

THE
MIDGET QUILL



MARCH NUMBER

1918 [1919]

Northern State Normal School, Marquette, Mich.

THE MIDGET QUILL

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The MIDGET QUILL is edited in connection with the English work of the High School pupils who do all the work on the paper including designs and typography.

Volume five will consist of three numbers to be issued bi-monthly, during the school year, the last copy being in the form of a Senior Annual, edited by the Seniors.

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EDITORIAL

Owing to the fact that the school year has been practically cut to pieces by the epidemic of influenza that has been prevalent in so many schools, it will not be possible for us, The Normal High School, to publish as many editions of the "Midget Quill" as have previously been customary. With a full year's work to be accomplished in two terms, we cannot give the paper the usual amount of attention. However, we will endeavor to make up in quality any lack in quantity.

School activities have again begun after a long vacation due to the flu— a vacation unlike others, owing to the fact that practically everything of interest in the city was closed, and the realization that the large amount of work lost must be made up. Masks were required to be worn in all public places, meetings and sources of amusement. Everyone is confronted with the task of making up for lost time, but, nevertheless, school spirit runs high. Basketball teams, both for the girls and boys, have been organized. Glee clubs, chorus hour, and the High School Union programs are enjoyed once more. The attendance was small at times because those who had colds stayed out for the purpose of avoiding the flu. The Seniors using their usual good judgement set the example in the high school by giving the first party before the ban. Some of the classes have been holding their class meetings.

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OUR STORY

The Slacker

They called him a slacker, not openly, of course, but behind his back. Even his best friends began to shun his company and tried to keep out of his way. He had noticed this for quite a while and it had a very strange effect upon him. In school he was treated with respect, but still wherever he was to be found there was always a chill. And why should there not be this feeling? All of his Classmates that were physically fit had gone, some to the navy, others to the army, and still others into the Marines. He was physically fit, broad shouldered and the picture of health. But still he lingered, silent, sulking along, and keeping out of sight as much as possible. At home he kept away from the family also, just coming down for his meals.

At last he sought the comfort of the girl whom he considered his best friend, but to his great dismay she would have nothing to do with him and told him she thought him a slacker. Much disheartened he returned home. If any of his friends had been down to the train that evening they would have seen him take the Chicago train. Harry was greatly discouraged, but fully resolved that he would show the people at home that he was no coward, and that he was no slacker. He was on his way to sign up and take the examination as a pilot in Uncle Sam's flying branch of the army. His only fear now was, "would he pass the physical examination?"

He arrived in Chicago at 7:55 and hailing a taxi-cab drove to a hotel, ate his breakfast, and by 9 o'clock was on his way to the examining board. He was not the first one there. There were three others, one was a discharged soldier from the Mexican border, another, a discharged sailor, and the last one a civilian like himself.

After an hours wait they were ushered into an inner room.

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Here they had their lungs and heart tested. They had to run up a small incline and down again. In this test the man in the civilian clothes was rejected on account of a slight leakage of the heart. The next test was to stand in a row with their toes on a chalk line while they kept their eyes closed. Harry found it hard to keep his equilibrium without swaying. They were next given long tubes with funnels at one end. These they held to their ears while the surgeon poured water into them. This did not affect Harry very much except that the loud rushing noise in his ears hurt his head. The soldier was found to have a badly set arm and was also rejected, although the surgeon had a hard time satisfying him that a man with a poor arm is of no use in aviation. The last and hardest test came now and Harry very nearly lost out. The two remaining applicants were each placed in a whirling chair, then blind-folded and then swung around until Harry did not know which way he was facing. When the chair stopped Harry fell out of it.

"Oh Doctor! I think I could sit up straight if you gave me another chance," cried Harry.

"Who in the deuce said anything about sitting up straight?" angrily replied the Doctor.

Never-the-less he was given another trial and this time as the Surgeon held out his finger for him to touch he came about a foot from it. He was passed on all these tests, and sent to a camp in New York where he learned the first principles of flying. This school is commonly known as the "Ground School". Then he was sent to the "Flying School", where, after two more months of intensive training, he was told that on the following morning he was to make his "Solo" flight. Upon hearing this news he was overjoyed but as he began to think of all the accidents he really wished that he were back home. That night he spent tossing about and

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hoping that the morning would prove too windy to fly. But the morning dawned bright and clear without a cloud. A single seated bi-plane was run out of the hangar and tuned up by two mechanics.

Harry reported to his commanding officer who stood near the plane.

"Now, don't forget," said the Captain, "that when you want to get into the vrille, pull your elevating lever up sharply and turn your engine off this will put the nose of your machine straight up and tail down. Then you will drop with a sickening feeling, the nose of the machine going around in little circles and the tail in larger ones. Now to get out let your controls go and soon you will be gliding down in a nose dive. Bring your lever back and you are straight once more. Do you understand?"

"I do sir," replied Harry, as he climbed into the plane, and with a roar the engine started, the plane moved forward gaining speed rapidly.

With his heart in his mouth he rose sedately from the ground. But why wasn't he afraid? Hadn't he told himself he would not have the courage to go up? But he was experiencing no such feelings. He ran his machine without a hitch and went through all he knew until he came to the vrille, the thing he dreaded to do.

He set his teeth with a snap. "I'll do it or die!" he grunted. So saying he pulled the lever to him, shut the engine off, and almost immediately he was in a dreaded vrille. He let the plane drop within five hundred feet of the ground and let go of his controls. The plane trembled a little, righted itself, and then started into a beautiful nose dive which would have proven fatal had it ever reached the ground. But Harry pulled it up to an even keel and smoothly landed. His Captain ran up to him and grabbed his hand.

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“That was wonderful,— wonderful, old chap!” he cried.

After that Harry flew every good day and in due time graduated, a full fledged pilot. As he had not been home since enlisting, he was rather anxious to see his parents, and also the best little girl in all the world, to whom he had written almost daily. So he was given a ten days furlough before sailing for France.

Upon arriving home the following day, he was met by all his friends. He was petted and fussed over. The ten days he spent went all too soon. There was no end of parties, and the one Harry enjoyed the most was the one at which he and Irene announced their engagement. But all good things must end and so did Harry's furlough.

He sailed for France and there won honor and the Croix de Guerre for bravery in an encounter with the enemy, in which they had the advantage of far superior numbers.

He had been in France just six months when he was seriously wounded, so badly in fact, that he got an honorable discharge.

There was a military wedding with a hero as the groom, who had proven it, not only to the people of his home town, but to the Hun as well.

Herbert Hoffman - '20

The End

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BOYS' ATHLETICS

THE influenza ban made it impossible to start basketball practice until after the Christmas vacation but as practically all the teams in this section were handicapped in a like manner, we were not behind the other schools in the matter of practice. From the start the entire school has shown a fine spirit. Of the twenty boys in school from twelve to fifteen have been at practice every-ime. Jack Rowe, of the Normal team, has acted as our coach under the supervision of Mr. Gant.

Our first game was played with Negaunee High on their floor on January thirty-first. Our lineup was as follows: Gillette -Capt.-, Dexter, forwards; Cleminson, center; Jenks, E. Sackett, guards; Slattery for Dexter in the second half. The score was 46 to 7 against us, though the game was a great deal faster than the lopsided score would indicate.

Before our next game we very unfortunately lost Cleminson, who had done fine work in the Negaunee game, but who had to give up playing for the rest of the season. On the fourteenth of Feburary we again traveled up the road, this time to play the Ishpeming High second team as a preliminary to the Normal—Ishpeming "Y" game. Though we felt the absence of Cleminson in this game Hoffman put up a good game at center and Pettee at forward put some good pep into our work. We were about the same weight as the Ishpeming team, but were handicapped by the small floor. We lost 20 to 11. Our lineup was: Gillette -Capt.- Pettee, forwards; Hoffman, center; Jenks, E. Sackett, guards; in the last minute of play Dexter went in for Hoffman, and Slattery for Gillifte who was bothered by sore knees.

On Feburary the twenty-second we played our first home game against Marquette High second team. Pettee was unable to play

-continued after news item-

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Officers for the High School Union were elected as follows:

President	Loretta Doyle
Vice President	Everett Sackett
Secretary	Knox Gillette

The following are the results of the Annual Class Elections:

Senior:	President	Grace Billings
	Vice President	Everett Sackett
	Secretary	Loretta Doyle
	Treasurer	Lucile Steward
	Advisor	Miss Melhinch
Junior:	President	Mary Lytle
	Vice President	Herbert Hoffman
	Secretary	Werner Forsman
	Advisor and Treas.	Mr Stockwell
Sophomore:	President	Mary Spear
	Vice President	Pauline Ross
	Advisor and Treas.	Miss King
Freshman:	President	Rogers McLean
	Vice President	Norma Shaur
	Secretary	Mark Coyne
	Treasurer	Albert Eriksson

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The High School girls have organized a Glee Club with the following officers:

President	Isla Steward
Vice President	Pauline Ross
Secretary	Grace Billings
Treasurer	Mabel Dexter
Accompanist	Lucile Steward
Librarian	Loretta Doyle
Asst. Librarian	Mary Lytle

The boys of the High School have organized a Glee Club with the following officers:

President	Herbert Hoffman
Vice President	Knox Gillette
Secretary	Walter Cleminson
Treasurer	Everett Sackett
Librarian	Ward Jenks

Katheryn Harris has left for Simsbury, Conn., where she will make her home for the rest of the school year. We are sorry to lose her, but glad to have had the privilege of knowing her.

Miss Della McCallum has returned home from Camp Jackson, S. C. where she was Dietician in Base Hospital No. 3.

Mr. Parker has returned from awaiting his call for overseas Red Cross work and is substituting as Principal of the High School.

Miss Blanche Noel is teaching High School Latin.

The Senior Class entertained at a very enjoyable party on October 18.

The Junior and Senior classes were invited to the Faculty Reception, October 11.

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The High School resumed it's work January 6, after an enforced vacation since October 22, on account of the "flu".

Rudolph Eriksson, '18, and Charles Lytle, '18, have returned from the S. A. T. C. at Kalamazoo College and the M.C.M. at Houghton, respectively, and Vero June, '18, has returned from Camp Grant. All these are now attending the Normal.

Mildred Johnson, '18, is attending Business College.

Ethel McCullough, '18, is teaching school at Manistique.

The T. D. A. is attending the Normal.

A Tragedy of the Deep.

The waves are dark and steep,
The great ships plunge and leap,
Upon that ship is naught to eat.
The cook is fast asleep.

Everett B. Sackett- '19

Boy's athletics -continued-

on account of a bad leg, and Gillette did not arrive until the second half, consequently most of the work in the first half fell to the guards.

We were unable to connect for a single field basket and our two points came from free throws. Our lineup: Slattery, Dexter forwards; Hoffman, center; Jenks, E. Sacket, guards. The final score was 11 to 2.

The team wishes to thank the rest of the school for their support through our several defeats.

Everett Sackett-'19

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GIRL'S ATHLETICS

The girls have been enjoying two practices each week this term and our hope for a winning team is higher than ever before as we have some good material with which to work. On February 23 we played a practice game with a Normal school team which we easily won by 14 to 4. February 27 we played the Normal High Alumni but as the Alumni had only three players they had substitutes chosen from among the Normal students. We were handicapped in this game as only the old gym could be had. The score at the end of the first half was 6 to 4 in our favor, but we were beaten by the score of 9 to 6, our opponents score having been brought up near the end, mostly by free throws. We expect to meet this team again in the new gym when we hope for better results. We have several games scheduled for the near future with the Domestic Science and other Normal School teams and we hope to play the Baraga High and Marquette High, also. On February, 14 we entertained the boy's team at a Valentine Tea and we hope to make ourselves socially prominent thruout the year as we are out for a good time.

The following is the usual line-up of the first team: Forwards- Margaret Gaspar, Mabel Dexter; Guards- Ruth LeDuc, Isla Steward; Jumping Center- Mary Lytle; Side Center- Helen Bral; Coach Miss Ruth Palully, Substitutes- Elfrieda Dettman, Dorothea Blue, Mary Spear.

We also have other players whom we hope use in some of our games. The school has given us unusual cooperation this year for which we wish to thank them.

Mary Lytle, Captain.

Freshmen Win

On Feb. 28, 1919 the N H S Freshmen five defeated the M H S Freshmen five by a score of 18-3.

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REVERIES

I was sitting alone upon a rock
Gazing out over the sea
Thinking of times that are past and gone
And of times that are yet to be.
The days that are gone have overflow'd
With love, with sorrow and joys,
The hours of our childhood days were gay
'Til the War carried off many boys.
But now that the War is over
And our heroes returning home,
The sun begins to shine once more
And our work is better done.
The time of our youth is happy again
In our friendship, our work and play,
And we are trying to do are best
To prepare for a future day
For now that the clouds have broken
And the silvery lining comes forth,
There are other things to think of
Besides frivolities and mirth.
And with such thoughts I started home,
Resolved to do my best;
For the moon had risen from out of the sea
And the birds had gone to their nests.

Mary L. Lytle-'20.

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Everybody's Doing It

The theatre was dark. The screen showed a railroad train winding thru a forest. The darkness of the theatre was pierced by the reflection from a policeman's badge. The darkness of the forest was broken by a beam thrown from the headlight of the express. The man in the plush seat quickly adjusted his "flu" mask. The man with the six shooters hastily draped his bandana over his lower features.

Everett B. Sackett - '19.

A Freshie in the Printshop

MY D1RY

oKt 1-SCol started tooday; i sit in fte 2ND.row?
OKT.5— 2 buzzy two rite Evry dae:

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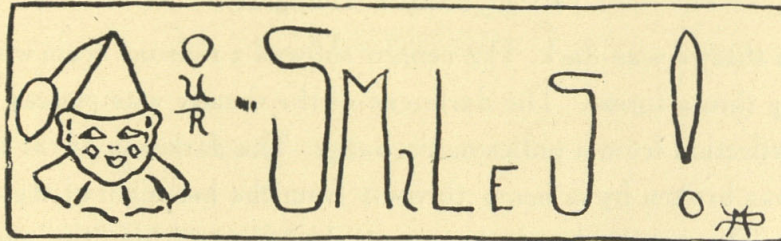
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Composed and Set by Everett Sackett- '19

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EXCHANGE

From a book report on Shakespear's " Twelfth Night " ,
"Viola in disguise is sent to press the Duke's suit "

"Do most women go to heaven?"

"No, because in Revelation 8:1 it says, "There was silence in Heaven about the space of half an hour".

Teacher: "Dorothy, why have you a question mark after this 'illegible' at the end of your theme?"

Dorothy: "I couldn't read it."

A student coming to a hard question on his examination paper wrote for his answer; " God only knows, I don't. "

The paper came back with the following correction in the professors handwriting; God gets the credit, you don't.

Mlle: " What do you call a verb which hasn't all the tenses ?"

Bright Pupil: " A defected verb. "

Still Brighter Pupil: " I think she means affected."

"What's the matter with this match? It won't light."

"That's funny, it would a minute ago."

Mother: " Eddie dear, you'd better not go to the dance this wet night. Your rubbers leak."

Eddie : "That's all right, Mother. I've got pumps inside of 'em.

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"Doctor, will you give me something for my head?"

"My boy, I wouldn't take it as a gift."

Senior: "How do you like mushrooms?"

Freshman: "Never slept in any."

"I hear dot your onkel died."

"Sure."

"Vot vas der complaindt?"

"None, ve vas all satisfied."

Knox G. -In Adv. Math.- : "Miss Melhinch may I turn on the lights?" -In dull lesson-

Miss M: "No there is enough light on this density now."

Miss M. to B.D. : "Was that problem all right?"

B.D.-Absent-mindedly- : "Most of it."

Miss M. : "What part was not right?"

B.D. : "What — what problem was it?"

Freshman : "I feel sick."

Sophomore : "Where do you feel the worst?"

Freshman : "In school."

Father: "Daughter did you have any company last night?"

Daughter: "Yes, only Mary."

Father: "Tell Mary she left her pipe on the piano."

"What is the oldest piece of furniture in the world?"

"The multiplication table."

Boy (reading): "She threw herself into the river. Her husband, horror stricken, rushed to the bank."

Teacher: "Why did he rush to the bank?"

Boy: "To get the life insurance money of course."

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