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## County Parkway to Rival America's Choicest

### 82-Mile River Drive Will Link Parks and Residential Suburbs

MILWAUKEE, second greatest city of the middle west, is most restricted in area of any big city in America. Projects offering its expansion, therefore, are of unusual interest.

Milwaukee county's projected parkway is designed to serve as the foundation for plating a series of suburban residential districts which will rival in beauty the Rowland park district in Baltimore, the Country club district in Kansas City, Mo., or Germantown, Philadelphia, all nationally known and admired.

Following the water courses and connecting all city and county parks this driveway will pass along the most natural and attractive pathway in the county and will rival in beauty of natural scenery anything to be found in other cities. On each side

Scenes along route of proposed metropolitan park system, (top to bottom) Root river south of Milwaukee; Menomonee at Hawley-rd, near Sholes park; small bay south of Milwaukee river just north of county line; upper river south from Thiensville bridge; and left to right below—where Kilbourn-rd crosses Root river; a bit of woods at Honey creek; Owl lake, left side is county owned, city wants right side.

of this strip of park will be afforded opportunity to develop residence districts which can be laid out in park style, preserving the contour of the land and using curved streets, homes thereon being in effect erected in a park.

Within a very few years after this parkway is actually laid out it is believed that a tremendous development of residences along it will follow. The driveway, in connection with the county highway system, will make the trip to the city by automobile a matter of only a few minutes, while the homes will be in the country, surrounded by trees and shrubs and with pure air.

This development will not be exclusively for the wealthy, but with the use of the automobile becoming general, attractive subdivisions can be laid out and lots sold at prices which will enable persons of moderate means to live amid wholesome and beautiful surroundings.

Plans for the development of this parkway include also the extension of modern conveniences such as sewers, water, gas and electricity.

#### An 82-Mile Parked Drive

The completed parkway will be 82 miles in length. It will start at Lake park, follow up the Milwaukee river to Lincoln park, thence along Mud creek through North Milwaukee, across the watershed which separates the tributaries of the Milwaukee and Menomonee rivers to a creek which empties into the latter, down that to Honey creek, which will be followed through West Allis and across another watershed to the Kinnickinnic river which will be followed through Jackson and Pulasaki parks, then to Humboldt and South Shore parks.

Another parkway will follow Underwood creek, a branch of the Menomonee river, to Greenfield park, there touching the headwaters of Root river, and following another small watercourse into South Milwaukee and to Grant park. It is hoped later to interest Racine county authorities in developing a similar park system and drive, along the Root river connecting the Milwaukee county system with Racine. A similar drive along the Milwaukee river north is also for consideration later by the counties and cities interested.

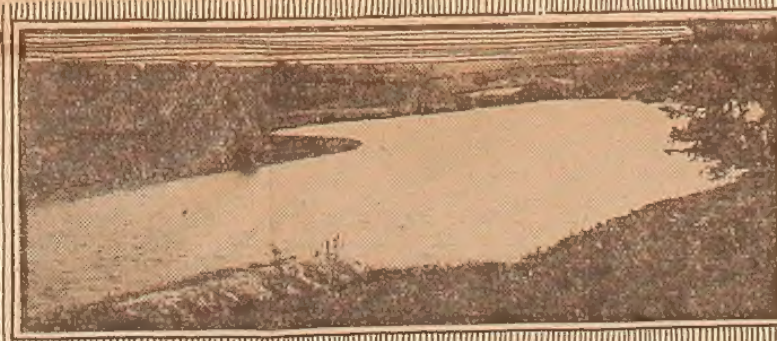
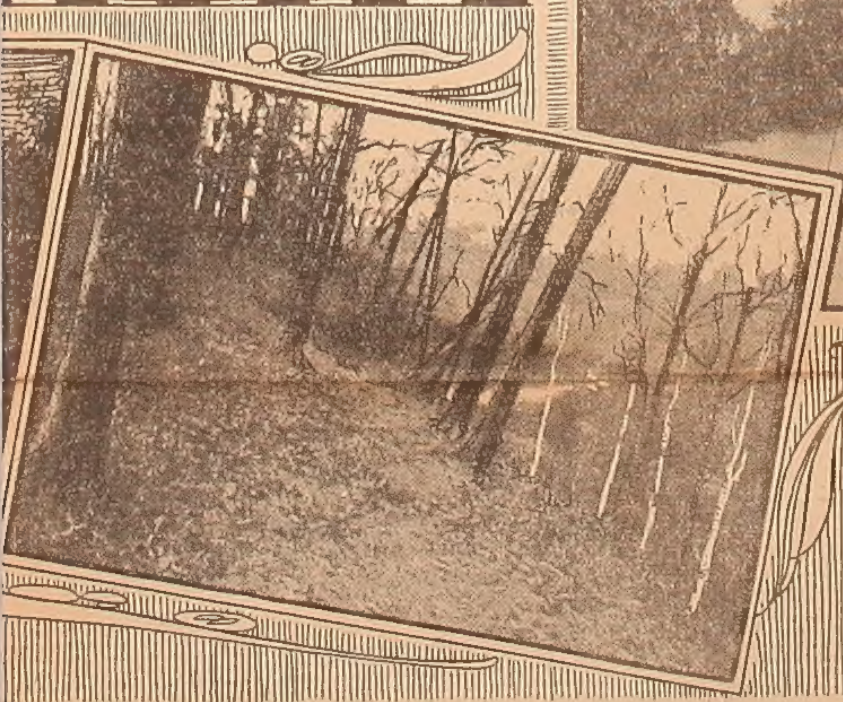
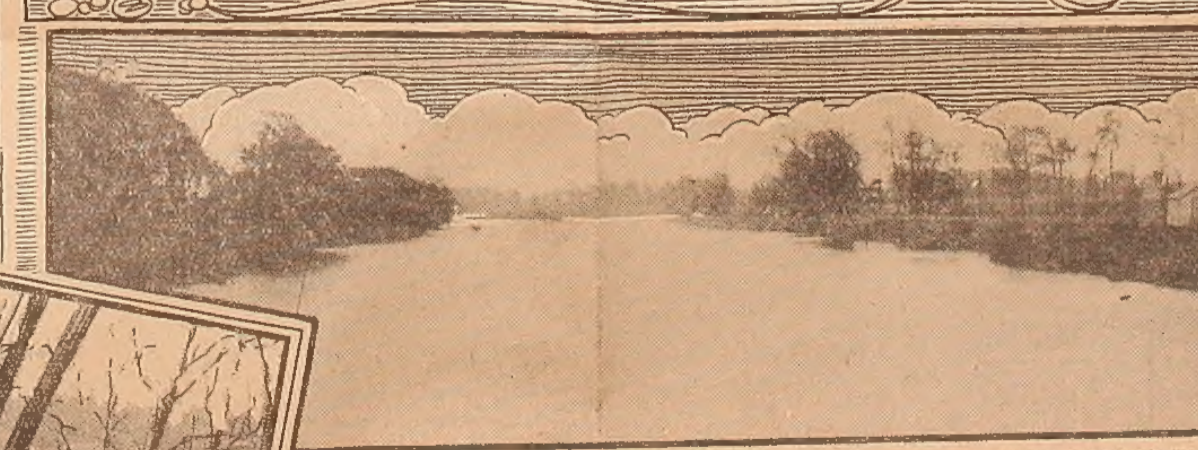
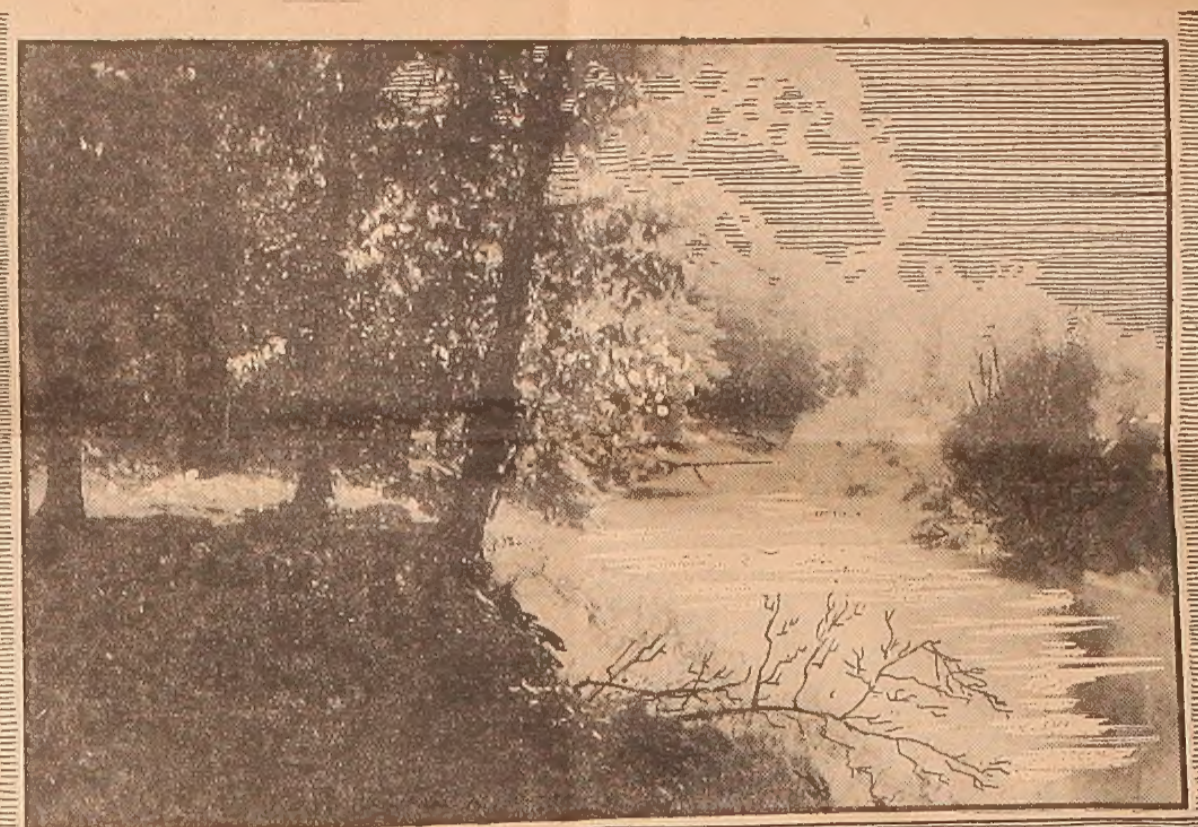
#### Aids Conservation Move

In addition to providing pleasure and recreation and serving as a basis for the development of a most attractive location for the homes of Milwaukee residents in the future the park and driveway will fill an important function as a conservation measure. By parking the banks of the watercourses, planting trees and shrubs along them it is intended to restore them to something of their natural condition.

At several places along the route where there are considerable tracts of low, marshy land, now of no use, it is proposed to create artificial lakes by dredging, the earth removed being used to fill up the surrounding land to make it of use. At least three such lakes are proposed, one in the Lincoln park district, another west of North Milwaukee and another along Underwood creek.

These lakes would be used as reserves.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 2, COLUMN 7)



# Peony Fan's \$20,000 Bouquet to Cheer 15,000 Sick in Badger Hospitals

## Wonder Garden to Send Breath Over Wisconsin

### Hobby Wards Off Old Age, Avers Kenosha Man; Plans to Ship 200,000 Blossoms

BY HARRY R. ZANDER OF THE JOURNAL STAFF

**KENOSHA**—A \$20,000 bouquet of the "King of Flowers" for every sick and ailing person in hospitals or charitable institutions in the state of Wisconsin is in course of preparation here for delivery some time in June.

The donor of such an enormous bouquet is Henry S. Cooper, who prefers to be identified not as the head of one of Wisconsin's largest industries, but by the more democratic title of "peony fan."

When Mr. Cooper feels the urge upon him to "say it with flowers" he does not go down to the corner to the florists and fix up a card to send along with a dozen American Beauties or a corsage of violets or orchids. Instead he calls in a stenographer, a shipping clerk, a couple of gardeners and telephones the express company to send up a rate card.

The stenographer takes a form letter and a few others, the gardeners nod a dozen "yessirs," the shipping clerk and the express agent get together with pencils and make copious figures, while out on the 40-acre Cooper estate a half million buds swell with their exertions to be among the 150,000 to 200,000 blossoms in the big bouquet.

### 202 Hospitals on List

Shortly the efforts of the stenographer bear fruit in a sheet of letters from hospital and institution superintendents, accepting in a variety of grateful words the offer of Mr. Cooper to place at the bedside of every patient in Wisconsin by the middle of June a bunch of 10 huge peonies.

On Mr. Cooper's desk reposes a memorandum of the types of institutions, public and private, which are to receive a breath of the perfume of his 13-acre peony garden. The list includes maternity hospitals, old people's homes, Indian hospitals, homes for the feeble-minded, sanatoriums, tuberculosis sanatoria, children's hospitals, poor farms, orphan's homes, homes for the friendless, hospitals for incurables and the Soldiers' home.

The state board of health provided Mr. Cooper with a list of all the hospitals and institutions of the state where sick are treated. There were 202 in the list with indicated bed capacity listed as 18,723. To each of these the offer of the peonies was made with a request that he be informed of the probable number of beds that would be occupied by the middle of June when the peony crop is at its height.

Some of the hospitals on the list, Mr. Cooper discovered, have closed their doors and are out of business. Others show that they have many beds not occupied with sick.

### Bound to Keep Promise

The estimate now is that by the middle of June 15,876 hospital beds in the state will be occupied. Ten peonies to a bunch for each occupied bed means that 158,760 peonies, at the minimum estimate, must be plucked from Mr. Cooper's gardens, bunched and shipped to all corners and crannies of the state where the sick are being treated in public or semi-public places. Replies not yet received may increase that number so that the demand for peonies to fulfill the offer will require 200,000 of the flowers. At the present estimate, considering the market price on peonies of \$1.50 a dozen, the great bouquet, if bought at retail, would be worth \$19,596.

"I am going to Chicago this week," Mr. Cooper explains as he tells eagerly of his preparations for bringing joy into the homes of the friendless and the sick where hope and cheer ebb low. "To see a man who raises large numbers of peonies. If something should happen, if there should be a heavy late frost, my crop might be ruined or so damaged that I could not fulfill my promise. I want to see this man in Chicago about buying his crop in case something happens to mine. I wouldn't go back on my promise to put those flowers beside those hospital beds for all the world, now that it is made."

"You see, I have spent considerable time in hospitals myself. The doctors once said I had tuberculosis and they put me in a hospital bed and in sanatorium. I know first hand what a great amount of cheer there is in the tiniest blossom in a sick room. So I decided to spread as much cheer as possible by sending my fine peonies where they would be most appreciated."

### Fad Wards Off Old Age

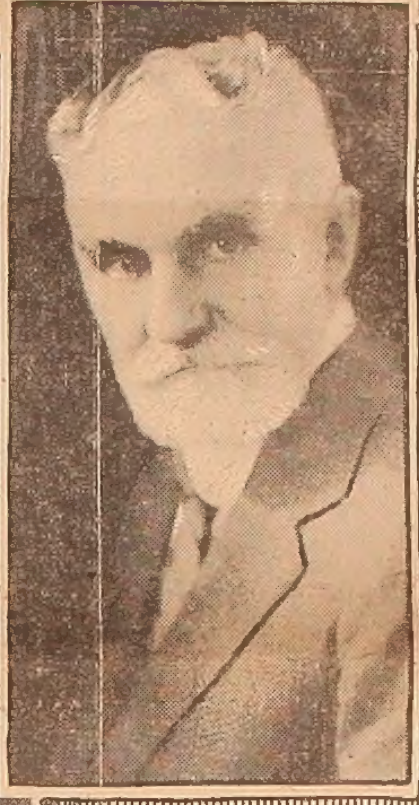
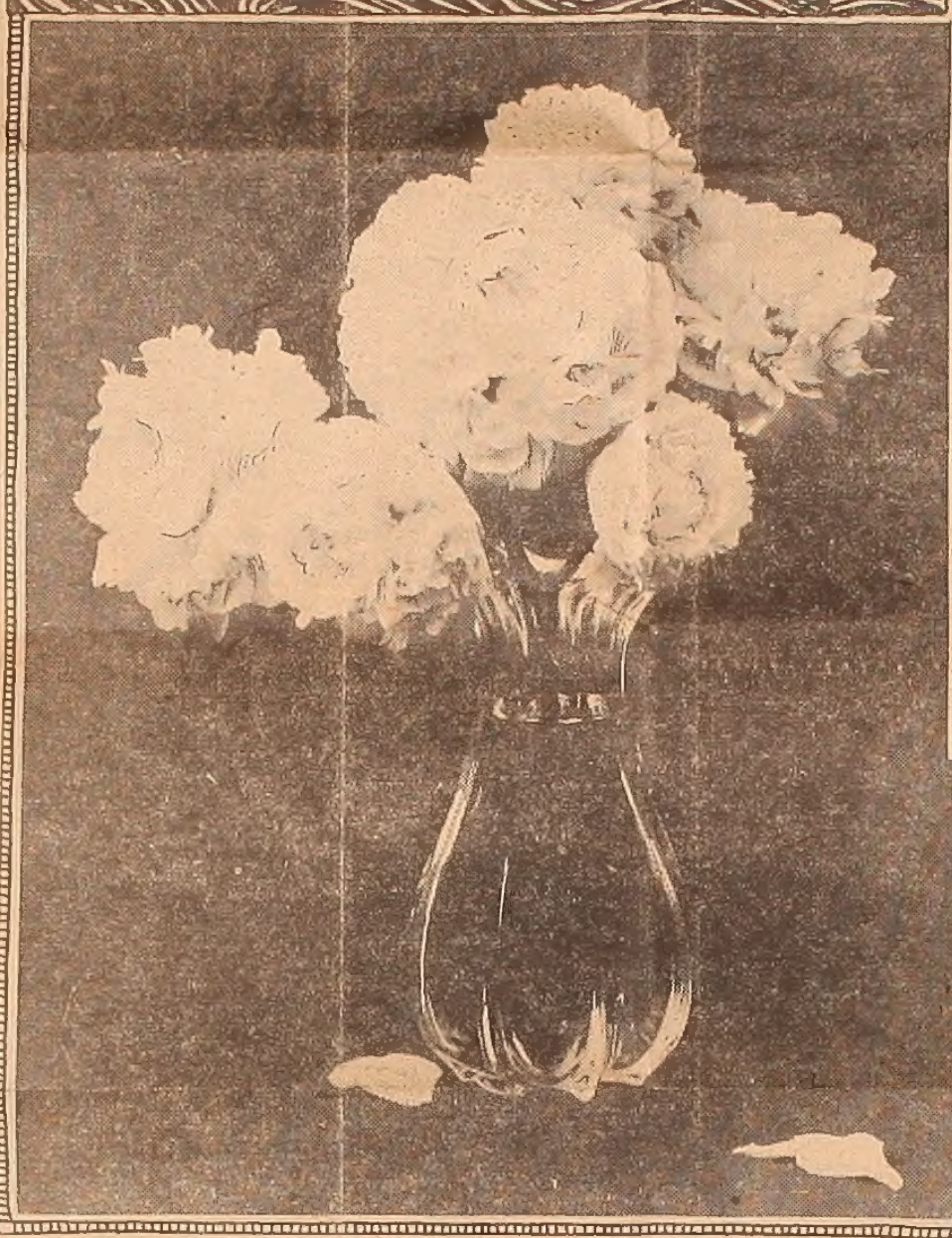
In former years Mr. Cooper has given his flowers away by great armloads to whoever cared to come and get them. He has never sold a flower from the 13 acres which are covered with peonies. But the fame of his peony gardens spread rapidly and great throngs tramped over his fine estate until he was in peril of destruction. So he had to find another outlet. Last year he bunched the railroad stations between Milwaukee and Chicago with the great flowers. In the North Western station in Chicago alone he placed 6,000 blossoms. That was the way he chose to have his flowers cheer the greatest number of people.

"You know, in ancient times," he explains, "peonies were prescribed by physicians as medicine for the cure of diseases. It really seems to be a fact that peonies do prolong life. A history of the hybridizers and introducers of beautiful new peonies shows how they individually, one and another, lived to a ripe, happy old age. Either peonies or working with peonies does fend off old age."

Mr. Cooper himself is near 70, but works hard at his business and at his gardens every day. He is the head of the Cooper Underwear Co.

### Thousands Visit Gardens

So peonies are the fad. For 20 years he has been laboring with them, studying them, caressing them. Last year he took a dozen blossoms to the international peony show at London, Ont., for his first experience in exhibiting. Peony fanciers were there from all parts of the world, some with carload



## Last Half-Dozen G.A.R. Vets Plan Memorial Doings

**BY SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT OF THE JOURNAL**  
**Stevens Point**—Despite the fact that only six members of Camp 149, Grand Army of the Republic, Plover, out of what was once an organization of more than 100 Civil war veterans, are still living, the remaining members are keeping the faith, and plans have been made for the regular Memorial day service.

Plover, during the Civil war, made a proud record. The number of men who enlisted in the federal army to fight for the preservation of the union, in proportion to the population, was among the highest of any place in all the northern states. When the men returned they formed a G. A. R. camp, and it has remained an organization since those days.

Veterans of the World war who live at Plover are giving the G. A. R. members their assistance in planning a fitting program for next Wednesday. With one man holding two offices, there are just enough Civil war veterans to fill the officers' roster. Members of the camp and the officers are: Commander, Schuyler Whitaker; senior vice commander, J. A. Bremner; junior vice commander, Homer Blanchard; quartermaster, B. F. Parker; adjutant, B. F. Parker; officer of the day, H. Moss; chaplain, H. A. Hudson.

or later married, also took part in the Yukon gold rush. He came back and named his country place near the Klondike farm.

## Peony Fan and His Flower Paradise

Henry S. Cooper, peony fan, his world's champion peonies and the view he has when he looks out his front door, are shown in pictures above. The six peony blossoms, all on one stem, won the first prize at the international peony show in London, Ont., last year. They were half of Mr. Cooper's exhibit of 12 peonies, the smallest in numbers, of the show. One exhibitor had a carload of peonies in his exhibit. Mr. Cooper this year is sending a bunch of 10 peonies to every patient in every hospital, charitable institution, and sanatorium of the state. Thousands of visitors drive in through the drive in the foreground of the upper picture each summer to see the 13 acres of peonies in Mr. Cooper's garden. Lilacs, iris and other flowers in abundance make the estate one of the most beautiful spots in the state.

exhibits. But Mr. Cooper, with his scant dozen, plucked first prize with him of them.

Eight years ago Mr. and Mrs. Cooper were attracted by the beauty of a grave of bur oaks two miles west of Kenosha. Mr. Cooper bought it, but in buying it he had to buy the 40-acre farm on which it stood. The old ramshackle barn and the two-story frame house were torn down, an artificial pond was put in, the little brook that meandered through the place was lined with stones to keep it in place and flowers were introduced to its mossy banks. The new owner found it required much effort and yielded little profit to raise corn or potatoes on the 40 acres. So after he had laid out a setting for the house he decided to devote his spare land to peonies.

People drive to the place now from Chicago, Milwaukee and beyond, just to share the beauty of the scene for a short time with its owner. On one Sunday in the summer of 1921, Mr. Cooper said 900 automobiles were driven into his driveway so that their occupants could inspect his wonderful garden.

The employees of the Cooper factory have frequent picnics in the summer and autumn on the grounds of his homestead. There are swans on the artificial lake, and fly pads, bird houses perched here and there throughout the domain and a host of feathered friends who know the place as their refuge.

Two rows of cherry trees in the formal garden are kept in the prime of condition for a twofold purpose, the one for the beauty of the cherry blossoms early in the spring, and the other for the cherries in the summer. But the cherries are never plucked by human hand. Mr. Cooper leaves them on the trees for the birds to feed upon.

## Bridge at Watertown May Be Vet Memorial

**BY SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT OF THE JOURNAL**  
**Watertown**—The new bridge on highway 19 over the Rock river on East Main street, which will be built by the state and Jefferson county, is to be lighted by the city with the same decorative lights which now flank Main street.

This decision was reached by the city council at the suggestion of Mayor H. Wertheimer and Alderman Frank Kalina. Clusters of 250 candle power lights will be carried on each pole erected on the bridge, all at a cost not to exceed \$1,000. Mayor Wertheimer also suggested calling the structure Remembrance Bridge as a memorial to Watertown's veterans of the last war. The council also appropriated \$1,000 for free band concerts during the summer at city parks.

## Trims Wisdom's Lamp on Yukon Beloit Woman Tells of Arctic School Days During Gold Rush

**BY SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT OF THE JOURNAL**  
**BELOIT**—Keeping the lamp of learning lighted in the long arctic night was the novel teaching experience of a Beloit woman, Mrs. John Crist, for whom memories of how she instructed a motley group of miners' children in a tent schoolhouse during the Klondike gold rush still are vivid and interesting when she recounts them.

"It was 22 years ago, when the gold rush into the Yukon was at its height, that Mrs. Crist, then Miss Lind, presided over the scholastic destinies of 30 children, varying widely in nationality, home training, age and wealth, of parents living in the vicinity of Bonanza.

Here was the first organized school in the province of Yukon, outside the one at Dawson, the capital, some miles further north on the Yukon river. Under the fragile shelter of a canvas roof and walls, while the mercury clung to the bottom of the thermometer for months at a time, she gave the children of the ramshackle, fortune-seeking villagers their daily instruction.

## Dogs Waited for Children

While the children wrote on their slates or recited from the crude benches brought in from the little Presbyterian church next door a group of dogs yawned and stretched at the door, waiting to haul their young masters and mistresses home over the snow—in some cases for a distance of many miles.

"The dogs behaved themselves remarkably well," the Beloit woman declares. "In some instinctive way they seemed to sense that quiet and order were necessary, and they never interrupted while the children went about the daily routine of the school."

to the window to see the sun show his red face above the skyline for the first time after his winter hibernation. For a scant three minutes he would shine and then sink. He would make a little longer visit the next day.

Despite the intense cold of the arctic winters, the school was surprisingly comfortable, Mrs. Crist declares.

The pupils were of all ages and nationalities. Some at 18 were seeing the inside of a schoolroom for the first time. Americans and Canadians were most numerous, but there were many Australian children, too.

To men of the community—and there were few women—the school became an object of intense pride. After the manner of men who have fared roughly and lived tempestuously against the bitterest handicaps of nature, without the moderating influence of homes and social intercourse, the hardy followers of the gold trails discovered that beneath their apparently hard exteriors were unsuspected founts of tenderness and affection. The pent-up sentiment of years was poured forth on the school, and it became a dominant interest in the community life.

## School Object of Pride

Occasionally, the Beloit woman would see one or a group of miners enter and silently find a place at the rear of the tent, where they could watch the children without distracting attention. A scene such as this showed the pathetic phase of the drama of the northland, in which the men made manifest the price they paid for their adventure, their gamble in gold, by worshipping at second hand the influences of home and culture that the implacable north was denying to many of them.

## Christmas Big Day

Their attitude toward the school was given its most striking demonstration at Christmas time, when the entire community gathered for a Yuletide celebration. The place was jammed with miners, whose faces reflected the joy that the children found in what was for most of them their first big Christmas celebration. The men provided 250 boxes of candy for the occasion, and showered other gifts on the youngsters. Some walked for miles to find just the perfect tree for the occasion. Moist eyes were the common rule among the miners as the children shrieked with joy at the appearance of Santa Claus.

Miss Lind was induced to take charge of the school by the governor of the district, who had heard of her presence in the village, where she was spending the winter with her sister, Mrs. Skiffington Mitchell, wife of the proprietor of one of the mines.



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