## Opera Club Holds “Queen” Contest

It has been some time since a "mystery" has developed in this part of the educational world, but now one has made its appearance.

The "mystery" in reference is the opera "The Maid and the Middy" which will be given in the Auditorium next Friday, April 3. The story revolves about a mysterious "Anita" and her affiliations with the sailor men. The plot holds great possibilities.

The cast includes the following well known students: Bill, the Middy - Leander Van Hecke; Dawson, a retired farmer - Elmer Seeman; Tom, a college sophomore - D. Vetter; Evans, master of ceremonies - Harmon Knaup; Fitz, of the Lakeville Club - Carl Listner; Captain Dasher, of the U. S. Dreadnought - Frank Martindale; Boonder, Champion oarsman - T. R. Heitzman; Young Slimson, the great unknown - Philip Jiza; Attendant, Walter Waard; Valerie Vane - J. Van Hecke; Mrs. Gaity - Dorothy Lowe; Alice - Claire Martin; Maid - Arlene Carlisten; Phyllis - Lucile Markham.

### Contest To Be Run

In connection with the opera, a contest will be run to determine who will take part of the "Miss Stevens Point" in a pageant to be given between the operas. The judges have been selected by committees from the various departments as follows: Primaries - Kathryn Kitowski; Grammars - Dorothy Guthrie; U. S. - Velma Davis; Home Ecs - Norine Valentine; Rural - Nora Wurwog.

The contest will be run similar to the iris contest before Mardi Gras.

## Flowers Keep Memory of World War Hero

In remembrance of the birthday of Rex Beeseker, a former S. P. N. student, a basket of flowers was placed near the memorial tablet on March 17. Rex Beeseker was killed in action during the world war at the age of twenty-three.

The young man lived in Cランdon, Wisconsin, coming here in 1916 to roll in the Stevens Point High School. He remained in school two years, leaving when a Junior to enlist in the army. During this time he has become prominent in athletics and socially. He played on the football team both years and was a member of the reserve basketball team his second year.

## Debate Tie Decided When Point Wins Coin Toss

Stevens Point Normal has again "brought home the bacon". This time in extemporaneous speaking, oratory, and debate. Frank Joswick and Donald Vetter were our representatives at the State Forensic contest which was held at Eau Claire last Friday, March 18. Donald Vetter won first place in the extempor contest with the subject "Federal Farm Loan Banks, a Cooperative Institution". Frank Joswick was second, his subject to him and the majority for his speech was gleaned during the four hours he had for preparation.

Don has been the Points' entrant in the State contest for the past three years but this is the first time he has had a chance to enter the Inter-state meet by virtue of winning first. The first two years he placed second.

## Soils Discussed By H. R. Noble

"Soils of Portage County" was the topic of a talk given to the Stevens Point Science Club at their monthly meeting Wednesday, March ninth, by H. R. Noble, County agricultural officer for Portage County.

Mr. Noble discussed the various types of soils, where they are located and how they are cultivated. He told why crops can be produced year after year in certain sections of the county and only a year or two in others.

"Liming" is the cure for most county soil-ills according to Mr. Noble. The lime, either as an oxide or a hydroxide will put the sour soils into workable condition when they have become non-productive. Paper mill waste is an excellent material for this purpose, and Farmers are buying much of it to their fields to sweeten the ground.

Two very interesting pictures from the University farm library were shown by Mr. Schmeekle. One dealt with insects and the other with birds. Both proved of exceptional value to those members of the club who have taken and are taking Nature Study work, and of great interest to the other members. Ev in Gaukler and Donald Borens were unable to demonstrate a soil test, due to limited time.

## Student Taken Ill With Appendicitis

Miss Lillian Richards underwent an operation for appendicitis at the local hospital last week. At this writing she is getting along nicely and it is hoped that she will be back at school again in a few weeks.

Professor Snodgrass has been appointed as President of the La Crosse Normal.
LITURGICAL CONVULSIONS

Sinclair Lewis has brought the terrors of the sanctimonious down on his head again, this time by publishing "Elmer Gantry", his latest novel. As he was threatened with death by small-town judicious for his "Main Street"; as he was immodestly denounced by portly members of the bourgeoisie for his "Babbitt"; as he was labeled a menace to modern society by quasicharlatans for his "Arrowsmith", now he is being anathematized by the pseudo-straight-laced to his presentation of character who has lived and is living in the very shadow of immaecuacy.

"Elmer Gantry" is a thoroughlv human person. He is capable of lofty, sincere reverence and the not unnatural passions. Moreover he is gifted with the faculties of an efficiency expert and the ultracicicatious pretensions of a not-too-somnolent leader of the flocks. Sinclair Lewis has created in him a palpalbe, somewhat enterprising man who has turned to the clergy much as "Babbitt" turned to the highly satisfactory game of reality.

Lewis, who has been dubbed the Great Castigator, has simply dared to write a yarn about the same things that every regularly pulsating person has suspected. Book reviewers have struck their characteristic mental poses on the novel essaying impressiveness. Some members of the clergy have hurled the power of the pen at it, but withal it is an amazingly readable book.

WISCONSIN'S NORMAL SCHOOL POLICY

In handling the present Normal School situation the characteristic assortment of panaceas have been brought forward. These panaceas range from the ultra conservative to the ultra radical. They range from introducing restrictive ideas to abolishing some of the Normal Schools. It is quite impossible to think of anything actually existing in either direction accomplishing anything to the permanent advantage of the State of Wisconsin. The best thing, in this case as in other cases where solutions are necessary, is the same thing.

Professor Sanford formerly of the Stevens Point Normal School and now head of the department of History at the Lawrence College, has been the principal Normal School situation. His brief is based upon a scientific study of the conditions responsible for the present need of action, and it presents unquestionably the most practical, most efficacious plan so far brought forward. Professor Sanford has based his plan upon five points, viz:

1. Diffusion of Normal Schools. The professional influence that radiates from teacher-training institutions arouses the interest of patrons in school affairs in all adjacent communities. The location of Normal Schools in different sections of the State brings this gate of opportunity to the homes of many thousands of young people than if such institutions were located in certain centers.

2. Over-supply of teachers is a temporary phenomenon. Economic conditions, which have caused so-called legislation, have brought this condition about but it is now adjusting itself in a healthy manner. Higher qualifications for teachers will be a strong force working for more and not less provision by the State for teacher training.

3. Superiority of the Normal School system to both the County Normal system and the State University in its economy upon the points of total cost per student and teaching cost per student.

4. Lack of grounds of the attack upon the Normal School system is that it is too small and because Normal School graduates teach in other states. It would be posteroerous as well as unfair to create and enforce a regulation to the effect that every Normal School graduate should find a teaching position in the State of Wisconsin. Mr. Roberts has adjusted his points of attack (beyond the regular tuition that every student pays) was collected as tuition from non-resident students. The number of non-resident students was slightly over 5½ per cent of the total enrollment.

5. Abolition of the Normal Schools would seriously impair the educational position of Wisconsin.
MRS. MALONEY TALKS TO LITERARY CLUB

The Margaret Aschum Club was most fortunate in securing Mrs. Elizabeth Maloney as the speaker on its program Tuesday evening of this week. Mrs. Maloney is a graceful speaker, and talked pleasantly on the "Literary Guild of America". A duet composed of Arlene Carlsten, and Anne Rowe, sang two delightful numbers, and responded to an encore. Miss Helene Knode read "The Highwayman", with "Little Boy Blue" as an encore.

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Ice cream and cookies were served in honor of the new pledges who were admitted to membership at the meeting.

Girl Singers Appear
At Eau Claire Meet

The Girls' Quartette composed of Julia Van Hecke, first soprano, Alma Jole, second soprano, Anne Rowe, first alto, and Arlene Carlsten, second alto, accompanied by Marjorie Morse, accompanist, and Mr. Percival, musical director, were at Eau Claire last Friday and took part in the stunts and musical numbers furnished by the various Normal schools of the State. Nearly all of the Normals sent music delegations but the group from S. P. N. was unusually well received and entertained, and of course, made a good showing.

Rare as an unbroken spring in a taxi cab.—F. P. A.

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Miss Mabel Rice, a graduate of the class of '13, is winning distinction in the teaching field. She is a supervisor in the Teacher's College at Bemidji, Minnesota, and is state chairman of the Program Committee of the Minnesota Congress of Parents and Teachers.

Two articles written by Miss Rice have appeared in recent Editions of Educational magazines. One of them, "Training Winners in National Essay Contests," was printed in the Normal Instructor and Primary Plans of January, and the other, "Making The Parent Teacher Program" is a feature article of the Minnesota Parent-Teacher (the official publication of the Minnesota Congress of Parents and Teachers) for February.

The city pathologist at Milwaukee administered some poison "hooch" to a rabbit, and the small animal died in forty seconds. The test served to illustrate to Marquette students the effects of methyl alcohol and aldehydes in liquor.

Now is the time for all good flayers to come to the aid of the weary college lad.

THE ROYAL PURPLE of Whitewater has opened its columns to advertising as the only means of continued existence. The paper was formerly dependant entirely upon subscriptions for funds.

In a recent survey at Carroll College, 96% of the students declared their belief in God, and four per cent doubtful.

One professor C. J. McIntosh of the Oregon Agricultural College came down with a very bad case of Spring Fever lately. Placing what he thought was his overcoat over his arm, he left his home for school, and discovered that instead of the coat, he had brought his bathing suit.

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