

The American Legion

(Copy for This Department Supplied by the American Legion News Service.)

ESSAY CONTEST IS NOW IN PROGRESS

The third annual essay contest of the American Legion began April 1 with the chosen subject, "Why Communism Is a Menace to Americanism." This contest, conducted by the Americanism commission of the Legion, is held annually with a view of enlisted a majority of thought in the direction of some vital question facing America's citizenship.

Heretofore the contest has closed in the fall, but in order to coincide the work with that of the school year Garland W. Powell, director of the Legion's Americanism commission, decided to open the contest in the spring and close it with the completion of school terms.

According to Mr. Powell, 300,000 school children participated in the last contest held by the Legion, which took as its subject, "Why America Should Prohibit Immigration for Five Years." A previous contest conducted by the Legion enlisted efforts of 200,000 children, who submitted essays on the subject "How the American Legion Can Best Serve the Nation."

Each of the subjects chosen reflects some phase of American Legion activity and the Legion view of such policies. The Legion believes that by bringing the subject before the children of the nation it can cause a discussion in many American homes that will be of vital import to the welfare of America.

Prizes aggregating \$1,500 are awarded the winners. The best essayist receives \$750 in cash, to be applied as a scholarship in any school, college or university he may designate. Second receives \$500 and third \$250, each for scholarships. The essays are chosen by elimination. Beginning with the county superintendent of schools in each county, who selects local judges, the three most representative essays are sent on to judges designated by the state superintendents, superintendents of public instruction or school commission. These judges pass on the three best essays submitted in the state.

The winning essay from each state is sent into national competition, from which are chosen the three winners by a committee of judges selected by the Legion. Posts frequently give medals and awards to winners in their own counties, state departments of the Legion provide medals for the three winning essayists there and the cash awards are made by the national judges.

The co-operation of practically every educational official in the country has been afforded the Legion since these contests have been instituted. In addition, educational bodies and organizations have accorded the Legion a great amount of help. Efforts have been made this year through some of the nation's largest fraternal bodies to concentrate the efforts of school children in the contest.

Winter Outing Club New Legion Enterprise

A Winter Outing club is the latest enterprise of the American Legion and the Forty and Eight volt in Keen, N. H. Imagine, if you can, the thrill of a tenth-of-a-mile slide far up on a hillside, to the landing chute in the valley, many feet below.

For a long time, the chamber of commerce in Keen had been endeavoring to build up an interest in winter sports, but without great success. Previous attempts to construct a toboggan slide had failed. But when the Legion men took up the proposition, the busy ring of hammers of carpenters was soon heard and the slide soon became a matter of fact. One of the first to make the trip down the long slide was Past National Commander Owles who got a perfectly good thrill shooting down the hillside through the pine-clad country. The slide was constructed under direction of Prof. Charles Proctor of Dartmouth college, an expert.

Iowa Post Plans to Render Civic Service

Tama, Ia., is but a small city, but the Legionnaires there, sensing a need for definite performance of some civic duty, have hit on a fourfold plan which they believe will bring their town into national prominence.

The first undertaking of Tama Legionnaires will be to establish a free dental clinic in the public schools.

Next, the post proposes the opening of a series of playgrounds in the city.

The third move of the Legion men will be to open a tourist park near Lake Cherry, a favored spot with automobileists, and the last, but not the least important to the community will be safeguarding of the milk supply of the city, which community leaders declare will be of greatest assistance.

Department Headquarters
In an effort to secure department headquarters of the American Legion for Columbia, Mo., much aid was given to the Legion men by the Commercial club of that city, which undertook to provide suitable quarters should the offices be moved there. Estimates of the cost exceeded \$2,500, which was arranged for by the club members.

"FORTY AND EIGHT" AIDS LEGION POSTS

The Forty and Eight—the "playground" of the American Legion, is proving a valuable adjunct to the parent organization in many instances. Certain problems arise in Legion posts or departmental organizations that the Legion may not always consistently handle. Then the Forty and Eight steps to bat and pinch-hits for the Legion, usually successfully.

This has been true of the organization practically since its formation by Joseph W. Breen, a Philadelphian, in 1921. Originally intended to express the joyousness of the veteran, the society has taken over many arduous duties to perform that the Legion has been unable to meet on account of its more cumbersome organization.

In recent months this has been seen in a national way. In addition to playing a prominent part in the child welfare program outlined by the Legion,



Robert J. Murphy.

the Forty and Eight is extending contact for the national officers of the Legion by personal visits to many sections that the organization leaders will be unable to reach during the year.

Robert J. Murphy, chef chemin de fer, or principal officer of the society, has had outlined for him a seven months' tour which takes him into practically every state. Murphy, with a Legion spirit born of association with organization affairs in Iowa, where interest is usually at flood tide, has responded cheerfully to the task and is meeting with a splendid reception wherever he has gone. Choosing as his subject "The Unardonable Sin," which he says is just a way of telling the veterans that you can't take anything out of the Legion without putting something in, the Forty and Eight head is speaking before large groups of Legionnaires.

Following a trip through the Central West, after national headquarters of the society had been opened in Indianapolis, Murphy has been visiting Legionnaires on this extensive tour. He went into the South, covered ten states thoroughly, and in addition to boosting his own organization was the center of much real Legion activity. Next he journeys to New England and will wind up his tour and term of office with a long trip through the West, ending at St. Paul, the convention city, in the fall.

He has been closely associated with Legion affairs since his return from service. He organized a post in his home town, Nora Springs, Ia., and served as county commander of all posts there. He was named to the office in the Forty and Eight, and received national recognition at San Francisco because of his advancement of the society's aims.

During the war Murphy served as an instructor in the Officers' Training school at Camp Pike, Ark. He was discharged from service with the rank of a first lieutenant of infantry.

Give a Town a Bad Name

"Where do we fight next, boss?" asked the ham-and-egg pug, who generally woke up kissing the canvas.

"Kokomo," replied his manager.

"Nuttin' doin', boss. Too many k.o.'s in dat place ter suit me."—American Legion Weekly.

Compliments Veterans

Governor Austin Peay of Tennessee recently greeted National Commander John R. Quinn of the American Legion with the statement that responsibility of the World War veterans on the field of battle won the war, and that present responsibilities of the American Legion will win issues of that war in the forums of the people. He said:

"As time goes on people will cease to forget those who composed this mightiest army of all history. The people of this nation are not sufficiently grateful for these services."

"In you, I recognize the potential citizenship of our state. I want you to be interested in problems of government and realize responsibilities of our citizenship."

SCHOOL FIRE LOSS HEAVY THIS YEAR

SECRETARY MALCOLM MILLER GIVES FIGURE'S SHOWING DAMAGES.

Columbia. Fires involving school property owned by the state of South Carolina have resulted in damages approximating \$50,000 during the first four months of 1924, according to Malcolm J. Miller, secretary of the state sinking fund commission, which has charge of insuring of public buildings.

By comparison with the same period of 1923, this amount shows an enormous increase over the losses of the past year, he declared. The total damages from fires to school buildings owned by the state during 1923 was \$70,993.68, which included the loss incurred by the Cleveland school fire.

However, the 1924 total includes caused by a destructive fire at the University of South Carolina, in which the principal classroom was badly damaged.

During the past two years the state has lost approximately \$30,000 through fires of incendiary origin, Mr. Miller said. It was very noticeable, he said, that when the insurance companies withdrew from the state several years ago and it was found impossible to insure the schools that school fire dropped to a minimum.

"This clearly showed that at least 50 per cent of our school fires were of incendiary origin," Mr. Miller asserted.

Reasons given in the statistics in the sinking fund commission office for last year's fires included such causes as the following: "Sparks on shingle roofs, cigarettes or matches thrown carelessly about, defective construction of buildings, and in the case of the Cleveland school fire a lamp overturning.

Governor issues Proclamation.

A proclamation calling for the observance of Sunday, May 25, as Family Religion day throughout the state and commanding the work of the South Carolina Sunday School association in promoting religious training and family worship has been issued by Gov. Thomas G. McLeod.

The text of the proclamation is as follows, in part.

"Recognizing that moral and religious training in the home is the foundation of right living and good citizenship and realizing also that in the stress of modern life there is a tendency to neglect this important matter, I desire to express my cordial sympathy with the movement now being promoted by the South Carolina Sunday School association and other agencies to give greater emphasis to family worship, the reading of the scriptures and religious training in the home;

"Now, therefore, I invite as many of my fellow citizens as are like-minded to join in the observance of Sunday, May 25, as Family Religion day, and I trust that our churches and Sunday schools, so far as may be consistent with their programs, will on this day make special mention of these matters."

According to State Supt. Leon C. Palmer of the South Carolina Sunday School association, the association has organized a general movement to promote family worship and religious training in the home and county, district and township meetings will be held throughout the state in the interest of this movement. These community meetings are to be followed by local church and Sunday school campaigns to enlist every member in the observance of family worship and Scriptural reading in the home. The movement will culminate in Family Religion day, Sunday, May 25, on which day every Sunday school interested in this movement is invited to give it special attention in their program.

Annual Child Health Day.

Taking advantage of the out-of-doors features of May Day the American Child Health association this year will inaugurate an annual child health day to coincide with May Day, according to Miss Ada N. Graham, chairman for South Carolina.

Fourth Corps Leads Way.

The Fourth corps area, of which South Carolina is a part, is leading the United States in applications for the Citizens' Military Training camps this summer, and this state is third in the area. All of which means that South Carolina's quota is fast being filled. Records compiled showed that 72 per cent of this state's allotment had been finally accepted while many more applications were waiting for a final check.

Statue of Hammond is Loaned.

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The bust of Governor Hammond was placed by Alex Salley, secretary of the state historical commission.

CO-OPS HOLD DISTRICT MEET

H. B. Caldwell Nominated For Re-election as Director, Without Any Opposition.

Chester.—A meeting of the delegates of the 5th district of the South Carolina Cooperative Cotton association was held at the court house in Chester, with delegates from the various towns in the district.

The meeting was held for the purpose of electing a director from the district. H. B. Caldwell has held this position for the past year and the members of the association have been so well pleased with the excellent services of Mr. Caldwell that he was nominated for re-election without any opposition whatever.

Mr. Caldwell is one of the most active men in the South Carolina Co-operative association and is spending much time and thought in furthering the interests of the association.

The various delegates attending the meeting were served dinner at the home of Mrs. Alice Kirkpatrick, being guests of the Chester county association.

A number of instructive and interesting talks were made by various members of the association at the meeting. Chester county is going right ahead in securing members and it is believed that by next fall at least half of the cotton raised in Chester county will go into the association.

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It was found that the bridging of this river at Yawannah ferry would entail an additional cost of \$90,000 over the original estimate, which gave to the outlook a most serious aspect.

Upper State Students Receive Honors. Columbia.—Upper state high school students monopolized honors in the various contests at the University of South Carolina, taking first places in declaiming, expression and debating and breaking records in the track preliminaries.

The debating team from Easley, composed of Miss Lizzie Mae England and Remsen Bauknight, won the debate by defeating the Kingstree pair.

Miss Mildred Cunningham of Greer took first place in the expression contest at the Columbia high school.

Crosby Steele, representing Rock Hill high school, carried off the declamation honors by defeating nine competitors in the university chapel.

Adams of Pickens, versatile track athlete, broke two state high school records in the field preliminaries.

The High School League meeting closed with a banquet given in the university gymnasium.

Reservations For Summer Courses.

Clemson College.—With the opening date of the 1924 summer school, June 9, still nearly two months off, several hundred reservations have already been made by teachers of South Carolina and other states, who are planning to attend the summer school, says Dr. F. H. H. Calhoun, dean, who is now busy completing the faculty list and working out other details preliminary to the opening of the summer session.

Elimination Contests.

Bethel.—The elimination contest in the O'Neal Oratorical association was held at the high school building and attended by a large and appreciative audience. In the readings Sadie Boyce won with the selection "An Even in Battle." Murrell Jones was given second place with "The Littlest Rebel."

Ralph Cox, with the declamation, "The Curse of South Carolina," was given first place and Walter Kay was given second place with "A Eulogy to Woodrow Wilson." The above first honor contestants will represent the school in the semi-finals at Anderson May 9.

Lay Cornerstone at Clemson.

Clemson College.—Bishop Collins Denny of Richmond, Va., made the principal address at the laying of the cornerstone of the new \$50,000 Methodist church here. Bishop Denney's address, on the subject of ideals in developing character, was a scholarly and impressive discourse and was enjoyed by a large audience of Clemson people and college students and visitors. The Rev. J. H. Holler, pastor of the local church, presided over the exercises, which consisted of selections by the Clemson College band, hymns 657 and 663, the address by Bishop Denny, the placing of articles in the cornerstone, and the consecration of the stone by Bishop Denny.

Fleet of Trucks Leave Williston.

Williston.—A fleet of 11 Ford trucks equipped with Williston made dump bodies and cabs, manufactured by the Thompson Manufacturing company of Williston, driven through to Spartanburg, where they will be turned over to the state highway department by the Williston Motor company. This is a part of a 20 truck order landed by this concern in Columbia. These trucks carried banners, "Williston to Spartanburg." "Made in Williston."

The DAIRY

GRAIN MIXTURES FOR YOUNG DAIRY CALVES

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Dairy calves in their second week will begin nibbling at grain, if any is available, and by the time they are one month old will often eat a half-pound a day. Young calves relish wheat bran, which is often used in grain mixtures at the start. Corn has a desirable effect upon cattle of all ages and is available on most farms. It helps to make up for the fat removed from skim milk. Experiments have shown that cracked corn is better than ground corn for young calves. The United States Department of Agriculture recommends that bran and cracked corn be made the basis of the feed mixture whenever possible. Ground oats is a very good feed, but oats are not so generally grown as corn and usually cost more per unit of feed than corn and bran. The department recommends any of the following mixtures are suitable for young calves:

1. Three parts cracked corn and one part wheat bran.

2. Three parts cracked corn, one part wheat bran and one part ground oats.

3. Three parts cracked corn, one part wheat bran, one part ground oats and one part blood meal.

4. Five parts cracked corn, one part wheat bran, one part ground oats and one part blood meal.

5. Oats, ground.

Some time during the third month calves will probably be eating about three pounds of grain a day. When the grain is fed with the separated milk it should never be mixed with the milk, and it is questionable whether there is any advantage in soaking or boiling.

Improved-Sires Work Is Encouraged by Breeders

"The Alabama beef cattle breeders have sold all of their surplus bulls of breeding age," says K. G. Baker, extension market agent of that state, who recently visited the United States Department of Agriculture. Mr. Baker cites as one reason for this increased demand for bulls the influence of the co-operative show and sale of feeder cattle held in October at the Montgomery Union Stock Yards, in co-operation with the state extension service.

In this event nearly 1,200 head of cattle were sold at auction, many of them going to feedlot buyers representing adjoining and more northern states. Before the sale the cattle were all publicly graded for quality, size, sex, etc., and demonstrations made to show the advantages of using pure bred bulls of good quality.

Producers received from 2 to 3 cents per pound more for their cattle under this system than they could obtain by marketing them in ungraded lots to local buyers.

Plans have been made to continue this enterprise as a permanent annual event, and it is expected to provide a much-needed stimulus to beef cattle production in that section.

Forage Crops in Summer Are of Big Importance

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