

# EAGLE'S SCREAM

1927-1977 commemorating 50 years of teaching, counseling, and learning

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Eagle Rock High School, L.A., Calif.

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## Recalling half a century of changes

By Brian Arndt, Editor-in-Chief

"On September 12, 1927 a comparatively small group of students stood in the auditorium — stood for there were no seats installed at the time — and formed on that day the nucleus of the present extensive organization that is Eagle Rock."

"During the first term, activities were obviously limited until clubs and organizations could get together. The students responded to their task manfully and at the end of the first year had a school paper, an orchestra, a glee club, a dramatic club, and a stagecraft club, as well as a full complement of athletic teams, among other organizations."

Comprised of 750 students and under the principality of Miss Helen Babson with Mr. Bruce Kirkpatrick as Boys' Vice Principal, Eagle Rock High School was in its infancy of its now 50 years of teaching, counseling and learning.

The Responsive Service of Dedication was performed on Friday, January 13, 1928. During this ceremony, the President of the Board of Education, Mr. John B. Berman, presented the keys of the high school to its first principal, Miss Helen Corliss Babson. With the following response Eagle Rock High School was officially opened:

"In the name of education, because we believe it to be the cornerstone of democracy, *We dedicate this school.*

To the ideals for which this country was established, by which our nation has been upheld, and through which it will go on to future greatness, *We dedicate this school.*

To the community of which we are a part, to the State of California under whose laws we live, to the United States of America our country, *We dedicate this school.*

To the beauty by which art, music, and literature minister to our souls, *We dedicate this school.*

To the skill which we learn from the useful arts as they train us to be good workmen, *We dedicate this school.*

To the knowledge of the past which fits us to help solve the problems of the present, *We dedicate this school.*

To an appreciation of the thoughts and feelings of the nations as expressed through language, *We dedicate this school.*

To the exact knowledge and the experimental method of science, *We dedicate this school.*

To the development of strong and healthy bodies ready to meet the tasks of life, *We dedicate this school.*

To the service which we, the future builders of America, hope to render to our country and to all mankind, *We dedicate this school.*"

But to go back a year or more before this dedication one would find that students were attending Franklin and Glendale High Schools. When Eagle Rock became a part of Los Angeles only the seniors were allowed to complete their final year at the two schools. Thus Eagle Rock did not have its first graduating class till 1929 when 43 students took part in the first commencement exercises.



The original building showed much creativity in its unique architecture.

The junior high organized a government in 1944 as senior high and junior high were treated as two indistinctly separate schools, although both occupied the same campus and were under the same principal.

Mr. Robert E. Kelly was the second principal replacing Miss Babson upon her retirement in 1945. Miss Babson was honored for her 18 years of work in the constructing of Eagle Rock High School.

The war came to Eagle Rock, though not directly. It took the lives of many as shown by an impressive plaque presented to Eagle Rock by the parents of one Eagle Rock World War II casualty. The plaque bore evidence that 55 or more graduates had given their lives for their country.

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Mr. Kirkpatrick



Mrs. Noe

Despite the loss of its first graduating class, Eagle Rock continued to grow adding Mrs. Margaret Noe as Girls' Vice Principal, six new bungalows and a new junior high wing.

In 1937, the enrollment reached 2000 pupils with 71 faculty members. However, two new junior high schools were built in the community the same year causing the enrollment to drop to 1300. With this decrease the transfer of Miss Noe in 1943 was necessary as low enrollment did not permit two vice principals at the school.

The above nameplate is a reproduction of the original used on the first issue in 1927.

## Photo club presents 'Sight and Sound'

Eagle Rock's Photo Club will present their annual Sight and Sound program April 21 and 22 at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium. The program will consist of slides taken by E.R.'s advanced photographers, programmed to popular music.

Each year the photographers look forward to this event anxiously because of the time and hard work they spend putting it together. The advanced students, in Mr. Born's photography class have put together a show, working with their favorite subjects.

Photographer Maureen Pengilly, who is head of the program, will be doing her sequence on sailing and seascapes. Dean Broking is putting together shots of various freeways. David Turner is doing his sequence on

cruise. Tom Stockton will put together mountain scenes, Bill McGlashan's subject is night life and Bret Williams will gather shots of the civic center and downtown skyscrapers.

This event reflects the many talents of the Eagle Rock High's students. The program was originated by an Eagle Rock student five years ago after being impressed by a similar demonstration put on by the Kodak Camera Company.

Photography today is a popular and well-paying field. Students from Eagle Rock will show why at their Sight and Sound show.

## March 19 schedule

1:30 p.m. Auditorium Program — "Eagle Rock High School — the First 50 Years". Music, film, guests, cheerleaders. Sit with your former classmates and teachers.

2:30 p.m. Walk Down Memory Lane — Tour the campus, view the new Liberal Arts wing, photo and ceramics labs, greet members from your own class in the gym, sign the roster.

3:00 p.m. Anniversary Faire — Eagle Rock hats, Totems, Eagle's Screams, buttons, balloons and food will be on sale.

## Girls' League hosts dad-daughter dinner

The date has been set for this year's annual Dad-Daughter Banquet sponsored by the Girls' League.

Every year a theme is thought up for the event and this year's theme is "A Dad For All Seasons." Each dad-daughter team will dress in the outfit of their sport.

This year's banquet will take place at Glendale College cafeteria on March 30, 1977. The evening will begin precisely at 6:30.

For dinner each person will be served chicken, mashed potatoes, green beans, homemade rolls and apple pie. Besides the food there will be

plenty of fun things for the girls and their fathers to do such as games and contests.

Dunlap-Turney will have their cameras there so each girl can have her picture taken with her father for \$3.50.

If a father can not come a girl is welcome to bring a teacher, relative or a friend to the dinner.

Tickets for the banquet will cost \$4.00 per person, and that does not include the price of the pictures.

Tickets can be purchased from the student store until March 24, 1977.

It should be a memorable experience for all.

# Recalling half a century of change

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The campus continued to grow steadily as in 1950 new bleachers were added to the athletic field which in 1927 started out as a waisthigh growth of weeds. In 1951 two new music studios and a new enlarged shop building were added to further expand the facilities.



The new building in 1970 rises above the demolished original structure.

The school's population was also growing along with the campus' additions. One Thousand, five hundred and fifty-six students with 69 faculty members comprised the census for 1951.

After eight years of service Dr. Kelly stepped out to let Mr. Charles E. Sutcliffe take over the principal's office in 1953. In the same year of this exchange, the Freedoms Foundation presented Eagle Rock with the principal school award for the Korean Club project, February 22, 1953.

Nineteen fifty-five, and the school is still growing larger with 1750 students now attending and 73 faculty working.

The Freedoms Foundation once again in 1956 gives to Eagle Rock a gold medal from the same source, this one "presented to Eagle Rock High School honoring Eagle Rock High School Eagle's Scream."

In 1957 the student body purchased through their own efforts, the electric scoreboard presently used on the boys' field. This was a year-old gift when the boys' gym was finally finished and dedicated. The campus was still growing and continued to add six more new bungalow classrooms in 1959. This was the same year that the girls' gym was remodeled and the girls' field was laid



A poem to the tower by Ball and Rhoades, '52.

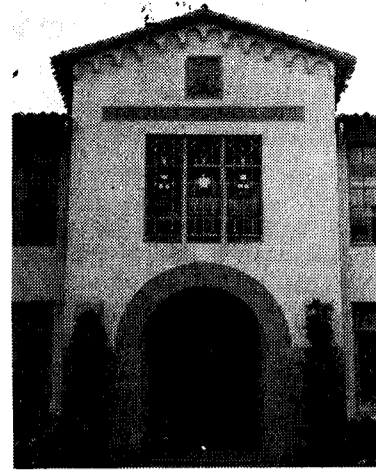
Soaring skyward stands the tower,  
Symbol of the things we love,  
Vault of hope, esteem and power,  
Reaching to the skies above.  
Strength and power will prevail,  
Through the years that are to be.  
Eagle Rock! To thee, all hail!  
Fount of hope and liberty!

out. The entire cost of \$3000 was raised through campaigns by the student body over a period of one year.

In 1960 the building was color waterproofed in attempts to add new color to the outside of the school. However, only ten years later in 1970, the original building started to come down and a new building was erected, this one closer to the hillside.

Nineteen Seventy-seven brought the completion of a new Liberal Arts wing adjacent to the already aging seven-year-old building.

Today, 50 years from the start of that infant school, an institution, formed by the people who graced its offices and walked its halls, has arisen from a barren land of emptiness to become a symbol of the strength and unity of the little community called Eagle Rock.



E.R.'s 'front door'

## E.R. chosen for eight year study

By Brian Arndt

"A good teacher will be a good teacher, no matter what educational system is used." These were the words Mr. Ben Cully, former coach and teacher at Eagle Rock, now serving as Dean of Students at Occidental College, used in describing Progressive Education.

This eight year study officially call "Progressive Education Commission on Relation of School and College," was started in 1932 and headed by the center at Ohio State University. It consisted of 30 schools, the majority being situated in the east. Only two schools were under the program on the west coast; University High School in Oakland, California, and Eagle Rock High School.

The school grades were separated into sections of seventh to eighth grade, ninth to tenth, and eleventh to twelfth. In this way, a two year cycle could be followed, using the same teacher to instruct the same students for two consecutive years in related courses. For example, English and Social Studies, or Math and Science would be paired together for a related class with two teachers teaching the class. This system would be followed for all six consecutive years.

Mrs. Leona Malone, personal secretary to the first principal, Miss Helen Babson, said, "It took strong teachers to know how to teach correlated subjects, because the subjects taught are no better than the teachers who teach them."

Mr. Cully said, "A poor teacher would go to pieces in this system because he couldn't handle the freedom in the classroom."

Mrs. John B. Sheppard, Athletic Department Head and Vice Principal '27-'36, carried the point further by stating, "I don't think we could say progressive education was for everybody. Less academic students did well when given the program, terrible without it, yet some people, if you take away their books, they have trouble making sound judgments. I think we need to find out more of backgrounds, interests, capabilities, etc., in short, a good deal of counseling work."

The study brought faculty closer together due to the planning involved. Teachers would get together individually to plan on their ideas and would also participate in numerous

meetings held throughout the year.

Miss Ruth Cheetham, a teacher during the eight-year study, and a sponsor of the school paper said, "At first the faculty fussed because of the change and all the meetings we had to attend, but gradually we got used to it." The students, however, according to Miss Cheetham, accepted it right from the start. The program offered them a change from the usual college preparatory course studies. The new program also enabled certain students to go on to a paying job directly from high school. However, 80 percent did go on to a college or university so the system didn't really harm anyone in their search for a

role in life.

Mr. Cully put the system into words by saying, "I really felt that Eagle Rock wasn't as progressive as other schools involved in the experiment, yet the study did do a lot of good." It wasn't as far out of line as many parents thought, but still as a community they did turn their backs on it, because they weren't brought into the working of it."

So in the early '40's and dangling on until about '42 where Mrs. Malone wrote up the final papers for the "Progressive Education Commission on Relation of School and College," the eight-year study, like past alumni and school traditions, slowly "drizzled" out.

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