

*Western Michigan University*  
*Alumni Magazine (1938-1942)*

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Western Michigan University

*Year* 1941

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Alumni Magazine Vol. 4 No. 2

Western Michigan College  
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# The Alumni Magazine

WESTERN MICHIGAN COLLEGE  
Kalamazoo, Michigan

Entered as second-class matter April 7, 1938, at the post office at Kalamazoo, Michigan, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

VOLUME IV

Quarterly Publication—July, 1941

NUMBER 2

## NEWS LETTER ISSUE

### Ph.D TO WESTERN ALUMNA AT RADCLIFFE

The Radcliffe College Commencement program of 1941 carries a citation of interest to the graduates of Western Michigan College. In the section listing degrees conferred upon candidates for the doctor of philosophy degree is the name of Merze Tate, A.B., A.M., B. Litt., Ph. D. Miss Tate's dissertation is titled "The Movement for a Limitation of Armaments to 1907." Her subject field has been political science and her special field is in International Relations. Recent mail to the campus from Miss Tate expresses appreciation to the faculty of Western Michigan College for what she was able to accomplish on this campus in preparation for the honor conferred upon her at Radcliffe this June.

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### ALUMNI SEND STUDENTS

In May of 1940 a letter came to the campus from the Wexford County Normal at Cadillac. In it was an invitation to the Alumni Secretary to give the Commencement address on the occasion of the graduation of the class of 1940. The toastmistress at the graduation banquet was Miss Luella Hackstedt who presided very graciously. The following September she went to her first teaching position in a rural school. In this summer session of 1941 she is enrolled on campus at W.M.C. for the first time. She says the principal of the Wexford County Normal encouraged her to enroll here and the principal's name is Esther B. Greve, A.B. '28. That's the way it works, graduates of Western Michigan College go to responsible positions in Michigan education and in turn are able to recommend their able students to this campus.

### WMC GRADUATES WIN AT FLOWER SHOW

The last Kalamazoo Flower Show found WMC graduates presenting most interesting displays. A first prize went to H. P. Greenwall for the best arrangement of flowers presented by a man. The sweepstake award resulting from the accumulation of the most points went to Mrs. H. Lorie Harvey. Mrs. Harvey was Lois Stutzman and in the alumni files are the names of several of her relatives coming from the locality of Sturgis, Michigan.

Mrs. Clare Franz Randall, 1929, accumulated almost enough points for prize winning. Her garden at 2338 South Rose Street in Kalamazoo has been very beautiful this season. Both Mr. and Mrs. Clare Randall are attending the 1941 summer session.

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### 1941 VARSITY MEN PLAYING LEAGUE BALL

It will be a long time before the excellence of WMC's 1941 Varsity Baseball team is forgotten. The winning of 21 of 25 games played, without a defeat until after the seventeenth game, is an all college record. Five members of this baseball team have signed contracts to play professional baseball. The names of the seniors follow: Frank Overmire and Al Karchunas are with the Michigan State League in Muskegon and Saginaw respectively; Dennis Yarger and John Cuchovich have signed contracts with the Mid-Atlantic League, Dayton, Ohio; Bill Hill is with the Wisconsin State League, Wisconsin Rapids.

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### BIRDSALL BLANCHARD TO STUDY IN CHILE

At the end of this summer session, August 28 to be exact, Birdsall E. Blanchard, B.S., '31, will complete his first year of attendance at the University of Chicago where he is

working toward his Ph. D. in Educational Administration. At present Birdsall is engaged in research and is applying for a fellowship at the University of Santiago, Chile. If his plans develop as he expects them to, he will devote the summer of 1942 in the South American school studying Latin American school systems and South American folkways. As Birdsall goes about he records interesting observations in travel by taking moving pictures.

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### EXCELLENT COLLEGE NEWS SERVICE

Western Reserve University of Cleveland, Ohio renders a unique service in the department of public relations, a sample of which is copied from one of its releases received in the Alumni Office of WMC very recently:

"Velma Vera Varner, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George P. Varner, 703 Gayle Avenue, Kalamazoo, Michigan, received the degree of Bachelor of Science in Library Science from the School of Library Science of Western Reserve University at Commencement June 11. She received the degree of Bachelor of Arts from Western Michigan College in 1937."

\* \* \*

### CELEBRATES 25TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

A member of the class of 1909 was Winifred Augusta Trabert, who received a General Life degree. After teaching in the public schools of Niles Kalamazoo, Evanston, Illinois, and Detroit, she was married to George J. Haines of Detroit. Mr. and Mrs. Haines just celebrated their twenty fifth wedding anniversary in June. Mr. Haines is a practicing attorney in the city of Detroit.

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### REED WATERMAN HAS NEW TITLE

A new title is being given to the position of Reed Waterman, A.B. '27, in the East Grand Rapids public

(Continued Page 3)

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WMC ALUMNI MAGAZINE COMMITTEE

Carl Cooper, '21, Editor and Committee Chairman  
Elaine Stevenson, '13 Homer Dunham, '37  
Don Pullin, '12 Prof. John E. Fox

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NEWS LETTER ISSUE

This is a quarterly publication printed in January, April, July, and October.

The subscription rate is \$1.00 per year; single copy, twenty-five cents.

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

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EXERPTS FROM MEA NEWS LETTER

Following the regular adjournment of the 1941 session of the Michigan Legislature and after the announcement of Governor Van Wagoner's vetoed items, there appeared the following excerpt in a letter from the office of the Michigan Education Association with the particular page cited marked 6-41-D380:

"The last appropriation for Western Michigan College of Education was in 1925 when \$263,000 was appropriated for the Men's Gymnasium. A small appropriation of \$7,900 was made in 1928 for a temporary building. The attendance at Western Michigan College of Education in 1940 was 2839. A phenomenal growth has taken place and every available square foot of building space is being utilized for classroom purposes, and in some instances classrooms and other important college functions are being carried on in dilapidated fire-traps. The need of the teacher-training institutions has proven that these institutions have been conducting their affairs under very serious handicaps for a long period of time to cooperate with State officials because of financial difficulties of the State. They can not be expected to continue this long suffering of need any longer, more especially when they are playing an important part in National Defense.

No State institution of higher education in Michigan is more poorly equipped physically than Western Michigan College of Education. Without auditorium facilities for the assembly of its students, a condition which does not prevail in another teachers college of the State or even in a small town high school; with five major departments of the institution attempting to carry on their work in S.A.T.C. barracks, and an abandoned mill, neither of which is safe, hygienic or economical; with a science building constructed to accomodate students of the subject when the enrollment was less than 40 per cent of the present; with work and paint shops and motor vehicle storage in the basements of classroom buildings—it is hard to conceive of a more unfavorable building situation for a collegiate institution. Nothing has been done to

rectify this unsatisfactory condition for eighteen years. This need has been recognized; from time to time appropriations have been made which would have partially solved the problem. But appropriations were not released. Therefore, Western Michigan College of Education is repeating its request for new buildings. A combined auditorium and classroom building to cost \$600,000 and completion of the Industrial Arts Building at a cost of \$75,000 are requested for 1941-42 (This should have been \$150,000 or \$75,000 annually for two years), and a new work shop and garage at \$25,000 is requested for 1942-43. The construction of these buildings would at least make a respectable beginning toward providing satisfactory physical facilities for the institution."

COULD A COLLEGE HOPE FOR MORE?

Could a college hope for a more desirable practice than is afforded by organized groups of alumni, large or small? We say "large" or "small" because the success of group organization does not necessarily depend upon size. True, the last graduate in a community should be interested, but if the number of alumni in a given area is small that fact does not prevent desirable results such as may be realized by organization. It happens to have been our privilege to have read purposes enumerated in many constitutions and by-laws, and after all the aims running through are very much in common. First, there is always the desirability of the development of leadership in every democratic situation. New leaders and new workers are always in demand. A second aim is cooperative action. Cooperative action gets things done that cannot be done by individuals alone. In the third instance, how is it possible to have planned programs in any center until those with common purposes and like desires get together? And finally, when a review of activities is possible a great satisfaction is experienced by every member of an organized group. The reports of Mrs. Nelthorpe and Mr. Ford at the 1941 Annual Alumni Luncheon on campus at the time of commencement revealed cited successes, complimentary, indeed, to the membership of their organizations and to the lasting benefits derived by clubs such as theirs. They cited community improvements, scholarship awards, and membership benefits which can only be derived by organized groups.

WSTC BECOMES WESTERN MICHIGAN COLLEGE

Passed by the 61st Legislature and signed by the Governor on May 20, 1941—The bill follows:

AN ACT to change the name of the central state teachers college to central Michigan college of education; to change the name of the western state teachers college to western Michigan college of education; and to change the name of the northern state teachers college to northern Michigan college of education.

The People of the State of Michigan enact:

Section 1. The institution now known and designated under the name and style of central state teachers college shall hereafter be known as central Michigan college of education; the institution now known and designated under the name and style of western state teachers college shall hereafter be known as western Michigan college of education; and the institution now known and designated under the name and style of northern state teachers college shall hereafter be known as northern Michigan college of education.

This act is ordered to take immediate effect.

schools. For many years Reed has been athletic director and coach. Beginning in September he will be occupied with the duties of a director of recreation. Reed is on the campus this summer in the department of graduate study.

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#### WAYNE BEERY RESIGNS AT PLAINWELL

Effective July 1 was the resignation of Wayne Beery, A.B. '26, superintendent of the Plainwell public schools. Wayne's resignation made it possible for him to become executive secretary of the newly formed Allegan County Youth Council. This new appointment makes him responsible to a county wide executive committee of the new organization and his duties will be concerned with discovering and serving the vocational, social, religious, recreational, and educational needs and interests of out of school youth between the ages of 14 and 25 in Allegan County. A conversation of inquiry over the long distance telephone reveals that Wayne's new program is incomplete at this time and is dependent upon what will be revealed at the conclusion of a comprehensive survey which is now going on. His is a full time position in cooperation with the various coordinating endeavors in the interest of American youth.

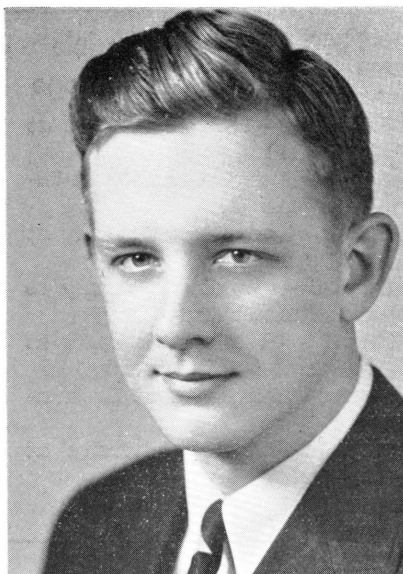
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#### PAUL BURKHEAD, B.S. '39

For more than eighteen months Leila Post hospital in Battle Creek has been the home of Paul Burkhead, a graduate of Western in June, 1939. While taking a morning dip at Camp Daggott, Walloon Lake, on the morning of July 17, 1939 he dove from the pier into shallow water and suffered a severe back injury which left him completely paralyzed. After spending a number of months at an Ann Arbor hospital he returned to his home in Battle Creek for a short time. Later he was moved to the Leila Post hospital.

For two years now Paul has been staging a plucky "comeback," fighting all the odds against him with a grim determination to win. After many months of lying on his back he is now able to spend considerable time in a wheel chair.

In his hospital room he operates his own radio set, which was set up with the aid of Walter Marburger, instructor in Western's physics department. By means of the radio Paul



PAUL BURKHEAD, BS '39

communicates with Mr. Marburger several times a week. He is able to reach and talk to radio operators all over the country. While at Western Paul was a very enthusiastic worker with radio and now finds it his chief interest as he operates it from his wheel chair.

His many visitors are greeted with cheery conversation which gives them a brighter outlook on the problems they face. A large correspondence is another of Paul's diversions. He receives many letters from new friends as well as old ones and he is very happy to get them and to answer them as well.

In May this year the alumni of Players organization on campus, of which Paul is a member, staged an old time melodrama, "From Rags to Riches." The entire proceeds from the five performances were turned over to Paul. The Players put a lot of spirit into their work, enjoying it every bit as much as their enthusiastic audiences and at the same time experienced the joy of helping a good friend and a loyal fellow Player. The melodrama was presented four nights in Kalamazoo on May 20, 22, 23, and 24. On May 27 it was again presented at the W.K. Kellogg Auditorium in Battle Creek. Accompanied by his doctor and two nurses Paul arrived at the auditorium in a hospital ambulance and watched the entire performance from his wheel chair.

Last year in August a group of Players entertained Paul at a picnic

given on the hospital grounds.

All of Paul's friends are anxious for his recovery and everyone admires his cheerful determination which is helping him along the way to health.

#### ANOTHER LIFE MEMBERSHIP IN WMC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

The most recent life membership in the Alumni Association of Western Michigan College has gone to Miss Mary Ensfield of the class of 1906. Miss Ensfield is county superintendent of schools in Kalamazoo County to which position she has been reelected more than once for the fixed term of four years. Because of her contribution to education in Michigan during her professional career she was presented with an honorary degree by Michigan State Normal College, Ypsilanti in June. Refreshing indeed is such a note as was sent to the campus by Miss Ensfield when she knew it would be impossible for her to be present at the annual Commencement luncheon. A copy of it follows:

"Congratulation to Western for Good Work,

The enclosed check is sent with most sincere appreciation of all the many services so generously rendered to me and my county. Everyone at Western has always been most kind to me personally and professionally.

Most cordially,  
Mary Ensfield, class of 1906"

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#### PRESIDENT WICHERS SPEAKS AT ALUMNI LUNCHEON

Speaking of the annual Alumni Luncheon reminds us that while two hundred plates were used and the occasion was altogether delightful, still when we think of all the graduates of Western Michigan College numbering more than fifteen thousand, it seems that the two hundred present at the luncheon were a favored few. The Honorable Wynand Wichers, president of the Michigan State Board of Education, handled the subject "What a College President is Pleased to Have His Alumni Doing" in a most discerning manner. He had time to mention four qualities of an ideal alumnus and said, "First, I like alumni who make the most of their high level of opportunity, and in whom the spiritual chemistry of education has worked a profoundly lasting and continuing im-

provement. Second, the type of alumni who have the approval of the college is represented by those who are able to live in the past as well as in the present, and who are mindful of those who laid the foundations and continued the building of the college. Third, the desirable alumnus is represented by those who consider themselves educational engineers and are willing to work with the faculty and the administration for the improvement of the college. And fourth, an admirable qualification of an ideal alumnus is apparent in those who are 'willing to pay' and to make whatever contributions they can for the improvement of their alma mater."

Surely, a description of an occasion of this kind is incomplete until it is mentioned that the Roses-in-June table decorations were provided by Mrs. Lawrence Bennett, 446 Stanwood Avenue, in Kalamazoo, who was Dorothy Russell of the class of '14, and arranged by a committee of young women of the senior class. The luncheon menu was most appetizing, the instrumental trio, including Donald Stockwell, '41, Doris Kuhn, and Kathryn Crossley Traynor, '41, rendered delightful music, and the vocal numbers presented by Philip Proud, '40, of Owosso, and Dorothy Hutchins, '41, of Paw Paw were most happily received. The group singing was directed by Harper Maybee, Jr. of the class of '41. Because of the beauty of the lines written by Mrs. Herbert Slusser and the joy campus groups get in the singing of them, they are written in this copy for your inspiration and review:

There are no gifts beneath the bow  
of heaven  
Excelling those so happily bestowed  
By Alma Mater set above the city  
Where wisdom hath its sweet, serene  
abode.  
She grants us honor if we will defend  
it  
And truth to guide, example to in-  
spire  
Continue always Western, to receive  
us  
And send us onward with your spark  
of sacred fire.

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HAROLD H. ROWLEY, A.B. '31, WRITES

Those who read "The School Executive" and the "Michigan Education Journal" have noticed professional articles written by Harold H. Rowley,

## 1941 Football Schedule Western Michigan College

Sept. 27 — Western Reserve at  
Cleveland  
Oct. 3—Butler University at In-  
dianapolis (N)  
Oct. 18—Iowa State Teachers at  
Cedar Falls  
Oct. 25 — Toledo University at  
Kalamazoo (Dad's Day)  
Nov. 1 — Western Kentucky at  
Kalamazoo (Homecoming)  
Nov. 8—Manchester at Kalamazoo  
Nov. 15—Wayne University at  
Detroit  
Nov. 20—Ripon at Kalamazoo

A.B. '31. For nine years now, Harold has been principal of the Kern Road public schools, Roseville, Michigan. At the end of this school year he resigned to accept a position in the Detroit schools in September. He is chairman of the Radio Education Committee of the Michigan Secondary Schools Association and in charge of broadcasting for the South Macomb Schools. He received his M.A. from Wayne University in 1940. He and Mrs. Rawley (Josephine Schau, '27) reside at 13405 Greiner, Detroit.

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## ALUMNI CONTINUING EDUCATION IN SUMMER SESSION

Talking about "continuing education" and how the graduates of universities and colleges feel about it, we desire to supplement the comment appearing in the April number of the magazine with observations made possible by the enrollment in the graduate division this summer session of 1941. There are on campus this summer 178 students in the graduate division. Of that number 120 are in the alumni fields of Western Michigan College. It is commendable, indeed, that sixty eight percent of the enrollment in the graduate division are former graduates. A review of the roster reveals a splendid geographical scatter and a wide variety of professional interests. The following alumni are enrolled for graduate work at Western Michigan College this summer: Carl Anderson, Irma Archibold, Doris C. Arink, Carl P. Bahre, Ronald Barnard, Walter Beall, Zella Benton, Elizabeth Bowman, Ro-

bert Boyce, Albert Bradfield, Manley Brown, Arthur Bultman, Leon Burgoyne, Arthur Burklund, Everett Butler, Gladys Cairns, Alice Canfield, Clytus Carr, Gordon Caswell, Beatrice Cavanaugh, Nellie Ceru, Vernon Chamberlin, Dorothy Charles, John E. Clementz, Nellie Colburn, Mary Collard, Russel Conran, Michael Danis, Raymond DeLong, Beatrice Denton, Shirley Denton, Charles Discher, Donald Dolan, Richard Donley, Richard Edwards, Ruth Engstrom, Ida F. Evans, Don Feather, Norris Ferguson, Sara Fitzpartick, Eleanor Gibson, Frank Gornick, Marjorie Graham, Ellen Haist, Marie Hardy, Grazia Hathaway, Stanley Hayden, Hilda Hazzard, Virginia Heidamus, Lewis Hine, Gertrude Hirschy, Floy Hoffmaster, Gertrude Hunt.

Martha Jacobs, Gale Jurgensen, Mabel Klosterman, Blanche Knapp, Gladys Kugel, Helen Kuite, Annetta Lair, Stephen Liddicoat, Florence Lindsley, Harvey Lowell, Ruby Lukins, Mae McAleer, Cornelius MacDonald, James MacDonald, Donald MacLean, Virgil Meisel, Herbert Meyer, Ethel Miller, Wilda Milliman, Esther Morse, John Mulligan, Marguerite Mulready, Edward Murdick, Glenn Myers, Archie Nevins, Elizabeth Newland.

Gladys Nye, F. Edwin O'Boyle, George Perry, Eleanor Phillips, Philip Pfoud, Martha Purchase, Clare Randall, Neil Rautanen, Lucille Reynolds, Dorothy Ross, Valeria Runcel, Gwendolyn Russell, James Sanderson, Lorenz Schelhas, William Sharon, Russell Shedd, Marguerite Shinville, Dorothea S. Snyder, Rose Sonrel, Trena Southland, John Spink, Alice Sterenberg, Golda Stimson, Herbert Stoeri, Robert Stout, G. Ray Sturgis, Velma Sweet, Angelo Taveggia, Dwight Tiefenthal, Dirk VandeBunte, Richard Vander Kolk, Ella Vanderlaan, Isabel Van Lewen, Maurine Vind, George Walcott, Louis Warner, Reed Waterman, Mildred Weber, Eleanor Weed, Edna Whitney, Erwin Woods.

There is also on the desk of the Alumni Secretary a roster of those in attendance in the 1941 summer session at the undergraduate level. An even 1000 are in attendance. Many of this group have had certification in various fields and a considerable number have taught for many years. They, too, believe in continuing education.