

Van Buren Proud Of Its Students, Its Favorite Son, And Its Plays



MRS. STELLA HERMANSON HAS TAUGHT HIGHWAY 151 SCHOOL THREE YEARS

Residents of the VanBuren district, when they talk about their school, eagerly tell you of their most illustrious alumna, Stanley Ross, head of renowned Wayland Academy, at Beaver Dam.

VanBuren School, district number 4, in the town of Calamus, is six and one-half miles north of Columbus on Highway 151. The teacher at the little white-frame building is Mrs. Stella Hermanson, Columbus, now serving her third year.

Ross Born Nearby

Getting back to the illustrious son, Mr. Ross. Back in 1905 Stanley Ross "graduated" from the eighth grade and he has been one of VanBuren's number one fans ever since. He was born on the present William Haase farm just across the field. The Wayland educator recalls that in 1906 the present flooring was

laid; that the seats now used by the youngsters were bought a year later, as was the first dictionary the school ever had. Mr. Ross recalls his father saying that he was born in the year 1860 in the Town of Calamus and the school building stood there before his birth, which would make it over 80 years old.

The present board members are Alfred Affeldt, director, Elmer Klatt, clerk, and the veteran Jacob Hammer, treasurer. District No. 4 school men must have been thrifty down through the years, for Mr. Hammer's treasury book dates back to the year 1868, and its still good for many more terms.

VanBuren youngsters consistently rate among the very highest in the annual Dodge County examinations. At present they are looking forward to the Beaver Dam Rural School Judging Contest, which is scheduled for May 5.

Play Is Popular

Two outside activities of which the Van Buren community is justly proud and which they support wholeheartedly are the annual school play and the bingo party. This year the two events netted the school treasury \$138.00, which will be spent for books and other equipment. Over 300 persons attended the play alone.

The pupils are, from front to rear, starting with the row nearest the camera: Jaunita Baker, Joan Sabatke, Kenneth Schroeder. Second row: Rodney Sabatke, Joyce Sabatke, Harold Frey. Third row: Shirley Haase, Jean Bortz, Carol Frankenstein. Fourth row: Grace Matuseski, Joan Bortz, Joyce Bilke, Kenneth Matuseski, Donald Bilke, Alfred Affeldt and Duane Klatt, Eugene Schroeder. Mrs. Hermanson is seated at the back. Arlene Sabatke and Glenn Matuseski were absent. 4-18-1941