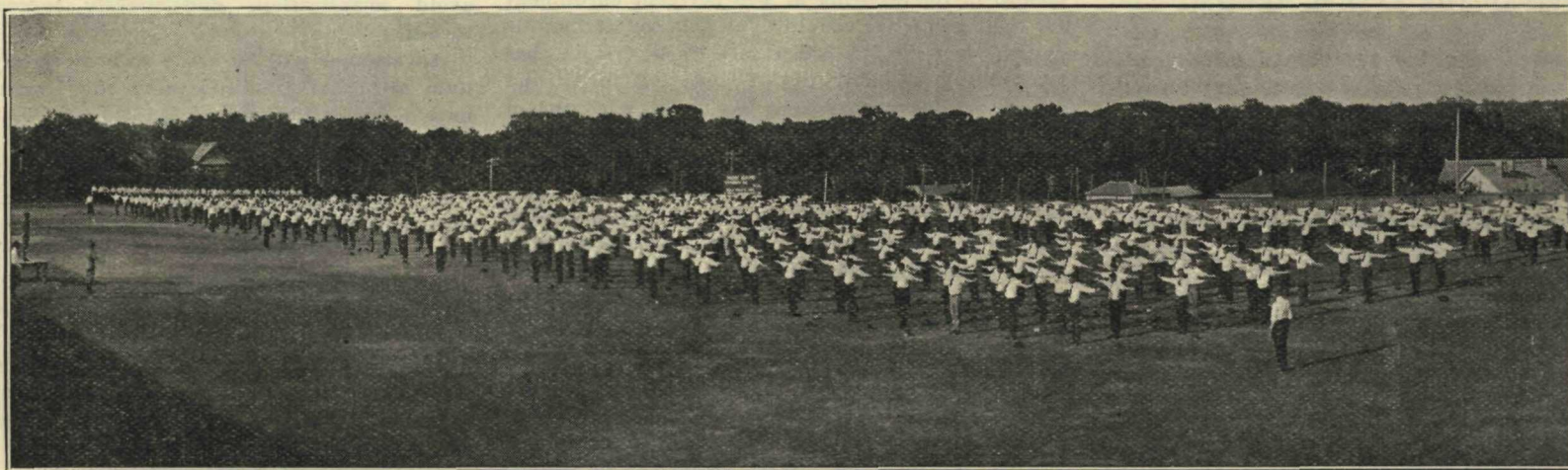


THE INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUER

Vol. 1

AUSTIN, TEXAS, NOVEMBER 15, 1917

No. 2



MASS DRILL OF UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS STUDENTS ON CLARK FIELD. MASS DRILLS ARE RECOMMENDED FOR EVERY SCHOOL IN THE INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE

MASS DRILLS HELP DEVELOP WINNERS

The value of some form of open-air mass-drills for schools in the League cannot be too much emphasized. While the League contests in athletics stimulate a certain number of boys and girls to participation and consequently give these students the benefit of good athletic training, there is always a certain percentage of students who will not participate in athletic contests and their general health and efficiency suffers thereby. Open-air mass-drills is the best means of reaching every student in the school. It is also helpful in giving non-athletic contestants needed exercise. Concerning a mass-drill of three hundred pupils in the streets of Midland honoring the Midland-Martin Counties Teachers' Institute last year, W. W. Lackey, Superintendent of the Midland Schools says:

"It is believed that a systematic course in Swedish gymnastics such as is given in our schools, will result in the best heart and lung stimulation, serve as the best corrective exercise for bad posture, awkward gait, stooped shoulders, crooked spine or flat chest, and will help to promote the proper growth and functioning of the organs of the body. In the language of President Shurman, it will teach the pupil 'how to stand and walk and hold himself, it will give him vigorous out-of-door exercise, so that gradually his chest will expand and his muscles grow firm; it will discipline him in orderliness, punctuality, accuracy and alertness; it will endow the senses and the intellect with quickness, precision, and the habit of concentrated attention; it will develop self control as well as obedience to proper authority and it will accustom the individual to cooperation and team work, while fostering comradeship, thus facilitating community life and lubricating social intercourse.'"

No citizen has a right to be an amateur in the matter of physical training: . . . what a disgrace it is for a man to grow old without ever seeing the beauty and strength of which his body is capable.—Socrates.

UNPARALLELED OPPORTUNITY FOR TEXAS SCHOOL SAVINGS BANKS

HERE is the opportunity! Will Texas Schools take it?

The Government of the United States, the richest country in the world, backs with its entire credit, giving four per cent interest compounded quarterly, savings accounts from \$4.12 cents up to \$1,000.

It solves the problem of bookkeeping with thrift stamps. The system is so simple that any child of ten can understand it.

The government has devised a plan especially suited to the school savings movement. Thrift stamps for 25 cents each are issued, with a card for filling in twenty such stamps. When a four dollar card is filled out, then the pupil may take the card and with a few additional cents purchase a War Savings Stamp which from the date of purchase bears four per cent interest compounded annually.

The student may watch his savings grow. This is more important than the savings—it inculcates the Habit of Thrift. The plan furnishes infinite practical problems in interest—something half the business men of the world do not thoroughly understand.

More than that—it furnishes every pupil a concrete activity for helping win the war. It thus nourishes the flower of patriotism in every child-heart.

Write today to Department of Extension, University of Texas, Austin, Texas, Box F, University Station, for five practical plans for establishing school savings banks in your school.

The Interscholastic Leaguer is designed to interest school children, actual contestants, as well as teachers, therefore this copy should be placed on reading tables accessible to the pupils. We can furnish only one copy for each school, although we would like to send one to each pupil who takes part in League contests. At present that is impossible on account of the cost; we may be able to do so in a few years as the League continues to grow.

TO HELP WIN THE WAR

At a conference of the heads of the various divisions of the Extension Department of the University of Texas, held in the office of the Director, E. D. Shurter, on November 10, the general question proposed to the conference by the Director was, "What can the Extension Department do to help win the War."

It was pointed out by the Director that the Department is at present engaged upon three lines of work with this purpose distinctly in view. The campaign for food conservation is being pushed by Miss Mary E. Gearing, Head of the Division of Home Welfare, as representative in Texas for this work of Food Administrator Hoover. She is working in cooperation with the Extension Department of the A. and M. College in this field. This campaign has been under way for some time and has become fairly well organized, and is growing in influence every day.

It was also announced that the Extension Department had become the clearing-house for all the organizations in the state looking to the encouragement of thrift and savings. The work of establishing school savings banks is actively under way. Between forty and fifty schools in the State have under the direction of the Department, undertaken to establish such institutions, and calls for literature giving proper plans are being made daily upon the department. Two bulletins in this important work are now being distributed giving practically all the information necessary in starting a school savings bank.

Plans for cooperation with the Red Cross in the patriotic activities of that organization were discussed and a committee appointed to formulate definite suggestions for such cooperation.

It was the sense of the conference that very effective work can be done in helping win the war through the medium of the Interscholastic League, aside from its main purpose of increasing the efficiency and building up the physical vigor of the scholastic youth of the state, which purpose will

(Continued on page 3)

THE INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUER

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E. D. Shurter - - - - - Editor
R. G. Bressler - - - - - Associate Editor
R. Bedichek - - - - - Managing Editor

(Application has been made at Postoffice at Austin, Texas, for admission as second-class matter.)

ATTEND THE ANNUAL MEETING.

Do not forget that the annual meeting of the Interscholastic League will be held during the general sessions of the State Teachers' Association, to be held at Waco, November 29-December 1, inclusive. The meeting is scheduled for Saturday afternoon at 2:30. At that time the way in which girls may participate in a debating contest will be determined, and possibly a separate debating contest for rural schools will be established. Other important matters pertaining to the work of the League will be announced and discussed from the floor. Please plan definitely to be there,—Saturday afternoon, December 1st, auditorium of the First Baptist Church, Waco.

Veteran League Workers

The editor is naturally not given to wild enthusiasms, and yet it is not exaggeration to say that the one great absorbing interest in his work in the Extension Department has been the organization and development of the Interscholastic League. He stood by its cradle at the State Teachers meeting at Abilene in 1910, and has since watched its growth into the lusty being it has now attained. The figure of speech, however, should be carried no further, since he hopes and believes that no one shall have the sad experience of attending the League's funeral.

In the work of organization and development the editor has often reflected on the fine spirit of co-operation that has been manifested by the teachers of the State. It goes without saying that such co-operation has been absolutely essential for the unprecedented success of the League, now admittedly the largest of any in the United States. The editor hesitates to mention individual names, since the total list of co-workers would fill all the columns of this paper, and yet he feels at the same time that due honor to the living requires special mention of a few of the veteran League workers, even at the risk of omitting names equally worthy.

Glancing over the list of district officers for this year, and taking the names more or less at random, the following men have been identified with the work of the League from its very beginning: Superintendents H. D. Fillers, of Bonham; L. C. Gee, of Greenville; W. W. Lackey, of Midland; W. T. Lofland, of Hillsboro; Grover Hartt, of Timpson; L. H. Hubbard, of Belton; J. Thomas Davis, of Navasota; A. J. Rushing, of Jasper; A. M. Blackman, of Plano; E. M. Day, of San Marcos; R. F. Holloway, of Comanche; H. P. Walker, of McGregor; W. B. Toone, of Floresville; and J. H. Bright, of Sweetwater; and Principals A. J. Robinson, of Marshall; R. L. Paschal, of Fort Worth; and A. H. Hughey, of El Paso. All these men stand out as consistent League workers since the very foundation of the organization. There are doubtless many others in the same class, but the foregoing have been named from among the present district officers more or less at random. The editor owes a special debt of gratitude to men in this class, in view of

their loyal support and assistance at times when the work of the League was still a doubtful experiment.

More latterly workers for and enthusiastic boosters of the League have developed in such numbers that the editor has still more hesitation in mentioning any names in this class. However, here are a few of them that certainly deserve special mention: Superintendent J. W. Fulcher, of Jack County, holds the proud distinction of being the first man to enroll all the schools in his county as members; and Superintendent A. R. Anderson, of Garza County, last year made a similar record. During the current year already Superintendents Jno. T. Conn, of Madison County; J. W. Fox, of Moore County; and B. T. Withers, of Jasper County, have been largely instrumental in the securing of 100 per cent enrollment for their respective counties. In this connection, Superintendent G. A. Pringle, of Falls County, has worked indefatigably toward bringing in all the schools of his county, and has made a consistent record during the past three years in placing Falls County in a most prominent position on the Interscholastic League map. Special mention should also be made—and here again names are taken almost at random—of the following schoolmen who in more recent years have done especially fine field work for the League: W. A. McIntosh, of Amarillo; M. M. Dupre, of Lubbock; E. C. McDonald, of Gainesville; W. O. DeWees, of Weatherford; Felix Smith, of San Angelo; W. S. Fleming, of Ballinger; V. T. Griffin, of Brownwood; W. J. Gayden, of Santa Anna; H. W. Stillwell, of Tyler; Earl Huffer, of Nacogdoches; Mr. Bentley and Miss Jackson, of Alpine; L. F. McKay, of Temple; S. M. Eaton, of Kyle; Asa W. Griggs, of El Campo; W. D. Notley, of Corpus Christi; Alvin Dille, of Bishop; W. F. Jourdan, of Harlingen; and Miss Nannie Mer Buck, of Mercedes. I wish that space might permit the printing of a long line of testimonials and encouraging messages that come from the school men and women of the State to the editor's desk. The following from Superintendent Hartt, of Timpson, is typical:—

"Really I enjoy this phase of school work more than any other. I do not say it as a matter of flattery but as a matter of fact, but I sincerely believe you have instituted a line of work that has more intrinsic value for the boys and girls, adds more life to schools, and advertises the University of Texas more than anything anyone else has ever done. As I see it, Texas is due you a great debt of gratitude."

All honor to the noble band—we might almost say army—of Interscholastic League workers in Texas. In future issues of the LEAGUER we shall have occasion to make special mention of other cases that space does not permit in this issue.

In other places in this issue announcements will be found regarding some changes in plans as to the conduct of our debating and declamation contests this year. Following upon the changes in the question for debate, it may seem that we are making too many changes from the rules as printed in the annual bulletin. But please remember that we are living in abnormal times. America is no doubt facing the greatest crisis in her history. We are committed to doing our part in the great World War, and we shall have to fight and sacrifice as never before; and the fighting and sacrificing has but nicely begun. We must use every individual unit and every organization in the State just as far as possible to help win the war.

These considerations have brought us face to face with the question, "Can the Interscholastic League, without being diverted unduly from its original purpose, be used in patriotic service at this time?" We think that it can and should be, and the editor feels sure that all members of the League will join in such an effort. Hence it is that the rules regarding the nature of selections to be delivered in declamation contests, and a classification of schools for an essay contest on the question uppermost in the minds of all patriots today have been prescribed.

The influence of our Public Speaking contests, both in declamation and debating, in the matter of in-

OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Matter appearing in this column is official and authoritative. Reference here will be helpful to all members having difficulty in the construction of the rules of the League. Experience has shown that the points that arise from year to year are easily classified, and that the same point arises with many different schools; by means of this column it is hoped that much time and bother will be saved.

Officials are urged to watch the announcements appearing here very closely, as such a policy will avoid complications and greatly increase uniformity.

An attempt will be made to answer in this column all questions concerning the League which have a general interest.

QUESTION: A boy whose home is in X— was a regular attendant upon the X high school until some two weeks ago, and then dropped out two weeks and attended another high school. He has now, however, resumed his work in the X high school. How does Rule 6 of the eligibility interscholastic rules apply in his case?

ANSWER: The rule cited should be amended to read as follows: "—or a regular attendant upon school since the beginning of the year." But even with this proviso it seems clear that under the rule he must needs be in attendance upon X high school for thirty calendar days following his reentry before he is eligible to a contest under the eligibility rules of the League. The purpose of this rule, of course, is to prevent pupils from entering school for the primary purpose of engaging in a particular contest.

QUESTION: At the close of the last term of our high school, I received my diploma. This year I am taking geometry, English history, chemistry and general science. I have no credits in these subjects, and I am anxious to know if, under the rules, I will be permitted to enter the Declamation or Debating Contest this year.

ANSWER: You would not be eligible this year to the Interscholastic League contests, unless your high school has been advanced in rank by the State Department of Education. Rule No. 2 on page 23 of the new Constitution and Rules covers this case.

The Extension Loan Library has no package libraries to loan the interscholastic debaters this year. The nature of the subject is such that no printed matter is obtainable from which packages can be made.

fluencing public opinion in this State has long been recognized. Space forbids our going into details, but if you think for a moment that upwards of three thousand schools probably will participate in one or more of the Public Speaking contests this year, and that these contestants in the various local, county, district, and State contests will reach audiences aggregating two hundred thousand in number, you can form some slight idea of the influence that our organization may wield in the forum of public discussion. Shall we not, therefore, vary our rules to help America win this war, if by any possibility we can render the smallest help in this respect? If the declamation and essay contests as now planned will make the pupils in our schools and the people in the school communities think a little more seriously of the problems connected with this war, strive a little more eagerly to assist, sacrifice a little more in order to save for the general cause, cultivate a few more garden plots to help out in the problem of production,—if our League can help in any way, shall we not bend our efforts toward accomplishing such patriotic service at this time?

AMONG THE WINNERS

DAVID ANDREW SIMMONS.

Not only has the University Interscholastic League been responsible for sending to the University of Texas her foremost orators of recent years, but the



League has also produced some great "Texas" athletes to uphold the honor of "Varsity." One of these is David Andrew Simmons, of Houston.

Andrew came down to the State meet in 1913 as Captain of the track team from the Houston High School. In that year he won first place in the High Jump. The next year again was Andrew captain of the Houston High track team, and again did he win the High Jump at Austin, with a record of 5 feet, 6½ inches. In the same year he went to the track meet at A. & M. College and jumped 5 feet, 9 inches, at that time a new record for high schools.

In 1915 Andrew entered the University of Texas. In his Freshman year, and again in 1917, he was a member of the University track team.

As a student, he has made an exceptionally good record. After two years in the College of Arts, he went down into the "valley" and registered in the Law Department. He is now recognized as one of the best students in his class, and, indeed, in the whole Department. He has been able to maintain a very high average in his courses, notwithstanding the fact that he earns his entire expenses in the University as a stenographer in the Registrar's office.

Andrew is one of the busiest students in the University. He is a member of the Kappa Alpha fraternity, Sigma Delta Psi, honorary Athletic fraternity, The Order of the "T," Speakers' Club, and Curtain Club. In addition, he has charge of a very important department of work in the Young Men's Christian Association.

The best description one can give of Andrew Simmons is to say that he is an "all-round man."

E. M.

"Please find enclosed," writes T. B. Hughes, secretary Interscholastic League for Grayson county, "\$21 membership dues in the Interscholastic League." He then lists sixteen schools for membership. This is the sort of work that counts. There will be three thousand schools in the League in 1918, due to such workers as the Secretary for Grayson county.

GARLAND DAY

Garland Day began his forensic career back in the fall of 1913 when he failed to make the debating team of the Temple High School. Being a persistent youth, he didn't let one failure discourage him, but immediately entered the contest in Senior Declamation. He was successful to the extent of winning third place in the State meet at Austin the next spring.

The next year Garland again came to the State meet, this time representing the Dallas High School in Declamation. In this year, 1915, he was awarded first place and the twenty-five dollar prize attaching thereto. At that time he was a Junior in High School.

In September, 1916, Garland registered in the State University. During his first year he achieved more along lines of public speaking than any other Freshman in the history of the institution. He won the Freshman Declamation contest for the prize offered by Dr. E. P. Wilmot, getting first place on the ballot of every judge. He also won the Evans contest in Oratory at the University and the State Oratorical contest at Waxahachie, a contest participated in by practically all the colleges of Texas. A substantial cash prize was given in each contest.

This year Garland is again in the University, and he will doubtless have added to his 'garland' of laurels before next Commencement.

Garland Day is one of the many working students in the University. At present he earns a large part of his expense money as a Student Assistant in Pub-



lic Speaking. He takes a prominent part in student activities, being one of the issue editors on the staff of the Daily Texan, a member of the Delta Chi fraternity, the Delta Sigma Rho, honorary Public Speaking fraternity, the Speakers' Club, and the Curtain Club, a dramatic society.

With all his phenomenal success, Garland has not lost a frank, unassuming modesty that is, indeed, his chief characteristic. Certainly, he is one of the most likable young men within the circle of acquaintance of this writer.

E. M.

I would have a boy's outward behavior and the disposition of his limbs formed at the same time with his mind. It is not a soul, it is not a body, that we are training up; it is a man, and we ought not to divide him into two parts.—Montaigne.

THE SCHOOL SAVINGS BANK

By R. Bedichek, Texas Thrift and Savings League

It took a great war to show this country what a wasteful country it is. Save, save, save, is now dinned into the ears of the people through the newspapers, from the pulpit, in the public speeches of statesmen and politicians, and every means is being taken by the national government to inculcate habits of thrift and self-denial among the people. Lloyd George says that it is the last million or so of silver bullets that will win the war.

It is being gradually realized that saving is merely a matter of habit, and that the time to fix a habit is when you are young.

That is why the idea of the school savings bank is meeting with the favor of the more advanced school men and educators of this country. It gives an opportunity to teach students in their early years habits of thrift. Many a man is thirty years old before he realizes just what "interest" means. Many a business failure is due to the fact that the owner of the business did not realize that he could not pay ten per cent interest for the money with which to operate a business which could make only seven per cent on the capital invested.

The school savings bank does three important things for the pupils of the school: (1) it inculcates habits of thrift and naturally turns the attention of the student to means of employing idle hours to make money; (2) it teaches students something of the vast earning power of accumulated capital, giving them an early insight into just what interest is; (3) it familiarizes students with banking practices.

Furthermore, schoolmen have found that the school savings bank has proved to be a means of enlisting the interests of the banks in the schools. Banks on the other hand have found it profitable as a means of advertising their business and getting students into the banking habit. In short, this institution has been proved to be of vast usefulness to many communities.

There is on deposit in 54 New England cities \$142,368.82 of school savings bank money, while the amount on deposit in 201 cities in the United States totals now more than a million dollars drawn through the school savings banks from the pennies of school children.

The Extension Department of the University of Texas has a limited supply of two bulletins copies of which will be sent to those teachers or bankers interested in promoting a school savings bank. The bulletins explain carefully and in detail the most successful plans for conducting the institutions.

Teachers will find that a school savings bank requires very little if any of the teacher's time, once it is in operation. With the assistance of a bank, it runs itself.

TO HELP WIN THE WAR

(Continued from page 1)

be in no way diverted by the specific undertakings outlined.

In the first place, it was decided to make the subject for the essay contest of the League "What I have done to help win the war" in all the various divisions of this contest. The essay subject for the five divisions is thus designated, and include Class A High Schools, Class B High Schools, Ward Schools, Rural 3-teacher schools, and Rural 1 and 2-teacher schools.

It was decided, further, to make all declamations in the League of a patriotic nature. Suitable declamations for this purpose will be printed either in the Leaguer, or in bulletin form for distribution among members of the League.

Tentative plans for a Liberty Day to be observed by the League Schools were made, the time for this observance to fall during the county contests, or about April 6.

EXTENSION NEWS

VISUAL INSTRUCTION

By J. W. Shepherd

Interest among Texas teachers in visual instruction and other means of improving their school room work, and of increasing an interest of the community in educational problems is rapidly growing, as evidenced by the large number of inquiries that came to the Department of Extension as a result of the article on visual instruction in the preceding issue of the LEAGUER. Many schools over the state are making application for lantern slides and lanterns, and in a number of cases groups of schools have formed circuits so that a set of slides reaches a group of six or eight neighboring schools before it is returned to the office. This increases the usefulness of the slides, and reduces the expense to each school, because of the reduced express charges.

The increase in interest in visual instruction is further evidenced by the large number of schools that are reporting the purchase of lanterns. It is much easier to borrow lantern slides from the Department than lanterns, because the Department has only a small number of lanterns to lend. Borrowing lanterns also increases the expense considerably, as the lantern weighs more than the slides. If a school or a group of schools has its own lantern, then the matter of securing slides through this Department is simple and inexpensive, and teachers may be fairly certain of securing the desired slides.

A number of schools are reporting the purchase of a moving picture machine. This number may be expected to increase rapidly from now on, as motion picture machines, that can be attached to an ordinary electric light socket, are now being put on the market. Some of these machines are fire-proof, and hence do not require a fire-proof booth, but may be quickly set up in any school room or auditorium when needed.

The Extension Department, through this Division, will be glad to give any possible assistance to any teacher, county superintendent, county agent, or other individuals interested in the community welfare. Address communications concerning lanterns, lantern slides, motion picture films, educational rallies, and community fairs to J. W. Shepherd, Department of Extension, University of Texas.

HOME WELFARE

By Mary E. Gearing

The Division of Home Welfare exists primarily for the benefit of the housekeeper. Its purpose is to answer questions and solve problems of the housekeeper and homemaker in the same manner in which other departments of the University deal with problems of the schools. Bulletins of interest to the homemaker are issued from time to time, and may be obtained free of charge. In addition, the Department is always glad to answer any question that pertains to the welfare of the home. Experiments in foods, the use of new foods, new combinations and substitutes, and nutrition experiments are constantly being carried on in the laboratories of the School of Home Economics and in the Research and Experimental Laboratory, and are available to the homemakers of the state through the various publications of the School and the Division and through the exhibits pertaining to such subjects sent to most of the fairs and educational meetings of the state.

This year, due to the food emergency and the high cost of living, the problems brought to the Division are more numerous than ever. In cooperation with U. S. Department of Agriculture and the Texas Agricultural and Mechanical College, Miss Gearing, head of the Division of Home Welfare, will have charge of the work of organizing and directing all of the towns and cities of the state in the all-important war work of food conservation.

Trained organizers, lecturers and demonstrators will be located in centers in every part of the state, and will be available free of all expense to the women of the towns and cities of Texas. The women of the state are urged to cooperate with the government, the Agricultural and Mechanical College and the University in every possible way in this work. Full information may be obtained by writing Miss Mary E. Gearing, University of Texas. Valuable publications dealing with food conservation will be issued frequently by the Home Welfare Division, and may be obtained by sending name and address to the Division.

GROUP STUDY COURSES

By Thomas Fletcher

A high school teacher writes: "We have felt the need of some definite, organized work for teachers' meetings. The programs and reference library gave us something specific to do and furnished us constant stimulation."

A member of a Woman's Club states that the club had accomplished little because of lack of definite plans and reference material. The programs and the library furnished us by the Extension Department of the University gave us the very help needed.

It is the function of the Group Study Work to furnish definite, well organized programs, and carefully selected libraries for carrying out these programs. In most cases the director of a group study course will round out the work of the club with a lecture.

While the lecturer is supposed to speak on matters related to his group study course, he is sometimes called upon to make speeches upon a variety of subjects. One lecturer reported three speeches on his trip,—one on his subject, one to a group of school children, and one at a mass meeting for promoting good roads. He had to abandon much of his cultural ammunition and hark back to his boyhood experiences for his good roads speech; but he thought he pleased the crowd.

These group study courses serve another purpose than that of bringing the University to the people. They furnish an opportunity for college professors to meet the people whom the University serves, and enables the people to observe at first hand that University professors are possessed of, at least, a few of the common human attributes, and are not such rare birds after all.

This contact is as valuable to the University as it is to the community served. It enables University teachers to meet Texas people and get in touch with Texas ideals and Texas needs. It thus gives these teachers a wider viewpoint than that circumscribed by the campus.

The stronger the body the more it obeys; the weaker the body, the more it commands.—Rousseau.

THREE COUNTIES HAVE REPORTED A 100 PER CENT ENROLLMENT IN THE INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE

Madison County First

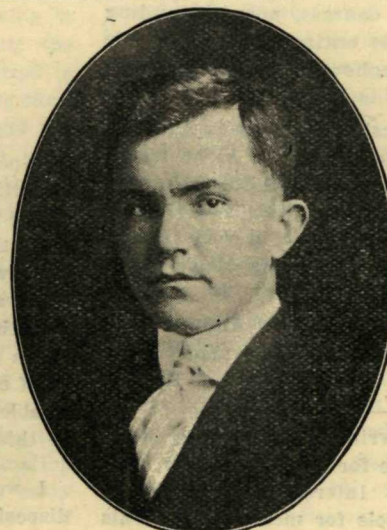
Due very largely to the enthusiasm of County Superintendent John T. Conn, every school in Madison County enrolled in the League at the Institute and paid their fees. This gave Madison County first place for this year in the matter of early enrollment. Since then Moore and Jasper Counties have done likewise, and these three counties in the order named are now on the 1918 Honor Roll kept in the Interscholastic League office. There is



H. F. BURTON
Madisonville, Texas
General, Interscholastic League County for Madison County



JOHN T. CONN
Madisonville, Texas
County Superintendent, Madison County



O. J. RUSHING
Jasper, Texas
Director General, Interscholastic League for Jasper County

plenty of room left on the scroll, and the bottom bears the "pep" phrase of the League, "WATCH IT GROW!"

There were six other counties, Shelby, Floyd, Briscoe, Swisher, Lamb and Hale, which had already pledged unanimous enrollment but had not paid their fees.

The foregoing enrollments are decidedly the most encouraging the League has ever had. We are starting off well toward making this, as it should be, the greatest year in the history of the League.

These men are representatives of the League in two of the hundred per cent enrollment counties. Madison was the first county this year to reach the one hundred per cent mark, and was followed by Moore and Jasper counties.