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The Classic, August 1952

Northwestern Junior College and Classical Academy

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News - Letter

THE CLASSIC

NORTHWESTERN JUNIOR COLLEGE AND ACADEMY

AUGUST 1952

Notes and Comments

TO ALL OF US any picture we may have in recollection of Northwestern's office means seeing Miss Anna Marie Geurink. And no one can think of our girl's dormitory without assuming that Mrs. Minnie Duven is there as matron and manager. However, if it is true that nothing stands still in this world it certainly also applies to college life. Miss Geurink began her service eight years ago as secretary to Dr. Heemstra. It was my privilege to have her secretarial services this past year. Her work included more than that of a secretary. She was office manager, and in a way manager of the whole college plant. She knew everybody and everything that had any connection with the school. Was any document even though quite ancient needed? Anna Marie could instantaneously produce it from her files which were kept expertly and systematically. And now she has been drawn into the teaching profession. Her association with teachers and prospective teachers evidently aroused a flame of interest and curiosity! She accepted a position as teacher in the Christian elementary school of South Holland, Illinois. No one could have served our institution with greater devotion and competence. We feel that she was indispensable.

Mrs. Minnie Duven is leaving our service at the end of August because she has reached the retirement age. She wanted to detach herself last year from her position as housemother at Heemstra Hall but was prevailed on to remain an additional year. The college has been fortunate to have had her gracious and considerate services. The girls in her care and their parents carry a debt of gratitude because she provided the day to day guidance and encouragement so essential to keep dormitory life on a high level. Her pleasant disposition, her kind but yet firm insistence that the right thing should be done earned the respect of all the girls. Mrs. Duven served our institution for a period of six years. These were the years of rapidly increasing responsibilities and numerous changes. Mrs. Duven guided the affairs of the Dormitory through this transition period with wisdom and good judgment. Her warm-hearted devotion to the best interests of the whole college and particularly the girl students will never be forgotten.

Another member of our administrative staff also ends her services this August with the college. Miss Helen Van Wechel taught here the first years; this past year she did no teaching but served as Admissions Counsellor. However, in addition to the responsibility of this position she was Purchasing Agent for the Heemstra Dining Hall. Miss Van Wechel has earned our gratitude for the efficient manner in which she performed her various duties. I personally can speak highly of the promptness, accuracy and thoroughness of her service during this past year. She was faithful, cooperative and dependable in all her undertakings. I regret exceedingly losing so capable a co-worker. It will not be easy to find anyone to adequately replace her. A variety of pamphlets, much publicity material, a

beautiful pictorial booklet, all of which required creative and constructive ingenuity, were prepared for production by her. Her accurate and comprehensive knowledge of admission requirements, her expert and painstaking financial reports, her knowledge of sound management techniques added considerably to the successful operation of our office procedures.

BERNARD ROZEBOOM, a June 1952 graduate of the Sioux Center High School, will not be with us when school opens. He went into the land of fadeless day on Friday afternoon, July 25th, after a month's critical illness. Funeral services were held at the First Reformed Church the following Monday, Rev. P. A. De Jong officiating. Bernard was the 18 year old son of Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Rozeboom. We mourn with the sorrowing relatives. Our heartfelt sympathy is offered the parents, the brother and sister. Several months ago Bernard and his parents made arrangements for his enrollment. He was the first of his senior class to make known to us his intention to enter Northwestern in September. He looked forward with joy and high anticipations to a college career. These hopes were suddenly dashed. Bernard was conscious to the end. Frequently during the last weeks and days he gave evidence of his faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. He was completely at peace with God's way. We here at Northwestern shall miss Bernard. May his quick and early going stimulate us to live a life of service and surrender.

SOON WE SHALL begin a new academic year. This occasion is always a satisfying one. Many new students mingle with the ones returning for further work. As individuals, the swift passage of a year undeniably affects us with a tinge of regret. But this college of ours goes on increasing in strength and renewing in vigor. It is good to be identified as sponsors, teachers and students with such an institution.

The prospect of the coming year is especially attractive, since we are beginning the construction of a new classroom structure. Much of my time this past year, as well as that of Rev. E. Van Engelenhoven, has been spent on matters pertaining to preparations for this realization of our plans and hopes. Many of you have already joined with us in working to make this enlargement of our plant possible.

It is really amazing that so many churches and individuals have come to aid Northwestern in accomplishing its objectives. Our responsibility as members of the Reformed Church for making Northwestern a strong and capable college is not a light obligation. It is one of the most important things we owe to our young people and the generations to come. May all of us be determined that the work of Christian education shall be carried on with vigor. The complexity of life, the critical nature of our times, the soundness of the church, the well-being of our nation, demand enlightened young people.

F. H. W.



Northwestern Continues Building Program

If you have been on the campus recently you know first hand that Northwestern is steadily improving her physical plant. The new dormitory for girls recently erected graces her campus. The repair of Zwemer and Dykstra Hall have drawn favorable comment far and near. The general improvement on the campus has made the site a beauty spot. At our recent Career Day a large number of Educators came to our campus from and state and private schools. Much favorable comment was heard from them about the forward-looking building program at Northwestern. The campus plan that is being followed in construction of new buildings was made by the landscaping and architectural department of the Iowa State College. This plan is laid out so that Northwestern can continue her expansion program over a long term program and buildings will be properly placed.

It is a known fact that Northwestern is greatly in need of additional class rooms and other facilities in connection with the work of teaching. A carefully drawn plan that will give such space has been made by the architect. The contracts for the construction of the building have been made. Ground will be broken about September first and work will begin on the

building immediately thereafter. The completed building is to be delivered on August 15, 1953.

The new addition will join Science Hall on the east side at the south end. It will be 110 feet long, 50 feet wide, and will contain three floors. The building will house the Chemistry Department, it will add space to the Biology Department and the Physics Department. The present area of the Music Department will be not even greatly enlarged providing private practice rooms and classrooms. Those will be added at least six classrooms to be used for general teaching. There will be several offices for faculty. The proposed building when finished will give that which is needed to keep Northwestern a forward-looking and first-rate school.

The cost of the building will be approximately \$175,000.00. Furnishings and equipment will be additional. The drive for funds for the new building both in the immediate vicinity and in churches further removed is meeting with good response. Provided the churches continue to support Northwestern's program as in the past few years the building will be approximately free from debt when construction is completed.

Rev. E. Van Engelenhoven
Director of Public Relations

ALUMNI ACTIVITIES ON THE CAMPUS

The pictures on the opposite page reveal somewhat of the happiness which prevailed on Alumni Day when many of the grads returned to their Alma Mater to become acquainted with their school and to see their old school mates again. Some of the older graduates to appear on the scene were Mrs. Gertie Bolks De Bey 1887, Rev. B. D. Dykstra 1892, Mrs. Elizabeth Huizenga 1902 of Glendale, California.

The Alumni Tea was well attended especially by former students who were holding class reunions. The evening banquet was the largest in the history of the institution. Photos: Left to Right, Rev. Spencer De Jong 1927 gave the address, with Dean E. J. Aalberts as master of ceremonies, also in the photo are Mrs. F. H. Wezeman, Mrs. E. J. Aalberts, Rev. E. Dykstra, Rev. H. Vander Berg and Mrs. A. T. Aalberts. The Class of 1912 seem very happy to be together again. Mrs. Hulda Muilenburg De Jong, Mrs. Mathilda De Jong Sterrenburg, Mrs. Lillian Vanden Berg Van Zyl and Mrs. Lyda Schalekamp Notebook are in the photo. The Silver Anniversary Class appeared in the spotlight all day, in the chapel, at the tea and banquet. Front row, left to right, Mr. Raymond Vander Meulen, Mr. Peter De Jong, Rev. S. C. De Jong, and Mr. Stanley Duven; standing, Mrs. Alice Mansen Wolf, Mrs. Edith Roetman Kraai, Mrs. Margaret Kooiman Vellinga, Mrs. Esther De Jong Hotalen, Mrs. Ann Van Beek De Jong and Mrs. Greta De Jong Eason. Of the more recent college classes, the Class of 1942 are reunited, seated are Mrs. Theresa Nibbelink Mulder, Mrs. Lena Muilenburg Roos, Mrs. Helen Van Peursem Kalsbeek, Mrs. Edna Blom Roggen. Standing, Rev. Chester Droog, Mr. Eugene Van Wyk, Mr. Leon Roggen.

During the course of the evening an impressive moment was experienced when Rev. G. C. Aalberts of the Class of 1932 presented to Pres. F. H. Wezeman a memorial gift from the class in memory of Mr. Stanley Vander Ploeg who had recently passed away. Added to the merriment of the evening was the response given by Mr. Lloyd Woelber of the Class of 1952. Evidence that Mr. Woelber's sense of humor was appreciated is indicated by Dr. Gerrit Pennings 1901, Rev. B. D. Dykstra 1892, Mrs. Dykstra and Miss Dorothy Oldenkamp 1952.

The Class of 1932 was well represented by: seated, Mrs. Henrietta Elenbaas Hoekstra, Mrs. Anna Rylaarsdam Lotterman, Mrs. Harriet Bloemendaal Rens, Mrs. Margaret De Jong Vander Wel, Mrs. Hilda Blom Vander Lugt; standing, Rev. Gradus C. Aalberts, Mrs. James Postma, and Mr. Arthur Den Hartog. The Academy Class of 1942

represented only by females are: seated, Miss Anna Marie Geurink and Mrs. Nelvina Vander Schaaf Holstein. Standing are: Mrs. Betty Giesen De Jong, Miss Frances Elenbaas, and Mrs. Geraldine De Cook Ekdorn.

NEW TEACHER AT NORTHWESTERN

Miss Joan Goetz will assume her duties as teacher of shorthand, typing and bookkeeping, with the opening of school, September 2nd. Miss Goetz comes to us with a fine background of training and experience. She was graduated from the Seattle, Washington, High School; the Seattle Secretarial School; the Bible Institute of Los Angeles, California. She has her B. A. Degree from Wheaton College. She taught secretarial subjects one semester in Wheaton College; this past year she was head of the Commercial Department in the Chicago Christian High School. During the summer of last year and also this summer she was in attendance at the University of Indiana, where the post-graduate courses she is taking lead to the M. A. degree. Before entering Wheaton College, she worked one year as Secretary in the offices of the United Pacific Insurance Company in Seattle. During the war she served as a WAVE in the U. S. Navy for three years. She was assigned to the office of Naval History, Washington, D. C.

Miss Goetz will be a resident in the girl's dormitory of the college. She plans to introduce an intensive one-year secretarial course qualifying students in shorthand, typing, bookkeeping, and office practice. Miss Goetz has taken an active part in church activities both in Seattle and Wheaton.



MISS JOAN GOETZ

NORTHWESTERN ALUMNI who have attended in previous years the Y.W.C.A. and the Y.M.C.A. Camp Conferences at Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, will be interested in news from the 1952 conference, held in June. It was attended by 375 students from 85 different colleges located in the eight states of the Geneva Region. Sixteen foreign delegates representing China, India, Iran, Japan, Germany, Greece, Switzerland, Australia, Guatemala, and Peru contributed greatly to the success of the conference. Miss Marion Hull, our Dean of girls represented Northwestern College.

The theme was "Search" — a Christian search in a confused world — in which delegates sought to determine the relevance of the Christian faith and the meaning of Christian community. Each delegate was led, through small discussions following the daily platform address, to examine the depths of his belief. One could not help but receive a new appreciation of the value of Christian instruction for young people.

Some of the high points of the conference were the vesper services on Vision Hill, the sacrificial meal, the morning worship services, International night, the dock sings, and the visit to Yerkes Observatory.

HEEMSTRA HALL has acquired new beauty recently through the landscaping of the grounds surrounding the dormitory. The selection of shrubs will prove to be a good choice because they will remain green throughout the winter months. Thirty hard maples were also planted to beautify the campus.

New cupboards for the dining hall, thanks to the Women's Auxiliary, are being built. These, besides providing storage space for the dishes used regularly by the students, will take care of the extra dishes required for the many banquets which are served throughout each year.



ANNA MARIE GEURINK

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JAKE RICHARD SOLSMA '51

Many were saddened by the tragic death of Jake Solsma in a highway accident on June 7, 1952. Jake's career had scarcely begun, although he was in the employ of a Sheldon, Iowa, business firm at the time of his death.

Jake was born on May 2, 1932 near Sanborn, Iowa. His primary school education was obtained at the Christian schools of Sheldon and Sanborn. He then attended the Western Christian High School at Hull, and completed the two years of college work at Northwestern. He was a member of the Reformed Church of Sanborn. At college he followed definite Christian ideals, and participated in Gospel Team work. His good singing voice made a contribution to the musical life of the school. After his graduation he was a frequent visitor at the school to work with other young people in the promotion of Christian Endeavor interests in the area. One was always glad to meet him on account of his cheery smile and affectionate disposition.

The funeral was held at the Sanborn church. Roger Petersen, a college classmate, was one of the speakers. Other college friends sang special selections, and served as pallbearers.

Jake's death is mourned by his parents and two sisters, and by the friends who, although submissive to God's ways, regret that this young man could not have gone on to the further accomplishment of his Christian purposes. Even so, his memory abides as a treasure to those who knew him.

REGULAR READERS of Northwestern College Classic will notice that this issue deviates considerably from previous ones in form and substance. As is well known Dr. H. V. E. Stegeman, Registrar of the school, has had sole charge of the Classic. Each issue gave copious evidence of the meticulous care with which he selected and prepared all material for publication. Each issue testified to his excellent editorial workmanship. Unfortunately however, Dr. Stegeman labored under the handicap of illness which sapped his strength even during most of the second semester of the last school year. He participated with difficulty in the various duties associated with graduation. Soon thereafter medical advice brought him to the Rochester Hospital. Because of this it became incumbent on the school office to gather the material necessary for this one issue and to see it through the hands of the printer. We are happy to report that Dr. Stegeman is improving rapidly; his strength is increasing daily, and from all appearances it seems probable that he will resume his usual duties at the school in September. The value to our College of his culture, convictions, mature judgment, and the Christian qualities of his character, cannot be adequately measured. We hope and pray for complete restoration to excellent health.

F. H. W.