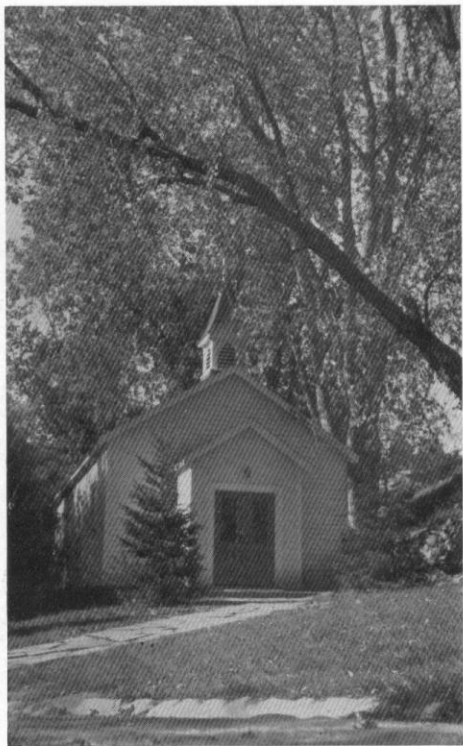


# The Mitre

1943





ST. MICHAEL'S  
IN THE  
PINES

# The Mitre



Published by the  
Senior Class of 1943  
SAINT PETER'S SCHOOL

Peekskill

New York



## *Dedication*

We, the Senior Class, dedicate this, the 1943 Mitre to our headmaster, Father Leeming. We do this in recognition of his inspiring example of courage and faith, and in true appreciation of his never failing aid and wise council. We earnestly hope that this gesture will be received in the spirit in which it is given, and he will realize the devotion for which it stands.



Left to right: Mr. Drake, Fr. Labigan, Fr. Leeming, Mr. Keller,  
Mr. Hillhouse

The Reverend Frank C. Leeming,  
S. T. B.  
Headmaster Sacred Studies  
Bethany Prep. Tutoring  
Bethany College  
Peabody Conservatory  
General Theological Seminary

Julian G. Hillhouse, B. A.  
Senior Master  
Hoosac English  
Princeton History

The Reverend Donald S. Labigan,  
A. B., S. T. B.  
Medina High School English  
Hobart College French  
Seabury-Western Seminary German  
Latin

Walter M. Drake, E. E., M. A.  
Poughkeepsie High School Math.  
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute  
Columbia University Physics

William F. Keller, A. B., Litt. M., M. A.  
Academy High School  
University of Pittsburgh Gen. Science  
University of Virginia Social Studies  
University of Michigan Math.

Culbert C. McGay, B. S.  
Kent School Math.  
Dartmouth Sciences  
On active duty with U. S. Army



**John Richmond Woodriff Batten**

Entered September 1940

"J. B." "Long John"

Football '40—'42

Beagling '40—'43 Junior Master '42  
—'43

Choir '40—'43

Præfect '41—'43

"J. B." is best known for his affiliation with the Beagles, and after two years of devoted work, he was appointed as Junior Master of the pack. It is largely due to his efforts that beagling was so successful this season. Amongst his other athletics was football, in which he excelled as left end.

Johnny has been præfect for the past two years, the duties of which he has carried out with skill and determination.

Besides being a confirmed woman-hater, school chaffeur, and despiser of his room-mate's classical music, he has become one of the most respected boys in the school.





**Henry Douglas Campbell Bumsted**

Entered September 1941

"Dagwood" "Bump"

Football '41-'42

Hockey '41-'42

Beagling '41-'43

Choir '41-'43

Dragnet '41-'43

Soccer '42-'43

For the past two years, Douglas has given his services to the Dragnet. He has recently resigned his position as editor, in order to give his time to the publication of this year book. There are a great many other services that he has rendered, but the boy known as "Bump" is too reserved and too quiet to say anything about them. Needless to say, "Dagwood" has also participated in all the athletics at Saint Peter's.

His buddies say that Bumsted is a man truly aware of his responsibilities with reference to "the one" of the fair sex. The uninterrupted flow of blue envelopes into his mail box is unrefutable proof of this fact.

Far above and beyond all this, he has managed to survive the kindly efforts of his English teacher to teach him the proper use of the mother tongue, and it is well nigh impossible to give higher praise than this.



**George Hyatt Hickok**

Entered September 1938

"Elmo" "Butch"

Organist '40—'43

Sacristan '40—'43

Tennis '40—'41

Football '42—'43

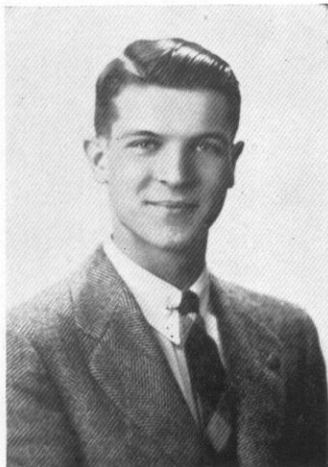
Baseball Manager '41—'42

Choir '38—'43

Soccer '42—'43

George's outstanding contribution to the school has been his ever faithful service as organist for the past four years. Elmo has been an invaluable aid to Father Leeming in his direction of the choir, and especially in the directing of the Boar's Head Dinner. Another service for which he is well known, and which he has never failed to render to the best of his ability, is that of sacristan.

Also, George has been manager of the baseball team, has played football, and has always been one of the top ranking honor boys in scholarship. "Butch" has, in consequence, acquired the coveted title of "the pride of the faculty".



**Philip Syng Price**

Entered September 1939

"Pussy," "Syng"

Praefect '39-'43

Football '39-'43

Tennis '40-'41

Baseball '41-'42

Hockey '41-'42

Choir '40-'43

Soccer '42-'43

Dragnet '40-'41

The outstanding athlete of the graduating class is to be found in the person of Phil. He has always led the teams on which he has played with fighting spirit, and has never failed to rise to the occasion.

Wherever musicians gather, Price is in their midst. His playing on the piano during study hall has, at times, disturbed many, although his virtuosity is undebatable. His weekly trips to New York City are for the supposed purpose of acquiring a more complete knowledge of the skill of piano-playing. However, we are inclined to believe otherwise (a female perhaps!).

During his years here, Price has been one of the top ranking scholars of the school. For four years, he has carried out with unequaled vigor and efficiency the ungratifying demands of praefectship.



**Robert Irving Schuster**

Entered September 1939

"Simon," "Shaggy"

Tennis '39—'40

Football '41—'42

Baseball '41—'42

Beagling, First Whip, '42—'43

Hockey '41—'42

Choir '39—'43

Dragnet '40—'43

Bob has always been in the line of dramatics and an organizer of the Dramatics Club. He has been connected with every play presented at St. Peter's during his four years here.

He has always been active in sports and has worked earnestly on the Beagle Squad. In fact, there are times that without him, the beagles would never have come home.

As one of the tenors of the choir, his services have been valuable and outstanding. Bob has worked on the Dragnet Staff, and was appointed editor for two successive years. Scholastically, he has constantly been in the upper third.

## CLASS PROPHECY

We find our heroes quietly resting in a hidden valley in the Blue Ridge Mountains. Batten, our illustrious brewer, is stooping low over his still, which at this point seems to be pouring forth with some unknown concoction. This is the annual reunion of the class of '43 which was held, incidentally, last year in the stylish two room suite in the deep dark recesses of Carnegie Hall where Price was holding forth as janitor. In various other years, these meetings have been held in such places as Bumsted's stables, Schuster's garret, where he attempts to carry on the meagre vocation of playwright and poet, or Hickok's sanitarium, located on East Main Street, Peekskill.

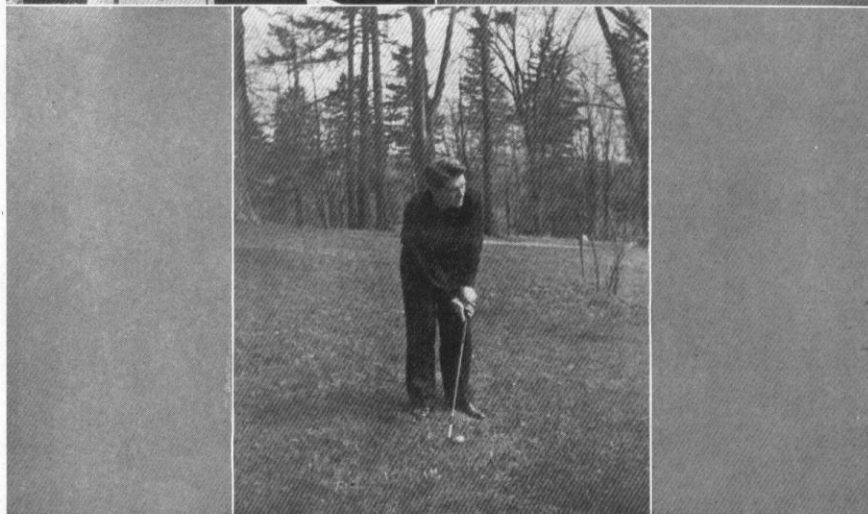
Returning once again to the still quiet valley, we find the still quiet five still at the still—still! The effects of Batten's spirits have brought forth the past histories of our illustrious quintet. Schuster is the first to unveil his tale of woe. After graduating from St. Peter's, Schuster found a two-bit part in that great play "Cyanide and New Chintz." He was the "corpse." After that, he tried unsuccessfully to achieve greater fame in "any" role he could find. Obviously, as can be seen, he found none!

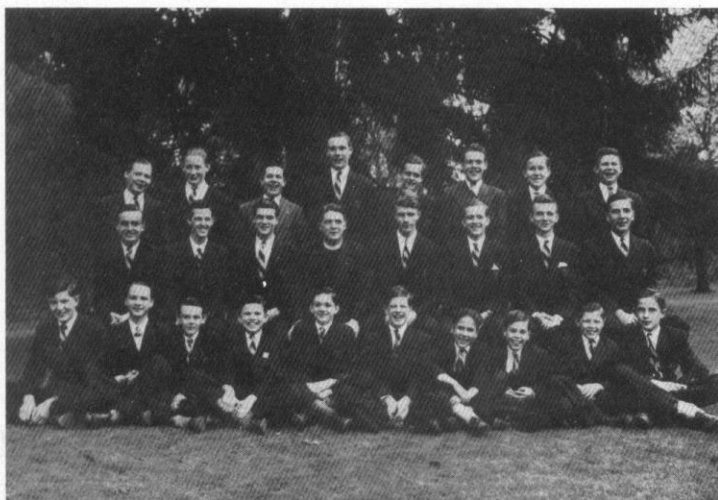
Following the deplorable exhortation of Schuster, George Hickok narrated an equally woeful tale. After serving in Uncle Sam's forces in the second World War, George was committed to a sanitarium for remedial treatment of eccentricities. After three years of partial recovery, he prospered exceedingly and is now an executive of the notable institution.

Not to be outdone by the other speakers, Price expounded his past. Price studied diligently with many eminent pianists over a period of ten years. At his debut at Carnegie Hall, he dusted the keyboard so well, he secured the prominent position of head janitor. He is now attempting a comeback and expects another noteworthy position.

Bumsted, who laid his inherited fortune on a horse that never left the gate, opened a glue factory in an attempt to recover his wealth. D. B. always meant to attend to his family, however, he found himself thoroughly stuck to his office.

Concluding this dreary dissertation, J. B., our host, reviewed the events of his career. After stumbling through Cornell Vet. School, he became a distinguished horse doctor in the foresaid Blue Mountain Region. A rapid loss of his practice resulted in his undertaking a distillery, whence come the spirits that made this prophecy possible.



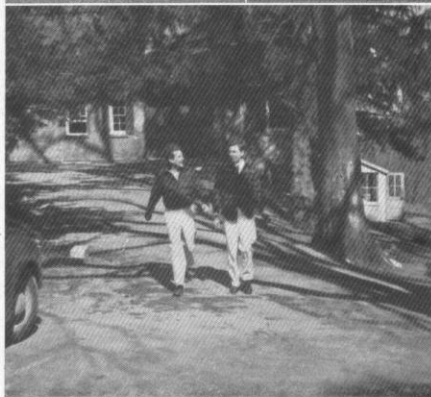


Left to right:

Front Row: Asplund, Hubbard, Anderson, Corso, Jeffrey, Ashton, Robert, Wilkins, Stephenson, Drake.

Second Row: Sides, Hickok, Price, Fr. Leeming, Batten, Schuster, Bumsted, Nordeck.

Third Row: Powers, Wickings, Dewell, Grime, Campaign, Robinson, Ausbury, de la Chesnaye.







Left to right: de la Chesnaye, Hickok, Dewell

## SACRISTANS

This year's group of sacristans has carried out its duties in a most efficient and gratifying way. Their able leader, George Hickok, will be sorely missed in future years, and his will be a hard position to fill.



First Row: Wilkins, Robert; Second Row: Stephenson, Grime, Blyth, A.; Top Row: left to right: Wickings, Sides, Mr. Keller, Schuster Blyth, B.

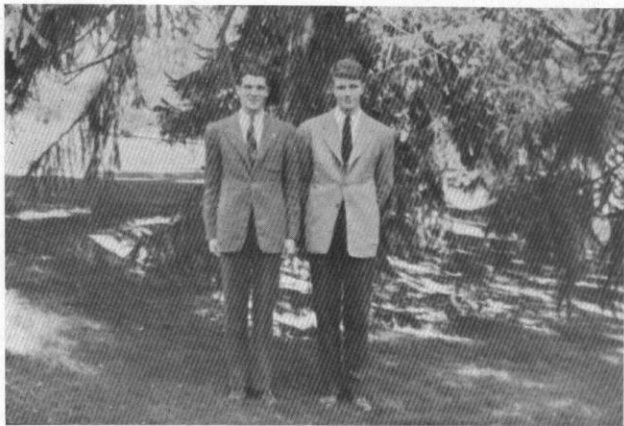
## DRAGNET STAFF

The DragNet Staff, after being rearranged by Mr. Keller upon his arrival at school, has done a worth-while job this year. The paper has reached a crest that shows a lot of work on the part of its staff, and they should be mindful of their success.



### SENIOR CLASS ADVISOR

Mr. Drake, the Upper Form House Master, soon was accepted as the advisor to the Senior Class. Devoted to the cause of the older boys, he has given generously of his time and efforts. Consequently, he has won a place of recognition in the annals of the school.



Price, Batten

### PRAEFECTS

Of all the responsibilities a student at St. Peter's can have, that of being a praefect is the greatest. These two boys have performed their duties as praefects in such a way as to set a high standard for future years.

## SAINT PETER'S BEAGLES

The Saint Peter's Foot Beagles, Inc. were established in 1940, when Arthur Kent, then senior master of the school, acquired five couple of hounds from the Kingsland Beagles. Kennels were constructed on the school property, and several of the boys took over the care and feeding of the pack. Peter C. Messer, another faculty member, was appointed as First Whipper-in, and the pack adopted the Kent's station wagon as their official van. Many local people, and also several from such places as New York and Long Island, took an interest in the organization and were very faithful to the hunt at all times. Our entry into the war forced many to discontinue, for the duration, their attendance at the weekly hunts, but in spite of the smaller fields, the pack has been hunted regularly at nearby estates. Although many of the field have been unable to attend the hunts, they have continued generously to support the work of the hounds.

In April, 1941, Mr. Messer was drafted into the Army, and the following Fall, Dick Orcutt was appointed Junior Master. In the Winter of 1941, Mr. Kent, due to the impossibility of his reaching the hunts, resigned his post as Master of the Hounds, and his place was ably filled by Alexander Saunders, of Garrison, New York.

Prior to this, in the Spring of 1941, Mr. Kent assisted by Dick Orcutt and John Batten, renovated one of the old buildings on the campus into a new set of kennels, and the old ones were torn down.

In June, 1942, the Junior Master was graduated and the hounds were removed to the Saunder's estate in Garrison, where they remained for the summer.

In September, 1942, John Batten was appointed Junior Master to replace Dick Orcutt, and the hounds once again returned to the school. The example set by the two boys the previous year inspired a greater enthusiasm among the students and the Junior Master soon found that he had six boys willing and eager to learn the various routines of Beagling. Throughout the fall, hunts were continued as usual. The winter term, however, presented a more serious problem. Pleasure driving was banned, and the snow was all too plentiful. It was in this term that Robert Schuster, in return for his devoted service, was appointed First Whipper-in.

During the years, the pack has gradually changed and increased until at the present time there are nine couple of hounds and three couple of puppies.

The pack has often been cited in such publications as the New York Herald-Tribune and the Chronicle. This is the only boys' school pack in the country and the success of the enterprise depends upon their willingness to cooperate with the Master.



## *Serving Our Country*

The following is as nearly complete a list as we can get of Masters, Trustees, and Alumni in the Armed Forces:

Henry Bersing  
Louis Bersing  
James Blake  
William Dayton  
Robert Haring  
Donald Hart  
Arthur Kent  
Culbert McGay  
Peter Messer  
Louis McFadden  
William Ruegger  
Hugh Byrne  
Conrad Latour  
William Menard  
Edward Ogley  
Richard Orcutt  
Alfred Petersen  
Calvin Pollard  
Paul Robinson  
Obed Winter

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