

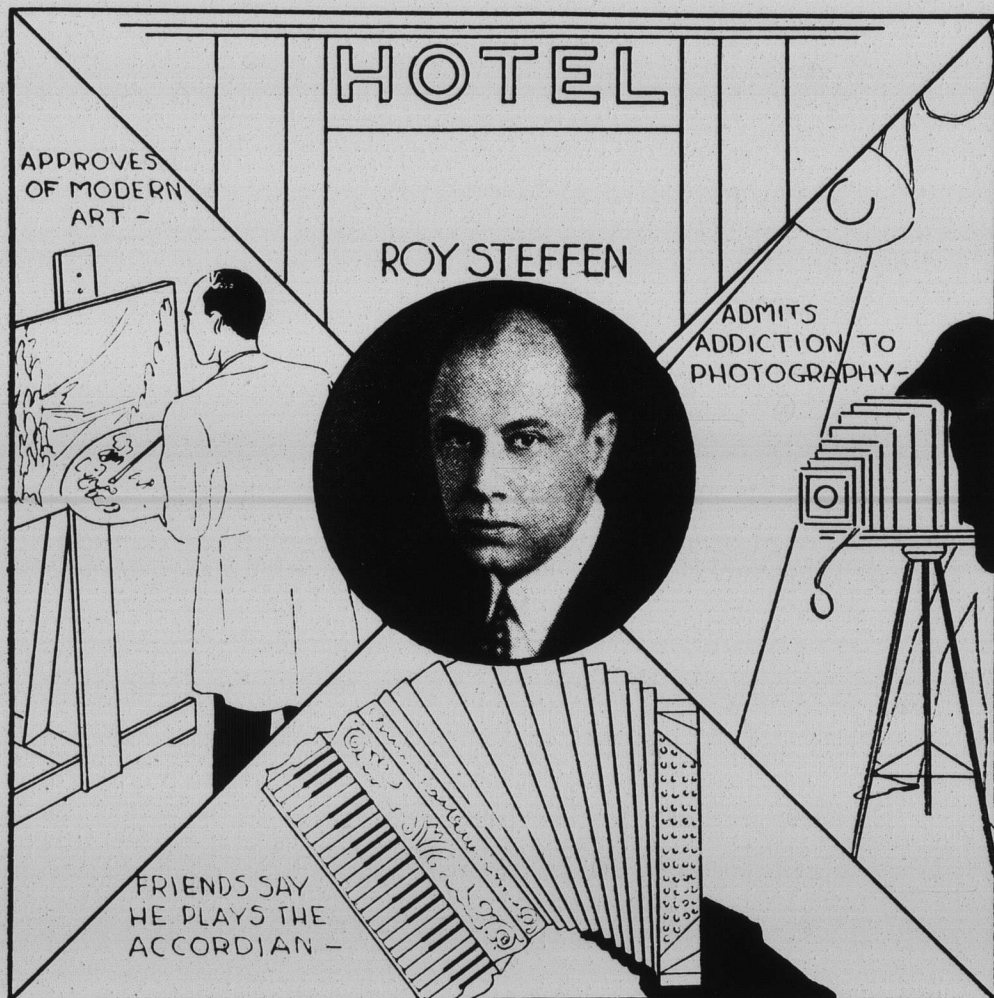
# North Shore PERSONALITIES.

BY  
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HAWKINS

Of all the places to pick for an interview with Roy Steffen perhaps his office in the Bismarck hotel is the worst. Between appointments in person and telephone conversations there was only a moment now and then for conversation of a connected nature. An interview in his new place in Door county between Ephraim and Sister Bay, where he carries on in summer a favorite diversion,

"I think the caricaturist type is passing, that the artist of poor technique will lose out. Modern art is in a state of transition. Each artist has been trying to emphasize certain qualities, trying to get away from the photographic realism of the old painters. I think color will be retained as modern art changes, but the form will be modified."

When asked if in his recreational



painting, would be more satisfactory doubtless.

Or a visit to his Forest avenue home in Wilmette would permit glimpses of his finished paintings and photographic work. Possibly Mr. Steffen might even consent to demonstrate his skill on the accordion.

## Photography a Hobby

These three activities are his chief hobbies, if we take the word of his associates. Mr. Steffen says he is no painter, a mere beginner on the accordion. He really admits only to an addiction to photography, which is a hobby he cultivated most seriously on his trips to Europe.

A feeling for composition led him to take up painting, wherein his wife, the former Charlotte Eitel, daughter of Karl Eitel, excels.

"There is plenty of opportunity to play with color, too," remarked Mr. Steffen in one of the moments allowed for conversation in his office. "Most people when they go into the woods see the green leaves, the brown bark on the trees. They miss the lavender, the yellow tints. One interested in or studying art sees these colors. I like details of color and form."

Noticing the two Van Goghs and the Renoir prints on his office walls, this reporter asked for an opinion on modern art. Mr. Steffen approves of it.

## Approves Modern Art

"I do not like the extreme forms of modern art," he qualified quickly.

experimentation with oils he liked to paint landscapes or portraits, Mr. Steffen was equally quick to formulate an answer. "Do you know any painters who like to do portraits, unless they are starving?"

So that was that. Mr. Steffen paints for relaxation, to forget business, to keep up with friends, many of whom are singers, musicians, painters.

"Wouldn't you prefer to be an artist, rather than a business man?"

## Applies Art to Business

Mr. Steffen again was quick to reply. "I don't know of a business where the artistic sense can be so much employed as in the hotel business—picking wallpaper, selecting prints, furniture, china, arranging for music and programs, engaging talent."

Again the telephone rang, to announce a caller. There was only time to ask about education, et cetera. "All in Wisconsin," "University too?" probed the reporter. "When?"

"Way back," grinned Mr. Steffen boyishly, with his dark eyes twinkling. "12 or '13, didn't finish there."

"War?"

## Has Varied Experience

"I fought the battle of Camp Taylor," joked Mr. Steffen. There he was commissioned first lieutenant. In the years since he has been with the Critchfield Advertising agency in Chicago, then manager of a nationally-known wood-working plant in Janesville, Wis. And a year ago to

## Stamp Club Will Hold Dinner and Exhibit Dec. 20

Stamp collectors of the north shore area will have a chance to see a real stamp exhibition the week before Christmas when the Skokie Valley Stamp club holds its first exhibition and dinner at Winnetka Community House on December 20, beginning at 6:30 o'clock. The event is open to everybody interested and all are cordially invited.

It is the purpose of the club to make the exhibition interesting to everybody rather than only to specialists and philatelists. For this reason, the various exhibits will be extremely diverse and popular, although some rareties will be included as well.

Prominent speakers from Chicago will talk at the dinner, and all interested are invited to attend this as well as the exhibition.

Mannel Hahn, secretary, is providing information at his office at 545 Lincoln avenue, Winnetka, and can be reached in the evening at Winnetka 2486.

Those wishing to exhibit stamps can also make arrangements for frames with the secretary. Frames will be ready for exhibitors on December 10.

## Josephine Compton Is Bride of Arthur Pearson

The marriage of Miss Josephine Compton, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Compton of St. Louis, and Arthur G. Pearson, son of Mr. and Mrs. John W. Pearson, 2009 Thornwood avenue, Wilmette, took place on Wednesday, November 21, at 5 o'clock at the Fourth Presbyterian church in Chicago. A reception followed afterwards at the home of Miss Kathryn Krah, in Chicago. Mr. Pearson and his bride are now at home at 18 East Elm street, Chicago, but expect to move to Wilmette next spring. Mr. Pearson is the scoutmaster of Troop 1, at the Congregational church in Wilmette. He is connected with NBC studios.

## SHRINE CARD PARTY

Bethsaida Shrine announces a card party with prizes at the home of Frances McClinton, 1616 Highland avenue, Wilmette, at 8 o'clock the evening of Saturday, December 8. A stated meeting of the organization occurs December 13, at 7:45 o'clock. The following day the B.B.B. club will meet at the home of Mrs. Margaret Sargeant, 2526 Jackson street, Evanston, from 10 in the morning until 4 in the afternoon. Luncheon will be served at noon.

Miss Mary Branigan of Winnetka, formerly of Kenilworth, left last Friday for Pittsburgh where she has taken a position with the Heinz company. Miss Branigan has been president of the Kenilworth Infant Welfare Center for the past year.

the Bismarck hotel to act as manager, a job he obviously enjoys. It offers so much variety of activity, and this ex-Milwaukeean, ex-Badger, in true artist fashion, chooses to make his activity as creative as possible.

"We have the finest prints in our guest rooms of any hotel in the country," he asserts modestly. "A hotel must develop outstanding attractions if it wishes to raise itself out of the ordinary run."

The Steffens have made their home either in Evanston or Wilmette during the past dozen years, thereby paying tribute to the artistic merits of the north shore.

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