

**Cooperation**  
Published every other month at Neenah, Wisconsin by and for the employees of Kimberly-Clark Corporation.  
ROSS H. MOTY, Editor

**January-February 1953**

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**Paging Through . . .**

Developments as enterprising as those of Kimberly-Clark of Canada, which this issue takes the lead in *Cooperation's* series on the mills, are reflected throughout the magazine as you page through to:

"Main Office Folks Visit the Sales Promotion Center" (page 14), the reorganization of the Purchasing department (page 14), the stained glass window made possible through the Ralph Kehl Memorial fund (page 15), the artificial ice at Kay (page 19), "A Trip Through the Mill Office" at Memphis (pages 20-21), the LongLac Pulp and Paper Mill's "Million Man Hours of Safety" (page 25), and "Annual Crew Dinner Meetings" (page 26).

To "Safety Gets a New Lift at Niagara Falls" (page 28), "Credit Union Growth" at Atlas (page 33), "Manning Products Displayed at Sales Center" (page 35), "Sixty-one Points of Life" at Kimberly where honors recently went to a Legion Post and to a son of an employee (page 40), to Neenah Mill employee "Study of Our Business System" (page 46), "What I Like About Coop" (page 51), "Old Days at Field Service" (page 60).

**Mills and Offices**

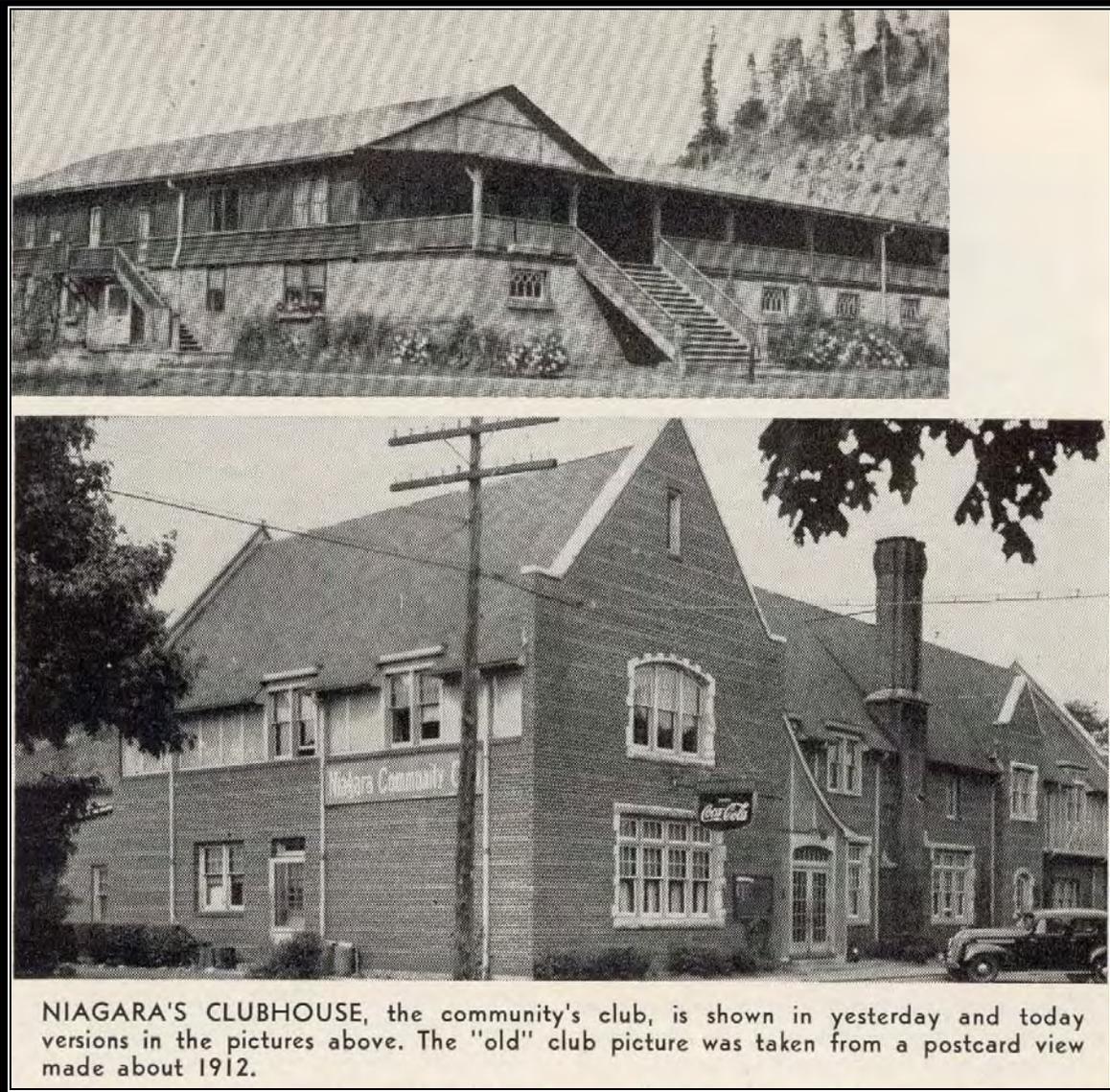
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Don Raboin \_\_\_\_\_ Niagara High School Class of 1955.

## *Cooperation*



### ***The Community's Club***

The Niagara Community Club has so long been a part of Niagara that it is usually rather taken for granted, and few have given any thought to the origin or the destiny of the Club. While the building itself and the use to which it has been put has changed considerably through its lifetime, the basic reason for its existence remains unchanged—it is the hub of the community life of the Village of Niagara.

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The first Club House was built in the year 1907 with the formal opening early in 1908. The original building included a soda fountain, a small ice cream parlor, poolroom, shower and locker rooms, bowling alleys, and the gymnasium, which served alternately as gymnasium and theater. A second floor housed the library, a dining room and kitchen, and rooms rented by the Masonic Lodge.

### **Board Walk**

To approach the Club in those days one had to walk on a board sidewalk or drive on a dusty street. This did not stop the traffic, however, for the Club was truly the center of the social life of Niagara. Dances were held regularly, and there were movies every weekend. The men could play pool, and could enjoy their pipes or cigars while so doing, but if they smoked cigarettes, they had to step outside of the building—no cigarette smoking was permitted inside!

And during the flu epidemic of 1918, the Club played still another role, for a certain part of it became a “hospital” during the emergency, and the sick were cared for there.

The Club House was rebuilt in 1926, with only the gymnasium of the original building remaining. The bowling alleys were moved to the west side of the building, the ice cream parlor was enlarged as was the soda fountain, and the large lobby was constructed and furnished. In addition, the second floor now had a modern kitchen, dining room: a Women’s Club Room, and lodge Rooms were provided.

### **The Library**

The Club continued the house the Library, and does to this day. From a mere handful of books which Mrs. Strong, the first librarian, had to work with, the Library grew to its present capacity, with over 5,000 books. Only three librarians have served. When Mrs. Strong retired, Mrs. Marceline LaPine came, and served until 1951. She was succeeded by Miss Jennie Hansen.

The first Manager hired for the Club was Henry Bohn, and he was succeeded by Mr. McCune. In October of 1915, Fred Peterson took over as Manager, and he acted in the capacity until December of 1930. Folke Johansson managed the Club until 1938, when Leland Riley was hired. The present Manager, Fred Newcomb, came in 1946.

In the days of few cars, one of the entertainments which the Club provided for the young people of Niagara was the “jitney” dances, where a piano player, or a phonograph, gave forth with the music and the dancers contributed a nickel to defray expenses. At other times, the High School students who gathered nightly prevailed upon the janitor to play records from the projection booth while they danced.

To the various people of Niagara the Club suggests different things—to some it recalls some of the best basketball they’ve ever seen, when the powerful Niagara Badgers attracted the select of the traveling teams. Others got their start at playing the game there, for the younger generation always tried out the tricks they had seen on the court the next day after school in the Club gym.

## **Romantic Memories**

Still others recall it as the place they danced with their “one and only,” whether it was to someone pounding the piano, or to the orchestra who used to pack them in to the Club gym! Many a romance has blossomed over the booths in the ice cream parlor. But to all Niagara the Club definitely has a reason for being. The current boxing matches are drawing the ardent enthusiasts in great numbers—there are 16 teams in the men’s leagues bowling this year, and the Ladies’ league boasts of 16 teams. There is also a Mixed League, with only the weekends for open bowling. A junior basketball group is trying out in the gym regularly. The dining room and kitchen are in demand for parties and showers, with the legion Auxiliary meeting there regularly.

The Papermill Workers’ Union maintains an office there. The Skating Club uses the Club facilities for planning their Annual Ice Review. The second floor now houses the Village Offices, and there is a Village Board Room. The Post Office is now located in the northeast corner of the first floor, and the Girls Scouts maintain a room on the second floor for their meetings.

The Niagara Community Club has been and continues to be truly a “community” affair, for few activities of our village come into being without the Club playing some part.

\*\*\*\*\*

**The End**

# Niagara Area Historical Society



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NHS Class of 1955

Novato, California

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