

MOSS LAKE

THE CAMP IN THE WILDERNESS





FOREWORD:

The selection of a camp is an important decision and one that should be preceded by careful study of those available. This study however is commonly made difficult by an almost unavoidable similarity in the publications of Eastern camps. To avoid the confusion that results and to enable parents to decide with a minimum of effort whether or not Moss Lake is a camp that will meet their special requirements we have designed this booklet to set forth in sharp relief the salient features of the organization. In so doing we have left many details to be covered in the course of the personal interview we consider an indispensable preliminary to each Moss Lake enrollment.

OUR CAMP PHILOSOPHY

We feel that a summer at Moss Lake must be a real investment in future as well as current happiness. Our lives allow varying amounts of leisure, but its utilization cannot wisely be left to chance, and we earnestly believe that from four to six years in a proper camp represent the most valuable form of "middle age insurance." We further hold that preparation for middle age, while it receives much less attention than provision for old age, is no less important. It is granted to a larger number and during it one is more acutely happy or unhappy than in later years.




Our basic conviction is the trite one that whatever is worth doing is worth doing well. It is the creed of each of our specialists, is faithfully reflected in the attitude of their assistants, quickly imbues each group of campers, and does much to make each Moss Lake summer one of thoroughly worthwhile accomplishment.

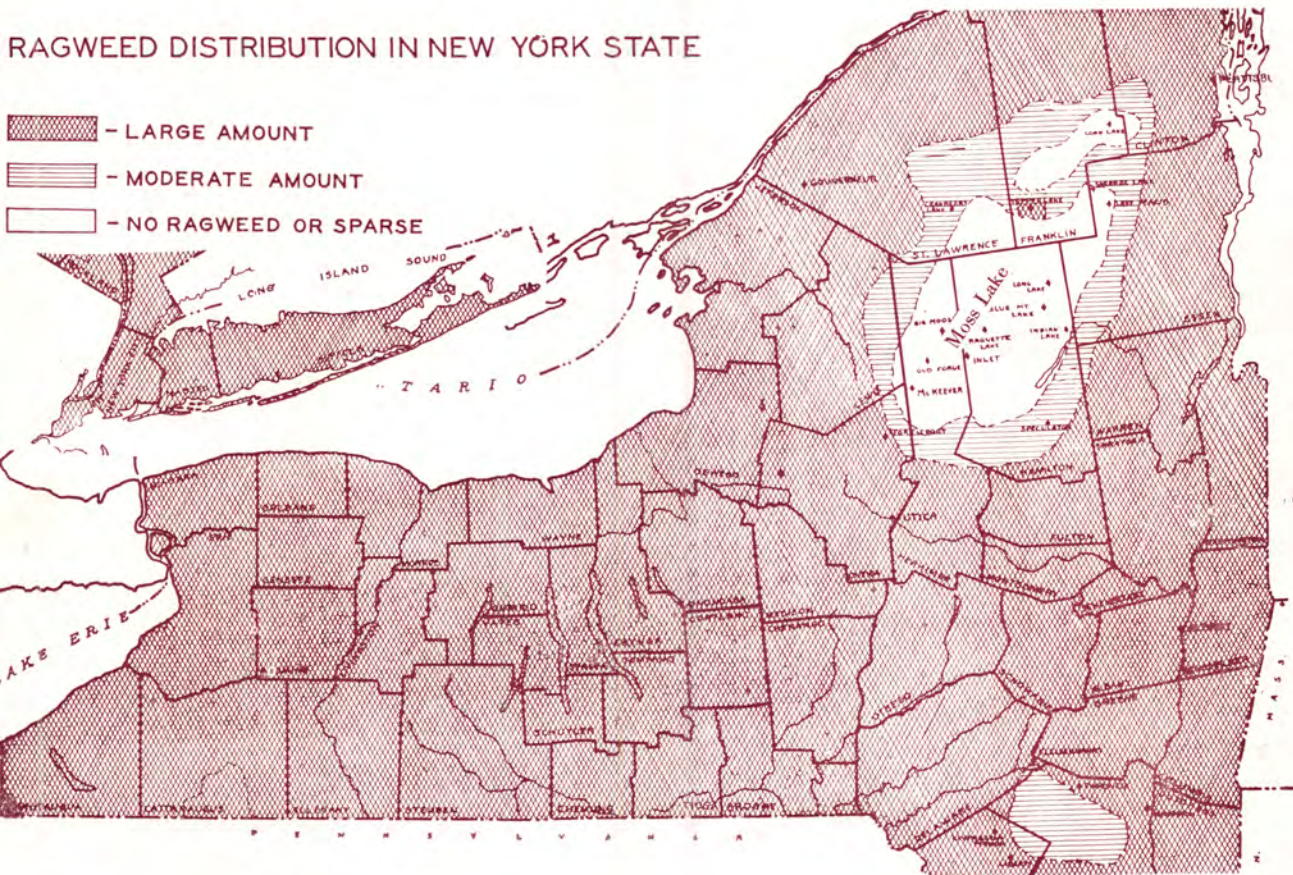


The Moss Lake Tract comprises 600 acres of virgin forest and completely encircles the camp's private lake. This is an Adirondack gem three-fourths of a mile in diameter with a gradually sloping sandy shore. The tract, while only four and five hours from Buffalo and New York, is surrounded by State Forests with their innumerable rivers, lakes, and mountains. Conifers predominate, and hay fever irritants are at a minimum.

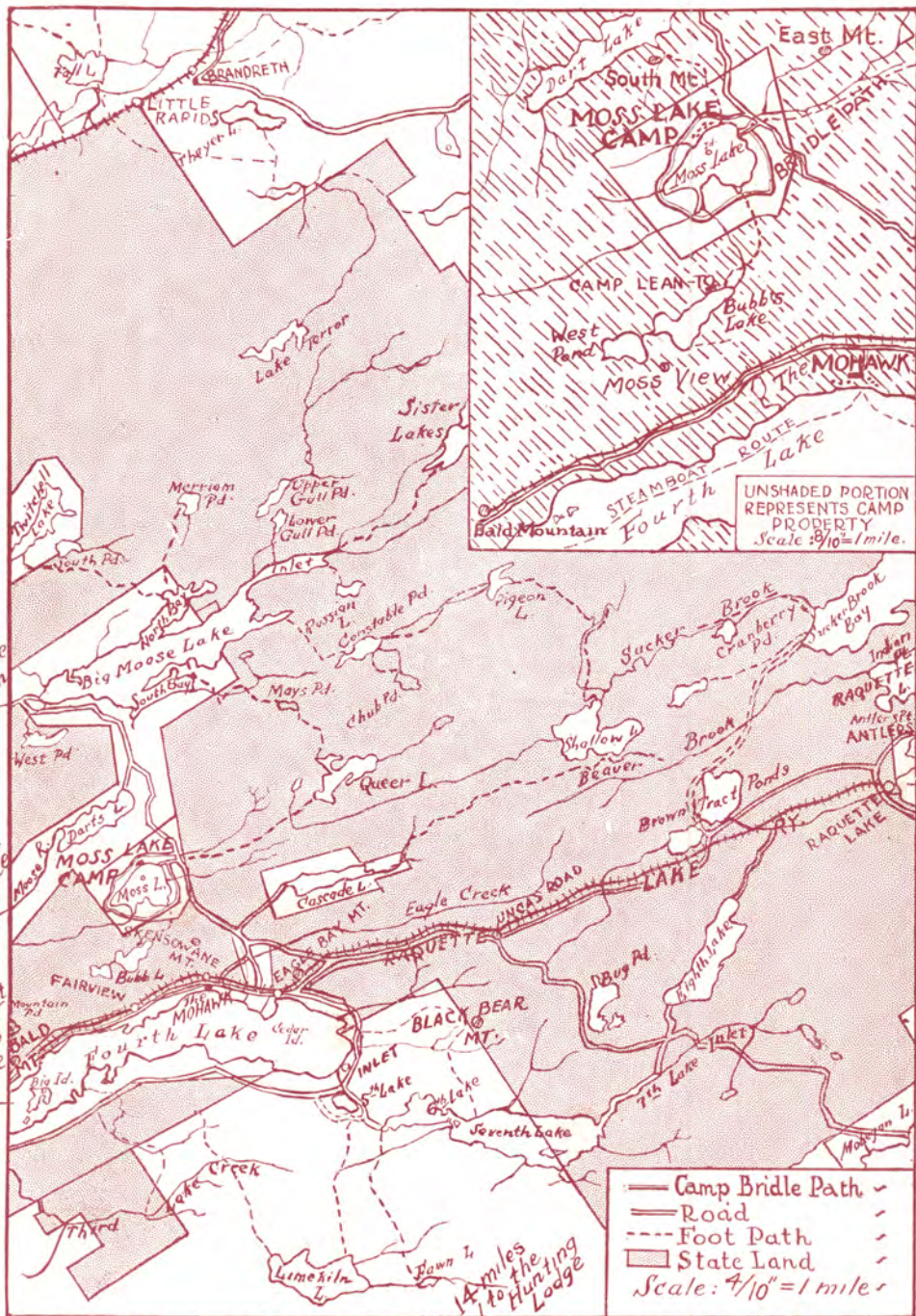


RAGWEED DISTRIBUTION IN NEW YORK STATE

-  - LARGE AMOUNT
-  - MODERATE AMOUNT
-  - NO RAGWEED OR SPARSE



Moss Lake lies near the center of New York's larger ragweed-free area at an elevation of over 1800 feet. The section is known as the Lake Region of the Adirondacks, a title quickly justified by a glance at the map on the opposite page.

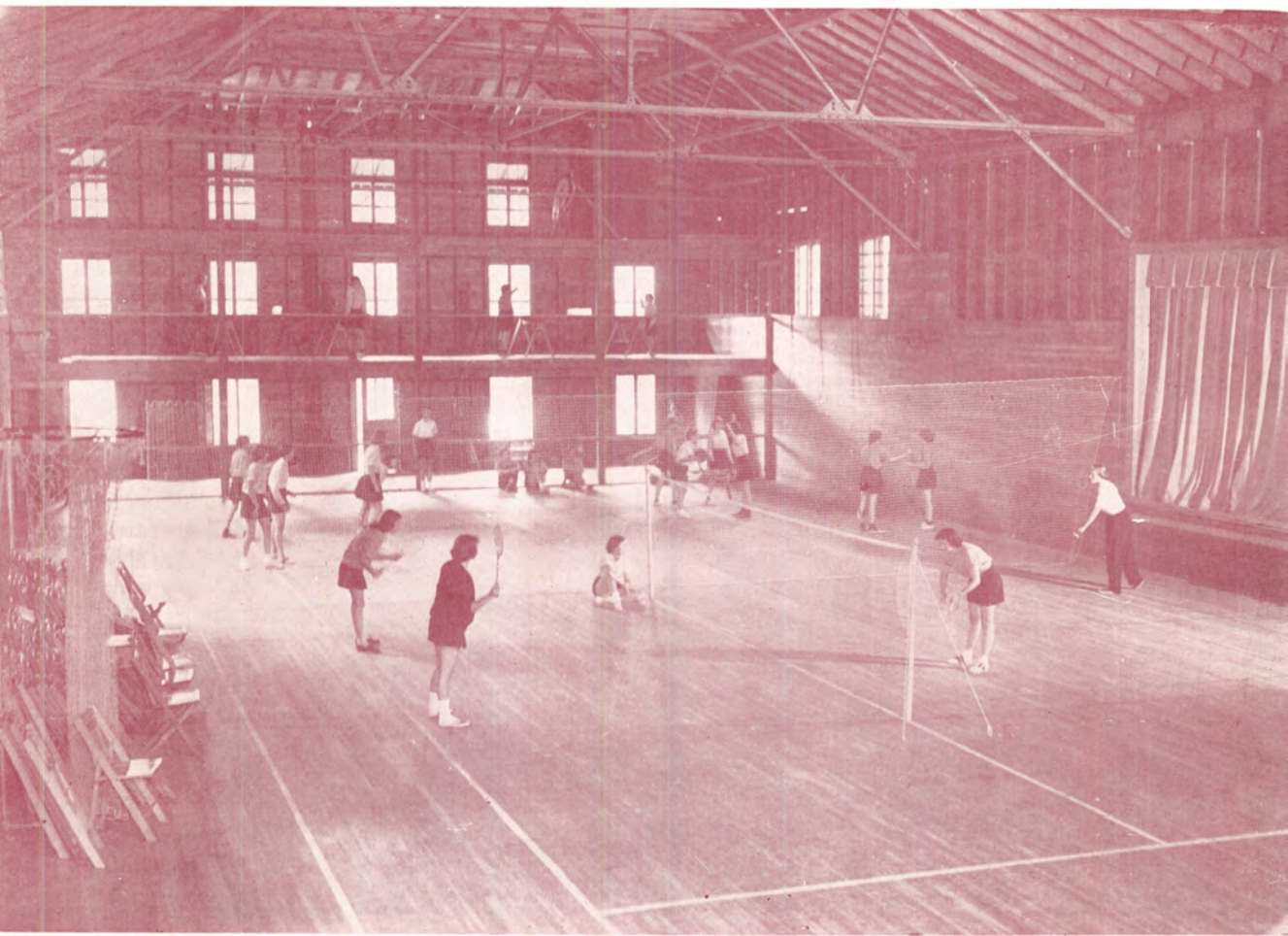


A MAP WHICH GIVES SOME IDEA OF THE WEALTH OF TRIPS WHICH THE LOCATION OF THE CAMP MAKES POSSIBLE
 Over half of the Lakes shown are uninhabited

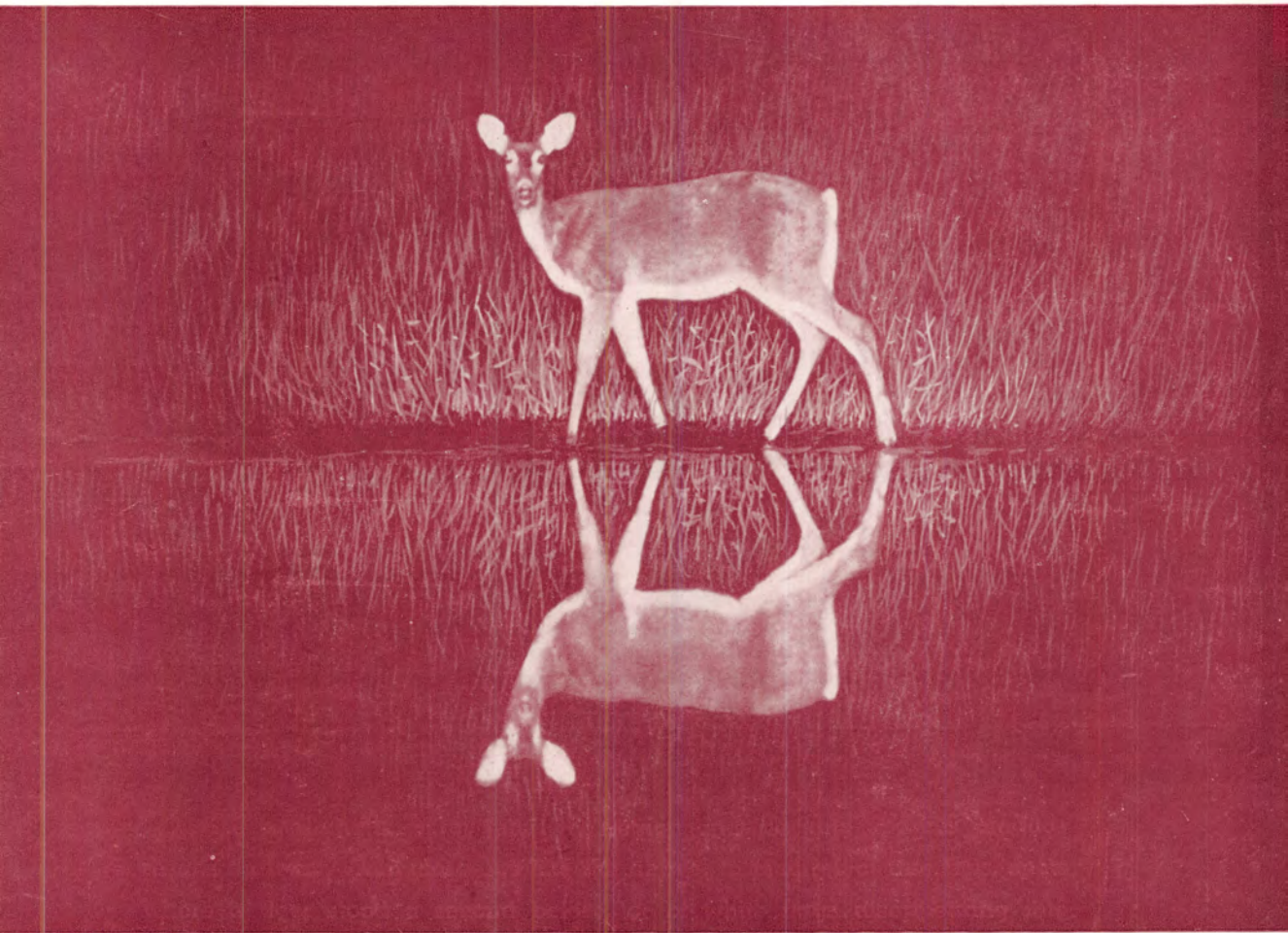


The only approach to the camp is commanded by a gatehouse and a gatekeeper, and each visitor must register and be announced by telephone before the gate is opened.





Moss Lake has an especially large per camper investment which makes possible many unusual contributions to the health, safety, and pleasure of its campers. Of these "Madison Square Garden" with its rainy day facilities for basketball, baseball, badminton, shuffleboard, ping-pong, and tennis is an excellent example.



Wild life is abundant throughout the region and "Jacking" parties produce results that vary from close-ups like the above, to pictures of tree tops, spots where a deer stood a second before, or of white flags disappearing into the night — proof that one needs no gun to be subject to attacks of "Buck Fever".

Of Major Importance:

The feature which does most to distinguish Moss Lake from other camps is our effort to provide technically accurate instruction for each girl in the activities we feel will add most to her future as well as her current happiness. We accordingly devote most of our time to activities that can be continued in adult life, rather than to the group athletics stressed throughout the school year, and have established a staff of nationally known experts for their direction. Each is a man whose life work is the specialty he coaches at Moss Lake, and each has a background of many hundreds of previous pupils. The average Moss Lake service record for these men as of last summer exceeded fourteen years, and their presence in camp is assurance of an excellence of technique that remains uniform from season to season — a uniformity difficult to maintain in any other way.

Adding the salaries of these specialists to the usual counsellor payroll substantially increases the camp's operating costs, but we feel the resulting advantages to be most tangible and enduring and to far outweigh the additional expense.

This expert instruction does not mean that a Moss Lake summer is more strenuous than a conventional camp summer. Indeed proper technique almost always minimizes the expenditure of energy, for the good swimmer moves effortlessly through the water, the capable rider is at ease on horseback, and the proficient tennis player wastes but little energy. We therefore feel that the careful coaching of our experts conserves much energy, not only during the camping days but throughout the years. Nevertheless, the many beneficial results of this coaching can be fully appreciated only by those who have had the opportunity to observe camper development under both Moss Lake and contrasting conditions. All seem to feel the gains in the various activities almost unbelievably universal and substantial, and many consider the habits of relaxed yet effective application that the specialists inculcate nearly as valuable as the activity skills themselves.

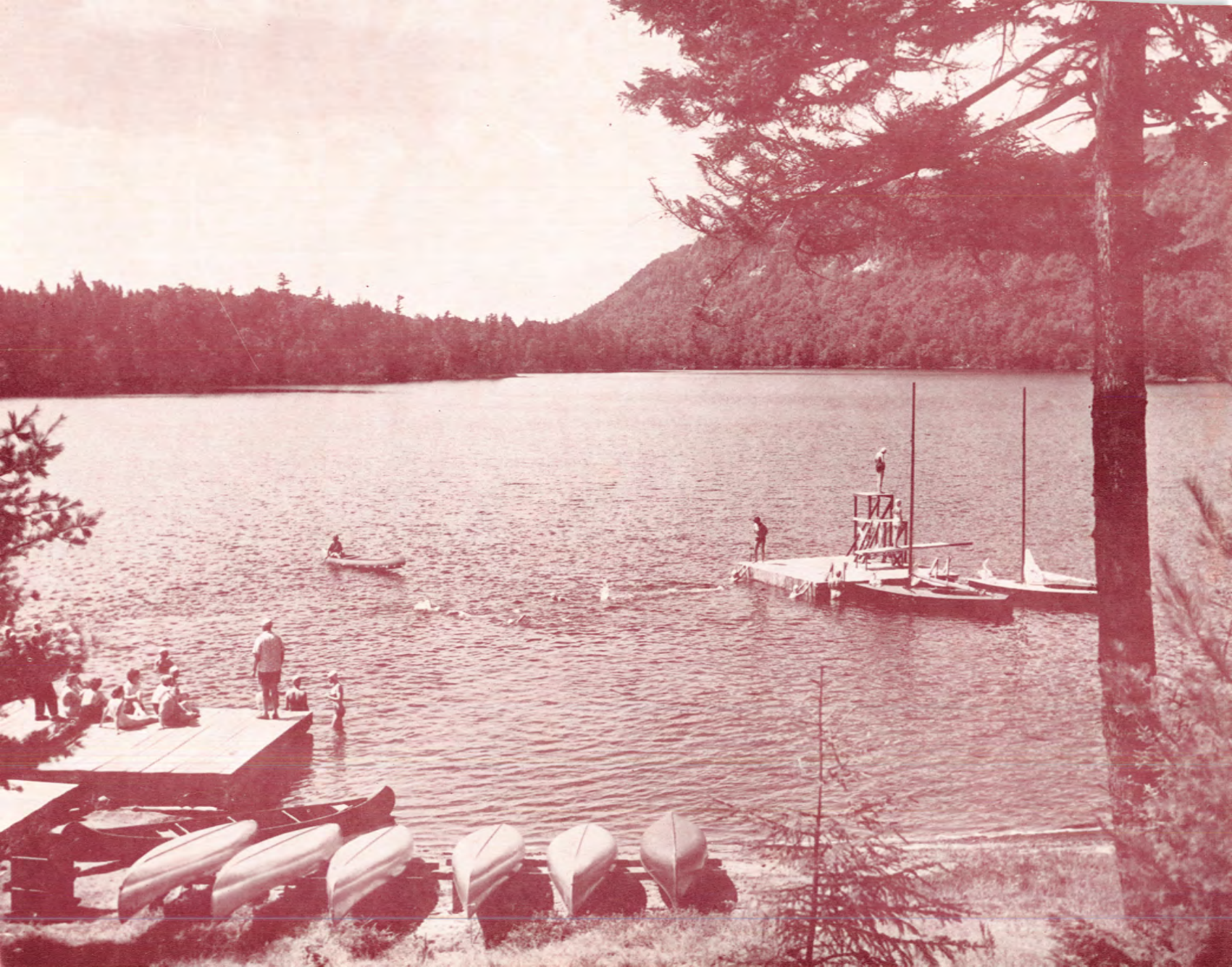


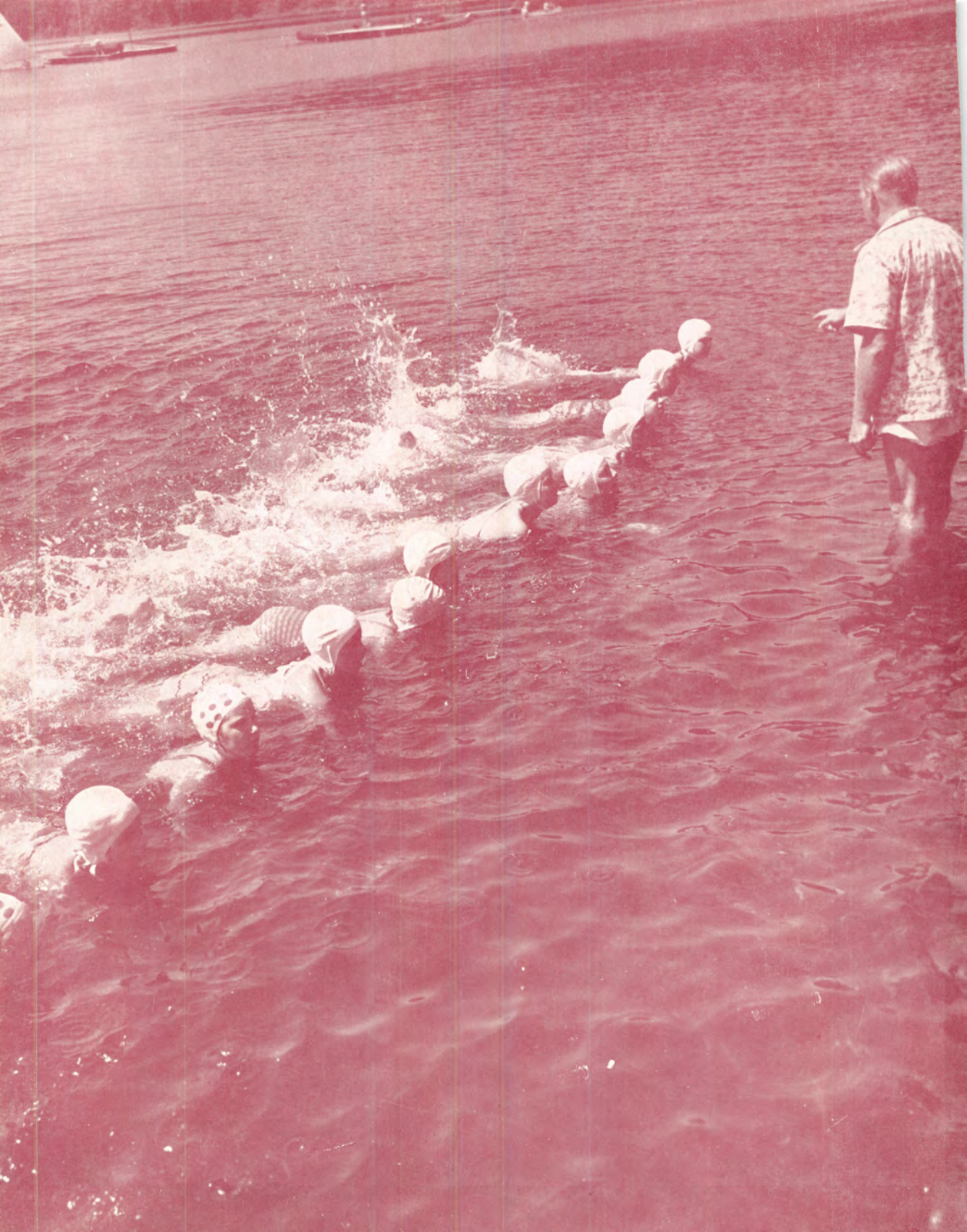
JOHN ZIMMOCH — Head of the swimming department and the dean of our staff of specialists. Even when he arrived at Moss Lake during its early years he was already one of the best known coaches in the East. He has held many national championships, and his pupils have won many important titles both here and abroad.













RIDING:

The present tendency for junior riders in the East to concentrate on jumping has our endorsement only so far as the interest can be developed without depriving our girls of a sound grounding in the principles of equitation and real familiarity with the "Saddle" or "Park" seat. We deplore the currently widespread impression that, instead of their being supplementary fields, work in one retards progress in the other.

If one's future life is to be spent in hunting country, jumping probably will be the greater interest, but there are many sections with well developed parks and interesting bridle paths that lack the open fields owned by interested and co-operative farmers essential to the establishment of a hunt. Also the passage of years often makes jumping unduly hazardous for the occasional rider even though she be competent enough to profit generously, both in terms of health and pleasure, from her hours in the saddle.

With this as our appraisal of the sport, our goal must be to offer adequate instruction and practice in both fields. To achieve it we have divided our department into four sections, each with its own mounts and instructor. Beginners start in an Elementary Ring where all horses are safe and predictable to the nth equine degree. From here the girls progress to the Advanced Equitation Ring where nearly all the mounts are registered saddlebreds and where many are spirited enough to require real skill from their riders. When the instructor in this ring feels a camper is sufficiently secure in her saddle, she may, with parental permission, elect to spend most of her time in the Jumping Ring where the horses are thoroughbreds and part-thoroughbreds. Later when he is satisfied with her accomplishments in his department she may even devote all of her riding time to jumping. The fourth instructor and the fourth string of horses supply trail rides for the pupils of all three rings.

For years the Adirondacks had two "Recognized" horse shows — one at Lake Placid, the other at The Sagamore. Both lapsed during the war and when they failed to resume at its close our local Darts Lake show was given the dates of the former by the American Horse Show Association. With its demise our own August show was granted recognition. This means that our girls may qualify for the Maclay and A.H.S.A. Horsemanship classes in Madison Square Garden, and acquire national "Medal" points.



HORSEMANSHIP AT LAKE PLACID AND SAGAMORE SHOWS

THE A.S.P.C.A. Good Hands Classes at both the Sagamore and Lake Placid shows were swept by young riders from Moss Lake Camp. There was plenty of outside competition, yet the ribbons all went to youngsters with little show ring experience.

A.S.P.C.A. GOOD HANDS CLASSES

<i>Sagamore</i>		<i>Lake Placid</i>
Miss J. Bausher	Blue	Miss M. McKissick
Miss J. McNulty	Red	Miss E. Feigenspan
Miss M. McKissick	Yellow	Miss J. McNulty
Miss N. Douglas	White	

These young riders may have had other instruction, but the technique that produced this enviable performance comes from teaching methods which have changed little in the past seventeen summers. Riding fads have rocked the foundations of equitation, but Moss Lakers have sat firmly through the same system during all the upheavals. Wherever one of these well trained campers rides, from the National at Madison Square to local home-town shows, the ribbons are apt to go his or her way.

Baretto De Souza, dean of the country's horsemen, started Moss Lake girls on their championship stride in 1926, when he began his ten year reign over the camp's rid-

ing program. The camp has grown from a small group requiring one ring and a limited stable, to an organization offering two practice rings, a jumping circle, and about forty mounts.

Col. Alexis Selihoff, formerly instructor in the Russian Officers Cavalry School in St. Petersburg, and a member of the Russian Army Olympic team in 1912, heads the present Moss Lake riding staff. Since 1931 he has extended and emphasized the fundamentals laid down by De Souza. Col. Nicholas Shiskin, graduate of the Russian Cavalry School at Twer, and a commander of the Sixth Hussar Regiment, with Capt. Baldyreff and Capt. Von Bretzel complete the department.

The "good hands," which so uniformly took the judges' eyes at these two large Adirondack shows, comes from a school of riding which requires the extended leg in a fairly long stirrup, slightly inclined forward posture rather than a forward seat, reins held in both hands with the knuckles facing each other in a vertical position, hand flexions and legs controlling the horse.

The above article is reprinted from an early copy of "Rider and Driver." It appears here because it so accurately captures the atmosphere of the department under Mr. de Souza and Colonel Selihoff and summarizes the traditions that have been carried on so capably by Mr. Carroll and our current staff.





Alexis Selihoff



Baretto de Souza

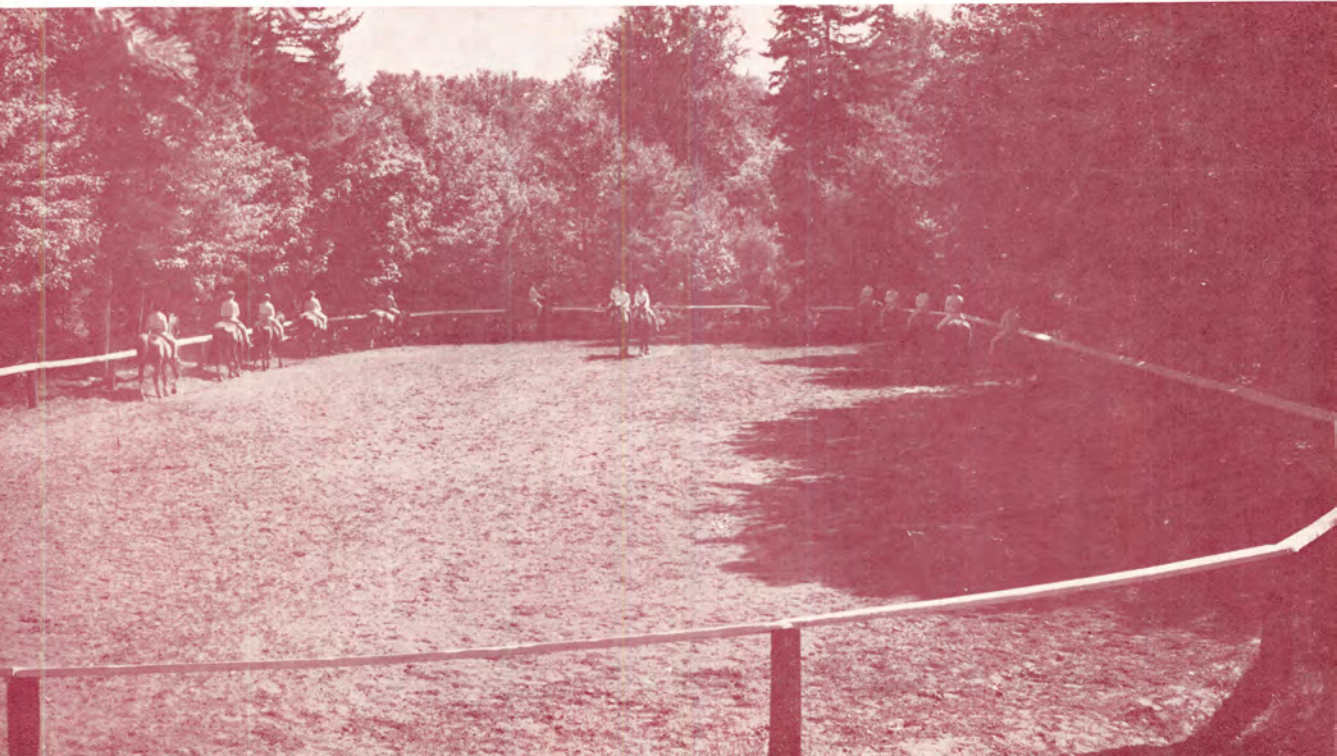


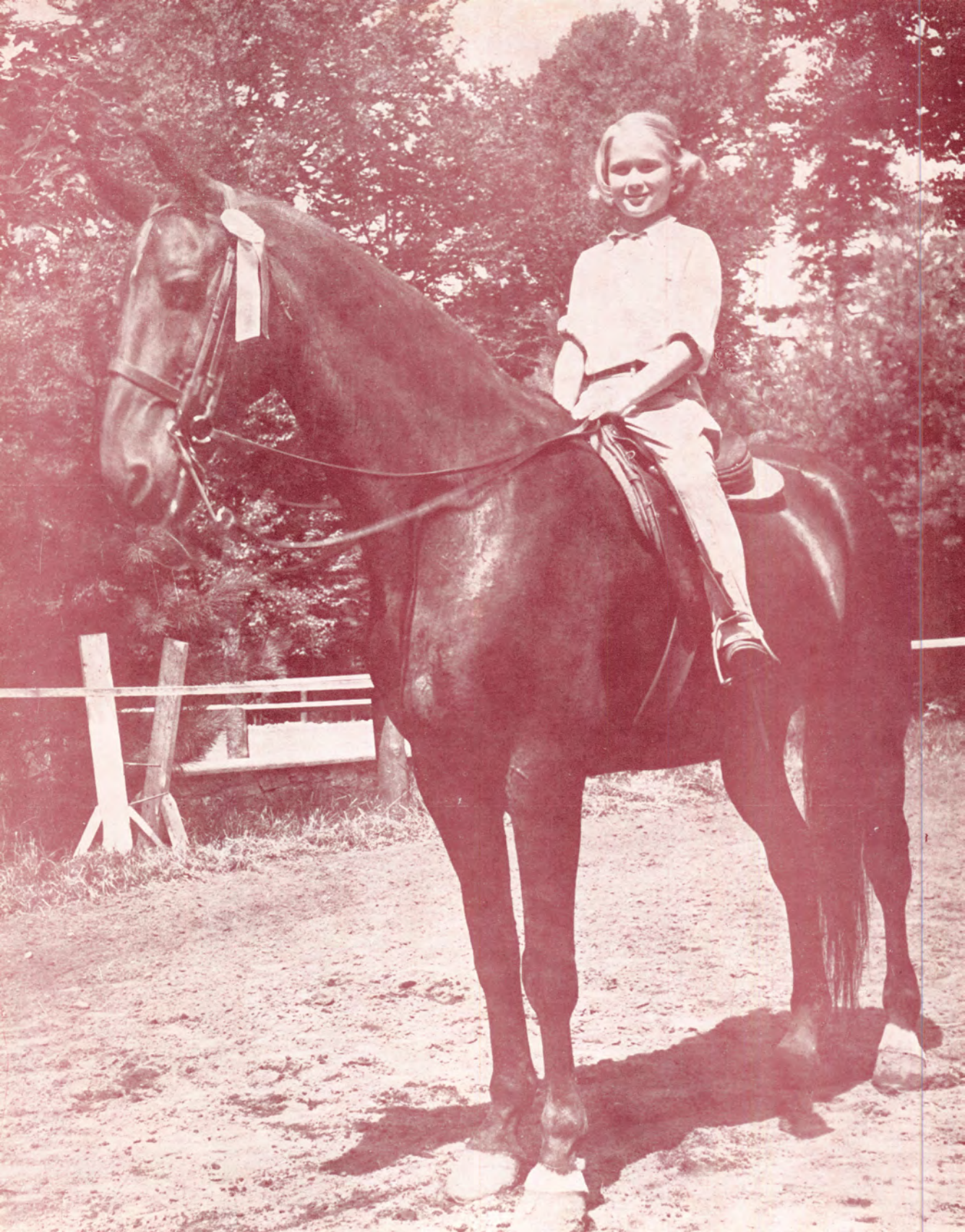
Frank Carroll

OUR RIDING HISTORY — has in large part been written by the three men pictured above whose combined service at Moss Lake totaled over thirty years.

Baretto de Souza's arrival at Moss Lake gave camping its first real equitation department. At this time jumping was a minor interest and for several years all our work was with saddlebred horses and the "park" seat. He was with us for a dozen seasons which were overlapped by the earliest of Colonel Selihoff's fifteen. Mr. Carroll joined the staff two years after Colonel Selihoff's death, and served until 1961.

The Good Hands Trophy of the A.S.P.C.A. was the chief interest of all three men. Their stature is nicely attested by the fact that in the twelve years the trophy remained in Madison Square competition it was won ten times by Moss Lake girls or winter pupils of these instructors.

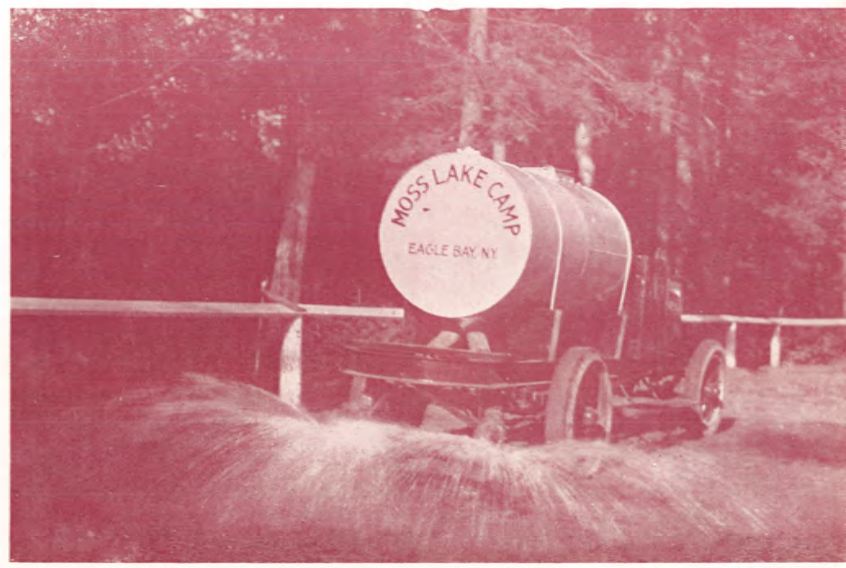






Moss Lake has a forty-horse stable and each girl rides from six to twelve hours a week.

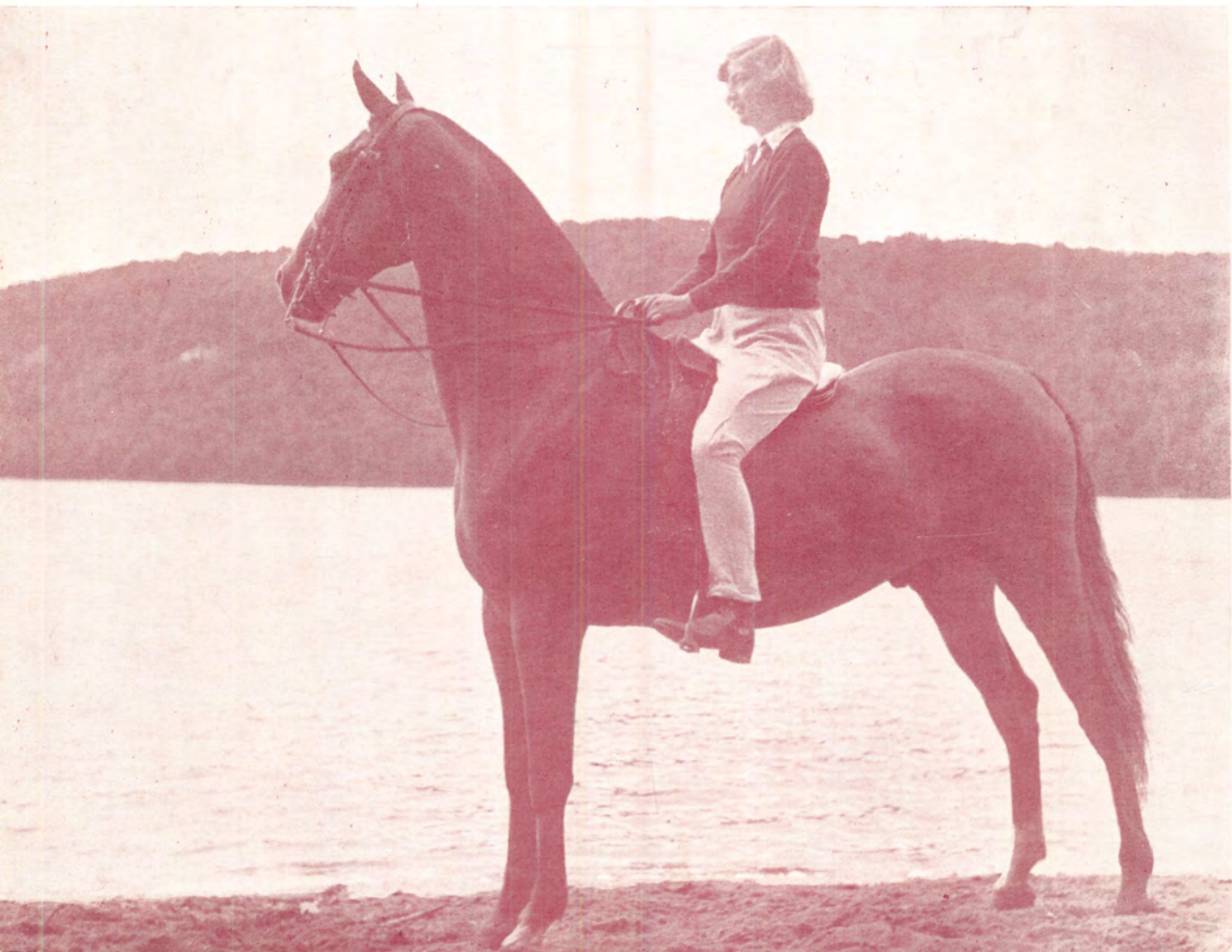
The advanced ring is on the left, the jumping oval in the center, and the elementary ring on the right.





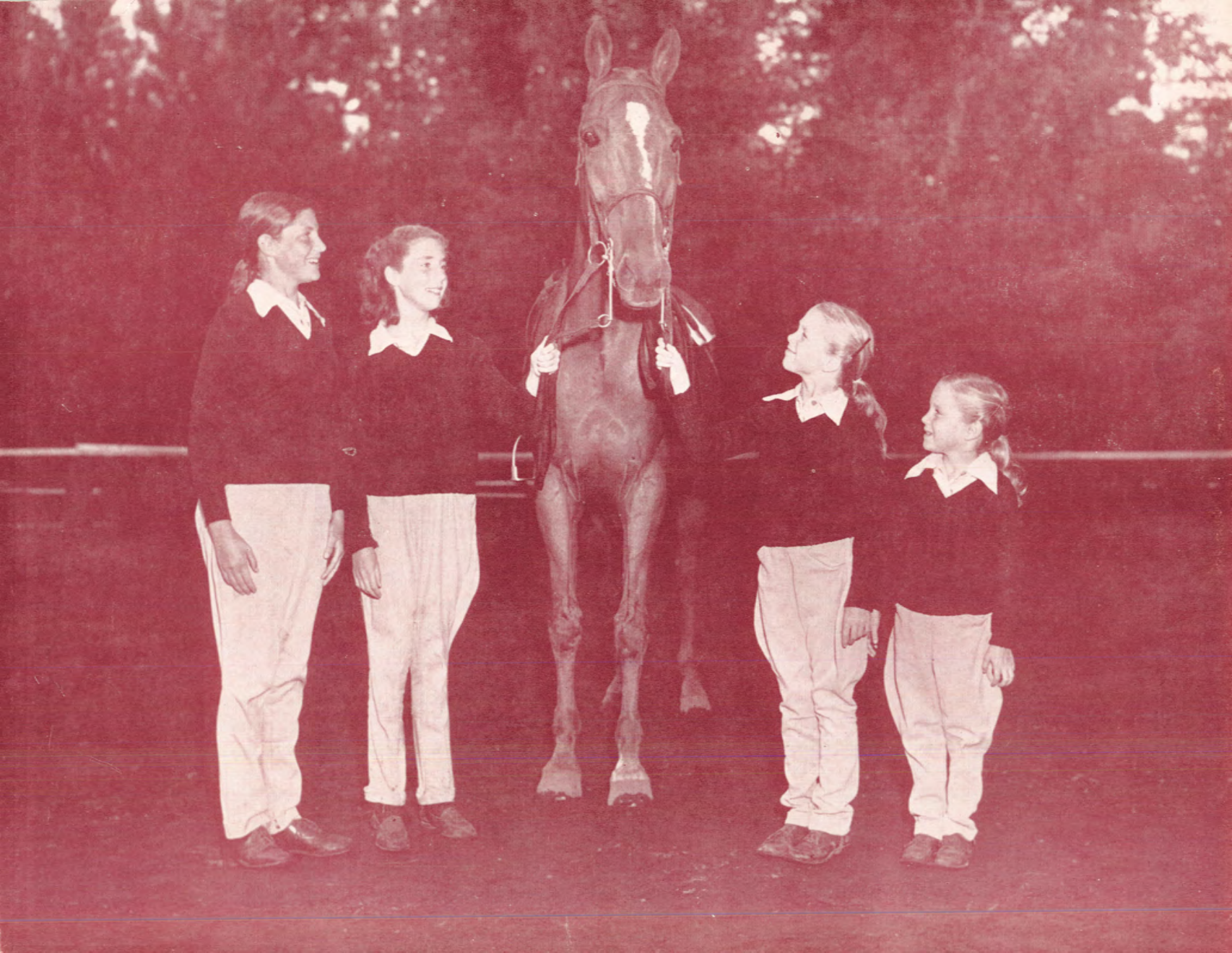


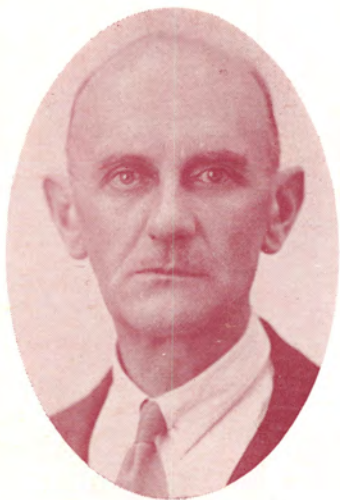
CAPTAIN BASIL EFREMOFF—A graduate of the Nikolae Cavalry School in Petrograd and an officer in the Czar's Kozak Guard Regiment during World War I.









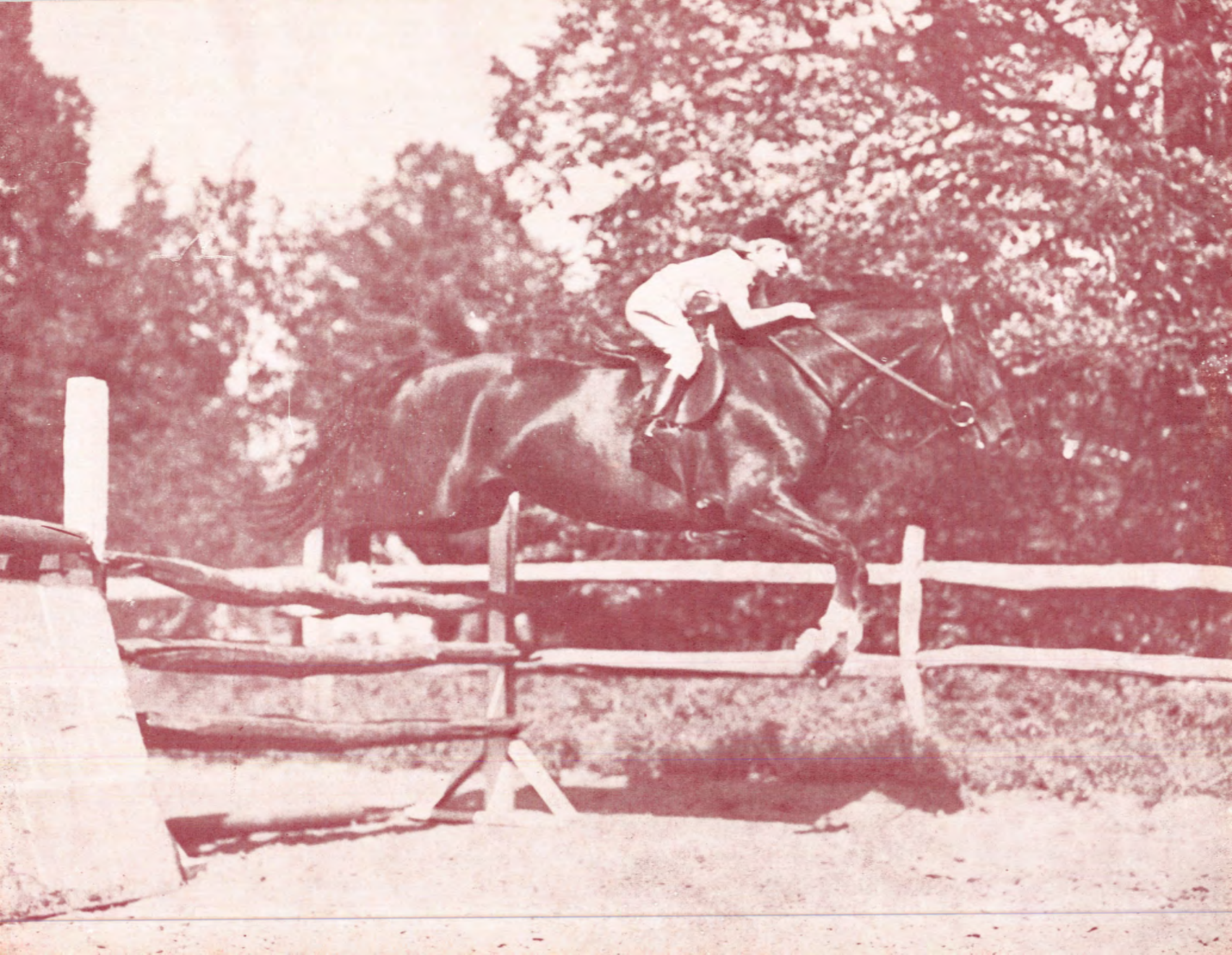


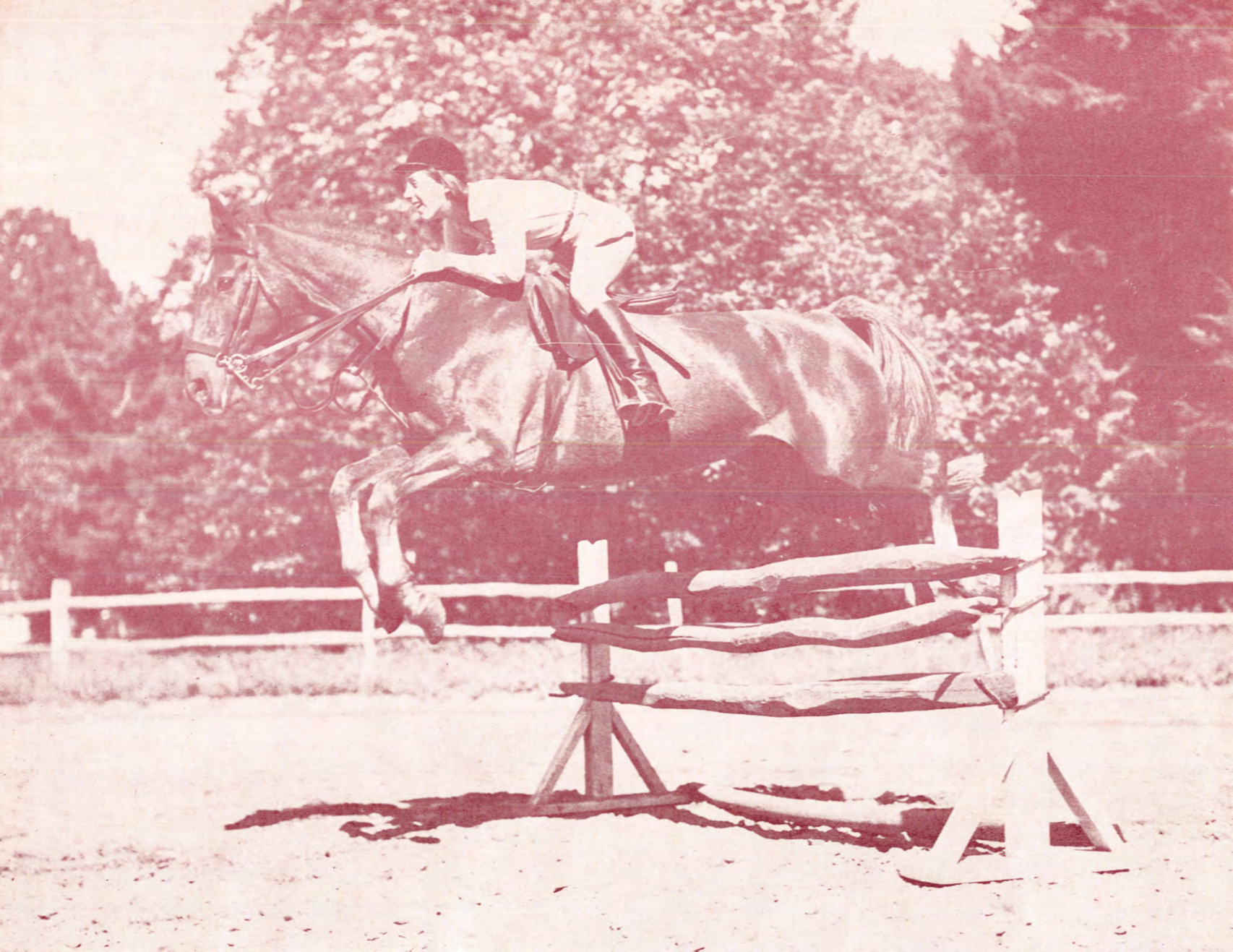
COLONEL BORIS GUENICHTA, Graduate of the Officers' Cavalry School of Czar Nicholas I in Petrograd, and an officer in the Mounted Grenadiers of the Guard throughout World War I.







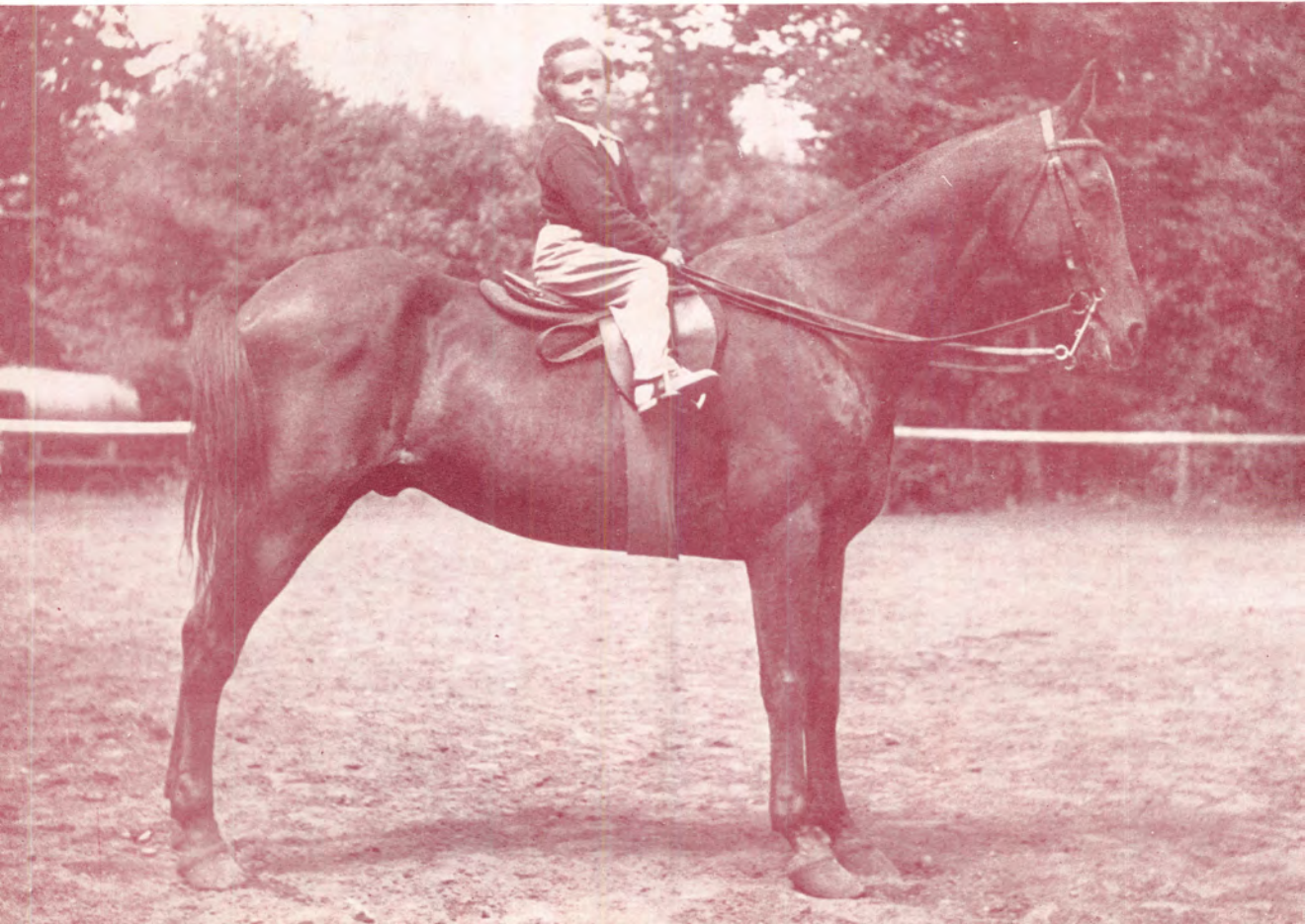


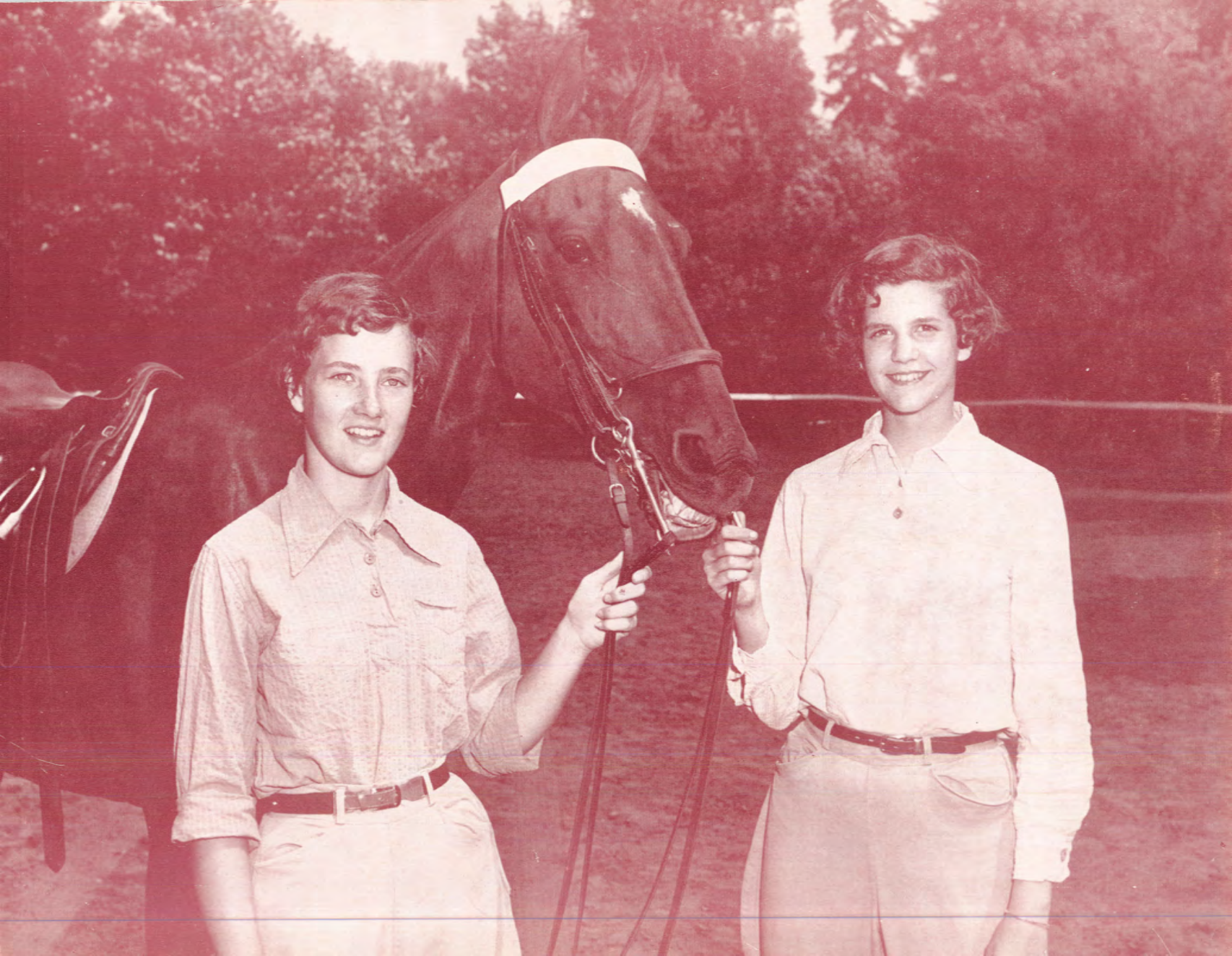






CAPTAIN MICHAEL TEPLAKOW—A graduate of the Cavalry Department of the Saint Petersburg Military Academy and an officer in the First Cuirassier Horse Guards Brigade.



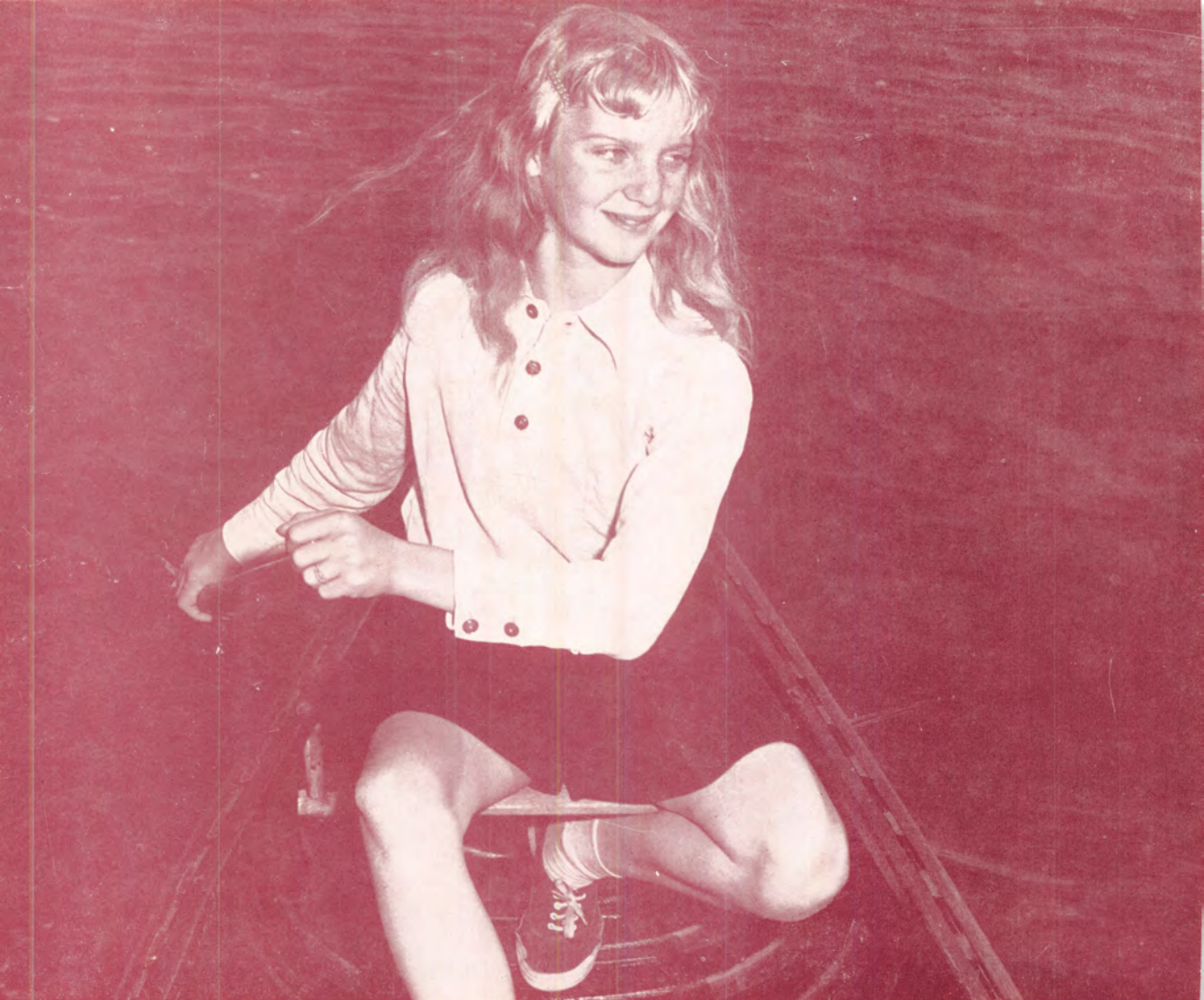




HAROLD DeGROAT — For many years Director of Athletics at Springfield College. When he joined our staff in pre-war years he came as the former director of a salt water camp, a capable canoeist, and an accomplished sailor. He has been coaching these two sports for three decades.

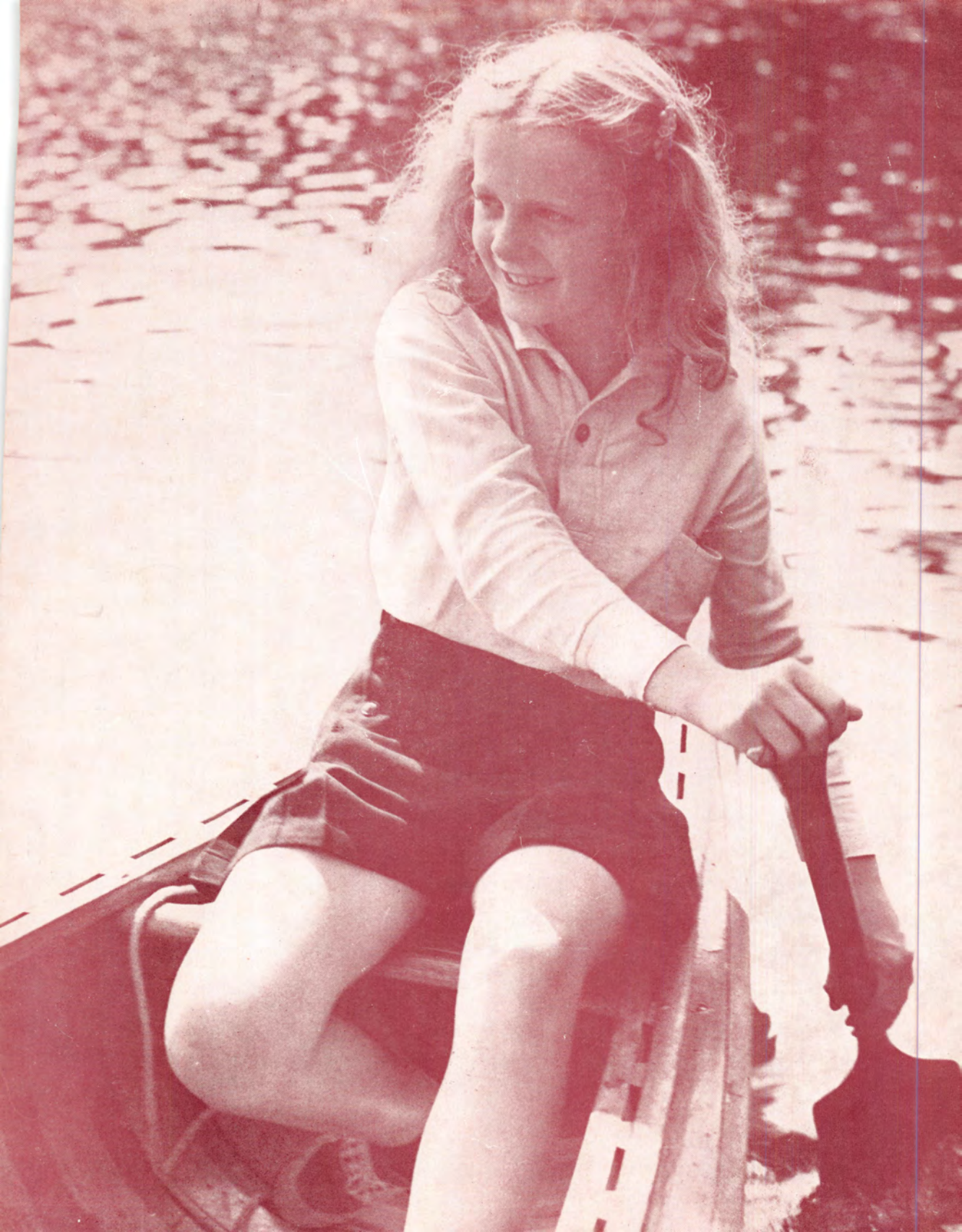






Moss Lake and the multitude of smaller and larger lakes that dot the maps of the region gave canoeing a prominent place in our plans for the first Moss Lake season. The impetus has never been lost and our present fleet includes thirty small canoes and six war canoes.

The girls pictured on these two pages are sisters with a record of nearly twenty Moss Lake summers.





Sailing fits nicely into the Moss Lake policy of emphasizing activities which can be continued through adult life with undiminished pleasure. The fleet consists of two catboats, eight snipes, eight sailfish, four turnabouts, and four prams.





While Moss Lake is only a mile long the mountains which cradle it are broken on the southwest and the prevailing wind from this quarter has an unobstructed sweep. This results in sailing conditions we consider ideal: adequate winds without rough seas or annoying tides.



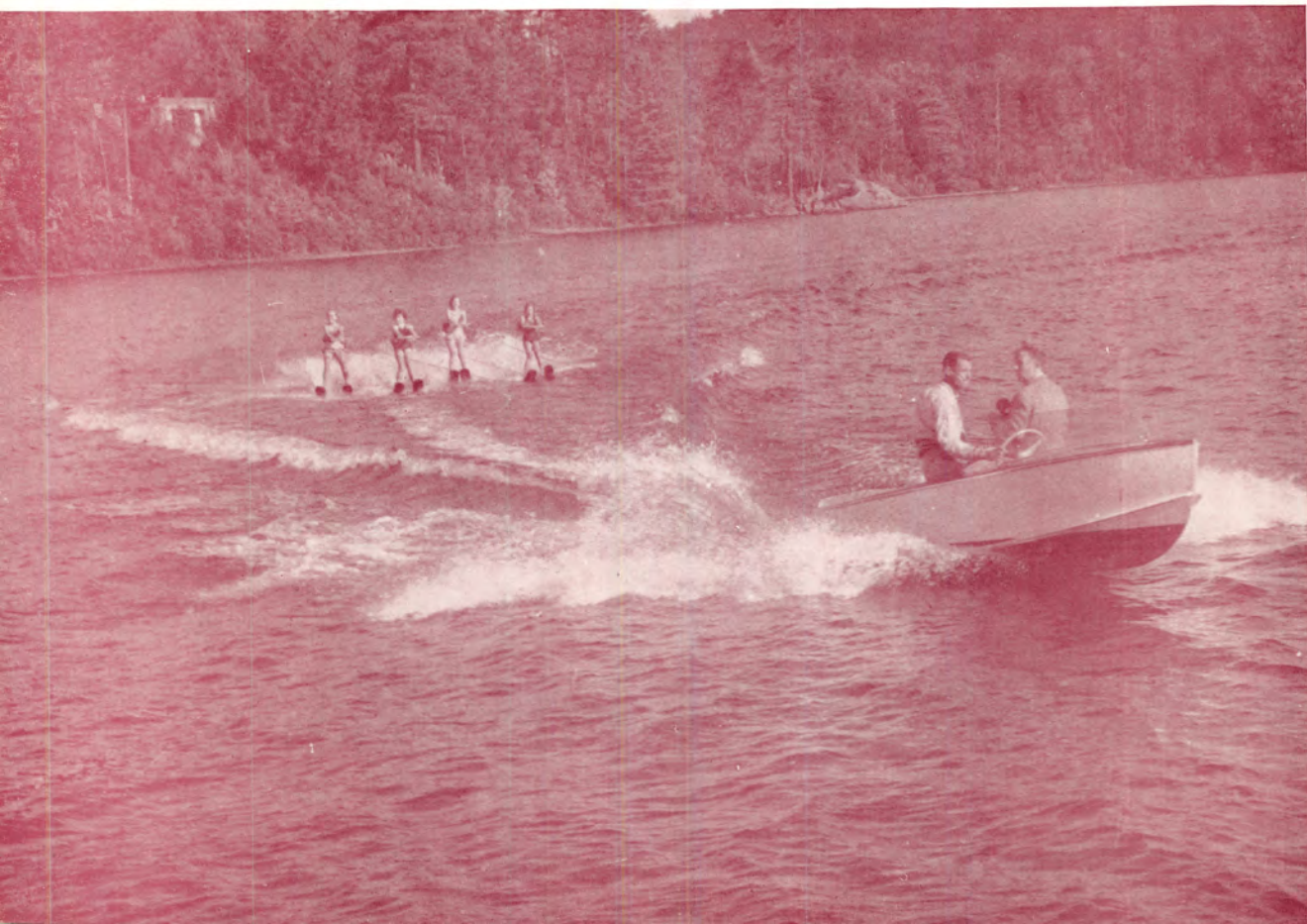






Stewart McDonald III

Our water skiing started in 1953 under the aegis of Bruce Parker—then the best known of the country's professionals. In 1957 the department was taken over by Henry Suydam—a later World's Champion and coach of the Rollins College ski team. Stewart McDonald arrived in 1965. He is the only man holding every available rating in water skiing, a former vice-president of the A.W.S.A., the Chief Judge at many of the world's most important tournaments, the author of most of the A.W.S.A.'s official tracts, and the coach of many champions. In addition, he is the only commentator in this field on the payroll of all three major networks—most notably A.B.C.'s "Wide World of Sports."





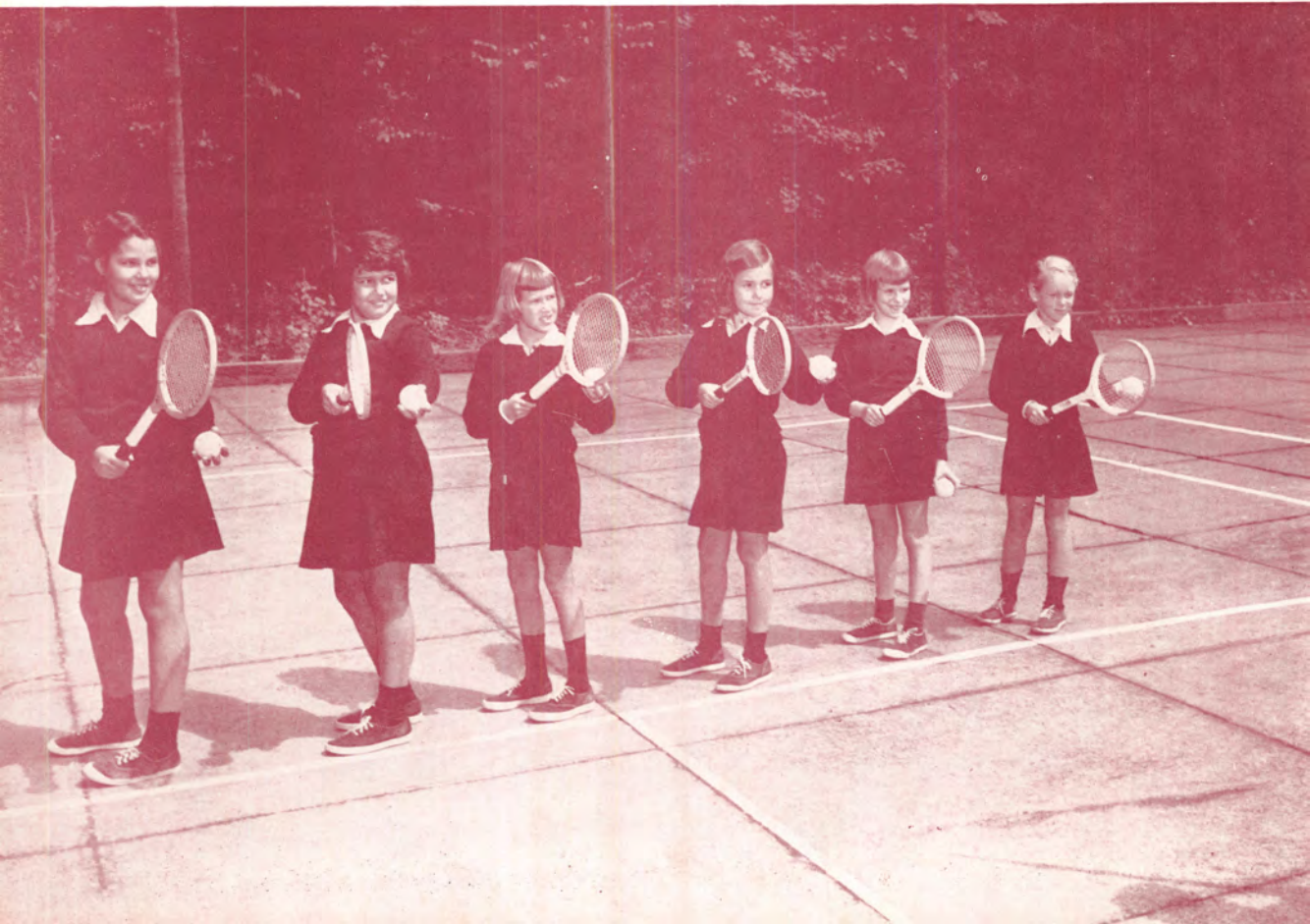
The island and cottage in the center of the lake serve as our skiing headquarters. The eastern half of the lake is reserved for canoeing and sailing; the western portion for water skiing. Facilities include a slalom course and a jump of special design that can be adjusted from two feet to five, the lower setting reducing the chance of novice accidents and the five-foot level being the A.W.S.A. competitive standard.

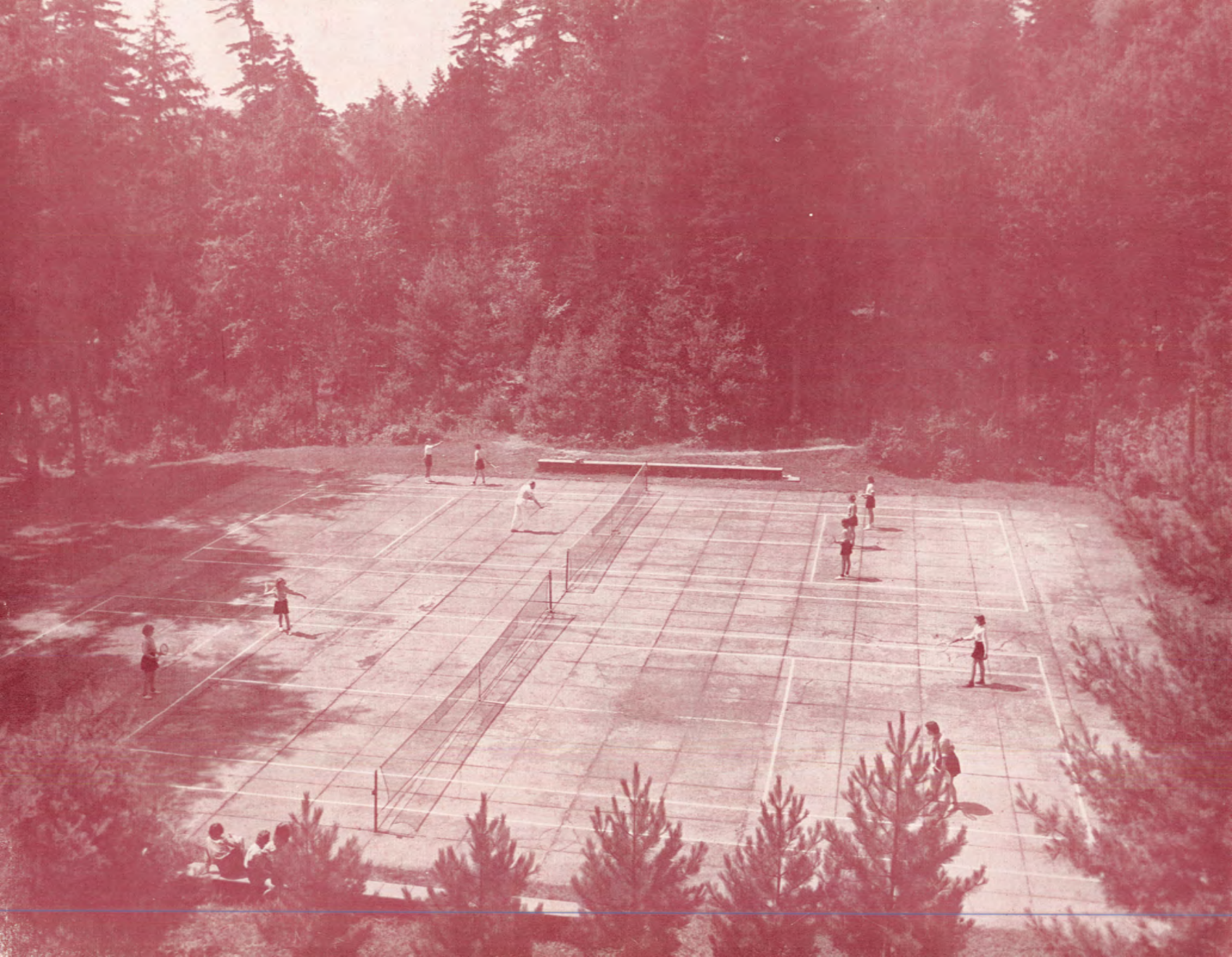


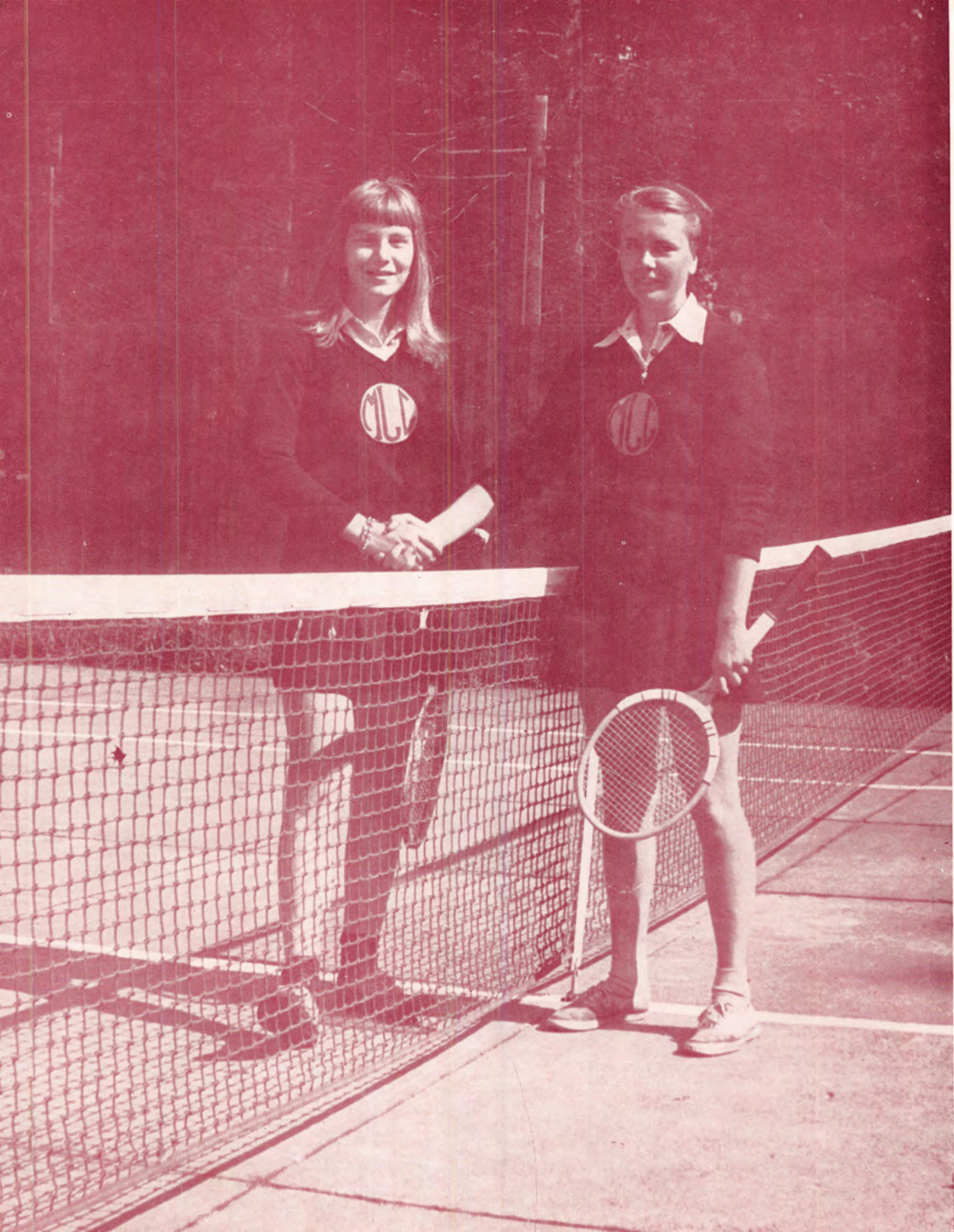


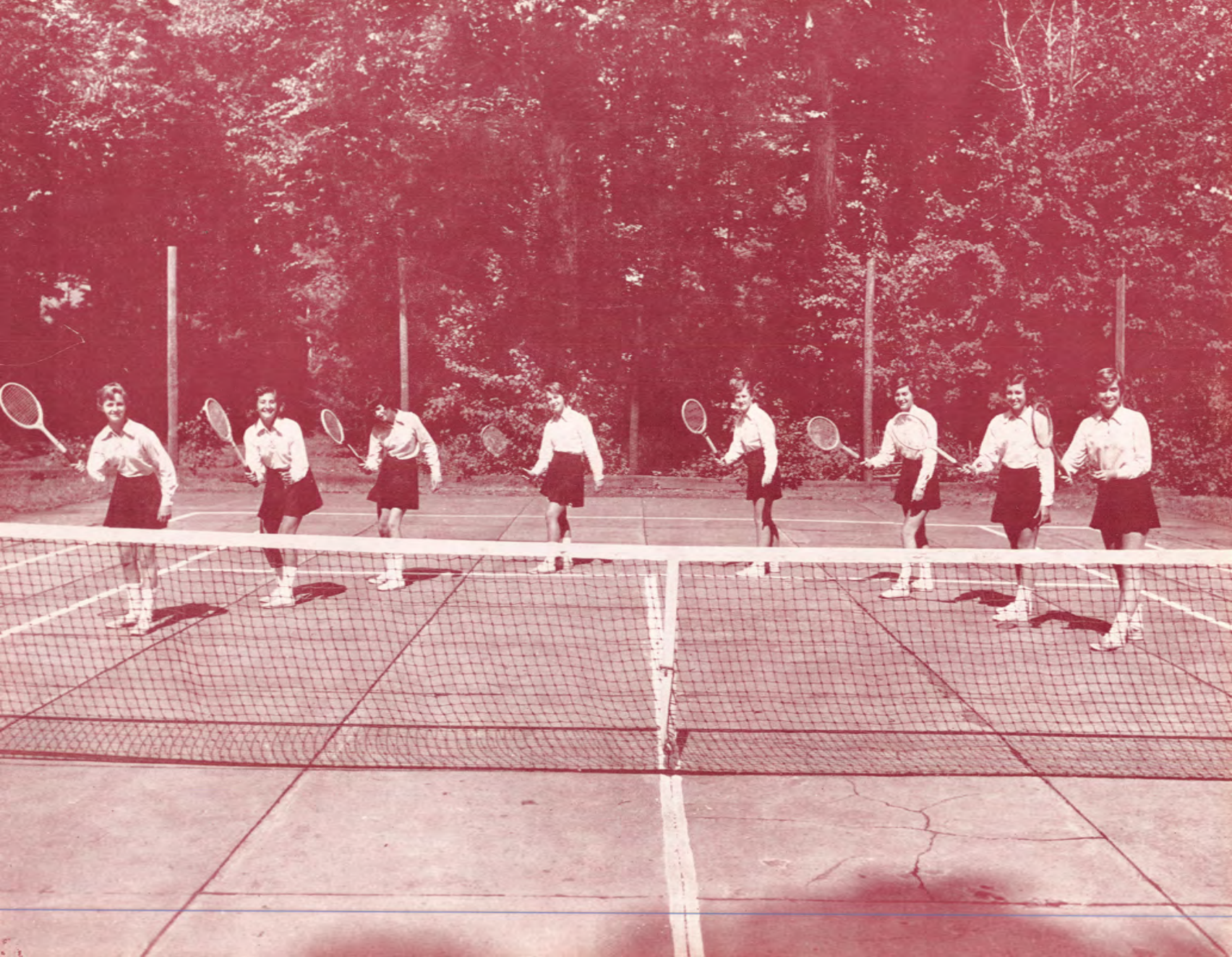


LILLIAN MARTIN Treasurer and Director of the Professional Lawn Tennis Association of the United States, and Chairman of its Junior Development Program for Girls. Miss Martin also is the "Pro" at the Upper Ridgewood Tennis Club of New Jersey and has been at Moss Lake since 1945. She follows in the footsteps of many highly rated player-coaches who during the last quarter century have given us a tradition of tennis excellence any organization might envy. Parents who are tennis enthusiasts should find the names of all familiar: Wallace Johnson, Selwyn Orcutt, Frank Anderson, Elmer Griffin, Charles Wood, and Paul Harding. There are seven concrete courts.





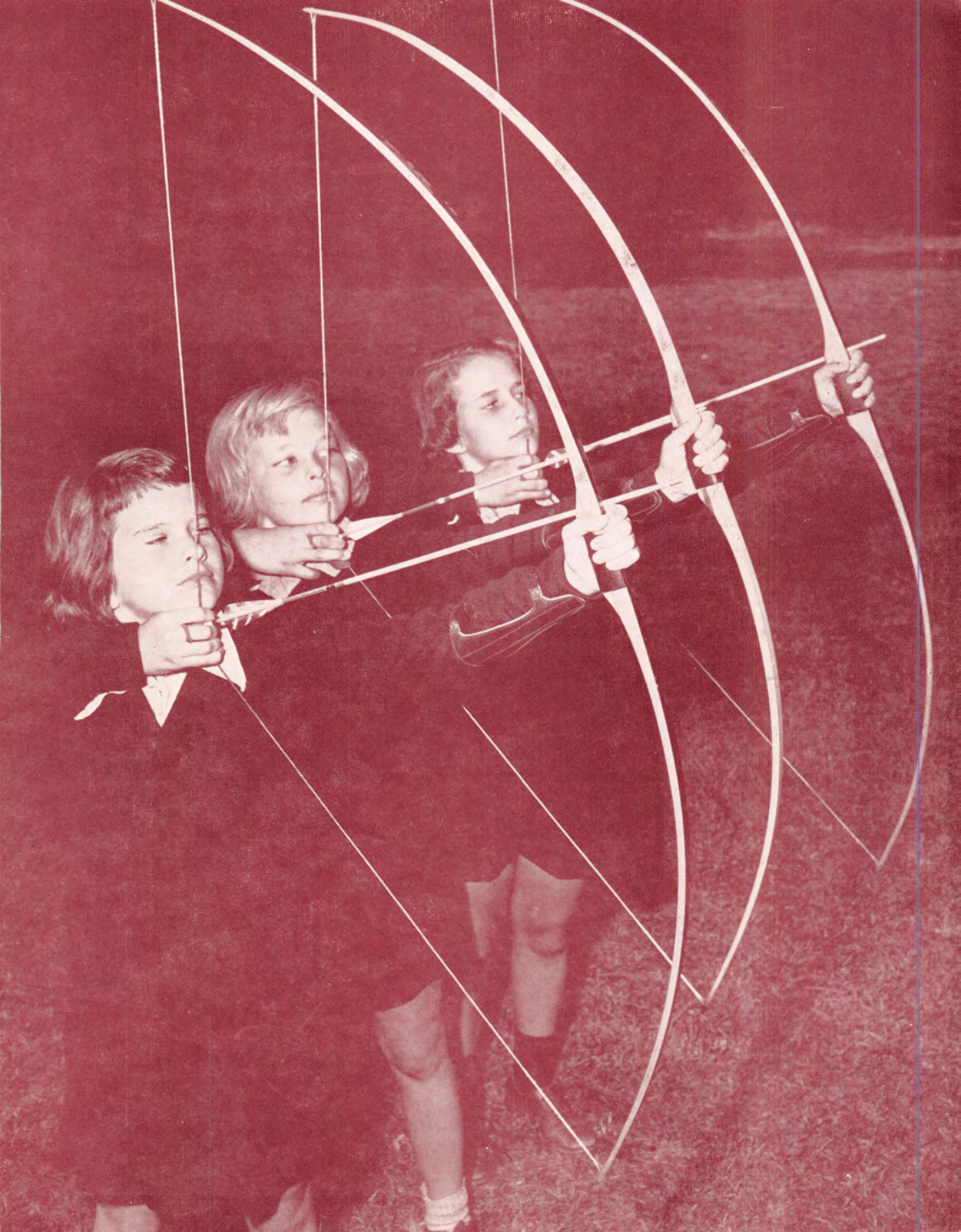




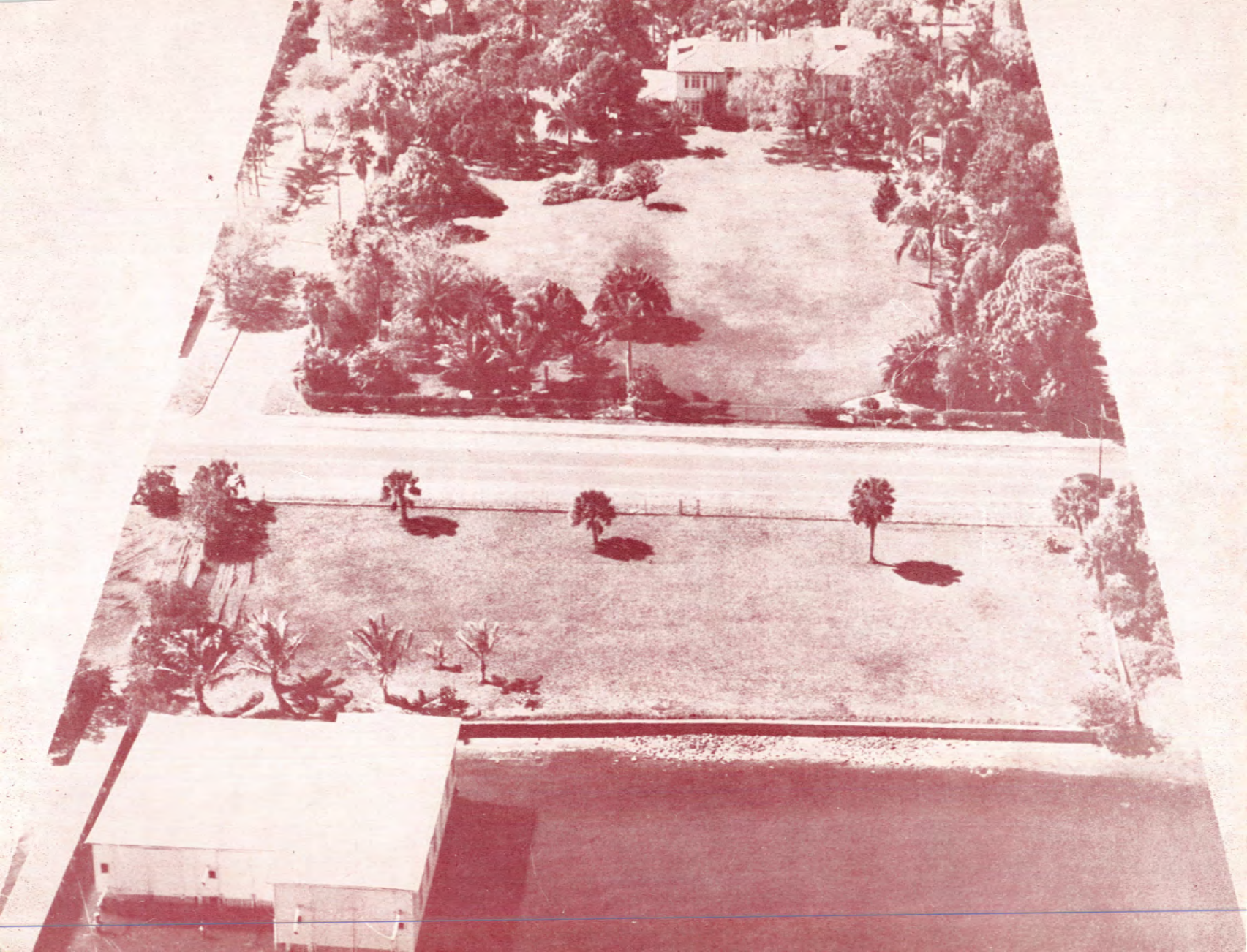


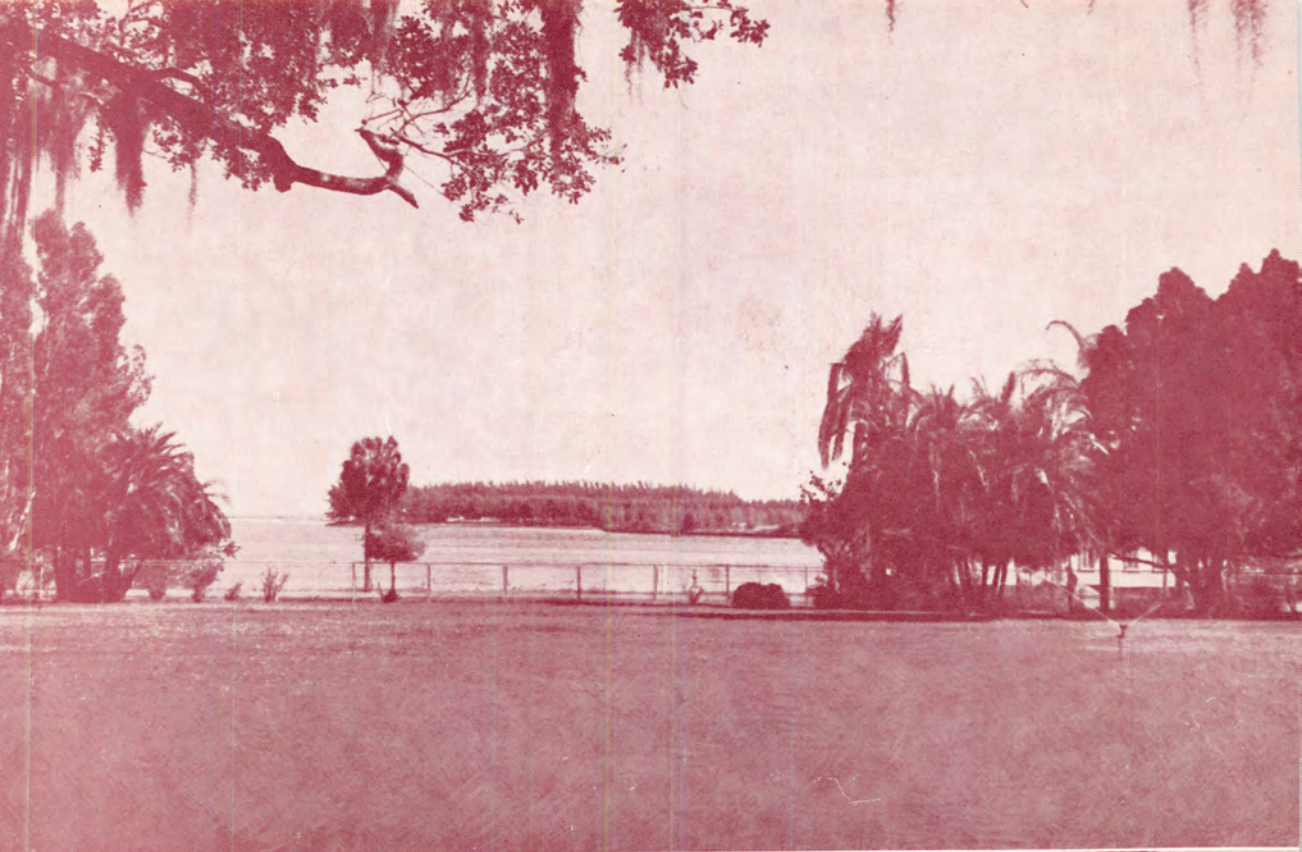
Archery is another sport with a long and brilliant history at Moss Lake. For fifteen years it was under Andrew Brush, the dean of the country's archers. He was succeeded in 1949 by George Crouch, an enthusiastic member of a family of titleholders. With his retirement in 1954 Carl Thompson, who in the interval had inherited Mr. Brush's "Deanship", took over. During Mr. Brush's years the New York State tournament was held in mid-July and we entered ten teams and brought back nine championships. In Mr. Thompson's years however, the substitution of August dates has precluded our participation.

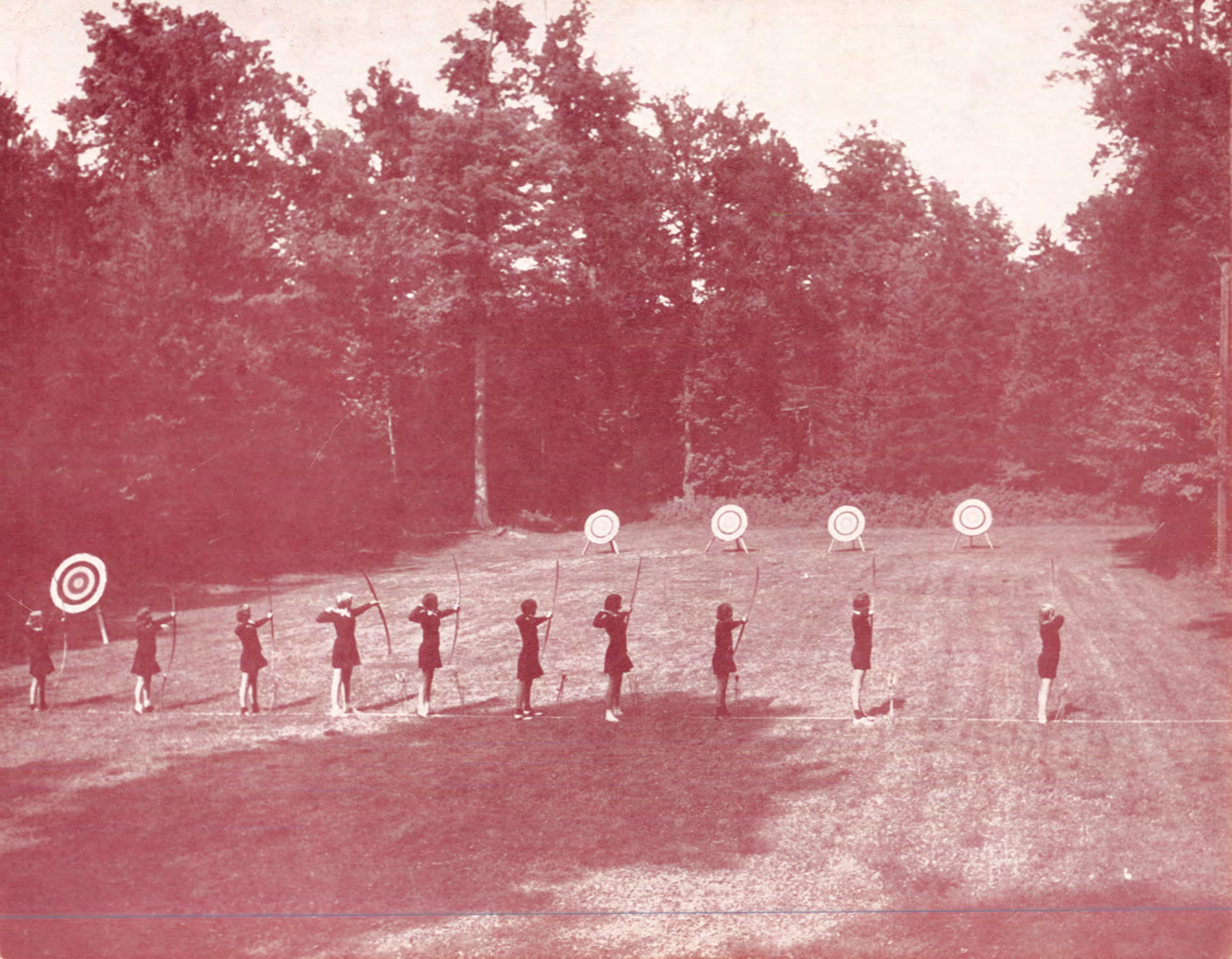














J. Martinez Castello



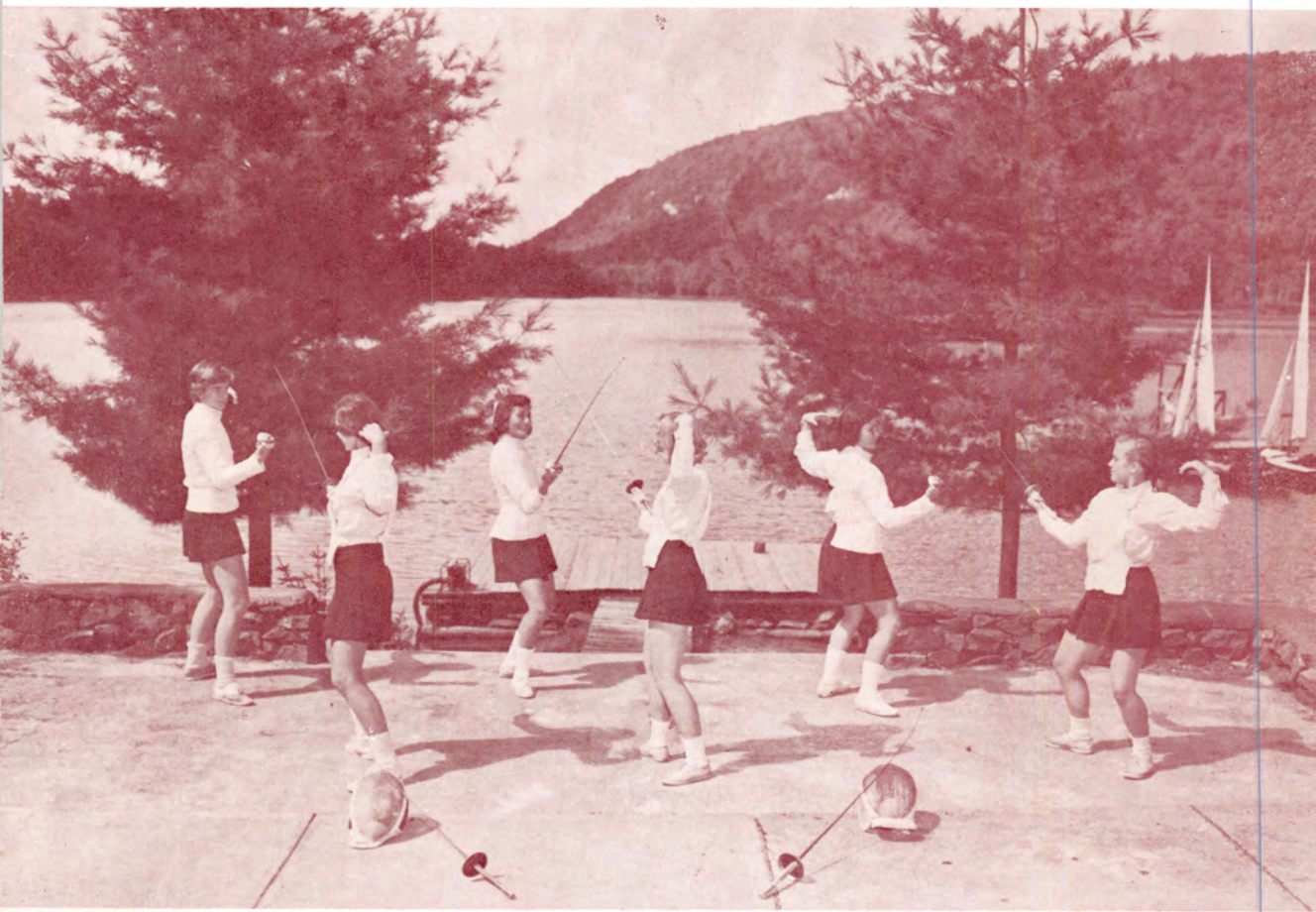
Hugo Castello

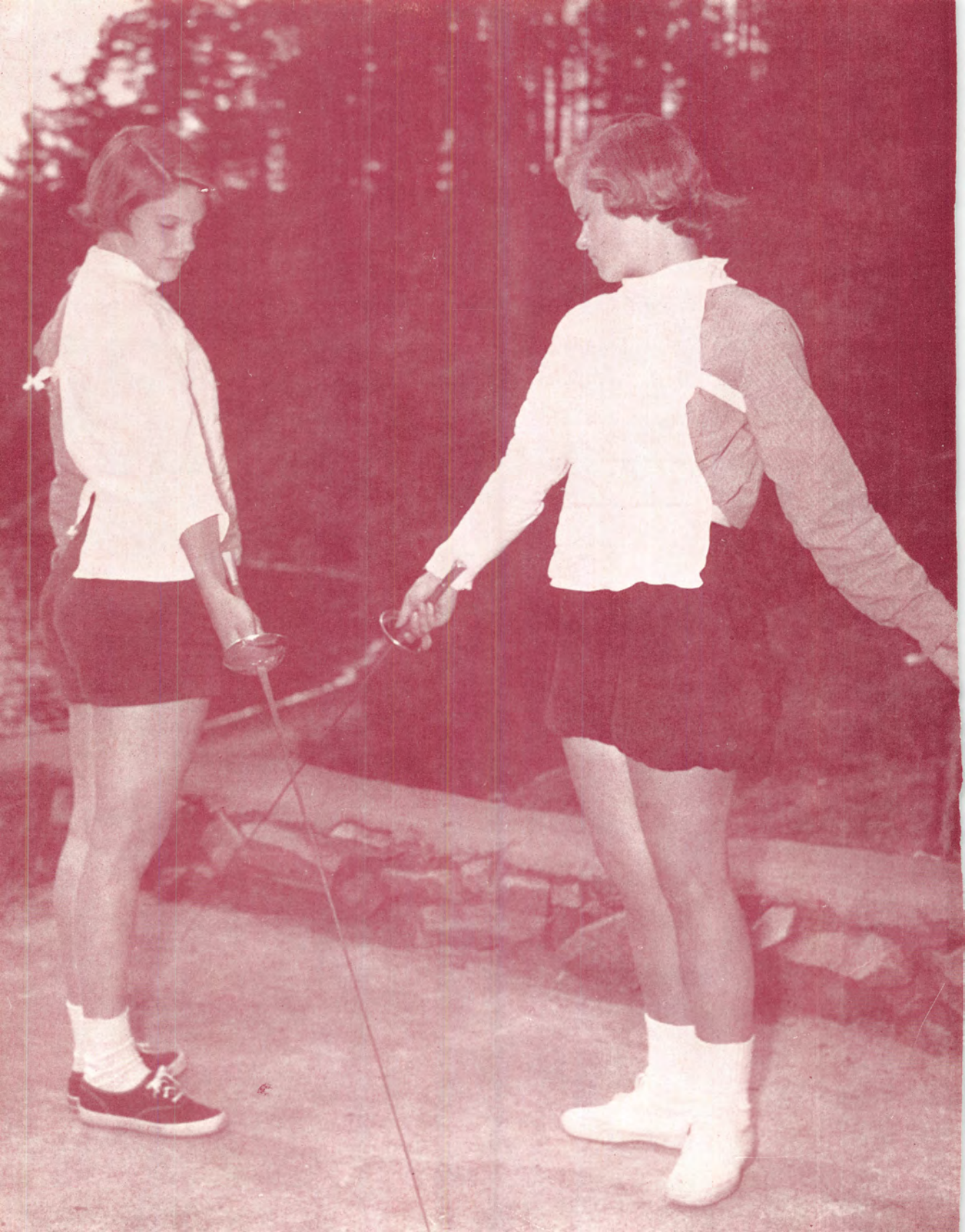


Edward Lucia

A FENCING TRADITION — The Castelllos, father and son, guided this sport at Moss Lake for twenty years. At the end of this period, it was taken over by Edward F. Lucia, a United States Olympic coach and mentor of the fencing team of the City College of New York. In more recent years, it has been directed by the three Fuhrmann brothers — Franz, Norbert, and Reimer, who are the proprietors of a fencing school in Hamburg, Germany. They schedule their instruction at Moss Lake on a yearly rotation basis.











ANNELIESE VON OETTINGEN — A European Ballet Instructor of real stature with more than a decade of successful American teaching behind her. While relatively few campers continue dancing past their school years the activity makes an enduring contribution to a girl's carriage, poise, and general development. Like fencing it also improves the timing, balance, and coordination so important to most sports and invaluable in tennis.









ORGANIZATION:

To combine the advantages of the small camp with those of the large, Moss Lake is divided into three entirely independent and well separated units, each designed to suit the needs of its particular age group. Each has its own counsellor staff, dining room, infirmary, recreation hall, tennis courts, and waterfront facilities. This allows effective differences in rising and retiring hours, menus and programs, and permits each girl to be an important factor in the life of her own camp regardless of her age.

There, of course, is no set optimum age for a girl's initial year at camp as many factors must be taken into consideration — relative maturity, the number of summers allotted to camping, the alternate vacations available, and whether the camp is Moss Lake or one where the activities are in the hands of counsellors with general athletic backgrounds instead of men who have made their activity a lifetime career and to whom accurately correct technique is a second religion. The first calls for no amplification and the second will vary in accordance with family plans and finances, but we feel that the third and fourth require careful consideration.

If Moss Lake is to be the camp it is desirable that our Specialists be allowed to write on a relatively clean slate. The prospect of spending earlier summers where many of the same activities are available — whether in a day camp or at a summer home — supplies a cogent reason for an early Moss Lake enrollment. A well coordinated girl of eleven or twelve who has had little opportunity to ride, swim, or play tennis, is almost sure to make tremendous strides during her first Moss Lake year, while an equally capable girl of the same age with several athletically active summers behind her will accomplish much less if it is necessary to spend part of her time and effort in correcting faulty habits — this amount of course will vary with the calibre of her former instruction. Conversely, when a girl spends her first athletically active summers at Moss Lake later opportunities for practice and participation find her building on the sound foundations acquired here, and her later development is almost sure to be pleasing.

This means that the families with the most perfect summer surroundings are the ones who should let us have their daughters at the earliest stage in their development. They may need fewer seasons but more of them should be in Junior Camp.

JUNIOR CAMP:

All of the foregoing indicates that to reap the greatest benefits a Moss Lake career should start earlier than is important in a typical camp, and we have spared no effort to make our Junior unit a place where even the youngest can be happy, important, healthy, and safe.

Their happiness and importance are achieved by setting up a world of its own for this six to ten year group; the health by our substantial buildings, separate kitchens, and careful medical supervision; and the safety by superimposing upon the regular counsellor staff a number of "Section Counsellors" who accompany their groups or "Sections" to all instruction periods.

These counsellors have no teaching responsibilities so are free to concentrate on the girls as individuals, to catch all adjustment problems in their incipency, and to make certain that no one exceeds the proper limits of her nervous and physical energies. They make the home-to-camp adjustment a much simpler one.

While approach and emphasis are different, Junior activities quite parallel those of the older camps. In swimming and riding, lack of size and strength are but minor handicaps and the level of interest and accomplishment is surprisingly high. The same is true in dancing, and dramatics, and to a lesser degree in archery and sailing. Fencing and riflery wait until the Senior and Lodge years, while tennis and canoeing fall into an intermediate category with the younger Juniors becoming familiar with equipment and fundamentals and the nine and ten-year-olds developing real skill.

The over-all picture, both in terms of skill and general adjustment, stands out most clearly when our Juniors are graduated into Senior Camp and compared with "New Girls" of their own age. Each year's comparisons strengthen our conviction that Junior Camp's contribution to the education of its girls is a most substantial one.

In determining the age at which a Moss Lake education should start a consideration which often assumes real importance in the parental mind is the possibility of homesickness. Here the observations of our quarter century seem to indicate that the difficulties which may accompany the initial summer increase rather than decrease with the passage of time. Most girls experience no homesickness, but those who do find the malady more severe when their first season is at the age of seventeen than when it comes at seven.

In this connection we would like to mention a common, but in our experience most unwise, compromise between home and camp for the dependent child. It is the practice of sending a girl to a local camp for a brief period as preparation for the more distant camp selected for latter seasons. This is clearly a case of nothing to gain and much to lose! If there is no homesickness you can be sure that none would have been experienced at the more distant (and presumably better) camp; while if homesickness does prove to be a problem its elimination is much more difficult with the end of the short stay growing appreciably nearer each day. Even if it does end before the departure date it will not be followed by an adequate number of happy days to make a second camp experiment seem less than distasteful in prospect. On the other hand in those cases where the experiment is a happy one camp loyalties take root and parental plans for the better camp may be resisted for several seasons.

Another common parental thought is that an early start in camp is apt to induce a premature loss of interest; but our experience certainly indicates the reverse to be true and almost invariably our most enthusiastic Lodge girls are those who started in Junior. The reason for this is two-fold. First, camp and camp activities become a pleasant habit; secondly, the early start with our specialists lets them develop skills later entrants can seldom match, and it is but human nature for a girl to get her greatest pleasure from the things which she does well.



"Upper House" — Junior Camp

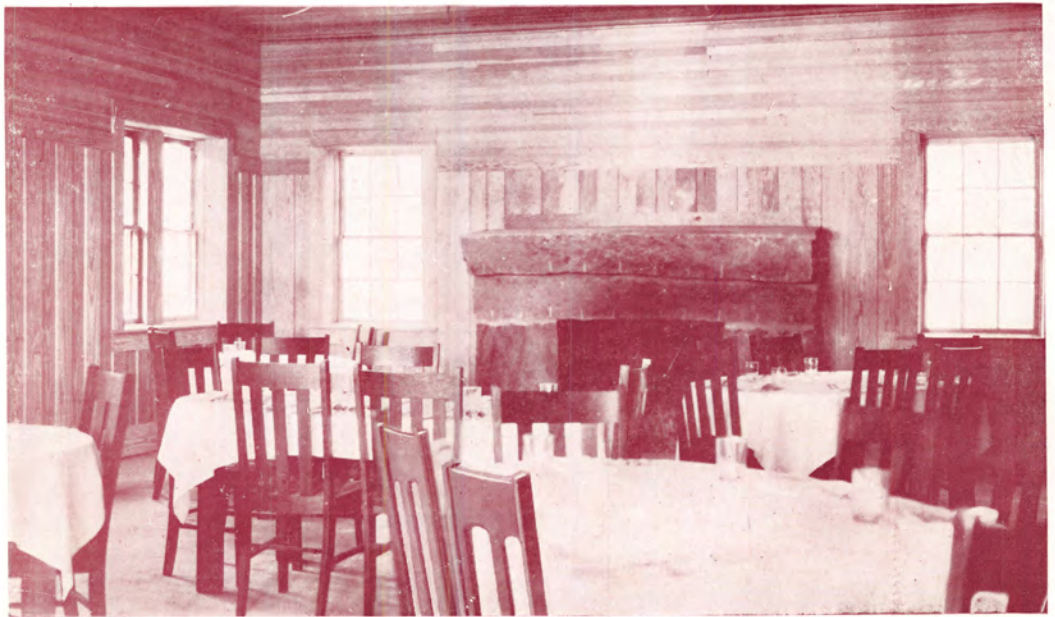


"Lower House" — Junior Camp



Junior Assembly Room

Junior Dining Room





Junior Sleeping Quarters

Junior Infirmary





At "Jacks" the veteran campers are more competent instructors
than the counsellors













Junior appetites seldom falter.



SENIOR CAMP:

"Senior" Camp at Moss Lake is the intermediate, not the oldest, unit. Its girls are eleven, twelve, and thirteen years of age.

In spite of this narrow age range the Senior enrollment of over fifty girls exceeds that of Junior and approximates that of Lodge. This is because parents, educators, and the girls themselves agree that these are the golden years of camping. Energy, and enthusiasm reach their ceiling at this time, athletic potentials are high, and in most cases their 'slates' still are fairly clean and instruction correspondingly effective.

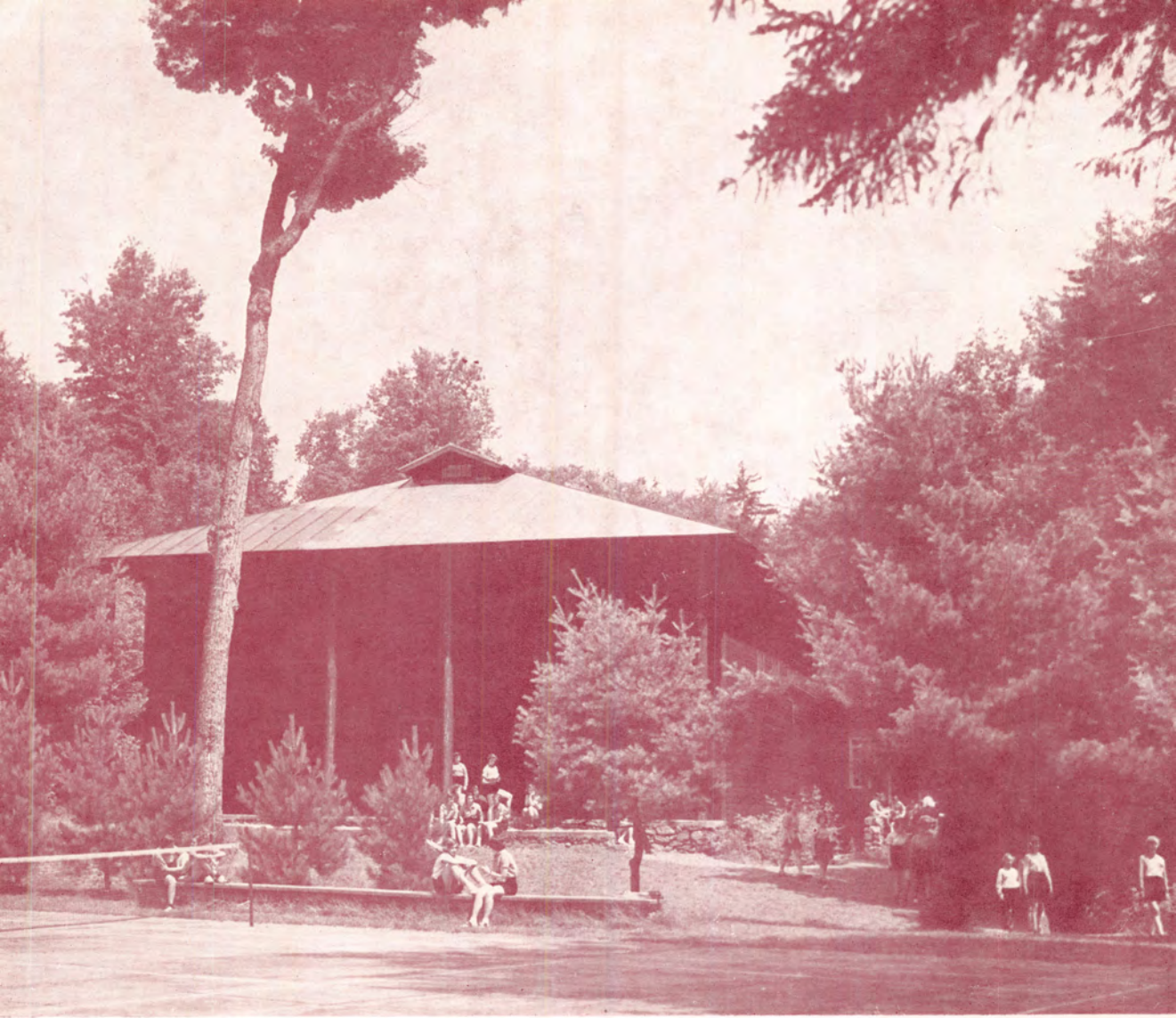
The physical plant with its six widely scattered bungalows appears the most extensive of the three, and all activities except riflery and bridge are included in the Senior program. An end-of-the-season visitor can hardly fail to be impressed by the general competency of the campers and often has difficulty in realizing that several summers of sustained progress still lie ahead in the "Lodge", our oldest unit.

A typical Senior week arranges about nine hours of riding for all but beginners, thirteen swimming periods, six hours of tennis, and three of each of the other activities. The days start with an eight o'clock breakfast and lights are out at nine fifteen. Much variety is packed into the evenings, a typical week bringing two parties, one drama or bridge night, one "cook-out," and a moonlight ride or other camp excursion, with the two remaining nights given over to song contest and war canoe practices or other interests.

We feel the importance of building and sustaining a keen interest in sports cannot readily be over-emphasized for it serves as a balance wheel to keep the more sophisticated social interests in their proper perspective — both in the "Tremulous Teens" and through adult life.



Senior Dining Hall

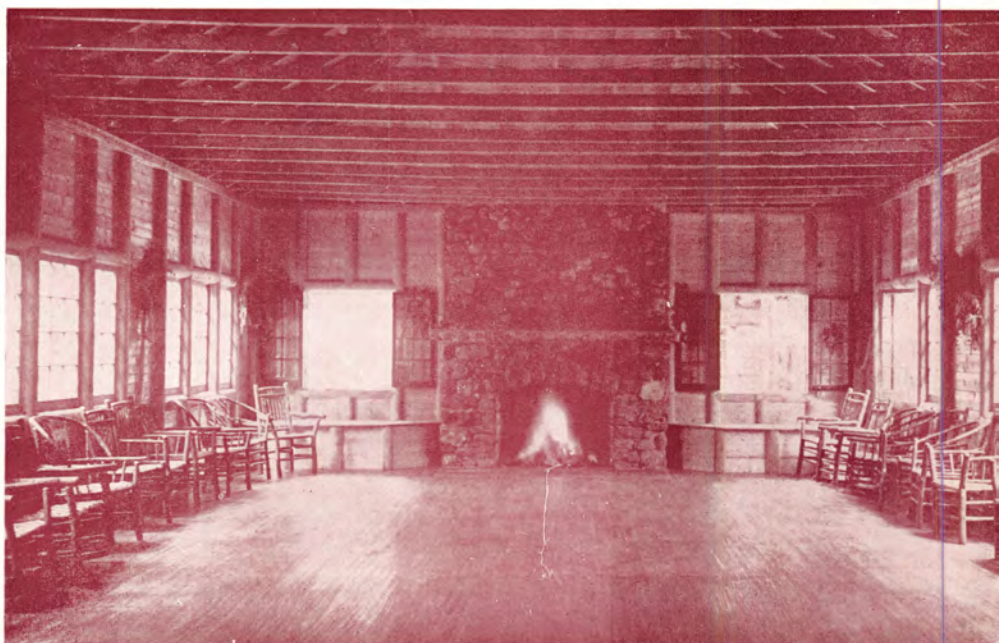


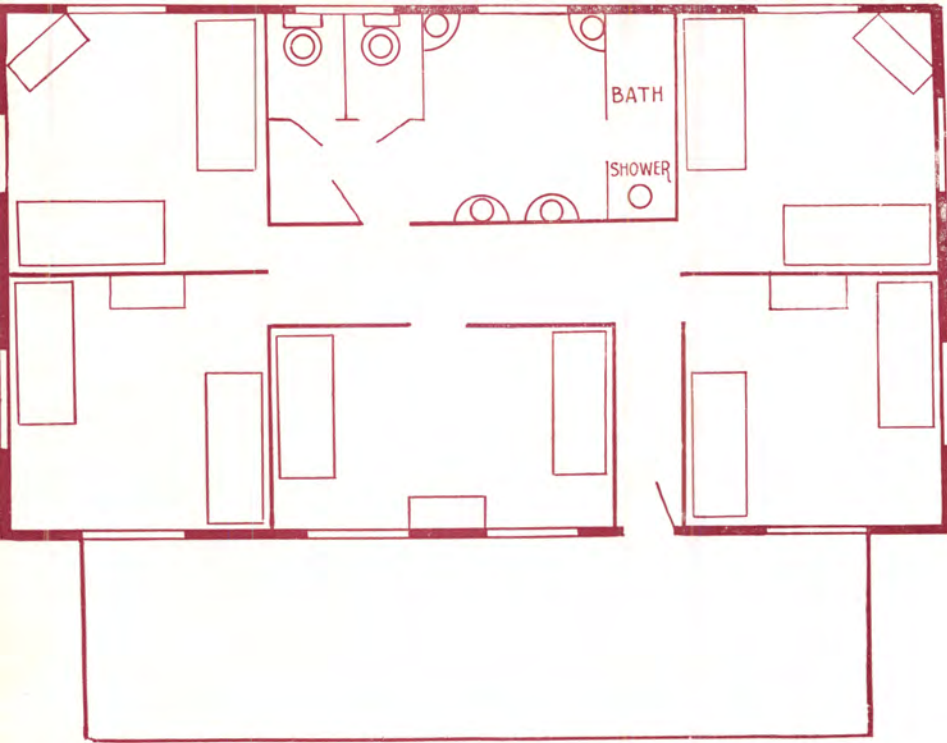
Our Indoor Playground



The Lodge "Beaver"

Where Lodge Council Fires Burn





Two Counsellors live in each Moss Lake bungalow and one retires nightly with the campers, thus eliminating the common patrol system with its attendant inconveniences and uncertainties.

•
"Samolake"

A Typical Moss Lake Bungalow

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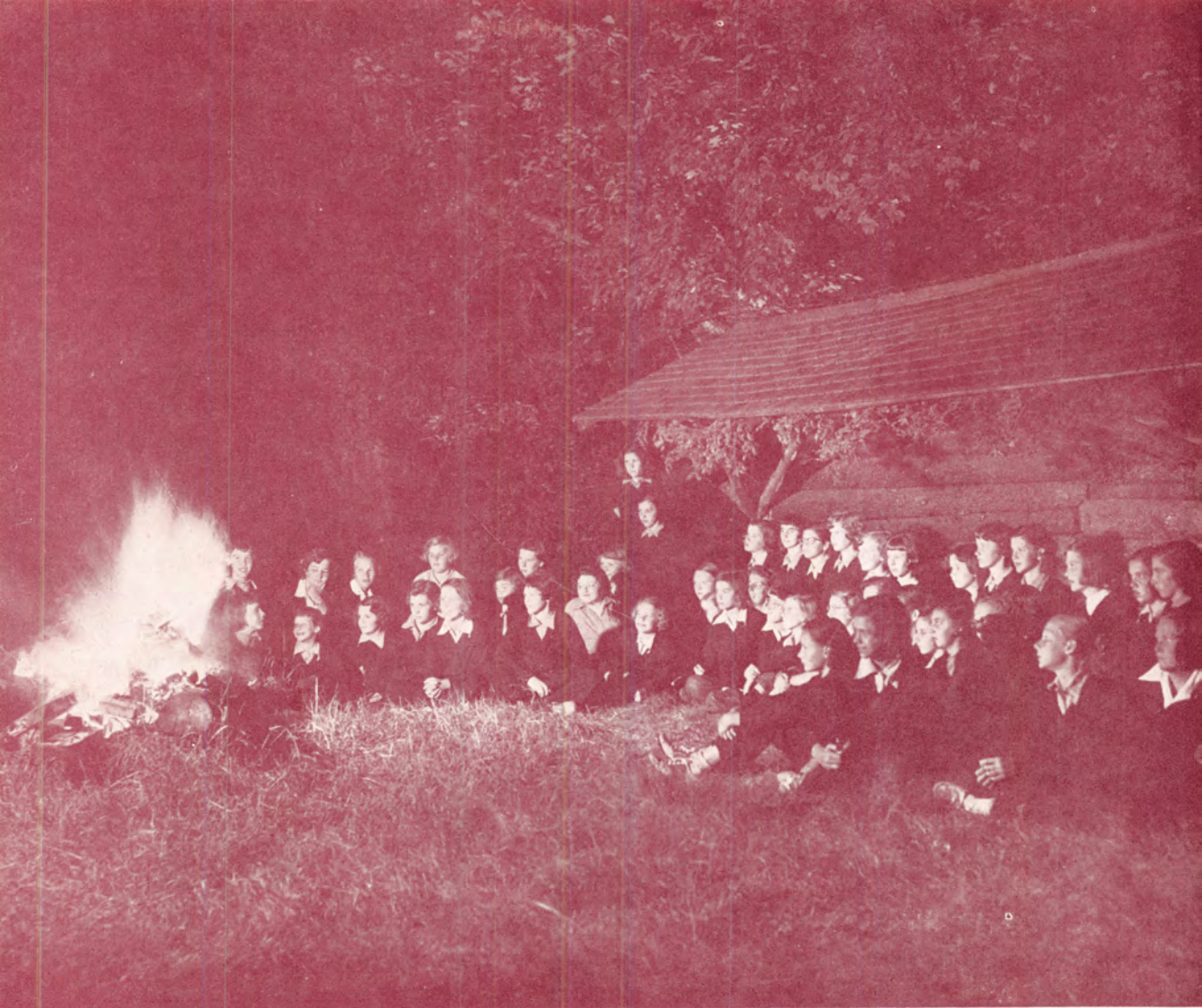
We feel that our enviable health record is due in large part to our substantial rustic bungalows, which give a maximum of air and sun yet afford perfect protection in any weather, to our Madison Square Garden, which with the aid of the three recreation halls provides so perfectly for rainy days, and to the three separate infirmaries. All cabins have their own bathrooms — an arrangement which we consider greatly more conducive to the maintenance of regular habits, especially in inclement weather, than the usual centrally located but separately housed sanitary facilities.

The three infirmaries provide immediate, comfortable and effective isolation for all ailments remotely contagious. Each has its own nurse.





Nine campers and two counsellors are a typical cabin-family in Senior Camp



The campfire is unique in its ability to flavor food; bind the ties of good-fellowship, and add harmony to song, drama to stories, and sense to words of guidance.

Second Generation Campers with us in 1965





LODGE:

Lodge is perhaps the most unusual of our three units, for much of its enrollment is made up of girls who ordinarily would be considered past camp age. This is made practicable by the complete separation of the three camps. In Junior this separation permits the girls to be important individuals in their summer community even during their earliest camp years; in Senior the girls can grow in stature and skill without being exposed prematurely to the teen-age sophistications; while in Lodge the atmosphere and interests can parallel those of a college preparatory school with no "small fry" to make each day a series of compromises and to scale down the level of their camp interests.

Of course most of its girls are Senior Camp graduates; but there also are alumnae of other camps and a surprising number of girls who have started camping in their teens, and who have selected Moss Lake because they judged that our specialists offered them the best chance to reclaim their lost years, and that the higher age level would let them feel an integral part of the group for some years to come.

As this age level, thirteen to nineteen, approximates that of our high schools many families are faced with a choice between Moss Lake Lodge and boarding school as preparation for a successful college and social career. For our part we are quite convinced that whether judged on a time or on a dollar basis the decision for most families should favor Moss Lake. The exceptions are of three types — lack of suitable public or private day school facilities; too rapidly shifting home settings, and unsuitable climatic conditions. Where these elements do not enter the picture the Moss Lake case is a strong one.

First, the associations of the summer will be found to be as select and as cosmopolitan as those of the country's best boarding schools. Indeed they can be much more select for the private camp has much more latitude in determining its admission policies.

Second, as all waking hours are devoted to athletic and social activities the development of personalities and skills is much more rapid than in school where both must be subordinated to scholastic accomplishment.

Third, the sports which we stress at Moss Lake can add greatly to a girl's campus stature. If she is a well-coordinated girl in good health, a background of three or more Moss Lake summers is almost certain to mean that she can make any college fencing, swimming, skiing, or archery team and be a creditable member of any dance, or riding group.

Further this wealth of healthful interests is the best possible assurance that "dates" will be viewed from a sound perspective and estopped from becoming an all-consuming interest.

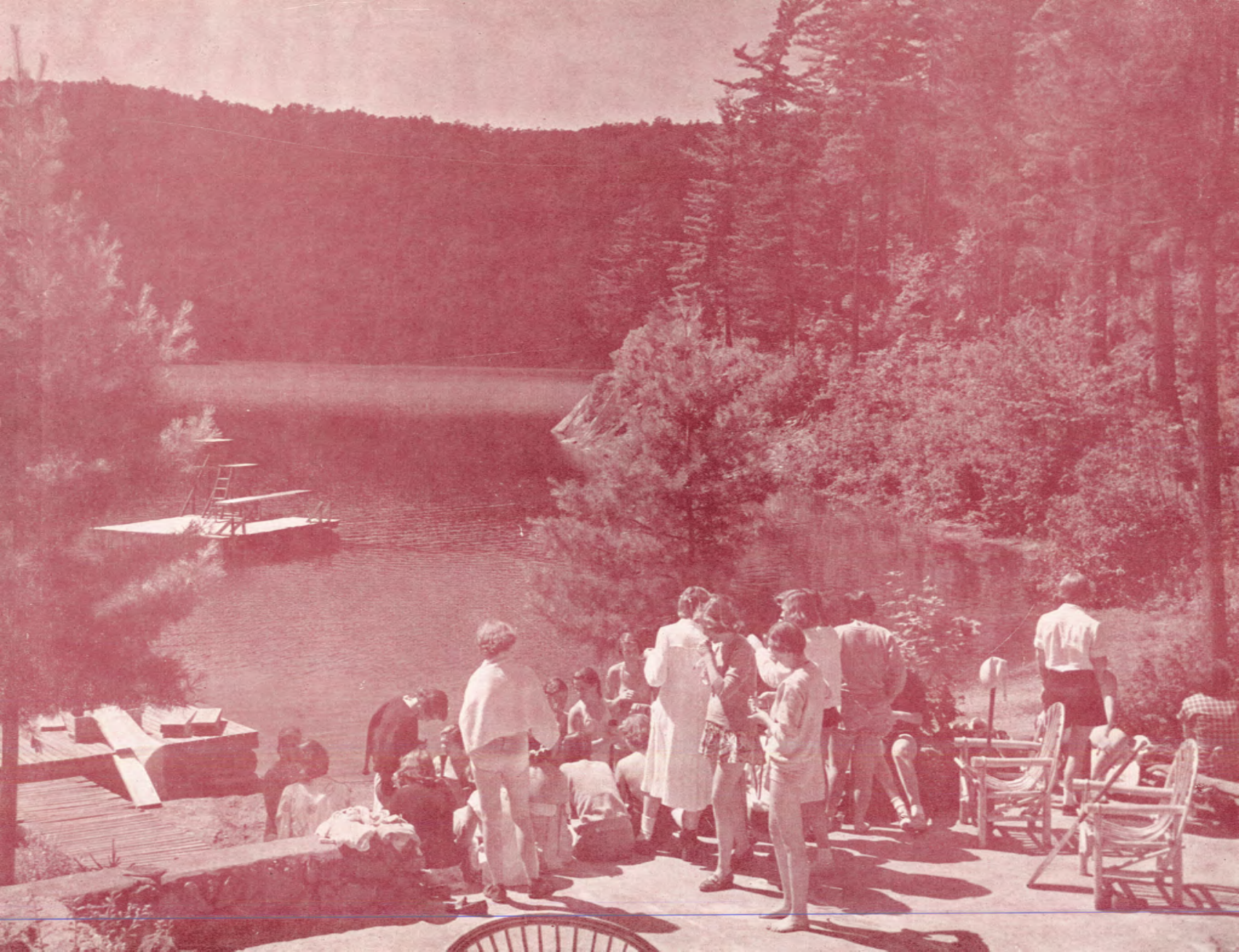
Nor does the value of Moss Lake's social-athletic education end with the college years. The skills acquired can afford a variety of outdoor interests for the leisure hours of later life and prepare a girl to enjoy many invitations which otherwise might only be sources of embarrassment. This of course contrasts happily with the usual boarding school emphasis on group athletics with their insignificant carry-over value.

Financially the contrast is equally sharp. Boarding school ordinarily costs about two thousand dollars more than a year at home while the spread between a summer with one's family and a summer at Moss Lake probably averages but four or five hundred dollars. In fact when a family is traveling, or spending the summer at a resort hotel, camp may represent a saving rather than an added cost.

This means that on the average three seasons at Moss Lake cost no more than one year at boarding school, so if one goes along with the reasoning which seems to make Moss Lake the more valuable on a school-year vs. a camp-year basis, the boarding school dollar would appear to yield less than one-third of the non-academic return which may be expected from the Moss Lake dollar.

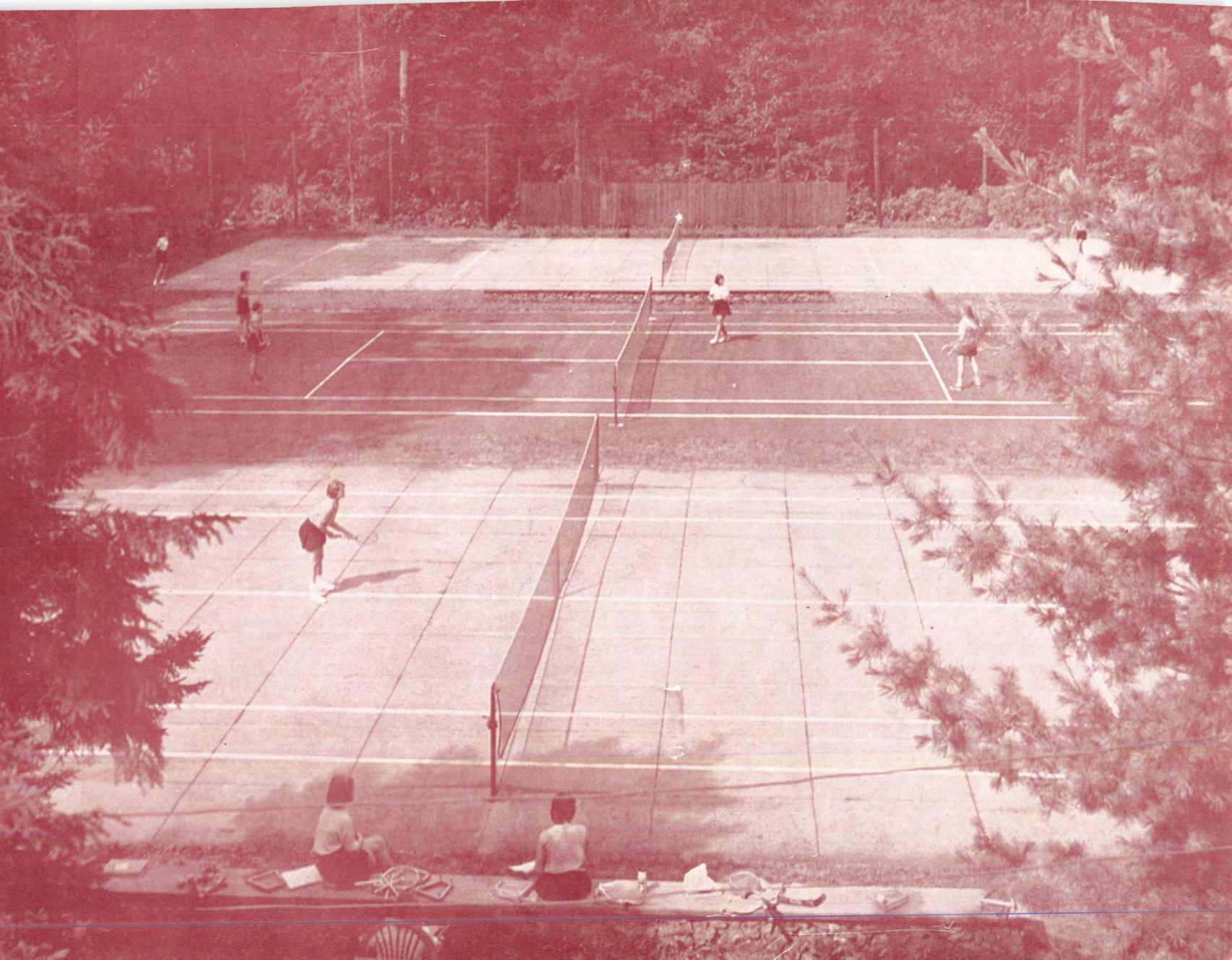


Lodge Headquarters





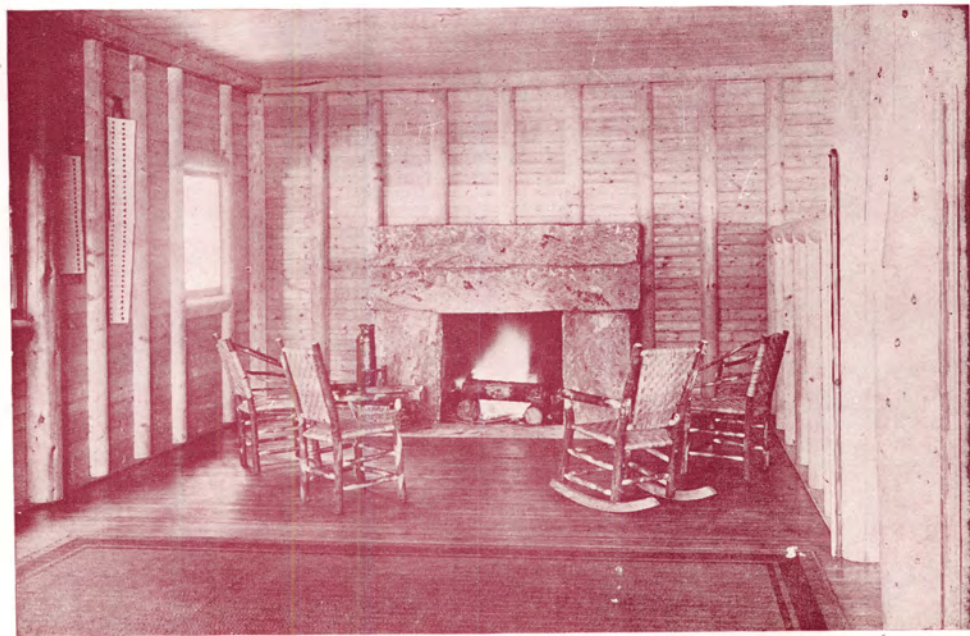
The typical Lodge bungalow is rather larger than its Senior counterparts. The one pictured has seven sleeping rooms. The bathroom has two lavatories, a tub and shower, and is flanked by two smaller rooms each containing a toilet and lavatory.





Lodge Dining Room

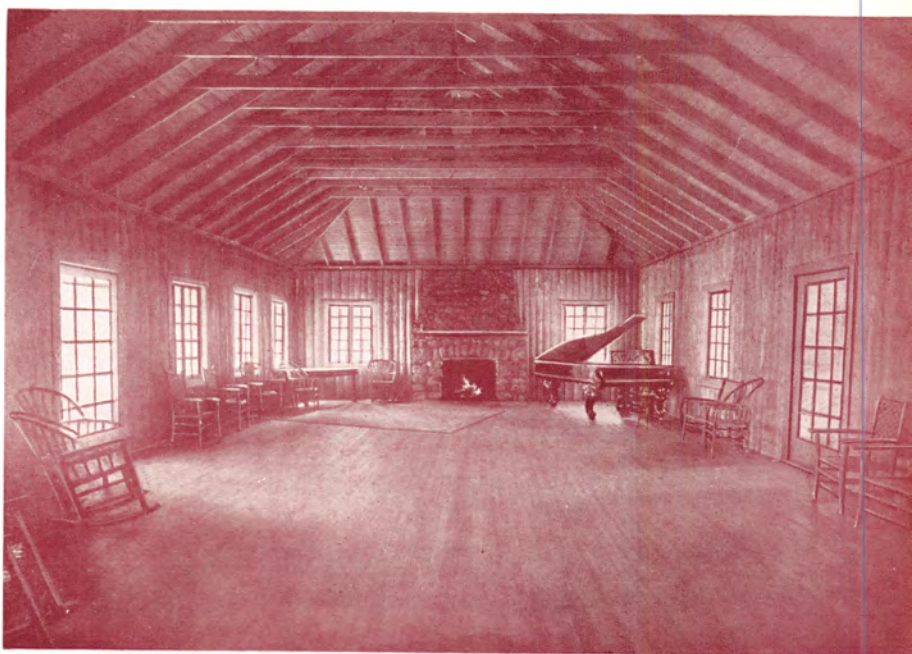
Lobby Fireplace





Senior Camp "Beaver"

Senior Camp Council Room



OUR HONOR GIRL CREED

An Honor Girl is in every sense a model camper. She enters wholeheartedly into all activities and is conspicuous for her fine spirit and attitude. In everything which she undertakes she is outstanding because of her effort and earnestness. She includes everyone in her circle of friends and is at all times congenial with all with whom she has contact. She is always a good sport, a graceful winner and a cheerful loser. Her personality is one which permeates the entire group and serves as a model, aiding more passive personalities to develop individually. She is not the centre of her own world, but rather often disregards her personal wishes in an effort to make others happy. She accepts things as they come without criticism and tries by her own example to encourage optimism and cheerfulness. She is thoughtful and constantly on the alert for ways in which she may be helpful to others. Her attitude toward the counsellor staff is one of obedience and respect. She is ever willing to do her utmost for her team and her enthusiasm and spirit send forth an enlivening spark that kindles the flame of friendship and good will among her companions.

TYPING AND READING:

Preparing our girls for effective use of their leisure time, both during the college years and in later life, has been a major Moss Lake objective for three decades.

Our success in this direction has been a real satisfaction, but recently lack of leisure campus hours has limited that satisfaction and, to our way of thinking, has robbed the college years of many of the extra-curricular values which made them such a rich experience for earlier generations.

Of course, we cannot influence college expectations; so to recapture those important plus values for our alumnae we decided in 1957 that we must enter the academic field and help prepare them to meet present day pressures without becoming desk-bound.

We felt that typing and reading courses would best supplement the winter work of their schools. This because they receive little attention in most schools, because each is capable of saving many hours in every month of the academic year, and because each has real later-life value. Most campers and parents know the advantages of typing skill, but few seem to realize that expert instruction usually can double or treble the reading speed while effecting a substantial improvement in comprehension.

In line with this thinking we established reading and typing centers at the Lodge in 1958, in the hope of saving our "graduates" the time needed to turn their college clocks back far enough to permit adequate hours for the pursuit of the many pleasures that should be a memorable part of one's college life.

The typing and speed reading classes are open to all Lodge girls. In addition remedial tutoring is available to such campers from Junior and Senior as may need this work.

The reading center has been organized and equipped to operate with maximal effectiveness and its fund of materials include three mechanical devices, a "Controlled Reader," a "Rate-o-meter" and a "Tachistoscope." These are designed to develop eye co-ordination, rapid word-recognition, and phrase reading. It also contains a wide range of materials from the S.R.A. Reading Laboratory as well as skill tests and other developmental aids.

As our basic Moss Lake policy bars all "extras" there is no charge for the instruction in reading and typing, nor is there any for the full range of academic tutoring Moss Lake has always made available in each section of the camp. This is of especially high calibre because several Adirondack-Southern faculty members join our Moss Lake tutoring staff during July and August. For most the reading course is of the greatest value since real skill here can save many hours of study. This course is scheduled for one hour daily throughout the summer. Except for this subject and any others that may be prescribed, we advise that tutoring be limited to areas inadequately covered by camper's school, but where work is needed we will happily schedule the time required.

CLOSING:

As we indicated in the early pages of this booklet, the importance of choosing the camp best suited to the special needs of the individual girl and the care which must go into a wise selection cannot be overemphasized; yet each year many families make their selections in an offhand manner and each season many girls transfer to Moss Lake from camps casually chosen the previous season. This does not mean that Moss Lake is the best camp for every girl, but it is convincing evidence that more time and thought should be given to the initial selection. This is especially true because many families whose first choice proves unfortunate let their original experience be their final one, and thus allow their daughters to lose an opportunity for great pleasure and very tangible development gains.

Where possible, the selection should be preceded by a visit to the organizations under consideration. The ideal time for such a visit is July and August while the camps are in operation, but even an out-of-season inspection will yield much valuable information—some by direct observation and much more through safe inferences.

That, obtained in this latter fashion is especially important for it covers a wide field. The camp with well-equipped infirmaries of ample size probably is giving excellent care to ill campers, while the ones that have dry, airy bungalows with sufficient bathroom facilities, a generous indoor play space for rainy weather, well-equipped kitchens, and a safe water supply usually are giving equally careful thought to the everyday health of their entire group. Similarly, level, smoothly-surfaced tennis courts presage careful instruction; a sandy beach, good diving boards, and substantial rafts or cribs indicate an earnest interest in swimming; many well-kept canoes show that canoeing receives serious thought; while well-surfaced riding rings and bridle paths, together with suitable stabling for a generous number of horses, promise ample opportunity for safe and pleasant riding.

The list might be extended indefinitely, but all visitors should notice with especial care the facilities provided for the development of their particular interests. Each also should note the general repair of the buildings and the condition of the grounds for these reflect the morale of the organization.

Moss Lake lies in the center of the Lake Region of the Adirondacks and is approximately 265 miles from New York and 250 from Buffalo. Caretakers are in constant attendance from May through October and inspection visits may be planned at any time.

For families who cannot conveniently arrange a visit we suggest a viewing of the camp motion pictures as the most satisfactory substitute.

FEES:

The Moss Lake fee as set forth on the back of the application blank is a liberal one and patrons may justly expect a generous return — one even more generous than the difference between this figure and those prevailing elsewhere would at first thought indicate. Distinctly lower fees must in large part be consumed by the camp's various fixed charges and minimal operating expenses. The amount over this minimum accordingly becomes the factor which controls the quality of the table, the type of instruction, and the presence or absence of the many little things that determine the atmosphere of a camp.

In comparing tuitions still another point deserves careful consideration. When we published our first booklet, camps were charging fees intended to cover only board and instruction, but it seemed obvious to us that a camp run on such a basis could not be truly democratic, and we decided that our charge should include every possible item of the summer in camp. In the years that have intervened more and more camps have been swinging in this direction, but to date "No extras" at most seems to mean no "necessary" extras, and leaves the directors free to charge for things that they feel to be non-essential. Such a system of optional extras means that constant reminders of differences in financial backgrounds must arise, while the Moss Lake plan puts all girls on a common footing. Our policy also enables each family to budget the expenses of the summer in advance instead of receiving at its end a bill of unexpected charges. At Moss Lake all riding, trips, water skiing, medical attention, and even tutoring, are included, as are stationery and laundry.

In the past Moss Lake, while obviously much nearer the Middle West than the camping sections of New England, has held but a minor time-advantage over the nearer portions of Vermont and New Hampshire. Now, however, the New York Thruway has radically changed this picture and for Westchester and Long Island families has made us almost as "near" as the Poconos. Manhattan driving time is 5 hours and that from Westchester even less. From the West savings are equally great with Buffalo but four hours away. Moss Lake uses the railroad station and airport at Utica. A commercial flying field opened at Old Forge (twelve miles from camp) in 1961 brought even the most distant portions of the country within a few hours of camp. Their planes arrange to meet long-distance flights at both Utica and Syracuse airports. When desired, chaperoneage is arranged at the camp's expense from all sections east of the Mississippi.

Since our clientele is a widely scattered one, considerable time frequently must elapse between an expression of interest and the ensuing interview. We accordingly suggest that families who feel Moss Lake may be their final selection advise us at an early date that a mutually convenient meeting may be scheduled. In the interval we will be happy to supply the names of local patrons or any other information that may be desired.

DR. GEORGE H. LONGSTAFF, *Director*
8932 164th Street, Jamaica, L. I.

Office Phones: N.Y.C., REpublic 9-2082; Eagle Bay 2091; St. Petersburg 894-4038

ADIRONDACK-SOUTHERN

The winter counterpart of Moss Lake is our Adirondack-Southern boarding school in St. Petersburg. Its most important features are a choice waterfront location, an extraordinarily high teacher-student ratio (1:4), small classes, and especial attention to study and reading skills, and to the modern languages.

As its name implies, its operations are divided between the Adirondacks and Florida. While it is in the north it uses the Moss Lake property. The few pictures which follow are of its Florida plant. This seasonal division lends itself to optimal studying conditions, a minimal loss of time for health reasons, and an unusually rich athletic program, which includes Riding, Tennis, Golf, Swimming, Sailing, Archery, Fencing, Canoeing, and Water Skiing. As at Moss Lake, the calibre of the instruction is a point of special pride. Indeed, several of the sports are under the same experts.

Academically, the school is an outgrowth of the camp tutoring department and five major convictions. The first, that fundamentals often are badly neglected, is widely shared. The others are more individual. One is that the increasingly high college entrance requirements are too frequently met, not by additional classroom time and increased teacher effort, but by heavier and heavier home assignments—assignments which frequently are so time-consuming the happy and relatively care-free pattern of the parents' secondary years becomes grotesquely distorted. This, in itself, would not be so bad were it not to be followed by severe academic pressures in college, and very frequently by early marriages — a syndrome which often seems to mean more playtime in the middle years but much less in youth. Our answer is much smaller classes and longer class periods.

A second is that the recent emphasis on mathematics and science engendered by Russia's scientific progress, while undoubtedly helpful for boys planning technical careers, is of doubtful value to girls whose chief goal is to play well the role of wife and mother. For them we think a truly solid foundation in English and other languages to be of much greater importance. Accordingly, we give nearly fifty per cent more time to English than do most schools and plan four years of French and four of Spanish for girls with us from the ninth through the twelfth grades. In all three languages much attention is given to their oral use, for we feel we are judged even more frequently by what we say than by what we write and that the former has the greater influence on our community stature.

Another major tenet is that, as preparation for both life and college, it is as important to know how to learn as it is to amass a fund of even the most useful knowledge. Accordingly, study skills and the efficient use of time receive much attention.

Finally, we think an interest in developing character, personality, and social confidence are as important in school as in camp. Accordingly our extracurricular activities closely follow the camp pattern with many of the same sports and instruction.

In 1965 Adirondack-Southern started inviting Moss Lake girls to spend the period between Christmas and New Year's Day in St. Petersburg. This means five days of swimming, skiing, riding, and tennis for all who accept. No charge is made by either school or camp for this period.



