

Intro note for 1947 8

There have been so many comments in response to the Lens issues sent thus far, I thought everyone might enjoy them as much as I have, so I am including them with this mailing. If anyone wants to offer additional notes, simply e-mail them and I will include them with the next issues. There are nine more issues to follow.

I have enjoyed putting this project together and sending them out to all of you, but you must know, I would never have been able to scan the magazines, transfer the photos to the computer, resize the photos, transfer them to Picasa, edit them, set them up in a .jpg file and finally into a .pdf file for grouping into a single file that allows me to send them to you in one folder, without the expertise of my eldest daughter Cheryl. Without her assistance this just would not have happened.

Reading these magazines has inspired old memories to trickle to the surface of my mind. I have written down one such memory of my experience of flying with Larry Juengel and am including the story with this next issue. My hope is that it will serve as an illustration and my suggestion is that anyone who would like to share any of their own stories with the recipients of future mailings can do so by typing it out and sending the copy to me. I will not edit it, so it would be copied and added to the mailing of a current issue as is.

Again, I encourage everyone to forward these on to your alumni contacts or send me the e-mail address of those you want added to my e-mail list. I have had calls from people living in other states who want to be included in future mailings. The response has been very gratifying and made all the work it takes to put it together very worthwhile.

Duane

MAGAZINE COMMENTS FIRST ISSUE

Thank you very much for sharing. I remember the *Lens*. They did a story on my dad and his copper plates. There is a picture of him hammering a copper plate at his work bench in the basement of our house at 870 Rochester Rd. which was in Avon Township (now Rochester Hills). I do not recall the date of that issue. It will be interesting to see if it is part of this collection.

Hope you, Deloris, and the family had a nice Thanksgiving.
If I get down to FL again this winter, I will be sure to stop by.

Warmest Regards,

Gary

I am enjoying your sharing this Lens magazine.

I even recognize some of the people, like one of my first bosses, Bill Mitzelfield as a graduating senior.

Looking forward to the next issue.

Doug

thanks for publishing this copy of LENS magazine and sending it to alumni. i once had a collection of the magazines, knew the whipple family quite well and judy was one of my high school friends....the magazines bring back fond memories our little old town. the whipples certainly saw a vision of Rochester's future that the rest of us could only imagine. i am so happy to learn that their pictorial history of Rochester has been preserved and i look forward to other issues when they are posted.

Shirley Brady Johnson

Ocala, Florida

Love this information. Will send you responses, as they come in. You two have a Very Blessed CHRISTmas, and New 2013 Year, Duane.

God Bless,

Hi Duane, thank you very much for sending along copies of the magazine. Like you, I found it very interesting. It seems it was a less complicated time. At our age we have actually lived through a lot of our countries history. How is Delores doing. I want to wish you and your family the best of the holiday season. Bill Jamick

Oh my gosh Duane. Thank you so much for sending along the one copy of the Lens magazine. I can't wait to read it and all its wonderful news of the day.

Please send more ASAP. We don't want to lose this wonderful resource of our past!

Just a side note, I (Gail) am currently serving on a Historic District Study Committee for the city of Rochester and this is a great resource. Eric is putting together a presentation of the history of downtown Rochester for the Historical Society of Michigan to be shown in March in Livonia.

Thanks again and we eagerly await the next installment!!!

Eric and Gail Hood Bothwell

Really enjoyed the newspaper would love to receive the next issues. Thanxs for sharing. Do you have the copy of the paper that was done about the couples that owned business and worked together? My folks were in that issue along with Dale's parents - Paul's Market and Johnson's Market. I would really like to have a copy of that issue if you have it.

THANXS. KAY

What a treat!!! Thanks so much for sending this.love ya Suki

Duane, Absolutely wonderful. Dale mentioned the Purdys; my dad bought the house on 4th and Oak from them. Am going to pass on to Jim Haidle because of the photo of his parents. Merry Christmas,,,,,and thanks for taking the time to scan the LENS. Gary

Congratulations!!!!!!!!!!!!

I just copied out your first magazine transmission. Thank you for all you are doing to share the Lens with as many people as possible. You are doing a great job. I'm sure the reponse is going to be tremendous. I am really glad that I sent the magazines to you. I doubt if anyone else would or could do what you are doing with them.

Thanks again for a great job,

Dale Bradford

READ EVERYWORD, THANKS TO YOU AND DALE. BROUGHT BACK MEMORIES OF GOOD AND BAD MICKEY BUSHMAN

I so enjoyed The Lens which my daughter sent to me. Although we didn't move to Avon Twp. until 1956, there are many familiar names and places. Please put me your continuing list to receive this. Such a treasure!! Gerri Weatherell

Thanks a lot I enjoyed reading this will send on to some others I think will enjoy it also send you some names that would like it also. Thanks again, Mary Madson

Thanks for all the wonderful memories that floated over my mind as I read and searched over the pictures...it took more than one sitting and am sure I'll enjoy it over and over! Thanks--it was a wonderful Christmas present! Gini England

I was able to read the explanation and see all the pictures. This works great. I also tried to copy a couple of the pages out of the book and it worked perfectly! Excellent job!! Diane Detter

What a wonderful gift Dale gave you, Duane. i was tickled to receive it and felt cozy reading the articles and seeing the pictures of people I knew. The email brought back so many memories.

How amazed the people in the photos would be to know through technology this would be possible with computers. I know the people you sent it to will appreciate seeing this great work. What stories it tells.

Many thanks! As ever. Jean Marie

Hi Duane! I just went through this email and loved seeing all the pictures of good 'ol Rochester....and low and behold, there was Dean Lee with his pals Des Jones, etc. !!! Yesterday would've been our 43rd anniversary....so it brought a tear to my eyes as I looked with pride! Thanks for the memories! Jeannine Lee

This is Bob Steward, born raised in Rochester, I would like to be included when you email the issues of Lens. The first one indicates it will be a very enjoyable and rewarding experience.

bob s

This is fantastic! Thanks! Joan

Hi Duane! I just got done reading about the Lens magazine you sent Mary Madsen. I will tell you it made my day. I had never even heard of it. Most of those old Rochesterites names were recognizable to Kate and I. If there is more info and you would like to send it to me, it would be much appreciated. Things were much less complicated in the old days. How are you doing in your retirement? We are doing okay. Kate had both hips and one knee replaced in the last couple of years and is doing fairly well. Wishing you well.
Herb Hames Rochester Mich

Well , I had to write and tell you how much I enjoyed the pictures and the articles. I saw names that rang a bell from my own time in Rochester -- Pixley, DeBaene, Crissman, Eberline. I lived out on Peach Tree Lane and my mom and I used to go to Smarts Barn for the auctions. Thanks a bunch. Belinda Ballash, 1960

Hi Duane,
Thanks so much for the copy of the Lens. Please add me to your mailing list. Jim and I both enjoyed it very much; wow, how much younger folks like Howard McGregor, etc. look!! I wonder what future generations might say about us. I hope this finds you and yours doing very well. Merry Christmas,
Donna and Jim Williams

I am reading the LENS for the third time. I can't put it down. Forrester, Doug

Duane, the comments regarding The Lens magazine were a real pleasure to read. I felt very touched and emotional to know that so many people are getting so much pleasure from your efforts. When I sent you the magazines I only hoped that you would share them at the alumni luncheons that you organized. You have far surpassed that idea. Looking back, thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Whipple for their wonderful creation, Thanks to Judith Whipple for her incredible generosity in giving me the magazines , and thanks to you for your vision and remarkable efforts to share these treasures of the past with so many others.

Dale

First Flight With Larry Juengel

Those of you who remember Larry Juengel, I suspect, do so because of his flying reputation. I had the pleasure of knowing him and flying with him on many occasions during my final 2 years of high school. As for me, the flying began as a way of traveling to St. Johns, Michigan where Mr. Hope, our AGG class teacher, had arranged a field trip to the stockyards. "We will fly there," Larry said to me. Wow!! I had never flown before and that sounded great to me.

When the day arrived for us to leave, the class boarded a school bus and we drove down to the Big Beaver Airport where we left about an hour and a half after they did. The craft we climbed into was an old WWII beginner trainer for pilots called a BT13. (See Photo) It had fixed landing gear, a rear tail wheel and a sliding canopy, with the pilot occupying the forward seat. The radial engine was huge and if you remember Larry, he was as tall as my shoulders in height. He had a stack of pillows on the seat and had to look to the left and right of the big engine in order to see the runway.

We were off the ground in no time and on our way. I was absolutely thrilled. Prior to take off Larry had said to me, "You can fly with the canopy open if you want, but don't put your hand outside." After checking everything in the cockpit, I remembered his instructions not to put my hand outside the plane. As my curiosity grew, I slipped my hand along the outer surface of the canopy and began to wonder why I shouldn't be doing this. When I slackened the pressure on the cockpit canopy, I discovered quickly why he instructed me as he did. We were cruising at 150 to 180 miles per hour and when the wind slipping by the plane got under my hand it whipped it back like a piece of tissue and whacked my arm against the back of the cockpit. It could have broken my arm, but through the grace of God, I was spared.

Shortly after that, Larry turned and pointed down and to the left. There below us moving west on a typical 1940's paved road was a school bus. Sure enough, it was the Rochester High School bus carrying the rest of our AGG class to St. Johns. In those days most of that country, even as it is today, was open farm country. Larry dropped that plane down beside the bus rising occasionally to slip over the tree lined fence rows. Every kid on the bus, along with Mr. Hope, was at the side windows and waving. It is a wonder the bus didn't tip over.

We landed shortly afterwards on a grass field in St. Johns, parked the plane and headed for the "log shack" where Larry was required to record his landing. Two men approached us and began questioning me about the plane we had just arrived in. As I mentioned, Larry was shoulder high to me, so they assumed I was the pilot. I remember absolutely nothing of St. Johns, nor the stockyards that we were there to visit, but I will never forget my first plane ride with Larry. There would be many more, and one that nearly cost us our lives. I will send along another episode with the next issue of the Lens.

Duane



PICTURING LIFE IN THE ROCHESTER AREA

LENS

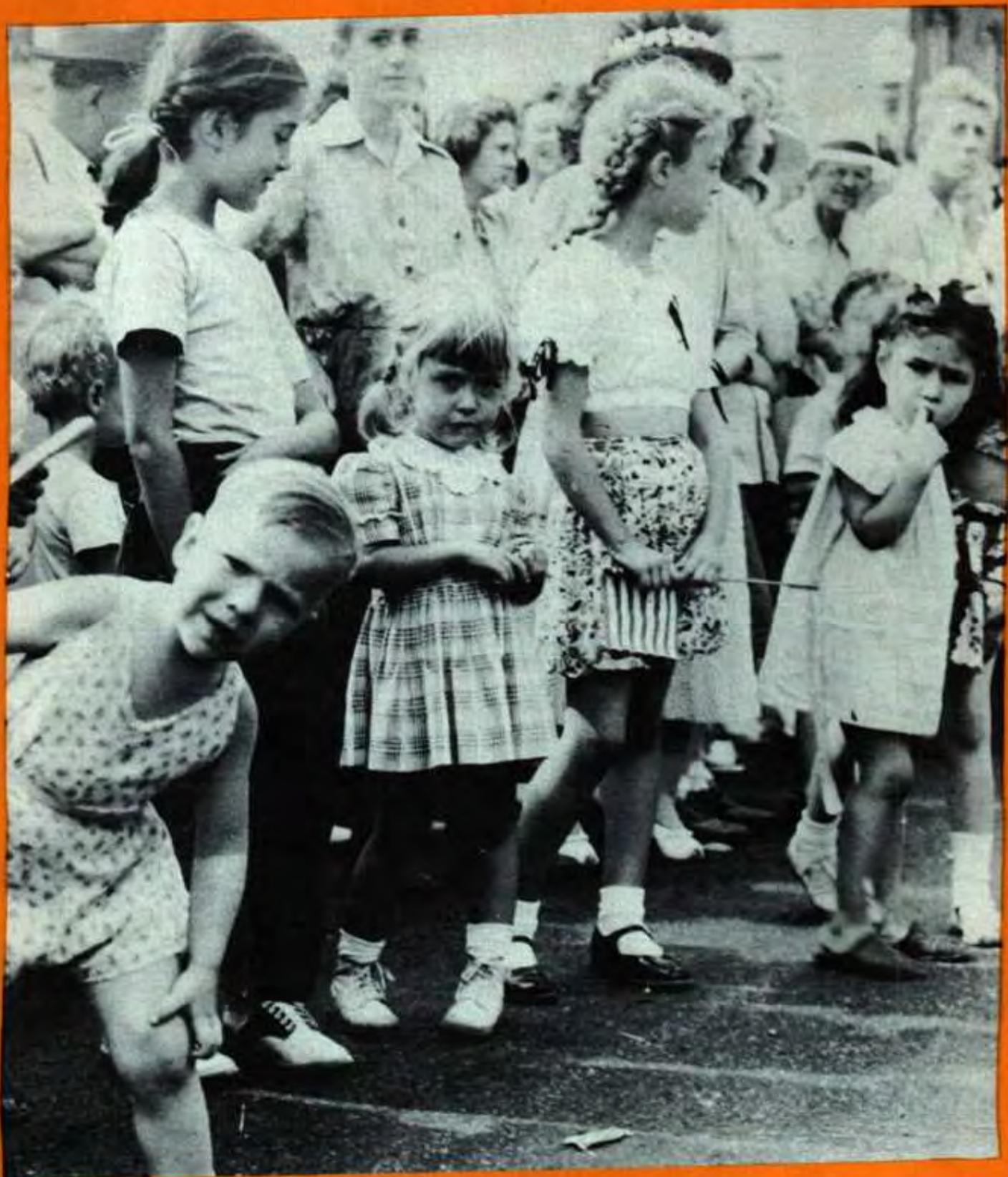
NEWS - PICTURE MAGAZINE



John Kiekbusch of Premier Farms in his corn field

15 CENTS

AUGUST 1947



All the excitement and joy of Rochester's July 4 parade is reflected in the faces of these youngsters

PUBLISHER'S CORNER

First of all in this issue let us clear up something to avoid all confusion. You will note that this issue of LENS is labeled "August." Practically all magazines date their issues in advance in this manner; we should have labeled our Vol. 1, No. 1 issue "July" instead of "June," but we made a mistake. Curses.

However, we are now on the right track. This is Vol. 1, No. 2, so there will never be an issue of LENS dated July, 1947. The main thing is that our subscribers will receive 12 issues of LENS for their money and, we hope, everybody will be happy.

Your reception of LENS exceeded our expectations. We thank those who went out of their way to tell us they liked our first issue and we thank those who offered constructive criticisms. We made some mistakes in the first issue; but we learned some things, too, and we promise LENS will get better as we go along.

Although this is only our second issue one thing already is apparent—we cannot possibly cover everything that is worthy of presentation in LENS. We just don't have enough space. Yet we must protect ourselves by having more than enough material to fill our pages. So we make a bid for your understanding if we should make pictures at some event in which you are interested and do not publish them. We'll try again as soon as possible.

So please keep your letters and phone calls coming to us with suggestions. We like to hear from you.

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THE ROCHESTER AREA FARM SITUATION

Long Fall Needed

At 5 o'clock in the morning of July 4 in Rochester a few men came down town to get last minute details set for the first big civic celebration in years locally. They were cheered by a bright sun which stayed bright all day, encouraging thousands of visitors to pour into Rochester for a full day of merry-making.

At the same hour on the same day many farmers in the Rochester area set about their day's work and took stock of the farm situation hereabouts. Their general conclusion . . . better outlook than a month ago, but still serious.

By July 4, corn is supposed to be knee-high, if weather has been normal. Few fields of corn in the Rochester area were knee-high. Our cover picture is typical of the general corn situation—John Kiekbusch, superintendent of the Premier Farms on Tienken road, stands in his corn field, leaves scarcely above his ankles.

Down the road a bit Harold Roundy, superintendent of the Endicott Farms, could look out the big window in his barn and point to knee-high corn. But Roundy was the first to admit that conditions favored him. He has hilly ground and sandy soil that drains fast. Despite unusually heavy spring rains, he was able to plant his corn in mid-May; others in this area had to wait until weeks later to get corn in the ground.

Corn was not the only worry. Alfalfa was slow, oats were late and winter wheat didn't have too good prospects for ripening.

Normally most farmers in this area have their haying finished by July 4; this year few could look at a filled barn by that date.



Harold Roundy, superintendent of the Endicott Farms on Tienken road, right, looks out of his huge barn window at knee-high corn on July 4. With him are Norris Stephens, left, and Robert Cook.

But by July 4, a couple of weeks of good hot weather had changed the picture somewhat. Corn was beginning to get a good start. The farmers drew heavily on their supply of hope and started talking about a "fair" crop if there was a late fall.

"Let the first frost hold off until the corn gets hard enough to make good grain, and we'll not be too bad off," they said.

Clarence Geil of 405 W. Hamlin

road does contract baling for farmers in this area. The sudden spurt of hot weather put him somewhat behind schedule. Mid-July found him working hard to catch up with his orders.

John Geil, his father, who farms at 250 E. Auburn road, was more cheerful at mid-July than he had been in June. Then he had just got corn into the ground, very late planting. But the hot weather gave growing a spurt and John



Barns are still being filled with hay in the Rochester area as farmers take advantage of the good weather. In the above picture made at Premier Farms on Tienken road, John Kiebusch and helpers unload a truck with the aid of a conveyor. Below is Morris J. Furse of Washington road taking a little rest in his

yard on a Sunday before resuming haying activities. In 33 years of farming, Furse regards the spring of 1947 as one of freak weather. For the first time in his farming life Furse has no oats to harvest. Wet weather delayed planting until too late.



Geil was hopeful that his corn crop would be all right if the fall was long. His oats field by mid-July was looking good.

Not so cheerful in mid-July was Morris J. Furse of Washington road. In 33 years of farming he had never seen a spring like 1947. For the first time he had no oats on his farm—just couldn't get them in the ground in time. Corn, he thought, had a 50-50 chance, but hay was late and so was wheat. Furse, like all farmers, would talk about the situation, but he kept on working hard, long hours to get as much as possible accomplished and meanwhile he hoped.

At the Hodges farm on Brewster road, H. R. Hodges and his son, Wallace, were baling their first cutting of alfalfa on July 3. They agreed with the others that everything is two to three weeks behind schedule. Normally they would make a second cutting of alfalfa in mid-August, but in mid-July there was a question if there would be enough growth.

"Things got too dry for a while," said the younger Hodges. "The top surface of the soil was baked too hard, but there was moisture way down."

Corn is the vital crop, although in the Rochester area farming is diversified enough so that a poor corn crop does not create desperate straits as it does in the typically "corn" states.

Nevertheless without a good corn crop locally, cattle and pigs go to market earlier than usual. Farmers cannot afford to buy feed for them. Multiplied over the nation's farms, this situation can lead to higher meat prices in future months.

The eagerly awaited federal government forecast on the corn crop predicted a yield of about 600,000,000 bushels less than last year. If this forecast holds good, farmers locally won't raise as many pigs this fall as they would in a normal year.



Baling alfalfa at the Hodges farm on Brewster road. H. R. Hodges and his son, Wallace, like most Rochester area farmers, report all crops are two to three weeks late, due to the wet spring.

This area is also a good producer of apples and peaches.

At mid-July the prospects looked good for a strong peach crop, but estimates of apple production were seriously low.

George Sargeant of Sargeant's Orchards on the Rochester road said his orchards might yield a third of their normal crop. George Knorr of Knorr's Orchards concurred with an estimate that his crop would be about 25 percent of normal.

Apple orchards showed lots of blossoms, but the cold, wet spring held things back and the bees did not pollinize.

Strawberries are not a major crop in this district, but early blossoms were frozen and then

the hot weather struck too suddenly. Grocery store customers suddenly realized that strawberries disappeared from the counters early in the season.

Hope is the farmer's fortress. He enters August with wheat about ready to harvest and oats in general looking fair, but the corn crop is the big thing.

September is the crucial month. Let the first frost come early and the farmer's most dire predictions will come true; let nature withhold frost until late in the month and the corn yield will be fair to good on most farms.

Meanwhile farm work goes on and the Rochester area farmer has always been a worker.



At top left, Clarence Geil, foreground, with Burton Juengel and Harry Meiers, pause in their baling. Top right, Harold Roundy, right, with Norris Stephens and Robert Cook, have just about filled the barn. Lower left, John Geil shows oats field to son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Rathka. Lower right, baling.

VAN HOOSEN FARM

Just outside of Rochester is the Van Hoosen farm and the unique farm store called the Black and White Cow. The growth of this well known farm can be traced through three generations of the family. Now directing its activities is Miss Sarah Van Hoosen Jones, one of two women master farmers in the state of Michigan. Miss Jones manages the 400-acre farm with its poultry division and its pure bred herd of Holstein Friesian cattle with an ease that belies the great responsibilities of such a job. The farm store which she opened nine years ago is part of the enterprise.

The love and pride in her inheritance are reflected in more than management. She and her mother, who is ninety-two years old, live in the beautiful country home, part of which is one hundred years old. To the old gabled



Above, sitting on the "horse-hair lounge," are Miss Sarah Van Hoosen Jones, her 92-year-old mother and her aunt, Dr. Bertha Van Hoosen of Chicago. The sofa was the first piece of parlor furniture for the family.



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unit was added a fieldstone wing in 1926. The stones used were found on the farm and the timbers used were originally part of the old barn. All of the work was done by men living in Stoney Creek.

The summer-house pictured on page nine marks the site of the first log cabin built on the land by the first of the family who came to Stoney Creek from Auburn, N. Y., in 1823. With its moon-gate and oriental roof-line ingeniously built of oxen yoke, the summer-house adds charm to the beautiful grounds in which it is located.

Inside Miss Jones' house there stands a sofa with a history of its own. First of all it represents the first parlor furniture in the family. Known as the "horse-hair lounge," it was bought with money from the sale of wool by Miss Jones' grandmother and grandfather in the sixties. Miss Jones' mother was courted there; her aunt, Dr. Bertha VanHoosen, sat there when she decided to study medicine, a grave decision for a girl of her generation; and Miss Jones remembers convalescing there during the usual bouts with the diseases of childhood. Today it's still a family retreat, and Mrs. Jones' favorite spot for an afternoon nap.

Dr. Bertha's decision, made on the "horse-hair lounge," led her to Chicago where she became one of this country's leading women obstetricians and surgeons. Still active at eighty-four after fifty-three years of practice, Dr. Van Hoosen has just completed writing her autobiography, "Petticoat Surgeon," which will be released this fall. She and her sister, Mrs. Jones, are both graduates of the University of Michigan.

The farm store, known as The Black and White Cow, attracts visitors and patrons not only living in the Rochester area but those who regularly come from Detroit and other distant places. The quaintness of the country store has a strong nostalgic appeal to this generation, customers used to busy super-markets.



Miss Alice Serrell, upper left, with a very young farm store patron. Summer-house, upper right, marks sight of first log cabin built in 1823 by Miss Jones' ancestors. Left center, Mrs. Lester Papke leaving store. Below, in barn doorway, Mary Lou Hoover, Kenneth Krohl, and Caroline and Edwin Rouse, whose fathers are employed there.



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AUBURN HEIGHTS LIONS HOLD CHARTER PARTY



One group of merry-makers at the Auburn Heights Lions Club charter night party at Forest Lake country club is pictured at the left. Seated are Mrs. L. B. Arnold, left, and Mrs. Frank Polasek. Standing, left to right, are: Mr. and Mrs. George LaForge, Mr. and Mrs. H. Wildenheim, Mrs. R. McKinley, Mr. McKinley, Mr. McKinley, L. B. Arnold and Frank Polasek.

Another group, pictured below, left to right, are Clarence Uhan, Mrs. Raymond Baker, Mrs. Uhan, Mrs. John Devereaux and Raymond Baker. In the rear are John Devereaux, left, and Walter Carpenter.

Presentation of the Lions charter is pictured below. District Governor Dr. Kenner Bell is presenting the charter to Grant Graham, president, while other officers of the new club watch.

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PARTY AT NORTHWOOD INN



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Here is a view of the speakers' table at the Northwood Inn party. Business session was short.

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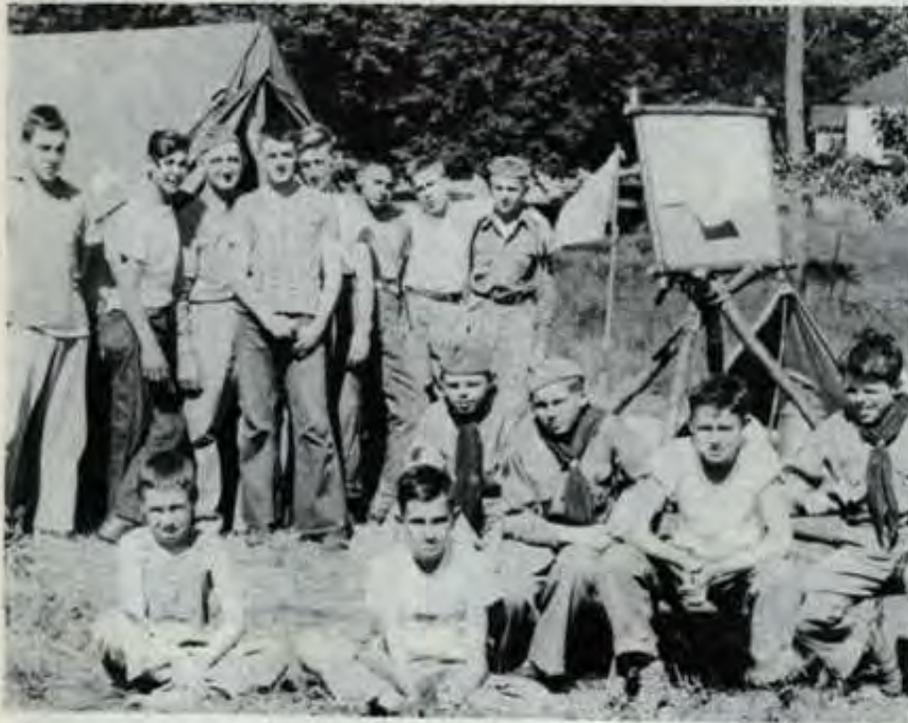
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Brooklands Exchange Club had its big night when it held its charter presentation banquet at Warsaw Park. In the top picture club officers inspect the formal charter. Left to right are Jesse O. White, vice president; Hazen S. P. Briggs, treasurer; Alexander M. Lovchuk, secretary, and Harold E. Weaver, president. Immediately above is a section of the large crowd which attended the celebration.

BOY SCOUT OUTING



★



More than 600 Boy Scouts of Oakland and Macomb counties held a three-day camping session at Avon Park in late June. Above are two pictures of the Elmwood School troop which had one of the outstanding camps of the big affair. Their troop flag is displayed below with its merit streamers.

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Bill MacDonald, scoutmaster of Troop 60, Rochester, demonstrates a variety of knots to his scouts in the Avon Park session. Below is pictured Troop 40, preparing to leave on their trip to northern Michigan with Scoutmaster Frank Chapman. The boys who made the trip included Stanley Seiffert, Ted Brown, Bill Roth, Morrell Clute, Alex Lexicon, Don Haggdone, Don Howell and Tom Wiggins.



Members of the Business and Professional Women's Club of Rochester recently met for a picnic at the country home of Mrs. Clare B. Titus. Doing a bit of sampling on the side are (left to right) Mrs. Maureen Featherstone, Mrs. Mark Axford, Mrs. Scott Mitchell, Mrs. John Boeberitz, Mrs. Nina Martin, president, and Mrs. Ruth Hawkins. Waiting to be served (below) are Mrs. Oral Camp, Miss Jessie Rugenstein, Miss Maxine Ross and Miss Natalie Stevenson.

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THE COMMUTER



Our commuter for the month is Armin Seiffert who makes the long drive from his hill-top house at 6040 N. Rochester road to the Fisher building where he is employed as art director for McManus, John and Adams, one of the country's leading advertising agencies. There, as director, he negotiates with well-known illustrators and artists for art work, and is responsible for the way it appears in leading magazine and newspaper advertisements.

Born and educated in Detroit, he attended the old Wicker School of Art there. He won a traveling scholarship which enabled him to study in Paris. There he met a young lady from Minnesota who was studying at the Sorbonne. They interrupted their studies long enough to return to this country to marry. Soon after their marriage they returned to Europe and lived in the house of the famous French artist, Cezanne, at Aix en Provence, in southern France. From there they moved to Stuttgart, Germany, where Mr. Seiffert studied at the Applied Art School. To conclude their stay abroad, they made an 800-mile bicycle trip along the Rhine, and through England and Ireland.

Since then they've lived on this side of the Atlantic, finally coming to Rochester six years ago.

Mr. Seiffert finds his greatest joy in "growing anything that will grow"; and adding to his extensive collection of records of early, New Orleans jazz.

He has two sons, Stanley, 13 years old, and Kurt, 11 years old.

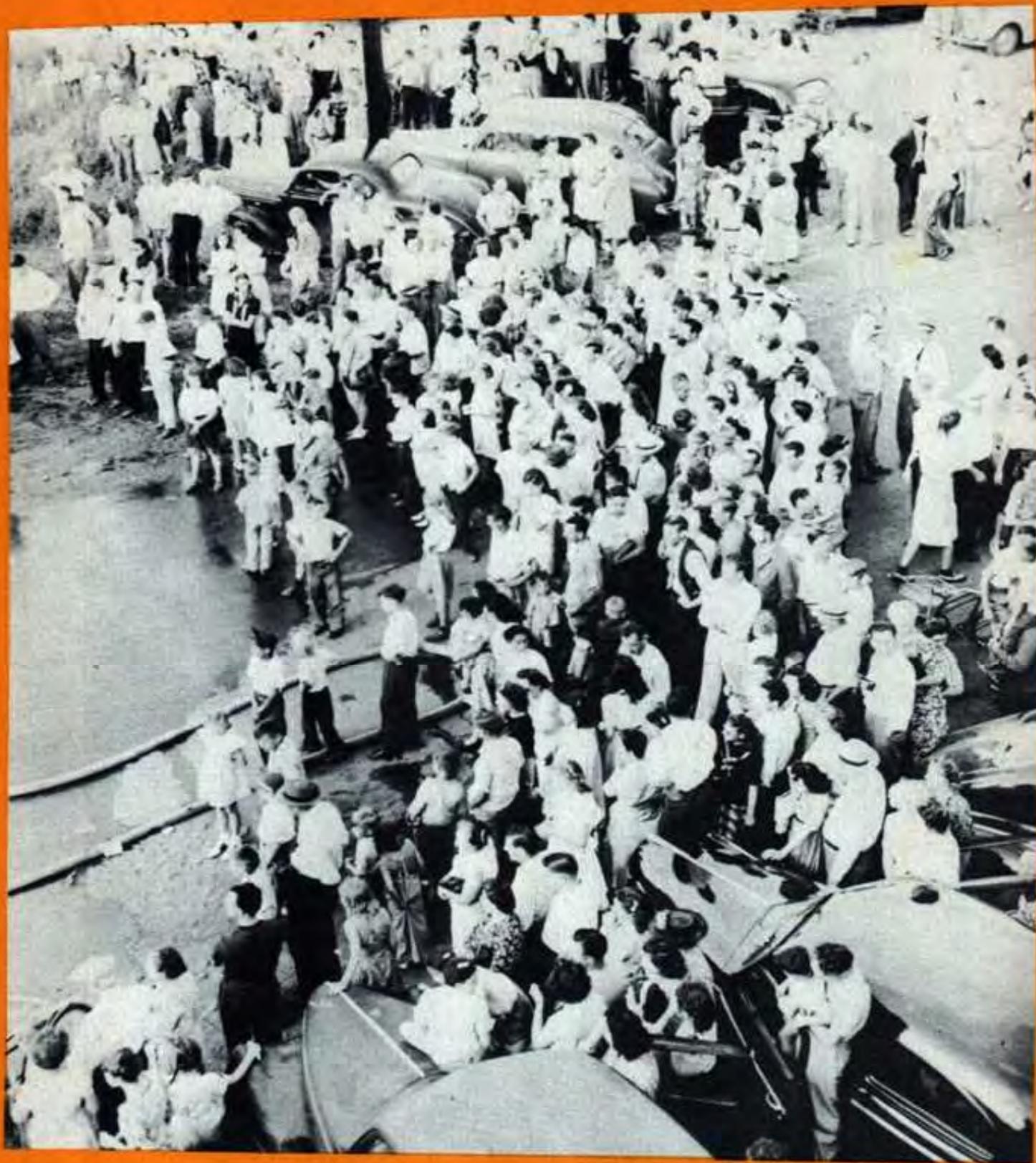
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