

National Merit Tests Taken by Local Students

A total of 137 students from Medford High school took the National Merit Scholarship qualifying test, Principal Lester Harris has announced.

All students who wish to be considered for Merit Scholarships to be awarded in 1961 were required to take the test.

The qualifying test was a three-hour test of educational development and college aptitude with emphasis on broad intellectual skills and on understanding and ability to use what can be learned rather than on sheer knowledge of facts.

The test was the first step in the sixth annual competition for Merit Scholarship provided by about 100 corporations, foundations, professional societies and individuals as well as the National Merit Scholarship Corporation itself.

\$15 Million Awarded

More than \$15 million has been awarded in the first four years of the program.

Scores of the tests will be made available to participating schools before the end of the spring semester in time for use by advisors.

Some 10,000 semifinalists, the highest scorers in each state, will be named early next fall. Semifinalists take another examination with the top scorers in that test becoming finalists in the program.

Winners of Merit scholarships will be selected from the group of finalists on the basis of school records and recommendations, test scores, extracurricular and outside-of-school interests and accomplishments, and other indications indicating future promise.

The ancient Britons made war shields out of withes, or rods cut from willow trees.



Station 9:45
Sundays A.M.

Raid on Still Near Gold Ray Dam Nets Agents 25 Gallons of Liquor



WOODLAND HIDEWAY—The moonshiners above it are about a half mile from the Gold Ray dam.



MOONSHINERS' HEADQUARTERS—State Police Sgt. Faye Holley points to the entrance of the dirt cave up a steep hillside near the Gold Ray dam. Officers had to crawl into the cave on their hands and knees. However, once inside, there was room to stand up. The cave was located by traces of partially dirt covered mash which the bootleggers had thrown out. A sportsman notified state police, who found the cave Friday.

By JOE COWLEY
Mail Tribune Staff Writer
"We're going to raid a still up in the hills. Like to come along?"

Soon after this terse invitation over the telephone we had our camera and were waiting in a state police car to meet agents of the state liquor control board.

Then, with the state agents following behind, Sgt. Faye Holley, of the state police was driving over a rutted country road alongside the Rogue river.

Near Gold Ray dam we found the pickup truck driven by State Policeman Don Cain. The men quickly changed into coveralls. Our party included Sgt. B111 Minett, Grants Pass, and Al Hartley, Medford, both inspectors with the Oregon state liquor control commission.

After climbing a steep hill through brush for a quarter of a mile we found a cabin whose weathered appearance camouflaged it well among the scrub trees and brush.

There, standing near a fire, were a federal agent and Cain who both looked more like moonshiners than law enforcement officers, according to their attire. Traces of mash found by a fisherman and pointed out to Cain showed near the cabin.

Approximately 100 yards above the cabin was a cave with the brush-covered entrance only large enough for a man to crawl through on hands and knees. This Cain proceeded to do, dragging a rope with him. The agent of the alcohol and tobacco division of the Internal Revenue Service followed him.

Outside of a possible cave in there was no danger since the cave had been carefully reconnoitered before for presence of moonshiners.

Soon one end of the rope was tied around the large copper drum with coiled copper tubing attached. This was pulled and pushed out of the cave, which was large enough for men to stand in. Several large wooden barrels followed, then many glass jugs.

When lined up outside the cave, and the coiled copper tubing and other paraphernalia all connected, the still looked like that of Snuffy Smith of comic strip fame.

The officers estimated it took about a day to manufacture the 25 gallons of liquor discovered.

Uncapping a jug, Sergeant Holley sniffed the clear liquid with some sort of excrement or dirt floating in the bottom. "Most awful stuff I've ever seen!" he remarked. And the others agreed. This tested out later at 50 proof. Most moonshine is 100 proof or better.

It amazed the officers that normally lazy moonshiners would drag the large, awkward barrels and heavy equipment up such a steep hill. The liquor was of such poor quality that it apparently had no sale and the still had been abandoned for a month or more.

Uncovered Many Stills
"This stuff we found usually is what you might call rot-gut," the state police sergeant commented. As a state police game law enforcement officer, he had uncovered many stills while tramping around the woods. "The stuff is always unsanitary. The more potent stuff too often blinds or kills a person."

"Usual market for the moonshiners are teenagers and those on the interdiction list," the federal agent said. "We have a big problem with teenagers, who, of course, cannot buy liquor at the state liquor stores. Next to dope, moonshine probably is the most serious corrupting influence on youth. The interdiction list has names of persons

Women's Fitness Class Scheduled At Junior High

A women's physical fitness course for women of all ages will start Tuesday, March 22, from 7:15 to 8:30 p.m. in the girl's gym at McLoughlin Junior High school.

The course will be held weekly on Tuesday nights for eight successive weeks. Medford's parks and recreation department is sponsoring the program which is offered free of charge to all interested women.

Miss Ruth Adkins, physical education instructor at McLoughlin Junior High school, will instruct the classes.

Parks and Recreation Director Robert Haworth said the first few classes will be devoted to exercises, but will gradually evolve into games such as badminton, volleyball and deck tennis.

First Time
Haworth said this is the first time that the city has sponsored such classes and if they prove successful they may become a permanent part of the city's recreation program. He said the city decided to sponsor the program after several requests for it were received from various women.

The main purpose of the classes is to give women a chance to get into shape for the summer months, he said.

Medford is not the first city to offer such a program. Many other cities, including Grants Pass, have been offering similar courses for some time which have proved successful, he said. Haworth, who was with the Spokane parks and recreation department before coming to Medford, said the program there had as many as 600 women enrolled at any one time.

The Tuesday night class will be able to accommodate about 20 women initially, Haworth said, but if more desire to participate then additional classes can be added as needed.

Anyone desiring further information on the classes can call the city parks and recreation department at the city hall or come to the first class March 22.

NAMED ADVISOR

Salem—(UPI)—F. Ivan Brown has been named advisor and consultant to the State Industrial Accident commission.



LIFT STILL—Sgt. Bill Mynatt, Grants Pass, Oregon Liquor Control commission inspector, helps lift the large 50-gallon copper drum of the still out of a cave near Gold Ray dam. Assisting him is Sgt. Faye Holley of the Oregon state police headquarters here. A few minutes after this picture was taken Sergeant Mynatt punctured the drum with a pickaxe found in the moonshiners' cave.

whom judges have forbidden to drink liquor for one reason or another. Every state liquor store gets such lists."

Moonshine price range is from \$10 to \$20 a gallon. Liquor tax on the legal liquor is \$10.50 a gallon. Moonshiners estimate they can produce it at 50 cents a fifth for which they will receive at least \$5.

Moonshiners Fluctuate
Moonshining fluctuates according to the rate of unemployment and usually occurs in logging communities.

This is the first still discovered in Jackson county for a few years, the officers said.

Agents noticed a rise in Oregon moonshining during the recent business recession and a sudden drop in this activity when employment became better. Moonshiners must have water to run through their barley or corn mash. Gradual settling of the state has made it more and more difficult to successfully operate hidden stills. Then, too, judges are giving those caught with moonshine in

their possession, the customers, stiff penalties.

Coos Bay, the area east of Cottage Grove and Sweet Home, in recent years have been centers for moonshining, particularly east of Cottage Grove, the federal agent noted. However, Oregon produces a mere drop compared to what is produced in the Carolinas, Georgia and other southern states where dry counties and custom cause moonshining to be more popular.

Recently federal agents have become more concerned with the large two-story distilleries of moonshine operating in New Jersey, New York and Philadelphia. Federal agents here feel they are like firemen, on the job to prevent further outbreak.

Women Voters Draft Booklet

The final draft of a study of Jackson county government, to be published this month by the Medford League of Women Voters, has gone to the printers.

The League reported yesterday that the 48-page booklet is expected to be off the press about March 19 and a "publication party" to present the booklet to the public has been set for March 29. A selling campaign will follow.

The booklet is the result of over two years' study by the non-partisan League. It provides a brief description of the history, geography and economy of the county, but deals largely with the structure and functions, staff services, administration of justice, public welfare, health, sanitation, education and other phases of government.

It is to be sold at an at-cost price through the county, the League reported. Copies have already been ordered in advance for use in a number of county schools.

County officials and others who assisted the League with the study will receive special invitations to the publication party, which will be an informal open house from 3 to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 29, in the Red Cross building. The public is invited.

QUESTION SUSPECTS

Lyons, France—(UPI)—Police said they have questioned some 500 Algerians in connection with the derailing of the Paris-Marseilles express train three days ago.

Forester Receives Incentive Award

Edward L. Hasteley, forester in the Medford district of the bureau of land management, has received an award of \$25 granted by the area incentive awards committee for a suggestion that California Ink mapping ink be adopted for map coloring.

Presentation of the award, together with letter of congratulations from James F. Doyle, area administrator, was made by District Manager Ross Youngblood of the Medford district office.

The incentive awards program, established several years ago, is to encourage government employees to participate in the task of improving the efficiency and economy of government operations.

Hasteley started working for the bureau in June, 1957, as a student trainee in the Medford district office and through the years has been promoted to various forestry positions. He is a graduate of the University of Washington and also attended Fresno State college and Monterey college. In November, 1959, he completed a Red Cross first aid training course.

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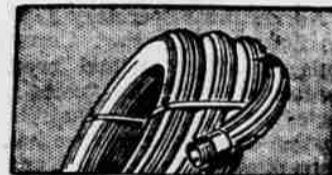
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