

CHAPTER I

"THAT YOU, THE SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF THE COMMONWEALTH, MIGHT HAVE BETTER EDUCATIONAL SERVICE"

The Cornerstone: Eau Claire State Normal School

October 19, 1916, was a cold mid-autumn day on the banks of the Chippewa River in the city of Eau Claire in northwest Wisconsin. In front of a sturdy new structure of brick and stone stood a crowd of six hundred persons waiting for the governor of the state to arrive. Then the ceremony of the laying of the cornerstone of the Eau Claire State Normal School would take place, with the Honorable Emmet Horan, "member from Eau Claire" of the Board of Regents presiding over the proceedings. On the steps of the front entrance, draped in blue and gold, school colors already selected by the student body, were the dignitaries, including the state superintendent of schools, members of the Board of Regents of Normal Schools, and presidents of eight sister state normal schools honoring with their presence the youngest of their number. Among them was the president of the state normal school at Platteville, an institution already celebrating its fiftieth birthday. In the gathering around the steps were the twenty members of the new faculty, the 159 students, and a number of townspeople for whom this day was one of fruition.

Applause greeted the arrival of the Honorable Emanuel L. Philipp, who with his party drove up in an automobile. The outdoor ceremony was brief. The contents of the cornerstone, it was made known, consisted of pictures of Regent Horan and President Harvey Schofield, autographed lists of faculty, of students, of regents, copies of the Eau Claire newspapers for this day of dedication, and the menu of the "guests' dinner" to be held at four o'clock at the Galloway Hotel, hosted by the Eau Claire Civic and Commerce Association.¹

To escape from the inclement weather, the assemblage adjourned to the 700-seat auditorium inside the new building. The mayor of Eau Claire welcomed the governor and other visitors and expressed the gratitude of the city of Eau Claire for the new institution and the structure which housed it. Governor Philipp responded:

We have met here today to dedicate this beautiful building. It has been built by the fathers and mothers and other interested taxpayers in order that you, the sons and daughters of the commonwealth, might have better educational service. It not only benefits you, and

yours, but it will go on benefiting as long as the walls of this massive building last.²

Eau Claire in 1916: A Visitor's View

After the speechmaking at the new Normal School the distinguished visitors were taken on a tour by auto of the city of Eau Claire. They were shown a thriving community of nearly 20,000 population with a Carnegie Library, a \$100,000 Y.M.C.A., a new Federal building, and a city hall under construction, which they were told was an exact copy of the Petit Trianon at Versailles, even to the stone imported from France. They were driven past spacious and beautiful parks, the gifts to the city by lumbermen named Carson, Owen, and Putnam. Eau Claire's location at the confluence of the Eau Claire and Chippewa Rivers, which drained the lands, north and east, upon which once stood the magnificent white pine forest of Wisconsin, had made Eau Claire famous as a logging town and manufacturing center for lumber. At the height of the pine lumbering days, fifteen sawmills had been in operation on the riverbanks; by 1911, all but one had closed, not for reason of financial weakness but because of exhausted timber resources.³ The wealth garnered was apparent in the impressive homes of a score of families.

In 1916, at least ten thriving industries were carrying on the economic prosperity of the city. Most were based on wood products: the Eau Claire Paper and Pulp Company, the Phoenix Manufacturing Company, the Wisconsin Refrigerator Company, which sold its products in Argentina, Colombia, Peru, Japan, and China. Regent Emmet Horan was a partner in the McDonough Manufacturing Company, which employed over a hundred people in the manufacture of sawmill machinery sold all over the United States, and in Canada, Mexico, England, Russia, Australia, and New Zealand. Three railroads connected Eau Claire both with a network of smaller communities in Wisconsin and with the larger centers of trade and transfer outside northwest Wisconsin.

The visitors to Eau Claire were told that electric trolleys ran within the city and on interurban lines to Chippewa Falls and Altoona, an adjoining small city and railroad point. The city's newspapers were the *Eau Claire Leader* and the *Eau Claire Daily Telegram*, the German language paper, *Der Herold*,

and the Norwegian language paper, *Reform*. Another boast was that in 1910 Eau Claire had become the first city in the state to adopt the "Commission" form of government, just coming into popularity as part of the Reform movement of the Progressive era.⁴

The Civic and Commerce Association: Twenty-Five Years of Effort

The observances of October 19, 1916, marked the fulfillment of the hope of a group of determined men who for a quarter of a century had sought a state normal school for Eau Claire. Indeed, the program of the day of dedication was arranged by the most eminent business and professional leaders of the community under the banner of the Civic and Commerce Association, which asserted that in a few years the Eau Claire Normal would be the largest in the state, and that the amount of money brought to the city would reach an astounding figure, that many new families would be moving to Eau Claire, and the new institution "would be a better asset to the city than a manufacturing plant."⁵

In 1891 the legislature of the state of Wisconsin had passed an act authorizing the Board of Regents of Normal Schools to establish a new school north of Township 24,⁶ and Eau Claire was among the communities which responded to the invitation to offer sites and money. When the citizens of Superior realized there was no chance of winning the normal school under a bill which provided for only one new institution north of Township 24, their delegation maneuvered to have the 1891 bill set aside in the legislature of 1893 and a bill passed providing for two normal schools north of Township 24, the tacit understanding being that one would be located in northeastern Wisconsin and the other on the shore of Lake Superior. Meeting in July 1893 to decide on locations, the regents were confronted with delegations from 28 communities in the northern part of the state, including Eau Claire.⁷ According to Charles McKenny, historian of education writing in 1912, many of the petitioners were prominent Democrats, since it was known that the board of regents was composed of ten Democrats and only one Republican. On the 101st ballot, Stevens Point was selected as the site of the sixth normal school, with Superior next in line for the seventh.⁸

Eau Claire, though disappointed, did not give up striving for a normal school, and in 1897, when the River Falls Normal School building burned, a large delegation from Eau Claire went to Madison in a private railroad car to argue that Eau Claire was a more advantageous location for a state normal

school than its sister city to the west. There were 22 petitioners in all, representing the Eau Claire Board of Trade, whose president was Eugene Shaw and secretary was Emmet Horan; but, even though they pointed out that River Falls was having difficulty maintaining enrollment of students, the Eau Claire group failed to persuade the Board of Regents to their point of view.⁹



Emmet Horan

Emmet Horan: The First "Eau Claire Regent"

In 1908 the people of Eau Claire became aware that there was a vacancy on the Board of Regents of Normal Schools, and they held a mass meeting to nominate a candidate. In the words of Emmet Horan, who is quoted in the first issue of the *Periscope*, Eau Claire Normal School yearbook begun in 1917: "... unfortunately, I happened to be the one they selected. They sent a long telegram, about 200 or 300 words, to Governor Davidson, and after considerable wire-pulling and petitioning, the Governor made the appointment."¹⁰ Mr. Horan was far too modest, for his considerable experience with problems of education was undoubtedly well known to his fellow citizens who recommended him for the post of regent. Mr. Horan had been a member of the Board of Education of the city of Eau Claire since 1891, chairman of the committee for high school teachers, and he had participated in planning the Eau Claire High School building. When negotiations for a state normal school had lagged, the Eau Claire County Board of Supervisors took advantage of an 1899 statute providing state aids for county training schools and voted to establish the County Training School. Mr. Horan was the

first chairman of the board of the County Training School, which opened in 1905 offering teacher training and a short course in agriculture, a post which he resigned upon being named a regent of state normal schools.¹¹

Emmet Horan felt that the people of Eau Claire had placed the responsibility of securing a state normal school on his shoulders, and soon the political climate in the legislature seemed favorable. According to the historian of education, McKenny, there was a struggle in the state assembly between the conservative and progressive wings of the Republican party, and Eau Claire's friends discreetly used the situation to their advantage. The legislature of 1909 passed an act establishing the next normal school at Eau Claire.¹²

Selection of a Site: "Putnam Park Alone an Education for Any Student"

As was customary, it was understood that "the city would furnish all the ground, gratuitously, that would be necessary to take care of the needs of a normal school in the future."¹³ To the committee of the board of regents which visited Eau Claire in August 1909, ten possible sites were shown. Mr. Horan subsequently indicated to the city councilmen that three sites appealed to the committee: the Barland site on the East Side Hill, the Third Ward site, and "the island" in Half Moon Lake. The cost of the Barland site was estimated at \$3,000, of the Third Ward site at \$7,000, and Mr. Eugene Shaw offered all land needed on "the island" for \$1.00. Mr. Horan reported that the committee of the board thought the island location very desirable, but that the city would have to erect a bridge to it. In the "Voice of the People," a column in the *Eau Claire Leader*, the Reverend H. R. Vaughn argued in favor of the island in Half Moon Lake: it was healthful, had abundant room and beauty, was detached from the city, yet accessible if a bridge were built — "a much larger proportion of the young people of the well-to-do homes go to the colleges and universities, and any who attend the Normal would not be deterred on account of street car fares."¹⁴

The city councilmen decided to leave the selection of the final site to the board of regents, only asking that a public hearing be held in Eau Claire. The date of January 31, 1910, was set, and West Side petitioners with 1,500 signatures appeared in favor of the island location. But the "Superior regent" was against it: "Cities as a rule do all they can for a normal school — before they get them. After that it seems the state must do everything — there is lack of a bridge, water or sewer." The chief

argument for the Barland site was that it was nearer Altoona, the contiguous small city from which pupils for the normal school might come to Eau Claire by trolley.

The Third Ward site was presented by David Drummond with maps and plans. But while his presentation was being discussed, John S. Owen made a surprise appearance with a new offer comprising 35 acres of land on the East Side Hill which were on the Second Ward carline next to Forest Hills cemetery. Mr. Owen's proposal, already dubbed "University Hill," was backed by Judge Gilbertson and Alderman Stussy.

But David Drummond "stood pat for the site near Little Niagara" and ably set forth his arguments, though Alderman Stussy and Judge Gilbertson were "mean enough" to infer that this was the only place in Eau Claire where mosquitoes were found — "they and others even hinted at swamps, low ground, marshes, malaria, etc., but nothing definite." Miss Laura Burce, former county superintendent of schools, supported the Third Ward site, pointing out that it was surrounded by the best residential section, it had the best soil and natural beauty, and that "Putnam Park alone was an education for any student."

On the 5th of February, 1910, the board of regents decided on the Third Ward site on the condition that twelve acres would be furnished by the city instead of the seven originally offered. On the very next day, the *Eau Claire Leader* warned that the matter must not become a "political football, for there are a dozen cities who want the school."¹⁵ The land, lying between the wooded bluffs of Putnam Park and an abrupt bend of the Chippewa River, was owned by the Park Company, of which David Drummond was secretary and E. B. Putnam, president, and the Park Company's original purpose had been to develop the area for homes and to preserve the beauty of Putnam Park Drive. Through the property ran Little Niagara Creek, which emptied in a scenic falls into the Chippewa River.

Putnam Park had been given by H. C. Putnam, father of E. B. Putnam, to the city of Eau Claire in 1909, together with a promise of \$10,000 in his will for its upkeep. A 2½-mile drive through unspoiled forest followed the creek at the foot of the bluff, and a 3-mile drive bordered the top. H. C. Putnam was a familiar figure roaming his beloved woods, which covered approximately 200 acres, and contained 38 kinds of trees native to Wisconsin and numerous species of ferns and wild flowers. In the Eau Claire press he continually reminded the citizens of the city of the value of his gift and the necessity to care for it.¹⁶

Finally, it was arranged that the Park Company would sell 12 acres on the bank of the Chippewa River to the city for \$12,000, and on June 30, 1910, Regent Horan left Eau Claire for the meeting of the board of regents "armed with the deed to the Drummond site." Two conditions were attached, that Putnam Drive was to continue as a public street as it had been for many years, and that "the natural channel of the creek through said premises should be opened and maintained, and lands on the site shall include all lands on the northwest to the Chippewa River, subject to the highway now in use upon the bank of said river." However, some details still remained to be worked out, for it was not until December that all the instruments of conveyance were completed.¹⁷

In 1911 a bill was passed by the legislature authorizing the board of regents to improve the grounds at Eau Claire and to prepare plans and specifications for the normal school building for submission to the next legislature. An initial appropriation of \$3,000 for grading and setting out trees was made by the board in September 1911. In Mr. Horan's words, "that was an entering wedge, because of the fact that we got some of the state's money, and we did quite a lot of grading the following summer."¹⁸

"Why the Normal School Should Be Constructed Now"

Apparently Regent Horan suggested to the architectural firm of Van Ryn and Degelleke of Milwaukee that they prepare plans for a normal school building at Eau Claire, for on January 20, 1911, at the Eau Claire Club there was a pre-showing. According to the local press, those present were surprised at the magnitude of the work and delighted with the future prospects: "Over and over Architect Van Ryn went over the four large blueprints of the tentative plans, showing in detail the several floors . . . no such plans were ever seen in the city, if in the state . . . of the kind of normal school contemplated for Eau Claire, there are only a few in the country." The total cost of the building was estimated at \$205,000 and of equipment at \$37,600. A drawing of the proposed building bears little resemblance to the structure which was dedicated in October of 1916.¹⁹

In anticipation of the convening of the 1913 legislature, the Eau Claire Citizens Committee on the Normal School published a pamphlet entitled "Why the Normal School Should be Constructed Now." Even though plans had been solicited, no money had been appropriated for the school's building in what

the committee described as "one of the most accessible cities in the state." In the pamphlet it was pointed out that 40 passenger trains a day stopped in Eau Claire. Cities and villages on railroad lines tributary to Eau Claire — Rice Lake, Chetek, Ladysmith, Black River Falls, Neillsville, Cameron, Barron, Thorp, Withee, Owen, Greenwood, Humbird, Merrillan — had fine high schools which could be counted upon to send their promising graduates to the normal school. The city of Chippewa Falls, ten miles away by interurban trolley or train, had a high school population of 300, and Eau Claire had 715 high school students. Indeed, the city of Eau Claire, relying on the immediate construction of the school, was making plans for a \$75,000 concrete arch bridge across the Chippewa, "designed and located to accommodate the students of such school" who would be approaching the normal school from the west side. The authors of the pamphlet showed their awareness of the state surveys of education which were popular at the time when they quoted figures showing that 65 percent of all normal school pupils came to their schools from within a radius of 60 miles of home: "This opportunity means very much to parents, to pupils and to the public."²⁰

The Normal School Building: "These Massive Walls"

Pressure from the Eau Claire citizenry bore fruit when the 1913 legislature appropriated the sum of \$225,000 for the normal school building, this amount to be divided into three installments of \$75,000 each extending over a period of three years. A beginning was made in the summer of 1914 when the foundations and the concrete skeleton of the building, two stories high with a basement, in dimensions 165 by 238 feet, were completed. No bids were taken, but the Hoepfner-Bartlett Company of Eau Claire was awarded the contract for general construction on a cost-plus basis. All materials such as steel and cement were purchased by the state.

E. G. Hoepfner, foreman of the project, recalls that the first foundations were poured with concrete made from gravel from the west bank of the Chippewa River. Because the old Water Street bridge, a wooden structure, was partially destroyed, the gravel had to be hauled by teams and wagons across the Grand Avenue bridge in the center of the city, a mile north of the building site. In the second summer, Mr. Hoepfner found a more accessible gravel supply in the northeast corner of the site itself. Of excellent quality, this was used throughout the construction of the superstructure, begun in April of 1915. Boys home from the University

were hired as summer helpers, and Mr. Hoepfner tells the story of a joke they played on Dan Dulany, one of the local millionaires, whose home was on the corner of State Street and Garfield Avenue, just a block distant: "All concrete for the superstructure was mixed in a concrete mixer driven by steam and hoisted by a skip hoist which dumped concrete into a hopper from which it was conveyed in carts. Dan Dulany was a self-appointed inspector and was there almost every day to inspect the construction. One day the boys decided that he was too inquisitive so they fixed up a signal with the engineer. When Dan got quite close to the hopper, the engineer gave the bucket a fast dump. The concrete fell into the hopper and splashed Mr. Dulany so that he was covered with concrete. The boys all got a good laugh out of it."

The final cost of the building, which contained 2,000,000 cubic feet was 12½ cents per cubic foot. Carpenters were paid 37½ cents an hour, common labor 20 cents an hour, and bricklayers 55 cents an hour. The face brick came from Danville, Illinois, and the stone trim was quarried at Downsville, near Durand, a river town 20 miles west of Eau Claire, cut there, and shipped by rail to Eau Claire. Reinforcing steel was shipped in straight bars and bent by hand. When it was finished, the state engineer declared that the Eau Claire State Normal building was the most economical building of its type ever built by the state. The same firm of architects, Van Ryn and Degelleke of Milwaukee, who had proposed the more elaborate plan in 1911 were the designers of the building actually constructed.²¹

President Harvey Schofield: "The Winning Personality"

Harvey Schofield was 39 years old when he was chosen president of Eau Claire State Normal School in April of 1916. Since the object of the new school was the training of teachers, it was appropriate that a man with experience in teaching and administration in the public schools should be selected. He came to Eau Claire from a high school principalship in St. Paul, Minnesota; previously he had been a principal at Neillsville and at Superior, a superintendent of schools at Ellsworth, and a teacher of civics and history and athletic coach in the high school at Madison, Wisconsin. Born at Augusta, a rural town about 20 miles from Eau Claire, Mr. Schofield had attended Stevens Point State Normal School, where he was prominent in debate, oratory, football, track, and dramatics, and then the University of Wisconsin, where he was fullback on the

varsity football team and captain of the basketball team in the year 1903-04. His degree was the bachelor of philosophy from the University.

Mr. Schofield's love of athletic competition enlivened his presidency of the normal school. As early as 1922, he sought adequate playing fields for baseball and football, and a colleague remembers that he "refought" every game with the coaches the morning after in his office. A vigorous, handsome man, he was described in an early *Periscope* as "the winning personality," and he loved the by-play of faculty gatherings and student associations. As one of the first faculty members wrote some years later: "I am glad to be reminded of the work and the fun, the pleasant associations with all of you, and to look again at my mind's picture of President Schofield and remember his jovial, kindly patience and ever-ready willingness to help one over the rough places and to rejoice when things went smoothly and successfully."²²

During the summer of 1916 President Schofield chose a faculty of twenty persons, most of whom had previous experience in the public schools. Their academic background was quite impressive: four were graduates of the University of Wisconsin, and six others had supplemented their normal school education with further studies at the University of Wisconsin. Other institutions mentioned in the faculty roster were Columbia, Northwestern, Harvard, Berlin, Freiburg, Marburg, Hamline, Oberlin, and the Universities of Michigan and Minnesota. Well known in Wisconsin educational circles were Charles J. Brewer, who was recruited to take charge of teacher training and the model school from the superintendency of the Chippewa Falls schools; W. A. Clark, director of the grammar course, who had been principal of the Eau Claire County Training School; and E. G. Doudna, director of the high school and college courses, who stayed but two years before taking the position of first full-time secretary of the Wisconsin Education Association, and becoming in 1928 secretary of the Board of Regents of Normal Schools. Mr. Brewer and seven of the first faculty stayed at Eau Claire for many years: Katherine Ryan, teacher of arithmetic and assistant principal of the model school; A. J. Fox, manual training instructor and later registrar; Hilda Belle Oxby, instructor in German, English, Latin, and Spanish; B. W. Bridgman, teacher of physics and chemistry; Blanche James, instructor in mathematics; and Katharine Thomas, critic teacher in seventh and eighth grades of the model school. George L. Simpson, geography teacher and athletic coach, also remained with the school for many years, absent only for leaves during World War I and World War II.²³

Convocation: The Student Body

A month before the formal dedication, the Normal School opened on September 18, 1916, "to the tune of hammers and plumbers' wrenches." At the first assembly, President Schofield announced that 159 were enrolled, 141 young ladies and 18 young men. The 18 males were invited to sit in the front row of the auditorium. The faculty sat on the platform, and "Coach Simpson looked down and caught his first glimpse of 'material' for the football squad." Enthusiasm for football ran high until a meeting was called and only 8/11ths of a team showed up, the other males having "defects in their anatomy" that ruled them out.²⁴

The students came from Eau Claire and surrounding towns. The graduating class of 1917 included 24 from the city of Eau Claire and 23 from other communities, 8 of the latter being commuters from Chippewa Falls. Students who came from out of town were advised that their expenses should not exceed \$200 a year. Room and board could be obtained in homes near the school for \$4 a week to \$6.50 a week. The normal school fee, which included book rental, was \$5.00 a semester for those making a declaration to teach in Wisconsin; for those not making such a declaration, it was \$12 with an additional \$2.00 for book rental.²⁵

The first catalogue listed seven courses of study: a one-year "minimum qualification" rural course; two-year courses for primary grade teachers, for grammar grade teachers, and for graded school principals; three-year courses for high school teachers and high school principals; and "college work covering the first two years of most college courses." Most of the entering students were graduates of four-year high schools, but privileges of special entrance were extended to teachers with four years of teaching experience, at least one year of which had been under a first grade county certification; to graduates of county training schools who were not high school graduates but who had taught at least one year under a first grade certificate; and to "teachers of experience who could pass entrance examinations."

Those choosing the high school course were required to elect a major and a minor from the four departments: English, history, mathematics, and science. The college course offered subjects which could be transferred for credit to the University of Wisconsin in liberal arts, or which would count toward professional work in law, medicine, engineering, or commerce.²⁶

An essential part of the Eau Claire State Normal School was the model school, where teachers in

training gained practical experience in classroom methods. It occupied five classrooms in the normal school building, and its pupils were considered an important segment of the total school enrollment, pictured, grade by grade, in the yearly *Periscopes*. The number of students in the model school averaged 220, including 35 in the two high school grades.²⁷

Summer school was popular from the first year, with a session offered in 1916 in the local high school before the new building was ready. Not only did students take advantage of work offered in all the regular teachers' courses and in manual training, domestic science, and librarianship requirements for certification, but they had a good time at summer school. Concerts, lectures, and faculty entertainments enlivened the scene: at a 1919 welcoming get-together, "A. Lincoln Creutz and Stephen A. Douglas Fox debated 'Resolved, that a cross, neat housewife is preferable to a good-natured slovenly one,'" and the judges were President Schofield, Frances Jagoditsch, the business manager, and D. L. Loop, the football coach.²⁸

"Educating oneself from the end of the kitchen table" was the prospect held out to area residents when an extension program was announced in 1918. A newspaper announcement indicated that a catalogue was available from the normal school, but "upon request of four or more students" classes could be formed "in any subject." Fees would be charged sufficient to compensate instructors sent from the normal school and would amount to \$4.50 to \$6.00 per pupil for a nine-week term.²⁹

In the small school atmosphere, many student groups flourished. The campfire movement was popular among the girls, and two groups of Indian maidens in full costume were pictured in the early *Periscopes*; in summer these tribes would "camp out" in borrowed cottages at Chetek, the popular resort area for Eau Claire residents. Another female organization, the Alpha Rho Society, had as its purpose the study of literature and art, but when the influenza epidemic of 1918 closed the school for nine weeks, the members turned to learning home nursing. Literary interests were also represented in the Periclean Society and Teutonia. Those who were musically inclined joined the Cecilian Glee Club, the Men's Glee Club, the Men's Quartet, or the Mandolin Club.

To represent the school in debate or oratory was a great honor, and each year some forty students competed before faculty judges for the four places. The interest in inter-normal school debate rivaled the rooting for athletic teams. The 1917 *Periscope* noted that on March 16 the orator chosen by the

Eau Claire student body, and his supporters, "were prevented by snowdrifts from making their way through the gulches into River Falls"; the same date was also noted in the publication's calendar of the year as the day of the Russian Revolution. The topic for debate was of "decidedly live interest": "Resolved, that a national system of compulsory training should be adopted by the United States."

Other debate topics in the early years showed concern with the plight of Ireland, the Armenian massacre, American idealism, safeguarding American democracy, the League of Nations, and unemployment compensation law. In 1918, Eau Claire hosted the state oratorical contest, with rooters and orchestras from Superior and La Crosse and a 20-piece band from Milwaukee descending on the school. The next year, President Schofield chaperoned Eau Claire's orators, choral club, and men's quartet on the Soo Line train to Oshkosh for the state contest.³⁰

The *Periscope*, "a reflector of school activities," was launched in 1917 by Milton C. Towner and Margaret Dittmer. The American public's attention was riveted on the submarine at the time, and no doubt the drawing, "a hasty graphical demonstration of the appropriateness of the suggested title," which accompanied the first issue was also timely. The editors, pointing to the diagram of a periscope, defined the purpose of their publication: "by turning this crank things are seen from different angles, viz., humorous, critical, or cute." In their first-year calendar the events they recapitulated included September 26, the day on which the student body chose the school colors; September 29, the first pay day of the faculty, which the latter celebrated by entertaining the students; October 19, the dedication of the normal school; November 6, the election of Woodrow Wilson as president of the United States, the re-election of Governor Emanuel L. Philipp, and the return to the U.S. Senate of Robert M. LaFollette, Sr., for a third term.

World War I: "Our Bonus Boys"

"To Our Fellow-Students Who in Field and Camp Gladly Gave Themselves to Preserve the Republic and Free Institutions in All the World" was the dedication of the 1919 *Periscope*. Listed as "stars in our service flag" were 27 young men, a young lady with the Y.W.C.A., and Coach George Simpson. Arthur M. Olsen, Army lieutenant, died July 18, 1918, of wounds received in action.³¹

Apart from the absence of friends in camp and field, and the dropping of German as a subject to be taught in the Eau Claire State Normal School, World War I brought none of the turmoil to Presi-

dent Schofield's administration that was being experienced by President Charles Van Hise of the University of Wisconsin: "As anti-German feeling increased throughout the country, charges of pro-Germanism were raised against the University both from Wisconsin and from the country at large. Some persons, knowing that La Follette opposed American participation in the war and that there were many Germans in Wisconsin, concluded that the state and its University were probably fostering disloyalty." Senator La Follette had opposed the entrance of the United States into the war in a filibuster which attracted attention nationwide. The Wisconsin state legislature subsequently adopted a resolution condemning his failure to support the war, and the faculty of the University followed with a petition denouncing the senator which President Van Hise also signed, even though he was a personal friend of La Follette and a University president who was "fond of saying that a University should reflect the spirit of the times without yielding to it, . . ."³²

A special Wisconsin statute provided that those who had been in military service could draw \$30 a month for four years while in attendance at a state educational institution. In the *Periscope* of 1920, "Our Bonus Boys" were pictured. The opportunity attracted a number of veterans to the normal schools, resulting in peak enrollment in 1922-23. At Eau Claire, there were 290 students in 1920-21, 399 in 1921-22, and 500 in 1922-23, and apparently because the tide of Bonus Boys receded, the figures dropped in the next four years to 488, 480, 432, and 336.³³

Enthusiasm for Athletics: the Necessity for a Football Field

With the end of World War I and the transformation of the "Normal" at Eau Claire from nearly an all-girl school to a coeducational institution in fact as well as in theory, enthusiasm for athletics grew. "Major" George Simpson coached the two state championship football teams of 1920 and 1922. Since rules of eligibility were flexible, there was some questioning of the 1920 season contests, with the normal school presidents called upon for a ruling on the Superior and Stevens Point games; however, Eau Claire was declared champion and, until 1963, it was the only undefeated season Eau Claire ever had.

Basketball was played at the school from the first year, though there was a problem of making up a team when only two of ten who answered the call had ever played before and the others "blinked



President Harvey Schofield is on the far left, Coach O. L. Loop on the far right

inquiringly at mention of the game.” But this situation disappeared when the Bonus Boys came back from camp and enrolled for the second semester of 1918-19, and in 1920-21 Coach William C. Phillips had a co-championship team. Monroe Milliren coached basketball from 1922-25, and Carl Berger from 1925-28. High school basketball also engendered enthusiasm among the normal school students, and in 1919 the state tournament was held in Old Main’s gym, with Mr. Fox providing bleachers and benches to seat 800 and President Schofield presenting the medals.

Track was another matter, and in 1923 President Schofield wrote to H. J. Hancock of the State Normal School at Oshkosh as follows:

I understand that the Eau Claire Normal School is supposed to pay \$10.00 for medals or some such proposition for the track teams of last year. If we owe \$10.00 we are willing to pay it but I am serving notice at this time, that we will not pay \$10.00 in the future or any other time because the Eau Claire Normal has no way of training track and field athletes and hence cannot compete in this state meet. Since we cannot take part in the meet we object to buying medals for Milwaukee and La Crosse.

I wish to further protest against the absolutely foolish practice of holding a track meet at Camp Randall each year, that brings in \$25 or \$30 in receipts. By holding this at Camp Randall we give the students a chance to become interested in the University and undoubtedly lose some of them as a result. If we want to

commit athletic “hari kari” let us have it in our own back yard and not go down to the University of Wisconsin.³⁴

Both girls and boys at the normal school formed athletic associations which not only supported baseball, basketball, and football teams, but encouraged intramural competition and “exercise for all.” The girls’ organization had a point system: 100 accumulated in sports was the ticket of admission; 300 earned a letter, and 900 a blue and gold sweater. To stir up enthusiasm at inter-normal school games, the school band, directed by amateur talent, was started in 1920, and a pep club calling itself “The Howling Half Hundred” had the same purpose.

At first, baseball and football games were played in the “Driving Park,” a field with grandstand and bleachers about a half-mile east of the normal school, adjacent to Little Niagara Creek and Putnam Park. Used for sulky racing, county fairs, religious and political rallies, and “victory gardens” during World War I, it was not an ideal athletic field, and in 1925 the Armistice Day football game was described as “the battle of the Marne, mud and all, re-enacted in the Driving Park mud flats.” “Ade” Olson was the football captain in the fall of 1925, but in the spring of 1926, when Coach Gerber’s call for baseball candidates went out, Olson was slow to respond: “. . . a good-sized squad is at work daily in the driving park limbering up their scoring muscles . . . neither Ade Olson nor Cap Larson have as yet been able to get out in the togs consistently as they are busy with the senior class play.”³⁵

The necessity for a football field that was the normal school's own monopolized the attention of all in the spring of 1926 when it was made known that the Park Company, which controlled the Driving Park, had other plans for the property. At a hearing before the board of regents three sites were suggested for a field: the corner of Garfield and Park Avenues, known as the "dump" because of the dismal hollow left by the excavations for gravel used during the construction of Old Main; a block of lots directly south of the "dump" on Park Avenue and east of the school's heating plant, which President Schofield favored as costing the least; and a low flat acreage across Little Niagara Creek and south of Old Main. Judge Wickham was the only Eau Claire resident to appear before the board of regents. Just the year before, he had built a fine home on Park Avenue directly across from the open land east of the school, and he stated emphatically that he wished to "have the athletic field farther away from his front door."

A public hearing was held in Eau Claire, and again Judge Wickham voiced strenuous objections to a Park Avenue location. According to the *Spectator* of May 5, 1926, he wanted the field "in the bog" south of the creek, and the editor went on to suggest that Mr. Slagg's biology class might object strongly to the usurpation of good frog-hunting ground.

The *Spectator*, born "a lusty youngster" in 1923 with the blessing of Mr. Schofield, continued to convey news of athletic field prospects to an excited student body. The impending purchase of eight lots east of the heating plant, four of them from the Park Company and four from August Reiss, and fourteen acres south of the creek from Judge Wickham was reported in the *Spectator* of November 24, 1926, and the prediction was made that all future acreage needs of the normal school would now be adequately taken care of. It was not until December 20 that Regent Peter Smith announced the acquisition of the land in the *Eau Claire Leader*.

Purchase of land did not guarantee the immediate construction of a field, however, and the *Spectator* staff followed President Schofield's trips to Madison to present Eau Claire's case to the board of regents and the legislature's finance committee. In the March 31, 1927, issue, under a Madison date-line, there appeared in the *Spectator* a long dispatch describing the plans the state engineer had prepared for a "stadium seating 10,000, softwater showers for players, electric footwarmers for spec-

tators, and a special glass-enclosed section for the faculty and distinguished guests." President Schofield, amused by the hoax, commented: "The *Spectator* isn't financially able to receive C.O.D. a long telegram from Madison or anywhere else, even if allowed newspaper rates."

Following a visit of a committee of the regents in April 1927, permission was forthcoming to grade and seed the Park Avenue area, which served as the football field in the 1928 season. The athletic field which Judge Wickham wished to have located south of the creek was begun in June 1928 and completed in October 1929. The total cost of \$11,400 covered: land, \$2,000; drainage, \$1,000; grading, \$2,400; bleachers, \$1,000; fencing, \$4,000; and a quarter-mile cinder track outside the bleachers, \$1,000. A steel cable enclosed the playing field to prevent spectators from rushing on to it in their enthusiasm.

In 1928, W. L. Zorn came to Eau Claire State Normal School to coach basketball and football. At Stevens Point Normal, which he entered in 1921, Zorn had played both games as a star, and then had gone on to the University of Chicago, where he earned not only a degree but fame as one of the best backs in the country. He coached at Waite High School, Toledo, for three years, producing an Ohio state championship football team. "Bill" Zorn came to Eau Claire with the reputation of "an excellent coach and a real gentleman — the Alonzo A. Stagg type of man."³⁶ During one of the Normal's poor seasons, Mr. Schofield was approached by complaining townsmen; he dismissed them with the firm statement that the important point was that Bill Zorn was the kind of upright, consistent person he wanted working with his boys.³⁷ He brought these same qualities to the position of dean of men, which he held, in addition to his coaching duties, for many years at Eau Claire.

The Lettermen, a club of men who had earned the coveted "E" in sports, was organized in 1923. Other organizations for men had an athletic component: the Crusaders, comprised of those who supported student activities and earned scholastic distinction as well; and De Chatillon, which promoted athletics, friendship, morality, and loyalty to country, assisted by faculty advisers Monroe Milliren and B. W. Bridgman. Attempting to supply an atmosphere of sociability and friendship as a substitute for dormitory living were a Religious and Social Welfare Council for men and the Young Women's Christian Association for women, and in these organizations, too, there was a closeness between faculty and students.

The Spectator: How the Student Newspaper Was Launched

J. Hartt Walsh, '24, was the advertising manager of the *Periscope* in 1922-23, and "Arn" Vollum was the editor. It was a good yearbook, but the growing normal school needed a college newspaper. In the words of the main instigator, J. Hartt Walsh:

Arn and I felt that 'Stub' Imislund would make a cracker-jack of an editor . . . he had great ability, imagination, creativeness, skill, dedication, and a gift for hard work. He was also a brilliant cartoonist, nearly a half-century before Bill Mauldin! The big job, however, was to convince President Schofield of the need for a college newspaper and of its immediate (not ultimate!) success as a business venture.

In September 1923 we moved into high gear. Luckily, Stub agreed enthusiastically with the idea of a school newspaper and being its first editor. But what about the financial structure of the (hopefully) fledgling paper? I was business manager of the *Periscope* that year, and because of my earlier contacts with businessmen and advertisers in the Eau Claire-Chippewa Falls area, I got firm printing cost figures for a year and armed with only a hand-ruled, marked-off, blank paper dummy, sold more than enough advertising for the entire year 1923-24 to float the *Spectator*, if we could sell 300 subscriptions to our fellow students.

But President Schofield! I approached him first early in September. He rather liked my idea and thought that perhaps some time in the future maybe the school ought to have a newspaper. But for now, 'NO!' I returned again and again and, finally, confronted with the blank dummy, the list of prospective advertisers with commitments, the printing cost, et cetera, President Schofield reluctantly agreed that perhaps the paper 'would go' that year of 1923-24 with 300 out of 488 students subscribing to it.

I am not sure of the genesis of the name 'Spectator.' It probably originated with Stub Imislund and-or Professor A. L. Murray, chairman of English and faculty sponsor of both the *Spectator* and the *Periscope*. While the student body had been 'gung ho' for a school paper and had endorsed the idea with great enthusiasm, just before the initial copy came off the press we had only 150 paid subscriptions. Mr. Schofield agreed to call an assembly so we could cajole the kids into putting their money where their 'gung ho' had been. We used several de-

vices and wound up with 300 additional paid subscriptions. Stub Imislund handled the entire editorial end, and I was designated general business manager of both the *Spectator* and the *Periscope* in 1923-24, perhaps the first and only student in the history of the school to hold both jobs at once.³⁸

Other Talents Rewarded: Theatre and Music

Theatrical and musical talents were tapped in several lavish stage productions which involved as many as a hundred normal school and model school students. In 1920, "Miss Cherry Blossom," a pretty Japanese operetta, delighted townfolk of Eau Claire and Chippewa Falls. The dances were created by the physical education instructors, the costumes by Mrs. Lyla Flagler and her girls in domestic science classes, and the musical numbers and orchestral accompaniment were directed by Grace Gail Giberson, the very popular music teacher who remained with the school for the first five years.

Another of the early productions was "Glory of the Morning," an extravaganza written by Professor William Ellery Leonard of the University of Wisconsin about the Winnebago Indians. This production generated a special enthusiasm among the students, for tradition was that the "Point of Rock," just below the spot where Little Niagara Creek flowed into the Chippewa River, had been set in 1825 by a United States Survey crew as the boundary line between Sioux, Chippewa, and Winnebago tribes.³⁹

Much more sophisticated was the production of George Bernard Shaw's "Candida" as the senior class play of 1923, and it was necessary to explain to some whose eyebrows were raised that students in A. L. Murray's English class had read the play, become fascinated with it, and had asked to perform it.⁴⁰ With this one exception, senior class plays were non-controversial comedy entertainment. There remained an underlying interest in serious drama, however, and in 1929 the club called "Strut and Fret" made its debut, a step toward the flowering of theatre in the 1930s on the campus at Eau Claire.

The Student Council, which was organized in 1924, recognized with "honor point" pins those who were active in extracurricular pursuits other than athletics. The bandmaster and the cheerleader were considered to have earned the highest number of points, 50; presidents of recognized organizations and members of Student Council, 35; contestants in debate, participants in musical groups, and the staff of *Spectator* or *Periscope* were rewarded with

lesser numbers of points. There were daily assembly periods when students, faculty, and administrators joined in scheduled activities: every Monday there was group singing; on Tuesday the different clubs foregathered; on Wednesday the faculty provided a lecture or entertainment; on Thursday the president "reigned supreme"; and on Friday the Student Council was responsible for a program. The six seniors and six juniors elected to the Student Council actually acted as an auxiliary to the administration in protecting school property and providing for "the expression of good will and courtesy wherever students are assembled."

The Faculty of the 1920s: "Independence in Thinking and Democracy in Cooperation"

C. D. Donaldson came to the Eau Claire faculty in 1921 as an instructor in education and psychology. The following year, asked by the editor of the *Periscope* to give his impressions of the faculty and student body for publication in the 1923 annual, he wrote:

The two chief characteristics of the faculty, in my estimation, are independence in thinking and democracy in cooperation. Independence in thinking is a cardinal principle with all men and women who wish to keep and maintain their self-respect. . . . The president who can keep his ideal of democracy unsullied; the faculty who can put into everyday practice this same ideal of democracy; such a president and such a faculty can rest assured that the fundamental tenets of our American society will be safely taught to the student body.

The individual faculty members whom Mr. Donaldson would grow to know even better in the 1920s were, first of all, masters of teaching techniques at a time when the philosophy and methods of John Dewey were much respected and Teachers College, Columbia, was the mecca of the public education world. Every instructor taught in more than one field, or took on an administrative responsibility in addition to teaching, and took his or her duty to prepare teachers for the public schools seriously. As one faculty member said, ". . . a normal school diploma is only for those who have survived a kindly but thorough weeding out administered by a wise, sympathetic, rigorous faculty."⁴¹

The Students: "Earnestness of Purpose"

In the same contribution to the *Periscope*, C. D. Donaldson said of the students:

The attitude of the students in the classroom is marked by an earnestness of purpose and a

sincere desire for training that one always expects to find in a normal school . . . in the main, one is impressed with the joy which marks so much of the work.

Too many students seem to think that the halls are primarily designed as meeting places to pass away leisure time in trying to impress the opposite sex with their grace and wit. The atmosphere of the halls, also, seems very conducive to the cultivation of what may be styled, horticulturally, budding romances.

The students in the library, as a whole, seem to know what a library is for. But one finds a peculiar type of student once in awhile in the library, who has a fixed idea that the library is a room in which he must be allowed to parade his charms of conversational discourse. There are both male and female examples of this type.⁴²

In general, one finds here a great number of busy people intent on giving their best in solving the problems of the day, yet never so busy that they cannot spare the time to give the kindly smile, to say the kindly word, to enjoy the latest joke. In short, one finds a typical body of fine Americans engaged in preparation for the greatest work that any man or woman can be called upon to do in time of peace.

Though the decade of the 1920s is commonly referred to as "the jazz age," a period of questioning the values of the past and of great interest in the writings of Sigmund Freud, Eugene McPhee, who graduated in 1923 and kept in constant communication with the normal school during the seven years before he returned to take the bachelor of education degree in 1930-31, remembered the 1920s as a conservative time. Apart from the daring of the faculty member who bobbed her hair and then wore a wig for fear Mr. Schofield would discover what she had done, and of the first faculty member who smoked a cigarette at a school dinner; the half-hidden existence of the "smoking room" where male students congregated in the tunnel between the main building and the heating plant; and an occasional lark at a "speakeasy," Mr. McPhee felt that the tone of both teacher and student behavior was conformist:

If you began to goof off, you found yourself in the president's office; he was concerned because you weren't doing well. . . . The general conduct of the students was very serious. Teaching was a stepping stone from factories and farm work to the professions, and the history of a lot of people of that period was to

graduate from a normal school, teach for a couple of years, save your money, and go to law school or into engineering or medicine.⁴³

At the fourth annual alumni banquet, Marvin McMahon, '20, was listed in the program as "ringmaster," and President Schofield as "starter of the chariot race." Whether these functions referred to the dancing afterward is not clear, but certain it is that there was much fun-making. Another annual event, homecoming, was a happy link between alumni and alma mater; begun in 1923, the observance always included a football game.

Many graduates of the early years remained in Eau Claire and nearby communities, among them: Delia Anderson and Erna Buchholz, college and university librarians; Ralph Anderson, Eau Claire newspaperman, and Milo E. Nickel, Chippewa Falls newspaper publisher; Donald Barnes, attorney, and David Barnes, high school principal; Mae Buck Bertelson and sister, Mildred Buck Lehman, community and alumni association supporters; Alden Losby, attorney; Albert Larson, architect; the Nelson family of Cadott with brother, Walter H. Nelson, a California businessman; twins Florence Plant Albrecht and Isabelle Plant Plunkett, social workers in Chippewa Falls; Alma Bubeck Goetz, school board member in Cadott and teacher; Anna Johnson Thorp, Chippewa county superintendent of schools; Grace M. Woodington, Altoona school board member, who sent all six of her children to college at Eau Claire; Walton R. Manz and Raymond R. Richards, Eau Claire physicians, the latter at one time physician for the Eau Claire State Teachers College.

Among those alumni of the early years who pursued distinguished careers away from the Eau Claire area were: Waldemar Augustine, deputy attorney for California; Joseph T. Button, construction engineer with the Veterans Administration; Ida Margaret Pratt Chatterton, Presbyterian church missionary serving in Cameroun for 32 years; John J. Cowley, engineer, with science and technology division of the Central Intelligence Agency; Milford E. Cowley, UW-La Crosse chemistry professor; Mildred Almy Cowley, La Crosse university librarian; Kathryn Eggers Vance, teacher, Beaverton, Oregon; Lawrence Flagler, corporation executive and international businessman; Bill Gavin, San Francisco publisher and radio news editor; T. Keith Glennan, head of the U.S. Space agency and president of Case Institute of Technology; Mildred Grill, with the Internal Revenue office, Milwaukee; Philip Law and Roy Sugars, Chicago physicians; Stella Amundson Meixner Kobilka, Chicago and St. Paul, art lover; Lester O. Luce, judge of the municipal court, Ingle-

wood, California; Elisabeth Murray Johanson, California teacher; Eugene O'Brien, Minneapolis newspaper publisher; Hardean Peterson, with the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction in Madison; Madge Wallace Peterson, Great Falls, Montana, who sent four children to Eau Claire; James P. Quigg, Wyoming educator; Milton C. Towner, founder of American Institute of Foreign Trade, Phoenix; Mildred Halling Garland, Pittsburgh, community worker; teachers Minda Hovland, Superior, Clara Siefert, La Crosse; Harold Rounds and Arthur H. Ziemann, Milwaukee; and Herbert Risteen, nationally syndicated originator of crossword puzzles.⁴⁴

The Distinguished Alumni Service Award, first given in 1961, has been bestowed on eight who studied at the Eau Claire Normal School and Teachers College in the 1920s: Annabelle Erickson, elementary coordinator for the public schools of Eau Claire; Eugene R. McPhee, director of Wisconsin State Universities; Marvin McMahon, superintendent of the Kettle Moraine Boys School; J. Hartt Walsh, dean of the School of Education at Butler University; Lyall T. Beggs, Madison attorney and president of the Wisconsin Bar; Adolph M. Olson, professor of physical education and coach, UW-Eau Claire; Lillian Lee, teacher of the handicapped; LaVern Brinkman, California insurance man and president of California Goodwill Industries.

To these names should be added those of innumerable others who gather for the 50th year reunions on the Eau Claire campus, particularly those many who have been dedicated teachers in the public schools. With all the recital of names, there remains, finally, the warmth of personal memory as shown forth in the recollection of Jeanne Shoemaker Jones, written in anticipation of her 50th reunion:

In thinking about those days of the first years of the normal school, I still want to remember it as the huge, beautiful building — just an enormous chunk of Heaven! I can still smell Mrs. Ray's hot homemade doughnuts and can feel the terrific thrill it was to be able to eat lunch in the cafeteria — full meal for 15 cents. And the joys of a gorgeous gym, also the magnetic moments in the music room with Grace Gail Giberson. How lucky we were to grow up in such a delightful age!

CHAPTER I — FOOTNOTES

¹ Program of the Dedication, Eau Claire State Normal School, October 19, 1916, Archives, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire.

² *Eau Claire Leader*, October 20, 1916.

³ John G. Gregory, *West Central Wisconsin: A History* (Indianapolis: S. J. Clarke Publishing Co., Inc, 1933),

Vol. II, p. 777; A. R. Reynolds, *The Daniel Shaw Lumber Company* (New York: New York University Press, 1957), pp. 148-52; William Francis Raney, *Wisconsin, A Story of Progress* (Appleton, Wisconsin: Perin Press, 1963) p. 209; Paul Wallace Gates, *The Wisconsin Pine Lands of Cornell University: A Study in Land Policy and Absentee Ownership* (Ithaca, New York: Cornell University Press, 1943), p. 248. The last log drive on the Chippewa River occurred in 1910.

⁴ William F. Bailey, ed., *History of Eau Claire County, Wisconsin* (Chicago: C. P. Cooper & Co., 1914), pp. 294, 373-78, 438-40, 461-510; adoption of Commission form of city government, *Eau Claire Leader*, February 16, 1910.

⁵ *Eau Claire Leader*, September 21, 1916. On September 18, the day of the opening of the normal school, civic leaders met to plan the dedication on October 19, which they were aware was also the date of the Eau Claire-based meeting of the Northwest Wisconsin Teachers Association.

⁶ Township 24 lies immediately south of Eau Claire County, which lies within Townships 25, 26, and 27.

⁷ An exchange of letters between two prominent lumbermen of Eau Claire, John S. Owen and Orrin H. Ingram, July 1893, is evidence of local interest. Copies in the Archives, UW-Eau Claire.

⁸ Charles McKenny, *Educational History of Wisconsin* (Chicago: Delmont Company, 1912), p. 143.

⁹ *Ibid.*, p. 153.

¹⁰ *Periscope*, Eau Claire State Normal School, 1917.

¹¹ Emmet Horan, the son of Irish immigrants, reared on a farm near Eau Claire and educated in the public schools of Eau Claire, had been a foreman of logging camps, and from 1885 to 1889, by appointment of President Grover Cleveland, register of the United States Land Office in Eau Claire. In 1889 he joined with others in incorporating the McDonough Manufacturing Company. Bailey, *op. cit.*, biography of Horan, pp. 734-35; account of Eau Claire County Training School (which continued in existence until 1930), pp. 54-55. Mr. Horan ran for mayor of Eau Claire in 1916 as "The Eau Claire Booster," newspaper advertisement, Archives, UW-Eau Claire.

¹² McKenny, *op. cit.*, p. 153.

¹³ Emmet Horan, quoted in *Periscope*, 1917.

¹⁴ *Eau Claire Leader*, December 7 and December 16, 1909.

¹⁵ *Ibid.*, February 1, 2, 5, 6, 1910.

¹⁶ In his youth H. C. Putnam had surveyed government lands in Wisconsin, and he subsequently became the person who ran the Government Land Office in Eau Claire from 1864 to 1872. He was a highly successful land agent and acted in that capacity in locating for Cornell University the body of timber on the Chippewa River from the sale of which Cornell University derived a large sum of money (Gates, *op. cit.*, pp. 63, 77, 85, 91-95, 105, 113-18, 185, 225-26, 250). Mr. Putnam became a stockholder and director of many lumbering enterprises located in Oregon, British Columbia, Minnesota, and northern Wisconsin. He became vice president of the American Forestry Association, and between the years 1880 and 1883 he examined the stands of white pine remaining in Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Michigan, and Minnesota and made a report which was embodied in the Tenth Census of the United States. In 1885 Mr. Putnam visited France, Germany, and Switzerland to study the methods of replanting the forests there, and he later made a report of this study to the British Association of Science, of which he was a member (Bailey, *op. cit.*, pp. 830-34). A picture of Mr. Putnam, wearing fedora, pince-nez, and fur cape, with a cane over his arm, is in Bailey, *op. cit.*, opposite p. 830.

¹⁷ It was the *Eau Claire Leader*, June 30, 1910, which stated that Mr. Horan was "armed with the deed." Documents in UW-EC Archives include: Letter from Eau Claire City Commissioners to Eau Claire Park Company, David Drummond, secretary, June 17, 1910, stating certain conditions and offering \$9,000; reply by David Drummond, dated

July 21, stating Park Company would not reduce the price, but would change the form of the tract as requested; Council Resolution, dated July 27, 1910, to accept the Park Company offer of July 21, with conditions on channel of the creek and use of the road on the bank of the river; notice to Mayor and Council of judgement of the Circuit Court of Eau Claire, November 23, 1910, vacating that part of the Eau Claire Park Company's Addition previously platted into blocks; acknowledgment by the Assistant Attorney General of the State of Wisconsin, dated November 26, of receipt of abstract of title and copy of the judgement of the Circuit Court; letter of Corporation Counsel A. H. Shoemaker to the City Council, December 4, enclosing model deed; letter from the Attorney General to William Kittle, secretary of the Board of Regents of Normal Schools, dated December 5, approving title; and deed, dated December 15, 1910, from City of Eau Claire to the State of Wisconsin to the normal school site; letter from William Kittle to the Honorable J. B. Fleming, mayor of Eau Claire, "I have on file all the documents, including the opinion of the Attorney General relating to the Normal School site in the City of Eau Claire. These will be presented to the Board of Regents of Normal Schools on December 30."

¹⁸ *Periscope*, 1917.

¹⁹ *Eau Claire Leader*, January 21, 1911. First architect's sketch in Archives, UW-Eau Claire.

²⁰ Pamphlet, "Why the Normal School Should Be Constructed Now," Archives, UW-EC. For discussions of the importance of geographical location in relation to the opportunity for achieving higher education, see: James Bryant Conant, *Education in a Divided World* (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1948), pp. 182-86; "The President's Commission on Higher Education for Democracy, 1947," in Richard Hofstadter and Wilson Smith, *American Higher Education: A Documentary History* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1961), Vol. II, pp. 977-78.

²¹ The building of Old Main is described in a letter from E. G. Hoepfner, to Laura Sutherland, dated January 31, 1961, Archives, UW-Eau Claire.

²² Grace Gail Giberson to Delia Anderson, letter written in anticipation of the 25th anniversary of the first graduating class, 1952, Archives, UW-Eau Claire.

²³ *Bulletin of the State Normal School*, Eau Claire, Wisconsin, Serial No. 1, July 1916; *Periscope*, 1917. Sketches of C. J. Brewer and W. A. Clark are found in McKenny, *op. cit.*, pp. 502 and 506. A biographical statement about E. G. Doudna appears on pages 8-9 of a book by him entitled *The Thirtieth Star*, published by the Democrat Printing Company, Madison, in 1948. To mark the 1948 State Centennial, Mr. Doudna wrote "The Making of Our Wisconsin Schools, 1848-1948," which was printed in the January 1948 number of the *Wisconsin Journal of Education*. Reprint in the Archives, UW-Eau Claire.

²⁴ *Periscope*, 1917.

²⁵ *Bulletin of the State Normal School*, Eau Claire, July 1916, pp. 8-13.

²⁶ *Ibid.*, pp. 15-16.

²⁷ C. J. Brewer was sometimes referred to in school publications as vice president of the normal school. As he visited classrooms, he recorded the progress of neophyte teachers in a little black book; nevertheless, he was considered by the students "a man of loyalty, foresight, and kindness of spirit." "At that time your job opportunities were entirely dependent on the director of training, who also was the placement officer, Mr. Brewer," according to Eugene McPhee (Howard R. Fredricks, Interviews with Eugene McPhee, taped April 17 to June 6, 1973, p. 50), who also stated that when the normal school became Eau Claire State Teachers College in 1928, the normal school at River Falls gave Mr. Brewer an honorary bachelor's degree so that he would have that credential.

Katherine Ryan, assistant principal of the model school, in the words of her colleague, Hilda Belle Oxby, had "a

special genius in teacher education." In 1927, according to Miss Oxby, Mr. Schofield allowed himself to be convinced by a group of Eau Claire women that if Miss Ryan, who was an epileptic, had a seizure in a classroom that would be a traumatic experience for the children. Though Miss Ryan had already been elected president of the Northwest Wisconsin Education Association for 1928-29, she was discharged from the normal school faculty; however, Miss Ryan presided over NWEA meetings the following year. (Conversation, Hilda Belle Oxby to Hilda Carter, May 16, 1969.)

William E. Welch, in his book *What Happened In Between, A Doctor's Story* (New York: George Braziller, 1972), p. 4, recalled early model school attendance: "The supervisors were warm and astute, many of them dedicated professionals. The fledgling teachers were watched from the back of the room by their preceptors, as they struggled to convey the intricacies of parsing a sentence or the Constitution's checks and balances. They were not always model pedagogues. Fresh from their village high schools, they were hardly more informed than their sophisticated pupils, but the supervisors filled in the gaps. . . . Miss Thomas, who made the 7th grade arithmetic and Palmer method of handwriting into adventures and exploration; Miss James, a distant relative, it was said, of Henry and William, who brought Caesar and Cicero alive . . . these were women of character and magnetism. And then there was Mr. Fox, five feet of ramrod, gray-haired authority, . . . who made fractions and long division a process of logic that still holds a special magic."

²⁸ Clippings from the *Eau Claire Leader* from 1918 through 1923 and a few from the Chippewa Falls newspapers may be found in a scrapbook kept by Mrs. Harvey Schofield, Archives, UW-EC; many of the clippings do not have the exact date of publication.

²⁹ News item found in the Schofield scrapbook, *op. cit.*

³⁰ Eugene McPhee recalled the highlights of his years at the normal school, 1921-23, as "singing the lead in the operetta 'Old Louisiana,' being a member of the debate team at a time when 'debate was considered to be very important,' and courtship of my wife" (Frances Fulton, of Eau Claire, class of '24). "You would get 300 or 400 students at an evening debate . . . we were debating foreign policy and weighty matters. It was good training, and we had a good debate coach, a gentleman by the name of Ames." (Fredricks, interview with Eugene McPhee, pp. 37-39.) One of the lasting efforts of the early Student Council was the creation of a debate trophy in the name of J.W.T. Ames, who died in April of 1924.

³¹ When the body of Lt. Arthur M. Olson was returned to Eau Claire, the entire student bodies of the normal school and model school attended the funeral on January 14, 1921, and the following April a portrait purchased with contributions from students collected on the previous Armistice Day was unveiled by President Schofield.

³² Maurice M. Vance, *Charles Van Hise, Scientist Progressive* (Madison: The State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1960), pp. 176-82. Though anti-German feeling did not directly affect the normal school, some citizens of the Eau Claire community were objects of suspicion, and one, Jacob J. Auer, publisher of the German language paper, *Der Herold*, was jailed. In the summer of 1917, the federal Trading Act was passed, and one of the provisions was a section requiring that all foreign language publications file an English translation in advance of publication with the local postmaster if the material dealt in some way with the war. The action against Auer was one of four brought under the mail section of the Act in Wisconsin. At a March 15, 1918, citizens' protest meeting called by the Eau Claire County Council of Defense, the postmaster testified that Auer did not file translations of a number of articles. Eight days later, Auer was arrested by a federal marshal and arraigned in Madison. Though relatives testified that there

had been a decline in Auer's mental capacity in the past two years, and that Auer had purchased Liberty Bonds and contributed to the Red Cross, Auer was convicted and sentenced to serve a year and a half in Leavenworth. (John D. Stevens, "When Sedition Laws Were Enforced: Wisconsin in World War I," *Transactions of the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts, and Letters*, Vol. 58, 1970, pp. 39-60.)

³³ H. A. Brown, "Facts about Attendance and Costs of State Normal Schools in Wisconsin," in *Normal Schools and Teachers Colleges of Wisconsin* (Oshkosh, Wisconsin: Castle-Pierce Printing Company), a collection of pamphlets bound under this title, no title page, Archives, UW-Eau Claire.

³⁴ President's Correspondence, Archives, UW-Eau Claire.

³⁵ *Eau Claire Leader*, April 1926. Asked by the 1933 *Periscope* staff to reminisce about the years in which he coached football at the normal school, 1916 through 1924, George Simpson said: "At the top of the names of former athletes come that of Clarence 'Dubie' Williams, '21, who played both basketball and football for Eau Claire in 1919. He was a fighting fool and knew football from A to Z. That one man was as valuable as a whole backfield together. Another name high on the list is that of Harold 'Red' Carroll, who played football as a quarterback and basketball for three years, 1920, 1921, and 1922. 'Ade' Olson was the most selfless player the school has known. Ade, who developed school spirit with capital letters, came close to being the ideal athlete, brilliant in his playing but consistently submerging his own glory for the benefit of the team and school. . . . Two men who played for Eau Claire in 1920, Ralph Gill and Kibo Brumm, later made the varsity at the University of Wisconsin."

³⁶ *Spectator*, October 18, 1928.

³⁷ Recollection of Mabel Chipman, business manager in Mr. Schofield's office, to Hilda Carter.

³⁸ *The View*, published by the Alumni Association of UW-Eau Claire, August 1974, p. 14.

³⁹ Clippings from the *Eau Claire Leader*, October 16, 1919, and from the *Chippewa Falls Herald*, January 21, 1920, in Mrs. Schofield's scrapbook, *op. cit.* Information about the "point of rock" in *Periscope*, 1929, and *Spectator*, January 13, 1939.

⁴⁰ *Eau Claire Leader*, May 30, 1923.

⁴¹ A. L. Murray, in "Faculty Forum," *Spectator*, January 13, 1926.

⁴² The library, a large, pleasant room at the west on the second floor of Old Main, was perhaps more popular than one would expect, for the school had limited facilities for socializing. In 1917-18 the library had 4,020 books, many of them chosen from a list which President Schofield had solicited from the president of Superior State Normal School in the summer of 1916. Florence Farnham was the first librarian, succeeded in 1918 by Winifred Winans, who was chief librarian until 1930, when she was succeeded by one of her assistants, Erna Buchholz. Between 1918 and 1930, 7,850 volumes were added to the normal school library. Library records, Archives, UW-Eau Claire.

⁴³ Fredricks, interview with Eugene McPhee, pp. 44-45.

⁴⁴ Alumni Records of the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire. No attempt has been made by the writers to make an exhaustive survey of those who graduated in the different periods of history described in this book, and those who are not mentioned by name are surely equally worthy of recognition. However, on the premise that names make interesting reading, we have taken the liberty of mentioning those persons who have come to our attention through newspaper clippings, letters which they have written to the alumni secretary or editor of *The View*, news of themselves and families which they have sent to *The View*, and through the contacts, always delightful, which have resulted from the 50th class reunion and other class and alumni association gatherings.