

Nekoosa High School Contributes Heavily To the Armed Forces

A boy in uniform surrounded by envious classmates in slacks and plaid shirts was an oft-repeated scene at Alexander high school in 1944 as those who came of age put aside notebooks and pencils in favor of the heavier implements of Uncle Sam's fighting forces.

One hundred and eighty-eight alumni, from the class of 1921 to the June graduates of 1944 have donned uniforms which means that of the 325 boys who have graduated in that period over half are in the service. Coach Meiners, too, offered his service to his country and is now an ensign in navy blue.

Twelve girl graduates are wearing the khaki or navy blue or olive uniforms of the women's army, navy or marine corps or the starched white of the nurses. First to leave for overseas was a graduate of the class of '38, Second Lt. Marie Lancoor, an army nurse stationed in France. Cpl. Antoinette Mossey Cichy, a WAC, is now stationed in New Guinea. Other graduates are scattered over the country at naval bases and army posts.

As the months pass, alumni will return from abroad, wearing combat stripes, insignia and medals in recognition of their service.

Honor Roll

Three alumni have been reported killed in action in the service of their country, Capt. Le Roy Ruder of the class of '29 as a fighter pilot over France, Pfc. Dale Stage, '40 gunner in a tank division in France and Sgt. Bernard Buehler, '32 in Italy with the air corps.

The two graduates, now in the air force, who are prisoners of war in German camps are Lt. Arthur Cronins, class of '41 and Tech. Sgt. Norman Casey, '38. Listed as missing in action in the European theatre are Second Lt. Douglas Rezin, '37 and Pfc. Gerald Wipfli, '39.

Lt. Com. Joseph Zurluh who entered the service after his graduation in '21, holds the highest rank and has been in navy blue the longest. Nine years later, an outstanding athlete of Alexander high school graduated in 1930, nicknamed "Eggs" Manske. He went on to football fame at Northwestern and played with the Chicago Bears. Recently a national magazine carried a story of PT boats in the southwest Pacific by Royal Arch Gunnison. In it Lt. Manske was named as a crew member and his picture appeared with those of other famous athletes.

Tabulated lists of men and women in service made by Supt. J. E. Rohr for each class reveals that the class of '41 tops the list with 23 while 1923 and 1926 are the only classes not represented. The figures gradually drop from 18 in 1942's class to 17 in '43. The class which received their diplomas in June has nine names on the honor roll in the high school, main office.

Extra Curricular Activities

School clubs have been reduced in number but have remained active in their interests. Masquerade initiates amused the towns people with their quaint costumes early in the fall and will present an evening of plays later in the year.

The chorus and orchestra appeared most frequently in the news. Tuesday, December 19, they furnished the musical background for the annual Christmas pageant. Mrs. Elsbeth Petzold has instituted a junior orchestra to train a nucleus of musicians for future orchestras.

The Moccasin club must of necessity be active throughout the year to publish the annual so dear to the hearts of graduates and students. Miss Clara Iverson is again this year the faculty advisor.

Boy Scouts have been active in scout craft during the past year with Bill Grode reaching the rank of Eagle Scout. Several others have received the Star and Life awards. Regular courts of honor were held with good turnouts.

The whole troop attended the Camporee at Nepco lake last spring and a half dozen boys spent a week at Camp Tesomas at Rhinelander. They also assisted with tin and paper drives. Joe Grode assists Adolph Kozlovsky as leader.

The Girl Scout organization has grown in the past year to accommodate 18 Scouts and 32 Brownies. The older girls have met weekly as Troop 22 with Mrs. Vern Alnes while the Brownies divided into Troop 23 and Troop 32 have been led by Mrs. Alvin Sanger assisted by Mrs. Roy Kopp or by Mrs. Grant Cooper. The latter's troop will be full fledged Scouts next year. The three troops have realized \$18 from a recent sale of Scout cookies which will pay for the craft materials used to fashion Christmas gifts for their parents and for craft projects or parties in the coming year.

The non-denominational groups, formerly under the guidance of changing teachers are sponsored now by the Congregational Young Ladies' club.

Parent's Club Started

In addition to the Parents of School Musicians a second club not yet organized has been tentatively named the Parents of School Athletes. Mothers of athletes have already accumulated a treasury by sponsoring an athletic banquet in November and booths at games and dances. Proceeds are to be used to support the high school teams.

An older organization dubbed the Dand Mothers fattened their purse to the stretching point in 1943. As a result they have enjoyed a year of monthly social meetings with programs by the musical organizations which they sponsor. Mixing a little business with their pleasure the members salvaged scrap paper

HOMEMAKERS TAKE LESSONS

Membership remains the same in the Port Edwards Homemaker's club, namely 20. These women meet regularly once a month at the school recreation room and spend a worthwhile afternoon learning to practice and live up to the organization's purpose which is to preserve and improve home and community life.

Previously lessons were presented by delegates. The past year the plans were changed and every member takes her turn, two women attending the delegates' meeting to secure instructions then presenting it to their local group. For the current year the program includes lessons on yeast breads, re-styling women and girls' clothing, home nursing, and two open meetings on meat cutting, curing and canning, and making of dress forms.

The Port club had its own annual picnic in August and Christmas party on December 13. Since the club has no financial aim there are no dues except a small nominal fee for lesson expenses.

The year's officers are Mrs. Bert Yonko, president; Mrs. Hugh Hamilton, vice president; Mrs. Joseph Gilardi jr., secretary, and Mrs. Oscar A. Larsen, treasurer. Mrs. Larsen is also vice-chairman of the Wisconsin Rapids center.

at the school and voted to purchase two \$100 bonds to bring their total to seven bonds. They also donated to the Red Cross and blood plasma fund. In cooperation with the Port Edwards Band Mothers they sponsored the Pro-Arte concert at Port Edwards this fall.

Officers are Mrs. M. Prosser, president; Mrs. Ray Cleveland, vice president; Mrs. Glenn Buchanan, secretary and treasurer. The executive committee includes the officers and Mrs. D. Woodard and Mrs. Harvey Steinberg. Appointed robe committee members are Mrs. A. Cibula, Mrs. James Mena, Mrs. John Long and Mrs. Arnold Haessly, while Mrs. D. Woodard, Mrs. M. Prosser, Mrs. H. Steinberg and Mrs. Ernest Carl served as custodians of the band uniforms.

Night Class Popular

After innumerable requests for a weekly evening sewing class and after approval by members of the school board, Miss Luise Kersten started a Tuesday night class for amateur dressmakers and knitters.

Members of the school board are C. E. Treleven, Mrs. D. R. Dunham, Mrs. Glenn Buchanan, Vernon Ruder and Alison Cole.



GIFTS FOR A MERCHANT MARINE—Instead of the traditional exchange of gifts among themselves, Brownie Scouts at Port Edwards have spent the past few weeks getting a Christmas box ready for a merchant marine, each giving a gift for this purpose. Here a group of the girls are shown putting bright wrappings on the gifts. Left to right in the foreground are Shirley Reiman, Patricia Vechinski, Jo Anne Olson and Sally Eichsteadt. In back of the table, left to right, are Joyce Wallace, Lottie Rivers, Judy Parvin, Shirley Deyo, Mary Ellen Pascoe and Janet Stelzer.

Port Edwards Girl Scout Troop Is Divided Into Three Patrols

There are three patrols in the Port Edwards girl scout troop No. 4 this year, the troop having been divided this fall when several new leaders were secured. Total membership is 29. An attempt was made to organize a senior patrol also but not enough girls were interested so it was temporarily dropped.

At a meeting at Mrs. J. K. Vanatta's home early this fall Port Edwards Girl Scout Council members and other leaders, including Mrs. E. R. Kellogg, met to organize for the current year. At that time three new leaders were named, Miss Eudora Leverance, Miss Edna Steinmetz and Miss Violette Vorel, all teachers at the John Edwards school. Council committee members include Mrs. T. A. Pascoe, Mrs. J. E. Alexander, Mrs. Leslie Eichsteadt, Mrs. Chester Thomas, Mrs. George Karberg, Mrs. Clarence Watson, Mrs. Frank Hegg, Mrs. C. H. Reese and Mrs. Frank Coldwell.

Official meeting day for girl scouts is Wednesday. Each patrol meets by itself and works on chosen badge work, has games and songs for recreation. This year in place of having treats at each meeting they are served once a month.

Miss Leverance, who leads the older girls, seventh and eighth graders, is supervising them in cook badge work. Later Miss Betty Rom, who has been an efficient leader at Port for several years, will supervise them in their winter sports badge work. Joan Buehler, Mary Ann Coldwell, Jean Pascoe, Joan Welner, Arlene Reiman, Betty Gilman, Elise Watson, Delores Arndt, Beverly Schoenberger, Marjorie Smith and Janet Christian are in this patrol.

Eunice Emerson, Rosalie Arendt, Francis Koch, Patsy Schneider, Jean Hinz, Donna Patrick, Joan Vechinski, Bunny Yonko and Marjean Hegg. Their leader is Miss Steinmetz and they are working for clothing and troop dramatic badges.

New scouts who "flew up" last spring and are led by Miss Vorel are, Bonnie Hegg, Paula Alexander, Nancy Paulson, Jredy Karberg, Camilla Smith, Arlene and Marlene Leach, Susan Mosher and Janet Wipfli. These girls have had an interesting and instructive fall working on their world knowledge badge. Sweden is the country studied and they have even learned Swedish songs and games.

Many of the Girl Scouts enjoyed stays at Camp Sacajawea this summer. Meetings of the Girl Scouts were discontinued during the summer since the Girls' club was very active and supplied a program similar to that of girl scouting. It is the Study and Recreation club which sponsors Girl Scouts and Brownie Scouts in Port Edwards. In February this year the Port Edwards Council sponsored a dinner for Girl Scouts, Brownie scouts and their parents. Over 100 parents and friends attended with the girls and a successful evening of brief talks by adults and skits and songs by the girls was enjoyed.

Participate in Rallies

The Port Edwards girls scouts have participated in area rallies and radio programs also at the court of awards last spring Jean Pascoe.

Mary Ann Coldwell and Marion Thomas received their first class badges and Barbara Pascoe received the curved bar, award for one year above first class.

In the Brownie troop No. 14 there are 25 members this year, proving that this group is as popular as ever. Miss Patricia Doherty and Miss Verna Lueck are again leaders of these girls who meet weekly on Tuesday. They follow the established Brownie program of handwork, games, songs, and nature study. Treats are served once a month. Investiture of the 11 new Brownies occurred in November. Invested were Karen Carlson, Elaine Coon, Jean Dauley, Shirley Reiman, Lottie Rivers, Barbara Hartmanstorfer, Jean Levensdoske, Dorothy Rutter, Patricia Vechinski, Janice Zurluh and Joyce Wallace.

Other Brownies are Joyce Coon, Shirley Deyo, Sally Eichsteadt, Rose Ann Hostvedt, Wanda Hauser, Katherine Koch, Geramine Lafler, Sandra Newman, Jo Ann Olson, Jredy Parvin, Mary Ellen Pascoe, Susan Resse, Shirley Sigler and Janet Stelzer.

THE HOLY CRIB

In 1223 St. Francis of Assisi made the first "picture" of Christmas, when he filled the church chancel with hay and placed an ox and ass in the "manger," then induced a young mother to sit beside them with her baby. St. Francis also wrote the first Christmas carols, which soon spread to all lands.

Power Plant Rebuilds and Modernizes

BY L. W. EICHSTEADT

Due to the severe wind storms of June 22 and August 15 the Nekoosa-Edwards Light and Power company were busy during the last half of 1944 rebuilding and modernizing certain sections of their lines. Most of the damage suffered from both storms was in Nekoosa and outlying rural areas on lines of considerable age.

Expansion of rural distribution lines were held at a minimum because of the war production board restrictions which still remain in effect. Some rebuilding of urban distribution lines was done, this work being allowed by the W.P.B. where increased load had overtaxed the existing lines.

The rural Cranmoor extension, which was built in 1932 as a 3-phase, 2300 Volt line, has gained considerably in customers and load during the last five years and the utility has the W.P.B. approval to change this line to 6900 primary voltage. This line is about 18 miles in length with the large loads on the extreme ends of the extension. With the higher primary voltage, better voltage regulation and service is expected for the cranberry growers.

In April, 1944, the utility put into effect a new schedule of retail rates which were approved by the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin. The new rates resulted in some savings to all classes of customers. The new commercial small lighting and power rates and now allows these customers to receive service through a single meter instead of the former two meter rate schedule. A new "off peak water heating rate" was established and many customers, who had electric water heaters or could obtain these appliances, are now taking advantage of this low rate.

The utility now is serving about 1250 electric customers and also operates the water utility in Port Edwards serving about 240 customers. All electric power and water is purchased from the Nekoosa-Edwards Paper company, the utility being purely a distributing company. Employees are all part time, dividing their time between the Utility and Paper company.

Officers of the company are: J. E. Alexander, president; E. F. Gleason, vice-president and manager; C. A. Jaspersen, secretary-treasurer.

Lutheran Ladies Raise Funds For Church

Membership remains at 16 in the Lutheran Ladies' Aid of Port Edwards. Although a small group the society takes in almost \$500 a year. Their financial and other aid goes to the Bethlehem church of Nekoosa where they are affiliated. The Port branch was organized seven years ago to facilitate attendance for village women who belong to the Nekoosa church.

Meetings are held every second Thursday of the month at the recreation room of the John Edwards high school or at the home of the hostess. The August picnic and the Christmas party are annual events. Mrs. Harry Deyo is the year's president; Mrs. Rudolph Foth, vice-president; Mrs. Kenneth Campbell, secretary, and Mrs. Avolt Gatz, treasurer.



No matter what turn of events, no matter what may befall us, somehow, someday, Christmas is sure to come. It may be with scores of remembrances from those we know—it may only be a word of good cheer from one real friend, but from these expressions comes the true appreciation of the Christmas season.

And for that reason, there will always be a Christmas. And as long as there is a Christmas we welcome the opportunity it affords to express our greetings to everyone.

Roger's Economy Store

NEKOOSA

Roger's Food Market

PORT EDWARDS



"LONG MAY OUR LAND BE BRIGHT WITH FREEDOM'S HOLY LIGHT."

MERRY CHRISTMAS To Each of You

Wishing you all the happiness which may be contained in an old fashioned American Christmas.

Grode Nash Paper Co.

NEKOOSA, WIS.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

and a Prosperous **NEW YEAR**

Thanking you for your friendship and patronage.

Voss Hardware & Undertaking

NEKOOSA, WIS.

Kindest Christmas GREETINGS

to our friends and patrons in Nekoosa and our entire community.

RIVERVIEW SERVICE STATION

CHAS. BAIERL, Prop.

DX Gasoline, Oil and Greasing
Also Firestone, Auto and Home Appliances

NEKOOSA WISCONSIN

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

From

CORNER GROCERY & STANDARD SERVICE

Mr. and Mrs. Jos. Wypych, Props.

Tel. 173 NEKOOSA

We thank you for your kind patronage during the past year and wish you most sincerely

A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

CLYDE HERRICK

NEKOOSA, WISCONSIN

We are again thanking our many friends and patrons for their continued patronage and wish them the Season's Greetings and a prosperous New Year.

OAKLAND DAIRY

QUALITY GUERNSEY MILK & CREAM

Nekoosa Ralph Roberts, Prop.

A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS To One and All

We send to you, not only as a customer, but as friend—our best wishes for Health, Happiness and Prosperity

CLEVELAND INSURANCE AGENCY

Phone No. 7 Nekoosa 416 Market St.

Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year

To our patrons and friends. We wish to thank you for your past patronage and look forward to serving you again in 1944.

CURT'S CREAM-E-WAY DAIRY

PASTEURIZED MILK ICE CREAM

Phone 132 Nekoosa

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

From

The Electric & Plumbing Shop

James Misna, Prop.

NEKOOSA WISCONSIN

To You and Yours

All good wishes for a Merry American Christmas. May it be a season of good cheer and fine fellowship

If there are those of your loved ones who are in distant lands at this Christmas time, and who will be unable to spend Christmas with you, may you receive an extra blessing to compensate.

We are sure it is their will that you celebrate Christmas as usual. They have fought valiantly that you might enjoy this and other occasions so dear to freedom-loving Americans.

Let's be happy — because it's Christmas.

Nekoosa Foundry and Machine Works, Inc.

NEKOOSA, WIS. Phone 81