Western Michigan University Newsletter, March 1957

Western Michigan University
SILVER ANNIVERSARY

Psycho-Education Clinic Marks 25 Years of Service to University

This spring the Psycho-Educational Clinic is celebrating its 25th anniversary, marking a quarter-century of service to young people. The clinic is largely known on the campus for its work in corrective reading, offering opportunity for those entering students deficient in this skill to improve both rate and comprehension.

But the work of the clinic has also extended into the community in preparation of several reading courses for business and professional people.

During this time the efforts have been guided by Homer L. J. Carter, a widely regarded individual, devoted to the improvement of reading instruction methods, and to aiding students in improving their skills.

At no time is the clinic busier than during the six-week summer school when teachers of reading throng the campus to take part in and observe the bi-weekly demonstrations and discussions by Carter and his staff on the improvement of reading.

Working with Carter is Miss Dorothy McGinnis '43, who is associate director; Mrs. Charlotte Sumney, clinician and Miss Genevieve Wise, recorder.

In January of 1932 the W. K. Kellogg Foundation began referrals to the new Psycho-Educational Clinic at Western, seeking better information on youngsters having trouble in school. During this same year the clinic provided the instructional staff and a plan for the beginning of a new course, “Introduction to Learning and Adjustment.” Designed to aid students with study difficulties, the course soon found a permanent place in the catalog.

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Lavina Spindler, Retired in 1938, Dies at Marquette

A beloved, former member of the faculty, Miss Lavina Spindler, died March 26 at her home in Marquette after a brief illness.

From 1906 until injuries forced her retirement in 1938, Miss Spindler faithfully served the students at Western in a variety of positions. She taught in the department of education, served as director of the training school from 1912 to 1916; then became the young institution's first dean of women, relinquishing that post in 1917. In 1928 Miss Spindler was named freshman advisor, a post which brought her the friendship of many incoming students.

In December of 1937 she was seriously injured in an automobile accident, and her retirement came in the following June. From then until mid-1956 she lived in Lansing, moving to Marquette to reside with a nephew, Richard O'Dell.

Her memory was honored in 1940, with the naming of Lavina Spindler hall for her. This remains as one of the very popular women's residence halls.

She leaves seven nephews: Harold and Ralph Asbeck, Saginaw; Stuart and Jack Spindler, Grand Rapids; Robert Spindler, Mt. Pleasant; David Spindler, East Lansing, and O'Dell.

Services were held in Lansing, with burial in the Mt. Hope cemetery there. The bearers were Lloyd Jesson, C. B. MacDonald, Glenn Eddy, Ira Murray, Robert Remez and Clyde Trudgeon.

The family has established in her memory a Lavina Spindler Scholarship Fund. Gifts should be made to the University with this designation.

Death Claims Anna Lindblom, Debate Expert

Miss Anna Lindblom, associate professor of speech, died February 27 in the Bronson Methodist hospital, Kalamazoo, after a short illness.

She had long been dedicated to speech work on the campus, and for many years was the women's debate coach, first joining the faculty in 1924.

Her collegiate academic work was done at the University of Iowa, followed by study at the University of Minnesota and Northwestern University. On one of her trips abroad, Miss Lindblom studied at the Central School of Speech in London.

During her debate coaching from 1924 to 1947, many awards came to Western Michigan debaters for their excellence. In 1927, Tau Kappa Alpha, national forensic fraternity came to the campus, and in 1948 the national organization paid tribute to Miss Lindblom for her long and devoted work.

She also served Tau Kappa Alpha as governor of the Michigan-Indiana region, and in 1947 was executive secretary for the national discussion tournament and congress.

Four Letterwinners Aid Netmen in Title Defense

Tennis coach Ray (Hap) Sorenson is relying on four letterwinners from last year's Mid-American Conference co-championship team to mold this year's squad.

They are Robert D. Telder, Grand Rapids, team captain and number one player this season; Larry Yoder, Goshen, Indiana, the number two player; Cliff Strong, Kalamazoo, number three and John Raffaelli, Owosso, number four. Gone from last season are Charles Donnelly, number one in singles and doubles; Dan Christian, number three in singles and doubles; Jack Boot, six in singles and three in doubles; and Max Allen, six in singles and three in doubles. Also absent this season is Dick Crawford, number four player last year who is not available for the sport this season.

Other varsity candidates are: William Grice, Covert; Richard Haffner, Doster; Robert Jenkin, Lincoln Park; William LaRouche, Wayne; Dennis Walton, Owosso; Lee Way-
New Prison Education Program Studied

An editorial compliment has come for the University from the Grand Rapids Press. Quoting from the editorial will tell the story of a new program envisioned and now being studied between Western Michigan University and Eastern Michigan College, in cooperation with the Southern Michigan Prison at Jackson.

"Something new is likely to be added to Southern Michigan prison in the way of undergraduate and postgraduate college extension courses for prison employees. The plan is being worked out by Warden William H. Bannan and officials of Western Michigan University and Eastern Michigan College.

"This program actually has a threefold purpose. One is to provide prison employees with an opportunity to pursue their studies without having to take leaves of absence. In view of the difficulty involved in keeping prison staffs up to strength, this is more important than would appear to be on the surface.

"A second purpose, of course, is to give staff members a chance to acquire training in those subjects pertinent to their work in the prison. And, finally, this program looks forward to the possibility of bringing college training within reach of the inmates themselves.

"This last, in the end, may prove to be the most important objective of all. The purpose of prisons is not merely to punish; it is also to re habilitate. The prisoner is expected to be a better man when he leaves than when he entered the institution. If, in his term of imprisonment, he has been able to get special training in fields that ordinarily are not covered by prison educational or training systems, the chances of his leading an honest, useful life on being released will be improved.

"Both Western Michigan and Eastern Michigan are interested in establishing correspondence courses for inmates. It is a feather in the caps of both that they are doing something to increase the effectiveness of another state program—the corrections department — and it is no less a credit to Warden Bannan that he is making intensive efforts to bring the college classroom into his prison."

Reading Work

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In September of 1944 the reading laboratory itself was started, the first venture of this kind on any campus in Michigan.

Since 1942 the clinic has worked with Bronson Methodist hospital, testing and interviewing all prospective student nurses.

It has almost always served as a counseling center, handling veterans, and working with the state rehabili-
Sophomores Push For Positions With Golf Team

Six numeral winners from last year’s freshman team move into varsity golf competition this season to compete with four varsity letterwinners for positions on Coach Roy Wietz’ golf team. The returning letterwinners are Ray Bovee, Alma, low medalist in last season’s Mid-American Conference championships; Alex Forrester, Grosse Pointe; Chet Faram, Watervliet; and Neil MacPherson, Battle Creek.

Tennis

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Up from last year’s frosh team are Tom Arch, Hillsdale; Jim Coyne, Chicago; Pat Abbott, Dearborn; Fred Wood, Fenton; and Ted Granger, Grand Rapids. Others battling for varsity positions are Roger Mitchell, Three Rivers, former letterman and service returnee; Richard Barnhill, Wayne; and Floyd Ratzerink, Zeeland.

Golf coach Roy Wietz will pick his squad from these golfers. Wietz hopes that six matches will be played against each opponent instead of four. This, of course, is determined by mutual agreement between rival coaches.

Last year, Western’s golfers won nine matches, lost four and tied two. The team finished second to Bowling Green in the Conference.

Missing from last year’s team is Fred Osmer of Owosso who is in the Armed Forces. Osmer was medalist seven times in 1956. He was also tied for medalist honors on four other occasions.

Home varsity matches will be played on the Elks Country Club course in Kalamazoo starting at 1:30.

Wietz will choose his freshman squad from these golfers: Ray Paffpaff, Mt. Clemens; Hugh Connors, Royal Oak; Dave Franklin, Battle Creek; Jack Jaquay, Kalamazoo; Richard Love, Berkeley; John Wettlauffer, Pontiac; and Robert Goldsmith, Birmingham.