



THE PASQUANEY ANNUAL

Supplement to THE WHITE BIRCH
Published by and for the members
Of Camp Pasquaney

VOL. XLVIII Revised Series 1946 THE ANNUAL BOARD

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EDITORIAL

Pasquaney has successfully completed her first post-war season! This simple statement would, of course, be a truism except for the fact that to those of us who have a profound affection for the camp the sentence is so full of deep and triumphant meaning. Many an institution faced apparently insurmountable difficulties during the war years; certainly none could have been up against more formidable ones than Pasquaney. And these difficulties were, ironically enough, partially the results of the very traits which make Pasquaney strong. By the summer of 1944, for example, the director and most of the counsellors had joined the armed forces, and the camp was left without the traditional leadership of a large group of men well seasoned in Pasquaney's unique way of life.

In this emergency the Trustees turned to Pop Watson and asked him to attempt the impossible: to take over as director and to keep Pasquaney's continuity unbroken as long as the war might last. This is not the place to expand upon the conditions which made the request look utterly impossible of fulfillment. The important thing is that "Pop" performed a miracle, held the camp together, and this year turned it over to those of us who returned for Pasquaney's 52nd consecutive season. Naturally it is impossible for any of us adequately to express our appreciation to "Pop" and the small group of men like Gil Bovaird, Nordie Nordstrom, and Wilson Adams who helped him to carry on. Such appreciation is better shown in actions, and the future success of Pasquaney will be their testimonial.

We must remember, however, that when we talk about success at Pasquaney, we use the word in a rather special way. The "success" of a summer is not measured by numbers present, the amount of individual athletic prowess exhibited, nor by the improvements that may be made in the camp's physical equipment. These things are, of course, important; they are, perhaps, symptoms of success. But true Pasquaney success is measured in a more intangible scale. In the last analysis, our success is in direct proportion to the amount of Pasquaney which each of us takes with him into his home and his school – into his life away from camp. Banner summers are made during the winter, and if we would be loyal to Pasquaney, we must be loyal to her ideals and standards not only during the summer, but always.

It is difficult for us to express to Pasquaney's friends and alumni just what their gifts to the Edward S. Wilson Memorial Fund meant to the camp in this first post-war season. It is, I think, no exaggeration to say that without this help at a critical time, Pasquaney's future would have been most precarious. The war

years took their toll; the lack of manpower and essential materials – particularly trying in remote New Hampshire – had brought the camp to a point where its physical condition was in lamentable state. The reduced enrollment and the reduced income of the war years absolutely precluded the possibility of the camp's having financial resources to cope with this situation. Much was desperately needed – repairs to building and grounds, new equipment, and labor.

The response to the appeal of the Trustees for financial help enabled us to tackle the job. Skipper Tillson, just out of the Army, volunteered to spend the spring at Eastbourne where he could direct operations on the spot. With the greatest luck we managed to hire four extra men to work with Wilson and Nelson Adams, and through ingenuity, badgering, and good breaks, we were able to get scarce supplies and equipment. By July 2nd, the opening day of camp, a major transformation had been accomplished. Parents and alumni who visited the camp during the season were unanimously enthusiastic. The boys and counsellors were even more so, for they were, of course, the ones to know best how much the physical renovation and the new equipment contributed to the success of a Pasquaney summer.

It is hard not to write pages about the specific improvements. The part the new sailboats playing in the rebirth of a sailing program, the sanity efficiency at Memorial Hall, the sheer delight in playing baseball without spending a large part of the game searching for lost balls, the sensation of having the tennis courts in consistently good condition, the new Chapel House, the new row boats, the new canoes – all these were patently wonderful. But there were other improvements, too, improvements which did not meet the eye and were less spectacular, but which made a tremendous difference to the smooth running of the camp. The rebuilt truck road to the kitchen, the new platform at the Bath House, the new boat moorings, and the installation of running water at the Cooks' Shack are good examples of such improvements.

Every member of the camp – from youngest boy to oldest counsellor – joins in expressing the greatest appreciation for the fund which made all these things possible. We value the tangible results tremendously. We value even more the expression of faith in Pasquaney which contributions to the fund represented. Pasquaney is obviously going on into the future cherished by all of us who feel that perhaps the most real and valuable part of our educations came to us on a hillside in New Hampshire.