



**GRAD AND SONS**—Peter Imhoff, 52, of Whitesboro RD 1, a veteran public accountant who was graduated from Utica College with a bachelor's degree in psychology during formal commencement

exercises yesterday at Syracuse University, modeling his cap and gown for his two sons—16-year-old Alex (left) and 13-year-old Joseph.

## '33 Depression 'Dropout' Prosperes with '63 Degree

By TOM KNIGHT

A 52-year-old public accountant who was graduated from Syracuse University yesterday with 221 fellow Utica College students was one of the few at the commencement able to realize a 30-year-old desire. He received a bachelor's degree in psychology.

The man, Peter Imhoff, of Whitesboro RD 1, said it was something he had "wanted to do for a very long time" — ever since he completed his first two years of school at Syracuse University in 1933.

"Those were depression years," Imhoff said, adding that he had been able to complete two years only because of a scholarship.

Both his dropping out of college and his present profession were "not so much out of choice, but necessity," he said.

**GOING BACK TO** school at 50 is hard enough — having to bridge a 30-year memory gap — but Imhoff made it even more difficult by changing his profession from something as factual as accounting to something as theoretical as psychology.

And on top of that, he completed his undergraduate requirements in six straight semesters while keeping his accounting business going on the side.

"I had to push it really hard from January to April 15," he said, explaining that the bulk of his income came from work he did on tax returns.

"It was an uphill fight to keep my marks up during those two spring semesters," he added.

Somehow he also found time to both organize and become president of both a

philosophy club and psychology club at the college.

In the process of completing his education, Imhoff was required to take elementary courses such as Science 1, 2 and 3—basic chemistry, biology and physics—and Communications 3—basic speech.

His two years of study were mostly taken up with such "core" courses along with major or related work. Most of the credits he completed earlier at Syracuse had to be listed as electives.

Although he will be taking a teaching job this fall, Imhoff hopes to even further complete his education. "It should take me four years to get my master's," he said. "And probably four years more for a doctorate."

If his plans work out, Imhoff would become a Ph. D at age 60. By that time his two boys — Alex, 16, and Joseph, 13 — would either be through college or just finishing it.

**IMHOFF**, who actually was graduated in January, but received his diploma yesterday because the college has only one commencement per year, said he had completed two education courses during the spring term toward both his master's degree and a provisional teaching certificate for this fall's employment.

He added that the credits could be applied toward a master's either in psychology or education.

What Imhoff eventually hopes to become is a school psychologist — quite a change for a 30-year veteran accountant.