

The Mitre

1944





WHITE HOUSE

The Mitre



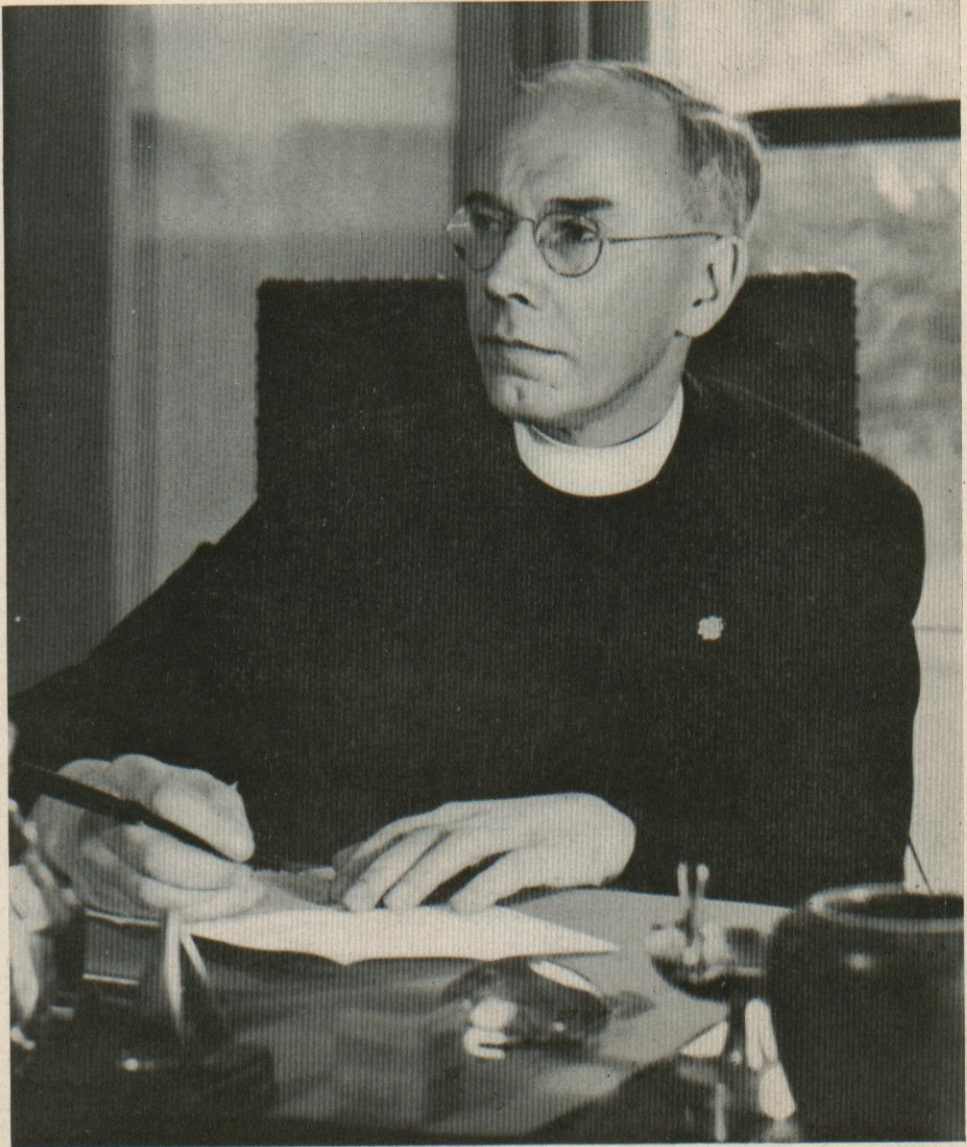
Published by the

Senior Class of 1944

SAINT PETER'S SCHOOL

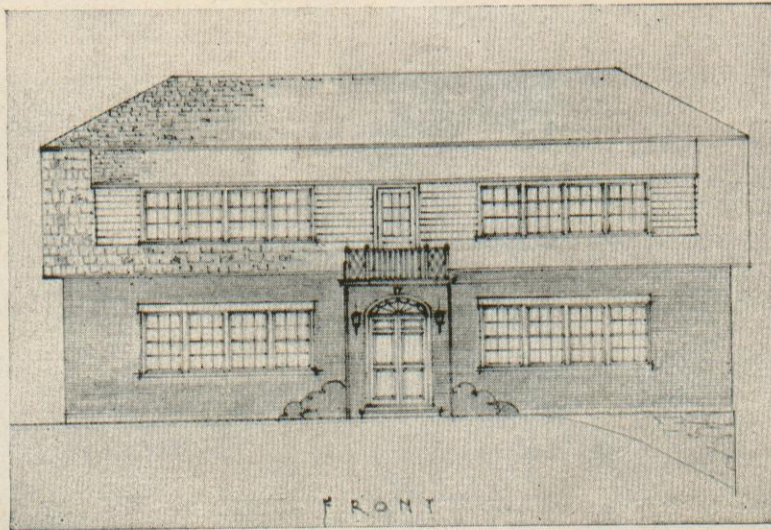
Peekskill

New York



Dedication

We the Senior Class, dedicate this, the 1944 Mitre,
to our Assistant Headmaster, Father Feringa, in
recognition for all that he has done toward making
ours a better school.



Proposed New Schoolhouse Front

The Reverend Frank C. Leeming,
S. T. B.

Headmaster	Sacred Studies
Bethany Prep.	English
Bethany College	
Peabody Conservatory	
General Theological Seminary	

The Reverend Nicholas M. Feringa,
B. A.

Gymnasia, Utrecht, Netherlands	Sacred Studies
St. Stephen's College	English
General Theological Seminary	Latin
Art Student's League, New York	French
Assistant Headmaster	Math.

The Reverend Donald S. Labigan,
A. B., S. T. B.

Medina High School	Sacred Studies
Hobart College	English
Seabury-Western Seminary	French
	Latin

Walter M. Drake, E. E., M. A.

Poughkeepsie High School	Math.
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	Physics
Columbia University	

William F. Keller, A. B., Litt. M., M. A.

Academy High School	History
University of Pittsburgh	Biology
University of Virginia	
University of Michigan	

Dorothy W. Keller

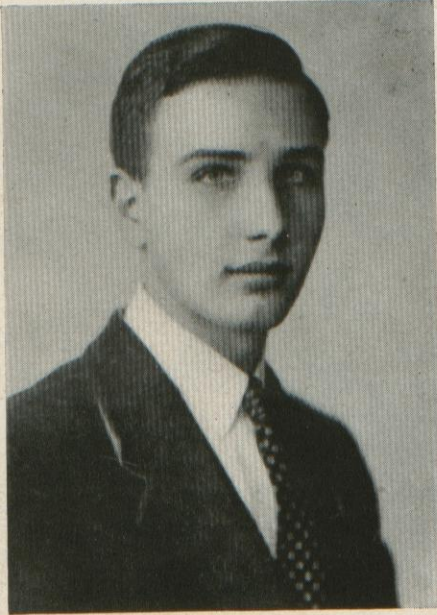
Junior School Head
Leominster High School
Bates College
Newton-Andover Seminary

The Reverend Charles Geerts

West Hartford's Schools	Math.
Nashotah Seminary	English

Claude N. Tuthill, B. A.

Port Jefferson High School	
Hamilton College	Chemistry
Pratt Institute	
Columbia University	



John Philip Nordeck

Entered September 1940

"Poopdeck" "Phil"

Football '40—'42

Hockey '40—'43

Baseball '40—'42

Soccer '42—'43

Beagling '40—'41 Junior Master '43
—'44

Choir '40—'44

Senior Praefect '43—'44

Ever since Phil entered Saint Peter's, he has been an active member of the Beagles. This year he has assumed the duties of Junior Master, and through his efforts the beagles and kennels are surviving wartime conditions.

Before he became affiliated with beagling, Poopdeck was an active participant in all sports. Besides playing on the football team, he took up baseball and even put the pads on to play goalie for the hockey squad.

It is rumored that Phil has his heart set on one woman, but we are inclined to think otherwise. However we do know that our Senior Praefect is liked and respected by all the boys, especially when he smiles and lights his pipe after supper.



William David Robinson

Entered September 1938

"Robby" "Bill"

Football '38—'44 (Captain)

Hockey '38—'44

Baseball '38—'44 (Captain)

Soccer '42—'43

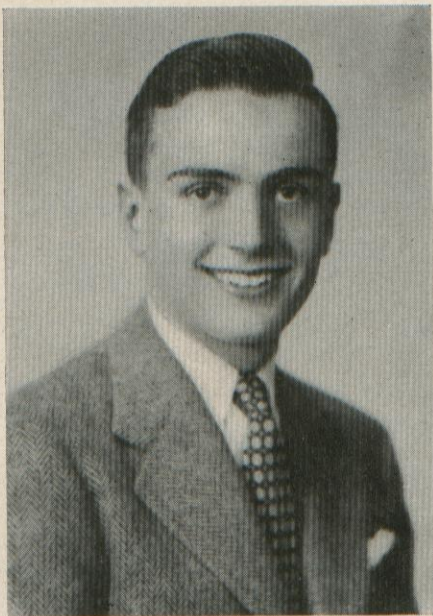
Præfect '43—'44

Choir '38—'44

Bill is one of the few charter boys left, and during the past six years he has been a member of all the athletic squads. This year he was fullback on the football team, and it is largely through his efforts that we were able to have a squad. In addition to pitching for the baseball team, Robby was a capable defense man for the hockey team.

As a præfect, Bill has devoted much time and energy towards promoting school spirit and fairness. In fact there is hardly a dance or any other school activity in which he has not participated.

With regard to the opposite sex, we find that he has quite a following in both Kansas City and New York, but they seem to have deserted him as his mailbox has been gathering dust recently.



Robert Spalding Sides

Entered September 1938

"Bob" "Seedies"

Football '38—'44

Hockey '39—'44

Baseball '38—'44

Soccer '42—'43

Choir '38—'44

Draagnet '38—'43

Dramatics '41—'43

Praefect '43—'44

Bob is another charter boy, and very often one hears him reminiscing over the good old days with his roommate, Bill Robinson.

Although he has always entered in all sports, Bob is noted more for his ability in promoting dances and other social activities. Besides serving on the Draagnet staff for five years, he was an active member of the Dramatics Club.

As a praefect, he has done a good job in the Main House, and along with his roommate an earnest attempt is made to keep roughousing at a minimum and the dining room in order.

We have it from reliable sources that Bob has his heart set on a certain girl at Scarborough School, for the telephone wires to that institution are kept humming with her number.



Robert Henry Brooker

Entered September 1943

"Bob" "Brook"

Football '43—'44

Baseball 43—'44

Beagles '43—'44

Choir '43—'44

Præfect '43—'44

Although Bob is a newcomer to Saint Peter's, he has entered into all activities with real spirit. As a member of the football team he was a star halfback. Brook was also appointed Præfect and has done a fine job in the White House.

A favorite expression of his is "hey suh!", but his idol is Frankie Sinatra. In fact The Voice is pasted on the inside cover of his notebook, and we wonder if a certain girl from Connecticut realizes this fact. It is agreed that she is his one and only, but The Swooner seems to have something extra.



Grant Neven Pealer

Entered September 1943

"The General"

Beagles '43—'44

Choir '43—'44

Dragnet '43—'44

Grant, who hails from Elmira, New York, is another recent arrival to the senior class. His good nature has made him popular with the older boys, besides the fact that he always has several jars of wine jelly in the closet.

Being an outdoor man and sportsman, he naturally joined the Beaglers. It is also rumored that he is an amazing outfielder, and the baseball team is expecting another DiMaggio.

Although The General seems to have that certain way with the women, it is impossible to focus his affection on any one member of that admirable sex.

CLASS PROPHECY

It is the year 1953, and in the quiet recesses of Tacinies' in Greenwich Village, the Class of '44 is having a reunion for the sake of old times. Seated around the spaghetti and wine bottles are five figures. One is dressed in clerical clothes, while in sharp contrast, the person next to him has on the brilliant clothes of a sportsman. A third is dressed like a typical villager, while the other two are attired in business suits.

As we look at the clergyman, we realize that time has not changed Phil Nordeck. After graduating from seminary, our Senior Praefect was made chaplin for the Long Island Railroad, as the company found that only the power of God could bring their trains in on time. The glint in his eye indicates that there might be a new Bishop of Long Island, but we feel Phil is more suited for the railroad and cigars.

The quiet man in the business suit covered by a leather jacket next draws our attention. As he lifts his beer glass, we recognize Bill Robinson, buyer extraordinary for the Armour Meat Packing Company. After serving his time in the Navy brigs, Robby decided to settle down and make money in Kansas City, where bull slinging is profitable.

The other man attired in business clothes has a sparkle in his eye that is reminiscent of his school days. It is Bob Sides, who for the past ten years has done everything from draping mannikins to setting up a business for the purpose of punching holes in doughnuts. As he sits there, sipping his wine, a faraway look comes into his eyes, indicating that he is probably planning a trip to England—if she is still there.

The well tailored form of Grant Pealer next catches our eye. As he settles back in his chair to light his pipe, we can see he is leading quite a contented life. After browsing around the wilds of the country, looking for trout in the Salt Lake, and bears in the everglades, the General decided to settle down. At present he is general manager of a company that makes dashboard lighters for roller skates. He refuses to discuss his business, but we can imagine what it is like.

At this point we focus our attention on the fifth member of this unique quintet. We have only to look at the artistic peg in the trousers to realize that it is Bob Brooker. It seems the spirit of the Village has prevailed upon Bob, and at the corner of 12th and Greenwich, we find a door bearing the following lettering, "Robert Brooker, Connoisseur of Languages & Expert on Filling in the Blanks of Examination Papers." Thus we are pleased to find that our worthy scholar has found his vocation.

As the clock strikes twelve, the five members of the Class of '44 offer a toast to the Class of '54 and to each other, for it is New Year's Eve in the Village.



THE YEAR IN RETROSPECT

As we look back over the past year, we realize that this has been one of the most successful ever for St. Peter's. The school has had its enrollment and its property more than doubled since last spring, with the addition of the Junior School and the acquisition of the Tompkins Estate. The former, under the direction of Mr. and Mrs. Keller, has thirteen boys enrolled. The latter, directly opposite the School, can accommodate forty boys in its three houses.

The Saturday Night Club was organized to provide a form of entertainment for the boys on Saturday evenings. The clubroom, located on the new property, was converted from an old carriage house by Mr. Borsari and Mr. Terbush. The decorations were generously furnished by Mr. Hurd, father of one of the junior boys. It is rumored that the Boar's Head Festival will be held here next year.

The school was greatly honored last October when Cannon Bernard Iddings Bell visited us one week-end and held a series of retreats. His addresses were exceptionally interesting and we really appreciate His Reverence's interest in the school.

The Boar's Head Festival this year was perhaps less elaborate than on previous occasions, but for the comparatively small amount of work put into it, it proved as great a success as any put on in the school. The handful of guests really enjoyed it.

Early in March, eighteen boys were baptised, and in April, Bishop Campbell of Liberia (retired) confirmed twenty-one students in a service in the Chapel.

The boys and masters at St. Peter's must really be given a hand for the great work they did during Lent. An average of thirty people were present for the daily, voluntary, Masses throughout the season. The Lenten Missionary collection, which was given by the boys out of their allowances, and other sacrifices, amounted to slightly more than 95 dollars. The Easter offering, which was for the benefit of the school chapel, was nearly 120 dollars. That is something of which we can be proud.

When this edition of the MITRE went to press, the show put on by the school in the Heckscher Theater in New York City, for the benefit of the new schoolhouse, had not taken place. However we are hoping for a great success so that next year's students will have a bigger and better place to study.

That about covers the main events of the year except for the Spring Prom and Commencement. We can only say that if the school has only the comparative success of this year in the future, it cannot fail its purpose.



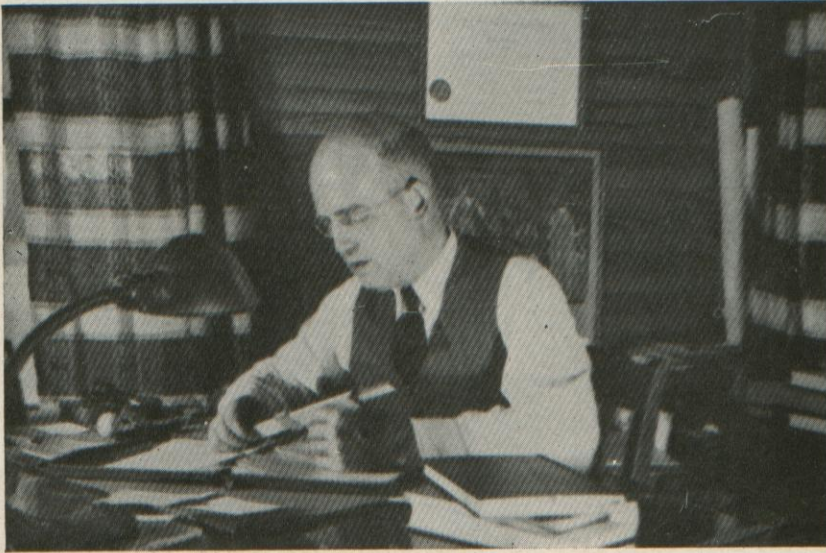


FATHER LABIGAN

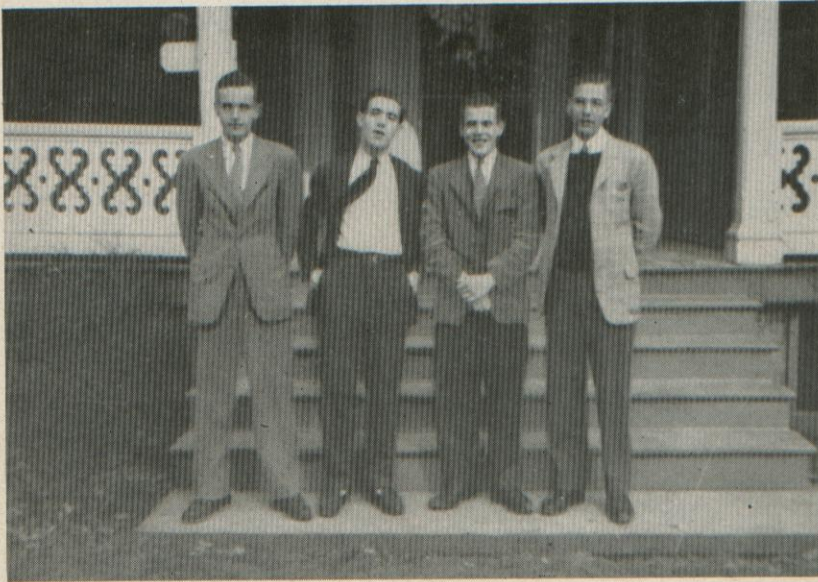
For the past three years, Father Labigan has been in charge of the language department here at St. Peter's. He also served as Assistant Chaplin and Rector of St. Michaels Chapel for two years. We are all grateful for the excellent work he has done and the wonderful times he has shown us.



SWIMMING POOL



Once again the Senior Class would like to express its appreciation for all that Mr. Drake has done for us throughout the year.



PRAEFECTS

The fact that the student body is much larger this year, and that there are greater responsibilities and duties to perform, has not hampered the praefects from keeping the ideals set in preceding years. They have done a fine job in both houses and have managed to keep the school running in good order.

FOOTBALL

The 1943 football season was one of the most disasterous ever encountered by the school. The team played seven games, the heaviest schedule ever booked by the "Saints", losing six while drawing even in one. However we can say that schedule difficulties and lack of capable substitutes helped bring about these defeats.

The line-up on opening day, and the one which was to be used in all but one game, was as follows: L. E., Harrington; C., De la Chesnaye; R. E., Sides; Q. B., Campaign; H. B., Brooker; F. B., Capt. Robinson. The game, which was the first of four straight to be played at home, was against St. Joseph's School. The final score was 14-14. In this nip-and-tuck battle which saw the visitors tie the count in the last two minutes of play, two touchdowns by Robinson, a beautiful place-kick by Sides after one touchdown, and a sixty-three yard sprint by Brooker, took top honors as far as the "Saints" were concerned.

St. Joseph's came back a week later and handed the school its first of six straight defeats, by a 32-20 score. The only bright spot in a tired St. Peter's team was Bill Robinson as he personally scored two touchdowns and passed to Brooker for another.

Irving School was the next opponent and in a close, well played, game on a wet field, the "Saints" took their second loss. The 14-6 score proves that both teams put evrything they had into it. The lone tally for the home team was scored by Brooker on a 54 yard run.

With Brooker on the sidelines because of an injury received in the previous game, "Chick" Dewell started in the half-back spot against Scarborough School. The 25-0 beating only helped to set up the team for a 44-0 shellacing which Irving School handed it the following week at Tarrytown.

On the wettest day of the season, St. Peter's lost its fifth straight to St. John's Military. Neither team was outstanding and the "Saints" score came when Sides took a pass from Brooker and stepped over the goal-line.

The final game, played at Scarborough, was undoubtedly the best of the season. While losing 18-6, The "Saints" proved that they could really play grade A ball. In this hard-fought defensive game, St. Peter's only count came when Brooker broke away for a 98 yard touchdown run on the kick-off after Scarborough's first score. Every player deserves a pat on the back for a truly great effort.

We must give thanks to every member of the squad for a tireless effort to carry on the football tradition here at St. Peter's. To Captain-elect Wes Harrington, and the members of next year's team, we wish every bit of luck and success in the world.

Lettermen this year were: Robinson, Brooker, Campaign, Harrington, Sides, De la Chesnaye, and Dewell.



SAINT PETER'S FOOT BEAGLES

This year the boys who participated in Beagling have had to depend more or less on themselves; as Mr. Saunders entered the Navy with the commission of Lieutenant (jg). However, with the fine cooperation the Junior Master, Phil Nordeck, received from the boys Beagling has been able to continue.

Although transportation difficulties have increased since last year hunts were held every Sunday, weather permitting. Only those members of the field residing in the immediate vicinity of the hunt were able to attend regularly. The season however can be considered a success.

The squad consisted of eight boys for the better part of the year. All the kennel work was done under the direction of the Junior Master, who was handling the job without the guidance of Lieutenant Saunders. Credit must be given to Nordeck for maintaining the kennels in excellent condition.

Ellis Asplund, this year's First whipper-in, was rewarded for his faithful service during the past two years by being appointed Nordeck's successor as Junior Master.

We were fortunate this year in having last year's Junior Master, Johnny Batten, and last year's First whip, Bob Schuster, return several times to hunt with us.

Rover the leader and oldest hound of the pack died suddenly on March 19, 1944. He had hunted well with the rest of the hounds that very afternoon. Rover was whelped on April 10, 1932, of Westchester Runner, and Westchester Maiden. The entire hunt staff mourns his loss.

HOCKEY "44"

Several Hockey games were in mind this season, but they were unable to be played due to weather conditions. The lack of a coach did not hinder us from having a large turn out. A lot of credit has to go to the squad for their high spirits and hard work. The fellows reported every afternoon ready for action. Sometimes they had to devote their time to shoveling snow off the ice, which isn't fun. The squad was under the direction of two seniors, Bill Robinson and Bob Sides. We wish a lot of luck to the Hockey team of "45".

BASEBALL

The coming season, with an eight game schedule, looks very promising for the Saints. The squad is under the direction of the baseball genius, Father Geerts. Out of eighteen fellows on the squad, there are eleven likely to play in the first game. They are "Ground Hog" Schwader, shortstop and relief pitcher, "Sneaky" Harrington, first base, "Stonewall" Brooker, catcher, "Curve Ball" Robinson, pitcher and captain, "Jolting' Joe" Pealer, outfielder, "Winsome" Weigarten, outfielder, "Swampy" De la Chesnaye, outfielder, "Ducky" Sides, outfielder, "Wandering" Wilcox, third base, "Slicer" Campaign, second base, and "Backstop" Traganza, second string catcher. The team's manager is Bill Wickings who is always at hand when we hold our practices four afternoons a week.



SERVING OUR COUNTRY

William Rueger
William R. Menard
Lieut. Culbert C. McGay
Henry Bersing
John Batten
Louis A. Bersing
Robert H. Byrne
William B. Dayton
George Hickok
Robert E. Haring
Lieut. Donald R. Hart
Edward M. Ogley
Richard Orcutt
Alfred Petersen
Calvin A. Pollard
Paul Robinson
Gordon P. Dewell
Henry D. Bumsted (honorable discharge)
Robert B. Cozzens
Jay F. Fisher
Felix Gerstel
Kai Schwensen
Leslie H. Moore
Philip S. Price
Matthew F. Powers
Fred P. Stafford
Russell Tilley
John T. Westerlund
Charles A. Zabriskie
James Blake
Louis E. McFadden
Peter Messer

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The Class of 1944 wishes to thank the Class of 1943 for establishing the Mitre as the Yearbook of Saint Peter's School. We hope that the successive classes will continue this tradition.

