for his daughter. As months that night the beautiful Neewara disappeared beneath the waters of Lake Geneva. On this spot every year blooms a lovely blue flower for one day. Whosoever finds it will live a happy life from then on.

Someday later Father attended a lecture I was giving and heard me tell this legend. As soon as we had left the school house he began to laugh. Where did you find that marvelous about Lake Geneva? I thought it in a borrowed volume of student themes from Marie Sanford's literature class at the University of Minnesota. Then he remarked laughingly, Oh, and that sounded sort of familiar. I wrote it as a freshman in Miss Sanford's class. She assigned a local legend. I didn't know one so made up. I didn't know my father could be so poetic. Legend of the Blue Flower! Indeed!

In the July 19, 1906 issue the paper notes that Geneva Beach is much in the favor of the public and most guests return year after year. Mr. and Mrs. Blackwell of St. Louis are spending their nineteenth year at the Beach. Mr. Stone of St. Paul counts the summers and Mr. Dillon of Chilcothe, Mo. just as many at Lake Geneva. Some who dropped out have returned the year because they could not do as well anywhere else.

Also at the Beach in June were: Mrs. W. H. Sill of St. Louis, Messrs. Vail, D. C. Monaire, Claude Oliver, H. C. Milbank from Chillicothe, Mrs. Mrs. Herbert Tucker, Marian and Ward E. from Minneapolis. Other Missourians from Columbia, R. H. McDevitt, Robert and W. E. Haskell and Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Hatcher. One visitor commented that the bathing was delightful, but the water was a little cold. The ladies are good swimmers, but the 'heavy-weights' find it quite difficult to overcome the 'laws of gravity.' The ladies also are proving to be the best anglers.

Lake L'Homme Dieu

Lake L'Homme Dieu is one of the 'most beautiful sheets of water in America,' a writer in the National Geographical Magazine wrote some time ago. The north shore area of this lake, called Interlachen Park, was named for Interlachen, Switzerland, which means 'between the lakes.' The naming of Lakes Carlos and L'Homme Dieu have been hard nuts to crack. In Dr. Warren Upham's book on Geographical Names in Minnesota, he says that G. A. Kunitz wrote him that they were named by Glendy King, an early homesteader in that area. King named Carlos and L'Homme Dieu for his two friends in West Point Academy. This story errs in...
that a Mr. Napoleon Beaudin got a U.S. patent in 1871 to this
land between the lakes. He sold it to a Charles Kingston in 1873
which may account for the confusion of names.

A short while ago, Dr. William Anderson of Minneapolis, who
owns property on Lake of the Homme Dieu, was interested enough to
write the Academy to verify if all these men were there at the
same time. It must have taken much searching, but the librarian
answered that in 1869 there were two cadets by those names BUT NO KING.
There was a Charles Kingsley, however. In letters written by the Kirkeads, they
speak often of their neighbor, Glandy King. We know from an early map that
among the homesteaders listed on it was the name of Glandy King whose homestead
was at Lake Winnona close to the homes of W. T. Kirkead and Mary A.
Kirkead. This land was where the airport in Alexandria is now located, reaching
down to Lake Winnona. W. T. came in 1857. Mr. King must have
come to Douglas County soon after. Oddly enough the names of
Lake Carlos and Lake of the Homme Dieu are on the old map. If Mr.
King did name these lakes he must have done so before the 1860s.
The Alexandria Mr. King could barely have been at the Academy in
1868 nor could he have been the homesteader on the lakes, neither
does his name appear.

Unfortunately, we know nothing of Mr. King or his family. His
name appears on the county tax list of 1857, but not after that.
He must have left Alexandria sometime after 1867. Where he
went is unknown.

In connecting the Minnesota Historical Society, Mr. Brook, the
research librarian, wrote that his name (Kings) does not appear on the
census roll. My conjecture is that since his neighbors came
from Wilmington, Delaware, Mr. King came from Delaware
too probably soon after the Kirkeads, for
Mary A. Kirkead comments on the boat
rides she took with him on Lake Winnona.

Carlos and of the Homme Dieu would be
a long ride from town to go fishing, but
Kings evidently was adventurous. He
could have discovered the lakes and
having no family, named them after
friends (back East).

Since the name Glandy King seems to
have disappeared from the Minnesota
records, I am going on the theory that he went back to Delaware.
I shall continue to be a James Bond, in the matter of Glandy King,
an unusual name isn’t it? Which shouldn’t be too hard to trace.
Since I have spent so many summers on L'Homme Dieu, I've been curious about its name, but accepted Mr. Upham's story.

In 1843 I noticed in a magazine the name of Mr. S. Y. L'Homme Dieu as an officer of the American Spinet Club. I wrote to him at once, telling him that I live on a lake by that name and could he tell me the background of its name? Did one of his ancestors go to West Point and know a cadet by the name of King? His answer interested me so much that I quote. There are not many of our name in the United States, but I have never heard that anyone of the family had a friend by the name of King. Benjamin L'Homme Dieu, the first of the family to arrive in this country, came in 1660, he was driven out of France with the rest of the Huguenots. His party came from Rochelle and so they named the spot on Long Island where they landed, New Rochelle. He later was given all of what is now Shelter Island, and built a Manor house, which still stands and contains some of the original pictures and furniture. His great-great-grandchild, named Nathaniel L'Homme Dieu was my grandfather and sailed on the frigate "Constitution." The name in France was Gilbert. But one of Benjamin's ancestors did some valiant deeds and was knighted by Henry of Navarre, and this knighted name was given to him because he was a man of God. King could have known a L'Homme Dieu but how about Carlos?

Lake L'Homme Dieu is separated by a narrow bar from Lake Carlos. It has two arms: the Big Lake and the Bay.

About halfway down the Big Lake a long point pouts out which came to be called Government Point. The original Government Point was the one known as "Boy's Point", later when the "boys" of Alexandria bought 3 acres. In the early days the point was the end of Government Point was quite high gradually leveling down to where it is now hence perhaps it wasn't considered a point in the early days. But when "Boy's Point" was renamed, it became "Government Point" probably because it was Government land.

Mr. N. B. Ward, a merchant in Alexandria, built the first lake cottage in the area on Government Point. His brother G. B. Ward, the banker, followed shortly with his cottage. Mr. Walter Nonen later bought it and leveled down the point. It is now a clubhouse for a large construction company.

Directly across the point, opposite the N. B. Ward cottage, Mr. H. B. Vanidesse, another banker, built a two-story cottage the
same summer. And to the left of N. P. Ward’s cottage, Mr. George C. S. Campbell, who owned a flour mill in town, also built a two-story cottage. This house was later used by his daughter-in-law, Mrs. Walter Campbell, as a tea room. She served delicious food and it became very popular. I understand the Colvill family came down and built their summer home there much later.

These were the only cottages on the Point for many years. The men used to ride to their businesses in N. P. Ward’s grocery wagon drawn by a smart-stopping brown horse. My father, who didn’t like horses, rode a bicycle to his law office. We rented there for several summers.

Everyone on the Point was very sociable. If someone was having some special dish for breakfast or lunch, she would ‘cook-off’ from her back porch, and the wives would join her then play cards afterwards.

The lakeshore on both sides of Government Point is dish-shaped. On the Campbell’s side of the Point, another point juts out which is called “Boy’s Point,” which I have already mentioned and across from it is another named “Cleveland Point.” A sandy bar joins them so that one can walk across if the water is low. These points separate the Big Lake from the Bay.

Boy’s Point received its name because the land was purchased by some of the “boys” from Alexandria. They were Wood Hicks, W. T. Cowen, Robert A. Campbell, E. D. and W. Moore and C. J. Gunderson. They planned to build a clubhouse but never did.

At the end of the Bay later Mr. Dubeau built the “Gangplank,” used for dances and roller skating. It is now a busy place occupied by a store and a restaurant. It is still known as the “Gangplank” by old timers like me. On the bay side of Boy’s Point, two cottages were the only ones for a number of years—the Harland Campbell cottage and the Mueller cottage. Mr. Mueller was a druggist in Alexandria for some years, and Mr. Campbell was city manager for a number of years.

Following the bay to the west, the shore is very high, and so was called Bay Cliff. It became a popular spot for cottages. At one time a dance pavilion was erected there, called “One-Step Inn.” It burned later. The last nine holes of the golf course runs up to this area.

On the other side of the bay, a group of Texas families built large summer homes. The Tentsills, the Felders, the H. Prathers.
Mrs. Branchan later bought the Tenth Street cottage which she willed to her niece, Marie Fisher. So it became known as the Fisher Place. It was razed this past year.

Mrs. Krueger Smith, who has spent many summers at Blake's Hotel, was a Tammanyite and watched this raining with sharp eyes, having spent so many happy years in that house. The children and grandchildren of these early visitors either occupy the older homes or have built summer homes of their own.

Cleveland's Point, across the bay from Boy's Point, was owned by Clyde Hill, son of W. E. Hicks. He was a secretary to Senator Robert Nelson for many years. He gave his name to the point. Today it is known as Toiletpoint, a combination of the names of Tom and Lena Rose, the first owners of Traveler's Inn, who turned the big cottage into a night club some years later.

The big house on this point was built by a wealthy St. Paul businessman, Mr. McDonnell, who also owned the Onalaska farm which is now Crestwood.

Down the hill from Blake's corner on the bay side of the road we built our first cottage in 1913. Mr. Speer, a wealthy hotel operator from Chicago built his home beyond at the top of the hill. For a while these two homes were the only ones on that side of the road. In fact, Mr. Speer and Father had to build the electric line extension to our houses until the town took it over. Now there are large all-year-around homes on both sides of the hill. A few years later Judge Chandler of Tulsa, Oklahoma, built next to us. We all looked forward to his 'shore dinners' cooked by that expert cook, Walter Leutchner.

'Shore dinners' seem to be a lost activity; sad to say. The men would go out early in the morning to catch the fish, the women and kids came at noon. Walter had fish steaks for everyone and we watched with watering mouths as he expertly tossed them in the hot skillet. The usual menu was fish, fried potatoes, sliced tomatoes, fruit and coffee, lots of it. No backyard barbecue could make things taste so good. Dwellings are so substitute in my opinion.

Crossing the Carrie L. Holmes bridge and turning right, the next store was the first to have cottages built on it. At one time it was known as 'Nebraska Beach,' for most all the summer cottages were from Nebraska. I remember Dr. Stein particularly, a short man with a white Van Dyke beard. He was an avid fisherman, to say the least. Paul Thompson told me this summer that Dr. Stein took an evening dip each night in the lake in his birthday suit.
Hard to believe about such a dignified person.

Mr. A. A. Second built some of the first cottages. They were occupied mostly by ministers.

The first cottage at the east end of the shore was built by Mr. and Mrs. George of Unitarian, fashionable stationers there. Next to them were the Wakes, then the Rust cottages, owned by Mrs. Rust of Carlos, which she rented to the same people each year.

Then the Roberts. Next to them the cottages of Professor Thompson and Witcher from the University of South Dakota. Next the LeComptes, the Melchers, the Mackens, C. B. Anderson, the Gardners, the Johns, and Ernest Wiggenshorns. Dr. Stain's the Blums. The Rev. Mr. Medlar. Many cottages have changed hands. Some are occupied by Alexanders but the Queens, the Wakes, the Thompsons, Rust, is now Mrs. Cunningham, the Kennedys (nee LeCompte), Mrs. Guzzell, the Wiggenshorns daughters, Mrs. Enore and Mrs. Be embraced, and the Johns, who belong to the Blum family. They were here today. For several generations they come back each year, having had such good times as children, they bring their own back to “Deer Old L’Homme Dear.”

In 1825 my father built a cottage next to the Medlar cottage. The J. A. Wadums soon joined us and later the Fitzgeralds Dr. Lammore of Topeka, the Grangers and the Stewarts. The rest of the shore was a third woods to old Highway No. 69.

It was customary then for all the cottagers to meet at the Medlar cottage on Sunday nights. That house was large enough to hold us all and they had a piano. Since there were college professors, world travelers, and many fine musicians in the area, these evenings were stimulating and fun. Mr. Medlar always led the community singing closing with the song “Dear Old L’Homme Dear” set to the music of “Moonlight and Roses.” Sentimental, but nice.

On this shore too, but on the hill a way back from the lake Mr. Second built a cottage because his wife didn’t like the wind. Later he acquired property on Brown’s Point and sold his north shore home to Steve and Elizabeth Reuther Miller of Carlos. They built two more houses and operated the place as Miller’s Cottage Inn. It became a popular eating place and many parties were given there by tourists and town people alike.

After changing hands several times the property is now the Theatre L’Homme Dear, our fine summer professional theatre.
Since then, many new cottages and resorts have been built as far as Krueger's Creek. Beyond is Crestwood, a fine residential area of new year-round homes. Most of the early cottages were named. Three that I remember were: Tidelady Lodge (The Andersons), Drop Inn and Take-Home-Train (Metzger)—a newspaper item noted that the Oldester cottage on Lake Victoria was called, 'Hot Tamale.' Our cottage was named Crono, from the city of Maine from which Mother's people came. It is now a resort.

On the Van Besser side of Government Point, the sandy swimming shelf for some distance was called Crescent Beach. Early families were from Minneapolis, soon followed by Endicott, Oklahoma people. Some of these early families were: the Andersons of Minneapolis, the Brimstones, Mayberlys, Lassels, the Perrys, the Thomas Sands, and then later the Champelins. Mrs. Mayberry told me this summer that the Andersons had been coming to Crescent Beach for five generations to the same cottage.

On being asked how they happened to come to this region she said that 'Uncle Willy' had lived in Alexandria a short while, representing Deere-Webber. His father, G. W. Anderson, came to visit him and liked the country so much that he built a cottage on Lake L'Homme Dieu and the Andersons had been coming here summers ever since.

While testing on Government Point I met the young people my age on Crescent Beach and have many campfire memories.

Many cottages and year-round homes dot the shore now. These were recently built.

Lake Carlos

Lake Carlos is the source of the Long Prairie River. It has two arms, Lake L'Homme Dieu and Lake Darling. Soundings have been made to a depth of over 150 feet near the Lake L'Homme Dieu inlet. Through the middle of the lake is a channel 50 feet deep the entire length of the lake. The water of Lake Carlos is very pure and of a deep blue-green color. Sometimes it seems to become very blue, back lake and deep. It is a perfect lake to swim in because it never gets too warm as some of the others do.

Lake Carlos Hotel was built on the east shore of Lake Carlos by John Blake in 1905. E. L. Brown, who owned much of the land on the east shore of Carlos gave a deed to Elisha Blake, Feb. 13, 1905. They began to clear the land in 1904 and the Hotel Blake opened in the spring of 1905. It was a financial success from the very beginning. Many were the dance dances held on Saturday