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## Oregon Girl Wins Road Essay Prize

children all over the United States engaged, two girls and a boy, all 14, have been awarded prizes by Logan Waller Page, director of the United States office of public roads, for writing the best essay the repair and maintenance of t roads. The second prize was n by Miss Lucille Huff, aged 14 Oregon girl, attending school in dirt roads. Arlington, Or.

The contest was arranged by Director Page to arouse interest among school children in the subject of improving the public roads of the United States. Mr. Page believed that if such a contest were started he children would ask questions of their parents, and an impetus would e given to the road improvement.

Many of the essays submitted bore ence of having been prepared the assistance of parents or school teachers, and these were eliminated. The ablest engineers in the United States Office of Public Roads acted as a board in passing on the ssays and in making the decisions,

Prizes Given to Three.

The prize winners are First prize, gold medal, Amy Coon, ammon, Kansas, a pupil in the kidmere School,

Second, Lucille Huff, age 14, Wil-lowdale Farm, Arlington, Oregon, a upil in the Arlington School, Third, Melvin Paulson, age Glooming Prairie, Minnesota, Miss Huff's essay is given here-

with in full: Climate and Drainage Discussed. One of the chief necessities of life Often this is produced in egions remote from town and rall-Thus the transportation must

be over earth roads, which, after much usage, become badly in need of repairs. Thus the question arises in rural stricts, "How Shall Earth Reads districts, Be Maintained and Kept in Repair?"
First of all, the climate must be

onsidered; for what would suit an arid region would be an utter failure in a humid climate, and vice versa.

Much attention should be paid to drainage in a humid climate, as the

#### A GRIEVANCE IN CURRY.

The people in Curry County seem o have a well-founded grievance against the Postoffice Department offletals at Washington, as word has been received at Gold Beach, the county seat of Curry, that all bids for carrying the mails between Gold Beach and Harbor have been rejected, and that after July 1 the only way to get mall from the county seat to the lower portion of Curry County will be to send it by stage to Port Orford, thence by stage to Bandon thence up the Coquille River by boat to Coquille, thence by rail to Myrtle Point, thence by stage to Roseburg, thence over the Southern Pacific to Grants Pass, thence through the Illi-nois Valley and over the Siskiyous to Crescent City, thence up the const to Harbor. In all, this makes a dis-tance of about 425 miles to gain a distance of forty-two miles. Under circumstances it would take mail, in the best of weather, from elgit to elevn days to pass from Gold Beach to Harbor; in winter, from ten to fifteen days.

The contract price for carrying mail over these forty-two miles naking three round trips a week, as been about \$1250. This was for horseback and pack-animal route nder the best conditions the conractor could only make a very small wage; since the parcel post law became effective every trip his shown Hence the lowest bid reeived prior to letting for the next four years was \$4000. The officials say this price is prohibitive; hence, all bids have been rejected.

Just now the greatest developments in Curry are taking place at Brookings, just north of and across the Chetco River from Harbor. The largest town in the county has sprung up there as if by magic. More than 350 people are now located there and this number is being daily augment-ted. When the Brookings sawmill gets under full way, within a few weeks, the population will begin to swell still more rapidly. The Brookings company has a large amount of good farm land to put upon the mar-ket in small tracts in the hope that settlers will purchase it to raise supplies for the new town. Homes will be sold to workmen. There will be much business of all sorts with the county seat. But in plain language the postal officials say that the distance to the county seat is 425 miles; the quick transit for a letter eight day-which in the winter season will more often be twelve to fifteen days.

—Portland Oregonian.

CARL GRISSEN in CONCERT at Finnish Hall JULY 28. Admission

contest in which nearly 5000; water gathers on the road if not most useful tools for repairing roads, properly drained. The side ditches must be kept cleared of all obstructions, and be of sufficient dimensions to insure good drainage,

The road crown is slightly elevated and sloped gradually toward the side

Place culverts under the road at canyons, and outlets for gutters at every low point, sufficiently large to

Special Method Described. Some compositions of soil will not stand usage, and need special treat-Either a mixture or alternate layers of sand and clay at a proportion of about 70 per cent sand to per cent clay should be spread on at a sufficient depth to remedy the defect. If sandy places appear, add more clay: or if sticky places form add more sand. The road is smoothed, graded and given the slope to ditches before the new soil is put then before a crust forms, a split-log drag should be run over

to crown and pack the road.

Roads in arid regions require entirely different repairs. The chief difficulties are sand drift and dust

Planting trees or shrubs by the read or heaping brush on the windward side will often check the drift. In some places it might be necessary to clear away brush or debris on the other side, allowing the drifts to blow off the road.

Temporary Repair Explained. After a dust bed starts, each passge increases; the depth, therefore, should be immediately repaired. The most satisfactory temporary repair is made by scattering straw, brush or other litter over the bad places. This acts as a cushion to prevent wear-After the rains come, the dust beds settle and the road can then be repaired, and packed with the drag. In arid regions the surface will be

made to distribute the moisture evenly, rather than to drain it off the road. Although side ditches should be provided where necessary, still they are not so important as in rainy

Split-Log Drag Useful.
s split-log drag is one of the

It is easily constructed at home by splitting a log 10 or 12 inches in diameter and seven or eight feet long. Select the best half for the front. Bore three holes with a two-inch augur; one located four inches from the road end, the second twenty-two inches from the ditch end, and a third midway between. the back slab bore at points twenty inches from road end, six inches from ditch end, a third midway between. Fasten these two slabs thirty tween. Fasten these two slabs thirty inches apart, by stakes driven into the holes and firmly wedged. When completed the back slab lies 16 inches nearer the road center than the front one. A 2x4 brace is placed diagonally to the stakes at the ditch end, resting within an inch of the ground on the freeze lab. ground on the front slab and in the ar.gle between stake and slab at the

Plank Drag Is Substitute, In treeless regions a good substitute is the plank drag, constructed on the same plans, but with the ad-

A strip of iron three and one-

half feet long, four inches wide and

one-ofurth inch thick, attached to the ditch end of the front slab by counter-sunk bolts, so that it extends

from one-half inch below slab at end to flush at middle, may be used for

dition of more secure bracing. The successful operation of the drag depends much on the posttion of the driver and length and position of the hitch. Both may be regulated to suit every purpose.

Drag the right hand side of the road, making the return trip over the other half. The aim is to throw the earth toward the center of the road, forming a crown.

Two horses can usually do the work; but if four are necessary, they should be hitched by a four-horse evener.

If gravel or crushed rock are available, a thin coating will make the road more durable and save a great deal of trouble.

The cost of repairing a road varies greatly with the extent of repair. easiness to procure material and the cost of labor.

## Scientific Varieties

Japan has nearly 50,000,000 peo-

Illino's leads in the amount of internal revenue receipts.

Australia has 923,459 occupied dwelling houses. South African creameries produce ,000,000 pounds of butter yearly.

Atlanta, Ga., has installed a new water works pump capable of pumping 10,000,000 gallons an hour. Eighty-six per cent of the factories

in Switzerland use electricity as motive power. The Mississippi River is 3160 miles

long, and the Missouri, which emp-ties into it, is 3,100 miles long. Several piers, 1000 feet in length,

will be constructed at the Atlantic end of the Panama Canal. Germany uses 118,000 tons American lubricating oils annually,

Its total consumption of such oils reaches 280,000 tons, duction of flax fiber and Argentina

in the production of seed Apple growers in the state Washington are planning to sell their crops in Colombo, Singapore, Calcutta and Hong Kong.

Telephone connection between cities on the Atlantic and Pacific coast of the United States is promised before the end of the year. Waters of Lower California pro-duce lobsters, and many tons of

crustaceans were shipped to the United States last season. In an endeavor to cure deep-seated diseases, French physicians are experimenting with injecting solutions

of radium into the human body. According to the United States government experts, raisin seeds can be made to yield a clear syrup, an oil useful in paint and soap-making, a tannin extract and a meal for feeding stock

lished in the Orvosi Hetilap assert that the number of medical men in the whole of Europe amounts to about 100,000. An ingenious implement has been patented by a Rhode Island inventor to enable a man to tle a knot in

Statistics which have been pub-

cord around a parcel and cut the superfluous cord with one hand.
It is reported that an extensive bed of rock salt has been discovered on

the Skeena River, about forty-five miles from Prince Rupert, along the line of the Grand Trunk Pacific Rall-

The tulip beds on the permises of C. M. Thomas, Spruce street, Rock-land, Me., have evoked a great deal

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Get a small bottle anyway, just to
y it—Apply a little in the nostrils and instantly your clogged nose and stopped-up air passages of the head open; you will breathe freely duliness and headache disappear. By morning! the catarhh, cold-in-

grant balm dissolves by the heat of

Instantly Relieves Swollen, Inflamed Nose, Head, Throat—You Breathe Freely—Dull Headache Goes—Nasty Discharge Stops. mediately.

gling for breath, with head stuffed; nostrils closed, hawking and blowing. Catarrh or a cold, with its running nose, foul mucous descriptions.

duliness and headache disappear.
By morning! the catarhh, cold-inhead or catarrhal sore throat will
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of comment and admiration. are between 50,000 and 60,000 of the plants, the blooms on which

make a dazzling sea of color. A photographic paper which is sensitized on both sides is designed for the purpose of making copies of records for filing. The scheme is a space-saver.

There are in Canada four telephone lines owned by provincial gov-ernments, twenty-seven owned by municipalities, 368 owned by cor-porations, 133 owned by co-operative companies, 31 owned by partnerships and 113 private lines.

When full, the terminal elevators at Port Arthur and Port William will hold approximately 30,000,000 bushels of grain, but, owing to the different grades of grain and its con-dition, this total capacity is hardly ever reached. If the earth were to revolve seven-

teen times faster than it does, bodies equator would lose weight and remain stationary in the air without support. The Assouan dam and other irrigation works in Egypt have cost about \$53,000,000; but the increase in value of land in middle and lower

Egypt and the Fayoum provinces has been from \$955,000,000 to \$2,-440,000,000. The total rent of this land has risen from \$82,000,000 to \$190,000,000. Eighteen barrels of ginseng, containing 1343 pounds and worth \$8061, have begun their journey from Wausau, Wis., to China. This crop was grown by J. H. Koehler

on one-half acre of land near Wausau. expert of the Department of Agriculture has been sent to the extreme northwestern corner of China,

never before visited by scientists, to

seek new plants that might be valu-

able in the United States. Some people may not be aware of the origin of the word "porcelain." When, in the sixteenth century, traders introduced this Chinese product into Europe, its polished, translucent surface was thought to resem-ble cowrie shells, which, from their supposed likeness to the shape of a little pig were called "porcellana."

One of the wonders of the Guatemala jungle is the "water vine," a black, snakelike, leafless stem, drop-ping from the Ceiba and mahogany trees to which it has climbed. It is said to contain a quart of water to every foot. When the stem is cut the water spurts forth in a refresh-ing stream. Moisture is drawn up ing stream. Moisture is drawn up from the soil, and filtered through the pores of the plant.

Early wells in what later developed into the greatest oil region in the country were put down for salt, some being sunk to a depth of 800 Nearly all yielded quantities of petroleum, and some produced nearly all oil, but it was not until the late fifties that the commercial value of oil as an illuminant was realized.

More than 600,000 pounds of snail shells are shipped out of Malaysia every year to Europe and America to which lines the nose, head and be used mainly in the making of throat; clears the air passages; stops, buttons. The shells are taken from nasty discharges and a feeling of cleansing, soothing relief comes important through Chipese collectors. pean firms at Singamore. The prod-

Mudge-Here's a man figured out that if all the money in the world were divided equally each adult would get about thirty dollars. Meek—He's wrong. My wife would

get sixty dollars.