

# NEWTON COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

Sept  
23-4

The federal government is establishing within Illinois several classes known as rural training courses. Congress has placed a definite responsibility on the schools of the states. It is expected that 2,000 of these courses will be conducted during the year.

On the evening of September 29, a meeting for high school principals and teachers of high school vocational agriculture for this section will be called. This is one of twenty-one area meetings to be arranged in the state. Further information on this course will be available after this meeting.

## New Office Secretary

Miss Mary Mattingly, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bert Mattingly, is the new secretary to Principal M. B. Platz. She is a graduate of Newton Community high school, class of 1939, and since her graduation has had considerable office and clerical experience. This, together with her fine qualities of character and good citizenship, should well qualify her for the many duties involved in this position.

Mrs. Kathryn Connor, who has very capably filled this position for the past three years, resigned recently.

## Upper Classes Organize

The senior and junior classes elected officers last week. Sponsors were chosen the previous week. Officers were then nominated, and after three days had elapsed, elections were held in the office.

Senior Officers: George Bevis, president; Norma Jean Short, vice president; Norma Jean Westendorf, secretary-treasurer; and Delbert L. Young, sponsor.

Junior Officers: Phyllis Flanagan, president; Billy Hayes, vice president; Juanita Foster, secretary; Chester Allen, treasurer; and Omer M. Tobias, sponsor.

## Clubs

An important part of every modern high school is the activity program. This includes club work and activities of various kinds, which give students experience essential to a well rounded school life.

The activity hour in our school is scheduled every day from 11:20 to 12:00. Many of these activities meet twice a week. Most students are enrolled in two activities. Following is a brief account of the organized activities of the school:

## **Dramatic Club**

The Dramatic Club met under the leadership of its sponsor, Mrs. Betty Lou Johnson, to elect the class officials of the year. Norma Jean Westendorf was chosen president, James Doerr, vice president, and Geraldine McKnight, secretary.

Before any new members can be taken into the club, they must first show their ability to act and speak before a number of judges and their sponsor.

## **Debate**

The second week of school, the Debate Club met and found that this year its enrollment totaled eleven. George Bevis, Bob Hubbard, Bob Worcester, Lois Madelyn Clark, Dorothea Windle, Maxine Wilson, John David King, Estaline Ulmer, Mary Jeane Eberhardt, Donald Lee and George Neese compose the team this year.

The subject will be on post-war organizations and will be phrased by N. U. E. A. this month.

Late in December, the fifth annual debate tournament will be held here if sufficient schools are interested. Debating by mail may be necessitated this year by the shortage of tires and gasoline.

## **Red Cross Club**

Four sections of a Red Cross Club

have been organized under the direction of Mrs. Eugenia Hunt and Miss Lucille Bayles. The activities will include the knitting of soldier sweaters and the making of bandages. This club will take the place of last year's Hobby Club for Girls.

#### **Office Practice**

An Office Practice Club has been organized under the direction of Miss Erma Fitch, who calls this a bread and butter club. The purpose is to train boys and girls for office jobs. Stencil cutting, filing, mimeograph work and other secretarial jobs will be taught. Members of this club will be secretaries of the teachers.

The members of O. P. are seniors who were typing students last year.

#### **Boys' Glee Club**

The Boys' Glee Club organized with twenty-six members, seven of whom are new. The boys and O. M. Tobias, their sponsor, hope to have an interesting year and expect to develop a number of quartets, octets, and other group combinations. A minstrel show will probably be one big feature of the year.

#### **Chess and Checker Club**

This club of thirty members is divided into groups that meet once a week. Toward the end of the year the champion players of both chess and checkers will be determined through tournaments. Mr. Tobias will sponsor this club.

#### **Home Economics Club**

Over one hundred girls met recently to organize a club under the sponsorship of Mrs. Eugenia Hunt. Norma Jean Short was elected president; Colletta Emmerich, vice president; and Verna Mae Williams, secretary. Although any girl is eligible for membership, only girls who have had one year of home economics can hold office.

#### **Future Farmers of America**

The Future Farmers of America is one of the most active school clubs. This year's officers are as follows: Lawrence Dhom, president; Paul Girhard, vice president; Marion Crouse, secretary; Earl Webb, treasurer; Richard Jansen, reporter; and Roy Goebel, watch dog.

This organization meets in small groups daily and in a combined meeting the last Monday of each month.

#### **Girls' Athletic Association**

The Girls' Athletic Association has not been organized.

#### **Travel Club**

The Travel Club under the sponsorship of Miss Helen Jacobs organized with a membership of 105 this year. This club will travel over the United States and the rest of the world by way of moving pictures, books, magazines, and pictures. It has not yet elected officers.

## Band

The Band has added a new feature this year, flag twirling. This innovation has an interesting history. Flag signaling originated in Switzerland, where herdsman would signal their families on the return trip home after spending the summer in the mountains herding their cows and goats.

Eight girls comprise the twirling team. These are Ernestine Benefiel, Betty Lou Brackett, Lois Madelyn Clark, Carolyn Franke, Patty Lollar, Geraldine McKnight, Henrietta Schaffer, and Dorothea Windle.

Fifty-seven members of the band are new this year. The clarinet section has increased from ten to twenty.

The band is preparing to play a concert at 1:00 o'clock today for the P. T. A. Convention.