

# INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUER

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No. 1



"We had 800 entries in our county meet," writes J. D. Wilson, County Superintendent, Collingsworth County, "with keen competition and the best sportsmanship that I have ever witnessed in any county meet."

We sent one of our form letters announcing to a person of Irish name that the check he had sent us had been returned unpaid. His reply enclosing another check, follows: "Bank was insolvent 90 per cent of the time, and I the other 10. Thanks, try this one." Delinquency excused.

An inexpensive county meet was that held at Olden (Eastland County), according to the following statement from Henry Collins, Director General in that county last season: "The finances of meet was handled for about \$50. The awards for entire county cost \$3.50. Am enclosing a sample of same."

At a meeting of the County Executive Committee on March 27, the following suggestions were offered to the State Office:

(1) To give points in the following contests: Rhythm Band, Story Telling, Junior Girls Volley Ball; (2) To provide for Class B division in declamation; (3) To provide for a Ward School division in tennis.

"We had the most successful meet this year that we have ever had in Cameron County," says C. R. Robertson, Principal, San Benito high school, "even though we did not win all-round championship, and that was partly because we failed to enter three events. Just the same, we received a great deal of benefit from the contest. I hope to have some pupils in this State Meet again this year."

We note from the records of the county meet in Grayson county that Range Creek, a three-teacher rural school, eighteen miles from town, won six cups and two pennants. The principal of this school is Miss Addie Miller.

"We have just last week-end completed our county meet contests. We had a successful year in the League work. There is one thing I would urge with great insistence: Please give us a revised Constitution and Rules in one volume next year even if it costs member schools more in fees." There was much confusion with the use of the old bulletin and the supplement.—O. C. Southall, Seminole.

\*Suggestion adopted.

## 7 RHYTHM BANDS IN COUNTY MEET

### Eastland County Finds Experiment Great Success and Recommends Rules.

A DESCRIPTION of the success in Eastland County last spring of the Rhythm Band Contest is given in another column of this issue. Mrs. Fred W. Roberts, county director of the contest, with seven bands entered, furnishes the LEAGUER a copy of the rules which were used, as follows:

1. One band from each school.
2. Children may be selected from the first three grades.
3. For Class B there shall be not less than ten nor more than twenty-five.
4. For Class A there shall be not less than twenty-five and not more than fifty.
5. Each band is limited to 10 minutes playing time.

Each band shall be judged on the following points:

1. Appearance.
2. A well-balanced band.
3. Good quality of tone.
4. Rhythm.
5. Control of instruments.
6. Good selections.

## Old Landmark in History of Texas Education Burns Down

Rutersville College Building Occupied for Thirty Years by Kallus and Muras Families Was Interesting Relic of Pioneer Education.



The Old Landmark

TUCKED AWAY in obscure corners of Texas papers of April 14, last, was an item concerning the destruction by fire of the home of Charles Muras, five miles east of La Grange. To many readers this was merely another fire, but to those familiar with the history of education in Texas it had a romantic interest. This building was originally of rock and three stories high and is known to the students of the history of education in Texas as one of the buildings of "the first college built in Texas." It was "Rutersville College" for many years, and when the college was discontinued, this building was remodeled as a farm home and has been occupied for more than thirty years by the Kallus and Muras families.

In the November, 1924, issue of the LEAGUER, Dr. W. F. Ledlow, then Instructor in the History of Education, described this early college, and the article is herewith reproduced.

**Evangelization of Texas**  
As soon as Texas gained her independence from Mexico, the larger churches in the United States began to plan its evangelization. Early in

(See — LANDMARK — Page 4)

### VALUE OF MUSIC

"The almost universal love of music and the frequent possession of musical talent among our children makes training in music not only valuable from an educational standpoint, but increases the capacity of all to appreciate music and thereby adds vastly to the sum of human happiness."

"The self-discipline required for musical practice, calling for painstaking care and complete accuracy, is as important to child development as other forms of educational training. It has also a social value flowing out of the cooperative work in orchestras, bands and choruses. A distinct enrichment of American life will follow from added devotion on the part of our boys and girls to the beautiful art of music."

—Herbert Hoover.

## Student Editor Makes Critical Analysis of League Activities

(Editorial in The Master Builder.)

EACH year a large number of our students participate, usually with remarkable success, in some one or more of the numerous Interscholastic League contests. The Interscholastic League, as we all know, is an organization of the State's public schools which sponsors competition in athletic contests, public speaking events, and many other activities. It is not amiss at this time to ask ourselves the pertinent question, just what dividends in training and development or in pleasure may we expect from such participation?

### Activities Classified

The activities sponsored by the Interscholastic League may be classified roughly under two main groups: 1. Athletic contests, intended to encour-

age physical development, team work, mental and physical discipline, high ideals of sportsmanship and conduct, and a reasonable and sensible competitive spirit; and 2. Literary and public speaking events, which provide an opportunity for the collection and organization of information on current and vitally important questions of economics, government, and politics, for intensive and practical training and experience in public speaking, and for concentrative study in some of the arts and sciences. Some of these activities are carried no further than the county or district meets, but state championships are determined in the more popular sports and literary and public speaking events; football, basketball, track and field, tennis, debating, declaiming, essay writing, extemporaneous speaking, and dramatics.

Practically every school of any size and standing in the State is a mem-

(See — ANALYSIS — Page 4)

## "School Boys Favor New 8-Semester Rule"—Tyson

A test of the equity of the Interscholastic League's eight-semester rule governing high school football players was suggested here Friday by Paul Tyson, famous coach of the Waco High School, who came here seeking a game with Palestine High School's grid entry next fall.

Tyson, himself a strong advocate of the eight-semester rule, suggested that a fair way to test the popularity of the regulation would be to submit it to vote of the school boys themselves.

"There isn't a boy in school who wants to be knocked out of playing football next fall just because some other boy failed his courses and should have graduated," said the Waco coach. "If the rule is submitted to vote of the boys themselves who are in school, you will see that practically all of them are in favor of it."

The eight-semester rule, which will go into effect this year, is designed to protect student athletes who pass their courses, against other student athletes who fail to pass their courses, or who for other reasons have occasion to be in high school for more than four years. Under the rule, a student is ineligible for athletics after he has been in school eight semesters, regardless of his years of actual athletic participation.

Tyson believes that coaches of high school football teams in Texas will eventually realize the equity of the rule, despite strong opposition that seems to exist generally among the coaches.—Palestine Daily Herald.

## 1914 STATE WINNER IS STILL WINNING

Robert M. Field Is Appointed Assistant Attorney General of the U. S.

IN THE State meet of 1914, there came up from San Antonio a lad by the name of Robert M. Field, Jr., representing the San Antonio high school in declamation. He went through all the preliminaries with high rating, and was declared the state winner in the finals.

The state papers last spring announced the fact that Robert M. Field had been appointed Assistant Attorney General of the United States. The *Daily Texan* summarizes his career in the University, as follows:

Mr. Field is the son of Robert M. Field, Sr., of San Antonio. He is a graduate of the School of Law of the University. While here he won a Rhodes Scholarship and was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. He was president of the academic department in



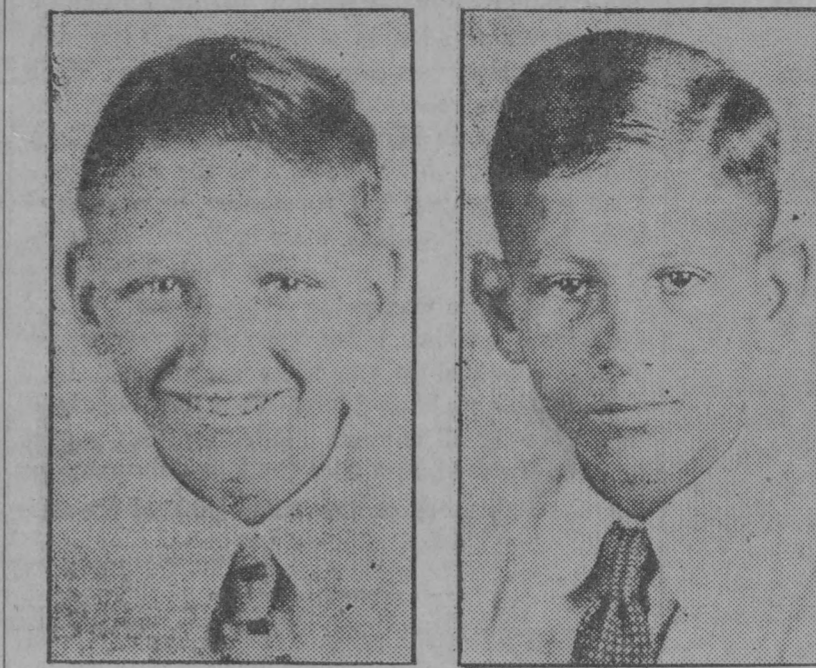
Robert M. Field, Jr.—Photo from which cut was made was taken nearly twenty years ago when he won the State Meet in declamation.

1916-17, president of the junior class in 1917, president of Rusk Literary Society, and manager of the University track team in 1920. He won honor in debating, oratory, and literary events.

Mr. Field's college training was interrupted by the World War. After leaving the army he returned to the University. Upon leaving Oxford, he practiced law in New York.

In faults men are much alike; in good qualities they differ.—Goethe.

## French School Lays Claim to State Record in Number Sense



Bobbie Woodham, left, and Weldon Ashworth established a new state record in interscholastic League arithmetic contests when they made a team score of 372½ at the county meet held here recently. Bobbie's individual score, 400, also sets a new state record for individuals. The arithmetic contest was won by French school for the fourth consecutive year. Bobbie was also winner in the essay contest.

TAYLOR, Santa Anna, and French school (Jefferson County) seem to be the outstanding "number-sense" schools in the State, so far as records reported to the State Office of the League are concerned. The trouble with comparative scores from different counties is that identical tests are not used. One test may be easier than another, and conditions under which tests are given are not always the same. So far as the number of county championships is concerned, this criterion is also faulty, for the reason that competition in one county may be strong and in another weak.

Clipping from a Beaumont paper of March 30, last, the following ac— (See—FRENCH SCHOOL—Page 4)

### WHEELER COUNTY LEAGUE

Again it is almost time for the contests of the Wheeler County Interscholastic League. Fond mothers hear in their sleep voices of sons and daughters repeating their debate speeches, or sit up late to read again the long lists for spelling matches. Local high school boys run exploring hands along their ankles, seeking the first sprout of wings which will aid them in winning the races. Everywhere is preparation, whether outward or not, and the enthusiasm and new spirit which this preparation will give to the local schools and their students is well worth all of their trouble and anxiety, both of teachers and parents, it will take to put the League contests over in a big way.—Shamrock Texan.

## Reddick Asks Principals to Consider the School Paper

(By De Witt Reddick)

THIS FALL the Interscholastic League Press Conference enters upon its seventh continuous year of existence. During these seven years the number of high school newspapers published in Texas has almost doubled, despite financial troubles. Courses in journalism have been installed in a number of high schools. Affiliated credit for journalism has been granted. The high school newspaper and the associated courses in journalism have proved their worth to the high school.

Seven years ago high school newspaper staffs, through their sponsors, were saying, "We hope to be of service to our school in certain ways." Now, the staff of every good high school paper may say without hesita-

tion, "We are being of service to the school." Experiences in a hundred high schools of Texas have definitely established the value of a student paper.

### Serving the School

In what ways does a properly conducted high school paper serve the school? These are the purposes which the staffs of high school papers, pioneering for themselves in a new field, have established for their papers:

1. To be a motivating force in encouraging students to learn to write and to practice writing. Staff members of the paper and students of journalism classes must write constantly to supply material for the paper. But the influence of the paper extends beyond those directly connected with the paper. It should encourage contributions from other students and good writing on the part of students in English classes by print-

(See — SCHOOL PAPER — Page 4)

## LIVE OAK COUNTY HOLDS FINE MEET

Writer Declares Secret of Success in League Work Is Balanced Program.

(By F. B. Jones, of George West)

TO THOSE few who unduly criticize the League work, who question the advisability of our devoting even a small portion of our time to the development of such extra-curricular activity, it is fitting to point out that the present broadened League schedule of events—when fairly and earnestly carried out in full—provides opportunity for participation by every possible type of student, rural or urban, in either literary or athletic activity, or both.

### Specialized Training Unnecessary

The school, in preparation for county meets, need not concentrate the energies of its faculty upon a few favored contestants but, to the contrary, that school may and certainly should give its entire student body the benefit of some special training. The literary events, particularly, have been so increased and rearranged as to compel the consideration of pupils in every grade of the school. League work, when carried on haphazardly in the school, may be detrimental it is true; but why not organize our extra-curricular work? Why not use the last period of every day for orderly practice and teaching of all contest forms of speaking events, study of picture memory and art, mental arithmetic, spelling, choirs of singers, baseball on the grounds, etc.? The work can be carried on in regular elective courses under the direction of a faculty member. Experience has shown that this method will do two things:

- (1) It will produce well-trained and balanced contestants (selected from the groups).
- (2) It will give the entire student body the extra-curricular training so necessary to their future participation in the activities of citizenship.

### 500 Participate

Live Oak is a comparatively small county. The scholastic census shows a total of less than 2000 scholastics, and yet there were approximately five hundred students participating. Twenty-two member schools participated—only three of which were Class B schools (the only three large schools in the county). This means that the majority participating were rural schools, small outlying districts which I believe need the work most. There was active interest and work in every event in the League except one, i.e., music memory.

### Picture Memory Goes Over "With A Bang" in Galveston

BERNICE DAUPHIN, of Hitchcock, writes concerning the picture memory event in the Galveston County meet, as follows:

I am returning to you under separate cover the package of "unfamiliar pictures" which I used today in conducting this feature of the Picture Memory contest in Galveston County.

This feature went over with a bang! The contestants looked forward to it eagerly and the teachers were very much interested, and there was much favorable comment on it. The only suggestion I have to make would be that you use no picture that is taught in the list of fifty familiar pictures. Now, the Lincoln picture by St. Gaudens was one that all contestants were familiar with.

"We are having a most successful year in the League work in Fayette County. Friday, March 11, we played 32 games of playground ball and 13 games of volley ball to determine the all-round championship for the rural schools, and also the one-, two-, and three-teacher championships in those events. On March 18 we had a very successful rural school meet. Twenty-five schools took part and all seemed to enjoy the meet to the 'nth degree."

—W. W. Few, La Grange.





