

8-1949

The Classic, August 1949

Northwestern Junior College and Classical Academy

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The Classic

ALUMNI NUMBER

NORTHWESTERN JUNIOR COLLEGE AND ACADEMY
AUGUST, 1949



Expansion at Northwestern

By Dr. Jacob Heemstra



Many a student in days past has expressed disappointment in the fact that he or she could not complete a full college course at Northwestern. Through the efforts of the Board of Trustees and the churches of this area, the General Synod at its meeting in May 1949 was led to grant approval for the expansion of Northwestern into a four year college. Before the Junior and Senior years of college can be undertaken much is necessary in the way of added housing, classrooms, and other facilities.

Construction of a new girls' dormitory to house more than eighty girls will be begun in September. Thirteen acres of additional campus were purchased during the summer, where an athletic field, field house, heating plant and additional housing will be placed.

Elevation surveys of both the old and new portions of the campus have been made and architectural campus planning is at present being done, so that an overall picture of the campus and

a building plan for a four year college of five hundred students can be presented to the public.

The faculty and staff personnel have been greatly strengthened through recent additions. Rev. E. Van Engelenhoven begins September 1 as director of Public Relations. His first effort will be to raise \$500,000 in order to make the beginning of Senior College work possible, of this amount \$450,000 is to be raised in the quad-state area which is Northwestern's field.

In the way of construction, no decision has as yet been made as to which will follow the building of the dormitory, but into consideration will come fieldhouse, classroom, laboratory building, and chapel. Men's housing will be provided for a time by Dykstra Hall, after the new girls' dormitory is completed.

The laying out of an athletic field will be begun as soon as the institution acquires possession of the new tract of ground which will be March 1, 1950.

The Classic

New Series, Vol. 20. August, 1949. No. 3.

Bulletin of

NORTHWESTERN
JUNIOR COLLEGE AND ACADEMY
ORANGE CITY, IOWA

Published Quarterly, in February, May, August and November.

Entered as second-class matter, June 17, 1929,
at the Post Office at Orange City, Iowa,
under the Act of August 24, 1912.

ANOTHER PENNANT



In the above picture Marion Hubers, president of the freshman class of the Academy, presents his class pennant to the college. Each year since 1911 this presentation has been made. No doubt this incident will bring memories to you of the time your class president timidly came forward to mumble a few words of presentation before an unsympathetic group of upper classmen. He may have worn button shoes, black stockings and knee

pants. Today it is sport shirts and slacks but the degree of timidity is the same and the upperclassmen as harassing as in the days gone by. President Heemstra has to date given acceptances to twenty-one classes. Dean Edwin J. Aalberts undoubtedly is reminiscing of the days when the president of his class of 1933 occupied a portion of the daily chapel service.

SILVER ANNIVERSARY CLASS REUNITES



The silver anniversary class got off to a slow start on Alumni Day but gained momentum as the day's activities proceeded. As the picture shows, spirits were high. Elmer Van Roekel of Maurice is holding the class pennant but Nellie Faber Kraai from Omaha, Nebraska, wanted a share in the honor, too. Others-left to right- are Jennie Rowerdink, Vinton, Iowa; Mildred Straks Mansen, Hawarden, Iowa; and Rev. Herman Harmelink of Carmel. Others to join the classmates of 1924 were Adrianna Geels Stevens, Orange City, and John Scholten, Madison, Wisconsin.

The honored class re-enacted their commencement activities by being in the processional at the Farewell Chapel Exercises and platform guests.

Rev. Mr. Harmelink was the guest speaker. This class was the first to be graduated from Science Hall.

A reunion dinner was served in the private dining room of the Corner Cafe. Letters and telegrams were read and a very hilarious time was spent. Mrs. Mansen reviewed her class' antics and activities at the Alumni tea in the afternoon. Photographs of girls' basketball teams, play casts, etc. were exhibited to illustrate the adventures of Academy students in the early twenties. It is understood that places of interest to young people in those days were reconnoitered too, one of them being in the vicinity of Alton. Reunion activities came to a close after the Alumni banquet in the evening.

A letter from Rev. Lewis Koerselman, pastor of the Plum Creek Presbyterian Church, Pitcairn, Pennsylvania, Academy 1929, College 1931, contains this encouraging expression:

"It's good to know Northwestern is continuing to keep up with the times. I owe much to it. I doubt if I'd be in the ministry today, were it not for the training I received there. I especially appreciate the emphasis your folders have upon 'character education'. Of course, I owe much more to Northwestern for it also gave me my good wife! What better praise can be given a school?"

Ralph W. Hahn, Academy 1901, is an instructor in a community high school at Sherrard, Illinois. His address is Carthage, Illinois. Recently he wrote:

"As for myself, after many years of other activities, I finally went back to teaching. My subjects are Mathematics and Physics, and although I am seventy years old I enjoy the work fine, and like to be with young people."

ALUMNI BANQUET



Guests who were especially honored at the Alumni Banquet of 1949 are shown above. Seated from left to right are Rev. B. D. Dykstra, 1892, who was the oldest alumnus present. Seated next to him is his wife, Mrs. Dykstra who was recognized as being the Iowa mother of the year 1949. Mrs. Cocia Van De Waa Ver Steeg, Maurice, Iowa, of the Class of 1889 was recognized as the oldest alumna present. Mrs. Harry Hoffs came from Grand Rapids, Michigan, and Mrs. Kate Scha'ekamp Orton, 1898, came from Sioux City.

In the back row, left to right, are Mr. and Mrs. Adelphos Te Paske of Nuremburg, Germany, alumni from abroad, 1936 and 1940; Rev. Gerrit Van Peurse, 1903, Baccalaureate speaker from North Branch, N. J.; Mr. Allen Van Wechel, 1897, Orange City, also one of the oldest guests; Mrs. Peter Van Es, 1923, Macy, Nebraska, wife of the banquet speaker; and John Scholten, 1924, Madison, Wisconsin, representing the silver anniversary class. Special recognition also was given Mr. Scholten for being the most eligible bache'or present. All those honored gave brief remarks.

Rev. Ben Ver Steeg of Sioux Center proved to be an excellent master of ceremonies for the dinner program. About 150 members of the alumni association were on hand to enjoy a pleasant evening of fellowship. Many states were represented. A very enthusiastic spirit was shown by the alumni with regard to Northwestern's future expansion program. The officers for this past year, who have done such an excellent job in organizing alumni chapters, were unanimously re-elected for 1949-50. They are as follows.

President - Rev. Benjamin Ver Steeg
1st Vice President - Elmer Den Herder
2nd Vice President - Irwin H. Muilenburg
Secretary - Alene Ramaker Moret
Treasurer - Homer De Boer

CAREERS OF OUR ALUMNI

The November Bulletin gave a table of statistics on alumni in various professions. Through an error in the process of printing and proof-reading, figures on religious work were omitted. While Northwestern aims to train young people for all fields of service, many readers will be in-

terested in the number of former students who have gone out into Christian work. The figures to date are as follows:

180 - Ministers of the Gospel
55 - Foreign and home missionaries (25 of these not included among the ministers)

BACCALAUREATE AND GRADUATING EXERCISES

The baccalaureate services for college and academy graduating classes were held in the historic First Reformed Church on Sunday evening, May 29. Mathilda Pennings, a member of the college graduating class, was at the console of the new organ. Rev. Ellsworth Dykstra, 1939, and Rev. Henry Colenbrander led in devotional exercises. The academy and college choirs offered special selections. The sermon was delivered by Rev. Gerrit D. Van Peurse, D.D., 1903, of North Branch, New Jersey. Dr. Van Peurse's address was fatherly and practical, with material drawn from a long and wide experience.

The graduating exercises took place in Science Hall on Monday evening, May 30. Rev. Peter Van Es, 1923, offered the invocation. The salutatory message for the academy was given by Beth Muilenburg; and Stanley Vander Aarde was Academy valedictorian. Robert Evers gave the second-honors oration for the college graduates, and the college valedictorian was Harold Van Oort. The academy choir sang "Gloria in Excelsis", and piano selections were played by Anne Marie Kempema and Ruth Van Heukelom of the college graduating class. After the awarding of prizes, Bibles, and diplomas, Rev. Harold Hesselink of Alton, Iowa, offered the closing prayer.

These programs, taken together with the faculty breakfast for the college graduates, farewell chapel, campus farewell, and alumni day -- all favored with fair weather -- made a noteworthy commencement season. The college graduates this year numbered forty-one, and the academy graduates twelve.

PERSONALIA

Kate Vos, Academy 1893, is Mrs. W. W. Schultz, residing at Orange City, Iowa.

William H. Hospers, Academy 1906, is in the Farm Loan and Abstract business at Orange City. He is president of Sioux Abstract Company, Inc.

James C. Kuyper, Academy 1907, has been a school teacher and gardener. His home is at Okanogan, Washington.

Helen Rozeboom, Academy 1917, is a social worker with headquarters at Sioux City, Iowa. She is assistant Director of Special Services for Woodbury county.

George T. Kots, Academy 1919, is pastor of the Reformed Church of Danforth, Illinois. We were glad to meet him at the Alumni Banquet.

Henry A. Mouw, Academy 1935 and College 1937, is pastor of the Sixth Reformed Church of Holland, Michigan.

Fred J. Huisman, college 1942, is salesman and service-man for Williams and Smith at Sibley, Iowa.

Ivan Stienstra, college 1943, is an accountant living in Des Moines. He is employed by the government to examine federal loan associations.

Harvey A. Plum, college 1948N, is a printer connected with the Exchange National Bank of Chicago.

Presenting The New Director Of Public Relations

LOOKING FORWARD — by Rev. E. Van Engelenhoven

We are looking forward to the day when we shall be connected officially with our Northwestern Junior College. We are anticipating living near the campus and working with the faculty and staff at the college. We shall begin our work as Director of Public Relations for the College as of September 1st, hence we are merely looking ahead and setting our sights a bit. Later when we have matters before us more clearly I shall endeavor to keep you informed on all details.



Now that General Synod has given the green light for a four year college at Orange City, I am looking forward to help formulate and implement plans to make that a full and blessed realization. Recently thirteen acres of ground have been added to the College Campus making it possible and practical to map out plans for many years and thus add to our buildings and equipment in an orderly fashion.

I am looking forward to the day when as a four year college we shall have a student body at Northwestern of four or five hundred. That is not at all fantastic, it is reasonable and possible. Much has to be done before that day can arrive. I shall not go into detail here. That task will not and cannot be done by one or two or a few people. We shall have to live up to our motto, "In Unity There Is Strength". If all those who at sometime during their student days have been connected with the Academy or the College will rally to this cause, that unity will be obtained. Exceptionally fine students and sufficient funds are available if our people will accept the fact that the hope of a peaceful world, and that in every respect, depends on Christian Leadership. And it is an accepted fact that the smaller Christian College that is well equipped to do its task is making the greatest contribution to that end.

How shall we proceed? In utter dependence on Almighty God. "In all thy ways acknowledge Him and He will direct thy paths". To make Northwestern a strong Junior College and then a strong Four Year College is no mean task. Nay, it will be a tremendous task. Yet when God blesses we cannot fail. I am fully convinced that our people are beginning to realize increasingly the need of the Christian College in our day. With that sense of Christian responsibility rising a great work will be accomplished at Northwestern. Hence, I personally am looking forward to hoping, trusting, and praying that you will permit God to use you also to implement the work He wants done in the new day that is dawning at Northwestern.

Radio at Northwestern

An alumnus is apt to look back to the glorious days spent at some social function or some class session at his alma mater. The administration is being challenged by the many years the institution sets its vision into the future. To keep pace with the times, the Northwestern Junior College and Academy has instituted a public relations program through radio.

In the accompanying picture you see Prof. Ralph Mouw, Academy '36 and College '38, of the Mathematics and Physics departments, listening attentively to a program in the process of transcription. Two programs a week are made in the studios on the campus. "Send the Light Hour" sponsored by the tri-state Consistorial Union is heard at 12 noon each Sunday over WNAX Yankton, South Dakota, and "The Northwestern College Hour" on Saturdays at 11 a.m., KWOA, Worthington, Minnesota.

The equipment was purchased through the Consistorial Union and is the best that can be obtained. Many ministers who are heard on the "Send the Light Hour" and who were former students at Northwestern and musical groups which are composed of former students have the opportunity to visit their alma mater when they come to make their transcription.

Unusual opportunities for the students are presented through this medium since radio is often limited to the larger universities and colleges.

