

THE STUDENT HANDBOOK

III. MAKE-UP AND FINANCE
By W. F. Sylvester, Principal,
Thomas Edison High School,
San Antonio.

HAVING the right mechanical make-up is very important. Since larger schools have more to tell than smaller ones, it is obvious that handbooks vary in size. The number of pages in handbooks examined range from 16 to 200. A handbook that fits comfortably in a pocket is apt to be better liked by boys than one that is too large. Convenient sizes are from 3 inches by 5 inches to 5½ by 8½ inches.

Type for Handbooks
Handbooks printed in 8-point type present a readable page; 9-point or 10-point is better for larger books. Small type is not only difficult to read but it produces a crowded unattractive page. A cheap quality of paper should not be used; it is better to pay more and secure a good quality. A cover made of durable paper with a simple attractive design on it is appropriate. An individualistic design expressing characteristics of the school, adds to the value of the booklet from the student's viewpoint. The design should be planned and made by students in the art department. The name of the handbook and the name of the school that produces it usually appear on the cover. A characteristic name should be used: it may be merely the colors of the school, as Black and Gold; the initials of the school as E; or a more suggestive title, as "The Golden Bears." Careful discrimination in the selection of colors for the cover will eliminate ones that soil easily and ones that are unattractive. Sometimes the colors of the school

(See—Handbook—Page 4)

Biology 'As She Is Written' In Freshman Quiz-papers

THIS is Biology as reported back to the lecturer in the quiz papers of a freshman class:

"... the garaph has a long neck with which to reach leaves."
"... the porkepine throwing out its quills or the skunk its disorder."

Original spellings:
"tempeture," "zeabears," "elephant."

"Dogs brought from the icy north must be kept on ice for them to live."

"In the winter organisms gather at the bottom of the pond or puddle. Since the temperature is cold for them they try to get together to get warm with one another. In the spring they produce a greenish article at the top of the water. This has a certain odor. It dissolves after a certain limit of time."

"Not even the non-existence substances in water could live without the right temperature. . . . Some animals as fish can change temperature a right smart, and still live a few hours."

"The cell has a cell wall around the cell. In this cell is the nucleus that is about the center of the cell wall and the cytoplasm is around the nucleus."

"Biology teaches us how the different organs run through the animal and plants."

"... have giles so they may swim instead of sink."

What's to Be Done About Invitation Tournaments?

(By a Superintendent.)

WE have discussed several times in the past the rapid growth of tournaments, especially basket ball and volleyball tournaments. What do you think of this?

Here are the dates of basket ball tournaments to which our school has been invited:

December 4 and 5; December 11 and 12; December 18 and 19; January 8 and 9; January 15 and 16; January 22 and 23; January 29 and 30; February 5 and 6; February 12 and 13; February 19 and 20.

There are many others in adjoining counties that I know about, but I do not have the dates. These dates do not take into account the round robin schedule that we play to determine the county championship. There are many other tournaments such as volley ball, playground ball, tennis, debate, and a new one on the invitation list—the one-act play.

The school executives are on the spot, because all these schools and the towns in which they are located expect their neighbors to cooperate with them in putting over their tournaments.

These tournaments range in size from eight to twenty-four teams.

I write you this on Monday morning just after we "pulled a big one"; it was here Friday afternoon, Saturday, and Saturday night. Our receipts were large for a thing of this kind. I believe something should be done about the number of tournaments that any one school can participate in and still be eligible for county competition. I should like to have your reaction to this matter. Should the school men correct this thing, or is it a problem for the League?

High School Journalists and Sponsors Assemble for Conference and Contests



Texas High-School Press Conference 1936

JOURNALISTIC contests are scheduled annually at the State Meet of the Interscholastic League in Reporting, Editorial Writing, Copyreading, Headline Writing, and Feature Story Writing. Representation is provided for each of four sections formed by the intersection of the 98th meridian with the 31st parallel of latitude.

The schools are arranged for this competition into Classes A, B, and C, according to size. Each paper must submit copies of its issues from the beginning of the school year until March 1, and each of these papers is judged in competition with others in its respective class by Professor DeWitt Reddick and his helpers in the Department of Journalism in the University. Points on which the papers are judged are so chosen as to emphasize those qualities in high school journalism which the best thought in the field considers most important. These criteria for judging thus set up an ideal, furnishing the young journalists a definite aim or goal towards which to direct their energies. The two papers in each class and in each section which are awarded highest rank are permitted to enter two members from their respective staffs for the State Meet.

But perhaps more important than the contests, is the Conference in Journalism which has been organized under Professor Reddick's direction. Here sponsors of journalism along with their most talented pupils, discuss problems of high school journalism, exchange experiences, and become advised through lectures and round-table conferences of the best practice in conducting this activity for high school pupils. During the 1936 State Meet, the Texas High-School Press Conference was organized under the sponsorship of the University School of Journalism and Sigma Delta Chi, honorary journalism fraternity for men. Thus is brought together through the stimulus of definite competition focusing effort on the best journalistic practice, four groups: (1) journalism; (2) the most talented journalism pupils in high schools; (3) the faculty of the Department of Journalism in the University; (4) the University students who have specialized in journalism, many of whom have already chosen it for a life work.

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TINY TOTS TAKEN CARE OF IN MEET

Rhythm Band, Story-Telling and Declamation Delight Little Ones

R. J. Bingham, Director General of Cameron County.

OUR County Meet was one of the best it has ever been my pleasure to be connected with—the schools, teachers, and contestants were well pleased with the way the entire program was executed according to schedule prepared in advance of the meet.

Now for a few suggestions please: We conducted a rhythm band contest for students of the first three grades with delight to contestants and parents. It of course was not a part of the League activity and did not count any points, but it was such an inspiration to the little folks that I would like to see it made a part of the League.

We also conducted a Sub-Junior declamation contest for both boys and girls and I am ready to commend it as worthy of a place on the program for the students who are not old enough to qualify for the Junior declamations.

In fact, since I have been connected with the League activity for almost a score of years and have had occasion to see High School students win honors with small consideration for the primary students, we attempted to add a little spice to the activity by adding the above named contests and they were so well received that I am inclined to make the above suggestion for the benefit of all the primary students of the state.

COMEDY IS NOT EASY TO DEFINE

Classical Authors Have Had a Try at Saying What It Means

(By Morton Brown, Director of Dramatics, Bureau of Public School Interests.)

THOUGH we have defined the terms "comedy" and "farce" according to the best available present day authorities, in the Constitution and Rules of the University Interscholastic League (Appendix III, p. 103), we find the observations of Samuel Johnson in *The Rambler*, May 28, 1751, both pertinent and interesting:

"Comedy has been particularly unpropitious to definers; for though perhaps they might properly have contented themselves with declaring it to be 'such a dramatic representation on human life, as may excite mirth,' they have embarrassed their definition with the means by which the comic writers have attained their end, without considering that the various methods of exhalation

(See—Comedy—Page 4)

Many Ask Information On Picture Memory Contests

QUERIES like the following are coming thick and fast, as the Christmas holidays approach:

"What materials listed in your Descriptive List of Bureau are advisable to use for Picture Memory Study. And are there 50 pictures given in this study and in the contest there are so many selected from the 50?"

Replies to such queries run about as follows:

"Only seventh graders are eligible in the number sense contest. Note that there is a special division for rural schools, hence no rural pupil has to compete with ward school pupils."

"We suppose you have a copy of the Constitution and Rules. If not, you should write for one at once. Please read Paragraph 4, page 53, which will give you details of conducting the picture memory contest. You study with your pupils fifty selections treated in our Bulletin No. 3586, and thirty of these are chosen at random in the county meet. Our other bulletin, No. 3634, checked on the enclosed list will also be valuable for you. I am checking, also, picture memory score sheets, and suggest that you read Paragraph 8, page 54, which describes our sample test service. A circular, giving details of this service, is enclosed."

Learn Cooperation

It began with informal discussion groups under the priest in the village store; then a night school with classes three nights a week from St. Francis Xavier University. About 35 people the second year learned reading, writing, arithmetic, and bookkeeping. Meanwhile 100 kept on with the study of new methods of fishing, of fish processing and the principles of cooperative buying and cooperative marketing. It took two years to raise the necessary capital of \$125 to start the lobster factory, built with their own hands.

The air at Dover is full of cheer and expectancy. Next year there is to be a community hall, perhaps even electricity. Everybody goes on learning—the women's study clubs are taking up new methods of weaving, dyeing and sewing. The men are getting at the principles of running a cooperative store. And this, the priest will tell you proudly, is the result of 10 years of adult education.—*New York Times Magazine*, May 17, 1925.

Extemporaneous Speech

THE general fields of study for this season's contest in extemporaneous speech are outlined in Rule 4, page 36 of the current issue of Bulletin No. 3332, "Revised for 1936-37 Contests." Following is a more definite delimitation of the three general fields of study:

1. Texas History will be confined to "The Period of the Republic," which is Section IV of "Texas History Syllabus," Bulletin No. 3544. This section contains four general topics, and specific topics for extemporaneous discussion will be taken under one or another of these five general topics. A preparation on this period with the outline as a guide will furnish the pupil subject-matter for discussion of any topic which he may happen to get in the Texas History field.

2. More definite assignment of State News will not be made until the Legislature meets. The principal measure, or measures, before the State Legislature will be made the basis for topics to be discussed.

3. The National News field will be confined to the news of farm tenancy, conditions, causes of present conditions, especially Texas conditions, efforts to alleviate; the Bankhead bill intended to cure farm tenancy, and any action taken or discussed in the National Congress on this matter. The reader is referred to a reprint of a news article, appearing in the December issue of the LEAGUER, page 1, column 5, for an illustration of the kind of news to look for.

4. Foreign News will be devoted to the Spanish War. Pupils will be expected to know background, causes of present conflict, forces and ideas behind each group, and current happenings.

The reader is referred to an article in this issue clipped from *News-Week*, giving definitions of terms which will be helpful to the pupil in preparing to talk on topics assigned under this division.

NATALIA PUTS ON SCHOOL BANQUET

Pupils Organize, Finance, and Conduct This Enterprise

By M. H. Brazeeale, Superintendent of Schools, Natalia.

IN THE November issue of the LEAGUER the writer tried to indicate general principles which, in the opinion of the best authorities on the subject, should govern the planning of the school banquet. He will now describe a banquet in his own school, largely planned and conducted by pupils.

Juniors Entertain Seniors

In this particular school, it is the custom for the junior class to entertain the senior class each year with a banquet. Early in the year a class meeting was called to discuss the affair. Naturally, the first question to be raised was whether or not the junior class wished to entertain the senior class with a banquet. The vote was unanimous for the banquet. How to raise the necessary funds was the next question. Some members of the class proposed donations of food or money from each member of the class, that being the method which was employed the previous year.

Question of Financing

There was some objection to this method on the ground that the financial burden would be too heavy upon some members of the class. Someone suggested a negro minstrel and someone else a three-act play. After arguing the good and bad points of both, the class finally decided upon the negro minstrel.

(See—School Banquet—Page 4)

FOOTBALL AWARDS STUDY

A FEW copies (mimeographed) of a study by E. S. Farrington and Committee remain in the League Office. A copy will be mailed anyone who requests one and encloses a legal-sized envelope, stamped and addressed.

Aims and Definitions for Aid of Extempo Speakers

COUNTY OFFICERS ANNOUNCE READY

159 Organizations Perfected and Duly Reported to the State Office

COUNTY OFFICERS are being elected each week end, but they are not being reported promptly in all cases.

Only those appearing below have come in so far. It is impossible for the State Office to keep county officers informed unless their names and addresses are reported.

The following county organizations were reported in the October, November and December LEAGUER: Anderson, Baylor, Bell, Bexar, Blanco, Bowie, Brazoria, Brazos, Brown, Burleson, Caldwell, Calhoun, Camp, Cass, Chambers, Cherokee, Childress, Clay, Coke, Coleman, Comanche, Coryell, Crane, Crockett, Crosby, Dallam, Dallas, Dawson, Deaf Smith, Delta, Duval, El Paso, Erath, Falls, Fannin, Fayette, Fisher, Foard, Freestone, Gaines, Garza, Glasscock, Goliad, Gonzales, Gray, Grayson, Gregg-Harrison, Grimes, Guadalupe, Hall, Hamilton, Hansford,

(See—County Officers—Page 4)

Discussion of Spanish War Involves Clarification of Terms

SINCE the Spanish Revolution is becoming a struggle between two theories of government, communism and fascism, it is important that extemporaneous speakers drawing topics on the Spanish Revolution know the standard definitions of these terms.

News-Week in an editorial note prefacing the definitions, says that it "asked Edward S. Corwin, McCormick Professor of Jurisprudence at Princeton University, to prepare short, impartial definitions of socialism, communism, and fascism. Norman Thomas, 1936 Presidential candidate of the Socialist party, was asked to define aims of socialism. Earl Browder, 1936 Presidential candidate of the Communist party, was asked for communism's aims. Objectives of fascism are condensed from an article written by Benito Mussolini for the *Italian Encyclopedia*."

Definitions and Aims
Corwin: "Socialism and communism both stand for the community's taking over private prop-

(See—Extempo. Speech—Page 4)

Discusses History of Land Titles and Suits in Texas

Of 42 Million Acres Given Schools Only Fifth Remains

(By Judge Ralph W. Yarborough.)

LAND titles have been issued in Texas by seven different jurisdictions—the kingdom of Spain, the central government of Mexico, the government of Coahuila and Texas, the state of Tamaulipas, the state of Chihuahua, the Republic of Texas and the state of Texas. Three jurisdictions controlling Texas did not issue a land title, these being the government of France,

(See—Land Titles—Page 4)

A "RURAL" SCHOOL Definition of Term Excludes School With More Than Four Teachers

The following query came from D. C. Stockton, County Superintendent of Schools, of Cherokee County:

"The Executive Committee of Interscholastic League met November 14, and one point discussed was how to determine a rural school. In Cherokee County we have some six-teacher schools and five-teacher schools teaching nine grades. Would they be classed as rural if they do not have two teachers or the equivalent teaching high-school subjects? Would they be exempt from paying a basket ball fee?"

The reply follows:
"No school is a rural school that has more than four teachers. Note second paragraph, Appendix III, page 98 of the Constitution and Rules. We are contemplating a special division for nine-grade schools."

Declamation Winner 1936 Represented La Porte



Louise Childress, La Porte High School Winner Girls Declamation, 1936.

THE selection used by Miss Childress in winning county, district, regional, and State honors was written by the late Judge Yancey Lewis, and is entitled "The True Spirit of Independence Day." It was originally spoken at a March 2d celebration, and was subsequently published in the "Alcalde," official publication of The University of Texas Extension Division, and again in the March issue of this publication. It is one of the selections contained in "Centennial Declamations," a bulletin issued by the Bureau of Public School Interests Extension Division.

Barnes Outlines General Aims of Speech Program

Begin With Student's Needs and Abilities

(By Dr. Harry G. Barnes, Associate Professor of Speech, the State University of Iowa.)

MAY we look at our vital problem more constructively.

The general aims of the speech program which I visualize are as follows:

1. To set up correct standards of good speech, directly or indirectly, as related to personal culture and individual achievement in speaking performance.
2. To give the pupil understanding of and a correct attitude toward the speaking situation.
3. To give the pupil insight into his own speech habits and the speech habits of others, to the extent that he is aware of how he and his fellows speak.
4. To discover the speech inadequacies and deficiencies of the student, and by a process of re-education re-direct the functioning of his mechanism through a series of progressive speaking experiences.
5. To stimulate creative and artistic achievement in speaking performance as far as the talent of the individual student will permit.

These aims of a speech program bespeak a philosophy of approach on the part of the teacher, based on the following premises:

Heredity and Environment
First, the student is a product of heredity and environment. He possesses characteristics and exhibits behavior which are peculiar to him. Because he has been speaking for some years, he does not therefore speak adequately, nor can it be assumed that he should speak adequately. His immediate behavior is the initial foundation upon which the teacher must build.

Second, he moves in an environment which selects him and which he selects. Speech is a vital factor to him in this environment. As he matures normally, the environment widens and becomes more complicated. He must be trained to meet the environment of the future through the environment of the present. No one can tell specifically what special types of speaking situations are going to confront him eventually, hence, the importance of training in the funda-

(See—Speech Program—Page 4)

WOMEN OFFICIALS

Three Places in Texas Now Give Ratings and Issue Lists

WOMEN officials for girls' games, especially matched games, is one of the conditions insisted upon by all authorities in the field of physical education for women. The following is a list of approved women basketball officials approved by the Austin Board:

Billie Keyes—Mary Hardin-Baylor College, Belton, Texas.
Achsah Morris—Mary Hardin-Baylor College, Belton, Texas.

(See—Women Officials—Page 4)

Adult Education Transforms Nova Scotian Community

ALL IN ALL, 23,000,000 grown-ups—a sixth of the whole population and more than a quarter of the adult population of the United States—are enrolled in regular classes. Their yearly tuition bill is conservatively estimated at \$230,000,000 . . . education has been sold to the tired business man and complacent housewife.

"So What?"
Well, says the cynic, we are beginning to rush more eagerly after education, so what? For those who must have work along with faith in learning, the adult educators recite a single true parable.

On the rocky, storm-swept coast of Nova Scotia is the small village of Dover. Its 55 families, with a total population of 300, are almost completely dependent on their fish and lobster catch. Ten years ago there was probably no more poverty-stricken hamlet on the American continent. The people lived on the verge of starvation, there was not a decent road in the village, and the one old school building housed 90 pupils having a single teacher. Each man sold his own catch to a middleman at a pittance.

Today that village has a good highway; a two-department school, with a high school and an ele-

League Membership Books Close on January 15

Penalty of 50% amount of fee goes on January 1



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ROY BEDIKHEK Editor

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AFTER our football team got into the quarter finals," writes a superintendent of schools, "I decided that we ought to stop the whole process in a district championship. It does occur to me now that a district championship is far enough to carry the football competition. What do you really think about it?" Being asked the direct question, we made no bones about it and replied in the language of Edward Lear's singing pelicans, "We think so then and we thought so still."

CONSCIENTIOUS biography is perhaps the best of all forms of literature. Here is a special case intensively studied and carefully recorded; here is what actually happens, undocored by romance-tinkers, uncolored by political, religious, or other prejudices, unwarped by the thesis-prover. You have, in short, a man or a woman, ancestry, birth, early environment, education, social and personal relations, interests, thought, emotional reactions, maturity, post-maturity, decline and death. What more may one want? How better may one enlarge his experience than by reading good biography?

EFFORT is being made to direct study in the extemporaneous speech field so as to insure preparation and avoid giving pupils the temptation to memorize speeches. It is quite a delicate balance which must be maintained. It has been found from experience that announcement of definite topics early in the school year brings out a high percentage of memorized speeches. On the other hand, if the field of study is made too general, the pupil is discouraged and it is difficult to induce him to make sufficient preparation. No matter which plan is followed, there is always complaint of the severity of the requirements. It is a difficult contest. Only those pupils with an excess of courage and determination are attracted by this contest.

SPELLING directors will notice that the test-words are to be furnished to County Directors along with other test-material for conducting the county meet. Such a large percentage of spelling papers have been rejected in the past on account of failure of directors to select for the contest the words prescribed in the rules, that this year a new plan is being tried. The words for the contest are furnished in sealed envelopes, the seals not to be broken until the contestants are assembled and ready to begin. There is still something for the pronouncer to do, however: give out the words in the order in which they appear on the furnished list, and give out all of them, and give no word to the contestants which does not appear on the mimeographed list.

THERE is developing in educational thought considerable opposition to any kind of artificial incentive to study or to work of any character. We should look forward to a co-operative commonwealth, say the exponents of this school, and should train pupils in co-operation rather than in competition. "No external incentive is required," says George Bernard Shaw, "to make first-rate workers do the best they can." All of this harks back to Rousseau, and further back than Rousseau, for that matter. But the trouble with the argument is that it assumes a teacher of such training and infectious enthusiasm that no external incentive is required. Given proper teachers, and the position taken would be more difficult to dispute.

STUART CHASE considers the conditions under which he is really alive, listing some twenty situations, in an article which appeared in the *Nation* several years ago under the caption, "A Very Private Utopia." It is worth noting that at least four of the conditions under which he feels himself really alive are competitive, as follows: (1) Swimming, dancing, playing tennis, mountain climbing, watching good sport; (2) Keen discussion; (3) A good fight, not necessarily sanguinary, in what seems a decent cause; (4) The sense of being in bodily danger. Anyone may make his own list of situations in which he feels more than half alive, and the items in any set of lists would vary considerably from person to person, but it is doubtful if any list honestly prepared by a healthy, normal individual would lack some situation having an element of competition in it.

HOW very important is plain writing! Loss of time due to poor or illegible writing would, if computed in dollars and cents, make quite a dent in the national income. That higher-ups in the educational world are not guiltless in this matter is evidenced by the following paragraph from a circular letter addressed by Donald Coney, The University of Texas Librarian, to the members of the faculty: "It is about time for the annual plea for more legible order cards. If it were not for the danger of ruining the handwriting of those members of the faculty who already fill out order cards in a readable manner, I should suggest that scholarship and legibility of handwriting bear an inverse relation to each other. If everyone who fills out a book order card will keep in mind the fact that this card must be read by several people before the book can be ordered, he may be moved to take extra pains in filling out said card."

DO not fail to note the information conveyed in another column of this issue in type larger than is ordinarily used in this publication. We refer to the notice of closing date for payment of membership fees. Notice that a fifty

per cent penalty is imposed January 1. If the fee is one dollar, add penalty of one dollar; if amount of fee is one dollar, send fifty cents extra. Notice also that basket ball penalty of one dollar went on December 15. No fees of any nature are accepted after January 15. We then start working up the county rolls to send to the Director General of the respective counties, and after this process starts, no new names can be added. The membership rolls are running from 300 to 500 schools ahead of the figures for corresponding dates last year, so we are hoping that every school which wants to join will get in on time.

THE declamation contest rules among the schools of Pennsylvania, conducted under the auspices of the Extension Division of the University of Pittsburgh, prescribe three declamations for use in this year's competition: (1) American Integrity (adapted from a selection by Hughes); (2) The Place of Athletics in College Life, by Chauncey M. Depew; (3) Combating Crime, by Clarence Darrow. Imagine the uproar that would result from an attempt on the part of the Interscholastic League central authority to limit the eligibility of declamations to three! And yet there is method in this madness. The problem of judging is greatly simplified by limiting the contestants to selections of strictly the same type. The task of the coach is made easier, since the long and diligent search for suitable material is solved; and certainly, that nightmare of the declamation season, passing on the eligibility of selections, is completely banished. This plan has its good points.

IN another column of this issue we publish anonymously a letter from a school superintendent who is disturbed over the multiplication of invitation tournaments. It's easy to say "you don't have to accept unless you want to." The fact is, however, that there is a considerable compulsion often exercised by trade interests of the community, as our correspondent points out. The excessive number of tournaments in any sport or contest which a school is invited to attend is often embarrassing to the superintendent for the reason that his own town desires him to cooperate with other towns in promoting tournaments so that the other towns will cooperate with his own when it comes his turn to put on a show which will "bring in a big crowd." This is particularly true of the smaller communities. School executives who are seeing clearly and seeing straight are aware of a commercial motive creeping in under the cover of what should be strictly a school or educational enterprise, and a consequent drive for "better and bigger" tournaments, irrespective of the school time consumed, or disorganization resulting therefrom.

IN April, 1907, E. T. Genheimer was promoted from the position of instructor in mathematics, which he had held for two years in the Waco High School to the principalship of that institution. So, in April, 1937, he will have rounded out thirty years of service in the same position. Many a lad or lass of 18 in his first graduating class has sent sons and daughters to Genheimer for supervision of their high school education, and those sons and daughters, or many of them, now have children coming along in the grades pointed toward the big institution up on Columbus Street where Genheimer like a patriarch still presides. We visited him in his stronghold recently and watched him perform for a couple of hours. Evidently enjoying his brief contacts with pupils, vigorous and kindly, he seemed, indeed, the Happy Warrior,

"Whose high endeavors are an inward light That makes the path before him always bright."

Such a man in such a position for such a length of time ceases being an individual and becomes an institution.

VERY effective is the arrangement whereby district football committees adjudicate finally intra-district disputes arising in connection with the football contest. It is the custom of these committees to go over very carefully all eligibility matters at the beginning of the season and consider questionable cases that are presented. Each school comes in and puts its cards on the table, so to speak, and welcomes questions from competing schools concerning the eligibility of any of its players. This sort of material works better when it's cold than when it's hot. Many a case that would cause a riot later in the season may be settled around the early council table in light rather than in heat. The arrangement which gives these committees final authority promotes this sort of thing. Otherwise, these early meetings would do little more than initiate disputes to be passed up to a higher power later, meantime engaging the communities through their respective newspapers in that type of knock-down-and-drag-out discussion ill-calculated to develop anything except sound and fury. The district committees are doing a good job.

A FEW years ago the LEAGUER went to great trouble and expense to cut down the size of its tournaments. This was done in response to what seemed to be a sincere demand for protecting the health of contestants and for the conservation of school time. Large district tournaments were broken up and smaller ones instituted.

Regional tournaments were introduced to prevent congestion at the State meet.

The problem of large county tournaments was not attacked for they are not under the direct supervision of the State Executive Committee. But now comes an epidemic of invitation tournaments of all kinds. The schedule of one basketball tournament which we have before us calls for settling a championship among 22 teams in a day and a half. The final match will thus be the sixth matched basket ball game in a day and a half. Ask any physical education authority what he thinks of putting a high school team through a mill like that and he will reply that it is nothing short of barbarous.

Doc Luckett at Stanford

AN ARTICLE in the Stanford Daily, student publication of Stanford University, tells of Doc Luckett winning the Dakon gum prize in the game between Stanford and Washington's Huskies, which ended in a 14-to-14 tie. Doc kicked both needed goals after touchdown, and in addition used "sticky fingers," as the article says, to snare a pass that seemed impossible of completion. Doc played more than half of the game. Stan-

ford plays Columbia in New York City a week from Saturday, and Doc, high point scorer of the Texas Interscholastic League when Greenville won the championship in 1933, will be one of the Stanford half-backs making the trip.

In every human mind some ideas are adequate and others are mutilated and confused: . . . the mind is subject to passions in proportion to the number of inadequate ideas which it has.—Spinoza.



Error in Price Quoted on Bulletin No. 3322

Extra copies of the Constitution and Rules sell for ten cents per copy instead of fifteen cents, as indicated on the inside front cover of the bulletin.

Article III, Section 2

Second footnote at page 9, Constitution and Rules, should read, "note penalty of 50 per cent of amount of fee after January 1," instead of, "note penalty of \$1," etc.

Three-R Arithmetic

Rule 4 of the Three-R Folder (Bulletin No. 2639) has been altered to read as follows:

"The contestant shall take the problems in their regular order, beginning in the upper left-hand corner of the test-sheet, and proceeding left to right, back and forth across the page, in the same order as one reads ordinary printed matter.

"The grader shall credit the contestant with five points for each problem correctly solved, and deduct five points for each problem either skipped or missed. The term 'skipped' shall not apply to any problem occurring after the last one solved or attempted.

"Example: Suppose test-sheet contains 18 problems. Last problem attempted is fifteen. Nine are correctly solved, two are skipped, four are missed. Credit 45 points for nine correctly solved, deduct 10 points for two problems skipped, deduct 20 points for four problems missed, net score, 15."

Suspension—Granger

At a meeting of the State Executive Committee October 21st, the Granger High School, upon recommendation of the district executive committee of football District 26, Conference B, was suspended in football for the remainder of the 1936 school year on account of use of ineligible men.

Withdrawal—Union Grove

The Union Grove High School, Gladewater, was granted permission by the State Executive Committee on October 21, 1936, to withdraw from League football. In the list of schools circulated September 24, 1936, Union Grove was listed as a participating school in District 12, Conference C. All member-schools are hereby notified that Union Grove is not a participating school in League football.

Grade Contests

The Committee interpreted the so-called "primer grade" to read "first grade" in all schools, the question having arisen whether or not a school might have a primer grade and then a first grade. This interpretation was made for the clarification of rules governing "grade contests" such as spelling, arithmetic, music memory, picture memory, etc.

Art. VIII, Sec. 13

The Committee interpreted Article VIII, Section 13 to read as follows:

A pupil changing schools is not eligible in League contests whose parents (or guardian) reside outside the school district, until he shall have been in attendance at the school, or in the school system, to which he changes for one year immediately preceding the contest. . . .

In other words, the Committee declared eligible a contestant who had been in attendance in a school system for one year, whether or not he had been in the school itself for one year.

Basketball

League basketball games will be played under the official rules adopted by the National Basketball Committee of the United States and Canada representing the National Collegiate Athletic Association, the National Federation of State High School Athletic Associations, the Canadian Intercollegiate Athletic Union and the Canadian Amateur Basketball Association. In Spalding's athletic library the guide is known as No. 700R.

Good Citizenship

GOOD citizenship, public spirit, is absolutely essential to private welfare. If you take insufficient care of the public welfare, ultimately you will have no private welfare to take care of. Public ruin carried individual ruin with it. To be as fine and great a human being as your capacities and opportunities permit is your third duty. Most of our lives is routine. Education is well defined as the non-routine side of life, the coming in contact with something new, or more intimately with something old. Never allow your lives to degenerate into mere

routine. Always try to keep coming into contact with the new. The world has at last learned in universities, laboratories, and business to hunt for the new systematically. What it pays the world to do will also be good for the individual. Strive to increase your appreciations, not your dislikes, and be ashamed rather than proud of lack of interest. Many of the most successful men in the world in their professions and businesses are also widely and deeply interested in more than their business. Make it routine to break the routine. While doing your work in the world and being a good citizen, do not forget to grow as a human being by keeping alive all the interests and sympathies that you are lucky enough to possess. And above all, offend not your consciences by evil deeds.

H. Y. BENEDICT.



ACTIVITIES FOR PICTURE STUDY

(By Florence Lowe, Head, Art Department, Sam Houston State Teachers College.)

LIVING pictures" offer an extremely interesting means of providing entertainment and at the same time giving valuable information about the world's art. Such presentations may vary in type from the carefully planned tableaux arranged for public entertainment to the very informal classroom picture posing. In the simple classroom procedure characters may be selected without regard for appearance and the whole activity resolve itself into a game in which the children try to recognize the picture being represented by the pose alone.

Public Posing

If the work is planned as part of an entertainment it is necessary that figures be selected and costumed to represent as nearly as possible the appearance of the figures in the picture. Lighting effects must be carefully considered. The simple classroom picture posing should not be overlooked as a means of developing picture study and may lay the foundation for a picture program to be publicly presented.

For public programs the posing of the pictures should take place within a large frame which has the same general proportions of most of the pictures that are to be shown. Of course the frame should be large enough in size to accommodate the groups that are posed. Thin veiling stretched across the frame to take the place of the glass in the picture adds to the flatness of the effect and makes the posing more convincing.

Mounting Pictures

The experience of selecting a picture to own is one which calls into play all of the child's judgment and reveals to the teacher his interests and tastes. An activity which permits the child to select a picture to keep is a good climax for the year's study. The child should be permitted to mount the picture in a way that will preserve it.

A very simple but satisfactory way of preserving a picture is to mount it on a heavy board. For this purpose school supply companies offer various types of mounting boards. The board selected should be soft in color so as not to detract from the beauty of the picture and mounts should be large enough to avoid the appearance of crowding. The margin of board at the bottom should be slightly wider than at top and sides. All-over pasting should be used and the mounted pictures kept flat under a press or weight until dry.

Picture Collections

Children benefit by arranging pictures in book or portfolio form. Such collections may be made as individual projects or they may be kept as school reference material and added to from year to year. If the latter is done a definite size and material of mount should be agreed upon and this kept uniform in the mounting of each picture. Pictures too large for the mounts used should be kept in a different collection. Pictures may be classified according to countries, periods, artists or types and organized for ready reference. If the file type of arrangement is used the labeling of the title cards may well become an art problem.

Framing Pictures

The making and carving of frames for pictures has been made a valuable activity in some schools. This is especially worth while in schools where the aid of an industrial arts department can be enlisted. The art crafts provide many interesting ways of framing pictures

and teachers trained in this work have developed many clever projects. Frames of leather, thin sheet metal or relief decorated wood are especially attractive.

A Process Described

Very little equipment is required for an interesting type of relief decorated picture mounting. The foundation is simply a piece of heavier board or similar material cut to the right proportions. The edges are carefully sandpapered and the entire board shellacked on both sides. When the shellac is dry the picture is mounted on the board by means of all-over gluing. When the glue is dry the face of the picture is given a light coating of white shellac which dries and takes the place of glass in protecting the picture. The heavier board margin is then given a coating of the relief material. This coating should be from one sixteenth to one eighth of an inch thick. As the relief material dries it should be stippled with the end of a pencil, brush or other tool which will produce an interesting surface. The relief material is applied with a brush. Either the colored or natural relief materials may be used. When dry the relief decoration may be painted with any type of metallic paint. If the metallic effect seems too bright it may be "antiqued" by covering the entire surface with any dark colored oil paint mixed thin using a cloth to wipe the paint from the higher parts and leaving the lower ones dark.

What Can You Contribute?

This column of the LEAGUER will be glad to receive accounts of any unusually interesting devices you have used in conducting your picture study. Such communications should be addressed to Miss Florence Lowe, Sam Houston State Teachers College, Huntsville, Texas.



January 15 is the last day LAST call for enrollments! For school papers to be enrolled in the I. L. P. C. If your paper has not yet been enrolled, send us a request at once.

Joanne Storm, president of the I. L. P. C., also holds the office of secretary of the Houston High School Press Association. Organizations like the Houston association encourage interest in high-school journalism and stimulate good work on the part of the high-school journalists.

Cooperation rather than rivalry brings progress for school papers. In most of the larger cities of the State inter-school organizations are bringing the journalists of the various high schools into profitable companionship.

Avoid Petty Boasts

In one city this fall, however, a statement appeared in a high-school paper boasting that the paper excelled the publication of another school in the city. The paper of the other school responded with a denial and claimed that it was the better paper. Such boasting is petty rivalry. There is no place for such a spirit in Texas high-school journalism. The first paper should not have started the controversy, and the second would have done better to ignore it.

The Borger High Bulldogs Growl printed in a recent issue an account of a commercial teacher who was injecting interest into her classroom work by dividing the class into two football teams and granting yardage for high grades. A school paper can do much to help students keep up their interest in classroom work by printing stories of such work.

Publicize Class Work

One of the best papers in the State in so far as giving favorable publicity to the classwork of the school is the Technician of San Antonio Vocational and Technical High School. Though the most important part of a school's activities is carried on daily in the classroom, many school papers neglect this field to devote most of their space to extra-curricular activities. The Technician regularly carries a number of stories about the work of classes.

The Technician, under the direction of its sponsor, Miss Edith Fox, is a live-wire promotion publication, too. Realizing the importance of the annual convention of the American Vocational Association to be held in San Antonio in December, the staff in an October issue printed fourteen news stories telling how the various school departments were cooperating in preparation for the convention.

Miss Fox, by the way, spent six weeks this summer as editor of The Flatonia Argus, her home town paper.

A Rimming Editorial

The Brackenridge Times recently published an editorial in rhyme, entitled "The Lament of a Desk." The poem carried its editorial message alright, and the original form

probably increased reader interest in the editorial column.

On December 18 the students of Thomas Jefferson High, San Antonio, took over all but one department of K.T.S.A., San Antonio broadcasting station, and managed the station for one day. The students wrote continuity, sold ads, operated the switchboard, and worked in the accounting department. Beginning at 6:30 a.m., with the broadcasting of the national anthem, played by a student, the day's program included a musical hour, a half-hour local program for women, a sports review, numbers by the school band and glee club, and a talk by the principal. Students continued in charge until midnight.

Such a project as this may be used to motivate interest in a dozen different departments of the school. Perhaps your paper could sponsor a similar program on a nearby radio station.

Papers Enlarged

An announcement in a December issue of the Jefferson Declaration, San Antonio, states that the paper will be increased from five to seven columns in January and will support itself with advertisements instead of a school subsidy. The announcement seems to indicate that a similar change will be made in all senior high papers in San Antonio.

The Austin High Pioneer, El Paso, and the El Paso High Tatler make excellent use of lineoum cuts to add interest to the pages. Such cuts can be produced cheaply by the art department.

These El Paso high schools have another good idea. A Dad's Club was organized at each of the two high schools; then the two clubs played a football game. Such an activity naturally creates a wholesome interest in the school on the part of the dads and also helps to bring the students closer in spirit to their dads. If your paper needs a project to sponsor, perhaps you can encourage similar organizations in your city.

COMMUNITY DEBATES

College Promotes Lively Discussions Among the Farmers

WISCONSIN farm organizations in sixteen counties have organized active groups for the public discussion of rural problems. The University of Wisconsin College of Agriculture is aiding their plans to consider this season such questions as: "Why don't farm boys and girls go to high school?"; "Is dairying doomed in Wisconsin?"; "Who should pay the doctor bills?"; and "How can you get your money's worth?" The scheme is already so successful that the United States Department of Agriculture is advocating its use in other states.

The general purpose of such a discussion program are twofold: to work toward informed community opinion, and to make the individual an effective part of his community. It has been demonstrated in Wisconsin that well conducted public discussion makes possible better understanding of a problem and is likely to be followed by intelligent action.

Three types of programs for meetings follow three general steps that should be taken in consideration of a problem. The first step is a meeting where all members pool their information and exchange ideas about the problem selected for discussion. Hence there are no experts. All meet and speak as equals. Each, as far as time permits, tells what he knows and believes.

The next step is a special study of the problem. After the first meeting members usually desire additional information on certain points. Specialists who can provide this information are engaged. In the study of a complicated problem, it is usual to have different points of view presented by different speakers. These specialists talk for twenty to thirty minutes, and then are questioned by the audience.

A debate is the third step in forming group opinion under this plan. When a problem has been thoroughly studied, the time comes for action. A definite proposal is framed, usually in the form of a resolution. Speakers are divided into two teams. The debate continues a sincere search for truth and is no mere display of forensic trickery. After the formal speeches the audience is given the opportunity to join in discussion. Then the whole group records its views and decides what action shall be taken.

The great danger of unthinking acceptance by the pupils of loaded information concerning other peoples is that no critical attitude towards news is developed. Ninety-five per cent of our people must get the truth, and what is more important, the ability to perceive the truth, by the time they are fifteen years old at the most.—Stephen Yeggan.

... "he that is ignorant of what occurred before he was born is always a child."

