



LETTER BOX and PERSONAL ITEMS

Professor J. E. Conner, of The Texas College of Arts and Industries, reporting the district debate tournament held under his direction at Kingsville in April, takes occasion to comment as follows:

"The work done by these people was of a very high type, better than anything I have ever seen from high school students. It has been a distinct pleasure to work with the debaters."

The Nash School, of Bowie County, Travis Elliott, principal, won the county meet last spring, amassing a total of 230 points, 105 of which were in literary events. Not content with entering the events which were limited to rural school competition, Nash entered extemporaneous speech winning second place, and second place in girls' debate.

Supt. J. K. Barry, Smithville, reports the "most satisfactory meet ever held in Bastrop County," awards "25 cups, three watches, six medals, two banners." The new music memory plan "is an improvement of 100%."

Miss Renna Mae Brady, Typewriting Manager of Tournament No. 4, writes to say that her equipment consists of eight Underwoods, eight L. C. Smith machines, and two Remingtons.

After her return home from the State Meet last spring Mrs. A. L. Wolfe, coach of the Lubbock debating team, wrote that she and her team enjoyed the State Meet thoroughly and put in an advance order for debate material for the ensuing school year. Mrs. Wolfe is an experienced coach and has learned the importance of beginning early.

### Justice Taft Sings College Feather-Heads

Chief Justice William Howard Taft last week spoke about education to members of Psi Upsilon, his Yale fraternity, who were convening in Washington. Roundly did Mr. Taft rebuke undergraduates who went to college for social reasons and those who, once there, overstressed the extra-curricular.

Said he: "When a man grows old as I have, he then feels like resorting to profanity, as he ought not to do, at the misconception of life and the use of universities by feather-headed young men that don't look ahead to know the opportunities they have and to appreciate these opportunities. . . . I don't want to criticize athletics or a great many extra-curriculum duties, but I think there is a great deal of time and money wasted on these things. . . . We must get our public and private schools down to a simpler curriculum."—Time.

### HONOR SWEATERS

Supt. J. Hall Sheppard, La Porte, writes: Interest in the League work has been gaining impetus in our school for the past few weeks. We are thoroughly appreciative of what the League is doing for the school children. I believe that the work of the League is a means toward a long sought end in the school life of our children.

I am glad to announce that our Board of Education desires to cooperate in the work of the League and to that end they are this year starting the custom of awarding "Honor Sweaters" to all first-place winners in the County. These sweaters will be in school colors and will bear an emblem indicating the event the contestant won in. This has been my best talking point to my student body and we have found it much easier to get interest in the work up to a high point.

## LEAGUE FITS INTO SCHOOL PROGRAM

Editor of School Paper Tells How Webster High School Does It

(Editorial, Webster High-Life.)

AT a recent county meet, while numbers of school superintendents were discussing the winning of the meet by a small school, one expressed the opinion that no school could win any considerable number of first places without neglecting class work. Webster won first places in girl's singles in tennis (for the seventh consecutive year), typewriting, girl's debate, boy's debate, essay writing and group singing, and second places in boy's singles and girl's doubles in tennis, junior boy's playground ball, senior spelling, extempore speaking and third place in junior spelling, to win Class A all round championship of Harris County by a score of 235 points to the other Class A schools 100 and 95 respectively. This fact appears, to the man referred to above, as evidence on the face of it that school work has been neglected for the sake of winning a county meet.

We admit frankly that the evidence proves that we have done a considerable bit of the Interscholastic League work, but we deny that classes have suffered to the extent of injuring our regular school work. In the first place the teachers asked the school board to limit the holidays to three, so that we could close school two days for county meet and two half days if necessary for practice meets and still not have lost any more school time than we should have lost had we used the six holidays. Therefore we have been in session as many days as many of the schools which did practically nothing in the county meet.

In the second place the school program devoted a definite period to In-

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## DISCUSSES LEAGUE DEBATING CONTEST

High School Coach Thinks Points for Losing Teams Would Help

COMMENTING on an editorial in the April LEAGUER, concerning the debating contest, J. M. Rankin, principal of the Ralls High School, says:

"I have coached several of these debating teams, and it is my sincere belief that only rarely can a high school student do original work of such quality as will win debates. As you have suggested, the coaches are flooded with advertisements of helps that are practically worthless, and even offers of prepared speeches at exorbitant prices are set forth as temptations to busy, overworked coaches or indolent debaters. I have even heard whole half-pages from your own debate bulletin quoted verbatim with never a suggestion of acknowledgment of source. But still, if a student has read it some forty times, he may well be excused if he forgets that a certain passage is not his own. As you further suggest, I too have seen a few splendid high school debaters. But the exceptional student is not always available for the debate coach; he may prefer to enter some other event. I could continue extensively, but unnecessarily. Suffice it to say that I believe we are paying too much for what we get from our debate contests.

"There is another aspect of the debate situation that makes it unpopu-

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## Athletic Director Reviews 10 Seasons of League Football

The 1929 Championship Bus Is Now Crowded but With Rough Places, Sharp Curves and Fast Driving Ahead, More Room Is Promised

(By Roy B. Henderson)

THE TENTH YEAR of high school football under the auspices of the Interscholastic League opened with a few scattered games played the week ending September 14. On September 20 and 21 enough games were played to make a respectable showing when the reports reached the office, and by September 28 practically every team in the State had seen action.

A decade of high school football is a long time, yet in retrospect, it seems a short period. Although many high school stars of the early days have sparkled on college gridirons and passed on keeping up the ever-changing procession, the years have passed rapidly and we find ourselves in the thick of the 1929 championship race.

Let's forget it is well to review the past and record again the names of by-gone winners:

In 1920, with no plan to work by, Cleburne and Houston Heights played the final championship game which ended in a scoreless tie. The first comprehensive plan with the State divided into districts was put in operation the season of 1921. The first round of eliminations for the State championship, after district championships had been decided, resulted as follows:

Electra 29, Childress 7; Abilene 28, Big Spring 3; Oak Cliff 7, Honey Grove 7; Temple 21, Hillsboro 0; Bryan (Texas) 20, Nacogdoches 0; Austin 14, Granger 7; Eagle Lake 7, Yorktown 0; Corpus Christi 14, Hon-do 6.

The second round: Abilene 28, Electra 14; Oak Cliff 24, Temple 17; Bryan 49, Eagle Lake 0; Austin 13, Corpus Christi 0.

In the semi-finals Oak Cliff defeated Abilene 28 to 0, and Bryan eliminated Austin 21 to 10. The final championship game was played at Dallas on December 17, 1921 between Oak Cliff and Bryan, and was won by Bryan 35 to 18.

The 1922 season was filled with tie games and difficulties. For some reason 14 teams found their way into the final series leading to the State championship. Abilene and Temple drew bytes and landed among the 8 teams remaining. Amarillo defeated Floydada 13 to 6; Denison defeated Sulphur Springs 27 to 3; Cleburne defeated Comanche 9 to 0; Waco won over Palestine 78 to 0; Beaumont eliminated Bryan 15 to 7, and Corpus Christi defeated Del Rio 20 to 6.

Results of the next round follow: Abilene 33, Amarillo 0; Cleburne 13, Denison 0; Waco 3, Temple 3; played off with Waco winning 30 to 0; Corpus Christi 13, Beaumont 7.

In the semi-finals Abilene defeated Cleburne 13 to 3, and Waco won

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## MOVES AMENDMENT TO ART. VIII, SEC. 9

School Principal Says Penalty for Playing Under Assumed Name Too Severe

AT THE LAST state meeting of League delegates, a proposal was made by Principal E. C. McDonald, of Beaumont, to lessen the penalty upon a League contestant for competing under an assumed name, as provided in Article VIII, Sec. 9. The proposal went to a vote and was defeated.

Concerning the proposed change, which he hopes later to see adopted, Principal McDonald writes:

At the annual meeting of the League in May, I introduced a resolution to amend Article VIII, Section 9, the rule that "No one shall participate in any contest of the League who has ever contested under an assumed name."

I am convinced that there is merit in my contention, and for this reason I wish to present my view of the matter for your consideration. As I see it, the penalty for playing under an assumed name is too severe. Under the rule, regardless of circumstances, no one can participate in any contest of the League who has ever played under an assumed name. In other words, one who violates the rule is penalized for life.

It seems to me that suspension for a year or two, the exact time being determined by the circumstances and the merits of the case, would be an adequate penalty for the offense in question. No one denies that play-

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## FEW CHANGES IN ATHLETIC RULES

Tie Game Football Rule Clarified and Two New Eligibility Rules

ONLY TWO changes will be found in the football plan this year. One is Rule 13, the tie-game rule, and the other is No. 26, a new rule concerning spring football games.

The tie-game rule has been changed in an attempt to clarify it. This rule applies only in inter-district elimination contests (unless the District Executive Committee makes it effective in the district) and the referee of the game is charged with the responsibility of interpreting and enforcing it on the spot.

If a game ends in a tie the team which has penetrated its opponent's 20-yard line the greater number of times is declared the winner. If the teams remain tied after counting 20-yard line penetrations the team with more first downs is given credit for the victory. If the teams are still tied after considering these two factors, the one that has gained the most yardage shall be allowed to proceed in the race.

Rule 26 on Page 85 of the Constitution and Rules was made in accordance with a resolution passed at the last state meeting. This rule is designed not to stop spring football practice but to stop football games between schools in the spring. Those in attendance at the state meeting were convinced that spring football games are entirely out of place and decrease rather than increase interest in the sport.

Effective September 1, 1930, all coaches (this includes assistants) will be required to be full-time employees of the school board.

**Eligibility Rule Changes**  
The Ten Semester Rule is now in effect. A pupil who has been in high school ten semesters is not eligible. He is eligible during his tenth semester but not after. An enrollment for a period as long as three weeks counts one semester against the student. A student is a high school student in the meaning of this rule when he enrolls for three courses in the eighth grade or higher.

Section 4 of Article VIII, the College Contestants Rule, has been changed making ineligible any person who has ever attended a college as a regular college student. This means that in cities where a junior college is conducted in connection with the high school a boy who has enrolled for as much as one course in the college is not eligible in the high school, even if he is taking three courses in the high school.

### "To Unsettle to Inflamm" Is Object of Education

"TO unsettle the minds of young men, to widen their horizons and to inflame their intellect," is the objective of university training, Robert Maynard Hutchins, new 30-year-old president-elect of the University of Chicago, said recently, in his first public announcement of what his program will be.

"Education is not a hardening or settling process," the youthful president declared. "Education is not to teach facts, theories or laws, not to reform or to amuse or to make expert technicians in any field, it is to teach persons to think and to think straight if possible but to think always for themselves.

"Those who come to a university just because it is the thing might as well join a country club."

**Resolve to Enforce Rules**  
Among resolutions adopted by the Brazoria County Teachers' Institute at its meeting early in September is the following:

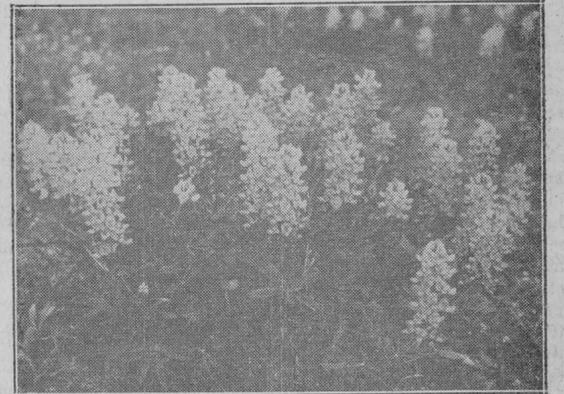
"We believe that the University Interscholastic League has sound principles and even though we do not agree with its rules in full, we are in favor of enforcing them to the fullest degree."

## OUR STATE FLOWER--THE BLUEBONNET

By Dr. B. C. Tharp

TO THOSE LEAGUE MEMBERS who live in localities where the Bluebonnet flourishes in the wild, the accompanying illustration will be quite familiar; and some of you may even wonder why space is given to a thing so commonplace. But to many others it will offer another, or in some cases perhaps even the first, opportunity to see a picture of their State Flower, which they have never had a chance to see growing. Those of us living in central and southern Texas may easily forget that the beautiful flower we love is, after all, quite limited in its distribution and does not occur at all in nature over perhaps three-fourths of the state.

As to the origin of the Bluebonnet, legend recites that a tiny Indian maiden, overhearing a council of wise men concerning means of appeasing the Great Spirit and stopping a dreadful drought, was prompted to burn her fawn-skin doll as a sacrifice. She slipped out of her father's tent in the dead of night



Field of Bluebonnets near Austin.

and went up on an open hillside where she burned the doll and scattered the ashes over the grass. Next morning a beautiful blanket of wondrously beautiful blue flowers of an entirely new kind covered the hillside over which the wind had scattered the ashes.

The name "Bluebonnet" by which the flower is most commonly known is that of a dainty tiny bonnet and its color the bluest blue imaginable. Just at the base of the crown there is a small spot which at first is white but later turns purple. These spots may perhaps be detected in the illustration. They are plainly visible on the photograph from which the cut is made.

Applying the principle "By their fruits shall ye know them" to the fruits of this plant, it is at once apparent that it is a bean or a pea. Its woolly pods grow to a length of one to two inches and contain each sometimes as many as half a dozen seeds. The leaves are suggestive of those of clover; but it "goes clover one better" and produces five to seven leaflets.

The size of the plant varies greatly with growth conditions. The one illustrated is about the size of a medium sized peanut plant; but when crowded they may be much smaller. The seed germinate naturally in the fall after the first rains, the plants living through the winter and flowering in the spring, much like clover. They are very hard and many times will not germinate till they have gone through a period of rest and weathering. This safeguards the plant against extinction, since it keeps all the seeds from coming up the same year. But a high percentage of germination may be induced by simply filling through the seed coat so as to permit the entrance of moisture; or by bringing a small quantity of water, say a pint, to a boil, removing it from the fire, dropping in the seeds and letting the

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## UNIFORM GRADING OF SPELLING URGED

Much Injustice Is Done, Teacher Points Out, by Variation in Grading

By MRS. L. C. MARTIN

NOTICE in the spelling bulletin you solicit suggestions for improvement any way. I have this one to offer. Experience brings to light openings for suggestions so if you'll allow I'll give my reasons first. In the sub-junior spelling contest I entered a team on whom I had drilled rigidly the writing, stressing the idea that it was a plain writing contest as well as a spelling contest. (You have no idea how poorly rural children write.) Some eight or ten were called in from the corridors to grade these papers. The rules were read to us. The person who graded my team's papers happened to be efficient in penmanship and graded according to rules. But the majority of the papers would have been worth very little if sharp-topped "m's", etc., had been counted a miss. So these poorly written papers were not graded except for words. Of course you would call that an inefficient judging. The first place went to a school whose papers should have been discarded on account of poor writing while I had the best writing and the fewest actually misspelled words in the county. The person who graded the papers counted off for writing on my team's papers and the person who graded the others counted only

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## WINNERS IN ART 1929 CONTEST



Above are reproductions of the prize winning entries in the charcoal, color, modelling, and design contests of the Interscholastic League meet held in Austin May 2 and 3. The names of the winners in this contest follow:

1. Elizabeth Rice, Austin High School, first prize in color;
2. Perry Mitchell, Woodrow Wilson High School, Dallas, second prize in color;
3. Ruth Gladys Riedner, Brackenridge High, San Antonio, first prize in design;
4. Susie Lou Cunningham, Austin High, second prize in design;
5. Miriam Buchholz, Austin High, first prize in still life in charcoal;
6. William Lester, Woodrow Wilson High, Dallas, second prize in still life in charcoal;
7. Leta Mae Dinkins, Oak Cliff High, Dallas, first prize in modelling;
8. Mark Storm, Austin High, second prize in modelling.

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## PICTURE MEMORY PRINTS

THE LEAGUE HAS made arrangements for furnishing miniature prints (3 1/2 x 4, a few a trifle smaller) of all selections in Picture Memory Contest listed on pages 57 and 58 of the Constitution and Rules for 45 cents per set, postage included.

The larger prints (5 1/2 x 8) will be furnished in complete sets of fifty pictures to the set for 75 cents per set.

Only those orders with cash accompanying the order can be filled at this price. This arrangement has been made merely for the convenience of the schools wishing to participate. Schools desiring to order direct from publishers in large quantities may get them nearly if not quite as cheaply. Address orders to the Interscholastic League, Austin, Texas.



Published eight times a year, each month, from September to April, inclusive, by the Division of Extension, of the University of Texas.

ROY BEDICHEK - - - - - Editor

(Entered as second-class matter November 6, 1927, at the postoffice at Austin, Texas, under Act of August 24, 1912.)

**ATTENTION IS CALLED** to the new rule affecting eliminations in debate for the county meets. Notice was given in the 1928-29 Constitution and Rules that the following rule would be effective this year:

County Directors of Debate shall arrange a schedule of debates in the county which will determine on a percentage basis previous to the County Meet the two strongest teams in each division for participation in the county finals which shall be held at the county meet.

In making this change, it is realized that some schools will overlook their chance to get into this contest, for the debating schedule in each county will have to be arranged long in advance. After it is arranged, the County Director may rule out late entrants. Those schools expecting to enter a debating team should get in touch at once with the County Director of Debate, and directors on the other hand, should use every care to notify schools in his county of the time and place when the meeting for arranging debate schedules will be arranged. After the schedule is started, the standing of teams should be given county papers for publication, and in this way much interest in the debate will be developed. Under this arrangement no team need feel that it is out because it has lost one contest. It will be helpful in many other ways, if the plan is systematically and fairly administered.

**WE HAVE PERSUADED** Dr. B. C. Tharp, Associate Professor of Botany in the University of Texas, to write for the *Leaguer* each month a little story about some striking Texas flower. He begins the series with a story of the Bluebonnet which appears in this issue. Dr. Tharp is a conservationist in the sense that he believes a great deal of beauty is going to waste here in Texas because an appreciation of that beauty is not awakened in the hearts and minds of the people. The only way to reclaim and conserve this beauty, he thinks, is to awaken in just as many people as possible an appropriate response when beauty happens to become neighborly and courts recognition. Wordsworth said, "A primrose by the river's brim a yellow primrose was to him, and it was nothing more." There are too many people like that. Teachers to whom the *Leaguer* comes will do a great service by passing Dr. Tharp's little talks on Texas flowers on to the school children. "But," you say, "we have no Bluebonnets in our part of the state." This objection has been anticipated, and Dr. Tharp will send gratis to any school entering the Wild Flower Contest a package of Bluebonnet seed so that they may be planted and grown on the school ground. If the mountain will not come to Mohammed, Mohammed will go to the mountain. See your Constitution and Rules for a description of the Wild Flower Contest, and get in touch with Dr. Tharp, who, by the way, is the best informed man in the world on Texas vegetation. We hear much criticism these days of slavery to books in our schools and of our failure as teachers to put our students in touch with the life that is immediately around them. Here is an opportunity to put pupils in touch with a fragment of that beauty with which God dowered the world for the enjoyment of the human beings He chose to place here.

**TEXAS HISTORY**

**TEXAS** history has been fortunate in securing the interest of capable men and women in Texas during the past quarter of a century. Those now of middle age educated in Texas public schools cannot but remember with a thrill the old Penny-backer school history which stirred the imagination of the young with its story-book style as, in ancient times, the young were inspired with epic tales of demi-gods and heroes. More scientific, of course, was the work of Dr. George P. Garrison, of the University of Texas, who attracted to his courses many of the brightest young men and women of a generation ago. Among these Dr. Eugene C. Barker has clear claim to being the most

distinguished and to having done greatest work in Texas history both in quantity and in quality. Professor W. P. Webb has specialized with fine results on West Texas history, later enlarging his investigations to include the Great Plains of the United States. J. Frank Dobbie, reared on a South Texas ranch, has turned his attention to the nearly allied field of Texas folk lore to the end that Texas has now, perhaps, the largest and best edited published collections of tales and legends of any state in the Union. Professor J. E. Pearce is busy with the pre-history of the state, piecing together the scanty evidences of the culture that existed here prior to the advent of the white man. Dr. L. W. Payne, Jr., produced last year a thin volume bringing up-to-date an account of the literature that has been produced in the state, certainly a limited field—but who knows? "Great oaks from little acorns grow."

The library of the University of Texas has acquired through the liberality of such men as the late George W. Littlefield, a splendid collection of source material, chosen with discrimination by Dr. Barker, Librarian E. W. Winkler, himself a specialist in Texas history, and others. Indeed, every aspect of Texas history is in a fair way to be adequately treated. Important also, and very significant is the work of the numerous local history clubs scattered here and there over the state. One at Alpine, centered in the Sul Ross Teachers' College, is specializing in that interesting region. We have before us a program of the "Robert J. Kleberg History Club" banquet, held at Kingsville, April 22 last. This program includes the "President's Message" by Mrs. Emma Vawter; "Cattle Industry Develops in Texas," by R. M. Kleberg; "The Value of History," by Judge W. S. Vawter; a pageant entitled "Texas Under Six Flags"; and "Texas South of Nueces." Such enterprise cannot be too highly commended.

It is only in our traditions and history that we may find the spirit which is animating the body or reach any understanding of the present, or find bases for intelligent guesses concerning the future.

**INTERSECTIONAL GAMES**

**INTERSECTIONAL** high school football games are fortunately few. Those which have been played by members of the Interscholastic League were for the most part scheduled late in the season and on a dignified home-and-home basis. Results have shown that Texas high schools play football well up to the standard of high school football in sections of the country with which contact has been established.

There are a number of reasons why intersectional football for Texas schools and colleges is generally undesirable. In the first place, the distances are tremendous, and weather variations so great as to render the competition somewhat of a farce, no matter whether the game is early season or late season, or scheduled South or North. Usually, however, the northern team insists on an early season game on its own home ground. This means that the southern team must train in temperatures ranging from 70 to 100 degrees, and play the game in temperatures ranging anywhere from freezing to 60 degrees. It means further that the college team from Texas strives for top form early in the season, which, if attained, means a disastrous slump for its regular conference schedule. Games scheduled to suit the convenience of northern teams have in the past resulted as a rule in overwhelming defeats of Texas teams. This in turn has produced in Texas colleges an inferiority complex which gives any northern team of note a great bargaining advantage. We go, hat in hand, to the door of the northern athletic office begging for any consideration which the northern athletic official may feel inclined to give us. No helpful competition can be gained on any such terms.

In the early days of Middle West football, the midwest colleges and universities refused to be "high-hatted" in any such fashion. Wisconsin played one game about twenty years ago with an eastern institution, score 6-0, and quit, turning its attention to its natural competition. California, and the Pacific Coast generally, has never had an inferiority complex about anything, and northern and eastern teams have been treated on an equal basis and intersectional competition arranged somewhat at the dictation of the West.

Until some such relationship is established, it would be the part of wisdom for Texas colleges to attend strictly to competition in its own section. One change will have to be made before football competition in high school or college divisions will ever be generally successful between Texas and the North or East, and that is the playing season in Texas must be delayed in opening for at least a month. New Year's day is the logical time to close the season in this state, and late October is the time to begin. A New Year's game in the South will offer then a fair measure of the comparative football strength of the two sections.

**OFF-SIDES**  
BY THE EDITOR

Premises are too often pre-misses.

**IT IS** interesting to note that the new president of the University of California, Robert Gordon Sprout, has only one earned degree, B.S. The new University Dean and Provost of Johns Hopkins, the greatest research institution in America, has not a single earned or honorary degree.

**THE** next thing the psychology laboratories should undertake (now that they can classify intelligence) is emotional tests. When we can not only test intelligence but grade a given individual on an e. q. as well as an i. q. we shall begin really to know something about him and predict with some approach to an accurate approximation just what he will amount to in the world.

**THE** attorney general of Arkansas has given it as his opinion that a teacher in the public schools in that state may legally teach that men have advanced from lower orders of men to higher orders of men, but that he cannot teach without violating the anti-evolution law of that commonwealth that man arose from any of the lower animals. This is a dangerous admission. The evolutionist may, under such a ruling proceed to call *P. erectus* a man, and then proceed to show how man has ascended from this lower order of the human species. Another teacher may then present evidence to this same class that *P. erectus* is really an ape. Thus the link would be forged. The class through the combined efforts of two instructors will have been taught that man was derived from one of the anthropoids, and the anti-evolution law will have been thus defeated without any teacher's incriminating himself.

**THERE** was once a time in merrie England when the legal profession by its lies, extortion and double-dealing came so into disrepute that anyone having an impulse to homicide might impale upon his shining sword the first lawyer he happened to meet just for fun or for instance, with no danger of prosecution, legal or otherwise, but on the contrary with the general approbation of the community. We believe the time is near at hand when such like open season will be declared on all persons having anything to do with the business of advertising. Not that there are not many honest and high-minded individuals engaged in advertising, but the field is becoming so encumbered with hordes of nondescript scallywags that it is becoming difficult to discriminate. For illustration, one patent medicine concern tells the world that necessity for physical exercise is now no more. The wonderful compound which is taking the place of physical exercise among all thinking people is bought in dime packages, carried in the vest-pocket and strengthens the insides with every dose. More pills and less play.

**TO MAKE** light of the afflictions of others is, of course, despicable; but to make light of one's own often reveals the hero. Epictetus suffered from extreme lameness and according to his contemporary, Aulus Gellius, composed a couplet to proclaim his gratitude to the gods in spite of these misfortunes: "Epictetus, a slave, maimed in body, an Irus in poverty, and favored by the Immortals." The aged poet Sophocles, being taunted with the question, "How does love suit with age, Sophocles,—are you still the man you were?" replied: "Peace, most gladly have I escaped the thing of which you speak; I feel as if I had escaped from a mad and furious master." Nor do we lack modern instances. The Hon. O. B. Whitaker, member of the Missouri Legislature, lost his voice some time ago and now writes his remarks on a typewriter, which was furnished him at public expense, sends them to the clerk and has them read during debate. He lately commented on his affliction as follows: "Being voiceless has its advantages as well as its disadvantages. Many times in the heat of debate I have wished to retort, but by the time I had committed my spleen to paper the occasion had passed or my better judgment had prevailed. As a result I have impressed my colleagues at this session more than at any former sessions. I think, with my patient, kindly, amiable disposition. I am not so sure but that it would be an improvement if all the members were dumb." Booth Tarkington, stricken blind, declares that he sees some things better than he ever saw them before. He looks with keener vision into things spiritual. He is glad to be free from the necessity of looking at certain things, he says.

**Talks on Texas Books**  
XIV. J. EVETTS HALEY'S  
THE XIT RANCH

By L. W. Payne, Jr.,  
Department of English, University  
of Texas

**A** NOTABLE contribution to the romantic history of the changing West has been made by J. Evetts Haley in his "The XIT Ranch of Texas, and the Early Days of the Llano Estacado," published by the Lakeside Press, Chicago, 1929. Mr. Haley, a Master of Arts of the University of Texas (1926), has for several years been the field secretary of the Panhandle-Plains Historical Society with headquarters at Canyon, Texas, and recently he was induced by the Farwell interests to make a study of the history of the XIT Ranch, the enormous body of land granted by the State of Texas to the Farwells as payment for the building of the magnificent capitol at Austin. The book now appears not merely as a history of a great ranch, the private enterprise of a far-sighted family, but as an interpretation of the evolution of a phase of civilization in the vast plains region of the Panhandle district of the Southwest.

Rapidly sketching the history of the country from the earliest explorations of Coronado, Mr. Haley proceeds in orderly fashion to show how the plains country was gradually wrested from the wild Indians, and wilder nature, and turned into a rich stock-raising, agricultural, and mineral producing country. He points out many traces of the early Spanish occupation in the place names, the customs and the vocabulary of the cowmen, the local names of the flora and fauna, and the like. Life on the first ranches set up in the Panhandle-Plains country is fully elucidated. In rich detail, all accurately documented, the stupendous task of the owners of the capitol lands in taking possession of and developing the vast tract of 3,050,000 acres, ranging from twenty-five to thirty-five miles wide and extending over two hundred miles from north to south over the ten counties now designated Dallam, Hartley, Oldham, Deaf Smith, Castro, Parmer, Lamb, Bailey, Hockley, and Cochran, comes over one with overwhelming force as he reads.

The details of the surveys necessary to define the boundaries of the great ranch are presented in a clear and satisfying way. The book shows that the Farwell interests were largely—in fact, almost wholly—instrumental in saving to Texas a strip of land almost three miles wide which would have gone to New Mexico but for the persistent efforts of the Farwells to induce the United States Congress to settle the boundary lines between Texas and New Mexico in accordance with the original land surveys made by Texas at the time of the building of the Capitol.

The whole range of the cattle industry, from the coming of the longhorns from Mexico to the establishment of large herds of pure-bred Hereford and Angus cattle, the opening of the trails to northern pastures and markets, the building of wire fences, the introduction of windmills, the long and fierce wars against cattle rustlers and "bad men" of the open country, the branding and care and marketing of cattle, the coming of the "nesters" or farmers—in short the whole long fight of civilization against barbarism, of law and order against chaos and lawlessness, of decency and fairness against coarseness and injustice, all passes before the eye and mind of the reader as he peruses this very excellent piece of regional history.

In the making of his book, Mr. Haley has had at his command both the records of the Panhandle-Plains Historical Society and those of the XIT Ranch. He makes no statement on mere hearsay or legend, but soundly documents every positive declaration which comes from his pen. This is not to say that he omits all legend and interesting human lore, but that he always clearly tickets this material as such. He has appended a full bibliography of: (1) Books, pamphlets, and reports; (2) letters and personal interviews; (3) manuscripts; (4) magazine articles; (5) newspapers. The author's indefatigable industry is illustrated in the fact that he has secured personal letters and interviews from no less than sixty-five different men who actually took part in the great enterprise of

conquering the Panhandle region. For example, he records ten different communications from that pioneer ranchman, Colonel Charles Goodnight. In fact, it may be confidently stated that Mr. Haley has given months and months, perhaps years, of his undivided time to the gathering of this information, to the sifting of fact from fiction, and to the final polishing and fusing of all his material into the present satisfying volume.

The book is not merely one of local and personal interest to a few Texans and to the section over which the original ranch stretched and which is now covered with thriving metropolises, thousands of oil and gas well derricks, and thousands of well-kept farms and ranches. While it is ostensibly the history of a single great ranch—certainly the largest fenced-in ranch known to the world—it is at the same time a judicious historical survey of a passing—nay, almost past—phase of American life, that of the Western cowboy and cowman.

The narrative is no less interesting and entrancing because it is based on actual facts as shown by the records. The pseudo-Wild West literature would be of a far more convincing and none the less dramatic quality if the writers would consult such authentic records as this one proves to be. Truly truth is not only stranger but at the same time more edifying than fiction of the sort usually served up by the Wild West writers. Any one who is at all interested in real cowboy life will find this book as entrancing as, and at the same time far more nutritive than any of the melodramatic stories purporting to portray life in the early days of the so-called Wild West.

Of particular interest to the present reviewer is the solid contribution which the book makes to the language of the cowman. Hundreds of terms which are vague and confusing to the uninitiated are clearly explained, particularly in Chapter XI, entitled "When the Grass Begins to Grow." We learn exactly what the cowboy means by chuck, lick, chip wagon, hot rolls, suggans, bull-dogging, set-fasts, coosie, and the like. We commend the volume to Professor Craigie, and his collaborators in the making of the American Dictionary now in process, as a source for quotations of hundreds of cowboy and ranch terms. Not only will the book prove to be a revelation to the tenderfoot and a source of reminiscence to the old cowman, but a source of satisfaction and pride to the scholar and the historian and to all those who value the work done by the hardy pioneer on our western frontier.

**High School Press**

By DeWitt Reddick

**GREETINGS**, high school journalists and sponsors. After three months of vacation or work or summer school, as the case may be, here we are ready to put out the best high school papers this year that the state has seen.

The season of 1929-1930 should be a banner one for journalism in high schools. The year was started out right last June when the committee for college entrance credits, headed by S. M. N. Marrs, state superintendent of education, decreed that journalism should be an accredited college entrance subject.

This action means several important things for journalism in high school. It means first of all that more students are going to take journalism. It means that journalism is going to be taught for its own sake and not merely as a by-product of English.

To the sponsors and teachers of journalism it means something even more significant. The calls for teachers of journalism that have come into Austin from a number of high schools emphasize the fact that persons with actual practical experience in newspaper work are wanted for the positions. I wonder if sponsors and teachers in all the schools enrolled in the Interscholastic League Press Conference are preparing to meet this demand? If we of the executive committee of the I. L. P. C. can be of any help to them in so far as suggesting books to be studied or principles to be followed, we are here to serve.

One very important thing will be the result of the action of the college entrance committee. The teaching of journalism over the state will be standardized. Heretofore, nearly every teacher had to plan his own

**Books and Magazines**

*Extracurricular and Intramural Activities in High Schools*, by ALEXANDER CRIPPEN ROBERTS, President of the State Teachers College, San Francisco, and EDGAR MARIAN DRAPER, Assistant Professor of Education in the University of Washington, with a Foreword by LOTUS D. COFFMAN, President of the University of Minnesota. D. C. Heath and Company. 1928.—529 pages. \$2.40.

**EVERY** high school principal and teacher has come to realize that the attitudes, habits and ideals which students develop from their contacts with one another and with the faculty are of more importance than knowledge gained through the purely academic program; yet extracurricular activities have come so recently into the high school and have developed at so rapid a rate that no attempt to state a philosophy of their educational value has appeared heretofore in accessible form. The aim of this volume is to consider extracurricular activities in terms of their social and educational meaning and to show that these activities are the foremost elements in the high school program for reaching its supreme objective: the preparation of American youth for responsible citizenship in democracy. One of the social principles, nineteen in number, which constitute the foundational ideas of the book, is that "the way to grow into a good citizen is habitually to practice good citizenship," and many plans in accord with the best educational procedure are given for teaching students how to live through concrete experiences in living in a school community which reflects all the problems of the larger civic community. These methods are especially interesting and applicable because they are descriptions of activities as they actually function in modern socialized high schools known for their high student and teacher loyalty, unquestioned scholarship standards, ideals of good sportsmanship, and worthy performance of everything undertaken. Aside from the writers' personal experiences as high-school teachers, coaches, and principals, these materials are drawn from the results of a questionnaire study of one hundred representative high schools in thirty states.

The scope of the volume, as the authors state in the Introduction, may be summarized under the following general topics:

1. The philosophical background and the contribution of extracurricular activities to the realization of democratic ideals. (Chapters I-II)
2. General activities as training for school and community citizenship: student participation in government, assemblies, boys' and girls' clubs, high scholarship and honor societies, and social activities and social groups. (Chapters III-VIII)
3. The contribution to the general school and community life of publications, athletics, music, dramatics, and debate. (Chapters IX-XII)
4. The objectives of the school service program. (Chapter XIII)
5. The objectives and programs of the academic clubs: English, foreign language, social-civic, science, mathematics, commercial, and technical-vocational. (Chapters XIV-XIX)
6. The organization of the extracurricular program: supervision and administration, school credit, faculty participation and responsibility, and finance. (Chapters XX-XXIII)
7. The elementary and junior high school contribution to good citizenship. (Chapter XXIV)
8. Probable future development. (Chapter XXV)

—M.C. J.

**The Wildflower Contest**

**THE ATTENTION** of members is called to the change in rules governing the Wildflower Contest whereby entrants may now be admitted during the fall and complete their quota of fifty plants before killing frosts occur. The purpose of this message is to urge all who are interested to get busy at once and make the entire collection at once in order that they may enter the meets next spring.

To stimulate interest, the director will send to all entrants who request it a generous package of Bluebonnet seed to be planted upon the school campus. The State flower should be familiar to every citizen of Texas; and since it occurs naturally over a comparatively small area, this plan of sending seeds to schools will greatly widen its range. Join now. Send in your school name to B. C. Tharp, University of Texas, with a request for labels and, if the Bluebonnet does not occur in your vicinity, the package of seed.

(Continued on Page Three)



1-Act Play, Rule 7

City winners under this rule are allowed to participate in the Regional Contest, not required to enter the district tournament. In the last line of Rule 7, read "Regional" for "District."

Junior Age Fifteen

Attention is called to typographical errors on page 105 of the Constitution and Rules (Appendix IV) which gives junior age ten to fourteen. This should be changed to conform to Article VII, Section VII, which fixes the junior age at fifteen.

State Executive Committee

The State Executive Committee has been altered since the publication of the Constitution and Rules, p. 11, to read as follows: Thomas H. Shelby, chairman; Roy Bedichek, Roy B. Henderson, R. A. Cox, B. C. Sharp, Victor I. Moore, W. P. Webb, J. O. Marberry, I. L. Nelson.

Music Bulletin

The music bulletin for the current year, No. 2937, is not off the press. It will be issued about October 10. The other music memory bulletins advertised in Appendix V of Bulletin No. 2822 (Constitution and Rules) were issued in connection with contests in former years.

Picture Memory Director

Definite provision is not made in the Constitution and Rules for election or appointment of a County Director of Picture Memory which is scheduled this year for the first time. Notice is hereby given that the State Executive Committee authorizes appointment of this Director by the Director General of the county.

HIGH SCHOOL PRESS

(Continued From Pages Two)

course, and most of these courses differed from each other. But now the state department of education is preparing a standard course to be adopted by all the high schools teaching journalism.

And what about that first issue of your paper? Have you been thinking much about it? In many ways your first issue is your most important issue. The impression it makes on the students and teachers is often the impression that lasts throughout the year. You need to make that first issue a good one.

May we suggest two or three things that you might do at once? First of all, organize your staff so that each member will know just what his duties are and so that he will realize that he must perform those duties. Arrange for reporters in each class, freshman, sophomore, junior, and senior, and arrange for regular reports from them.

With your staff organized, prepare a list of the clubs that will exist during the year, and as far as possible place the dates of their meetings beside the club names along with the names of the teachers who are sponsors of the organizations. Keep this list available for the editor throughout the year so that he will be sure to get both advance stories of the meetings and follow-up stories of what takes place at the meetings.

Along with this list of clubs there should be kept a list of the heads of the departments in the school, and following this the name, correctly spelled, of every teacher. Workers on the paper should be encouraged to check the spelling of teachers' names with this list every time they write a story. Make it a positive rule on your staff that the spelling of all names must be checked. If you begin with this rule, you find it not hard to follow throughout the year.

Then you should start at once a "futures" book. Do you know what this is? For the purpose, a notebook of almost any kind may be used. The pages may be numbered from 1 to 31. If preferred, two pages may be reserved for each number. Suppose the principal told you that a report on a new building would be ready October 20. Then you would turn to the page marked "20" and make a notation there to get the report on October 20. A prominent speaker may be coming to your school on October 28. Your last paper before that date goes to press October 25. Therefore, you turn to the page in your futures book marked "24" and make a notation there to get an advance write-up that day on the speaker. Thus you may list, according to the day of the month on which you want the story all events that are coming, such as meetings of clubs, play rehearsals, band concerts, speeches, meetings of

the board of education, the birthdays of the heads of the departments so that you can run a story about each of them in the issue preceding their birthday, etc. The futures book is vitally important in the life of a newspaper. The city editors of most large dailies get about 70 per cent of their assignments from the futures book. Why not start your futures book at once? If you want to ask any more questions about it, write to the High School Press Editor of the Interscholastic Leaguer (That's me).

Considerable thought ought to be given to your headline schedule before that first issue. Talk matters over with your printer. Get him to set up two or three sample headlines for you and pick the one you like best. See if you cannot start the first issue with the same set of headlines that you use throughout the year. Continuity of headlines from issue to issue makes the work easier on the members of the staff who write the headlines, and easier on the printers, who will know each time just what kind of headline is wanted, and gives the paper a much better appearance.

This does not mean, however, that you should use the same make-up in each issue. Notice the front pages of some of the daily newspapers of the state. You will see that each day they use practically the same type of headlines, but that these headlines are, from day to day, arranged in different positions.

We are counting on all of those papers who were in the LL.P.C. to be back with us this year, and we are hoping to have a number of new members, too. In order for us to keep our enrollment straight, we are going to ask all of the old members to drop a note to us (addressed to DeWitt Reddick, University Station, Austin) giving the name of the paper, how often it is issued, and the names of the staff members and sponsors. All others who wish to enroll their papers in the I. L. P. C. are asked to send the same information. Bulletins containing the Constitution and Rules of the Interscholastic League, have been sent to every high school in the state. A section in that bulletin is devoted to Journalism and tells the rules governing the I. L. P. C.

And remember one thing: The grading of papers for the I. L. P. C. begins with the first issue. You cannot be a member of the Conference unless you send us a copy of that first issue as well as all the issues that follow. Best wishes to all of you for your first edition. Put out something we will all be proud of.

We have a set of officers who are going to work hard with us this year. They are Marjorie Norrell of the *Main Avenue Huisache*, president; Hollis Scriber of the *Amarillo Sandstorm*, vice-president; and Loomis Nolen of the *Abilene High Battery*, secretary.

Married Women as Teachers

BY HAVELOCK ELLIS

A LARGE proportion of teachers are today women, often for not only children of their own sex but for boys. There cannot be the smallest doubt that married women who have children of their own are incomparably better fitted to deal with the special difficulties of children than those who have not. A few gifted women may be found who can make up for personal inexperience by insight and artificially acquired knowledge, but they are rare exceptions. This is a fact that should be fairly obvious even to one who knows nothing about schools and education. But it becomes conspicuous when we observe the actual conditions that prevail. The teacher who has had children of her own is seen to possess an almost instinctive comprehension of children which is seldom present in her unmarried colleagues. The scholastic attainments of the latter may be of the highest, and yet they may be unable to meet even the simplest emergencies of child life, themselves little more than children, and sometimes, indeed often—more ignorant of the facts of human life, and more afraid of them, than are their pupils, whom they are supposed to be competent to "educate." Children today are apt to be acute critics of the abilities of their teachers, and if children had a voice in the selection of their teachers the level of education would certainly soon be raised. At present a large majority of elementary teachers (in England nearly 80 per cent), and a considerable proportion in secondary schools, are women. Yet how many of them are encouraged by the official authorities, or even allowed, to acquire the essential experiences of motherhood? In spite of the recent progress of science, the depths of human imbecility have not yet been plumbed.

Texas Press News and Comment on League Activities in Various Sections of the State

Purpose of League to Develop Mind and Body

(Editorial, Stephenville Review)

HUNDREDS of school children from all sections of Erath County, accompanied by their parents, relatives and friends will be in Stephenville today and tomorrow taking part in the annual Interscholastic League Meet under way here. More than forty different rural schools have met the entry requirements and will send finalists to take part in the different field and literary events.

Banners and medals will be presented to winners in each event, these having been arranged for out of cash contributions and a sum donated by the Chamber of Commerce. In the past the coming of the County Meet has been the occasion for many thrilling contests. This year there seems to be no doubt that declaimers, debaters, story tellers, essay writers and many other events of the literary side of the program will be strongly contested. Some schools will be represented by strong talent in these lines.

On the other hand the field events always call for a great deal of interest and enthusiasm. Many a boy, with the ability to barely win in the county, will in later years develop into one of the athletic stars of the country. After all, this is one of the chief reasons for the meeting—developing the mental and physical talents of the students.

League Promotes Clean Rivalry Declares Editor

(Editorial, Carrizo Springs Javelin)

THE DIMMIT COUNTY Interscholastic League will hold its annual meet this year at Asherton on the 21st and 22nd of this month. This meet will be one of the many held over the state.

The county meet is the foundation of the plan of the University Interscholastic League, organized and sponsored by the University of Texas. It is the best perfected plan in the United States for the promotion of inter-school activities and its good work is taking in each year larger numbers of schools, both large and small. The League is responsible not only for the rules and regulations governing athletics but places equal stress on the literary and academic side of the school activities. Through the League the championships are determined and the State meet held every year. Its purpose, however, is not solely to determine championships, but to promote a clean spirit of rivalry between schools of the state. So far it has achieved success to a high degree. The basis of the whole scheme is the county meet whereby every school child in the state may be reached. No school is too small to take part in a county meet.

Because of the wholesome, splendid work it is doing in the promotion of better sportsmanship and clean rivalry, the League deserves the support of every patron of the public schools.

Hamlin Editor Welcomes Interscholastic Leaguers

(From the Hamlin Herald)

HAMLIN, TODAY, is the scene of Jones County's young life. This is the Interscholastic Field Day, in athletic and many other contests that the schools take part in. This is Hamlin's first opportunity to play host to the schools of all over the county, and the *Herald* speaks for our citizens in saying, "Kiddoes, that's the City, it's yours for today!" Have a good time, do your best and prove to the people of your county and especially to Hamlin, that you are growing into the right kind of stuff that makes the best type of citizenship.

Honorable, upright contests of every nature serve to prove your mettle. An honest effort displayed and honorable defeat is all that one can ask for except victory, and victory in such contests must go only to a few, but contesting for first place in the Interscholastic League is only to fit you for the wide field of life that spreads out before you, when your academic career is ended and you face the real field of battle, a contest to win for yourself a place among men that will bring prosper-

ity, contentment and happiness. So again the *Herald* says, welcome to Hamlin. Your laughter and your fine manly spirits will serve to renew the feeling of confidence in the minds of our older people. Have a good time, do your best, go home with a smile, and some day come back. Hamlin is for you, and that's not all; Hamlin people expect every real red blooded boy and girl in Jones County to make good in life. Do it.

Editor Endorses Debate As Educational Contest

(Editorial, Tyler Courier-Times)

IF YOU ESTABLISH a department in a school or college for instruction in the art of public speaking, the students may regard it as just one more lesson which has to be learned, and they may not show much enthusiasm for the added task. But if you organize debating as a kind of inter-scholastic or inter-collegiate event, then they look at it as more or less of a sport, and throw some ambition into it.

In an ideal state of popular intelligence, a debate between two colleges or schools should excite as much interest as a football game. As intellectual power counts more in life than athletic ability, valuable as the latter is, it should theoretically be more interesting to see a mental combat between student teams, than to watch them contend for mastery with a football.

It will be years or centuries before our people attain any such keen interest in a purely mental contest. The clash of brain power is not so spectacular as that of muscle and athletic strategy. But it is pleasant to note this growing interest in a form of competition that depends on scholarship and logic.

It is often complained that it is difficult for a boy to win prominence in a school or college, unless he is athletic. But the fellow who can go in and help win a debating contest is constantly gaining more praise, and the time may come when he will be as big a man in his set as a football player. Rewards are opening for his ambition.

Every school and college would do well to encourage debating. Competitions between these institutions are a fine method of waking young folks up to an interest in the big questions of the nation, and also for giving them the power to express themselves, and persuade people of the merit of their ideas.

Says Outside Activities Strengthen School Work

UNDER THE CAPTION, "Outside Interests and the School," the editor of the *Sunday Morning News* (Corpus Christi) editorializes as follows:

Robstown next Saturday will be host to some 200 students, representing 31 schools, for the Nueces County interscholastic league meet. Reports from this big little city indicate it is making preparations to handle, in a big way, this annual gathering which tests the literary and athletic skill of competing pupils.

Such contests sponsored by the Interscholastic League of the University of Texas have done much to advance the interest of boys and girls in school activities. The old day of daily recitations, with nothing to arouse a desire among students to excel in any particular line of endeavor, is rapidly dwindling into the limbo of forgotten things as educational institutions today sponsor outside activities with the view of creating added interest in the students' work.

Debate, declamation, essay writing, music memory, spelling, picture memory, and athletic contests form the interscholastic league's program of competition. Each year an increasing interest is noted in the various phases, both from a standpoint of pupils participating and new schools joining in the plan.

Outside activities of this character do not detract from the schools' system of work; if anything, they are of value to what the schools are trying to do, as the interscholastic league maintains strict scholastic rules that must be adhered to. If school superintendents, who are best able to judge what is of greatest benefit to their institutions as a whole, did not think such outside activities are of value, they would not become allied with such a program.

More power to the educational institutions and anything they do to advance the attention of students in their work. The students will obtain

from school a training commensurate with the interest they have. So who will say that anything that tends to create such interest is not a legitimate part of a school's program?

Goes League One Better

THE BRENHAM PRESS editorializes as follows:

"The Interscholastic league has a ruling which states that all athletes participating in any high school competitive sport must pass in three out of four of their subjects. Prof. E. T. Genheimer, principal of Waco high, has made that rule much stricter at the Waco school this spring. He has ruled that no athlete could go out for any sport unless he had passing grades in all of his studies. As a result the 150 man football squad of Waco high has been cut down to about 50, and the baseball prospects of the Tigers which were fairly bright are now dismal indeed."

Bandera County Meet

The County Interscholastic League Meet is to be held at Medina on Friday and Saturday, April 12 and 13. The various schools in the county are arranging to participate, and this meet promises to be the best ever held in the county, free from strife and bickering, and destined to encourage good fellowship and friendly rivalry. Let's all attend the County Meet next week and boost for our boys and girls who, by the way, will soon be the men and women to carry on the affairs of the county. They are going to take our places some of these days. Right now is the time we must give them an example of what good fellowship and friendly rivalry means. Let's go!—*Bandera New Era*.

League Proves Value

INTERSCHOLASTIC meets, when pupils of a county or district gather to test their strength and skill, mental and physical, are serving a mighty good purpose not only in the value the contests prove to the student body as individuals, but in their broadening influence as well on the whole scholastic population.

Another thing that is making the interscholastic meets more valuable is the recognition by school authorities of the part the three R's should have in these contests. After all, if a kid goes through high school he ought to be able to do reading, writing and arithmetic. For a time, it seemed, the authorities almost forgot this fact.—*Editorial Floydada Hesperian*.

Commends Good Losers

EVERY ONE should have been satisfied with the outcome of the County Interscholastic meet on Saturday as the honors were so equally divided that there could be little general disappointment though certainly those who lost in individual events must have felt the usual pangs of regret. The showing in both literary and athletic events made by our students is good reason for the people of Cuero to feel proud; for these young contestants revealed prowess in both fields of endeavor, and with it all was a splendid spirit of good sportsmanship and fair play that reflected due credit on them and their trainers. When they lost they accepted defeat in the proper spirit and there were no alibis. When they won there was no "gloating."—*Editorial, Cuero Record*.

Practice Debates

THE FOLLOWING item clipped from the *Brownwood Bulletin* contains an excellent suggestion for debate coaches in search of practice debates:

The Brownwood High School boys' and girls' debating teams made a little tour last Friday and Saturday, and won three out of four debates, according to their coach, J. Fred McCaughey.

The boys' team, composed of Robert Henry and Orville Walker, won their first debate with Cisco by a two to one decision. The girls' team composed of Misses Willie Faye McElroy and Norma Keeler won Friday night from the Eastland girls. Eastland and Cisco debating teams are winners of the Oil Belt section.

Saturday the teams journeyed to Abilene where they met the boys' and girls' teams of the Abilene High School. The Brownwood girls won their debate while the boys lost.

La Salle Co. Serves Barbecue

LA SALLE COUNTY Interscholastic Meet held at Cotulla last Friday and Saturday, and on Friday a free barbecue was given, which was attended by approximately 1,000 people. On Friday night declamations were heard at the Auditorium,

in which 17 contestants were heard. The auditorium was filled for the occasion. At the conclusion of the declamation Supt. Donaho asked Prof. Jones of the Millett School and Prof. Brown of the Fowlerton School to say a few words. Both highly praised the Cotulla people for their generous hospitality and the high plane on which the meet had been conducted. Not the least friction had occurred in any of the contests, both speakers declared.

All schools in the county participated in the meet, but special praise should be given the Millett and Fowlerton schools for the whole-hearted manner in which they supported the event in every way. The teachers and pupils of these schools put their very best into it to make it a success.—*Cotulla Record*.

Mart's Sportsmanship Commended

COMMENTING on the recent county interscholastic meet in Waco, the *Mart Herald* has the following: "Mart high school did not win first honors in the county interscholastic meet held at Waco last week, but in second place will be well represented in the district contests soon to be held. The Mart entrants were late starting preparations in some instances, and should profit next year by the lessons learned this time. The *Herald* joins in congratulations to the winners and also to the losers for their gameness in trying and in doing their best under the circumstances. We can at least plan and look forward to a greater victory next year, when it is hoped Mart will be able to secure the county meet here."

The above is better sportsmanship than is often found in giving alibis, registering complaints, after suffering a defeat. Some one has to lose in such contests, hence the best plan is to accept defeat gracefully and strive to do better next time, as set forth in the *Herald's* report.—*Waco News-Tribune*.

Entertains Meet

The student paper of the West Texas State Teachers College, *The Prairie*, editorialized as follows concerning the League District meet in Canyon last April:

Again West Texas State Teachers College has had an opportunity to demonstrate to the Panhandle its hospitality, congenial spirit and willingness to serve in any capacity possible. And it did so in a truly commendable way.

The faculty, the student body, the citizens of Canyon were hosts to as worthwhile an assemblage as is to be found in the nation last week end. Many of the student body were out of town but those who remained in town were in every way considerate of the visitors. They were glad to show them through the buildings, allow them the use of their rooms, entertain them while in this city. For two days and nights faculty members and many of the students acted as judges with no compensation whatever. They were glad to do so because they were serving a worthwhile cause—a cause that means something not only today but tomorrow and in all the years to come.

The city of Canyon has a right to be proud of the reception the College gave the Interscholastic Leaguers of District One last week.

Mexican Schools Hold Meet

A SPECIAL LEAGUE MEET for Mexican schools was held in Goliad County last spring, according to a report published in the *Goliad Advance Guard*, as follows:

The Interscholastic League Meet was held for the Mexicans last Friday at the Goliad Mexican School with a large attendance.

The following schools were represented: Riverdale, Rylander, Angel City No. 1, Angel City No. 2, Charco, Berclair, Swickheimer, Comanche Peak, Wilson and Goliad. There were about one hundred and sixty-five pupils from these schools with at least fifty or sixty visitors.

The day was opened with America, sung by all present, followed with the salute and pledge to the Flag.

Quite an interest was shown in all the athletic and literary events, all the schools winning some honors.

The athletic events held in the morning were chinning the bar, one hundred yard and fifty yard dashes, high jumping, broad jumping and volley ball.

Chili and bread was served on the ground by the Chamber of Commerce which was greatly appreciated and many lovely cakes were furnished by the pupils and patrons.

who was in charge of the contest, this was the largest attendance that there has ever been. Twenty-four entrants were from city schools and 12 represented rural schools.

Dalhart, Dallam County, won first place with an average of 92.8. The winning team was composed of Henry Kendall, Lenore Merchant, and Helen Lee Bailey.

Second place was won by Pampa; the Pampa team had eight members and La Vern Vickers was the only contestant who made 100%.

Third place was won by Claude, fourth by Panhandle, fifth Tulia, and sixth Friona.

In the rural school contest first place went to Conway, Carson County, second place to Skia, Hutchinson County.

According to Miss Clark a perfect paper was not to be expected this year as the contest was unusually hard. Miss Clark also stated, "The work this year was far better than it has ever been before. The children were more genuinely interested in music and the visitors who came with them showed intelligent enthusiasm."—*The Prairie, Canyon*.

Thanks, Chamber of Commerce

THE KAUFMAN *Herald* publishes a letter from Y. C. Paschall, of Kemp, Director General of the League in that county, to the Chamber of Commerce, thanking it for cooperation, as follows:

Route 2, Kemp, Texas, April 2, 1929—To the Secretary, Directors, and Members of the Kaufman Chamber of Commerce. Gentlemen: As Director General of the Kaufman County Interscholastic League, and in behalf of the pupils, teachers, and League Directors of the county, I wish to thank you collectively and individually for the splendid manner in which you have for the third successive year sponsored the Interscholastic Meet in Kaufman. Not only have you financed it amply, but you have also, many of you, given your presence as enthusiastic spectators and in many cases assisted in directing the different events. Your successful sponsorship has been a material cause of the rapid growth of the League in this county. This year we had near a thousand contestants, while many of our neighboring counties had few more than half that number.

I sincerely hope that you have derived a pleasure from having sponsored so successful a meet as we have just had, for I know that the entire county has enjoyed it and again I thank you for your interest and financial backing. The teachers of this county should from this time hence consider Kaufman as the proper place for holding the annual school meet.

Editor Endorses League

The work of the Texas Interscholastic League as fostered by the University of Texas has found justification for itself from a bi-educational point of view. By providing organized districts in which extra-curricula activities as football, basketball, tennis, track, debate, essay writing, spelling, declamation and music memory, it has established for the adolescent child a field of play in which his leisure time may be spent both profitably and pleasantly toward the up-building of mind and body. The League has provided a class room, so to speak, where each boy and girl may enter into friendly competition with fellow students. By the victories gained and the defeats suffered in these contests students learn that all-important lesson of life, that it matters not so much who wins or loses, but how was the victory won or lost.

The program of the Interscholastic League has found a very definite place in the Weslaco Public Schools. Though the work is voluntary, students of both sexes and all classes are showing hearty interest in all branches of the program.

The past record of the Weslaco schools in its county, district and state meets, speaks for itself. The State Meet this year found Weslaco represented in two events: boys' tennis doubles and girls' debate. The students composing these teams were Woodrow Gound and James Kirgan—tennis; Juanita Griffin and Nell McClure—debate. The Weslaco School board, in sending these two teams and their coaches to the State Meet this year, has furnished an incentive to students and teachers alike, and much interest is being shown toward the coming year's contests in the hope that the school board may see fit to again offer this recognition to those winning in the district meet.—*Weslaco Star*.

We acknowledge that in the matter of our birth, as in our nature generally, there are previous circumstances which affect us. But upon this platform of circumstances or within this wall of necessity, we have still the power of creating a life for ourselves by the informing energy of the human will.—*Benjamin Jowett*.

# County Superintendents Hold 6th Annual Conference on Rural Education Problems

## Meeting Attracts Large Attendance of School Executives

THE SIXTH ANNUAL Conference of County Superintendents was held at A. & M. College, July 29 to August 2, last. A week's conference was held concerning problems affecting the administration of county schools under competent direction and inspiring leadership.

Professor W. L. Hughes, professor of Rural Education in the A. & M. College, organized this conference, and has conducted it for the past six years. Concerning the purpose of the conference, Mr. Hughes says:

"As to the aims of the Conference, I wish to say that it is my aim to render a type of service to the rural children of Texas which no other agency is now rendering. My plan is to work through legal and responsible leaders of the rural schools. Just how much good I am doing I am sure I do not know, I leave that for others to judge.

That this conference is meeting with the confidence and appreciation of county superintendents is attested by the fact that about eighty county superintendents representing every section of the state attended the last meeting. Such topics as "Organization of County Schools," "Grouping Rural Schools for High School Purposes," "Methods of Educating Rural People as to their

School Problems," and "Conserving School Funds," were presented and discussed. Among the speakers who addressed this conference at one time or another during the week are: President T. O. Walton, A. & M. College; State Superintendent S. M. N. Marrs; Dean T. H. Shelby, Extension Department, University of Texas; President A. M. Birdwell, Stephen F. Austin State Teachers College; and President R. M. Caldwell of the State Teachers Association.

Officers elected for the ensuing year, follow: A. A. Bullock, County Superintendent of Scurry County, President; Mrs. George R. Felter, County Superintendent of Travis County, vice-president; and Miss Etta Strickland, County Superintendent of Nacogdoches County, secretary.

The names of superintendents who registered at this meeting follow, and the name of the county represented follows that of the superintendent in each instance:

Millie Blackburn, Stephen; William K. Davies, Victoria; Mrs. B. B. Sapp, Liberty; Maud Laws, Coleman; Lydell Lewis, Live Oak; T. B. Walters, Jasper; Florence J. Scott, Starr; Mary J. Reed, Leon; Fred G. Haynie, Bastrop; J. J. Barfield, Limestone; Mrs. V. W. Berry, Young; Pauline Cantrell, Howard; John T. White, Tarrant; C. C. Corkern, Parker; Price Scott, Floyd; S. J. Pfenniger, Goliad; W. C. Parrish, Clay; Beulah Speer, Eastland; Etta Strickland, Nacogdoches; R. W. Stephens, Coryell; Wallace Gregg, Wise; L. A. Woods, McLennan; Howard Walker, Angelina; T. W. Parker, Tom Green; E. L. Reynolds, Robertson; E. R. Wright, Garza; I. G. Kennon, Johnson; Miss Lois Souther, Falls; A. W. Fiedler, Comal; W. N. Saathoff, Medina; Furney Richardson, Freestone.

H. B. Montgomery, DeWitt; R. J. Hejtmancik, Lee; A. J. Prasatik, Burleson; Bettie E. Mitchell, Walker; Allie Bland, Orange; J. D. Wilson, Collingsworth; Mamie Patillo, Hunt; Mrs. W. R. Jones, Cameron; Will H. Scott, Nolan; F. M. Vance, Brazos; Myrtle Porterfield, Hardeman; Blanche Pittman, Erath; Mae Murfee, Lubbock; S. C. Stephens, Collin; Delbert D. Kyle, Lamar; M. C. McClain, Hopkins; A. A. Bullock, Scurry; R. S. Walker, Comanche; Will Arthur Barber, Cass; W. A. Ham, Jack; S. F. Stewart, Bexar; O. B. Miller, Wheeler; Minnie Ellis, Haskell.

Mrs. Mattie W. Mann, San Jacinto; Mrs. K. K. Robbins, Milam; Mertice Richardson, Hardin; Elizabeth

Siddall, Grimes; C. C. Porter, Bowie; S. F. Hoke, Madison; H. G. Smith, Titus; S. B. Owens, Tyler; O. J. Beckworth, Upshur; Miss Mabel Hare, Childress; Mrs. Ada Jordan, Panola; Mrs. George R. Felter, Travis; Burl Bryant, Wichita; R. E. White, Runtels; M. Louise Jones, Karnes; Robert A. Rachui, Fayette; M. H. Ehler, Washington.

## ATHLETIC DIRECTOR REVIEWS 10 SEASONS OF LEAGUE FOOTBALL

(Continued from Page One)

over Corpus Christi 55 to 7. The final championship game was played at Fort Worth on December 22, 1922, between Abilene and Waco, Waco winning 13 to 10.

The 16 district champions in 1923 were: Amarillo, Ralls, Abilene, Fort Stockton, Wichita Falls, Oak Cliff, Texarkana, Livingston, Beaumont, San Antonio, Sabinal, Corpus Christi, Lampasas, Granger, Waco and Calvert.

The following results in the quarter finals indicate also the winners in the preceding round: Abilene 48, Amarillo 0; Wichita Falls 13, Texarkana 6; Beaumont 6, Corpus Christi 0; Waco 74, Granger 0.

In the semi-finals Abilene defeated Wichita Falls 25 to 0, and Waco eliminated Beaumont 14 to 0. The final championship game was played at Dallas, December 21, 1923, between Abilene and Waco. Abilene won by a score of 3 to 0.

In 1924 the first attempt to divide participating schools into A and B classes was made. This year there were eight districts in Conference A and sixteen in Conference B. After bi-district eliminations in Conference B, the winners moved into competition with Conference A teams. The Conference A district winners follow: Vernon, Oak Cliff, Cisco, Cleburne, Marshall, Waco, Temple, Beaumont.

The Conference B champions were: Pampa, Slaton, Stephenville, Graham, Highland Park, Longview, Odessa, Lampasas, Belton, Caldwell, Jasper, Humble, Sabinal, Granger, Yorktown and Robstown.

The Conference B bi-district champions lost out in each case in their first meeting with Conference A teams. The following were the results: Vernon 39, Pampa 0; Oak Cliff 20, Highland Park 7; Cisco 43, Stephenville 12; Cleburne 70, Lampasas 10; Marshall 33, Jasper 0; Beaumont 12, Robstown 0; Temple 19, Sabinal 14; Waco 3, Belton 0.

The quarter final results were: Oak Cliff 39, Vernon 0; Cisco 30, Cleburne 0; Beaumont 16, Marshall 6; Waco 27, Temple 0.

In the semi-finals Oak Cliff defeated Cisco 52 to 7, and Waco eliminated Beaumont 10 to 0. The state championship game was played at Dallas, December 20, 1924, between Oak Cliff and Waco. Oak Cliff defeated Waco 31 to 0.

Nineteen hundred and twenty-five will go down in history as one of the most hectic in the League. After much of the smoke had cleared away the following eight teams with quarter finals results found themselves in the play-off: Cisco 14, Cleburne 3; Forest Avenue 7, Marshall 0; Waco 40, Itasca 3; Beaumont 7, Robstown 0.

In the semi-finals Forest Avenue defeated Cisco 7 to 0, and Beaumont defeated Waco 8 to 7. Beaumont was later disqualified, Waco reinstated, and Waco and Forest Avenue played the final game at Dallas on January 1, 1926. Waco defeated Forest Avenue 20 to 7.

A rule limiting Conference B teams to bi-district championship was put into effect in 1926. The following were bi-district champions that

year, the results listed indicating the complete district championship list in Conference B:

Floydada 28, Clarendon 0; Anson 57, Odessa 0; Highland Park 25, Decatur 7; Gilmer 26, Center 7; Granger defeated Burnet; Marlin 41, Caldwell 0; Robstown 13, Del Rio 7; Edna 9, El Campo 0.

The quarter final results in the state championship race in Conference A in 1926 follow: Ranger 21, Wichita Falls 0; Oak Cliff 18, Cleburne 14; Marshall 47, McKinney 0; Waco 35, San Jacinto (Houston) 0.

In the semi-finals Oak Cliff won over Ranger 27 to 7, and Waco eliminated Marshall 9 to 0. The final championship game was played at Waco on December 18 between Waco and Oak Cliff. Waco defeated Oak Cliff 20 to 7.

Conference B football in 1927 found the following district champions: 1. Canyon, 2. Slaton, 3. Sweetwater, 4. Strawn, 5. Farmersville, 6. Longview, 7. Midland, 8. Fredericksburg, 9. Itasca, 10. Livingston, 11. Laredo, 12. Georgetown, 13. Brenham, 14. El Campo, 15. Edna, 16. not decided.

Bi-district winners were: Slaton, Sweetwater, Farmersville, Longview, Brenham, Edna, Laredo. The game between Fredericksburg and Itasca was not played.

Conference A football in 1927 moved along smoothly with the following quarter final results: Abilene 46, Amarillo 6; Cleburne 6, Forest Avenue 0; Sherman 20, Athens 13; Waco 124, Jefferson Davis (Houston) 0.

In the semi-finals Abilene defeated Cleburne 34 to 6, and Waco eliminated Sherman 59 to 0. The final championship game was played at Waco on December 16. Waco defeated Abilene 21 to 14.

In an inter-sectional football game December 26, 1927, at Waco, Waco defeated the Cathedral Latin High School of Cleveland, Ohio, 44 to 12.

The 1928 season brought a further change in Conference B football. The State was divided into seven regions, each region being composed of four districts. Competition was carried to a regional championship with the following results: 1. Post, 2. Anson, 3. Farmersville, 4. Caldwell, 5. Eagle Lake, 6. Kerrville, 7. Del Rio.

Bi-district championships, exclusive of regional champions, follow: Mineral Wells, Gorman, Gilmer, McGregor, Goose Creek, Georgetown, and Robstown.

District winners, exclusive of bi-district and regional champions, were: Hereford, Olney, Odessa, Winters, Diamond Hill, Center, State Home (Corsicana), Conroe, Wharton, Sour Lake, Lampasas, Gonzales, Cuero, Brownsville.

The district champions in Conference A football were: 1. Amarillo, 2. Abilene, 3. Sunset (Dallas), 4. Cleburne, 5. Greenville, 6. Marshall, 7. Port Arthur, 8. Main Avenue (San Antonio).

In the quarter finals Abilene defeated Amarillo 26 to 21; Cleburne won over Sunset 12 to 6; Marshall eliminated Greenville 26 to 6, and Port Arthur, by the toss of a coin, received a technical victory over Main Avenue. The Port Arthur-Main Avenue game ended in a tie 6 to 6.

In the semi-finals Abilene defeated Cleburne 20 to 6, and Port Arthur won another technical victory, this time over Marshall by counting 20-yard line penetrations. The Port Arthur-Marshall game ended 0 to 0.

The final championship game was played at Abilene December 21, 1928, between Abilene and Port Arthur, Abilene winning 38 to 0.

The 1929 season? Fill in to suit yourself.

## MOVES AMENDMENT TO ART. VIII, SEC. 9

(Continued from Page One)

ing under an assumed name is a serious offense and should be severely penalized. Just because a boy has committed a serious offense, however, is no reason why he should be forever denied the privilege of participating in athletics. The offenses that we have to deal with in handling school boys should be penalized with penalties that have for their end (1) the restraining of the person or offender from a repetition of the offense and (2) the reformation of the individual through the discipline involved. In every activity of school work, whether curricular or extra-curricular, our objective is the development of right attitudes and high standards of achievement and conduct. Boys are raw material and we need all the transforming agencies at our command in our efforts to build into our boys those qualities that make for good citizenship. If athletic activities are worth what we claim for them, we should be permitted to utilize their transforming powers in the case of the fellow that has gone wrong. The fellow that offends should pay a penalty that is commensurate with the wrong done, with conditions under which the offender may be reinstated. How can we stimulate one to desire to change his behavior if we shut for all time the door to opportunity and leave no way open by which one can become reinstated?

For our consideration, let us take a concrete case. A boy goes out in the summer and plays baseball under an assumed name. He did this that he might keep his mother from knowing that he played baseball on Sunday. He finds that he has violated one of the rules of the League and comes to us and tells us the truth about the matter, even though he is not under suspicion. He has three more years in high school. During that time he is a bona fide high school student with all the privileges of other students, except that he is an outlaw in athletics. During the rest of his high school career he can participate in no athletic activities except with the outside outlaw gang. As matters are, we must let him remain with the outlaws. We can offer him no chance to get reinstated.

I am in favor of giving the bona fide high school student, when he makes a mistake, an opportunity to recover. Exclude him from participation for at least one year, and, if during that year he maintains a proper standard of conduct and meets all requirements for eligibility for the following year, reinstate him. It leaves a worthwhile opportunity to the boy and gives him an incentive to practice right living. Since right living is the chief end of our educational program, why not in all activities limit penalties in a way that will leave offenders a chance to recover and also permit school men to use all possible means of achieving the educational objectives. The boy in question is not of a studious turn of mind. He needs something to stimulate him to apply himself in his regular school work. He loves athletics and he is eager to participate in athletic contests. If, under certain reasonable conditions, he were assured that he would be reinstated next year, I feel sure that he would apply himself in his studies and make an effort to become eligible for participation in athletics. He would thereby develop a degree of self-respect and in a measure recover from his inferiority complex. The rule, in my judgment, is too severe.

## DISCUSSES LEAGUE DEBATING CONTEST

(Continued from Page One)

lar with me. A graduate school of a great university may expect its students to do work for the sole benefit it may do the student, but high school students must ordinarily be urged to enter the debate contest. In our county there are ordinarily two schools that enter the debate but sometimes three. If there are only two entries, it is certain that one entry in each division must do all that work for no points, or rather for five points while the winner takes twenty-five, which is no improvement over the old rule that gave no points for last place. When we split the boys and girls contests we break even and have no complaint but if we happen to lose both by a two-one vote, as we have done, then long hours of intensive work have been done for nothing we can show toward winning the county championship. And when competition is close, as it is here, to lose forty points means losing the meet. On the other hand, if we win second place in the track meet, it is not last place, and our opponents who win first gain only five points on us. The same holds in tennis and most of the other contests. It seems to me some arrangement could be made whereby the judges of a debate contest might in county meets indicate whether the losing school had in their opinion done sufficient and honest work enough to entitle it to the points that would accrue to second place if there were more than two entries. Of course I understand that the present rule was made to prevent the winning of points by teams that had made no bona fide preparations for a contest, but I saw in our county meet this year dozens of entries made for no other purpose than to gain the five point bonus. And I have seen many times trailers entered in an athletic contest in order to make third place and sometimes even second place count for points. But this is not possible in debate, so I should like to see the League stimulate enough interest in debate to have five entries in each division in this county, or devise some method of allowing points to last place when it is second. Whenever there shall be three teams here to defeat us we shall cheerfully acknowledge that we have not earned any points, but it is pretty hard on coach and contestants to see so much work go for so little recognition."

## LEAGUE FITS INTO SCHOOL PROGRAM

(Continued from Page One)

terscholastic League work each day. During this period all pupils are engaged in working on some phase of League work except those who are below the "dead line" in their school work. This has been in operation for five years. Many of the point winners have been thinking and working in that direction for several years and consequently are better prepared than they should have been otherwise.

In the third place most of our winners have been literary. We make no apology for it. We believe that man has conquered beasts because of his intellect rather than his strength or speed. The pupils doing literary work have spent much energy on it which could have been devoted with less advantage to regular class work. Pupils preparing properly for extempore speaking or essay writing could not have had a more interesting, nor beneficial, course on current affairs. Debating students this year understand their government as they never did before. So it goes all through the list of League activities that the pupil who earnestly participates is acquiring something which the regular school work does not provide. To come back to the charge that time is wasted by those who win first places our answer is this: the students who win literary events are among the strongest students in school. In our graded school system they cannot go faster than the average members of the class. Therefore it is in line with the best thought among educators that the strongest pupils should do more work than the weaker ones. This is provided for very satisfactorily in a small school by turning the surplus energy of the strongest students to the splendid cultural literary fields provided by the University Interscholastic League.

## OUR STATE FLOWER—THE BLUEBONNET

(Continued from Page One)

water cool. The hot water will not kill the seeds but will penetrate the seed coat.

Any school desiring to get a start of their State Flower is referred to the Wildflower Contest announcement on page 1 of this issue of the Leaguer.

## Changes in District Organizations

THE list of districts and district officers given in Appendix VI of the Constitution and Rules went to press about August 20. Naturally, a few changes have occurred since then. Below are listed changes made up to date of publication of this issue of THE LEAGUER:

District No. 5: J. R. McLemore, President, Junior College, Paris, Director General.

District No. 17: Superintendent J. E. Gregg of Marfa, Director of Junior Declamation.

District No. 11: Instead of Mrs. M. G. Doyle, Director of Extemporaneous Speech, read Mrs. M. G. Noell, Coach Holley McLemore, Junior College, Hillsboro, is Director of Athletics.

District No. 22: Instead of J. C. Cochran, Del Rio, Director of Essay Writing, substitute Roy M. Andrews.

District No. 24 the initials of Supt. McGuffin of Yoakum are "L. B." instead of "H. B." as published in Appendix VI of Bulletin No. 2822.

For typewriting manager of Typewriting Region No. 3, substitute Miss

Elma Evers for Miss Marguerite Nichols.

Dist. No. 1.—Prof. F. J. Byer, The West Texas State Teachers' College, is Director of Debate.

Community appreciation may be aroused in public speaking by the elimination of unimpressive and poorly advertised speech activities. Exhibitionism in interpretation, over-coached debate teams with memorized speeches, trivial and worthless plays, and bombastic oratorical contests are especially detrimental to a true appreciation of the forensic art. The proper use of newspaper publicity, supplemented occasionally by banquets and other mediums for the expression of the community's admiration and commendation, will also foster the cooperation of the community.

## UNIFORM GRADING OF SPELLING URGED

(Continued from Page One)

misspelled words. You see how unfair this can be.

Now I accepted the "dirty deal" and made no appeal other than to offer this suggestion: First, the same person should grade an entire set of papers. Then they would all be graded alike. This should be a person who knows penmanship and is disinterested. I would suggest a small fee, say ten cents, be asked for at the door and this be paid to the person for grading. This is the only way I see of forcing the writing part of the contest into our rural schools. Rural teachers drill all most wholly the spelling and the writing is so neglected.

I am quitting the teaching profession after this year; so you know I have "no axe to grind" in offering these suggestions.

Teaching evolution in the schools won't make people accept it. Spelling is also taught in the schools.—Pathfinder



Members assembled for initial session—1924.



The 1925 meeting shows increased attendance.



These are superintendents attending 1926 Conference.



Group picture of the 1927 Conference.



There was a notable increase in attendance in 1928.



Last Conference (1929) in front of Administration Building, A. & M. College.



W. L. Hughes, Professor of Rural Education, A. & M. College, organizer and conductor of the Conference.