

Diamond Drill

Out of the Past

March 24, 1949

The Alpha High School Basketball team, coached by Gerhardt Gollakner, copped the Michigan State Class "E" championship in a one-sided game against National Mine (50 -33) in a contest played at Northern Michigan College. Led by Don Cwik 15 points at center, forwards Adolph Skibo's 13 points and Don Frederickson's 10 points, guard Art " Putzie" Marinello 8 points and Bruno Scarite and Walter Ball each with 2 points. The Mastodon squad reached the finals by defeating perennial powerhouse Hermansville (56-54). This is the third Class "E" championship for coach Gollakner, his Alpha team also won in 1946 and he coached Amasa High School to a title in 1945. Alpha also won consecutive Class "D" titles in 1934 and 1935 under Coach Ballard Damschroeder led by one Alpha's greatest athletes Clyde LaCount.

Circuit Judge Glenn Jackson has named Mrs. Ina Hoikka to the position as Iron County Clerk, succeeding her husband Joshua Hoikka who died February 14th after suffering a stroke while at work at his desk in the Courthouse. The former Ina Anderson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Erick Anderson of Crystal Falls, was a 1922 graduate of Crystal Falls High School and 1924 graduate Northern Michigan College and taught school here from 1924 to 1929.

County Clerk



The widow of the late County Clerk Joshua J. Hoikka assumed her duties at the court house here March 21, having been appointed to fill the unexpired term by Judge Glenn W. Jackson of Gladstone. She is Mrs. Ina I. Hoikka, lifelong resident of Crystal Falls, a Northern college alumna and former local school teacher.