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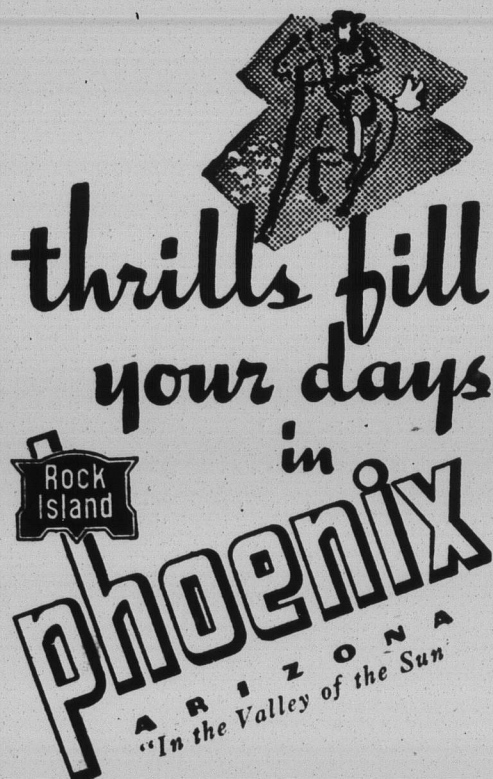
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ROCK ISLAND

Two New Trier Faculty Members Tell of Experiences in Britain

Were "Exchange Teachers" Abroad Last Year

Two members of the faculty of New Trier Township High school returned this fall to their duties after a year as "exchange teachers" in the British Isles.

The two are Miss Adah Flemington of the commerce department, who taught last year at the Hitchin girls' grammar school, near London, and R. S. Peterson, of the English department, who was at the Ayr academy, Ayr, Scotland.

"To go for a year to a girls' grammar school in Southern England from a Mid-Western high school is a change as well as an exchange. "Miss Flemington commented. "Besides being an opportunity to travel, it has been a valuable experience in teaching in an entirely different educational scheme, and it gives better understanding of international relations."

Christmas in Florence

Miss Flemington spent a month in attending lectures at Cambridge, spent Christmas in Florence, visited the bulb fields in the Netherlands, saw the beautifully cultivated Rhineland and attended Easter Sunday services at Lucerne. She went to England shortly after the close of school in June 1937, and returned to the United States last August.

The Hitchin school, Miss Flemington explained, is one for girls from the ages of 5 to 18—corresponding roughly to both elementary and secondary institutions in the United States. It's what in this country would be called a "private" school. That is, it's not tax-supported and the parents must pay a tuition in order to send their children.

Many Sacrifices

Parents, she added, make many sacrifices in order to send their children to the tuition schools, and the educational system supported solely by taxes is intended for those who will abandon their studies for work at about age 14.

"The children were delightful," Miss Flemington declared. "The emphasis of the whole educational system, however, is on facts and on examinations. Education over there is a very serious experience."

In this country, she added, the attempt is made to awaken the interest of the student in the subject and to teach him habits of study. In England teacher and pupil alike must keep one eye on examination day, and the latter must, by the end of the term, have acquired a knowledge of the essentials necessary to pass the examinations.

Emphasis on Sports

There's a great deal of emphasis on sports at Hitchin, Miss Flemington said, and the school is splendidly equipped, and has beautiful grounds. The English find it hard to understand how New Trier, which has 2,500 pupils, could be considered a moderate sized school, by Chicago standards. They have difficulty visualizing a city school attended by 8,000.

She was interrupted, during the interview, for a moment by one of her students who sought aid on a non-scholastic problem.

No Close Contact

"One of the things I noticed over there was that there isn't the close contact between teacher and stu-



R. S. Peterson

dent that we have here," was her comment.

Mr. Peterson found Scotland as different from England as England is from the United States. Education in Scotland is free, public, and co-educational.

Secondary education, however, in Scotland differs from that of the United States in several respects, he added.

"Most important, it seems to me," he said, "is the fact that in Scotland all secondary schools are pretty much on the same level. The per capita cost of education is low, compared with some schools in America, \$50 as against \$200 to \$400, but there is this advantage: that any boy or girl, no matter where he attends, receives the same standard of instruction and accommodations."

Pays Own Way

"The unfairness of our own system, where each community pays its own way, is obvious."

All pupils are subjected to the same standard of accomplishments, the object being the attainment of a "lecturing certificate," an examination not unlike our own college boards.

"The results of the plan are not wholly good scholastically," he added. "Many pupils, though they pass the control examination for entrance into the secondary school, are obviously unfit for the kind of forced cramming for examinations they receive."

Home Contact Remote

The relationship between teacher and pupil in Scotland is seldom very close. Connection with the home is even more remote. The teacher is Teacher and seldom anything more.

"The teacher preserves his dignity with a black robe and a leather strap, forked at the end, which is applied to the hand of anyone who doubts his authority or shows lack of interest."

Mr. Peterson retained, as a souvenir of his experience, the strap which was presented to him when he began teaching at Ayr, and took occasion to demonstrate its use during the course of the interview.

List of Subjects

While the teacher load is about the same there as at home, he said, the pupil load is much heavier. Every minute of the day is scheduled for each pupil. He has no free study periods, has time out only for milk

Yule Traffic Seen as Added Hazard; Police Are Warned

Police chiefs of every town in the country with more than 10,000 population were asked by the National Safety Council this week to clamp down harder than ever on traffic violators during the Christmas holiday season.

The council made three suggestions:

1. Reassignment of police officers to protect traffic hot spots during the holiday rush.

2. Stationing of officers at night clubs and other public places to dissuade drinking drivers from taking the wheel.

3. Instruction of all policemen not to translate the spirit of Yuletide geniality into leniency toward erring drivers or pedestrians.

"In the final analysis," said the council, "hope of reducing the usual heavy year-end traffic toll rests largely on rigid enforcement of the traffic laws. National experience has been that the stricter the enforcement, the fewer the accidents."

"The United States is going into this final hectic traffic period of the year with an excellent chance of materially reducing its annual traffic toll. The 1938 record depends largely on how we meet the usual bugaboo of the Christmas rush, when sleet, snow, ice and darkness combine with the shopping and holiday hazards to pile up deaths on the streets and highways."

"We are asking the police chiefs and traffic officers to step up their enforcement. But even the best police efforts must fail if motorists and pedestrians do not do their part."

"No Christmas can be happy when death or injury strikes."

Come From East for Holidays on North Shore

Mrs. Philip Harvey Whitmore and baby, Mary Elizabeth, arrived Wednesday from their home in New York to spend the holidays with her parents-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Frank P. Whitmore, 644 Abbotsford road, Kenilworth. Saturday, Mary Elizabeth will celebrate her first birthday with her grandparents, Philip Whitmore is in Cuba on business for three months. Because of his seven years of experience in Barcelona, Spain, which he left because of the civil war, he is now representing the Electric Bond and Share company in other Spanish speaking countries.

Evanston Commandery to Hold Party Next Sunday

Members of the Evanston commandery of the Knights Templar and the ladies' auxiliary will hold a Christmas party for their families Sunday afternoon at the Masonic temple, Lake street and Maple avenue, Evanston, beginning at 3:30 o'clock. George W. Martin is commander and James H. Wigginton is program chairman.

and lunch. An average pupil in Class II, or what would correspond to our high school freshmen, is taking English, history, geography, French, Latin, algebra, geometry, arithmetic, art, woodshop, science, singing, and physical training.

"Everywhere we received most cordial treatment," Mr. Peterson added. "The people could not have been kinder. The pupils, too, we found respectful, polite, and pleasant to work with. We regret, every day, having left many good friends behind."