One evening several months ago, Richard Wenning and I were talking together as we
relaxed in our dormitory. At one point the conversation turned to the importance of
individuals taking the initiative in starting necessary projects. A while later we found
ourselves discussing the need of our school for a newspaper to provide an outlet of
expression for the creative talent of the student body. Suddenly, we realized that
perhaps it was up to us to take the initiative in establishing this new paper. As a result
of our decision, three issues of “The Paragon” have been published and the necessary
facilities and staff have been provided for its continuation next year.

John Segure has acted as chief editor for the paper and Richard and I as directors and
section editors. Miss Nydia Padro has graciously served as secretary and Mr. Roger
Walker and Mr. George Pearsall as faculty advisors. The aim of “The Paragon”, as
published in our first issue, is as follows: “We would like it to be a source of
information from which students can become more informed. It should be an effort of
the student body through which we can exercise our thoughts. Its main aims are to
develop a broader and deeper sense of thought among students; and to stimulate
activity, a keenness for greater knowledge and an air of intellect. We would like this
paper to act as a mirror and reflect a true image of the high caliber of the student
body.” Our motto is: “Aim High. View Afar, and Think Profoundly.” We hope that the students of the future will support this paper and maintain its purpose, and that they will be a part of it and will be proud of it. We hope that it will live up to the expectations implied within its name—“Paragon”, a model of excellence.

Wrestlers Win 5, Lose 3

The N.Y.I. wrestling team finished its regular season with a record of five wins and three defeats. Victories were scored over C.C.N.Y., Kingswood High School in West Virginia, the Connecticut School for the Blind, Maryland School for the Blind, and Edison Technical High School of Mount Vernon, N. Y. Though the team placed only seventh in the ten team Eastern Tournament, three of its members placed, Joseph Barr taking a third place and Arthur Richardson and Raymond Heydet finishing fourth.

President Kennedy Awards NYIEB Graduate

Patrick Peppe, a graduate of the Institute who received his Bachelor’s degree from Harvard College this June was notified by Recording for the Blind Incorporated, that he would be the recipient of an award of $500 at the close of this academic year. Patrick, with his father, flew to Washington on May 28th to receive the award which was presented by President Kennedy.

Mr. Louis Lee Stanton, President of the Board of Managers and Dr. Merle E. Frampton, Principal, pose with the 1963 graduating class of the New York Institute for the Education of the Blind.

Wenning Wins $25 Prize In City Speaking Contest

Richard Wenning, New York Institute junior, won third prize, a $25.00 U.S. Savings Bond, in the All-City Public Speaking Contest held at Public School No. 9 in
Brooklyn on March 29th. Wenning who is also president of the Public Speaking Club, represented the school in stiff competition with five city high school finalists, one from each of the boroughs. The award was presented to Wenning by Congressman Hugh I. Carey, who had flown in from Washington for the occasion. Its announcement was the signal for loud cheering from the Institute’s entire public speaking class, which had journeyed to Brooklyn to root for its champion.

Camp Wapanacki To Open For 26th Summer Season

Camp Wapanacki will open its cabin doors for the twenty-sixth time on July 1st. Approximately, one hundred boys and girls are expected to attend the July and August sessions.

The New York Institute has long contended that the experience of camping in the traditional sense should be an integral part in the development of our children. Camp Wapanacki offers to enthusiastic campers the opportunity to learn skills unavailable to them in any other setting. Living close to nature and discovering her various moods is as exciting to a blind child as it is to the sighted child. Campers are offered a complete program of activities ranging from professional instruction in swimming and dramatics to mountain climbing and outdoor cooking. Assisting Director Roger Walker this year will be an unusually well-trained and experienced staff. Mr. Edward Clark will again serve as Assistant Director and Swimming Director and Mr. Fred Fraser as Director of Junior Camp. Approximately seventy-five percent of the staff will be returning from previous seasons.

Senior Girls Provided Homemaking Experience

As part of their work in Home Economics, every senior girl is given the opportunity to obtain practical experience in the art of homemaking. Under the supervision of Miss Moyer, the girls, two at a time, actually live in the apartment facility of the department for a period of two weeks. During the first week they are responsible for keeping the apartment clean and are made aware of the many details involved in housekeeping. The second week is known as ”Budget Week” for the girls are given a set amount of money to live on. They are required to plan three meals a day, shop for the food and prepare it, while keeping with the budget. At one dinner meal they entertain a member of the faculty. The girls who have participated in the program
during the past year are Donna Collins, Marean Halsey, and Nydia Padro. Kathy Peace, Theresa Riccardi, Florence Woods and Mary Liu.

Hong Kong

Editor’s Note: On Tuesday afternoon April 14th. the staff and the pupils of the New York Institute were privileged to hear a travel account by Mr. Louis Lee Stanton, newly elected President of the Board of Managers. (Mr. Stanton succeeded Mr. Walter K. Earle who retired from that position after fourteen years of service to our school.) Mr. Stanton’s account concerned his visit to Hong Kong and was presented as follows:

Hong Kong is an island 8 x 12 miles, mountainous and beautiful. It lies less than one mile off the China coast so the people who live on it are Chinese. Its climate is subtropical but it is not overly fertile. In the early 1800’s the British had a trade in opium among other things, between their Indian possessions and South China. The Chinese attempt to stop this resulted in two smallish wars which England won and as its prize it took the island of Hong Kong. This was not a particularly bright page in English history but much better was to follow. Later the Crown Colony of Hong Kong, for so it became, leased about 300 sq. mi. of adjoining mainland, including the city of Kowloon and some farmland. This lease has thirty odd years still to go. When I first went there in 1923 it was a British Navy Base, had some troops stationed there, and a population of about 400,000. The people were happy and trade flourished. There was a small race track and the English in their free time played polo. A year and a half ago I went there again. The English played golf and raced sailboats and the race track was enormous. But the big change was people and people are the story of Hong Kong. On the run from what they considered impossible living conditions in Red China their thoughts turned to free Hong Kong and they came by the millions. Now the population is almost four million, eight times what it was before, and still they come, maybe 1000 a week. In the immediate post war years many of the refugees who had been rich successful people in China were able to bring most of their wealth with them and they live in elegant style in grand houses. Other grand houses belong to people who made their fortunes for themselves in Hong Kong. Hong Kong has its millionaires. But they are the exception and the mass of people has had to be content with less. They arrived smuggled in by fishing junk or sneaking over the border at night, with nothing. Only the chance of a job and willingness to work, but to work for no wages! They had and still have in many cases, to start as partners for a share in the
profits of the business. No profits don’t eat, big profits live better. Under this system, quite the reverse of ours with its minimum wages goods are made and sold very cheaply and businesses prosper. Then they expand and move into better quarters leaving their old and often appallingly primitive and unsanitary ones to later arrivals. And so it is with their housing. At first a shack made of anything they can find—old packing cases, old oil cans. anything. Then they move into new buildings put up by the Government for them at modest rentals. These buildings are crowded five or six to a room but there were 180 of them holding 2250 people each and a new one every 10 days. A new school every 2 weeks and still it is not enough, shanties all over the place even on the roofs of newer buildings. So Hong Kong is a strange looking place. Palaces, new apartments and shacks, new factories, sweatshops, department stores and pushcarts, and barbers cutting hair in the streets—anything and everything all together. Then add to all this the people who live on junks and sampans many of whom never step on dry land at all, and you begin to have some idea of Hong Kong. This did not happen in spite of the refugees but because of them. They are the people who make Hong Kong hum.

Take a walk down Nathan Road in Kowloon and you will see Swiss watches for sale at less than Swiss prices—Hong Kong is a free port—duty free Japanese cameras and hi-fi equipment. Thai silks. Italian cloth and Harris-Scottish tweeds, diamonds and jade and tailors who will make you a suit over night. Give them more time and it will fit much better. In Victoria, that is the city on the Island. Daimaru department store, that is Japanese. and Red China Products Ltd. Hong Kong makes movies which are shown all over Asia. It also makes imitation flowers, yachts. marbles, frying pans, ships. flashlight bulbs. air conditioners, phonograph records, hairnets, footballs, cotton cloth and bird cages. You name it. Hong Kong makes it. Traffic—it is awful—diesel taxicabs, two-decker busses and trolley cars, hand carts, rickshaws, and people carrying large loads on their backs. Ferries make 400 crossings a day. Victoria to Kowloon. And paper shops. They sell automobiles and yachts, suits and grand houses and wads of money, all made of paper. You can buy what you will, take it to a temple. say the proper prayers, burn it, and a real one will arrive in Heaven for your dead relatives or friends to use forever. They say it will never wear out there. In the country, that is on the mainland in what they call the New Territories. leased land. you will see thousands of tiny farms that average about half an acre each, the size of a suburban lot here. Tireless men and women work them and harvest up to eight crops of vegetables a year, and supply nearly half the needs of 3 1/4 million people. And
pig pens. There is a story behind these. In Old China a poor man’s widow was in real
trouble; no land, no money, and no man. Some rich Chinese Hong Kong business
men took their plight seriously and set out to find a cure. The cure was pigs. Chinese
like pork so they give a widow 5 or 6 piglets and a pen and let her borrow enough to
care for them until she can market one or two. The Government helps with the loan
and several thousand country widows are now self supporting. Quite a people. Even
with booming industry and thriving farms no city can grow so fast, with largely
penniless refugees and their children, without having problems. Dozens of relief
organizations still work there giving out food and clothing and helping the sick. A
Catholic priest struggled with his share of $6,000,000 worth of surplus food that the
U.S. gives Hong Kong refugees every year. The people were hungry but did not
understand milk powder, did not like corn meal and what could they do with a sack of
flour and no place to put it? He thought of noodles. Now there are 18 noodle factories
in Hong Kong and the idea has spread to South America and India. Anybody will eat
noodles.

To go there as a tourist, as my wife and I did, is a great deal of fun especially if you
have a brother who has lived there for 40 years and with whom you can stay. You
will go to parties and meet some of the nicest people you ever knew. Chinese as well
as Europeans and Americans. You will eat Chinese food and some of it will be very
strange to you. Most of it is delicious— fish, vegetables, pork, birds’ nests and
snakes. I was particularly fond of shark’s fin soup, edible birds’ nests are far too
expensive for ordinary people but I am told they taste like very good cheese. Cobra
chow mein I would not even taste. But lest you think eating snakes is too queer, let
me say that the first time I ran across it was in our own country. A big rattlesnake
farm in Florida ships and sells canned rattlesnake meat all over the United States.

Talking about snakes, there are snakes in Hong Kong, cobras, very poisonous, and
pythons among them. The latter eats cats and dogs so they must be pretty big. I never
saw any snakes at all but a neighbor of my brother’s told me he had trouble with
cobras who get in his gutter pipes. He has someone pour hot water in one end of the
pipe for snakes cannot stand much heat. He stands at the other end and when the
snake comes out finishes it off with a golf club. lolly good sport too, he called it.
What of the future? Why doesn’t great big Red China just move in? The answer to
that is trade and the fact that though we are not allowed to do any business with
Communist China, people of other nations do. Red China earns good hard outside
free world cash from its trade that passes through Hong Kong. and Red China wants
that. The Hong Kong dollar is freely exchangeable into any other currency and you cannot tell anybody in Hong Kong that none of it sticks to the fingers of Communist officials. They can stash it away outside of their country against the day they may have to go on the lam.” Meanwhile Hong Kong’s great problem is water. They do not have enough of it to take care of their people. Right now my brother tells me the taps are running only 3 hours a day. In a very dry season they have been as low as 3 hours every other day. They are working on new reservoirs to catch and hold more rain water but they will not be completed for some years.

All in all, to me Hong Kong is a fascinating place.

Group Photograph: Scholarship Students

Dr. Merle F. Frampton. Principal. stands with scholarship students: Miss Beatriz Cola. Uruguay; Miss Dhun Cooper. India; Miss Virginia Sigler. Philippines: Mr. Guru P. Sharma. India; Miss Violeta Talice. Argentina; Miss Maria Bonel. Argentina; Miss Amelia Ayala Torres. Paraguay; Mrs. Elsa V. de Monzon. Paraguay; Miss Asir Gutierrez. Paraguay; Miss Maria E. Estrella. Uruguay; Miss Angela Sotomayor. Paraguay; Mrs. Pura de Antunez. Uruguay; Miss Maria Fae. Argentina; Miss Dora Heidi. Argentina; Miss Carol Hewitt,. Utica, New York. Some scholarship students were not available when picture was taken. They are: Mr. and Mrs. Jorge Alen. Uruguay; Miss Iris N. Bruno. Uruguay; Mrs. Nilda Albera de Alvaralga. Paraguay.

SENIORS. 1963

NYDIA PADRO. VALEDICTORIAN
Nydia came to the Institute from St. Pius Catholic High School. During her three years here she has served on the Student Cabinet each year, been secretary of the School Newspaper, Paragon, Secretary of Public Speaking Club, Vice President of Senior Class and a member of the chorus. Nydia plans to do office and dictaphone work after graduation.

THOMAS BLUME
Tommy came to us from Ivy Junior High School in Newark, New Jersey. He has worked largely in a vocational curriculum. He was active in the crew activities. Tommy plans to enter the Swedish School for Massage after graduation.

SALVATORE TAGLIERI
Sal entered Van Cleve Hall in 1951. He has pursued an academic and vocational curriculum. He has participated in chorus, Sea Scouts, wrestling and other activities. Next year Sal plans to return to the
DANIEL SULSONA

In 1949, Danny came to the Institute and entered Van Cleve Hall. Over the years he has pursued an academic curriculum. He has been active in chorus, crew, wrestling, Boy Scouts and is President of the Senior Class. Danny plans to do some type of Civil Service work in the future.

DONIVER PURSE

Doniver came to the Institute in 1950 and entered Van Cleve Hall. He has pursued an academic curriculum with stress in music. Wrestling, track, chorus and the school band have been his main interests. After graduation, he plans to continue with
THERESA RICCARDI

Theresa came to the Institute from the Lavelle School. She studied an academic curriculum but found time to participate in Girl Scouts. Following graduation, Theresa will seek employment.

DONNA COLLINS

Donna entered the Institute in 1960 from St. Barnabas High School. In addition to academic work, she has participated...
KATHRYN PEACE

Kathy came to the Institute from the Lavelle School for the Blind. She has been an active member in Girl Scouts, chorus, and the Senior Class. After graduation Kathy plans to work at the Lighthouse Industry.

MAREAN HALSEY

After graduating from the Lavelle School, Marean came to the Institute. She has been active in chorus.
and the Girl Scouts. Next year Marean plans to return
to the Institute as postgraduate in music, typing and
studies.

FLORENCE WOODS

Florence came to the Institute in 1960 from North
Babylon Junior High School. She has been active in
the Student Cabinet, chorus, Girl Scouts and the
Senior Class of which she has been treasurer.
Florence plans to do office work after graduation.

SENIOR SPONSOR

Miss Dorothy Ferguson, a graduate of Emory
University with a Master’s degree from Hunter College, has represented the school as sponsor of the Senior Class of 1963. Miss Ferguson teaches sixth grade, is Girl Scout Leader and assists in girls’ athletics and activities.

Fifteen blind children, ages fifteen through seventeen, will be attending the Hunter College Summer Program for Gifted Blind Youth, July 1st through August 9th., sponsored by the American Association of Instructors of the Blind, Hunter College of the City of New York, and the New York Institute for the Education of the Blind. These boys and girls are coming from as many states in the United States and will be domiciled on the campus of the New York Institute.

**Photograph of Practice Store**

The Practice Store continues to be a popular training unit for pupils interested in salesmanship.
AAIB and AIAA Cooperate At Indiana

Conventions
by Norman Reimer (Director. Metal and Wood Shop)

The Industrial Arts Workshop Committee of the American Association of the Blind thought it would be beneficial for its members to attend the annual convention of the American Industrial Arts Association, the professional organization of industrial arts teachers in the regular public schools, scheduled to be held in Indianapolis, Indiana during the week of April 8th - 13th. The thinking was that by continuing to meet only with other teachers of blind students, we were losing touch with a source of ideas, trends and developments in the broad field which could have an impact for inspiration in our particular situation and in shaping our particular curriculum. With this in mind, the Workshop Committee scheduled a series of meetings at the Indiana School for the Blind, situated on the edge of Indianapolis, to coincide with the national convention of the regular industrial arts teachers being held in the city proper. We were able to draw an excellent attendance of teachers from schools for the blind located in Indiana, Illinois, Minnesota, Missouri and Pennsylvania. Mr. Oakley and I were there to represent the New York Institute. We met to discuss our problems, especially in the area of textbooks in Industrial Arts, with representatives from the American Printing House, the Library of Congress, the American Foundation for the Blind, the Oswego Training Project of the University of the State of New York, the Illinois Blind
Project sponsored by the University of Illinois. During the same week, members of the AAIB were able to attend for the first time proceedings with our colleagues from the public schools at their convention. It was especially proper for us to do so this year for the keynote of their convention was “Education For All.” The program included major addresses and workshops not only in the areas of industrial arts for bright, average and slow learning students but, through the cooperation of the convention planning committees, also included a separate program on ”Improving Industrial Arts for Blind Learners” in which our Workshop Committee played a leading role. We were thus able to help those public school teaches who were resisting the placement of a blind student in their shops to at least consider the capabilities of the blind in terms of our own rich experience. At the same time we were helped by exposure to the philosophy project ideas and curriculum of industrial arts education which is growing in stature and importance reflecting the intense technical nature of our society and its productive processes.

We are extremely grateful to the administration for making our attendance at these meetings possible and sincerely hope that you all will see a reflection of our learning experiences in our work.

**Duane Steele Wins On Oratory**

The Captain Thomas A. O’Brien Post No. 968 of the American Legion, located at 990 Pelham Parkway South, Bronx, New York sponsored a successful and interesting Public Speaking contest in the Institute auditorium on Tuesday evening, May 14. The subject was ”Americanism.” The first place winner was Duane Steele whose topic was ”Are Basic American Principles in Danger?” Other winners in order were: Franklin Shiner. Diane Nicholas. William Raabe, Colin Morgan and Joseph Hudak. Gold medals were awarded to Duane Steele and Franklin Shiner: silver medals to Diane Nicholas and William Raabe: bronze medals to Colin Morgan and Joseph Hudak. The judges were Dr. Elena D. Gall. Mrs. Paul C. Mitchell, Dr. Robert Pryor and Mr. Harry Farrar. Winning points were given as follows: oratory 25, content 25, platform manner 25, audience reaction 25. All contestants ranked high in one or more areas. However, Duane Steele won first place by ranking consistently high in all areas.
Girl Scout News

Since the beginning of the year the members of the School’s Girl Scout troop have engaged in a wide range of interesting and rewarding activities. In March the Scouts traveled to Town Hall to attend a piano recital by Alexandre Feder, which they thoroughly enjoyed. Mr. Feder made the occasion even more perfect by signing autographs for all after the recital. On the Wednesday before Easter the girls hid Easter eggs so that the Van Cleve children could enjoy an old-fashioned egg hunt.

One of the troop’s biggest events was the trip to the Metropolitan Opera to see ”The Barber of Seville”. The girls studied the story and music prior to the trip so as to have a clearer understanding of the opera. The Scouts have also participated in both the District Rally and the Regional Conference and, of course, have been busy selling Girl Scout cookies.

“The Thinker” by Leslie Ball

(As it appeared in ”The Paragon”)

Back of the beating hammer, By which the steel is wrought, Back of the workshop’s clamor. The seeker may find the thought; The thought that is ever master, Of iron and steam and steel. That rises above disaster, And tramples it under heel. The drudge may sweat and tinker. Or labor with dusty blows. But back of him stands the thinker. The clear-eyed man who knows. Into each place and part, and whole. Must go the sweat of labor, But, the thinker, who has the goal, Actually gives the work its soul. Back of the motors humming. Back of the bells that ring, Back of the hammers drumming, Back of the cranes that swing. There is the eye which starts them. And watches through stress and strain, There is the mind which plans them, In back of the brawn, the brain.

Cheering Squad Sparkles In Bright New Uniforms

The New York Institute cheerleading squad was tastefully attired during the 1962-’63 school year in fancy new uniforms consisting of gold bateau neck sweaters and dark wool pleated skirts. New briefs with matched blouses were also provided for the squad through the courtesy of Mts. John Asaro. The girls accompanied and cheered
for the wrestling team at many of its meets and while attending the wrestling
tournament in Philadelphia entered the cheering competition for which they were
feated at a ”brunch” held at the Walnut Park Plaza Hotel. Cheerleaders for the year
included Mozelle Allen, Barbara Scott, Donna Williams, Maria Rios, Cathy Asaro and Pamela Alston. Brenda Burke served as substitute cheerleader. Delbora Wilson was named Chairman of Pep Rallies and Miss Hrim served as instructor for the group.

School Library Provides Many Varied Facilities
by Mary Hines Gunderman, Librarian

The school library is a busy, industrious place and yet it manages to preserve an
atmosphere of warmth and scholarly interest. A visitor, on a typical day, would find
its various facilities in active use. In the ink print and Braille libraries, for example, a
group of learners might be hard at work; in the privacy afforded by the archives
section, a student committee may be busily engaged in planning some future
program; and in the fourteen sound-proof booths a wide variety of activities would
probably be in process—a student typing a term report, another working with a
Braille writer, a third ”reading” a ”talking book” as it is played on an A.P.H.
reproducer, another listening to a Cassette Book as it is played on a multi-track tape
machine, and still others listening or taking notes while volunteer readers help them
with their class assignments.

The audio-visual room, which also serves as a lecture room, is used by teachers and
their classes interested in listening from tapes or records to reproductions of such
things as the ”News of the Week in Review Section” of the ”New York Times” and
current and back issues of ”Newsweek” magazine.

During the past year the Educational Research Library has attracted students from
South America, India, the Philippines, and elsewhere throughout the United States
(including students from local Hunter College). This room contains thousands of
pamphlets, books and professional magazines dealing with the area of ”Special
Education”. It also is furnished for and serves as a comfortable and pleasant meeting
place and all meetings of the Library Committee are held here. Students are assigned
to ”study hall” in the library during each school day and evening, except Friday. The
library also contains many ”open shelves” where students may browse with freedom
while seeking pleasure reading.

**Music at NYIEB 1962-1963**

Music figured prominently in a busy year at the Institute. In addition to the usual programs at Christmas, for the Anniversary of the Institute and for Commencement, there were several outside appearances by the students. Early in the season a program of choral and instrumental music was presented at Bernadotte Lutheran Church. Later in the year programs were given at high schools in Pleasantville and Elmsford, New York and at East Paterson, New Jersey.

In April, thirty-nine music students participated in a Music Festival at Perkins School for the Blind in Watertown, Massachusetts. They appeared in instrumental and vocal selections, and took part in a combined choral concert on the final evening. During the year, the students attended a number of musical events at local concert halls. Outstanding among these was the dedication of the wonderful Aeolian-Skinner organ at Philharmonic Hall of Lincoln Center, with performances by E. Power Biggs, Catherine Crozier and Virgil Fox. Other concerts attended were those of the duo-pianists Vronsky and Rabin, the American Symphony Orchestra conducted by Stokowski and pianist Donn-Alexandre Feder. On April 1st, twenty-two girls were present for a performance of the “Barber of Seville” at the Metropolitan Opera House. Requests for repeat engagements seem to indicate a busy season for 1963-1964. Booked, as of now, is a Music Festival in Overbrook, Pennsylvania for April 17 to 19, 1964.

Did you know that, per week, the following music instruction is given at the NYIEB?

- 136 lessons in Piano
- 22 lessons in Voice
- 15 lessons in Pipe Organ
- 46 lessons in Band Instruments
- 10 classes in Regents Theory
- 17 classes in General Music
- 10 Chorus rehearsals
- 2 Band practices

**PELHAM PROGRESS**

**Vol. 25, No. 1 June 21, 1963**

This paper is published during the school year by The New York Institute for the
The purpose of The New York Institute for the Education of the Blind is to provide the best known facilities for blind children to secure an education adapted to their needs. Children who are totally blind or have vision so defective to render an education by ordinary methods impracticable and wilt are capable of receiving instruction by the methods pursued in the Institute may be received upon application to the Board of Managers by their legal guardians. The Institute is non-sectarian and offers its program of training from kindergarten and through high school, including both academic and vocational courses.

While there is no residential restriction, the form of application varies with certain localities. From New York State, pupils may enter as regular state pupils from New York City and the counties of Westchester, Putnam, Rockland, Suffolk, and Nassau, securing their appointments from the State Education Department. Students may enter from New Jersey upon application in proper form to the New Jersey Commission for the Blind.

Advisory Board

Dr. M. E. Frampton  Paul C. Mitchell  George Pearsall