LIBRARIES
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN - MADISON

A history of Neenah.

Neenah, Wisconsin: [s.n.], 1958

https://digital.library.wisc.edu/1711.dl/TIMT5UHIWWR7G82

http://rightsstatements.org/vocab/InC/1.0/

The libraries provide public access to a wide range of material, including online exhibits, digitized collections, archival finding aids, our catalog, online articles, and a growing range of materials in many media.

When possible, we provide rights information in catalog records, finding aids, and other metadata that accompanies collections or items. However, it is always the user's obligation to evaluate copyright and rights issues in light of their own use.

728 State Street | Madison, Wisconsin 53706 | library.wisc.edu

NEENAH PUBLIC LIBRARY
0 04 04 0276266 6
29 MAR 00
28 DEC 99

JUN 21 1999
NEENAH PUBLIC LIBRARY
NEENAH, WISCONSIN



Neenah's Ward Division
as of 1878

In 1910 the third ward was divided at Second Street, everything east of Second Street becoming the fifth ward. This ward division was in effect until December 1, 1957.

NEENAH
PUBLIC LIBRARY
presented by
J. BATHA

EXP
23. Winnebago Paper Mill
24. Neenah , , , ,
25. Flouring ..... Mill
26. Sash Door & Blind Fact
27. Saw ..... Mill
28. Globe Paper ..... Mills
29. Flour ..... Mills
30. Smith & Proctors Flouring Mill
37 Plow ..... Factory

A HISTORY OF
NEENAH

Compiled by

S. F. SHATTUCK, *Chairman*

MRS. HUGH W. ROBERTS • MRS. ARTHUR RITGER
JOHN TOLVERSEN • AMBROSE OWEN
MAYHEW MOTT • EDWARD JANDREY

In collaboration with the

NEENAH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Published Privately
NEENAH WISCONSIN
1958

COMPOSED, PRINTED AND BOUND BY
GEORGE BANTA COMPANY, INC.
MENASHA, WISCONSIN

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

PEOPLE from the length and breadth of our Twin Cities have helped to assemble the material in this volume. To single out a few who have been especially helpful is hazardous, but we take that risk:

John Studley—John's roots are deep in Neenah's past. His treatise on "Journalism" and his summary of the 1920's are but symbols of his cooperation.

C. H. Velte—Charley is responsible for the research and write-up of the "Legal Profession" and in innumerable ways has aided the committee.

Charlotte McIntyre—Charlotte contributed her literary "know-how" and made the 1940's one of the more readable portions of the book.

Lowell Zabel—Lowell's treatment of "Communications" in Part II is a delight.

Dr. J. M. Donovan—Out of his long association with the dental profession, not only in Neenah, but in the State of Wisconsin, came the doctor's contribution in Part II.

Ebbe Berg—Ebbe did a painstaking job of research on "Growth and Development of the Labor Movement."

Dr. and Mrs. T. D. Smith—No one associated with the medical profession was so uniquely fitted to deal with that section of Neenah's history as were Dr. and Mrs. T. D. Smith.

Mrs. Arthur Ritger—If we may invade the membership of the Historical Committee, we would commend Mrs. Ritger for her persistence in assembling the Church History.

Mrs. William Burger—Helen carried the secretarial work of the committee from its inception to the spring of 1956.

Mrs. Raymond Smith—Without whose persistent research in so many fields and her voluminous typing, this project would still be dragging its heels.

Mrs. Hugh Roberts—Another member of the Committee. Her history of Neenah's schools is almost a book in itself.

To this list we add our thanks to Mrs. M. L. Brandsmark for her painstaking research and to those who helped with photographic material: George Huebsch, and the Card & Camera Shop, Jim Auer and others at the News Record office, the

Soo Line Railway, Munroe Studio, Howard Angermeyer, Vanderwalker Studio, Jack Casper, Harrison Smith, Joe Engel and Bill Miller. And to Harry Bishop and E. A. Kalfahs, who helped immeasurably with both photographic material and information. Other helpers, too numerous to mention, are noted throughout the contents of the book. We trust they found the joy and satisfaction they deserve through participation in this work.

S. F. Shattuck
Chairman

FOREWORD

EIGHTY YEARS AGO, a young man, G. A. Cunningham, published a book spanning the years between the coming of the first white man to this region and the year 1878. Cunningham was editor of the Neenah *Gazette*, and his book, "History of Neenah," was printed in his little print shop on the second floor of the Pettibone Block (site of the First National Bank).

Eight decades have come and gone since Cunningham signed off. It was at John Tolversen's suggestion that a committee came into being during the spring of 1955 to consider what might be done to record, for the benefit of posterity, the essential facts, happenings and movements of those 80 years. Names of that committee appear at the end of this foreword.

The committee began its work by listing the various fields and areas of community life to be explored, and delegating specific responsibilities to many citizens. The response was generous. A vast array of historical data from churches, lodges, societies, schools, municipal functions, sports, the professions and industry flowed in. Only 30% of Neenah's commercial enterprises responded.

It was obvious at the outset that our problem was more complex than Cunningham faced in the 1870's. He could keep Neenah quite single in his thinking, whereas now life in the Twin Cities is intertwined, industrially, socially, economically and religiously—one Community Chest, one Chamber of Commerce, one sewage disposal plant, to mention but three of the many factors that bring not only Menasha, but Appleton, into any historical study of Neenah.

We make no apologies for the fact that this is the work of amateurs. On the contrary, we invite the reader to share it with us. At the rear of each chapter of Part I will be found blank pages on which we hope readers will make note of anything that they feel would add to the value of the volume.

We particularly urge our readers to note any inaccuracies.

The above comment is made in the consciousness that Neenah will recognize her centennial of cityhood in 1973. As that event looms up

over the horizon, it may well be that some more competent historians will desire to add to, or re-do these pages.

To this end we suggest that all comments and criticisms be passed to an officer of the Neenah Historical Society.

You will note that this volume is in two parts.

Part I takes a bird's eye view of the Cunningham era, evaluates the significance of the Fox waterway in the development of this area, and brings into view the many products of science, research and invention that have so profoundly altered the lives of our people, particularly since the turn of the century.

Part I then continues as a story, by decades, recording, in condensed form, the growth of Neenah from its crude beginnings to the robust and cultured community of 1958.

In Part II will be found a major portion of the source material that came in from interested citizens throughout the length and breadth of our Twin Cities.

Through use of the Table of Contents, reference may be made to specific subjects, as one scans the decade material and desires fuller information.

S. F. Shattuck, *Chairman*

Mrs. Hugh (Helen) Roberts
Mrs. Arthur (Helen) Ritger
Edward Jandrey
Mayhew Mott
Ambrose Owen
John S. Tolversen

CONTENTS

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS iii

FOREWORD v

PART I

THE CUNNINGHAM ERA IN PERSPECTIVE 3

Comparative Dates of Village and Cityhood—Neenah and Menasha—Treaty of Cedars, and Government Project to Civilize Indians—Harrison Reed Contracts to Purchase Indian Lands in Winnebago Rapids—Harvey Jones Furnishes Money—His Early Death—Neenah is Named—How Doty Island Came to be Divided Between the Twin Cities—Significance of the Fox River—Navigation at Neenah

THE 1840's TO 1860's 13

First Town Meeting—Early Social Organizations—The "Green"—First Religious Service and Early Churches—Oak Hill Cemetery—Menasha Wooden Ware—First School—Telegraph Comes to Neenah—Laudan Fields—Cooper Trade—First Paper Mill

IMPACT OF SCIENCE AND INVENTION 21

Significance of the Auto

THE 1870's 29

Some Commercial and Industrial Beginnings—Riverside Park—Neenah Achieves Cityhood—"First" Telephone Exchange—School Growth—Early Ice Houses—Gas Lamps Replace Oil

THE 1880's 41

Neenah Library Association Organized—Eclectic Reading Circle, Women's Tuesday Club, Y.T.&F. Club, W.C.T.U.—School Expansion—Stevens Roller Crushing Process—Electric Power and Interurban Transportation—City Hall Built—First Sewer System—"Pettibone Block" Burns—C. B. Clark Elected to State Legislature

THE 1890's 57

Interurban Service—Economic and Social Progress—Lincoln School Built—Football Championships—Community Water System

THE 1900'S 67

Boys' Brigade——Emergency Society and VNA——Central Labor Body Formed——Commercial Movement——Industrial Progress——Kimberly School Built——Church growth——Theda Clark Hospital ——Neenah Auditorium Company

THE 1910'S 81

World War I——A Byproduct of War——First Playground Equipment ——Shattuck Park——Young Women's Club——Kimlark Building——Church Movement——Industrial Ins and Outs——Commercial Enterprise——"Bill" Clark Enters Public Life——No License Campaign——Valley Inn

THE 1920'S 97

Women's Suffrage——Disastrous Sleet Storm——Social, Industrial and Commercial Progress——Boy Scouts——First ILYA Regatta——Doty Cabin——Mrs. Stuart Presents Kimberly Point Park to City——Senior High School Built

THE 1930'S 109

Bank Holiday——Combatting Unemployment——Business as Usual with Our Schools——Basketball Team to State Tournament——Industrial and Commercial Picture Broadens——Church Matters——Sewer and Water Systems——First Full-Time Assessor——Parks

THE 1940'S 123

"Pearl Harbor"——Draft Boards and Rationing——Industry Converts to War——Army-Navy "E" Award——VE and VJ Days and a City Returns to Peacetime Pursuits——Chamber of Commerce——Swimming Pool——Industrial Expansion——Churches Keep Pace——Broadening Commercial Base——Oak Street Bridge

THE 1950'S 143

History in the Making——Full-Time Mayor——City Divided into Ten Wards——Significant Industrial, Social and Professional Movement ——New Home for VNA——Marathon Expands into Neenah, Merges with Canco——ICP Moves to Neenah——New Kimberly-Clark Main Office——Merger of Neenah Paper Company and Kimberly-Clark Corporation——Interest in City and Area Planning——Police Boat——Venetian Parade——Power Boating——Riverside Park Pavilion ——Bergstrom Museum——School Construction——Church Movement——Niels Thomsen——C. F. Hedges——Our Shrinking Dollar

"The past is not something that we have left behind us . . . it is something that moves along with us"

(A. J. Toynbee, "A Study of History." Oxford Press, 1934)



(*Courtsey of Soo Line*)

The Neenah-Menasha area as seen from the air on a winter day.

A HISTORY OF NEENAH

PART I

THE CUNNINGHAM ERA IN PERSPECTIVE

We who have made Neenah our home during the first half of the twentieth century owe a lasting debt of gratitude to G. A. Cunningham, Editor of the one-time Neenah *Gazette*, for recording the salient facts of this settlement from its beginnings to the year 1878. Now we, a volunteer committee, take a perspective look at the 80 years that have come and gone since Cunningham's time. We, too, hope to hand on to a future generation something of the chain of association that links their generation and ours with those who have gone before. A writer in a recent issue of "Wisconsin Magazine of History" remarks, "History is a point of view, a perspective, and not a period of time." "The main objective," says this writer, "is not so much the tracing backward of historical streams to their remote sources, as the inducement of a vision of the current history flowing to us from the past." Thus it shall be our hope, while recording facts and data, to detach ourselves from a bare recital of fact, and suggest the widening flow of life as it comes to us out of the past. As we address ourselves to this task, it seems advisable, perhaps inevitable, that we overlap Mr. Cunning-



The "Grand Loggery" of Territorial Governor James Duane Doty in its original setting facing the mouth of the river.

ham, whose book covers, in a conversational fashion, the story of this area from its earliest days to 1878.

For instance, many citizens of Neenah have asked why it is that Menasha celebrated its centennial in 1953 and Neenah must wait twenty years longer, till 1973, to celebrate hers. The answer is that Menasha's centennial in 1953 dated from the incorporation of Menasha as a *village* in 1853, whereas Neenah awaits the recognition of her hundred years of *city*hood in 1973.

(Incidentally, the hope is expressed that when Neenah's turn to celebrate comes around, something more original than the growing of beards may be thought up.)

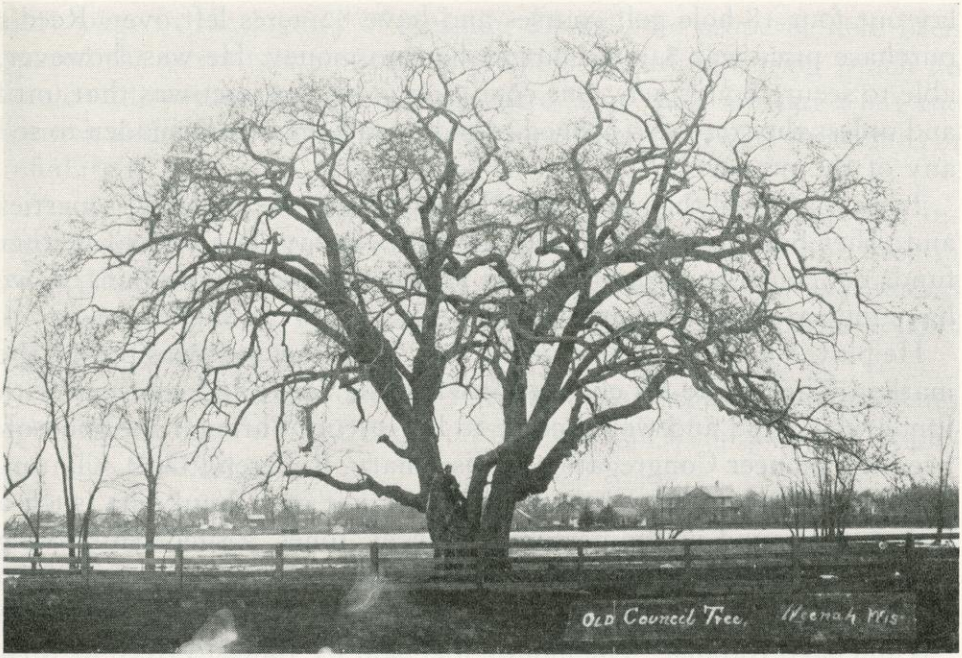
The comparative dates of village and cityhood are:

Menasha—incorporated as a village—July 5, 1853
Menasha—incorporated as a city—March 5, 1874
Neenah—incorporated as a village—March 28, 1856
Neenah—incorporated as a city—March 13, 1873

The village of Winnebago Rapids, which was the name given to Neenah in the early days, was established by the Circuit Court of Winnebago County on April 10, 1850. Winnebago Rapids was absorbed by the village of Neenah when it incorporated on March 28, 1856. Officers and trustees elected at that time were: J. B. Hamilton, President; A. G. LaGrange, Clerk; J. R. Kimberly; Jeremiah Cummings; Ed Smith; D. R. Pangborn; H. C. Crane; and A. H. Kronkite (above data taken from Harney's *History of Winnebago County*, chapter 52).

To bring the full picture into view, let us roll the years back to the Treaty of the Cedars in 1836, wherein the Menominee tribe ceded to the United States all lands lying within what is now Winnebago county, whereupon the government set aside as "Indian Lands" an area bounded on the north by the channel of the Fox River flowing through Neenah; on the east by Lake Winnebago, and on the south by the Fox River flowing through Oshkosh. The western limits appear to be somewhat nebulous, but it is assumed that the Wolf River formed the western boundary. The Menominees were settled on this tract.

During the middle 1830's, the Federal Government undertook a civilizing project in behalf of this tribe. A grist mill, a saw mill and



The Old Council Tree. This historic tree stood near the site of the two residences at the north end of North Park Avenue. It derived its name from its use by Indian tribes for council purposes. When the channel was dredged in the late '80s, the point was cut back and rounded off. It was at this time that the old tree disappeared.

several log structures were built in what is now Neenah, and an effort was made through vocational teachers and other personnel to educate the Indians in the industrial and agricultural arts of the white man. The Indians would have none of it, and the experiment was discontinued. The two mills lay idle. The Indians continued to use the log houses, built for human habitation, to stable their animals.

In 1843 Neenah's pioneer, Harrison Reed, associated with the *Milwaukee Sentinel*, contracted to buy from the government "several hundred acres" in that part of the Indian lands known as "Winnebago Rapids," when and if the area should be opened to public purchase. It is reported that this agreement to purchase covered 562–44/100 acres. It included all of the waterfront south of the Neenah river channel, and practically the heart of present-day Neenah. To get some idea of how much 562 acres is, let us say that on it one could

lay out four 18-hole golf courses and have 82 acres left over. Reed's purchase price was $4,700, but he had no money. He was, however, able to secure bondsmen. One condition of his contract was that until and unless the tract was opened to public sale, he was forbidden to sell any of the property.

It was expected that Reed would rehabilitate the two mill properties and other buildings that were falling into decay, but he had neither funds nor could he secure the labor for such a task. The Indians, as we have indicated, weren't interested.

He played a waiting game until 1846, when the tract was put on the market. Then came his chance, provided he could find someone with funds who could and would come to his rescue. Through the good offices of a pioneer Congregational missionary, Reverend O. P. Clinton, and other friends and relatives in Milwaukee and Waukesha, such a savior was found in the person of Harvey Jones, a successful young businessman of Gloversville, New York. In return for money ($4,700) to pay the government, Reed offered Jones one-half of his land in "Winnebago Rapids." The money was paid by Jones to Reed in July, 1846, whereupon he (Reed) hurried to Washington, paying his bid price with interest and received his patents for the land.

Jones visited his newly acquired holdings in late 1846 and early 1847, moving to "Winnebago Rapids" in 1848, and died here in November, 1849, at the age of 44. His death, in the light of retrospect, was most regrettable. Not only was he an able and far-sighted person, but misunderstandings and disagreements between Jones and Reed left their relationships in a legal tangle.

Reed and the Jones' estate owned the more desirable property, now the heart of Neenah, south of the river channel. Whereas settlers flowed in and took up land where they could get it, purchase of the choicer lands was retarded by inability to get clear title. Both Mr. Cunningham and Richard Harney, in his *History of Winnebago County*, indicate that the terms of the contract between these two men will probably never be known. It is known, however, that their real estate holdings were in undivided half interests. To make matters worse, Jones left no will, and the handling of his estate by its administrators is referred to as a scandal. To quote Cunningham, "It is a

dark page in the history of Neenah, for had the property here been spared the years (1850–1864) of needless litigation, during which no one could, with safety, purchase, there is no question but what the growth and wealth of Neenah would have been increased thousands of inhabitants and millions of dollars."

As to Menasha and Doty Island, these lands were outside the Indian reservation, were surveyed in 1833, and opened to purchase in 1835. Cunningham indicates that here, too, settlement was retarded by land speculators, Governor Doty being one of them, who bought and held for higher prices.

Thus, between delays due to "Indian Lands," legal tangles and land speculators, the Twin Cities got off to a late start, compared to Appleton and Oshkosh.

Neenah Is Named

In spite of his financial difficulties, Harrison Reed held to his faith in the future of the area, even securing for it a post office in 1844 and naming it "Neenah."

How the name "Neenah" came to be attached to the locality is attributed to Governor Doty, who, meeting with a band of Indians one day, asked, pointing to the river, "What is that?" The Indian answered, "Neenah," being their word for water. Doty liked the word and applied it to the region. When land in Winnebago Rapids was opened for sale in 1846, settlers trickled in, purchasing land lying outside the Reed-Jones tract. The name "Neenah" came into common use and became attached to the village and eventually to the city.

George Jones, a grandson of Harvey Jones, lived his life on lands to the west of Neenah. During his active years he took part in church and other affairs of our city. He was one of the original leaders of the Boys' Brigade. Latterly he lived alone with his dogs in a cabin near Pickett. He knew of the historical project of this committee, and on November 15, 1955, induced a neighbor to bring him to town for a visit with Mr. Shattuck. The purpose of his visit was to request that reference to his grandfather, Harvey Jones, on page 64 of Cunningham's history, be corrected. The objectionable paragraph was as follows:

"We have from the lips of a gentleman, now a resident of this state, who knew Jones and his family in New York, the following incident as illustrative of his trading propensities while yet a boy. It was a habit of Jones' father, who was owner of a New England Farm, to give each of his boys a piece of land which they cultivated for their own profit, putting in just such crops as they wished, and disposing of the same as best suited them. It is told of Harvey Jones, that no sooner would the other boys get their crops in than he would begin buying and trading with them, and as a rule, by harvest time he would own or control the product of each boys' bit of land."

George's father, Gilbert Jones, was one of the three sons of Harvey. George, in his visit of November 15, 1955, said that his father had branded Cunningham's story as false. George Jones died shortly thereafter at the ripe age of 92. We hereby keep faith with him.

How Doty Island Came To Be Divided Between the Twin Cities

Since entering upon this historical project the question has been asked, "How and when was Doty Island divided—half to Menasha and half to Neenah?"

The early histories of the region (Cunningham, Lawson and Harney) don't spell it out. Rather, they seem to take it for granted. The historical background of the problem is as follows:

The township of Neenah was defined and organized February 11, 1847, by an act of the territorial legislature. It comprised Township 20, ranges 16, 17 and the north half of Township 19, ranges 16 and 17. To put it in more understandable terms, the original township of Neenah embraced the present town of that name, plus the present towns of Menasha, Vinland and Clayton.

In 1849 the towns of Vinland and Clayton were split off and given independent status, and in 1855 the present town of Menasha was taken from the original town of Neenah. The *village* of Menasha was constituted on July 5, 1853, while still within the township of Neenah.

The above separations were guided by sectional lines. When it came to disposition of Doty Island, it was found that the island lay almost exactly between the north and south lines of sections 19, 20, 21, 22 and 23 of town 20 north, range 17 east. If sectional lines had been followed, the island would have gone either to Menasha, with only a sliver on the south shore left for Neenah, or Neenah would have acquired the

main body of the island, with a thin strip on the northeast corner left for Menasha. Thus, it becomes easy to follow the thinking of citizens and legislators of that day. It is obvious that a *half* section line was projected from west to east across the island, with approximately half of the land area passing to each community. This was, of course, before there was a Nicolet Boulevard. There was, however, a wagon road cut through the bush to connect with a bridge built by Neenah in 1851 and with Menasha's bridge from Tayco Street to the island, built in 1852. This wagon road later became Neenah's North Commercial Street and Menasha's Washington Street.

At some later date this original east-west dividing line was moved 100 feet south. This new line, which eventually became the center line of Nicolet Boulevard, extended from Lake Winnebago to the center of what was then Cedar Street (now North Commercial). From this point the dividing line jogged north 100 feet along the center of Washington Street, thence west along the original half section line to Little Lake Butte des Morts. Thus, the present division of the island is not along a straight line from east to west between the two lakes, but rather a line with a 100 foot jog at the junction of Neenah's North Commercial and Menasha's Washington Streets.

The Central Brass Company finds itself on this half sectional line, with a corner of their building in Neenah and the main body of their plant in Menasha. The dividing line comes in through an east window and out a south door!

Significance of the Fox River

The importance of the Fox River flowing out of Lake Winnebago and into Green Bay cannot be overestimated as one contemplates the life of that day. The waters of Green Bay are 163′ below the level of our lake. To make the river navigable for cargo-carrying boats, locks were necessary. Later the Federal Government took over, but during the 1840's, the matter of locks was up to private enterprise. The big question was, where should the first lock be located, on the Neenah channel or in the branch of the river flowing through Menasha? At a hearing in 1849, before a Federal Commission meeting in Oshkosh, Harvey Jones, speaking for the Neenah group, offered to build the lock

without cost to the government. Curtis Reed, aided and abetted by James Duane Doty, offered to build the lock in the Menasha channel and pay $5,000 for the privilege. The lock was, of course, built in Menasha on the site of a more adequate installation later constructed by the Federal Engineering Department. Jones and his associates, not to be denied, went ahead with their lock anyway, the use of which was short-lived.

This incident, with its accompanying bitterness, started a train of unpleasantness, jealousies and tensions between the two communities that lasted into the early 1940's, when the service clubs, a common Chamber of Commerce, one newspaper, joint Community Chest and the friendly gestures of successive high school generations closed the gap and brought about the cordial and cooperative spirit that now exists between the Twin Cities.

When Kimberly-Clark, in 1940, built their new machine room at the west end of the Badger-Globe mill, they came upon the timbers of the disused lock begun by Harvey Jones and finished by his friends and the administrators of his estate.



We insert at this point Howard B. Palmer's sketch which adds color and valuable data to the story of our historic waterway:

NAVIGATION AT NEENAH

The settlement now known as Neenah-Menasha had its origin largely because of its strategic location for water transportation. The Indians settled in the area for that reason, and the white man followed for the same reason. Thus, water transportation has always played an important role in the community. Activities on the waterfront are today at proportions that probably outshine even those old "heydays" when the great steamer "Leander-Choate" filled the locks with only inches to spare and loaded to capacity with excursion crowds on all three of its decks.

As the Indians traveled and traded via canoe on the Fox River and Lake Winnebago, so came the white man with his bateau and flat boat bent on pursuing trade and travel. As the population and trade increased, the need for simplification of navigation hardships grew. Thus, early in the 19th century, came the private enterprise that dammed the river and built locks to remove the drudgery and time and cost of portaging around the many rapids.

This privately owned "toll financed" project continued for a few years, until it was absorbed by the Territory of Wisconsin, who later disposed of the endeavor to another private company, in existence today, "The Green Bay-Mississippi Canal

Co." This private concern expended "huge" sums of money for development of the navigation and power of the river and did a thriving business as an economic venture.

Then came the Civil War and, with it, need for federal control of waterways in the interests of the national welfare. So the navigation rights were sold to the federal government for some $10,000,000, with the power rights still held by the private company as it exists today.

A reconstruction period followed, when locks, and dams, modern for the day, were constructed with federal funds, toll was removed and navigation on the Fox River, Wisconsin, became, tonnage-wise, second only in the United States in rivers of its class. The "Merrimac" in the east carried a few more tons annually.

All this activity, and the removal of tolls, had a material effect on the use of the waterway as a means of pleasure. Motor launches and palatial yachts began to appear on Lake Winnebago and the Fox River. Yachting and boat clubs came into being. Two of those later merged into one, the Neenah-Nodaway Yacht Club, which today holds the distinction of being the second oldest in North America.

To review the roster of inhabitants of Neenah in the 1880's and 1890's is to read a directory of boating and yachting enthusiasts. The craft varied widely as to type; motor launches, steam yachts, sailing cargo vessels, side wheelers, stern wheelers, sailing yachts, canoes and row boats all mingled together to give the twin "port" of Neenah-Menasha a nautical atmosphere which is in strong evidence in this year of 1957.

H. B. PALMER



Four of the shallow draft paddle wheelers that plied these waters at the turn of the century carrying freight and passengers up and down the Wolf and the Fox rivers and the length and breadth of Lake Winnebago. During the summer months, these ships were in demand for excursions. Neenah's Riverside Park was one of the popular ports of call. The old pavilion was placed at the north end of Riverside Park to accommodate the visitors coming by water.

THE 1840'S TO 1860'S INCLUSIVE

HIGHLIGHTING of the era covered by Mr. Cunningham's history may appear to some as a twice-told tale. On the other hand, a clean pick-up of the story at the year 1878 would leave much to be desired. Therefore, we record a rundown of a few "firsts" and other significant data, with the suggestion that all readers add to our efforts as their memories are jogged or as they come upon pertinent facts and interesting incidents in the course of their conversations and reading.

The First Town Meeting

The first town meeting in the recently opened settlement of "Winnebago Rapids" occurred in 1847, one year after the area was open to purchase. It preceded by 26 years Neenah's incorporation as a city. Associated with these dates is the year 1848, when the territory of Wisconsin became a state.

Early Social Organizations

As may be imagined, various forms of social and mutually helpful organizations sprang up in the pioneer settlement. The first of many such groupings seems to have been the Lodge of Odd Fellows, chartered in 1849. This lodge continued for ten years, when it surrendered its charter. In February 1870 the charter was reinstated and the organization thenceforth continued live and serves to this day.

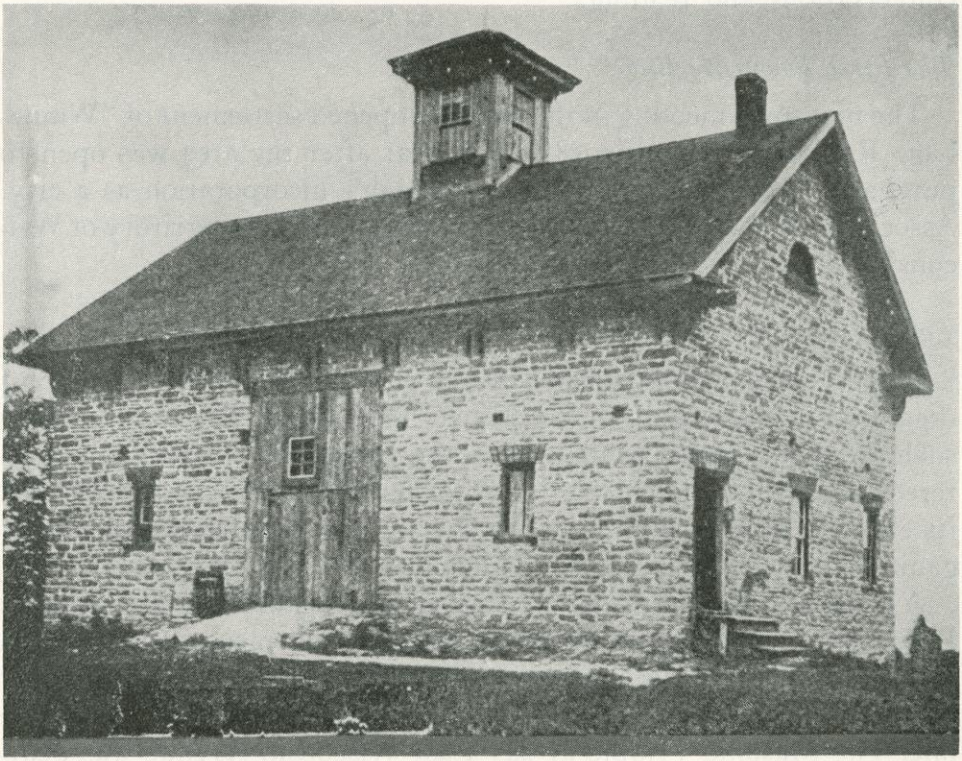
A lodge of Free and Accepted Masons was organized in Menasha, as Lodge 61, in early 1855. Menasha and Neenah men constituted its membership. Early meetings were held in Menasha, but since October of that year (1855) meetings have been held on the Neenah side of the line. The Masonic Temple at 241 East Wisconsin Avenue was dedicated in 1926.

The "Green"

Many early settlers had their roots in New England where the village "green" was and still is an institution. Therefore, one of the early acts of these settlers was the setting aside of our "Green," now known as Columbian Park, in Neenah's tenth ward. It is said on good authority that our "Green" antedates the dedication by New York City of its famous "Central Park."

First Religious Service and Early Churches

Mr. Cunningham records the first Protestant Service in the Winnebago Rapids tract in 1845, one year before the area was opened for sale. The meeting, conducted by an itinerant Methodist minister, was held in the residence of Harrison Reed and included all the white population then in the area, seven in all.



The "old stone barn," said to have been built by Harrison Reed in 1847, one year after his purchase of 562 acres of land in "Winnebago Rapids." This structure, now a residence, stands on the east side of South Park Avenue. This is one of the oldest, if not the oldest, landmark in Neenah.

The first duly constituted church came into being in April 1847, when twelve persons from the twin settlements presented letters from eastern Presbyterian and Congregational churches and formed a church loosely affiliated with the Congregational communion. They met in a log structure on East Doty Avenue. On December 15, 1848, this congregation voted to become the First Presbyterian Church of Winnebago Rapids. This early church, then, is the source from which sprang the present First Presbyterian Church of Neenah.

Three years later, in 1851, the Menasha members withdrew and established the First Congregational Church of that city.

In the year 1848 a Welsh Calvinistic Methodist Church, shepherded by an itinerant pastor, was established. This little congregation worshipped in what was called the "Brick Church," located on the corner of Division and Chestnut Streets. This brick structure is presently owned by Henry Kemps and has been skillfully incorporated into a comfortable home with entrance at 600 Chestnut. The exterior has been stuccoed and painted an artistic green. This Welsh congregation persisted until the turn of the century, when they disbanded and their membership united with other congregations.

Another Welsh church, affiliated with the Congregational denomination, came into existence in 1861, with a meeting house called the "White Church" on East Columbian Avenue, near Pine Street. This congregation, like its predecessor, continued until the first decade of the 20th century, when its membership disbanded and joined other communions. Early Neenah owes much to its sturdy Welsh pioneers.

Oak Hill Cemetery

It was in this early decade (1849) that Harvey Jones, who initiated several forward-looking plans for this locality during his brief life here, donated five acres for a cemetery. This was the core around which Oak Hill Cemetery developed. Little did he dream when he made this gift that his body would be among the first to be interred there.

Menasha Wooden Ware Company

The pioneer industry of the Twin Cities, and one that has come down from 1849 to the present, is the Menasha Wooden Ware Company. At that time Menasha was on its way to becoming a settled com-

munity. (Lands on the Neenah side, it will be remembered, were not released for purchase till 1846.) In 1849, three men, Messrs. Beckwith, Sanford and Billings started a small lumber mill on the site of the present Menasha Wooden Ware Company. This property was sold in 1850 to Keyes, Wolcott and Rice, who in turn sold to Elisha D. Smith for $1,200 in 1852. Out of that modest beginning grew the far-flung Menasha Wooden Ware Company of 1957. For the fuller story, as related by Donald C. Shepard, see Part II.

The First School

Like churches and cemeteries, an early concern of the pioneers was educational facilities for their children. In 1847, with the settlement less than a year old, a frame building, designed for a grocery store, one mile south of Neenah on the Ridge Road, was converted into a one-room schoolhouse. Carolyn Boynton was the teacher, and her student body of 12 became the beginning of Neenah's public school system.

Within a year thereafter the first schoolhouse within the settlement was constructed near the village "Green."

Early Blacksmith Shops

Beginning business in 1866, Evan Johnson and Ole O. Myhre bought the property now owned by the Wieckert Lumber Company and continued the smithing business under their and Olaf Myhre's ownership throughout the horse and buggy era. See Part II for this story and a listing, compiled by Olaf A. Myhre, of the other blacksmith shops that served their generation until the coming of the auto.

The Telegraph Comes to Neenah

1852 (nine years before the outbreak of the Civil War) is a significant year, in that telegraphic communication came to Neenah, and put our forebears in instant touch with the outer world.

Racial Elements

Early mingling of racial elements in the two communities of Menasha and Neenah is seen in the Germania Society of 1856 and the

Menasha Turner Society in 1862. It was this latter society that in 1862 built the still useful structure, known as Germania Hall. The two societies (Turner and Germania) merged in 1888 under the name "German Unterstützungs Verein," later changed to "Germania Benevolent Society."

Laudan Fields

A second addition to Neenah's eventual park system came in 1856, when the so-called Laudan Fields came into possession of the community. The legal record of this gift is somewhat obscure. For years the property lay quite idle, but came to life as the city stretched southward following World War II.

Yachting

As the life of the settlement broadened, we note an early record of yacht racing on Lake Winnebago, with Governor Doty's son participating in this sport in 1859. Five years later, 1864, the Neenah Yacht Club was organized. From that day on yachting has passed through many vicissitudes, finally emerging into the full-blown and democratic sport now evidenced by a harbor so packed with sail and power craft that it is difficult to find dockage and anchorage for all who desire to enjoy the sport.

More Churches

The first Episcopal service in the area was conducted in Menasha in 1857. St. Stephen's parish was incorporated in 1859 and held their first service in a new church edifice on First Street, Menasha, in 1861. Trinity Episcopal was subsequently organized in Neenah through the missionary efforts of the Menasha congregation. The habitat of the Neenah congregation was a wooden structure built in 1869 at the corner of East Franklin and Walnut Streets. The two parishes eventually combined to form the present St. Thomas Episcopal Church, located at the junction of Washington Street, Menasha, and North Commercial Street, Neenah.

The middle '60s saw an influx of substantial citizens from northern Europe, particularly from Germany, bringing with them their mother

tongue and their Lutheran background. Trinity Lutheran Church, one of Neenah's progressive and most influential churches, was established on December 26, 1865. Their first place of meeting was on Walnut Street, between Olive Street and Washington Avenue. Needing more space, the present church was erected on the corner of Oak Street and Franklin Avenue in 1888.

1861—From this point, particularly as the legal tangle between the affairs of Harrison Reed and the Harvey Jones estate cleared up, the framework of the little town rapidly takes on form and substance. Events and advances fairly crowd each other into existence. The forerunner of the First National Bank opened for business in 1861, occupying the ground floor corner of the Pettibone Block (present site of the bank).

Of equal significance was extension of the Chicago and Northwestern tracks from Fond du Lac, reaching Neenah during this epochal year.

And, let us be reminded that the railroad facilitated the movement of troops from this area into the Union Armies during the early '60s.

A weekly newspaper, *The Island City Times*, was established by J. N. Stone in 1863.

Neenah's First Bulk Plant

The first bulk plant in Neenah was the forerunner of the present Socony Mobil Oil Company, Inc. Way back in 1860, it started as the Valvoline Oil Company, on High Street. When their High Street quarters were destroyed by fire in the early 1900's, they moved to the present location at 167 North Lake Street. The Valvoline Oil Company was purchased by the Socony-Vacuum Oil Company in November 1941. The name was changed to Socony Mobil Oil Company on April 28, 1955. (The above information furnished by the local representative of Socony Mobil Oil Company.)

Twin City Monument Works

Although Charles J. Madson made the Twin City Monument Works what it is today, it had its beginning 59 years before Charley took over in 1924. On the site of Shattuck Park, in a small frame

building close to the C&NW tracks, Bishop & DeLong started fashioning monuments in 1865. Then came a succession of ownership:

Bishop & Rhodes 1872–1886
Bishop & VanSlyke 1886–1893
Louis Willis 1893–1914
(who moved in 1905 to a lot adjoining the Bergstrom Paper Company office)

John C. Zentner 1914–1924
(who moved to the present location)
and

Charles J. Madson 1924–1954
(who built the present structure that houses shop, office and display room).

Present officers are:

John Stark, President
Ellsworth Prahl, Treasurer
Bernice Prahl, Vice President
Verene Stark, Secretary

Wm. Krueger Co.

Wm. Krueger Company was founded in 1866 by Wm. Krueger, who came to Neenah from Germany in 1849. He settled originally on a farm in the Town of Clayton, and moved to Neenah to go into the hardware business seventeen years later. His two sons, Henry F. Krueger and M. W. Krueger, joined him in the 1890's. Later, Wm. H. Krueger and Carl F. Krueger, sons of Henry F. Krueger, also entered the business.

The original Wm. Krueger became inactive in 1890, and the business was then operated by H. F. Krueger and M. W. Krueger until their deaths in 1933 and 1941, respectively. In 1906, Wm. Krueger Company was incorporated, the officers being H. F. Krueger, President; M. W. Krueger, Vice President and Secretary; and W. H. Krueger, Treasurer. At this same time a furniture department was established, and this department finally occupied 103 and 107 West Wisconsin

Avenue and 106 North Commercial Street. The furniture department was conducted by W. H. Krueger, and was discontinued upon his death in 1940. The business now includes hardware, industrial supplies, appliances, housewares, sporting goods, toys and gifts. James Webb is President and Treasurer; Laura Barnett Webb (granddaughter of the founder) is Vice President; and James Barnett Webb (great-grandson of the founder) is Secretary. Present address is 107 West Wisconsin Avenue.

The Cooper Trade

Mr. Cunningham refers on page 86 of his history to Brown's Stave Works. This enterprise, started by Theodore Brown in 1860, is shown on an artist's perspective of Neenah in 1870. (See page 34.) It stood on the south side of the river just east of the present Oak Street bridge. Mrs. Dan Howman, a descendent of Theodore Brown, tells how her father, John Brown, and the late Henry Hoeper, learned the cooper trade back in the days when the manufacture of staves was one of Neenah's up-and-coming industries.

First Paper Mill

In 1865 we come to a pivotal turn in the industrial life of the village. Dr. Nathaniel Robinson, grandfather of Mrs. T. D. Smith, with five associates, started Neenah's first paper mill. Up to this point the power canal was lined with grist mills. From here in, flour milling gradually subsided, as papermaking took over. (This transformation is adequately covered by Cunningham.)



"From *the pieces of mosaic assembled by historians come the great murals which represent the progress of mankind.*"
—Herbert Hoover

THE IMPACT OF SCIENCE AND INVENTION

WE HAVE referred to the simplicity of life and organization in Cunningham's day in contrast to the complexity of social organization in the 1950's. Neenah in the '70s was quite sufficient unto itself. Today the life of the Twin Cities and its adjoining townships is melded.

For instance, every working day about an equal number of people cross and recross Nicolet Boulevard going to and from their work. Therefore, typical Menasha industrial enterprises, employing substantial numbers of Neenah citizens, find a logical place in this sketch.

Not only that, we reach beyond to Appleton, the source of our electric power. It was on the bank of the Fox River at Appleton that the first hydroelectric station in the world was instituted in 1882.

Nor can we get into the detail of our undertaking without a bird's eye glimpse of the wonderful changes that have come to pass during the 80 years since Mr. Cunningham laid down his pen. In his day the oil lamp, the dirt road, the horse and buggy, the cistern in the basement, the neighborhood well and the outside toilet characterized the life of the time.

The shopping radius was pretty much limited by walking distances, except for the one day of the week when farmers drove to town with their produce and hitched their horses, while their wives shopped in the village stores.

The steam engine was a commonplace in 1878, but electricity, with all the gadgets and services made possible by that newly-found power, came into being during the era now under observation. Conveniences such as electric refrigeration, that displaced natural ice, entered within the memory of many not-so-old residents. Air conditioning and electric washers for clothes and dishes were introduced subsequent to World War I.

The telephone:—who of us can visualize life without it, yet that invaluable means of communication did not come into general use until

the first decade of the century. In 1900 the local Kimberly-Clark office had a single wall phone with a crank to call "Central!" A private line provided contact with its mills at Appleton before the Wisconsin Telephone Company had strung its wires.

Radio and television were as far from the mind of man in the '80s as the modern guided missile was from soldiers of the Civil War. The shift to thermostatically controlled oil and gas heat, displacing the coal stove and the hand-fired furnace, is within the memory of citizens in their thirties.

The Saturday night bath was a luxury until 1936. Rain water from the roof conducted to a cistern in the basement and pumped by hand into a tank in the attic was doled out sparingly to members of the household. During dry seasons Will Wing, Will Pearson, Herman Vogt and others did a thriving business of replenishing dry cisterns with raw river water.

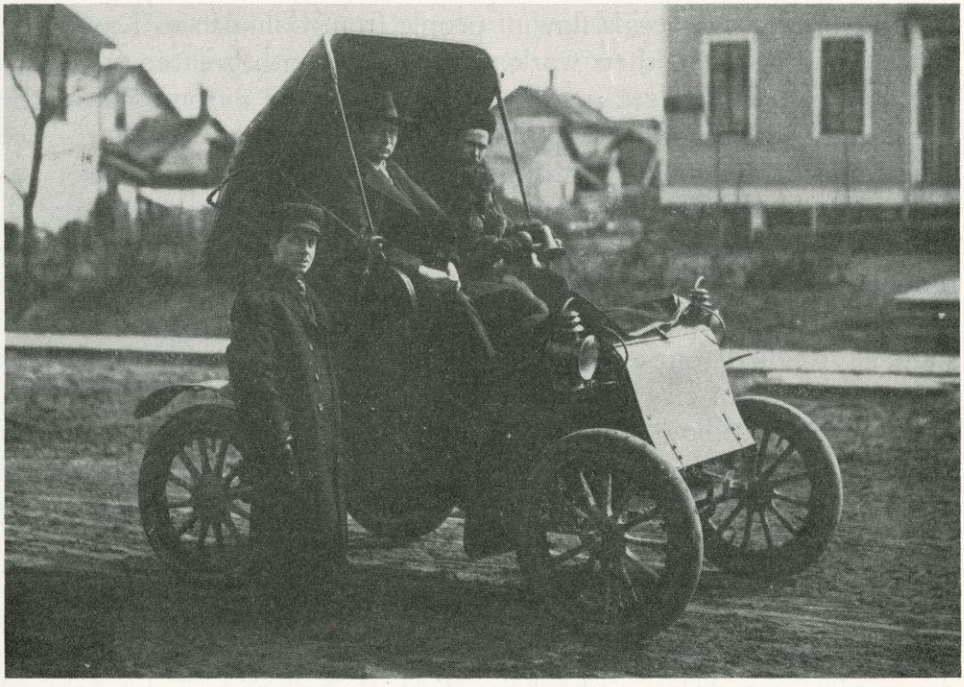
In 1893 our city fathers, pressured by a rising tide of desire for a city water system, dug an artesian well adjoining our lake shore and laid water mains throughout the principal streets of the city. The belief was deeply rooted that pure drinking water could be obtained only from an underground supply. This belief was probably justified, for water analysis and purification, as we now know it, had not been perfected. Joy and satisfaction over Neenah's new water system was destined to be short-lived. Water from the deep well carried an abnormally high content of mineral salts (60 grains or more per gallon); cooking utensils, even water glasses, were promptly coated with calcium and lime. Boiler tubes and water lines became clogged. Neither dishes nor clothes could be washed in it. It curdled the soap. Water softening devices for home use eventually helped some, but their use was limited. Almost everyone kept their basement cisterns. No one will ever know how many families seeking a new home decided to settle elsewhere because of Neenah's impossible city water. Neenah voted overwhelmingly in April 1936 for a soft water system, using treated water from Lake Winnebago. A year later pure soft water flowed into the city mains. That interesting story is told in Part II.

Less dramatic but of equal interest is the story of the origin and development of Neenah's sewer system. See Part II.

The Auto

In our overlook at the marvels of science that have enriched our lives since 1878, we save for final mention the invention of the internal combustion engine and the pneumatic rubber tire resulting in the automobile. No other single invention has so transformed our way of life. We cannot be sure who owned the first automobile in Neenah. We can say, however, that Ferd Wilde, C. W. Howard, Mrs. C. H. Brown, Dr. E. J. Smith and Dr. T. D. Smith were among the first. The auto today is the key factor in the planning and replanning of cities and their surrounding areas. Referred to in its early days as the "horseless carriage," it soon induced a popular demand for hard-surfaced roads, with the result that, within two generations, untold thousands of miles of concrete and black top highways span the nation.

Another thing the auto did was to create a demand for reliable road



Here, believe it or not, is Mayhew Mott in his air-cooled Knox. Mayhew drove this car to Mattoon and sold it to Dr. Riordan for $300. Date April 7, 1908. L. to R. Roy Palmer, Mayhew, Dr. Riordan. Mayhew said it took him 24 hours to make that trip.

maps. To quote from a publication of our State Historical Society:

> Early motorists often had to resort to bicycle maps to guide them on their Sunday excusions, for no official highway map existed.
>
> One such bicycle map, published in 1896 by the League of American Wheelmen, utilizes a unique road marking system. Roads were labeled "good," "medium" or "bad" and "level," "hilly" or "very hilly." The road between Milwaukee and Wauwatosa, for instance, was indicated as being level and medium; but that between Blue Mounds and Cross Plains as very hilly and medium. Steep grades were as hazardous to the motorist as they were strenuous to the Wheelman.
>
> Even as late as 1914 Wisconsin highway maps indicate the lack of an extensive road system. There was no main highway leading up the Door county peninsula—the road stopped at Sturgeon Bay. All over the early maps short black lines indicating main routes rush off briefly toward a town, then stop short at the destination. There were no connecting junctions and picking up a route from one town to another often meant considerable back-tracking.

Influenced by the auto, the radius of industrial employment widened from the neighborhood to the adjoining cities and counties. Every working day sees a flow of people from Oshkosh to Kaukauna coming and going to their work and doing it with greater ease than our forebears negotiated a mile or two. With an automobile in the family, the housewife's shopping area widened from two or three miles, to ten, thirty—even 100 miles. One-room country schools combined into more efficient county units; the school bus, seen on all roads, brings increasing numbers of rural students to the city high school.

As these lines are written, we are witnessing a phenomenon that some have called "our exploding cities." Following World War I there began a trickle of city folk into the adjacent rural areas, lured by a desire for more elbow room, country living and lower taxes. As auto ownership became general during the '30s, and following the second World War, the trickle became a flood. Suburbs are currently growing faster than the parent city.

Such population movement always brings in its wake a package of interrelated problems between the parent city and its urban-rural neighbors. Locally, it presented a Pandora's box of tensions and misunderstandings over taxes, school situations, annexations and municipal services and privileges which the former city dweller was accustomed to enjoy and which he is reluctant to abandon.

Not the least of the problem of our civilization on wheels is the park-

ing question. Shopping centers on the city's rim, with plentiful land for the parking of cars, attract not only the rural shopper, but many residents of the inner city.

That Neenah has felt the impact of this outward movement, witness the increase in chain food stores and residential and industrial building to the south and west of the city.

It will be an interesting backward look in the year 2000 to view the measures our city and its mercantile leaders shall have taken, or have failed to take, to preserve real estate values and business investments at the city's heart.

Many readers of these words will be able, with a bit of imagination, to add to the illustrations here noted. Possibly the epochal flight of Charles A. Lindbergh in 1927 fittingly dramatizes the onrush of these many products of research and engineering skill that have crowded in upon our generation. It was on May 20 of that year that he took off alone for Paris, landing in the evening of May 21, after a non-stop flight of 3,610 miles in about 33½ hours. For this achievement Lindbergh was feted in France, Belgium and England—and on his return to this country, he was lionized in New York and Washington. To us, as we look back across the intervening thirty years, the significant fact is that this trans-Atlantic flight of the "Spirit of St. Louis" opened the door to world air travel, which, in 1958, is accepted in the same matter-of-fact fashion as boarding a bus or a railroad train.

A Story by Decades

What follows is a sketch, by decades.

Our effort is to be considered a framework to which many readers will be able to add items of human interest and factual value. To promote this idea of a cooperative and continuing history, the reader will find blank pages at the end of each chapter. Use these pages to note your suggestions. Spotting of any factual errors will be particularly appreciated.

When Neenah nears her centennial in 1973, this home-made effort should be revised in the light of the added material that you can assist in providing.

It is suggested that all additions and corrections be lodged with officers of the local Historical Society.

Notes

Notes

Notes

THE 1870's

CONTINUING our bird's eye view of history flowing to us from the past, we come to the last decade of the Cunningham era.

Elwers, Kimball & Kellett

The forerunner of the present Elwers Drug Store was established in the Pettibone Block under the name of Kimberly and Henry Drug House. This was in 1870.

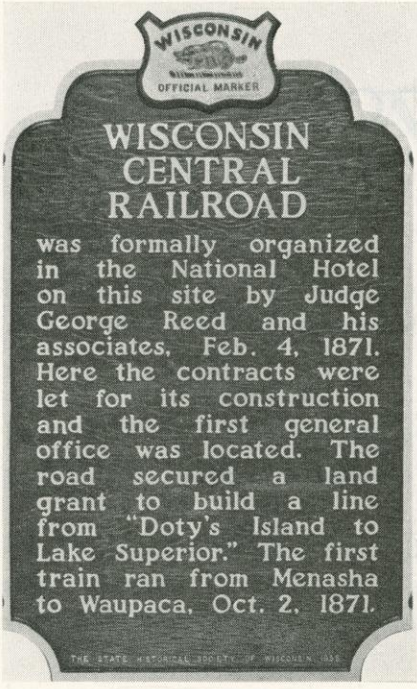
This store has always been in this location, except during the rebuilding after the great fire of January, 1883. Fred Elwers, George's father, attained a national record by working in and supervising this one store from age 22 to age 92.

On the north side of Wisconsin Avenue, in the space now occupied by Harmon McCarthy, the Kimball Jewelry Store opened for business. William O. Nelson clerked for Kimball, and eventually bought him out. Mr. Nelson was succeeded by Mr. McCarthy.

On the northeast corner of Wisconsin Avenue and North Commercial Street, William Kellett operated a general store in 1866. It was here that E. E. Jandrey got his start, selling his services for $75 per year and board. Eventually Mr. Jandrey purchased the business from the Kellett estate, it having been moved to its present location prior to Mr. Kellett's passing.

Neenah Gazette and G. A. Cunningham

1871 saw the *Neenah Gazette* founded by Charles Boynton, who found space in the second floor of the Pettibone Block, which burned in 1883. It was at the midpoint of this decade that Mr. Cunningham comes into view. In 1875 he was hired by Boynton. Three years later we find him editing the paper and author of the *History of Neenah*, printed at the "Gazette Printing Establishment." Subsequently the



Gazette persisted under H. L. Webster and L. F. Cole, until J. N. Stone and his *Neenah Daily Times* absorbed the *Gazette* in 1898.

The year 1870 stands out in that the general headquarters of the Wisconsin Central Railroad was established in the National Hotel, on the site of the present Menasha Hotel. A metal plaque on the north face of the hotel tells that story. (See Part II.) This road opened a freight and passenger service westward to Waupaca and northwestward to Lake Superior.

Coming into the year 1871, railroad service to the east and south opens through extension of a branch of the Milwaukee & Northern Railroad from Hilbert to Menasha, with a sub-station on the Neenah side of the Island.

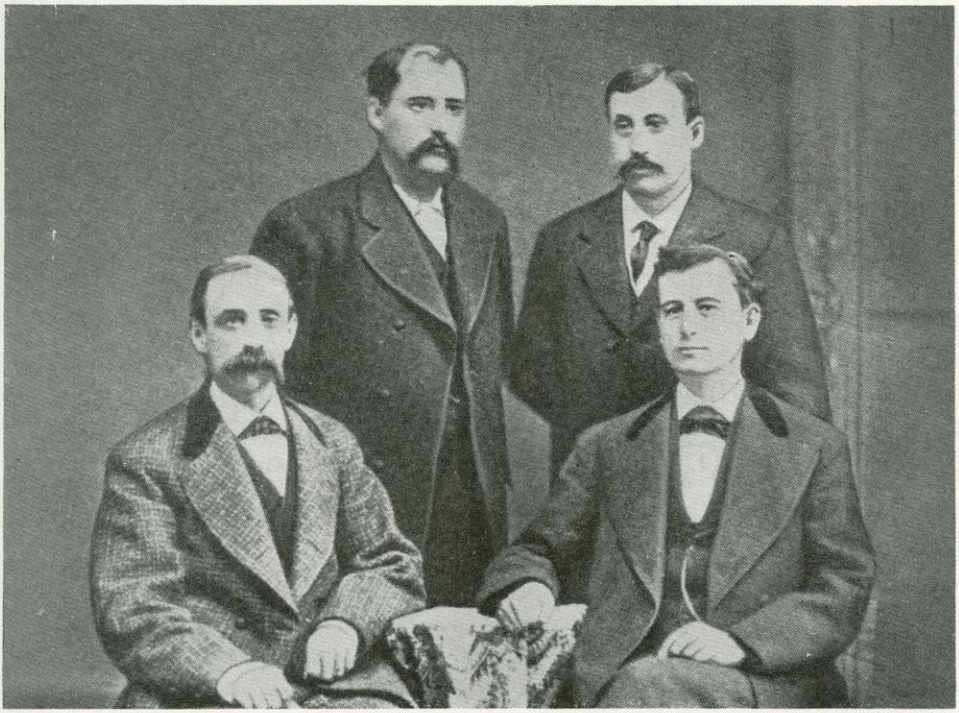
And, while we are on the subject of railroads, the spur tracks along the power canal serving the industries that were, and were to be, came into being in 1875.

Church Life

1870 was a year punctuated by forward-looking activity on the part of several religious bodies. Trinity Lutheran School was organized, first located in a structure on Walnut Street, between Olive Street and Washington Avenue. From there the school was moved in 1893 to a building adjoining the church on Oak Street. Again, in 1951, the structure built in 1893 was razed and a modern school building was erected on the site.

In 1870 the Baptist Church, later known as the Whiting Memorial, was instituted.

Two years later (1872) appeared Our Savior's Lutheran Church. Originally all of the churches composed of families from Central and Northern Europe, such as German, Danish and Norwegian Lutheran, conducted services in their mother tongues. Later, as the second generations came up in American schools, there was usually one service in the foreign tongue and a second service in English.



The four founders of Kimberly-Clark Corporation.
Standing—left to right: C. B. Clark, F. C. Shattuck. Sitting—J. A. Kimberly, Havilah Babcock

Kimberly, Clark & Co.

The year 1872 comes in with flags flying. One year before the Village of Neenah became an incorporated city, four young men—three from New York State and one from Massachusetts—pooled their savings and formed a partnership known as Kimberly, Clark & Company. From this modest beginning has grown an organization that has carried Neenah's name to the ends of the earth. (See Part II.)

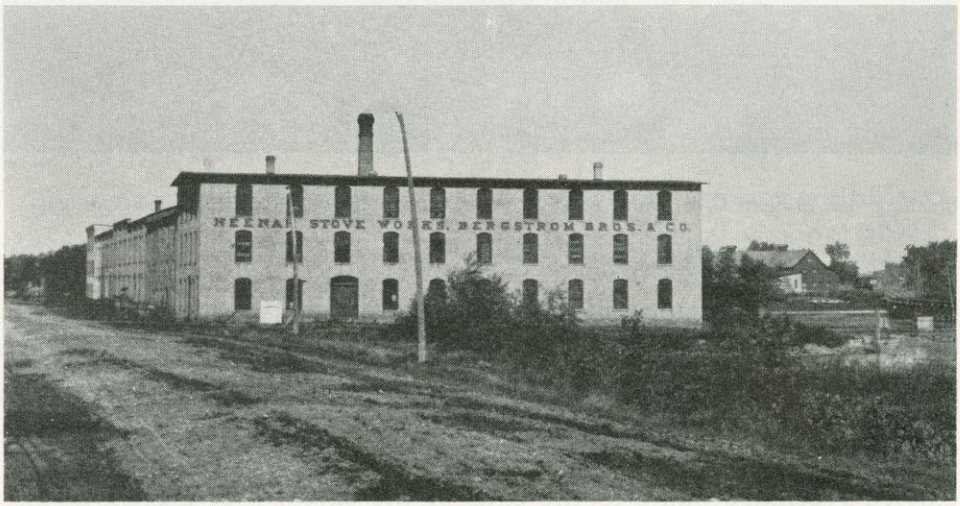
Aylward Plow Works

Also, the Aylward Plow Works began operation in 1872, in a plant located on North Lake Street, continuing until 1918 under this title. In 1918 the name was broadened to Neenah Foundry Company. Latterly, under the aggressive leadership of E. J. Aylward, this firm moved, in 1918, to its present site on Winneconne Avenue, has not only become a substantial employer, but is one of the foremost producers of gray iron, semi-steel alloy castings, heat resisting irons, etc.

Riverside Park

In this same year the Village Council, amid considerable discord and charges of extravagance, purchased the 19½ acres now known as Riverside Park. To Mr. John Proctor, who braved the criticism of many of his contemporaries, goes the credit for saving for all time this choice piece of property for the benefit and enjoyment of untold generations.

Prior to 1876 a foundry on West Main Street was operated by Smith, Van Ostrand and Leavens. In 1876 the Bergstrom Brothers (George O. and D. W.) and Havilah Babcock, purchased the property, specializing in stoves, furnaces and plows. As we moved into the



Neenah Stove Works—George O. and Diedrich W. Bergstrom. The 1880's. Note the dirt wagon road.

twentieth century, stoves went out of fashion, and mass production of furnaces and plows by larger producers forced the use of the local buildings for other purposes. (See Part II.)

Neenah Achieves Cityhood

And that brings us to that red letter year, 1873, when Neenah incorporated as a city.

Edward Smith was its first Mayor, C. J. Kraby its City Clerk, and George Danielson its Treasurer. Three wards, the first and second on the south side of the river, and the third ward on the island, were named in the incorporation. See Part II for lists of officials down through the ensuing years.

1873 is also known for the organization of the E. F. Wieckert Lumber Company, which has continued to this day in service to its neighbors.

1874. A newly-organized Methodist Congregation purchased a church property in the 300 block, south side of East Wisconsin Avenue. This white wooden structure stood where Mrs. James Fritzen and Mrs. G. H. Williamson now reside. It had been built and occupied by one faction of the Presbyterian Church, following a split in 1860 over doctrinal matters. These differences having now been reconciled, the two factions united in a new church structure on Church Street on the site of the present parking lot. Subsequently, as the Methodist congregation grew and prospered, they moved to a new home on the corner of South Commercial Street and Doty Avenue.

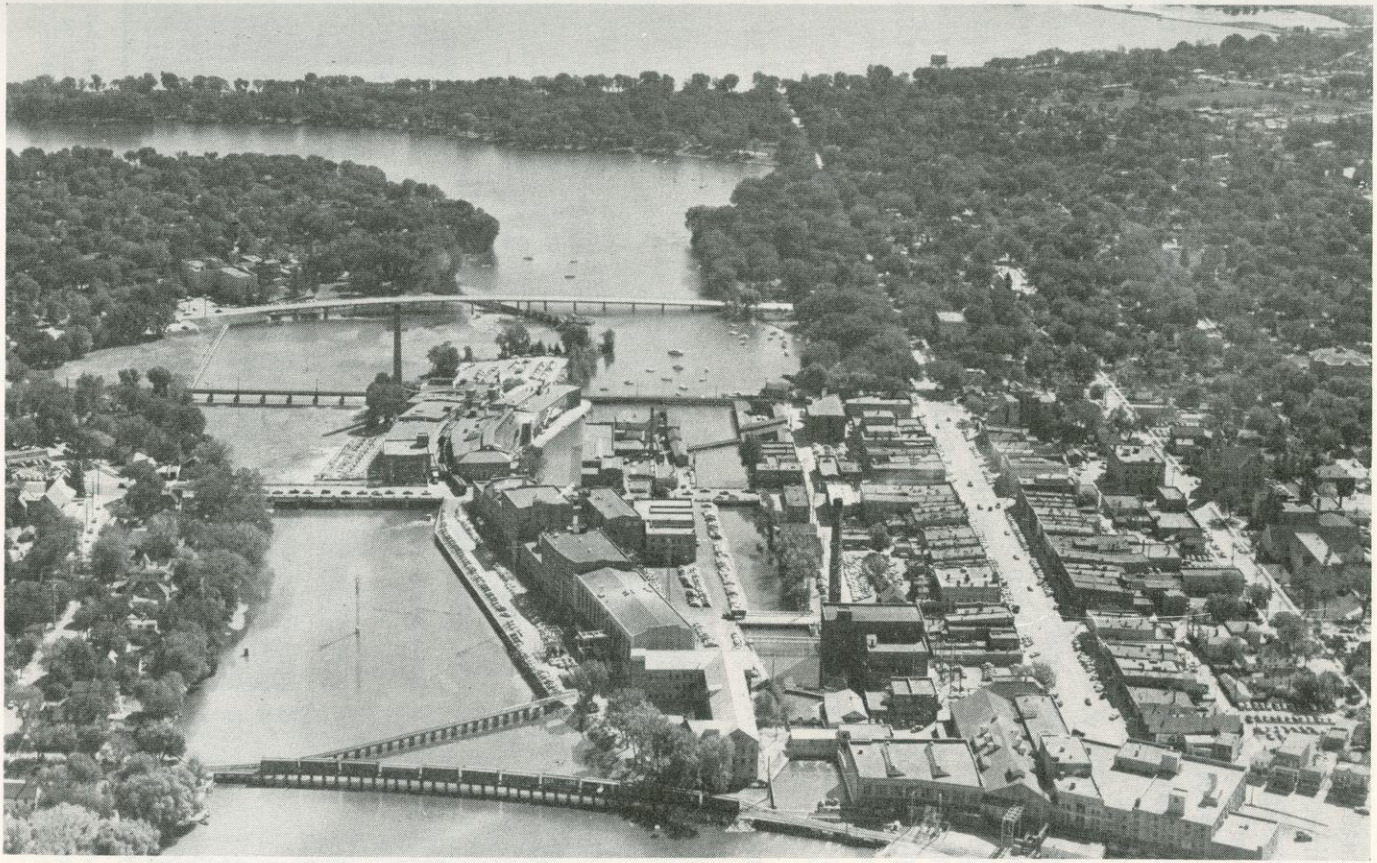
A further indication of growth is seen in the purchase by the city of Neenah of eight acres in the Neenah township, adjoining the five acres, gift of Harvey Jones, which combined to form the nucleus of Oak Hill Cemetery.

The "First" Telephone Exchange

The '70s boast another "first,"—this time in the field of communications. It was in 1877 that Sam Henry, of the drug firm of Kimberly & Henry, installed in their store an invention known as a telephone. Sam extended a wire to the homes of two doctors,—J. R. Barnett, on Church Street at Doty Avenue, and Dr. N. S. Robinson, who built the



That there were artists with imagination in the little city 87 years ago is demonstrated by H. H. Bailey's perspective drawing of Neenah in 1870. Note the wing dam and the power canal lined with flour and grist mills. Also note the lock begun by Harvey Jones in 1849 and finished by the administrators of his estate.



From approximately the same angle chosen by Mr. Bailey is an air view of Neenah's present industrial district. In it are the plants of Bergstrom Paper Company, Kimberly-Clark mills and former main office, Hewitt Machine Company, Neenah Paper Company and E. F. Wieckert Lumber Company.

home later owned by Hon. S. A. Cook, and now by the Y.W.C.A. This party line, as we would now call it, soon became so overloaded, that an honest-to-goodness exchange was set up, with Sam Henry as Manager and twenty "charter members" as clients. The 75th anniversary booklet of the Wisconsin Telephone Company affirms that this was the first telephone exchange in Wisconsin. Noting Appleton's claim of the first phone, we leave them to argue it out with the Wisconsin Telephone Company.

During the late years of this decade, John Roberts purchased the original Doty Cabin, which stood on the property now owned by the Strange family. In 1877 he built the Roberts Resort, now the residence of Paul Strange, and used the Doty Cabin as an amusement center for his guests. For many years the Roberts Resort enjoyed a booming patronage during the fishing and boating season.

School Growth

As the city continued to grow, so did its school population. In 1875



The above is an artist's sketch of the "Pettibone Block," which was destroyed by fire in 1883. The sketch was photographed by Robert Larson from a wall map of Winnebago County dated 1870, belonging to E. J. Aylward.

T. T. Moulton came as Superintendent of Schools. Under his supervision were 660 pupils and six school buildings: the "Brown" school, the "Island" school, the fourth ward school, and a three-unit building, on the site of the present Washington School, housing grades and a three-year high school. 1877 saw the first high school graduation, with a class of nine, completing an eleven year curriculum. The next school year, 1877–78, the high school curriculum was stretched to four years. The story goes that Anna Proctor, who had been a member of the class of 1877, reentered in the fall of that year and was the sole graduate in June of 1878.

In 1879 the original structures on the Walnut Street site were removed and the present Washington school was erected. Until the Kimberly High School was built, the Washington school housed grades 1 through 8, as well as three rooms (a study hall and two recitation rooms) on the second floor provided space for the high school. (See Part II.)

Early Ice Houses

Responding to the public demand for food preservation, William Arnemann built a roomy ice house on land now occupied by the swimming pool and "Rec" building. The annual ice harvest, with Christmas trees marking the openings in the ice, was always interesting to skaters. Mr. Arnemann's daily delivery of ice, smothered in sawdust, was an important feature of life in the '70s.

Soon after Mr. Arnemann's entrance into the ice business, a rival appeared in the person of Thomas Jones, who built a less pretentious ice house at the east end of East Wisconsin Avenue on property presently owned by Richard H. Brady. One hot summer day the Jones' ice house went up in a burst of flame and smoke. It was said the cause was spontaneous combustion.

Quoted from the *Appleton Post Crescent* for the week of October 5, 1878: "Neenah is to have gas on the first of November, if everything goes off all right. This will be a decided improvement over the disreputable oil lamps which now vainly seek to illuminate the streets."

And now, to end our perspective look at the '70s in a lighter vein, there was a round-the-lake cruise in 1879, ending with a Grand Regatta at Oshkosh on July 4.



"People *often wonder why historians go to so much trouble to preserve millions of books, documents and records of the past. Why do we have libraries? What good are these documents and the history books? Why do we record and save the actions of men, the negotiations of statesmen and the campaigns of armies?*

Because, sometimes, the voice of experience can cause us to stop, look and listen. And because, sometimes, past records, correctly interpreted, can give us warning of what to do and what not to do."

—Herbert Hoover

Notes

Notes

THE 1880's

COMING into the first full decade of the post-Cunningham era, we sense the throb of a cultural upsurge.

Library Association

1882 saw the organization of the Neenah Library Association. This organization raised funds for the establishment of a public library. The money so raised was turned over to the city, and the library was housed in the City Hall, as of 1883, where it remained until the present library building was constructed in 1904. Louise Lachmann was the first librarian.

A predecessor, and less pretentious library, according to Mayhew Mott, was opened two years earlier on the second floor of the Sherry Building, corner of West Wisconsin Avenue and Church Street. Damie Wheeler was the librarian.

Four Cultural Organizations

Then followed three women's cultural organizations, all of which have persisted to this day.

The Eclectic Reading Circle held its first meeting in January 1882 with 42 charter members, Miss Anna Proctor being one of the chief organizers.

In 1886 the Women's Tuesday Club was organized under the leadership of Mrs. George Harlow, Mrs. John Proctor and Miss Jennie Cook. A Chautauqua study course was followed originally, and early meetings were held in members' homes. This club has maintained an unbroken series of annual programs across the 71 years, finally finding a satisfactory habitat in the new Boys' Brigade building on Columbian Avenue.

The third cultural organization born during the '80s was the Y.T. & F. Club, originally organized as the Chautauqua Ladies Study Circle,

which name was dropped in 1894 when the Chautauqua program was discontinued.

Organized in 1885 and still active today is the Neenah Chapter of the Women's Christian Union, auxiliary of the state W.C.T.U.

School Expansion

In the spring of 1882 the first high school graduates from the new Washington School received their diplomas. Four young women, Grace Wright, Lutie Olmsted, Helen Wheeler and Ida K. Barnett constituted this graduating class. Contrasting this class with the Neenah High School class of 192 graduated in 1957, the scale tips heavily in favor of the present if we consider quantity only, but for quality, the class of 1882 gives no odds, as evidenced by Mrs. Barnett's mental and spiritual vigor at age 94.

Graduating classes from Neenah High were small during the '80s. What they lacked in numbers, was made up in loyalty to each other and in love for their school. This common loyalty prompted formation of the Neenah High School Alumni Association in 1888. Annual banquets, including each year's graduating class, were held until 1934, when the Association was disbanded. Weight of numbers and mounting cost of the annual dinner prompted the discontinuance.

In 1888 a growing Third Ward demanded better school facilities. In response to this pressure, a new school was built facing East Forest Avenue between First and Second Streets. Again, in 1923, increased school population called for expansion. A rebuilding operation gave us the present Roosevelt School.

Finally, the late '80s and early '90s saw the last of the Point School, located on the west side of Short Street (now Linden Court) in the First Ward. This was the only one-room country school within the city limits. At one time it housed the first three grades—latterly, only grades one and two. In the early days it served the sparsely populated First Ward east of the tracks and was retained until the present Washington School was prepared to take over. Nellie Mitchell was the teacher in the early '80s. She rode to school on a pony from the Mitchell Farm south of Cecil Street and fronting on extension of South Park Avenue. Aggie Hayward was next in succession, followed



The "Point" School in 1885—last of the one-room country schools within the city limits. Nellie Mitchell was the teacher. She lived on a farm south of Neenah near where Dora Hansen now resides. She came to school on pony-back. The "Point" School stood on the west side of what is now Linden Court, then known as Short Street. The old brick building was eventually moved to 505 East Columbian Avenue, and converted into a home. At this writing, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Frakes reside there.

by Ora Jaeck and Florence Enos. If payrolls of these years could be produced, we would probably find that the salaries of these young women were not over $30 per month.

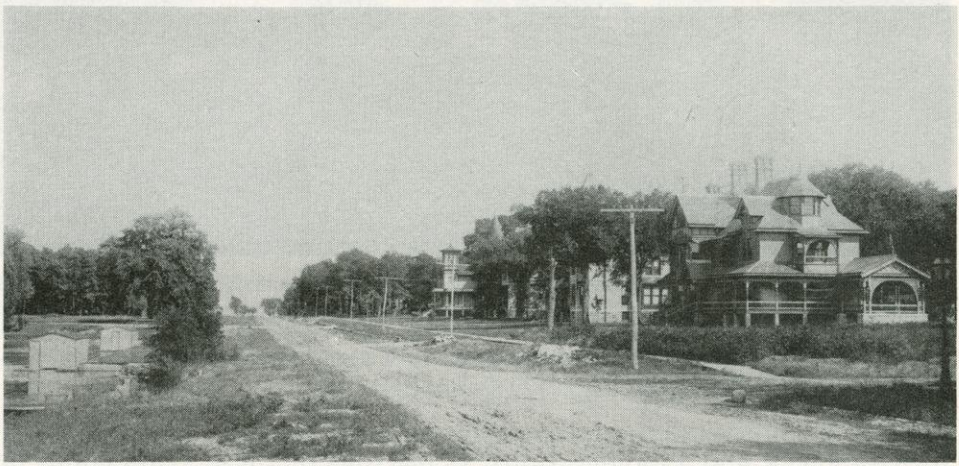
Commercial and Industrial

STEVENS ROLLER CRUSHING PROCESS. John Stevens, who built a substantial home in the 500 block of East Wisconsin Avenue, facing the river, with bowling alleys in the basement, a stable of riding horses at the rear, and a 100′ steam yacht moored in the bend of the river paralleling East Wisconsin Avenue, was a flour miller. We digress at this point to record his invention which revolutionized the flour milling industry and brought wealth to its inventor. Beginning his experiments in 1870, John Stevens perfected a roller crushing process and succeeded in obtaining a patent No. 225770, dated March 23, 1880. This was said to be "an absolutely new discovery in milling practice,

the most profound in its results of any device ever invented in the mechanics of flour milling."

Between 1880 and 1884 there followed five other patents covering all phases of the process.

Prior to obtaining his patents, he installed his new device in his Falcon mill at Neenah. As news of its success leaked out, "Very soon all the local machine shops were engaged nights and Sundays in secretly trying to form roller sets. Other machine shops did find out



East Wisconsin Avenue during the middle '80s. In the foreground, the residence of John Stevens, inventor of the roller flour mill. This residence built from proceeds of his patented roller process.

the system; and mill-furnishing concerns vied with each other in devising roller mills. The issue of his patents hung so long in the patent office, that by 1880, when it was finally issued, the system had been mentioned in the press and talked of for six years."*

"In 1878 occurred the great flour mill fire in Minneapolis that was attended by a disastrous explosion of flour mill dust and considerable loss of life. Governor Washburn and others rebuilt at once and introduced largely the new devices and gradual reduction rolls. Two years later, soon after obtaining his two basic patents, Stevens visited the mills at Minneapolis, where twenty-two mill firms settled with him and took shop rights. Most other mills that had introduced his system settled at once and took shop rights.*"

* Quoted from Wisconsin Historical Society—Proceedings 1907—55th annual meeting.

Stevens also took out patents in Canada, England, Germany, France and Austria.

In 1893 he sold to John T. Noye & Sons Company, of Buffalo, his entire rights in all his roller mill patents, including his automatic dumping and self-registering scale for handling grain.

As the 19th century drew to its close, competition from larger and more efficient flour mills in the St. Paul-Minneapolis district and the upswing of the paper industry along our limited power canal spelled the end of local flour milling.

KELLETT-JANDREY. William Kellett moved his store from the corner of East Wisconsin Avenue and Commercial Street to the east half of the present Jandrey location in 1888. Mr. Jandrey, Sr., had already purchased a ¼ interest in the business. Following the passing of Mr. and Mrs. Kellett, he bought the former Kellett interest.

WHITING MILL. In 1882 the Whiting Mill was built on the site of an old dry dock at the west end of the navigable waterway in Menasha. George A. Whiting, William and Theodore Gilbert were the original owners. In 1886 the Gilbert brothers sold their interests to Mr. Whiting. The original 76″ paper machine, with subsequent rebuilds, is still in operation. Mr. George A. Whiting's son, Frank, succeeded to the presidency upon his death in 1930, and, in turn, George A. Whiting II assumed the office of President upon his father's death in 1952.

NEENAH PAPER COMPANY. It was in the spring of 1885 that a newly-formed corporation, known as Neenah Paper Company, took over a small mill on the Fox River at Neenah, which had been known as the Neenah Mill of the Patten Paper Company, of Appleton. A succession of ownership took place over the next eight years, until, in 1893, J. A. Kimberly, Sr., and his son, J. A. Kimberly, Jr., obtained control and assumed the management. From then on the story of Neenah Paper Company is one of substantial and well-earned success, culminating in merger with Kimberly-Clark Corporation in 1956.

GILBERT PAPER. Gilbert Paper Company was established in April 1887 by five members of the Gilbert family: William, William M.,

Albert M., Theodore M. and George. Starting with a one-machine mill, as the business prospered, two more machines were added, including rebuilding and enlarging #3 machine in 1954. As of 1957 approximately 400 people, many of them Neenahites, are on the pay roll. Annual production is 14,000 tons of high grade papers.

NEENAH'S SECOND BANK. In 1881 the Manufacturers' National Bank was incorporated with capital stock of $65,000. The former photographic studio of C. B. Manville, who later became President of Johns-Manville Company, became the quarters of the newly-formed bank. In 1901, upon renewal of their charter, the name was altered to read National Manufacturers' Bank.

JOHN STRANGE PAPER CO. The forerunner of the John Strange Paper Company was a pail and tub factory founded by John Strange, Sr., in 1881. Seven years later the transition from pails and tubs to the manufacture of heavy wrapping and print paper was made. Through the years the business of the company has expanded and prospered. In this year (1957), under the active leadership of J. H. Levandoski, J. M. Levin, Elmer Deprez and L. A. Blume, the company makes a solid contribution to stability of the Twin Cities.

KIMBERLY-CLARK INCORPORATES. Onrush of the paper industry was punctuated in 1880 by incorporation under Wisconsin laws of Kimberly-Clark & Company, which up to that time had been a four-man partnership. By 1889 Kimberly-Clark & Company was on its way to national recognition. In that year they bought the land which is now the village of Kimberly and built the Kimberly mill.

Another "first" occurred in 1882 when fifteen iron workers at the Bergstrom Foundry banded themselves into the first labor union of the Twin Cities.

The broadening life of the times was further indicated by incorporation of the Wisconsin Telephone Company, which, in 1881, took over the local exchange then housed in the Barnett Drug Store.

ELECTRIC POWER AND INTERURBAN TRANSPORTATION. Electric power, without which our modern ways of living would come to a halt, had

its birth in this area on the banks of the Fox River six miles to the north of Neenah. In 1882 there was built in Appleton the world's first hydro-electric central station. H. J. Rogers was the technician and an Appleton banker, A. L. Smith, was the financier. This story will be found in Part II.

With this crude beginning there ensued forty years of growing pains for the infant electric industry of this area. Its path was strewn with financial difficulties, bankruptcies and reorganizations. Finally, as we moved into the early decades of this century, with the help of skilled engineering talent and able management, the industry took its place among the substantial forces in our society.

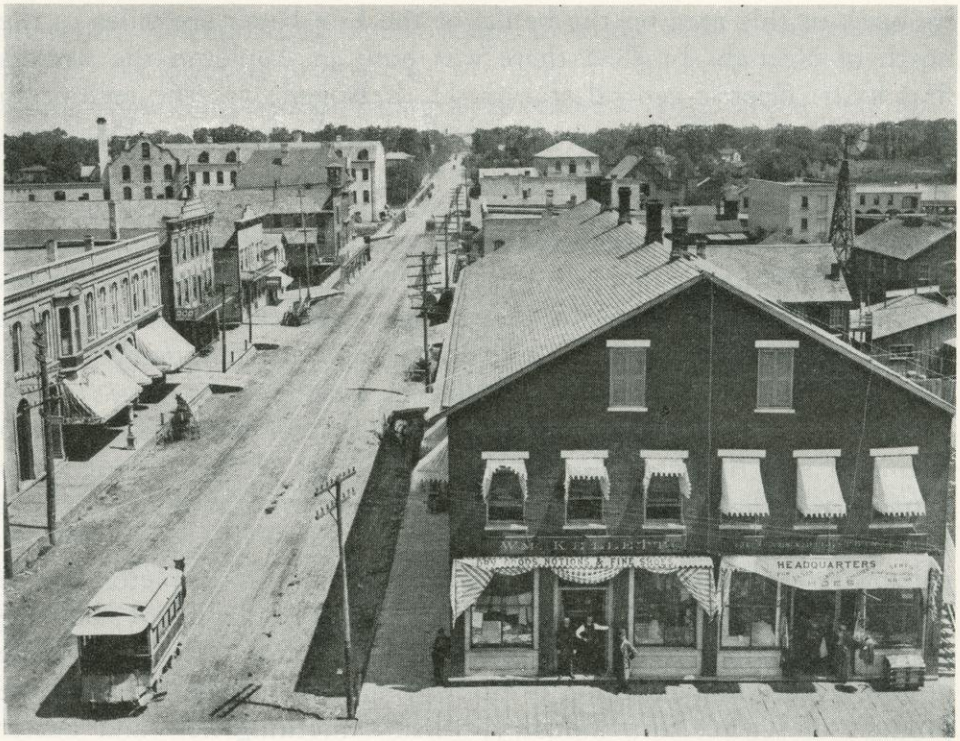
Rails for an interurban transportation system were laid between Menasha and Appleton during the early years of this decade. This venture was destined to die on the vine, but who in the '80s could foresee the coming of the auto? The old rights of way of the "interurban" that reached to Oshkosh on the south and to Appleton on the north, are still discernible in some rural areas of our valley, but the noise of the bumpy old trolley cars is stilled forever. Could there be a more dramatic illustration of the wilting and disappearance of one product of science and industry, when something new and better catches the imagination of the American public?

MENASHA AND NEENAH RAILWAY COMPANY. Let us not pass the interurban period, when cars were driven by electric power, without bringing into view the old Menasha and Neenah Railway Company.

On December 23, 1885, Mayor George Whiting signed an ordinance authorizing the Menasha and Neenah Railway Company to operate from Nicolet Boulevard to Wisconsin Avenue, and to Lake Butte des Morts—to be "operated by any animal power or any other power excepting steam."

Unlike buggies, the street car carried its passengers with a minimum of bumps and jolts. Seven miles per hour was set as a maximum speed, with four miles around curves!

Ernest Rhoades relates that in the middle '90s he used to ride to Menasha, with his mother, in this car. Returning from Menasha the driver halted the car, unhooked the heavy whippletree, and drove the



North Commercial Street—Middle 80's. Note horsedrawn street-car, wooden sidewalks, windmill and store fronts of two of Neenah's pioneer merchants, with Krueger & Lachmann Milling Co. in distance (right).

horses into a big stable back of St. Patrick's present school grounds. Another team was brought out and attached to the car for the journey to Neenah. Ernest explains that this change of motive power was necessary because the time schedule required the horses to trot most of the way.

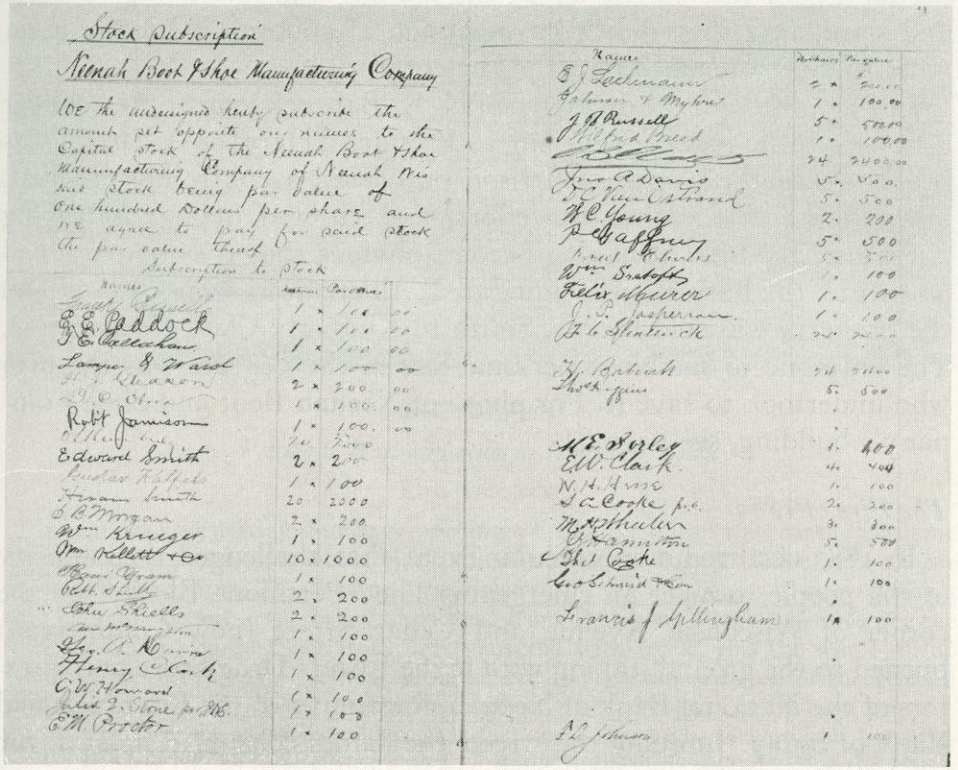
In 1895, the route, now electrified, was extended westward to the city limits.

In 1899 the Menasha and Neenah Railway Company sold its franchise to the Eastern Wisconsin Railway Company.

EISENACH BRICK YARD. It was during this second decade of our study that Albert Eisenach took up property on the west side of Little Lake Butte des Morts, about where the Kimberly-Clark cafeteria now

stands, and established a brick yard. The Badger-Globe Mill of Kimberly-Clark Corporation and many stores along Wisconsin Avenue were built of Eisenach brick. Charles Eisenach, son of Albert, carried on the business following his father's passing. Five men were employed. During the mid-1900's the business came to an end and the place thereof knew it no more.

NEENAH BOOT & SHOE MANUFACTURING COMPANY. The first concerted attempt to broaden Neenah's industrial base occurred in 1886, when practically the entire leadership of the community participated in organizing the Neenah Boot & Shoe Manufacturing Company.



Stock Subscription

Neenah Boot & Shoe Manufacturing Company

We the undersigned hereby subscribe the amount set opposite our names to the Capital Stock of the Neenah Boot & Shoe Manufacturing Company of Neenah Wis said Stock being par value of One hundred Dollars per share and we agree to pay for said Stock the par value thereof

Subscription to Stock

Names	Shares	Par value
E. E. Paddock	1	100
P. E. Callaham	1	100
Lawyer & Wood	1	100
Robt Jamison	2	200
Edward Smith	1	100
Wm Krueger	2	200
Wm Rollett & Co	1	100
	10	1000
	1	100
	2	200
	2	200
	1	100
	1	100
	1	100
C. W. Howard	1	100
John P. Stone per WB.	1	100
E. M. Proctor	1	100

Names	Shares	Par value
E. J. Lachmann	2	200
Johnson & Myhre	1	100.00
J. H. Russell	5	500.00
Wilfred Breed	1	100.00
	24	2400.00
Geo A Davis	5	500.
E. Van Strand	5	500
W. C. Young	2	200
P. Gaffney	5	500
Wm Sradoff	1	100
Felix Meurer	1	100
	1	100
	24	2400
	5	500
M. E. Worley	1	100
Ed. Clark	4	400
N. H. Arms	1	100
J. A. Cooke per	2	200
M. Schueler	3	300
J. Hamilton	5	500
Jno Cooke	1	100
Geo Schmid & Son	1	100
Francis J. Gillingham	1	100
A. L. Johnson	1	100

The Neenah Boot & Shoe Manufacturing Company was incorporated August 20, 1886. Subsequently the following ten stockholders were added to the above list: J. A. Kimberly, Henry Sherry, I. W. Hunt, W. L. Davis, D. K. Davis, E. F. Wieckert, John Proctor, Batchelder & Fisher, Johnson & Myhre, Wilfred Breed. This list is significant in that it comprised practically the entire leadership of the little city of that day. This venture, though ill-starred, was a community movement to broaden Neenah's industrial base.

Forty-nine men, whose signatures are seen on the foregoing page, subscribed for stock in the company, which was incorporated August 25, 1886. Other stockholders, notably W. L. Davis, E. E. Jandrey, I. W. Hunt, Henry Sherry and J. A. Kimberly, came in soon after. A three-story brick factory was built on the power canal, where the three-wing addition to the original Kimberly-Clark office now stands. L. C. Oborn was the moving spirit. In April, 1904, A. F. S. Lyons joined the company as Vice President and Manager.

As one takes a perspective look at this company, it would appear that the operating base and working capital were too cramped, and whereas the list of stockholders included the ablest businessmen of the city, they knew little about the making and marketing of boots and shoes, and they didn't have enough at stake to induce in them more than a nominal interest in the enterprise.

In 1923, through the initiative of H. K. Babcock, one of the younger generation who had been serving as President, Harrison A. Smith, was brought into the picture. Harrison purchased a controlling interest, injected new blood into the effort, and entered upon a salvaging operation. By 1929, it having become obvious that the company had no future, the business was liquidated. All creditors were paid off and the property was sold by Mr. Smith to Kimberly-Clark Corporation. The only one to sustain a personal loss in the venture was the man who undertook to save it. For photo of Neenah Boot and Shoe Company's building, see page 63.

The Fire of 1883

In 1883 occurred a spectacular event that challenged the capacity of the people to meet an emergency. The "Pettibone Block," on the corner of Wisconsin Avenue and Cedar Street (now Commercial) burned to the ground, taking with it the Elwers Drug Store and quarters of the National Bank of Neenah, forerunner of the First National Bank of today. Jumping the street, the flames consumed most of the original Russell House. The city at that time had no municipal water system, and no professional fire department; therefore, was ill prepared to cope with such a catastrophe. The bank, however, opened for business as usual the next morning in space made available to it in Kimberly-Clark's new office building.



BIG BLAZE

Pettibone Hall and Russell House in Ashes

Loss $100,000

"At 4 o'clock yesterday (Sunday) morning a fire broke out in the rear of Pettibone Block, and by 7 A.M. that whole block and also the fine Russell House were a mass of smouldering ruins. The Steamer was delayed by the extreme cold or something else. Mercury stood at 15 below. The heat from Pettibone Block was intense, the building being a large three story one, veneered with brick, and the whole inside being like a tinder box. The heat soon set fire to the mansard roof of the Russell House, and that too went to ruins, but burned very slowly. The opinion prevails that the present fire was incendiary. It is fortunate that no lives were lost. Speculation is already rife as to the future. A fine Bank Building is talked of for the Pettibone site and another big hotel on the hotel corner. Certain it is, that the spring will see two large brick blocks on those, the two best business corners in Neenah."

Quoted from "Daily Times," Jan. 15, 1883.



Fire Department About 1889. First Row—Louis Bergstrom, Fred Easton, Oscar Smith, Ingoff Johnson, Axel Nelson, Charles Draheim, Ed Peck, Silas Martens, Will Jones, ——— Goodman, August Eberlein, Unknown, John Brown, George Christoph, Herman Vogt, Fred Mason. *Second Row*—Louis Nelson, George Jagerson, Chris Nelson, Ed Gray, Charles Schultz, Charles Neustadter, Fred Kaphingst. *Third Row*—James Austin, Joe Cox, Fred Melchert, John Goodman, Al Staffeld.

CITY HALL. Neenah's outmoded and outgrown City Hall was built in 1888. It is said that this was the last public building in Neenah to be paid for out of current funds.

Public Utilities

Citizens of this era, as they moved out into the world and saw how others lived, became restive when they contemplated Neenah's crude sanitary conditions. In Part II of the book the reader will find an interesting story of Neenah's first sewer system, for which a petition was signed by 21 citizens whose homes fronted on Wisconsin Avenue. Later, citizens along East Forest Avenue obtained a similar restricted facility. It was not until 1935 that these semi-private systems were consolidated into a public utility for all of Neenah.

Nor can older residents of our Twin Cities forget the disastrous fire which destroyed the Whiting Paper Mill in 1888, accompanied by a boiler explosion killing 16 firemen and spectators.

First Citizen to State and Federal Office

In 1885 the first Neenah citizen to be elected to the State Legislature, C. B. Clark, went to Madison, and, in 1888, was chosen to represent his district in Congress. Mr. Clark was reelected again in 1890 and died in office in 1891. Many were the notables, including Bob LaFollette, Sr., who attended his funeral.

"EACH *generation passes to the next—for better or for worse—in the short time left to us.*"

Notes

Notes

Notes

THE 1890's

WHEN ONE THINKS in perspective of the '90s, there comes into view the worst depression and money panic the country had ever known. Neenah, because of the nature and conduct of its industry, fared better than the average, as it has in subsequent economic dips.

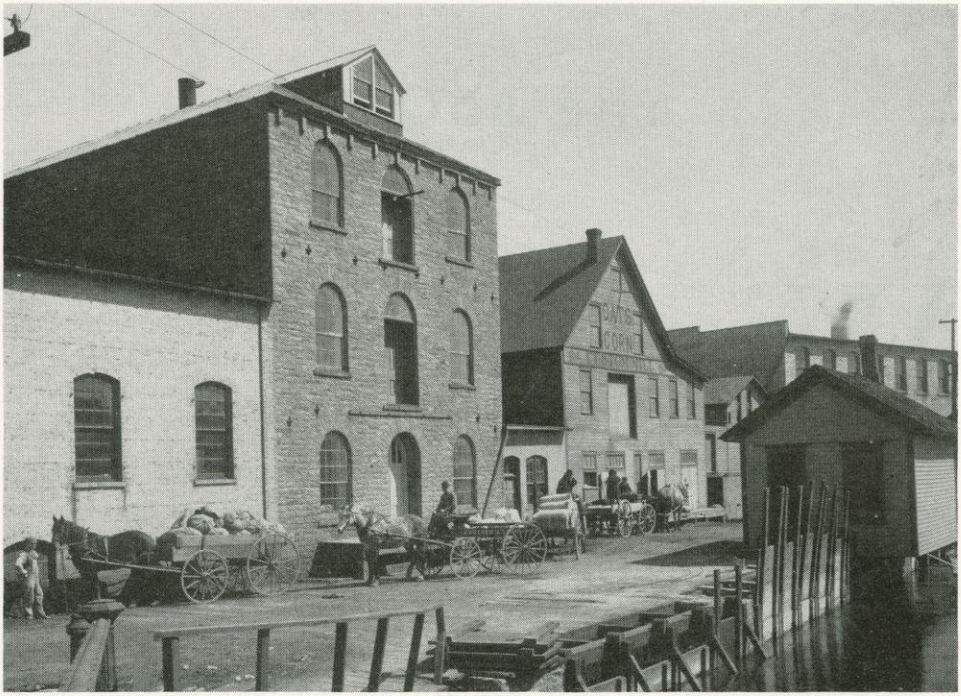
We think, too, of strained relations with Spain, and the sinking of the battleship "Maine" in Havana harbor that plunged us into the Spanish-American War and set the stage for America as a world power.

Struggle for Interurban Service

Nearer home was feverish activity on the part of Milwaukee capitalists to put through an electric trolley line from Fond du Lac to Green Bay, utilizing the trackage rights of the Menasha and Neenah Railway Company,—only to be blocked for two years by refusal of the Councils of the Twin Cities to permit such use of their streets. The attitude of the local governing bodies reflected the fear of Neenah-Menasha merchants that trade, now theirs, would flow to the larger cities to the south and to the north.

In 1891 the Appleton Electric Street Railway, after a brave but ill-starred existence, folded up, as did the Appleton Edison Electric Company in 1894.

In spite of financial failures, there were those like A. L. Smith who had faith in the future of electric power, and eventually their faith was vindicated. In the early 1900's the Wisconsin Traction, Light, Heat & Power Company, and their successor, the Wisconsin Michigan Power Company, took over. These two companies have furnished industries and home owners of our city with efficient and unbroken service.



Krueger & Lachmann Milling Company as it was on May 30, 1891. This was the last of Neenah's flour mills. The site was sold to Neenah Paper Company in 1918. In the brick structure at left, Kimberly-Clark installed its first laboratory.

Military Organization

Referring again to the Spanish-American War, that episode stirred the blood of young men and older boys of the Twin Cities, to the end that a military unit under the Captaincy of J. B. Schneller was formed in 1899. Three years later this unit, under the designation of Co. I, became a part of the Wisconsin National Guard. Hon. S. A. Cook, whose former residence is now the home of the YWCA, contributed the money for the Armory, which still serves the local military unit.

Economic and Social Progress

In the decade under discussion, we find two of Neenah's substantial financial institutions making their debut:—the Twin City Building



This crew worked on the Gilbert Paper Co. mill in the early 1890's. The chimney is shown at the 100′ mark.

and Loan Association in 1893, and the Equitable Fraternal Union (now the ERA) in 1897.

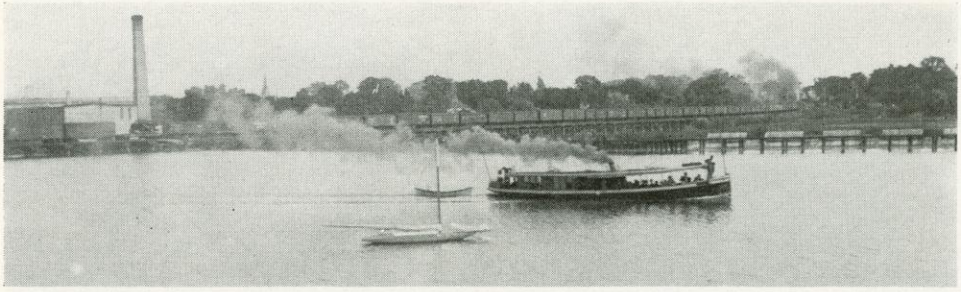
Industrially, the Gilbert Paper Company pushes its walls out to install a second paper machine, and Kimberly-Clark is again on the march, taking over property for a new village and a new mill at Niagara, Wisconsin.

J. R. Bloom, later to become owner and editor of the *Neenah Daily News* establishes the *Menasha Evening Breeze*, and Reverend J. N. Jersild continues until 1899 with *The Danskeren*, a Danish language paper established by him in 1894.

Mr. Jersild also incorporated the Jersild Knitting Company early in this decade, and more than a half century later, the company is

going strong, making its contribution to the well being of the community. See Part II.

Of all of Neenah's personal service enterprises, one of the oldest, in point of continuous service, was the barber shop established by L. P. Larson, at 115 West Wisconsin Avenue, in 1890. This shop moved in 1928 to 111 West Wisconsin Avenue, and continued under the proprietorship of Theodore C. Larson, until his retirement in early 1958.



The "Mystic," a steam yacht (a coal burner) operated for hire by Otto Jorgenson during the '80s and early '90s.

Boehm's Market makes claim to being the oldest continuously operated food store in Neenah. Their books go back to 1895, when all meats sold for 10¢ per pound. Previous location of the store was at 109 East Wisconsin Avenue, in a structure that was part of a livery stable which had originally been built on the site of the present ERA building. During the early '50s, the store moved to its modern quarters at 203 West Wisconsin Avenue. Present proprietors are Ralph B. Larson and Howard C. Boehm.

In the field of fraternal and civic societies, the H. J. Lewis Women's Relief Corps comes into being in 1890.

Also in 1890 Neenah Lodge #80 of Knights of Pythias was instituted.

And in 1894 the Order of the Eastern Star made its appearance.

The Churches Keep Pace

The churches respond to the broadening life of the times. The First Evangelical (now Evangelical United Brethren) builds its new build-



A Social Group—1899

Left to right:
Front row—Bessie Mott, Louis Voss, Flora Fish, Allen Montgomery. Back row—Mayhew Mott, Florence Mott, Will Joliffe, Gunlauf Guthormsen, Lucius Knickerbocker, Amy Fish.

ing on corner of Bond Street and West Forest Avenue in 1890, later to be enlarged as their congregation grew.

The Baptist congregation responds to the growth impulse by remodeling their structure.

1898—The Danish Baptist Church unites with the Doty Island Baptist Church (later renamed the Whiting Memorial Baptist Church).

In 1893 the Trinity Lutheran congregation builds a new school building adjoining their church at corner of Oak Street and Franklin Avenue.

The First Church of Christ Scientist had its birth in Neenah in 1897 in the home of S. B. Morgan.

Neenah's Increasing School Population

Neenah's children continue their demands upon the taxpayers, re-

sulting in a new grade school building, in 1893, on the corner of Adams and Isabella Streets, now known as the Lincoln School.

At the high school appear signs of a more versatile life. *The Argosy*, the product of student enterprise, makes its appearance in 1895, selling for 5¢ per copy or 35¢ per year. The next year, 1896, football makes its entry with such performers as John Tolverson, Gus Kimberly, Harley Hilton, Ed Wieckert, John West, John Carmen, Bill Hughes, Bert Kramer, Lute Bergstrom, Charles Dau, Ed Sorenson, and coached by the Reverend Eddy, pastor of the Universalist Church. The team played nine games in all, winning four, losing four, and 1 tie. 1897 was a banner year for the team, for they went through an undefeated season, and became state champions—after which they played and beat the Ripon College team!

Cultural Advance

In 1896 also, thanks to the initiative and influence of Mrs. J. A. Kimberly, a Home Economics course was established in the school system. At that time it was referred to as "Domestic Science."

Two years later the vision of Mrs. J. A. Kimberly is again seen in the organization of the Economics Club of Neenah-Menasha.

Public Utilities

COMMUNITY WATER WORKS. As we noted in our comment on the '80s, there was a ferment in favor of a sewer system, so in the late '80s and early '90s there mounted a public demand for a community water system.

The idea was deeply imbedded in the thinking of the populace of that day that the only safe source of pure water was the deep well. Accordingly, in 1893, the first of Neenah's 4 wells was drilled and the water flowed through its mains to the homes, commercial establishments and industries of the city. This costly and disappointing venture led in due time to the right answer. The well water was chemically pure, but contained so high a content of mineral salts (60 grains per gallon) that it was all but useless for domestic purposes. By the early '30s boiler tubes and home plumbing systems were in for renewal, so

clogged were they with calcium and lime deposit. Today one of the joys of visitors to our fair city is to take a bath in Neenah's pure soft water. Our city's substantial growth over the past twenty years is due in no small measure to its superior water.

C&NW Depot

While 1893 is remembered as a year of economic depression, our Twin Cities were grateful to the C&NW Railway for the new station, which still gives our people a point of departure to the outside world.



Carriage and wagon shop of Charley Bergstrom, with Herrick's carriage paint shop above. Note safety bicycle, wooden sidewalk, and style in skirts—about 1896. Center rear,—brick factory building of Neenah Boot & Shoe Manufacturing Company. Adjoining Bergstrom's shop to the north was Kimberly-Clark's original office. Shed to the left was built out over the canal.

Among the colorful personalities of those changing times when the incoming auto was threatening the horse and buggy, was Charley Bergstrom who, during the '80s and '90s conducted a blacksmith shop and carriage sales room in a wooden building on North Commercial Street on the site of the landscaped area between Kimberly-Clark's original office and the power canal.

Charley, along with all manufacturers and dealers in carriages, soon saw the "handwriting on the wall." Disposing of his carriage business in the late '90s, he went in for bicycles. The old high wheel, it will be

remembered, was, during those years, being displaced by the so-called "safety" bicycle.

Next, we see Charley as one of the early dealers in autos. His first car was the Cole, and how many readers of these lines ever heard of one?

Charley was an attractive talker and a persuasive salesman. Some of the younger gentry were fond of pretending they wanted to buy a car just to hear Charley talk. When the pretense became obvious, Charley used language that wouldn't look well in print.

Cigar Manufacturing

During the latter years of the 19th century, cigar manufacturing held promise of becoming a stable business. George Schmidt operated an establishment on West Wisconsin Avenue. Charles Schultz, a one-time mayor (1902–7), at his peak employed as many as forty men in the brick building at 112 North Commercial Street. Then came the cigarette. Just as the auto eliminated the horse and buggy, so did the cigarette, plus stronger competition, narrow the market for homemade cigars to the point of extinction.



"Only *the key of yesterday unlocks tomorrow.*"

Notes

Notes

THE 1900'S

THE FIRST DECADE of the new century brought with it a number of social organizations to enrich the life of our community.



Leaders of Boys' Brigade 1902–03: Standing: left to right—George Sande, Jay Gillingham, Bert Smith, Fred Wines, George Handler, Harvey Thomas, Guy Young, Harry Thomas, Harry Fenton and John LeTourneux. Seated: left to right—Rev. J. E. Chapin, James Sorenson, S. F. Shattuck, George Jones. Bugler: Harvey Fish

Boys' Brigade

First of these stems from Dr. J. E. Chapin's interest in the boys of his city. One evening in the fall of 1899 the old pastor found six boys on the steps of Michelson's Hall (site of present post office). It was after curfew had rung. He asked the boys, one of whom was George Sande, our present Mayor, why they weren't home. That question led to an historic conversation. Echoes of the Spanish-American War were still abroad. The boys said they wanted an army. That gave Dr. Chapin a seed thought. In January, 1900, he came up with a company of the Boys' Brigade, an organization imported from Great Britain, which had taken root in cities along our eastern seaboard. On January 22 forty-six boys signed the roster as charter members of the Neenah company.

The Brigade marked its 57th birthday in January, 1957, with dedication of a new home fronting on West Columbian Avenue. See Part II.

Emergency Society and Visiting Nurse Association

During the latter half of the decade, two women's service organizations of unusual merit made their appearance. The San Francisco earthquake in 1906, with its trail of loss and suffering, touched the hearts of young women of our Twin Cities. Their response was formation of an Emergency Society to sew for victims of that disaster. For fifty years since that informal beginning, successive generations of younger women have responded to needy situations in connection with the hospital and throughout the Twin Cities and adjacent areas. See Part II.

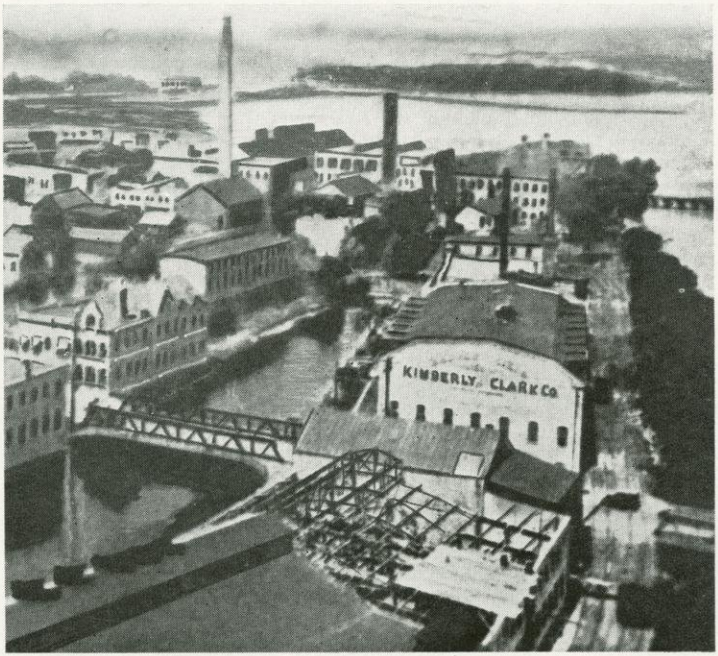
The question can now be asked, "What would Neenah-Menasha do without the Visiting Nurse Association?" Fortunately for us, civic-minded women have always lived here. Back in 1908 a group of women of the Twin Cities launched the idea of a Visiting Nurse Association. Ida Heinicke, a practical nurse living on South Park Avenue, was engaged to do the field work. That was before the auto had come into general use. During the early days of her service, Ida walked. Later

she got about with horse and buggy. (See Part II for listing of charter members.)

Harness Makers

Henry Schimpf, E. M. Hanson, the Cook brothers and August Haufe operated harness making and harness repair shops during the peak of the horse and buggy age. Their shops were all located toward the west end of Wisconsin Avenue.

They joined the village blacksmiths in making their exit as the auto appeared on our streets.



At the Turn of the Century. Looking West across properties of Kimberly-Clark and Winnebago Paper Mills, K-C office and Shoe Factory at left center.

Union Organizations

1900 also saw the first community organization of unions. Five unions, with a total membership of 200, formed a Central Labor Body.

Elks Lodge

Elks Lodge #676 was organized in 1901 in Menasha. On the rolls of the Lodge were Neenah men. In 1950 the name was changed to read Neenah-Menasha B.P.O.E. #676.

Commercial Movement

There were so many movements in and out of the commercial field during this period that one risks criticism by singling out a few. However, the following are typical:

Meyer Burstein entered business in 1900. Five years later he bought the Billstein property west of the C&NW tracks, where he built an addition and expanded his business of sorting paper stock and rags.

Defnet & Jagerson Supply Company entered the field in 1900 with fuels and building materials.

In 1900 Louis Otto opened a greenhouse, sold in 1918 to Ward



View from roof of First National Bank, during street fair September 1902. Neenah Theatre was under construction. First performance in the new theatre was on December 26, 1902.



Street Fair—week of September 15, 1902.

Davis, who sold to Jennejohn in 1925, who passed it on to the Kraemers. They have operated the business for 25 years to their satisfaction and the public's benefit.

Frank Klinke opened a barber shop in 1903 and still serves his clientele as these lines are written.

The Christophs organized the Twin City Fuel Company in 1902, located on the site of Shattuck Park, moving to present site on Main Street in 1914, changing name to O. K. Lumber & Fuel Company.

In 1905 Haertl's Jewelry Store moved from Menasha to Neenah.

At the turn of the century the Postal Telegraph came to town, locating in the rear of Barnett's pharmacy. Bryan Seroogy, a colorful personality, presided over this office for sixteen years.

Exit Menasha & Neenah Railway Company

Fire destroyed the plant of the Menasha & Neenah Electric Railway Company in 1900. Emergency power was obtained from the Appleton Electric Light & Power Company. Soon thereafter they merged



The bank corner about the year 1909, when the E.F.U. (now E.R.A.) building was dedicated. Note the brick paving on Wisconsin Avenue, and in the rear of the City Hall, we see the porches of the Jasperson House.

under the title Wisconsin Traction, Light, Heat & Power Company, referred to elsewhere in this document.

Telephone Building

Whenever the Wisconsin Telephone Company erects a substantial building in a community, one may be certain that they see a future for that locality. The first unit of Neenah's telephone building, built in 1908, has more than justified the telephone company's faith in Neenah.

Wisconsin Central Railway Leased to Canadian Pacific Railway Company

Of more than passing interest to Twin City shippers is the 99 year lease of the Wisconsin Central Line by the Canadian Pacific Railway Company in 1909. The C.P.R. at that time was seeking entrance to Chicago, and gained it through absorption of the Wisconsin Central.

Banking

In 1900 the Manufacturers' National Bank, organized in 1883, reported deposits of $474,418.63. Renewing its charter in 1901 the name was changed to National Manufacturers' Bank and capital was increased to $75,000. The bank started business in the store building formerly occupied by the C. B. Manville photographic studio. In 1902 a face-lifting operation was performed on the store front to make it look like a bank. The single word "BANK" chiseled into the stone facing still proclaims its one-time status, in spite of occupany of the premises by the Wisconsin Michigan Power Company. Meanwhile, the banking institution, having long since outgrown its early habitat, moved across the street to its commodious quarters on the site of the old Russell House.

An announcement by the National Manufacturers' Bank, under date of June 1, 1907, throws an interesting sidelight on employment conditions of that day. The announcement, sent to depositors by post card, read:

NATIONAL MANUFACTURERS' BANK
OF NEENAH, WISCONSIN

Will close at 12 o'clock noon every Saturday morning commencing June 1, 1907.

This is in line with a growing tendency towards a Saturday half holiday. The laborers want it and the proprietors need it.

S. B. MORGAN, *Cashier*

Yachting

The thread of yachting is woven through this story from pre-Civil war days to the present. It was about 1907 when the two rival organizations, the Neenah Yacht Club and the Nodaway Yacht Club, voted to bury the hatchet and form the Neenah-Nodaway Yacht Club.

Industrially

The first decade of the 20th century saw the birth of one, and the rebirth of two enterprises that have contributed untold economic strength to our Twin Cities.

In 1901 The Banta Publishing Company, now nationally known, was incorporated.

D. W. Bergstrom and his son, John, purchased the Winnebago Paper Mills from W. L. Davis and established the Bergstrom Paper Company in 1904.

The John Strange Paper Company began the manufacture of kraft wrapping paper in 1907, being among the first to make that grade in the U. S.

Schools

The Kimberly High School was built in 1906, at which time the Washington School became a full-time grade school, serving the First Ward. The Kimberly School was soon outgrown for high school purposes, and took over the sixth, seventh and eighth grades of the city.

Churches

Church growth and expansion went on apace as the city grew. The wooden edifice of the Presbyterians, built in 1870, on the corner of Church and Smith Streets, was, in 1901, displaced by a brick structure. In 1903, Dr. J. E. Chapin, for thirty-three years its pastor, retired.

Our Savior's Lutheran Church dedicated its new building on Isabella Street in 1905.

In 1906, First Church of Christ Scientist purchased the building formerly the property of the Episcopal congregation and later moved it to their site at 113 East Wisconsin Avenue.

In this year (1906) the Methodist Congregation dedicated its new building opposite the City Hall. Coincident with its building program, the Neenah Danish, Menasha Methodist and Clayton Methodist churches merged with the First Methodist of Neenah.

Entering the last year of this ten-year period, two significant additions to Neenah's life appeared:

1. The Betty Rebekah Lodge was instituted.
2. The Equitable Fraternal Union (now ERA) dedicated its new building on South Commercial Street.



First Methodist Church, as it was from 1906 to 1937, when it was destroyed by fire.



Herman Anspach's well-advertised general store—1907.

The Theda Clark Memorial Hospital

Theda Clark Peters died in 1904. Having caught the germ of civic responsibility from her illustrious father, she left a bequest in her will with which to build a hospital. Her brother, Charles B. (Bill) Clark, carried out her wishes, adding to her bequest out of his own funds. Thus came into being in 1909 the Theda Clark Memorial Hospital. Story of the new and rebuilt hospital will be found in Part II.

Neenah Auditorium Company—Early Movie Houses—Neenah Club

John Studley, who has been prodigal with his help in this historical project, contributed the following sketch, which traces the organization of the Neenah Auditorium Company, the advent of motion pictures, and, finally, the birth of the Neenah Club, which took over ownership and management of the property, leasing the Neenah theatre for movies and converting the original dance hall and basement for club purposes:

Neenah at the turn of the century lacked facilities of a theatre equipped to bring companies then touring the country to the city. Local residents desirous of seeing theatrical presentations were forced to depend upon Appleton and Oshkosh and an increasing number patronized both out-of-town playhouses. These were in the days before the development of motion pictures, radio and television which have all but "relegated" the legitimate drama to the metropolitan centers.

Growing popular demand resulted in organization of The Neenah Auditorium Company, which, according to records, filed articles of incorporation on December 5, 1901. These stated the company had been formed "for the purpose of erecting and maintaining a theatre, opera and general amusement house, and the leasing of same and the construction for and placing before the people of lectures, operas, &c." Capital stock of the company was listed as $20,000. Officers were: President, F. J. Sensenbrenner; Vice-President, M. W. Krueger, and Secretary-Treasurer, S. B. Morgan.

Property on East Wisconsin Avenue, present site of the Neenah Theatre building, was purchased from various owners following a public stock subscription. The theatre and auditorium were erected during 1902. The opening show was on December 26 of that year. A few remain who can recall the gala opening of the Neenah Theatre, for which the talented Walker Whiteside Shakespearean Company played a week's engagement to packed houses. In ensuing years Neenah Theatre patrons were regaled with some of the finest road shows then on tour. Stock companies playing weekly engagements were also popular, among them the celebrated Winniger Brothers, who evolved from a beginning as an orchestra for the Appleton Theatre.

But in the first and early in the second decades of the twentieth century were to come the movie houses, or "nickel theatres," as they were at first popularly known. First of these was the Idle Hour, started by P. J. Droske, in the Schimpf building on West Wisconsin Avenue, now occupied by the Krause Clothing Store. A few years later (dates are not definite) the Mer Mac was opened in the H. A. Stone building, several doors east from the Idle Hour, by a Manager named Anderson, from the northern part of the state. Still later the late John Herziger opened his Doty Theatre, near the corner of North Commercial Street and Forest Avenue.

Competition from the movies and decline in the calibre of traveling road shows adversely affected the Neenah theatre and its owners, and financial difficulties were encountered.

In the meantime, the Neenah Club had been organized and leased the auditorium portion of the theatre building. The club was formed in 1909, its incorporators being F. E. Ballister, C. B. Clark and F. A. Leavens. Transfer of ownership of the theatre building by the Neenah Auditorium Company to the Neenah Club was recorded as of October 22, 1919. The club, for nominal consideration and assumption of the financial obligations of the auditorium company, became the owner, and remains so, of the theatre property. A provision in the deed, however, makes it mandatory for the club to maintain the building as a "general amusement house for the citizens of Neenah and vicinity." In event of dissolution of the club or relinquishment of its responsibilities in regard to the building, the property will revert to the city of Neenah.

The club at present leases the theatre section of the building as a motion picture house. The original dance floor (or auditorium) and basement were converted into the present facilities of the Neenah Club.

Notes

Notes

Notes

THE 1910'S

World War I

DOMINATING all other events of this era was World War I, originating in central Europe, and eventually embroiling America and Neenah.

Company I saw service on the Mexican border during the last half of 1916, returning home in January, 1917.

On April 7, 1917 Congress declared war against the central powers. In the summer of that year, Co. I of Neenah, under Captain Bert Smith, and newly formed Co. E of Menasha under Captain Dick Hill, left for Camp Douglas, where they trained till fall. They then left for Camp MacArthur, at Waco, Texas, were mustered into the 32nd Division, and shipped overseas in January, 1918. Participating in the Aisne-Marne, Oise-Aisne, Meuse-Argonne offensives, they later became part of the Army of Occupation in Germany. They returned home during the spring and summer of 1919. See Col. Dan Hardt's military history—Part II.

On their return, they organized Hawley-Dieckhoff Post #33 of the American Legion. The following year the Auxiliary to that post was organized.

Earlier in this decade (1912) the C. B. Clark Circle—Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic—took its place among the patriotic societies of the community.

Inspired by the patriotic fervor of the times, the Neenah Chapter of the Red Cross took shape. It was through that great organization that comfort was brought to our boys overseas and to their families at home. At no time of need or emergency during subsequent years has the local chapter of Red Cross failed to assume its share of responsibility. Across all the intervening years, two public-spirited citizens

stand out as leaders and supporters of this humanitarian movement, namely, Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Clark.

A By-Product of War

War always brings its by-products, both good and bad. Among the constructive by-products of World War I, destined to be of untold economic benefit to Neenah, was the manufacture by Kimberly-Clark of a highly absorbent pulp product for the Army and the Red Cross. This product was given the name "Cellucotton." It was used for sponges in major surgical operations. Nurses and other women connected with the Armed Services during the war found an unplanned use for this substance in their monthly periods. Following the war, Kimberly-Clark assigned this idea to its research department and out of the research came "Kotex." Following in the wake of "Kotex" came "Kleenex" and a host of other sanitary products, to the end that today, thirteen Kimberly-Clark plants across the world are serving their generations with those popular items, first thought of and made in Neenah.

In this connection it should be noted that in 1914 Ernst Mahler cast his lot with Kimberly-Clark. Not only was Mr. Mahler a skilled chemical engineer, but through his leadership there followed a galaxy of younger men trained in the chemical and physical sciences. Papermaking is still an art, but this generation of scientists has undergirded it with a firm scientific texture.

The Institute of Paper Chemistry at Appleton, which has had a profound influence on the paper industry of North America, owes its existence to Ernst Mahler's vision and initiative.

First Playground Equipment

The broadening life of the "teens" (1911) saw the first expenditure of funds for playground equipment. The local chapter of the Red Cross started the ball rolling, later to be assumed by the Park and Recreation Department of the city.

To mention the weather may seem superfluous, but the winter of 1912 will be remembered as one of the coldest. January records days of 20° to 30° below zero, resulting in anchor ice, ice jams and power failures.

Shattuck Park

During the early years of this decade, Clara A. Shattuck became increasingly distressed as she passed and repassed the parcel of land adjoining the river bank, between the library grounds and the C&NW tracks. It had become a rubbish dump and a disgrace to the city. She acquired title to the property in 1912, converted it into a park, including cement retaining wall and an artistic boat house, and presented the park to the city in 1915. During the late '40s and early '50s, the property degenerated to the point where the Shattuck heirs threatened to exercise a recovery clause in the deed of gift. This led to a working agreement between the Park Board, the Shattuck family and the recently formed Tri-City Boating Club, whereby the original plan of the park was revised to accommodate the boating enthusiasts and preserve the heart of the property as a beauty spot.

Schools

No new schools were required during this decade, but cooperative interest in our schools continued to expand. Mothers' Societies made their appearance in 1915, which paved the way for the P.T.A.'s of our day.

"The Council Tree," a school annual, began publication in 1919, continuing until 1922.

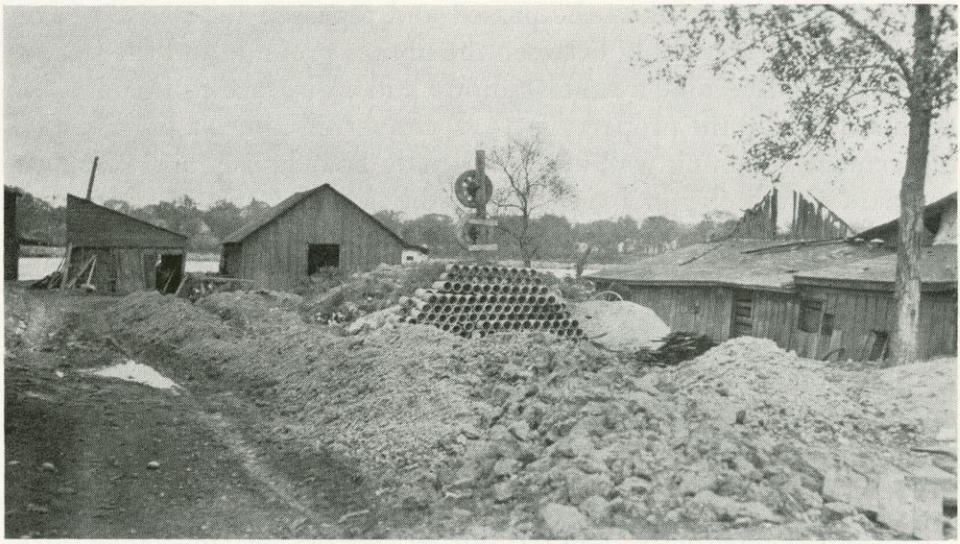
In 1912 the first school nurse, Mrs. Florence Lee, was employed.

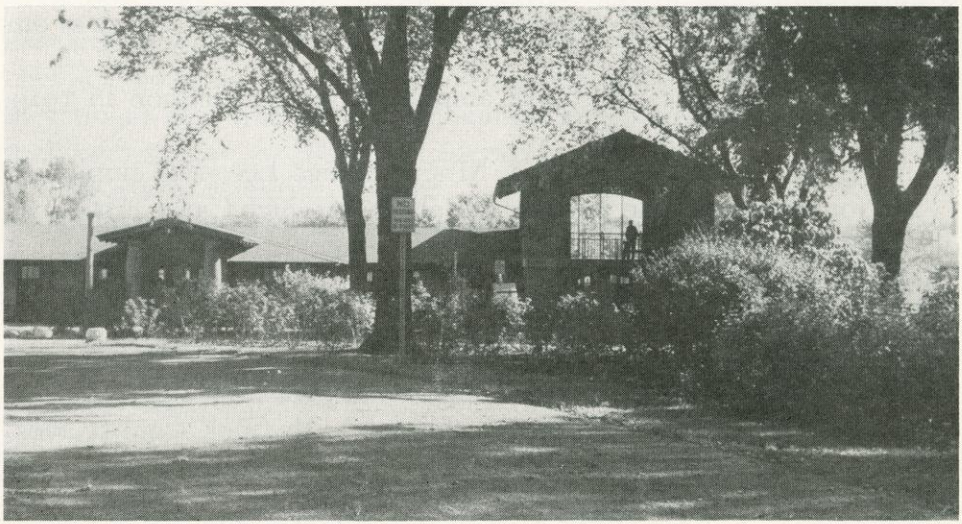
The following year the Vocational School, to which Carl Christensen devoted his working years, made its beginning.

Hospital

The Theda Clark Hospital, looked upon by many in its early days with dread and as something to be avoided, was, by this time, accepted. In 1910 a nursing school, affiliated with Cook County Hospital, was started. Miss Amelia Ritchie, Superintendent of the hospital, became the first Director of the school in cooperation with the local medical fraternity. By 1919 the hospital, now overtaxed, was enlarged.

In the early days of this decade, also, a "Girls' Club" was instigated by a committee of the Tuesday Club. Led by Helen Babcock, quarters

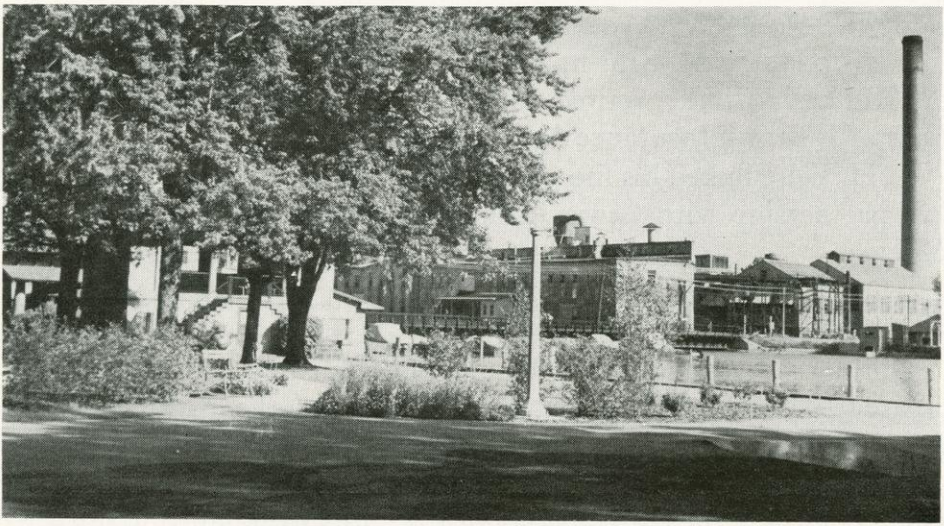




Looking north from Wisconsin Avenue.

before and after.





Looking northwest from library line.

were rented in the second floor of the store building at the corner of Church Street and West Wisconsin Avenue, and a Director was engaged. In 1914 the "Girls' Club" became the "Young Women's Club" and was moved to the Shiells' home on Doty Avenue, which had been purchased for the purpose by Miss Babcock and others.

The "Young Women's Club" later evolved into the YWCA, presently housed in the former residence property of Hon. S. A. Cook, at the corner of W. N. Water and N. Commercial Streets.

John Boreson began in 1911 a forty-year stretch with the Western Union Telegraph Company. During most of these years, it was a one-man office, plus a messenger boy and his bicycle. John took more than a commercial interest in his many clients, often expressing solicitude and sympathy as he delivered messages bringing sorrow or disappointment.

In 1919 two old rivals, the *Neenah Times*, edited for many years by J. N. Stone, and the *Daily News*, presided over by the Bloom family, merged to form the *Neenah News-Times*. This paper later, under the ownership of E. C. Cochrane, absorbed the *Menasha Record* and became the *Twin City News Record*.

In 1910 Harry M. Brown, a machine tender in the old Neenah Mill of Kimberly-Clark, retired from papermaking and formed the Harry M. Brown Insurance Agency.

C. H. Velte linked his life with the life of Neenah in 1912, forming a law partnership with Lewis J. Somers and in 1925 joining with Pat Molzow.

Banking

During 1913 the capital stock of Neenah's two older banks was increased:—The First National to $125,000 and the National Manufacturers' to $100,000.

The Neenah State Bank incorporated and opened for business in 1911. Following the bank holiday in 1933, this bank failed to open, except temporarily. That story is told in the decade of the '30s. Suffice it to say here that, given time, the assets of the bank were equal to all but a small part of the demands made upon them.



Gus Kalfahs' dry goods and grocery store, 1910. Mr. Kalfahs is at center of the group of five. This building is now occupied by Tews Dress Shop.—Note the hitching post.

Kimlark Building

The National Textile Fiber Company, chartered on January 26, 1915, was a subsidiary of Kimberly-Clark. The first section of the present Kimlark building was constructed for the manufacture of paper rugs. Nine years later (June, 1924) this operation was divorced from Kimberly-Clark Corporation, and a new corporation, Kimlark Rug Company, took over the rug business, with Harry Price as President.

During the intervening years this building "enjoyed" a checkered but colorful career. When the rug company went out of business, it became a transient shoe factory. When shoe manufacturing failed, Kimberly-Clark bought the property for one phase of their growing wall paper operation. Then came the war. Wall paper gave way to gun mounts. At war's end another transformation occurred. Kimberly-Clark's Engineering Department redid the interior to fit their far-

flung needs, and, as these lines are written, the Engineering Department is still at home in this location.

Church Movement

St. Paul's English Evangelical Lutheran Church made its entrance into the life of the city in 1913. Services were held in a small chapel on Bond Street, near High Street. Growth was rapid and substantial due to the large numbers of second and third generation young people of Lutheran upbringing, who spoke English rather than the mother tongue of their parents. The property on the corner of North Commercial and West North Water Streets was purchased in 1914, on which the present church was erected in 1916. Rev. A. J. Sommer was the first pastor, serving for fourteen years.

St. Thomas Episcopal Church dedicated its new church home on South Washington Street, Menasha, in 1915.

George Whiting presented to the Baptist congregation its present property, including the church edifice, which was dedicated in 1917 as "Memorial Baptist Church."

The First Church of Christ Scientist purchased in 1915 the church structure and real estate at 229 East Wisconsin Avenue, evacuated in that year by the Episcopal congregation.

Labor Advance

1916 will be remembered in pulp and paper circles for the long overdue displacement of the archaic thirteen hour night and eleven hour day shifts by the three eight-hour shift system.

In 1917 the Central Labor Body reorganized and consolidated under the "Neenah-Menasha Trades & Labor Council."

Industrial Ins and Outs

In 1918 there passed from the scene the last of the flour mills that formerly lined Neenah's power canal. The Krueger & Lachmann Milling Company, the lone survivor, sold its property (idle since the fire in 1911) to the Neenah Paper Company in that year.

The Bergstrom Paper Company pushed its walls out during this dec-

ade, installing two new paper machines,—132″ and 158″, and erecting a new building to house its finishing equipment.

The second decade of the twentieth century saw four enterprises added to the Twin City industrial fraternity:

1. The Hardwood Products Company organized in 1910 to make hardwood doors and interior trim. This company was the outgrowth of a small veneer mill erected by C. B. Clark, D. L. Kimberly, William C. Wing and E. D. Beals, near Vicksburg, Mississippi, two years earlier.
2. The J. W. Hewitt Machine Company, who purchased the property on North Commercial Street from the Jamison Machine Works.
3. A division of the Banta Publishing Company under the name George Banta Paper Company was renamed in 1917 "The Central Paper Company." Later, in 1939, William Gerbrick and Stuart Thompson acquired ownership of the business.
4. Gavin Young and his sons, Dudleigh and Gavin, Jr., instituted the Edgewater Paper Company in 1917.

The John Strange Paper Company demonstrated its vitality in 1917 by installing a 144″ cylinder machine, said to be the widest machine of its kind up to that date.

Two significant changes occurred in 1918–19 when Aylward Sons Company changed its name to Neenah Foundry Company, followed by election of E. J. Aylward to the presidency in 1919, upon his return from service in World War I. Under his leadership this foundry has achieved a position of dominance in its field.

As this decade neared its close, the Gilbert Paper Company installed its third paper machine.

Commercial

A brief rundown of commercial happenings during the decade finds F. W. Woolworth Company thinking Neenah worthy of their attention.

George Sande and Fred Abendschein started business under the banner of the Neenah Auto & Implement Company.

Frank Durham came to town and established the Durham Lumber Company on North Commercial Street.

The Twin City Savings & Loan Company moved to the second floor of the Neenah State Bank Building. Under the presidencies of Andrew and Iveaux Anderson, this institution has taken its place as one of Neenah's stable financial enterprises.

The Neenah Hardware Company entered the hardware field and still holds forth at the old stand.

Andrew Anderson, whose early training was with Will Nelson in the jewelry business, organized the Jewelers Mutual Insurance Company in 1912, with headquarters in Neenah.

Finally, to round out a decade of growth, the federal government in 1917 constructed our post office, which, as of this writing, is outgrown.

C. B. "Bill" Clark Enters Public Life

During this decade, age handed the torch of municipal leadership to youth. J. N. Stone, long-time editor of the *Neenah Times*, having served as Village President in 1868, five terms as Mayor of the city, plus a term as Superintendent of Schools, was approaching the end of his public service.

C. B. "Bill" Clark, four years out of Yale University, entered the Council as Alderman from the First Ward in 1908. Two years as Alderman gave him the "lay of the land." In 1912 he ran for Mayor and won the election.

Neenah in that day had earned for itself an unsavory reputation. While never "boasting" of a red light district, there were certain addresses known to traveling men and to local gentry of uncertain morals that would fit into a red light category. Neenah was known, too, for its gambling fraternity. Bill Clark saw this as a challenge. On June 2, 1915, the Council, at his insistence, passed "an ordinance prohibiting the operation of houses of ill fame or leasing of premises therefor, or being of an inmate thereof, or detaining certain persons therein." Listed in the ordinance were appropriate penalties for nonconformance.

Meanwhile, employing a detective service, paid for out of his own pocket, Bill had quietly assembled his evidence. Without publicity or

resort to legal procedures, he confronted the erring citizens with the facts. When the proprietors of the questionable resorts saw that he meant business, they "folded their tents." Neenah's moral atmosphere improved.

In scanning the ordinances passed during C. B. Clark's years in the Mayor's office, one is impressed with the emphasis on human, as well as material, welfare. For instance, ordinances to:

prevent spitting on streets and in public places;

forbidding minors or drunkards to purchase intoxicating liquors and prohibiting the furnishing of intoxicating liquors to minors and drunkards;

licensing and regulation of billiard and pool rooms;

requiring payment of a license fee by transient merchants;

prevent animals running at large.

On May 5, 1915 came Neenah's first zoning ordinance, although the term "zoning" was not yet coined. In that year land on East Wisconsin Avenue, from Walnut Street to the lake, was declared to be a residential district.

No License Campaign

The latter half of this decade was a hectic era in the life of the states. Revulsion against the control of city governments by the liquor interests was fanned into flame by the determination of parents and church groups to protect their boys then in Service from unnecessary temptation. This resulted in Dry Leagues and local no "license" campaigns.

After a hectic campaign during the first quarter of 1917, Neenah swung into the no license column by a vote of 630 to 625. A recount reduced the majority to *one!*

The newspapers of the day remarked that "excitement reigned supreme!"

Menasha also voted on this question, and went wet by an overwhelming majority.

Nationally, the dry wave rolled along to usher in the ill-fated 18th Amendment, which went into effect January 16, 1920, and was repealed in 1933 during Franklin D. Roosevelt's first term.

Stage plays at the Neenah Theatre were real "occasions" in the "teens." In 1917 we find Ted McGillan directing local talent in the production of "Where the Trail Divides."

Interurban Service

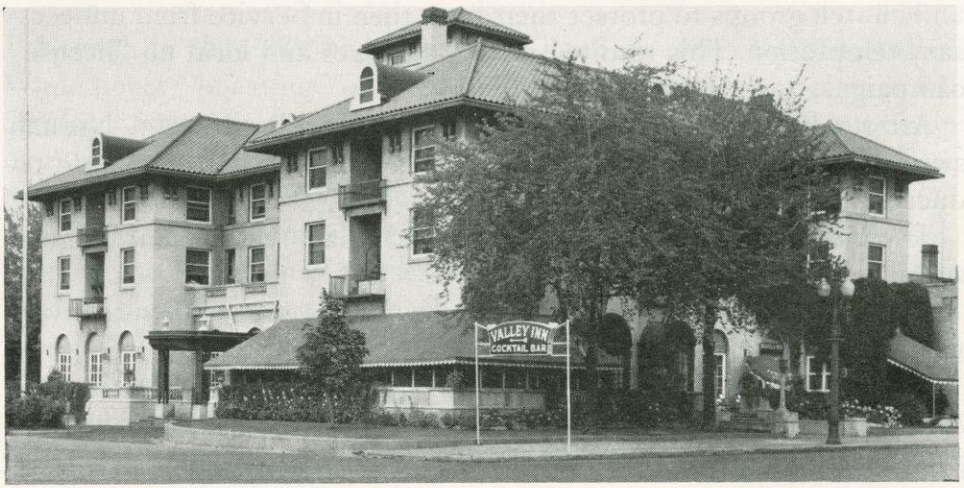
In January 1917 Neenah's Council granted permission to the Wisconsin Traction Light, Heat & Power Company to terminate their run from Appleton at the Valley Inn, rather than at Barnett's corner. In view of the increasing use of autos, the terminal at the corner of Wisconsin Avenue and Commercial Street was becoming increasingly hazardous.

As indicated elsewhere, the auto was already a threat to the life of the interurban street car.

The Valley Inn

Neenah citizens, having rallied during the previous decade to the need for a library and a theatre, were now ready to respond to another challenge. The city needed a modern hotel. Led by F. J. Sensenbrenner, merchants, industries, and individual citizens subscribed approximately $200,000 of stock in a hotel to be built. Edwin Bergstrom, a former Neenah boy, planned the structure, which was built in 1916.

Ed, as he was known by his schoolmates, was born and grew up



here. His father, George O. Bergstrom, was a one-time Mayor of Neenah. After graduation from college and architectural school, Ed located and practiced his profession in southern California, which probably accounts for the architectural style chosen for the Valley Inn. Later, Ed Bergstrom was credited with the design of the Pentagon in Washington.

It is interesting, in retrospect, to reflect upon the controversy of that day as to where the new hotel should be located. Merchants up and down the street pulled for the site eventually chosen. Others, pointing out the noise factor of close proximity to the C.&N.W. tracks, advocated a site on Lake Shore Avenue overlooking Lake Winnebago or a location on South Park Avenue near the water plant. They argued that, in addition to the travelling public, such a location would be attractive to summer tourists. It is permissible, in the light of hindsight and changed conditions, to speculate on who was right.

Federal Income Tax Makes Its Modest Entrance

Of personal interest to most citizens was the federal income tax law that went into effect January 3, 1917. Unmarried persons with incomes of $3,000 and family heads with incomes of $4,000 were taxed 2%—with a graduated scale for incomes above those figures. The graduations of 1917 look quite modest from the vantage point of 1957.

From the gravestone of Charles Lyell, Derbyshire, England:

Throughout a long and laborious life
He sought the means of deciphering
The fragmentary records
Of the Earth's history
In the patient investigation
Of the present order of nature
Enlarging the boundaries of knowledge
And leaving on scientific thought
An enduring influence.

O Lord, How great are Thy works
And Thy thoughts are very deep.

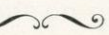
Notes

Notes

Notes

THE 1920's

by JOHN STUDLEY



Women's Suffrage

THE DECADE which journalists refer to as "the roaring twenties" was ushered in with an historic note—women's suffrage became effective in 1920 and they exercised under the 19th amendment to the Constitution for the first time in November's general election their right to vote. Unfortunately from the historian's standpoint, local election boards tabulated no breakdown of the masculine and feminine vote, so the percentage of ballots cast by women that year remains obscure. It was not until 1937 that separate counts were made of men's and women's votes. Then it was found that women were casting approximately 40–45 per cent of the total vote.

Mayors who served Neenah in the 1920–30 period were E. C. Arnemann, '20–'21; J. H. Dennhardt, '22–'23; George E. Sande, present full-time mayor, '24–'25; Dennhardt again in '26–'27 and Sande again in '28–'33.

With their newly-won ballot franchise, a Neenah League of Women Voters was organized in 1920. It went out of existence shortly, however, but was reorganized in 1947.

The year 1920 also marked the organization of the American Legion Auxiliary to James P. Hawley Post No. 33, named after the first Neenah boy to give his life in World War I service to his country.

Wisconsin Northern Railway

In that first year, also, of the boisterous era, the last railroad reached Winnebago Junction on the outskirts of the city—the Wisconsin Northern. The line was organized in 1906 by the late Charles R.

Smith, of the Menasha Wooden Ware Corporation, Leander Choate and Charles Bray, of Oshkosh, and M. J. Wallrich of Shawano.

The year also saw the establishment of the city's first "fresh air" school, set up in the auditorium of the City Hall, with a "fresh air" camp started at Wheeler's Point, on the shores of Lake Winnebago. They were maintained until 1926.

Banking and Industrial

In 1920 J. A. Kimberly was elected Chairman of the Board of the First National Bank, and F. E. Ballister was named President. Plans were made for a new building, the present edifice, and the institution increased its surplus account to $125,000.

In the same year the Kimberly-Clark Corporation erected the first units of its Kapuskasing Mill, and also early in the 1920's, a two-machine paper mill was built at Niagara Falls.

1921 was marked by the opening of the new First National Bank building, opening of a branch of the Richmond Company, dry cleaners, here; establishment of the Lenz & Angermeyer Plumbing Company (which dissolved partnership in 1926) and establishment of the School Stationers Corporation, the Island Drug Store, and Olene's Shop.

First Automobile Dealership

While Charles Bergstrom seems to have been the first sales agency for automobiles in Neenah, the Jaeger-Dowling Company stands unchallenged as the oldest automobile dealership in the Neenah-Menasha-Appleton district, still in business. W. J. Dowling came to the Twin Cities from Oshkosh in February, 1920, taking over management of the Ford Garage and Neenah Taxi Line, operating at the Valley Inn Garage. The Jaeger-Dowling Company was incorporated August 1, 1922. In 1946 Dowling purchased the Standard Oil Station, at the intersection of First & Commercial Streets. This is said to have been the first regular filling station established in Winnebago County.

Doty Park and the Winnebago Players

Land for picturesque Doty Park was donated to the city by the late

C. B. Clark in 1922, and, with other individuals, added to the gift to increase the size of the recreation center. The park was formally dedicated in 1928, after dredging of the lagoon had been completed.

An out-of-door dramatic production, "Prunella," directed by Miss Ruth Dieckhoff, signalized the opening of this beauty spot to the public. It was from this performance that the Winnebago Players took off, and for several years put on outstanding productions in the parks of Neenah and Menasha.

The year also marked the purchase by the National Manufacturers' Bank of the site on which stood the historic Russell House. Razing of the hotel to make room for the present banking edifice was completed, and the new building occupied on June 15, 1923.

The costly Baptist Church fire occurred in 1922, but the building was promptly restored. In 1925 the name of the church was changed to "Whiting Memorial Baptist Church," further gifts having been made by the late George A. Whiting to the church.

The Edgewater Paper Company, located in Menasha as a converting mill, in 1922 installed a machine for the manufacture of duplexed waterproof papers.

Neenah's Disastrous Sleet Storm

Many Twin City residents can recall the disastrous sleet storm which struck the valley shortly before dawn of February 22, 1922, tearing down power and communication lines and all but isolating Neenah and Menasha for the better part of a week. Trees still bear the scars of the unprecedented ice deluge.

Radio was then in its infancy, and all messages sent on the "air" waves were in code. Quinn Bros., pioneers in the retail radio field, improvised a station on the top floor of the Bergstrom Paper Company mill, and made this city's first post-storm contact with the outside world. The station was established in the Bergstrom Mill, because its own power plant furnished the alternating current necessary to operate the radio transmitters. The station continued in operation for six days, its time being chiefly devoted to coding orders to railroads for coal for Twin City industries, and dispatching trains. Permission for temporary operation of the station on a commercial basis was obtained

from the headquarters of the Ninth Naval Reserve District at Chicago. William and Cornelius Quinn, owners of Quinn Bros., were assisted in the dispatch and receipt of messages by Homer Bishop and Harold Nielsen, among the earlier Neenah "hams."

William Quinn, incidentally, recalls that he received his first speeding ticket during the sleet storm emergency. The brothers, in addition to their radio activities, operated a restaurant near the Soo Line Depot, and it became necessary for William to make a hurried trip to the Hopfensperger Market at Menasha for a supply of meat. He did it in record time, but a watchful policeman judged he drove too fast and gave him a court summons.

Another interesting sidelight of the storm was its effect upon publication of the city's only daily newspaper, *The News-Times*. Its linotypes and presses immobilized for lack of power, its editors recovered sufficiently from the first day's shock to produce a miniature four-page paper, hand set and printed on a job press, which carried an abbreviated report of the catastrophe, and was complete even to a weather forecast and single advertisement, a church social! Subsequent days' issues were somewhat enlarged, with a tractor obtained from the Jaeger-Dowling Company powering the main press with belt transmission.

Boy Scouts

Boy Scouting, which had its origin in 1910, came to the Twin Cities in 1921 with organization of St. Thomas Episcopal Church troop, the first of which there is any authentic record.

The Valley Council of Boy Scouts was organized at Appleton in 1920, and was joined by Neenah and Menasha troops in 1923.

The First Service Station

Al Laflin is claimant to the distinction of operating Neenah's first all-round service station, including window and car washing, greasing and vacuuming of car interiors. In 1930, Al leased the property at 521 Winneconne Avenue from Cook & Brown Lime Company and purchased it from them in 1937. Its first owner was C. A. Douglas.

King's Daughters Service Circle was established here in 1923, a Junior Circle, known as Frances Gilbert, two years later, and the Welfare Circle of King's Daughters in 1949.

The year 1923 marked establishment of the Quality Printing Company in the present *News-Record* building (owned by the Sherry interests) by Arnold Jacob, its present President. The business is now located in its own building on Main Street.

First ILYA Regatta Staged Here

The first regatta of the Inland Lakes Yachting Association to be sailed in Neenah was held here in August, 1923, and attracted sailors from many midwestern sailing centers.

Completion of the present Roosevelt (Third Ward) school also was recorded in 1923.

Immanuel's Evangelical and Reformed Church completed a large addition to its building in 1924.

First of the Service Clubs

The year 1925 brought organization of the Neenah Rotary Club. Lee Rasey, prominent Appleton Rotarian, and Howard P. "Cub" Buck, of Green Bay Packer football fame, were largely instrumental in formation of the club, which had a group of about twenty charter members. The club remains active, with a much larger membership.

Establishment of the Ideal Bakery, by Edward Tyriver, took place in 1925, and in the same year, the late George Danke started the Neenah Milk Products Company. The firm was reorganized in 1939, with the Galloway interests, of Fond du Lac, owners.

Dedication of the beautiful Masonic Temple, on Wisconsin Avenue across from the Neenah Library, took place in the year 1926.

Neenah made its start as a leading bowling center in the year 1926, when the first mixed doubles league of the Fox River Valley was organized in the Muench alleys, then located in the basement of the building on East Wisconsin Avenue across from the Valley Inn, then known as the Valley Inn Garage. Muench's Recreation Center is now



The First Rotary Club—1925. Front Row, left to right: Joe Weishaupt, John Studley, T. D. Smith, George Kelly, Will Krueger, Lynn Leffingwell. Middle Row: Hy Behnke, Toby Kuehl, Richard Disney, Ray Peters, Knox Kimberly, Harley Hilton, Andrew Anderson. Third Row: J. M. Donovan, Charles Sommers, "Cub" Buck, Leo Schubart, Ed Arnemann, Ray Heron, D. L. Kimberly.

located on North Commercial Street, and has been the site for many outstanding kegling events, including one state tournament.

Also in 1926 the late George Burnside organized the Burnside Paper Company, now known as the Sawyer Paper Company. Establishment of the Valley Press occurred in the same year, and the Bergstrom Paper Company constructed a new warehouse.

Neenah's present vigorous summer recreation program had its beginning in 1926, when George Christoph was hired as organizer and director.

The year was also marked by construction of McKinley Grade School, serving Fourth Ward students.

Doty Cabin Moved to Doty Park

In 1926, as Doty Park was taking shape, the Strange family, at the suggestion of the Neenah Park Board, gave to the city the original Doty Cabin, the one-time home of James Duane Doty, second territorial Governor. The old structure originally faced the mouth of the river, as shown on page 42 of Cunningham's history. It was moved to the site of its replica in Doty Park, facing Lincoln Street. Today the replica of this historic old cabin houses many relics of the pioneer days, including some of the possessions of the late Governor and his wife. It is visited each year by hundreds of persons, including tourists from practically every state in the union.

When the original edition of Cunningham's History was exhausted, Emma Foeltzer Burnham made 27 longhand copies for her friends and relatives, and one of these remarkable copies is placed in the Doty Cabin. Mrs. Burnham celebrated her 90th birthday on February 22, 1958. Her interest in the writing of this history never dimmed.

The Neenah-Menasha Finance Company began doing business here in 1926.

The year 1927 brought Krause's, a men's clothing store, to Neenah; saw the name of the Wisconsin Traction Light, Heat & Power Company changed to the Wisconsin Michigan Power Company, and the Postal Telegraph Company moved into the Spude Electric Company building on North Commercial Street.

Marathon Corporation

So far as this record is concerned, 1927 is the key date in referring to the Marathon Corporation, for it was in this year that the Marathon Company, of Rothschild, Wisconsin, under the far-sighted leadership of D. C. Everest, acquired the Menasha Printing & Carton Company. The Menasha Printing & Carton Company was the result of a merger in 1917 of the Menasha Printing Company, founded by Sam Clinedinst, and the Menasha Carton Company, organized by George S. Gaylord. From 1927 there followed, through the '30s, '40s and '50s, expansion at home and across the land, until today Marathon

(now a subsidiary of American Canco) leads in the fields of food packaging, household papers, general packaging and other paper and paperboard products.

Latterly, Marathon's local growth has flowed into Neenah:—a graphic arts plant on Western Avenue, built in 1954; 1955, the impressive flexible packaging plant on Cecil Street; and now, a new general office on land recently annexed to Neenah's south side. See Part II.

It was in the same year that a Neenah Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution was organized in Neenah, and the Business and Professional Women's Club was formed in the same period.

Passing of the old Appleton-Neenah interurban street cars came in 1928, one year following the demise of the Neenah-Oshkosh interurban line. In the former instance, the cars were replaced by motor buses.

A new power plant was constructed by the Bergstrom Paper Company in 1928, and the year also saw erection of a new nurses' home for Theda Clark Hospital.

The Young Women's Club of Neenah and Menasha affiliated with the national Young Women's Christian Association in 1929, and moved into its present building, the former S. A. Cook homestead, on North Commercial Street.

In the same year the Visiting Nurse Association employed its first trained graduate public health nurse, Miss Laura Chase. Miss Ida Heinicke had been the only staff member prior to this time.

Organization of the Valley Plumbing and Heating Supply Corporation, now the Valley Supply Corporation, occurred in 1928. Records also indicate establishment of the Comfort Beauty Shop in the late 1920's, one of the earlier establishments of its kind in the city.

Helen K. Stuart Promotes Band and "Point" Park

In 1929 the late Mrs. Helen K. Stuart, who later served one term on the common council, representing the First Ward, was largely instrumental in organization of the Neenah High School Band, and brought Lester Mais here as Director. Under his skillful and indefatigable leadership, a band music program was instituted which has resulted in the

band and its individual members annually taking first place awards in state and regional tournaments. Les Mais' contribution to the youth of Neenah is a generous one, and extends beyond the school curriculum to such organizations as the Brigade and Bluket bands. It is fitting that he was honored by his former students in 1954, as they celebrated with him his 25th year of service to Neenah.

In the same year (1929) Mrs. Stuart acquired the property which is now the location of Kimberly Point Park, and presented it to the city.

The Senior High School, located on Division Street, was completed in 1929.

Break in the Stock Market

Who will ever forget the bewilderment of the last weeks of 1929 following the break in the securities market in October? Retrenchment everywhere. Fear gripped the hearts of people, and fear made a bad situation worse.

Thus the '20s bequeathed dismay and unemployment to the '30s.



"With the frequent comings and goings of these friends and relatives, the Doty household experienced little 'isolation.' Even when no visitors were about, the sense of companionship persisted, for in this ageless spot it was easy to conjure up a pageant of the past. What processions had rounded the foot of the island to swing their craft into Winnebago's shallow waters: intrepid explorers, black-robed missionaries, light-hearted voyageurs whose melodies lingered on the air long after they had passed from view, red men setting out for the hunt or on the grim business of war, soldiers flying the banners of France, of Britain, and of the United States. In that historic array Doty himself often appeared: in the Cass entourage, in Rolette's fur brigade invested with the new dignity of Judge, on the gay picnic excursion with the Kinzies."

From Chapter 18 of Alice Elizabeth Smith's biography of *James Duane Doty*, The State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Coypright 1954.

Notes

Notes

Notes

THE 1930's



As we enter the '30s, we instinctively revert to our initial observation, as stated by Paul Vanderbilt in the Spring, 1957 issue of *Wisconsin Magazine of History:*

"The main objective is not so much the mere tracing backward of historical streams to their remote sources, as the inducement of a vision of the current history flowing toward us from the past."

How dramatically obvious this is as we visualize the economic heritage bequeathed by the 1920's to the succeeding decade. Business was good during the third decade of the century, following a temporary recession of 1920 and 21. The securities market mounted steadily, until in August of 1928, the head of a prominent investors' service, writing in one of America's well-known magazines, voiced among other things:

" . . . the belief that a long period of peace is in store for the civilized nations of the World."

Under the title, "A New Era in Wall Street," he evaluated all of the factors then undergirding the nation's financial structure, and, summing up, reached this conclusion:

"Naturally enough, forecasts made in 1923, which correctly foreshadowed what subsequently has happened in the security markets, would have been looked upon as fantastic by the average man;—any present forecast of the coming few years may also be looked upon as fantastic. Nevertheless, there seem to be many reasons for believing that the coming period may prove quite as stable and constructive in this country as have the past five years, if not more so.

And though the prices of investment securities of standard quality look high to us today, they easily may, by 1933, be quoted in many cases at far higher values."

The Bank Holiday

What happened fourteen months later is common knowledge. From

late October, 1929, the securities market jiggered rapidly downward, until the 1930's opened in an atmosphere of economic confusion.

By 1932 we were at the bottom of the deepest depression of all time, and few there were who escaped injury.

Franklin D. Roosevelt was chosen President in November 1932, defeating Herbert Hoover. The months between election and inauguration of the new president on Saturday, March 4, 1933, were filled with fear and apprehension. Mr. Roosevelt's first official act on Monday morning, March 6, was declaration of the bank holiday. The moratorium lasted seven days for Federal Reserve Banks. Banks throughout the nation, found to be in sound condition, reopened as soon thereafter as the federal survey could be completed.

Neenah's two National banks opened on Wednesday, March 15. The Neenah State Bank opened on a restricted basis, but later decided to liquidate. It is said with pride, however, that all depositors eventually received payment in full, stockholders recovered all special assessment leveled against them, and, in addition, were reimbursed for part, but not all, of their original investment.

The nine days of the bank holiday were lived as in a vacuum. Like electric current and our city water, we come to take for granted the service of our banks. Not until the supply of currency was suddenly turned off did we fully realize the vital part that banks play in our day-to-day living.

When a man couldn't cash his pay check or secure money to buy food or a railway ticket, it brought home to citizens of that day how interdependent we are.

Opening of the local banks on March 15 marked the return of faith and confidence in our banking system, and that faith has never wavered during the quarter century that has elapsed.

The Pickards Come to Town

Again we note a beneficent by-product of a trying experience. It was during 1931, when the economic clouds were hanging low, that the Directors of the National Manufacturers' Bank invited S. N. (Sam) Pickard, then with the First National Bank of Ripon, to associ-



These five outlived all of Neenah's veterans of America's Civil War. This historic photograph was, to the best of our information, taken in 1929 or 1930. First row, left to right: Joseph Faas and John Nagel. Standing: Robert Law, Thad Sheerin, Murray McCallum.

ate himself with the local bank. He accepted as of January 1, 1932, and moved his family to Neenah early in that year. Not only did Neenah gain an enterprising banker, but, in Mr. and Mrs. Pickard, there came into our midst two public-spirited citizens who have made their wholesome influence felt in many civic and church movements of our community. Incidentally, under Mr. Pickard's leadership, the deposits of the National Manufacturers' Bank have grown from $1,592,744.02 on December 31, 1931, to $16,510,633.16 on December 31, 1957.

Combatting Unemployment

Among the movements to alleviate unemployment in 1930, The Young Men's Civic League was formed to assist recent high school graduates to find jobs.

Also, an area survey was made to provide garden plots for the unemployed.

Mayor Sande, who was in office from 1928 to 1933, surrounded himself with an advisory group of citizens during these depression years,

and it was during this period that a trained social worker, Clare Rejal, a citizen of Beloit, was recommended to us. He was engaged by the Citizens' Committee to devote full time to the many social problems that were plaguing our lives during those trying years.

The spring of 1932 saw a colorful campaign, when Helen K. Stuart ran for Mayor against George E. Sande. Mr. Sande won the election.

A Long Shadow

In 1933 Hitler became Chancellor of Germany and thereby cast a long shadow across the world. This long shadow reached the Twin Cities when, on December 7, 1941, America was drawn into the world conflict.

In that climactic year (1933) President Roosevelt demanded of Congress the repeal of the Volstead Act, which, of course, had its repercussion on local affairs.

The disturbed political atmosphere of the time induced this normally Republican state to elect a Democratic governor. One of Governor Schmedemann's first acts was to cut his own salary 20%.

Business As Usual With Our Schools

In times of national disturbance, it is refreshing to consider those aspects of community life that continue to move on in an orderly flow. Our schools are in that category.

1930 ushered in *The Cub*, Neenah High School's student publication.

Also, the first of an endless succession of P.T.A. groups formed that year, in the Washington School, through the efforts of Mrs. Helen K. Stuart.

Work on the High School Athletic Field began in 1931, and was completed the following year. This involved six tennis courts, track, football field, bleachers, and a general play area on the east half of the property.

Toward the end of this decade the Neenah Teachers Association was formed, becoming a chapter of the Wisconsin Education Association.

The *Rocket*, Neenah High's yearbook, made its first appearance with the graduating class of 1937.



Bryan Seroogy, Postal Telegraph operator, 1930.

Neenah High to State Tournament

Neenah High's basketball team topped its district in 1930 and went on to the State Tournament at Madison.

Radio was in its infancy in 1930. Few people had receivers. A group of citizens raised funds to induce Bryan Seroogy, the Postal Telegraph operator, to follow the games and announce tournament progress over a public address system. The papers of that day report that up to 2,000 people gathered to listen!

1930 marked the origin of the Who's New Club, of the YWCA, that has demonstrated its usefulness to newcomers across the years.

In that year, too, there came into existence the Menasha Garden Club, and, in 1932, the Women's Auxiliary to the Winnebago County Medical Society was organized.

Economic Recovery

By 1936 courage and optimism had displaced fear, and the dollar was still worth one hundred cents, as indicated by 54 new homes built that year at an average cost of $3,405.55. Building of all kinds that year totaled $315,515.

And, in 1936, Gibson sold Chevrolet sedans, fully equipped, for $620!

The industrial picture broadens during the 1930's—

The Edgewater Paper Company adds a creping machine to its equipment.

Hoerning Concrete Products Company adds its services to the building trades.

Harry F. Williams, who had made a good start with his School Stationers Corporation in the Rosenthal Building, Menasha, built his modern plant north of the C&NW station.

The Manhattan Rubber Company began its contribution to the paper industry, renting space in the Hewitt building on North Commercial Street, subsequently, in 1954, moving to its own modern quarters on Matthews and Cecil Street.

The Atlas Tag Company also made its entrance in 1932.

A Faux Pas

Neenah's experience with shoe factories, never very satisfactory, suffered a second disappointment in the mid-30's. In September, 1935, two Milwaukee gentlemen came to town, and, in glowing terms, announced their intention of establishing a shoe manufacturing business, provided the city could put at their disposal a suitable building. The unique feature of their proposal was that they claimed to have abundant capital. The property of the Kimlark Rug Company, which had recently discontinued operation, was offered. Neenah, along with the rest of America, was then recovering from the deepest depression of all time, and this unsolicited assist looked like a gift from the gods.

The Vogel-Patton Shoe Company incorporated and went through the motions of making shoes. When the going got tough, the city advanced $4,000 and certain gullible citizens did their part, whereupon the promoters closed up shop and disappeared.

Following through in the commercial category:

In 1933 Ben Schultz, and his son Francis, organized the Pure Ice & Coal Company. Twenty years later Francis B. Schultz took over the interests of his brothers and became sole owner.

Haase & Drews, Inc., Men's and Boys' Retail Clothing and Furnishings—their predecessors were the Hanson Bros. (Hans R. and Martin P.), who bought the property at 118 West Wisconsin Avenue in 1898 and started the business that passed into the possession of Haase,

Klinke & Rhoades in 1931. Mr. Klinke died in 1943. In January, 1952, the store was moved to its present location at 141 West Wisconsin Avenue; presently the business is conducted by Haase & Drews, Inc., Mr. Rhoades having retired in January, 1955.

In 1931 one of Neenah's substantial insurance agencies opened its doors when E. L. Rickard entered the field, with E. E. Lampert as associate.

To the consternation of local food dispensers, the first of the chain food stores made its appearance in 1930; the A&P came to town, locating at 516 North Commercial Street.

Krambo located a food store on East Wisconsin Avenue (1934).

Russell and R. H. Kuehmstead opened a school supply company, now the Atlas Office and School Supply Company.

Woolworth Chain Stores moved into the former Anspach building.

Larson Cleaners was established on South Commercial Street by Ed Nyman and Arthur Asmund.

Hermene's Gift Shop opened for business.

The Pansy Nursery (1939) added its skills and services to our expanding city, taking up property on Neenah's south border.

The Galloways took over the Neenah Milk Products Company in 1939.

In 1939 Lorinda and Helen Tews, dealers in ready-to-wear women's and children's garments, rented from the Kalfahs estate the store property at 110 West Wisconsin Avenue. After a complete renovation of the building, which for a half-century had been known as the Kalfahs Grocery, they combined their former stores, one at 226 West Wisconsin Avenue, a children's shop on Commercial Street, and a branch store in Appleton.

Winnebago Day School

The Winnebago Day School, the brainchild of a group of Neenah, Menasha and Appleton parents, came into existence in a spacious carriage barn on the property of Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Shepard. This was in 1932. Later the school was moved into new quarters on Winnebago Avenue, Menasha.

Neenah dentists, led by Dr. J. M. Donovan, sponsored the project

of a Dental Hygienist for the school system in 1932. Later, the VNA gave their active support to this worthy cause, financing dentistry for children whose parents were unable to pay. This help was discontinued in 1956, when Family Service took over.

Moses Hooper Passes From the Earthly Scene

We cannot pass the year (1932) without noting the passing of a truly great man who had much to do with Neenah's earlier history. Although for many years an Oshkosh resident, he knew and had dealings with Governor James Duane Doty. He was attorney for the four young men who, in 1872, formed the partnership known as Kimberly, Clark & Company. At the age of 93 he tried a case before the U. S. Supreme Court. We refer to Moses Hooper, a wise, able and generous-hearted man, who was a benediction to all who knew him.

Gardner Dam Site to Boy Scouts

Entering that climactic year of 1933 a golden lining to the dark clouds appeared when the Wisconsin Michigan Power Company, under the prompting of Manager Bill Schubert, gave the Gardner Dam Camp to the Valley Council of Boy Scouts.

Also during this period the VNA Auxiliary was born.

Church Matters

Reverend W. G. Wittenborn became the pastor of the Union Gospel Tabernacle, occupying the church edifice on the corner of Isabella and Caroline Streets, formerly the property of the Norwegian Methodists. This was in 1931. Mr. Wittenborn served for nine years, during which the name was changed to First Fundamental.

In 1933 the beautiful new edifice of the St. Margaret Mary congregation, on Division Street, was completed. The first mass was celebrated in the new church on Easter Sunday of that year. Prior to completion of St. Margaret Mary Church, Neenah residents of the Catholic faith were served by St. Patrick's Church and school. Since that time Catholic residents of the island remain with the St. Patrick's congregation, while St. Margaret Mary claims all south of the Neenah river channel.

In 1936 Reverend Samuel H. Roth came to St. Paul's Lutheran Church. As these lines are written, he brings to a close a successful pastorate of twenty-one years.

The following year a disastrous fire destroyed the Methodist Church, opposite the City Hall. The vitality of this congregation was demonstrated in their prompt rebuilding, dedicating their new structure in 1939.

The Assembly of God, Pentecostal, organized a congregation in 1937, meeting in homes until 1939, when the former Scandinavian Lutheran Church, at 502 South Commercial Street, was purchased.

Finally, the first Girl Scout Troop in the Twin Cities was organized by St. Thomas Episcopal Church in 1938.

Neenah's Sewer & Water Systems

The decade of the '30s will always be remembered for the advances made in the realm of public utilities. The city's several separate sewer districts were, in 1935, consolidated into one municipal system. Two years later, Neenah and Menasha joined in building the sewage disposal plant on the west tip of the island. Prior to this time an increasing volume of raw sewage from our Twin Cities poured into Little Lake Butte des Morts and the Fox River from which Appleton derived water for its city system.

Of still greater significance was the campaign, stretching over four years, for a modern water system to displace the unusable water from Neenah's deep wells.

A referendum in 1932, without too much mental preparation, resulted in an overwhelming vote against a surface supply. The idea was deeply rooted that only from the deep earth could pure water be produced. This strongly negative reaction said but one thing to proponenents of a soft water supply, viz:—the need of a public demonstration of what could be done with Lake Winnebago water. Accordingly, with the help of chemical engineers from Neenah's industries, a gaily-painted experimental water plant was built on land loaned by the Wieckert Lumber Company. Water from the power canal was filtered, purified and softened before the eyes of the passing public and delivered in glass containers to all parts of town with

invitation to drink it, cook with it and wash in it! Aided by space in the daily press, a running fire of comment and testimony was continued up to the election in April, 1936, when a second referendum carried 4 to 1, every ward voting favorably.

No single factor has contributed so much to Neenah's subsequent growth. This story is told more completely in Part II.

The Job of Assessor

The production of nearly two million dollars in tax revenue demands elements of judgment and fairness that make the job of assessor one of the most significant in our whole governmental system. The assessor's task is a difficult one. It involves becoming familiar with the market value of all kinds of property, both real and personal, and applying the standard of prices thus obtained to the innumerable items and variety of properties he is called upon to assess. When one looks about his own neighborhood and reflects upon the complexity of the assessor's work in that small area, and then considers the city as a whole, he then realizes the complexity of the job of equitable treatment as between taxpayers.

As one studies Neenah's history down through the years subsequent to her emergence from village status, it is apparent that no backward step has been taken in fair and equitable taxation.

To John Blenker, Neenah's first full-time assessor, goes the credit for laying a firm foundation in this important area of municipal life. John took over on April 25, 1936, and retired October 7, 1955.

Parks

During the late '20s and early '30s, the Park Board employed an eminent landscape architect, Phelps Wyman, to survey Neenah's parks. Among his projects was redesign of Riverside Park, moving the drive from its former position along the waterfront to its present attractive layout. Mr. Wyman visualized a new park pavilion, facing the setting sun, situated on the shore side of the deep curve of the drive. As so often happens, a new board, working from the same set of facts, came up with a different conclusion, as noted in the sketch of the 1950's.

Another project delegated to Mr. Wyman was design of Washington Park. It was in 1931 that Mrs. D. W. (Sara) Bergstrom, seeing the need of a park in the fourth ward, purchased and deeded to the city for that purpose, most of the real estate now embodied in Washington Park.

During 1931, also, the triangular shaped parcel of land, known as the Water Street Park, was dedicated, with concrete retaining wall and fence.

In the same year the first of many Pet & Hobby Shows was staged in Riverside Park, with Otis Hayes the moving spirit.



Build thee more stately mansions, O my soul,
As the swift seasons roll!
Leave thy low-vaulted past!
Let each new temple, nobler than the last
Shut thee from heaven with a dome more vast,
Till thou at length art free,
Leaving thine outgrown shell by life's unresting sea!

OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES

Notes

Notes

Notes

THE 1940's

by CHARLOTTE McINTYRE



"Pearl Harbor"

NEENAH FAMILIES had been to churches in the morning, had finished dinner, and were quietly reading the Sunday papers, when voices interrupted every radio program throughout the country with the news which was to change the lives and activities of everyone for nearly four years. The day was December 7, 1941.

Company I, local unit of the Wisconsin National Guard, which had left in October of 1940 for what was to be a year's training, was at Camp Beauregard and Camp Livingstone, Louisiana. Some of the original members had been transferred to other units. Less than five months from that December 7, they were in a long gray convoy of ships that slipped out of California ports onto the Pacific, off to war against the Japanese. A short sixteen months before these men had been playing football, basketball, softball, swimming in the new pool, sailing on Lake Winnebago, drinking cokes at the corner drug store. By Thanksgiving of 1942 they would be learning jungle fighting the hard way, against experienced Japanese jungle fighters. But they were to push on until they recaptured the Philippines.

Other Neenah men already in Service through the Selective Service Act, which had come into existence in 1940, found their training now stepped up. It was in earnest, and many were to see service in the European theater of operations on sea, land and in the air in the fight against the Nazis.

Nearly 1,700 Neenah men saw service throughout the years of the war. Some were prisoners of war in both theaters of operations; some were to give their lives.

Dawn of the Atomic Age

A great second World War, the dawn of the atomic age, and the beginnings of post-war expansion in industry, business and residential building marked the decade of the Forties.

Civilian defense organizations came into existence during the 1940's, but did not gain full acceleration until after Pearl Harbor.

The first peacetime draft in the history of America affected Neenah residents and their families, as the Winnebago County Selective Service Board No. 3, with offices in the Menasha Post Office, came into existence in 1940. The first registration of men between the ages of 21 and 35 was held October 16, 1940. There were 3,907 men registered at that time, representing Neenah, Menasha and seven area townships which made up the No. 3 Board. The following summer the second registration was held, and in February of 1942 the third, which also included men between 36 and 45. Service on this board was never a pleasant duty. Members, and particularly Arthur Ritger, as Chairman, never received the appreciation they deserved for their self-sacrificing devotion to their task.

Rationing

Ration boards came into existence as gasoline, tires, sugar, fuel oil, cars, stoves, shoes, bicycles, rubber boots, meat and canned goods began to be part of the great national conservation program for the emergency. Every family had ration books. The rationing was a big task, and the men who directed the early formation of a board to handle this work included Elmer Radtke, Harry Korotev, Carl Gerhardt, Fred Wright, Charles Sommers, C. F. Hedges, E. E. Jandrey, William Clifford and J. C. Fritzen. As the program broadened, hundreds more citizens volunteered for the work. The first offices were in the Boys' Brigade building, then moved into larger quarters in the Weinke building on East Wisconsin Avenue. The school teachers and hundreds of housewives voluntarily gave their services during heavy registrations or at times when they were needed as additional food allotments were issued. Tires were rationed before the end of 1941,

gasoline, canned goods and coffee were rationed in 1942, shoes in early 1943, to mention a few.

Building was curtailed, and Neenah, along with its sister city of Menasha, was among the first to operate under the rent freeze in April of 1942.

Scrap Drives

Because rubber, waste paper, scrap tin and metal were critical items of war production, scrap drives were organized by salvage committees, aided by Boy Scouts and Boys' Brigaders. Chairmen during the war years included Paul Stacker, Lawrence Kitchin, Ferd Diesterhaupt and Edward Stelow.

War Loans

A War Finance Committee was set up to supervise the war loan drives for the United States Treasury. Directing the work of the seven campaigns, during which over $20 million in war bonds was invested, were F. J. Sensenbrenner, D. L. Kimberly, N. H. Bergstrom, D. K. Brown, Norton Williams, J. Russell Ward, S. N. Pickard, A. C. Gilbert, S. F. Shattuck, A. W. Andersen and C. B. Clark.

Red Cross Drives

Neenah Chapter of the American Red Cross began its war fund campaigns, which opened with an emergency call after the Pearl Harbor attack on December 7. Hundreds of residents served as volunteer workers. The chapter also provided other services, enlisting the aid of hundreds of homemakers. A month after Pearl Harbor, for example, an emergency quota of sweaters and helmets for Navy men had to be filled. The knitting and sewing programs were accelerated in the months that followed.

Home nursing courses were set up, canteen units formed blood banks organized to provide blood plasma for the soldiers; there were special home service activities to aid the families of men in the service.

As registered nurses were called into service by their country, civilian nurse shortages developed. To offset this locally, Theda Clark Memorial Hospital began the training of Nurses' Aides, with Miss Esther Klingman as Director of this division of the war emergency program. Over 137 young women were trained to give volunteer service at the hospital. Men, too, volunteered to relieve the critical nursing shortage, and Miss Klingman conducted a class for these men, who became volunteer orderlies, averaging many hours of volunteer service each month.

Twin City young women joined the armed services, too, as the country called on its young women to help, thereby relieving stateside servicemen for more important jobs at home and abroad. More than 100 young women went into the WACS, the WAVES, SPARS and Marine Corps Reserve.

Industry Converted to War

Neenah industry went to war, too. Ration packages, munitions cartons, bags for powder and concentrates, packaging for dehydrated foods, protective properties for medical and drug supplies, heat sealed bags, laminated cellophane, machine rubber stocks and shafts for cargo ships and PT boats, castings for machine tools, gear shift mechanisms for reversing drives on LST landing ships and tanks, map papers, camouflage papers, raincoats, gun mounts, fuses were among the articles made by Neenah employees in industries that joined the fight. Some companies made hydraulic cylinders, pilot valves, shell casings, 37 MM armor piercing shells used in P-38 fighting ships; bronze machine tool castings and bronze condenser castings for destroyer escort ships, bomber brake linings, filter waste used in oil filters on tanks, jeeps and naval vessels. The tags on machine guns, paper on which important letters and orders were written, woods used in airplanes, cargo ship doors and war housing—all were part of the war work turned out locally.

The Army-Navy "E"

It was on the morning of August 29, 1943, that D. K. Brown, President of Neenah Paper Company, opened the following letter:

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D. C.

AUGUST 28, 1943

TO THE MEN AND WOMEN
OF THE NEENAH PAPER COMPANY
NEENAH, WISCONSIN

THIS IS TO INFORM YOU THAT THE ARMY AND NAVY ARE CONFERRING UPON YOU THE ARMY-NAVY PRODUCTION AWARD FOR GREAT ACCOMPLISHMENT IN THE PRODUCTION OF MATERIALS NEEDED BY OUR ARMED FORCES.

THIS AWARD SYMBOLIZES YOUR COUNTRY'S APPRECIATION OF THE ACHIEVEMENT OF EVERY MAN AND WOMAN IN THE NEENAH PAPER COMPANY. IT CONSISTS OF A FLAG TO BE FLOWN ABOVE YOUR PLANT AND A LAPEL PIN WHICH EACH OF YOU MAY WEAR AS A SIGN OF DISTINGUISHED SERVICE TO YOUR COUNTRY.

I AM CONFIDENT THAT YOUR OUTSTANDING RECORD WILL BRING VICTORY NEARER BY INSPIRING OTHERS TO SIMILAR HIGH ACHIEVEMENT.

SINCERELY YOURS,
(signed)
ROBERT P. PATTERSON
UNDER SECRETARY OF WAR

Then came the big day, September 25, 1943, when, amid all the pomp and circumstance that could be assembled, Brigadier General J. E. Barzynski made the award to employees and management of the company—an unforgettable occasion, in which the whole community shared, vicariously. Subsequently two additional awards came to Neenah Paper Company.

Kimberly-Clark Organizes An Ordnance Department

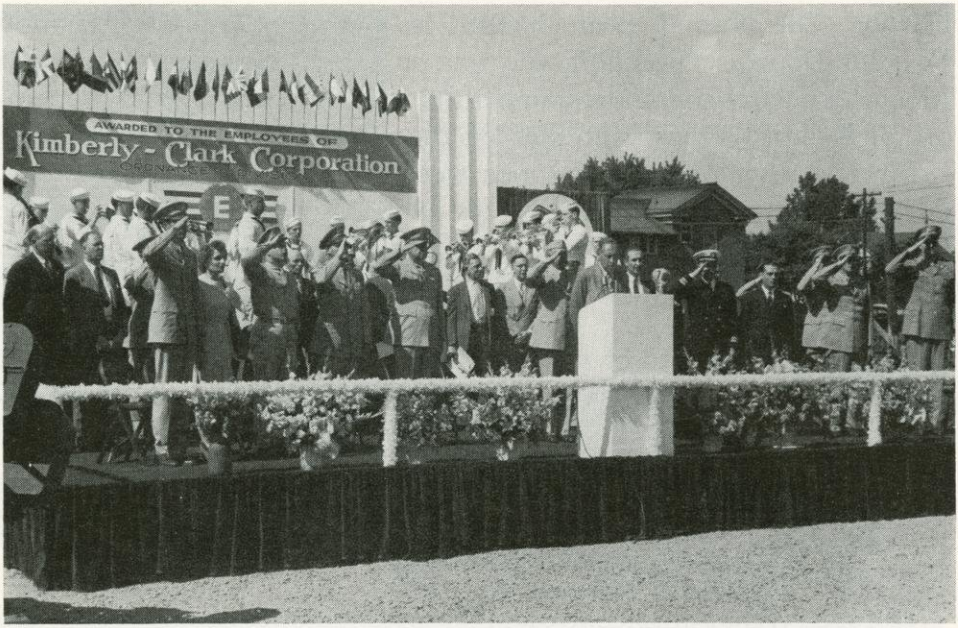
During the early months of 1942 there emerged a new invention that was destined to play an important part in America's war poten-



D. K. Brown, President of Neenah Paper Company, receives Army-Navy "E" on behalf of employees and management, September 25, 1943.

tial. A self-propelled AA gun mount, designed by W. L. Maxson Corporation, of New York City, had demonstrated its virtues at the Aberdeen Proving Grounds, whereupon the Army pressed for production. The Ordnance Department of the Army, being familiar with the reservoir of skills in Kimberly-Clark's Engineering Department, chose the local company as one of two organizations to whom were awarded prime contracts for the manufacture of this significant piece of war equipment. The Kimlark building, then housing machinery for making wallpaper, was hastily transformed into an ordnance assembly plant, tying in more than 120 subcontractors in five states. This transformation from paper to guns was referred to as one of America's most dramatic turnovers from peacetime manufacture to production of materials for war.

It was on May 28, 1942, that C. W. Nelson, Chief of Kimberly-Clark's Engineering Department, first saw this complex mechanism. Eight months later, January, 1943, the remodeled plant went into operation. More than 1,900 parts of this gun turret were produced



Kimberly-Clark Corporation receives the Army-Navy "E," Tuesday, June 20, 1944. Ernst Mahler is seen responding to the presentation.

under Kimberly-Clark supervision in many plants throughout the midwest area. Allowed tolerances for parts was so close (3/10,000 inch) that the finest quality gauges used by subcontractors had to be continuously checked with master gauges at Kimberly-Clark laboratories in Neenah.

On May 18, 1944, the Ordnance Division of the Corporation was presented with the Ordnance Banner, and on the afternoon of Tuesday, June 20, in a colorful out-of-door ceremony, the Army-Navy "E" was presented to employees of the Ordnance Division of Kimberly-Clark Corporation by General Albert J. Browning in the name of the Under Secretary of War.

Hawley-Dieckhoff Post

The Neenah and the Menasha American Legion Posts changed their names to forever honor the memory of the two Neenah-Menasha young men who died in the Japanese bombing of the fleet at Pearl

Harbor. The Neenah post changed its name to Hawley-Dieckhoff Post for Douglas Dieckhoff who was on the *Utah* that morning; the Menasha post changed the name of its unit to Lenz-Gazecki in memory of Robert Gazecki who died on the *Arizona*.

More than 38 other young men were to die before the war ended, in the Pacific, in Alaska, in the skies over Europe, in Italy and on the beaches of Normandy.

VE and VJ Days

VE Day, or the end of the war in Europe, came Tuesday, May 8, 1945, and three months later, VJ day, the end of the war in Japan, came August 14. Neenah prepared to welcome its veterans of World War II home, while its industry began the task of returning to peacetime pursuits again.

Chamber of Commerce

In 1940 Neenah formed a Chamber of Commerce of merchants and businessmen, with Otto Lieber as the first President. Within this group was to be set up a post-war planning group, following freezing of all building and expansion during the war years.

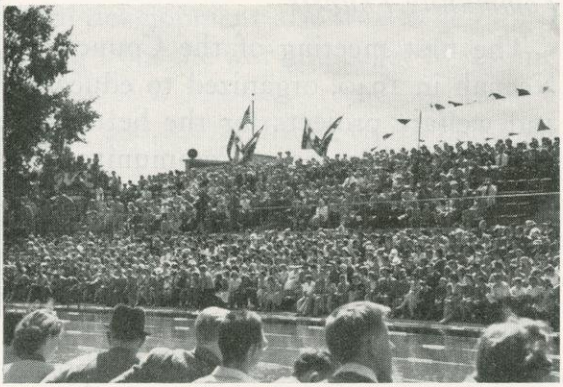
Edwin A. Kalfahs was Mayor of the city of Neenah in 1940, and was to continue in that post until he retired in 1949. 1940 also saw the appointment of Irving Stilp as Chief of Police, a post which he holds today.

New Swimming Pool

The summer of 1940 saw Neenah youngsters and even the adults take their first swim in the new Neenah swimming pool and look over the recreation building facilities on South Park Avenue. It had been made possible by generous gifts of land and money to the city from C. B. Clark and S. F. Shattuck. Within two years, on August 14, 15 and 16, the Women's National A.A.U. Outdoor Swimming and Diving Championships were held in the Olympic-size pool. More than $1,000 in net proceeds from the championships was turned over to Navy Relief. This outstanding event was brought to Neenah under the auspices of the Chamber of Commerce. Officers and Directors of the



The Women's National A.A.U. Outdoor Swimming and Diving Championships were held in Neenah's new pool August 14–16, 1942. Mayor Edwin Kalfahs is seen awarding prizes to a winner.





Neenah's Olympic-size pool completed in 1940.

Chamber at that time were: President, Walter Werner; 1st Vice President, S. N. Pickard; 2nd Vice President, Rudolph Lotz; Secretary, Don Colburn; Treasurer, Elmer Schultheis; Directors: Clark Harris, Gus Kalfahs, S. F. Shattuck, Ed Christoph, Alvin Schmutz, Otto Lieber, Vern Snyder, M. W. Schalk, and Robert Brooks.

Community Council

The first meeting of the Council of Social Agencies was held in Neenah in 1940, organized to educate and to promote sound health and welfare projects for the betterment of the citizens of the community. It became a Community Chest agency in 1951, and two years later changed its name to Neenah-Menasha Community Council.

Significant Advances

Neenah employees were going to work at the new offices and carton factory addition of Marathon Corporation on River Street, Menasha.

The same year the First Evangelical Church, on the corner of Bond Street and West Forest Avenue, was remodeled and an addition built, so that the parish was able to dedicate a "new" church upon completion of the work. This church, in 1946, was to change its name to First Evangelical United Brethren Church, as the Evangelical and United Brethren churches united.

Among the highlights of 1941 were the purchase of the assets of the Whitmore Machine and Foundry Company by the Marathon Corporation, and the establishment of it as the company's machine division; the liquidation of the debt of St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church, Division Street, Neenah; the completion of the laboratory building and water plant of the Bergstrom Paper Company, of Neenah; the organization of Martin Luther Evangelical Lutheran Church, on the northwest side of Neenah, as a mission church of Trinity Lutheran Church, located on Oak Street.

Industrial Expansion

There was some wartime industrial expansion, made possible because it contributed to the war effort. The J. W. Hewitt Machine

Company expanded its building, added new roll grinding equipment and special machine tools. The Banta Publishing Company, of Menasha, put some of its Neenah employees into jobs in the new Midway Plant, built between Menasha and Appleton.

It was to be several years later however that the real industrial expansion and building boom would get underway, and it did with the end of the war. This industrial development also was to help provide jobs for the veterans returning from the war and eager to resume their place in normal civilian life.

Neenah Paper Company built a $90,000 addition to its plant on North Commercial Street.

Lakeview Mill of Kimberly-Clark added a huge warehouse.

Neenah Milk Products started additions.

Atlas Tag added a new office unit and undertook extensive remodeling.

Bergstrom Paper was working on a new addition, and extensive alterations.

Neenah Foundry, too, completed a new addition and remodeled its office.

Theda Clark hospital's large addition and alterations to the existing building and its heating unit were to make the hospital almost a completely new unit.

Kimberly-Clark remodeled its Kimlark plant, now done with its war contracts, into an engineering center and field service machine shops, while it converted its old Neenah Mill, at the rear of its main office, into a Research Center.

One disaster must, regretfully, be noted in 1945: viz., an explosion in the power plant of the Bergstrom Paper Company that took one life and required extensive replacements.

Kimberly-Clark Expands

Some Neenah engineers of Kimberly-Clark Corporation were building a new community, Terrace Bay, Ontario, and a huge pulp mill on the north shore of Lake Superior, in Canada, to be known as the LongLac Pulp and Paper Company, Limited. Others were going to

Balfour, North Carolina, where the company had purchased a cotton textile mill for the manufacture of gauze for one of its sanitary products. Still others were traveling to another southern state, as Kimberly-Clark agreed to build and manage a new newsprint mill for a group of southern publishers, to be known as Coosa River Newsprint Company, at Coosa Pines, Alabama.

Bergstrom Keeps Growing

During the post-war years of the 1940's, Bergstrom Paper Company rebuilt its paper machines and added a hydrapulper addition to its plant, as well as announced plans to build a warehouse and finishing plant on Highway 41 in the township of Neenah.

The Dial System

The Wisconsin Telephone Company installed the dial system in Neenah, along with other cities in the Fox River Valley.

The Churches Keep Pace

Neenah members of the churches were busy with their expansion plans, too. St. Paul's English Lutheran parish organized the St. Timothy Lutheran congregation in Menasha. Martin Luther Evangelical Lutheran Church completed its church structure on Adams Street (this building now is used as a school since the construction of a permanent church in 1955–56). Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church built its church near Cecil Street, in the First Ward; and the Methodist Church observed its centennial under the direction of its pastor, the Reverend Roy Steen.

And, in 1945, the women of Neenah and Menasha joined together in the Council of Church Women, later named United Church Women, affiliating with the national organization.

Neenah Broadens Its Commercial Case

The 1940's saw activity among the business places of the city, also. The Larson & Schreiter Furniture Company was organized by two

young men who had had experience as employees of furniture companies. They opened their first store in 1940, and the following year moved into a new building about a block away, on North Commercial Street.

Schultz Brothers' Variety Store opened its doors in 1941.

Kramer Motors established its business the same year.

Postal Telegraph merged with Western Union in 1943.

Pantton's Apparel Store opened in 1944.

The Schultz Paint Store was established in 1945, in the location where Charles Sorenson had an upholstery business some 80 years before.

Lawrence K. Lambert set up a business in orthopedic appliances.

The Farleys took over the grocery store at 205 Spruce Street in 1946, formerly operated by Knutsons.

Burts' Candies, oldest manufacturing confectionery unit in Neenah, changed ownership in 1949, when William Burtsuklis sold to T. Perry Burtsuklis.

Lear Cosgrove, a veteran of the Air Force, opened a photographic studio, which later was purchased by Bud Hjerstedt, and now is known as the Munroe Studio. He was to move his studio to North Commercial Street in the fall of 1957.

Western Tire and Auto Store, Raisler's Home Equipment Store, the M. E. Manier Insurance Agency, the F. M. Sign Company, Winnebago Sporting Goods Company, Gene's Bake Shop, Kuehl's Food Company, Lintner Wholesale Foods, Rock Finance Company, R&R Yarn Shop, were all to become known in the business sections of the cities during the late 1940's.

The Thorp Finance Company joined the business places of the city in 1949, purchasing the Neenah-Menasha Finance Company on North Commercial Street at Canal Street.

Lyall Williams and Associates purchased land and buildings of the old Bergstrom Foundry, on Main Street, and remodeled a portion of it for the Valley Supply Corp.

Valley Press, a printing concern, moved into its own building on Chapman Avenue.

Industrial Scrap and Salvage—J. Stone & Son

In 1942 J. and Abe J. Stone purchased the property at 235 Main Street from Sam Pesitsky, who bought it from Mike Zizo and Jim John. Zizo and John were Serbians, who started the junk yard in the early '20s, when it was located at 204 Main Street.

Jake Stone came to Neenah in 1911 from Paris, where he was for four years after fleeing from Russia. Arriving in Neenah, he borrowed $50 from Jim Courtney and Bill Nudick and started the junk business, with working capital consisting of an old horse and wagon. Abe entered the business in 1928, after graduation from Neenah High School. Not only have they made a financial success of their business, but Abe, purchasing the former Greenwood property adjoining the Oak Street bridge, built an attractive home on the north end of the lot, overlooking the river.

The Banks

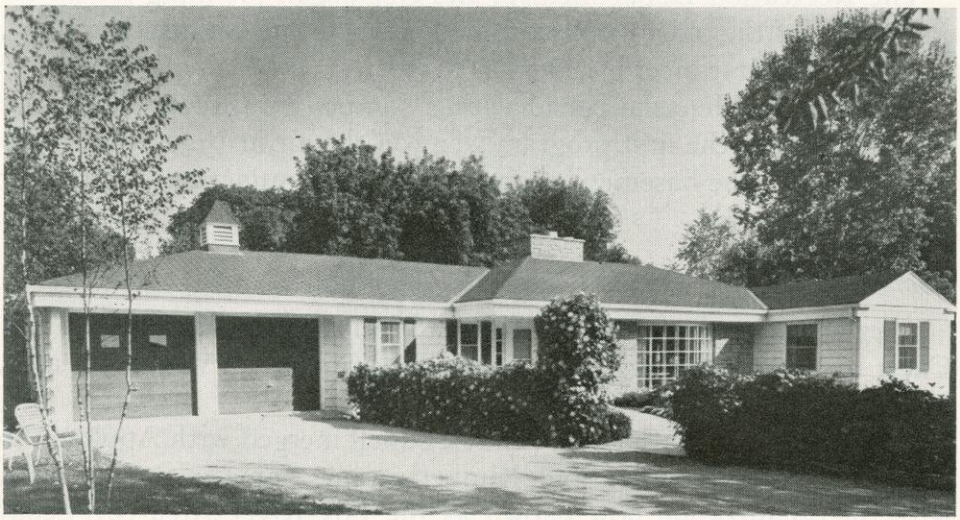
There were changes in the financial institutions also during the decade. F. E. Ballister retired in 1944 as President of the First National Bank of Neenah, after 56 years of association with the banking institution. He was replaced by J. Russell Ward. In Mr. Ward, Neenah acquired not only a banker whose training had been in the Harris Trust & Savings Bank of Chicago, but a civic-minded citizen whose influence has been felt in many enterprises of the community. Two years later this bank increased its capital to $300,000, and then, in 1949, underwent extensive remodeling, having its open house in December of 1949.

The same year that the war ended, the National Manufacturers' Bank of Neenah increased its capital and surplus to $500,000, and a year later established a Trust Department. It, too, had plans for extensive interior remodeling, which eventuated in a new structure to house its Trust Department on the adjoining lot to the east.

Civic

Within the city governmental activity during the decade, R. V. Hauser was named City Clerk to replace the late Harry S. Zemlock;





Typical Neenah homes built during the 40's and 50's.

the Council accepted funds from James C. Kimberly for the construction of a lighthouse and comfort station at Kimberly Point Park; a softball park with lights was developed south of the Recreation Building on South Park Avenue.

The Council voted to build a replica of the Doty Cabin (the original cabin, the home of the second territorial governor of Wisconsin, had fallen into decay and was beyond repair). The replica is now a museum, under the direction of Harvey R. Leaman.

The Council approved adding fluoride to the city water, following efforts of Neenah dentists who promoted the project as a safeguard of the teeth of the city's children.

The Wilson Elementary School was built on Higgins Avenue, in the First Ward, in 1949 (and a new addition completed in 1952).

Speech correction work was inaugurated in the Neenah Schools in 1947.

Golden Agers Enter the Picture

The Recreation Department of the city began planning for an organization of the older citizens to be known as the Golden Age Club, —to have its first meeting early in 1950.

The Neenah-Menasha Broadcasting Company was organized in the late 1940's, and the first program went on the air in 1947. The studio was located in the basement of the National Manufacturers' Bank for a number of years.

Community Chest—Another Twin City Venture

1947 also saw the organization of a Neenah-Menasha Community Chest to bring together under one fund campaign all welfare, health, recreation and youth organization drives.

The Neenah-Menasha Girl Scout Council merged with Appleton in 1946, and the Kaukauna and Kimberly units came in a year later, with the organization now known as the Fox River Area Girl Scout Council.

The League of Women Voters was reorganized in 1947, and later became the Neenah-Menasha unit. In 1948 the Hubbard-Peterson Post, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and its auxiliary were organized; and,

two years later, the Welfare Circle of the King's Daughters, the Zonta Club (a service club for professional women), and Job's Daughters, Bethel No. 57, were added to the organizations in the city.

The Oak Street Bridge

The 1940's, following the war, saw a startling increase in auto ownership. With nine rail crossings on the Commercial-Washington Street highway between the twin cities, it sometimes took thirty minutes to go the mile between the two business districts. Relief came in 1949, when Neenah dedicated its Oak Street bridge.

It was fifty years ago,
In the pleasant month of May,
In the beautiful Pays de Vaud
A child in its cradle lay.

And nature, the old nurse, took
The child upon her knee,
Saying: "Here is a story-book
Thy Father has written for thee."

"Come wander with me," she said,
"Into regions yet untrod;
And read what is still unread
In the manuscripts of God."

LONGFELLOW

Notes

Notes

Notes

THE 1950's

IT IS DIFFICULT, if not impossible, for us who live in the sixth decade of the 20th century to view it in perspective. Current history is making as we write. We have the feeling of being swept into the future by powerful currents flowing to us out of the past. Growth in every phase of community life during the '50s dwarfed the expansion of any previous era. The city burst its bounds to the south and west. New subdivisions and new homes sprang up as if by magic. New churches came into being, and schools so modern and attractive that oldsters wished they could revert to childhood. More streets, more sewer and water lines—the city's budget and bonded indebtedness bulged. Shopping centers in the outskirts sprang up, competing with shops in the inner city; parking meters helped, but didn't solve, the parking problem. All branches of sport leaped ahead, and industry, paced by Marathon, Kimberly-Clark, Neenah Foundry and Bergstroms, added new strength to Neenah's economic foundations and to the earning power of Twin City residents.

The mounting volume of Council business was relieved, in part, by putting the office of Mayor on a full-time basis at the spring elections of 1957. And to promote fairer, and more workable, representation on the Common Council, the city was divided into ten wards, with one representative from each ward.

Significant Industrial, Social and Professional Movement

BERGSTROM PAPER COMPANY EXPANDS. Early in this decade the Bergstrom Paper Company embarked upon a long-swing program of waste disposal destined to add many acres to Neenah's park system through fill along the south end of Little Lake Butte des Morts.

For some years this company, hemmed in at its downtown location,

contemplated expansion in the township of Neenah, and had, farsightedly, purchased acreage west of Highway 41. During 1955 a new finishing plant was begun on this property, which came into operation the following year. In 1956 ground was broken for a new office structure east of the finishing plant, which was completed and occupied in 1957.

The Jersild Knitting Company moved into its new building on First Street.

The Manhattan Rubber Company, having outgrown its quarters in the Hewitt building, built its new plant on Cecil and Matthews Streets.

A new office for Edgewater Paper Company ('52).

Warehouse on Forest Avenue built by School Stationers Corporation ('52).

Neenah Electrotype Corporation purchased its plant from Marathon ('53).

Entire interior of Hewitt Machine Company remodeled to accommodate a new Farrell roll grinder and to give space to the Stowe-Woodward Company ('54).

Gilbert Paper Company rebuilt and enlarged its #3 machine ('54).

Wisconsin Tissue Mills rebuilt its paper machine and replaced its converting and storage buildings with a new structure ('56).

After ten years with the architectural firm of O'Connor & Kilham of New York city, Frank C. Shattuck returned to his home town during the summer of 1953 and opened an office at 174 East North Water Street, under the caption Frank C. Shattuck Associates, Inc. Associated with him in this venture is Melvin F. Siewert. The firm has specialized in the design of college, church, residential and industrial building.

This decade of expansion in every phase of community life was further punctuated by the Council of Social Agencies becoming a member of the Community Chest ('51) and in 1953 broadening its name to Neenah-Menasha Community Council.

The Optimist Club is added to the roster of Twin City service and luncheon organizations.

Among the commercial and professional newcomers during this decade were:

J. J. Keller & Associates ('50)
Fritz's Barber Shop ('50)
Mace Laboratories, Inc. ('50)
Don-El Beauty Salon ('51)
Corr Opticians ('51)
Jon's Shoes ('51)
Oberreich's Camera & Card Shop ('53)
(formerly Sutter Camera Co.)
DiRenzo & Bomier, Law & Accounting ('53)
Sentry Foodliner ('53)
Schmidt Drug Store ('53)
Jeffrey's Apparel Shop ('55)
Red Owl Store on South Commercial ('57)

NEW HOME FOR VNA. Mr. J. C. Kimberly, acting for the Kimberly family, deeded the former residence property of Helen K. Stuart, on East Wisconsin Avenue, to the Visiting Nurse Association for their headquarters. Not only that, an endowment fund of $100,000 came with the gift ('56).

MARATHON EXPANDS INTO NEENAH. In 1953 this company acquired the Jersild Knitting Company building on North Commercial Street for occupancy by its engineers, and, as these lines are written, they have under lease the former Red Owl quarters next door for engineering and clerical overflow.

Needing a guest house, the large H. S. Smith residence on East Forest Avenue was purchased in 1951, and since has been used to capacity.

Coming into 1952 the corporation's new engraving plant on Western Avenue began operation. The following year ground was broken for the Neenah flexible packaging plant, now in production. This plant was constructed on a ten-acre tract south of Cecil Street, which had recently been purchased and annexed by the city of Neenah for industrial purposes.

As we move to the close of 1957, the corporation's new general offices on Neenah's south rim nears completion.

Finally, on December 3, 1957, stockholders of Marathon Corpora-

tion and American Can Company voted to merge through an interchange of common stock. Thus Marathon becomes a division of Canco. The Marathon Company, already a dominant factor in the food container field, supplements the extensive activities of Canco, which operates more than 100 plants throughout the free world.

KIMBERLY-CLARK STEPS UP THE TEMPO. In 1951 the Munising Mill was purchased. Leadership was chosen from local young men who had grown up with the corporation—notably Bill Fieweger and Bill Beerman.

Early in this decade, also, a new plant making absorbent products, such as Kleenex and Kotex, came into production at Fullerton, California—and, still later, there nears completion at New Milford, Connecticut, a duplicate of the southern California plant.

In 1951, K-C opened its Sales Promotion Center, located in the township of Menasha. This ingenious enterprise embodies all known visual and auditory aids designed to make the art of salesmanship pleasant and effective.

The following year its motel-type guest house north of its Lakeview Mill became ready for occupancy.

I.C.C. Company Moves to Neenah

The International Cellucotton Products Company, a sales organization marketing Kimberly-Clark's absorbent products, such as Kleenex and Kotex, with headquarters in Chicago, was integrated with the parent company in 1955, and the following year its personnel was moved to the Neenah area. This move coincided with the completion of Kimberly-Clark's new office north of the Lakeview Mill in Menasha township. This influx of people from the city was a major factor in Neenah's expansion during this decade.

Fox Valley's Largest Moving Operation

It will be remembered that the largest moving operation ever to take place in this Fox Valley occurred over the Labor Day weekend of 1956, when all furniture and equipment from the old Kimberly-Clark offices fronting on North Commercial Street were transplanted



A picturesque view of a portion of Kimberly-Clark's modernistic General Offices, taken from the east bank of the man-made lake, the water from which is used by the air conditioning system. This new structure is located in the township of Menasha (photo by Bill Hedrich, Hedrich-Blessing).

into the spacious and ultra-modern quarters north of the Lakeview Mill. On Tuesday morning, September 4, seven hundred people found their places in the new offices and went to work as though they had always lived there. The Research & Development Department of the corporation took over the vacated premises in the city proper. One aspect of this move, not to the liking of Neenah merchants, is the attractive cafeteria adjoining the new offices, which keeps Kimberly-Clark office people off Neenah's streets during the noon hour.

Merger of Neenah Paper Company and Kimberly-Clark Corporation

For many years there had been a neighborly relationship between Kimberly-Clark and Neenah Paper Company due to certain key personalities with stock interest in both companies. As Kimberly-Clark had already entered the writing paper field through its Munising Mill, there appeared to be a mutual advantage through merger of the two companies. This was effected during 1956. Neenah Paper Company thereupon became a division of Kimberly-Clark.

Neenah's Financial Strength

The strong position of all of Neenah's financial institutions reflects the economic well-being of the citizenry:

Twin City Savings & Loan Assn. shows assets of	$12,770,267.34	('57)
First National Bank's deposits at close of '57—	21,064,359.96	('57)
In 1952 the bank remodeled its building to the south, providing a service center for installment and mortgage loans and a drive-in window.		
Total assets of all Neenah credit unions—	2,224,321.00	('56)
National Manufacturers' Bank shows deposits of—	16,510,633.16	('57)
In 1952 this bank built its addition to the east to provide for a growing Trust Dept. and remodeled its commercial banking quarters, including auto window and adequate space for its accounting department, also attractive upstairs facilities for the comfort and enjoyment of employees.		

Interest in City and Area Planning

For nine years prior to 1954 a committee composed of citizens from our Twin Cities labored to encourage coordinated planning of the cities and townships of Neenah and Menasha. The committee raised its own funds and employed technical talent which was put at the service of town boards and city councils. Some good results were achieved, such as solution of the street problem involving Neenah's First Street, Menasha's Washington and Tayco Streets, and the St. Patrick's Church corner.

In the main, however, the part-time councils and town boards were too busy with the pressures of today to give thought or time to the problems of tomorrow. On July 12, 1954, in a letter signed by Co-Chairmen J. M. Wheeler and S. F. Shattuck, the Twin City Planning Committee resigned.

In its letter of resignation the committee recommended a city manager form of administration, or its equivalent. The committee also expressed the hope that a new approach might be found to the pressing need for city and area planning. This need was recognized on a broader front two years later.

As we eased into this decade, the migration of people from the cities into the adjacent rural areas gathered momentum. Throughout

the Fox River Valley, from the township of Neenah to the township of Kaukauna, villages, townships and cities were overlapping. School problems, questions raised by antiquated tax laws, threats to the downtown commercial areas, and vexing traffic and parking problems, together with a rapidly increasing population (105,000 as estimated by the *Appleton Post Crescent*) all conspired to prompt the organization of the Fox Valley Regional Planning Commission. This much-needed agency came into being at a meeting in Kaukauna on May 1, 1956. The cities of Neenah and Menasha were charter members. It is the hope of the proponents of this organization that life for the generations to follow may be made more livable than it would be if left to Topsy-like or happenstance growth.

Neenah Police Boat

During the '40s, yachting, both power and sail, was on the increase. Many participants were inexperienced, and the phones of power boat owners rang at all hours of the night for help in finding or rescuing members of some family who were on the lake after dark. This led our nautically-minded Police Chief to induce the city fathers to take over a power boat, formerly owned by W. C. Wing, to be used by the department for patrolling races and for night emergency service.

In 1950 a group of citizens, led by J. C. Kimberly, provided the present well-equipped and tailor-made craft, which the Chief and his men have used to great advantage.

The city provides a minimum amount for gas and oil.

The men of the Police Department give their services, day or night, without extra pay, not only in rescue work, but in maintenance of the craft. Thus far the taxing units bordering the lake, such as Townships of Neenah, and Oshkosh and Calumet County, have declined to compensate the Neenah Department for service to their citizens. That declination has not deterred the personnel of the Neenah Department. They continue to go anywhere, anytime that anyone is in trouble.

This may be the time and place to say in behalf of all thoughtful citizens that one will search the nation for a more courteous and efficient police force. How Chief Stilp has maintained such outstanding

service, housed as his department is, in a hallway, is something only he can explain.

Neenah's Venetian Parade

Police Chief Irving Stilp is responsible for proposing and staging an event in 1954 which bids fair to become an annual institution, viz., the Venetian Parade on July 4. Twenty thousand people lined Neenah's waterway for the initial performance. This colorful event capitalizes on Neenah's distinctive river and park setting, together with the vast increase in small boat ownership. Two years later ('56) the Jaycees took over responsibility for continuance of the custom.

Upsurge of Power Boating

The Tri-City Boating Club, led by Lawrence Driscoll, Frank Sharpless, Fred Grupe and Verndyne Stelow, came into existence in 1954. This club, composed of families, opened the door to enjoyment of Winnebagoland's historic waterways by an enlarged circle of people of all ages. To the development and refinement of the outboard motor must go the credit for increase in this wholesome out-of-door sport.

New Park Pavilion

The antiquated and outmoded dance hall and outbuildings in Riverside Park finally disappeared in favor of the artistic and usable new park pavilion ('56), placed east of the drive at the center of the park area.

The John N. Bergstrom Art Center and Museum

It was during the decade of the '50s that both Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Bergstrom died (he in 1951 and she in 1958). Under the will of John N. Bergstrom, their residence property at 165 North Park Avenue became the property of the City of Neenah, subject to certain conditions, all of which have been fulfilled. When Mrs. Bergstrom died in February, 1958, the city, by ordinance, dedicated the property for use as an Art Center and Museum, in accordance with the wishes and direc-

tion of the donors. The full story of this valuable acquisition to the life of Neenah is told in Part II.

After ten years of service as Secretary of the Neenah-Menasha Chamber of Commerce, Don Colburn resigns to re-enter private business. In due time John Konrad was chosen to succeed him ('56).

Throughout this decade Neenah's able and progressive school board kept one step ahead of mounting school population through construction of the Hoover School, the classroom addition to the high school ('53), the big gymnasium ('55), and the Taft School in the rapidly-growing seventh ward in September, 1957. Nor is the project of home-bound instruction, instituted in 1952, to be forgotten.

The Churches

The churches, without which Neenah would be a spiritual wilderness, carry their share of the responsibility for maintaining Neenah as a good place in which to live and work.

St. Margaret Mary builds its parochial school, Sisters' Convent and gymnasium ('51).

Trinity Lutheran razes its old school building on Oak Street and builds a modern structure on the site ('51). At this writing, plans are being drawn for a new church to be built on the site of the present church.

The Presbyterians dedicate their educational wing, chapel and Fellowship Hall ('51) and the new sanctuary in October, 1954.

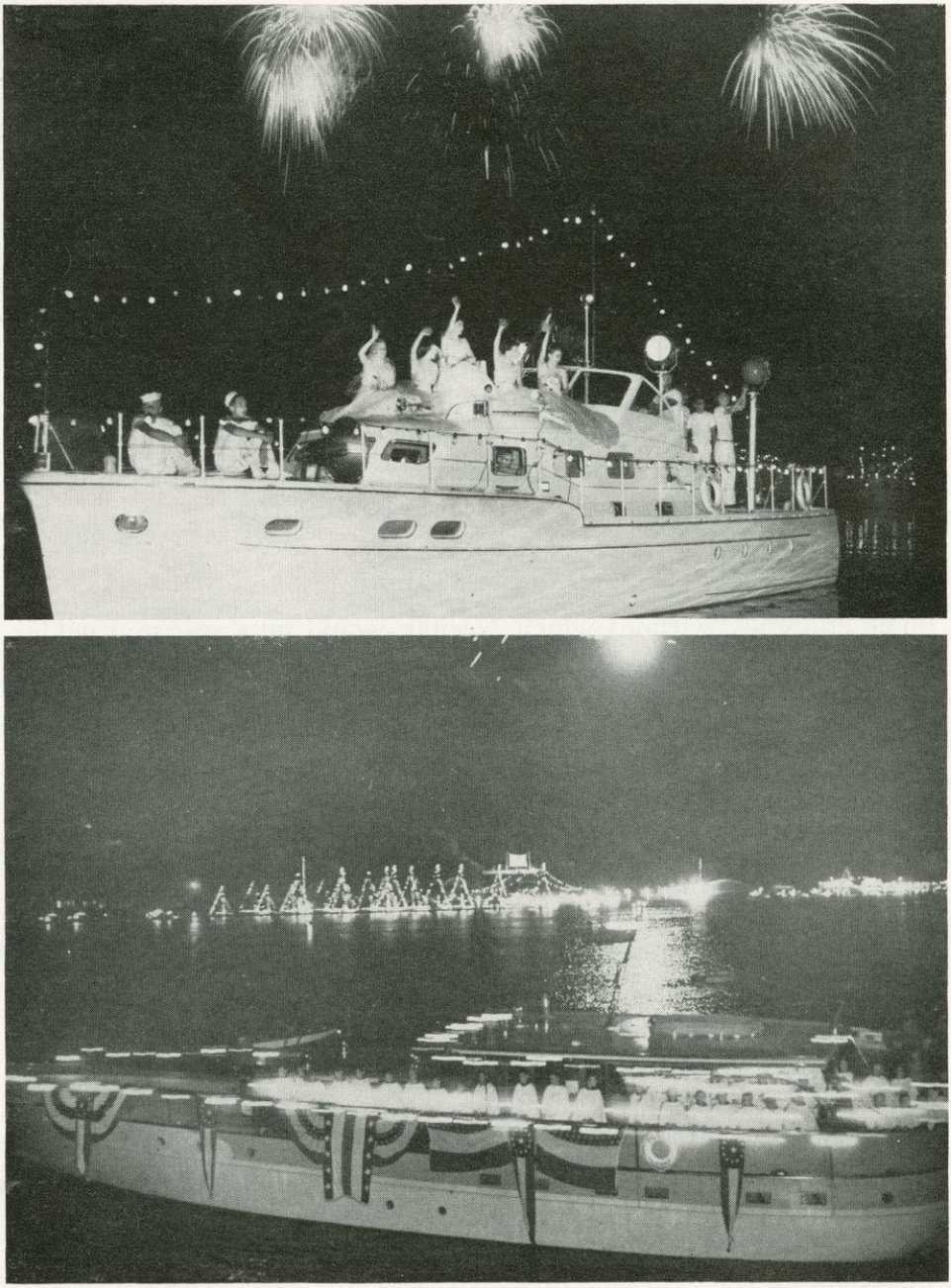
First Church of Christ Scientist opens a reading room at 107 Church Street ('54).

Calvary Baptist Church purchases the vacated former home of Our Savior's Lutheran Church ('55).

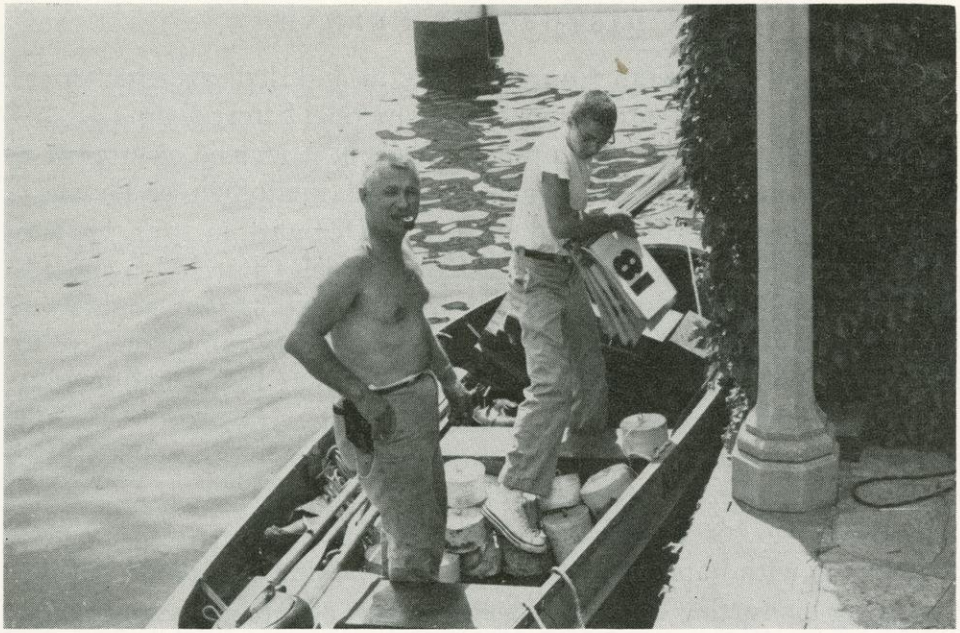
Martin Luther Evangelical Lutheran Church dedicates its new church edifice, converting its former church building into a school ('56).

First Church of Christ Scientist occupies its new red brick house of worship on East Wisconsin Avenue ('56).

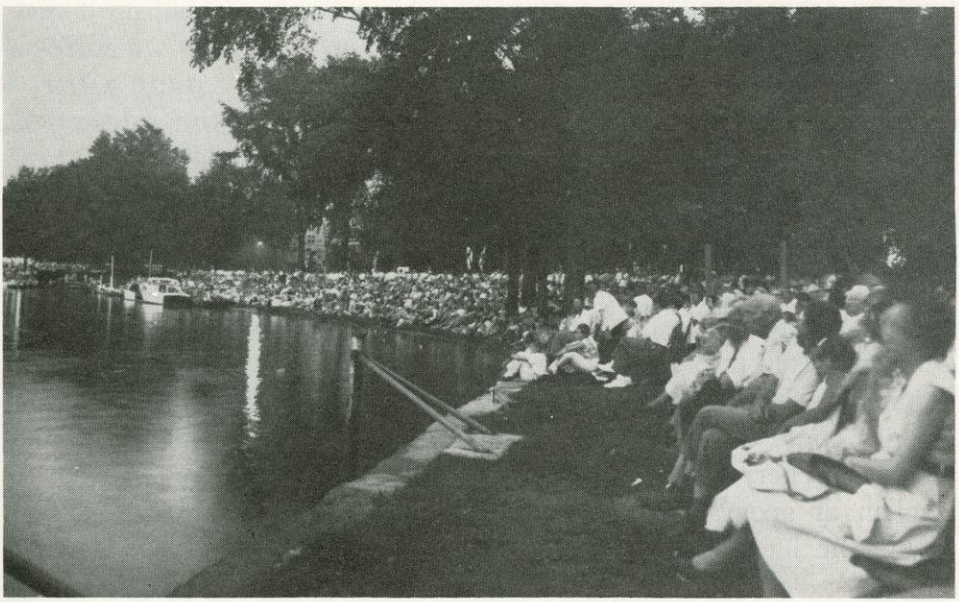
The enlarged and remodeled church of St. Paul's English Evangelical Lutheran congregation was dedicated and reoccupied ('56).



Glimpses of the first "Venetian Night," staged and organized by Chief Stilp and members of the Neenah Police Force—July 4, 1954. In the upper photo, the Queen and her Court of Honor wave to the crowd from the police boat.



Chief Stilp was found wherever work was the hardest in preparation for "Venetian Night."



One section of the huge audience lining Neenah's waterway for "Venetian Night."

Our Savior's Lutheran Church moves in and dedicates its artistic and roomy new structure on South Commercial Street ('56).

Apropos of Our Savior's Lutheran Church, it will be of interest to recall the pastorate of Niels Thomsen, grandfather of Oliver Thomsen.

Niels Thomsen arrived in America from Denmark in 1871. He was, so Oliver says, the first minister in "the Danish-Church" to come to this country. After a rough time in a congregation that couldn't or wouldn't pay him enough to exist on, he tried farming, then to an unhappy pastorate in Indianapolis and from there to Neenah in 1874.

Neenah looked good to him. To a friend he wrote, "Hurrah, now bring forth all your additions to our hymnal book—now we will need them—the church is continually filled with people."

Referring to his first congregational meeting, he writes, "No one was sitting with hats on, and no one was smoking tobacco."

Among his further comments was this gem: "A few days ago I conducted a queer funeral service. The dead man had been an atheist. He drank himself to death. Most of the atheists attended the funeral (and no others) and their sorrow was, because they could no longer, as they had done, drink on his expense. The dead man's coffin was placed in the town's biggest saloon, and astonishing quite a few, I entered the saloon, dressed in clerical vestment. The funeral sermon, however, was preached at the grave."

C. F. Hedges

On August 9, 1957, Mr. C. F. Hedges departed this life.

For twenty-nine years Clare Hedges was Superintendent of Schools. During the ten prior years, he taught science, was Assistant Principal, then Principal of the High School. An associate said of him that Mr. Hedges could enter any classroom at Neenah High in the absence of the teacher, and take over. "It might be math or science, or English or geography;—he stepped in and handled the session as though he had taught it yesterday and was going to be there tomorrow."

In retrospect we remember the man's gentleness and his delicate sense of fairness. He induced in his teachers and work staff a loyalty,

deep and firm, that persisted long after severance of relations with Neenah's schools.

Then came the age of retirement, and finally his passing.

Of this Ed Cochrane wrote:

"We will miss his going by with his dogs. The slight figure, huddled into heavy winter cap and coat on a wintry day, with a shepherd and a nondescript dog, trudging through the snow. He didn't just 'walk the dog' as householders know the term. He took long tours in the high school area and beyond the city limits.

"We will miss a living example of a man whom we always felt should have been placed in a publicly useful niche in his retired years.

"C. F. Hedges left his blaze marks deep on the 'trees' of our community, and somehow they will always be there to compass the trail for many who were privileged to be his students or his friends."

Twin City Relationships

In view of discussions in the *News Record* during the latter half of 1957 relative to a common city hall and the possibility of uniting the Twin Cities, it seemed pertinent to bring to the fore an all-out effort in this direction during the last decade of the 19th century.

Mayhew Mott, out of his long memory, contributes this:

"I was told by Silas Bullard along about the first of this century that an effort had been made, not long before I had the talk with him, that a movement had been started to unite Neenah and Menasha into one city. He said that a committee was formed by the city councils of the two cities, who met and considered the proposition and ironed out all of the problems (bond issues, contributions to projects like the Menasha library, etc., conditions attached to legacies to the cities, etc.) and that the committee, consisting of some twenty members, was unanimously in favor of the united city. The only way they could unite was for one of the cities to annex the other, which involved the annexed city giving up its name. Neither side would consent to being the annexed territory. It is my understanding that this committee functioned sometime in the 1890's. Silas Bullard was one of the committee."

Our Shrinking Dollar

No phase of our history since the turn of the century deserves more serious thought from our generation than the shrinking value of our dollar and what can be done about it. We would indeed be remiss if we should close this summary of the '50s without registering what is undoubtedly one of the most dangerous problems of our time.

The *U. S. News & World Report* pictures the downward slide of dollar value since 1939.

In 1939, prior to World War II, the dollar may be said to have been worth— 100¢

From 1939 to 1945, under the impact of all-out war and unrestrained spending, the dollar shrank from 100¢ to— 77.2¢
(or a shrinkage of 22.8¢)

During the twelve years between January 1, 1946, and January 1, 1958, the wage-cost-price spiral, along with other influences, sent the dollar down to— 48.8¢
(This was at the rate of between 2 and 3¢ per year.)

Now we look forward to celebrating Neenah's 100th birthday in 1973 (15 years away). With what kind of dollars will that event be recognized?

Suppose the wage-cost-price spiral continues unchecked for the next 15 years. Assume also that the purchasing power of the dollar is driven down at the rate of only 1½¢ per year; that would spell an anniversary celebration in 1973 with dollars worth— 26¢

Or, if the downward creep were to continue at the rate of 2¢ per year, we'll celebrate with dollars shrunk to— 18¢

Increasing numbers of older people and others on fixed incomes look with dismay on a trend that spells for them impossible living costs. While this is not the place to discuss economics, as such, it is pertinent to bring to view some of the causes of the creeping inflation that enmeshes us, such as big government, all-out defense spending, fiat money (paper currency issued by government without guaranty of redemption), and the wage-cost-price spiral.

We, as private citizens, can do little about the control of government spending except to back such agencies as the Committee for the Hoover Report, dedicated to economy in government.

There is, however, one sector of our citizenry that is big enough and strong enough to attack the inflation problem at its heart, viz: labor unions.

Coupled with this is the historical fact that when wartime restraints were removed, wage demands and higher costs marched upward in lock step.

During the '80s, '90s and first decade of this century, corporations were in the driver's seat. They abused their power. It was existence of too much power in the hands of business leaders of that day that led to enactment of the anti-trust laws. Today, the shoe is on the other foot. Unions, grown big, wealthy and politically powerful now dominate the industrial life of America.

As always in a democracy, great financial and political power is accompanied by corresponding social obligations. The question now asked is whether there is top leadership in organized labor with wisdom, patriotism and guts enough to measure up to the total social responsibility that is theirs.

Or, in the public interest, must governmental action reduce and control the exercise of union power as it did half a century ago in the case of the corporations?

Could Become A Grass Roots Movement

Evidence is not lacking that American men and women constituting the body of unions, if given opportunity for self expression, are capable of courageous, even sacrificial action, that might well become contagious. For instance, this from Detroit, under dateline of January 2, 1958:

"The most amazing thing that's happened to us in the last 30 years," is the way Edward J. Nowark, Detroit's assistant budget director, put it. He was referring to a letter from the Michigan Sewage Treatment Employes Union, representing about 200 city employes, which said, "Because of the steady mounting of the nationwide spiral of inflation, we feel that any direct pay raises as such will only contribute to the already alarming inflationary trend, and will ultimately result in greater loss than gain. Therefore, for the fiscal year of 1958–59, we are foregoing any request for a direct pay raise."

Richard J. Gray, President of the Building Trades Department, at the AFL-CIO Convention in December, 1957, was clear-eyed when he proposed a year's pay freeze to halt inflation and spur construction, predicting that the nineteen construction unions would endorse his plea. Gray's proposal made headlines on the front page of the *New York Times*. His fellow officials buried his proposal in ridicule. Mr. Gray recognized the sober fact that only by a decisive action that cuts squarely across the wage-cost-price trend can the spiral be jolted.

Ralph McGill, Editor of the *Atlanta Constitution*, widely known for his wise comment on the American scene, slips in this observation: "It would make sense if the nation should seem to be heading into a long strike-bound period over wages, to freeze prices and wages. If costs and wages go up, then prices will mount, and the recession will deepen."

From the viewpoint of an interested observer of current history, it would seem that the psychological moment is here for a fresh look. We have arrived at 1958 with industry on a plateau—slackened sales, sharpened competition, lower earnings, and, in many industries short running. Has not the time arrived for a change of pace?

Harold B. Wess, in *Human Events* of July, 1957, suggests the tragic alternative: "Unless the major economic trend of the last twenty-five years in this country is reversed, the only true free enterprise system in the world will bleed itself to death."

When Neenah becomes 100 years old on March 13, 1973, and takes a backward look at the critical fifteen years between then and now, what shall the verdict be?

Local Unions and Local Leadership

Returning to the Twin City scene, we find a situation that is typical of many another smaller community where relationships between people in the mills and people in the management have been cordial and cooperative over a long span of years. Generations of young people have grown up in an atmosphere of industrial peace, friendliness and understanding. It was out of this atmosphere that the Neenah-Menasha Trades and Labor Council, back in 1951, staged the first of a series of Labor-Management Dinners. This gesture reveals not only a civic-minded leadership, but points up the quality and character of local union membership.

And, in this connection, be it remembered that leaders of this Council, including John Arnold, Ebbe Berg, and John Pawlowski, played a strong hand in establishing the Community Chest of Neenah-Menasha. (S.F.S.)

Neenah's Population 17,000

As we leave the year 1957 to history, we would record that during 1957 Neenah's population crossed the 17,000 mark.

To Summarize

We who have been privileged to work on this historical project emerge with a fresh appreciation of what it takes to develop a community in which its people live in reasonable comfort, and enjoy opportunities for mental, physical, social and spiritual satisfactions. Threading our way across the eighty years since 1878 gives us a keen sense of indebtedness to the generations that have gone before. It is upon their foundation of thought and effort that we have builded.

The repetitive references in the decade write-ups to buildings, corporations, societies, churches, financial institutions and dollar values are oppressive. These things are important, but they are so impersonal. It is the faith and the vision, the initiative and persistence of *individual people* that have made these institutions and services what they are and that have given to Neenah its quality and character.

Material things pass away. Spiritual values—ideals, civic pride, faith and love persist from generation to generation, and determine the tone of a community.

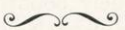
As one traces the ebb and flow of life through these eight decades, we find ourselves saying with the Psalmist: "Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain."

Notes

Notes

Notes

PART II



Part II of this volume contains original material that came to our committee from many organizations and individuals of our community over a thirty-month period, from mid-1955 to December, 1957.

The reader will find his way to this source material through the Table of Contents on pages 165 to 168.

"May I underline the belief that each of us is a trustee of the past—that we have the important task of living up to our inheritance and adding something to it.

"Let us always remember that there was a time in this country when even a whole day of life was not taken for granted; much less water, shelter, and a safe night's sleep. Now by reason of this uniquely bountiful heritage, we take for granted—too much. We assume, we expect, we insist. Nowhere else in the world is this possible.

"It is not to guarantee us ice cream and television that women bore children under Indian attack—that they were partners in the great pioneering sweep to the West.

" . . . It is perhaps good for us to remember what our simple right to vote cost other human beings. Perhaps they had no thought for us; they were concerned with making *their* America. But what they made is what we have.

"To take this heritage unthinkingly for granted is a first step to losing it.

"Tomorrow can be kept bright and shining, I firmly believe, only through the same faith and courage, the hard work and common sense, the positive Americanism we build into today."

MRS. RUTH DEYOUNG KOHLER, *given before the American Association of Museums on May 30, 1952*

CONTENTS

PART II

BANKS AND FINANCIAL 169

First National Bank of Neenah——National Manufacturers' Bank——Neenah State Bank——Twin City Savings and Loan Association——Jewelers Mutual Insurance Company——Credit Bureau——Credit Unions——Neenah-Menasha Finance Company (Thorp Finance)——Rock Finance Company

BLACKSMITHING 183

Johnson & Myhre

BOYHOOD DAYS IN NEENAH—*by Kendrick Kimball* 184

CEMETERIES 189

Oak Hill——Memorial Park

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE 191

Junior Chamber

CHURCHES 194

Assembly of God Pentecostal——Calvary Baptist Church——Church of Christ——First Church of Christ Scientist——First Evangelical United Brethren Church——First Methodist Church——First Presbyterian Church——Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church——Immanuel's Evangelical and Reformed Church——Martin Luther Evangelical Lutheran Church——Our Savior's Lutheran Church——St. Margaret-Mary's Catholic Church——St. Patrick's Catholic Church——St. Paul's English Evangelical Lutheran Church (St. Mark's Mission Church)——St. Thomas Episcopal Church——Seventh Day Adventist Church——Trinity Lutheran Church——Universalist Church——Welsh Churches——Whiting Memorial Baptist Church

CITY ADMINISTRATION 213

Mayors Serving City——City Clerks Serving City——Comparative Population, Assessed Valuation and Tax Levy Figures——Fire Department——Police Department

COMMERCIAL 220

COMMUNICATIONS 222
Telegraph, telephone, radio, TV

COMMUNITY CHEST 227

COMMUNITY COUNCIL 229

DANA CLUB HALL 230

DENTAL PROFESSION 231

DOTY CABIN 234

ELECTRIC LIGHT, ELECTRIC POWER & INTERURBAN SERVICE ... 236

FAMILY SERVICE 240

FRATERNAL AND SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS 242
A.A.U.W.——American Legion—Hawley-Dieckhoff Post No. 33——American Legion Auxiliary to Hawley-Dieckhoff Post No. 33——Business and Professional Women's Club——Danish Brotherhood Lodge——Daughters of American Revolution——Delphian Society——Disabled American Veterans——Eclectic Reading Circle——Economics Club——Elks Lodge No. 676——Emergency Society——Equitable Reserve Association——Equitable Reserve Association Neenah Assembly No. 1——Ex Libris Club——Germania Benevolent Society——Golden Age Club——H. J. Lewis Woman's Relief Corps——Homemaker's Club——Job's Daughters Bethel #57——Kings' Daughters——Kings' Daughters and Sons, Welfare Circle——Kiwanis Club——Knights of Columbus——Knights of Pythias, Neenah Lodge No. 80——Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic——League of Women Voters——Lions Club——Masons, Elisha Kent Kane Lodge; Royal Arch Masons; Twin Cities Commandery-Knights Templar; Eastern Star; Beauceant——Menasha Garden Club——Neenah Club——Oddfellowship——Betty Rebekah Lodge #212——Optimist Club——Rotary Club——Royal Neighbors of America, Doty Camp, No. 6341—Sarah Doty Study Club——United Church Women——Veterans of Foreign Wars, Hubbard-Peterson Post 7990——Veterans of Foreign Wars' Auxiliary of Hubbard-Peterson Post 7990——Who's New Club——Women's Christian Union——Women's Tuesday Club——Y. T. and F. Club——Zonta Club

HOSPITAL—THEDA CLARK MEMORIAL 292

ICE BUSINESS 295

INDUSTRIAL 296

Atlas Tag Company——Banta, George, Company, Inc.——Bergstrom Foundry——Bergstrom Paper Company——Burstein, Meyer, & Sons ——Central Paper Company——Edgewater Paper Company——Galloway Company——Gilbert Paper Company——Hardwood Products Corporation——Hewitt, J. W., Machine Company——Hoerning's Concrete Products——Jersild Knitting Corporation——Kimberly-Clark Corporation——Manhattan Rubber Manufacturing Company——Marathon Corporation (Marathon-Canco.)——Menasha Wooden Ware Corporation——Neenah Electrotype Corporation——Neenah Foundry Company——Neenah Paper Company——School Stationers Corporation——Strange, John, Carton Company——Strange, John Paper Company——Valley Press, Inc.——Whiting, George A., Paper Company——Wisconsin Tissue Mills

JOURNALISM 339

LABOR MOVEMENT 344

LEGAL PROFESSION 352

LIBRARY 358

MEDICAL PROFESSION 361

American Academy of General Practice

MILITARY 368

MUSEUM (Bergstrom) 373

PARKS, PLAYGROUNDS, RECREATION PROGRAM, GOLF CLUBS ... 376

Columbian Park——Riverside Park——Shattuck Park——Doty Park ——Kimberly Point Park——Water Street Area——Washington Park ——High School Athletic Field——Laudan Fields——Park Statistics ——Recreation (Swimming Pool, Recreation Building, Appointment of Director, etc.)——Golf Clubs

PLANNING 386

POST OFFICE 389

RED CROSS 391

SCHOOLS 394

Establishment of System—Officials and Buildings——Naming of School

Buildings——Superintendency——First High School Graduates—Forming of Kindergarten——Elementary Supervisor——Auxiliary Organization and Interests (Special Education, Neenah-Menasha Association for Retarded Children, School Nurse and Health Protection)——Aims——Music Program——Art——Home Economics—Vocational School——School Population Soars——Twenty-five year teachers——School Board——High School Organizations (school papers, clubs, honor society)——Athletics——Neenah Teachers' Association——High School Alumni Association——Parent-Teacher Association——"A City Father Talks"——School Strike——Parochial Schools (St. Margaret-Mary's School, Trinity Lutheran School, Martin Luther School)

TRANSPORTATION 424

Railroads (C&NW, Soo Line, Wisconsin Central, Milwaukee & Northern, Wisconsin & Northern)——Air Travel (North Central)

UTILITIES, PUBLIC 430

Water System——Sewer System

VISITING NURSE ASSOCIATION 435

VNA Auxiliary

WINNEBAGO PLAYERS 439

(Community Drama Groups)

YACHTING 440

Winnebagoland Marathon——Tri-City Boating Club

YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION 447

(The Young Women's Club)

YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS 451

Boys' Brigade——Boy Scouting——Girl Scouting

BANKS AND FINANCIAL

COMPILED BY AMBROSE OWEN

The First National Bank of Neenah

THE Bank of Neenah, organized in 1861 by David Smith and Robert Shiells, had obtained a National Bank Charter in 1865 and became the National Bank of Neenah. Officers and Directors as of January 1, 1878, were: Henry Hewitt, Sr., President; Robert Shiells, Cashier; J. A. Kimberly, John R. Davis and Havilah Babcock.

On Sunday morning, January 14, 1883, the banking office was totally destroyed by fire. The bank opened for business the next morning as usual (Monday) in the Kimberly-Clark Company's office. This fire destroyed the buildings known as the "Pettibone Block," in which the bank was located, on the same corner as the present bank building.



First National Bank

In January of 1886 Henry Hewitt, Sr., retired as President and was succeeded by Robert Shiells. J. A. Kimberly was elected Vice President and Alex McNaughton, Cashier.

In 1888 Mr. McNaughton resigned as Cashier to enter the paper business, and John P. Shiells was elected to the position of Cashier. A special meeting of the stockholders was called in August of 1905, and it was voted to extend the charter and to change the name of the institution to The First National Bank of Neenah. The Capital was also increased to $100,000. In October of the same year Robert Shiells retired as a Director and President of the bank. The new officers were: J. A. Kimberly, President; John P. Shiells, Vice President; and F. E. Ballister, Cashier. Deposits of the bank were now $663,360.00, and total assets $860,301.47.

The Capital of the bank was increased to $125,000 in March of 1913, and the following year the bank became a member of the newly-established Federal Reserve System.

J. A. Kimberly was elected Chairman of the Board in January of 1920. F. E. Ballister was elected President; C. A. Babcock, Vice President; and F. R. Schallert, Cashier. Plans were made for a new bank building on the same location, and the Surplus account increased to $125,000. The new building became a reality and was occupied in January of 1921. While the new building was being constructed, the bank rented quarters in the old Russell House, and occupied space on almost the exact spot where the bank started business in 1861, before moving to its present location about 1865. (The Russell House, as many present residents will remember, disappeared when the National Manufacturers' Bank bought the property in 1922.)

John W. Powers became Cashier of the bank in 1923 and served in that capacity until his death in 1932. Deposits of the bank were now in excess of $1,800,000 and total assets were well over $2,000,000.

Bank failures had become common in the agricultural states as early as 1921. During the period 1921–1933, over two thousand national banks and nearly 10,000 state banks failed. Upon the inauguration of F. D. Roosevelt as President of the United States on March 4, 1933, one of his first acts was to close every bank, both state and national, in the United States. After a period of approximately two

weeks, the Comptroller of the Currency allowed the stronger banks to re-open and conduct business as usual. The remaining banks were permitted to re-open at later dates on a restricted basis and many banks were liquidated or merged with the stronger ones. Neenah's two National Banks were among the first to re-open on a "business-as-usual" basis. The Neenah State Bank re-opened on a restricted basis and later decided to liquidate. All depositors were eventually paid in full.

In September of 1936 The First National Bank observed its 75th anniversary. Deposits were then $2,605,717.05.

In January of 1944, F. E. Ballister retired as President and Director, after 56 years of association with the bank. The new officers were: J. Russell Ward, President; John N. Bergstrom, Vice President; Ambrose Owen, Vice President and Cashier; Elmer J. Schultheis, Asst. Vice President; Einar Jorgensen, Asst. Cashier. Two years later the Capital of the bank was increased to $300,000, and the Surplus account also increased to $300,000.

The interior of the bank building was remodeled in 1949, and on December 19 of that year the public was invited to an "Open House." Deposits had grown to nearly $15,000,000. Three years later additional space was needed, and the building adjoining the bank on the south was completely remodeled and became a part of the banking facilities. This addition provided an Auto Window and a Service Center where the installment loan and mortgage loan departments were located.

In April of 1953 the Surplus account was increased to $500,000. By December 31, 1956, deposits had grown to $20,798,403.43 and total assets were $22,238,409.87. At the annual stockholders meeting held in January of 1957, it was voted to increase the Capital of the bank to accommodate the increased and growing volume of business. The shareholders approved a stock split of five shares for each outstanding share by changing the par value from $100.00 per share to $20.00 per share. This action was followed by a 33⅓% stock dividend and the sale of an additional five thousand shares of $20.00 par value stock. After giving effect to these changes, the Capital account of The First National Bank of Neenah on June 30, 1957, was: Capital, $500,000,

Surplus $500,000, Undivided Profits, $457,775.48, General Contingency Reserve $100,000.

Directors 1865–1956

P C	Robert Shiells	1861–1905		D. K. Brown	1927–
P	Henry Hewitt, Sr.	1865–1888		J. W. Bergstrom	1928–1948
	A. W. Patton	1865–1867		Jas. W. Bergstrom	1928–1932
	Alexander Syme	1865–1866		J. C. Kimberly	1931–1940
P CHM	J. A. Kimberly	1865–1929		Ernst Mahler	1931–
	Edward Smith	1866–1869		John R. Kimberly	1940–
	Havilah Babcock	1869–1905		Cola G. Parker	1943–
	John R. Davis	1867–1885	P	J. Russell Ward	1943–
	D. L. Kimberly	1885–1892		C. H. Sage	1944–
C	John P. Shiells	1888–1920		John W. O'Leary	1944–
	Francis J. Kimberly	1893–1895		J. Dudleigh Young	1944–
	D. W. Bergstrom	1895–1928		N. H. Bergstrom	1948–
	Geo. O. Bergstrom	1895–1928	C	Ambrose Owen	1948–
P C	F. E. Ballister	1905–1944		C. W. Sawyer	1949–1951
	F. J. Sensenbrenner	1905–1952		Wm. L. Keady	1951–1952
	C. A. Babcock	1905–1940		J. Leslie Sensen-brenner	1952–
	H. K. Babcock	1913–1930		John Stevens, Jr.	1953–
	H. F. Anspach	1920–1931		John B. Catlin	1955–
	Gustav Kalfahs	1920–1923		Leo O. Schubart	1955–
	C. B. Clark	1920–1949		William R. Kellett	1956–
	Geo. A. Jagerson	1920–1934			

P—Served as President, C—Served as Cashier, CHM—Served as Chairman.

Presidents

Henry Hewitt, Sr.	1865–1886	J. A. Kimberly	1905–1920
Robert Shiells	1886–1905	F. E. Ballister	1920–1944
		J. Russell Ward	1944–

Cashiers

Robert Shiells	1861–1886	John W. Powers	1922–1932
Alex McNaughton	1886–1888	Adolph Hennig	1932–1942
John P. Shiells	1888–1905	Ambrose Owen	1942–1956
F. E. Ballister	1905–1920	Herbert H. Thermansen	1956–
F. R. Schallert	1920–1921		
A. R. Dahms	1921–1922		

Present Officers: J. Russell Ward, President; Ambrose Owen, Executive Vice President; Elmer J. Schultheis, Vice President; Paul N. Dawson, Vice President; Herbert H. Thermansen, Cashier; Harry

E. Neubauer, Assistant Vice President; Herbert W. Kruse, Assistant Vice President; Raymond A. Pederson, Assistant Cashier; Beulah M. Robb, Assistant Cashier.

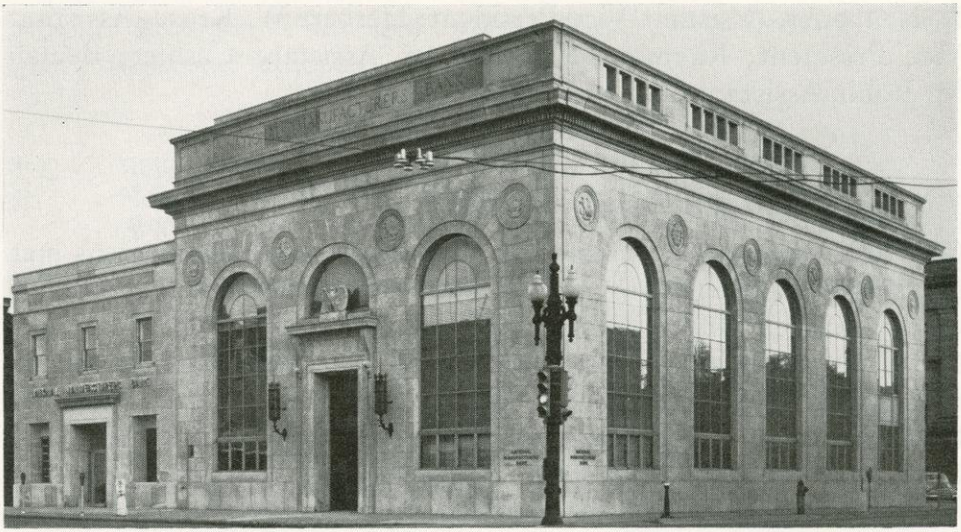
The National Manufacturers' Bank

On the evening of November 28, 1881, a group of local citizens met at the Russell House to organize a new bank. Capital stock of $65,000 was subscribed, and it was decided to call the new institution The Manufacturers' National Bank of Neenah. Elected as members of the first Board of Directors were: Hiram Smith, D. C. Van Ostrand, Henry Sherry, F. C. Shattuck, Alex Billstein, Samuel Hay and Charles Schriber.

Quarters of the new bank were located in a building (now 109 West Wisconsin Avenue) that had formerly been the photographic studio



Quarters of the National Manufacturers' Bank in the 90's—space now occupied by the Wisconsin-Michigan Power Company. S. B. Morgan, left. H. C. Hilton, dimly visible at right.



National Manufacturers' Bank

of C. B. Manville, who later became President of Johns-Manville Company. The first call by the Comptroller of Currency for a report of condition on May 19, 1882, showed deposits of $91,135.48.

At the turn of the century a statement published on February 15, 1900, showed deposits of $474,418.63. The following year, upon renewal of its charter, the bank's name was changed to the National Manufacturers' Bank of Neenah, and capital stock was increased to $75,000. In 1902 the front of the building, which formerly had been of the ordinary store front type, was remodeled to give the building an appearance more in keeping with a banking institution. Interior changes, including improvements to the vault, were also undertaken.

Capital stock was increased to $100,000 in 1913, and, since by 1922 larger quarters had become imperative, negotiations were undertaken to purchase the site of the Russell House (at the corner of Commercial Street and Wisconsin Avenue) for a new building. The old landmark was razed and construction started that year, with the new building being completed and ready for occupancy on June 15, 1923.

To meet the needs of an expanding community and economy, the bank in 1945 sold an additional $100,000 of capital stock, increasing the capital and surplus to $500,000. The Trust Department was established in 1946.

By 1952 it had again become necessary to have more space. The structure adjoining the bank to the east was razed and an addition to the existing building was begun. Plans called for integrating the new addition with the existing structure, and the completely remodeled quarters were ready for formal opening on June 20, 1953. Features included adequate space for the Trust Department, a completely carpeted lobby floor, and a Drive-In-Window on the south side of the building.

In the fall of 1956 the National Manufacturers' Bank observed its 75th anniversary with an open house celebration and publication of an historical booklet. Articles of furniture, farm tools and other items used at the time of the bank's founding were displayed in the lobby, and the staff was dressed in costumes of the period, all of which lent a gay and festive touch to the occasion.

The statement of condition as of December 31, 1957, showed deposits of $16,510,633.16.

Directors

Hiram Smith	1881–1900	Jacob Hanson	1916–1920
D. C. Van Ostrand	1881–1905	W. G. Brown	1920–1941
Henry Sherry	1881–1897	Hans R. Hanson	1920–1947
F. C. Shattuck	1881–1901	L. J. Pinkerton	1921–1934
Alex Billstein	1881–1895	E. D. Beals	1923–1927
Samuel M. Hay	1881–1904	Gustav Kalfahs	1923–1946
Charles Schriber	1881–1919	A. C. Gilbert	1926–1952
William Kellett	1894–1901	Norton J. Williams	1928–1954
Moses Billstein	1896–1905	S. N. Pickard	1932–
D. W. Barnes	1898–1908	E. E. Jandrey, Jr.	1933–
W. M. Gilbert	1900–1925	E. J. Aylward	1944–
E. E. Jandrey, Sr.	1901–1933	James Webb	1944–
M. W. Krueger	1901–1939	R. H. Quade	1945–
S. F. Shattuck	1903–	Roy Sund	1945–
J. J. Leutenegger	1905–1925	E. A. Kalfahs	1946–
E. H. Van Ostrand	1906–1909	J. M. Wheeler	1948–
M. L. Campbell	1909–1915	George M. Gilbert	1951–
S. B. Morgan	1910–1915	J. F. Gillingham	1952–
E. A. Williams	1916–1920	John S. Tolversen	1955–

Presidents

Hiram Smith	1881–1900	W. G. Brown	1925–1932
D. C. Van Ostrand	1900–1906	S. F. Shattuck	1932–1937
W. M. Gilbert	1906–1925	S. N. Pickard	1937–

Cashiers

R. P. Finney	1881–1884	H. C. Hilton	1925–1936
S. B. Morgan	1884–1914	J. F. Gillingham	1936–1952
W. G. Brown	1914–1925	H. W. Hinterthuer	1952–

Neenah State Bank

(formerly located 104 E. Wisconsin Ave., Neenah)

DATA AS REPORTED BY STATE BANKING DEPARTMENT: Articles of incorporation were dated September 29, 1911, and were approved by the Commissioner of Banking on October 3, 1911. The Certificate of Authority to Commence Business is dated December 11.

The signers of the Articles of Incorporation are as follows:

W. H. Spengler
Wm. Aylward
J. N. Stone
Gottfried Ulrich
E. J. Lachmann

The bank was placed in liquidation as of November 4, 1933, and the Court Order terminating the liquidation is dated July 23, 1942.

The first statement of which there is knowledge is as of November 26, 1912, at which time deposits totalled $136,847.42. The Officers on that date were:

W. H. Spengler—President
E. J. Lachmann—Vice President
B. C. Wettlaufer—Cashier

The Directors on that date were the five incorporators, plus J. R. Barnett, Sr., and Chas. Schultz.

The Twin City Savings and Loan Association

ORGANIZATION—Organized and incorporated in 1893 as the Twin City Building-Loan and Savings Association and described under Wisconsin Laws as "A Mutual Thrift and Home Financing Institution" (name changed to Twin City Savings and Loan Association in 1952).

Incorporators: Haskell E. Coats, T. B. Blair, Charles Schultz, S. B.

Morgan, E. W. Thurston, F. T. Russell, Mrs. E. W. Jenkins, O. L. Huie, Frank Laird.

First Officers: F. T. Russell, President; Haskell E. Coats, Vice President; Merritt L. Campbell, Secretary; S. B. Morgan, Treasurer; B. S. Sanders, Attorney.

First Directors: M. L. Campbell, F. T. Russell, Eugene Thurston, Charles Schultz, Mrs. E. W. Jenkins, Father Wm. DeKelver, Haskell E. Coats, E. J. Lachmann, Frank Laird, T. B. Blair.

HISTORY AND GROWTH—Locations, second floor of the present *News Record* building, 1893–1918; second floor Neenah State Bank, 1918–1935; first floor Jewelers Insurance Building, 1935.

Asset Growth: 1932—$186,000; 1944—$1,800,000; 1957—$12,770,267.34. Since 1893 has paid 128 consecutive semi-annual dividends and met all withdrawal demands promptly.

Has financed over 11,500 homes in its history and has had only 12 foreclosures.

Present Officers: President-Treasurer, Iveaux W. Andersen; Vice President, E. F. Nemitz; Secretary, Herbert R. Pagel; Assistant Secretary, Wm. H. Foth; Assistant Treasurer, Evelyn Garfield; Attorney, John W. O'Leary.

Directors: F. O. Heckrodt, Chairman of the Board, Insurance and Appraisals; Iveaux W. Andersen, President; D. W. Bergstrom, Treasurer, Bergstrom Paper Co.; E. C. Joyce, Attorney, O'Leary, Joyce and Remley; P. J. Gazecki, Secretary, Whiting Paper Company; Carl F. Geisler, Vice President, Marathon Corporation; T. M. Gilbert, President, Gilbert Paper Company; E. F. Nemitz, retired, formerly Superintendent-Electrotype Dept., Marathon Corporation; W. J. Dowling, Owner, Jaeger-Dowling Company.

Past Presidents: F. T. Russell, 1983–1896; Haskell E. Coats, 1896–1906; Gustav Kalfahs, 1906–1943; Dio W. Dunham, 1943–1953.

Local names active in Association since 1892 with personal notes on each, in the order found on Association books:

F. T. Russell: first President of Association, President of Russell Paper Co., now the Neenah Paper Company.

Haskell E. Coats: first Vice President, Captain in Civil War and local postmaster for Neenah.

Merrit L. Campbell: first Secretary, local attorney, and one of the chief promoters of the EFU, now the Equitable Reserve Association.

S. B. Morgan: first Treasurer, Cashier of The National Manufacturers' Bank.

B. S. Sanders: first Attorney, local attorney, famous for being attorney of successful suit against the City of Neenah, when the first sewer built in Neenah on East Forest Avenue was assessed against the property owners, and the suit made the city pay for same.

Eugene Thurston: Chief Machinist, Jamieson Machine Shop (now Hewitt Machine Co.).

Charles Schultz: Cigar manufacturer and local merchant.

Rev. Wm. DeKelver: Pastor, St. Patrick Church, Menasha.

Mrs. E. W. Jenkins: Active in civic affairs.

E. J. Lachmann: Miller and banker, first President, Neenah State Bank.

Frank Laird: Local tailor of fame—shop now operated by Lohse.

T. B. (Tom) Blair: Local printer who sold shop to Ed Fueschel and Thomas Thomsen as the Neenah Printing Company. The story is that the purchase price was $40 per month as long as Blair lived.

Gustav Kalfahs: Third President of the Association, was a cooper who turned grocer and industrialist.

Dio W. Dunham: Fourth President, formerly at ERA, in charge of publications, very active in civic matters.

Andrew W. Anderson: Director 1908–1949, became Secretary in 1918. Was local jeweler in firm of Nelson and Anderson (now McCarthy). Active in Jewelers Trade Organizations, Secretary of Wisconsin Retail Jewelers Association and American Retail Jewelers Association. Chief organizer of the Jewelers Mutual Insurance Company. Known in the Savings and Loan as the one who made possible the later growth of the Association.



Jewelers Mutual Insurance Company

THE Jewelers Mutual Insurance Company is important locally because it represents a part of the life work of one of its chief founders, Andrew W. Anderson, who was born in Neenah on July 6, 1873, and died June 22, 1949.

Because of his activity in the jewelry business, he brought to Neenah the nationwide recognition among jewelers, as one of the important centers of the jewelry trade groups.

Again, because Andrew W. Anderson was so important in the life of this company, a brief résumé of his business life casts a direct light on the prior statements.

Andrew W. Anderson began as an apprentice in his half-brother's store (W. O. Nelson) and at age 21 became a partner and the recog-

nized optometrist in the store. In 1910 he became the second secretary of the Wisconsin Retail Jewelers Association, and in 1912 was elected secretary of the American National Retail Jewelers Association, and moved both offices to Neenah. In 1912, at the request of the Directors of the Wisconsin Retail Jewelers Association, he organized the insurance company that today is known as the Jewelers Mutual Insurance Company, home office, Jewelers Insurance Building, Neenah, Wisconsin. To give the opinion of Best's Insurance Guide, which is to insurance companies what Dun & Bradstreet is to general businesses, their résumé of the company as of December 31, 1954, is as follows:

HISTORY—The company was organized under the laws of Wisconsin in March, 1913, as the National Jewelers Mutual Fire Insurance Company. It began business on June 1, 1914. The present title was adopted April 30, 1952.

MANAGEMENT—Many of the officers and directors are also identified with the American National Retail Jewelers Association and the Wisconsin Retail Jewelers Association.

The company is the only carrier in the United States acting in behalf of jewelers only. Underwriting is confined to fire, extended coverage and jewelers block insurance for retail, wholesale and manufacturing jewelers, watchmakers, optometrists, allied enterprises and for their families and employees.

Surplus funds are more than ample to provide for the very conservative volume of business transacted, reserves for unearned premiums are on the N. Y. Standard basis, and dividends to policyholders have been fully justified by savings. Cash and U. S. Government bond holdings alone amount to 163% of reported liabilities, an exceptionally strong position. Losses averaged 30.9% of earned premiums, while expenses were 29.9% of written premiums during the past five years.

Investments comprise principally U. S. Government bonds with a par value of $271,000. Only two high grade common stocks, totaling $27,912 are held. Other holdings are one small mortgage loan and the company's home office building acquired in July, 1935.

An examination of the company's affairs was made by the Insurance Department of Wisconsin as of December 31, 1951.

Our general policyholders' rating is "A+" (Excellent). The financial rating is "BB."

Admitted Assets	$ 681,000.00
Reserves	431,770.00
Insurance in force	58,000,000.00
Losses paid since 1913	1,000,000.00
Dividends paid since 1913	1,300,000.00

The company is non-assessable.

Territory: Licensed in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New York, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Tennessee and Wisconsin. Writes business in other states by mail from the home office and has insurance in all states.

Officers: President, E. R. Fuchs; Vice President, S. Dalin; Secretary-Treasurer, I. W. Andersen; Underwriting Manager, G. M. Jeffery.

Directors: Maurice Adelsheim, Minneapolis, Minnesota; I. W. Andersen, Neenah; S. Dalin, West Allis, Wisconsin; George Engelhard, Chicago, Illinois; E. R. Fuchs, Milwaukee, Wisconsin; John P. Hess, Fond du Lac, Wisconsin; Wm. J. Kilb, Milwaukee, Wisconsin; H. W. Rank, Milwaukee, Wisconsin; and R. J. Treiber, Appleton, Wisconsin.

Employees in Neenah—12.

Credit Bureau

IN THE YEAR 1929, Mr. E. G. Zabel organized a local firm to which he gave the name Business Service, Inc. One of the functions of the new firm was the establishment of a complete listing of Twin City residents with basic credit information such as age, address, wife's name, children, employment, and with ledger information furnished by local merchants, a coded summary of the paying habits and buying activities of these residents. The coded system established at that time and many of the original listings on card form are still used by the present Credit Bureau.

The new business hardly was off to a start when the Great Depression was upon the country. Financial difficulties caused the founder of the Bureau to look about for additional management talent and funds. In 1933, Mr. O. B. Pratt and Mr. George W. Pyott, Jr. of

Elgin, Illinois acquired an interest in the firm, and in about one year, the original founder had sold his interests in their entirety to Mssrs. Pratt and Pyott. The activities of the firm, Business Service, Inc. were then directed to the promotion of a Credit Bureau, Collection Agency, and Letter Shop exclusively. Membership in the Credit Bureau was increased and in 1937, Mr. George W. Pyott, Jr. became the sole owner of the firm and had the name changed to Neenah-Menasha Credit Bureau, Inc. Operation of the Credit Bureau then became the sole interest of Mr. Pyott until his death in 1953 at which time the present manager Mr. Ray Cheslock took over active direction of the business. In 1955, the name of the business was again changed to Credit Bureau of Neenah-Menasha and the Collection Agency activities discontinued. Credit Bureau of Neenah-Menasha, as it exists today maintains records of local residents' paying habits and ability that are considered second to none in the field. Through its affiliation with the *Associated Credit Bureaus of America, comprised of 19,000 member bureaus*, local members may obtain credit reports on individuals in any part of the country as well as on all local people.

Credit Unions

A NEW FORM of financial organization came into being during the late 1920's. Known as Credit Unions, they are a type of cooperative formed by employees of industrial and retail firms and other natural groups, such as farmers, teachers, municipal employees, etc. Members of the credit union pay money into the organization, which is in turn loaned to members in the form of installment loans.

The first credit union in Neenah was organized in August of 1934. Since that date nine additional groups organized, two of which subsequently liquidated. As of December, 1956, total assets of all credit unions operating in Neenah amounted to $2,224,321.00. As of the same date, there were 680 credit unions operating throughout the state of Wisconsin.

Neenah-Menasha Finance Company (Thorp Finance Company)

THE Neenah-Menasha Finance Company was organized in the latter part of 1926 and opened an office to transact a small loan business

early in 1927. The original officers were E. E. Lampert, President; Dr. George Forkin, Vice President; Reginald E. Sanders, Secretary-Treasurer and Manager. Mr. Sanders served in this capacity during the entire life of the company. In 1949 the company was purchased by Thorp Finance Company, who are continuing the business at 120 North Commercial Street, just north of the original location.

Rock Finance Company

The Rock Finance Company, of Green Bay, Wisconsin, opened a branch in Neenah in 1947, known as Stone Loan Company, located at 104 North Commercial Street. Later the name was changed to Rock Finance Company, and the office was moved to the ground floor at 111 North Commercial Street.

BLACKSMITHING

Johnson & Myhre, Blacksmiths

THE American scene lost something picturesque and so characteristic of an earlier day when the blacksmith shop passed from view. These shops made and repaired all sorts of metal equipment for the home, farm and industry, such as wagons, sleighs, buggies, and many other useful items. Horseshoeing was a specialty; shoes and nails were made by hand.

We are indebted to Olaf A. Myhre for the following sketch. Olaf relates that his father, Ole, coming to this region in Neenah's early days, walked from Neenah to Stevens Point and back to determine where he would locate. He never regretted, Olaf says, that he chose Neenah.

"It was in 1866 that Evan Johnson and Ole O. Myhre bought the property now occupied by the Wieckert Lumber Company office, setting up a partnership in the blacksmithing business. During the '80s Johnson sold his interest to Myhre, who continued until his death April 12, 1904, when his son, Olaf, took over, merging with the J. W. Hewitt Machine Company in 1914."

Following is Olaf's listing of the blacksmiths who have served Neenah across the years:

Pat McNary
William Schumann
August Raddatz
Henry and George Julius
John Sturm
Lauritz Nielson
Max Thermansen
Charles Bergstrom
Johnson & Myhre
Bill Butterfield
Tom Hurley
Hans Oleson
Fred and Will Mason
John Bergstrom

BOYHOOD DAYS IN NEENAH

When Ed Cochran, Editor of the *News-Record*, was assembling material for his 75th anniversary number, which appeared on June 20, 1956, he asked a former Neenah boy, Kendrick Kimball, to give him something on his boyhood days in the city of his birth. Kendrick, presently Out-doors Editor of the *Detroit News*, is the son of L. H. Kimball, a former owner and editor of the *Neenah Daily News*, a forerunner of the *News-Record*.

Kendrick's boyhood escapades remind one of the "Adventures of Huckleberry Finn." He, with John Studley and others, roamed the streets of Neenah during the first two decades of this century. Here, in part, are Kendrick's memoirs:

It seemed inevitable that I work upon the staff of the *Neenah Daily News*. The paper was founded by Arthur R. Bowron, son of Frances Kimball Bowron, and he sold it a few months later to his uncle, Leonard H. Kimball, my grandfather.

On *The News* I received primary instruction in journalism, and experiences illumining my later years with many pleasant memories.

The instruction was primary, and somewhat primitive in view of modern advances. I was city editor during summer vacations from Neenah High School and at various other intervals from 1912 to '18, and also during this period was employed by *The Neenah Times*.

The city editor was the reporter who met the trains, attended weddings and chronicled whatever local event seemed worthy of publication. *The News*, then under guidance of the J. R. Bloom family, was equipped with an underslung typewriter nobody but an acrobat or someone with extra-sensory perception could operate. Therefore it was necessary to write all copy in longhand, an endeavor creating a bunion on the index figure as an occupational hazard.

Russell House Stood Out

Just after the turn of the century Neenah was a vastly different community than its present bustling self. Its most prominent physical characteristics in the downtown area were the Russell House, later Hotel Neenah, distinguished by an imposing row of brass cuspidors in the lobby, and the city hall, unchanged outwardly by the stress of the decades.

Along the business section were such names as Schimpf, Seatoft, Dahms, Paepke, Sam Thompson, who operated a sample room; Finnegan, Witte, Jandrey, Gaffney, Koepsel, Reynold's Honey Bee, Courtney, Neudeck, Draheim and Pingel, Sokup, Prebensen, Sorensen, Hanson, Marsh, Boehm and Leutnegger.

Elwers, Haertl, the Larsen barber shop and a few others were still there on my last visit.

Perhaps the most outstanding merchant on Wisconsin avenue was Miss Sadie Edgarton, operator of a clutter of shops at the site of the Valley Inn. Miss Edgarton collected second-hand articles as an obsession, and one could buy anything from a nutmeg grater to a corn shredder in her establishments. She maintained a horse named Salisbury and Joe Rickey, groom and deliveryman, graced by a red nose that shone like a beacon.

Indian Shoe Shiner

Gene Forney, Neenah's most authentic Indian, shined shoes in a shanty near the telephone company offices, and the most persistent adornments of North Commercial street were Patsy Callahan in an indestructible checkered suit, Charles "Crock" Jagerson, the various Kelly brothers, and "Punch" Relyea, who sang "I'm Forever Blowing Bubbles" at the band concerts in the pavilion in Riverside Park. He blew them all summer without fail.

Fires Were Exciting

The most compelling events in town were fires and the Memorial Day parade.

All the nearby dray teams galloped to the city hall to pull the fire equipment for a $5 fee, and at times the spectacle resembled the chariot race in "Ben Hur." The bell was rung by a long rope and its clamor brought forth the volunteer department from roofs and out of manholes and cellars.

Decoration Day parades started from Michelsen's Hall on South Commercial Street beside Estvad's Danish Bakery. Some of the G.A.R. Boys in Blue became sufficiently impressed with the patriotic responsibilities of the event to take on a hefty ballast of bourbon. They were commanded on several occasions by an individual accused by wags of leading the retreat at the Battle of Bull Run, and quitting the hostilities with such haste and determination that he tromped down a good portion of the Union Cavalry barring his way.

Krieger Verein Next

Behind the G.A.R. strode the Krieger Verein in precise formation—ein, zwei, drei, fier—and headed by Capt. Dieckoff carrying a sword that seemed 8 feet long. The veterans of the Franco-Prussian War did excellently until they reached Hotel Jasperson, wooden structure beside the city hall, where they became targets of snide remarks from the Danish Brotherhood, some of whom served against Germany in the war resulting in annexation of Schleswig-Holstein. It was all in good fun, of course.

The Danes accused their former adversaries of preparing themselves for the military demonstration by saluting the picture of the Kaiser for several hours in the Sons of Herman Hall.

Neenah relied on a speed cop, Art Nelson, to curb motorists when they flaunted contempt of the law by exceeding the 15-mile limit. Officer Nelson hauled the offenders before Justice S. D. "Denny" Baird, who imposed a $13.98 fine with solemnity and grave judicial deportment. Public transportation between the park and cemetery was vested with "Bert" Rhoades and the "dinky," a street car scarcely larger than a peanut roaster.

When fun-loving citizens jumped up and down on the rear platform, the "dinky's" rear wheels quitted the tracks as an unfailing custom.

Home-Spun "Crime Wave"

Neenah has never undergone a crime wave to our knowledge. The closest approach was in 1914 or thereabouts, and purely artificial. It was engineered by John A. Studley, then with *The Times*, founded by his grandfather Capt. J. N. Stone, and this reporter. Its purpose was to create something worthwhile to write about.

All we had was births, passing of old settlers, reports of the street, highway and bridge committee to the city council, someone with a 12-foot sunflower in his back yard, discovery by Toby Kuehl of a tarantula spider in a stalk of bananas, and similar matters not calculated to accelerate the civic pulse.

We started by turning in a phony fire alarm. The home of Charles Lee on the island was allegedly in the throes of a conflagration. The department found it completely aloof from flames, and next day we each published an indignant story of miscreants hoodwinking our defenders of public safety.

Our next venture could have been devastating. We obtained a 6-foot sky rocket, placed it on the car tracks at the head of Wisconsin avenue, and touched it off with the hope it would roar down the business section like a guided missile, and provoke a few runaways, and much scampering for safety by Saturday night shoppers. But the rocket was misaimed and fizzed out harmlessly in front of Harry Frank's creamery.

Became More Ambitious

Our next adventure was more ambitious. We both ran a fake story of the discovery of an overturned rowboat on Lake Winnebago, and it prompted the theory that someone had drowned. Then we hastened to Henry B. Sande, sales manager for the Anspach department store, for advice and assistance.

Sande was a "live wire" in the parlance of the day. He perpetrated 9 cent sales and advertised them by painting the numeral 9 on rocks in the river during the low water. For relaxation and amusement he tore out a few slats in the fence protecting the luscious garden of Sam Wing, laundryman. Sande then laid a trail of corn from the fence to the Kussman livery barn, and soon the Kussman chickens, with appetites of eagles, were tearing up the garden.

Sam bolted out of the laundry screaming imprecations in Chinese and throwing flatirons at the chickens, and when he repaired the fence Sande shot him repeatedly in the pants from the Anspach roof with an airgun.

People Horrified

Sande made a dummy of a sack of straw, adorned it with a shirt, suit coat, false face and a derby hat, and floated the hoax down the mill race during the noon hour. A pair of white canvas gloves dangled from extended arms. The bridge traffic was horrified and several women were on the verge of fainting over entry of the supposed corpse into the placid routine of their existence.

Officer Henry Bando strode manfully to the scene, fished out the dummy at the rear of the McCanna hotel and restaurant, and burst into unprintable language when he saw what his pike pole had secured.

The Neenah press had a lot of fun describing that one.

We almost got into trouble with our next adventure. Studley and this reporter enlisted the aid of J. Dudleigh Young and Jim Christofferson, obtained black masks from Sande, a big nickel-plated and triggerless revolver, and held up the late Harry Johnson on South Commercial street as he was plodding home with $7 gleaned as lather boy in the Larsen barber shop. This reporter extracted the $7 from Johnson's pocket as Christofferson brandished the revolver, ran down Church street, then to the Drake cigar, billiard and culture center on North Commercial street to await developments.

They were immediate. Officers Burr and Halvorson emerged from the murkiness of night with pistols in an uncertain grip. This reporter, pencil and paper in hand, and with Johnson's $7 still in his pocket, followed them down the alley behind the Neenah opera house in their attempt to apprehend the criminals. But Christofferson, Young and Studley had achieved separate escapes.

Search Freight Train

Sheriff's deputies stopped and searched a freight train at Snell's station. Neenah police, with Chief Jim Brown and a big chaw of tobacco, began a hunt for clues. This reporter became alarmed, confessed to Ted Larsen, and Larsen produced Johnson, who entered a gleeful and forgiving mood upon repossession of his wages.

As a cover-up, Studley sent him a wad of newspaper clippings in a letter with disguised handwritings, and Johnson informed police he had recovered his money, but not until the holdup had been splashed over the front pages of *The News* and *The Times*. Johnson, now a partner in the conspiracy, was unable to identify the robbers or give a consistent description. They were 7-feet tall one day, midgets the next.

In a short time, however, truth emerged from the shadows of confusion and doubt. Art Woeckner, correspondence school detective, sleuthed out the identity of at least one of the bandits. While he was courting our hired girl on the kitchen steps, this reporter passed him with the masks in his hand to join Studley, Young and Christofferson waiting outside.

The next flight into crime ended unhappily. Foster Owens and this reporter obtained a brace of eggs from Johnson Bros. grocery (Gus Breitreiter, deliveryman) and tossed them over a billboard at the site of the Neenah State Bank into a crowd listening to a carnival band concert in front of Hotel Neenah.

One egg hit a wire and its contents sliced over Banty Malone, attending the gathering in a white silk shirt with purple stripes. The band was playing "On the Trail of the Lonesome Pine." Just as it was about to toot and bang its way into the chorus, the second egg lit squarely on the shoulder of the leader, and perched there like a rosette.

"I'll give $25 to anyone who tells me who did that," roared the leader.

Sam Wing saw the dastardly deed unfold, reported it to Chief Brown, who rounded up the culprits. He promised that if they paid a $1 fine to Justice Nels Jensen everything would be hush-hush.

Changed His Mind

As we appeared confident and in a devil-may-care spirit before the court the telephone rang a summons, and Jim's voice boomed ominously through the receiver.

"Give them the works, judge. That Kimball has been raising hell here all summer."

The warrant was a yard long and included disturbance of the peace, incitement to riot—almost everything in fact, from arson to treason—and we pleaded guilty with misgivings.

"I hereby fine you $10 and costs," proclaimed the court.

Owens' expression was that of a dying fawn, for he didn't have $10, a plight shared by his associate. Owens obtained the sum from Clarence "Hink" Schultz, his employer, and joined the Regular Army the following week to embark on a new and clean life.

This reporter slunk back to *The News*, where he was confronted by editor Bloom.

"So you've been arrested and fined for throwing eggs?" he asked quietly. "You start out on this paper like a Horace Greeley and end up like Jesse James. Well, sit down and write the full particulars."

It was the toughest assignment we ever had.

CEMETERIES

Oak Hill Cemetery

HARVEY JONES, during his brief life in Neenah, from the spring of 1848 to his death in November, 1849, made a gift of five acres for cemetery purposes. This was the beginning of the present Oak Hill cemetery.

Following Jones' gift came these additions:

1868—by gift from William Merriman, acreage not specified.
1875—bought from William Tipler for $1,200, acreage not specified.
1879—bought from Benjamin Freeman, acreage not specified.
1888—by gift from Clara A. Shattuck, the Merriman homestead on land now occupied by chapel and vault
1924—bought from John Grimes, 17 acres at $500 per acre.
1924—four citizens of Neenah joined in a project to regrade the cemetery, fence it and erect an ornamental gateway, build chapel and vault. Approximate cost of gift, $100,000.

Basic charges for perpetual care:

Residents of Neenah pay—

For a single grave—$40
For a 4-grave lot—$178
For a 6-grave lot—$217
For an 8-grave lot—$258

Non-residents pay—

For a single grave—$50
For a 4-grave lot—$218
For a 6-grave lot—$277
For an 8-grave lot—$338

Cemetery deficits currently range between $17,000 and $19,000 per year, cared for out of taxes.

Memorial Park Cemetery

THE founders of Greenlawn Memorial Park, located just south of Neenah on Highway 41, had an ideal and a purpose.

The ideal was to build a memorial park of natural beauty, where all burials are in equal dignity, and where ever-growing trees and shrubs are creating and recreating a living memorial.

The purpose of the founders was to provide a beautiful and dignified resting place for all creeds and sects, while at the same time creating a memorial that would provide comfort for the living.

The park proper is set well back from the highway and is framed by an extensive expanse of lawn sloping toward the roadway.

This park is the first and only memorial park cemetery serving the Neenah-Menasha area.

By Francis Hauser

THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF NEENAH-MENASHA

112 West Wisconsin Avenue

DURING the first half of the twentieth century, several businessmen's associations were started in Neenah, but none of them existed for more than a few months or a few years, due principally to lack of proper organization for sustaining their activities.

In 1940, a group of Neenah businessmen formed the Chamber of Commerce of Neenah. Otto Lieber was elected the first president. A young attorney, Elmer Radtke, acted as part-time secretary for about a year, and, when he left the city, the Chamber hired William Pfrang as a full-time secretary. Mr. Pfrang served until May, 1942, when he resigned to join the Armed Forces in World War II.

Don W. Colburn was hired then as a full-time secretary, and served until his resignation in November, 1955. John C. Konrad succeeded him in February, 1956.

In 1946 the Directors of the Neenah Chamber invited Menasha businessmen and firms to join with them, and, early in that year, reincorporated the Chamber into a Twin City organization, changing the name to "The Chamber of Commerce of Neenah-Menasha." Since that time, the Chamber has operated with an equal number of businessmen and firms from each city on its Board of Directors, and has alternated the presidency from one city to the other.

Its activities from 1946 to date have been on a true Twin City basis, in the belief we are one community, and should work to the best interests of all concerned.

Chamber of Commerce Presidents

Otto Lieber, Jr.	1940–41	E. E. Jandrey	1949–50
Rudy Lotz	1941–42	Stuart Thompson	1950–51
W. R. Werner	1942–43	G. E. Sande	1951–52
H. E. Christoph	1943–44	A. C. Hidde, Jr.	1952–53
S. N. Pickard	1944–45	G. H. Cameron	1953–54
S. F. Shattuck	1945–46	Ray J. Fink	1954–55
N. J. Williams	1946–47	George E. Elwers	1955–56
J. M. Wheeler	1947–48	Dedric W. Bergstrom	1956–57
J. R. Ward	1948–49	David Ryan	1957–58

Compiled by Don Colburn

Neenah-Menasha Junior Chamber of Commerce

THE Neenah-Menasha Junior Chamber of Commerce is a civic organization for young men between the ages of 21 and 35, inclusive. The group is dedicated to four objectives:

1. To make the community a better place in which to live.
2. To develop leadership among the members of the organization.
3. To offer education, recreation and social activities to men of similar age.
4. To give young men a voice in the affairs of their community, state and nation.

In short, the Junior Chamber of Commerce is an organization of young men learning civic consciousness through constructive action!

This organization, in existence for eleven years, was formed in 1945 by the union of the Menasha Junior Chamber of Commerce, founded in 1935, and the Neenah Junior Chamber of Commerce, founded in 1939. Today it is one of over 2,500 chapters which make up the United States Junior Chamber. The local group is tied to the national through a very fine state organization.

It was on January 23, 1939, that the Neenah group started out at an organizational meeting at the Valley Inn. The first officers of this group were:

President	Elmer H. Radtke
1st Vice President	Norman Greenwood
2nd Vice President	Arthur Weston
Secretary	Leo Koffarnus
Treasurer	Al Reetz
State Director	Donald Colburn

Other members who were directors during the first year were: John Catlin, Gordon Drews, George Pyott, Donald Christensen.

One of the first projects adopted by the Neenah Jaycees was the establishment of a Retail Committee to promote local business. This committee was very active and highly respected by Neenah merchants. It was this committee that laid the groundwork for the establishment of the Neenah Chamber of Commerce in May of 1940, at which time it turned over its records and funds to the newly formed Chamber. The first secretary of the Chamber was Elmer H. Radtke, who was the first president of the Jaycees. Today the Neenah-Me-

nasha Chamber and Jaycees continue to work together toward a better community.

The Jaycees have worked on many projects over the years. Some of them have become firmly established parts of our community life. In the field of public safety there are Fire Prevention, driver safety through the annual Teen Age Safe Driving Road-e-o and semi-annual spot checks of automobiles. All safety projects are run in cooperation with Neenah and Menasha Fire and Police Departments.

The annual Voice of Democracy Contest promotes interest in good government in the three local high schools. The outstanding young high school men and one outstanding young adult are honored at the annual Distinguished Awards Dinner. Local tennis and golf tournaments are highly popular summer events, and the annual Marathon Mile Swim has established the Twin Cities on a national scale in the swim world. The wonderful July 4 spectacle—the Venetian Parade—introduced in 1954 by Chief Stilp and the Police Department was undertaken jointly with the Jaycees in 1956.

Compiled by James Stauff

CHURCH HISTORY

COMPILED BY MRS. HELEN CLARK RITGER

Assembly of God Pentecostal

A GROUP OF people were gathered together by Miss Olga Wisthof in September, 1937, in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Bethke. Thereafter, families met in homes of members, conducting prayer meetings and Bible Study, until 1939, when the church at 502 South Commercial Street was purchased from the Scandinavian Lutheran organization.

The following pastors have served the church: Rev. Carl Erickson, Rev. Devore Walterman, Rev. David Wakefield, Rev. Allan McKellips, Rev. Darrell Meyrer, Rev. Hardy L. Thompson. Rev. A. R. Portinga is the present pastor.

The General Council of the Assemblies of God was organized in Hot Springs, Arkansas, in 1914. Though the movement is young, the church in Neenah is one of 7,514 churches in the United States.

Calvary Baptist

FIVE Neenah men, W. J. Garfield, Elbert S. Shumway, E. J. Nussbicker, Oscar Sindahl and Clyde Smith, were the founders of this church, originally known as the First Fundamental Church of Neenah. It had been incorporated as the "Union Gospel Tabernacle" in 1931. This group of men held meetings in the homes of members. In 1931 they took over the church which was, years ago, used by the Norwegian Methodists, corner of Isabella and Caroline Streets.

The first pastor of the church was the Rev. W. G. Wittenborn, who served the congregation from 1931 to 1940, and during his time, arrangements were made to purchase the former Norwegian Methodist Church, and the congregation took the name of the "First Fundamental Church." Rev. A. A. Bandow served as pastor 1940–1949.

Since the church is Baptistic in nature, the name was formally changed to Calvary Baptist Church in November, 1955.

During recent years larger quarters have been necessary, and a wing

was added to the church. Because of its steady growth, the church purchased the property of Our Savior's Lutheran Church, on Isabella Street, in 1955. This includes the Church Building and the Parsonage, now occupied by this congregation. Tentative plans are to use the former church building for Sunday School purposes and a youth center.

The present membership of the church is 120; average Sunday School attendance is 150.

The present pastor is the Rev. Roland Aggers, who has been serving since 1952.

Church of Christ

THE Church of Christ began meeting in Neenah, October, 1949, with two families, the Lloyd Caters, 144 Fourth Street, and Paul Butterfields, rural Neenah. The first meeting place was the voting precinct house, corner Van and Adams Streets.

Others were added to the group, until the congregation grew to forty adult members in 1955.

Since members lived throughout Fox River cities, it was decided to build centrally in Appleton, at the corner of Badger School Road and Spencer Road, near Highway 41. This building was erected in 1954 and will seat about 125.

Reverend James R. Wilburn began work with the group in 1953, and still continues with them to the present time.

First Church of Christ Scientist

THE First Church of Christ Scientist, Neenah, began through the loyalty of Mrs. Sarah E. Heywood to the teachings of Mary Baker Eddy, discoverer and founder of Christian Science.

A small group of interested persons gathered for services Sunday mornings, 1897, at the home of Stephan B. Morgan. Beginning June, 1900, services were held in the parlors of the Universalist Church, North Commercial Street, Neenah. In May, 1906, the Hall at 113 West Wisconsin Avenue was secured for services. Wednesday evening services were begun, and in 1910 a Sunday School was formed.

The Trinity Episcopal Church property, 229 East Wisconsin Avenue, was purchased in 1915. In November of that same year a Reading Room was opened in the church building. Reading Rooms were later established in buildings on West Wisconsin Avenue. The present Reading Room, open to the public, was opened April 12, 1954, on the ground floor at 107 Church Street.

In 1955 the old church building was torn down and a new one erected on the same location. This new church, of red brick, Georgian style, was ready for occupancy Thanksgiving Day, November 22, 1956, and was open to the public December 2, 1956.

Church services are conducted by two Readers, who are elected by the membership every three years. One reads from the Bible, and the other reads from the Christian Science Textbook, by Mary Baker Eddy.

First Evangelical United Brethren

THIS congregation outgrew its little church on the Island where the Roosevelt School now stands, corner of East Forest Avenue and Second Street, on land presented to the congregation by ex-Governor Doty. According to early records, this was the first Protestant church building erected in Neenah-Menasha, in 1859.

In 1890 a larger church was built on the corner of Bond Street and West Forest Avenue, when Rev. G. F. Kickhoefer was pastor. The present parsonage adjoining the church was built in 1916.

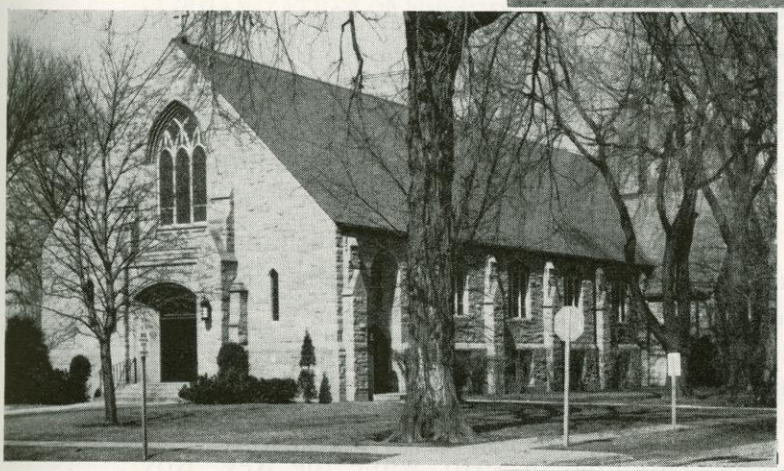
Rev. Jacob Schneller served as pastor 1898–1902, and the Schneller family took root in Neenah. Parishioners will recall Rev. Carl Zietlow, Rev. Roy Berg and Rev. K. S. Knoespel, who served before Rev. Hayes, the present pastor, who came in 1955.

The congregation grew steadily, and it was decided to build an addition and remodel the church, as more room was needed. The "new" church was dedicated in June, 1940.

Due to the union of the two denominations—the Evangelical Church and the United Brethren Church, November 16, 1946, the local church became known as the First Evangelical United Brethren Church.

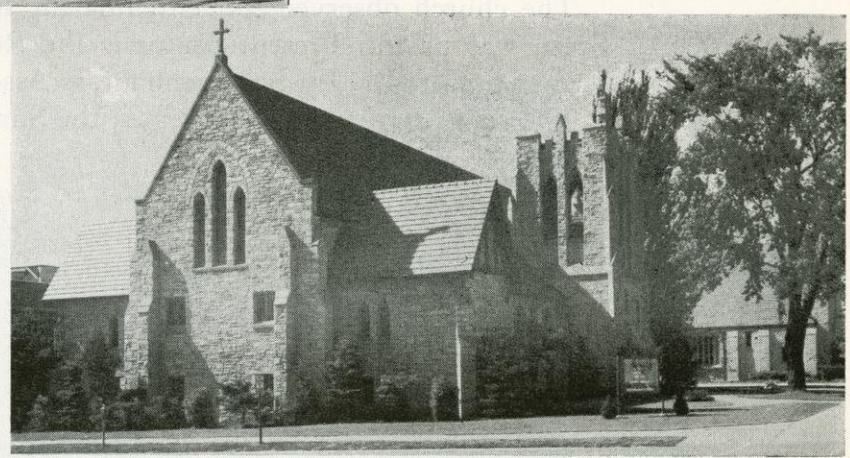
Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

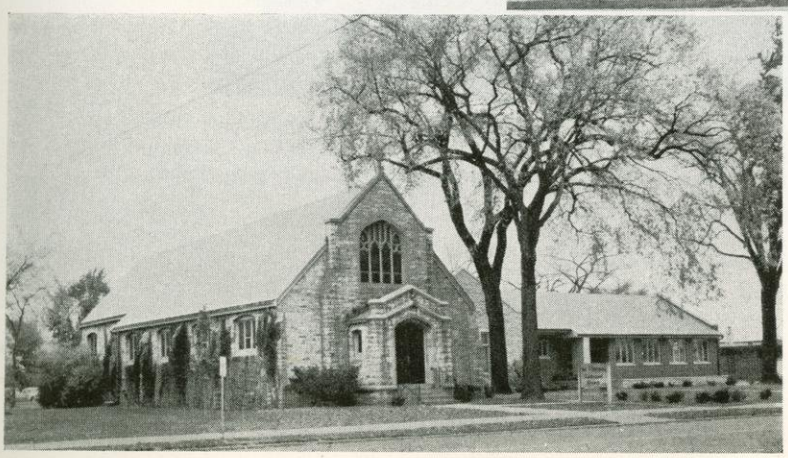




St. Margaret-Mary's Catholic Church

First Methodist Church





St. Thomas Episcopal Church

This church observed the 100th birthday of its founding in October, 1956.

The present membership is 326, with a Sunday School enrollment of 180.

First Methodist Church

THE First Methodist Church, formally organized in 1849, continued to expand rapidly after it moved into the "Old School" Presbyterian Church building on East Wisconsin Avenue, which it purchased in 1874. The present property on the corner of Doty Avenue and South Commercial Street was purchased and a new structure was built and dedicated in 1906.

The Clayton Church (an out-charge of Neenah), the Neenah Danish and the Menasha Methodist Churches were closed, and their members joined the First Methodist Church.

Early in 1937 a disastrous fire destroyed the church building, necessitating the construction of the present church, which was dedicated in 1939.

The church observed its centennial in 1949, while the Rev. Roy Steen was pastor. Present pastor is the Rev. Norman S. Ream. A former pastor, Dr. Ira Schlagenhauf, is Associate Pastor.

The congregation numbers 1,050; the Sunday School enrollment is 500.

Ministers of the Neenah Methodist Church

1849—William H. Sampson
1850–56—Attached to another charge
1856—Albert Baker
1859—Supply unknown
1860—Samuel Lugg
1860—A. Foster
1863—C. W. Brooks
1866—T. C. Wilson
1868—L. L. Knox
1869—Thomas Walker
1870—J. H. Gaskill
1871—J. H. Waldron
1873—M. G. Bristol
1874—W. J. Olmstead
1875—J. T. Woodhead
1877—N. J. Aplin
1879—L. F. Cole
1881—G. W. Horton
1883—C. M. Heard
1884—T. C. Wilson
1887—J. S. Lean
1890—S. Joliffe
J. H. Tippett
S. Schneider
J. D. Cole
1901—James E. Garrett

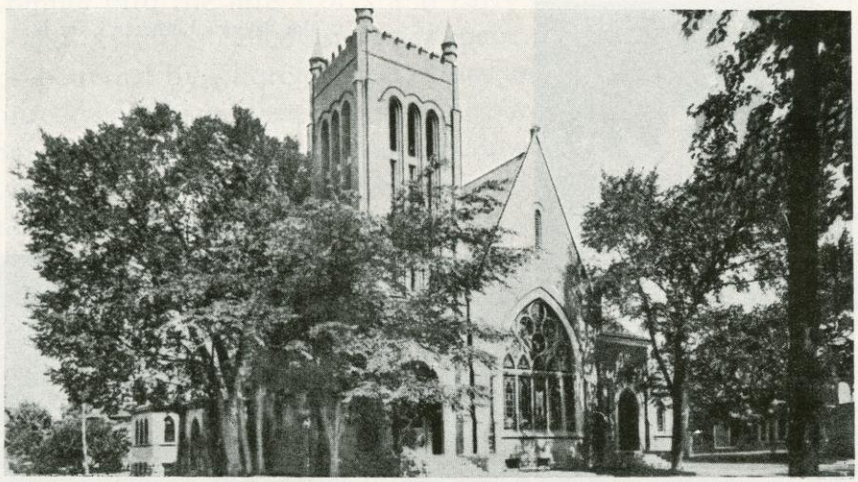
1906—Rev. Drew
1909—Rev. Turner
1914—Rev. Heywood
1922—Ira Schlagenhauf
1927—T. Reykdall
1932—Rev. Matthews
1934—Rev. Perry
1935—Henry Johnson
1939—W. A. Riggs
1948—Roy P. Steen
1953—Norman S. Ream

First Presbyterian Church

ORGANIZATION of the First Presbyterian Church of Neenah goes back to December 15, 1848, two years after this area, then known as Winnebago Rapids, was opened to public sale. The year before (1847) a Congregational Church had been organized by Reverend O. P. Clinton. Later, the Congregational group merged with the Presbyterian congregation. The first meeting of the newly-formed Presbyterian Church was in a large room over the store of Yale & Jones, which stood on the site of Shattuck Park. This room was used until 1852, when a church was built in the 300 block of East Wisconsin Avenue.

Pastors serving since 1848:

1848–1853—Reverend H. M. Robertson
1854–1861—Reverend J. H. Rosseel
1861–1864—Reverend H. B. Thayer
1864–1867—Reverend A. A. Dinsmore
1867–1869—Reverend J. C. Kelly



First Presbyterian Church, dedicated in 1901. This building took the place of a wooden structure built in 1864. On October 10, 1954, the new sanctuary on the southwest corner of the block to the east was dedicated, whereupon this edifice was demolished and the site was converted into a parking lot.



First Presbyterian Church



Our Savior's Lutheran Church



Immanuel's Evangelical and Reformed Church

Assembly of God Pentecostal



A nine-year division of the church occurred between 1860 and 1869 in which a Second Presbyterian Church was served by four pastors —Reverend J. E. Pond, Reverend H. G. McArthur, Reverend James Bassett and Reverend J. H. Walker. This congregation built a church on the corner of Smith and Church Streets. When the First and Second churches reunited, the combined group met in that church, enlarging it in 1871.

Then came Reverend John E. Chapin, who stepped into the reunited congregation and served for thirty-three years, until he retired in 1903. Following Dr. Chapin, the pastors have been:

1903–1916—Reverend John L. Marquis
1916–1932—Reverend D. C. Jones
1932–1944—Reverend W. R. Courtenay
1944–1947—Reverend George T. Peters
1947– —Reverend John E. Bouquet

An Associate Pastor, Reverend Robert Ranck, served the church from January 15, 1956, to February 1, 1958.

During the later years of Dr. Chapin's pastorate, the need for a new church building was apparent. In 1901 the old structure was razed and a new one erected on the same site on the corner of Church and Smith Streets.

Coming into the late 1930's and early 1940's, increasing membership and activities called for larger space. The west two-thirds of the block bounded by Church Street, Doty and Columbian Avenues, was acquired, on which the present edifice was constructed. The educational wing, including chapel and Fellowship Hall, was dedicated in May, 1951. The present sanctuary, built on the southwest corner of Church Street and Columbian Avenue, was dedicated October 10, 1954.

The Presbyterian Church observed its centennial in October–December, 1948.

Church membership, as of July, 1957, is 1,570, and 795 are enrolled in the church school.

The property on which the old church stood, while still owned by the church, is converted into a public parking lot, except for Sundays and on weekdays, when special services or large gatherings are scheduled at the church.

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

On May 23, 1948, sixteen families of the Trinity Lutheran Church of Neenah organized the Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church to help alleviate the overcrowded condition in their ever-increasing Trinity Church. Until the chapel on Cecil and Birch Streets was dedicated on December 11, 1949, Grace Congregation conducted its services in the Recreation Building, South Park Avenue.

Grace congregation now numbers approximately 100 families. Rev. W. F. Wichmann is the pastor. A long range program includes erection of its own school, a parsonage on Birch and Cecil Streets, and a church building. The present chapel will then become a parish hall.

Immanuel's Evangelical and Reformed Church

Immanuel's congregation continued to occupy the first church, which they purchased from the English Methodists in 1874, located at the corner of Oak Street and Doty Avenue, until 1909. In that year the present church building was erected, during the pastorate of Rev. August Kleinhans who served 1879–1920. In 1924–25, an addition was built to the present building, during the pastorate of Rev. Emil Kollath, who served the church from 1922–45. Rev. Kollath was followed by the Rev. Otto Scheib, 1945–52.

Immanuel's congregation officially united with the Evangelical Church of North America in 1925, and became known as Immanuel's Evangelical and Reformed Church, when this denomination merged with the Reformed Church of the United States in 1934.

Previous to this event, the congregation of Immanuel's Church had no denominational affiliation, existing for almost fifty years as an independent congregation, and had carried its history under several names.

A remodeling program was carried out in 1953, with a rededication service October, 1953.

The present membership of Immanuel's Church stands at 471 individuals, with Rev. H. E. Norenberg serving as their pastor since 1952.

Martin Luther Evangelical Lutheran Church

MARTIN LUTHER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH is among the newer congregations in Neenah, having been organized December 15, 1941, as a mission church of Trinity Lutheran Church. It consisted of families formerly affiliated with the Trinity Church and newcomers to Neenah on the west side of the city. Temporary quarters were the Fourth Ward Voters' Poll, located on the corner of Van and Adams Streets. Rev. A. F. Geiger was the organizing pastor, who remained through 1945.

In March, 1942, property on the northeast corner of South Lake and Adams Streets was purchased for a building site. Because of building restrictions in effect during World War II, all building activity had to be delayed.

By November, 1947, the first church was completed. The permanent church was built in 1955, and dedication services were held Sunday, June 17, 1956. The first church was then converted into an educational building, and opened in the fall of 1957.

The present pastor is Rev. Paul G. Hartwig, who began serving in January, 1946. The present membership is 546.

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

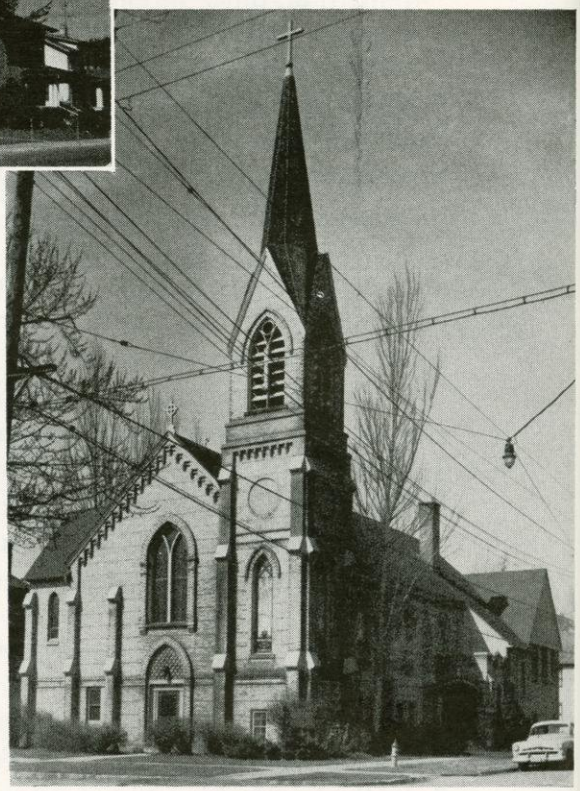
THE congregation of Our Savior's Lutheran Church grew steadily and flourished after its organization in 1872. The little white church on Torrey Street was no longer adequate, and, in the early '80s, property was purchased on Isabella Street. The little white church was moved to this location, and a front addition was added, plus other improvements.

During the next ten years the membership increased, and it was deemed necessary to build a new and much larger church, which was formally dedicated in 1905.

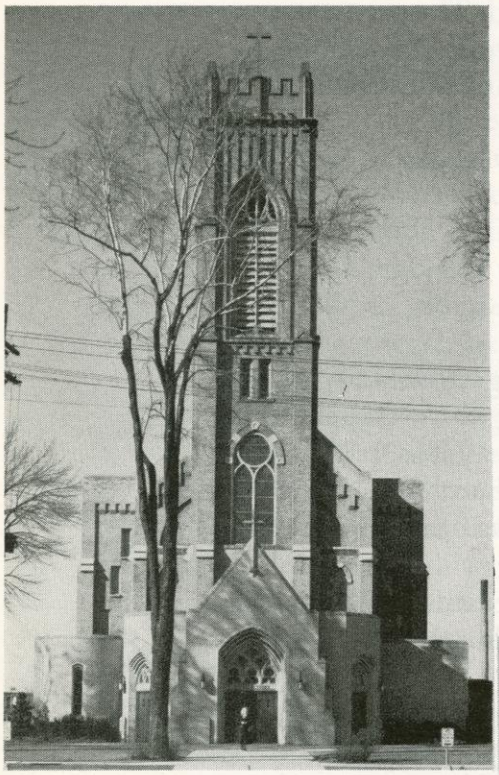
The demand for worship services in the English language increased, and consequently two services were held each Sunday morning, one in Danish and the other in English. Now, for the past fifteen or twenty years, services have been conducted entirely in English.



St. Paul's Lutheran Church

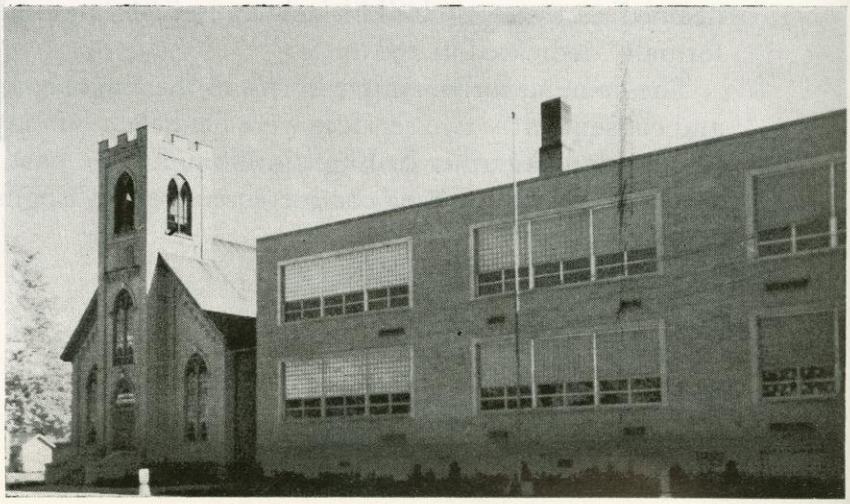


First Evangelical United Brethren Church



St. Patrick's Catholic Church

Trinity Lutheran Church



Our Savior's Lutheran Church had been in this same location for 51 years, but in 1955 the church and parsonage on Isabella Street were sold to the Calvary Baptist congregation. A new house of worship was erected on the corner of South Commercial and Meade Streets, and dedication ceremonies were held Sunday, July 1, 1956.

Church membership is 535 baptized members.

The first full-time pastor was the Rev. N. Thomsen, who served until 1880. He was followed by the Revs. Thomas Helvig, A. Hansen, J. N. Jersild, H. P. Jensen, J. Soe, C. C. Kloth, M. N. Andreason, J. A. Larsen, A. Jensen, A. H. Andersen, and the present pastor, Paul G. Rasmussen, who came to the church in 1951.



Saint Margaret-Mary's Catholic Church

THE congregation of St. Margaret-Mary's came into being by an official letter of the late Most Reverend Paul Peter Rhode, then Bishop of Green Bay, and dated May 4, 1932. The Rev. Joseph Van Bogart was appointed its first pastor and organizer. Divine services were first held in St. Patrick's Church, Menasha, for members of the newly formed parish.

The first meeting was held, on May 17, 1932, and it was decided to incorporate the parish under the Wisconsin statutes. On September 12 ground was broken for the combined church and rectory at the corner of Divison and Reed Streets.

First masses in the new church were offered Easter Sunday morning, April 16, 1933, in the basement social hall. On Sunday, July 11, of the same year, St. Margaret Mary's Church was solemnly dedicated by Bishop Rhode.

Father Van Bogart was a most zealous leader, but his health became impaired and he left Neenah in 1938. He died in 1946 at Holy Cross Church, Mishicot.

Father Van Bogart was succeeded by the present pastor, the Rev. Joseph P. Glueckstein. During his pastorate, the church debt was liquidated in 1941. During the early '50s another extensive building program was launched, resulting in a parochial grade school, Sisters'

Convent, and, finally, a modern gymnasium. The Rev. Willard C. McKinnon came as Asst. Pastor in 1950, remaining through 1957. Father James Craanen succeeds Father McKinnon.

St. Margaret-Mary's parish at present numbers over 1,000 families, or about 3,500 persons.

St. Patrick's Catholic Church

THIS church, located on Nicolet Boulevard, Menasha, served Catholic Church members in Neenah until 1933, when St. Margaret Mary's Church was built. This church was known as St. Charles Borromeo until 1883, when it was destroyed by fire. A new church was then built on the same location, and the name changed to St. Patrick's.

Its first pastor was Father William DeKelver, who served thirty-one years, 1884–1915, when he retired. He was succeeded by Father George A. Clifford, 1915–1932, and Father William Mortell, 1932–1939. The present pastor is Father Joseph Ahearn, who has served since 1939. St. Patrick's parish at present numbers over 1,000 families.

The present school was built in 1940.

St. Paul's English Evangelical Lutheran Church

THERE were five Evangelical Lutheran Congregations in Neenah-Menasha, not one of which used the English language in conducting services of worship. A missionary pastor at Oshkosh, Rev. William C. Stump, came to Neenah in the spring of 1912, and arrangements were made for services to be held in a small chapel owned by the Norwegian Lutherans, located on Bond Street near High Street. The church was organized Sept. 22, 1912.

This small chapel was purchased in 1913 and services were held there regularly. A rapidly growing congregation called for larger quarters. The present location, corner North Commercial and West North Water Streets, was secured in 1914. St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church was dedicated May 21, 1916. Rev. A. J. Sommer was the first pastor, and served for fourteen years. Mr. Sommer was followed by Rev. Chas. E. Fritz, who served from 1927–1935.

Property to the north on Commercial Street and west on West North Water Street has since been acquired. An expansion program was necessary, and St. Paul's Church underwent extensive remodeling. This was completed and dedication of the new, enlarged and completely remodeled church took place April 15, 1956.

St. Timothy Lutheran Congregation, Menasha, was organized in 1945, to aid in the expansion program, and as a convenience to church members residing in Menasha.

On September 8, 1957, St. Mark's Mission church was organized, and is meeting at 700 Main Street. Rev. Charles Luhn is pastor, with 150 adult members comprising the congregation.

Rev. Samuel H. Roth came to the church in 1936, serving until his retirement in 1957. Rev. Arthur R. Tingley, formerly Associate Pastor, who came to the parish in 1954, was named Pastor.

The baptized membership is 1,975.



St. Thomas Episcopal Church

ST. THOMAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH, located symbolically almost on the line between Neenah and Menasha, came into being in 1915. Prior to that, two congregations existed, St. Stephen's in Menasha, and Trinity in Neenah. The Menasha church had its beginning in 1857, when the first Episcopal services were conducted in that city by Reverend Charles C. Edmonds, of Green Bay. The Neenah church, Trinity, owes its origin to the missionary activities of St. Stephen's priests, who conducted occasional services in Neenah, resulting in the organization of a congregation in April, 1868. The Neenah congregation erected a modest church structure in 1869, on the corner of East Franklin and Walnut Streets. Failing to achieve adequate financial and numerical strength as separate organizations, the decision was reached in 1915 to combine.

Among the first acts of the combined parishes was purchase of the Ballou property on Washington Street, Menasha, for use as a rectory and parish hall. The new church building was begun in the fall of that year (1915) and the finished edifice was consecrated on May 14 of the following year. Membership of the congregation in 1915 comprised 81

families and individuals, 197 baptized persons and 93 communicants.

Rectors in order of succession were:

Rev. Herbert A. Wilson	1915–1917	Rev. Albert A. Chambers	1936–1942
Rev. W. G. Studwell	1917–1920	Rev. Herman A. Berngen	1942–1944
Rev. Raymond A. Heron	1920–1925	Rev. Crawford W. Brown	(interim)
Rev. Gordon A. Fowkes	1926–1932	Rev. John B. Reinheimer	1945–1955
Rev. Malcolm J. VanZandt	1932–1936	Rev. Thomas K. Chaffee	1955–
Rev. Leonard G. Mitchell	(interim)		

A combination guild hall and gymnasium was erected to the north of the parish house in 1921. In 1954, thirty-three years later, the old parish house and gymnasium were razed and a new parish house erected. Thus the following year the educational and social activities of the congregation moved into a modern and enlarged home.

As of 1956 family units and individuals totaled 251, with 541 baptized persons and church school enrollment of 155.

Seventh Day Adventist Church

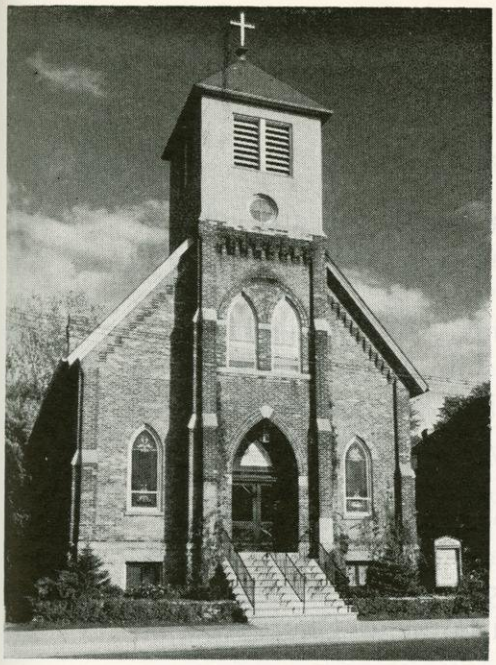
THE Seventh Day Adventist Church, Neenah, came into existence in 1885, and a church building was erected on the west side of Henry Street, near Caroline Street. The church was organized as a Danish Seventh Day Adventist, but later had services in English.

Eld. J. C. Nielsen was one of the first Ministers, also Eld. H. R. Johnson. Some of the early leaders were Mr. Andrew Christensen, Mr. A. W. Jorgensen, Mr. Hans Sorensen, and Mr. Nels Burtelsen.

The church had visiting ministers and local leaders part of the time. The young people moved away, the older members died, and those remaining joined the Appleton Seventh Day Adventist Church. The Neenah property was sold in 1943.

Trinity Lutheran Church

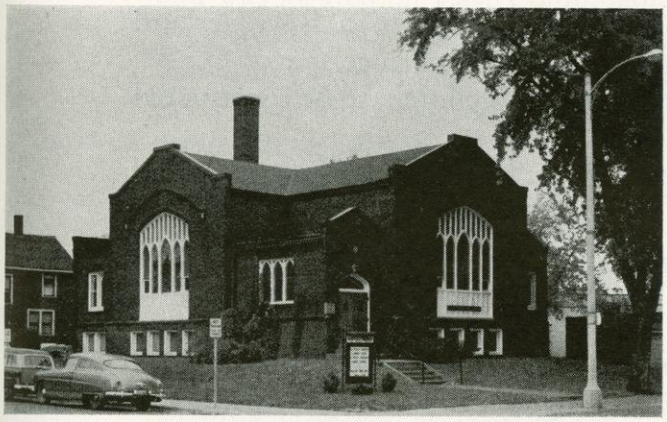
TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH was organized on December 26, 1865 by Rev. E. F. Waldt. The little church, which the congregation had constructed in 1867, on the corner of Washington and Walnut Streets, was not adequate to serve the fast-growing congregation, and, in



Calvary Baptist Church



First Church of Christ Scientist



Whiting Memorial Baptist Church

Martin Luther Evangelical Lutheran Church



1888, a new and much larger edifice was built and dedicated, on Oak Street, between Washington and East Franklin Avenue. It is still serving as their church.

During the pastorate of Rev. Albert Froehlke, who served the church for 38 years, from 1897 to 1935, membership grew to more than a thousand individuals. After the first World War, both English and German services were conducted. For six years three services were conducted each Sunday.

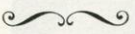
In 1941 Trinity called upon the Wisconsin Synod to establish a mission congregation. Today the Martin Luther Evangelical Lutheran Church is a growing congregation of over 500 people. Further expansion was necessary, and Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church was organized.

The total membership of Trinity at the present time is approximately 1,900, or about 675 families.

Rev. E. C. Reim served the church from 1935–1940. Rev. Gerhard A. Schaefer is the present pastor, having served since 1940.

Plans are in progress for erection of a new church, to be constructed on the same location.

The school in connection with Trinity has always enjoyed a sound and steady growth.



Universalist Church

THE Universalist Church, also known as "The Church of The Good Shepherd," had its own church building on the Island, near the dividing line on North Commercial Street, erected in 1867. The church had numerous pastors; a well-remembered one, Mrs. Mary J. DeLong, served for many years. A pew in the Washington, D. C., Universalist Church is dedicated to her memory.

The church needed remodeling and repairs, and for some time meetings were held in the "little white church on the island," corner of East Forest Avenue and Second Street, where Roosevelt School now stands.

The former church building was rededicated in April, 1896, and Rev. Eddy served for several years.

Due to its declining membership, the church building was sold in 1904 to Samuel A. Cook, who tore it down and built the present S. A. Cook Armory on the same site.

Welsh Churches

THE Welsh Calvinistic Methodist Church was known as the "Brick Church" and was located on Division Street. It was organized in 1848, with five members. There was no resident pastor, but services were held from time to time with visiting ministers from Oshkosh, Cambria, Randolph, Columbus, Wild Rose and other Welsh communities filling the pulpit. At about the turn of the century, services were discontinued and the members transferred to other churches.

The Welsh Congregational Church was called the "White Church" and was located on East Columbian Avenue near Pine Street. There were about two dozen families making up the membership, and a Sabbath School of about 25 members was conducted jointly with the Welsh Calvinistic Methodist Church. Many of the members attended other Protestant churches on Sunday mornings, and Welsh services were held on Sunday afternoons. Visiting ministers from neighboring Welsh churches conducted the services. This church was organized in 1861 and continued to be active until about 1908, when services were discontinued and the members transferred to other local churches.

Whiting Memorial Baptist Church

THE "Little White Church," as it was known in the 1870's and 1880's, located on the east side of North Commercial Street midway between Nicolet Boulevard and the Northwestern railroad tracks, continued to serve as the house of worship for the Baptist Church of Menasha and Neenah until 1891. At this time the building was remodeled, and the name changed to Doty Island Baptist Church, during the pastorate of Rev. N. F. Clark.

The Danish Baptist Church had been organized in 1867, services being held in the Brown schoolhouse, corner of Caroline and Isabella

Streets. Lay preacher members conducted the services, until in 1870, the Rev. Lars Knudson, from Denmark, came to be the first full-time pastor. He served until 1885. In 1876 a one-room church was built on the corner of Washington Avenue and Spruce Street.

In 1898 the members of the Danish Baptist Church joined the Doty Island Baptist Church, and the name was changed to the Union Baptist Church of Neenah. The church building was then known as the "Little Red Church."

In 1916 George Whiting presented to the church the property on the corner of North Commercial and High Streets, and also a substantial gift of money toward a new building. Mr. Whiting's wife, Edna, was the daughter of the Rev. Oliver Babcock, who had served twice as pastor of the church, from 1867 to 1873, and from 1884 to 1885. The new structure was dedicated in 1917 and the name changed again to "Memorial Baptist Church," as a tribute to Mr. Whiting's wife and mother. A disastrous fire damaged the building in 1922, but it was promptly restored. In 1925 Mr. Whiting made further gifts to the church and was persuaded to have his name incorporated into the name of the congregation, as "Whiting Memorial Baptist Church."

1951 was the Centennial Year of the Church, and the "100 years of Baptist Witness" was appropriately celebrated.

The church is affiliated with the Wisconsin Baptist State Convention and the American Baptist Convention. The present membership is close to 300, and the pastor is the Rev. K Aart Van Dam.

Pastors serving the Whiting Memorial Baptist Church since 1898:

1898—S. M. Beeman
1899—P. S. Calvin
1902—Alfred Goodwin
1910—W. L. Clapp
1913—J. W. Johnson
1915—F. L. Holden
1918—U. E. Gibson
1937—W. L. Harms
1950—A. G. Sinclair
1953—Theodore F. Krause
1958—K Aart Van Dam



City Hall—built in 1888—now in need of rearrangement if not replacement

CITY ADMINISTRATION

Mayors Serving the City of Neenah

Edward Smith	1873–1874	William Kellett	1879
Alexander Billstein	1875	C. B. Clark, Sr.	1880–1882
A. H. F. Krueger	1876	A. H. F. Krueger	1883
D. L. Kimberly	1877	G. A. Whiting	1884–1885
A. H. F. Krueger	1878	J. W. Tobey	1886

Dr. E. W. Clark	1887	Charles Schultz	1902–1907
William Arnemann	1888	J. N. Stone	1908–1911
S. A. Cook	1889	C. B. Clark	1912–1919
George O. Bergstrom	1890	E. C. Arnemann	1920–1921
William H. Hesse	1891	J. H. Dennhardt	1922–1923
E. J. Lachmann	1892	George E. Sande	1924–1925
William Arnemann	1893	J. H. Dennhardt	1926–1927
E. A. Williams	1894	George E. Sande	1928–1933
William Arnemann	1894–1895	William S. Campbell	1934–1936
George O. Bergstrom	1896–1897	Edwin A. Kalfahs	1937–1949
J. N. Stone	1898	Carl E. Loehning	1950–1955
Thomas Higgins	1899	George E. Sande	1956–1958
Gustav Kalfahs	1800	Chester Bell	1958
M. L. Campbell	1901		

City Clerks Serving the City of Neenah

C. J. Kraby	1873–1880	T. T. Moulton	1894–1897
G. W. Todd	1881–1882	S. M. Sykes	1898–1899
J. N. Stone	1883	George LeTourneaux	1900
J. C. Kerwin	1884–1885	J. P. Keating	1901–1913
J. P. Rasmussen	1886	H. S. Zemlock	1914–1941
S. M. Sykes	1887–1893	R. V. Hauser	1942–

We are indebted to Mayhew Mott for the above listings of Mayors and City Clerks who have served our city. In addition, through his efforts, there is now on file in the Library, typewritten lists giving by years the names of Mayor, City Clerk, Treasurer, Attorney and Aldermen for the years 1873 to 1955 inclusive.

The following comparative figures were supplied by Mr. Roman Hauser and Mrs. John Bruyette, of the City Clerk's office:

City of Neenah

Year	Population	Assessed Valuation	Tax Levies
1860	1,296	—	—
1870	2,655	—	—
1880	4,202	$ 1,254,599	$ 31,364.98
1890	5,083	1,550,060	38,751.50
1900	5,954	1,844,604	63,750.74
1910	5,734	3,784,208	92,402.45
1920	7,171	10,015,375	286,310.26
1930	9,151	15,992,229	447,782.41
1940	10,645	18,478,420	443,482.08
1950	12,437	25,185,717	957,057.25
1957	17,200 (est.)	35,098,230	1,684,715.04

Estimated Number of Homes

1860— 320	1920—1,750
1870— 660	1930—2,250
1880—1,050	1940—2,660
1890—1,260	1950—3,100
1900—1,480	1957—4,345
1910—1,500	



Fire Department

THE following is quoted from a souvenir booklet of the Neenah Fire Department dated 1878–1914:

"In the year 1863, the only equipment available for fire protection was a home-made apparatus capable of throwing a stream about twenty feet. This was used in connection with the 'old bucket brigade.' In 1865 a heavy double brake hand pump was purchased. At least twenty men were necessary to operate this machine effectively. However, from all accounts, it gave fairly good service. During the year 1868, when Mr. J. N. Stone was President of the village, an appropriation of $1,200 was raised to buy a Silsby Steamer."

The charter of the city of Neenah in 1873 authorized the common council "for the purpose of guarding against the calamities of fire, . . . the power to purchase fire engines and other fire apparatus, and to maintain or organize a fire department, and to authorize the formation of fire engine, hook and ladder and hose companies, and to provide for the due and proper support and regulation of the same." The Chief Engineer of the Fire Department was an appointive position, and the personnel of the various companies was made up of voluntary enlistments. An ordinance, dated 1881, signed by C. B. Clark, Sr., Mayor, lists the sum of 50¢ per month for each member of the respective companies. Following is a roster of Fire Chiefs as listed in the available records:

M. P. H. Haines		1868	Chris Neustetter		1883
R. D. Torrey		1869	H. O. Clark	(Jan. 20)	1885
C. B. Clark		1871	Robert Jamison		1885–87
C. Binger		1872	H. E. Coats		1887
W. P. Peckham		1874	E. F. Wieckert		1888–90
M. H. P. Haines		1877	William Arnemann		1890
Felix Bahner	(Aug. 13)	1877	Fred Peck		1891–95
A. W. Kellogg		1879			

John Christoph	1896–97	L. M. Rausch	1919–43
W. L. Jones	1898–1901	(first full-time paid Chief)	
Louis Bergstrom	1902–09	Howard Heup	1943–47
George Christoph	1910–19	John Zick	1947–
(first appointed under newly-formed Commission)			

On March 15, 1893, the department was disbanded, and reorganized on a volunteer basis on October 3, 1893.

Heads of the Neenah Rescue Hook and Ladder Company. (Available records list the following.)

Adam Erghott, Foreman 1875 (Taken from Cunningham)

H. O. Clark	(May 12) 1881	Dr. Valerious	1887
J. T. Enos	1883	A. T. Perry	(June 1) 1887
J. H. Jones	(June 3) 1884	John F. Brown	1888
H. E. Coats	(Aug. 6) 1884	E. Goodman	1889
A. T. Perry	1885	J. Stilp	1890
J. Stilp	1886	C. Johnson	1891

Many present-day citizens recall the two ropes, with handles, that dangled at the entrance to the City Hall. The ropes connected with two clappers in the belfry, where the bell hangs. When a fire was reported, the nearest person grabbed the handles and set up a rapid jangling of the bell. That started a race of teamsters for the City Hall. The winner hitched his team to the hook and ladder truck, and off they galloped to the fire—and a $5 reward!

In 1910, pursuant to the law establishing Police & Fire Commissions in fourth class cities, the Fire Department was reorganized and began functioning under the Commission. Mr. George Christoph was appointed Chief, with fifteen men comprising the force. The department operated on a volunteer basis.

In 1916, when C. B. Clark was Mayor, Mr. Clark and Mr. Louis Rausch purchased the first motor-driven truck, replacing the hook and ladder companies. This truck, with 350 gallon pump, was delivered in 1917—and Mr. Rausch and Mr. William Hoeper were the first drivers. With the arrival of the truck, the two drivers began sleeping at the City Hall, and Mr. Rausch recalls that after working three months without a day off, Mr. August Eberlein was hired.



Neenah Fire Department—1910. Names from left to right: Herman Vogt, George Christoph, Chief; Charles Meerbach, Martin Wachholz (white coat), Al Staffeld, Louis Bergstrom, Louis (Little) Nelson, Emil Melchert, Will Mason, Russ Allender (driver for Mason & Nagel Livery), Fred Mason (?), Joe Cox, August Eberlein (Asst. Chief), Silas Martens, unknown driver for livery, Louis (Nickel) Nelson. At entrance to City Hall: John Fullam and Tom Kelly. The two children standing beside John Fullam and Tom Kelly are Alice and Kenneth Rausch, children of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Rausch, former Fire Chief. Kenneth is a present fireman.

Prior to this time, Mr. Christoph had slept at the City Hall during the night, and kept his team of horses there overnight and on holidays. During the daytime, the old bell still summoned the nearest teamster. In addition, the Kellett & Coats livery stable (later Mason & Nagel) which was located on the site of the present ERA building, furnished a team. This stable was later moved to 216 South Commercial Street, and Mr. Rausch states that one favorite horse, when the bit was put in his mouth, would immediately walk, via the sidewalk, to the City Hall and turn into the fire station!

Present Force

John Zick, Chief
F. Diesterhaupt, Capt.
H. Howman, Capt.
K. Rausch
L. Loehning
A. Krutz
R. Mertz
C. Douglas
G. Sturgis
R. Tornow
N. Bonnin
G. Hackstock
N. Hoeper
W. Lange
A. Lange
H. Gullickson
G. Krause
D. Levick
G. Casperson
G. Haufe
B. Williams (temporary)

Police Department

WHENEVER a community is formed, such is the way of human beings that law enforcement must be considered among their first thoughts of city administration. Neenah was no exception—the charter of Neenah in 1873 provided for a Chief of Police at a yearly salary not to exceed $700. The Chief was appointed for a term of one year. Following is a roster of Chiefs of Police of the City of Neenah:

James McGinn	1878	Peter D. Kraby	1898
Thomas Sherry	1879–1881	Charles H. Watts	1899–1900
Ephraim Giddings	1882	James W. Brown	1901–1905
George W. Sawyer	1883–1887	Charles Blank	1906–1907
A. F. Haertl	1888	James W. Brown	1908–1910
George W. Sawyer	1889	James W. Brown	1910–1916
George F. Thompson	1890–1891	(first appointed under newly-formed	
George N. Jorgensen	1892–1893	Commission)	
John Peterson	1894–1895	Charles H. Watts	1916–1940
Charles H. Watts	1896–1897	Irving Stilp	1940–

In 1909, through the efforts of Dr. James R. Barnett, Sr., a citizen of Neenah, then a member of the state assembly, a law creating Police and Fire Commissions in fourth class cities was passed by the state legislature. In conformity with this law, Mayor J. N. Stone appointed the first commission, consisting of Thomas Kelly, President; George A. Jagerson, Peter J. Ladd, Harry Ballou, Louis Swane, and James P. Keating, Secretary and Examiner of the Board. This commission appointed James W. Brown as Chief of Police on June 27, 1910. Mr. Brown continued until March, 1916. The first force comprised three members, one of whom was Harry Holverson, who served for thirty years, until his retirement. Henry Bando, Henry Burr, Ben LeRoy and Peter Carlson, an ex-sheriff, were also early members of the force.

On May 18, 1916, Charles H. Watts was appointed Chief of Police, holding this office until June 1, 1940. Upon his retirement, Irving Stilp was appointed Chief, which office he holds to the present date.

From a simple system of the policeman on the corner, to a complex system of nationwide communication, our law enforcement department has kept pace, in spite of shockingly inadequate space and facilities.

The present force totals twenty-six men:

Irving Stilp, Chief
Clarence Toeppler
Henry Kohfeldt
Elmer Reinke
George Goldner
Lawrence Malouf
Vernice Wollerman
Stanley Staffeld
Herbert Parker
Warner Sorensen
Donald Schmidt
William Richey
Durward Breaker
Raymond Tuchscherer
Charles Harding
Rupert Lehman
Leslie Parrott
James Hawley
Leorman Konitzer
Clyde Hulbert
Robert Meverden
Robert Seiler
Kenneth Foster
Darrell Webb
Robert Homan
Richard Toeppler

EASY MONEY

From Mayhew Mott's rich store of anecdotes:

The present city hall had not been built many years when through some accident the line that ran through the pulley on top of the flagstaff broke or was pulled through, so that there was no way of raising the flag to the top of the flagstaff. The city council secured the services of a steeplejack to replace the rope through the pulley. He came with his ladders and tackle, and started by lashing a ladder to the bell tower, so that it protruded out over the street. He then used the projecting end of the ladder as the support of another ladder, which reached up over the bell tower and rested against the base of the 22′ flagstaff. Fernie Nelson, young brother of Chris Nelson, the plumber and for many years a Neenah Alderman, was present, bare-footed and with his hands in his pockets, watching these operations with great interest. When the second ladder had been lashed in place, the steeplejack began to be nervous and uncertain. Fernie spoke up, "How much will you give me if I finish the job for you?" The man instantly replied, "Five dollars." Fernie tied the rope around himself, shot up the ladder to the flagstaff, shinnied up the 22′ flagstaff, and was down claiming his money. He said it was the easiest money he had ever earned.

COMMERCIAL

NEENAH'S commercial life from the 1870's to the year of this writing has followed the pattern of many another American community. In the horse and buggy age the shopping area was close up. People within the community were within walking distance of their grocer, butcher or their dry goods merchant. Once a week was shopping day for the rural neighbors, who drove to town over dirt roads.

Then came the interurban railway and Appleton and Oshkosh were brought within the shopping range of Neenah housewives. The revolution, however, came with the introduction of the automobile during the early decades of the 20th century. The auto brought demand for hard surfaced roads, and this, in turn, widened Neenah's shopping area to 25, 50—even 100 miles. No longer can Neenah's merchants complacently count on local patronage as their monopoly. They are at once in competition with their area—from Green Bay on the north, to Milwaukee on the south.

Furthermore, they cannot avoid responsibility for customer parking. Failure at this point puts the entire downtown commercial area in jeopardy and encourages the growth of shopping centers on the city's outskirts, where cheaper real estate facilitates adequate and convenient parking for cars. An outstanding example of this trend is the Valley Fair in Winnebago County south of Appleton's city limits. The I.G.A. and Red Owl food stores on the south margin of Neenah are typical of this trend.

To further add to the discomfiture of the downtown merchant is the movement of city residents into the rural or shore regions beyond the city's boundaries.

On the other hand it must be recognized that these trends are two-way streets. The local merchant, professional man or banker who offers superior service attracts his share of patronage from this widening field.

To Edward Jandrey was assigned the task of compiling the voluminous commercial history. There went to the management of every

store and commercial establishment in the city an invitation to participate, through contribution of a paragraph naming present owners, changes in ownership or location since 1878, nature of business and any personal information of interest to posterity. Recognition of the enterprises who responded is woven throughout the decade write-up in Part I, with particular attention being given to the older commercial establishments. Failure to respond was interpreted as a disinterested attitude toward appearance in the pages of this book.

However, the City Directory, printed annually by the Johnson Publishing Co. of Manitowoc, is complete and will always be available.

COMMUNICATIONS

To our forebears the word communications had a very different meaning than it does to us. To them it meant either one of two things. The first was to personally talk to the other person, and the second was to write a letter and wait for an answer that was carried over rather uncertain mails. To us it means the high speed interchange of thoughts and ideas that the use of electricity permits. It is communications in this latter sense that we will discuss in this chapter.

The earliest electrical communication system placed in general use was the telegraph. It was only a few short years after Samuel Morse first demonstrated a practical telegraph system in 1837 that the telegraph came to Neenah. The first office was opened here in 1852. Neenah was one link of a line that connected Chicago and Green Bay. This line was operated by the Northwestern Telegraph Company. This company operated the line until 1881, at which time it was leased to the Western Union Telegraph Company. This is the period that saw an additional miracle of electrical communications. In 1877 Sam Henry, of the Kimberly & Henry Drug House (now Elwer's) installed a device, new to these parts, called a telephone. A wire was strung from the drug store to the home of Dr. J. R. Barnett, on the corner of Church Street and West Doty Avenue, also to the residence of Dr. N. S. Robinson (now the home of the YWCA). This installation was what we would now call a party line. Soon there formed a waiting line of would-be customers, and the system became so unwieldy that an exchange was started, and thereby became the first telephone exchange in Wisconsin.

Twenty customers made up the first clientele of the first telephone company in Neenah. The first manager was, of course, Sam Henry, who pioneered the telephone in Neenah, and the first operator was Charles Nielson. Only a year after the exchange was started, the Wisconsin Telephone Company was incorporated. This new organization took over the exchange in M. E. Barnett's drug store.

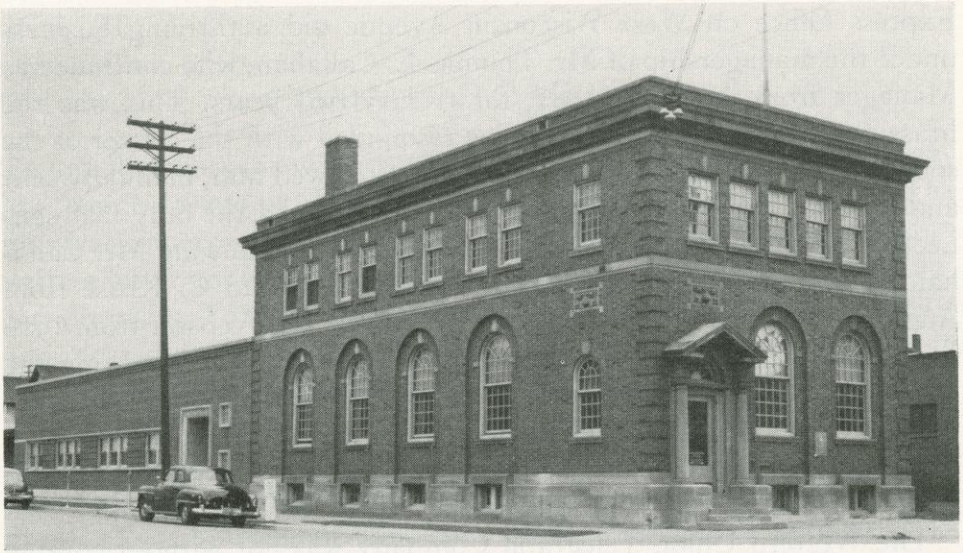
The coming of the telephone did nothing to dampen the spirits and progress of the telegraph. The telegraph office in the Wells Fargo

Express Office on West Wisconsin Avenue did a thriving business under the managership of Mr. Thomas E. Callahan, who continued as Manager from April 15, 1882, for twenty-two years. This was the brass pounders' paradise. The office resounded with the clatter of the sounders as Mr. Callahan, and those who followed him, manually sent and received messages and press news that formed the only fast connection between Neenah and the outside world. Following Mr. Callahan in the brass pounders' league were Mr. Conrad C. Kruse from August 1, 1904, to March 18, 1906, and Mrs. S. E. Webster from 1906 until April 4, 1911. At this time Mr. John B. Boreson became the Manager and operator of the Neenah office. He remained in this position for over forty years. During this whole period the Western Union Telegraph remained a one-man office, one man and one boy, the familiar WU messenger boy and his bicycle.

The Western Union Telegraph Company was not without competition, however. Their competition in telegraphic communication was the Postal Telegraph Company. Their office was first located in the back of Barnett's Drug Store, and later, about 1927, it was moved into the Spude Electric Company building on North Commercial Street. Prior to 1922 the Postal was operated by Miss Emma Koestle, of Appleton. She was relieved by Mr. Brian Seroogy for a period of six weeks. That six weeks became sixteen years. During those years of Mr. Seroogy's managership several operators came and went, among them Mrs. Clarence Nash. Messenger boys were also used by the Postal. Among those that worked under Mr. Seroogy were Carl Stridde, Harvey Jorgenson, Dave Rusch, Robert Gillespie, George and Herman Krause, Eli Breaker, Carl Krueger and Howard Boreson.

In 1930 Neenah won the District Basketball Championship and went on to Madison to the State Tournament. Since radio was in its infancy and the majority of the families in town did not have a receiver, a group of civic minded citizens defrayed the expenses of the Postal operator and the scores were relayed to Draheim's Store, where they were announced over a loudspeaker to the fans outside. Sometimes as many as 2,000 interested listeners gathered outside the store to hear the scores.

In 1938 Mr. Seroogy left Postal, and in 1943 the Postal Telegraph



Wisconsin Telephone Company Building

merged with Western Union and the Postal office in Neenah was discontinued. By this time Western had moved, first into the rear of the Anspach Dry Goods Store, then into the Valley Inn, and finally to 112 East Wisconsin Avenue, where they are at this writing.

While all of this was happening to the telegraph, the Wisconsin Telephone Company was expanding its operations at a rapid rate. After a series of managers followed Sam Henry, Mr. N. G. Willarson took over the managership in 1897 and stayed until 1923. In 1908 a new exchange building was constructed, the present building at 117 S. Commercial Street. By 1916 the number of subscribers had grown to 2,220. After Mr. Willarson came Henry D. Raiche and Peter Shea. Then, in 1932, Mr. Robert P. Brooks became manager, continuing in this post until retirement in 1957. Mr. Clifford M. Flaherty replaced Mr. Brooks. Under Mr. Brooks' guidance the Neenah-Menasha exchange has grown to a total of 16,000 telephones, all dial. The changeover to dial switching came in 1948, necessitating an addition to the rear of the present office building to house the dial equipment. The change to the dial system also heralded local calling privileges between the Twin Cities, Appleton and Greenville.

The Wisconsin Telephone Company supplies the following information regarding increase in the number of telephones in Neenah:

1877—	4	1920—	2,490
1882—	35	1930—	4,679
1890—	101	1940—	6,386
1900—	268	1950—	11,130
1910—	1,200	1957—	16,111

Sometime shortly after World War I, an unknown young man, working alone in his basement, set up the first radio station in Neenah. He was the first of the "hams" or, to the uninitiated, amateur radio operators. The number of hams slowly increased as the fascination of this scientific hobby gained more widespread attention. In 1950 a formal organization of the hams in the Twin Cities was organized primarily through the efforts of Mr. Lyle Buestrin. The original roster of members totaled fourteen. The organization, although primarily social in nature, maintains an emergency supply of electric power and two complete stations located in the Roosevelt School. The membership has grown so that by now there are twenty-six members, and prospects for several more.

Radio was destined to change the lives of many more of the residents of the Twin Cities than just the avid hams. In 1937, through the efforts of Mr. Irving Stilp of the county police force, a county-wide police radio network was set up. Until 1942 it was a one-way system, with a transmitter at Oshkosh and receivers in the police cars and motorcycles. In 1942, shortly after Mr. Stilp became Police Chief at Neenah, two-way AM radio was established in Neenah. The transmitter was installed in the City Hall, with the control console located in the Police Station. Continuous two-way communication was obtained between the station and the fire trucks, the squad car and motorcycle and the Police Rescue boat. With the advent of static free FM radio, the police system was converted to FM, with the transmitter remotely controlled from both the Neenah and Menasha police stations. The water works, on the shore of Lake Winnebago, proved an ideal location for the transmitter and antenna. The mobile equipment in Neenah now includes three cars, three motorcycles, three fire engines, the ambulance and the police boat.

Neenah was growing, and a need for a commercial broadcasting station was felt. Mr. S. N. Pickard sparked the movement that resulted in the establishment of the Neenah-Menasha Broadcasting Company, with Mr. Pickard as President, Mr. Don C. Wirth as Vice-President, and Mr. R. D. Molzow as Secretary-Treasurer. The first program went on the air in May of 1947 from a transmitter located on County Trunk A about one mile south of Neenah. The first studios were located in the basement of the National Manufacturers' Bank. The station continued to operate in the daytime only, with a power of 1,000 watts, until July of 1950. In the meantime an FM transmitter was placed in service in conjunction with the AM unit. The dual transmissions were continued with the AM station on full-time operation until 1953, when the FM license was relinquished to make room for television. Picture transmission was started late in February of 1954, on the UHF Channel 42. UHF transmissions were not completely successful, and late that same year, the station went off the air. TV was here to stay, though. The Neenah-Menasha Broadcasting Company merged with the Valley Telecasting Company, of Green Bay, in order to operate a VHF station on Channel 5.

Electrical communications as used by the citizens of Neenah have become more and more complex, and have effected rather drastic changes in all of our lives. The end of this chronicle has arrived, but not the end of more useful, more rapid, and more convenient devices, all operated by our servant, electricity.

I wish to acknowledge the efforts of the following people, without which this chronicle could not have been written: Mr. Robert P. Brooks, Mr. Donald Cyr, Mr. Brian Seroogy, Mr. Don C. Wirth, Mr. Irving Stilp.

Compiled by Lowell W. Zabel

COMMUNITY CHEST

Following World War II there was widespread interest in the creation of an organization to take over the money raising activities for a large group of organizations who had previously put on individual fund raising drives. Such an organization could reach a greater number of people than the individual organizations, and thus the financial base of the fund raising was widened.

Neenah-Menasha organized their Community Chest on Thursday, June 26, 1947, at the St. Thomas Community Building. Officers elected at that meeting were:

S. F. Shattuck, President
J. Morgan Wheeler, 1st Vice-President
Mrs. J. F. Gillingham, 2nd Vice-President
Don Colburn, Secretary
J. Russell Ward, Treasurer

Six Directors were also elected and the following Committee Chairmen were selected:

Budget Committee—Henry J. Young
Admissions Committee—W. H. Swanson
Nominating Committee—John Pinkerton

A local War Fund Committee had $1,870.00 which had been collected to perpetuate a veteran's office which was not being used, and this fund was turned over to the Chest.

The townships of Neenah and Menasha were included with the two cities for Chest activities. Eight organizations were approved for the first year's operation of the Chest: Y.W.C.A., Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Salvation Army, V.N.A., Boys' Brigade, Children's Service Society of Wisconsin, and the Neenah-Menasha Apostolate. The goal for this first fund drive was set at $60,000, which was attained.

Officers for the year 1956–57 are:

Donald A. Snyder, President
Arthur Hedlund, 1st Vice-President
John H. Wilterding, 2nd Vice-President
Mrs. H. C. Sperka, Secretary
E. J. Schultheis, Treasurer
Donald C. Shepard, Jr., Campaign Chairman

Ten approved agencies: Boys' Brigade, Boy Scouts, Children's Service Society, Community Council, Girl Scouts, Neenah-Menasha Apostolate, Salvation Army, V.N.A., Y.W.C.A., Family Service. The Budget for 1957 is $112,000.

Chest headquarters share office space with the Chamber of Commerce, 112 W. Wisconsin Avenue.

Compiled by Mrs. W. B. Bellack

COMMUNITY COUNCIL

On January 8, 1940, the first meeting of the Council of Social Agencies was held. Over forty organizations were represented and meetings were to be held each month. The officers elected were:

Rev. A. A. Chambers, Chairman
A. J. Armstrong, 1st Vice Chairman
Rev. W. L. Harms, 2nd Vice Chairman
Miss Virginia Beals, Secretary
T. D. Spaulding, Treasurer

Members of the Executive Committee:

Rev. Joseph Ahearn
Rev. Gerald Churchill
Miss Edna Robertson
C. H. Abel
H. M. Bishop
Mrs. Ruth Falvey
Gaylord C. Loehning

At this time its main purpose was to assist welfare and social workers interested in community welfare, and to promote a closer harmony among the member organizations.

In 1951 it became a Community Chest agency. The main purpose of the Council is to look at the Community as a whole, and to endeavor to coordinate the work of existing agencies. It tries to eliminate duplication of effort and stimulate preventative health measures by education, coordinated planning and thinking. In 1953 the name was changed to Neenah-Menasha Community Council.

Compiled by Mrs. W. B. Bellack

DANA CLUB HALL

ONE of the historic meeting places of early Neenah was the Dana Club Hall. John S. Tolversen here tells its history:

The Dana Club was the old Trinity Lutheran Church, located on the corner of Washington and Walnut Streets, next to their school building, which is still standing there, though now a house. I attended that school for about half a year.

The Dana Club bought the church and rebuilt it for a hall, later selling it to J. P. Jasperson, who moved it to its present location on West Doty Avenue. The Dana Club met there, though that club has long since passed from existence. The Danish Brotherhood, which is still a going concern, then met there for a time.

I remember very well, as a little kid, attending parties there when the folks drove in from the farm, which was a ten mile drive. The building had a stage and was the scene of many entertainments, and I remember one debate, though I do not remember the participants, except that J. P. Jasperson was one, and the subject of the debate was, "The theater is an unchristian institution and should not be patronized by Christian people."

Louis Sorenson bought the building from Jasperson, and later sold it to Sadie Edgarton. Subsequently it became the property of Wm. Krueger Co. At present it belongs to The Jandrey Co., who use it for storage.

George Elwers appends this relative to Michelson's Hall:

A similar hall with a stage was Michelson's Hall, on the site of the present post office. High School dances, with George Gardner, pianist, were held here. It was on the steps of this building that the boys were sitting one evening with nothing to do, wh en Dr. Chapin came along and talked to them. Result: The Boys' Brigade

DENTISTRY

In 1841 the first Dental School was founded. Previous to that time and up to 1885 dentists were trained by other dentists, known as preceptors. In 1885 the first law regulating the licensing of dentists was enacted in Wisconsin. Men already in practice had only to register and make an affidavit attesting that they were already practicing.

In 1885 three men were in Neenah: Dr. J. P. Mertes had been here two years, Dr. V. M. Valerious for eight years, and Dr. J. T. Enos for an unknown period. We only know that Dr. Enos was number twelve to register in the state. The following year, 1886, noted a new man, Dr. W. E. Young. A year later we find that Dr. W. H. Meeker was added to the dental group. Meeker was here for several years. After his retirement to live in Appleton, he sold insurance, his wide acquaintance in the area being of considerable advantage.

Dr. Orrin Thompson came here in 1889 and continued till 1907, when his office was taken over by Dr. Wm. M. Post. A successor to Dr. Post was Dr. J. M. Donovan, who took over Dr. Post's office in 1911, Dr. Post at that time moving to the state of Oregon. Dr. W. F. Gary was in Neenah for thirty-five years, from 1894 till 1929. Dr. Frederick Taylor spent twenty-seven years in Neenah, 1896 till 1923, when Dr. G. N. Ducklow took over his office. Dr. Ducklow is still here and has a dentist son, Dr. Robert Ducklow, who has just returned to practice here after his hitch in the U. S. Army. Dr. Albert J. DuBois and Dr. George Barlow joined the dentists here in 1897. Both continued here till their deaths.

Dr. Gary was an exceptionally fine mechanic. His was a mind with a mechanical trend. In his laboratory were many devices made by himself. Dr. Gary was one of the founders of "Xi Psi Phi"—a dental college fraternity. Shortly before retiring he was a guest of the fraternity at the University of Michigan.

Dr. George Barlow, besides doing dentistry, had diversified interests. At one time, before the advent of the modern local anesthetic, he had the sole rights to use a patented local called Odun-under. He

also organized a dental supply company, which was indifferently successful.

Dr. Taylor was a tense man, with strong religious feelings. For many years he was connected with the Presbyterian Sunday School. He retired to his old home in Elkhorn.

Dr. Albert DuBois was the first dentist in Neenah to acquire X-ray equipment. Other dentists for many years were dependent on an X-ray service conducted by Dr. Greenwood, a physician.

Dr. J. M. Donovan, at the present writing, is still in practice, associated with Dr. John L. Donovan, his son. Dr. John L. Donovan started practice in 1943, the first three years in the U. S. Army. Dr. J. M. Donovan has served dentistry on both a state and national level. In 1924 he was President of the Wisconsin State Dental Society, and in 1942 was President of the American Association of Dental Editors. He is currently, and has been for twenty years, editor of the *Journal of the Wisconsin State Dental Society*. In 1938 he was elected to be a Fellow of the American College of Dentists, an honorary society for dentists who have made distinctive contributions to the profession.

Dr. Truman Seiler appeared in 1915, followed by Dr. L. J. McCrary in 1919, Dr. H. C. Schultz and Dr. Wm. M. Schultz in 1925 and 1932, respectively, Dr. W. F. Landskron in 1936, and Dr. A. E. Jenkins in 1938.

Dr. L. J. McCrary was for some time a member of the School Board. Dr. H. C. Schultz is, and has been for several years, deeply interested in sports and recreation. Dr W. E. Schultz is currently a member of the City Plan Commission.

Neenah should be happy with the dental service available and with the public dental health program in the schools, which was fostered by Neenah dentists. A full-time dental program is currently existing and has been for over twenty years. Miss Dorothy Kuehne, a dental hygienist, instructs children of all grades on proper dental care. She also speaks to parent groups about their part in dental care.

Another phase of dentistry that is unique is the dental service for school children with insufficient means to pay for dental service. For some twenty years the Twin City Visiting Nurse Association has

underwritten this philanthropy. So far they have expended well in excess of $12,000.

Up to the turn of the century there was little conformity in dentistry. Many men had secret methods which they jealously guarded. Present dentistry is much different. Men having attained special skills freely give them to the profession. Counsel and advice is freely available.

Through the efforts of local dentists, fluorides were added to the city's water in 1950. Already the benefits are becoming apparent. Dental decay in children's teeth has been reduced by 50%.

Down through the years several dentists appeared in Neenah, and, after a short period, left for locations more to their liking. Only some of the more recent names will be remembered. We list Dr. Todd, Dr. Mories, Dr. Traver, Dr. Sorenson, Dr. Wick, Dr. Post, Dr. Wagner, Dr. Jern, Dr. Kulnik and Dr. Jorgensen.

The dentists now in Neenah, in the order of their start in practice, are:

J. M. Donovan—1911
T. J. Seiler—1915
L. J. McCrary—1919
G. N. Ducklow—1923
H. C. Schultz—1925
W. E. Schultz—1932
W. F. Landskron—1936
A. E. Jenkins—1938
J. L. Donovan—1943
H. P. Jacobi—1950
R. R. DeWet—1952
J. M. LaLiberte—1954
J. J. Bouressa—1955
R. Ducklow—1958

It should also be mentioned that the Twin City Dental Laboratory is run by Mr. Patrick Smith, an expert technician.

Compiled by Dr. J. M. Donovan

DOTY CABIN

On August 31, 1835, James D. Doty purchased, from the Federal Government, land totaling 100 acres for the sum of $600 (on the Island, "Doty Island"). The purchase of this land was possible because the Island and land on the Menasha side of the Fox River was not a part of the Indian Reservation. Neenah, or the land south of the south branch of the Fox River, remained a part of the Menominee Indian Reserve, and was not open to settlement until after the Treaty of the Cedars in 1836, or to purchase until after 1846.

The original site for the cabin was selected because of its view and accessibility to the lake. Built in 1845, the cabin was a realization of a dream long held by Doty, to provide a rustic place for retirement. Mrs. Doty named the cabin the "Grand Loggery." Here the family lived until in 1860, when Lincoln appointed Doty to the Superintendency of Indian affairs in the Utah territory, which office he held until his appointment to the Governorship of the same territory in 1863. His death occurred in 1865, and he is buried at Fort Douglas in Salt Lake City.

Mrs. Doty returned to this region and lived with a daughter, Mrs. Fitzgerald, in Oshkosh.

Mrs. Gleason, whose husband was a partner in the Wilde and Gleason Drug Store, was born in this building. Because there was no suitable home for the doctor to work, Governor Doty took her into his home.

The land and the Loggery were purchased by Hugh H. Ernsting on January 28, 1868, from Mrs. J. D. Doty.

In 1875, John Roberts purchased the site and Loggery from Mr. Ernsting for the purpose of erecting a resort, which was opened to the public on May 30, 1877. The Cabin served as an annex to the resort, serving as housing space for the help, and also accommodated pool tables and card tables on the first floor. John Roberts sold the property to Strange, and the Cabin lay abandoned until 1926, when the D.A.R. became interested, and under its influence it was moved to Doty Park and opened to the public.

In 1937 a regular summer program of days and hours was established, and the Cabin has been open from June to September each year since that date. Differing from most old homes, Doty Cabin is open to all, free of charge, and has become an accepted part of the park program.

Throughout the years before being moved to Doty Park, the Cabin had suffered much from neglect. In 1948 it was felt advisable to replace the original cabin with a replica, using such original materials as advisable. This project was completed, and, with care, the building will stand for many years to extend to future generations some of the true history of the past.

It has ever been the interest of the local D.A.R., Neenah Historical Society, and others, to furnish the Cabin with original Doty material. So far there has been secured: a piano; a mahogany table sent by Mrs. Frank Gregory, of Pomona, California; a settee and two chairs from R. H. Wise, of Billings, Montana, a relative of Mrs. Doty; a sideboard and silverware, presented by Mr. McMann, of Oshkosh; small dishes, glasses, table silver, presented by Mrs. C. B. Clark, of Neenah.

Where original furnishings are not available, materials of the 1800 to 1850 period are used to furnish the Cabin.

The average year sees between five and six thousand visitors at the Cabin, representing 200 to 250 cities, 20 to 30 states, and as many as fifteen foreign areas of the world.

With interest in old and historic homes obviously growing, Neenah will do well to maintain this historic site.

Compiled by Harvey R. Leaman

ADDENDUM: It is a matter of historic interest that all of Doty Park was once owned by the man whose name it carries.

In 1905, John Roberts' heirs sold the property to Mr. and Mrs. John Strange. They kept the cabin on its original site until 1926, when Mrs. John Strange gave the cabin to the city.

C. B. Clark inherited from his father most of the property now in the park. Mr. Clark's gift of his holdings was augmented by purchases of additional parcels by interested citizens. The land facing Lincoln Street, on which the cabin stands, was part of such gifts.

ELECTRIC LIGHT, ELECTRIC POWER, AND INTERURBAN SERVICE*

To TRACE Neenah's source of electric energy, also the interurban service, both north and south of Neenah, we must start with the year 1882, when H. J. Rogers, of Appleton, purchased the Edison patent rights for the Fox River Valley, and with A. L. Smith, a banker of Appleton, built on the bank of the power canal in that city the first hydroelectric central station in the world. Mr. Rogers had a wire strung to his home, and the report is that it was almost like a dream when a crude lamp glowed with light. "In this first installation there were no voltmeters, or ammeters, no instruments of any kind, no lightning protection and no fuses. The copper wires were poorly insulated, and the slightest disturbance would short out the circuit. When this happened, all hands went out tracing wires, and service was suspended until the trouble was located." The Appleton Edison Light Company was incorporated in May, 1883, with an authorized capital of $50,000, with A. L. Smith as President. Fortunately for this infant company, Mr. Smith was also President of the First National Bank of Appleton.

It was about this time that the idea of connecting up the cities in the Fox Valley with an electric interurban service was born. In January, 1886, the Appleton Electric Street Railway Company was incorporated. A plant was hastily thrown together. Rails were laid up and down Lawrence Street. The crude cars were controlled only at one end, so that at the end of a run, turntables had to be built to enable the motorman to turn his car around by hand. Again, there was no lightning protection. The plant shut down during electrical storms. By 1891, the novelty had worn off. The company was faced with raising more money to modernize plant and equipment or go into bankruptcy. The latter course was chosen. Subsequently, in the same year, Mr. Smith and C. A. Beveridge purchased the Street Railway Plant and property for $30,000. Forming a new corporation, the Ap-

* Data for the above sketch taken from Chapter I of Forrest McDonald's book, "Let There Be Light."

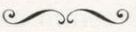
pleton Edison Electric Company, they purchased property of the defunct Street Railway Company and the Appleton Edison Light Company, which was also in financial difficulties. Had the Appleton Edison Company stayed with the lighting business instead of taking on the Street Railway burden, they would have made a "go" of it. In 1894 a rival concern, the Citizens' Electric Light & Power Company came into being. This concern began operations the next year, 1895. Both they and the Appleton Gas Company forced the Edison Company to cut its rates for light and power. At the same time its street railway department became a liability.

We now look to the south of Neenah for the next step. In 1894 a movement took shape in Oshkosh to run an interurban line from Oshkosh through Neenah and Menasha to Appleton, and ultimately to Green Bay. By this time the Appleton Edison Electric Company had drifted into financial distress, and President Smith agreed to sell this company to the newly-forming interurban company for $80,000. Progress was blocked by the Neenah and Menasha Councils, who refused franchises to the proposed new line. This action on the part of the Twin City fathers, which delayed extension of the line to Appleton, was due to the fears of local merchants that an intercity line, with Oshkosh on one end and Appleton on the other, would be injurious to their business. Meanwhile, due to this delay, the Appleton Edison Electric Company went into bankruptcy. At the foreclosure sale, Smith again came to the front and bought the property of the defunct Appleton Edison Electric Company and formed the Appleton Electric Light and Power Company. In spite of persisting failure, Mr. Smith had a vision of the social usefulness of electric power. He then acquired the property of the Citizens' Electric Light and Power Company and was off to a new start, when, later that year, fire destroyed his generating plant.

Now we drop back to the year 1892, when a group of Milwaukee capitalists visualized an electric line along our Fox Valley waterway, from Fond du Lac on the south to Green Bay on the north. The Neenah and Menasha Electric Railway Company formed the nucleus of this new interurban company, which eventually became the Fox River Valley Electric Railway Company, operating for three years

and extending its lines northward to Appleton and Kaukauna. Fire destroyed its power plant in 1900. Emergency power was bought from the Appleton Electric Light and Power plant, and this incident led to the merger, in 1900, of both companies into the Wisconsin Traction Light, Heat and Power Company, which then served Neenah with its electric energy for both light and power purposes, as its successor does today. In 1927 the Wisconsin Traction Light, Heat and Power Company became the Wisconsin Michigan Power Company, serving our community's expanding needs for electric energy. One year later (1928) the auto and gasoline-driven buses caused the elimination of the interurban street car.

The interurban service south from Neenah to Oshkosh was instituted by the Citizens' Traction Company, of Oshkosh, and the Fond du Lac-Oshkosh line began operation in 1903. The Neenah-Oshkosh interurban service was discontinued in 1927.



Electric Light Comes to Neenah

THROUGH the courtesy of Alvin Staffeld, we quote from an address of Thomas Higgins at a convention of the Wisconsin Municipal Association in Manitowoc, June 18, 1937.

Mr. Higgins was a former resident and one-time Mayor of Neenah. During the early 1880's he built and operated a gas plant in Neenah, and was instrumental in bringing electric lighting to our city.

In the year 1878 my brother, Henry, and I, in association with J. D. Calton, a gas engineer of Defiance, Ohio, built gas works in Dixon, Illinois, a few miles from our boyhood home on the farm, and the next year we built similar works in Waterloo, Iowa, and in the Twin Cities of Neenah and Menasha, Wisconsin. Gas was used exclusively for lighting then, and the only competitor was the kerosene lamp and the candle.

The 2,000 candle arc electric light had been developed and was being used to a limited extent for lighting large stores and halls, and in one section of New York, several high towers had been built and several of the big arc lights on top of the towers gave the vicinity a moonlight appearance and the gas lamp on the corners was dispensed with.

There was, however, much talk of a so-called subdivided electric lamp to take the place of the gas jet, and I remember the names of three men, Sawyer, Mann and Swan, who were experimenting in the laboratory with a glass globe from which the

air was exhausted and a platinum wire in this vacuum globe was heated red hot by passing an electric current over it, and this gave a light equal to 16 candles, the measure of the ordinary gas jet. But this lamp was known to be impractical except as a laboratory experiment, but I watched the experiment with deep interest. Then in the year 1880, the newspapers reported that Thomas Edison, a comparatively unknown man, had developed a similar electric lamp in his laboratory in Menlo Park, New Jersey, but he used a carbon filament in place of the platinum wire, and this Edison claimed was inexpensive and practical and sure to take the place of the gas jet. The others ridiculed Edison's claim, and many denounced him as a faker, but he succeeded in getting capital interested and factories were established for the manufacturing of Edison dynamos and lamps, and gas stocks kept dropping, and I was very much concerned.

Then, in 1882, H. J. Rogers, of Appleton, bought an Edison Equipment for his paper mill on the Appleton Water Power, and ran copper wires to his home on the hill and lighted both his mill and his home with Edison incandescent lights, and in September, 1882, this mill and home being but six miles from my gas works in Neenah, I made many trips to Appleton with my horse and buggy to watch the experiment and to talk to Mr. Farewell, the manager of the Appleton Gas Works.

About that time a new company, called the Western Edison Company, opened an office in a basement on Monroe Street, Chicago, with Edison generators in the rear of the office. The manager was Frank Gorton, a son-in-law of General Anson Steiger, who was then President of the Western Union Telegraph Company, and a man named Jacobs was employed to travel and sell Edison Equipment, and he came to Neenah often, trying to sell to the big paper mills that I was then lighting with gas. Art Bowron, Editor of the *Neenah News*, said to me one day, "Tom, what's that man Jacobs up to that he comes here so often? Is he trying to put you out of business?" I spoke disparagingly of the thing and told him of the lights going out in the Plankington House, and Art said, "I guess I'll give him a shot in the paper," and that evening the shot appeared in the paper, and next day my friend, Bowron, came to me with a telegram from Jacobs, reading: "You have the wrong pig by the ear. I'm coming up on the next train."

Jacobs came, and he and Art came to see me, and we had a friendly visit, Jacobs lauding the electric light, and he urged me very strongly to buy a Central Station Equipment for Neenah, as he was sure someone else would if I failed to do so. I promised to give the question serious consideration, and after that I made visits, from time to time, to the office of the Western Edison Company to talk with Frank Gorton and watched the operation of the dynamos.

In 1885 I changed the name of my company from Neenah & Menasha Gas Company to the Neenah & Menasha Gas & Electric Company, and I bought and installed an Edison Three Wire Central Station Equipment on the Neenah water power and a Vandepole Arc Machine for street lighting, and this was four years before either the White House or the streets of Washington were lighted by electricity. The Edison current was low tension, requiring large copper wires to carry the current, which made it impractical for use any great distance.

Then George Westinghouse developed the alternating current machine, developing a very high tension current to travel long distances on a small wire, and this high

tension current was changed to low tension by passage through a Stanley transformer on a pole near the building to be lighted.

The Edison people denounced this method of lighting as Man Killing Current, and caused a bill to be introduced in the New York Legislature for the purchase of a Westinghouse dynamo to be used for the execution of criminals, instead of hanging, and the Westinghouse Company fought the passage of this bill for some time, but Edison won, and the execution of criminals by hanging was changed to execution by a Westinghouse Electric Current, and that system has since been adopted in most, if not all, of the other states since then, and the question of danger from the high tension current has long since been forgotten.

About the year 1890, I sold the Edison Equipment and Bare Copper Mine to the Phillips Lumber Company, owned by John R. Davis, of Neenah, and it was installed by him in Phillips, Wisconsin, and I sold the Vandepole Arc Machine and lamps to a saw mill in Merrill, Wisconsin, and installed a Thompson Huston Arc and Alternating System to cover all of Neenah and Menasha, and, in 1893, I sold the whole gas and electric property to George S. Davis, of the Winnebago Paper Company, and he, a few years later, sold to John I. Beggs, who had already bought the Appleton Utilities, and he enlarged the Appleton properties and sent both gas and electricity to Neenah.

Human history is in essence a history of ideas.
HERBERT GEORGE WELLS

NEENAH-MENASHA FAMILY SERVICE, INC.

THE objective of Family Service is the coordination of services offered by the Emergency Society, a confidential, non-sectarian family service agency offering emergency relief and case work service to families and individuals where sickness, financial difficulties and other causes create problems needing assistance and counseling. Neenah, Menasha and adjoining townships comprise the area covered by this service.

Prior to 1940 the Social Service Committee of the Emergency Society did the investigating and all necessary work involved. A trained social service worker served until October, 1942, when pressure of war took her to other areas. On that date Mrs. Ruth Falvey, a member of the Emergency Society, took over the duties on a half-time basis. Her office was in the St. Thomas Episcopal Church, and was listed as Social Service Aid. In February, 1949, "Emergency Family Service" was chosen as the new name of the Social Service Aid Group, and an office was rented at 514 North Commercial Street, Neenah.

In the same year Mrs. Falvey began her duties as Executive Director on a full-time basis, and a part-time secretary was employed. Miss Carol Quella served in that capacity for several years. Mrs. Alice DuBois joined the staff in 1955, and is presently serving as part-time secretary.

In 1955 the organization incorporated under the name of Neenah-Menasha Family Service, Inc., and in January, 1957, became a member of the Community Chest.

Compiled by Mrs. W. B. Bellack

FRATERNAL AND SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS

COMPILED BY JOHN TOLVERSON

A.A.U.W.

The Neenah-Menasha branch of the American Association of University Women was founded in September, 1940, with 40 charter members. The first president was Miss Vivian Davies.

The purpose of this branch is to unite the alumnae of A.A.U.W. approved colleges and universities for practical educational work, to concentrate and increase their influence in the community for the solution of social and civic problems, to participate in the development and promotion of the policies and program of the American Association of University Women, to contribute to its growth and influence, and to cooperate in its state and regional work.

The group contributes college scholarships for local high school girl graduates, and to scholarships and fellowships in the United States and abroad for both American and foreign women scholars.

In addition, since 1944, there have been local study groups open to the public. In 1957–58, there are study groups on international relations, education, creative writing, music, literature, and travel and hobbies.

The branch instigated the formation of the Civic Music Association in 1945–46; in 1947–48, set up a youth hostel; several years, they have sponsored art exhibits by local artists; and, since 1951, sponsored a number of foreign exchange students.

Each year, hostesses from A.A.U.W. help new teachers in Neenah and Menasha to become oriented and to make friends. Senior girls from the local high schools are entertained each year, and encouraged to go to college. A Future Teachers Club at Neenah High School, sponsored by the education study group, encourages consideration of teaching as a career.

At the monthly meetings, there are educational as well as entertaining programs or lectures. Some are presented by the membership, and some by outside speakers.

The membership in 1957–58 is 127. The present officers are:

President	—Mrs. Thomas Christoph
1st Vice President	—Mrs. James Jersild
2nd Vice President	—Mrs. R. P. Galloway
Secretary	—Mrs. Stanton Charlton
Treasurer	—Mrs. Robert Schwier
Asst. Treasurer	—Miss Suzanne Gerhardt

Submitted by Mrs. W. H. Burger



American Legion Hawley-Dieckhoff Post No. 33

EARLY in 1919 the citizens of Neenah, led by Mr. C. B. Clark, provided an Army and Navy Club, in the Krueger block, using the remaining funds in the War Chest for this cause. Mr. Ray A. VanderWalker was elected President of this newly organized club.

In September of 1919 the members of this club decided to apply for a charter in the newly organized "American Legion Department of Wisconsin." The following servicemen signed the application and secured the charter of the "Neenah Post #33"—

Ray A. VanderWalker
Harry W. Peck
George Limpert
Arthur W. Johnson
Herbert W. Holbrook
Lawrence M. Lambert
Harvey M. Schwartz
Belvin Kurtz
Charles M. Sorenson
Harvey A. Kuhr
Rignor E. Madsen
Fred M. Runde
Roy W. Jordan
Lawrence A. Eisenach

The first Commander elected to serve the new Post was Mr. E. D. Beals.

At the first meeting it was decided to name the Post in honor of the first Neenah man who lost his life in the service of his country—James P. Hawley, who was lost in the sinking of the Tuscania off the coast of Ireland early in February, 1918; hence the name "James P. Hawley Post #33." After World War II the name of the first man to give his life in this great war, Douglas Dieckhoff, who was killed at Pearl Harbor, was added to make it the Hawley-Dieckhoff Post #33. This name was made official in October of 1944.

The American Legion's objectives are best expressed in the Preamble to the Constitution. It is as follows: "For God and country, we associate ourselves together for the following purposes: To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; to maintain law and order; to foster and perpetuate a one hundred per cent Americanism; to preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in the great wars; to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation; to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses; to make right the master of might; to promote peace and good will on earth; to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy; to consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness."

Child welfare and youth programs have long been of primary interest to The American Legion. Our local Post sponsors a Junior Legion Baseball Team, which gives the boys ample participation in competitive sports. Two high school senior boys are sponsored each year to go to Badger Boys State, at Ripon, Wisconsin, for one week. Here they learn the proper functions of local and state government. Athletic Awards are given to two high school seniors each year for their combined scholastic and athletic achievements. Assistance is also always given to needy veterans and their families. Any veteran may get legal counsel through the American Legion.

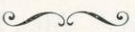
Any person is eligible for membership in The American Legion, who, being a citizen of the United States at the time of his or her entry into the Service, served on active duty in the Armed Forces of any governments associated with the United States during any of the following periods: April 16, 1917, to November 11, 1918; December 7, 1941, to September 2, 1945; June 25, 1950, to July 27, 1953.

Officers of the Hawley-Dieckhoff Post #33 for 1957 are:

Commander	Charles Acton
First Vice Commander	Tom Atkins
Second Vice Commander	Sigmund Akstulewicz
Adjutant	Kenneth Lewis
Finance Officer	George Runde
Chaplain	George Henebry
Sgts.-at-Arms	Robert Carlson and Dave Ribble

The Executive Committee consists of Douglas Anderson, Chairman; Charles Acton, Tom Atkins, Kenneth Lewis, Jack Meyer, George Runde, Casper Olson, Florian Radtke, and Howard Penney.

Submitted by Douglas D. Anderson



American Legion Auxiliary to the Hawley-Dieckhoff Post No. 33, Department of Wisconsin

In December of 1919, Post Commander Frank J. Schneller appointed Edward D. Beals and Harold Lyons to call a meeting for the purpose of organizing an Auxiliary to the James P. Hawley Post No. 33. The Post had been named in honor of James P. Hawley, the first Neenah man to give his life in the service of his country in World War I. James P. Hawley lost his life in the sinking of the Tuscania off the coast of Ireland early in February 1918. In October 1944, the name of the Post was changed to Hawley-Dieckhoff Post No. 33 in honor of Douglas Dieckhoff, who gave his life in the service of his country at Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941, in World War II.

Mr. Beals and Mr. Lyons appointed Mrs. Frank J. Schneller as assistant in organizing the Auxiliary. A meeting was called April 9, 1920, when fifteen women signed the application to procure a charter. The charter was held open until Armistice Day, November 11, 1920, and closed with a membership of 97.

The American Legion Auxiliary was formed for the purpose of aiding The American Legion in carrying out the great program of peacetime service to America to which The American Legion is dedicated. All of its activities are designed to promote the work of The American Legion and to help The American Legion reach its objectives. Although often working independently on projects of its own, the Auxiliary has no purposes that are apart from the aims of The American Legion. It is in every sense an "Auxiliary" to The American Legion and its members serve side by side with the men of The American Legion in a spirit of unselfish devotion to the well-being of the American republic.

The first meeting was held June 2, 1920. The following officers were elected:

President	Mrs. Maurice E. Barnett
Vice President	Mrs. Pearl Brinkerhoff
Secretary	Miss Nellie Hubbard
Treasurer	Mrs. Grace Hawley McMahon
The Executive Committee:	Mrs. D. S. Greenwood
	Mrs. Helen Kimberly Stuart
	Miss Lucy Harrison

Membership in the Auxiliary is limited to the Mothers, Wives, Sisters and Daughters of all men and women who were in the Armed Forces of the United States during any of the following periods:

April 6, 1917 to November 11, 1918
December 7, 1941 to September 2, 1945
June 25, 1950 to July 27, 1953

There are two classes of membership. Those over 18 years of age constitute the Senior membership while those under 18 years of age make up the Junior membership.

Meetings are held the second Monday evening of each month.

The meeting is opened by reciting the Flag Salute, the singing of the National Anthem and the reading of the Preamble of the National Constitution of the American Legion:

"For God and Country, we associate ourselves together for the following purposes: To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; to maintain law and order; to foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism; to preserve the memories and incidents of our Association in the Great Wars; to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation; to combat autocracy of both the classes and masses; to make right the Master of Might; to promote peace and good will on earth; to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy; to participate in and to contribute to the accomplishment of the aims and purposes of the American Legion; to consecrate and sanctify our association by our devotion to mutual helpfulness."

The Neenah Unit has a long and memorable history of achievement. A summary of the work can be partially explained by naming some of the Standing and Appointed Committees:—

Americanism and Badger Girls State	Civil Defense and National Security
Legislative Activities	Pan-American Study

Child Welfare	Poppy Activities
Community Service	Hospital and Welfare
Rehabilitation	Mental Health Project
Junior Activities	

The Unit is active in the Winnebago County Council and has a Past-Presidents Parley. 1957 officers:

President	Mrs. Arthur J. Kessler
First Vice President	Mrs. Roland Luckow
Second Vice President	Mrs. Elsie Theimer
Secretary	Mrs. Amanda Robinson
Treasurer	Mrs. Frank Raddu
Historian	Mrs. Emil C. Kollath
Chaplain	Mrs. Douglas Anderson
Sergeant-at-arms	Mrs. Robert Carlson
Asst. Sgt.-at-arms	Mrs. Bernice Prestridge
Musician	Mrs. Alicia Bart
Executive Committee:	
Mrs. M. E. Barnett	Mrs. Harold Seymour
Mrs. Florian Radtke	Mrs. Emmett Wood
Mrs. R. Kolasinski	Mrs. Louis Schmidt

Submitted by Mrs. Arthur J. Kessler and Mrs. Emil C. Kollath, July 31, 1956



Business and Professional Women's Club

THIS club was started in May, 1928, and the following were among the charter members: Lynda Hollenbeck (first president), Clara Bloom, Mathilda Dunning, Edna Robertson, Esther Babbitt, Mrs. W. Z. Stuart, Ruth Sparks. The objectives for which the club was formed were:

To elevate the standards for women in business and in the professions;
To promote the interest of business and professional women;
To bring about a spirit of cooperation among business and professional women of the United States;
To extend opportunities to business and professional women through education along lines of industrial, scientific, and vocational activities.

Our own local club at present is giving three scholarships to deserving young women every year, one each to Neenah High School, Menasha High School, and St. Mary's High School.

At least 75% of the club membership must be actively engaged in business or in the professions.

The officers for 1956–57 are:

Florence Forbes, President
Helen Bell, First Vice President
Mildred Webster, Second Vice President
Marie Kellett, Secretary
Mabel Kramer, Treasurer
Ruth Neabling, Executive Board
Lauretta Schultz, Executive Board
Eva Johnson, Past President

Compiled by Florence Forbes



Danish Brotherhood Lodge

DANISH BROTHERHOOD LODGE No. 2, was organized January 14, 1882, with thirty-three members. The last one of these, Casper Casperson, died March 24, 1924.

The Brotherhood is a fraternal insurance society with national headquarters in Omaha, Nebraska. Membership is limited to Danish men. Neenah lodge had at one time 484 insured men and meetings were held in Dana Club hall, but when immigration from Denmark ceased, the membership gradually decreased until today there are only thirty-eight left. Meetings are held in the homes of members the last Saturday of each month.

The 1956 officers are: President, C. C. Steffensen; Secretary, Elbert Thompson; Treasurer, William Petersen, who has held that office for thirty-five years.

By Andrew Andersen



Daughters of American Revolution

THE Neenah Chapter, Daughters of American Revolution, was organized at the home of Mrs. Helen Kimberly Stuart, 406 East Wisconsin Ave., February 22, 1928. Mrs. Stuart was the organizing regent, served as Chapter Regent for eight years, and was State Re-

gent from 1936 to 1939. There were 23 charter members, and the following officers were elected:

Regent—Mrs. Helen K. Stuart
Vice Regent—Mrs. Arthur Ritger
Chaplain—Miss Damie Wheeler
Recording Secretary—Miss Caroline Wheeler
Corresponding Sec.—Mrs. D. C. Jones
Treasurer—Mrs. L. J. Pinkerton
Registrar—Miss Helen D. Wheeler
Historian—Mrs. J. N. Bergstrom
Flag Custodian—Miss Jessie Wheeler

The motto for all D.A.R. organizations is "Home and Country." Some of the objects of the Society are to perpetuate the memory and spirit of the men and women who achieved American Independence, to foster true patriotism and love of country, and to acquire and designate historical spots.

The Neenah Chapter has a fine record of outstanding work in education for underprivileged boys and girls. The Chapter has also helped to maintain 13 D.A.R. approved schools. One of these is Northland College, Ashland, Wis. Liberal contributions have been made to Northland College Library.

An outstanding project is the presentation of Good Citizenship awards to Senior High School girls who possess high qualities of character as a basis of good citizenship. Neenah Chapter now sponsors a senior girl from four different High Schools—Neenah and Menasha High Schools are included in the list.

Among many completed civic projects are the placing and engraving of a marker to designate a site near the original Doty Cabin; in 1932 about 15 or 20 Washington elms were planted on Kimberly Point Park.

DAR Centennial Tea was held July 22–23, 1948, to observe our state centennial. James Duane Doty, great grandson of Governor Doty, came for the event from Florida. The tea was held at Mrs. Stuart's home.

The present membership is 55 women. 1957–58 Officers are:

Regent—Mrs. H. A. Heller
First Vice Regent—Mrs. L. A. Wienbergen
Second Vice Regent—Mrs. E. C. Joyce
Chaplain—Mrs. H. A. Johnson

Recording Secretary—Mrs. W. E. Smith
Corresponding Secretary—Mrs. H. C. Gray
Treasurer—Mrs. A. P. Austin
Registrar—Mrs. H. M. Bishop
Historian—Mrs. Arthur Ritger
Librarian—Mrs. H. O. Borgen

By Mrs. Arthur Ritger



Delphian Society

THE first meeting of the Delphian Society was held on July 13, 1918, with eighteen charter members. Mrs. C. J. Awsumb was the first President, Miss Celia Boyce, Vice President, and Mrs. F. J. Schneller, Secretary-Treasurer. Charter members listed were: Mrs. Awsumb, Miss Boyce, Mrs. Schneller, Mrs. F. C. Barroughs, Mrs. J. M. Donovan, Mrs. Fred Elwers, Mrs. E. E. Jandrey, Mrs. N. C. Jersild, Mrs. J. F. Kaufman, Mrs. Clarence Schultz, Mrs. Neale Spoor, Mrs. Harvey Young, Miss Marion Young, Mrs. John Mayer, Mrs. William Tauber, Mrs. J. O. Kuehl and Mrs. Charles Sommers. The group presently consists of twenty-five members. Of the charter members, only two, Mrs. Jersild and Mrs. Donovan, remain as of this writing.

1957–58 Officers are: President, Mrs. G. W. Petersen; Vice President, Mrs. H. C. Schultz; Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. N. C. Jersild.

The society was organized as a study group. Current "best sellers" are reviewed.

Compiled by Mrs. F. F. Martin



Disabled American Veterans

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS, Chapter No. 46, was organized in 1945. The group meets regularly every second Tuesday of the month. To be eligible for membership, the participants must have been wounded or otherwise injured during the time of war. Purpose of the group is to take care of the disabled from all wars, and be of service whenever possible, to them.

Present officers: Peter Steffens, Commander; Alfred Goeser, Adju-

tant Treasurer; Harold Zimmer, Financial Officer; and Norman Junion, Officer of the Day. There are 52 members at the present time.

Eclectic Reading Circle

THE Eclectic Reading Circle was organized on January 26, 1882, through the efforts of Miss Anna L. Proctor and a group of interested men and women of Neenah.

The committee appointed to draw up the constitution was Miss Minnie Gittins, James Jamison and Wallace Patterson. It stated that the object of the society was to form a society for mutual benefit and entertainment. Charter members numbered 42.

First officers were: President—Miss Maggie Shiells, Vice Presidents —Miss Minnie Gittins, Charles Bergstrom; Secretary—E. M. Proctor.

Present officers are: President—Mrs. W. J. Edwards; Vice President —Mrs. Frank Merkley; Secretary—Mrs. Harold Howman.

Miss Anna L. Proctor, chief organizer and charter member, served as President for many years before her death on March 22, 1947.

Submitted by Miss Olla M. Perry

Economics Club of Neenah & Menasha

ORGANIZED 1898.

Admitted to State Federation—1900. Admitted to General Federation—1914.

Meetings held in library auditorium, Menasha, first and third Fridays of the month at 2:00 p.m.

Programs consist of outstanding speakers on art, music, education, travel, international relations, literature, book reviews, etc.

The Club also sponsors a music department. This department meets on the fourth Monday of each month from September through April. It is federated with the Wisconsin and National Federation of Music Clubs.

Present (1957) officers are:

Mrs. Lynn F. Cooper, President
Miss Lorraine Dennhardt, First Vice President
Mrs. Byron Clark, Second Vice President
Mrs. William Dowling, Secretary
Mrs. Curt Smith, Treasurer

Submitted by Mrs. Lynn Cooper

Elks Lodge No. 676

In 1901 a group of thirty young men from Menasha and Neenah were taken into membership by the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and were granted a charter in the Order. The installation and initiation ceremonies were held in borrowed clubrooms at the old German Odd Fellows Hall. In addition to the thirty members initiated that day, the group was strengthened by the transfer of six members from the Appleton Lodge.

The first officers of the Lodge were: George A. Loescher, Exalted Ruler; Esteemed Leading Knight, Christ Walter; Esteemed Loyal Knight, Fred Huband; Esteemed Lecturing Knight, J. L. Youmans; Secretary, E. A. Oberweiser; Treasurer, William Arnemann; Tiler, O. J. Welsch; Trustees, F. S. Burroughs, Fred Loescher, and James Thom; Esquire, Greg Lenz; Chaplain, James Thom; Organist, George P. Pierce; Inner Guard, R. W. Schlegel.

In 1950 the name of the organization was changed from *Menasha* to *Neenah-Menasha* B.P.O.E. #676. Present membership is over 450.

For the first few months the Lodge maintained clubrooms at 131 Main Street, and then moved to 198 Main Street, Menasha. In 1953 the Lodge moved into its new building at 15 Mill Street, Menasha. Many Twin City organizations make use of the attractive dining and social facilities which the Lodge makes available to them.

The history of the local Lodge has been distinguished by its active support of the many charitable and patriotic activities which are supported by the Elks both nationally and at the local level. Chief among the latter are the work of the Crippled Children's Committee, which handles an average of four local cases a year and has sponsored

the presentation of orthopedic equipment to Theda Clark Hospital. Other activities have included furnishing Christmas baskets to needy families, sponsorship of a Boy Scout troop, presentation of an annual Flag Day program, and sponsoring recruitment drives during World War II for the Flying Cadets, Nurses Corps and Engineers Corps.

1957 officers of the Lodge are:

Exalted Ruler, Richard Laemmrich
Leading Knight, George Nelson
Loyal Knight, William Giese
Lecturing Knight, Alton Gaertner
Secretary, Milton Boehm
Treasurer, Richard Hill
Tiler, Gust Schueller
Esquire, Andrew Fockel
Chaplain, Robert Pagel
Inner Guard, John Jagerson
Organist, Elmer Schultheis

Trustees:

Ray Fink, Chairman
John Backes
Harold Haberman
John Klein
Harry Kosloski, Sec'y.

Submitted by John Backes



The Emergency Society of Neenah and Menasha

THE Neenah-Menasha Emergency Society began informally with a group of young Neenah and Menasha women sewing for the victims of the San Francisco earthquake in April 1906. They later began to sew for the hospital. At the suggestion of a local physician, they organized formally, enlarged the group, and established regular meeting days. It was Ellen Lee Banta who suggested the name "Emergency Society." From time to time the membership has been increased until today it stands at thirty-five.

The charter members were: Miss Helen Babcock, Mrs. John N. Bergstrom, Mrs. George Banta, Sr. (deceased), Mrs. J. C. Kimberly, Mrs. L. J. Pinkerton (deceased).

A few accomplishments are:

The Visiting Nurse Association of Neenah and Menasha was staffed in 1908 and was first financed by the Emergency Society.

The Emergency Society has helped the hospital throughout the years by giving nursery supplies, endowing a free bed, making gifts of needed equipment, equipping the entire maternity floor of the new wing in 1948, providing a twice-a-week free book cart service to the

patients, providing Christmas trees in the wards and gifts to the chronic patients, furnishing children's size furniture in the pediatric section and providing a ceiling projector with a library of films for those unable to hold a book.

A Thrift Shop was opened in 1930. It is open half a day per week and is operated by members.

During the depression of the thirties, milk, cod liver oil, toothbrushes and tonsillectomies were purchased or paid for by the Society.

During World War II, cookies were made and shipped to U.S.O. centers in Wisconsin.

Prior to 1940, the Social Service Committee Members did Social Service investigating and the work involved. In 1940 Mrs. Alice Peterson was hired as a trained Social Service Worker. In 1943 Mrs. Ruth Falvey took over the duties as Executive Director of the Neenah-Menasha Family Service. Neenah-Menasha Family Service is a private, family service agency, non-sectarian, which gives emergency relief and case work service to families and individuals where sickness, financial difficulties and other causes have created problems needing material assistance and counseling. The area services Neenah and Menasha and the townships. In May of 1956, the Emergency Society ceased to finance the Neenah-Menasha Family Service as it became a member of the Community Chest.

The elected officers (1956) are:

President—Mrs. Seldon Spencer
Vice President—Mrs. Hugh Moore
Second Vice President—Mrs. John Grimes
Secretary—Mrs. James Keating
Treasurer—Mrs. Fred Deutsch

Besides the five charter members and thirty-five active members, there are thirty-five inactive members who have served the community through their work in the Emergency Society for fifteen or more years.

Submitted by Mrs. Seldon Spencer

Equitable Reserve Association

EARLY in 1897 nine business and professional men in Neenah met and discussed a plan for the organization of a fraternal life insurance society. In the group and its first officers were: President, Frank T. Russell, who was also president of the Neenah Paper Company; Vice President, E. A. Williams, general insurance agent and a former superintendent of schools; Past President, J. P. Jasperson, proprietor of the Jasperson House; Medical Examiner, J. R. Barnett, M.D.; Secretary, Merritt L. Campbell, lawyer; Treasurer, J. C. Hilton, proprietor of a jewelry store; Auditor, W. G. Brown, banker; Warden, Dr. Orrin Thompson, dentist; E. L. Barnes, manager. T. B. Blair was the new society's first editor.

Mr. Russell, in 1903, was succeeded by E. A. Williams as President, who with Merritt L. Campbell as Secretary, brought the organization to the status of one of the leading life insurance companies of the State and it has been so carried on by succeeding officers.

The first job that faced this group after they had decided on the plan, was to secure 500 applications for membership and life insurance. The applications were completed, and on August 14, 1897, the men met and elected officers. On August 17, 1897 the charter to do business under the name of Equitable Fraternal Union was issued by the Secretary of State.

The first offices of the new organization were on the second floor of the Winnebago Building, corner of West Wisconsin Avenue and North Church St., now *News-Record* office. When the growth of the society made these quarters inadequate, a Home Office building was erected on the corner of South Commercial St. and East Doty Avenue. The building was dedicated on August 19, 1909. William Waters of Oshkosh was architect. This building was described by Henry Auler of Oshkosh as one of the few remaining buildings of classical design that is true to the principle of the Greek method of construction. It too is an example of what, according to Mr. Auler, is expressed in the "Parthenon" in Athens, Greece. The officers and building committee of the Association at the time it was planned are entitled to credit for the construction of an outstanding building, which it was at the time, and still is. It is a credit to the business district of Neenah.



Equitable Reserve Association Home Office Building

In 1902 ten men in Oskhosh organized another fraternal life insurance society. This group was also made up of leading business, professional and industrial men of their city. After all legal requirements were met, this society was chartered under the name Fraternal Reserve Association. On January 1, 1930 a merger of the two societies was completed under the name Equitable Reserve Association. The assets of the Equitable Fraternal Union were $5,694,000, which coupled with those of the Fraternal Reserve Association of $1,659,000, gave the Equitable Reserve Association a total of $7,353,000 in assets, which now exceed $16,000,000, with insurance in force in excess of $55,000,000.

Since the organization of the society, the total benefits paid to members and beneficiaries of members is in excess of $32,000,000. The annual receipts from life insurance premiums paid by members and interest earned on the invested assets of the society are approximately $2,000,000.

The present officers of the Association are:

John S. Tolversen, President
Leon H. Tolversen, Vice President and Treasurer
R. D. Molzow, Vice President and General Attorney
M. J. Emerson, Vice President and Director of Agencies
Norton J. Williams, Past President
R. Gordon Pope, Secretary
Lorren A. Schroeder, Assistant Secretary.



Equitable Reserve Association Neenah Assembly No. 1

Equitable Reserve Association Neenah Assembly No. 1, then Equitable Fraternal Union Assembly No. 1, the first of the local assemblies under the parent society, held its organization meeting August 23, 1897. Its membership was 123. Officers elected were: President, W. M. Gilbert; Vice President, C. W. Johnson; Past President, T. B. Blair; Secretary, Stephen Stilp; Treasurer, M. E. Barnett; Adviser, L. E. Scott; Warden, Geo. G. Barlow; Trustees, G. Ulrich, J. F. Zonne, Carl Icks.

Early meetings of the new assembly were held in the Home Office rooms in the Winnebago Building. Later, until suitable rooms were provided in the new Home Office building, completed in 1909, the Assembly met in the former Dana Club Hall situated on the south side of East Doty Avenue in the middle of the block.

The membership total at the present time, including men, women and children is approximately 1,600.

Present officers of the Assembly are:

President: Lorren A. Schroeder
Vice President: Margaret Hinterthuer
Adviser: John Williams
Treasurer: Howard Hinterthuer
Trustee for three years: Alice Rausch
Trustee for two years: Merton Law
Trustee for one year: Mrs. Henry Melchert
Past President: Francis Olson
Secretary, by appointment from Home Office: Howard Hinterthuer.



Ex Libris Club

THE Ex Libris Club was organized in 1951 by Mrs. Robert Thom and Mrs. James Jersild, the purpose being to become better acquainted with the best of current books. A program committee studies the available books, and each member is given a book to review for the group. The club meets on the third Wednesday of each month.

First President was Mrs. Robert Thom; Mrs. James Anderson presently holds that office.

Germania Benevolent Society

THE foundation of the present Germania Society was first laid on December 1, 1856, when nine men of German descent started a society with the purpose of helping the sick and burying the dead, under the leadership of Dr. Henry Stark, President, Karl Krebs, Secretary and F. H. Schrage, Treasurer.

In November of 1860, Mr. Curtis Reed donated the land on Broad Street, where the present Trinity Lutheran Church now stands, for a building to house the organization. This led to the resolution to build a hall. With only $27.50 in the treasury, each member was assessed $10.00, to be paid in monthly installments. This led to the resignation of nine out of the twenty-six members. With true German courage and perseverance, the small group did not give up hope, but set to work bringing logs and stones to the building site, donating their time and efforts.

On July 4, 1862, the first ball was held in the new hall, which was a mere frame at the time, lacking even plaster, but by July 4, 1863, the hall was completed.

Early in the year 1866, death benefits for members was raised from $20 to $100 and for members' wives from $15 to $50, each member being assessed 50¢ for the death of a fellow member, and 25¢ for the death of a member's wife.

In 1862 another German Society was founded, the "Menasha Turner Society." This society cultivated the old German (Turner) or gymnastic exercises, for the furtherance of health and muscular

strength. Combined with this purpose was the offering of mutual benefits to its sick members, and to lend support, as much as possible, to widows and orphans of deceased members. They purchased a lot on Chute Street and built what is now known as "Germania Hall." All members also worked without wages to erect the same.

The two societies, however, did not get along well, one provoked the other and misunderstandings arose. Moved by the old German adage, "In unity there is strength," a plan was conceived in 1888 to combine the two societies, under the sponsorship of Leo Neugebauer, Henry Bachman, John Frost, Werner Winz and Michael Schwartzbauer. A committee was appointed by each society, and by July of 1888, the "Concordia Society" and the "Menasha Turner Society" united into one group, under the name "German Unterstutzungs Verein." Over one hundred members were present at the actual signing of the merger paper. The combined balance in cash on hand at this time was $2,673.35.

The first officers of the new society were: President, Werner Winz; Vice President, Michael Schwartzbauer; Recording Secretary, Henry Bachman; Financial Secretary, Karl Jung, and Treasurer, Anton Drevis.

In 1927 the society amended its articles to change from a German-speaking society to an English-speaking society. Assets were over $30,000.

In 1939 a new constitution and by-laws were incorporated, and the name of the society was changed from "German Unterstutzungs Verein" to "Germania Benevolent Society," which name it bears today.

During this 100 years of constant growth 1,481 members have been initiated into this society, with assets of over $70,000.

In April 1948 a dinner and dance was held honoring members with 50 years or more of membership (*indicates deceased 50-year members since 1948).

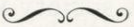
*Frank Schmidt
Wm. Tuchscherer
Frank Tuchscherer
*Wm Pagel
Wm. Schultz
*John J. Stommel
*Jos. Stommel
*John Pingel
*Wm. Ruether
John Schultz
Frank Heller, Sr.
*Wm. Neubauer

*Chas. Neubauer
Frank Adrian, Sr.
*Frank Oberwieser
*Richard Stelow
*Peter Krautkramer
*Wm. Knoelke
*Jacob Pscheitt
Sigmund Resch
*John J. Ullman
*Louis Schmitzer
*Val M. Landgraf
*Wm. Welsch
*Peter Heup
Julius Miller
John Zeininger
*Frank Rippl
*Geo. Bayer
*Herman Foth
*John Pack
*August Heup

Present officers are:

President—Harold J. Berro
Vice President—Louis Herziger
Recording Secretary—Walter Foth
Financial Secretary—Walter Girard
Treasurer—Fred M. Stilp
Trustees—Cornelius Rippl, Lawrence Pontow, Walter Bredendick

Submitted by Harold J. Berro



Golden Age Club

THE germ of the idea was planted by Reverend Craig, of Milwaukee, at a Community Council meeting February 21, 1949, in Neenah. Rev. Craig had been active in starting Golden Age Clubs in the Milwaukee area, and explained the clubs and told of their success and popularity.

As a result of that meeting, several people of the Council developed a plan to survey Twin City residents sixty years of age or older. Churches, social groups and the County Welfare Department cooperated in sending out information and return-cards. About 280 letters were sent out and only 36 cards were returned expressing interest. An interest-inventory sheet was developed and volunteers personally interviewed those 36 people.

When the interviews were completed and the results studied, the Neenah Recreation Department planned the first Golden Age Meeting. It was held exactly a year from Rev. Craig's talk on February 21, 1950, at the Neenah Recreation Building. Twenty-seven people attended this first meeting.

The Club meets the first and third Tuesday each month, September through May, and once a month during the summer. Average attendance is about 60, with a current registration of 168 people.

For the past three years, the club has had its own monthly news letter, which is mailed to all those registered.

Though the club was organized primarily for social recreation, it has several yearly service projects. The group stuffs envelopes and prepares Christmas Seals for mailing in Neenah, and contributes to the Christmas Giving Committee of the Community Council.

This group is open to anyone who is sixty years of age or over. It has helped to make life more enjoyable for the senior citizen, and its members are hopeful that the club and the community can increase its services to serve more people, and serve them better.

Submitted by Bill Miller



H. J. Lewis Woman's Relief Corps

THE H. J. Lewis Woman's Relief Corps was organized on April 10, 1890, in Neenah, Wisconsin, by Helen Charlton, of Broadhead, Wisconsin. There were eighteen charter members: Mmes. Amanda Hunt, Maria L. Robinson, Ebbie Herrick, Nina F. Huie, Elizabeth Coats, Frances H. Groves, Julia D. Meddins, Dora K. Herrick, Melisa Coats, Sarah S. Robinson, Kate Jenkins, Augusta Brown, Eletta Russell, Martha Clements, Mary Hart, Fanny Wheeler, Jane Young, and Eliza Lansing. The first officers were:

President—Amanda Hunt
Sr. Vice President—Maria Robinson
Jr. Vice President—Abbie Herrick
Secretary—Nina Huie
Treasurer—Elizabeth Coats
Chaplain—Frances Groves
Conductor—Julia Meddins
Guard—Rosella Law
Asst. Conductor—Dora Herrick
Asst. Guard—Melisa Coats

The objectives of the Woman's Relief Corps are: To aid and assist the Grand Army of the Republic and to perpetuate the memory of its heroic dead; to assist such Union Veterans as need help and protection, and to extend needful aid to their widows and orphans in finding them homes and employment and assuring them of sympathy and friends, and to maintain true allegiance to the United States of

America, and to inculcate lessons of patriotism and love of country among our children and in the community in which we live. These objectives have now been broadened to include assistance to veterans of all wars of the United States, in hospitals and homes, and to assist men and women presently in the services of our country.

The Corps first met in the homes of members. As the membership increased from the original eighteen, a vacant store was rented. In 1893, with a membership of 64, the Corps moved to the old Michelson Hall, located where the post office now stands. In 1907 S. A. Cook invited the Corps to meet in the then-new S. A. Cook Armory, with no cost to the organization. This financial arrangement was permanently arranged for by Mr. Cook. Now, after sixty-six years, membership totals 91 members.

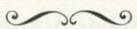
Activities of the Corps, besides those included in the objectives, are: child welfare work, presentation of flags as requested by such groups as the Boy and Girl Scouts; various requests for relief, financial aid to local groups, such as Theda Clark Hospital, V N A, etc.

1956 officers are:

President—Evelyn Cash
Sr. Vice President—Evelyn Moseng
Jr. Vice President—Caroline Bergman
Secretary—Mildred Liskow
Treasurer—Ella Witteman
Conductor—Meta Larsen
Guard—Lena Fosterling
Asst. Conductor—Minnie Hanselman
Asst. Guard—Mary Liskow
Patriotic Instructor—Helen Rasmussen
Press Correspondent—Maryie Hawkinson
Color Bearers: Martha Eberlein, Doris Bogrand, Mary Staszak, Lucille Blank
Musician—Edith Seymour

There are 4,651 members in the state of Wisconsin.

Submitted by Freda Herrick, Past Department President (45 year membership)



Homemaker's Club

The Neenah Homemaker's Club is sponsored by the Neenah Vocational and Adult School and was organized in May, 1939, for the pur-

pose of improving home and family living in this community. Mr. C. F. Hedges, Superintendent of the Neenah Schools, Mr. Carl Christensen, Director of Neenah Vocational and Adult School, and Mrs. Irma Kyle, Homemaking Teacher and Coordinator at the school, were the first persons to initiate the club work for homemakers as a part of the adult school program.

Lay persons assisting in the development of the club were Mrs. C. B. Clark, Mrs. Hugh W. Roberts, Mrs. Karl Oberreich, Mrs. Albrecht Gross and Mrs. Henry Johnson. (Mrs. Kenneth Harwood was the first president.) Other objectives incorporated into the constitution were to give homemakers an opportunity for self-expression in all phases of homemaking and advance adult homemaking activities in the school and community.

Programs are held monthly and speakers present talks pertaining to home and family life. Each year club members participate in a welfare project for the benefit of the community. In 1956 a one hundred dollar scholarship was presented to a practical nurse trainee at Theda Clark Memorial Hospital to help her meet the obligations of her training. Food baskets are given to aged persons at Christmas to make their day brighter.

1957 officers of the club are:

Miss Lorraine Dennhardt—President
Mrs. Frank Raddu—Vice President
Mrs. Gerald Llewellyn—Secretary
Mrs. Frank Miller—Treasurer
Mrs. Irma Kyle—Club Advisor
Mrs. Fred Bentzen—Historian

Submitted by Mrs. Herman Kramer

Job's Daughters Bethel #57

Job's Daughters Bethel #57 of the International Order of Job's Daughters of Neenah, Wisconsin, was organized in October, 1949, and chartered in January, 1950.

Purpose is to band young girls between the ages of 12 to 20 together for good fellowship, religious living and teaching.

First officers were: Miss Bessie Thompson, Honored Queen; Miss Beverly Block, Senior Princess, Miss Beverly Sagel, Junior Princess.

The Guardian Council at that time was: Mrs. Marge Luebben, Guardian; Mr. Kenneth Bisel, Asst. Guardian; Mrs. Wm. Mueller, Guardian Secretary; Mrs. George Thompson, Treasurer; Mrs. Ed. Millis, Guardian Musician.

Officers (October 1956) are: Miss Ann Kriess, Honored Queen; Miss Karen Rasmussen, Senior Princess; Miss Jeanine Johnson, Junior Princess.

The two Guardians at present are: Mrs. Marge Luebben, Guardian; Mr. Joseph Beisenstein, Associate Guardian.

Submitted by Mrs. Marge Luebben

King's Daughters

Mrs. Peter Reiss, of Sheboygan, approached Mrs. James Bergstrom and Mrs. George Gilbert to organize a King's Daughters circle in the Fox River Valley. In May 1923, Mrs. Bergstrom and Mrs. Gilbert invited one hundred friends to a luncheon at Riverview Country Club to meet Mrs. Reiss who gave an impressive talk on the International Order of King's Daughters and Sons. By working diligently through the summer Mrs. Bergstrom and Mrs. Gilbert and Mrs. Peter Paulson had two circles of twelve members each, one in Appleton and one in Neenah, ready for Mrs. Reiss to initiate into the Order in September.

Two years later Mrs. Bergstrom, with the assistance of Mrs. Raymond Kelly, organized a Junior Circle of teen age girls, which is now known as the Frances Gilbert Circle, whose direction is under the guidance of the Service Circle.

At a convention in 1934 the Wisconsin Branch voted to buy and support a Home for Aged Women as its Branch Work. It was through the untiring efforts of its Treasurer, Mrs. Peter Paulson of Appleton, that money was raised for the Wisconsin Branch to incorporate in 1936 and buy a house in Sheboygan for $10,000. Subsequently, our Home became the direct charge of a Home Board of Sheboygan Daughters. Two funds were then established for the Home: The Maintenance Fund and The Endowment Fund. The latter now exceeds $15,000. Contributions to these funds are made each year at

the convention according to the ability and generosity of each Circle. The Home is open at a nominal fee to any elderly woman in good health and is equipped to provide for 8 or 9 women.

The Service Circle, by raising money chiefly through the Sewing Committee and the Turnover Shop, has had many projects since 1923. Among them: contributing approximately $200 each year to pack and distribute Christmas baskets to the needy; providing $100 to the Menasha Public High School for hot lunches for children unable to pay for them. The Homemaker Service, completely organized, conducted and supported by the Service Circle fills a long felt need in the community. Trained women are available to enter a home and take over the duties of a mother when she is absent due to any sudden emergency such as illness. This service is available to all and paid for by the Service Circle when the financial burden is too great for the stricken family.

In the past years the Circle purchased an Oxygen Tent for Theda Clark Hospital, and in 1948 furnished a four bed ward for the new hospital at a cost of $1,100. The Circle also purchased an audiometer that was used for many years by both the Neenah and Menasha schools. A pet project of the Circle for many years until it was discontinued was the Children's Ward of Sunnyview Tuberculosis Sanatorium. Each child's birthday was remembered with gifts of necessities and playthings. A holiday never passed without appropriate decorations and favors such as Christmas trees, flowers, valentines and patriotic tray favors on national holidays.

The Memorial Fund, established in 1945, provides a means of acknowledging the death of a friend or relative with a contribution to a charitable fund. This fund is used to provide camperships for needy children of the Twin Cities.

Taken from the booklet "A Brief Summary of the History of The King's Daughters and Sons,"—submitted by Mrs. Iveaux W. Andersen



King's Daughters and Sons, Welfare Circle

In 1949 the Welfare Circle of the International Order of King's Daughters and Sons was organized by Mrs. John Plowright, on the

instigation of Mrs. Silas Spengler and Mrs. Arthur Haselow of the Service Circle.

After open discussion by the members regarding a name for the Circle, it was decided to accept the name Welfare Circle, feeling that this title was not only significant of the work we successfully aspire to achieve, but indicative of the unlimited scope given us in the name *Welfare.*

Our first President was Mrs. John Plowright; Vice President, Mrs. Robert Goodman; Secretary, Mrs. Robert Asmuth; Treasurer, Mrs. David Middleton. Our present officers are: Mrs. Eric Isakson, President; Mrs. Warren Furbeck, Vice President; Mrs. Robert Thoms, Secretary; Mrs. Victor Schmidt, Treasurer; Mrs. Herbert Gaustad, Corresponding Secretary.

The activities consist of:

1) Toy Cart. This is a project for dispensing handicraft and toys to small children in Theda Clark Hospital.

2) Cancer dressings. The American Cancer Society gives the Welfare Circle the material for these dressings, and they are dispensed through the Visiting Nurse Association to cancer patients in Winnebago County. In 1955–56 11,920 dressings were made and 11,980 distributed.

3) Charity. This consists in participation in the Community Council's Christmas giving program, and donations to the King's Daughters Home in Sheboygan.

Submitted by Mrs. Eric Isakson

Kiwanis Club

THE Kiwanis Club of Neenah was formally organized February 2, 1926, with 38 charter members. Appleton Kiwanis sponsored the new group.

Norton J. Williams was elected president; Frank L. Fadner, vice president; William Campbell, treasurer; George E. Sande, district trustee; Dr. Truman J. Seiler, secretary, and Girvan Warner, T. M. Gilbert, C. W. Sawyer, George Elwers, Dr. Harry A. Briggs, William A. Daniel, and Harold R. Hanson, directors.

Of the 38 charter members, seven are still active in Kiwanis: Geo. Sande, Dr. Seiler, H. E. Christoph, Norton Williams, Charles J. Madson, T. M. Gilbert, and Dr. J. P. Canavan.

Current officers (1958) are Harold Gray, president; Alan Adrian, vice president; Paul Dodge, secretary and Harvey Dauffenbach, treasurer. Directors include Iveaux Andersen, Arch Dixon, Clark Harris, Harmon McCarthy, Dr. Canavan, Gordon Sawyer, and William Miller.

Service to the community is one of the phases of Kiwanis principles and Neenah Kiwanis has contributed its measure to the betterment of Neenah and its people. Service activities range from sponsoring a high school boy at Badger Boys State each year, to entertaining more than 2,500 children annually at Halloween parties; . . . from honoring Neenah teachers at a public dinner party to bringing personal Christmas gifts to patients at Theda Clark hospital.

Nicolet Council No. 1838 Knights of Columbus

NICOLET COUNCIL No. 1838 K. of C., was instituted on May 7th, 1916, with eighty-seven Charter Members.

It was mostly through the efforts of Rev. George A. Clifford, and some twenty men: James Austin, Edward T. Corbett, James P. Cassidy, George O. Eckrich, James Foxgrover, Edward M. Hatton, Clement L. Jourdain, Albert F. Koser, Leo Koser, Jacob Liebl, Anton T. Lueckenbach, John Marx, Daniel D. Morrissey, George E. Murphy, George J. Mayer, Charles J. Oberweiser, Frank J. Sensenbrenner, John Schreibeis, Charles A. Sommers, Frank E. Sensenbrenner and John J. Weber, that a Charter was granted by the Supreme Council to establish a Council, in Menasha-Neenah. During World War I, thirty-seven members entered the armed services, Urban Bergeron and Joseph Hubbard made the supreme sacrifice in this War. Dr. C. C. Del Marcelle was cited in dispatches and received the Croix de Guerre.

At the beginning of World War II, Nicolet Council No. 1838 led the way in Menasha-Neenah by sponsorship of the first Mobile Blood Donor Unit for the convenience of the citizens of the two cities.

Thirty-eight members or about twelve per cent of the membership at the time saw active service in World War II. While several of the members were wounded, through the grace of God none of them were called upon to make the Supreme Sacrifice for their country.

Nicolet Council in Menasha-Neenah was named after Jean Nicolet, probably the first white man to enter the region. He was a French Explorer sent out by Champlain and landed near the present city of Green Bay, Wisconsin in 1634. Jean Nicolet traveled down the Fox River, travelling through the cities of Menasha-Neenah.

Today, March 25th, 1958 the Council has a membership of 445, and owns a Club House at 337 Broad St., Menasha.

Knights of Pythias

NEENAH LODGE, No. 80, Knights of Pythias, was instituted on May 27, 1890.

Nineteen prominent men signed the Charter, realizing the need for Fraternalism, with the basic principles of Friendship, Charity and Benevolence, promoting cooperation and goodwill, pointing the way to happiness through the path of Service.

The original meeting place was in the Elwers Building on Wisconsin Avenue. In 1921, the property on the corner of Church Street and Doty Avenue was purchased and remodeled, for a Lodge Hall and Club rooms. Many memorable events, such as dances and parties, were enjoyed here, for a number of years, for the benefit of both local and national charities. During the depression of 1933, this property was lost. Since then the meeting place has been in the *News-Record* Building on Wisconsin Avenue.

Names on the Charter are: George A. Davis—Frank R. Leavens—F. R. Davis—L. W. Giffin—C. H. Bergstrom—E. E. Jandrey—W. H. Wheeler—A. D. Eldridge—George L. Madson—J. H. Healy—G. M. Gillingham—M. E. Barnett—H. A. Stone—S. A. Cook—E. J. Lachmann—W. M. Gilbert—M. W. Fernegen—Thomas Higgins—Merritt Campbell.

1957 officers are: Carl M. Anderson, Chancellor Commander;

C. P. Lemberg, Vice Chancellor; Neil W. Larson, Prelate; Otto Steffenhagen, Master of Work; Fred Ehlert, Master at Arms; Harry Bishop, Secretary; Harvey Larson, Treasurer; A. J. Schmutz, Inner Guard; Ove Moller, Outer Guard; Trustees, Theodore Larson, Otto Steffenhagen, and John S. Tolversen.

Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic

THE C. B. Clark Circle, Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic, was organized in May, 1912, by Mrs. Ethel Irish, who was then the national president of the organization. There were thirty charter members, only five of whom are living today; viz, Mrs. Orrie Coates, of Appleton, Mrs. Stella Larson, of Eustis, Florida, Miss Theo McCallum, Miss Lena Miller and Mrs. C. H. Pope, of Neenah. The first president was Mrs. Robert Law; secretary, Mrs. Eva Armstrong; treasurer, Mrs. John LeTourneux.

The purpose of the organization was to assist the Grand Army of the Republic in its work and to give aid to any Civil War Veterans or their dependent ones in time of need. Eligibility is limited to female blood kin relatives of soldiers, sailors and marines who served honorably in the Civil War, 1861–1865.

The organization also aims to teach patriotism and lessons of good citizenship to the youth of our land, and to preserve the memory of our national heroes. The C. B. Clark Circle presents flags to schools and youth organizations in Neenah.

The C. B. Clark Circle had the honor of giving to the national organization its 1955–56 president, Miss Theo McCallum.

1957 officers of the C. B. Clark Circle are:

President—Mrs. M. L. Brandsmark
Vice President—Miss Theo McCallum
Secretary—Mrs. Ernest Rhoades
Treasurer—Mrs. Ella Walter

Submitted by Mrs. M. L. Brandsmark

League of Women Voters of Neenah-Menasha

THE League of Women Voters was first organized locally in 1920 by Mrs. W. Z. Stuart and Mrs. Lyle Pinkerton. Women were entitled to vote for the first time in the presidential election in November, 1920, and the members of this first League gave out literature on voting procedure, urged women to vote, and transported them to the polls. The League then went out of existence because of a lack of interest.

In 1947, a group of women headed by Mrs. Donald W. Davis applied to the state and national League of Women Voters to become a local League. For two years, they operated as a provisional League because of the national ruling that each league should represent only one unit of government, and the local group wanted to be a Twin City unit. Finally, the ruling was modified and the group became the first League representing more than one unit of government. The first officers were:

President—Mrs. Donald W. Davis
1st Vice President—Mrs. E. O. Woerner
2nd Vice President—Mrs. Melvin Crowley
Secretary—Miss Margaret Griffiths
Treasurer—Mrs. Lydia Curtin

The membership in 1956 numbers 147 women, and the officers are:

President—Mrs. Donald C. Shepard
1st Vice President—Mrs. L. W. Zabel
2nd Vice President—Mrs. Everton Cass
Secretary—Mrs. Gavin W. Young
Treasurer—Mrs. E. O. Woerner

The purpose of the League of Women Voters is to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government.

By Mrs. Karl Forsgren

(See p. 291 for write-up of Neenah Lions Club)

Elisha Kent Kane Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons

ELISHA KENT KANE LODGE OF FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS was organized in Menasha, as Menasha Lodge No. 61, and dispensation was granted by the Grand Lodge February 16, 1855. The first meeting was held on March 1 of that year, and the first master was Joseph Keys. The charter was granted by the Grand Lodge in June, 1855.

For the first few months meetings were held in Menasha, but since October, 1855, they have been held in Neenah.

In 1857 a petition was sent to the Grand Lodge to change the name from Menasha Lodge to Union Lodge No. 61, but Grand Lodge first changed the name to Tyrean Lodge, and then resolved to change it to Kane Lodge. In March, 1923, the Lodge was formally changed to Elisha Kent Kane Lodge No. 61, the name it retains today. Elisha Kent Kane was an astronomer, chemist, surgeon, explorer and a Mason. He was appointed a surgeon in the U. S. Navy, and served at that post in the Grinnell Arctic exploration. In 1853 he commanded an expedition to search for Sir John Franklin and his companion, who were lost in the Arctic. The expedition was unsuccessful, and Kane returned after two years of hardship and suffering, broken in health, and he died in 1857.

The new Masonic Temple, an imposing building located at 241 East Wisconsin Avenue, was constructed in 1925–26, and was dedicated in 1926. Indebtedness of the new Temple was paid off on July 21, 1946.

(*As printed in the August 19, 1948, centennial edition of the* Twin City News-Record)



Masonic Temple

1958 officers are:

Worshipful Master—Harold Wilkes
Senior Warden—Fred Breitenbach
Junior Warden—Guy Arentsen
Treasurer—Francis Lund, Sr.
Secretary—Harry M. Bishop
Senior Deacon—Verne Wilson
Junior Deacon—Charles Littlefield
Steward—Stanley Hoyman
Steward—Frank H. Penney
Tiler—Wm. D. Mathewson
Trustees: Clarence F. Martin, Clifford H. Farley, Clyde R. Buxton

Neenah Chapter #88 Royal Arch Masons

Under the leadership of Dr. George H. Williamson, Neenah Chapter #88 Royal Arch Masons was organized during January 1914. The three principal officers of the Chapter were Dr. George H. Williamson, as Excellent High Priest, Mr. A. W. Kellogg as King, and Mr. Charles Schultz as Scribe. In forming this new Chapter much work was done by Mr. C. S. Kimball, the first Secretary of the New Chapter.

Present officers are:

Excellent High Priest—Clyde R. Buxton
King—Wm. B. Dresser
Scribe—Frederick Willarson.

Submitted by Howard N. Nelson.

Twin Cities Commandery No. 39 Knights Templar

In 1915 thirty Knights Templar residing in the cities of Neenah and Menasha signed an application to the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Wisconsin to form and open a Commandery of Knights Templar in the City of Menasha. The Dispensation was issued by the Grand Commandery February 14, 1916 and the first conclave of the new Commandery which was to be known as Twin

Cities Commandery No. 39, Knights Templar, was held in the Masonic Temple in Menasha. The following officers were selected:

Eminent Commander—Joseph Hill
Generalissimo—Charles B. Clark
Capt. General—E. H. Schultz
Recorder—Frank O. Heckrodt

October 18, 1916 the officers of the Grand Commandery of the State of Wisconsin convened at the Masonic Temple in Menasha and presented to Twin Cities Commandery their Charter and the Number "39." Election of officers was held resulting in the election of the above named Sir Knights, together with other officers, and the Grand Commander proceeded to install them.

The growth of this new Commandery was rapid and the roster of membership holds the names of many of our leading citizens

In 1926 the new Masonic Temple was built in the city of Neenah. Some of the Sir Knights wished to move to this new and beautiful building but there was opposition to this move. On May 7, 1929 it



Members of Masonic Lodge over 70 years of age—photo made in 1950. (Left to right) First row: Roy Babcock, Charles Pope, Dr. George Williamson, Richard Acheson, Owen Jones, Emil Schultz, Harley Hilton, Frank Otis. Second row: Emil Aderhold, Frank Klinke, Rev. Wm. Harms, Mads Hansen, Bill Krueger, Olaf Myhre, Earl Sharpless, Art Arnemann. Third row: John Roberts, Hugo Krueger, Bill Mathewson, George Pyott, Sr., Bill Neubauer, Gus Toepel, Bob Martens, Ernest Pettingill. Not in the picture: George L. Madson, a member for 65 years.

was decided that the move to Neenah should be made. Since that day the home of Twin Cities Commandery No. 39 Knights Templar has been in the Neenah Masonic Temple.

For the year of 1957–58 the following are officers:

Commander—Wm. G. Mueller
Generalissimo—Carroll Rogers
Capt. General—Dewey VanBuskirk
Senior Warden—Charles Greiner
Junior Warden—William Dresser
Prelate—Joe Beisenstein
Treasurer—Oscar C. Johnson
Recorder—Carl H. Buehner
Standard Bearer—Albert Johnson
Sword Bearer—Aaron Dix
Warder—Clarence Smith
Sentinel—Thos. Calder

One of the Past Commanders has been honored by being elected to office in the Grand Commandery. He is Walter H. Bisping and is at present the Deputy Grand Commander.

Four Past Commanders received the coveted honorary degree of "Knight of the York Cross of Honour." They are:

Clarence Arnemann
Oscar Peterson
Walter Bisping
Carl H. Buehner

Submitted by Carl H. Buehner



Order of the Eastern Star, 1894–1956

THE Order of the Eastern Star was originated in the year 1850 by Robert Morris, a Master Mason of New York City, New York, affectionately called by his friends and admirers, "The Poet Laureate" of Freemasonry.

He was a devout man and an ardent student of the Bible. He loved to use his vivid, poetical imagination to reconstruct the lives and surroundings of Biblical characters, such as Adah, Ruth, Esther, Martha and Electa, around whom the five degrees of the Order of the

Eastern Star was built. Robert Morris brought them out of the dim and remote recesses of the past and animated them with life and reality into characters whose qualities have made the "Order of the Eastern Star" ritualistic work so impressive.

With the help of Mrs. Morris and Robert McCoy, a Master Mason of some literary ability, Robert Morris' original manuscript was put into book form and from this the ritualistic work of the Order of the Eastern Star was compiled.

From the beginning the Order of the Eastern Star flourished and many chapters came into existence, Neenah being one of the early chapters.

On November 16, 1876 at a convention of representatives held in Indianapolis, Indiana, a General Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star was organized.

On May 19, 1893 a dispensation was granted to the charter members of Neenah, Wisconsin and on February 21, 1894 the charter was drawn—Neenah being Chapter Number 53 in the state of Wisconsin. This charter included wives, daughters, sisters, mothers and widows of Master Masons of both Neenah and Menasha. Later Menasha was granted its own chapter. The signers of the original charter of this great fraternal organization in the city of Neenah were: Haskell E. Coats, Elizabeth Coats, Abbie Herrick, Arthur Kellogg, Belle Kellogg, Thomas Jacobs, Lottie Jacobs, John Herrick, Dora Herrick, Moses Billstein, Clara Billstein, Mathilda Krueger, Louise Krueger, Edmund Lachmann, Dora Lachmann, Joseph Price, Kate Price, Gertrude Price, George Parker, Frank Russel, Eleatta Russel, Ida Gilson, Fred Peck, and Nellie Peck, all deceased. The first Worthy Matron of the Chapter was Mrs. Lottie Jacobs and the first Worthy Patron, E. J. Lachmann.

For many years, Neenah Chapter #53, Order of the Eastern Star held its meetings on the upper floor of the Sherry Building at 145 W. Wisconsin Avenue, serving the Twin Cities. In 1920 the Chapter moved to the Equitable Reserve Association building on Commercial Street. On June 19, 1926 the present Masonic Temple was dedicated and from then until now the Neenah Order of the Eastern Star #53 has held its meetings there.

Thus the Neenah Order of the Eastern Star has had a place in the beautiful city of Neenah for 65 years.

1958 officers are:

Worthy Matron—Joann Miller
Worthy Patron—Carroll Rogers
Associate Matron—Adeline Rogers
Associate Patron—Philip Schanke
Secretary—Elsie Kleinhenz
Treasurer—Elsie Schultz
Conductress—Carol Dresser
Associate Conductress—Martha Schanke
Adah—Delores Gray
Ruth—Viola Doane
Esther—Helen Brandherm
Martha—Ruth Johnson
Electa—Claudia Whaley
Chaplain—Helen Martin
Marshall—Amanda Robinson
Organist—Estelle Buehner
Warder—Josephine Breitenbach
Sentinel—Harry Bishop

Submitted by Hazel Burnside Pace



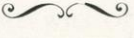
Social Order of the Beauceant

The Social Order of the Beauceant is an organization of the wives and widows of Knights Templar. Its purpose is to promote sociability, perform benevolent work, extend sympathy and assistance to members, and to aid the Knights Templar when requested. Neenah Assembly #184, S.O.O.B., was constituted on December 11, 1953, with 36 wives and widows of Knights Templar of Neenah and Menasha as charter members.

First officers were: President—Mrs. Walter Bisping; Oracle—Mrs. James Heuer; First Vice President—Mrs. William Mueller.

1957 officers are: President—Mrs. Carroll Rogers; Oracle—Mrs. George Littlefield; First Vice President—Mrs. Edward Spoerk.

Submitted by Mrs. Charles Greiner



Menasha Garden Club

In February, 1927, the Civic Department of the Economics Club, under the chairmanship of Mrs. H. E. Bullard, sponsored an informal garden club. This group, composed of residents of Menasha and Neenah, held meetings for study and discussion, and in February, 1930, the Menasha Garden Club was formally organized.

Mrs. Ida Watkins was president, and Mrs. H. E. Bullard, secretary.

The objective of the club is to stimulate an interest in gardening and development of home grounds, and to aid in the protection of forests, wild flowers and birds and to promote civic beautification.

Officers for 1956: President, Miss Lorraine G. Dennhardt; Vice President, Mrs. Harold Young; Secretary and Treasurer, Mrs. Charles Bailar.

Officers for 1957: President, Mrs. Harold Young; Vice President, Miss Jessie E. Dennhardt; Secretary and Treasurer, Mrs. Matthew Auer.

Submitted by Miss Barbara Thom



Neenah Club

THE Neenah Club was organized on May 12, 1909. Articles of incorporation were signed by F. E. Ballister, C. B. Clark and F. A. Leavens.

"The purpose and object of the corporation shall be to maintain a club for the purpose of affording a place of meeting and social enjoyment for the members thereof; also for the purpose of acquiring, owning, holding and leasing real estate or such other property as may be desirable in order to carry into effect the purposes of this association."

First officers: 1909–1910—C. B. Clark, President; E. J. Lachmann, Vice President; S. F. Durga, Secretary.

Present officers: Paul N. Dawson, President; Irwin Pearson, Vice President; Harry Korotev, Secretary-Treasurer.



Oddfellowship

THE Odd Fellow Lodge was organized in Neenah on December 12, 1849. Designated as Lodge No. 41, the organization, after several years of life, gave up its charter in the fall of 1859. Officers at time of dissolution were: Gorham P. Vining, N. G., M. D. McGrath, V. G.; Wm. Taggert, Secretary; E. G. Pussley, Treasurer.

In February, 1870, the Lodge was reinstated under the following

officers: W. G. Ritch, N. G.; O. S. Millard, V. G.; I. W. Hunt, Rec. Secretary; L. C. Sessions, Financial Secretary; H. P. Leavens, Treasurer.

The division known as the Daughters of Rebekah was organized December 5, 1873, under the title of Cherisa Lodge No. 31. Menasha Lodge No. 187, I.O.O.F. was granted a charter on January 19, 1871, by the then Grand Master, Sam Ryan of Appleton. In 1922 lodges No. 41 and No. 336 consolidated with lodge No. 336.

Betty Rebekah Lodge No. 212 was granted a charter by Grand Master Penhallegon on June 8, 1910. Charter members were: T. J. Gould, E. T. Phillips, Chas. Gasey, Chas. Gear, Harry Bishop, Bessie Gear, Myrtle Gear, Laura Gould, Anna Walker, Nell Helvey and Katherine Gear.

Submitted by Wm. D. Mathewson

Oddfellowship—Betty Rebekah Lodge #212

Betty Rebekah Lodge No. 212 of Menasha, Wisconsin, was instituted on August 14, 1909 at the Odd Fellows Hall on Main Street. Transferred from Cherisa Rebekah Lodge #31 of Neenah, were Katherine Gear, Laura K. Gould, Bessie Gear, Chas. Gear, T. J. Gould, Anna Walker and Nell Helvey.

The first officers were: Noble Grand, Katherine Gear; Vice Grand, Laura Gould; Secretary, Nell Helvey; Treasurer, Bessie Gear; Deputy, Katherine Gear.

The objects and purposes of Rebekah lodges are declared to be:

To visit and care for the sick; to relieve the distressed; to bury the dead, and in every way to assist their own members, and to assist subordinate and sister Rebekah lodges in kindly ministrations to the families of Odd Fellows when in trouble, sickness, or want.

To aid in the establishment and maintenance of homes for aged and indigent Odd Fellows and their wives, and for the widows of deceased Odd Fellows; and homes for the care, education, and support of orphans of deceased Odd Fellows and of deceased sisters of the Rebekah Degree.

To cultivate and extend the social and fraternal relations of life among lodges and the families of Odd Fellows.

Officers are (1956): Noble Grand, Mrs. John Mollon; Vice Grand, Miss Mabel Wilcox; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Victor Fritz; Financial Secretary, Mrs. Lawrence Terrio; Treasurer, Mrs. Violet Kyle; and District Deputy, Mrs. Gerald Kiefer.

Submitted by Mrs. Gerald Kiefer



Optimist Club of Neenah-Menasha

THE club was chartered by International on November 16, 1954, with thirty-five local Twin City members:

Gordon Blank
Carl E. Boettcher
Dr. Ralph Bonfiglio
Robert E. Bonini
Robert L. Brockman
William L. Copps
Palmer J. Cumings
S. R. Davis
Robert C. DiRenzo
Robert Downie
Harold Faverty
Vern Duerrwachter
Royden D. Ginnow
Frank Gmeiner
E. Munroe Hjerstedt
Raymond V. Hudson
Eugene B. Jessup
Donald W. Kleinschmidt
Norbert Kozlowski
John Kuebler
LeRoy E. Kuehn
Dr. James LaLiberte
William D. Lieber
Roy Misky
Harold L. Nelson
Robert A. Putman
Wayne Skidmore
Earl Smith, Jr.
Donald F. Staffeld
Philip W. Stone
Paul M. Stordock
Maxwell A. Tungate
Edwin R. Woldt
Richard C. Wolter
Robert M. Wright

The first elected officers were:

President—Earl Smith, Jr.
Vice President—Robert DiRenzo
Vice President—Philip Stone
Secretary-Treasurer—E. B. Jessup
Directors—Earl Smith, Jr.
Robert DiRenzo
E. B. Jessup
Maxwell Tungate
Dr. Ralph Bonfiglio
Philip Stone
Harold Faverty
Royden Ginnow

Present officers are:

President—William Dowling, Jr.
First Vice President—John Kuebler
Second Vice President—John Galloway
Secretary-Treasurer—Merton Shaw
Directors—William Dowling, Jr.
John Kuebler
John Galloway
Merton Shaw
Edwin Woldt
William Copps
John Sensenbrenner, Jr.
Donald Buchta
Gavin Young

Purpose of the club is to carry out the principles of Optimist International, or a "Friend of the Boy." The club's first major project was to sponsor a Pram Sailing Fleet, supported by local business and individuals, for the promotion of small craft sailing for children of Neenah and Menasha.

Submitted by Merton C. Shaw



Rotary Club

THE Neenah Rotary Club received its charter April 29, 1925, with 23 charter members. Dr. T. D. Smith was the first president, and Howard P. Buck the first secretary.

The activities of the Neenah Rotary Club are channeled into four avenues of service: club service, vocational service, community service and international service.

An example of community service is found in the honor student program in the high school, where a boy and a girl in each of the four classes are selected every nine weeks to be the guests of the Club. They are selected by a high school faculty committee on the basis of a "Code of Ethics for High School Students." The original Code of Ethics was written by Neale Spoor in 1927 and revised and rewritten in 1935 by Charles Velte.

As an example of international service, each year the junior or senior class in high school study an important current international

question or problem and write essays on the subject. Three winners are selected to read their essays at a Club meeting during the latter part of the school year.

The Club supports the Boy Scout movement in various ways, and helps to send boys as delegates or representatives to various state or district meetings, such as Boys' State and to Rotary conferences. Members of the Club are actively engaged in many of the city's community projects. Support is given to crippled children's work. A student loan fund was established in the early years of the Club to assist worthy students who need financial assistance in their college work. The Club has also for a number of years sponsored a series of programs, bringing to the Twin Cities and Appleton outstanding performers in the entertainment field.

In 1952 the Club produced a traffic safety film entitled, "Safety is No Accident." Members of the Club wrote the script and played the parts.

Individual Rotarians are active members and officers in such organizations as the Chamber of Commerce, City Council, Board of Education, Park Board, and other local boards and commissions.

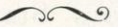
The Club participated in setting up the Paul Harris Foundation to send college students to foreign countries for a post-graduate study course, enabling them to bring a better understanding of their home country to the people of the country in which they are studying, and in understanding the countries to which they are sent. This is supplemented by correspondence between the local Club and Rotary Clubs in foreign lands and their members.

The object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise, and, in particular, to encourage and foster:

1. The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service.
2. High ethical standards in business and professions, the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations; and the dignifying by each Rotarian of his occupation as an opportunity to serve society.
3. The application of the ideal of service by every Rotarian to his personal, business and community life.
4. The advancement of international understanding, good will and peace through

a world fellowship of business and professional men united in the ideal of service.

1957–58 officers are: Dr. G. W. Petersen, President; Dr. J. L. Donovan, Vice President; Jack Casper, Secretary; H. C. Hilton, Treasurer.



Royal Neighbors of America, Doty Camp, No. 6341

Doty Camp No. 6341, Royal Neighbors of America, was organized by Josephine Pulger and District Deputy Ella Bliss, assisted by State Supervising Deputy Louise M. Parks, May 25, 1910, with 33 charter members. At present there are 144 adult benefit members, 44 juvenile members and 10 social members.

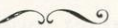
Meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month in Eagles Hall.

We observe Memorial Day, Mothers Day and the third Saturday in June—Juvenile Day, and a picnic for Royal Neighbors.

1956 officers are:

Oracle—Sarah Haufe
Vice Oracle—Della Cloutier
Past Oracle—Meta Larson
Chancellor—Amelia Grupe
Recorder—Ruth Drews
Receiver—Sylvia Kampo
Marshal—Hilda Koepke
Assistant Marshal—Minnie Hanselman
Inner Sentinel—Florence Purdy
Outer Sentinel—Martha Eberlein
Managers—Mathilda Rohloff, Margie Hawkinson, Alma Anderson
Musician—Edith Seymour
Flag Bearer—Georgiana Miller
Captain of Degree Staff—Helen Collins
Faith—Emma Danielsen
Courage—Louise Parmen
Modesty—Margaret Haas
Endurance—Mathilda Johnson
Unselfishness—Dorothy Neubauer

Submitted by Mrs. Walter Haufe



Sarah Doty Study Club

In the summer and early fall of 1938 a group of five or six young housewives agreed that their minds needed stimulating, their memories refreshed, and their time concerned with more cultural and informative subjects than bridge. After some discussion and experi-

mentation, they formed a "study" club, with emphasis on the word "study." They were to present their own papers on a subject chosen by the group for the year's work, with an occasional speaker relating to the subject.

The subject chosen that first year, 1938, was the Nineteenth Century English Novel, directed through the extension division of the University of Wisconsin and the University Library. Twice during the year a lecturer was sent from the University, and a most stimulating program was conducted on the work of Thackeray, Dickens, Meredith, James, Austen, Scott, Eliot and many, many others. Discussions were lively, since all members participated in this study.

Mrs. Howard Canfield served as the club's first president, with Mrs. Richard Bell as the first program chairman. Sarah Doty Study Club was chosen as the name most appealing to all members. Later in the year an original letter from Sarah Doty to one of her friends was sent to the club by Bella Fox, of Kaukauna, Wisconsin. It was unanimously voted to present this letter to the Doty Cabin when this historical site was being renovated.

Meetings were held the first and third Wednesday afternoons of the month at the Neenah Library. There were seventeen charter members:

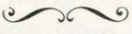
Mrs. Russell Anderson
Mrs. Richard Bell
Mrs. S. W. Bylow
Mrs. Howard Canfield
Mrs. Charles Campbell
Mrs. George Hastings
Mrs. Herbert Jewell
Mrs. R. F. Lotz
Mrs. W. Matthes
Mrs. Marvin Olson
Mrs. Ward Sullivan
Mrs. George Tarter
Mrs. Forrest Werling
Mrs. V. E. Zeuthen
Mrs. Fred Robinson
Mrs. Lyal Williams
Mrs. Harold Kriekard

Over the years the course of study has been planned by a diligent program committee. Often the committee has had the invaluable help of the University Extension and Library service; occasionally, as in the case of music appreciation, the supervision of an instructor; and always the interest and service of the Neenah Public Library. At present one of the Lawrence College Professors is assisting with the program on Shakespeare.

Today the membership is limited to 25, with meetings held the first Monday evening of the month in the members' homes. A program for guests is presented each year in the form of a concert, play review, or lecturer speaking on a subject related to the year's study. The fall season opens with a dinner meeting at Riverview Country Club.

The opera, the symphony, contemporary American novelists, current plays, American diplomacy and U. S. foreign policy, anthropology, contemporary art and Renaissance art are some of the topics that have held Sarah Doty Study Club members' interest for one- and often two-year periods.

Submitted by Mrs. Charles Zemlock



United Church Women

THIS organization started informally as a non-denominational group of church women meeting to observe World Day of Prayer. In 1945 it was organized officially as the Council of Church Women, on a local basis. First officers were: Mrs. J. D. Schmerein, President; Mrs. I. E. Ozanne, Vice President, and Mrs. Carl Peterson, Secretary and Treasurer. Mrs. M. L. Brandsmark, Mrs. S. N. Pickard and Mrs. E. M. Beeman were appointed to draw up the constitution.

In 1947 the group affiliated with the national Council of Church Women, and in 1951, changed its name to United Church Women.

"The purpose shall be to unite church women in their allegiance to their Lord and Savior Jesus Christ through a program looking to their integration in the total life and work of the church."

In addition to annual observance of World Day of Prayer, which is held the first Friday in Lent, the group also participates in World Community Day services, May Fellowship Day, and has an annual meeting, which for the last few years has been held at Green Lake, Wisconsin, on the grounds of the American Baptist Assembly. Special projects have included gifts of money to migrant workers and to the American Leprosy Mission, and aid to foreign students.

Membership in the United Church Women is open to all church women of any denomination.

Presidents

Mrs. J. D. Schmerein	1945–46	Mrs. Hugo Erdmann	1951–52–53
Mrs. M. L. Brandsmark	1947	Mrs. Verne Wilson	1954–55
Mrs. S. N. Pickard	1948–49	Mrs. Thomas Catlin	1956–57
Mrs. N. C. Jersild	1950		

Submitted by Mrs. Hugo Erdmann



Veterans of Foreign Wars, Hubbard-Peterson Post 7990

THE first meeting was held at the club rooms at 116 Main St., on October 10, 1948. Acting Commander Lawrence Koehne called the meeting to order. First officers of the post, elected at this meeting, were:

Commander—Lawrence Koehne
Sr. Vice Commander—R. Dudley Young
Jr. Vice Commander—John Nickash
Chaplain—Adolph Blair
Post Advocate—Emil Blank, Jr.
Trustees: Francis Cane—18 mos.
Hugh Strange—12 mos.
Bernard Freim—6 mos.

Commander Koehne appointed the following members to office:

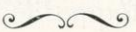
Albert J. Muench, Post Adjutant
Minot Rosselle, Officer of the Day
Urban H. Heberty, Guard
Walter Foelker, Post Historian
Alton Schnetzer and Earl Cole, Color Bearers
Donald Nielson, Quartermaster Sergeant
Larry Tessen, Sergeant Major

Post Commanders since year of organization:

1948—Lawrence Koehne	1953—Warren Krueger
1949—Emil Blank, Jr.	1954—Warren Krueger
1950—Harvey Koerwitz	1955—Alvin Grambsch
1951—John Nickash	1956—Alvin Grambsch
1952—Emil Blank, Jr.	

The purpose of the organization is to work for loyalty to the community for the betterment of its citizens, and to the U. S. Government, with particular emphasis on community service.

Submitted by Alvin Grambsch



V.F.W. Auxiliary of Hubbard-Peterson Post 7990

V.F.W. AUXILIARY was organized in October, 1949, by Katherine Blank, of Neenah, then sixth district President of the V.F.W. Auxiliary. At that time Neenah citizens had been charter members of the Menasha Auxiliary, but when an Auxiliary was organized in Neenah, they transferred their membership.

Objects are fraternal, patriotic, historical and educational; to assist the Post and its members whenever possible, to maintain true allegiance to the government of the United States of America and fidelity to its Constitution and laws; to promote true patriotism; to maintain and extend the institutions of American freedom and equal rights and justice to all men and women, and to preserve and defend the United States of America from all its enemies.

We contribute to all local drives; have given gifts and money to Theda Clark Hospital, the Neenah Fire Department for the ambulance, to the VNA, assist disabled veterans and their families when they are in need, send out Christmas baskets to needy members, also any other family in the city needing a little Christmas cheer, work on the Christmas giving committee of the Community Council and help any family or person in the city in time of need, aid all veteran hospitals in Wisconsin, support an orphan in Korea and Europe and contribute to V.F.W. National Home at Eaton Rapids, Michigan, for widows and orphans of deceased veterans—the only such home in the U. S., also present flags to Girl and Boy Scout groups, Boys' Brigade and schools. "Service to others" is our aim.

1956 officers are: President, Mrs. Maryie Hawkinson; Sr. Vice President, Mrs. Barbara Timm; Jr. Vice President, Mrs. Alvina

Hartzheim; Chaplain, Mrs. Laura Grambsch; Secretary, Mrs. Lillian Campbell; Treasurer, Mrs. Katherine Blank; Conductress, Mrs. Lillian Olson; Guard, Mrs. Ramona Steichen; Patriotic Instructor, Mrs. Doris Krueger.

Submitted by Lillian Olson

Who's New Club

WHO'S NEW CLUB was organized at least twenty-five years ago by Mrs. Mary Buck. Meetings at that time were held at The Young Women's Club, East Doty Avenue. This club has, and is, serving a fine purpose in this community, in that it introduces new people and creates a spirit of friendliness and sociability.

The service program is to provide a vacation for crippled children at Camp Wawbeek, Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin.

1957 Officers: President, Mrs. Robert Tuttrup
Vice President, Mrs. Thomas Madden
Secretary, Mrs. Robert Yakes
Treasurer, Mrs. Carl Walter

Submitted by Mrs. Robert Tuttrup

Women's Christian Union

THE Neenah Chapter of the Women's Christian Union, auxiliary of the state W.C.T.U. was organized in 1885. Mrs. Hattie E. Wood was President. Other members were: Mrs. S. B. Morgan, Mrs. E. M. Wilson, Miss Nellie Mitchell, Mrs. F. F. Kellogg, Mrs. Lottie Jacob, Mrs. M. J. DeLong, Mrs. Lewis.

Purpose: The W.C.T.U. is an organization of Christian women united for the protection of the home; for the prohibition of liquor traffic; to promote good citizenship, peace and the general welfare.

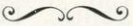
The local chapter meets once a month at homes of members.

Officers elected August, 1956, are as follows:

Mrs. I. E. Ozanne, President
Mrs. Belle Williams, Vice President
Mrs. Ida Irving, Secy.
Mrs. Myrtle Coy, Corresponding Secy.
Mrs. J. D. Schmerein, Treas.

Named as Vice Presidents, representing churches, are: Miss Olla Perry, Presbyterian; Mrs. Daisy Driscoll, Whiting Memorial Baptist; Mrs. Forrest Wilms, Methodist; Mrs. Dan Howman, First Evangelical United Brethren.

Submitted by Mrs. Margarita B. Ozanne



Women's Tuesday Club of Neenah

THE Women's Tuesday Club of Neenah dates back to October, 1886, when a group of Neenah women began a reading and study club for mutual benefit and pleasure. This was known as "A Chautauqua Literary and Scientific Circle" with 27 members, and held weekly meetings from October until June. A Chautauqua course of study was pursued under the efficient leadership of Mrs. J. B. Lummis, of Appleton.

The first President was Mrs. George Harlow, who served two years, followed by Mrs. John Proctor, who held this office for five years. Miss Jennie Cook was the first Secretary, who served six years.

In 1896, by vote of members, the name was changed to "The Women's Tuesday Club of Neenah," a name which it has always kept, as all of its previous meetings had been held on Tuesday afternoons. In 1901 the membership was limited to forty members.

During these years American, English, French, literature, art, music and history and many other studies were enjoyed through the leadership of fine speakers, and the papers prepared and discussed by club members. Critics were appointed for the meetings. Current events were always a feature of the meetings.

Meetings had been held in the homes of members, but in 1904 a basement room on the west side of the new Public Library Building had been set aside by the Library Board for the exclusive use of "The

Women's Tuesday Club." On March 22, 1904, the first meeting was held in the new club room, and each member felt a glow of pride and satisfaction as they assembled. The Tuesday Club turned the room back to the Library Board to be used by other literary clubs, reserving Tuesday for the Women's Tuesday Club.

With larger and comfortable club rooms, the Club increased its membership from time to time. It has been a study club through the years. Its motto has always been, "Study to be what you wish to seem."

It would be most difficult to give even a fair estimate of the many prominent speakers secured and the lectures presented through all the years of the club's growth. The intellectual and social side has had great influence in this community.

In accepting the offer of the use of the club room from the Library Board, the resolutions had stated that the Tuesday Club could have the use of the room "until such time as said Board might otherwise decide." In 1955 it became necessary that the room be used for library work, because of the crowded space in the Library. It was then necessary to find another place for club meetings. After thorough inquiry by a committee, it was decided to gather at the Whiting Memorial Boat House, and the first meeting was held November 1, 1955, in this building. In November, 1957, the Tuesday Club transferred its meetings from the Boat House to the new Boys' Brigade Building.

At the present time there are 125 active members and four honorary members. 1957 officers are:

President—Mrs. W. A. Daniel
First Vice President—Mrs. W. B. Hildebrand
Second Vice President—Mrs. Fred Smith
Recording Secretary—Mrs. Lyall Williams
Corresponding Secretary—Mrs. Leon Tolverson
Treasurer—Mrs. Edwin A. Kalfahs

The Tuesday Club, now in existence over seventy years, has carried on one of its original objects: "To further all measures for the betterment of the community."

Submitted by Mrs. Arthur Ritger

Y. T. and F. Club—Neenah and Menasha

In October 1889 eleven women met at the home of Mrs. S. E. Hayward for the purpose of organizing a Chautauqua Ladies' Study Circle. The Chautauqua Pocket Manual was used as their guide, and programs were, in part, those suggested by the monthly numbers of the Chautauqua magazine. First year officers were: President, Mrs. W. P. Hewitt; Vice President, Mrs. D. B. Lewis; Secretary and Treasurer, Mrs. S. B. Morgan.

In 1894 the Chautauqua program was discontinued, and the Club name changed to Y. T. and F., Yesterday, Today and Forever. In 1895 the Club affiliated with the General Federation of Women's Clubs.

Club membership is limited to twenty-four, and meetings are held in members' homes. Books of general interest are reviewed, panel discussions held and new plays read.

Officers for 1956–57 are: President, Mrs. Harvey Leaman; First Vice President, Mrs. Robert DeLong; Second Vice President, Mrs. Marvin King; Secretary and Treasurer, Mrs. Wayne Long.

Submitted by Mrs. Ernest Rhoades

Zonta Club

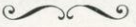
The Neenah-Menasha Zonta Club, a classified service club for executive women, was organized in November, 1949, with fifteen charter members, by Etta Preston, of Evanston, Illinois, then international chairman of Zonta Organization.

First officers of the club were: Miss Cora Heckrodt, President; Miss Helen Brockway, Vice President; Miss Ruth Geiss, Secretary, and Miss Edna Zick, Treasurer.

The purpose of the organization is "service to the community." Its present membership is thirty-three. The club holds two meetings each month, on the first and third Wednesday. 1957 officers are: Miss Marion Klein, President; Mrs. Dorothy Worzalla, Vice President;

Mrs. Ann Evenstad, Treasurer; Miss Helen Alferi, Secretary. These officers, along with Miss Edna Zick, Mrs. Margaret Laab, Miss Cora Heckrodt and Miss Leone Bovee comprise the Board of Directors.

Submitted by Miss Ruth Roper



Neenah Lions Club

THE Neenah Lions Club was issued its charter on March 27, 1936. The following were Charter Members: Roy Babcock, Wm. B. Benedict, G. W. Gibson, H. D. Gates, H. Hameister, Al Hidde, F. J. Hauser, Ole Jorgensen, C. M. Jansen, Arthur Kessler, R. O. Kuehmsted, E. C. Joyce, A. J. Laflin, E. W. Ladwig, Wm. Kraemer, R. E. Kelly, Dr. R. C. Lowe, A. G. Prunuske, Geo. W. Pyott, Jr., O. B. Pratt, Clement Rickaby, Dr. F. H. Simerson, L. M. Steffen, Dr. B. K. Ozanne, B. T. Dodge and Rev. Abner Laque. Three charter members are still in the club. They are L. M. Steffen, Arthur Kessler and Al Laflin.

The officers for the coming year 1958–1959 are Dr. H. Paul Jacobi, President, Fred Michel, First Vice-President and Ray E. Cheslock, Secretary-Treasurer. The Club meets every other Tuesday evening and is composed of local business and professional men. Present membership is 40.

Typical of the club's accomplishments in the last 22 years are: Completely furnished four rooms for Theda Clark Hospital, purchased countless pairs of glasses for needy children in the city, an Isolette for the nursery at Theda Clark Hospital, eye testing equipment for the public schools, and a television set to Sunnyview Sanatorium. Neenah Lions are proud of their community and are ever ready to do their share to make Neenah-Menasha a better place in which to live.

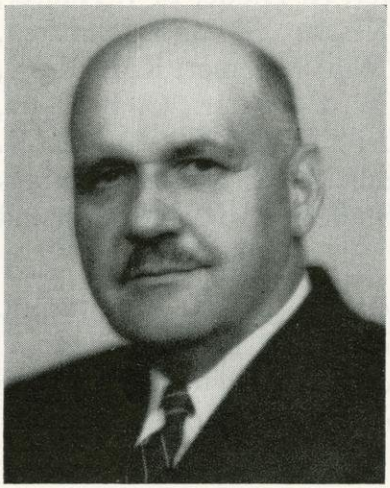
Submitted by Ray E Cheslock, Sec'y-Treas.



THEDA CLARK MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

THEDA CLARK MEMORIAL HOSPITAL was erected in 1909 as a memorial to Mrs. Theda Clark Peters. Wishing to give the community some needed and worthwhile gift, she had made a bequest of $96,000. After considering the possible uses for the money, her family decided that a hospital was the best answer.

To place the new institution on a secure financial foundation, Mrs. Peters' family made an additional gift of $30,000. Construction of the building took $80,000, and the remaining $46,000 was set aside as an endowment, the income from which was to be used to help cover the cost of operation.



C. B. Clark—
Born September 5, 1882
Died April 6, 1949
He loved the city of his birth, and gave of himself and of his means to its welfare as has no other citizen.

The hospital provided 25 beds, but the first year only a total of 196 patients were admitted. By 1919 admissions rose to 1,114. More space and more facilities were essential. The Board of Trustees decided on the construction of an additional wing, doubling the original space. Construction costs had jumped during the years of World War I. Cost of the addition was more than $150,000, and it became necessary for the family of the original donor to look for outside help in shouldering the load. Local firms and individuals made contributions totaling $60,000.

A nursing school had been started in 1910, with five students. Miss Amelia Ritchie, who was Superintendent of the hospital, directed the school. This school was affiliated with Cook County Hospital and students were given part of their training there. The school continued until 1938, and had graduated 127 students. An alumni association was formed, and since the nurses had all taken surgical training under Miss Julia Sorenson, who was connected with the hospital almost



Theda Clark Memorial Hospital under construction.

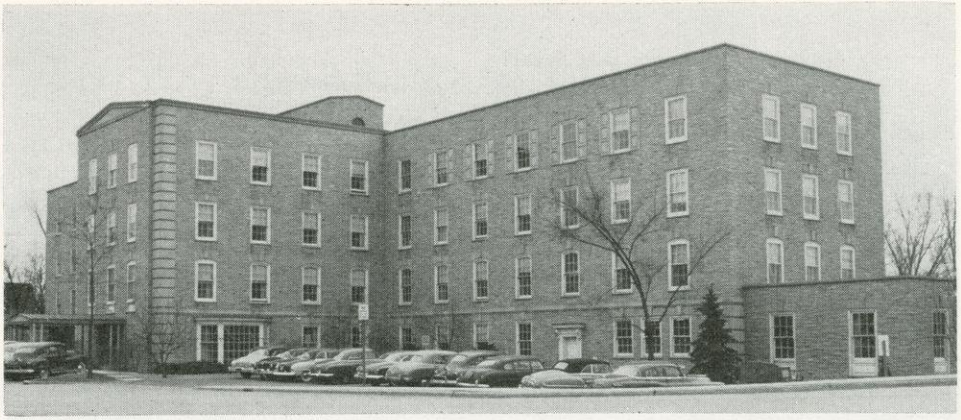
from the beginning until she resigned in 1952, the association honored Miss Sorenson with an honorary membership.

Growing pains were felt again in 1928. The school of nursing had outgrown its quarters, and plans were drawn for a new Nurses' Home to cost $107,000. Half of this amount was furnished by the family of the original donor, the other half was subscribed by a group of interested individuals of the community.

By 1947 admissions had grown to 3,321. The population of the area served by Theda Clark had grown from 16,500 in 1910 to an estimated



The completed building (1909)



1948 addition made to original hospital building.

35,000 in 1947. The hospital trustees had felt for some time that an expansion program was necessary. With the end of World War II an application was made for approval to start construction of a new hospital. Construction was started soon after. The old building was revamped and the final result was a new hospital throughout. The hospital has 164 beds, and every modern facility is provided. Funds to pay for the hospital were provided by C. B. Clark, with the help of industry, organizations and individuals.

The new and enlarged hospital has proved its worth. During the year ending April 30, 1957, 6,307 patients were admitted, there were 1,082 births, 6,234 outpatients, and 5,342 operations performed. A school for practical nurses is being conducted, headed by Mrs. Gladys Nelson.

And, as these lines are written, expansion plans are again being formulated.

Compiled by Miss Esther Klingman, Supt.

NATURAL ICE BUSINESS

We were well into the 20th Century (about the third decade) when electricity made its appearance for household gadgets and appliances, including refrigeration units. Prior to that time, all refrigeration was achieved through natural ice, harvested during January and February, and stored in rough frame buildings on the shore of Lake Winnebago. The ice, as it was stacked, tier upon tier, was buried in sawdust to protect it from summer's heat. The ice was delivered to customers by a horse drawn covered wagon, the driver using ice tongs to carry the cakes from the street to the ice box.

One icehouse, owned by Thomas Jones, stood at the east end of East Wisconsin Avenue. The other and larger establishment was the property of William Arnemann. His son, Arthur Arnemann, submits the following as to his father:

"William Arnemann—arrived in 1872, married in 1873. Established natural ice business in 1876. Original ice house located at homestead, 622 Isabella Street. Fred Staffeld was first regular ice delivery man, hired in 1878.

"Later the property by the lake was purchased, and two more ice houses were erected. The swimming pool now occupies the land on which the ice houses stood.

"The business was in the family until 1937, when it was sold to A. E. Schultz, fuel dealer."

INDUSTRIAL

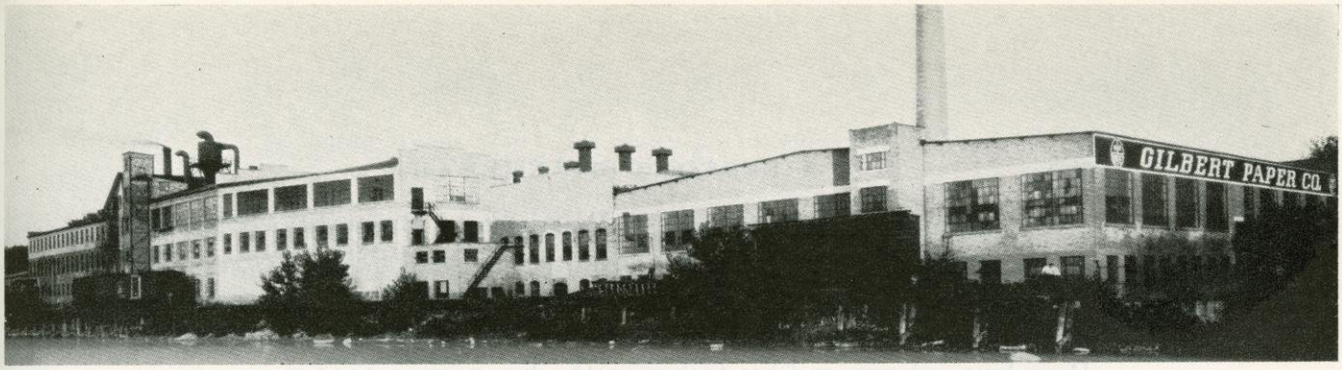
Atlas Tag Company

THE Atlas Tag Company was organized in 1932 by Russell and Renfru Kuehmsted to manufacture tags of all kinds. It was purchased and reorganized in 1940 by Irvin L. Young, of Chicago. There are now branches in Chicago and Canada. Present officers are: Irvin L. Young, President; H. W. Graverson, Vice President; Allen B. Adams, Secretary; and F. B. Schreiber, Treasurer.

George Banta Company, Inc.

GEORGE BANTA, SR., whose life spanned 78 years from 1857 to 1935, was founder of the Banta Publishing Company, which not only sends its magazines and textbooks and school "workbooks" to the far places of the earth, but furnishes employment and opportunity to over 600 people, many of whom are Neenah citizens. As in every constructive enterprise, the origin of the Banta Company is traceable to an idea. George Banta, Sr., when a boy of eight years, with his brother Charles, set up a hand operated press in their father's woodshed. Always interested in printing as a hobby, he later installed a foot press in the family dining room, following his marriage to Ellen Lee Pleasants in 1886. It was not until 1901 that Mr. Banta decided to make a business of his hobby. In that year the George Banta Printing Company was incorporated, with a capital of $4,000. Officers were: George Banta, Sr., President; W. C. Wing, Vice President; George L. Pierce, Secretary-Treasurer; George Stein, Superintendent. Two years later the name was changed to "George Banta Publishing Company."

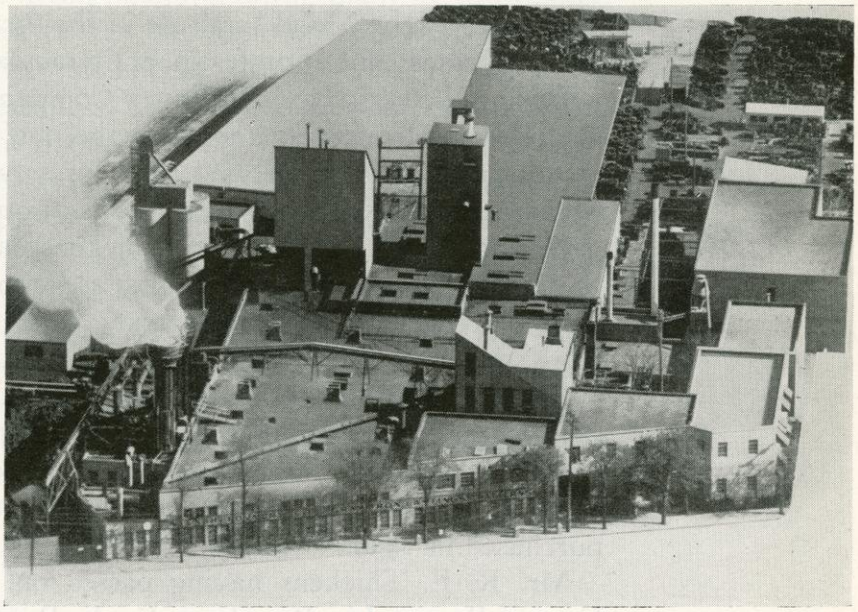
In 1903 the enterprising young concern obtained a contract for printing *The Scroll* of "Phi Delta Theta," a college fraternity that Mr. Banta served with devotion since his college days. At the time it was necessary to set the magazine by hand. Other fraternity and sorority journals were added as customers. Since those early days a great majority of the college fraternity journals have continued to



Gilbert Paper Company

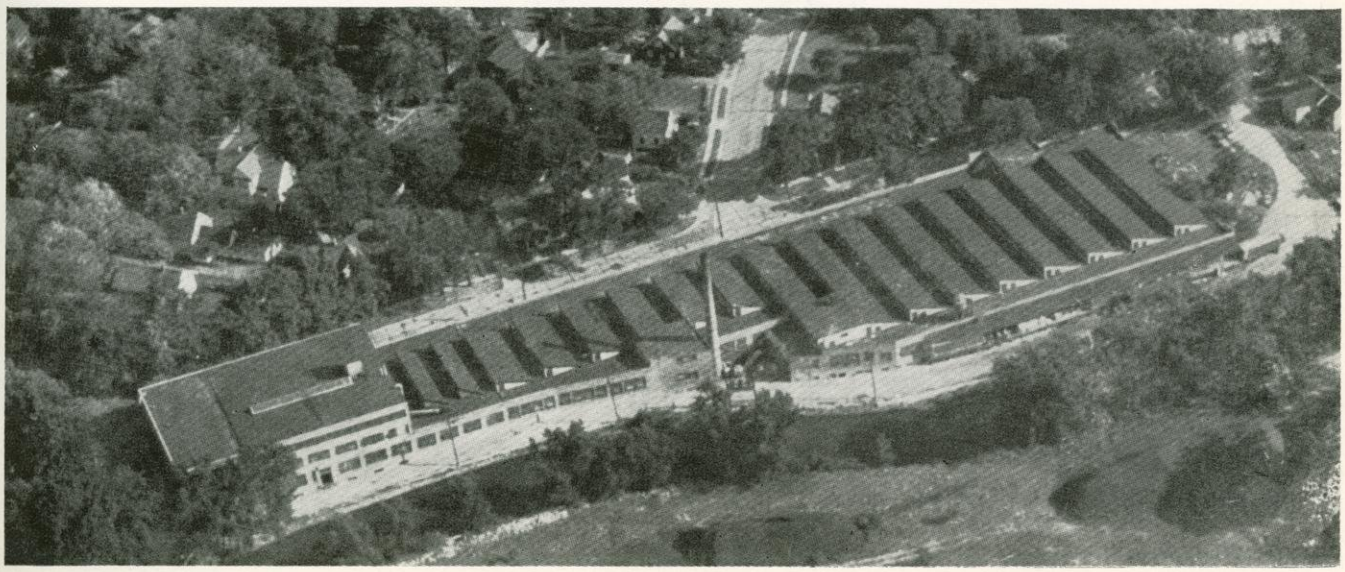


Office of Edgewater Paper Company



Neenah Foundry Company

George Banta Company, Inc.



bear the imprint of the Collegiate Press, as the Banta firm is known the country over. In 1912 Mr. Banta founded *Banta's Greek Exchange* the interfraternity journal serving the college fraternity world. The publication is now edited by George Banta, Jr., present President, who joined his father in the business in 1911.

An important relationship with the United States Naval Institute began in 1922. This resulted in an unbroken flow of business, and a citation:—"In recognition of thirty years of continuous and outstanding service to the Naval Institute in the furtherance of its objectives, —the advancement of professional literacy and scientific knowledge."

During the early '30s the Banta Company pioneered a revolutionary educational process known as the now familiar "work book" or "work pad." A large web-fed offset press was installed in their new Midway plant to produce these books in quantity and at low cost.

During World War I, R. E. Thickens, later to become President, came into the organization. His first assignment was to head up a staff for the preparation of military texts, which bulked large in the company's business during that era.

From 1911 to the present, the story is one of progressive expansion, punctuated by the purchase in 1943 of 27.1 acres in the township of Menasha, on which the Midway plant was constructed; the property of the Island Paper Company (former Howard Paper Company) was purchased in 1939.

Mr. R. E. Thickens having passed on, the present officers are: George Banta, Jr., President; C. A. Peerenboom, Vice President; J. H. Wilterding, Vice President; George Banta III, Secretary; L. C. Roeck, Treasurer.

Number of employees and pay rolls by decades:

1901	—	$ 198.00 (3 mos.)	1940	418	817,045.34
1910	—	17,677.20	1950	598	2,418,970.14
1920	162	170,196.00	1955	646	3,500,000.00
1930	298	534,491.88			

Bergstrom Foundry

In 1876, H. Babcock, D. W. and George O. Bergstrom purchased the foundry from Smith, Van Ostrand & Leavens. They manufactured stoves, furnaces and plows.

George Bergstrom purchased the interest of D. W. Bergstrom in 1904, and a short time later, the interest of H. Babcock estate. In 1928 George O. Bergstrom sold his interest to James W. Bergstrom.

At this time a furnace fitting manufacturing plant at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, was purchased. It was the intention to manufacture furnaces and the necessary fittings for the installation of furnaces, and to retire from the stove business. The Milwaukee plant was operated for about a year, when the manufacturing end was moved to Neenah and the Milwaukee plant used as a warehouse and jobbing center for the furnaces and fittings, as well as other sheet metal products.

The Milwaukee plant was closed after several years of operation, and the Neenah plant continued, except the foundry end of the business. Thereafter furnace castings were purchased.

In 1948 the real estate and buildings were sold to Lyall Williams and associates, who closed the manufacturing end of the business, and revamped the buildings, using them for their plumbing supply business.

Bergstrom Paper Company

Bergstrom Paper Company was founded in 1904 through the purchase of the Winnebago Paper Mills from W. L. Davis. The property was in such a poor state of repair, that a complete renovation of the mill was necessary following its purchase.

The founders were D. W. Bergstrom, who came to this country in 1852, at the age of five; and his son, John N. Bergstrom. D. W. Bergstrom was formerly a partner in the Neenah Stove Works, renamed Bergstrom Brothers & Company, but relinquished his interest in this company when he purchased the Winnebago Paper Mills in 1904. Bergstrom Paper Company makes book paper of fine quality, used for law books, Bibles, magazines, school books, labels and many other

uses. In the making of this paper, high grade waste paper fibers are blended with virgin pulp fibers, resulting in a smooth, high-quality sheet well known throughout the paper trade as Valkyrie book papers.

This re-use of waste paper has contributed importantly to conservation in Wisconsin, making possible the savings of 50,000 cords of pulpwood every year, according to present figures. In 1912 a new 132-inch paper machine was installed, in a new brick building. In 1919 a new 158-inch paper machine went into use. Since that time both paper machines have been completely rebuilt, in 1947–48. New buildings continued to sprout, a new finishing building in 1915; a new warehouse in 1926; a new power plant in 1928. This was extensively damaged by an explosion in 1945 and was rebuilt. The laboratory building and water plant were completed in 1941; the hydrapulper building addition in 1947; the Dixie warehouse, located on U. S. Highway 41, south of Neenah, in 1948; and a waste disposal plant was finished in 1952. This is an installation built solely for the purpose of removing sludge from the effluent of the paper mill. This water, after it is used in the manufacture of paper, must go through a process of settling and filtration, to clarify it sufficiently to meet certain standards set by the State of Wisconsin before it can be discharged into the lower lake.

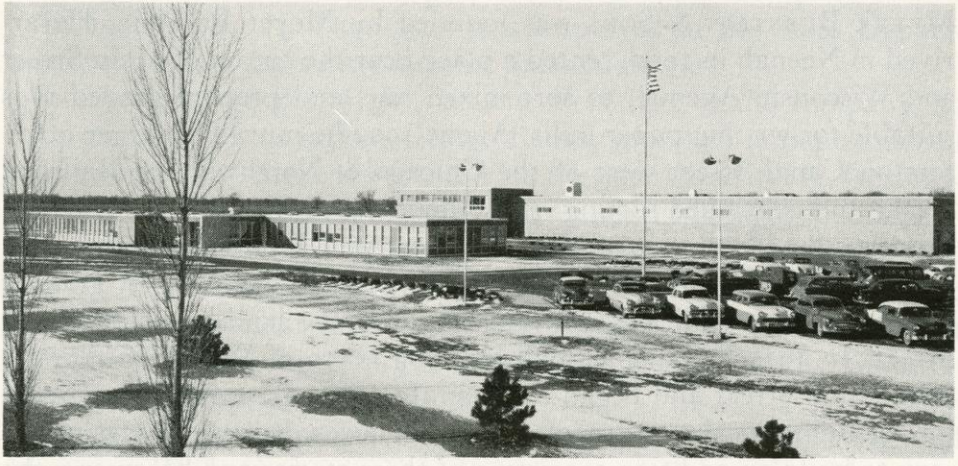
It may be interesting to note here that this sludge so removed is finally reduced to the form of a sticky clay, and this material is being used as fill for the shore line of Little Lake Butte des Morts, at the rear of the mill. In time this filled-in area will become a park and playground, according to present plans of the city of Neenah.

A new finishing plant located on the company's property in the township of Neenah on Highway 41 went into operation in the fall of 1956. Also, ground was broken during August, 1956, for a new office building for occupancy by mid-year 1957.

The key personnel of Bergstrom Paper Company have been D. W. Bergstrom, founder and first President of the company, serving until his death in 1928. Sara H. Bergstrom, his wife, was Vice President 1904–1921.

John N. Bergstrom, co-founder and son of D. W. Bergstrom, was Secretary-Treasurer 1904–1921, Vice President 1921–1928 and President 1928–1948. He died in 1951. W. C. Bergstrom, son of D. W.

Bergstrom, was associated briefly with the company and served as Assistant Treasurer 1922–1928 and as Treasurer 1928–1929. D. W. Bergstrom, Jr., son of D. W. Bergstrom, was Secretary 1916–1928 and Vice President 1928–1935, when he died. N. H. Bergstrom, son of D. W. Bergstrom, has served as Treasurer 1921–1928, Secretary 1928–1929, Secretary-Treasurer 1929–1935, Vice President and Secretary 1935–1944, Vice President 1944–1948 and has been



The Bergstrom Paper Company's new finishing plant and offices southwest of Neenah on Highway 41.

President and General Manager since 1948. Burt B. Fisher, formerly of Appleton, Wisconsin, joined the company in 1930 and served as Secretary for a number of years. He is now Vice President for Sales, since 1954. L. A. Carpenter came into the company in 1935 as Production Manager, was its Treasurer 1944–1950 and then Vice President for Production in 1950. He died in 1951. Foster P. Doane, Jr., formerly of Glens Falls, New York, was hired in 1952 to replace Mr. Carpenter as Production Manager. He became Vice President for Production in 1954. Arthur R. Hedlund is the Controller, coming to the company in 1945, after years of experience with Arthur Andersen & Co., of Milwaukee, a well-known firm of accountants. He was elected Assistant Treasurer-Controller in 1950, and in 1956 was made Treasurer-Controller. D. W. Bergstrom III, grandson of the founder, was Treasurer 1950–1956. In 1956 he was elected Vice President and Secretary.

H. R. Moore, a lawyer, joined the firm in 1951, serving as its legal counsel, and became Secretary in 1954. He was formerly associated with other members of his family in a law firm, Moore Attorneys-at-Law, in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. In 1956 he was elected Administrative Vice President.

Meyer Burstein & Sons

MEYER BURSTEIN & SONS was founded by Meyer Burstein. He arrived in Neenah in 1900, rented a place near the corner of Main Street and Wisconsin Avenue, to sort mixed rags and prepare graded rags suitable for writing paper mills. About 1902 he moved to larger quarters on Canal Street west of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad tracks and continued sorting rags. About 1905 he bought the Billstein property on the corner of Walnut Street and Wisconsin Avenue. In 1906 he built an addition west of this building and began grading paper stock, as well as rags, and acquired the land north to Canal Street. In 1913 he built a small building north of Wisconsin Avenue near Canal Street and began the manufacture of cotton wiping waste for use in lubricating railroad car journal boxes. By 1917 it was necessary to build an addition consisting of three stories and basement, the building occupying all of the space between the back of Wisconsin Avenue and Canal Street. At this time he discontinued sorting of rags and paper stock, so that the entire property between Wisconsin Avenue and Canal Street was used for the manufacture of waste. About 1945 waste used for oil filters for trucks and diesel locomotives was added to the other grades of waste.

Meyer Burstein's sons, Joseph D., started to work in the business in 1911, and Abraham G., started in 1915. After Meyer Burstein's death in 1926, the sons continued the business as Meyer Burstein & Sons.

Central Paper Company

CENTRAL PAPER COMPANY began in December 1917 under the name of "George Banta Paper Company." At that time it was really sort of a department of the George Banta Publishing Company. The business

operated one slitting and rewinding machine for making small roll paper products. Original incorporators were George Banta, President; George Banta, Jr., Vice President; R. E. Thickens, Secretary and Treasurer.

Early in 1918 the company put in equipment for the manufacture of gummed paper, and at that time W. K. Gerbrick became part owner and Secretary and Manager of the business.

In 1920 the name was changed to Central Paper Company

In 1929 Stuart E. Thompson was employed in the Sales Department, and a few years later became Sales Manager.

In 1935 George Banta, Jr., became President of the company, to take the place of his father, George Banta, who died in September of that year. R. E. Thickens became Vice President, and W. K. Gerbrick continued as Secretary, Treasurer and General Manager.

In 1939 the company acquired the interests of George Banta, Jr., and R. E. Thickens, who were no longer actively engaged with the company, and at that time W. K. Gerbrick became President, Stuart Thompson became Secretary-Treasurer, while Mrs. W. K. Gerbrick acted as Vice President.

In 1956 the officers are W. K. Gerbrick, President and General Manager; W. J. Gerbrick, Vice President and Production Manager; Stuart E. Thompson, Secretary-Treasurer and Sales Manager.

Products manufactured are gummed paper tapes, various kinds, both printed and plain; small roll paper items, such as adding machine rolls, decorated papers and bags.

Pay roll by decades:

1920—10 employees
1930—25 employees
1940—50 employees
1955—95 employees



Edgewater Paper Company

THE Edgewater Paper Company, of Menasha, Wisconsin, was started by Mr. G. W. Young, Sr., a pioneer in the paper industry in Wisconsin. It was incorporated in September, 1917, with the following officers:

Gavin W. Young, Sr.—President
James B. Nash—Vice President
Henry M. Northrop—Secretary-Treasurer
Directors: Messrs. Young, Nash and Northrup

In September of 1917 the company purchased from Gavin Young, Sr., the property on which is located the office and plant of the Edgewater Paper, erecting thereon the original section of the present mill. A house located on the property was used as an office building.

In 1919 Mr. Northrup disposed of his stock in the company to J. Dudleigh Young, who had entered the employ of the company in April of 1919, and in November of that year, J. D. Young was elected Director and Secretary-Treasurer of the company, with G. W. Young, Sr., James B. Nash, Leo Nash and J. D. Young holding all of the outstanding stock. G. W. Young, Sr., and James B. Nash retained their offices of President and Vice President and Directors of the company. In the early part of 1920 G. W. Young, Jr., entered the employ of the company, but was not then elected to office.

In December of 1923 Mr. Young, Sr., purchased from Mr. Nash his stock in the Edgewater Paper Company. At that time G. W. Young, Jr., was elected director to fill the vacancy caused by the retirement of Mr. Nash. He was also elected to the post of Vice President formerly held by Mr. Nash. In September, 1926, Mr. Young, Sr., sold to G. W. Young, Jr., certain shares in the Edgewater Paper Company; in October of 1926 Mr. Young, Sr., purchased the outstanding shares held by Leo Nash.

After the death of G. W. Young, Sr., on August 31, 1934, the following officers were named:

J. D. Young—President and Secretary
G. W. Young, Jr.—Vice President and Treasurer
Directors: J. D. Young
G. W. Young, Jr.
E. G. F. Smith

Following the death of Mr. G. W. Young, Jr., on January 1, 1953, the following officers were elected:

J. D. Young—President and Treasurer
D. E. Ryan—Vice President in Charge of Sales
Margaret R. Lobb—Secretary

Directors: J. D. Young
J. Russell Ward
Gavin W. Young V

Mr. E. G. F. Smith retired from his post as Director on February 3, 1953. On April 27, 1953, Harry A. Johnson, general superintendent of the company, was elected to the post of Vice President in charge of production.

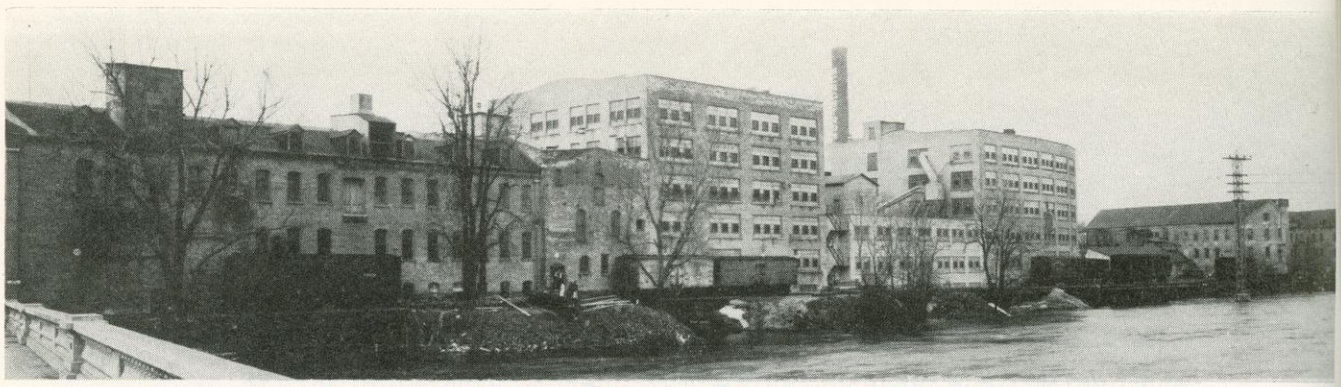
Following the death of Mr. Johnson October 20, 1954, Mr. Walter E. Anderson was elected to the post of general superintendent and Vice President in charge of production. At the present time the officers are:

J. D. Young—President and Treasurer
D. E. Ryan—Vice President in Charge of Sales
W. E. Anderson—Vice President in Charge of Production
Mrs. Margaret R. Lobb—Secretary
Directors: J. D. Young
J. Russell Ward
Gavin W. Young V

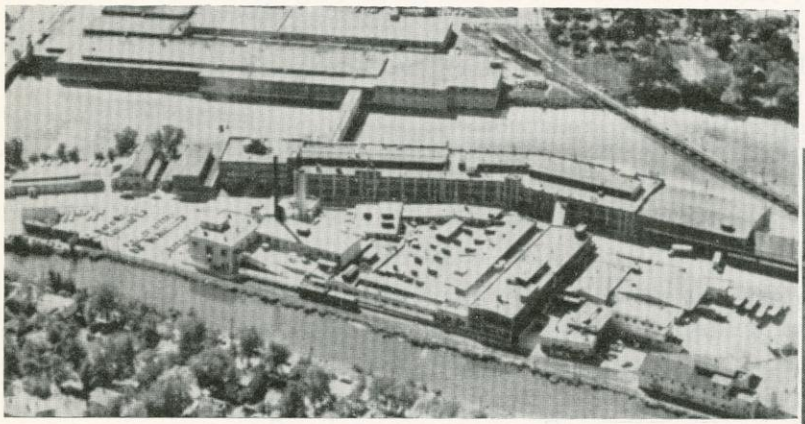
The original manufacturing plant of the company has been enlarged several times, notably in 1946–48, when an entirely new addition was made to house several of the machines formerly operated in the old original section of the mill. At that time the original section was largely rebuilt. In 1951–52 a new office building was constructed and occupied in July of 1952.

As of the present time the principal products are gummed paper sealing tape, plain and creped waterproof papers and plain creped kraft, with all products being sold nationally under the trade names of "Dryseal" waterproof papers and "Stayon" gummed sealing tape.

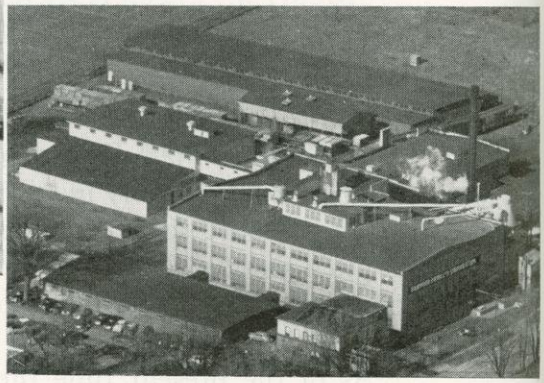
In 1920 the number of employees totaled 25, with an annual pay roll of approximately $18,000. At the end of 1931 the yearly pay roll was $44,000; at the end of 1940, $66,000; at the end of 1950, $177,000. The present number of employees is 45; this has been the average for the past fifteen years.



Kimberly-Clark Corporation
Neenah Mill—Badger Globe Division

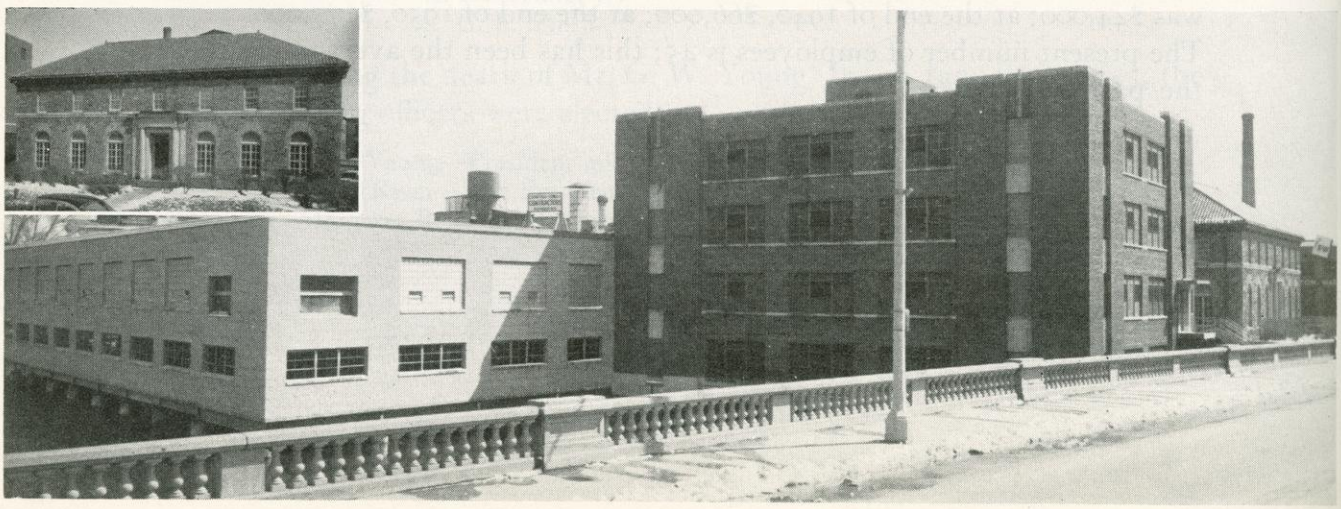


Marathon Corporation



Hardwood Products Corporation

Neenah Paper Company (office inset)



Galloway Company

THE Galloway Company, formerly the Neenah Milk Products Company, began as a bottle milk and cheese factory, started by George M. Danke in 1925. In 1935 the company was reorganized, with Albert Johnson, Carl Larson (Chicago), C. F. Gerhardt, O. B. Pratt and E. E. Jandrey, shareholders. It was again reorganized in 1939, with Mr. E. P. Galloway and Mr. D. C. West of Fond du Lac as the majority stockholders.

The company buys whole milk from approximately six hundred farms in Winnebago, Outagamie and Portage counties, and processes the milk for fluid consumption in the Neenah-Menasha market and into dairy products for the ice cream, candy, bakery and dairy industries in the eastern half of the United States.

On October 30, 1956, the name of the company was changed to the Galloway Company. Officers of the corporation in 1958 are: E. P. Galloway, President; John R. Galloway, Vice President; R. P. Galloway, Secretary; and E. J. Galloway, Treasurer.

Gilbert Paper Company

THE Gilbert Paper Company was established April 27, 1887, by William Gilbert; capital stock of $100,000, with 200 shares of $500 each, 40 shares each to William Gilbert, William M. Gilbert, Albert M. Gilbert, Theodore M. Gilbert and George Gilbert. The original officers were: President, William Gilbert; Treasurer, Albert M. Gilbert; Secretary, Theodore M. Gilbert. William M. Gilbert and George Gilbert, with the officers, made up the directorship.

Alex Paul was the first Superintendent, and other early operative men were Joe Hill, Fred Huband and William Nash.

From the starting one-machine operation, a second machine was installed in 1891, and a third machine in 1919. The #3 machine was completely rebuilt and enlarged in 1954.

On the death of William Gilbert in February, 1900, William M. Gilbert became the second President.

Of the original founding group, George Gilbert passed away in 1891;

Albert M. Gilbert in 1907; Theodore M. Gilbert in 1923; and William M. Gilbert in 1926.

With the passing of his father, Albert C. Gilbert was elected to the Presidency in 1926. Succeeding Presidencies were George M. Gilbert in 1951 and T. M. Gilbert in 1954. Officers along with T. M. Gilbert at the present time are N. T. Gilbert, William Gilbert, T. C. Catlin, John D. Schmerein and A. C. Haselow.

As of 1956, personnel is approximately 400 people, with an annual pay roll in excess of $2,000,000. Yearly production is now 14,000 tons, representing 11% of the industry total.

Manufacture throughout the years has consisted of the higher quality cotton fibre content papers, such as bond, ledger, index, onionskin, safety, manuscript, currency, tracing and industrial specialties. Qualities range from 25% cotton fibre content to 100% cotton fibre content papers. Many "firsts" in the industry have accounted for both prestige and quality, and the physical equipment today is recognized as the finest in the field.



Hardwood Products Corporation

THE Hardwood Products Corporation, organized in 1910, is the outgrowth of a small veneer plant located near Vicksburg, Mississippi, and organized in 1908 by several Neenah young men who were still in their twenties. The original incorporators were: C. B. Clark, D. L. Kimberly, William C. Wing, and E. D. Beals. The Mississippi plant was known originally as the Kimberly-Wing Company, and the name was later changed to the Mississippi Veneer & Lumber Company.

The original officers of the Kimberly-Wing Company at Cedars, Mississippi, were: W. C. Wing, President; E. D. Beals, Vice President; C. B. Clark, Secretary; D. L. Kimberly, Treasurer.

In 1910 the Hardwood Products Company of Neenah was organized and the plant was completed in the middle of 1911. The original officers of the Hardwood Products Company were: W. C. Wing, President; D. L. Kimberly, Vice President; C. B. Clark, Secretary; E. D. Beals, Treasurer.

Mr. Beals served as President from 1913 until his death in 1928, when he was succeeded by D. L. Kimberly, who served as President until 1952, when he was named Chairman of the Board.

S. F. Shattuck of Neenah was also one of the original founders of Hardwood Products Corporation, and served as a Director and Officer until 1947.

The present officers are as follows: Chairman of the Board, D. L. Kimberly; President, H. H. Des Marais; Vice President and Treasurer, Henry J. Young; Secretary, R. L. Teschner (of Milwaukee); Plant Manager, Leo Boehm; Director, S. N. Pickard.

In 1922 the name of the company was changed to Hardwood Products Corporation.

During World War I, the entire capacity of the plant was devoted to the manufacture of Navy Shell Boxes, and during World War II the company manufactured numerous items for war use, including its regular products, doors, on many wartime installations.

Located in the heart of the hardwood country, the Hardwood Products Corporation has specialized in the manufacture of high quality hardwood veneered doors, constructed primarily to architectural specifications.

Its market extends the entire length and breadth of the United States and Canada. A very substantial portion of its raw materials is grown in our own Wisconsin and Northern Michigan, along with extensive shipments of softwood for core purposes from the West Coast and other midwest points.

The plant is equipped with the most modern, efficient door machinery, and is one of the largest in the country devoted exclusively to the manufacture of doors made to architectural details and specifications.

Included among its products are standard solid core flush doors, usually supplied for schools, hospitals and institutions. Aside from that, the Company also produces a very special sound resistant door which has high acoustical qualities and which has been installed in practically every new broadcasting studio erected during the past ten years in this country. This door is also used extensively in maternity wards in hospitals, doctors' offices, music rooms in high schools and similar installations. The Company also produces a fire resistant wood

door, in which the material is impregnated to meet standard fire tests.

Hardwood Products Corporation doors have been installed in most of the Veterans' Hospitals, which were erected after World War II throughout the country, and among the more notable installations during the past few years is included the White House at Washington, D. C., the Rotary International Building at Evanston, Illinois, the large new Medical Center at the University of Southern California, soundproof doors in the United Nation's buildings, and numerous offices, schools, hospitals and other institutions.

J. W. Hewitt Machine Company

1910—Jamison Machine Works purchased by J. W. Hewitt, Sr. This was the founding of the present company. At the time of purchase there were five men employed, a small building and very little equipment.

1930—Building enlarged to accommodate more modern equipment and give additional work space.

1933—J. W. Hewitt Machine Company was incorporated. The original officers were: J. W. Hewitt, Sr., Founder, President and Treasurer; Olaf Myhre, Vice President; Leona Landskron, Secretary.

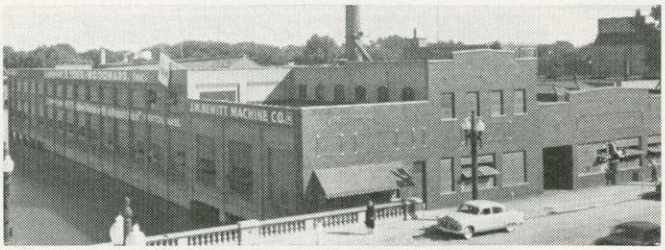
At the time the business was incorporated, the work force had doubled.

1936—Building again enlarged by an additional 2,000 sq. ft. of floor space.

1942—Final expansion to present building; new and modern roll grinding equipment purchased, together with several different types of machine tools.

1954—Entire interior of our building remodeled, a new Farrel Roll Grinder capable of grinding 48″ dia. × 340″ face rolls installed. The weld shop moved from parent building to space rented in the Muench Building on North Commercial Street. Warehouse erected on Chapman Avenue. These moves were necessary to accommodate our new associates, Stowe-Woodward, Inc., of Newton Upper Falls, Mass.

Throughout the entire history of the firm, it has served the paper industry by making all types of rolls, regrinding paper mill rolls and doing repair work. Special made-to-order machines are also made for the paper industry.



Hewitt Machine Company

At the present time the firm has sixty employees. The officers are J. W. Hewitt, Jr., President and Treasurer; Olaf Myhre, Vice President; and Leona Landskron, Secretary.

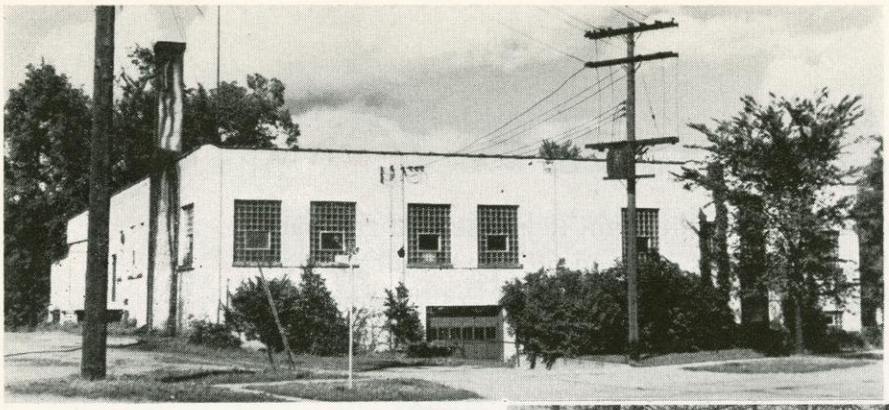
In 1938 the Hewitt Transmission Company was formed. This firm also served the paper industry by stocking and supplying needed replacements of bearings, couplings, speed reducers, sheaves, V-belts and many other items too numerous to mention. Hewitt Transmission Company is now headed by J. W. Hewitt, Jr., President.

Hoerning's Concrete Products

HOERNING'S CONCRETE PRODUCTS was begun in 1930, located on Highway 114. In 1932 the business was moved to Konemac Street, in Menasha.

The company originally manufactured concrete blocks, and later increased their products to include concrete, cinder and slag blocks and bricks and split rock.

Arnold B. Hoerning and W. J. Hoerning are the owners.



Atlas Tag Company



Galloway Company



Valley Press, Inc.



Jersild Knitting Corporation

Jersild Knitting Corporation

THE founder of the Jersild Knitting Corporation, of Neenah, was Reverend Jens N. Jersild, an ordained minister of the gospel. Mr. Jersild was a native of Denmark, coming to the United States in 1884. He accepted ministerial calls in Chicago, Alden, Minnesota; Oconto and Neenah. He served as pastor of the Danish Lutheran Church in Neenah for eight years.

In 1899 Mr. Jersild visited Europe, and on his return, organized on a small scale what is now known as the Jersild Knitting Corporation, which was operated as a co-partnership for a time, but, in 1901, it was incorporated under the laws of Wisconsin with Mr. Jersild as its first President. Operations were begun at 329 North Commercial Street, Neenah, in the two-story frame building, which formerly was the old St. Patrick's school, the building having previously been moved to the site. During subsequent years new buildings were erected, and the company continued to occupy the location until April, 1953, when it moved into its new quarters at 340 First Street, Neenah.

Mr. Jersild died in 1917 after having previously retired from business. His eldest son, N. C. Jersild, became President of the company in 1933, and continued in this capacity until his death in July, 1955. Officers of the company are Bert S. Dutcher, President; James Dyreby, Secretary; and E. A. Kalfahs, Treasurer and General Manager.

The company manufactures a line of high grade men's, boys' and women's sweaters and knitted sportswear. Its products are sold from coast to coast.

Kimberly-Clark Corporation

WHEN Cunningham rang down the curtain on Neenah's history from its early beginnings to 1878, Kimberly, Clark and Co. had been in business for six years. The original organization was a partnership of four young men from Massachusetts and New York states—John A. Kimberly, Havilah Babcock, Charles B. Clark, and Frank C. Shattuck. They pooled their savings and built a one-machine mill to make two tons per day of newsprint from rags. Known as the Globe Mill, it

stood on the canal bank about 300 feet west of North Commercial Street.

Moses Hooper was their attorney. Mr. Hooper handled the legal affairs of the partnership, and later of the corporation, until his death in 1932.

Among the treasured keepsakes of the early days is a 15 cent Civil War "shinplaster," being the first money received by the infant industry for the sale of paper. It is recorded that a little girl, hearing that paper was to be made that day at the Globe Mill, asked Mr. Kimberly for a few sheets and offered in payment 15 cents in paper currency.

In 1874, a never-ending expansion began in the purchase from Smith and Van Ostrand of the so-called Neenah Paper Mills, a wooden structure further west on the canal bank. As these lines are written (April, 1957) expansion, not only in continental United States and Canada, but in foreign parts, has reached the point of appointment of a manager of foreign operations to oversee the corporation's activities in Mexico, England, Australia, South Africa and Germany.

In 1878, the Atlas Mill at Appleton was added to the productive units, although full ownership of that property was not effected until a later date.

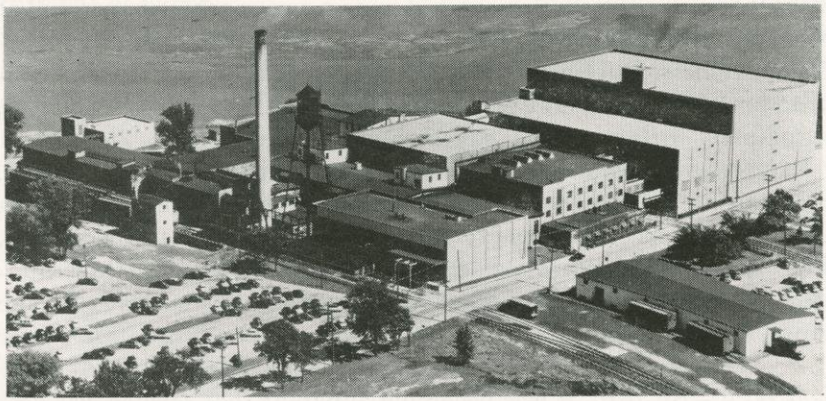
Always more important than brick, mortar, and machines are people. During the '80s, Frank J. Sensenbrenner was employed as a bookkeeper. In due time he took the load and the leadership from the original partners, rising through the echelons of supervision to the presidency.

In 1880, the partners incorporated as Kimberly & Clark Company, with a capital of $400,000. The Badger Mill, adjacent to the original Globe, came into being in 1884, adding to the company's output of newsprint. 1886 saw the organization of a subsidiary, the Telulah Paper Company of Appleton, making groundwood pulp and more newsprint. (This mill was later sold to the Fox River Paper Company.)

With demand still growing, the management in 1889 undertook the first of many greater projects to follow. The water power and a large acreage was purchased three miles east of Appleton, and the Kimberly mill and village came into being.

Having weathered the depression of the '90s, the company in the late '90s moved into the north country, building a groundwood, sulphite, and two-machine paper mill at Niagara, Wisconsin. This also involved responsibility for a village.

While this expansion was in progress, three sons of the founders entered the business: James C. Kimberly, S. Frank Shattuck, and C. B. (Bill) Clark. In 1914 Ernst Mahler, an outstanding chemical



Kimberly-Clark Corporation, Neenah Mill—Lakeview Division

engineer, entered the Kimberly-Clark picture. To him and the many young engineers and technical men who followed him, go the credit for the remarkable technical advances of the ensuing 40 years.

During World War I, the company made an absorbent substance known as *cellucotton* for the Army and the Red Cross. Following the war and after, from a year of research on peacetime use of cellucotton, emerged a sanitary napkin to which the name "Kotex" was applied. Soon after, "Kleenex" appeared on the market, followed by a galaxy of kindred articles.

Plants to manufacture or convert into these products now include the Lakeview and Badger-Globe at Neenah; Memphis, Tennessee; Niagara Falls, New York, and Niagara Falls, Ontario; Winnipeg, Manitoba; Mexico, Australia, England, South Africa, in addition to

Kimberly-Clark Corporation of Canada; and new plants at Fullerton, California, and New Milford, Connecticut.

To insure an adequate supply of gauze for its growing Kotex business, Kimberly-Clark purchased in 1946 a fully integrated cotton textile mill at Balfour, North Carolina.

The company extended itself into northern Ontario during the 1920's with the *New York Times*, erecting a plant at Kapuskasing to make newsprint for the *Times* and other eastern dailies. Also in the early 1920's the corporation entered upon a two-machine paper mill at Niagara Falls, New York, to service its eastern book paper and magazine customers. During the late '40s, the company undertook the construction and operation of a newsprint mill at Coosa Pines, Alabama, in company with a group of southern publishers.

In 1951, the corporation purchased the Munising Paper Company, of Munising, Michigan, and thereby added to its sales potential a varied line of specialty papers. To safeguard its raw material supply, the corporation built at Terrace Bay, Ontario, in 1946, a three hundred ton pulp mill and a modern village on the north shore of Lake Superior.

RESEARCH—By 1912, it was becoming apparent that science was destined to make a major contribution to the making of paper, which heretofore had been considered an art.

It was because of this realization that Ernst Mahler was invited to associate himself with Kimberly-Clark. He entered the company, as before noted, in 1914, bringing with him a rich technical background. A chemical laboratory was set up in a building which stood on the site now occupied by the Neenah Paper Company office.

Following World War I, research activities were moved to the Kimberly Mill. In 1925, an experimental mill was constructed at Neenah. In 1929 came a laboratory for research on Kotex napkins, and in 1938 a laboratory for research in the field of physics. A specialty wadding laboratory was added in 1941 to keep pace with a growing demand for these products. By 1941, 55 persons were employed in research activities.

World War II brought exacting demands to which the corporation's

research talent responded wholeheartedly. Following V-J Day, the old Neenah Mill, which had been used latterly for storage, was renovated and modernized into a technical center. In 1946, the entire research and development organization, 160 scientists, technicians and their helpers, were brought together under one roof.

During and immediately after World War II, the Kimlark plant, situated near the south boundary of Neenah, underwent three rapid transformations. Prior to that time it contained equipment to weave rugs out of paper.

In 1942, Kimberly-Clark's resourceful engineers converted the Kimlark into an ordnance plant, for manufacture of the automatic, self-propelled, anti-aircraft gun known as the M-45. In 1944, the ordnance division again was reorganized to assemble the much-needed M48AZ point detonating fuse. June 25, 1944, saw an impressive ceremony at the Kimlark plant, at which time the Army-Navy "E" award was made.

At war's end, the Kimlark property was again revamped to house the corporation's engineering department. At this writing, 640 engineers, draftsmen, tradesmen, and clerks either work there or work out from there in the far-flung properties of the corporation.

SALES CENTER—A new kind of selling tool made its appearance on the Kimberly-Clark scene in 1951. The corporation had for many years been aware of the need to sell not only its products, but also to sell itself as a capable manufacturer to its widespread customers. With the post-war competition for markets, a refinement was felt necessary by the corporation; so in 1951, space was rented in a building owned by the Valley Construction Company located in the town of Menasha about 1½ miles north of the Lakeview Mill. Subsequently, the building was purchased by the corporation.

Through displays, through a variety of visual aids, dramatized presentations, and by means of a skilled staff, this unit was designed to bring the Kimberly-Clark story to distributors, customers and their salesmen. A completely equipped stage, also dining and lounge facilities, add to the pleasure and effectiveness of the Sales Center.

GUEST HOUSE—As Kimberly-Clark's operations grew, the need of a facility to house certain business guests became obvious. In 1952, plans were prepared by the engineering department for such a building to be located just north of the Lakeview Park on North Lake Street. Construction was started in the fall of that year. The building consists of two wings, containing 12 bedrooms. At the center is an area containing lobby lounge, dining room and kitchen. A small house was erected just north of the building to house the caretaker and his family.

MAIN OFFICE—Corporation growth was reflected in growing needs at the headquarters office location. It became apparent as a result of post-war expansion that the Main Office in downtown Neenah, after many additions and remodellings, had reached its final capacity. In December 1953, planning was started on a new office building. Construction began in the spring of 1955, on corporation property north of the Lakeview Mill on the shore of Little Lake Butte des Morts, and was completed in 1956.

The steel, glass and concrete structure was occupied in September of that year, and provides space for about 800. The old office building was remodelled to serve as expanded quarters for research and related activities.

FORESTRY—Only brief mention can be made of the vast forest areas owned or controlled by this growing corporation, and the skilled forest management provided by more than 120 graduate foresters. Theirs is the responsibility for supervision of all cutting operations and of seeing to it that enough millions of young trees are planted annually to the end that there shall be a harvest of mature trees one hundred years hence to feed the corporation's hungry pulp mills.

KIMBERLY-CLARK'S PRESIDENTS—During the 84 years (1872–1956), but four Presidents have guided the affairs of the organization. Prior to 1880, the enterprise was a partnership.

John A. Kimberly	1880–1928	Cola G. Parker	1942–1953
Frank J. Sensenbrenner	1928–1942	John R. Kimberly	1953–

FACTS AND FIGURES—While it will be of interest to posterity to know something of the outreach of Kimberly-Clark since its origin in 1872, interest of local readers will center on the value of Kimberly-Clark to its local community.

Sales: In 1927, International Cellucotton Products Company was established to market the products such as Kotex, Kleenex, etc. During the latter half of 1955, the I.C.P. Company was integrated with Kimberly-Clark.

In the summer of 1956, a transaction was completed by which Kimberly-Clark purchased the assets of the Neenah Paper Company in an exchange of shares.

Early in 1957, the corporation acquired the assets of Peter J. Schweitzer, Inc., a leading manufacturer of light-weight papers, with six plants in the eastern United States and an interest in a French plant.

Announcement was made in summer, 1957, of an enterprise in West Germany, shared by Kimberly-Clark, Unilever N.V., and the German firm Aschaffenburger Zellstoffwerke A.G. Involved was a converting plant, initially designed to convert Kleenex products for Western Europe.

The following figures represent the sales volume of both organizations, Kimberly-Clark and I.C.P., and the years 1956–57 include Schweitzer and Neenah Paper Company:

1928	$ 25,391,790	1953	208,377,527
1933	18,625,778	1954	226,466,125
1938	35,388,259	1956	282,167,742
1943	73,574,137	1957	310,733,968
1948	141,745,632		

Employees: As of April 30, 1957, 4,279 people (Neenah Paper Company included) were employed in local mills and offices. In this connection it may be noted that Kimberly-Clark was the pioneer among paper and pulp mills of the continent in safety promotion, and also led in the development of a well-rounded program of industrial relations.

Pay-Rolls: The following figures cover Lakeview and Badger-Globe mills, Kimlark plant, Sales Center and Main Office:

1930	$ 2,649,865	1950	12,824,159
1936	2,163,661	1951	14,375,002
1940	3,883,766	1952	15,007,417
1945	7,305,504	1953	16,012,590
1947	12,252,945	1954	16,295,240
1948	12,697,600	1955	18,731,645
1949	12,504,717	1956	25,277,369

Thus, within the span of three generations, Neenah has become the center of a world-wide industrial enterprise, and the end is not yet. Fortunate indeed is Neenah and its environs to have in their midst this source of social and economic strength.

And let posterity remember the humble beginnings on the banks of the Fox River, when four young men pooled their savings in the year 1872, and entered upon what some of their contemporaries thought was a wild venture.



The Manhattan Rubber Manufacturing Company

THE Manhattan Rubber Manufacturing Company, Neenah, a subsidiary of Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc., Passaic, New Jersey, started its first operation in the Hewitt Machine Company building, October 1, 1932.

The officers of the company at that time were: President, A. F. Townsend; Vice President, J. H. Merrill; Secretary, Harry Snyder, and Treasurer, W. H. Dunn.

A. A. Campbell was sent here from Passaic, New Jersey, as Manager, and the purpose of this plant was to serve the paper industry in the midwest. The principal operation was the rubber covering of rolls used in the manufacture of paper. In 1953 it was necessary to build a new building, now located on Matthews and Cecil Streets, in Neenah. This new building is of the latest design, and the new equipment is capable of handling the largest paper mill rolls in the country.

The company has expanded facilities to include all rubber and metal grinding, also tank, pipe and valve lining. This expansion increased the labor force to approximately fifty people.

The present officers of the company are President, John F. D. Rohrbach; Executive Vice President, J. H. Matthews; Treasurer and

Comptroller, W. Ward Kievit; Resident Manager, A. A. Campbell, and Plant Superintendent, A. F. Kuehn, Jr.

Marathon Corporation

February 6, 1909—Marathon Paper Mills Company incorporated under laws of the state of Wisconsin at Wausau. Neal Brown, Wausau lawyer, was the spark behind the organization. Original officers were Cyrus C. Yawkey, President; Charles J. Winton, Vice President; B. F. Wilson, Secretary; Walter Alexander, Treasurer; and Neal Brown, counsel for the company.

March 1, 1909—David Clark Everest became the company's first General Manager.

June, 1909—Construction of original Marathon plant began at Rothschild.

1916—Marathon Paper Mills Company supplied the Menasha Carton Company with bleached lined board for butter cartons and, later, papers for waxing purposes, thereby becoming associated with a company active in food packaging manufacture.

1917—Important to Marathon's future was the merger of the Menasha Printing Company and the Menasha Carton Company into the Menasha Printing and Carton Company, a firm that eventually became part of Marathon. The Menasha Printing Company had been founded by Sam Clinedinst, former newspaperman, in 1900, and incorporated in 1904. George S. Gaylord, formerly with a Chicago brokerage firm, converted an old shingle mill and organized the Menasha Carton Company in 1912.

1919—Menasha Printing and Carton Company installed engraving, electrotype, ink and art departments. It also bought a paper pail manufacturing plant at Wausau.

November 1, 1927—Marathon Paper Mills Company purchased the Menasha Printing and Carton Company and its plants at Menasha, Wausau and Ashland. George S. Gaylord was named to Marathon's Board of Directors. With acquisition of Menasha Printing and Carton Company, Marathon acquired plants, equipment for food package production and an experienced distribution organization to market

production. For sales purposes, the company formed a division known as the Menasha Products Company.

1928—A steam power building and wax refinery building were added at Menasha.

1929—An addition was made to the waxed paper plant and refinery building at Menasha. Construction also was underway on a new building to house carton manufacturing machinery and provide storage space for raw materials and finished products.

1930—A new brick and concrete carton plant was completed. It was used as a manufacturing unit and for storage of raw materials and finished products.

1934—Additional equipment was installed in the waxed paper plant at Menasha.

1937—Land was acquired in Menasha for manufacturing and storage buildings.

December 19, 1938—D. C. Everest, Vice President and General Manager, succeeded C. C. Yawkey as President of Marathon Paper Mills Company.

1940—The Menasha office building, destined to become the main office, was completed on River Street. A carton factory addition was also completed.

July, 1941—Marathon purchased the assets of Whitmore Machine and Foundry Company, Menasha. This plant is Marathon's machine division on River Street.

July 6, 1944—Marathon Articles of Incorporation were amended to effect a new title—Marathon Corporation.

1945—Marathon Service Company was organized in Menasha as a subsidiary of Marathon Corporation for the purpose of leasing, subleasing and servicing various equipment for use in connection with products of Marathon Corporation. In this year, also, Marathon acquired the Appleton Engraving Company at Neenah.

April, 1947—The present Menasha carton plant on Washington at Garfield was completed. Prior to its completion, carton production was carried on at the present Parafilm plant on River Street on the first floor. The carton plant produces printed and plain paperboard packages and packaging materials for the bakery, dairy, frozen food, meat and vegetable oil industries.

October, 1947—Marathon acquired the Menasha Printing Ink Company and dissolved it as a subsidiary. It occupied what is now Marathon's sample room on River Street.

April, 1949—A new printing ink manufacturing plant was placed in operation at Menasha on Milwaukee Street. Built of reinforced concrete, steel and brick, the plant is a one-story structure and provides about 28,000 square feet of floor space, including laboratory and manufacturing areas. It produces inks for the company's printing operations.

March 13, 1951—Marathon purchased a guest house in Neenah for the convenience of guests and company personnel.

April 29, 1952—John Stevens, Jr., was elected President and General Manager of Marathon Corporation to succeed D. C. Everest, who resigned this date. Everest had served as President continuously, except for an interruption from April 6, 1950, to July 31, 1951, when William L. Keady was President.

September 1, 1952—At Neenah, Marathon acquired the Jersild Knitting Company building, 331 N. Commercial Street, on a 15-year lease. Contract was between Marathon and the Island Realty Company, owner of the building. Marathon's photo and roto engraving operations had been housed on two floors of the building since purchase of the Appleton Engraving Company in 1945.

October 2, 1952—Marathon acquired ten acres of property in Neenah for construction of a proposed graphic arts building to house electrotype and engraving departments. Property fronted on Western Avenue and was located north of Main and west of Lake Streets.

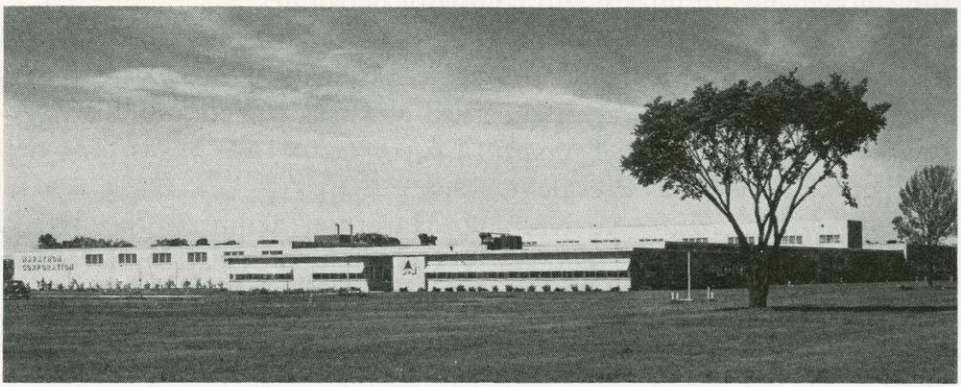
October 28, 1952—Board of Directors approved appropriations for construction of a new Graphic Arts Building at Neenah. Construction was planned to begin in the very near future.

June 20, 1953—Announcement was made by C. E. Cass, Neenah, that he had purchased Marathon Corporation's electrotype equipment and facilities. He also announced formation of the Neenah Electrotype Corporation, of which he became President and Treasurer. Neenah Electrotype Corporation was to occupy a section of Marathon's new Graphic Arts building at Neenah when completed.

January, 1954—New Graphic Arts plant on Western Avenue in Neenah was completed. It became the home for photoengraving and

rotogravure operations. It is a one-story structure of concrete, brick, steel and glass construction, with 43,000 sq. ft. of working area.

April 1, 1954—Remodeling of the former Jersild Knitting Mill building at Neenah was completed. The four story structure and annex became the Central Manufacturing Staff building. These new quarters also permitted the personnel division to move into the English-styled building at Menasha on Washington at Garfield, which had formerly housed art and purchasing departments. In general the Main Office building on River St., Menasha, now housed executive



Flexible packaging plant of Marathon Corporation, south of Cecil Street, which came into production during 1956, John Fitzpatrick, Manager.

and marketing division offices and the northeast wing of the carton plant building housed finance and accounting functions.

October 7, 1954—Plans to construct a new label and specialty plant in Neenah were announced. The Neenah city council gave approval to Marathon to purchase city property located on the south side of Cecil Street and adjacent to the Chicago & Northwestern Railway main line, near the southwestern city limits.

December 28, 1954—John Stevens, Jr., announced that Marathon employment was 9,232 in the United States and Canada.

April, 1955—Construction began on the Neenah label and specialty plant.

October 28, 1955—D. C. Everest, 72, first general manager of Mara-

thon and former president, died at Wausau, Wis. He was chairman of Marathon Corporation's board of directors at time of death.

December 31, 1955—Corporate wide employment for the year was reported at an all-time high of 9,660.

January, 1956—Newly constructed Neenah Plant, Byrd Avenue at Cecil Street, began limited production.

January 25, 1956—John Stevens was named chairman of Marathon Corporation's board of directors, succeeding the late D. C. Everest. Stevens retained his position as president of Marathon Corporation and board chairman of Marathon Corporation of Canada Limited, but was succeeded as president of the Canadian subsidiary by Roy J. Sund, Neenah.

April 26, 1956—Plans for construction of a new corporate office building in the southwest section of Neenah were announced.

September 20, 1956—Ground was broken for construction of the Neenah office building. It was designed by Perkins & Will, Chicago industrial architects and engineers. Location was the southern extremity of Byrd Avenue in southwest Neenah.

November 30, 1956—Record sales of $152,886,403 for the 1956 fiscal year were reported by John Stevens. Previous high was $135,107,686 in 1955. Employment for the year reached a new high, 10,522.

June 23, 1957—Frank J. Dvorak, 59, treasurer and member of the board of directors, died at his Neenah home.

October 15, 1957—American Can Company board of directors approved a proposal to pool interests with Marathon Corporation.

October 17, 1957—Marathon Corporation board of directors approved terms of an agreement to join with American Can Company.

December 3, 1957—Stockholders of American Can Company, meeting at New York, and stockholders of Marathon Corporation, meeting at Rothschild, voted to approve merger of the two companies. As of this date, Marathon became a Division of American Can Company.

Four members of Marathon's board of directors were elected directors of Canco: John Stevens, Menasha; Roy J. Sund, Neenah; W. E. Buchanan, Appleton; and Lester Armour, Chicago.

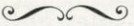
December 10, 1957—William C. Stolk, president of American Can Company, announced the following:

Elected Vice President of American Can Company—John Stevens
Appointed Vice President & General Manager of the Marathon Division of American Can Company—Roy J. Sund

Roy Sund also designated the following appointments for Marathon Division:

Vice President—Leo E. Croy
Vice President, Food Packaging Division—Donald A. Snyder
Vice President, Northern Products Division—Milan Boex
Vice President, Pulp & Paper Division—Russell C. Flom
Vice President, Specialty Packaging Division—Palmer B. McConnell
Vice President, Finance Division—Emmett W. Below
Vice President, Industrial Relations Division—Carl R. Geisler
Director, Administrative Services Division—Doug G. Hyde
Director, Manufacturing Services Division—E. E. Den Dooven
Director, Research & Development—Ross C. Wilcox
General Attorney—Edwin N. West

All except Boex are assigned to Marathon Division headquarters at Menasha. Boex remains at Green Bay.



Menasha Wooden Ware Corporation

ACTUALLY the inception of the Menasha Wooden Ware Company was in 1849, when Messrs. Beckwith, Sanford and Billings started a small plant, the total investment not exceeding $1,000. These three men did all the work from cutting up the logs into staves to completing the tub or pail, and only the local trade was furnished with its products. After a year the factory was sold to Keyes, Wolcott & Rice, in the transaction of which a mortgage was given for $200 drawing interest at the rate of 50% per annum, which was the rate charged in those early days. At that time the factory had only one lathe for making pails. In 1852 Elisha D. Smith purchased, for about $1,200, the plant which eventually became the present Menasha Wooden Ware Company.

In subsequent years he hoed a very rugged row, his business being severely crippled by the panic of 1857 and somewhat later by the difficulties brought on by the Civil War. His factory was burned and

had to be rebuilt. As a result of these various vicissitudes, Elisha had to make an assignment and, as a result of that, the Menasha Wooden Ware Company was formulated as such, the year May 24, 1875, when a meeting was held at the residence of Elisha Smith, at which time Spencer Mowry, Henry Hewitt, Jr., Julia A. Smith, Henry Hewitt, Sr., Alexander Symes, Bertram Ramsey and F. R. MacKinnon became the stockholders. The stock was $50,000, consisting of 500 shares at $100 each. At that time Elisha Smith was employed by the company at a salary of $1,200.00 a year.

As a flashback on conditions in the days when Elisha Smith came to Menasha in 1849, it might be of some interest to hear, in Elisha's own words, about his trip from Woonsocket, Rhode Island, to Menasha:

"We traveled on what is now the New York Central Railway from Albany to Buffalo, then made up of five different railroads, requiring a change of cars, tickets, baggage, etc. in connection with each. There was no railroad west out of Buffalo. We took the Michigan Central which was laid in part with strap rails to New Buffalo, on Lake Michigan. There we took a small steamer to Chicago, a city of 18,000 population, without paved streets, with signs here and there, "no bottom," to warn the traveler of danger. Only one railroad of forty miles out of the city to Elgin; a great contrast between then and now.

"From thence we went by steamer to Milwaukee, a town of 2,000 population and no railroad, indeed not any in the state, and so on up to Sheboygan where we landed and took a stage for Fond du Lac. The first day we made but twenty-four miles through deep mud, dodging stumps as best we could, till after dark, when we reached the Forest House. Here we had our first experience lodging in a log house.

"Early the next morning we started for Fond du Lac, but arrived too late for the Peytona bound for the foot of the lake. However, in the afternoon we took the Manchester and reached Oshkosh at night. The next day we took the Peytona for Menasha, but by reason of a quarrel between the captain and Curtis Reed, the founder of Menasha, we could not land there. Our steamer came to anchor just off the old council tree at the head of the Island where a sailboat took us and our baggage to the Burrough's wharf. Here we landed. Not a person in sight, and we made our way as best we could through the mud to our hotel."

At a Directors' meeting on September 23, 1878, Charles R. Smith, son of Elisha D., was elected Secretary, and in 1880 the following Directors were elected: Henry Hewitt, Sr., Henry Hewitt, Jr., E. D. Smith, H. S. Smith and C. R. Smith. On May 23, 1881, Henry Hewitt, Sr., retired as President, and E. D. Smith was elected in his place, C. R. Smith becoming Treasurer and H. S. Smith, Secretary.

In 1886, at a meeting of the directors, a large piece of land south of the river and comprising approximately 85 acres was purchased. This is the property which extends from the Gilbert Paper mill clear through the Washington Street bridge to the Northwestern railroad tracks, now largely occupied by the Marathon Corporation. This property was used by the Wooden Ware as stave drying yards and lumber drying space. In addition to this property, sometime thereafter the north side of the water frontage on the river in Menasha was purchased and this extended from a point west of the present Menasha waterworks clear out to Lake Winnebago, and on this property many millions of feet of logs were stored annually.

Elisha Smith died in 1899 and his son, Charles R. Smith, succeeded him as President of the Menasha Wooden Ware Company. A very definite period of expansion followed the action of the Board in electing Charles Smith, and this expansion extended in a twofold direction. The manufacturing plant itself became known as the largest wooden ware factory in the world, and acquisitions of standing timber, or stumpage, as it is usually known, extended through Wisconsin, Michigan, Minnesota, Idaho, Washington and Oregon.

One of the facets of this expansion was the purchase of a considerable tract of timber in Rusk, Sawyer and Price Counties in Wisconsin and the erection of a sawmill and stave mill in Ladysmith, Wisconsin, on the Flambeau River, the timber being floated down this river directly to the mill. It is an interesting sidelight that just about this time Mr. Smith married for the second time, after the early death of his first wife, and named the little town that he established "Ladysmith," in honor of his new bride.

Between the death of Charles Smith in 1916 and the election of Mowry Smith and Carlton Smith to the presidencies respectively, of the Corporation and the Company, there were three interim top executives, namely Thomas M. Kearney, F. D. Lake and W. H. Miner. At the death of Mr. Miner, Carlton Smith was elected President of the Company and Mowry Smith of the Corporation, which was in 1936.

This era marked a revolutionary change in the packaging habits of all shippers of food products, which up to approximately 1920 had

been almost exclusively in the nature of bulk containers, and could be typified as the cracker barrel era. It was, therefore, not long before this younger generation saw the handwriting on the wall as advertised brands began to take hold, which required, of course, individual packaging to show the name of the advertiser. This may be an oversimplification, but the transition was swift and deadly as far as the bulk container was concerned, so that in 1921 a plant which had been employing 1,000 workers to turn out bulk containers was shut down completely and sat idle for six months. By dint of a show of considerable energy and some imagination the gap was filled for the time being by the development of a new type of butter tub, which up to that time the Menasha Wooden Ware Company had not manufactured. For several years the plant was busy producing butter tubs in large quantities, but realizing that the era of bulk packaging was at an end, or near it, the new management decided to enter the manufacture of corrugated boxes, which is now, along with the plywood business, the main activity of the corporation.

As to the number of employees, while the operations and activities of the Corporation have expanded materially, the actual number of employees is less today than it was in 1921, at which time the Corporation employed in the neighborhood of 1,000 people, whereas the various properties now owned and operated total as follows:

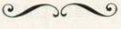
Otsego Falls Paper Mills	110
Menasha Plywood Corp.	350
Menasha Wood Flour Co.	16
Menasha Container Corp. of Calif.	100
Rockford, Ill.	30
Menasha	253

In this connection, however, it might be an interesting commentary on the progress made technologically in the number of containers produced in Menasha in the wooden pail days by 1,000 employees, as compared to the number of containers of approximately the same size, produced today by 185 employees. At the peak of our production around 1916 we turned out approximately 17,000 thirty pound containers a day, while today, reducing the containers to approximately the same capacity, 185 employees are turning out 167,000, or 902 cor-

rugated boxes per man, to 170 pails per man of the same cubic capacity. In fact, on a record day of production recently, 286,000 containers were turned out, or approximately 1,550 boxes per man, a good, practical demonstration of so-called automation.

To bring this report to a close, it might be interesting to remember that while the corporation operates plants in Oregon, Washington, California and Illinois, the main office and the present corrugated box plant is still located in Menasha on the identical spot where Elisha D. Smith's predecessors turned the first wheel in 1849.

Submitted by Donald C. Shepard

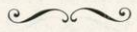


Neenah Electrotype Corporation

THE Neenah Electrotype Corporation was organized and opened temporary offices in a building of the Durham Lumber Company on August 1, 1953. At that time the company purchased the machinery and equipment of the Marathon Corporation's privately operated electrotype plant. The original shop was founded around 1910 by the Menasha Printing Company. This later became the Menasha Printing and Carton Company and, subsequently, Marathon Corporation. On August 15, 1953, the Neenah Electrotype Corporation took possession of the Marathon electrotype facilities and employed the journeymen and apprentice electrotypers who were at that time on Marathon's pay roll. Some of these men had been employed in the shop for as long as 40 years.

The officers of the Corporation at the time of organization were C. E. Cass, President and Treasurer; R. E. Cass, Vice President; and Arthur P. Remley, Secretary. The total employment at that time consisted of 54 employees exclusive of the officers. The pay roll in 1955 consisted of 73 employees exclusive of the officers. During the month of September 1953, the Company removed its operations from the Marathon location on the second floor of the Parafilm Plant to quarters in the new Marathon Graphic Arts Building on Western Avenue. The company occupies approximately a third of the building's area

which is leased from Marathon Corporation. Neenah Electrotype Corporation specializes in the production of curved printing plates which are used almost exclusively in the printing of food packages and wrappers.



Neenah Foundry Company

THE Neenah Foundry Company was founded in the year 1872 by William Aylward, Sr., under the name of The Aylward Plow Works, to manufacture a general line of iron castings and specializing in producing plows, kettles and wood burning stoves.

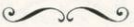
In these early days, iron was melted in a cupola similar in principle to present melting furnaces, except coal was used for fuel instead of coke. Air was provided by a large bellows powered by a horse walking in a circle on a windlass. Once each year William Aylward went to the docks at Green Bay with an ox cart to buy Swedish pig iron, believing good iron would not be produced without using this virgin metal.

During the period 1885 to 1890, three sons, William, Edward and John, entered the organization. After the death of William Aylward, Sr., in 1907, the name of the company was changed to The Aylward Sons Company.

In 1918 the firm name was changed to the Neenah Foundry Company, and the operation moved to its present site on W. Winneconne Ave. E. J. Aylward was made President in 1919. The company has continued to grow and is now recognized as a leader in the gray iron industry. It is one of the most modern mechanized foundries in the country, producing quality gray iron and alloy castings for many industrial accounts in the Middle West. The company is particularly noted as being the largest producer of construction castings in the nation. This is a cataloged line of over 15,000 items specified and used by leading engineers and architects on all types of construction products throughout the United States. Production capacity exceeds 250 tons daily, with employment of over 600 people.

Officers

E. J. Aylward, President
E. B. Aylward, Vice President
J. P. Keating, Vice President
D. P. Cobb, Vice President
E. W. Aylward, Secretary
R. J. Aylward, Ass't Secretary
D. E. Johnson, Treasurer



Neenah Paper Company

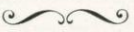
THE Neenah Paper Company began as the Neenah Mill of the Patten Paper Company, of Appleton, as recorded in Cunningham's history, making three tons of paper per day. A. W. Patten was its first General Manager, with Frank Russell as Superintendent. In the spring of 1885 a new corporation was chartered, and the Neenah Paper Company came into being. A. W. Patten was its President, F. T. Russell, Vice President, John McNaughton, Secretary-Treasurer. The new corporation, capitalized at $75,000, took over the property of the Neenah Mill. Two years later A. W. Patten sold his interests to Henry Sherry. McNaughton and Thomas Patten sold theirs to S. A. Cook. Russell remained as Vice President, with Sherry, President, and Cook as Secretary-Treasurer.

In 1891 Sherry sold his interests to Cook. Members of the Kimberly family bought a controlling interest in 1893. J. A. Kimberly and his son, J. A. Kimberly, Jr., took over the management. Five years later J. C. Kimberly also became associated with the enterprise. In 1916 W.Z. Stuart, a son-in-law of J. A. Kimberly, became General Manager, with D. K. Brown as his assistant. When, in 1921, Mr. Stuart died, Mr. Brown was made Manager, with Kimberly Stuart as his assistant. Seven years later, in 1928, Mr. J. C. Kimberly took over the presidency upon his father's death. At this time Mr. Brown was named first Vice President; Kimberly Stuart second Vice President and Secretary; L. O. Schubart, Treasurer. In 1940, upon the retirement of J. C. Kimberly, D. K. Brown was elected President, Kimberly Stuart, Vice President, and L. O. Schubart, Secretary-Treasurer. Again, in 1953 there occurred transition when Mr. Brown, upon reaching age 65, retired and L. O. Schubart became President, Dan A. Hardt, Vice President, and Don H. Severson, Secretary-Treasurer.

Across the years, the company became known throughout the trade as a maker of mill watermarked papers and one of the few which makes rag or cotton content papers, or fine papers from a blend of such cotton fiber and the finest grades of bleached wood pulp.

As of June, 1956, the company employs approximately 340 people, with an annual pay roll of $1,500,000.

A final chapter was written in 1956, when Neenah Paper Company became a division of Kimberly-Clark Corporation through exchange of Kimberly-Clark stock for the assets and business of Neenah Paper Company.



School Stationers Corporation

THE School Stationers Corporation of Neenah was founded in 1921 as an Illinois corporation with Ernest E. Crook as major stockholder and Harry F. Williams and Robert C. Brown of Neenah holding the minority stock.

The company originally started operations in what was known as the stone mill of Kimberly-Clark, and from there it moved down to the Neenah Mill, where operations continued for about one year.

The Company then moved to the Rosenthal building in Menasha and continued there until 1931. In that year Williams and Brown acquired the stock of Mr. Crook and held it on an equal basis for some years. Mr. Brown sold his holdings to Mr. Williams and moved to Milwaukee, and the business has since been conducted by Mr. Williams.

In 1931 a new building was built adjoining the Neenah-Menasha C&NW station and the machinery transferred and new equipment added. In 1936 patronage had grown to such an extent that an enlargement was necessary. In 1939 another addition was made and all converting operations are carried on in this unit. In 1952, a large warehouse, located between Forest Avenue and Commercial Street, was built to house the raw materials and finished products.

The Company originally started with three employees and in 1955 employed about 50. About 40,000 pounds of miscellaneous paper are

converted per day and are distributed nationally through recognized school supply distributors. Ninety per cent of the products converted, such as construction paper, ruled theme papers, pads, loose leaf fillers, mimeograph papers, drawing papers, are sold with the school as the ultimate destination. During the war the plant operated on three shifts and put out many millions of ruled pads for governmental, Army and Navy use. The trade name is "Royale" and the slogan, "Standard of the Nation."

Harry F. Williams is President; Plant Manager and Vice President is Howard Stacker, and L. M. Williams is Secretary.

John Strange Carton Company

THIS company was incorporated in 1915 as John Strange Pail Company. The product manufactured for many years was Fibre Board Pails for the shipment of bulk products. Principal users were manufacturers of candy, stock foods, peanuts, bulk pepper and other dry products.

With the change in marketing methods, the sale of bulk products dropped off radically, and the John Strange Pail Company went into the manufacture of folding cartons. In the year 1953 the company name was changed to John Strange Carton Company, as being more representative of its products.

Officers of the company are: Paul Strange, President; Paul Strange, Jr., Treasurer and General Manager; William Strange, Secretary and Sales Manager.

John Strange Paper Company

JOHN STRANGE PAPER COMPANY originated as a pail and tub factory founded by John Strange in 1881. It was incorporated in 1891. In 1888 a two-cylinder paper machine was installed with a capacity of about 10 tons per day. An 82″ Fourdrinier machine was installed in 1892 for the manufacture of Manila paper, strong wrapping paper, and newsprint, with a daily production of 7 tons. In 1907 the company

started the manufacture of Kraft wrapping paper and was one of the first to manufacture that grade in the United States. The original two-cylinder paper machine was replaced with a 108″ cylinder machine in 1907, which had a capacity of 30 tons daily. In 1917 a third machine was installed with a capacity of 65 tons per day. This was the widest cylinder paper machine built as of that date, the dryer width being 144″. At the end of World War I the total productive capacity of the company was 110 tons per day.

Ownership of the company remained in the family of John Strange until July 9, 1945, when the plant and properties were sold to a group of converters. Mr. John Strange managed the company until his death on May 28, 1923, and was succeeded as General Manager by his son, Hugh Strange, who carried on until his death on July 15, 1945.

Additions of property and equipment and renovations on paper machines and auxiliaries increased the productive capacity of the mill from 110 tons per day in 1919 to 200 tons per day at the end of World War II. At the close of 1955, productive capacity was increased to over 250 tons per day.

The company manufactures test liners, container chips, folding and set-up boxboards, special mill wrappers, light weight chipboards, construction paper and board specialties.

The Board of Directors includes: Joseph L. Gidwitz, Harrison Smith, Mowry Smith, Arthur Schmidt, Don Verhulst, George Kress and J. M. Levin.

Officers are: Chm. of Board, J. L. Gidwitz; President, H. J. Levandoski; Vice President, J. M. Levin; Secretary, Elmer Deprez; Treasurer, L. A. Blume.

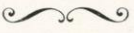
Valley Press, Inc.

The Valley Press was established in 1926 by Frank Leisen and was located on Wisconsin Avenue in Neenah. Five years later, operations were moved to larger quarters on Nicolet Boulevard. In 1937, the Valley Press moved into its own building on Chapman Avenue.

Since that time, there have been four additions made to the plant

due to the steady growth of business. In 1950 the Valley Press was incorporated with the following officers: Frank Leisen, President; Harry Warren, Vice President; Harvey Dauffenbach, Secretary-Treasurer.

The Company produces printing by letterpress, rotary, sheet and roll, rotogravure and offset lithography.



George A. Whiting Paper Company

THE George A. Whiting Paper Company mill at Menasha was built on the site of an abandoned dry dock located on west end of the Government Canal in 1882 by George A. Whiting I and the Gilbert Brothers—Theodore and William. The Company was known as Gilbert and Whiting until 1886, when Mr. Whiting bought the Gilbert interest. It was equipped with one small 76" trim, Fourdrinier paper machine and other machinery necessary for the manufacture of rag-content paper.

On August 24, 1888, a serious fire ravaged the mill and, when the firemen turned a stream of cold water on a hot steel bleaching drum, a disastrous explosion occurred, killing 16 spectators and firemen. The mill was rebuilt by Mr. Whiting, and the same paper machine, with some improvements, is still in operation. About 1910 the mill discontinued the manufacture of rag-content paper and switched to the making of high grade chemical pulp specialty papers.

The business was conducted under the name of "George A. Whiting —Paper Mills" from 1886 until April, 1911, when Mr. Frank B. Whiting became associated in the business with his foster father. It was incorporated at that time, and it has been known as the George A. Whiting Paper Co. ever since.

George A. Whiting I died in June, 1930, when Mr. Frank B. Whiting succeeded to the presidency. Soon after Mr. Frank Whiting's death in March, 1952, his only son, George A. Whiting II, took over the reins as president.

Our small mill is able to make changes in grades, etc., faster, and easier than the large tonnage mills, rendering quicker service; and it

is this flexibility that has helped us to establish an enviable national reputation for quick service, plus good quality.

The company has 75 employees, including officers and office personnel.

Present (1955) officers of the company are:

George A. Whiting II—President & Treasurer (Director)
R. M. Sensenbrenner—Vice President and Manager (Director)
P. J. Gazecki—Secretary (Director)
Thomas Leech—Vice President & Director
Thomas A. Moore—Director



Wisconsin Tissue Mills

DATE of origin—June 20, 1915.

Key Personnel: T. E. McGillan, George Drysdale, Joseph Fieweger, A. W. Asmuth, Sr., and Joseph P. Zelinske.

Originally organized as Peerless Paper Products Company as a converter of sanitary paper products. Located on Manitowoc Street, Menasha, at present site of Central Paper Company.

1919—Company moved to new site on Little Lake Butte des Morts in Menasha and erected a cylinder paper machine to provide a source of paper for its converting operations.

1922—Paper machine production and converting facilities materially increased.

1929—Company changed its name to Wisconsin Tissue Mills—with A. W. Asmuth as President, Ray Fieweger as Treasurer, and D. H. Greene as General Manager.

1937—Company purchased the napkin converting business of Diana Manufacturing Company of Green Bay and moved its equipment from Green Bay to Menasha.

Present—The company is one of the largest exclusive manufacturers of paper napkins in the country. It manufactures plain, printed and colored semi-crepe napkins of practically every type as well as facial wet strength napkins, tray covers and table covers.

Present officers are: A. W. Asmuth, President; Roy C. Rhyner, Vice President and Sales Manager; James E. Asmuth, Treasurer and General Manager; A. Wm. Asmuth, Jr., Secretary; Arden Anderson, Plant Engineer; Joseph Kryszak, Paper Mill Superintendent; Joseph P. Zelinske, Converting Plant Superintendent; Loren Demand, Traffic Manager.

Presently has approximately 160 employees with an annual pay roll in excess of $500,000.

The replacement of its two original converting and storage buildings is rapidly nearing completion and a complete rebuilding of its paper machine, including a new press part, drives and additional dryers will substantially complete an extensive expansion program started two years ago.

Liberty exists in proportion to wholesome restraint.
DANIEL WEBSTER

JOURNALISM

NEENAH, despite limitations imposed by geographical location, has in the last three quarters of a century been served by newspapers which kept pace with developments in the publishing industry. From the days of hand-set type and hand-fed presses to the current era of highly mechanized production, men who devoted their talents to local journalism possessed, their accomplishments show, vision of the future.

Outstanding among Neenah's editors and publishers in the period from the early 1880's to the present were L. H. Kimball, J. N. Stone and J. R. Bloom, all deceased.

The *Island City Times*, successor to the *Conservator*, first newspaper published in this city, was founded as a weekly by Stone in October, 1863. The paper continued as a weekly until 1882, when it was changed to a daily.

Bloom entered the local publishing field in 1901, when he and others purchased the *Neenah Daily News* from the late L. H. Kimball, who served as Postmaster of Neenah for a number of years prior to his death in 1913. Kimball, incidentally, was proprietor of the first news depot operated in Neenah in early days.

Politically, the rival papers were opposed, Stone in his editorial writings clinging to Democratic principles, and Kimball, followed by Bloom, as ardently expounding the Republican cause.

Stone was a native of Rochester, New York, born there March 4, 1835. He passed his boyhood there, and when not attending school, spent much of his time in newspaper offices. At the age of 14, he went to Buffalo where he served a three-year apprenticeship in the printer's trade, at the close of which he went to Detroit, Michigan, where he worked as a compositor.

In the fall of 1856 he went to Romeo, Michigan, where he founded the *Argus*, a weekly, which he published for one year. He then moved to Manitowoc, Wisconsin, where he became one of the editors and publishers of the *Weekly Tribune*. In the following year he went to

Gravesville, Calumet County, where he served as editor of the *Republican*, also a weekly, until 1861.

On April 3, 1861, Stone enlisted in Company K, Fourth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, serving in that unit of the Union Forces in the Civil War as a private, until the last day of that year when he was commissioned captain of Company G, Nineteenth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. He served in that capacity until August, 1863, when, owing to impaired health, he was honorably discharged at Suffolk, Virginia.

Returning to Wisconsin, he took up residence in Neenah and founded *The Neenah Times*, a weekly. In 1882 the paper became both a weekly and daily. Stone published *The Times* continuously (with the exception of four years—1871 to 1875—when he produced *The Appleton Times*) up to shortly before the time of his death, June 30, 1919. During much of his later journalistic career, Stone was assisted by his son, the late H. A. Stone.

In October of 1918 ownership of *The Times* was transferred to Stone's grandson, John Studley, then city editor of the paper. Studley and E. A. Fuechsel, proprietor of the Neenah Printing Company, formed a partnership under the name of Times Publishing Company, publishing *The Times* and conducting a commercial printing business. The partnership was dissolved on May 16, 1919, just prior to merger of *The Times* and *Neenah Daily News*.

The paper, thereafter, appeared as *The Daily News-Times*, and was owned by the News Publishing Company, which also operated a commercial printing branch. It later left the commercial printing field to permit of concentration on the newspaper.

Merger of *The Times* and *The News* occurred about two years following the death of J. R. Bloom, March 5, 1917. Bloom was born in Scranton, Pennsylvania, July 26, 1851. At the age of nine he went with his parents to Ripon, Wisconsin, commencing at the age of 17 to learn the trade of printer in the office of George (later Governor) Peck at Ripon, with whose family Bloom made his home. He later worked in various printing offices at Ripon until completing his apprenticeship.

In 1874 Bloom joined Peck in establishment of *Peck's Sun*, at LaCrosse. When Peck moved the paper to Milwaukee, Bloom took

the job plant and office as his share in the concern, conducting that business for two years, when he sold out and returned to Ripon. He then formed a partnership with the late T. D. Stone in publication of *The Free Press*, but at the end of six months sold his interest to Stone.

Bloom continued to follow the printer's trade until 1885, when he became city editor of the *Fond du Lac Daily Commonwealth*. He served five years in that capacity, resigning to fill the secretaryship of the Y.M.C.A. at Indianapolis, Indiana. Returning after a year and nine months to Fond du Lac, he purchased the plant of *The Journal*, a weekly paper and the first published in the county. To this Bloom added a daily issue, conducting both papers until May 1894, when he sold the subscription list to the *Fond du Lac Reporter*. Bloom then moved his entire printing and publishing plant to Menasha and established *The Menasha Evening Breeze*. He continued publication of *The Breeze* until 1901, when he formed the News Publishing Company to purchase *The News* from Kimball.

Upon Bloom's death, his widow, the late Catherine S. Bloom, became President of the corporation. Their daughter, Miss Clara Bloom, had become active in the business in 1904, and upon her father's death, assumed the editorial directorship. Following the merger of *The Times* and *The News*, she continued as editor, with Studley as associate editor. Miss Bloom's sister, Mrs. Anna Sparks, became President of the corporation upon her mother's death in 1923; Studley, Vice President, and Clara Bloom, Secretary-Treasurer. Miss Bloom's death occurred in 1947.

Publication of *The Neenah News-Times* continued without change in ownership until December 1, 1943, when the Blooms and Sparks disposed of their interests in the company to E. C. Cochrane.

Cochrane was publisher of *The Times-Union* at Marinette for six years, after serving as Division Manager for the former *Chicago Herald and Examiner*. Prior to then he served three years as classified advertising director of the Scripps League of Newspapers, with central offices in Seattle, Washington. He reshaped the classified departments of Scripps papers in such cities as Seattle; Portland, Oregon; Boise, Idaho; Spokane, Washington and Dallas, Texas.

After graduating from Stanford University, in California, Cochrane,

a native of Wisconsin, operated on a system of special contracts with independent newspapers. While at Marinette, Cochrane became Secretary of the Marinette Savings and Loan Association, and President of the Marinette County Council of Sportsman's clubs. He also served as President of the Marinette Sportsman's club.

Cochrane purchased Studley's stock in the News Publishing Company on August 1, 1944, and on February 1, 1949, acquired the *Menasha Record* from Ira H. Clough, veteran Menasha publisher. The name of the paper was then changed to *Twin City News-Record*. Its present place of publication is Neenah.

In fall of 1927, the *Appleton Post Crescent* established a Twin City office, including a Neenah and Menasha section in its daily publications, which are circulated in both cities.

Addenum

The *Menasha Record* of later days was originally known as the *Menasha Evening Breeze*, and so remained until 1904. When Bloom disposed of the paper to devote his interest to the Neenah field, the Menasha paper continued under the ownership of S. Elmer Smith and Charles W. Lamb from 1904 to 1906; under A. Duane Clinton and S. H. Clinedinst, 1906 to 1913 or 1914, and Clough from 1914 to 1949.

The late Rev. J. S. Jersild published *The Danskeren* here from June, 1892 to 1899. It was a Danish language paper.

Earlier still was a Menasha German language newspaper owned by a Mr. Klinker. There is also record showing that a paper called the *Nye Dansker* (also Danish) was founded by Harold Schmidt in 1899 and published by him until 1902.

The *Neenah Gazette*, founded by Charles H. Boynton, December 23, 1871, was published by him until September, 1875, when he was joined by Gustave A. Cunningham. The latter continued the paper until 1878, when H. L. Webster took over until September, 1880; then L. F. Cole until June, 1882; and H. A. Stone until 1898, when it was absorbed by the *Neenah Daily Times*.

There appears some doubt about the early period of *The News*. Some sources say the paper was started in 1880 as the *Neenah News*,

becoming the *Twin City Daily News* in June, 1881, continuing as such until May 1919, when the merger with *The Times* took place. Bowron and Potter are credited with being the founders of *The News*, and it was purchased from them by Kimball in 1883.

Compiled by John Studley



All I know is just what I read in the papers.
WILL ROGERS

LABOR MOVEMENT

Growth and Development of the Labor Movement in Neenah-Menasha

A LARGE part of the wage earners in Neenah-Menasha who work at trades and in the mills have organized themselves into labor unions, and there are today some fifty union locals, with a total membership of over six thousand.

The unions in our towns are accepted and respected and are playing a responsible part in the life of the community, with the relations between management and labor on the whole being remarkably good. The great majority of employers cooperate with their unions, and together they are constantly improving their techniques and procedures to provide a just and smooth-working relationship.

This has not always been so. Any report on the history of the labor movement, whether it be in Neenah-Menasha, in the nation, or in the world, cannot be drawn in rosy hues of peace, understanding, and harmony, as unfortunately the opposite has been altogether too common.

During the past 200 years the brilliant technological developments of the industrial revolution have been a constant, triumphant march of progress, but the conversion of these achievements into blessings for all the people has been slow and full of tragic setbacks. Until the last two decades, when people have learned through their government techniques to stabilize the economic life, booms and depressions caused hardship to all segments of the people, but the workers in the towns and cities were particularly hard hit. Added to this was the harsh lack of governmental concern for the welfare of the less fortunate.

Thus, life for the working man in early Neenah-Menasha was full of hard work and long working hours. As in the rest of the nation, the pattern of farm work from sunrise to sunset was followed as a matter of course by the budding industries. We must assume, however, that the hard life of the early worker in our area never took on the stark, grim aspects of the slum life in the bigger cities. Certainly the closeness

to nature, with its lakes and forests, must have greatly softened the harshness of earning the substance of life and given a more wholesome purpose to life.

As local industry expanded and prospered, the disparity between the living standards of the workers and their employers increased and resulted in restlessness.

It was in 1882 that this restlessness led to the forming of the first labor union in Neenah-Menasha. Fifteen iron workers at the Bergstrom Foundry had heard and read about the advantages of joining together to present a united front in asking for better wages and working conditions and formed a local of the Molders and Foundry Workers Union. The idea caught on, and twelve years later when Labor Day was declared a legal holiday by act of congress, the first Labor Day parade was held. About 500 men, not all of whom were union members, joined in a parade down Wisconsin Avenue and to the old Schuetzen Park, where a Labor Day picnic was held, complete with plenty of food and speeches.

The first community organization of unions took place in 1900, when five unions with a total membership of about 200 formed the Central Labor Body. In that first group were the iron molders, barbers, carpenters, masons and boot and shoe workers.

After the upsurge of union organizing around the turn of the century, the movement fell upon lean days. An unsuccessful strike by the papermakers at the Kimberly-Clark Corp. discouraged union activity in the mills for many years. Without strong national organizations, financial resources or legislation for their protection, and with public opinion running counter to the idea of workers making demands upon their employers, the early unions found the going very tough. During prosperous times they would sprout up, only to disintegrate during depressions. The Iron Molders Union may be cited as a good example of this. Locals have been chartered four times and collapsed three times.

As in the nation, World War I brought a flurry of union activity to Neenah-Menasha, and the old Central Labor Body was reactivated and reorganized in 1917 under the name of Neenah-Menasha Trades & Labor Council. The eight local charter members were the Iron

Molders, Masons, Wireweavers, Papermakers, Carpenters, Barbers and Clerks. They elected August Raprager as their first president. Among the delegates representing their locals on this first council were John Kunschke and August Raprager, masons and bricklayers; Ed Wright and Fred Eickman, carpenters; Frank Klinke, barbers; William Wege, Andrew Zemlock and Joe Bretthauer, papermakers; Ed Howley and Frank Krickenberg, wireweavers; and Andrew Andersen, molders.

Other unions that joined shortly thereafter were the Painters, chartered in 1918, Electrotypers in 1919 and Meatcutters in 1921.

It is interesting to note that the Papermakers Union, which later grew to be the union with the second largest membership in the Twin Cities, at that time was strictly a crafts union and admitted to membership only the men directly involved in making paper. Neither was there a local for each mill but one local with a scattered membership throughout the various mills.

The union that today has by far the greatest membership locally, The Pulp, Sulphite and Paper Mill Workers, also carried on organizing work in the area. John P. Burke, who was then and still is, international president of the union, personally carried on organizing work in the Fox River Valley during the summer of 1916. While he was able to organize some mills to the North, he met with no success in Neenah-Menasha.

A great forward step in working conditions took place in the early part of 1916 when the three-shift, eight-hour day was introduced for paper machine workers. Until that time these men had been working from 6 P.M. to 7 A.M. and from 7 A.M. to 6 P.M., a thirteen hour night shift and an eleven hour day shift. Whether this move was made to thwart the efforts of the union organizers, or because of the realization by Management that the two-shift day was an anachronism, is of course difficult to ascertain. It was probably a combination of the two.

The depression following World War I had the usual effect of reducing union activity, but the Trades & Labor Council continued to operate. Up until 1929 they met at the Neenah Eagles Hall, and from then until 1935 they met at the Danish Hall.

When in the early part of the Roosevelt Administration the Na-

tional Labor Relations Act became law, workers could engage in union organizing activity without fear of losing their jobs. This marked the beginning of the great growth of the union movement in Neenah-Menasha, as well as in the nation.

The first industrial type union to organize in the twin cities was at Marathon Paper Mills, where The Pulp and Sulphite Local #148 had its charter issued in August, 1933. Charters were later issued by the same international union to Menasha Wooden Ware Local #201 in 1934, Menasha Mill Supply Local #223 in 1935, John Strange Local #273 and Wisconsin Tissue Local #279 in 1937, Wisconsin Container Local #432 in 1941, Kimberly-Clark Local #482 in 1943, Central Paper Local #737 in 1951, Edgewater Paper Local #748 in 1952, Manhattan Rubber Local #812 in 1955 and Bergstrom Paper Local #889 in 1957.

The Papermakers International was also active and chartered Local #353 at Marathon in 1936, Local #324 at Wisconsin Tissue Mills in 1937, Local #107 at Neenah Paper in 1938, Local #465 at Whiting Paper and Local #467 at Kimberly-Clark in 1943 and Local #477 at Gilbert Paper in 1944.

Simultaneously, existing unions were strengthened, and new unions sprang up in other fields of private and public enterprise. Many unions, particularly in the building trades, are part of Appleton area organizations. The Electricians, Painters, Pipefitters, Truckdrivers and Meatcutters are among locals thus organized. There are many union organizations representing public servants. Thus, Post Office employees belong to the Letter Carrier's Association; the State, County and Municipal Employees have units at the Winnebago Hospital, the office of the Wisconsin Employment Service and among city employees of both Neenah and Menasha. The firemen in both cities belong to the Fire Fighters Union, and there is a unit of Teachers Union in Menasha.

Among local unions not heretofore mentioned are Bookbinders, Musicians, Sheet Metal Workers, Laborers, Cement Finishers, Engravers, Bartenders, Machinists and three locals of Printing Pressmen.

All labor organizations in the Twin Cities have an AFL background

with the exception of two, the Communications Workers (Telephone) CIO, and the Menasha Split Pulley Union, which is a unit of the United Mine Workers Local #50.

As mentioned before, the two dominant unions are The Pulp and Sulphite Union, with about 3,500 members, and the Papermakers, with over 1,100 members. Originally the AFL chartered the United Brotherhood of Paper Workers in 1893, but in 1903 it split into the two present unions, with the Papermakers limiting its membership to the men directly involved in the making of paper

This distinction has become less sharp, and today there is much overlapping. Thus the Papermakers represent all the workers at Gilbert, Whiting and Neenah Paper Companies, while at John Strange and Bergstrom Paper Companies the Pulp and Sulphite Union represents all the workers. At Kimberly-Clark, Wisconsin Tissue and Marathon, both unions have locals along the traditional lines. (Marathon also has contracts with the Printing Pressmen, Engravers, and Machinists.)

In spite of this opportunity for rivalry, the two organizations get along remarkably well. At the three mills where both are represented, contract negotiations are carried on jointly. Both unions have a history of acceptance of private ownership and operation of enterprise, with emphasis on gradual improvement of the economic lot of the worker.

This attitude has no doubt helped to gain the acceptance and the general friendly response by management once the unions were established, and also contributed toward setting the tone for the overall harmonious Labor-Management relations for which Neenah-Menasha prides itself.

A good example of this growth of understanding and good will are events which took place at the Menasha Wooden Ware Corp. In 1934 a rather bitter strike broke out at that plant and lasted for four weeks. Twenty years later, in July, 1954, an invitation went out to all employees and their families for dinner, entertainment and dancing at the Menasha Elks Club. Co-hosts were the management and the union celebrating two decades of getting along well together. Mowry

Smith, president of the corporation, and John P. Burke, president of the International union, shared the speakers' platform.

The reward of this sort of friendly cooperation has been the fading away of the old bitterness and belligerency that had been necessary for the creation and success of the labor movement. In its place has come a sense of equality and responsibility, and a desire to work with other groups in the many fields of common interest, to make our land and community a better place to live.

The Trades and Labor Council, through delegates from member unions, is the voice of organized labor locally. During the last decade it focused much of its attention on community affairs. This program got underway when John Arnold became Trades & Labor President in 1946, and has continued under the succeeding presidents, John Goodwin, Robert Forstner and Claude Cash. Under the leadership of John Arnold, the Council became outspoken in its praise and constructive criticism of all phases of city government. The various welfare organizations also received active participation and support in their fund raising drives, and this was warmly welcomed by the other groups that had been shouldering these obligations.

When in 1947 the Council advocated the formation of a Community Chest, it encouraged civic leaders to proceed with the organization of this often contemplated project. Labor representatives that have served on the Community Chest Board of Directors or committees include: John Arnold, John Pawlowski, Ebbe Berg, Ed Phillips, Clayton Cummings, Al Kass, Al Evensen, John Goodwin, Geo. Krause and Hugo Woeckner.

The relationship between the Council and the Chamber of Commerce has reached a high degree of cordiality. The Chamber often invites Council representatives to dinner meetings, and the Council returns the courtesy. The Junior Chamber of Commerce award to the outstanding young man of 1948 was given to John Pawlowski, secretary of the Trades and Labor Council.

To celebrate and emphasize the record of friendly and peaceful industrial relations, the Trades and Labor Council in 1951 inaugurated a Labor-Management Dinner, the first of its kind in the U.S.A.

Unions invited their top management people, and the Council invited public officials and civic leaders to be their guests and to break bread and mingle with union officials. The response was very gratifying, with more than three hundred persons filling the Germania Hall to capacity. The affair was so successful and deemed so worthwhile, that it has since been made an annual event. It is the custom to have a man from management and a man from labor share the speakers' rostrum. Outstanding people have been obtained to address these congenial gatherings. Among local men presenting management views have been Roy Sund, Ralph Kehl and Henry Boon. Labor speakers have included the international presidents of Pulp and Sulphite, Papermakers, Teachers, and State, County and Municipal Workers' Unions. A rewarding result of these Labor-Management dinners is that the idea is catching on and is being copied elsewhere.

When John Arnold retired as president in 1954, he could look back on nine years of leading the Council at an often hectic pace along many an uncharted path. There was the routine work of providing meeting halls for member unions, assisting in the formation of new locals, giving help in the few small strikes, running Labor Day picnics, and representing Labor at civic affairs. There were also many innovations in addition to those previously mentioned; such as, dinner meetings for union presidents, participation in community safety programs, stepped up political leg work for candidates friendly to Labor, tours by Council delegates through local mills, chartered bus trips to Madison to see the state government in operation, and arranging for University of Wisconsin School for Workers classes at Menasha Vocational School.

While a contemplated Labor Temple has never become a reality, the Marathon Local #148 opened its own home on Center Street in Menasha in 1953. A former auto sales room and garage, it was completely remodeled and contains offices, a conference room, a social room and a large meeting hall.

Within their organizations three local union people have earned the distinction of being chosen to positions as representatives of their international union. They are Valeria Brodzinski, Wellington (Duke) Meyer and Edward Zeininger, all of the Pulp and Sulphite Union.

Of course the main concern of unions is the interest of their members in their relationship with their employers. This goes far beyond the signing of contracts, setting wage scales and fringe benefits. In the larger mills meetings between union officials and supervisory personnel are frequent and are usually conducted in a friendly and cooperative manner for the purpose of seeking orderly solutions to problems, such as: interpretations of contracts, seniority, promotions, job openings, time studies, determination of wage rates, training programs, disciplinary actions, layoffs, etc. The reward to management for this effort is a more satisfied, constant and loyal work force. The reward to the workers is a greater sense of security and dignity, in the knowledge that they will be dealt with fairly and not be the victims of arbitrary treatment.

This report has only scratched the surface of the labor movement in Neenah-Menasha. Particularly is the coverage of the earliest days scant, and it is hoped that more information will be uncovered and recorded. Those pioneer union men who dared to think "dangerous" new thoughts and who had the courage to stand up and face the consequences of their beliefs, are the real heroes of the labor movement. To them succeeding generations of workers must be forever grateful.

Compiled by Ebbe Berg

LEGAL PROFESSION

THE RECORD of the legal profession in the City of Neenah runs back to the year after Wisconsin became a state. One Elbridge Smith was admitted to the law practice April 10, 1849.

Moses Hooper came from Maine in 1857 and opened a law office in Neenah. He continued his law practice here for six years, and then moved to Oshkosh. Of this period Mr. Hooper later said that "the first year in Oshkosh, I just made my living expenses. The second year I made living expenses and enough to pay off the $600 debt I had at Neenah." He was born in Maine in 1835 and died in 1932 at the age of 97 years, at which time he was the oldest active member of the American Bar Association. He was an active member of the bar for 76 years, and became an outstanding authority in the specialized law practice pertaining to water power, riparian rights and real estate law. He was for many years the legal counsel of the Kimberly-Clark Corporation. Memorials on the life and work of Mr. Hooper are found in Vol. 235 of Wisconsin Reports, pp. xxviii-xxxi.

James C. Kerwin is perhaps the most illustrious lawyer who practiced in the city of Neenah and retained his residence here through the years. He was born in the Town of Menasha in 1850 and died in 1921. During his early life he lived on his father's farm in the area known as the "Irish Settlement." He acquired this family homestead and owned it until the time of his death. Out of the same neighborhood came the great Dr. James B. Murphy, who attained international reputation. Mr. Kerwin's brother, Michael, went into the field of medicine and also attained an international reputation in that field. Very early in his practice Mr. Kerwin was elected City Attorney and served in that capacity with conspicuous ability for twelve years. For four years he was a member of the University of Wisconsin Board of Regents. He was elected to the Wisconsin Supreme Court in April, 1904, and served as a member of that court for 16 years, until the time of his death. Memorials on the life and work of Mr. Kerwin are found in Vol. 177 of Wisconsin Law Reports at pp. xxxii-xxxviii.

One of Mr. Kerwin's famous cases involved a telephone pole which

stood in the street at the Barnett Drug Store corner. The case was instituted by M. E. Barnett and M. W. Krueger against the Telephone Company. The Supreme Court ordered the Telephone Company to remove the pole and to pay for damages (106 Wis. Reports 96–110). The litigation over this telephone pole continued for six years (1896–1902) and the case entered the Supreme Court three different times, and the Circuit was reversed twice in the process (115 Wis. Reports 150). These cases were probably the most noted of Mr. Kerwin's achievements as a lawyer. The decisions in them and the subsequent legislation which grew out of them fixed the law as to rights of abutting property owners and utilities in and to the highway. Mr. Kerwin acquitted himself so well in this litigation that the Telephone Company later employed him as its general attorney in the place of the attorney who had opposed him in the litigation.

The name of Wesley Mott also looms large in the early history of the legal profession in Neenah. He was Justice of the Peace in the Town of Winchester for many years, and acquired a good working knowledge of the law in that office and by reading such law books as he could get hold of. He became Deputy Clerk of the Circuit Court at Oshkosh and occupied that position for about four years, where he enlarged his legal knowledge and training by observing and studying the cases that came before that court. He was admitted to the bar January 31, 1889, by which time he had already practiced law in Neenah four years after taking over the office and practice of George W. Todd in 1885. He was Justice of the Peace here for many years. Mr. Mott was a great reader of literature, especially the classics, and could quote freely and extensively from them.

The Mott name has become something of a tradition in the city of Neenah, beginning in 1885 and still being carried on by Mayhew Mott, the son of Wesley Mott. Mayhew Mott joined his father in 1902 in the law practice under the name of Mott & Mott. This partnership terminated upon the death of the elder Mott in 1918, and Mayhew Mott has continued in the practice ever since. He was City Attorney during the turbulent reform days when the city was being cleaned up under the mayorship of "Bill" Clark, in 1912 and following years. He was also attorney for the Twin City Building, Loan & Savings Asso-

ciation for many years. The Mott family has thus been in continuous legal practice here for about 75 years. Mayhew Mott is the oldest practicing attorney in Winnebago County at this time.

James C. Kerwin and Wesley Mott were contemporaries. Mr. Kerwin's first law suit was tried in Mr. Mott's Justice Court in the Town of Winchester. The case was tried in the barn on the Mott farm. It involved a quarrel between two farmers, the details of which are no doubt fully described in the Justice Record of that suit, now covered with the dust of oblivion. About 30 years later, in 1905, Mr. Mott appeared in the Wis. Supreme Court and argued a case which involved the will of Lucy A. Smith. Sitting on the Supreme Court bench at that time was Mr. Kerwin, and the occasion no doubt reminded both of them of Mr. Kerwin's first law suit before Mr. Mott. Mr. Kerwin wrote the opinion of the Court of that will case and Mr. Mott won it (Marcia Wells vs Mildred Chase, 126 Wis. Reports 202).

When Mr. Mott was Deputy Clerk of the Circuit Court, it was suggested to him that he ought to take the bar examination and be admitted to the practice of law, but he thought he was hardly qualified to do so. The Judge of the Court at that time (Judge Harshaw) asked Mr. Mott what was necessary to start a law suit in Circuit Court, and Mr. Mott answered that it would be necessary to prepare a summons and complaint and have it served upon the defendant. The Judge replied that the answer was correct and immediately announced that Mr. Mott had passed the bar examination and was legally admitted to the practice of law.

Among the earlier lawyers of Neenah was Merritt L. Campbell, who came from Omro and practiced here in the late 1890's and early 1900's, after a period in J. C. Kerwin's office as an understudy. He was Mayor in 1901–02. He and a few of his fellow townsmen organized the Equitable Fraternal Union in 1897 and Mr. Campbell became the Secretary of that organization. About 1906 he discontinued the practice of law and devoted his entire time to the secretaryship of that organization, which later consolidated with the Fraternal Reserve Association of Oshkosh, forming the Equitable Reserve Association.

Another one of the earlier attorneys was Charles H. Gaffney, who practiced here for a number of years, between 1893 to about 1914,

during which time he was City Attorney for four years. He attained considerable notoriety when he shot Dr. Hansen and was tried and convicted of attempted murder. As a result, he spent several years in the state prison at Waupun.

Other attorneys who practiced here in the early 1900's were Chester D. Cleveland, Jr., the son of the Hon. C. D. Cleveland, who was Judge of the County Court at Oshkosh for many years. He was City Attorney from 1907 to 1909. Mr. Cleveland abandoned the practice of law and became a movie actor in California.

Jeremiah (Jerry) Mulloy is remembered here by the old-timers as a rip-roaring attorney whose practice was an exciting one. He moved to Missouri and to Arkansas, and became a judge in that area. One of the stories told about him grew out of a law suit in which the matter of pasteurized milk was involved. The opposing attorney told him that he did not even know what pasteurized milk was. Jerry's reply was that anybody knew it came from cows that were out to pasture! He was City Attorney in 1901, and from 1904 to 1906.

Beginning about 1912 there was an influx of younger lawyers who commenced their law practice here.

Lewis J. Somers and Charles H. Velte came to Neenah in that year and formed the partnership of Somers & Velte. The partnership was dissolved at the end of 1915, when Mr. Velte moved to Menasha and opened a law office there. For several years he had a law office in Menasha and one in Neenah, and then continued his practice entirely at the Neenah office. He also had a law office at Winneconne for several years. Mr. Somers moved to New Haven, Conn., about 1920.

Clarence C. Fenn came to Neenah in 1912 and associated himself with Mayhew Mott under the firm name of Mott & Fenn. Mr. Fenn was City Attorney when he went into military service in 1917, and has remained in that service ever since. He became a Brigadier General during the second World War. At this time he occupies an office in the Pentagon at Washington, D. C.

George H. Kelly came here in 1917 after having practiced at De-Pere, Green Bay, Milwaukee and Kaukauna. He was City Attorney in 1919, and from 1920 to 1929. He was City Attorney for both Neenah and Menasha. He was also the attorney for the Twin City

Building, Loan and Savings Association for a number of years. He continued to practice here until his death in 1929.

Carl F. Mickelson associated himself with Chas. H. Velte for a short time in 1922, when he went to the law office of Fawsett and Smart, in Milwaukee, and his roommate at law school, Reinhold D. Molzow, stepped into his shoes and continued the association, which developed into a partnership under the name of Velte & Molzow in 1925. This partnership still exists at this time.

Glen W. Barto commenced his practice here in 1925 and continued until his license was revoked by the Supreme Court in 1930.

John W. O'Leary came here in 1927 and Elbert C. Joyce came in 1931. Mr. O'Leary and Mr. Joyce formed a partnership in 1936 under the name of O'Leary & Joyce, which continues to the present time. Arthur P. Remley associated himself with the firm of O'Leary & Joyce in 1946, and later became a partner in the firm of O'Leary, Joyce & Remley. Mr. O'Leary was City Attorney from 1930 to 1950. Mr. Remley severed his relationship with the firm in 1957 and went into practice for himself.

L. Osman Cooke came to Neenah in 1930 and Gaylord C. Loehning in 1932. They formed a partnership in 1948 under the name of Cooke & Loehning, which is still in existence. Mr. Loehning was City Attorney from 1950 to 1955. He was also Police Justice for a number of years before that.

Howard E. Bloom, after many years' connection with the Soo Line Railway Company, commenced his practice here in 1938 and is still in practice.

Elmer H. Radtke commenced his practice in 1938 and continued until 1943, when he went to Reedsburg, Wis., where he is still practicing law. He was the first president of the Junior Chamber of Commerce.

Chester S. Bell came to Neenah in 1942, after having practiced in Chicago for many years. He became the chief attorney for the Kimberly-Clark Corporation, and continued in that capacity until his retirement in 1955. During his residence in Neenah, Mr. Bell actively associated himself with the various activities of the County Bar Association.

Charles E. Schaller commenced practice here in 1949. He was Police Justice from 1950 to 1956. He was elected City Attorney in 1956, and still continues to hold that office.

Robert C. DiRenzo and Jerome T. Bomier formed a partnership under the name of DiRenzo & Bomier and commenced the practice of law in Neenah in 1953. In that year Mr. DiRenzo was relieved from active duty in the U. S. Air Force, and Mr. Bomier resigned from the F.B.I. Upon investigation of every city in the state over 8,000 population, they concluded to locate in Neenah because they believed this city offered more opportunities than any other city of comparable size in the State. Mr. DiRenzo is also a Certified Public Accountant.

Edmund P. Arpin is a native of Neenah and came here in 1954 from Madison to open a law office. Wallace L. Pearson came in 1955 and associated himself with Mr. Arpin under the firm name of Arpin & Pearson. Mr. Arpin is Police Justice and Mr. Pearson is Assistant District Attorney.

Charles A. Littlefield was admitted to the bar in September, 1954, and came back to his home town to begin his law practice in association with Velte & Molzow.

List of Attorneys with Dates of Admission to Bar

Elbridge Smith	4/18/49	Carl F. Mickelson	10/21/22
J. B. Hamilton	7/25/62	B. D. Cannon	7/31/23
Moses Hooper	7/ 8/57	Glen W. Barto	8/13/25
James C. Kerwin	2/ 2/75	John W. O'Leary	6/20/29
George W. Todd	11/29/78	L. Osman Cooke	6/23/30
Wesley Mott	1/31/89	Elbert C. Joyce	8/11/31
Henry C. Schaefer	6/25/90	Gaylord C. Loehning	6/20/32
Byron J. Sanders	10/ 3/92	Howard E. Bloom	8/ 8/38
Charles H. Gaffney	6/21/93	Elmer H. Radtke	12/23/38
Chester D. Cleveland, Jr.	6/20/95	Arthur P. Remley	10/22/41
Mayhew Mott	6/19/02	Robert C. DeBaufer	12/14/42
Jeremiah Mulloy	4/ 8/05	Chester S. Bell	4/14/44
George H. Kelly	4/17/08	Charles A. Schaller	7/24/49
Lewis J. Somers	6/ 4/12	Robert C. DiRenzo	9/11/50
Charles H. Velte	6/19/12	Edmund P. Arpin	2/10/50
Clarence C. Fenn	6/16/15	Wallace L. Pearson	8/ 1/50
Reinhold D. Molzow	7/28/22	Charles A. Littlefield	9/10/54

Compiled by Charles H. Velte, with the collaboration of Mayhew Mott

NEENAH PUBLIC LIBRARY

A LITERARY SOCIETY, believing that the city needed more cultural opportunities, organized as the Neenah Library Association in March, 1882, to raise funds for a library. Through the efforts of this organization, our present library and library services were begun.

The members of this first committee were the Rev. J. E. Chapin, J. N. Stone, Mrs. J. A. Kimberly, Mrs. G. W. Todd and Mrs. John Proctor. By-laws and a constitution were drawn up and the first library was established in a room in the First National Bank.

Through a series of literary programs and musicals, money was raised to buy books and periodicals. This committee, which was enlarged and changed from time to time, carried on until September 1, 1883, when all the holdings of the Association were turned over to the city, which then assumed the responsibility of the care and maintenance of the project. The library was moved to the City Hall, where it remained until transfer to the new building. During its stay in the City Hall, it was twice remodeled and enlarged to take care of the growing interests and needs.

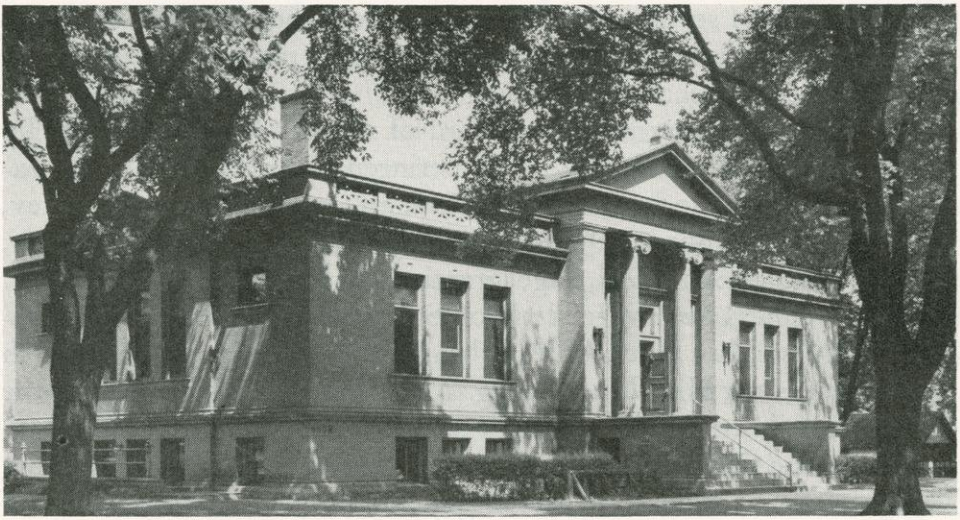
Through the efforts of Mr. Robert Shiells, a Board member, $12,500 was obtained from Andrew Carnegie toward a new building. The citizens of Neenah raised the balance needed through popular subscription. Mrs. Theda Clark Peters gave the site, on the Fox River, which at that time was in the geographical center of the city.

In January, 1904, the new library was completed and opened for business. Miss Zana K. Miller was the first librarian and Miss Cora Lansing the assistant.

The building, which cost about $28,000, is of Bedford stone and gray brick, with a frontage of 175 feet. The center part is 71 feet high and has two wings, each 48 feet high. The interior woodwork is oak, as were the polished floors. The first floor housed the book stacks, a small reference room, the children's room, a large reading room and two smaller offices. The room arrangement is convenient. The basement had one large room and smaller ones used for storage. The members of the Women's Tuesday Club furnished the large room and

were given permission to use it for their meetings until such time as it was needed for library purposes.

As the population of Neenah increased and more people availed themselves of library privileges the library became crowded. In 1932 the Children's Department was moved to a room downstairs, giving the Adult Department much needed room. That has now again outgrown its quarters, but there is no place to expand. The children's



Neenah Public Library

room, too, became crowded, and a store room was added to it. Now that we are doing more and more school work, and children are encouraged to do more reading, this, too, has become crowded. Books are circulated by members of the library staff at three schools during the school year, and classes from the other schools visit the library regularly for library instruction and to select books for study or pleasure reading.

In 1955 the Women's Tuesday Club was asked to find another meeting place, as the room was needed for library use. The members had met here regularly for 51 years.

From a book stock of 8,804, the library has grown to 39,000, and from two librarians to seven. Circulation today is over 180,000 a year.

The library has not only been a place to select books and do reference work, but has been a central meeting place for many other activities. During World War I, the Red Cross had its headquarters here, using the downstairs room, as well as the main reading room, to carry on their sewing and knitting projects. "Bundles for Britain" used the Club Room during World War II for their war work. The Winnebago Day School met in the library the first year it was organized. The Neenah Museum sponsored many fine art exhibits in the Club Room, and several local artists also held shows here. Being centrally located, the library has been a meeting place for many small groups and some vocational classes.

The library is governed by a Board of six members, appointed by the Mayor and Council, and the Superintendent of Schools as an ex-officio member. The present Board consists of Mr. Harry Korotev, President; Mr. Ambrose Owen, Secretary; Miss Nellie Hubbard; Mr. Gilbert Krueger; Mr. C. H. Sage, grandson of Mr. Robert Shiells; Mr. Harold Mennes, Superintendent of Schools, and Mrs. A. E. MacQuarrie. Miss May Hart, Chief Librarian, was appointed to office in 1928, succeeding Miss Ida Kellogg. Mrs. Clarence Bredendick is the Children's Librarian.

In 1954 the library celebrated its 50th anniversary in this building. The growth and success of the library is due to the fine members of the Boards, who have given much time to the needs of the library, and to the librarians and their staffs in stimulating the reading habits of the community.

May Hart



That there should one man die ignorant who had capacity for knowledge, this I call a tragedy.

THOMAS CARLYLE

NEENAH'S MEDICAL HISTORY FROM 1878 TO 1957

DURING the time covered by Mr. Cunningham in his history of Neenah, and a few years beyond 1878, it was apparently quite easy to obtain a license to practice medicine. In the few states requiring a permit, political influence, rather than knowledge, was often an important requirement. Many of the men professing to be physicians had never attended a medical school. They had managed to become a "Doctor of Medicine" as far as the trusting public was concerned merely by assisting an older doctor for a period.

Neenah, however, was most fortunate that the majority of its early doctors were graduates of the best medical schools of that day. Each one was dentist, oculist, obstetrician, surgeon, internal medicine specialist, psychiatrist and counselor. He used comparatively few drugs. There was a folding black leather case that fitted into his special back coat-tail pocket. Contained in its tiny glass bottles were carried most of the drugs used in average calls. Paregoric, Dover's powder, quinine, morphine, bismuth, calomel and salol were a few of these standbys. He also carried a bag containing dressings, instruments, chloroform and occasionally wooden-handled forceps. There was always a bottle of carbolic acid to use for sterilization. Aseptic surgery, the important contribution of Lord Lister, was not yet in use. The administration of anesthetics was still in a crude stage. There were only vague ideas concerning hemorrhage and infections. Smallpox was the only infectious disease the profession knew how to combat.

It is doubtful if any of our young men of today can appreciate the physical endurance required of these older generations of doctors. The long country rides, either in a buggy or on a saddle, over makeshift roads, were exhausting. There was a fairly good dirt road going toward Winchester as far as "Bailey's Corners," now Ridgeway golf course. Often a doctor's horse would be tied to a post at this place for hours, while his less fortunate master waded through mud, marsh land and often snow drifts to some early settler's home and back.

In 1877 Neenah had the distinction of being the first town in the state, and one of the first in the nation, to have telephones. There were but four: Mr. Henry, the druggist, had two, one in his home and one in the store, which was in the same location as Elwers' Drug Store today; Dr. Barnett on Church Street had one; and the fourth was in Dr. Robinson's large, new home across the bridge on Commercial Street, now belonging to the Y.W.C.A.

But don't think that a Neenah doctor could have built that home in those days from medical fees! It was paid for by money made in the manufacture of paper! Dr. Robinson was one of the first men to have the idea of making paper in Neenah. He and five other men formed a stock company that was instrumental in building Neenah's first paper mill in 1865. Dr. Robinson was the superintendent the first year, and, according to Mr. Cunningham, "ran it very successfully." This mill was eventually sold to the Kimberly-Clark Company.

Dr. Robinson's first home had been on the corner of Main and Torrey Streets, within easy reach of farmer patients. It is still there. Many farmers passed each day with farm produce, often including heavy loads of logs or wheat for the saw and flour mills. On one occasion a young barefoot boy was brought into the house suffering from a broken leg received in a fall from his father's load of logs. The doctor's wife gave what first aid she could and wondered at the many sincere questions the lad asked concerning the study and practice of medicine. Many years later a prosperous-looking bearded gentleman called at the house on the island and said, "You do not recognize your little barefoot John who had the broken leg, do you, Mrs. Robinson?" He then introduced himself as John B. Murphy, who had become the famous Chicago surgeon.

There was a wealth of more human interest stories regarding the work of the early doctors here. One frequently told concerned a little Indian boy. Each fall a number of Indian families came into town, trading wild blackberries for old clothes. Their favorite campsite was "the forty acres," now the property including the estates of the Ernst Mahlers and the Mowry Smiths. As a rule these Indians had their own medicine man, but on one occasion during a measles epidemic, they decided to try one of ours. But the good doctor was not able to make

an accurate diagnosis, for when he arrived, the frightened little patient had climbed to the top of one of the tallest trees, and refused to come down!

It was about this time that the automobile was invented. What a boon that was for the doctor! By about 1910 they had come into general use, and the new Theda Clark Hospital was opened for patients. In this locality, at least, the days of kitchen surgery were over.

The advance of medicine and surgery has gone along a parallel line with that of industry and the arts. In some instances it has advanced to a point approaching the miraculous since the days that Mr. Cunningham wrote his final chapter. Modern methods and instruments of diagnostic aid have been largely responsible for the medical advancement. The electro-cardiograph, the electro-encephalogram have contributed untold help in diagnosis. Antitoxins of diphtheria, tetanus, and gas bacillus have saved countless lives. The program of immunization for diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough has helped in raising the life expectancy from 29 to 66 years. Typhoid fever has become practically extinct, and tuberculosis is fast falling in its wake.

The advancement in the technique of surgery and obstetrics has been phenomenal. The modern surgical technique and the precautions in obstetrical deliveries, and the care both before and after birth of the baby, has wiped out the most dreaded of all calamities of yesterday, namely childbirth fever.

The new miracle drugs, penicillin and the mycins, have aided tremendously in the control of infections. The newer methods of premature and sick infant care have contributed a large part to human welfare.

The most dramatic and spectacular advancement no doubt is the modern surgeon's contribution. The radical removal of the malignant disease from practically any organ of the body is now a common procedure. The chest and heart surgery is now done as readily by specialists in that field as was the appendectomy when first undertaken. The modern methods of anesthesia have contributed untold comfort to millions of war wounded, and to civilians who are required to undergo surgery. It is no longer necessary for one to breath in the nauseating fumes of ether or chloroform. Sodium pentothal administered in

the vein carries the patient off into clouds as though he were on a magic carpet. It has also rendered many surgical procedures possible and safe that formerly were thought not advisable to do.

Two Neenah doctors enlisted in World War I. They were Thaddeus D. Smith and Clarence C. Del Marcell. Dr. Smith was the first American officer to be wounded in the World War, receiving a knee injury. He was on the staff of Harvard Base Hospital in France when it was bombed in September, 1917. Dr. Fitzsimmons, the first American officer to be killed in the great war, and for whom the large Denver Hospital is named, was a victim of the same bomb.

Dr. Del Marcell received a broken back in a Neenah car accident shortly after returning from Service. It subsequently caused his death.

Dr. Harold Baxter was the only doctor from Neenah to enlist in World War II, when he joined the Navy. He was assigned to the ship Boise, which became famous early in the war by making direct hits on six Japanese war vessels within a few minutes. It was one of the first times that radar was used. Dr. Baxter remained in the Navy, and is now a psychiatrist with the rank of Captain.

The Women's Auxiliary to the Winnebago County Medical Society was organized in 1932. The aims of this group are to promote friendliness, to assist with health activities, and to promote health education. Most of the Neenah doctors' wives became charter members. This society has been very active through the past twenty-four years, and has proved to be very worthwhile.

Listing of physicians who have practiced in Neenah, from 1878 up to and including 1956 (in about the same order as they began their practice in Neenah):

Galentine: General Practitioner
Clark, Edgar W., General Practitioner
Robinson, Nathaniel Stillman: General Practitioner
Wright, Aaron: General Practitioner
Moore: General Practitioner
Van Vuren: General Practitioner
Memmler: General Practitioner
Messman: General Practitioner
Barnett, James: General Practitioner—President of the State Medical Society 1888–89
Beach: General Practitioner

Pacham: General Practitioner
Mc Dermot: General Practitioner
Barnett, James, Jr.: General Practitioner
Conover: General Practitioner
Gibbons: General Practitioner
Greenwood, Samuel: Radiology (Purchased his first X-ray machine in 1902, seven years after the discovery of X-ray. This means that this is probably one of the oldest radiologic offices in the middle west, if not in the country. This practice purchased from Dr. Greenwood in 1941 by Dr. Beatty; Dr. Ryan became associated in 1953.)
Jesperson, Thomas: General Practitioner
Mitchell, Frederick: General Practitioner
Ozanne, Irving: General Practitioner
Russell, Rosa A.: General Practitioner
Smith, Eli J.: General Practitioner
Todd, Gordon S.: Eye, Ear, Nose & Throat
Giffen, L. W.: General Practitioner first, then throat specialist; patented a throat remedy known as muko solvent.
Del Marcell, Clarence C.: General Practitioner
Dollard, C. E.: General Practitioner
Smith, Thaddeus D.: General Practitioner
Rogers, Ronald B.: General Practitioner
Ryan, Daniel Joseph: Eye, Ear, Nose & Throat
Pitz, Matthias: General Practitioner
Williamson, George H.: General Practitioner
Canavan, John P.: General Practitioner
Graham, Albert: Urology
Brunckhorst, Frank O.: General Practitioner
Petersen, Gordon W.: Industrial Medicine
Lowe, Roy C.: Eye
Baxter, Harold L.: Psychiatry (in Navy)
Beglinger, Harold: Eye, Ear, Nose & Throat
Anderson, Gerhard R.: General Practitioner
Lowe, Robert: Internal Medicine
Ozanne, Bryce: Anesthesiologist
Brown, Robert C.: Bone and Joint
Quade, Raymond C.: Neurosurgery
Strauser, Emery R.: Pathologist
Regan, David M.: General Practitioner
Pansch, Frank N.: Obstetrics and Gynecology
Beatty, Samuel R.: Radiology
Smith, Frederick H.: Surgery
Henning, Elizabeth: Psychiatry
Henning, Roger E.: Internal Medicine
Smith, Robin: Pediatrics
Kirchgeorg, Clemens G.: Eye

Talbot, Allen E.: Anesthesiologist
Ryan, Donald: Radiology
Springer, Vincent E.: General Practitioner
Bonfiglio, Ralph G.: Internal Medicine
Horn, Gilbert: General Practitioner

American Academy of General Practice

THE first chapter of this society in Wisconsin was organized in Neenah, August 10, 1947, under the direct leadership of Dr. J. P. Canavan. The national charter was given to the Neenah chapter on August 26, 1948. Other chapters followed in our state, and Wisconsin is now sixth in membership in the United States. The following physicians were charter members:

J. P. Canavan
Paul T. O'Brien
Richard A. Jensen
Oscar F. Foseid
George N. Pratt, Jr.
William B. Hildebrand
George Hildebrand
Fred G. Jensen
George R. Nebel
Gerhard R. Anderson
Thaddeus D. Smith
George E. Forkin

The American Academy of General Practice has grown to become second only to the American Medical Association in number of its members. Dr. William B. Hildebrand, of Menasha, one of the Neenah charter members, became National President in 1954.

Compiled by Dr. and Mrs. T. D. Smith

Physicians and Surgeons presently practicing in the Twin Cities (as of November, 1957):

G. R. Anderson
Wallace S. Bailey
H. F. Beglinger
Ralph G. Bonfiglio
R. C. Brown
Frank O. Brunckhorst
J. P. Canavan
John E. Conway
L. F. Corry
Albert P. Graham
Gordon H. Hardie
Elizabeth Henning
Roger Henning
George B. Hildebrand
William B. Hildebrand
Gilbert Horn
F. G. Jensen
R. A. Jensen
Clemens Kirchgeorg
John R. Nebel
F. N. Pansch
George N. Pratt, Jr.
R. H. Quade
David M. Regan
Donald J. Ryan
Robert L. Schwab

George P. Schwei
Frederick H. Smith
Thaddeus D. Smith
V. G. Springer
Ralph Suechting
Allen E. Talbot
Paul E. Wainscott

Osteopath:

A. W. Muttart

Optometrists:

D. M. Anderson
P. L. Schlaefer
Corr Opticians

Chiropodist:

Kent L. Scholl

Chiropractors:

U. X. Furman
R. E. Geiger
W. E. Jung
O. P. Lovik

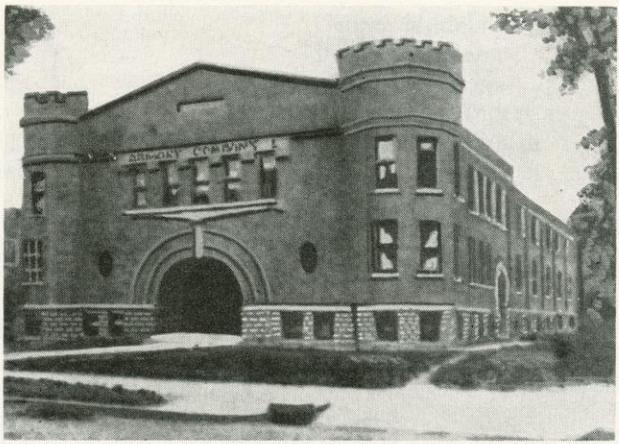
Veterinarian:

C. A. Fredrich

NEENAH-MENASHA MILITARY HISTORY 1898-1955

THE close of the Civil War brought a period of thirty years free of the threat of war, and the Twin Cities enjoyed it along with the rest of the nation. However, the sinking of the battleship, Maine, in the harbor at Havana on February 15, 1898, ended this era of peace, and marked the beginning of the Spanish-American War.

Neenah and Menasha had no units engaged in this war. Evidently only seven or eight Twin City men served in the Armed Forces during



S. A. Cook armory, headquarters for Company I.

this war, but there are no formal records available and memory has dimmed in recollection, even among three of this number who are alive today. These three are Col. J. B. Schneller, Bart Homan and Thomas F. Thomsen. Two of the others, now dead, were Clifford Lansing and Hans Lauritzen.

The first organized military unit in the Twin Cities following the Civil War was formally organized in 1899, with J. B. Schneller as Captain. Three years later, in 1902, this unit became a part of the Wisconsin National Guard and was designated as Company I in the old "First Wisconsin" infantry regiment. It was the predecessor unit

of the present-day Company I, 127th Infantry, 32nd Infantry Division. To provide a suitable housing for Neenah's military unit, Hon. S. A. Cook built and dedicated the present armory in 1906.

The first Menasha unit, since the Civil War, did not come into being until the outbreak of World War I. It was organized as Company E, Fourth Wisconsin Infantry, and was formally mustered into federal



According to Jake Schneller (No. 1 man, top row), this group of Neenah men were all privates in the Oshkosh Company prior to the mustering in of Neenah's Co. I in February 1902. Photo taken at Camp Douglas (probably) in 1901. Top Row: Jake Schneller, Nelson, Dick O'Brien, Dunc McMurchie, Bill Relyea, John Ritten. 2nd Row: Otto Draheim, Retzlaff, Bill Halsey, Unknown, Ed. Wickert, Sorenson?. Bottom Row: Nelson, James Sorenson, Doc Holden, Frank Schneller, John Schindler, Ed. Heckle, Peter Schneller, Ralph Dietz, Roland Peck. On Ground: Fred Wright, Earl Sharpless.

service on August 5, 1917. It was the predecessor unit of today's Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 127th Infantry.

Company I saw service on the Mexican border from June 30, 1916, to January 19, 1917, but its return home was short-lived. Six months later, on August 5, 1917, it was again called for duty in World War I. It participated in the Aisne-Marne, Oise-Aisne and Meuse-Argonne offensives, and was part of the Army of Occupation in Germany after

the signing of the Armistice on November 11, 1918. It left Germany for home on April 18, 1919, after six months under fire on five fronts, meeting and helping to vanquish 23 German Divisions.

The World War I history of the Menasha unit, Company E, was similar to that of Company I. Mustered into service on August 5, 1917, it served in France and in the Army of Occupation, returning home in June of 1919.

As accurately as one can determine the figures, 684 Twin City men served in the Army, Navy and Marine Corps in World War I. Of this total, twenty-four from Neenah and fifteen from Menasha were killed in action or died in the Service.

On October 15, 1940, the two Twin City companies of the Wisconsin National Guard were again mustered into Federal Service for training duty, which led, on December 7, 1941, to participation in World War II. Both units were then, as now, a part of the Red Arrow, or 32nd Infantry Division, and served as such throughout the war, culminating in more than three years of fighting in the Pacific Theater, from Australia to recapture of the Philippines, and occupation of Japan after its surrender.

It has been very difficult to get accurate figures as to the number of Neenah-Menasha citizens who served their country in the Armed Forces during World War II. The Neenah Honor Roll listed 1,648 names, whereas the Menasha Honor Roll listed 1,384 names, making a total of 3,032. However, Selective Service Board 3 of Winnebago County, which had jurisdiction over Neenah, Menasha and the northern part of Winnebago County, has records to show that a total of 3,837 men served in the Armed Forces in World War II, and it is apparent that the large majority of these were residents of Neenah and Menasha.

Best available records also show that of this total, 41 men from Neenah gave their lives while in the Service.

It has been virtually impossible to get figures on Twin City participation in the "police action" in which this country has engaged since World War II, and particularly in the so-called Korean War. Selective Service records do show that a total of 1,349 persons from

Neenah and Menasha have served in the Armed Forces since October, 1948.

None of the Twin City military units participated in the Korean hostilities.

The Twin Cities now have three Wisconsin National Guard units since the reorganization of the 32nd Infantry Division after World War II. They are Company I, 127th Infantry; Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 1st Battalion, 127th Infantry; and Medical Company, 127th Infantry.

The U. S. Army Reserve Center moved into its new building on Third Street, Menasha, in the spring of 1955. At the present time there are six men permanently stationed here, with Captain Thomas F. Keough, Area Commander, in charge of the Center. Five companies of the 274th Infantry Regiment, commanded by Col. H. H. DesMarais, the 84th Quartermaster Company, and 5009 Research and Development Unit are stationed here.

Veterans' Organizations

THE close of World War I saw the forming of a new, and what has since become a very powerful, veterans' organization, The American Legion.

Neenah and Menasha were early in organizing their posts in this new association. The Neenah Post was named in honor of James P. Hawley, who died in the sinking of the Tuscania on February 15, 1918. The Menasha Post was named in honor of Henry J. Lenz, an artilleryman who was killed in action under circumstances of outstanding bravery in France on July 15, 1918.

Following World War II, the ranks of the American Legion were opened to all veterans of that war, and many have become members.

Each of the Twin Cities also has a chapter of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, an organization which takes into membership only those who have served the United States in war in foreign lands.

Also, Chapter No. 46 of the Disabled American Veterans was organized in 1945, with a membership of 52 at the present time.

The Winnebago Veterans' County Service Office, located at 514



Co. I Football Team, 1907. Back row, left to right: Dick O'Brien, Joe Anderson, Louis Larson, John Schneller, unknown, Tony Weber. Front row, left to right: Charles Shepherd, Bill Kuehl, Chris Jersild, Emmett Christofferson, Jim Christofferson, Oscar Fuechsel, unknown, Fred Peterson, unknown. The little boy is also unknown.

North Commercial Street, was instituted January 1, 1936, to assist veterans in filing for benefits from federal, state, county or city sources. The service is supervised by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors under an act of the State Legislature during their 1935 session.

By Dan A. Hardt, Colonel, Infantry

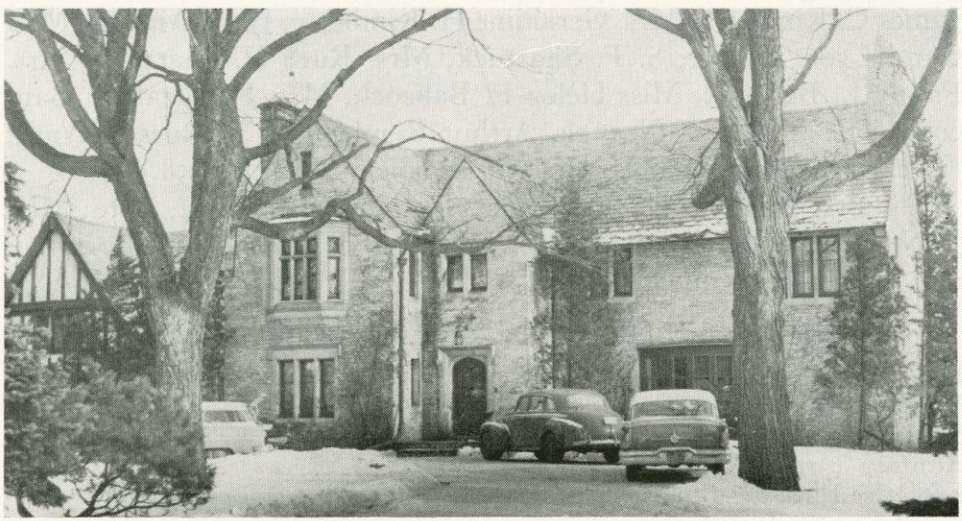
God grants liberty only to those who love it
and are always ready to guard and defend it.
DANIEL WEBSTER

THE JOHN NELSON BERGSTROM ART CENTER AND MUSEUM

In the will of John N. Bergstrom, who died in 1951, appeared this clause: "If at the time of the death of my wife the City of Neenah shall have established a museum, then my trustee shall pay to said City $50,000 for museum purposes."

Preliminary work toward this civic project started August 31, 1953, when the Rotary Club of Neenah, under the chairmanship of F. H. Werling, called together a committee of leading citizens to study the possibilities of establishing a public museum in Neenah. Mr. Ernst Mahler was elected Chairman of this study committee. Other members: Mayor Carl Loehning, John W. O'Leary, J. Russell Ward, Mrs. John N. Bergstrom, Henry Young, F. H. Werling, Mrs. H. K. Babcock, Mrs. C. B. Clark and James C. Kimberly.

The first step in the establishment of such museum occurred in the fall of 1953, when the City of Neenah accepted the offer of Mrs. J. N. Bergstrom for the use of her home at 165 North Park Avenue, Neenah,



Home of the J. N. Bergstroms, now to be known as The John Nelson Bergstrom Art Center and Museum.

as a public art center and museum. Title to the property was transferred to the city and Mrs. Bergstrom reserved use of the property as her residence during her lifetime. (Mrs. Bergstrom died February 13, 1958.) At that time the city passed a city ordinance dedicating the property for use as an art center and museum to be operated by the City of Neenah Municipal Museum Foundation, Inc., which Foundation was to assume all operating expenses of the museum. (In other words, the city will have no cost to bear.)

The second step in assuring the Museum was taken on September 22, 1954, when the Articles of Incorporation were filed for the City of Neenah Municipal Museum Foundation, Inc.

According to the incorporation papers, purpose of the new Foundation was to establish and maintain a public art center and museum in the City of Neenah, to be known as the John Nelson Bergstrom Art Center and Museum, and for other educational and cultural purposes.

The affairs of the Foundation are managed by a board of five directors, one of whom will always be the Mayor of Neenah, and the other four elected annually by a Board of founding members.

The original founding members of the Foundation are: Mrs. Evangeline Bergstrom (subsequently deceased), Mrs. Jessie K. Clark, James C. Kimberly, Mrs. Geraldine H. Kimberly, Ernst Mahler, Mrs. Carol Lyon Mahler, S. F. Shattuck, Mrs. Ruth H. Shattuck, Mrs. Fanny L. Babcock, Miss Helen E. Babcock, Miss F. Elizabeth Babcock, The Mayor of Neenah, Arthur Remley and J. Russell Ward. (These Founding members are still in office in April, 1958.)

The first Board of Directors elected October 25, 1954, were: Mrs. J. N. Bergstrom, Ernst Mahler, J. Russell Ward, Carl E. Loehning and Arthur P. Remley.

The officers elected October 25, 1954, are still in office:

President—Mr. Ernst Mahler
Vice President—(to be filled)
Secretary-Treasurer—J. Russell Ward
Attorney—Arthur Remley
Executive Director—Prof. Charles M. Brooks, Jr. (of Lawrence College)

The Internal Revenue Service of the United States Treasury De-

partment on August 24, 1956, recognized the City of Neenah Municipal Museum, Inc., as an educational tax exempt organization, contributions to which are deductible for tax purposes.

The Foundation has raised funds from citizens to permanently endow said museum and its operation. The Foundation will bear all expense of maintaining the museum and the Bergstrom home.

Mrs. John Bergstrom (by will) left all her famous paper weight collection to the City of Neenah Municipal Museum, Inc., and, in addition, substantial funds for the permanent endowment of said Museum.

(*The above data supplied by J. Russell Ward.*)

NEENAH'S PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS

Columbian Park

In 1843 the early settlers, many of whom came from the New England States, set aside as a village "green" one and six-tenths acres of ground, now known as Columbian Park, still referred to by older residents as "The Green." It is interesting to know that our "Green" is older by fourteen years than famous Central Park in New York City.

This area, in the center of our first ward, has always been a play center. It contains two softball diamonds for summer use. The center of the park is flooded in winter for ice skating. In the northeast corner of the "Green" we find a sandbox and play apparatus for small children. Along the west border are two electrically lighted tennis courts, also lighted horseshoe courts. An artistic shelter building provides toilet facilities, storage and a warm room for skate changing in winter.

Riverside Park

To Mr. John Proctor, more than to any other citizen of his time, belongs the credit for municipal ownership of this property. He was far-sighted. He believed that "where there is no vision, the people perish." The entire point might have been bought for a song, and Mr. Proctor urged its purchase by the city, but his argument fell on deaf ears. As a compromise, the Council did, in 1872, buy the nineteen and one-half acres which we now know as Riverside Park. $4,400.00 was paid for the property, and the records reveal that considerable criticism was leveled against our city fathers for so extravagant a use of public funds.

An eighth grade girl, never dreaming that her expression would find its way into print, penned these lines:

"A more beautiful sight could not be found than the Fox River near the Riverside Park on a mild spring day. The hazy atmosphere and the calm rippling water is quite bewitching. The river, always the color of the sky, is a heavenly blue, and the



New pavilion, Riverside Park, opened to the public during the summer of 1956.

reflection of the lovely green foliage in its mirror-like surface is exquisite. A person sitting on the shore of the river drinking in its beauty could not help being charmed with the blending of the different tints into one perfect harmony."

In the early days Riverside Park became a mecca for steamboat excursions from other cities. A dance pavilion was constructed in the north tip of the park, adjacent to the dock. A shelter for picnic tables was nearby, and two toilet houses were spotted in the center of the area.

During the 1930's Phelps Wyman, of Milwaukee, an eminent landscape architect, was employed by the city to design Washington Park and to redesign Riverside Park. According to his plan, the original drive, which closely followed the shoreline, was moved to its present position.

Mr. Wyman and the then Park Board visualized a new pavilion facing west in the deep bend of the drive, embodying all needed features, such as toilet facilities, kitchen, stage, dance floor and space needed by the yachting enthusiasts, particularly during regattas. The pavilion

was constructed on the east side of the drive during the fall of 1955 and spring of 1956, coming into full use over the summer of 1956.

Shattuck Park

In the early days of the city, the site of Shattuck Park was occupied for varying periods by the Northwest Sewer Pipe Company, the Arthur Bishop Marble Works, Fenton and Chalfant Coal and Wood Yards, C. A. Sorenson's Boat Works, the Neenah Steam Laundry, and as a dumping ground for refuse. About 1910, Clara A. Shattuck conceived the idea of securing this property and converting it into a beauty spot. The completed park was deeded to the city of Neenah by Mrs. Shattuck in 1915. Shattuck Park contains one and six-tenths acres. Its shoreline measures approximately 400 feet.

In 1957 this park was reconstructed to provide accommodation not only for the vast increase in small power boats, but for the parking of cars of boat owners. The center of the park was re-done, creating a beauty spot, with flowers and high-growing shrubbery, where citizens may come for relaxation or enjoyment of the noon lunch.

Doty Park

Prior to 1922, the larger part of the area known as Doty Park was a low-lying piece of property owned by C. B. Clark, whose father purchased it many years before with the thought that some day he or his family might utilize it as a building site. In 1922, however, Mr. Clark presented it to the city for park purposes. A group of individuals added to Mr. Clark's gift by purchase of the frontage on Lincoln Street, making, in all, nine and 25/100 acres. The shoreline measures approximately 1,200 feet.

To secure the fill for the low portions of this tract, and at the same time, to produce an artistic feature in itself, a lagoon was dredged through the lowest section of the property. The dredging created an

island which also adds charm to the landscape. In August, 1928, Doty Park, in its present form, was dedicated.

The opening of this park corrected an unbalanced community situation. There had been a growing desire on the part of residents of the third and fifth wards for a park on their side of the river. The construction of this park on the "Island" was also in line with the policy of the park board to eventually secure a park or a playground for each major section of the city.

At the Lincoln Street entrance of the park stands a replica of the "Mansion" of Wisconsin's second territorial governor, James Duane Doty. The Grand Loggery now houses a growing collection of historic objects. (The present structure is a replica of the original, and was constructed in 1948.)

This park, designed by Mrs. Elizabeth Thuerer, is easily Neenah's most beautiful open space. Phelps Wyman, consultant of the park board from 1929 to 1932, added a delicate touch to the original design by opening up vistas through the shrubbery, looking out onto Lake Winnebago, across to Riverside Park, and south to Wisconsin Avenue.

Kimberly Point Park

In 1929, a superb property, called Kimberly Point Park, was added to Neenah's park system, the gift of Mrs. Helen Kimberly Stuart. The park looks east onto the broad expanse of Lake Winnebago and north onto the mouth of the river.

In 1944, Mr. J. C. Kimberly, sensing the need of a light marking the entrance to the river, donated sufficient funds to erect a beautiful lighthouse at a point where lake and river meet. This structure also serves as a comfort station for the Kimberly Point area.

Beautiful Lake Shore Drive makes a U turn around the outer edge of Kimberly Point, joining with North Park Avenue, which lies to the west of the park. The strip of land outside the drive, bordering the 870 feet of shoreline, is rich in scenic value. Any pleasant evening



Kimberly Point in 1902.

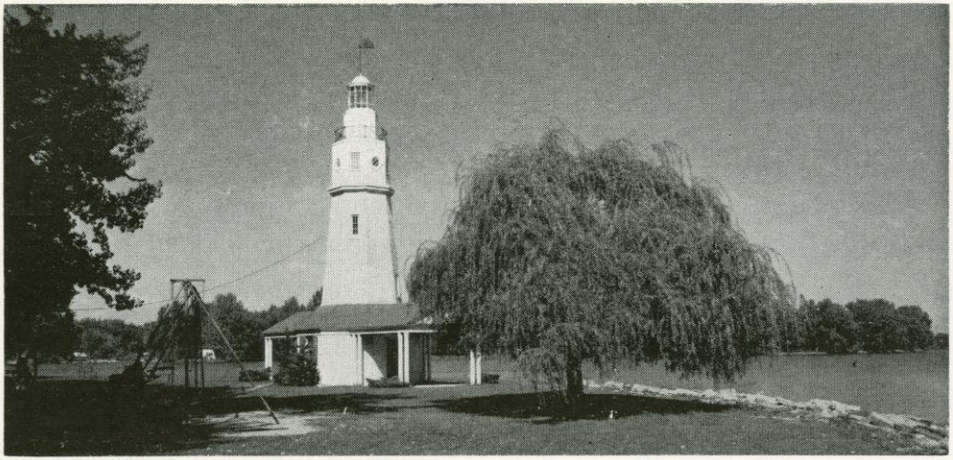
during the summer or early fall, small groups may be seen at the outdoor ovens preparing their picnic supper.

Mrs. Stuart was instrumental in providing the colorful cherry and other blooming trees on Kimberly Point. Among these choice trees was a shoot from the famous Washington Elm. This is now a sturdy tree, properly marked, and a constant reminder of our American heritage.

It will be remembered that the "Old Council Tree," rendezvous of the Indians, stood close to Kimberly Point. This site is indicated by a monument in commemoration of the Old Council Tree and the American Indians who met under its branches.

Water Street Area

In 1931, when the City Council voted to construct a concrete retaining wall between the foot of Lincoln Street and the C&NW tracks, they did what they voted to do—and more. The wall made it possible to reclaim from the Fox River, two and three-tenths acres of land which, in due time, passed into the keeping of the city.



Lighthouse on Kimberly Point today.

Washington Park

Our community is indebted to Mrs. Sara Bergstrom, whose gift, in 1931, financed the purchase of most of the property included in this eleven and one-half acre tract. Ordinarily, the construction of a park of this size would extend over several years, and the cost would be cared for by appropriations of successive Councils. However, the city's need for work projects during the depression squeezed into a short space of time what would otherwise have been a long process.

This area is designed primarily for play. Its eastern edge is laid out for the use of little children. Three tennis courts fit into the southwest corner. A field for hardball takes the center of the stage, and the swale adjusts itself to a softball diamond for summer use and an ice rink in winter. During the winter of 1932–33, 262 mature trees were transplanted into our parks and street borders. Many of these may be seen in Washington Park, where they create a pleasing effect without in any way detracting from the freedom of play.

High School Athletic Field

In 1931 the original plan of the then School Board was to build the High School and its athletic field on only the west half of what is now

the school property. The east half was residential and pasture land. Through the cooperation of Mr. and Mrs. S. F. Shattuck, the entire block was acquired. The grounds, as they now exist, were laid out by Phelps Wyman, landscape architect, and planted by Klockner Bros., landscape gardeners.

Subsequently, the city, through its School Board, acquired nine additional acres to the south, making total playing fields of 20.7 acres.



Laudan Fields

SOUTHWEST of our High School Athletic Field lie two fields, each 144 ×600 feet. We find this property set aside for park purposes in the original plot of Bigelow's Addition dated 1856. The fields take their name from a Mr. Laudan, whose residence property fronted on them. As the city extended itself southward, these tracts became increasingly valuable as a neighborhood playground and for pupils of the Wilson School.



Park Statistics

Approximate Park Acreage:

Riverside Park	19.5
Kimberly Point	3.5
Columbian	1.6
Shattuck	1.6
High School Fields	20.7
Laudan Fields	4.0
Doty Island	9.25
Water Street	2.3
Washington	11.5
Cook	.99
Swimming pool & field	8.4
Second Ward Playground	4.01
Hoover School Area	5.00
Whiting Boat House	.5
	92.85

Approximate Water Frontage:

Doty Island	1,200 feet
Riverside	1,500 feet
Kimberly Point	870 feet
Shattuck	400 feet
Water Street	500 feet
Washington	150 feet
Lake Shore Avenue	2,256 feet
Wisconsin Avenue	500 feet
Whiting Boat House	84.6 feet
Swimming pool & field	653 feet
	8,113.6 feet

Recreation

In 1911 we find the first recorded expenditure for playground equipment—$15.51 for swings in Riverside Park. Three years later $50 was appropriated for tree removal and layout of baseball diamond on the "Green."

1916 saw appointment of Paul Coon, a public school physical education instructor, to conduct playground activities from June 12 to August 1. This must have been an unimpressive experiment, for nothing more is recorded concerning organized summer recreation till 1926, when the Council turned down a formal request for a program to cost $3,500.

In 1926, however, through Red Cross and private contributions, George Christoph was employed to conduct a summer program. This marks the beginning of the Playground Section of the Neenah Park & Recreation Department of today.

Between 1926 and 1931 the financing of the annual summer programs became the joint responsibility of the city and the Red Cross. In 1931 Armin Gerhardt took over as summer director. In that year, also, the first Pet and Hobby show was staged. Later Florence Obereich guided the summer program to new heights.

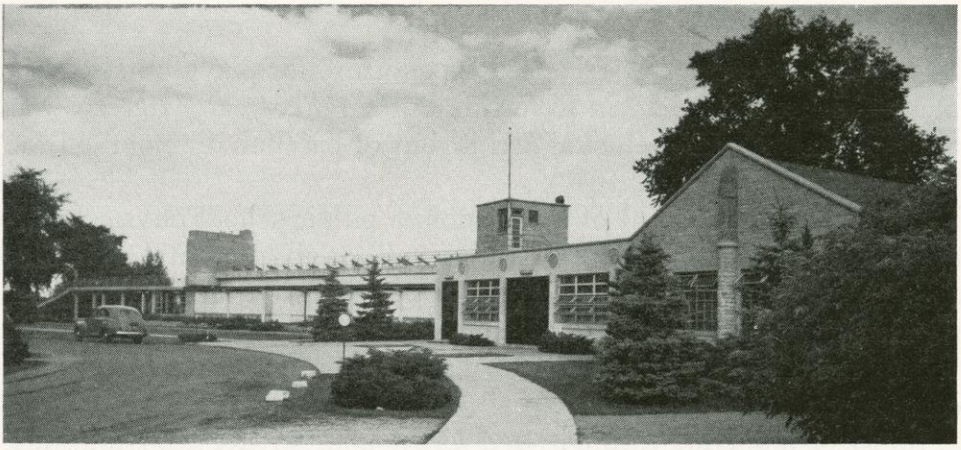
The Neenah swimming pool and "Rec" building were completed and opened to the public in 1940, with Paul Stacker as Manager, and Ole Jorgensen as Pool Supervisor. This facility added color to the expanding recreational program. Pool attendance for that year was 70,831—while the indoor, all year program drew a patronage of 22,142.

The National Women's Championships, staged in the Neenah pool during August of 1942, still lives in the memories of thousands of local residents.

During the planning period, Ole Jorgensen did a thorough job of research on swimming pools, which facilitated the work of the architect, Thomas E. Tallmadge.

The property on which the pool is built was made available to the city by two citizens, C. B. Clark and S. F. Shattuck.

Coming down to 1947, the property south of the pool and recreation building was developed as a lighted softball park.



Recreation Building and Swimming Pool.

That year the total budget askings of the Park & Recreation Commission (including the swimming pool) were $44,456.26, with estimated receipts of $13,229.00 and net appropriation of tax monies of $31,227.25.

Through the years, and particularly since early 1946, under the leadership of a full-time director, there has been steady development of a broad year-round program involving citizens of all ages.

Paul Stacker was the first full-time director of pool and recreation. Bill Miller has been full-time recreational director since October 1, 1948.

Compiled by Dr. J. M. Donovan

Golf Clubs

TRIBUTARY to Neenah and Menasha are the country clubs and golf courses, all of which have a close relationship to life of the Twin Cities.

The pioneer club, Riverview, of Appleton, is now surrounded by the growing city. When it was founded in the early years of the 20th century, it had a rural setting.

Butte des Morts Golf Club, west of Appleton.

Ridgeway—three miles west of Neenah.

North Shore, located on the north shore of Lake Winnebago.

The Appleton Municipal Golf Course and the Bridgewood course south of Neenah are in constant use by Twin City folk from May to October.

"The Grand Loggery soon became a landmark for every traveler on the Fox-Wisconsin waterway. From Lake Winnebago the boathouse at the water's edge, the trim log buildings with shining windows under the majestic elms and maples, suggested a scene in a fairy story. As one landed and approached the Loggery, the illusion grew. Surely none but a New England hand had planted the low sweetbriar under the windows, the sweet william, mignonette, nasturtiums, and heartsease beside the latticed doorway. But the square hallway hung with fanciful Indian handiwork might have been a chieftain's lodge. A papoose's cradle hung by a broad beaded band, a warrior's shirt—embroidered, fringed, and adorned with strings and wampum—baskets, trinkets, ceremonial attire, skins of otter, deer, and mink, crowded the small entrance."

From Chapter 18 of Alice Elizabeth Smith's biography of James Duane Doty, State Historical Society of Wisconsin, copyright 1954

ON PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

DURING World War II, under the leadership of an enterprising former citizen, Rudy Lotz, regular discussions were held by Directors of the Neenah-Menasha Chamber of Commerce on *"Post War Planning."* Lotz was clear-eyed on the upsurge in home and school building which would overtake us at war's end. He visualized the growth of our city to the south and southwest. He and his committee urged, among other things, the immediate purchase of school property in the vicinity of what is now the Wilson school. Had that been done, the real estate on which the Wilson school stands would have cost the city 50 per cent less than its eventual purchase price.

Although the city had a Planning Commission, it had never functioned as such, except during a brief time, in the early 1930's, when Kimberly Stuart was chairman. Meanwhile, the "post war" planning group of the Chamber of Commerce organized itself into an informal Twin City Plans Committee, raising their funds privately, employing a qualified planner, and endeavoring to assist the cities and townships of Neenah and Menasha in revision of their outworn zoning statutes, resurveying their intercity street systems, and in other ways endeavoring to assist their hard-pressed councils and town boards to look ahead ten to twenty-five years.

Chairman of this committee was "Bud" Durham, who was ideally suited to the job. Not only was he possessed of an engineering type of mind, but his residence was in Menasha and his business in Neenah. It had long become obvious to all that the Twin Cities were dependent on the cooperation of the adjoining townships of Menasha and Neenah. When "Bud" Durham died in 1952, the Chamber Committee was continued under the co-chairmanship of Morgan Wheeler and Frank Shattuck. Personnel of the Twin City Planning Committee was:

From Neenah	*From Menasha*
S. F. Shattuck, Co-Chairman	Morgan Wheeler, Co-Chairman
John Tolverson	Hayward Biggers
D. K. Brown	Konrad Tuchscherer
Al Staffeld	John Pinkerton
Charlotte McIntyre	Armin Weber, Sr.
Dr. J. L. Donovan	

This Committee resigned on August 12, 1954. We quote from their letter of resignation:

"While our efforts have not been entirely bare of results, the persisting inability or unwillingness of the cities and townships of Menasha and Neenah to cooperate in planning the growth of this area prompts us to tender our resignations at this time.

"In thus presenting our reasons for resignation, we would make clear that we recognize the human limitations of our city and township administrations.

"Since the war, our cities and adjacent areas have experienced a surging growth, and with growth came mounting time demands on public officials. Every person on these boards and councils has a full-time job or occupation. They give to public business marginal time that other citizens reserve for family life or social pleasures.

"It is our conviction that the volume of city and township business has outgrown the capacity of elected officials to handle it on marginal time. Certain it is that the pressure of current problems crowds out attention to what the city and area growth pattern is to be five to twenty-five years from now. These are problems requiring time, thought, and study. They are of more significance to the oncoming generation than are the immediate problems of today.

"Our resignation, effective at once, is therefore submitted in the hope that a new approach may be found to carry forward this much-needed activity of city and area planning."

Time for Reflection and a Perspective Look

THERE then followed six months of quiet. Mr. Kenneth Schellie, of Metropolitan Planners, Inc., who had advised with the former Chamber of Commerce Committee, pointed out the way in which the Fox Valley area from Kaukauna to Neenah is bound together by economic, social, industrial and commercial ties.

The area involves a fast-growing region of four cities, three villages and seven townships, with more than 100,000 population.

At about this time, John Scanlon, who had served Menasha well as Mayor, retired from that position. John believed in the economy of a planned future for our Fox Valley. To shorten the story, John Scanlon called the elected heads of the fourteen municipalities to meet in Kau-

kauna in January, 1955. A plan of organization, prepared by Mr. Schellie, was presented at that meeting. Many subsequent meetings were held up and down the Valley during 1955 and into 1956, culminating in a climactic meeting in Little Chute on May 3, 1956. On that day the following nine municipalities became charter members of the Fox Valley Regional Planning Commission:

Cities: Appleton, Neenah, Menasha, Kaukauna

Villages: Kimberly, Little Chute, Combined Locks

Townships: Menasha and Neenah

Elected by acclamation as first Chairman of the Commission was Don Colburn, a Neenah man who, as Secretary of the Neenah-Menasha Chamber of Commerce, had worked closely with its Planning Committee.



Nothing ever succeeds which exuberant spirits have not helped to produce. NIETZSCHE

POST OFFICE

THOUGH there are no records available to substantiate the claim or to give early locations of the post office, P. V. Lawson, in his *History of Winnebago County*, states that, "the post office was established in Winnebago Rapids in 1844, and Harrison Reed was appointed postmaster."

Mrs. M. E. Barnett recalls that "before the Pettibone Block and Russell House fire in 1883, there was a post office in the rear part of the present First National Bank building. The evening mail that came into Neenah on the C&NW train was delivered at the post office about 8:00 P.M. Stores were open every evening for business then, so all of the business men would hurry to the post office to pick up their mail, causing a great deal of activity on 'Main Street.' Herm Schooley was the post office clerk, and he had everything packed, ready to vacate if necessary, due to the fire."



U. S. Government Post Office.

About the '90s, it is known that the post office was located in the present "*News-Record*" building.

City delivery service started in Neenah on December 1, 1899. There were four carriers: Allen Montgomery, Julius Jorgenson, Henry Sheerin and James Sorenson. Cliff Lansing and Eli Defnet were substitute carriers. Mr. George Scott, a rural carrier, had been carrying for an unknown period before this date.

The present post office was authorized in 1916. It was constructed by the Treasury Department (William A. McAdoo, Secretary), as all federal buildings were at that time, and was subsequently turned over to the Postal Department. The cornerstone laying took place in 1917, and the structure came into use on April 21, 1918.

At the present time there are ten city delivery routes (foot routes), one mounted route (by auto), two parcel post routes and two rural routes.



About 1896, when the post office was in the building at corner of West Wisconsin Avenue and Church Street, presently occupied by the *News Record*. Left to right: Jim Brown, postmaster; Charles Poepke, clerk; Louis DuBois, Jr., clerk; George LeTourneux, assistant postmaster.

In 1956, with the tremendous increase in population, it was necessary to enlarge the present post office. Changes were made to facilitate loading and unloading of mail trucks at the rear of the building, and a driveway put in from Columbian Avenue through to Franklin Avenue. At the same time, property was purchased on each side of the driveway, and is being used for public parking.

Local postal receipts, starting with 1923, at 5-year intervals, are:

1923—$ 57,277	1943—$141,703
1928— 72,060	1948— 155,828
1933— 72,924	1953— 197,236
1938— 84,983	1957— 353,148

Compiled by George F. Rasmussen, Postmaster

NEENAH CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN RED CROSS

THE Neenah chapter of the American Red Cross was organized April 30, 1917. The officers were as follows:

C. B. Clark, Chairman
W. Z. Stuart, Vice-Chairman
E. J. Lachman, Secretary
F. E. Ballister, Treasurer

The Executive Committee were:

1 year: S. F. Shattuck, Miss Jennie Frazer, Miss Robertson, Mrs. J. A. Jamison
2 year: Rev. C. W. Heywood, H. K. Babcock, Mrs. John P. Shiells, Rev. D. C. Jones
3 year: Mrs. T. D. Smith, Mayhew Mott, Mrs. W. Z. Stuart, Dr. I. E. Ozanne

The Chairman, Mr. Clark, appointed a membership and working committee. By January, 1919, they had a membership of 3,841 adults and 968 juniors, totalling 4,809.

The working committee makes hundreds of garments, consisting of sweaters, wristlets, stockings, and also layettes for the servicemen's wives.

The home service department was and still is busy with veterans and their families, plus all the local service they are called on to render when necessary.

A life-saving program was started in the summer of 1923. The first instructor was George Christoph. This also was the first year of providing Christmas baskets and clothing where needed.

The Chapter started the recreational program in the summer of 1927 and continued it until the City took it over in 1940. The Chapter has, however, continued to pay a substantial part of the cost.

During the depression years, from 1931 for nearly a decade, the Chapter worked with the Mayor's Committee to give assistance to all who needed it during those years.

The Blood Program came into existence in 1950 as a part of the National Red Cross policy and program. Leon Tolversen has given

fine leadership, since its beginning, as Chairman. This Program makes blood available to any resident of Neenah without charge, no matter where the person may be in this country at the time a blood transfusion is required. The only charge is for hospital services and materials where the transfusion takes place. The cost to the Neenah Chapter for this program is approximately $1,500.00 a year.

The Chapter carries on an extensive Red Cross Nursing Program under the supervision of Mrs. C. G. R. Johnson. This includes instruction in home nursing to residents of Neenah, and to the students in the High School, who take the instruction as a part of the regular curriculum. The local Chapter finances all the cost of supplies for these courses.

The Canteen Service, under the direction of Mrs. Fred Bentzen, is a regular part of the local Red Cross Program. It prepares and serves the food at the Blood Bank. It also serves during times of serious fires or community emergencies, and at special meetings when food is served.

The Gray Ladies Program has been well developed under the leadership of Mrs. C. G. R. Johnson. Members of this Department spend several hours each month at the Winnebago State Hospital in occupational and recreational therapy. Mrs. T. C. Epps is Chairman of Volunteers and Production and is in charge of all Volunteer groups including Gray Ladies, Blood Bank and Veterans Hospitals.

Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Clark have been largely instrumental in initiating the building up and promoting of the local Red Cross Chapter, and much of its success is due to them. Mrs. Clark is still active as Executive Secretary. Several other people ought to be mentioned who have served long and well since the Chapter was organized: Norton J. Williams and M. W. Schalk served during the difficult years of the Second World War, Mr. Williams as Chapter Chairman and Mr. Schalk as Fund Drive Chairman. Dr. J. M. Donovan has been actively connected with the local Red Cross activities, as a Director and otherwise, more than 35 years. Charles J. Madson has served in like manner for more than 30 years. The same is true of Mrs. J. F. Gillingham. Ambrose Owen has been Treasurer for more than 15 years. Mrs. C. F. Hedges was Secretary for 9 years.

The Neenah Chapter has always gone over the top in the Fund Drive and has responded generously to special appeals for emergency purposes.

1957–58 officers are: Mrs. C. B. Clark, Executive Secretary; Robert Wood, Chapter Chairman; Dr. J. J. Bouressa, Vice Chairman; Mrs. Armin Gerhardt, Secretary and Ambrose Owen, Treasurer.

Submitted by Charles Madson

SCHOOL HISTORY*

COMPILED BY MRS. HELEN L. ROBERTS

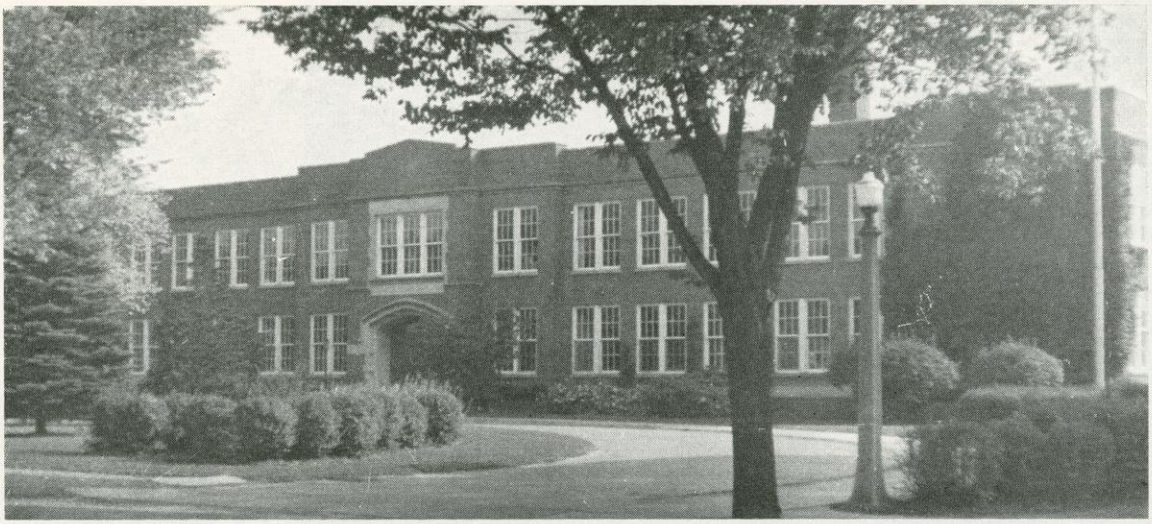
According to a record kept by Superintendent Moulton, in 1847 a small frame building was erected on the Ridge Road about a mile south of Neenah for a grocery store. This project was abandoned, and during that summer a public school was opened there, under Miss Carolyn Boynton, with twelve pupils. The teacher received $1.50 a week, and boarded "around." This was the beginning of the Neenah public school system.

The first school house in the city of Neenah was an old log cabin near the public square, about where Immanuel Evangelical Church now stands. This public square is now "The Green." A man named William Dennison taught this school in 1847–48.

Establishment of System—Officials and Buildings

The city school system was established in 1875, with Mr. T. T. Moulton as Superintendent, and 660 pupils attending. Mr Moulton was elected by the voters and to act, ex-officio, with the Board of Education. There were seven buildings: The Brown School, later called the Mixed School, which stood on the northeast corner of Caroline and Isabella Streets; the Island School; the "Point" School, a one-room brick structure, housing the first, second and third grades, located on the west side of what is now known as Linden Court, then Short Street; the Fourth Ward School; and three buildings for grade and high school on the lot facing Walnut Street, bounded by Franklin and Columbian Avenues. The high school building was at the front of the lot on Walnut Street. Between 1875 and 1878 a new brick building was built in the Fourth Ward on Washington Street, now Adams, between Harrison and Van Streets. This was a two-story, two-room building holding four grades and heated by a huge wood-burning stove on each floor. Miss Isa Brown was the first principal, and Miss Marie Bergstrom taught on the lower floor.

* Since the writing of this article, the new ward divisions of the city have gone into effect.

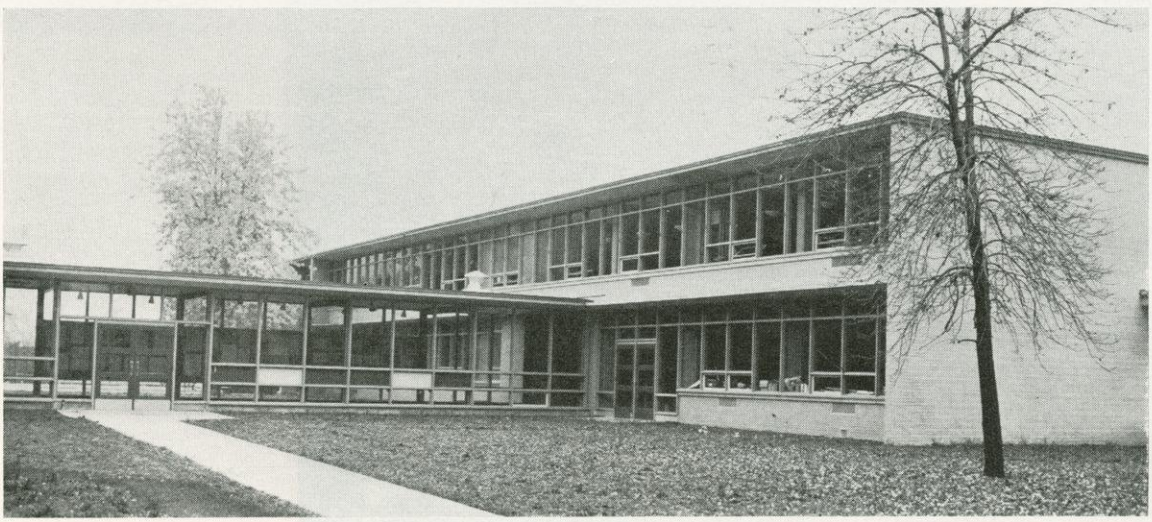


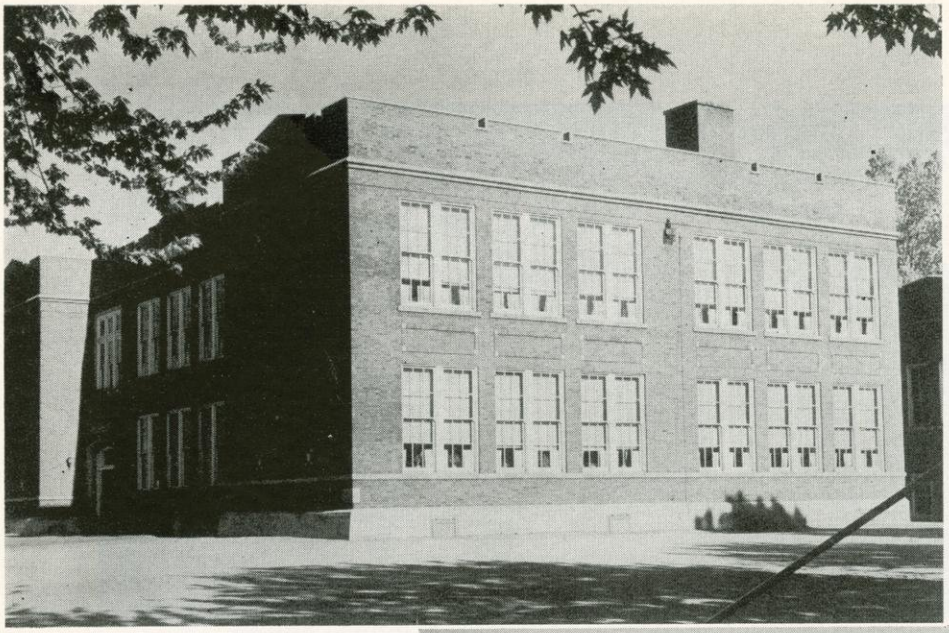


Top: Neenah Senior High School, constructed in 1929.

Center: New gymnasium added to High School in 1955.

Bottom: Academic addition added to High School in 1953.

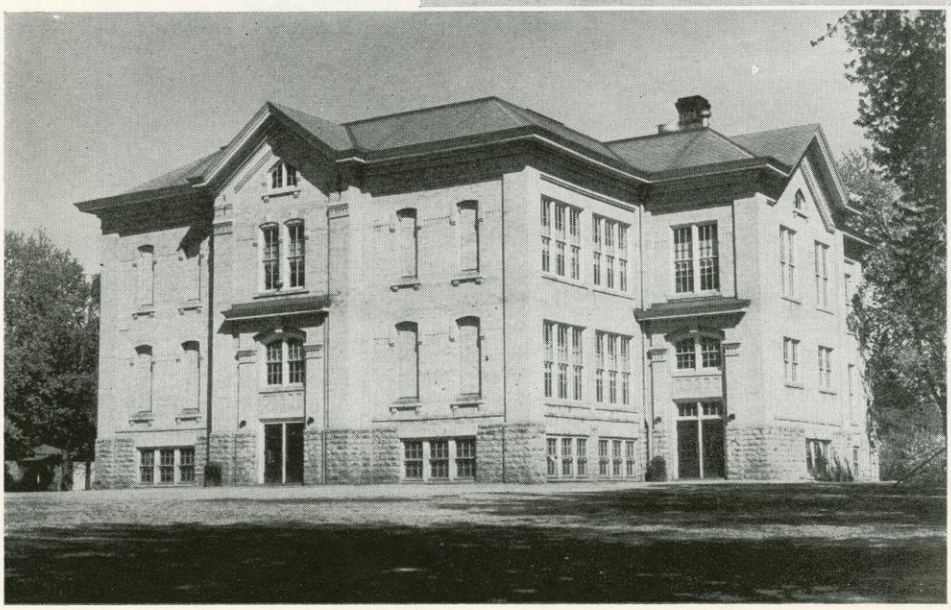




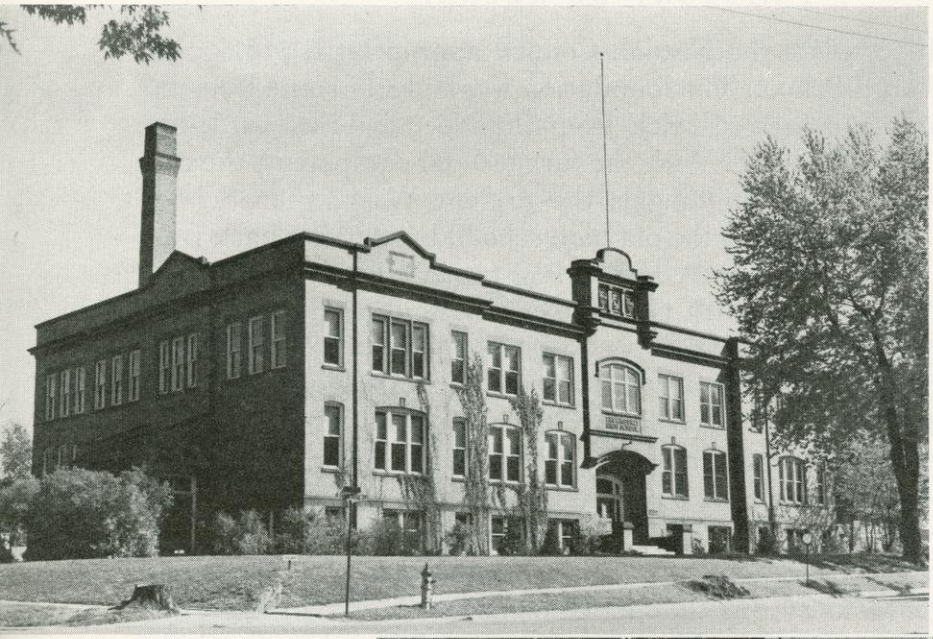
Roosevelt School

McKinley School





Washington School



Kimberly School



Lincoln School

On March 20, 1879, the Neenah Council appropriated $15,600 for a new First Ward School. The foundation was to be of stone from the Neenah quarry and pressed brick from the Neenah brick yard, like those in the Russell House. With the furnace and equipment, the cost came to $25,000. This building is the present Washington School, standing on the same lot as the old high school, but farther back from the walk on Walnut Street. A remodeling project was carried out in the summer of 1935, at which time the cupola housing the old school bell was removed.

A new school was needed on the Island, so in 1888 the council appropriated $10,000 for a Third Ward School on East Forest Avenue, between First and Second Streets. Later the amount came to $10,173 and the agreement was that payments were to be made each month up to 85% of the work done and materials furnished, and the remainder paid on completion of the work. There were six classrooms. Mrs. Ida Montgomery was the first principal.

On January 12, 1893, the Mayor stated a special tax levy would be required to meet the expense of building a new Second Ward School. The School Board, with J. N. Stone as Superintendent, had requested $15,000, but possibly $20,000 might be needed to complete the building. As there were approximately 2,000 children of school age, with 571 in the Second Ward, the School Board was unanimously in favor of the improvement, but the Mayor was afraid the taxpayers might not be. However, when one alderman stated a new school was absolutely necessary when basements were utilized for classrooms, on January 19, 1893, an appropriation of $15,000 was made for the erection of a new Second Ward building on the northwest corner of Washington, now Adams Street, and Isabella Street. This is now the Lincoln School. A special tax of 1% was made to meet the expense. A resolution to this effect was adopted on February 1, 1893. The new school had six classrooms, and was to be built of brick, with Duck Creek cut stone trimming, and Washington state lumber. Mrs. Isa LeTourneux was the first principal.

As our school enrollments increased and the city grew, more schools were needed for the pupils. In 1923 the old Third Ward School was torn down and a new one (of red brick and cut stone) built in its

place, the present Roosevelt School on E. Forest Avenue. The first principal was Miss Maud Dolbear. In 1927 the old Fourth Ward School was condemned, as the ceiling in the upstairs room had developed a curve, and the new school, now the McKinley School, was built on the same location. Mrs. Hugh Roberts was the first principal. The new building was built just behind and circling the old one, so classes could continue until the end of the school year in June, 1927. Then the old brick building was torn down. To avoid accident, no recesses were given the children during this period, but school was dismissed 15 minutes early, much to the joy of all!

As the First Ward School was becoming crowded, it was decided by the Council, in 1906, to build a separate building to house the high school and vocational school students, who were attending the First Ward School. This was the Kimberly School, on South Commercial Street. The first principal was E. M. Beeman. At present, the seventh and eighth grade students attend this school. Mr. Harvey Leaman is principal.

In 1928 plans were made for the present high school on Division Street. This building was to take care of the four high school grades, with their Manual Arts, Athletic, Home Economics and Commercial Departments, as well as the Vocational School. This new building was opened in the fall of 1929. An academic addition was added to it and opened in November, 1953. The old high school gymnasium could no longer take care of the Physical Educational classes, and, in 1955, a new addition was made to house the Athletic Department.

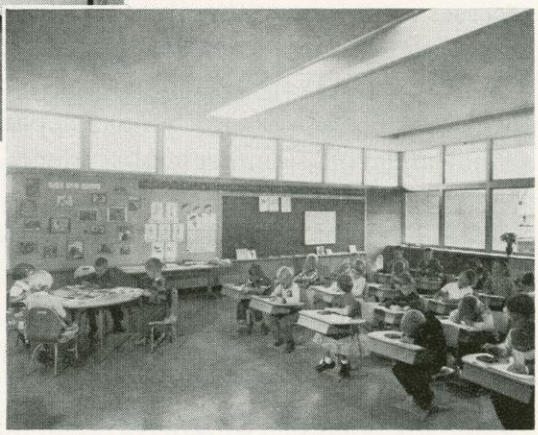
The city was pushing outward, and, in 1939, two additions were made to the McKinley School in the Fourth Ward. The Wilson School, on Higgins Avenue in the First Ward, was built in 1948. This school was opened in September, 1949, and a large addition to it was built in 1952. Miss Evelyn Van Beek was, and is, the first principal.

Owing to land annexed to the city, McKinley School was overcrowded, and a beautiful, modern school, the Hoover School, was erected on Cecil Street, between Hunt and Zemlock Avenues, in 1953. Miss Blanche McIntyre is the principal. In 1957, six rooms are being added.

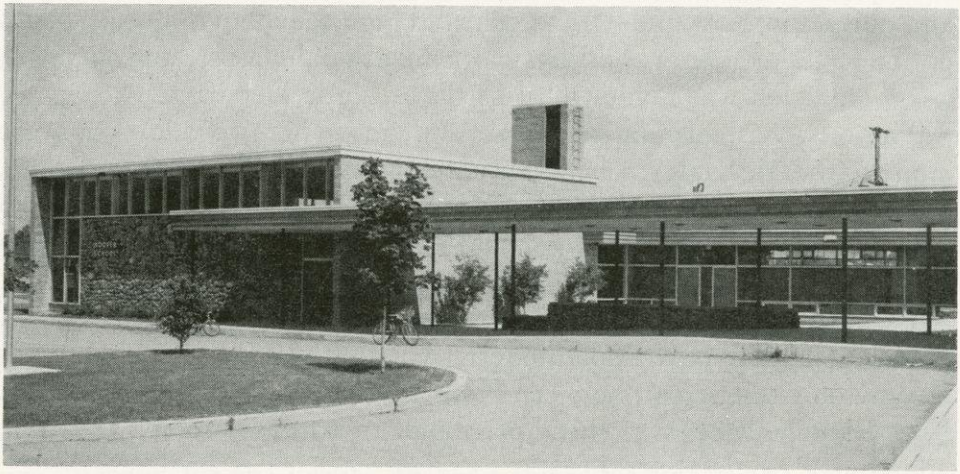
Again the rising school population demands more room. A new



Interior view of Wilson School.



Interior view of Taft School.



Modern Hoover School serving the 7th ward. In the fall of 1957, the still more modern Taft School opened its doors to children of this fastest growing section of the city.

school, the Taft, was opened in the fall of 1957, with Mr. Albert Goerlitz as principal. This beautiful building is on Western Avenue.

Naming of School Buildings

THE school buildings were originally called First Ward, Second Ward, etc., according to the ward in which they were located. After the first World War, the American Legion obtained permission to rename the buildings after our Presidents. The First Ward School was renamed Washington; the Second Ward, Lincoln; the Third Ward, Roosevelt; and the Fourth Ward, McKinley. When a new school was built in the First Ward, it was named Wilson; the new one in the Seventh Ward, Hoover; and the new one just built in the Fourth Ward, Taft.

The Kimberly School was named after Mr. J. A. Kimberly, who was president of the school board when the building was erected.

Superintendency

AT FIRST, the Superintendent of Schools was elected by the people and did not have to possess certain certified educational qualifications. He ran for office and was not required to teach classes or visit the teachers. About the turn of the century, this was changed. The Superintendent was chosen by the Board of Education. He had to have a degree in education, and preferably some experience in the field. Gradually his position grew to a supervision of all teachers, teachings, buildings and conduct of the schools.

Mr. E. M. Beeman came to Neenah in 1903 as the first educational superintendent. When the Kimberly School became the High School, he was the first Superintendent and Principal. At his death in 1917, Mr. C. F. Hedges took over his position, and continued as Superintendent of Schools, until his resignation in 1946, when Mr. Harold B. Mennes took over, and is now serving as Superintendent.

Mr. James K. Ballantyne was the first full-time High School principal in 1929. Mr. Harley Borgen is the present principal.

First High School Graduates

THE first graduating class of the Neenah High School was that of June 29, 1877. The commencement exercises were held in Schuetzen

Hall, which stood on the northeast corner of the present Commercial Street and Columbian Avenue. There were nine graduates:

Jennie Cook
Nellie Herrick
Della Boardman
Eva Leavens
Jackson Tullar
Minnie Gittins
Della Brown
Mamie Ford
Fannie Wheeler

The High School principal was H. A. Hobart, whose salary was $120 per month. He had two assistants in the High School, Miss M. G. Van O'Linda and Miss Julia Bacon. There were ten teachers in the grades, five in the Intermediate Department and five in the Primary Department. The total cost of school operation for that year was $8,000.

There were only eleven grades in the school system at this time, but in the fall of 1877, another grade was added to the high school, making twelve in all. The class graduating in 1878 included Miss Anna Proctor, who had remained in school to take the extra year. Since then the graduating classes have varied in size from two in 1880 to 204 in the class of 1956. In 1881 the class graduated from the new High School, now the Washington School. There was only one



Neenah High School, about 1896. Mr. Conant, Superintendent of Schools, center, second row.

member, Ben Davis, who was persuaded to postpone his party to the next year, 1882, when four girls would graduate. These four were: Helen Wheeler, Grace Wright Brown, Lutie Olmstead and Ida Krueger Barnett.

Forming of Kindergarten

For many years children below the first grade, who attended school, were said to be in the Primary Grade, but in 1898 a kindergarten was established in Neenah. Children from the First and Third Wards went to Dana Club Hall, where Miss Sadie Johnson was the teacher. Mr. Watts, father of then Chief of Police Watts, who was the janitor at the Third Ward School, walked these children to school each day.

At the Lincoln School, which children from Second and Fourth Wards attended, Miss Eva Treleven from Omro was the teacher. Her parents came each weekend on Friday to take her home, and one of the delights of the children was the big St. Bernard dog they brought with them. The dog would lie quietly under the piano (it was an old-fashioned square) until school was dismissed.

Elementary Supervisor

In 1937 the School Board decided the school enrollment was getting so large in the elementary grades, that a supervisor should be engaged to help with the work. Mrs. Laura Ulery was hired and served four years. Then Miss Mauree Applegate (Mrs. Wilbur Clack) came for a brief period and left to become a teacher at LaCrosse State Teachers' College. Miss Mary Willits took her place and is still here, doing an excellent job, faithfully and conscientiously.

Auxiliary Organizations and Interests

SPECIAL EDUCATION—In March, 1920, a room for children who had had tubercular contacts, or who for other reasons needed special care, was opened in the auditorium of the City Hall. It was called the "Fresh Air School," as the children were given a rest period after their noon lunch. At this time they were bundled up and all the windows opened. Miss Leah Anvootz was the teacher. A summer camp, called the "Fresh Air Camp" was established on the shore of

Lake Winnebago about the same time, for summer care of many of these children. The school was maintained until the spring of 1926.

A Special Education room for children who had difficulty in learning, due to emotional difficulties or speech defects, was established in 1931 in the Kimberly School. Miss Marge Wegman was the first teacher, with fifteen students from all grades. In the fall of 1948, as the need for this type of education was greater and more recognized, another room in the basement of the Lincoln School was started under Miss Mary Burke, with nine children. This room took the primary children, ages 6–10 years. Those children from ages 10–16 years attended the Kimberly School. At the age of 16 they go on to high school. In 1948 there were thirteen children who entered high school under this program. Mr. Kenneth Poulton is the part-time high school teacher.

Neenah schools are not fiscally independent, and state aid limits the enrollment in these rooms because of the specialized work.

There are many educable children with minor speech difficulties, for whom special help is needed, so in 1947, a Speech Correction teacher, Mrs. Arvo Vaurio, was engaged. This work is still continued, with the teacher visiting the various schools twice a week for her work.

In the spring of 1952 an additional need for special teaching was recognized. Many children, due to illness, such as rheumatic fever, accidents or other difficulties, were obliged to lose long periods of school attendance. For these a home-bound course under qualified teachers was inaugurated.

For many years pupils have been sent from Neenah to the Morgan Orthopedic School at Appleton, and to the School for the Deaf at Oshkosh.

NEENAH-MENASHA ASSOCIATION FOR RETARDED CHILDREN—As the public was learning to recognize the fact that retarded children could be helped to use the abilities they had if given proper training, an association for this purpose was formed in Neenah-Menasha in 1956, with Mrs. F. J. Liebl as President. A class, sponsored by the association, is held in the First Congregational Church in Menasha. Mrs. John Hanchett, a special education teacher, is in charge.

In Neenah a step forward was taken when a room in the Wilson School was opened in September, 1957, for Trainables. This special education room is supervised and partly financed by the State Department of Public Instruction. There are nine children, between the ages of seven and fourteen, attending. A half-day session is the recommended time for these children, and Miss Janet Evans teaches them from 1:30 to 3:30 P.M. Miss Evans is specially certified for this work, the aim of which is to give the children skills of social competency, rather than academic skills.

SCHOOL NURSE AND HEALTH PROTECTION—In 1912 the first school nurse, Mrs. Florence Lee, was appointed by the Health Committee of the Neenah Council. She served for three years. There have been only five nurses since that day: Sally Conner Arnemann, Ada Garvey, Evelyn Scholl, Beth Lewis and Thelma Davis. Their duties at first were concerned only with the school children; holding clinics for immunizations; visiting the homes of sick children; inspecting the children for communicable disease, etc. As the school population increased and more was learned about the close link between the health of the public at large and the school children, the school nurse gradually became the city nurse, as she is known today.

The health of Neenah school children is carefully watched. All children are weighed and measured periodically. Vision screening and rechecking is done in grades 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9 and 11. Hearing is checked by audiometer tests given in grades 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 and 11. Immunization and booster shots are given for diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough. Small pox vaccinations and tuberculin tests are administered. Iodine treatments are given for goiter prevention.

In 1932 an Oral Hygienist, Miss Kathleen Hogan, was selected to look after the dental needs of the children. Two inspections a year are held, and each week two clinics are held, various dentists giving appointments. This program was due to the efforts of Dr. J. M. Donovan and Mrs. Donald Shepard. Members of the VNA Auxiliary transport school children to and from the dentists' offices for their appointments. Miss Dorothy Keune is the present Oral Hygienist. In 1950 fluoridation of the water supply in both Neenah and Menasha resulted from this program.

Aims

THE belief of the Neenah educational system is that it has:

"A responsibility for helping boys and girls
To be good citizens.
To do critical thinking.
To have adequate skills.
To develop understandings, appreciations, and attitudes which include those moral values which are important in our culture and our heritage.
To make worth-while use of their leisure time.
To be physically and mentally healthy."

In High School the curriculum consists of fifty formal courses. Basic requirements for graduation include four credits in social studies; three in English; one in science; and one in mathematics—a total of nine. The remaining six credits may be chosen from elective courses. A fine selection of vocational subjects is offered, and a student completing training in some areas is ready for employment upon graduation.

As pupils enter High School, they are given a Registration Bulletin, which contains the Course of Study. This Course of Study lists the requirements for each of the four High School classes, according to the course selected, besides those for all pupils. There are courses offiered in Business Education, Home Economics, Industrial Arts, General Course and a College Preparatory Course. Requirements for college entrance are carefully explained. And, by the way, Neenah has been on the accredited list of the North Central Association since 1907. In this bulletin the various subjects are explained and the purpose for their being given. Both pupil and parents are requested to study this bulletin in order to map out the most helpful course. There is even a space for parents' signature for approval of the course chosen.

Music Program

IN THE early 1900's a music supervisor, Miss Leona Reynolds, had been engaged to teach vocal music in the grades, or singing, as it was called. In 1937 Miss Ruth Roper was engaged as a special music teacher, in charge of all vocal music throughout the grades, and glee clubs and choruses in both Senior High and Kimberly schools. As

enrollment grew, an assistant was hired, so there are now two vocal teachers, one for the grades and one for Kimberly and Senior High Schools.

In 1929 Mrs. Helen Stuart paid the salary for Mr. Lester Mais to be engaged as a Band Director for the High School. She helped purchase needed instruments, and, in addition, purchased a house so the Director would have a place to live. Under Mr. Mais, the band program became very popular, so shortly a Junior Band was organized for eighth grade pupils. There are now three bands at High School—the Varsity, the Junior and the Beginners. At Kimberly School there are four bands, two Beginners in seventh grade, and two Juniors in eighth grade. By the spring of 1956, Mr. Mais asked to be relieved of the responsibility of the Varsity Band. Mr. Robert O. Gruetzman was engaged to have over-all supervision of the music program of the Neenah Schools. A string program, violin, was started in the fall of 1956 in the fourth and fifth grades throughout the city, for both class and orchestra work. Mr. Gruetzman instructs these groups, as well as the Senior Band.

Art

For many years art was combined with music, under one teacher. Finally art was dropped from the curriculum. About ten years ago it was felt that there was so much latent talent among students, that a special teacher was engaged to teach art. As talent developed, another teacher was engaged for Senior High and Kimberly Schools.

Home Economics—Vocational School

A Home Economics Course was established in 1896. This course, called Domestic Science at that time, was established largely through the influence of Mrs. Helen Cheney Kimberly. She was very much interested in woman's place in the home being useful and scientific as well as ornamental. She said if a man believed better cattle could be produced by scientific feeding and raising, so could children, and a man should be interested in how his children were fed! But the City Council thought girls should be taught cooking at home by their mothers. However, Mrs. Kimberly finally convinced them this was not



Domestic Science Class of Neenah High School—1896. Front row, left to right: Mary Ulrich, Ethel Brown, Tracy Smith, Mrs. Jennie Jamieson, teacher, Vina Olson Reynolds, Gertrude Willis Sawyer, Rose Roland Hughes. Back row, left to right: Elizabeth Neustetter Bruncke, Delle LeTourneux Roberts, Alice Kerwin, Mary Harth, Bonnie Kimball, Leila Austin, Clara Scott.

necessarily being done. Furthermore, mothers were not scientifically trained. They agreed to give it a trial if she would provide a room. This she did, by putting a stove and tables equipped with cooking utensils in the Mixed School. On August 17 of that year Mrs. Jennie Jamieson was hired at $22.50 per month for five months to teach cooking classes. In 1897 the term was extended to 9¼ months, from September 5 to June 8. At first a student had only two years of cooking, but in 1898 a third year was given and a class was graduated.

In 1911 a state law was passed authorizing a vocational school, and a State Board was set up to administrate it. Before this, Neenah had typical departments of an industrial and commercial character in high school, and manual training in both grade and high school. On April 8, 1912, at a meeting of the Board of Education, Comr. J. J. Leutenegger for Special Committee, presented the names of M. W.

Krueger, J. C. Kimberly, Walter Osborne and Wm. Jackson, two being employers and two employees, together with the Supt. of Schools, E. M. Beeman, to compose an Industrial Commission, without pay. This was passed. On August 14, 1912, the name of W. C. Wing was approved to fill the vacancy caused by resignation of Mr. M. W. Krueger, who was unable to serve due to press of business. On August 21, 1912, the Board of Industrial Education met and Mr. J. C. Kimberly was elected chairman and Supt. E. M. Beeman, secretary. On May 15, 1913, at a meeting of the Board, it was proposed to organize an Industrial School. This was the first organized Industrial and Adult Educational School. After a meeting with the finance committee of the City Council, the establishment was carried out.

At the present time a pupil must attend public school until 18 years of age, unless at the age of 16 he can prove he is gainfully employed. Then he is required to attend vocational school one day a week until 18 years of age.

In 1938 Mrs. Irma Kyle was hired to teach Home Economics in the High School. Knowing her previous success in adult education, she was asked, in the middle of the year, to take over vocational work. At the time she was teaching clothing two nights a week in night school, and Miss Ruth Sawyer, foods teacher at Kimberly School, had a night class in food. Classes in knitting and clothing were organized and met in various rooms of the grade schools.

In May, 1939, the Homemakers Club was organized, with Mrs. Kenneth Harwood as President. Meetings were held in the City Hall auditorium, Public Library and Neenah Club, wherever space could be found.

At first, exhibitions were held for the members showing work accomplished during the year, but due to difficulty of transportation when lamp shade making and slipcovering of furniture became part of the work, and also due to lack of space, these exhibitions were abandoned. Now TV shows are held. The first one, in March, 1956, was shown on Channel 5 in "At Home With Peg Spoor." Mrs. Ella Wilson gave a demonstration of roll making.

In 1955–56 there were 22 afternoon and 29 evening classes, 51 in

all, in adult homemaking. 667 persons were enrolled, some of them men, in such classes as landscaping and upholstering. Classes were conducted in leathercraft, jewelry, foods, nutrition, lamp shades, draperies, hooked rugs, decorative painting and fur remodeling.

Mrs. Irma Kyle is full-time teacher, with fifteen part-time teachers.

Food Nutrition is also taught in the Practical Nurses course at Theda Clark Hospital by vocational school teachers.

School Population Soars

STUDENT population soared in the year 1956–57. On opening day of school in September, 1957, there were 3,597 boys and girls enrolled in the public schools. For the first time in history, high school enrollment was over 1,000, as there were 1,014 boys and girls present on opening day. Twenty-five new teachers were welcomed to the Public School teaching staff, making a total of 124 teachers in our public school system. The parochial schools had 897 pupils.

Twenty-Five Year Teachers

IN 1951 the Neenah Teachers' Association decided recognition should be given to all teachers in the Neenah schools, who had taught for a period of 25 years or more. At the annual spring banquet, held at Hotel Athearn, in Oshkosh, pins were given to those teachers. They were also presented with a Certificate of Recognition of Service from the Neenah Board of Education, and one from the State Superintendent of Schools, Mr. George Watson.

The following year the Kiwanis Club gave a recognition dinner for these teachers, who were given gold pins, inscribed "25 Years of Service," and an Honor Certificate. The Kiwanis has continued this practice and every year entertains all teachers who have reached these years of service. As a teacher reaches the 25 year mark, a pin and certificate is presented to the teacher at the dinner. The following are "25 year" teachers in Neenah (*indicates those teachers who have taught 25 years in the Neenah system).

*Gordon Albert
Thora Anderson
*Mary Baird (deceased)
*Mary Brandsmark (retired)
*Carl Christensen (retired)
Edith Cumming
*George F. Christoph
*Maud Dolbear (retired)
*Jean Fraser (deceased)
*Armin Gerhardt
Margaret Griffiths
Elizabeth Gotham
*C. F. Hedges (deceased)
*Nell Hubbard (retired)
*Edna Mae Harris (retired)
Elizabeth Hughes
*Ole Jorgensen
*Katharene Kafer
*Fannybelle Kiser
Margaret Kuchenberg
*Anna Kleinhans (retired)
Harvey Leaman
*Isa LeTourneux (deceased)
*Lester Mais
*Helen McDermott (deceased
*Nellie McDonnell (deceased)
Harold B. Mennes
*Janet Menning
*Hannah Natwick (retired)
*Ruth Nielsen
Josephine O'Mark
Arthur Paff
Helene Peterson
*Minna Hanson Petersen (retired)
Kenneth Poulton
*Al Poellinger
*Helen L. Roberts (retired)
Margaret Sambs
*Evelyn Van Beek
*Ivan Williams
Mary Willits
Edwin Zenisek

To the list must be added the names of Clara Patzel and Castella Beisenstein, who have faithfully served in the office of the High School for twenty-five years or more.

It is important that the physical aspect of the schools should be well cared for, and we have the following who have faithfully seen to that:

Mr. Frank Merkley
Mr. Emil Danielsen (deceased)
Mr. Chris Peterson (deceased)

School Board

THE history of Neenah Public Schools would not be complete without mention of the School Boards of Education, which have helped make the system grow to its present high standards. Space will not permit giving the names of all who have contributed so generously of their time and efforts, but there are a few who have served many years in the past and some who are still serving.

In the days when the school commissioners were elected to represent

their ward and not the city at large, we find the names of J. A. Kimberly, for whom Kimberly School is named; C. B. Clark, who served as President of the Board; D. L. Kimberly, J. J. Leutenegger, L. J. Pinkerton, Dr. L. J. McCrary, C. H. Velte, Dr. J. P. Canavan, Mrs. Helen K. Stuart, Norton J. Williams and Mrs. Jay Gillingham.

Coming down a few years later we find Mr. Leo Schubart, who served as President for many years; R. J. Sund, President since 1949—Neenah citizens will never appreciate or express the debt of gratitude they owe to Roy Sund for his far-seeing and sacrificial service during the explosive post-war period of our city's growth (Mr. Sund announced his retirement from the board in January, 1958); Dr. R. H. Quade, Thad C. Epps, Gordon Mortenson, George Hrubecky, Frank Hochholzer, Mrs. Ione McConnell, R. D. Molzow and Mrs. Marion Tollette.

The Board of Vocational Education also contains the names of many of the faithful: J. W. Bergstrom, one of the first to serve, Henry Young, George L. Madson, Nathan Bergstrom, James Keating, Albrecht Gross, Einer Nielsen, Melvin Redlin, John Neubauer and Alan Adrian.

School Papers

In 1895 a school periodical called *The Argosy* was established to provide a method by which the literary ability of the high school student could be developed. It was published at various times during the year, with a special commencement issue. The price was 5¢ per copy, or 35¢ per year. With financial difficulty of publication increasing after a few years, it was discontinued. In 1919 the first volume of an annual, *The Council Tree*, was published. This was continued until 1922, and was the first annual put out by a high school student staff.

After the new high school was built in 1929, there were apparently no school publications. Then a school paper, *The Cub*, with a duly-elected editorial staff, was started and is now in flourishing condition, being a semi-monthly publication and primarily a student endeavor.

The annual is now called *The Rocket* and is published by the staff

each year shortly before commencement. The first *Rocket* was published in 1937.

High School Organizations

With the many worth-while extra curricular activities provided at Neenah High School, it can be understood why we have so many fine young people coming forth. There is almost no interest of young people which is not provided for in some club or group.

One of the earliest organizations was the Conservation Club, under the guidance of Mr. Armin Gerhardt. This club is interested in the conservation of our natural resources. Rabbits are trapped during the wintertime and turned over to the State Conservation Department. Members attend Trees for Tomorrow Camp.

The Biology Club, under Mr. John Gundlach, attracts those interested in plant and animal life.

The Science Club, under Mr. Leonard Krause, is a hobby and interest group. This group has "ham" radio artists, amateur photographers and other future scientists.

The Thespians, under Mr. Kenneth Anderson, takes care of those with aspirations for the stage. They present excellent plays each year.

Books are not forgotten. The Library Club, with Mr. Charles Buck to guide, helps in maintaining the school library.

Those who are interested in languages have both a Latin and a Spanish Club under Miss Fannybelle Kiser. One of their highlights is a Roman banquet done in authentic style.

The Home Economics Club, under Miss Helen Firkus, not only interests future homemakers, but at Christmas-time provides a tree, gifts and a party for children in the primary grades who need a little cheer.

Mr. George Christoph with the Safety Club is helping reduce accidents, not only with automobiles, but bicycles and all traffic hazards.

If you are interested in a printer's work, Mr. Al Poellinger has the Printers' Club.

Mr. William Dunwiddie brings inspiration to the school for all events with the Pep Club.

The Debate Club, also under Mr. Dunwiddie's guidance, has been excellent in helping students with a knowledge of important public issues. Each year debates are held with other high schools in the state.

To take care of other interests of the students, there is a Girls' Athletic Club, Cheerleaders, Student Council, Girls' Senate and Future Teachers' Club. The latter group, under Miss Margaret Griffiths, was organized to help those interested in teaching as a profession. It has been organized only a few years, but has grown, until, in 1957, it sent a group of between 30–35 to attend a meeting of similar organizations at Oshkosh.

The Honor Society, organized in 1948, under Miss Helen Hughes, includes the students who have attained scholastic honors according to a national society.

Those interested in journalism have their groups to take care of publishing *The Cub*, issued monthly, and the yearbook, *The Rocket.*

The students who remain at high school during the noon hour are not forgotten. Under Mr. Ole Jorgensen, an Activities Group provides games and other forms of recreation. No one has idle time to breed mischief.

The latest club at Neenah High School is the Varsity Service Club, which was formed in September, 1957. The President is John Kirchgeorg, and faculty advisor is Warren Schuknecht. The purposes of the club are to usher at school functions, keep a bulletin board of photographs of school activities, institute school traditions and keep the newspapers advised of school doings. At present the feminine element seems not to be included in membership.

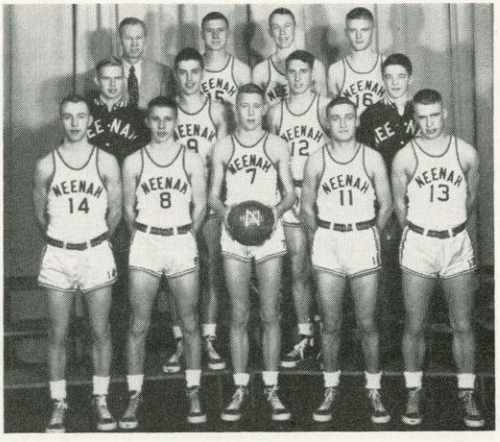
In 1918 a Junior Red Cross Society was formed at the High School, and a French orphan was adopted for that year. There are Junior Red Cross groups in all the grade schools, who each year send boxes of gifts to children in foreign countries.

Junior Historical Societies are formed in grades 4, 5, and 6.

Athletics

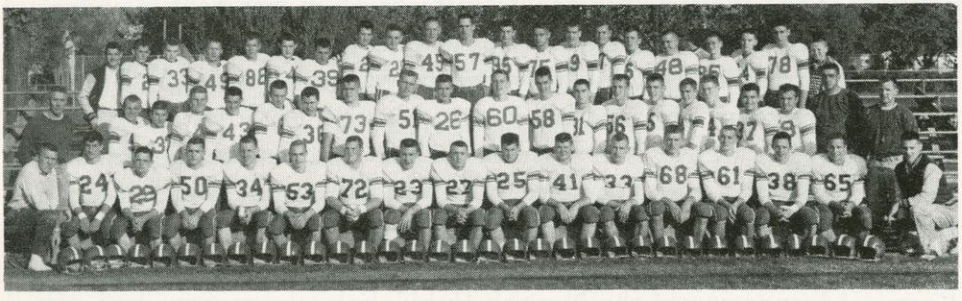
In the fall of 1896 there was a great athletic awakening at Neenah High. A football team was organized, but was hampered by lack of a field on which to practice. In the spring of 1897 an ideal field of about

three acres was found in the First Ward, about a 5 minute walk from the High School. This was purchased, and, with the aid of volunteer labor from the school boys, made into an athletic field enclosed by an 8′ high tight board fence. The total cost, including grandstand, remodeling an old house into a clubhouse, with refreshment stand, tennis courts, baseball diamond and track, was $1,100. Three boys,



Right: Conference Champions 1950–1951: Back row: Coach O. Jorgensen, D. Wisthoff, D. Metz, D. Schultz. Second row: Mgr. D. Knaack, F. Wiesner, J. O'Neil, Mgr. D. Laflin. Front row: M. Blank, R. Rine, R. Jorgensen, J. Shannon, J. Gundlach.

Below: Neenah High Conference Champions 1957: At far right, Tom Porter, Head Coach, and Don Bartelt, Assistant Coach. At far left, Assistant Coach Joe Braun.



John Tolversen, Sidney Coats and John Carmen, brought in a large spruce tree from ten miles out in the country and made a flag staff 60′ high.

During the first year on the new field, Neenah held 8 games of football, 3 of baseball and held 2 field days. They won all of the football games, 2 of the baseball, 1 field day and tied the other.

No regular athletic coach was hired at the Neenah High School until the fall of 1919, when A. C. Denney, who is now at Lawrence

College, Appleton, was hired. From then on the physical education program in our schools has gained in strength. For the first time in history in March, 1920, the Neenah High School was represented at the State Basketball Championship, held every year at Madison, and came out in second place. In 1930 they won the State Championship, and have been down there 12 times.

Football, track, baseball and intramural sports are participated in by the students on both high school and grade level. The girls as well as boys are given physical education.

The high school football team has had two undefeated seasons in 1956 and 1957.

Neenah Teachers' Association

MEETINGS of the Neenah teachers had been held for years at the call of and under the direction of the School Superintendent. About 1935 a need for a Neenah Teachers' Association, with a constitution and regularly elected officers and stated meeting times, was felt. A committee was appointed, with Marvin Olson as chairman for the organization. On September 21, 1936, the first meeting of the Neenah chapter of the Wisconsin Education Association was held in charge of Ivan Williams, President. Harvey Leaman was elected President for the following year. At first only two meetings a year were held, but as need arose and the Neenah group joined the National Education Association, as well as the Wisconsin, the organization here reorganized its constitution and became more and more vital in the school life. It belongs to the Northeastern Association and the Fox River Valley group. A paper called, *From Our Schools*, is a publication of the Board of Education of the Neenah Public Schools, written and edited by Neenah Public School Teachers. The paper (four pages) is issued at least twice a year and contains information about our schools. It is available on request.

High School Alumni Association

THE Neenah High School Alumni Association was organized in 1888. It met once a year, the last week of the school year. After the first few meetings, which were held in the high school assembly room, the

association met annually for a dinner, or alumni banquet, as it was called. These dinners were held in the dining room of the Neenah Club, Sign of the Fox, North Shore or Valley Inn. Seniors were honored guests. The senior classes continued to grow in size, and the dinner expense became too great; then, too, the seniors wanted their own banquet, so in 1934–35 the Association was disbanded. The last banquet was held in 1934 at the Valley Inn.

Parent-Teacher Association

THE P.T.A. is not exactly a recent organization within our school system. As far back as about 1915 Mothers' Societies were formed. The Fourth and Second Ward mothers were one group, and the mothers of Kimberly School and the First and Third Wards formed the other. These groups met once a month after school in one of the classrooms of the Lincoln School or Kimberly School. Such topics as Disease-spreading Flies, given by Mrs. Maurice Barnett, were discussed. These groups fell into decline and were abandoned. However, as the P.T.A. movement was spreading over the country in 1930, through the efforts of Mrs. Helen Stuart a P.T.A. group was formed at the Washington School. Mrs. Reginald Sanders was the first President, and the group met once a month in the afternoon after school. The time of meeting was later changed to evening to allow the fathers to attend. The group disbanded and reorganized twice, but eventually became the present Washington P.T.A.

(The National Parent-Teacher Association was organized in 1896 in Washington, D. C., by Alice McLellan Birney and Phoebe Apperson Hearst.)

Several attempts have been made to organize Parent-Teacher Associations at Kimberly School and Neenah High School, but parents seem to feel it makes too many meetings to attend when there are children in lower grades. With a highly organized city such as Neenah, no doubt they are right.

In 1934 a P.T.A. was organized at Roosevelt School, with Mrs. R. E. Sanders the first President. It met once a month in the afternoon, and was, of necessity, largely a mothers' group. In 1936 the group joined the state organization, with meetings in the evening to which

fathers were able to come. In 1946 it was disbanded, as no officers could be found for President and Vice-President, but in 1951 another group, calling itself the Mothers' Club, was organized with Mrs. Donald Mitchell as President, and is very flourishing today. This group began meeting afternoons, and changed to evenings so fathers could attend.

In the spring of 1941 it was decided at both the Lincoln and McKinley schools to form P.T.A. groups. Mr. Irvin Winters was elected President at McKinley, and Mrs. Ambrose Owen at Lincoln. These two groups have maintained a steady growth.

After the Wilson School was built, a P.T.A. was organized, with Co-Chairmen Mr. and Mrs. William Cramer, to meet with the Washington P.T.A. Meetings were to be held alternately at each school, but at the first meeting the attendance was so large, each group became a separate P.T.A.

At Hoover School a group was immediately organized, with Mr. and Mrs. James Crust as Co-Presidents.

Taft School parents felt the work of the P.T.A.'s in Neenah has been so helpful, an association should be formed at their school. This



Neenah High School graduating class June 1892. Front row: Will Joliffe (son of Methodist minister); Dr. Emma Jaeck (presently living at Omro); Helen Babcock, Mabel Williams; Art Koch; Rear row: Harry Hewitt (Hewitt St. named for his family); Milo Pinkerton; Mary Larsen Brandsmarck; James Barnett (Dr.); Gunlof Guthormsen; Ed Bergstrom (who designed Valley Inn); John Bergstrom (co-founder of Bergstrom Paper Co.); and Will Stowe.

was done in the fall of 1957, with Mr. and Mrs. C. Morrow as Co-Presidents.

On January 26, 1942, a P.T.A. Council was formed, with Mr. Carl Gerhardt as President. There were representations from six Neenah organizations: the High School, Kimberly, Washington, Lincoln, McKinley and Roosevelt. The rural schools: Lakeview, Spring Road and Tullar, joined this council. Today the council works with the Menasha council in conducting a workshop every spring for members of the Twin City groups. The P.T.A. groups are active and helpful. The McKinley P.T.A. has organized two child study groups, "Tiny Tots" and "Wee Folks," which are for young mothers, and a group called "The Child Study Group" for mothers of older children. The Hoover P.T.A. is affiliated with these groups.

At present there are six active P.T.A. organizations in Neenah, all affiliated with the state P.T.A.: Washington, Lincoln, McKinley, Wilson, Hoover and Taft, with an active Mothers' Club at Roosevelt.

"*A 'City Father' Talks*"

From *The Twin City Daily News* of January 23, 1888:

Editor *Daily News:*

Your issue of Saturday, Jan. 21, contained a communication from a resident of the Third Ward, severely criticizing the 'city fathers' for allowing little children to remain out doors in the cold while awaiting the arrival of the teacher to unlock the school house. That the children are locked out and perhaps suffer from the severe cold may be a fact, but in justice to the members of the city council I would say that they have nothing whatever to do with these matters. The care of the school houses, hiring of teachers and janitors, is in the hands of the school board, and the 'city fathers' have no knowledge of the offense of which they are accused by the irate 'Third Warder' unless some of them happen to be 'father' to some of the little ones who are compelled to stand out in the cold. That the complaint is a just one, is conceded by all right minded citizens, for in such weather as we have had this winter it is hard enough for the children to walk to school, without having to stand out of doors when they arrive there. Children are not expected to start for school until a reasonable hour, and then they should find the school house open and warm. The 'Third Warder' is quite right in his accusation, but his complaint should be directed to the school board instead of the innocent and long suffering 'city fathers.'

One of the Council

Times haven't changed!—parents still complain when their children aren't allowed in the school—at 7:30 or 8:00 A.M.!



A Washington grade school class of the late 1890's. Complete identification could not be made, but included in the group are: Anna Felton, Nellie Ruegge, Anna Michelson, Anna Gram, Myra Dunn, Guy Young, Paul Heinicke, Emma Dobbertin, Jennie Larsen, Arthur Klinke, Belle Klock, Conrad Schmidt, Carolyn Giffin, Fred Watts, Lucille Schwartz and Mary Bergstrom.

School Strike

EDUCATION should teach the folly of a strike and the wisdom of arbitration, but in 1901 a strike took place in the Neenah High School. The Superintendent, Mr. J. H. Healey, who, by the way, was at that time elected by the City Council and did not necessarily need education degrees, and Mr. O. J. Schuster, Principal of the High School, had been "feudin'" for some time. On Monday morning of the last week of school that year, as Mr. Schuster was writing examination questions on the board for the senior class, Mr. Healey appeared. He dismissed the Principal from his duties and took over. Took over? No, attempted to. Mr. Schuster had very quietly left the building and gone home. In their indignation and loyalty to their Principal, the student body arose and left the building, not quietly, I fear. Two students were left in the room; one had come to school

tardy and did not know the reason for the exodus; the other, who lived with a grandmother, feared her disapproval. The students paraded to the home of Mr. Schuster and voiced their loyalty to him. He thanked them, but urged no disturbance and advised them all to go home.

Some parent or parents made a complaint against Mr. Healey for his actions, and a mass meeting was held that evening in the old Rink, which was on Canal Street. Mr. Schuster was reinstated and classes resumed the next day, but the graduating class that June received unsigned diplomas for their part in the strike. Later in the summer the Board agreed to sign the diplomas, so "all's well that ends well."

Parochial Schools

NEENAH has three parochial schools, the Trinity Lutheran, St. Margaret-Mary, and Martin Luther. St. Patrick's School, situated in Menasha just across the boundary line on Nicolet Boulevard, is attended by some of the Island children of that congregation, as is St. Mary's High School in Menasha. Winnebago Day School, a private school located on Winnebago Avenue, in Menasha, draws pupils from the Neenah area. This school was opened September 1, 1932.

ST. MARGARET-MARY'S SCHOOL—St. Margaret-Mary's School is located on Division Street. It was built in 1950 and has eight grades. Excavation was begun in September, 1950, for the school building, and in February, 1951, for the Sisters' Home. About the middle of August 1951, six teaching nuns and a house sister of the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth came from Chicago to conduct the new school, the first Catholic parochial school in Neenah. School opened September 7 with an enrollment of 304 pupils divided into six grades, from third through eighth. The Most Rev. Stanislaus V. Bona, Bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Green Bay, dedicated the school and convent on September 30. The convent was ready for occupancy March 10, 1952. On February 6, 1955, St. Margaret-Mary parish voted to erect a recreation center to the west end of the school building. This was completed in January 1956.

There are now ten teaching Sisters and two lay teachers, with an enrollment of 510 pupils in eight grades.

TRINITY LUTHERAN SCHOOL—Trinity Lutheran School was organized in the early seventies, a few years after the congregation was organized in 1865. It was born of a two-fold need, to give the children of the parish a Christ-centered education on a daily basis, and to teach the children in the mother tongue, German.

The first school stood on Walnut Street, next to the church, between Olive Street and Washington Avenue. The building has since been remodeled into a home. The teachers were the pastors of the church. who were qualified by the better education they received at theological schools. In 1884 the congregation saw the need for a full-time teacher, and one was hired.

A new church had been erected on the corner of Oak Street and Franklin Avenue. The congregation had grown and a new school was needed. In 1893 one was built on Oak Street, beside the church. Soon the number of children required another teacher, and a woman teacher, somewhat of an innovation at that time, was called to assist the man teacher. In 1912 Mr. William Hellerman was called to head the school, a post which he held until 1955, when he asked to be relieved of his heavy work load. He is presently teaching the eighth grade. Mr. W. E. Stoekli succeeded Mr. Hellerman.

Under Mr. Hellerman's able and dedicated Christian leadership, the enrollment of the school increased from 50 or 60 to 285 students. No longer is it a "Dutch College," as English has replaced German in the classroom. The eighth grade was added; likewise the kindergarten. New textbooks, an expanded curriculum, new teaching methods, are used, besides religious instruction, which not only is given daily, but permeates all teaching regardless of subject matter.

During the last war, the gymnasium was used part-time for classes, as Pearl Harbor rendered useless the building plans for a new school. Materials were not available. The opened mission churches of Martin Luther and Grace Evangelical increased school enrollments, as those children were permitted to attend Trinity school. On April 6, 1951, just one year to the day after construction was begun, the present

school opened its doors to the first classes. Constructed at a cost of more than $200,000, it has seven full-time and one remedial teacher; with 255 daily pupils. There are three male teachers and five women teachers.

The object of the school is to make good Christian citizens.



Trinity Lutheran School, 1900. Top row, far left, Mr. Braun, a teacher, and Reverend Froehlke.

MARTIN LUTHER SCHOOL—The latest of Neenah's parochial schools is the Martin Luther School, on Adams Street. This school started in September, 1957, with Reverend Paul Hartwig as the Principal and one assistant teacher. Sixty-two pupils are enrolled in grades 1 through 6.

The school is in the former chapel of the Martin Luther congregation. This chapel, built in 1947, was constructed for the dual purpose of being used as a church for the congregation, and as a school when the present church edifice was constructed (1956). This building will serve as a school until plans for another school can be realized in about 1960.

TRANSPORTATION

COMPILED BY GEORGE BANTA, JR.

Railroads

CHICAGO & NORTHWESTERN RAILWAY—The first railroad to reach Neenah was the Chicago and Northwestern, which came in 1861 as a part of the expansion of the road from Oshkosh to Appleton and Green Bay. This road was a merger of the Galena and Chicago Union and the Rock River Valley Union, which had been reorganized as the Chicago, St. Paul & Fond du Lac R.R.



Chicago & Northwestern Depot, at intersection of Commercial and Railroad Streets.

The first depot was located where the tracks intersect South Commercial Street near the present plant of the Neenah Milk Products Company (now the Galloway Company). The original idea was to swerve to the west across the slough, and then go straight south along the west shore of Little Lake Butte des Morts. The right of way was constructed and the ties put in place to a point somewhere near the west end of the present C.&N.W. bridge, when the protests of Menasha residents, particularly the owners of the Menasha Woodenware Corporation, caused a change in plans. The line was re-engineered to bring the tracks across the island in their present loca-

tion so that they passed through both towns. The depot was then moved to a site in the rear of the Jersild Knitting Company building, presently owned by Marathon Corporation, and remained there until 1893, when the present brick structure was erected.

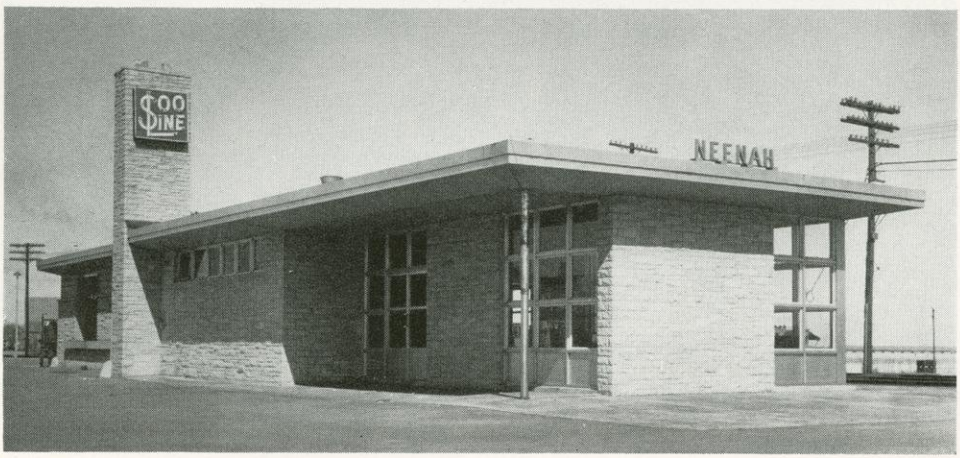
The first industrial siding was built by John Stevens, who owned a flour mill now occupied by the plant of the Neenah Paper Company. It is said that this siding was put down over a weekend when no injunction could be served on him. In 1875 the railroad built the spur which serves industries along the entire power canal.

THE SOO LINE—In the year 1909 the Canadian Pacific Railroad, through its subsidiary, the Minneapolis, St. Paul and Sault Ste. Marie, needing an outlet to Chicago, began negotiations with the



Right: Old Soo Line (Wisconsin Central) depot (between Sherry and Main Streets), in process of demolition following completion of new station to the north.

Below: modern depot of the Soo Line located between Main and North Lake Streets.



Wisconsin Central, which was then in bad shape financially. A 99-year lease was effected under which the CPR took over management of the Wisconsin Central. Previous to this, certain flour milling interests of the St. Paul-Minneapolis area built a road from Minneapolis to Sault Ste. Marie, known as the Soo Line. During the depression of the 1930's, both roads, the Soo and the Wisconsin Central, were in receiverships, whereupon the CPR bought the bonds and the controlling stock of the Wisconsin Central, and continued the operation of these two roads by the Soo Line. The Soo Line pays the Wisconsin Central for use of its tracks. The two roads pool the use of their engines.

Wisconsin Central Railroad—The organization of the Wisconsin Central resulted from the pooling of interests of various groups which were striving through the eighteen sixties to build a railroad to reach Lake Superior. These were the Winnebago & Lake Superior, the Portage & Superior, and the Portage, Stevens Point & Superior. The first two had been assigned Federal land grants by Congressional resolution approved May 5, 1864.



Wreck on the Wisconsin Central Line near Winneconne Avenue, October 3, 1907.

The first consolidation of interests occurred in May, 1869, with their merger under the name of the Portage, Winnebago & Superior, with the following directors: George Reed, President; Benjamin F. Hopkins, John P. McGregor, Henry Hewitt, Henry P. Strong, W. G. Germain, Charles N. Paine, Reuben M. Scott, and J. S. Buck.

The overlapping land grants of these interests finally resulted in an award of approximately 888,288 acres from which the Wisconsin Central eventually realized about six million dollars.

Judge George Reed, of Manitowoc, a brother of Harrison Reed and Curtis Reed, was the dreamer, the promoter, and guiding hand that accomplished the difficult merger. He had succeeded in securing a land grant to build a railroad from "Doty's Island to Lake Superior" and he interested Gardner Colby and a Boston group in financing the venture.

General headquarters for the project were established in January, 1870, at the new National Hotel in Menasha. In November, 1870, the offices were moved across the street to the Bates Building, where they remained until 1872, when permanent general offices were set up in Milwaukee, with operating headquarters in Stevens Point.

The assumption of the name Wisconsin Central took place on February 4, 1871, when the following officers and directors were elected to form the first board:

Gardner Colby, President	Boston, Massachusetts
George Reed, Vice-President	Menasha, Wisconsin
Samuel H. Walley, Treasurer	Boston, Massachusetts
Frank W. Webster, Secretary	Menasha, Wisconsin

On October 3, 1955, a significant gathering was held at Hotel Menasha, at which time a bronze plaque (see page 30), attached to the north wall of that hotel, was dedicated. The inscription on this plaque reads as follows:

"WISCONSIN CENTRAL RAILROAD was formally organized in the National Hotel on this site by Judge George Reed and his associates, February 4, 1871. Here the contracts were let for its construction and the first general office was located. The road secured a land grant to build a line from "Doty's Island to Lake Superior."

The first train ran from Menasha to Waupaca, October 2, 1871.

The Wisconsin Central's rails actually reached Neenah in 1880

when the crossing of Lake Butte des Morts on the C.&N.W. bridge was abandoned and a line constructed around the south end of the lake. The first passenger and freight depot was located at the west end of Wisconsin Avenue.

In 1882, when the lease of the Milwaukee & Northern was given up, the Central organized the Milwaukee and Lake Winnebago R.R. and built a line from Neenah to Schleisingerville (now Slinger). Here their trains reached Milwaukee with trackage rights over the C.M. &St.P.R.R.

Milwaukee & Northern Railway—The building of the Wisconsin Central in this area brought with it another railroad when a branch of the Milwaukee & Northern was constructed into Menasha from Hilbert Junction in 1871 to give the Central a connection to Milwaukee. The mainline of the M.&N. had begun building in 1871 from Milwaukee to Green Bay, and the Central leased the road in 1873, an arrangement which continued for nine years, during which time through trains were operated between Milwaukee and the north country over both roads.

As a part of this deal the Menasha & Appleton R. R. built and opened a line between those two cities in 1880. This road was leased by the Wisconsin Central, but reverted to the Milwaukee & Northern in 1882, when the Central gave up its lease of both. During this period the M.&N. got to Neenah and established a station on the island where it is still located on West Forest Avenue.

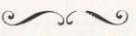
In 1895 the Milwaukee & Northern was sold to the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul and became its Superior Division. This is now the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul & Pacific, and is known as the "Milwaukee Road."

Wisconsin & Northern Railroad—The last railroad to build into Neenah was the Wisconsin and Northern, which reached to outskirts of the city at Winnebago Jct. on the Soo Line in 1920. This line was organized in 1906 by Charles R. Smith, of the Menasha Woodenware, Leander Choate and Charles Bray, of Oshkosh, and M. J. Wallrich, of Shawano. These men held extensive timber tracts north of the

Menominee Indian Reservation, and when Marvin Hughitt, President of the Chicago and Northwestern, refused to provide trackage into the area, they decided to build their own line. So they employed C. H. Hartley, of Oshkosh, a former division superintendent of the Northwestern, to act as general manager, and construction was started north from Shawano in 1906.

In stages, the Wisconsin and Northern was extended north through Neopit, White Lake and Crandon to Argonne on the east and west line of the Soo and south from Shawano to Black Creek and Appleton before the final extension which brought the trains to Neenah.

This line was sold soon after to the Soo Line, which actually gave Neenah its fourth railroad, since the Wisconsin Central, though operated by the Soo Line, is in reality an independent road.



(For history of Interurban Service, see section "Electric Light, Electric Power and Interurban Service.")

Air Travel

The North Central Airlines (formerly named Wisconsin Central Airlines) has served Neenah since 1948, when the Oshkosh airport became usable for the company's planes.

Presently its aircraft fleet numbers twenty 25-passenger DC-3's.

Starting in 1948 with non-scheduled intrastate flight service, the North Central now offers regular service, not only to Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul-Minneapolis, but to 43 cities in North Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, Indiana and Illinois.

Early scheduled service was directed from Madison. In 1952 the company moved its general offices to Wold-Chamberlain Field, Minneapolis-St. Paul.

The year 1958 marks their tenth anniversary of operations as a scheduled interstate carrier.



PUBLIC UTILITIES

Water System

As Neenah entered the last decade of the 19th Century, the citizens were still using water from private wells for cooking and for drinking. For all other domestic purposes everyone had a cistern in his basement, getting rain water from the roof. To replenish cisterns in dry seasons, several enterprising members of the community installed tanks on trucks and did a brisk business in raw lake water. This was before water treatment had become an exact science—therefore, when in the early '90's the city fathers responded to public pressure for a city water system, they did the normal thing and drilled a deep well. The well water was turned into newly laid city mains in 1893.

It was a reasonable supposition that a city water supply would eliminate cisterns, but what a disappointment to discover that the newly found water supply was so hard (60 grains per gallon) that it was useless for washing of dishes and clothes, or for use in washbowls or bathtubs, and not much good for cooking! Eventually it proved too hard for flushing toilets and for use in heating systems. The excess of mineral salts coated and finally clogged the piping.

The city limped along for forty years under this handicap. Meanwhile, our sister city of Menasha pointed the way, installing a treatment plant to filter and purify river water, producing a potable, all-purpose supply. It was not until it became obvious that Neenah was losing out with home builders and new industry that a group of citizens, known as the Neenah Advancement Committee, organized to do something about it. Members of this Committee were:

H. J. Jung, Chairman
C. F. Gerhardt, Sec'y-Treas.
L. O. Schubart
N. H. Bergstrom
G. E. Sande
Geo. H. Williamson
S. N. Pickard
James Webb
Gaylord C. Loehning
R. A. Vanderwalker
E. H. Nicholson
T. D. Smith
Max W. Schalk
C. E. Clark
Gilbert Courshon
E. J. Boehm
S. F. Shattuck
Kim Stuart

This Committee brought to the voters at the spring election of 1932 a proposal to do away with the wells and purchase a system to treat lake water. This move met with a 2 to 1 defeat.

The subject then simmered until the fall of 1934, when the Neenah Advancement Committee created a Water Committee consisting of:

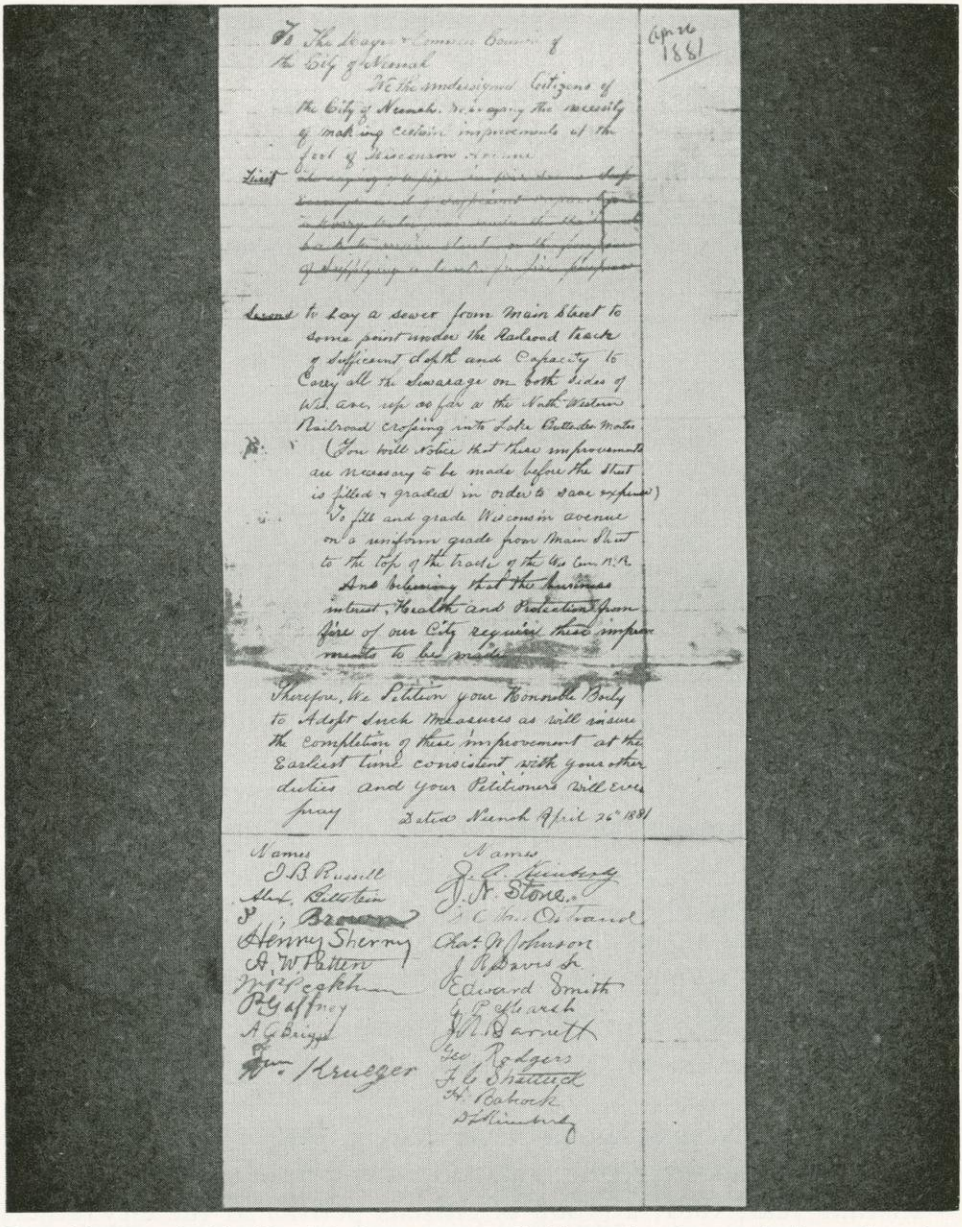
S. F. Shattuck, Chairman
G. E. Sande
G. F. Gerhardt
Kim Stuart
A. S. McArthur
Frank Witt
Ed Kalfahs
Wm. Blohm
Chas. Neubauer
Otto Steffenhagen
Earl Brien
Emmett E. Christofferson
Chas. Korotev
W. A. Draheim
Chas. Madson
Wm. Swentner
Henry Engfer
Marvin N. Olson
Carroll M. McEathron

It was obvious that a physical demonstration of what can be done with our lake water must be made. A small, gaily painted water plant was built on the Wieckert property, adjoining North Commercial Street. The International Filter Company supplied the equipment for an alum, lime, carbon process. The Committee went to work, peddling water all over town, serving it to luncheon and dinner meetings of all sorts, and inviting citizens to try it out for washing, cooking and all domestic purposes! A running fire of comment was maintained in the press and through the mails for nine months prior to the spring election of 1936. On April 7 of that year the vote in favor of the present water system was 2,455 for to 654 against. Every ward voted favorably! It was at this election that Ed Kalfahs became Mayor, and it was under his administration that water from the new plant flowed into Neenah's mains on February 4, 1937.

Sewer System

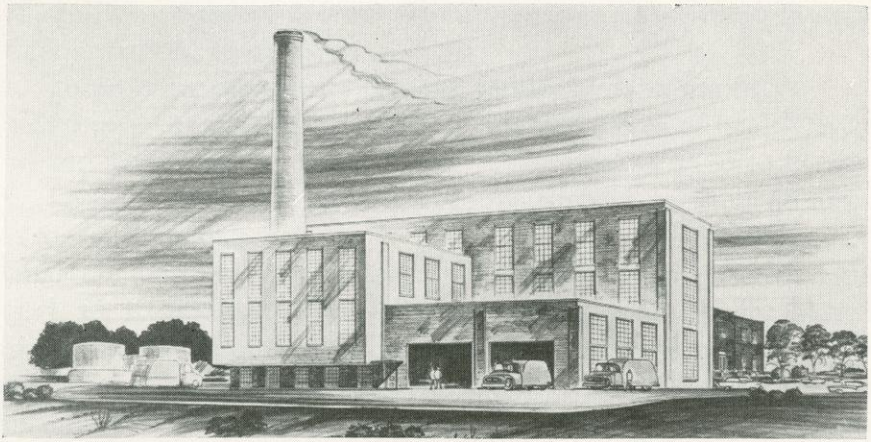
Prior to 1881, Neenah had no sewer system. Out-of-door toilets were in vogue. The modern septic tank had not yet been invented.

In that year, 1881, a group of citizens petitioned the city fathers "to lay a sewer from Main Street to some point under the railroad track of sufficient depth and capacity to carry all the sewerage on



The petition that gained for Neenah its first sewer system. Residents whose homes or businesses fronted on Wisconsin Avenue petitioned the city fathers in April 1881 for permission to lay a sewer line down the avenue, under the C.&N.W. tracks, and emptying into Little Lake Buttes des Morts. The property owners benefiting from this utility were, of course, obligated to pay the cost thereof. It is interesting to note that this sewer line was laid twelve years before Neenah had a city water system.

both sides of Wisconsin Avenue up as far as the North Western Railroad crossing into Lake Butte des Morts." The petition was signed by J. B. Russell, Alex Billstein, J. Brown, Henry Sherry, A. W. Patten, W. P. Peckham, P. Gaffney, A. C. Briggs, Wm. Krueger, J. A. Kimberly, J. N. Stone, D. C. Van Ostrand, Chas. W. Johnson, J. R. Davis, Sr., Edward Smith, E. P. Marsh, J. R. Barnett, Geo. Rodgers, F. C. Shattuck, H. Babcock, D. L. Kimberly.



The modern remodeled Sewage and Garbage disposal plant which will go into operation in June 1958.

Their petition was acted upon favorably. A sewer district was chartered, bonds issued to pay for the improvement with appropriate tax rate, sewer lines were laid, and the system began operation in 1884.

A second sewer district was set up in 1890 to serve petitioners along Forest Avenue. By 1900, four sewer districts were in existence, each with its bond issue and consequent tax rate. In the year 1935, the several separate sewer districts were consolidated into a unified city system.

In 1937, a sewage disposal plant servicing both Neenah and Menasha came into operation. Previous to that time, all waste was dumped into Little Lake Butte des Morts. In the disposal plant, the solids are settled and filtered out, then dried and burned in an incinerator; the

residue liquids are chlorinated and go into the lake; the dry solids from the incinerator are used as fill around the community.

As these words are written, the Twin Cities are experiencing growing pains. The present sewage disposal plant is outgrown. Building is underway to enlarge the operation to include increasing sewage capacity, mill wastes and garbage disposal.

HISTORY OF THE NEENAH-MENASHA VISITING NURSE ASSOCIATION

THE Neenah-Menasha Visiting Nurse Association was founded in 1908, and its original purposes still apply today. As stated in its present constitution, those purposes are:

1. To promote health: individual, family and community.
2. To prevent disease by teaching the principles of health, hygiene and sanitation.
3. To provide skilled nursing care for the sick in their homes on a part-time basis.

Charter members of the organization were: Mrs. A. M. Gilbert, Mrs. J. C. Kimberly, Mrs. C. B. Clark, Mrs. John Shiells, Mrs. Lyle Pinkerton, Mrs. Louis Jourdain, Miss Ann Pleasants, Mrs. George Banta, Sr., Mrs. John Bergstrom, Mrs. G. W. Dodge, Mrs. Jacob Hanson, Miss Mary Hamilton, Mrs. W. H. Strange, Mrs. Fred Elwers, Mrs. J. R. Barnett, and Miss Mary Robertson. Mrs. A. M. Gilbert was the first President.

The first recorded budget was for $800; the 1958 budget is $33,870. The nursing staff was then all-inclusive in Miss Ida Heinicke, a practical nurse, at a salary of $50 per month. She walked to the 116 visits per month she made. In 1929 the first trained graduate public health nurse was employed, Miss Laura Chase. Today the staff numbers five registered nurses and two trained practical nurses, and the case load averages 1,050 visits per month. Originally the Association had an annual fund-raising drive. No fee was set for patients who could pay, but they were asked to pay anything they could, which ranged from 5 cents to a maximum of 50 cents. Today free and part-pay service is given whenever the patient is unable to pay the full fee of $2.50. The VNA is affiliated with the Community Chest, and $24,170 of the 1958 budget will be from that source.

The Visiting Nurses were the pioneers of public health nursing in





The Two Homes of the VNA. In 1940 the Visiting Nurse Association acquired the former home of I. W. Hunt (above) on East Forest Avenue for a headquarters. The first meeting of the VNA in their new quarters was on October 8 of that year. By the mid-50's this space had become inadequate. Following the death of Mrs. Helen K. Stuart in 1956, Mr. J. C. Kimberly, acting for the Kimberly family, gave the present property at 406 East Wisconsin Avenue, formerly the home of Mrs. Stuart, to the VNA (below).

this community. They preceded school, city and industrial nurses. Through the years other services have been added to the all-important bedside care: Child Health Centers, Mothers' Classes, Fathers' Classes, Dental Clinics, Loan Closet and Industrial Nursing. The VNA Auxiliary is closely associated.

History records that in the first fund-raising drive a butcher gave soup bones to make broth in the homes of the ill!

Miss Heinicke had a horse and buggy at one time—the horse couldn't take the cold; Miss Heinicke did! Mrs. J. C. Kimberly later donated the first car.

In 1956, following the death of Mrs. Helen K. Stuart, Mr. J. C. Kimberly offered to the VNA, Mrs. Stuart's former home at 403 East Wisconsin Avenue, backed by an endowment of $100,000 to guarantee proper maintenance and upkeep. With acquiescence of the city authorities, this generous offer was accepted in August, 1956, and this valuable property became the headquarters of the VNA.

Officers of the Association in 1957 are:

President—Mrs. R. L. Johnson
1st Vice President—Mrs. Fred Hollenbeck
2nd Vice President—Mrs. W. B. Bellack
Secretary—Mrs. Gilbert Bayley
Treasurer—Mr. Clark Harris

Compiled by Mrs. R. M. Eiss



Visiting Nurse Association Auxiliary

In 1933, when it became obvious that members of VNA were unable to carry on all the work of driving for dental clinics and keeping the nurses' supplies complete, the Junior Auxiliary was brought into being.

The first meeting was held in January, 1933, and dues of $1.00 per person were decided upon. Mrs. John Pinkerton was Chairman of the group and Mmes. John Wilterding, Stuart Thompson, R. H. Kuehmsted, R. McMillen, S. N. Pickard, K. Lawson, T. Gilbert, Miss Pauline DeWolf and Miss Dorothy Brown comprised the original committee.

On February 20, 1933, the second meeting was held and a constitution was drawn. Mrs. Kuehmsted was elected Vice-Chairman and Mrs. Ted Gilbert, Secretary and Treasurer. Monthly meetings were held in the homes of members. By 1934 there were twelve active members. In April of that year, two auxiliary members were appointed to attend the monthly meetings of the VNA Board in order to establish a closer working arrangement between the two groups. Dues, plus proceeds of food sales, provided a small amount for the treasury.

In later years, an annual dance has been held to raise money for the work.

Presently one VNA Auxiliary member is elected to serve on the VNA Board, and two members are invited to attend the monthly meetings of the VNA Board.

VNA Auxiliary members continued to drive for dental clinics until that work was recently absorbed by the Community Chest. This group makes all necessary sewing repairs for VNA nurses, and supplies the kits used in their daily calls.

Compiled by Mrs. W. B. Bellack

WINNEBAGO PLAYERS

BIRTH of the Winnebago Players occurred in 1928, when the board in charge of dedicating the newly-completed Doty Park decided on a home talent play as part of the ceremony. "Prunella" met with such popular enthusiasm that its sponsors began envisioning a little theater production as a permanent summer attraction. The idea grew, and in 1929, a hundred persons or more tried out for the cast of "Smilin' Thru." Twenty-two hundred attended its two performances, and the future of the Winnebago Players was assured.

Audiences of those earlier days will remember vividly "Pomander Walk," "Rip Van Winkle," "Devil in the Cheese," "The Return of Peter Grimm," and in later years, "Blithe Spirits," "I Remember Mama," etc. Ruth Dieckhoff, speech teacher at Neenah High, directed the first play in 1928, and continued in this capacity until she left Neenah. She and her work are remembered with gratitude. Miss Dieckhoff is now Mrs. H. B. McCarty, of Madison.

Unusual as these plays have been as dramatic achievements, there has been a civic aspect which has been more significant. Talent of both communities has been given opportunity for expression in the various fields of dramatic production. Actors, costumers, makers of sets, production staffs, directors and business managers have been necessary to the success of these performances. In producing them, there has come about an enlarging community friendliness such as few other civic enterprises could arouse.

Throughout its earlier years, and even up to a few years ago when, temporarily, the Players took a breathing spell, the citizens of Neenah and Menasha have given generous support to the Players. The result has been something of which the whole community may well be proud.

In 1957 the Recreation Department began sponsoring an amateur dramatic group, with performances given in the new Riverside Park pavilion. Under the able direction of Kenneth F. Anderson, speech, drama and English teacher at Neenah High School, highly successful

(*Continued on page 446*)

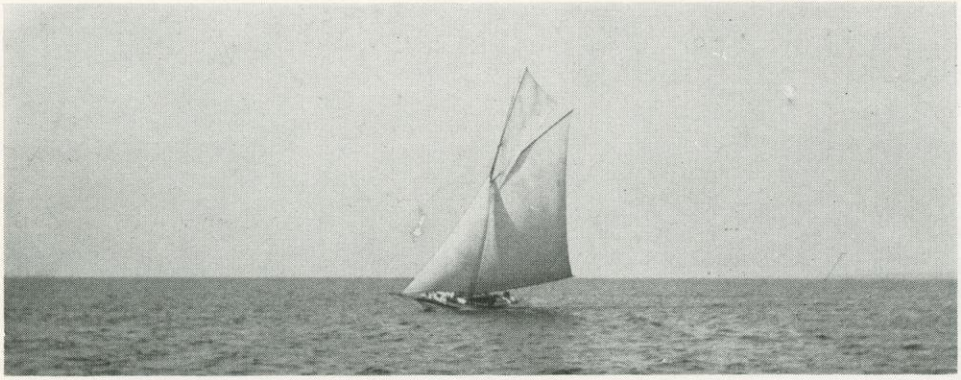
YACHTING

Sailing on Lake Winnebago

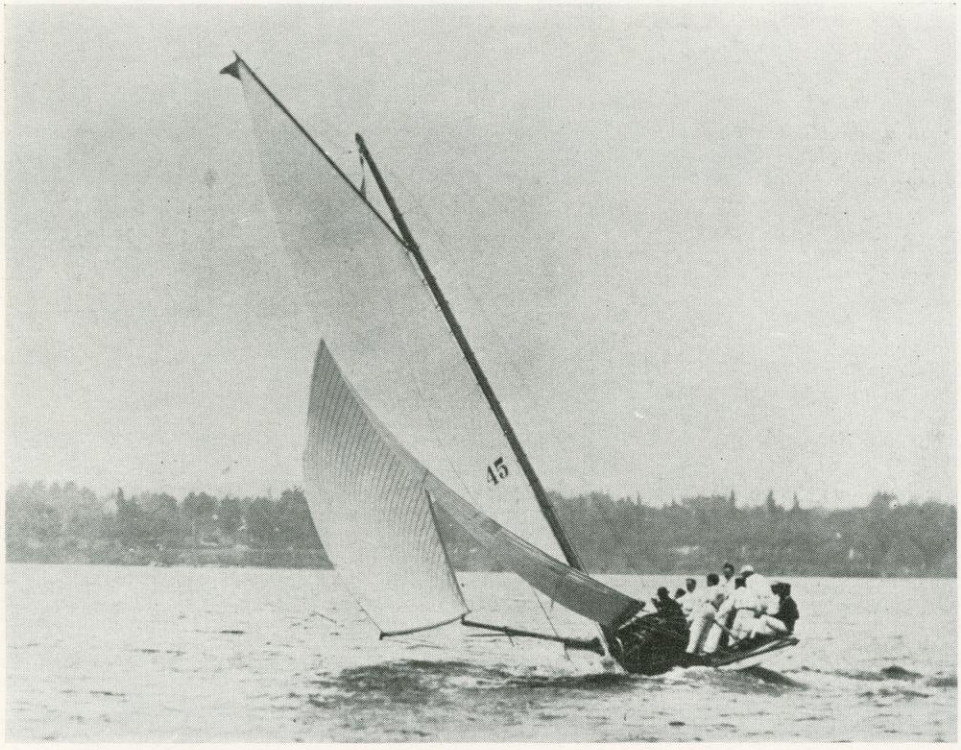
IN CONNECTION with this historical project, we assembled a summary of yachting on Lake Winnebago. Since then, J. C. Kimberly has published a complete and very readable volume tracing the history of sailing, reaching back 100 years. We, therefore, cancelled out our modest write-up and refer our readers to Mr. Kimberly's breezy effort. We content ourselves with picturing the development of boat forms and sail plans from the days of the "sand baggers" down to the present.



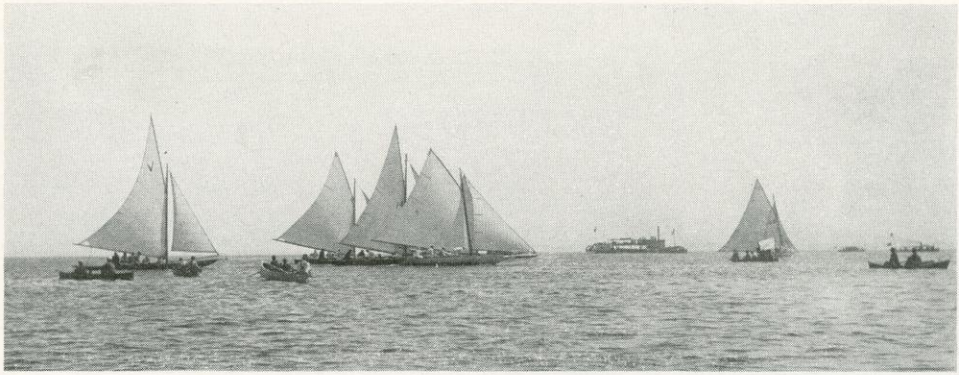
Riverside Park shore during regatta week. This colorful scene will be repeated in 1958, when the I.L.Y.A. returns to Neenah for its annual regatta.



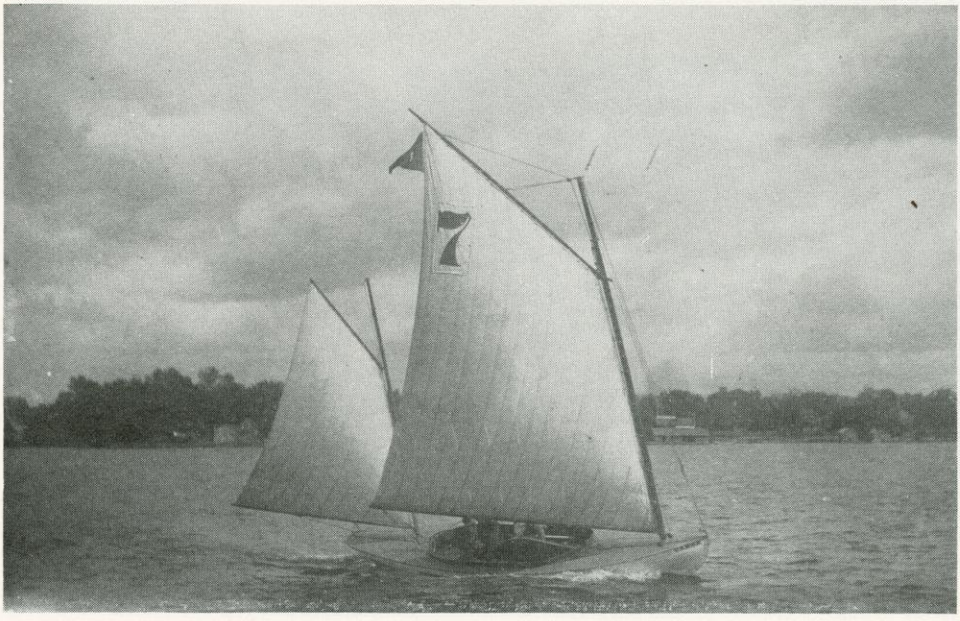
The "Minerva" of Fond du Lac, a "sand bagger," sailed many a race on the Neenah course against similar boats such as the "Myra Bell" owned by Will Davis. Note the topsail.



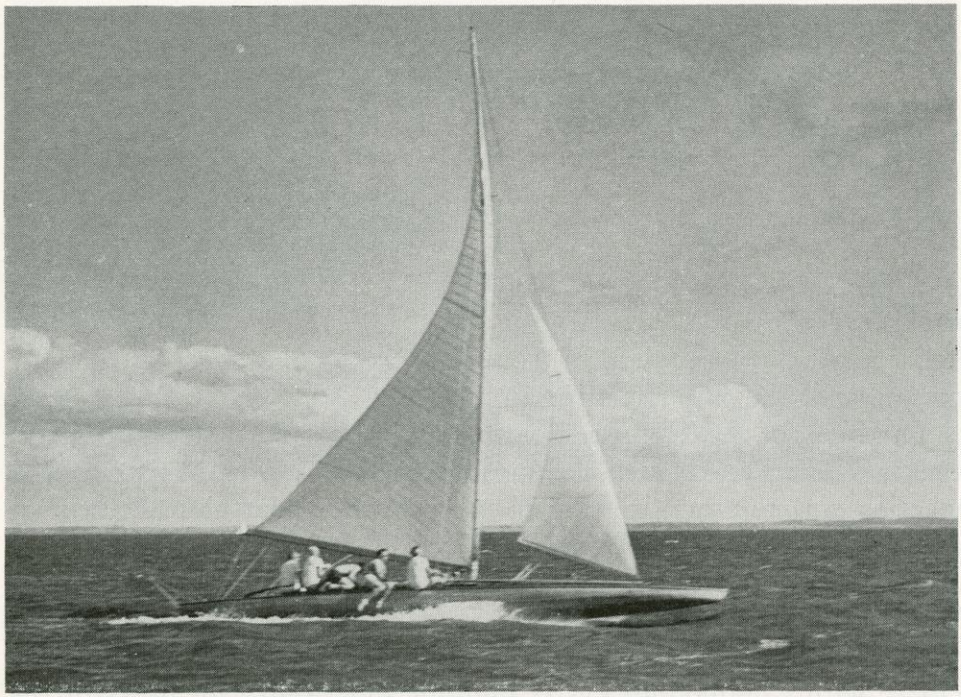
Type of boat sailed and raced on inland lakes of Wisconsin in the late '80s and early '90s. They were called "sand baggers." All crew members except the sheet tenders transferred sand bags from side to side when the boat was put about.



This type of sloop-rigged boat followed the "sand baggers." It was raced on Lake Winnebago during the late '90s and first decade of the 20th century. The boats passed out as the "skimming dish" type of racer appeared.



First of the many one-design fleets to be owned and raced over the Neenah triangle. There were seven of these cat yawls which made their appearance about 1896.



Coming into the "teens" and '20s, we enter the era of the double boards and twin rudders—sleek, slim and speedy.

Winnebagoland Marathon

On a cold, blustery day in January, 1949, the idea of the Winnebagoland Marathon was born in the sports department of the Krueger Hardware Company. Jiggs (George) Jagerson and Gib (Gilbert) Neff, after much idle talk, thought it would be a grand idea to have an outboard motor race about 100 miles long. As it finally shaped up, the starting point would be the Neenah river proceeding into Lake Winnebago to Oshkosh, Winneconne, Fremont and return. As it turned out, the actual mileage was 92 miles. This activity developed to be the largest stock outboard motor race in the world and had as many as 288 entries in the years that followed. This event was held yearly through 1954.

Tri-City Boating Club

"This organization is dedicated to the promotion of motorboating as an enjoyable and safe pastime or recreation for the entire family.

"It aims to accomplish this by—

a. Educating all members in the principles of good and safe boat handling and navigation.
b. Promoting by example, education and propaganda, good and safe boat handling, and navigation by non-members, young and old.
c. Promoting good fellowship among the members of this club and neighboring clubs by programming activities for all members of the family."

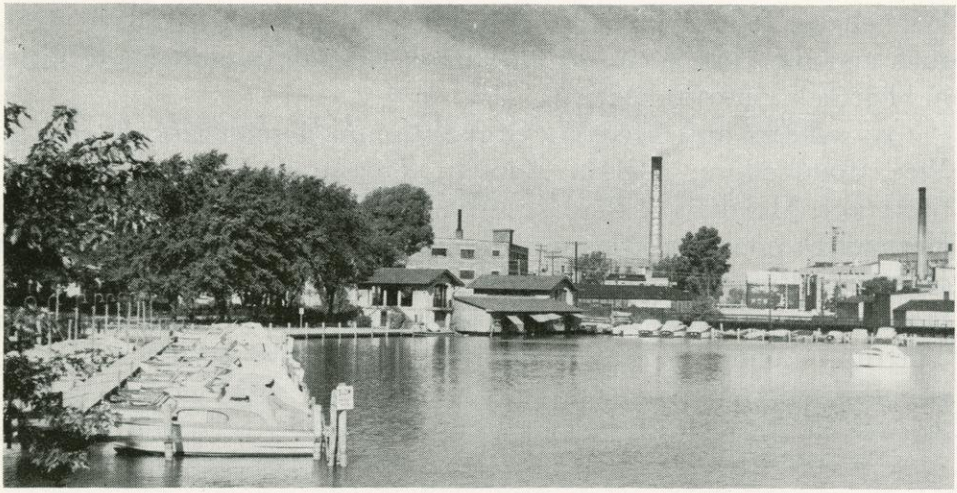
THAT is the purpose for which the club was organized as stated in the preamble of the club constitution.

The birth of the Tri-City Boating Club took place at a meeting in the Shattuck Park boat house in August of 1954. The purpose of the meeting was to start drafting plans to form a boat club. Present at this first meeting were Lawrence Driscoll, Frank Sharpless, Russell Arnold, Maynard Eisch, Wesley Christensen, Katherine and Herbert Wienandt, Ada and Ralph Stahl.

On September 8, 1954, the same group met at the Whiting Boat House with Commodore Lester Guddin and twenty members of the Oshkosh Outboard Club. They were there in response to a request from the Neenah group for assistance in how to organize and promote a boat club. As a result of the talk by Commodore Guddin, it was decided to give the proposed club a name and to get membership application cards printed. The name chosen for the club was the Tri-City Boating Club.

The next meeting of the newly formed club was held at the Whiting Boat House on September 22, 1954. Serving as temporary officers were Lawrence Driscoll, Commodore; Frank Sharpless, Vice Commodore; Ada Stahl, Secretary; Russell Arnold, Treasurer. At this meeting a committee was formed for the purpose of designing a club emblem. Serving on this committee were Lawrence Driscoll, Frank Sharpless and Eric Isakson.

Election of permanent officers took place on October 6, 1954, at the Whiting Boat House. Officers elected were: Lawrence Driscoll, Commodore; Frank Sharpless, Vice Commodore; Fred W. Grupe, Treas-



The Tri-City Boating Club, organized in 1954, needed dockage facilities, and Neenah's waterfront was preempted. The pressure of need gave birth to this enterprising idea:—two double lines of "finger" piers, entering from Shattuck Park. During 1957 this part was redesigned to serve the purposes of the boating enthusiasts, and at the same time to retain a beauty spot at its heart.

urer; Verndyne Stelow, Secretary. Appointments made at the meeting were: Irving Stilp, Harbormaster; Joyce Anderson, Historian. Committee Chairmen: Melvin Rausch, Entertainment; Alfred Ginnow, Cruise Planning; Margaret Geisler, Publicity; Wesley Saecker, Membership; Edward Stelow, House.

At the November 3, 1954, meeting the constitution and by-laws prepared by the constitution committee, headed by Herman Dupont, were read and approved by the membership. Also approved was the club burgee. Its field color is deep blue. Triangular in shape, it has three white stars with points touching enclosed by a red circle. The three stars symbolize the Tri-Cities of Neenah, Menasha and Appleton.

Club membership has grown from the original group to seventy family memberships totaling over two hundred twenty-five men, women and children. Activities have included: family cruises and picnics, potluck suppers, dances and costume parties.

The club stands ready to provide as it has in the past volunteers to assist the law enforcement agencies in search and rescue work on Lake

Winnebago. It has worked in close cooperation with Mr. S. F. Shattuck and the Park Board of the City of Neenah in planning facilities in Shattuck Park for boating.

1957 officers are: Fred W. Grupe, Commodore; Frank Sharpless, Vice Commodore; Melvin Rausch, Treasurer; Verndyne Stelow, Secretary. Members of the Executive Committee: Lawrence Driscoll, Herman Dupont, and Maynard Eisch. Committee Chairmen: Robert Romeyrn, Program; Clement Murphy, Cruise Planning; Ed Stelow, House; Theo Grupe, Publicity; Joyce Anderson, Historian; Helen Tuttrup, Calling.

Compiled by Fred W. Grupe

WINNEBAGO PLAYERS

(*Continued from page 439*)

plays were produced, among them "Androcles and The Lion," "Man of Destiny," "Sunday Costs Five Pesos," "Spreading The News," "The Boor," "Happy Journey" and "Ten Nights in a Barroom." There were 80 acting roles, and over 100 people worked on the crews. The 1958 season looks even more promising for this enthusiastic group.

Compiled by Henry Young

Y.W.C.A. OF NEENAH-MENASHA

(Formerly the Young Women's Club)

In the early 1900's more and more women were being drawn from a protected home life into industrial employment. It was brought to the attention of the Tuesday Club that here was an opportunity to provide advantages for broader life interests for working girls.

In the spring of 1911 a club for girls was organized. Interest in the club was stimulated by the work of The Boys' Brigade, in Neenah, and by a Girls' Glee Club, sponsored by a women's organization, now the Economics Club, of Menasha.

The Girls' Club started in a small way with emphasis upon social activities. Groups of girls were invited to homes of members of the Tuesday Club for parties, games and for picnics during warm weather.

In 1912 a Director was engaged to coordinate the work already started. Later, club rooms were opened in the building on the northwest corner of Church Street and Wisconsin Avenue.

In the fall of 1914 the Girls' Club was converted into the Young Women's Club of Neenah and Menasha. As more women were entering office and industrial positions, a broader program and more space were required. In the fall of 1915 the former Robert Shiells' home at 243 East Doty Avenue was rented as a club house.

Then emerged the emphasis on the needs of younger girls,—character-building activities, camping for girls, and organizations such as the Camp Fire Girls. Several groups of Camp Fire Girls were organized. Camping facilities at Onaway Island were made available to the groups. The women of Neenah and Menasha, by accepting leadership of these groups and aiding in transportation to camp, made this venture one of the most rewarding. Through the generosity of two Neenah women, a recreation hall was added to the building. Here a stage was erected and dramatic work prospered for awhile.

Following World War I the Directors of the club responded to another community need. Our city lacked adequate dining facilities



Y.W.C.A. Building on the corner of West North Water and Commercial Streets.

for the increasing number of employed young people. First, a cafeteria was opened in rented space on Commercial Street. Later, a group of citizens secured the lower floor in the Eagles' Building on Wisconsin Avenue for a restaurant, known as The Sign of the Fox. This was a noble experiment that wilted for lack of patronage due to drug stores installing lunch counters where food could be sold for lower prices.

Meanwhile, the Neenah Board of Education granted the use of rooms in the present Washington School for night classes in sewing, cooking and millinery. Members of the Tuesday Club gave their time and help in these classes.

Coming into the later twenties, it became obvious to the Tuesday Club that a broader base must be found if the needs of the growing community were to be served. That pressure led them to the Y.W.C.A. After due consideration, affiliation with the national organization of Y.W.C.A. was effected in 1929.

Coincident with this merger, the residence property on the corner of West North Water and Commercial Streets was purchased and remodeled to house the growing program.

The Neenah-Menasha Y.W.C.A. has adapted its program from year to year in accordance with the trends in the changing needs of women and girls. Factors taken into account are the increase of employment of all ages of women, the earlier age at which the largest group of young women marry, and the mobility of the population. Community resources for education and recreation are examined from time to time so that the Y.W.C.A. activities do not duplicate to any degree those that are offered by civic and other volunteer agencies.

Membership has been established in accordance with national policy on a fee sharing basis. Adult members reached a total of 500 in 1956. Educational and recreation programs are offered through seven adult clubs and several projects, as interest warrants. At present the interests are centered in crafts, making use of the remodeled Craft Workshop on the second floor. Sports are less important as the community resources are increased, especially in the recreation departments.

The eighty year old residence, thanks to adequate repairs and additions to equipment, stands the test of time and many meetings.

Among the adult clubs, one of the most popular is Welcome Stranger, formed for women who are new in the city. During their first year they make new friends at the "Y," while within a few months they establish community contacts and find their place in community life.

A demand for co-ed groups—single men and girls out of school—has had the backing of the "Y" for a decade. At present the Menasha and Neenah Recreation Departments cooperate with the Y.W.C.A. in providing facilities for larger gatherings or informal sings and game evenings.

The building is much used by community groups for meetings. It is available at a nominal rate for receptions and showers. The spacious and attractive lounge provides an attractive meeting place for the community.

The teen-agers have increasing facilities in churches and schools, with the result that the larger portion of the membership is in the seventh, eighth and ninth grades. Camp was discontinued, since churches offer co-ed camp.

Reflecting the trend in the U.S.A., more and more of the young married women look to the "Y" for services. At present the Day

Nursery offering the pre-kindergarten training four mornings a week has a registration of 120 three and four year old children. It is registered with the State Department of Welfare-Children's Division.

Among the forward-looking activities is the bringing together of the foreign-born citizens of the community. At this writing an international group is in process of forming.

Employed women have always been a chief concern of the Y.W.C.A. Clubs and classes have provided for their educational and recreational needs. However, clubs have diminished in importance as the interest span of young women has shortened. Short-term projects, such as craft classes and music listening groups, were tried. A single girls' club, meeting monthly, is affiliated with the National Employed Girls' group. This club provides a place for the new girl to make friends.

Plans and policies of the Y.W.C.A. are under the direction of a Board of Directors of 21 representative women, elected for three-year terms by the members. Each branch of the Y.W.C.A. is autonomous. During the 27 years of its history, more than 200 have served on the Board.

The Y.W.C.A. was a charter member of the Neenah-Menasha Community Chest.

Compiled by Miss Helen E. Babcock and Miss Grace McLay

As a postscript to the above, it should be recorded that Miss Helen Babcock's vision and constancy is largely responsible for the Y.W.C.A.'s present healthy condition, as it was for the Y.W.'s predecessor, "The Young Women's Club."

While many citizens had a hand in purchase of the present building and grounds, three women, Mrs. D. W. Bergstrom, Sr., Mrs. Carlton Smith and Miss Helen Babcock, carried the heavy end of the load.



"FROM *the story of the fortitude, courage and devotion of men and women, we create the inspirations of youth.*"

—HERBERT HOOVER

YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS

Boys' Brigade

THE Boys' Brigade of Neenah-Menasha had its inception one evening in the early fall of 1899, when Dr. J. E. Chapin, then pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, stopped to ask six boys why they were on the streets beyond the nine o'clock curfew.

The patriotic fervor of the Spanish-American War was still warm. The boys wanted an "Army" where they could have military drill. Dr. Chapin said he would see what could be done.

Something was done. Forty-six charter members of the Neenah Boys' Brigade were signed up on January 22, 1900. Early leaders were Charles Johnson, Oscar Lindsey, George Jones, with Vernon Holden as drill master. In 1901, at Dr. Chapin's insistence, Frank Shattuck took over.

The Brigade started under the wing of the local Presbyterian Church. Being the only organization of its kind in the town, boys from other churches were naturally attracted to it. It soon became obvious that something must be done to avoid weakening the loyalty of boys to the church of their parents' choice. Such thinking led to the adoption of two simple principles upon which the Brigade has developed across the years:

1. Membership of a boy must rest upon regular attendance at the church or Sunday School of his parents' choice. A monthly report card, to be presented during the active Brigade season, records the boy's attendance at his own church or school. This record is an important factor in honors awards at the close of each Brigade season.
2. A community is a better place in which to live in which boys of all faiths have the maximum of wholesome common experience together during their adolescent years.

In 1947, the Community Chest was organized as a Twin City institution, and the Boys' Brigade became a charter member. Up to this



The original Boys Brigade Building and the modern addition constucted in 1957.

time, various boys from Menasha had become members, but coincident with Chest membership, the Brigade became a Twin City organization.

MEETING PLACES.—1. Michelson Hall, southwest corner of South Commercial Street and Columbian Avenue, where the present post office stands.

2. An old skating rink, which stood near the corner of Church and Canal Streets.

3. Lecture room of the Presbyterian Church (then located across the street to the west of the present sanctuary on Church Street).

4. A gymnasium covered with corrugated metal, which stood on the site now occupied by Bergstrom Paper Company's boiler plant.



Boy's Brigade basketball team: First row, left to right: Bill Vogt, Archie Benjamin, Edgar Jones, John LeTourneux, Neal Woodworth. Back row, left to right: Ralph Smith, coach, Ernest Draheim, George Paul, S. F. Shattuck.

5. A building owned by the Danke Creamery, on South Commercial Street, was purchased in 1928 and remodeled for group meetings, with use of Wesley Hall of the Methodist Church for drill. When the Methodist Church burned in 1937, plans were laid to erect a gymnasium adjoining the Boys' Brigade building to the west. This building, with toilet and bath facilities, was completed and came into service in 1938.

6. On January 20, 1957, the new Brigade Building, fronting on Columbian Avenue, was dedicated. The Brigade opened its 58th season in the fall of 1957 with 415 boys, 76 adult leaders, and 46 junior leaders, who are included in the roster of 415 boys.

The Boys' Brigade Association is an incorporated body. It holds title to the property, defines the policies and objectives, and, in general, maintains oversight of the program. As larger service opportunities and increased responsibilities came into view with the new building, the number of Directors was increased from twelve to twenty. This is a self perpetuating board. As these lines are written, the following nineteen citizens constitute its membership:

S. F. Shattuck, President
L. O. Schubart, Vice President
L. C. Stilp, Secretary
D. J. Jones, Treasurer
N. H. Bergstrom
D. K. Brown
E. L. Rickard
Harold Mennes
Earl Graversen
Dedric W. Bergstrom, Jr.
Earl Williams
Irwin Pearson
Howard Angermeyer
James Crust
Arthur Remley
Stanley Severson
Arthur R. Hedlund
Fred W. Grupe
Carl L. Williams

CAMPING—The first summer camp was held in 1903 on the east shore of Lake Winnebago. In 1904 and 1905, camps were also held across the lake at a spot near the outlet of Mud Creek. A trip to the Dells of the Wisconsin was projected in the summer of 1906, and in 1907 occurred the first camp in the Waupaca lakes region. It was on the 1907 expedition that a six-acre island at the north end of Rainbow Lake attracted the notice of the leaders. Permission was granted by the owners of the island to camp there in 1908 and again in 1910 and 1911, after which the island was purchased and renamed "Onaway."

Not only has Onaway been the site of the Brigade's annual camps ever since, but an abiding love for Camp Onaway has taken root in the hearts of an untold number of local boys. This love and loyalty was demonstrated during the summer of 1955, when an out-of-door chapel was planned and financed by "Old Boys" who in their boyhood days had camped there.

INTERNATIONAL CAMPS—During the summer of 1952, one leader and three older boys represented the Neenah Company at an international camp in Denmark. Again, in 1954, two leaders and four boys attended a ten-day international encampment of Boys' Brigades on the playing fields of Eton, in England. Here, as in Denmark, enduring friendships were formed with boys from the far places of the earth. Our boys came back from these international gatherings wondering why the United Nations couldn't be conducted on the high level of understanding and international friendship that prevailed in the camps.

Still another Brigade International Camp in Jamaica is listed for April, 1958, recognizing the 75th anniversary of the organization, to which the local Brigade expects to send ten boys and three leaders.

LEADERSHIP—The first captain, chosen by Dr. Chapin, was Vernon Holden. Following Frank Shattuck as captain, Harry Thomas temporarily took over. During World War I, Waldemar Bergstrom and Ernest Draheim carried on, succeeded by Leo Schubart, upon his return from overseas. Then came, in line of succession, Lyall Stilp, Paul Stacker, Howard Neubauer, Howard Angermeyer, Chester Wittenborn, and, presently, Gordon Altenhofen.

Space does not permit mention of the hundreds of men and older boys who have served in the expanding program of the Brigade through the years. In 1955–56, 58 men, plus older boys, constituted the leadership staff; 333 boys from the 6th grade through senior year in high school were enrolled.

By 1951 the burden of detail on volunteer leadership became so heavy, that Jack Casper was employed as program coordinator, with office in the Brigade building on South Commercial Street, now in the new quarters on Columbian Avenue.

From a half dozen boys on the steps of old Michelson Hall in the fall of 1899, has come the Boys' Brigade that has carried on in these Twin Cities for more than 58 years. When the Neenah Boys' Brigade began its life, there were no similar organizations for boys in this area. It antedated the Boy Scouts, which came into being in Britain prior to World War I, and appeared in the United States shortly thereafter. Progressing steadily during the ups and downs of the past half-century, the Boys' Brigade has been a demonstration of the vitality of voluntary and unpaid leadership.



Boy Scouting

WHILE some activity in Boy Scouting commenced in the Twin Cities soon after its introduction to the United States in 1910, no records exist of that activity. Among the oldest local troops still in existence today are those at St. Thomas Episcopal Church and the Congregational Church. The former, Troop 3, was formed in 1921. The Troop Committee consisted of A. E. Arnemann, James C. Kimberly, and Rev. U. E. Gibson; and the Scoutmaster was Raymond E. Heron. Charter members were: Harold Arnemann, Kenneth Asmus, Emery Blenker, Floyd Burrows, Roy Casperson, Howard Christofferson, Roy Darling, Tom Darling, Kenneth Dean, Winfred Fenske, Urban Gibson, Earl Gonion, Maurice Hall, Neal Klausner, Kendall Leudtka, Alfred Moore, Franklin Otis, Robert Schwartz, and Henry Stowe.

Troop 14 at the Congregational Church was formed in 1926. Its first Troop Committee included H. M. Northrup, E. H. Schultz and Rev. John Best with John C. Lloyd as Scoutmaster. Charter members were: Alan Adams, Evan Blount, Lyle Cornish, Leslie Dietz, Harold Kuester, Karl Kloepfel, George Prosser, and Frank Robinson.

The Valley Council was organized in June of 1920 with the Appleton Rotary Club making application for its registration. Neenah and Menasha became part of the Council in 1923. The first Council campsite was provided with the purchase of Camp Chicagami at the north end of Lake Winnebago in 1927. The site of our present camp at Gardner Dam was given to the Valley Council in 1933 by the Wiscon-

sin-Michigan Power Co.; this includes 1450 acres along the Wolf River north of the Menominee Indian Reservation. Camp Chicagami was sold in 1939.

Scouting has grown and continues to grow in the Twin Cities. It includes today approximately 1,000 boys in ten Cub Scout Packs, nine Boy Scout Troops, and four Explorer Units.

Submitted by Harold Sperka



Girl Scouting

THE Rev. Albert A. Chambers, rector of St. Thomas Episcopal Church, organized the first Girl Scout troop in Neenah-Menasha on November 1, 1938. Miss Lucile Rusch was selected as leader for a troop of 24 girls and Mrs. John R. Kimberly was responsible for securing funds in the community to sponsor the troop.

By 1940 five troops were organized in the Twin Cities, working on such projects as backyard playgrounds, rally days, hospital favors and disposal bags for the hospital, collecting clothing for the needy, and Girl Scout cookie sales. Plans for establishment of a Girl Scout Council for Neenah and Menasha were under way. The National Girl Scout Headquarters sent Mrs. Hazel Barber, field representative to help organize the Council. Mrs. C. W. Nelson was elected chairman of the steering committee and when the Neenah-Menasha Council of Girl Scouts was chartered in March of 1941, she was elected first Commissioner. Serving with her on the Board of Directors were: Mrs. John R. Kimberly, Deputy Commissioner, Mrs. C. G. R. Johnson, Registrar, Mrs. S. N. Pickard, Secretary and Mrs. Horace DuBois, Treasurer. Girl Scouting had grown to such an extent it was felt expedient by the Council to employ a full-time paid Executive Secretary. In October 1943, Miss Margaret Coles was employed to fill that position.

Camping up to this point consisted of overnights at the Boy Scout camp on Lake Winnebago; however, the girls are now attending established Girl Scout camps. The summer of 1944, 75 Twin City girls attended Appleton's Chalk Hills Camp and 45 attended Apple-

ton's Day Camp. Twin Lakes Camp was rented by the Neenah-Menasha Council of Girl Scouts for established camping the summer of 1945.

In six years Girl Scouting in the Twin Cities had grown from one adult and 24 girls to 140 adults and 450 girls.

A merger of the Appleton and Neenah-Menasha Councils of Girl Scouts was proposed in 1946. Believing that the Girl Scout organizations of Neenah, Menasha and Appleton should work together more closely and realizing the greater benefit which girls in the area would reap under a combined organization, the Councils voted to merge in March of 1946. The merger proposed that the two organizations merge and a new area Council be elected to serve all three cities, each city to be represented equally on the new council; that Chalk Hills Camp be used by Scouts from all three cities, that one experienced Executive Secretary be employed to serve the three cities, with one field worker assisting her. Miss Esther E. Pickles was named new Executive Secretary of the Appleton-Neenah-Menasha Girl Scout Council. In 1947 Kaukauna and Kimberly became a part of this jurisdiction and the whole new Council became known as the Fox River Area Girl Scout Council. The elected officers of the Board of Directors were: Mrs. Frank Biederman, Commissioner; Mrs. J. M. Holderby, 1st Deputy; Mrs. Bazil McKenzie, Treasurer; Mrs. R. N. LeVee, Secretary. Miss Joan Hickey was employed as the first Field Director of the Fox River Area Girl Scout Council.

Girl Scout membership in the new Council grew by leaps and bounds. There were now 1283 girls in Neenah-Menasha, Appleton, Kaukauna and Kimberly, enjoying a happy Girl Scout experience of camping, community service, fun and adventure in the eleven program fields of interest.

Day Camping was made available once again in 1949 and 1950 for all of the Brownies and Intermediates, at Telulah Park in Appleton, with a goal in mind that some day the Council could own and operate its own Day & Troop Camp, and thereby offer a progressive program of camping to more girls. That goal became a reality in 1954 when a beautifully wooded 40 acre campsite, located in the city limits of Kaukauna, was purchased by the Fox River Area Girl Scout Council.

144 Brownie, Intermediate and Senior Girl Scouts from the Twin Cities attended the Day Camp Winnecomac the first summer of its operation, under the direction of Miss Patricia Bodette, Field Director for the Council.

On January 23, 1956 the Council voted to extend its jurisdiction to the counties of Outagamie, Shawano, including the entire Menomonie Indian Reservation, Waupaca, except the municipality of New London, Winnebago, the eastern half of Waushara county, and the township of Harrison in Calumet county.

Now, in 1956, with Mrs. R. B. Sawtell as President of the Fox River Area Council, and Mrs. Lloyd DuChaine as District Chairman of Girl Scouting in Neenah and Menasha, 747 Twin City girls in 52 troops under the guidance of 264 adults are enjoying a Girl Scout experience.

Compiled by Miss Patricia Bodette

NEENAH'S
WARD DIVISION
AS OF
DECEMBER 1, 1957

SCALE IN FEET

7th WARD VOTES AT
TAFT SCHOOL

4th WARD VOTES AT
VOTING HOUSE

3rd WARD VOTES AT
ROOSEVELT GYM

5th WARD VOTES AT
ROOSEVELT GYM

10th WARD VOTES AT
BOYS BRIGADE BLDG.

8th WARD VOTES AT
WILSON SCHOOL GYM

6th WARD VOTES AT
HOOVER SCHOOL

2nd WARD VOTES AT
ISLAND MOTORS

9th WARD VOTES AT
WILSON SCHOOL GYM

1st WARD VOTES AT
RECREATION BLDG.

LAKE BUTTE DES MORTS

FOX RIVER

LAKE WINNEBAGO