

HIGH SCHOOL WINNERS IN ESSAY CONTEST

Over at the High School last Thursday, three merry misses were extremely jubilant over the honors they had won in the National Essay Contest, the subject being, "What Are the Benefits of an Enlistment in the U. S. Army?" The most jubilant of the three misses is Miss Ruth Dickinson, age 15, a sophomore, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. I. W. Dickinson, who won first honors. The next in degree of rejoicing is Miss Myrtle Houx, aged 18, also a sophomore, and sister of Miss Kate Houx of the Training School. Myrtle was given second place in honors. No less elated over the outcome is Winona Wood, aged 16, a mid-winter graduate, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Homer Wood. Winona won third place in honors. Over at the Training School George Arrell won the honors over all the other students.

Since the coming of an Army Officer to Independence several days ago, the pupils have been preparing for the Essay Contest. They have been sharpening their wits and getting their gray matter ready for an attractive argument.

Ruth is a splendid pupil, but just why the military subject brought forth such fluency, is not known. Her classmates say when the class prophet does his prophesying, it is probable that some day he will picture Ruth married to a great General. Who knows? Perhaps, too, the prophet will have a similar vision about Myrtle and Winona. Others who were placed in the "Excellent" class and deserve much praise are Myrtle Stephens Snapp, mid-winter graduate, Marjorie Reynolds, junior, Irma Boughey, sophomore, Winnifred Guyana, freshman. The judges include Miss Puckett, of the High School faculty, Mrs. George Conkey and Mrs. Clyde Ecker.

Only numbers and ages were given on the papers, no names were used.

The judges regret that each entrant did not win a prize and are hoping that one of the victors here will win a trip to Washington, D. C., and be in great need of a chaperone.

It is noticeable that no boys at the High School won. We were inclined to think some of the upperclassmen would at least rank within a few points of the high mark, but in talking with a junior about the matter, he said, "Well, we'll let the girls take the honors in the writing, we'll take the honors in the fighting." This cleared things considerably, for in the group intelligence tests that are proving so popular now, women average six points higher than men in mental power—but nothing to it—for over at the Training School the one winner was a boy. George had a brother who paid the supreme sacrifice, in the world war. Perhaps 'twas from this he gained his sincerity, for the judges had to consider originality, expression, age, patriotism, sincerity, etc.

The Independence merchants were very liberal with their prizes and when they are presented the winners will have much to reward them for their efforts. A complete list of the local prizes follows:

- Moore & Walker, \$2.50 cash.
- Willard E. Craven, Hdwr., \$2.50, merchandise.
- A. L. Kullander, jeweler, \$2.00, merchandise.
- O. A. Krenmer, \$2.00, merchandise.
- Calbreath & Jones, \$2.50, merchandise.
- Craven & Walker, 1 2-A Brownie camera, value \$4.81.
- Farmers State Bank, \$5.00 Savings Account.
- Williams Drug Co., \$2.50, merchandise.
- Independence Studio, to the winner, boy or girl, 1 doz. \$5.00 photographs.
- Sloper Bros. & Coe, \$5.00 cash.
- Conkey & Walker, \$5.00 cash.
- Isis Theatre, to the winner, boy or girl, at High School, 1 month daily free admission to theatre during March;
- to winner, boy or girl at Training School, 1 month daily free admission to theatre during March.

The essay winning high mark is published elsewhere.

Has anybody here seen a robin? No Spring without them.

MILL NEVER STOPS

Like Tennyson's brook, the Independence mill goes on forever. In fact, there has been a steady grind, night and day, for so long now that if the supply of wheat should give out or the machinery wear out, and the mill had to stop, Mr. Hoffman and the millers would feel as lonesome as Shep dog does when the fleas are not biting.

THE BENEFIT OF AN ENLISTMENT IN THE U. S. ARMY

(By RUTH DICKINSON, Age 15)
The most important essential for a useful life is a healthy body, therefore the first attention given a man following his enlistment is physical training. A keen eye, self confidence and alertness are developed in the athletic drills; rifle drills, and the necessity for fast, straight thinking in obeying the commands.

By the continual performance of duty and obedience to superiors, a habit of self control and respect for authority is developed. Besides these valuable acquirements the soldiers' daily essentials are provided free. Wholesome food, clean, comfortable sleeping quarters, clothing, medical attention, dental work, recreation, amusements and education are all furnished to the enlisted man. In addition to these and other conveniences, the men receive their salary while they serve.

If vacancies occur at the time of enlistment, the soldier has the choice of any branch of the service. It has been said that the sun never sets on the United States Army. Some detachment of it is found in nearly every part of the globe. Making it possible for the men to travel, is in itself, an education.

Our government has appropriated two million dollars for the installation of schools of vocational training, in the cantonments, where the men may learn any trade desired. If preferred, the soldier may become a skilled workman in his line. It is a great opportunity if a man has not been able to complete his education, to do so in this way.

Association with men, who are considered competent to hold officers' commissions tends to raise the soldiers' ideals, and it was for our ideals that we entered the war—the ideal of Humanity.

Generosity is a prevalent element in the soldier's life. A spirit of fraternalism, seems to guide the actions of the men. One is as anxious for his pals' comfort as his own.

Lastly, to join the army is intensely patriotic. To live even a short time in the service of so glorious a country as ours is an honor conferred only upon the flower of our manhood. There is no one, if he be a true American, who does not thrill with pride when he sees a body of our khaki-clad soldiers marching by. Even in the theatre the crowd cheers hilariously at the sight of the orderly ranks headed by our "Star Spangled Banner."

COMMUNITY SINGS COMING WHEN SUMMER DAYS ARRIVE

As soon as the weather is more favorable, as soon as there is a little more breath of Spring in the air Independence is to be treated to many Community Sings. There will be groups of songbirds on every corner to carol patriotism and good will to the passerby. Can we think of anything that would stimulate a community spirit more than frequent Community Sings? In every town and hamlet this form of singing has been adopted on every available occasion and Independence is no exception. Mrs. J. G. McIntosh, county chairman of the Liberty Chorus, is highly pleased with the outlook for Community Sings and believes that everyone will thoroughly enjoy the movement.

NEW DISTRICT HIGHWAY ENGINEER IS APPOINTED

SALEM—W. D. Clarke, employed in the offices of the public service corporation for the last two years, has accepted a position as district engineer in the state highway department. He will have charge of all state road and bridge construction work in Lincoln, Polk and Benton counties, and will make his headquarters at Salem. Mr. Clarke will assume his new duties March 1st.

SUNDAY, FEB. 29
(Afternoon and Evening)
MONDAY, MARCH 1

ELSIE FERGUSON

in "EYES OF THE SOUL"

In No-Man's Land he had given his best and now his world was dark. Then she came—the light of his life—and loved him. If you live a hundred years you'll never feel a picture tugging harder at your heart than this, and will go home a kinder, better, happier American.

TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY, MCH. 2-3

DUSTIN FARNUM

in "A MAN'S FIGHT"

The winning of a woman's love against tremendous odds.

THURSDAY AND FRIDAY, MCH. 4-5

LOMBARDY LTD.

There are Girls, Gowns and Giggles Galore in this clever screen adaptation of the famous comedy of Modes and Moods. It is a gown show, a girl show, a review of feminine loveliness and luxury.

SATURDAY, MCH. 6

"A DAMSEL IN DISTRESS"

"She's the most distressful damsel that ever yet was seen; you'll hold your sides with laughter when you see her on the screen!" Not only was there a damsel in distress, but there was then a lover in distress—and later came a brother in distress and an auntie in distress and a daddy in distress.

HEROLD LLOYD COMEDY

"Why Pick On Me."

Ford Weekly.

ISIS THEATRE INDEPENDENCE

LIVING TO SEE WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN NEXT

Monessen, Pa.—A local newspaper has received a unique response from one of its subscribers to whom a bill was sent recently. The subscriber, who signs his name "I. O. Everyone," says:

Dear Editor—Your bill for the last subscription received and I, for the following reasons, am unable to send you a check just now. I have been held up, held down, sandbagged, walked on, flattened out and squeezed, first by the United States government for federal war tax, the excess profit tax, the Liberty Loan bonds, the capital stock tax, auto tax, merchants' license, brokers' license and by every society and organization that inventive mind can

invent to extract what I may or may not possess.

"The government has so governed my business that I do not know who owns it I am inspected, suspected, examined, re-examined, required and commanded so I do not know who I am or why I am here.

"All I know is there seems to be an inexhaustible supply of money for every human need, desire or hope of the human race, and because I will not sell all I have and go out and beg, borrow or steal money to give away, I have been cursed, discussed, boycotted, talked to, lied about, held up, robbed and nearly ruined, and the only reason I am clinging to life is to see what in h— is coming off next."

SPEAKING OF PRUNES

(From the Portland Journal)

"It used to be considered a deadly insult to tell a man he was full of prunes," said "Bob" Johnson of Corvallis, "but nowadays when you tell a man that he is flattered. In 1893 I thought I was doing well when I sold four cartloads at 3 1/2 cents a pound. Last year I sold my entire pack at 20 cents a pound. This year I will have more than half a million pounds of dried prunes. I expect to get from 15 to 18 cents. If I get only 15 cents that means a check for \$75,000,

which is not so bad. I have 150 acres set to prunes in my orchard near town. It certainly is a pretty sight when they are in bloom and there is a bit of a breeze. Last year, in addition to evaporating my own prunes, I bought all the green prunes I could get hold of at \$2.50 a bushel. At the height of the season we dry 1000 bushels a day.

"Yes, sir; the Cinderella of the fruit family has found her fairy godmother. I made so much money on my prunes at 20 cents last year that I had to borrow money to pay my income tax."

THE BOY SCOUT MOVEMENT

In a recent address before the Portland Ad Club, C. C. Colt said: "In a recent issue of Life there is a cartoon which expresses the public idea of the Boy Scout. It is a picture of a store needing a young man. Uncle Sam is depicted as the storekeeper. A Boy Scout is apply-

ing for a job, and is standing at attention. Uncle Sam looks him in the eye and says, 'You'll do.' Scouts are fit.

"It costs the State from \$200 to \$300 to care for a dependent charge. It costs only \$10 to maintain a Scout. Which is better—to help prevent or to help correct?"

PEOPLE—'ALL'S WELL'

Everybody in town but the knockers are moving forward with the procession doing their bit for the up-building and advancement of their home.

C. O. SLOPERS' ENTERTAIN KILL KARE KLUB KLAN

Among the gaities of last week one of the most delightful was the 500 party over which Mr. and Mrs. C. O. Sloper presided last Friday evening, complimenting the several members of the Kill Kare Klub and Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Williams. The handsome Sloper home presented a most attractive appearance for the event, in a decoration of early spring blossoms. Over the tables arranged for auction 500 the players vied with each other for honors until their score cards were filled. However, no one dared "renig" as it was so near Washington's birthday and a thought of the "cherry tree and hatchet" produced a square deal. When card games were finished a "community sing" was thoroughly enjoyed by all. The hosts also contributed to the entertainment at the player-piano, the selections being interspersed with cheerful chatter. A most delicious luncheon completed a delightful evening which the members will recount as being one of the most pleasant of the season.

HEWITT COUNTRY HOME BURNS LOSS INSURED FOR \$500

(From the Monmouth Herald)—The residence on the E. E. Hewitt farm in the valley of the Luckiamute burned last Sunday night. Jess Johnson is tenant on the farm and the family lost all of their canned fruit as well as some furniture. The house which was a good one was insured for \$500.

MRS. C. L. WILSON DIES DUE TO AUTO ACCIDENT

Mrs. C. L. Wilson, who was injured in an automobile accident several months ago near her home near Orville, died in a Salem hospital Wednesday as a result of her injuries.

LESTER LEE PRICE DIES BORN IN POLK COUNTY

Lester Lee Price died at Corvallis last Friday aged 29 years. A native of Polk county he spent all of his life in Polk and Benton counties. He is survived by his mother, and four brothers and five sisters, including Fred Price of Suver.

THIS WEEK FIVE YEARS AGO IN SOUTH POLK COUNTY

(From the Independence Monitor February 27, 1915)
Robert J. Taylor died at the age of 67.

H. Hirschberg traded an automobile for the running mare, Ella Robinson.

Relatives in independence attended the golden wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. C. S. McDevitt in Dallas.

Dave Dove planted an acre of potatoes.

FUNERAL SERVICES FOR MABEL BOYDSTON RIDGEWAY

A large number of sorrowing friends assembled at the Chapman funeral parlors last Tuesday afternoon to pay their last respects to their friend, neighbor and loved one, Mabel Boydston Ridgeway, who had passed away on Thursday. Rev. Valentine conducted the services and paid a pretty tribute to the departed and attempted to comfort the bereaved relatives. Interment was made at the Dallas cemetery. Besides her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Dave Boydston of this city, deceased is survived by her husband, Prof. Wm. Ridgeway, principal of the Dallas High School, and one small son. Mrs. Ridgeway was the only child of Mr. and Mrs. Boydston, her sister, Mrs. Wm. Campbell having passed a number of years before.

"One less at home!
One voice of welcome hushed and evermore
One farewell word unspoken;
on the shore
Where parting comes not, one soul landed more—
One more in Heaven!"

FAST BALL TEAM IS THE HUNCH

Unless all the dope is wrong and a number of the "phenoms" prove false alarms, Independence will have a first-class ball team this summer. So thinks Manager Maillie, who is gathering material for a strenuous try out when the weather gets sufficiently thawed out to be comfortable away from a red hot stove. Albeit, Mr. Maillie has sufficient material for three full ball teams from which he will choose and judging from the talk poured into his ear, about every ball player thinks 1920 is going to be his best season. For example, during the past week there has been 67 home runs made in Williams' Wind Mill Shop.

Mr. Maillie is well qualified to manage a ball team, is a good judge of players, and he is very optimistic, and can hardly wait for the grounds to be put in shape so the boys can bat 'em round and get the kinks and snarls from their legs and arms.

CIVIC CLUB MEETING IS VERY INTERESTING ONE

The Civic Club met in regular business session last Wednesday afternoon. Reports were heard from committees and other matters were disposed of.

Mrs. J. S. Cooper led a discussion on our Club House movement, which merely served as an introduction to the subject which will be more fully discussed from time to time.

Mrs. F. L. Chown read a paper on "Our Club as a Community Center," which contained many excellent ideas that were very much appreciated. Mrs. Chown spoke of the president as being continually on the lookout for the coming of factories, etc., while Mrs. Cooper and Mrs. Carbray could see nothing in the future except a Community Club House.

An extremely enjoyable feature of the afternoon was the piano numbers rendered by Miss Grace Graham. She played with such splendid understanding, and technique that we shall watch her future with eagerness, believing she is destined to become well known in the musical world.

Roll call was responded to by each member telling about her "hobby."

Plans are being made for the Club's annual minstrels which will be announced later.

The next meeting will be a social one at the home of Mrs. W. H. Walker. Roll call will be responded to with a French phrase, followed with the translation.

HARRY COVEY ARRESTED FOR VIOLATING MANN ACT

MEDFORD—Word reached Sheriff Terrill Saturday that Goldie Abbott and H. A. Covey of this city had been arrested in Los Angeles for alleged violation of the Mann act. Sheriff Terrill said the complaint was sworn to by the girl's father. The arrest was made by the federal authorities.

Covey is interested in a bakery in this city and is said to have a family. He left six weeks ago and was supposed to be in Spokane. The Abbott girl was employed in the bakery as a waitress and left about three weeks ago. Relatives started a search which ended in her being located in the southern city. She is about 20 years of age and is well known here.

Harry Covey and family formerly lived in Independence. At that time he was employed by F. E. Bodenheimer at the City Bakery. From here Mr. Covey went to Salem where he and Mr. Bodenheimer purchased a similar business.

PAUL CARPENTER APPOINTED COUNTY AGRICULTURAL AGENT

Paul Carpenter, recently of Montana, has been appointed agricultural agent for Polk county and will take up the duties of the office soon.

Mr. Carpenter was born on a farm and according to all information available is very well qualified for the position.

Real estate is booming.

Oregon Historical Society
Auditorium