

# The Song Contest

Each year in December, the student body at the Northwest School looks forward to one of the most interesting of inter-class events, the annual song contest, which is held prior to the Christmas vacation period. This is the only inter-class event in which the entire student body is able to take part; hence much spirit and interest are shown on this occasion.

Alumni and former students all over Northwestern Minnesota remember the song contest as one of the outstanding events of the year. The first song contest at the Northwest School was held in 1917 and proved such a big success that it has become one of the traditions of this school.

In the 1936 contest, which was the nineteenth annual event, the Advanced class, led by Ruth Lerud of Twin Valley, captured first place and was awarded the C. G. Selvig trophy, which is presented to the winning class each year. The Senior class, led by Lynn Lokken of Shelly, ranked a close second, while the Freshmen, directed by Marvin Hilmo of Twin Valley, won third place. The Junior class, under the direction of Lloyal Harris of Wadena, finished in fourth place. On the night of the contest Miss Marian Nelson, instructor in piano, was the accompanist for all classes. During rehearsals each class was accompanied by one of its own members. Class accompanists were: Seniors, Delene Hegreberg of Ada; Advanced, Betty McVeety of East Grand Forks; Juniors, Mildred Mykleby of Eldred; Freshmen, Evelyn Brandt of Gonyick.

Each class sang three songs. One song, "Battle Hymn of the Republic," was sung by all four classes, while the other two were of the classes' own choosing. The Seniors selected "While Shepherds Watched" and "In The Gloaming"; the Advanced chose "Silent Night, Holy Night"



Betty McVeety, Ruth Lerud

and the "Cradle Song". The Juniors sang "Bells of St. Mary's" and "Silent Night, Holy Night," while the Freshmen chose "Jingle Bells" and "Flow Gently Sweet Afton."

Members of the music faculty took charge of the contest and supervised all of the daily rehearsals. Since 1917 there have been nineteen contests sponsored and Senior classes have captured first place nine times, while the Advanced classes have won first place eight times. The highest any Freshman class has ever ranked is second place, while Juniors have won the cup twice in nineteen years.



Directors: Marvin Hilmo, Lloyal Harris, Lynn Lokken  
Accompanists: Evelyn Brandt, Mildred Mykleby, Delene Hegreberg