



The Tower

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Volume II, No. 11

JOHN ADAMS HIGH SCHOOL, SOUTH BEND, INDIANA

February 11, 1942

NEW BOOKS FOR ADAMS

In the past few weeks the number of books in John Adams Library have been increased by 50 per cent. The arrival of a shipment of 421 new books augmented by several donations have been instrumental in thus swelling the supply of books available for student use.

The new arrivals include not only essential reference material but also books concerned with mathematics, science, history, art, music, and many other fields.

Not to be neglected is the group of approximately 70 novels which should prove interesting to everyone who has even but a few minutes of spare time. In this group are the favorites "Death Comes for the Archbishop", Willa Cather; "My Name is Aram", Sarayan; "The Bounty Trilogy", Nordhoff and Hall; "All This and Heaven Too", Field; and Sinclair Lewis' "Dodsworth", "Babbit", and "Main Street". These and other novels may be taken out for a week at a time. Other than fiction books may be out only over night.

Among the donations of books made to the John Adams Library by students and teachers is the excellent set of books called "Messages and Papers of the Presidents" which were recently given by Thom Butler.

FORUM REORGANIZES

The Student Forum has just emerged from a period of re-organization. This group meets twice each month at the homes of various members to discuss topics which have been selected by a committee of three, Lillian Toth, Lee Wilson and Bob Horenn.

The first meeting was held at Lillian Toth's home on Thursday, Jan. 29, 1942. The subject discussed was "The Place of Morals in Modern Life." The next meeting will be held at the home of Phyllis Welber, 1307 E. Wayne, tomorrow evening, Thursday, Feb. 12, 1942. The topic for discussion will be "Date Doings."

Don't stay away because you think you have to have the highest possible scholastic ability. If you enjoy thinking and entering into group discussions, go to the Forum tomorrow evening and become a member. Students of John Adams, faculty members, and guests are all welcome.

All further announcements concerning meetings, topics for discussion, and other information concerning the forum will be posted on the back bulletin board of Mr. Krider's room.

G. A. A. REORGANIZES



SOPH'S HOLD DANCE

John Adams' 10B class started the new semester off with a bang. Last Friday they held a dance in the Little Theatre from three-thirty until five o'clock. The class members jived to good music, records having been brought by the committee. The Little Theatre was decorated in red, white, and blue and refreshments were served. The committee consisted of Marilyn Sunderlin, Reva Resmck, Paul Green, Dagny Lenon, Joan Kindig, and Eugene Keslie.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

From the TOWER Box:

Is it possible that the staff of the "Tower" does not realize why there are not enough subscribers to the paper. The news is confined entirely to a select few. All activities outside of this group are ignored. The ones that belong to this "set" are vastly pleased with the paper and cannot understand why everyone else does not enjoy reading about them.

ED: I'm pleased that someone has used the Tower Box to express their dislike of the newspaper. However, it seems that the author of this letter should realize that he could use the same medium to let us know about the gossip and other news of HIS "set" that he used to get this letter to us—namely, the Tower Box. I regret that this letter bore no signature. Anonymous letters have always seemed cowardly to me, for if someone won't let his name be associated with what he thinks and writes he must be ashamed of those same ideas!

WHAT GOES ON?

Some literary minded souls who read the "Tower" from "kiver" to "kiver", might think that Adams students are a super-intellectual type forever engaged in purely academic pursuits. However, we're really just 750 natural "kids", getting in trouble, or tangled up with practical jokers.

What goes on? Betty Richards had better consult a fortune teller. The reason for this is because when Betty's mother suddenly became ill she naturally stayed home to take care of her. The school ruling is that if you are absent for any other reason than your own illness, you must be excused in advance. So poor Betty had to accept a pink admit but never again since she got her crystal ball.

Evidently our school is not lacking in practical jokers. During activity period one morning Richard began to sit down and he sat all the way down—on the floor. As he slowly about to be seated some mysterious power reached out and snatched away his chair. He was seated. He turned to face the mysterious power . . . Molly Regan.

Another victim, Charlotte Mack, is very able to give you a play by play account of getting the hot foot (double or nothing) which was administered to her by Larry Reister while her dear "friends", among them Charlotte Horn, kept her wrapt up in conversation.

Double or nothing brings to mind the Sayers twins. Their system was exposed the other day in English. One twin was called on for his assignment but he was sorry but he wasn't able to recite because of inadequate material. Since he didn't have his assignment the other twin who had previously been absent was called on. With an accusing glance at his brother, he claimed that Bill had explained the assignment incorrectly. To which Bill replied—

WATSON WINS FIRST IN DISCUSSION

Saturday, January 31, found a John Adams debate group, composed of John Reitz, Dave Holmgren, Jack Boswell, Jack McGirr, and Carol Kline on their way to Peru, Indiana, to take part in an invitational tournament. The debate was sponsored by Peru High School and was an all-day affair. Our worthy debaters, together with the same from Central and Riley, left at 6:30 A. M. on a bus and returned about 8:30 P. M. We are proud to report that John Adams came through with flying colors, winning four out of six debates. Reitz, Holmgren, and Kline on the negative side won two and lost one. Likewise Boswell and McGirr on affirmative, won two and lost one. Their subject was "Resolved, that every able bodied youth, as a permanent policy be required to receive one year of military training before entering draft age."

On February 14 this same group will enter in a conference debate round, first at LaPorte and the following week at Knox. This group wishes to extend open arms to any Sophomore or Junior interested in debate.

A second group, belonging to the St. Joseph County Forensic league, whose members consist of Jack Yuncker, Fred Watson, Gene Gardner, and Lillian Toth is also active. Other schools in this league are Central, Riley, and Washington-Clay. Watson and Toth represented John Adams at a round table discussion held at Riley High School, Tuesday, February 3. Watson judged as contributing the most to the discussion was awarded 10 points. Marvin Breskin, a Central student, won second place and five points; thus Central and Adams each with 15 points are tied for first place.

The student body wishes these debate groups the best of luck in upholding the reputation of John Adams.

"always trying to push it off on me". Meanwhile we're waiting for the day triplets come to Adams. Then it will be just too confusin'.

Four little seniors, namely Jack Yuncker, Fred Watson, Bob Spaulding, and Roland Thorpe, have been very good boys for the last few days. Have you noticed? The reason for this is that they were "naughty" in 105 during sponsor period and had to stand in the corners . . . full house!

TOWER THE STAFF TOWER

PUBLISHED BY THE STUDENTS OF THE JOHN ADAMS HIGH SCHOOL, SOUTH BEND, IND.

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DEMOCRACY

"Four score and seven years ago, our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal."

These words were spoken by the sixteenth president of the United States — Abraham Lincoln. They represented the feelings of not only this great man but also of the thousands of Americans on this continent at that time.

Twenty-four years ago we went to war to save democracy. We are now on the brink of another conflict, probably to save democracy again. In the last war we lost 51,000 American soldiers in two years. Thousands more were wounded. For what? To save democracy. Just what is this democracy we are so anxious to save? The dictionary says democracy is a form of government in which the supreme power lies in the hands of the people.

To our forefathers, democracy was something worth fighting, worth bleeding, and worth dying for.

To the immigrant, democracy means free speech, free living, and the right to express who shall govern him.

To the foreign powers this democracy is a strong united world power that has the ability to unite against enemies that propose to disrupt our way of living.

To the farmer this democracy is a fertile land on which to till the soil and make a living for himself and his nation.

And to the younger generation, people like you and me, well, no one seems to know. Even now, as I listen to news broadcasts that tell of the Japanese declaration of war on the United States, I wonder if we shall go to war again to save democracy. Such seems inevitable. Sometimes I wonder if this nation "by the people, for the people and with the people", ever shall perish from the earth.

And sometimes I just wonder . . .

John Reitz.

SUPPOSE

Suppose there were no comic books
 What would the students do?
 For now they study Superman
 And all the crooks he slew.

Suppose there were no noisy halls
 Nor gossips on the stairs,
 'Twould seem like heaven here on earth
 With just these two repairs.

Suppose there were no light blue slips
 Adorned with unknown names
 To free a student from a class
 In which he stars (he claims).

Suppose there were no study halls
 Where friends could sit and chat
 Where studying is rarely done
 And girls discuss "that hat."

Suppose all girls would dress for gym
 And always wore their sneaks
 They'd look more like a nice neat class
 Instead of circus freaks.

Suppose these things should all come true
 Would our school be changed much?

It might, but we could always find
 New ways to get "in Dutch."
 —Mechanicville Halfmoon,
 Feb. '41.

HOW TRUE!

There was a little girl
 Who had a little smile
 She sent it to a little boy
 Who sat across the aisle
 He wrote a little note
 But he made a little slip
 And they both went together
 On a little office trip.

SLOGANS

THEY SATISFY: Evelyn Sutlin and Dick Troeger.
 TOUGH BUT SO SO GENTLE: Pat Lane.
 RIPENED JUST RIGHT: Johnny Doran and Ruthanne Reed.
 WITH MEN WHO KNOW TOBACCO BEST: Jack Rice.
 SOMETHING NEW HAS BEEN ADDED: Jack Conklin and Rosemary Geiger.
 THE SWEETEST STORY EVER TOLD: The Tower.
 HASN'T SCRATCHED YET: Janet Wondries and Lee Wilson.
 WHEN IT RAINS IT POURS: The night anyone plans a hayride.
 MODERN DESIGN MAKES THE BIG DIFFERENCE: June McDaniel.
 CORN AT ITS BEST — ANY STYLE YOU WANT: Bill Peck.
 THE HANDS MEN LOVE TO TOUCH: Joan Yohn.
 THE FRAGRANCE MEN LOVE: Their steady's perfume.
 NOTHING OLD FASHIONED BUT THE HOSPITALITY: Adams.

A dancey, a datey;
 Perchancey out latey
 A classy, a quizzzy,
 No passey, gee whizzzy.

Professor: "Why are you tardy this morning, Mr. Jones?"
 Jones: "Class started before I got here."

TOWER TALK

Hiddy ho,

Well, my little chickadees, here 'tis the month of February already, meaning twenty-eight days, four dances, bows and arrows, love, and boxes of candy (What for? Valentine Day, you dopes! When will you guys wake up??!) Time sure rolls by, changing everything and everybody. Take Mary Alice Hamblen f'rinstance. Yesterday was Hersh — today it's someone else. Oh say, you know it's that boy Bill.

This is great being a senior A and feeling sorta superior. Grown-up kiddies, aren't we, Thom Butler? Now, there's a fellow for you — Thom! One nice guy. Very, very intellectual and with that convertible, well, I could turn intellectual myself, I betcha, maybe for a while.

Honestly forgetting nonsense for a while. I've got something to say really, really important 'bout a fellow named Frank Fisher. You see there's a girl in 109, name Mary Rita, and Frank . . . well, anyway, it looks mighty promising, mighty. I guess Cupid hit Bill Taylor even before the fourteenth, dis here month, because Bill is learning the ropes of love life this very minute. Her name is Alice Lord and cute, too.

Speaking of new interests, Dan Muessel told me confidentially, that after reading last week's Tower on "Love", he went slam bang out and got him a new heart throb — Ruth Carrol. Dan's doing the right thing there.

Absolutely everyone is asking me if Bonnie McCullough is engaged. On account of that ring on the third finger, left hand . . . don't hold out on us, Bonnie. We want to know.

Just heard 'bout another new romance — Pat Barlow and Wesley Lange. Then there's Shirley and Milton having lots of fun these days, while Phyllis Van Houten is oh, so happy over Dean! But, Pat Irwin is shedding tears. Just a little love spat, I guess.

— TOWER TALK —

The Tower box reaped benefits this week. Listen to this:

THE SAME OLD STORY — Betty Shank and Wayne Alderfer.

I AIN'T GOT NOBODY — Eugene Pixby.

IT MAKES NO DIFFERENCE, NOW — Dick Sayer and Mary Ramsey.

I'M GONNA LOCK MY HEART AND THROW AWAY THE KEY — Bob Shank and Betty Rhone.

THIS LOVE OF MINE — Slats Ramer and Barbara Schubert.

NOBODY LOVES ME — Jim Shuttleworth.

YOU AND I — Lois and Ed.

BE HONEST WITH ME — Don Martin and Helen.

INQUIRING REPORTER

What could the Adams students do to better their school spirit?:

Dean Robertson — In just reply to this question, I can but hardly answer that we don't need any improvement. In basing this, I would say the necessity for school spirit is not of great importance because of the fact it doesn't do any visible good or harm and this being an educational edifice we are to learn not to jump around and cheer. This does not mean we should not support school activities.

Jack Rice — In my opinion, there is too much talk of school spirit around this school. Adams has plenty of school spirit and it is always shown in a well mannered way. If the faculty would stop throwing our lack of school spirit up to us, it would probably develop a lot faster.

Nancy Kuesner — My idea of improving school spirit is to have more cooperation between students and dances, students and games, in other words more school activities.

Bette Ann Malcolm — School Spirit? Show me a school that has more of it than Adams. Certainly no school in South Bend has a better showing at games, etc., and this, I think, is the most specific example of this thing called school spirit.

I give you my word . . . backing up your tardy excuse.

I hear A Rhapsody . . . our school orchestra.

Accidentally on Purpose . . . Answers like your neighbors.

Night and Day . . . school, homework, school, homework, school, etc.

Prof. Gale (Economics): "Many students are like coffee — 98 per cent of the active ingredient has been removed from the bean."

Uncle Moe was known to everyone in the city. He ran the pawnshop on the west side of town. His full name was Uncle Moses. One day while busy in his shop, he was attracted by repeated noises outside. Finally his curiosity got the better of him, and he walked outside and directly into the path of a sub-machine gun — Holy Moses!

The new Swedish cook, who had come into the household during the holidays, asked of her mistress: "Where bane your son? I not seeing hem 'round no more."

"My son?" replied the mistress, pridefully. "Oh, he has gone back to Yale. I miss him dreadfully, though."

"Yes. I know yoost how you feel. My brother, he bane in yail six times sence Thanksgiving."

TOWER MINOR STAFF TOWER

ASSISTANT FEATURE WRITERS.....Barbara Munro, Ruth Ann Mock, Pat Barlow, Vicki Dix, Rosemarie Lubbers, Joyce Marx, Janet Wondries.
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DIFFERENCE OF COLOR

It was early morning on the 10th of October, 1917.

As he dressed this early fall morning, Richard K. Morgan meditated upon many things. He looked back over his summer vacation which he had spent alone hunting in Canada. He recalled the enjoyment that his first big game had brought him, and the many other thrills of outdoor life. His thoughts drifted from this to the four happy years at Amherst that had just been completed. Then he thought of the millions left him by his grandfather, his last living relative, only four weeks ago, and how useless they would be anyhow, because in one hour he would be on his way to Camp Upton, with the rest of class A-1 men from Boston.

At the station to bid him farewell, were only two fraternity brothers. As to any girls, no! He was a confirmed woman hater.

He fitted easily into the program at camp and did not consider it strenuous as he had been a star football player for three years. He did however, become rather lonesome. Partially because he craved excitement, he one day filled out a card given him by the red cross, saying that he was a soldier without a family or many friends. To his great surprise he received, in less than two weeks, the following letter:

Dear Mr. Morgan:

I came in touch with your name this morning through the Red Cross, and am writing to you at once, as I dislike to think of anyone being lonesome.

I suppose your weather North is much colder than what we have down here. In fact, just last evening I attended a watermelon feast held out of doors. Don't you wish you could have been here? We had a wonderful time.

I presume that you are quite used to military drill, and enjoy it by this time. Sorry not to be able to send you a picture; however, a description will do just as well. I am 5' 5" tall, weigh 130 lbs. Am dark complexioned, and have dark hair and eyes.

My favorite amusements are outdoor sports.

As this is the first letter I have ever written to a man it will probably be a bore to you.

Sincerely,

Matilda ("Tillie") White

Second letter written one week.

Birmingham, Ala.

Dear Dick:

As per your suggestion I dropped the "Mr. Morgan."

I want to thank you very much for the lovely box of candy which accompanied your letter. I enjoyed every morsel of it.

Don't you think you were rather hasty in saying that I was the type of girl of whom you had always dreamed?

A friend of mine drives some wonderful cars, and as his people were out of town last week, we enjoyed some delightful rides. I am sure you would have enjoyed them if you had been here.

Sincerely,

Matilda

In the meantime two months of correspondence elapsed, during which time something momentous occurred as will be seen by the following letter written to Matilda by Dick.

Camp Mills

Dearest Matilda:

Everything has been spoiled. Instead of my leaving next Tuesday to spend a ten-day leave with you, I will probably be spending it with myself in the middle of the Atlantic.

Knowing as we do, that I will soon be in action, I am writing to ask you if we can't be married immediately upon my return to this country.

The wrong kind of an answer would break my heart as I have nothing else to live for.

With love, as ever,

Dick

Reply to above letter:

Birmingham, Ala.

Dearest Dick:

After due consideration I reply: "Yes, this is so sudden."

Lovingly,

Matilda

After a year in France, during which time exactly 365 letters were received and answered between the loving couple, Dick arrived once more in the U. S. at Charleston, South Carolina. He immediately sent the following wire:

Charleston, South Carolina

Dearest Matilda:

Back again. Arrive at your home tomorrow at four.

Dick

He started out on his trip with the air of one who has just discovered that life is beginning to be worth living. He passed most of the time during the journey in dreaming of the future with his pretty little southern wife.

There at last! He hastened up the street with a hurried step. As he approached within a block of her home he removed his hat and increased his stride.

"Oh Dick," she cried as she ran out of the house, "How glad I am to see you!"

He replaced his hat and walked back to the station. For low and behold she was colored.

Interlude—Central High School
—1920

TRUE STORY?

There's a team
That comes from Elkhart
There's a team
From Gary too,
There's a team
That hails from Mishawak
They come down to fight
The Red and Blue
Tho' we must admit
That they can play some
And they run
Their scores up toward the sky
Still the team
That carries off the honors
Is JOHN ADAMS HIGH.
—From the "Tower Box"

"What were Webster's last words?"
"Zythum, zyzomys, and zyzogston."

We mourn the passing
Of Ferdinand Bepps:
He walked down the stairs
Without using the steps.
Munsonian, Muncie, Indiana

The censor is a lovely man—
I know you think so, too;
He sees three meanings in a joke
When there are only two.
High School Buzz,
Hutchinson, Kansas

Little Bo Peep has lost her sheep,
But maybe it's all for the better,
For when they come back, they'll
hang on a rack
In the form of an angora sweater.
Lincoln News, Tacoma, Wash.

Dentist (just off for a round of golf, to assistant): "If anyone should inquire, Miss Brown, I'm away on business. I have eighteen cavities to fill this afternoon!"



Name: Morris Roth
Age: 16
Height: 5'6"
Eyes: Blue
Hair: Brown
Best Friend: Richard Troegar
Girl Friend: Windy City Girl
Favorite food: Southern Fried Chicken
Favorite color: none
Favorite sport: track
Favorite hobby: reading, fishing
Favorite subject in school: biology
Favorite saying: "Smile when you say that"
Career: Bacteriologist
Clubs: Library Club, Scouts
Added Comment: Telephone 3-9192

Brown had a lovely baby girl,
The stork had left her with a flutter:
Brown named her Oleomargarine,
For he hadn't any but her.

Little Miss Muffet sat on a tuffet.
Little Jack Horner sat in the corner.
The fool.
The Calumet Herald,
Hammond, Indiana

We would suggest that dirty fingers make dandy book marks.

Mr. Primmer: Did you take a shower bath?
Freshman: No, is one missing?

Do you know that:
Flattery is soft soap, and soap is usually 90% lye?

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Two more games, a brief breathing spell, and then the sectional. That, sport fans, is the basketball outlook for Adams.

Our last two games will be with Nappanee, at Nappanee on the thirteenth, and with Elkhart, here, on the twentieth. We should be able to pull through both games fairly easy, and, if our boys will only play better ball than they did against North Side of Fort Wayne, we should win both tilts.

Nappanee has lost quite a few more games than they have won. Even Washington trimmed them. In our last game, we play an overrated Elkhart team that also has a poor court record.

Here are the box scores for the Plymouth and North Side games:

ADAMS	B	F	P
Wamsley	5	7	4
Muzzer	4	0	3
Fragomeni	3	1	2
Heitger	3	4	4
Kalberer	1	0	2
B. Sayers	0	0	2
D. Sayers	1	0	0
Nash	1	0	0
Emerick	0	2	1
TOTALS	18	14	18

PLYMOUTH	B	F	P
Odell	1	4	2
Kubley	0	1	4
Kline	4	0	3
Mogle	1	4	2
Rhodes	0	1	3
Drubert	0	0	1
May	0	2	1
Rentschler	2	3	1
TOTALS	8	15	17

The Adams "B" squad won, 32-11.

North Side of Fort Wayne vs. Adams	B	F	P
ADAMS (30)	5	4	2
Muszer	3	0	0
Wamsley	1	2	3
Fragomeni	1	0	0
Emerick	0	0	2
Sayers	0	0	0
Nash	0	0	0
TOTALS	11	8	7

NORTH SIDE (48)	B	F	P
Hinga	5	4	1
Gunkler	4	2	2
Folles	0	0	1
Oetting	1	0	0
Barley	5	0	0
Walters	4	0	0
Leady	0	0	2
Leazier	1	0	1
Tinkler	1	0	1
TOTALS	21	6	9

Our "B" boys won again, 22-20.

PING-PONG

Some people are very talented at golf. Some play cards, others bowl, ride, or play chess, but there is one form of exercise everyone can take part in. Namely, ping-pong.

Fifty years ago the Parker Brothers of Salem, Massachusetts, invented the game of Bossima. This was played with a rubber ball on a table, over a net. Sets were sent to England under the name of "Indoor Tennis." The game was not a success. Later celluloid balls were introduced and when society took up the game it was first popularized.

No doubt you all know how ping-pong received its name, but for those who do not, if they will just listen closely to the next game they happen to see, they shall discover the reason for the name. When the paddle hits the ball, it sounds similar to the word "ping." When the ball hits the table the sound "pong" is heard. Thus the name "ping-pong."

One of the most popular things about ping-pong, or table tennis, is the fact that I stated before. Namely, anyone can play it. The popularity of the game was greatly retarded by the World War. Since 1915, however, the game has made headway in the U. S. In about 1925 the modern game really began in earnest. At the present the American ping-pong association holds annual tournaments. The winner of these tournaments receives the Parker Cup. In Europe the game has also taken hold and a similar award called the Swathing Cup is donated the European Champion. Fred Perry, incidentally, is said to be the world's best ping-pong player, having won the European Championship in 1928.

To give an example of how ping-pong is played in foreign lands, England has now affiliated over 600 clubs. Czechoslovakia has produced more champions than any other country. Even the Japanese, yes, even the Japanese have a ping-pong association of over 200,000 members. Not only that, but ping-pong has been named the national game of the Philippine Islands.

So you see, this American invented game has been played and is being played more all over the world. Over one million sets have seen sold in the United States alone and the next time you're playing on one of them just listen for those two sounds . . . ping-pong.

Is the doctor in?
No, he went out for lunch.
Will he be in after lunch?
No, that's what he went out after.

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Basketball, table tennis, science, and a juicy T-bone steak are tops with this lanky guard. Our six-foot friend was born here in South Bend in 1926. His early schooling was acquired at the Studebaker elementary. He went to Riley from the seventh through the nine B, coming to Adams for his 9A. While at Riley, he participated in basketball and track.

The fellow being introduced this week is farmer Don Barnbrook, affectionately called "Barney Barnsmell" by his friends. Don may get a chance to be a real Barnsmell some day because he plans to study agriculture at Purdue University.

Barney has played some marvelous ball on the "B" squad this year and he has seen action in a couple of varsity matches. He has a good chance of making the first string next year.

This sophomore's specialties are intercepting passes and getting rebounds. All he needs now is a little more control in his passing.

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22⁹⁵

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2nd Floor

BENTON'S

125 So. Michigan

KEEP BUYING
DEFENSE STAMPS
and
DEFENSE BONDS

★
SPIRO'S

Breakfasts
Student Luncheons
Dinners

★
Oriole Coffee Shop

1522 Mishawaka Ave.