

MAINE SOUNDS OFF '59

PRESENTED BY

MAINE TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT COUNCIL

This is it! You are now holding one year of Maine Township High School, the year that now is the most vivid and the most important to you, 1958-59. This year may have meant many things to you, but you are sure to find something on it that is Maine to you. Thinking back, you may remember Homecoming, a special dance, or election week. Through 12 inches of wax and Charlie (You'll meet him in a minute.) all these and many more will recall the Maine year 1958-59.

The record is yours, designed for you, even made by you, and its success depends on you. This is the debut; it could even be called a trial run. But to those who've worked on *Maine Sounds Off '59*, it represents long hours of hard work, staying up nights, taping sessions, writing sessions, and endless technical know-how. The job of making a record is a challenge, a lot bigger one than it seems at the start. But in the completion of the record we, and you, are faced with another challenge — that of making *Maine Sounds Off '59* as worthwhile as we think it is. We hope that some day this will rank along with the Lens, that this will be a Maine tradition.

Hearing your school may seem like a new concept to you, and your first question may be where did it start: *Maine Sounds Off '59* was born last summer (1958) as Jim Brennan, now general Chairman, was listening to this type of recording made by another school. The idea of an audio yearbook was appealing to him and to everyone who heard about it. With its many activities, and events, Maine offered endless opportunities to place its sounds within the reach of the entire student body. Along with Student Council's other projects, this was the perfect answer to keep the year alive in Mainites' memories.

In September Jim presented his idea to Student Council along with a plan for recording and producing. Executive board debated for weeks, and the week after Homecoming, Jim's summer dream became a reality. Council gave the go-ahead sign along with an appropriation of \$800, and *Maine Sounds Off '59* became official.

The money was put to use immediately with the purchase of a new high quality tape recorder. Although the project had not had official approval, some tapes had already been made such as Homecoming. Making recordings soon proved to be a full time job. Under the able guidance of Mr. Grobe, the audio department began to carry a tape recorder as standard equipment. Situations proved funny and at times tricky. It seemed rather odd to go to a dance with a recorder. Jim remembers standing in the hall with a mike under his shirt picking up hall sounds and hoping that no one would talk to him. During election week Mr. Grobe skillfully maneuvered the precious recorder among conga lines and combos to get some excellent, although typical, 6 A.M. revelry. The hardest thing was deciding what could be taped successfully that would provide interesting listening.

After weeks of recording and rerecording, Mr. Grobe and crew had accumulated over 31,000 feet of MTHS on tape. That's a little under six miles, or in terms of Maine, enough to reach around the football field 24 times. Hearing it took almost a full 24 hours. From this, the best recordings were selected and compiled into 60 minutes of Maine in sound form.

Sales were started in April with a week in which Council reporters took orders in homerooms. The sales committee, under Diane Ricketts, added another week of selling in the cafeteria.

Narrator tryouts were also held in April. Each candidate was recorded, and these recordings were judged by a Northwestern speech professor. The result: Bob Given.

In the spring the writers, headed by Candy Fox, listened to the tapes and created Charlie, an active senior with a phenomenal memory who would be Maine to every listener.

And with all these factors and the work of many more students, you now have your record, *Maine Sounds Off '59*. And think, all this time you have been reading you could have been listening to it.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

MR. GROBE—for his outstanding work in the technical field . . . THE AUDIO DEPARTMENT—for their assistance and facilities . . . THE ADMINISTRATION—for their cooperation . . . THE STUDENTS—that helped with the sales campaign . . . THE STUDENT COUNCIL—for its help in making this project the success that it is.

General Chairman: JIM BRENNAN

Narrator: BOB GIVEN

Financial Chairman: MIKE CALLAGHAN

Cover Jacket: SUSIE JACOBS

Sales Committee: CHAIRMAN DIANE RICKETTS; CAROL ERIKSON

Script Committee: CHAIRMAN CANDY FOX; MARY PLIMPTON; JOHN MCSWANEY; JEANIE ROE; BLUETTE ZIEBELLE

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Copy on Back: MARY PLIMPTON

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