

CLASS PROPHECY *

(Written by Karen Laymon and Judy Parsons)

Here we are ladies, gentlemen and students at the Danville State Prison. With the cooperation of Warden C. O. Walls the class of 1959 has been permitted to run through the records of the 1958 Danville State Prison parolees to show their progress in the past twenty years—if there has been any. These parolees might have had a very musical school life but things have changed in the past 20 years. Now the only records they ever hear are prison records.

The first records that we come across are that of Jerry Arnold, Marvin Morpew, Frank Harrell, John Peyton, John White and Fred Morgan. Due to their marksmanship attained while seniors in high school, these boys all were retained as Prison guards.

As we wander still further we come across the records of Don Wilson, Charles Sale, Max Clay, Dick Neal Don Teany and Jack Ingle. These boys on the outside have done wonders. They have formed a nationally know club, the 'N.A.B', National Association of Bunkies, with Jack Ingle as president.

The Prison Weekly (which is never on time) couldn't do without Linda Snyder and her associates: Linda Caskey, Janet Buchanan, Wilma Eldridge, Barbara Smith and Mildred Smith so Warden C. O. Walls insisted that they remain.

Darlene Ewing, also on the Prison Weekly, was sent to sunny Florida to finish her term.

By the records it shows there was a hot love affair between Ken White, alias 'Sweetie' and Judy Davis. It seems that these two got married and they now have many little 'Sweeties'.

We see the 'Hi Gang Girl', Mary Jo DeLand, alias Ranger Woman, is now playing center on the Syracuse 'Gnats' basketball team.

Here we cross the longest record of all, Roger Tolbert's. You name it. He did it.

We regret to inform you that there has been the deaths among the parolees, that of Dean Dodson and Deloss Jones, alias 'Jumpin Jim'. It seems they killed each other over a little love affair.

The next records we see are those of Alice Chalfant, Ann Cummins, Sharon Dininger, Karen Hayes, Harriet Harvey, Peggy Every-Clayton and Anne Kendall, all known as the 'Teen Toppers'. These girls danced their way to fame in prison, but on the outside they couldn't do any better than burlesque.

We're beginning to lose faith in the human race. Hasn't anyone made a real success of themselves ??? But wait !!! Here is Don Helton, alias Mr. Wonderful's record. We see that Don has made a big success in the entertainment world. He is the manager at the 'Fox' headlining Karen's Teen Toppers'.

Right next to Don's record is John Daugherty's. He is now a full pledged garbage collector. What he doesn't eat, he throws away.

In the Danville Prison they had a wonderful band, consisting of Paul Davisson, Jeanne Gill, Florine Threlkeld and Phil Myers. They have all ended up in one of New York's finest orchestras; no, not the New York Symphony, the Salvation Army Band.

We see that the quite refined Carolyn Day and Madonna Money have changed since their prison days. Carolyn is now a torch singer in a Chicago night club where Madonna is the hat check girl.

Dan Scott and Dave Taylor are now family men, instead of having rings around their ankles they've got them in their nose.

Ronald Johnson, inventor of the well-known bug-killer 'Paid' is doing wonders around the old prison.

After Mike Glover's long stretch, due to 'grave robbery', he is now in charge of the city morgue where everything is first hand.

Luckily, all 59 D.H.S. inmates ate well during their confinement. Bill Cody, a trustee, was the overseer of the Agricultural Department. His assistant, John 'Bones' Hughes was head dietitian.

One of the more talented parolees has gone into radio. He has taken Bouncing Bill Baker's place. The show is called Bouncing Boom Boom Bowen produced and directed by Fred Leedy.

Here is Jim Gregg's record. Jim is in the veterinarian field. He is head 'tick picker'.

In our records it shows that Roger Phelps, Melvin Morphew and Ken Hunter have taken up permanent residence in the Danville Bachelors Country Home. Their girls just couldn't wait 20 years.

Judy Officer is an old maid, but not of her choosing. Larry just can't find time to quit reading his scientific books and marry her.

We're so sorry to say that Rodger Watson is still here. It seems that he only had a few weeks left when they threw him into solitary confinement for having hydrophobia.

There's only two incomplete records out of the whole bunch, that of Don Fuson and Gary Hoffman. The last time they were seen, they were floating down the Wabash River on a raft.

I guess you always leave the best to the last. The parolee that made a real success of himself was John M. Howard. John is President of the Colbert Flashlight Company.

And this concludes the run down of all the 1959 Danville State Prison parolees. But wait, there's been one name left out. Why doesn't Richard Hill have a record? He must have some kind of pull.

** Retyped verbatim from the Pow Wow Senior Edition, May 28, 1958. Spelling and grammatical errors were corrected.*