EDITORIAL

Once again this year, the Annual Board has found it necessary to publish an Annual greatly reduced in size in comparison to pre-war standards. The unusually large number of pictures should make up for the absence of many of the customary articles, for a good idea of camp life can be drawn from the snap-shots found on the many pictorial pages. At this time, we should like to express our appreciation to Pop Watson for the help he has given us during the summer. Approximately four out of every five pictures in this Annual were taken by Pop, who became a familiar sight around camp with his camera.

As Captain Wilson’s gun fired the shot that opened Pasquaney’s fiftieth season, those who were present at the flagpole looked into the future with mingled emotions. The shot heard by those at the ceremony was in a certain sense a “shot heard ‘round the world”. In the four corners of the earth, Pasquaney’s alumni were thinking of Pasquaney and all that Pasquaney stands for. They were counting on the council and the boys to produce a banner season. Many of these men wrote to Pop, expressing their feelings and emotions. They all stated their longing for their happy days at Pasquaney and gave their best wishes for a good summer. They were asking us to carry on for Pasquaney. They were presenting us with a trust – a trust that had to be perpetuated and carried on for the future generations of Pasquaney boys.

It was no easy task to execute this trust in this war year. The council, although adequate in size, was a great deal younger than in former years. The boys, too, were of a considerably younger age than usual. The scarcity of gasoline cut down the number of trips that could be made to distant places, and the wartime shortages made food difficult to procure. Yet, in spite of these obstacles and countless others, Pasquaney was able to carry on. The season of 1944 was a banner one – one of the best in recent years.

Let us think for a moment about the success of Pasquaney’s fiftieth season. What was it that made the men who are loyal to Pasquaney willing to continue? What was it that made them work all winter to reopen camp in June? What was it that helped them to surmount the difficult problems that arose in their path? The answer cannot be adequately expressed in words. It is something that can only be felt by those who have spent a summer at Pasquaney. It is not anything tangible – it is what we call the “Pasquaney Spirit.”

The “Pasquaney Spirit” cannot be easily defined – it is willingness to help others, it is the spirit of
consideration, the spirit of thoughtfulness, the spirit of doing a good job. It is all these and many others.

But there was something besides the “Pasquaney Spirit” that kept these men working. They were working for the Pasquaney way of life. This is a clean, healthy way of life that has characterized every Pasquaney season. It cannot be more aptly put forth than in Pop Watson’s Pasquaney Creed:

THE PASQUANEY CREED

I believe in the Pasquaney way of life, as created by Mr. Ned, and carried forward by Mr. Teddy and Mr. Charlie. I believe in its freedom from vulgarity, from unfriendliness, from greed, and from the barriers of class and wealth. I believe in its simple living, its honestly shared work, its spirit of fair play, its devotion to clean sport, to the beauty and inspiration of nature, and to the joy of true comradeship. I have faith in its power to free me of impurity, of selfishness, of idleness, and of all false desires that would make me an unworthy citizen of my country and of the world, and I also believe in its greater power to make me efficient, strong, brave and reliable to myself and others. In this its fiftieth season, I pledge my loyalty to Pasquaney. I promise that in word, thought, and deed, I shall be true to its ideals, not only while I am here, but also at home, in school, and everywhere I go. With God’s help, I will do my best to make these ideals prevail for the good of my country and my fellow men.

It is the way of life outlined in Pop’s creed and the Pasquaney Spirit that have kept Pasquaney going. It’s something that has made it possible for Pasquaney to complete fifty successful seasons. With these two guardians of her future, Pasquaney can do nothing but carry on.