

BELLES-LETTRES SOCIETY COMPLETES ACTIVE YEAR

On May 8, 1961, the Belles-Lettres Society held its final meeting for the 1960-1961 academic year. At this meeting the following objectives of the Belles-Lettres Society were received:

1. Encouragement of creative writing
2. Group criticism of any and all works submitted.
3. Analysis of literary writing . . . novels, plays, etc. for the purpose of studying writing techniques and examining writing craft.
4. Extension of invitations to speakers who are authorities in the world of literature.
5. Trips to see plays and hear lectures by literary figures.
6. Work toward the publication of writings.

While all of these objectives were not fulfilled during the year, the Belles-Lettres members were successful in the undertaking of several noteworthy accomplishments.

First of all, several members participated in the presentation of a short one-act play that was written by a former vice-president of the Belles-Lettres Society, Bob Perugini. The play starred such Highacres celebrities as Bob Krutsick, Paul Miller, Sally Switaj and George Wanko. The play was presented before a gathering of Belles-Lettres and Biology Club members at the Christmas Banquet which was held in Singley's Steak Restaurant. A repeat performance was given before the Ladies Auxiliary of Hazleton Campus at the Jewish Community Center.

Upon returning from the semester break, the Society began preparations for a cultural excursion to New York City. These plans were fulfilled on Saturday, March 25, 1961, when the Society departed en masse to see a musical comedy entitled "The Music Man".

This event ended a busy week-end for the Belles-Lettres, since on the previous evening, Friday, March 24, 1961, the Society sponsored the Third Annual Highacres Reading Festival. The winners of this festival included Melanie Krasney, George Wanko, Robert Minor and Rosemarie Carey. As winners, they were recipients of a book of poetry and an opportunity for an all-expense paid trip to the main campus in order that they might participate in the Thirteenth Pennsylvania Intercollegiate

Reading Festival, which was held on April 27-28, 1961.

This was followed up by a similar reading festival for high school readers. This reading festival took place on Thursday evening, April 20, 1961, and was held in conjunction with National Library Week. The winners of this festival, two in each category, prose, poetry and drama, received awards as a remembrance of their performances. All other participants received certificates for meritorious participation.

At the final meeting, plans were formulated for a project which the Belles-Lettres Society will attempt to put into effect next fall. The aim of this project is the encouragement of creative writing. A committee of three Sally Switaj, Jim Makuch and Kathy Fogarty, was appointed to petition organizations which might be interested in offering monetary awards to members of the Society submitting outstanding written works in each of these areas of writing: poetry, prose, and drama. The final judgment and criticism of these writings would be done by the Belles-Lettres Society.

Officers of the club are as follows:

President . . . James Marcolina

Vice President . . . Kathy Fogarty

Secretary-Treasurer . . . Sally Switaj

The Faculty Advisor is Andrew Kafka.

THE PARKING LOT

From a recent visit to Mr Kostos' office, this information was gathered concerning the new parking lot: as it stands now, the plans are completed for the lot to be constructed on the present athletic field and are now in the hands of the vice-president's office waiting authorization. It is estimated that the lot will extend one hundred feet into the wooded area and will have the capacity to park two hundred and sixty cars. The charge for using this lot will be approximately five dollars per car per term. This will be the only parking area open to the student, for a long-range program calls for the development of a physical education area in the present parking field.