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THE ARMY ESSAY CONTEST A GREAT EVENT

Attention! School children of Salem. And school children of Marion and Polk counties. And school children of all America. Something good is coming to you in the way of an army essay contest. But let the official circular explain it to you, as follows:

Here's The Plan!

On April 19 next, a board of judges consisting of Secretary of War Baker, General Peyton C. March and General John J. Pershing, will announce to the awaiting juvenile world the names of three boys or girls who on February 20, 1920, wrote the best essays on the subject: "What are the benefits of an enlistment in the U. S. Army?"

Then on May 5, 1920, these three boys and girls, accompanied by parents or guardians (railroad fares and all expenses paid to Washington and return for both winners and parents), will be presented with medals by Secretary Baker himself.

Gold medal, suitably engraved, to the winner of the first prize. Silver medal, suitably engraved, to the winner of the second prize.

Bronze medal, suitably engraved to the winner of the third prize. In addition, three beautiful silver cups, suitably engraved, will be presented to the winners by Secretary Baker to be carried back home by them as prizes for the schools they attend.

The contest is under the auspices of the War Department but the newspaper, "Come Back," the official organ of the Walter Reed Hospital in Washington, asked permission to purchase the prizes. This permission was granted and the school children are really competing for prizes that were provided by maimed and injured soldiers now at Walter Reed Hospital.

There is no age limit in this contest and the little seven-year-old girl in Santa Barbara, California, has the same chance of winning a prize as the nineteen-year-old high school boy of Baltimore.

New York state has many times the number of school pupils that Nevada has, yet the chance of producing winners in each of these states is exactly the same.

Essays will be written in the classrooms on Friday, February 20, 1920, from notes if desired.

No essay will be more than four hundred words in length. Pencil, or pen and ink, may be used but the essay will be written on only one side of the sheet.

Essays will be judged strictly on a basis of (1) originality, (2) expression, (3) sincerity.

Each school will be the judge of its own product. The principal of each school will appoint a board of three judges to select one essay as the entry from his school. He will then forward the entry, not later than February 27, 1920, to the army recruiting station nearest his school.

The District recruiting officer will appoint a board of three judges to pass on the essays submitted by the schools of his district. One will be selected as the best and will be forwarded to Washington as the District's entry.

From the entries of the fifty-six districts Secretary Baker and Generals Pershing and March will select three national winners. These winners may be boys or girls, of any color, of any age.

Ask your father or your brother to tell you something about our new, democratic peace time army. If they do not know write to the nearest recruiting station for literature.

It may mean a free trip to Washington for your mother and you, with a medal for yourself and a beautiful cup for your school and you'll be envied by millions of children. It's the chance of a lifetime!

The Statesman proposes to call frequent attention to this great patriotic contest.

Likely there will be some special prizes for Salem school children; and perhaps Marion and Polk county school children.

Suggestions are in order from the business men of Salem.

And whatever is done must be done quickly.

In the mean time, school children, begin at once on your studies and your notes. Sharpen up your pencils.

Salem schoolchildren will go after those army essay prizes.

The candidacy of Hiram Johnson for the presidency appears to be much exaggerated.

Why worry about the shortage of sugar? Invest in a swarm of bees and let nature take its course.

William Jennings Bryan continued to stir up the dust in the tracks of the Democratic party. More power to him.

Vice President Marshall says the awakening of the middle class is at hand. But why awake or make any fuss; they have all been frisked to a queen's taste.

The general verdict is that the Portland postmaster who was fired got what was coming to him—if for nothing else, for being a grouch. A

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wait four years for the honor. Harding was a delegate to that convention and knows just what perfunctory support it.

CURIOSITY.

When the workmen own the work-shops;
And the railroad men the rails;
And the grocery clerks the groceries;
And the mail clerks own the mails—

When the preachers own the pulpits;
And the pressmen own the shops;
And the drillers own the oil wells;
And the jails are owned by cops—

When conductors own the street cars;
And each driver owns his bus;
Will you tell us common people—
Whateinell becomes of us? —Judge.

THE EASIEST WAY.

Work more; spend less; and quit your monkey business. That's about the only way to get back to first principles.

THE YOUNG IDEA.

Chicago is shy a couple of hundred school-teachers, in spite of the fact that the salaries have been raised an average of \$50 a month each. There is still more money in trimming hats than in filling heads.

THE WHITE WAY.

It is figured that Von Hindenburg will realize nearly a million dollars from his memoirs and writings. Here is another case where the pen is mightier than the sword.

BRUTAL HUSBANDS.

In a Denver divorce case the suffering wife testified that her brutal husband forced her to ride in a Ford car. In the face of this fiendish disclosure the sympathetic judge promptly granted a decree.

OUT FOR THE LIMIT.

Lighthouse tenders report that rattlesnakes swam out seven miles in the Gulf of Mexico to reach their station. In a bone-dry land the rattlers must have gone into training to reach the three-mile limit of our beloved country.

JUST SUCKERS.

The American people take a foolish pride in paying high prices and the profiteers a greater pleasure in taking their easy money. The gullibility of the average citizen is something amazing. Like babies, they ought to be protected against injuring themselves.

MAKE IT UNANIMOUS.

The votes of almost 160,000 college students on the question of the ratification of the league covenant have been recorded and tabulated. Through the efforts of Senator Hitchcock the returns have now been made a part of the congressional record.

It would seem that the senators who have been arguing and holding back for a referendum of the people would be ready to read this signpost and behave.

A representative who will promise to honestly carry out the will of his people should have it sufficiently indicated to him when the votes of less than one-tenth of the students of America are recorded against a league of nations. Of the more than 158,000 votes recorded over 110,000 were for unqualified ratification or immediate compromise.

Less than 28,000 would hold out for the Lodge reservations.

In the face of straws like this every delay of the senate, in getting together on a sensible compromise is an affront to their constituency.

CIVIC PRIDE.

The use of prizes to stimulate civic growth has been decided upon by the people of Marion, Kan., and they have raised a fund of \$50,000 to that end.

The list includes a purse of \$10,000 for the largest industry locating in the city within the current year.

There are also prizes of from \$1000 to \$2500 for the best examples in home-building and the greatest improvements in a city block.

There are even \$500 purses for the homeliest man and woman locating within the town during the year.

Marion also craves celebrities. Prizes of \$1250 each are offered

for the greatest author, artist and musician who shall make Marion his or her home during 1920. The desire is to swell the population to 25,000 at once and even poets will be accepted as legal tender to that end. Possibly other American cities might think up something along similar lines, but it would seem that most of them had celebrities enough. A bonus for a few plain people might help.

UNITED THANKS.

If the New York assembly has its way Thanksgiving day will be permanently fixed for November 11—the day of the great armistice. The consolidation is appropriate and has heretofore been urged, but November is a rather gloomy month in the east anyhow, and two days of thanks and gratitude might serve to make it more endurable.

BITS FOR BREAKFAST.

It will get nowhere.
What will get nowhere?

The Non-Partisan league movement in Oregon. It is a form of socialism, just as much as Russian Bolshevism is a form of socialism.

It has put North Dakota on the rocks.

The people of Oregon have no use for socialism, parlor, Bolshevism or otherwise.

In the language of Herbert Hoover, it is bankrupt.

It has been weighed in the bal-

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ance in Russia and found wanting. The red hog men of high degree will be in Salem on Tuesday evening and it will be Duroe-day here on Wednesday.

Let all Salem show the high class hog men that we appreciate their coming and their efforts to get down the high cost of living by raising more and better hogs.

Spinach is one of the big new things in modern dietary. The Salem district can supply spinach to the world. Tell The Statesman what

you know about spinach growing for the Salem slogan pages of next Thursday.

Everybody worth mentioning but W. H. Taft and Charles E. Hughes has shied his castor into the presidential ring. But there is plenty of time for these campaigners.

Convalescence after pneumonia, typhoid fever and the grip, is sometimes merely apparent, not real. To make it real and rapid, there is no other tonic so highly to be recommended as Hood's Sarsaparilla. Thousands so testify. Take Hood's.

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