

PINE CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

JOSEPH A. HOBSON, SUPERINTENDENT

NEWSLETTER

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 578

605 SIXTH STREET

PINE CITY, MINNESOTA 55063

WINTER 1982-83



Celebrate the Season...

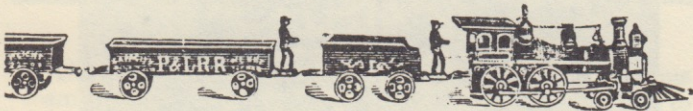
A Victorian Christmas

During the week of December 6, you will have the opportunity to participate in a program of school/community education called "A Victorian Christmas." This was made possible through the cooperation of the Minnesota Humanities Commission, Pine City Public Schools, Pine City Community Education, St. Mary's School, and the Pine City Arts Council.

On Tuesday, December 7, a group of 50 elementary and high school students in our gifted and talented program will see Charles Dickens' classic Victorian Christmas play "Mr. Pickwick's Christmas." Following the play, they will tour the Ramsey House, where Victorian hospitality is a tradition. Alexander Ramsey was Minnesota's first territorial governor and second state governor.

Mary Kay Nutzman and Adelaide Petersen of the Minnesota Historical Society will be in our school/community on December 9-10. Outfitted in authentic Victorian dresses, they will present their slide/lecture on 19th Century Christmas in several elementary and high school classes. They will also involve students in activity-oriented sessions where they will make Victorian tree ornaments.

Returning to Pine City after their successful October visit, actors Jim Haun and Tom Thompson will involve our students in readers' theatre of Victorian Christmas literature.



"Tiny Tim's Christmas Carol"

Under the direction of elementary music teacher Doris Appelwick, third graders will perform "Tiny Tim's Christmas Carol" by Leisy and Merman on Monday, December 20, at 8:00 p.m. in the South Elementary multi-purpose room.

For the Public

"A Victorian Christmas" session planned specifically for the public will be held at 7:30 on Thursday evening, December 9, in the high school library. Mary Kay Nutzman and Adelaide Petersen of the Minnesota Historical Society will present their slide/lecture on 19th Century Christmas. They'll include some comments about Christmas traditions in Minnesota, Victorian etiquette, and examples of the era's centerpieces and other holiday decorations. This will also be an opportunity for you to taste and obtain recipes of some Christmas foods that were often served during the Victorian Period, from 1837 to 1901. Please join us for an evening that will delight you with the magic of Christmas past!

Call 629-7511 for more information about the "A Victorian Christmas" activities.



JUNIOR HIGH CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Featuring the fifth and sixth grade combined choirs, the seventh grade choir, the eighth grade choir, and the junior high band, the junior high concert will be held in the high school auditorium on the evening of Monday, December 13, at 8:00. Under the direction of Doris Appelwick, Ross McAfee, and Paul Bacigalupi, 382 students will be performing.

SENIOR HIGH CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Always a highlight of the holiday season in our community, the senior high concert is scheduled for Thursday evening, December 16, at 8:00 in the high school auditorium. This will feature the concert band, mixed choir, treble choir, concert choir, a brass ensemble, and other smaller groups. Directors are Paul Bacigalupi and Ross McAfee.

SCIENCE EDUCATION WEEK

October 4-8 was set aside as "Science Education Week" in the Pine City Public Schools. Coordinated by Science Department Chairman Phil Anderson, the week started off with a science exhibitors fair and two productions of the play "Profiles in Science: Charles Darwin."

Community involvement was an important component of the project. The community was invited to attend an evening performance of the play, which was followed by a panel discussion featuring Dr. V. Elving Anderson, Professor of Genetics at the University of Minnesota.

Activities were planned to appeal to a wide range of age and ability levels. Special science activities were offered in grades K-6, and parents of elementary children received letters about the science program at their child's grade level. B.J. Mettler made presentations to third and sixth graders on phenology. High school speakers included:

Dr. Adela S. Elwell, Field Director, Opportunities in Science Project, The Science Museum of Minnesota

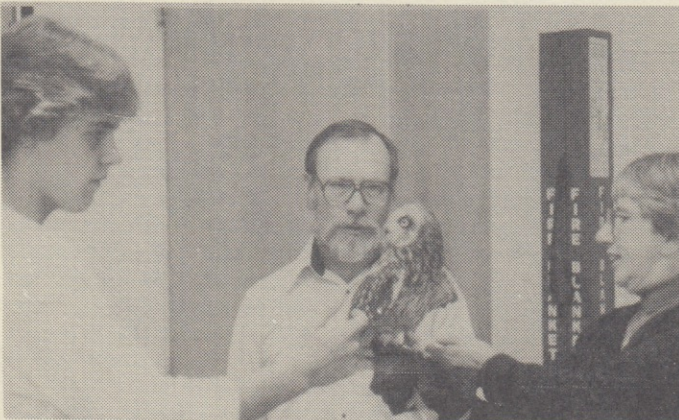
Dr. Calvin Alexander, Chemist, University of Minnesota

Dr. Marvin Marshak, Physicist, University of Minnesota

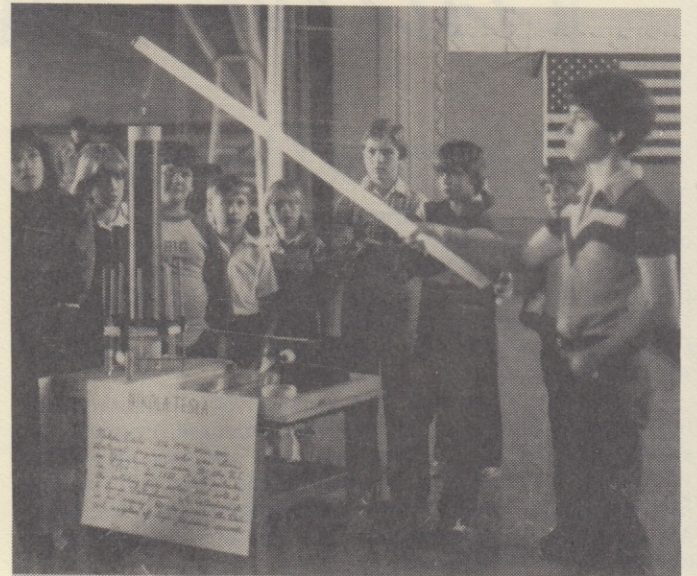
This project was made possible by the Opportunities in Science Project, which is funded by the Charles K. Blandin Foundation of Grand Rapids through the Science Museum of Minnesota. While our local school district will not be able to continue it on such a grand scale, we hope to do something like it on a relatively regular basis to focus attention on topics of scientific interest as well as career opportunities in science.



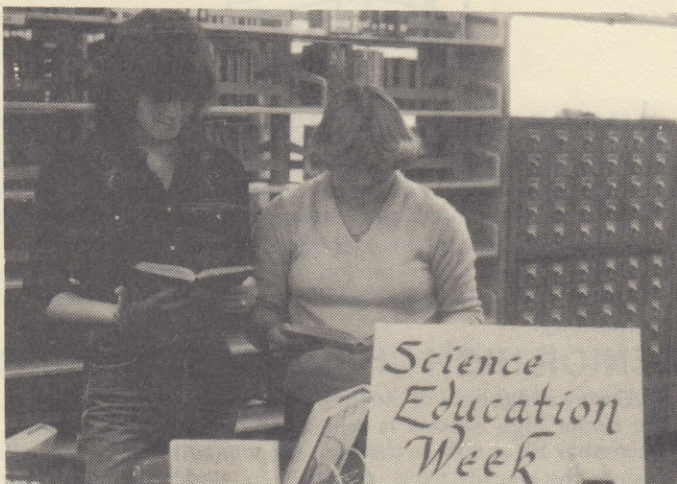
The play "Profiles in Science: Charles Darwin" was performed for students and community by actors Jim Haun and Tom Thompson.



One of Dr. Adela S. Elwell's specialties is birds of prey. She discussed this topic with biology students.



Ninth grader Allan Teich displayed his project at the science exhibitors' fair.



The high school library featured a display of print and non-print science materials.



Sixth graders worked enthusiastically on a unit on hot air ballooning.

Welcome Back, Pam

Beginning accounting students had an opportunity to hear P.C.H.S. graduate Pam Leibel Nierengarten explain the background and education necessary to become a licensed or certified public accountant. A 1979 graduate of P.C.H.S., Pam is currently completing her senior year at St. Cloud State University. She described the courses in her program and encouraged the students to concentrate on their high school accounting work, because it would make college work much easier.

Following trends in the job market, enrollment in the business department has increased considerably this year. The beginning shorthand and accounting classes have doubled in size — currently 51 beginning accounting students. It should be noted that this is no longer a "girls only" program. The Wall Street Journal notes that male secretaries are becoming increasingly common. The U.S. Department of Labor predicts that the shortage of office employees will peak in 1990.



Pam Leibel Niergarten



John McQuillan, son of Mr. and Mrs. William McQuillan.

Music Student Honored

John McQuillan, son of Mr. and Mrs. William McQuillan of Pine City, was honored by receiving a certificate from the Minnesota Music Educators Association for his participation this past summer in the M.M.E.A. All State Choir.

He will be appearing again when the M.M.E.A. All State groups perform in Orchestra Hall in Minneapolis on Saturday, February 19, 1983, during the Minnesota Music Educators Association Mid-Winter In-Service Clinic.

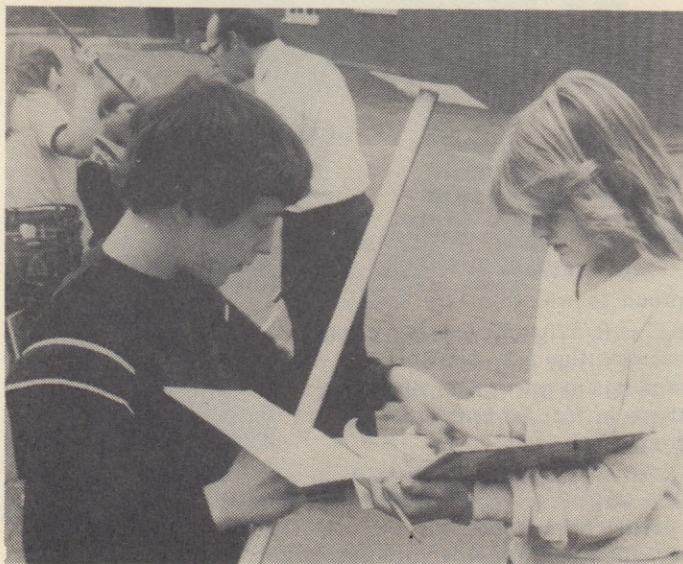
TENNIS CHAMPS

After becoming the Region 7A champs, the girls' tennis team made their first trip to state this year, where they lost to St. Paul Academy in the first round.

This was the second year in a row that the Pine City team was the champion in our conference, and all seven of the following starters were named "All Conference Region 7A Doubles Champs:" senior Dena Bjorkland, senior Brenda Schuler, senior Laura Wanous, junior Penny Behrens, sophomore Kelly Bible, sophomore Sondy Kotek, freshman Leann Eck.

Parents Attend Family Luncheon

"What responsibilities should teenagers have?" "How much work should they have to do?" "At what age should teens start dating?" These were only a few of the many questions discussed by students and parents at a home economics class luncheon prepared by the ninth grade family relationships class. Students were encouraged to invite a guest if their parents were unable to attend. According to instructor Helen Clarke, the purpose of the class ("The Teen: Living with Myself, Friends and Family") is to help the student see self as an important individual, to be a friend of self, and to see family and friends as supportive units that help one grow and develop into a happy, well-adjusted individual. The curriculum also includes the use of questionnaires, discussions, collages, skits, panels, reports and filmstrips. During the course of the class, students have individually volunteered that they are working on goals such as "taking criticism without getting angry," "not being lazy," "working together," "taking on responsibility," and "caring about other people's feelings" plus many other areas of interest.



Under the direction of seventh grade science teacher Terry Mikulich, Steve Valvoda and Loreen Wylie did an experiment to try to figure the distance to the sun.

... happenings in the district

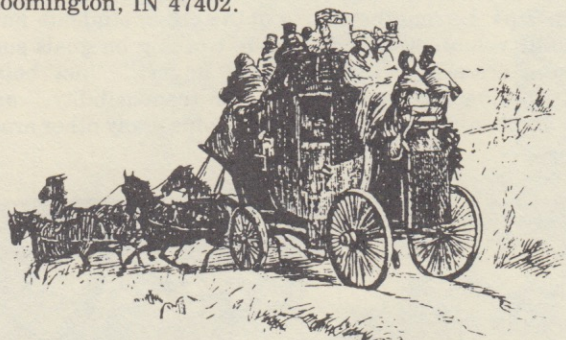
LEARNING FROM RESEARCH...

WHAT IS THE SECRET OF GOOD SCHOOL DISCIPLINE?

It's a matter of individuality. According to a Phi Delta Kappa Commission on Discipline, good practices "cannot be lifted from one school and placed in another as auto parts can." After surveying 500 public and private schools nominated for their exemplary discipline programs, the Commission concluded that although practices varied, the following characteristics surfaced:

- * The "positive" was emphasized.
- * The total school was geared toward discipline.
- * Educators held high expectations of students.
- * The schools were student oriented.
- * There was a preventive rather than punitive emphasis on discipline. Efforts were made to eliminate causes of problems.
- * The discipline practices were chosen because they met the needs of the schools.
- * Principals had the most impact on discipline.
- * Teachers handled routine discipline problems.
- * The schools had strong ties with parents and community agencies.
- * The schools were open to review and evaluation.

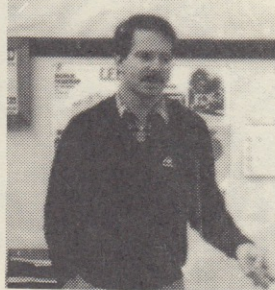
Source: "Handbook for Developing Schools with Good Discipline" can be purchased for \$3.50 from: Phi Delta Kappa, Eighth Street and Union Avenue, Box 789, Bloomington, IN 47402.



WHATEVER BECAME OF.....

Lee Swanson? We were recently proud to welcome Lee back to P.C.H.S. When he was home for a vacation this fall, Lee spoke to students at our school, including those in Mr. Johnson's college prep class.

After graduating with a B.A. in broadcast journalism from the University of Minnesota, Lee served as a contributing writer/researcher for a quarterly journal, a weekend co-anchor, reporter, photographer/editor, and sports reporter. He is currently employed by KGTV TV in San Diego, California, where he is producer of the 5:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m. news.



Look Forward to These

The Pine City Arts Council will sponsor the U of M Gallery's "1919-1939: American Culture" from January 13 to February 16 at the Pine City Public Library.

Watch for further information about their spring events — a performance by the Land O Lakes Boys' Choir and the Black and White Art Show.

Release of Class Lists

All high schools in Minnesota have been receiving requests for class lists with names, addresses and telephone numbers of all seniors and sometimes juniors for numerous agencies such as the various branches of the military, colleges and vocational schools. Under the terms of the Data Privacy Act, our school until recently had not been releasing class lists.

However, the Minnesota Attorney General's office has interpreted the law to indicate that schools are now authorized to release class lists, because this data has been determined to be public information. In response to the requests for class lists and the Attorney General's legal opinion, we will release class lists to bonafide agencies such as the various branches of the military, colleges, vocational schools, etc.

Pine City senior high counselor Howard Olson notes, however, that each student and/or his/her parents should retain the right to have names deleted from the class lists if they so desire. IF YOU WISH TO HAVE YOUR SON'S/DAUGHTER'S NAME DELETED FROM THE CLASS LISTS WHICH ARE RELEASED, PLEASE NOTIFY MR. OLSON AT 629-7511. The class lists contain the student's name, address and telephone number.

Three Vacancies on the Curriculum Committee

We have accepted with regret the resignations of Cheryl McHugh, Hilde Elder and Marilyn Criley from the Curriculum Committee. Cheryl started graduate school at the U of M; Hilde and her husband will travel more now that he is retired, and Marilyn's new job hours conflict with our meeting time. We thank them for their efforts over the past two years.

If you're interested in applying for one of the three vacancies, call Candy Ames at 629-7511.

School District No. 578 is committed to the policy that all persons shall have equal access to its programs, facilities, and employment, without regard to race, creed, color, sex, national origin, or handicap.

Gifted Program

Our school can receive funding for gifted education according to the following criteria:

\$15.12 per student up to five percent of our student population of 1369. Obviously this amount is not enough to enable us to run the extensive gifted education program we've had in the past. But it will enable us, with Pam Jambeck's help, to provide some students with educational experiences they might otherwise not have. Generally we will attempt to make these experiences outgrowths of the curriculum we provide to all students — enrichment rather than acceleration.

Currently teachers and administrators have identified children who would benefit from an experience in the areas of theatre and history. Later on we're planning something in the area of math and science. Students who participate in one will not necessarily be included in the other; the object is to reach as many children as possible who have been identified as "gifted" or "talented."

The factors generally used to identify such youngsters are:

1. Quality of the child's work in class
2. His/her performance on standardized tests
3. Other more subjective factors such as enthusiasm and creativity

Vision and Hearing Screening

Vision and hearing screening has been completed for grades K-7 and 10 (second grade hearing only and fourth grade vision only). Students who failed any portion of the screening have been referred to their family doctors for medical examination. These referral letters are to be returned to school nurse Nancy Ovick as soon as treatment is completed and signed by the doctor.

Thanks to the many volunteers who assisted with this program: Kathy Olson, Julie Rydberg, Karen Neville, Liz Olson, Arlette Miller, Judy Wiechman, Gerrie Mach, Mary McQuillan, Jenny Kucera, Jane Jones, Jeanette Nelsen, Jo Trampe, Gloria Baker, Eileen Wanous, Eunice Houston, Diane Wolfe and Win Arimond.

Newly Defined Truant Law

School officials must inform the Pine County Social Service Department of any student under the age of 16 who is not in school for seven days without school knowledge of reason for absence.

Learning About People and Cultures



Jacqueline Maria Koomen from the Netherlands and Gail Antoinette Thomas from Barbados, West Indies, are pictured with senior high social studies teacher Mary Ellen Banal (center). Jacqueline and Gail, who spoke in Ms. Banal's classes, are participating in the International 4H Youth Exchange Program.



Professor Ogata, who teaches English at Akita University in Japan, was a three-day guest in our community in October. He and W.H. Nunn, Director of East Asian Studies at St. Cloud State University, are pictured with fourth grade teachers as they plan their annual Japan unit. Professor Ogata (as pictured above) also worked with several physical education classes at P.C.H.S. demonstrating the martial art of aikido.

The Japan Project was a joint effort of the Chicago Council on Foreign Relations, the Minnesota World Affairs Center, the East Asian Studies Program at St. Cloud State University, Pine City Public Schools, and the Pine City Lions Club.



Students from Pine City High School and twelve surrounding high schools were among the 1500 students to attend the Post High School Planning Program (Education Fair) at the Pine City National Guard Armory this fall. The Education Fair was hosted by Pine Technical Institute.

Representatives from 81 colleges, vocational schools and military programs were on hand to talk with students about their programs, services and admission requirements.

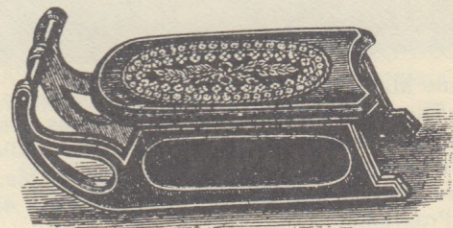
Congratulations in Order

Junior high English teacher Mary Kay Sloan had an article published in the November 1982 edition of the English Journal, which is a national journal that prints professional articles focusing on English teaching and topics concerning English teachers. Ms. Sloan's contribution deals with ways to make an English department a cohesive and effective group.



Voyageurs

On October 8, ten students from Mr. Jukich's seventh grade American history classes visited the Northwest Company Fur Post. As they toured the post, they were given an account of its history and the uses of various artifacts. They later enjoyed a typical voyageur's meal and sang songs around the campfire.



CAREER GUIDANCE

Career guidance provides students with skills to explore, understand and perform in a major life role: one's choice of vocation. Students in Ms. Marenchin's civics classes are researching the work world during much of the second quarter. Students will be given an opportunity to discover more about themselves through the Ohio Interest Survey, their SRA test results, and other career activities. They will research jobs in which they are interested and interview someone currently in that job field.

Cooperation from the community will be greatly appreciated — granting interviews to students, contributing job information, and/or helping students in their research. The best career decisions happen when school and community cooperate to help students combine complete information with sound planning strategies.



Mike Thompson, Frank Koukel, George Stockdill and instructor Mr. Bezek are pictured preparing a rocket for take-off. Rocketry, NASA, planets, and the theory of flight are all topics that are covered in Mr. Bezek's crafts class.



It's Elementary

SOUTH ELEMENTARY

One concern frequently expressed in the evaluations that parents completed during elementary conferences was that the rooms at South didn't seem well-designed for primary children. This is a valid criticism in so much as South Elementary wasn't designed to be a primary school; it was to be the beginning of a new high school. However, it's probably the most effective use of the physical plant resources that we have at this time.



"Art in Woodcut"

"Art in Woodcut" is the theme for lessons currently being taught in sixth grade. After studying the work of Jakob Steinhardt, an internationally recognized woodcut master, the students are eagerly attempting to follow in his footsteps. A number of students are emphasizing the study of nature and background in their woodblocks. Others are recreating their famous friend ET. Students are also learning the basic techniques in applying their cutting tools. Prints will be produced as a final stage in the project. Be sure to look for them at the Black and White Art Exhibit at the public library this spring.

HALLOWEEN MASKS

Students in Mrs. Olson's sixth grade class displayed their creativity this fall by creating masks from brown paper bags.

Home for the Holidays

Just a reminder to parents that Christmas vacation begins at 3:15 on Wednesday, December 22. . . . School resumes on Monday, January 3. Best wishes to you and yours for a happy holiday season!



FIFTH AND SIXTH GRADE CHORUS

Students in the fifth and sixth grade chorus will be singing in the junior high concert on Monday, December 13, in the high school auditorium at 8:00 p.m.

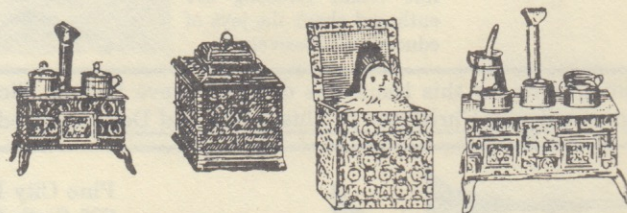
Remind them of their tote bags!

An extra special effort is being made to show care and respect for property. Each elementary student is asked to bring some type of tote bag — brown paper bag or even better plastic — to carry books to and from school.

We have had a number of damaged or destroyed books and would like to lessen the \$\$\$ spent in replacement. Parents can help by encouraging their children to get into the habit of bringing the tote bag to school and home again.

Holiday Plays

Several teachers in grades 4-6 are working on holiday plays with their students. Some of these, for example "A Christmas Carol" and "Babes in Toyland," were written during the Victorian Period. Teachers will send letters with more information home to parents.



HUMAN BODY SYSTEMS

After spending the first quarter on first aid, the sixth grade is ready to begin a unit on human body systems. Along with being introduced to the different parts of the body, students will learn some of the functions of the respiratory, circulatory and other body systems. They will also work with microscopes to look at their blood cells, hair cells, and other types of cells. To round out the unit and expose them to something new, sixth graders will have a chance to observe and actually participate in some dissecting.

Pioneer Hoedown

Parents of second grade children enjoyed sing-alongs and square dancing at the annual second grade hoedown on Thursday evening, November 18th. This is part of the class unit on pioneers.

THE MANY MOODS OF SECOND GRADE



PROFESSIONAL: Teachers Anita Rohweder, Kathy Schriber, Sue France-Weber, and Geri Sausen work as a team to plan for effective instruction.

Second grade introduces students to many new experiences and responsibilities. Because the large open room includes all four sections of second grade, the children adjust to a team teaching approach and cooperation.

A major part of a second grader's day is spent on reading. Vocabulary, punctuation, decoding skills, comprehension, and expressive oral reading are stressed.

In math, the basic facts are reinforced; carrying, borrowing, and multiplication (1-5) are introduced. The individualized spelling program is a major part of language arts, as are creative writing, poetry, and grammar. The teachers work as a team to plan special units in the areas of science, social studies and health.

Parents and community members are invited to stop at South Elementary to see for themselves "the many moods of second grade."



PROUD: Jimmy Soderbeck takes pride in a job well done.



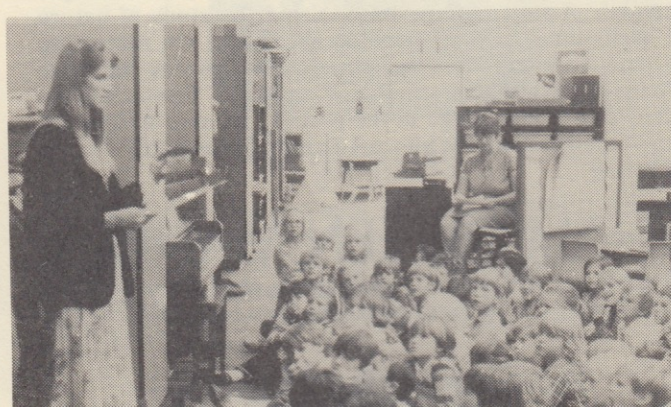
STUDIOUS: Cary Hanson knows that learning is hard work-even in second grade.



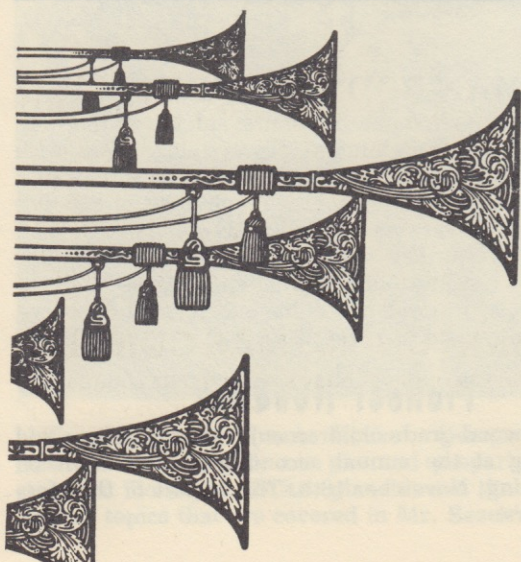
TIRED: Donald Bisset is happy but tired after a day of activity-oriented instruction.



INQUISITIVE: Students like Nikki Lauseng are enthused about the joys of educational discovery.



Photography for this issue was done by Steve Hallan. Victorian holiday pictures were reprinted with permission from An Old Fashioned Christmas in Illustration and Decoration edited by Clarence P. Hornung.



Pine City Public Schools
605 Sixth Street
Pine City, Minnesota 55063

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
Paid
Pine City, MN
Permit #4

B O X H O L D E R