

Western Michigan University
Alumni Magazine (1938-1942)

Western Michigan University

Year 1940

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Western State Teachers College
Western Michigan University

The Alumni Magazine

Western State Teachers College

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Volume 3

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Number 2

THREE IN ONE--- Michigan Education Association Meeting, Campus Building Dedication, and WSTC Homecoming

Mark the Dates October
17, 18, 19

W.S.T.C. 1940 HOMECOMING

Thursday, October 17

4:00-6:00 Open House — Union Building

6:00 Alumni Banquet — Ballroom

7:30-9:30 Open House—Spindler Hall

Friday, October 18

7:00 Parade organization
Parade and House decoration
judging, program, bonfire

Saturday, October 19

10:00 Dedicatory Exercises — Ballroom

12:00 President's Luncheon — Van Gogh Room

2:00 Football game — Stadium (Iowa State Teachers College)

4:30 Open House — Union Building and Dormitories

6:00 After game, chocolates, dinners, teas, coffees, etc.

8:00 Alumni reception — Union Building

9:00 Evening parties
Alumni — Ballroom and Cafeteria

Students — Men's Gym

Three important occasions are scheduled for the same dates on campus at WSTC in October. Committees including students, faculty members, and alumni have already been at work planning for M.E.A. programs, the dedication of the Lavina Spindler Hall for Women, and for the annual Homecoming events.

M. E. A. Meet

The 1940 conference of the Michigan Education Association will be held at WSTC on October 17, 18, and 19.

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Photo by Howard Corbus

Dr. Ernest Burnham Retires

The seventieth birthday means retirement for faculty members at WSTC.

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Sturgis Alumni Enjoyed Open House May 22

Sixty-five were present at an Open House in Sturgis the evening of May 22. The committee in charge consisted of Maude Walker Cole, Marjorie Bowen Wells, and Jane Van Zanten Loetz. Those who drove to Sturgis from the campus included President and Mrs. Sangren, Dr. and Mrs. Burge, Mr. and Mrs. Cornelius MacDonald, and Mr. and Mrs. Carl Cooper, Superintendent and Mrs. Paul Winger of the Sturgis public schools were also present.

Graduate Division Enrolls 175 in 1940 Summer Session

Enrollment in the graduate division on campus this summer is made up very largely of former graduates of WSTC. A review of the roster of 175 names includes students from five states and 65 Michigan cities and towns. Indiana, Kansas, Michigan, Ohio and Texas are among the states represented and localities in Michigan from which students are enrolled are as follows: Albion, Allegan 2, Bangor 2, Barryton, Battle Creek 7, Bellevue, Bellaire, Benton Harbor 2, Berrien Springs, Big Rapids, Bloomingdale 2, Bridgman, Cadillac, Cassopolis, Cedar Springs 3, Cheboygan, Comstock, Conklin 2, Constantine, Coopersville 2, Crosswell, Davison, Decatur, Dowagiac 4, Frankfort, Grand Haven 2, Grand Rapids 14, Grandville 2, Grant, Greenville, Hamilton, Hartford, Hastings, Hillsdale, Hol

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WSTC Alumni Magazine Committee
Carl Cooper, '21, Editor and
Committee Chairman
Elaine Stevenson, '13, Homer Dun-
ham, '37, Don Pullin, '12, Prof. John
E. Fox

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Notification of change of address will be very much appreciated at any time. Notice of changes arriving ten days before mailing will insure prompt arrival of the magazine.

Editorial Comment

The copy appearing in this issue of the Alumni Magazine is only a fraction compared with the amount available. Campus activities, alumni personals, sports and other items of interest are so numerous that selectivity is very difficult, however, we are following proposed suggestions of reader interest and printing from the top of the scale as far as space will permit.

Kalamazoo Alumni Men's Club Concludes Year's Activities with Memorial Planning

Dr. Tom Howson, president of the men's club, directed a memorial hour on Alumni Day in honor of the first president of Western State Teachers College, when a plaque was unveiled in the presence of a host of friends of Western. Appreciations were spoken by Mr. Charles Campbell, representing the City of Kalamazoo, Miss Esther Dean Nyland, '18, for the alumni, Dr. Ernest Burnham, for the faculty, and by Dr. Paul V. Sangren, president. The program was begun with Reveille, followed with prayer by Dr. Paul Silas Heath, of the Presbyterian Church, and concluded with a trumpet quartet and taps. During the hour the WSTC men's quartet sang "Music When Soft Voices Die" by Dickinson.

When the alumni of the years find it possible to return to the campus, they are invited by the club to observe the cornerstone of the Administration Building which provides a depository in which the urn containing the ashes of Dwight B. Waldo has been placed.

Alumni Secretary and Mrs. Cooper See Operetta In Benton Harbor

"Cinderella Comes to Blossomland" was the title of the operetta on the occasion of the 1940 Blossom Festival. Adeline Blakeslee Nelthorpe, '28, was this year's author and director of the pageant. She was assisted by several other alumnae of Western State Teachers College living in-and-around Benton Harbor. The setting was an outdoor staging on the grid-iron before the bleachers of the Benton Harbor High School stadium. Such a program is an annual event in Benton Harbor and requires considerable community cooperation, not only because of the hundreds who participate, but also for the reason that costuming, staging, and decorating are all on the scale of wholesale planning.

Following the outdoor pageant, the Pi Delta Phi sorority of Benton Harbor, whose membership consists, almost without exception, of WSTC alumnae, held a reception in the Vincent Hotel banquet hall, where general visitation was enjoyed and re-

freshments were served. The serving table in the midst of a bank of flowers, was most tastily arranged with a cloth of white, candles with color, and beautiful glassware. An assortment of cakes, cookies, and wafers were served with iced fruit juices.

Western Graduate Goes To Cuba

Judson A. Hyames, A.B. 1925, athletic director at WSTC, and Michigan representative of the United States Amateur Baseball Congress, has been named as a United States delegate and games committee member when the all-American amateur team invades Cuba in September.

Dearborn Alumni Meet at The Home of Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Haight

Early in the month of June, graduates of WSTC living in-and-around Dearborn, Michigan spent an afternoon at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Haight. Meeting with them from the campus were Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Moore, Mr. and Mrs. Cornelius MacDonald, Mr. and Mrs. William Berry, and Mrs. Gladys Hansen, assistant dean of women. Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Chapelle accompanied Mr. and Mrs. Carl Cooper, traveling with them from Ypsilanti where Mr. Chapelle is superintendent of schools. The lawn and flower garden at the Haight home provided a very beautiful outdoor setting for the serving of refreshments and for visitation.

A committee on arrangements selected Miss Edna Wolkins, A.B. '29, as secretary of the group for future planning.

The WSTC Luncheon at MIES of 1940 Attended By 74

The Washington Room at the Book Cadillac Hotel in Detroit was filled to capacity when the Industrial Arts men and their friends came together for their annual luncheon. The cost per plate had to be \$1.25, but when the menu came every man was satisfied. Marion Sherwood, of the class of 1907, and for many years a member of the faculty as head of the Industrial Arts department on campus, presided informally. One of the impromptu suggestions from the floor which had a most hearty approval from all present was when Frank Carpenter

'13, and principal of the Wright High School in Detroit, asked that Albert Holmes, B.S. '28, stand in recognition of the long service he has rendered to education. Mr. Holmes reached the age of retirement this year. He presented his resignation to the board of education in Kalamazoo very recently.

WSTC Alumni Men's Club Of Grand Rapids Plans 1940 Program

Following the only sound method of alumni club planning, the officers of the Western State Teachers College Men's Club of Grand Rapids are setting up their programs for a year in advance. Beginning in October a minimum of six meetings are to be held. By scheduling in advance all of the men in and around Grand Rapids, numbering more than one hundred, may plan to be present by listing the dates. Officers of the club are Reed Waterman, A.B. '27, of the East Grand Rapids public schools, Maynard Ellingson, A. B. '29, at Union High School, Grand Rapids, and Douglas O'Brien, B.S. '35, of the Grand Rapids Y.M.C.A.

Dr. Sangren Spoke to Physical Education Meet In Lansing

President Sangren, Dr. Hilliard, and other faculty members, including all of the staff of physical education for men, lunched with basketball coaches and directors of physical education in high schools about the state of Michigan on the occasion of the 1940 Regional Tournament. The hour was so arranged as to enable every staff member to say a word of greeting to the graduates of Western, and Preident Sangren reviewed the trends of the hour, referring directly to the relation of college graduates to their alma mater. Sixty-five were present at this luncheon in a cafeteria dining room at the Elks Temple. Juddy Hyames presided.

Summer Session (Cont.)

land 5, Hudson, Ionia, Jackson, Kalamazoo 55, Lakeview, Lawrence, Lawton, Leonidas, Marshall 3, Mat-tawan 2, Mendon, Midland, Muskegon 3, Nahma, Nunica, Osseo, Otsego 5, Pequaming, Plainwell, Ravenna, Schoolcraft 3, South Haven, Sturgis, Three Oaks, Vandalia, Vermontville, Vicksburg, Wilson, Wyandotte.

FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

1940

Western State Teachers College
Kalamazoo, Michigan
Oct. 5 — Wayne U. . . . Kalamazoo
Oct. 12 — Ohio U. . . . Athens, O.
Oct. 19 — Iowa State Teachers
Kalamazoo
Homecoming
Oct. 26 — Toledo U. . . . Kalamazoo
Nov. 2 — Western Kentucky
Bowling Green, Ky.
Nov. 9 — Miami U. . . . Oxford, O.
Nov. 16 — Manchester Kalamazoo
H. S. Senior and Dad's Day

WSTC Sends Representative to 1940 AAC Convention

"Beginning a New Decade in Alumni Work" was the theme of the 1940 conference of the American Alumni Council held at French Lick Springs in Indiana in June. Universities and colleges numbering 250 sent 350 delegates for four days to consider the best ways and means of procedure for the best interests of the campuses represented. Every type of alumnus, from the "I will and doesn't" to the one who says, "The college never did anything for me," was discussed. Program making, the alumni university, reunions, funds, clubs, and the magazine afforded subject material for many interesting papers and group evaluations.

Jackson Club Holds Record for Last Year in M. E. A. Set-Up

Traditional arrangements for luncheons and banquets at the time of Michigan Educational Association meetings were materially augmented last fall by the WSTC Jackson club. As a result, the attendance at the banquets in District number 3 was increased. Ninety-four were present at the evening meal in the Presbyterian Church. During the month of October the total attendance at such gatherings over the state was 440. Of course, the largest number present were at Battle Creek. Grand Rapids, where 101 were in attendance, was second.

Allegan County Normal Critic Marries

Eleanor Parkhurst, B. S. '31, was married to Mr. William Jacobsen July 9. Mrs. Jacobsen is remembered on campus at Western State Teachers College as one of the instructors in the Allegan County Normal where she has been critic for several years. Mr. Jacobsen is a printer in Muskegon. Mrs. Jacobsen expects to continue her work in education in the Allegan County Normal.

Alumni Luncheons and Banquets in October.

Region	Meeting	Date of Meeting	WSTC Headquarters	Time and Place of Banquet or lunch
Region 1	Detroit	Thurs., Fri. & Sat., Oct. 24, 25, 26	Cass Technical High School	No Meal
Region 2	Flint	Thurs., Fri., Oct. 10, 11	Durant Hotel	Home Dairy Fri. Noon, Oct. 11
Region 3	Lansing	Thurs., Fri., Oct. 10, 11	Olds Hotel	Estelle Rest. Thurs. 6 P. M. Oct. 10
Region 4	Grand Rapids	Thurs., Fri., Oct. 24, 25	Hotel Pantlind	Fount. St. Bap. Church, Thurs. 6 P. M. Oct. 24
Region 5	Traverse City	Thurs., Fri., Oct. 3, 4	Park Place Hotel	Meth. Church Thurs. 6 P. M. Oct. 3
Region 6	Detroit	Thurs., Fri., Oct. 17, 18	Cass Technical High School	No Meal
Region 7	Marquette	Thurs., Fri., Oct. 3, 4	Northland Hotel	Pres. Church Friday noon, Oct. 4
Region 8	Kalamazoo	Thurs., Fri., Oct. 17, 18	Union Building on campus	Walwood Ball-room, Thurs. 6 P. M. Oct. 17

Dr. Burnham Retires

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Western State Teachers College, so Dr. Ernest Burnham retires. On the occasion of last March 15, when the Rural Progress Day banquet was being held in his honor, a student was heard to say, "We do not think of Dr. Burnham as having age different than our own. He seems so much a part of us." Thursday evening, May 23, an informal dinner for the faculty honoring Dr. Burnham was held in Walwood Hall, but even then we could not believe that his teaching career on the campus was closing in June. Nevertheless, commencement time came and Dr. Burnham retired.

First Faculty Member Appointed

It is common knowledge to all of the alumni that Dr. Ernest Burnham was the first faculty member to be appointed by a president of Western State Teachers College. The Rural School department at Western, the first of its kind in the country, was headed by him, and during all of the years that have passed, it is he who has kept this department in the front ranks of educational endeavor. In the History of the institution, written by James O. Knauss, may be found a reference to the head of the rural department which reads as follows: "He has grown with the school, and the school has been materially aided by him in its growth."

A Souvenir Bulletin in 1931

On the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of Rural Progress Day on campus in 1931 a souvenir bulletin of an historical and summarizing nature was published. More than one hundred individuals contributed to it. On the thirtieth birthday of the department another publication appeared with the title "An Adventure in Rural Education." This booklet was compiled and written by Dr. Burnham, who in turn was assisted by Miss Lucille Sanders, A.B. 1931. It is impossible to refer to this publication without looking immediately to page twenty, on which may be found excellent photographs of Dr. Burnham and Mrs. Burnham. Grace Armstrong Burnham passed away in 1930.

New Residence on Hazel Ave.

A few years ago Dr. Burnham sold his home on Grand Avenue, and this last year he has been building a new house. The way to get to his new residence is to go out Oakland Drive to Hazel Avenue, turn left and go to the

end of the road. The site of the new house is adjacent to the Country Club golf course and from the living room window there is a beautiful view over White's Lake. This spring and summer a large portion of the contouring of the lawn has been completed and in the southwest corner of the spacious yard a vegetable garden is growing. Characteristic of him is this question when referring to the vegetable garden, "Don't you believe my neighbors, here, will bear my acquaintance a little better when this garden begins to produce and I go and knock at their doors carrying fresh vegetables to give to them?"

Even though Dr. Burnham has retired, a faculty post-office box is still maintained for him and he comes for his mail regularly. His presence is looked for and welcomed by everybody on the campus always, and when you drive out to his home at the end of Hazel Avenue do not be surprised if you find parked by your automobile several others before you come away.

M.E.A. Meet

(Continued from Page 1)

gan Education Association for Region 8 is to be held Thursday and Friday, October 17, 18. As in previous years, Thursday evening is designated on the program of the association as an evening for reunions, banquets, and social gatherings. The Western State Teachers College alumni banquet is to be held in the ballroom at Walwood Hall at six o'clock, October 17. Arrangements are well underway, and the program committee is leaving nothing undone to make this year's banquet an outstanding one long to be remembered.

Margaret Nicholson Maynard, A.B. '26, is general chairman in charge. Louisa Dunham '31 is looking after publicity. Myrtle Allinson MacDonal, A. B., '30 is arranging for reception. Mary Loughhead Lambrix, '14 is looking after table arrangements and decorations. Wallace Garneau, A.B., '35 is planning the program and Angelia Rockwell Whittington, '10 is responsible for ticket sale.

Dedication of Lavina Spindler Hall for Women

The second hall for women on campus is being occupied for the first time this first semester of 1940. Two hundred students may be accommodated in this dormitory and it is to

be named in honor of Lavina Spindler, who until very recently was a faculty member, her resignation having been accepted in 1939. Miss Spindler came to the campus in 1906 and until her accident while traveling in a taxi cab one icy morning was continuously in service on Western's campus. The dedication of Spindler Hall will afford opportunity for the patrons of the college and the residents of Michigan to inspect one of the most modern residence's for women on campus anywhere.

1940 Homecoming

No time of the year is looked forward to with greater interest than the days on campus each fall when the alumni are invited to return and participate in a schedule of events beginning with welcome-home delegations at depots, bus terminals, and everywhere else.

Dr. William McCracken and Professor Pennell Pass Away During School Year

After spending the winter in Florida Dr. McCracken returned to his home in Kalamazoo, arriving in time to speak at an informal dinner given in honor of Dr. Burnham. After that he was present at a committee meeting in the Alumni Office to assist in program planning for the memorial service for President-Emeritus Waldo on Alumni Day. In the meantime, he went to the hospital for an operation from which he did not recover. A coincidence extraordinary is that the memorial service for his lifelong friend was held on campus at 11 o'clock Saturday morning, June 15, and that at an earlier hour at the First Presbyterian Church in Kalamazoo, a host of friends were present at funeral services for Dr. William McCracken, a most beloved member of the faculty of Western State Teachers College since 1907.

Eugene D. Pennell had been in failing health for many months. His devotion to Western State Teachers College and his interest in his department caused him to continue to serve even after full time activity was inadvisable. He came to the campus daily for as long a time as medical counsel would permit, and enjoyed it even when his strength was exhausted in meeting only one class. His death occurred Tuesday, June 4 after a continuous service on the campus of Western State Teachers College for a period of nineteen years.