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### ANNUAL EDITORIAL

In the 1909 Pasquaney Annual Mr. Ned wrote: "The greatest good of Pasquaney life is not what the camp does for us, but what it teaches us to do for each other." These words were written at the end of Pasquaney's fifteenth season; at the end of the fifty-third they are well worth repeating, for after almost forty years they still serve as a challenging reminder that our learning to live together with cooperation, thoughtfulness, and unselfishness is, after all, the principal aim of our unique life.

We are, I think, sometimes tempted to evaluate the success of any particular season by more obvious and spectacular standards. Many of us can remember summers when the improvements to equipment, the mileage of the Long Walk, or the closeness of the crew races was taken as a basis for a superficial judgment of "Banner Season." A judgment based upon such evidence is understandable, perhaps even inevitable; for those phases of camp life which lead to physical and athletic development are tremendously important. We need, however, to be constantly reminded that there are other kinds of development which Pasquaney has always considered more important.

With these generalizations in mind, what are we to say of the summer of 1947? Obviously the early hikes, the Water Sports plays, the baseball leagues, the stay-at-home tennis tournaments, and, in fact, all the activities of the early summer were unusually successful. Those of us who have been at the camp through many years are unanimous in our feeling that we had never seen better spirit among boys and counsellors, or more efficient running of the traditional program. Parents who have been with us for many Water Sports weekends reported that this year's was perhaps the best ever.

And there were more improvements and renovations made in the camp's physical equipment. Generous contribution to the Edward S. Wilson Memorial Fund enabled us to acquire a new fire pump and 1,000 feet of hose to renovate and reopen the Mary Lamb under the gracious direction of Mrs. Bolton, and to erect a new relay water tank. In addition to these we were able to purchase a new station wagon which was of tremendous value in the hiking program as well as in the everyday operation of camp.

All these – the successful activities of the first seven weeks of the season and the improvements in the physical equipment – must not be underestimated; and to say that they are not the proper basis for an evaluation of the season as a whole is by no means to say that all of us are not tremendously appreciative of them. We are most appreciative and deeply grateful.

But "the greatest good of Pasquaney life is not what the camp does for us, but what it teaches us to do for

each other.” The unfortunate events of the last full week of the season and the necessary curtailment of most of the traditional closing program, including the finals of many of the tournaments, preclude the use of the obvious and spectacular standards in the evaluation of the season as a whole. We are perhaps still too close to the sorrow and worry of those trying days to achieve perspective. Yet even now certain things simply cry out for recognition; the courage of Pierce and Don, and Jim, the consideration for others and the understanding helpfulness of every camper. In the long run the fact that a group of boys and men have faced a trying situation together, with no panic, with unselfishness and good spirit, will be of great importance to each individual and to the camp. Character is built in times of adversity, and the traditional “Pasquaney Spirit” is for many of us a much more vital and immediate thing now that it has been recently tested in the fire.

If the greatest good of Pasquaney life is what it teaches us to do for each other, then it is certain that in the future, as we look back on the season of 1947, we shall know that despite the troubles and the upset of the regular program, an ideal was not unrealized.