specific reason of conversion from coal to oil.

A cost of \$895 for the replacement of stage curtains at the high school, which were burned some time ago by spot lights, was approved when the Board was informed \$350 of this figure would be turned over to the Board from fire insurance. The total cost to the Board would be \$545.

The school budget was discussed and will be placed in public places such as the post office etc.

Richard Bolton, teacher and high school basketball coach, was given permission to attend a Philadelphia Friends Select School Committee meeting.

Dean Swift and Adolph Florig both notified the Board they are willing to donate the use of recreation rooms in the school.



The Board also felt that the senior high years are the most important years in a student's schooling, and by this reasoning they believe the senior high school should be among the last to have half-day sessions. If the population should demand the senior school to have half-day sessions they should attend the morning sessions due to the previous stated reasons of jobs etc.

The group made a motion that grades one to three and 10 to 12 should attend sessions all day. Grades four to six and seven to nine should attend half-day sessions if the enrollment demanded it. If not, Junior High pupils should be allowed to continue all-day sessions as long as possible.

#### Pre-Fab Construction

The next topic brought before the junior Board was pre-fabricated constructions. The Board was told pre-fab buildings cost about \$7,000 a room and could be resold for a reasonable profit. Points in favor of the pre-fab buildings were that the Board would have to hire less teachers, less wear and tear of the buses meaning less expense for the Board, it would be better for the student in that the teacher could take his time in teaching his class without having to rush through the period because of a time limit, and finally, these buildings could be placed on the lots already bought for the new schools while the schools are being built.

The final subject brought before the junior board was the need for new band uniforms. The Board felt the band deserved them. In some cases, the player must wear different trousers because the trousers provided do not fit. Some of the metal buttons are missing and have not been replaced. To top it off, according to the junior Board, the colors are quite faded.

The School Board, with President Fred Baehr presiding, told the junior Board their ideas and motions indicated a step in the right direction, and requested information on where the students secured the price of \$7,000 for a

of the specific reason of conversion from coal to oil.

A cost of \$895 for the replacement of stage curtains at the high school, which were burned some time ago by spot lights, was approved when the Board was informed \$350 of this figure would be turned over to the Board from fire insurance. The total cost to the Board would be \$545.

The school budget was discussed and will be placed in public places such as the post office etc.

Richard Bolton, teacher and high school basketball coach, was given permission to attend a Philadelphia Friends Select School Committee meeting.

Dean Swift and Adolph Florig both notified the Board they are willing to donate the use of recreation rooms in their homes for the use of kindergarten pupils. This offer was made in connection with the Board's efforts to locate suitable extra rooms for the kindergarten pupils to relieve the overcrowded conditions in the Upper Merion School District.

A report was made that room is available at the Valley Forge Community Church. Other than this room progress in obtaining more rooms was reported as being slow.

The property committee reported no further progress has been made toward obtaining a second hand utility truck for the school district maintenance man.

The telephone system throughout the school district was discussed and certain members have been requested to contact the Bell Telephone Co., and have a survey made of the system now in operation. The Board desires a better system.

The hiring of a new administrative clerk to divide her time between the high school and the Gulph Road Elementary school was approved. Named to the position is Mrs. Marie E. Stone, of Port Kennedy, at a rate of \$2,500 per year.

The purchase of a draw curtain for the secretary's office at the Candlebrook School was authorized.

## School Board Approves Belmont School Drawing

Upper Merion Township School Directors approved a schematic drawing of the new Belmont School although Solicitor, Anthony L. Differ, continues to negotiate for a firm agreement concerning a road pattern in the same area, it was revealed at a meeting held last night in the Gulph Road Elementary School.

Architect Joseph Wigmore presented a sketch to the board members, different from one presented last month, which will locate the Belmont School on three floor levels suitable to the topography of the land. The main entrance and building will sit four feet above three other classroom units to be connected to the main building with a corridor. Another classroom unit leading from the one side of the main building will be located on the same level.

Wigmore was authorized to proceed with the school plans, both Belmont and Croton Rd., which he will take to Harrisburg for approval within the next few days.

The Croton Road School will be the exact design as Candlebrook; a hub and spoke layout.

The change in layout of the Belmont school was made to eliminate costly cutting and filling of land. The classrooms will be square, instead of rectangular as is Candlebrook, and with two glass sides instead of one, to allow more light and better ventilation. A play area will be located alongside each of the four units with a larger play area running along the rear of the units.

Solicitor Differ told the Board he is negotiating continuously with the owners of the Belmont land in order to provide suitable road patterns for the school. However, said Differ, a settlement probably will not be made until near the end of the month and possibly not at all.

John Yohe, former athletic coach and teacher at Upper Merion High School, and a member of the West Chester State Teachers College faculty, will return to Upper Merion for a 12 month period to serve in the capacity of vice-principal at a salary of \$7,600.

Dr. Warren H. Cocklin, Super

a 12 month period to serve in the capacity of vice-principal at a salary of \$7,600.

Dr. Warren H. Cocklin, Superintendent of Schools, read a report containing his recommendations for the coming school year concerning the overcrowded conditions in Upper Merion.

Dr. Cocklin suggested and a motion was adopted to locate the two incoming first year groups in the Candlebrook (Valley Forge Community) Church. The students will use buses to travel to another school cafeteria for lunch.

Also adopted was the motion that 35 students be placed in each class.

A suggestion by Dr. Cocklin to add four removable steel rooms to the high school and to add another room to house the guidance and business offices, was a matter for discussion. The group decided to permit Architect Wigmore to discuss the proposal with Harrisburg officials and make a report to the board at the next meeting.

A motion approving the position of a high school reading consultant, three elementary and three high school teachers for next year was adopted. Also approved were a Spanish and French teacher for the elementary schools.

Dr. Cocklin requested the Board approve walk-through showers for the girl students, stating the present shower stalls were inadequate. This matter was referred to the architect.

A motion to adopt the school budget was met with unanimous approval.

Elizabeth Coscia, of Bridgeport, has been hired as elementary music supervisor at a salary of \$4,500 a year. She was teaching at Hatboro-Horsham High School.

A salary increase for Robert Strine, high school principal, to \$9,650 was approved as was another increase for Carmen Storti, elementary supervisor, to \$8,800 a year.

A motion by George Wittam requesting Dr. Richard Loughlin be appointed as head school physician was adopted.

A report from the Advisory Committee for High Education submitted by H. Walker Peters, chairman of the committee, containing recommendations on guidance procedure was approved.

A proposal by Peters requesting the Board vigorously protest the dangerous conditions of the Henderson Road grade crossing was approved, and members were instructed to route letters to individuals concerned with correcting the situation.

Members of the junior School Board, sponsored by Frank Yutz, teacher, read a report of its latest meeting to the Board members.

# Sixty-Five Graduates At Upper Merion High

Sixty-five Upper Merion High School seniors will receive graduation diplomas at Commencement exercises to be held Wednesday at 8 P. M. in the high school auditorium.

The program will include a procession, the invocation to be delivered by the Rev. Michael V. Marek, assistant rector of Sacred Heart Church, Swedesburg; singing of the National Anthem.

The Salutatory address will be delivered by Salutatorian Darwin Gass, the Valedictory address by Valedictorian Eileen McCracken; and two class orations, "The Meaning of Education, by Elaine Bakula; and "Preserving One's Individuality," by Van Weiss.

The awarding of prizes will be conducted by Robert R. Strine, high school principal. Dr. Warren H. Cocklin, School Superintendent; and Fred Baehr, School Board president, will award the diplomas.

A sousaphone solo, "A Jolly Sailor," will be played by Thomas Taylor and Miss Esther Lasorda, will play a piano solo, "Moonlight Sonata."

Among the graduates are Arthur A. Arbogast, (A); Maureen G. Baker, (C); Elaine M. Bakula, (C); Howard L. Brearey, (G); Constance M. Cadonas, (G); Charles B. Clipsham, 3rd, (G); Beverly Y. Cook, (C); Marie P. Dolga, (C); Frances J. Duda, (A); William C. Evelyn, (G); Marlene M. Fonock, (G); Rosalie A. Freeland, (C); Dorothy A. Garber, (C); Darwin Gass, (A); Peter Geiger, (A); Donald L. Gottshall, (A); Mary M. Grace, (C); Dennis J. Gray, (G); Frank H. Griffith, (G); Judy L. Harkins, (G); Carol A. Kreuser, (C); Dennis M. Kreuser, (G); John K. Kunkle, (G); Patricia M. Laffredo, (A); Esther S. LaSorda, (A); Robert C. Lindinger, (A); Loretta A. Mabry, (G); Irene MacIlwain, (A); Carole A. MacMullen, (C); Robert L. Malason, (A); Lowe M. McCorkle, (G); Eileen M. McCracken, (A); Dexter G. Miller, (G); Rhodes C. Nelson, (G); Janice C. Novitski, (G); Frank C. Parker, (A); John C. Pollock, Jr., (G); Jacqueline A. Powell, (A); Gerald B. Richard-

son, (A); Harold Robbins, (G); Phyllis A. Rodebaugh, (G); Teresmarie Rosenberger, (C); John G. Sabo, 3rd, (G); Bruce G. Saylor, (G); Marilyn C. Searfoss, (A); Judith M. Scout, (C); Robert C. Stadler, (A); Fred A. Sutton, (G); Thomas E. Taylor, (C); Lois E. Teaford, (A); John M. Tirpak, (G); Gary W. Thompson, (A); John T. Thompson, (G); Joseph Tuturice, (G); Anne E. Valyo, (C); Gael Webber, (A); Van Weiss, (A); William J. West, (G); George B. Westbrook, (G); Helen I. Williams, (C); David B. Wood, (G); Robert J. Wood, (G); Joan J. Yarosh, (C); Patricia R. Zar-emba, (A). (A) denotes Academic diploma, (C) Commercial diploma and (G) General diploma.

## SENIOR CLASS EXERCISES IN UPPER MERION

Baccalaureate exercises were held yesterday at Upper Merion High School, at which time the Rev. A. Allen Attenborough, rector of Christ's Church (Old Swedes), Swedesburg, spoke on the subject, "A Word to the Wise".

On Wednesday evening, at Commencement exercises, four students will address their senior classmates, parents and friends. Valedictorian for this year's class is Eileen McCracken, and salutatorian, Darwin Gass. Two class orators were chosen in addition, for the first time; these speakers will be Van Weiss and Elaine Bakula.

The Rev. Michael Marek, assistant rector of Sacred Heart Church, Swedesburg, is to deliver the invocation at the start of the exercises, set for 8 in the high school auditorium.

Fred Baehr, school board president, will present diplomas to the graduates and announce the winners of commencement prizes.

# Dr. Harold F. Martin Named Upper Merion Superintendent

Department of Public Instruction Attache Appointed to  
\$12,000 Post to Succeed Dr. Warren  
H. Cocklin, Resigned

Dr. Harold F. Martin, 48, of the Department of Public Instruction, Harrisburg, was appointed as superintendent of Upper Merion Township Public Schools at the May meeting of the School Board, last night.

Dr. Martin, who resides at Turbotville, Northumberland County, near Harrisburg, will begin his duties on June 30 at a salary of \$12,000 a year. He will succeed Dr. Warren H. Cocklin, superintendent, who has been in the Upper Merion district for the past 19 years. Dr. Cocklin recently submitted his resignation.

The new superintendent comes to Upper Merion with an enviable background as an educator.

A resident of Turbotville, Dr. Martin will leave his present post as director, Bureau of School buildings, Department of Public Instruction, Harrisburg, the end of June, to as-

*Continued on Page 2—Column 1*

sume his new duties. He has been with the department since November, 1951, when he was appointed coordinator of the School Facilities Survey, and in June, 1954, he became director of the Bureau of General Education, arriving at his present post in July, 1956.

Before his work for the state, Dr. Martin had the title of assistant superintendent of county schools, with offices in Sunbury. At the start of his career, he was high school principal of Turbotville Borough School District.

## Ursinus Graduate

Having attended Milton, Pa., public schools, Upper Merion's new superintendent received his B.S. degree from Ursinus in 1930, his M.A. from Bucknell in 1938, and his Doctor of Education degree from Penn State University in 1954.

Memberships include Phi Delta Kappa fraternity, Pennsylvania State Education Association, National Education Assn. (life member), Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, American Association of School Administrators, Department of Rural Education, Pennsylvania Research Association and National Council on School House Construction.

Dr. Martin is president of the Northumberland County Principals Association.

## Martin Named Superintendent

road blinker lights at the Henderson and Church Road crossing are still not functioning properly and continue to operate when no train is approaching. Baehr stated that this situation "continues to be extremely hazardous to school busses and the community, and we want it corrected once and for all."

Appreciation was expressed by Director H. Walker Peters, to the Home and School Association, and the Mothers Clubs of Swedeland, Candlebrook and Gulph Road, all of which cooperated with a board request that library books be considered in the allocation of club funds this year. A total of \$1,250 is contributed to the four libraries from the four organizations.

Other actions taken by the board at the meeting included repairs to the ramp between the high school and Gulph Road elementary school, to be done this Summer; the low bid of \$1,786 from the Charles Kriebel company, for exterior painting of Swedeland and Gulph Road elementary schools and the high school, was accepted. Leland H. Gibb, of Cinnamon Hill, one of the 12 or so spectators present at the meeting, requested that attention be given to several missing pedestals along the high school wall, which seemed un-

is a member of the Governor's Committee on White House Conference, and the Governor's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped.

His community activities include: president of the Community Fair Association; secretary of the Community Fire Company, and president of the Lions Club. He is a member of the Lutheran Church Council, president of their Men's Group and chairman of their Building Committee.

In addition to naming the new superintendent, the Upper Merion directors approved hiring of additional personnel and accepted two resignations.

#### Resign

Resignations accepted were those of Mrs. Janice Weaver, second grade teacher who plans to teach near her Media home, and Miss Elaine Gagliardi, kindergarten teacher, who is accepting appointment in Scarsdale, N. Y., in the Fall.

Edwin L. Barber, a University of Pennsylvania graduate, was hired on temporary basis to teach social science and assist in athletic coaching in the high school, at \$3,600. He is at present practice teaching at Upper Darby High School.

The board took action to establish a starting salary of \$3,600 for untrained teachers with a Bachelor of Science degree.

Miss Gladys Gallagher, of Phila., currently teaching at Lower Merion, was hired as Upper Merion's first high school reading consultant. Miss Gallagher earned her B.S. degree at University of Wisconsin and an M.S. degree at University of Pennsylvania. Her salary, as a permanent employee, was set at \$5,800.

Miss Gloria Ingenito, also of Philadelphia (University of Pennsylvania class of 1955), now teaching in Cynwyd, was hired as a primary grade teacher at \$3,900.

Two other primary appointments are Mrs. Nancy McQuiston, leaving Highland School (Abington Township), salary \$4,200, and Miss Eleanor A. Palma, of Stratford, finishing at Immaculata, practice teaching in Paoli, to start at \$3,600.

In the high school, Michael T. Krysa, of Lafayette Hills, who received his B.S. degree from State Teachers College, will teach social science and help with the athletic program, coming to Upper Merion from Plymouth-Whitemarsh at a salary of \$5,400.

#### Seek New School Site

Dr. Cocklin was asked for his opinion on the size of a site presently being considered by the board for a future junior high school. The retiring superin-

vised to inspect school buildings. George C. Whittam will head this committee, on which Rinehart and Hein will also serve.

President Baehr read a letter from the First Presbyterian Church of Port Kennedy, asking that consideration be given to their use of the Port Kennedy school for two weeks in late June, for Bible School classes. The matter was referred to the Buildings and Grounds Committee for study.

Schoolside Manor Civic Association asked to have the tennis courts adjacent to high school reconditioned. In the communication the association stated they would repair the court, and in turn, be given permission to use the site for tennis play. This was granted.

Considerable discussion centered on the robbery of the safe in the high school principal's office last week-end. As a result, regulations are being set up immediately to prevent sums of money to repose in this spot in future. - Student organizations will be reimbursed immediately for losses, all of which are covered by insurance.

Curriculum changes recommended in the second part of the study of the Advisory Committee for Higher Education, of which board member Peters was chairman, were accepted by the board. The committee was commended and dismissed since its work is completed.

#### Students Present

Six members of the "student School Board," originally elected in November by high school classmates, continued to show interest in board affairs by attending and reporting at Monday's meeting, accompanied by faculty sponsor Frank Yutz. President Esther LaSorda introduced the various members, who told, in turn, of what was learned in a visit to the offices of school architect Joseph Wigmore. Miss LaSorda was formally commended by board members on the enthusiasm of the student group, and upon her other personal achievements as an outstanding senior, in recent months.

ments are Mrs. Nancy McQuinn, leaving Highland School (Abington Township), salary \$4,200, and Miss Eleanor A. Palma, of Stratford, finishing at Immaculata, practice teaching in Paoli, to start at \$3,600.

In the high school, Michael T. Krysa, of Lafayette Hills, who received his B.S. degree from State Teachers College, will teach social science and help with the athletic program, coming to Upper Merion from Plymouth-Whitemarsh at a salary of \$5,400.

#### Seek New School Site

Dr. Cocklin was asked for his opinion on the size of a site presently being considered by the board for a future junior high school. The retiring superintendent deferred to the opinion of Dr. Martin, his successor, who recommended a minimum of 20 to 30 acres for such a project. Board Solicitor Anthony L. Differ admitted that since he is in the process of negotiating for a piece of property, he preferred not to reveal its whereabouts, and the board authorized Differ to enter negotiations based on a possible 35 acres, considering athletic requirements.

Representatives of the firm of Joseph Wigmore, architect for all of Upper Merion's current building projects, asked approval of a temporary plan for the pre-fabricated 6-room metal building to connect by corridor to the high school. The four extra temporary classrooms, plus heater room and administrative office, are needed by September and are considered a 2 to 3-year expedient until the new elementary buildings are completed and Gulph Road elementary school may be converted to a high school.

An estimate of \$78,000 (\$13,000 a room) was made for the steel structure, which can, however, be dismantled and re-sold after it has served its purpose.

#### Railroad Protest

A motion was passed in the form of a strong protest that rail-

Sorda was formally commended by board members on the enthusiasm of the student group, and upon her other personal achievements as an outstanding senior, in recent months.

# 63 to Get Diplomas At Upper Merion High Graduation Tomorrow

May 23, 1957

Eileen McCracken, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles F. McCracken, Foulkrod Blvd., Hughes Park, will be class valedictorian at commencement exercises for the class of 1957 of Upper Merion High School at 8 tomorrow night in the high school auditorium, Gulph and Henderson Rds.

Darwin Gass, son of Mr. and Mrs. Darwin X. Gass, Mayberry Lane, Gulph Mills, will be salutatorian.

The invocation will be given by the Rev. Michael V. Marek, assistant rector of Sacred Heart Church, Swedesburg.

"The Meaning of Education" will

be the title of the class oration to be delivered by Elaine Bakula. The second oration, to be delivered by Van Weiss, class vice president, will be entitled "Preserving One's Individuality."

Other features will be a sousaphone solo, "A Jolly Sailor," by Thomas Taylor and a rendition of "Moonlight Sonata," by Esther Lasorda.

Presentation of prizes will be made by Robert R. Strine, principal. Diploma awards will be made by Fred Baehr, school board president and Dr. Warren H. Cocklin, superintendent.

Class president of the class of 1957 is Garry Thompson, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Thompson, 608 W. Fourth St., Bridgeport. Besides being class president, he is president of the Student Panel, president of the Key Club, a member of the Varsity Club and the National Honor Society. In addition, he holds varsity letters in football, basketball and baseball. He will enroll at Drexel Institute of Technology in the Fall.

The graduates: Arthur Allan Arbogast, Maureen Germaine Baker,  
(Continued On Page Twelve)

## Continued From Page One

Elaine M. Bakula, Howard L. Brearey, Constance Mary Cadonas, Charles Blaine Clipsham 3d, Beverly Y. Cook, Marie P. Dolga, Frances Jeanette Duda, William C. Evelyn, Marlene Mary Fonock, Rosalie Ann Freeland.

Dorothy Ann Garber, Darwin Gass, Peter Geiger, Donald L. Gottshall, Mary Maxine Grace, Dennis J. Gray, Frank H. Griffith, Judy Louis Harkins, Carol Ann Kreuser, John K. Kunkle, Patricia Monica Laffredo, Esther S. Lasorda.

Robert C. Lindinger, Loretta Ann Mabry, Irene MacIlwain, Carole Ann MacMullen, Robert L. Malason, Lowe Mae McCorkle, Eileen Marie McCracken, Dexter G. Miller, Rhodes Carl Nelson, Janice C. Novitski, Frank C. Parker, John C. Pollock Jr., Jacqueline A. Powell.

Gerald B. Richardson, Harold Robbins, Phyllis Ann Rodebaugh, Teresmarie Rosenberger, John G. Sabo III, Bruce G. Saylor, Marilyn Carol Searfoss, Judith M. Scout, Robert C. Stadtler, Fred A. Sutton, Thomas E. Taylor, Lois E. Teaford, John Michael Tirpak.

Gary William Thompson, John T. Thompson, Joseph Tuturice, Anne E. Valyo, James J. Valyo, Gael Weber, Van Weiss, William J. West, George B. Westbrook, Helen Irene Williams, David Bruce Wood, Robert James Wood, Joan Patricia Yarosh, Patricia R. Zarembo.