

Eighth Graders Will Compete for Patriotic Awards

Legion Auxiliary Sets Contest; Flag Questions Given.

The American Legion Auxiliary is again sponsoring Americanism contests for the boys and girls of the eighth grade. For the girls there will be the usual essay contest. This year the subject is, "Why I am Proud to be an American." For the boys there will be given an opportunity to study the flag of the United States, how to display it and how to respect it. Each week until April first there will be printed in the Gazette Times a list of questions pertaining to the flag. The boys are to write their answers to these questions. The girls' essays are to be not more than five hundred words in length. They must be neatly written, words must be correctly spelled and words must be carefully chosen and the grammatical construction must be creditable for eighth grade pupils.

Both boys and girls will be scored by their teachers on the following qualities: scholarship, honor, service, courage, leadership. Each of these qualities will count 16 2-3 points. The essays for the girls will count 16 2-3 points and the answers for the flag questions for the boys will count 16 2-3 points. The highest possible score will be 100 points.

The girl making the highest score will be given the American Legion medal award and her name will be inscribed on the roll of honor which hangs in the eighth grade room. The girl making the next highest score will be given a suitable award.

The two boys making the highest scores will be given awards.

Essays and answers to the flag questions must be handed to the Americanism committee of the American Legion Auxiliary not later than April 9.

Average Snow Less in Mountains This Year

Medford.—Less snow at high elevations and more lower down characterized the Oregon situation at the end of January, according to a statewide report on snow surveys and irrigation water forecasts just issued. The report was compiled by Arch Work, superintendent of the Medford branch experiment station, representing the U. S. bureau of agricultural engineering which cooperates with the Oregon state engineer and other federal, state and local organizations in gathering such information.

"For Oregon as a whole the snow-water content above 5000 feet averages about 70 per cent of that found at the same time last year," the report sets out. "January precipitation occurred largely in the form of snow at lower elevations, giving a greater average depth there than usual."

General heavy storms early in February increased the snow cover somewhat over the amounts shown in the report just issued, Work points out. Soil of the Oregon watersheds, in general, is unfrozen and very dry.

Some southern and far eastern Oregon storage reservoirs, notably Fish Lake and Owyhee, are nearer full than at this time last year, while a number of other reservoirs are still practically dry. In central Oregon storage is about the same as a year ago.

A summary of precipitation over the seven range, forest, wheat and irrigated sections reported on shows an average moisture deficiency of 3.18 inches for the four-month period October to January inclusive.

NOTICE TO WATER USERS

Water content of snow this year is not as high as that of snow last year, advises J. H. Ryan, assistant state water master. All farmers lower on the creeks should use all available water as fast as possible to avert shortage later.

H. A. TAMBLYN,
County Watermaster.

THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES

How to Display It— How to Respect It.

Following is the list of questions prepared by the American Legion Auxiliary Americanism committee on the flag of the United States, for the eighth grade boys' Americanism contest:

1. What do flags, generally speaking, symbolize?
2. Where do we find the origin of flags?
3. For what purpose has mortal man, from the beginning, used emblems and banners of various kinds?
4. What beside war achievements do national flags represent?
5. What two emblems were popularly used in several different designs by the colonists in America?
6. Describe the first distinctive flag indicating a union of the American colonies.
7. State the resolution adopting the American flag. When and where was this resolution adopted?
8. What part of this resolution means the most and why?
9. What do the stars, the stripes, and the three colors of our flag symbolize?
10. How many stars were in the flag that inspired Francis Scott Key to write the "Star Spangled Banner"? How were they arranged?
11. When the number of stars in the flag were increased to twenty, how were they arranged?
12. How many stars were there in the flag at the beginning of the Civil War?
13. Which was the first state to be admitted into the Union, or rather to ratify the Constitution of the United States?
14. What was the last state to be admitted into the Union, and in what year?
15. When was Oregon admitted into the Union?
16. What is the flag beside an emblem of the country?
17. Why are there seven red stripes and six white stripes in our flag, and not six red and seven white stripes?
18. What does the flag as a whole represent?
19. Why is the flag flown over our public schools?
20. When and where was the American flag first flown over a public school house in this country?

The hopes and aspirations, joys and sorrows, the romance and chivalry, of the human race are symbolized in flags. Flags originated in Divinity itself. When the great flood subsided, God unfurled the first flag—the rainbow—as a signal that danger was passed and safety assured. Ever since, man has used emblems and banners to express his hopes, his ideals, his wars, his victories and his achievements.

When man first began to live in tribes, one of his first needs was an emblem or flag that would enable him to distinguish in battle the members of his own tribe. At first this was accomplished by using clubs of a certain design. Later when shields came into use, they had a special insignia placed upon them as a distinguishing mark. Still later the skins of animals fastened to poles were used as flags.

From these primitive beginnings came about the evolution of the flag as we know it today. Every country has its flag. Because these emblems were first used to distinguish the warring tribes, we often make the mistake of associating our flag primarily with the wars of our country. But we must remember that the flag represents a nation's peace achievements which are often greater than those of war. The ideals and traditions of a people, their progress and achievements in art and in science, commerce and agriculture, are symbolized by their flags.

Now education is one of the great American ideals. More than one of our great statesmen has said, "The School must save the State." So learning about the flag, how to display it and how to respect it should be a part of our education. When we look at our flag, and in its stars and stripes, and in its red and its white and its blue, we read its story and hear its message; when we think what it all means and stands for; when we think at what cost of life and sacrifice the flag today flies over us; it entreats us to cherish it, to keep it as it has been handed down to us and to DEFEND it.

Cow Testing Increases Aid Many Dairymen

Approximately 500 Oregon dairymen milking about 12,000 cows are now members of dairy herd improvement associations in Oregon, reports Roger Morse, extension dairyman at OSC. These associations were started in this state 26 years ago when the first was organized in Tillamook county.

The value of testing is in making a permanent record of the production and feed costs of each cow in the herd so that "star boarders" can be culled out, better feeding and management practices adopted, and comparisons made between daughters and dams, says Morse. Permanent identification marks for grade cows are now being worked out.

TODAY'S QUOTE.

"Potato prices this year are the highest they have been for 10 years, and it is just possible they won't be that high again for another 10 years. The thing to keep in mind in growing potatoes is that for every year they sell for \$2 or \$3, there are two years when they sell for less than \$1 a hundred. Unless you can grow them for \$1 you had better not grow them at all."—E. R. Jackman, extension agronomist at O. S. C.

RUNNING WILY MR. COYOTE GAVE HEPPNER MEN SPORT

Denizens, Recalls "Mike" Roberts, Lover Strong, Fast Dogs Had Plenty of Competition in Sharp Fangs and Stamina of Hill of Canines.

When English peers chase the noble stag, or southern bluebloods take after the fox with baying hounds, their sport is mild compared to that once enjoyed in Morrow county hills, opines Frank "Mike" Roberts, one of a few old-time local sportsmen who enjoyed running coyotes in the day before barbed wire fences became so numerous as to ruin the sport.

In the six or seven years the sport was followed Mike believed 25 or 30 was a liberal estimate of the number of coyotes killed, and these were mostly six- to nine-months-old pups, crippled critters, or ones with their bellies full of bad horse meat.

"When it came to getting the old boys with the square jaws, meaty jowls and tails like horsewhips, we didn't get them, and I don't believe anyone else had much luck either," he averred in paying tribute to the coyote as one of the smartest and fastest of game or predatory animals, showing a respect gained from the numerous times Mr. Coyote came out ahead in the run.

Roberts and the rest of the Heppner men had a hard time finding suitable dogs for coyote running. Dogs fast enough to catch up generally lacked strength to make the kill, while those strong enough for the kill were usually left in Mr. Coyote's dust. The coyote had much longer wind than most breeds of dogs, lasting for five or six miles while the better dogs gave out at two or three. In light of this fact and the advantage Mr. Coyote always had at the start, for he was rarely sighted less than a quarter-mile distant, it took an exceptionally fast, strong dog to stand a chance, especially were Mr. Coyote mature and healthy.

Then Mr. Coyote's method of defense was effective in many instances if the dog did catch up. He had a cute little habit of clipping the dog quickly and deeply in the foreleg, leaving a wound to discourage any but the most dogged attacker—a slash from keen incisors like that from a sharp knife. And he generally had opportunity to apply this defense, for the dog was usually hard pressed for wind by the time he caught Mr. Coyote and, panting, was forced to let go of his grip occasionally to take on air. Only the slightest interval of this nature was needed for Mr. Coyote to get in his clever lick.

It would seem that running a pack of hounds after one coyote would

give the dogs a big advantage. It did if the hounds caught Mr. Coyote, but the whole pack was left in the lurch more times than not. As indicated, if one did catch up, he rarely retained Mr. Coyote long enough for the pack to get there.

In their experiments with many breeds of dogs, Mr. Roberts believed the greyhounds were most effective. Russian wolfhounds, stag hounds and various other breeds were used.

Use of baying hounds was attempted, the strategy being to partially wind Mr. Coyote with these, then set upon him with the killers. But where Mr. Coyote would usually circle when chased by other hounds, he would keep a straight track before the bayers and darkness would set in before he could again be found to be set upon by the killers.

The men rode horseback, and as running over the rolling bunchgrass hills became more and more impeded by barbed wire fences, their sport was forced to yield to civilization's "progress."

Mike has long been a dog lover, and still keeps his kennel of Irish setters—(having raised a litter of 13 puppies from last season, by the way.) He is loaded with dog stories and likes to tell them. He recalled one this week.

He once raised two greyhounds that he named Lion and Tige. Both were strong dogs, though not of mild disposition, Lion especially being gruff to strangers. One day in the barnlot at Bill Cowins's, a horse stepped on the toes of one of Lion's forefeet, shearing them off. The injury healed and Lion was as strong as ever, though the mark of identification remained.

One day Lion and Tige disappeared. Inquiring around, Mike found they had been seen following two young fellows who had gone to the Ukiah country on horseback. One of these young fellows shortly married Mike's niece, then teaching school at Ukiah, and this chap gave Lion to his wife's father and Mike's brother, then residing beyond Pendleton, to assist him in running bothersome coyotes, all unbeknown to Mike.

Three years had elapsed when Mike went to call on his brother. On entering the gate, Mike was greeted by Lion who came wagging from the doorway and licked his hand. The brother came out in time to see the procedure, and remarked upon its strangeness, saying it was

the first time that dog had failed to bark at a stranger.

"What? Me a stranger?" Mike replied. "Why, that's my own dog, Lion." And there was the identification mark to prove it.

Specifications Out for Ideal Family Partners

The ideal family man saves some of his time for his family—quality time whether it is long in quantity or not.

He is unselfish enough to respect the wishes of the rest of the family, whether on a drive or in selection of a radio program.

He is even tempered enough so that he at least refrains from getting "mad" at the same time his wife does.

He keeps up with the world, both as to current events and modern thought.

And—a most important characteristic—he has a sense of humor.

These were some of the conclusions reached in a unique three-cornered discussion address which concluded the eleventh annual home interests conference at Oregon State college, sponsored by the extension service and school of home economics.

Leading this round-table which drew hundreds of listeners were Dr. E. W. Warrington, professor of religion; Dr. O. R. Chambers, professor of psychology, and C. A. Sprague, editor of the Salem Statesman. Each confessed that his personal experience as head of a family was limited to "one wife and two children."

All agreed that the successful family is a cooperative affair and that the patriarchal idea of the father making family life revolve around his wishes is happily past. Sprague pointed out that some modern developments such as shorter hours and the automobile are making modern man more a part of the family than formerly.

Dad's relation to the children came in for much comment, with the idea expressed that sympathetic understanding and wholesome affection is fine, but that the "pal" idea can be overdone.

"But what about the ideal family woman?" someone asked.

"Everything we have said about the man goes for her too," was the reply, to which one added that three specific things the wife can do to keep the matrimonial waters smooth are to get up and get breakfast, be reasonably neat in appearance, and avoid saving up the day's irritations to unload on the homecoming spouse.

This year's conference presented a highly varied program on all phases of family living and drew a registration of 623 despite adverse weather conditions.

Ernest Smith was a business visitor in the city Monday from the farm north of Lexington.

TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

LEXINGTON

FRIDAY 7 P. M.

HEPPNER

SATURDAY, 2 P. M.

CONDON

FRIDAY, 8 P. M.

FOSSIL

IONE

FRIDAY, 9 P. M.

BOARDMAN

SATURDAY, 3 P. M.

STRONGEST LOSER OF FRIDAY GAMES

Winner

Loser

Consolation

Sat., 7:30 P. M.

Loser

Winner

8:30

Winner