Jay Sherman

WOODLAND ECHOES

VOL. 1 EDGEWOOD, IOWA, JAN. 31, 1927 NO. 5

ECHOES FROM THE PAST

Edgewood's Superintendents

Former superintendents of the Edgewood Public schools lend their names to a list that is not long but imposing. Few of the men who directed the destinies of the schools in the past are at the present engaged in their previous occupation. Some have died.

As near as records and memories yield information. Prof. G. H. Sumner was the first superintendent at Edgewood. When the new brick building, which is the original unit of the present structure, was put up, he came to have charge of both the high school and the grades. He was followed the next fall by Charles Martin who stayed a year. Nanford Moine came the succeeding year and remained until the middle of the 1895-96 term at which time he resigned and went to Pana, Ill. His place was taken by J. F. D. Meighen who finished that term and a year besides. He is now living in Albert Lea, Minnesota, where he is a prominent and prosperous lawyer. The fall of 1897 found Prof. M. C. Boylon in charge of the schools, but he left the next spring and Mrs. Adel Andrews took his place. She was the first and only woman superintendent of the Edgewood schools. After her came Professors R. C. Arildson, J. W. Stahl and Chas. Martindale for short terms. J. F. D. Joseph, who is now a traveling representative of the Charles Scribner & Sons book company with his headquarters at Des Moines, was superintendent for years, leaving here in 1903.

The late S. M. Wallace, who died about two years ago, was head of the schools from 1903 to 1905. He was followed by Prof. Tom Roberts who remained nearly four years and left in January, 1909. Prof. W. C. Haney took his place and finished out the term. Prof. Chester Burnside came in the autumn and had charge until Earl F. Wisdom, whose letter from Des Moines appears in this issue, took charge in 1910 and remained

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CALENDAR

Feb. 4, Hopkinton and Dundee boys; Dundee girls, here.

Feb. 8, Colesburg Seniors, Midgets, and girls, here.

Feb. 12, Manchester boys and girls, Hopkinton Midgets, here.

Feb. 15, Luncheon by 9th grade home ec. girls to faculty.

Feb. 18, Elkader seniors and Midgets, Delaware girls, here.

Feb. 24 Dinner to Board of Education by 10th grade home ec. class

Feb. 25, Preliminary state declamatory contest here.

Feb. 25-26, County Tournament at Guttenburg.

March 3-4-5-, State Sectional Tournament, Oelwein.

March 11, Junior High School Declamatory Contest.

EDGEWOOD GETS STATE DECLAM.

Lamont, Stanley, Strawberry Point, and Edgewood will compete in the high school auditorium here February 25 according to arrangements just announced by the secretary of the northeastern division of the Iowa High School Declamatory association.

Edgewood's three contestants, Kathryne Lucey, Angie Stone, and Francis Wooldridge are hard at work on new declamations for the occasion. Ardis Swordes, the coach, believes that with the experience in learning and giving their other declamations in the county contest, they should show greater ability with the new ones.

The primary pupils have featured the life of the Eskimo in their sand table and handwork. A shower of paper snowflakes hangs above an Eskimo village while tufts of snowflakes suspended from strings stretche across a corner make the air seem filled with real snowflakes.

PLAY MANY HOME GAMES IN FEB.

Prospect for Victory Bright

February will see all three Edgewood high school teams in action four times in what will probably be the greatest month of home games on record. On four different occasions, triple-headers will be played including games by the girls', midgets, and senior boys' teams. Two Friday nights, one Tuesday night, and one Saturday night will be occcpied by the sport.

With the boys team showing the most promise it has since the first game of the season, the girls displaying the best offensive work of the year, and the Midgets showing real basketball ability, the home season should be very successful. The home floor is supposed to give an advantage of ten points and with the season's experience behind their teams, coaches Hansen, Cottrell and Gardner look forward to a succession of victories.

The season starts off with the whirlwind Hopkinton first team meeting our boys while the midgets and girls will stage curtain raisers with the Dundee first boys and girls teams. The following Tuesday, all three Colesburg teams invade the local camp primed for battle. The coaches plan a different outcome from that experienced by Edgewood at Colesburg. Manchester comes on Lincoln's birthday with its boys' and girls' teams while the games will be preceded by a midget game with Hopkinton. The last games of the season will be played the following Friday when the Elkader first and Midget teams are met while the girls will play a return game with Delaware.

The usual prices and season tickets will admit to all games.

Jinx Follows Boys' Team

Continuously since meeting Strawberry Point on the local floor, the boys' team has suffered reverses. They rose to their best form when the reconstructed team met Strawberry Point on its own floor, Jan. 7 and played two overtime periods to be

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ECHOES FROM THE PAST

(Cont'd From Page 1)

two years. Prof. Clifford French took up the work then and was followed in a year by Frank W. Jones who remained five years, the record for staying up to that time. Prof. Jones took up the work at Strawberry Point where he stayed seven years and is now at the head of the county seat schools at Anamosa.

Prof. C. O. Parks who took Mr. Jones' place stayed a year and was followed by C. F. Evans who stayed two years, leaving in 1921.

1921 Godfrey Messer came. It was during his work here that the newest addition was made to the school plant which made several new courses possible. The junior high department was started when the seventh and eighth grades were moved into the high school assembly room. A ninth teacher was added in 1924. Vocational home economics was introduced at the same time. Play ground equipment was donated by the Woman's club and erected on the new grounds which had been augmented by the addition of a three acre tract. The grounds were seeded down and the landscape architecture planned. Last year the high school orchestra was started.

Mr. Messer equalled the record set by Frank Jones for length of tenure when he remained five years.

Paul K. Gardner came in the fall of 1926 and is now at the head of the Edgewood schools. During his first year of work here he has sought to develop the work already started the founding of WOODLAND ECHOES has been one of the features of his administration together with a movement to make athletics a benefit to the participants, school, and community. Insistance upon strict training by athletes to make them worthy to represent the school has been marked during the present year.

The town board of Litchfield has added a skating pond to the playground equipment this winter and it is very much enjoyed by the high school pupils.

"The Poor Married Man" was a successful play put on by the juniors of Harris (Ia.) high school. The profit is to go to the junior-senior banquet to be given in the spring.

PLAY MANY HOME GAMES IN FEB

(Continued from page 1)

defeated in the last few seconds of play after having had a chance to win the game at the end of the first period on free throws. The score was 25 to 23. Several of the boys were sick during the game which helped prevent victory.

Just before Christmas, Elkader was met on its own floor and in a rough game defeated Edgewood's inexperienced boys 32 to 20. The smallness of the hall and loose officiating contributed to the defeat. However, several of the boys "found" themselves in this game and showed unusual prowess as scrappers.

Hopkinton proved to be the fastest team met this year and defeated us, 30 to 6. Hopkinton was runner up in state sectional contest last year and should be a strong contender again this year with the same experienced team back. The local boys just couldn't locate the basket at the same time being unable to do effective guard work against lightning-like passes.

Manchester, although in many respects the weakest team met this year, won the game 30 to 20 after much ragged playing on the part of both teams. Edgewood seemed to have the superior material but failed to deliver the goods. Poor headwork let the county seat town win the game. Local rooters believe victory will be to the Orange and black when the game is returned, a week from Saturday.

Lamont won Friday's game on its own floor by a score of 27 to 10. Edgewood again failed to put the oval through the rim although it had many chances while failure to follow up shots was a contributing factor in the loss.

Girls Win One

Delaware fell victim to the girls team on its own floor when with machine-like regularity the Orange and black players tossed the ball through the basket with the final result, 36 to 13. All Edgewood substitutes were in the fray at the sound of the final whistle. A small hall made playing somewhat difficult for the girls.

Manchester proved too much for the Edgewood girls. Featuring Mary Gibson, an all-state forward, from the blow of the whistle its team "walked

(Continued from page 7)

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FIRE BURNS COOKIES

"We'll never do it again" was the pronouncement made by ninth grade members of the home economics department Friday after they advertised the mistake of leaving ginge cookies baking in the kitchen "for a few minutes" while attending a recitation that was being held up in the sewing room. The fact that the kerosene stove had "crept" and that the proposed cookies were charcoal was advertised to the whole school when the teasing smell of roasting cake was suddenly turned to irritating blue smoke that filled the building.

HOME EC. CLUB ACTIVE

Music made up the entire program of the Home Economics club at its meeting Friday afternoon. Dorothy Fowler and Velma Alcorn gave a piano duet, Charlotte Stone, Helen Smith, Grace Moser and Marion Minkler contributed a vocal quartet number, and the program was completed by the singing of three club songs by the entire group. The program was planned by Juanita Stone, Edn Thurn, and Gertrude Borton.

In the January meeting of the club it was decided to have a bake sale, the proceeds of which were to be used to pay club dues and carry on other club work. The soliciting committee for the sale consisted of Velma Alcorn, Lucille Gray and Charlotte Stone.

The advertising committee was Helen Hanson and Vera Rizer.

In the Friday's business meeting, Charlotte Stone reported that over eight dollars was made at the bake sale held a week ago Saturday.

Instead of having the regular program, the January meeting was given over to a cake contest. The girls discovered that there were more kinds of cakes than anyone has ever made. The first prizes which were won by Lucile Gray and Edna Thurn were Hershey bars while Nina Nightwine and Mary Todd received sticks of gum for booby prizes.

Maxine Fisher and Evelyn and Lucille Wooldridge are new members of the Home Economics club.

10th H. E. To Dine Board

Serving a dinner to the members of the board of education and their wives on February 24 is the live project ahead of the girls in the 10th home economics class. In preparation for the affair, the class planned and served a luncheon in the home economics rooms last Wednesday, thereby bringing various dishes together in a meal that they had been studying. Three groups in the class are planning menus. The rules that have been laid down are that the meal shall be for a family of five and that the cost must not be over twenty-five cents per plate. When the luncheon projects are finished, then work in earnest will be started on the planning, preparation and serving of the dinner in which they will have real practice when the board of education is entertained.

9th Girls to Feed Teachers

Having just finished their study of the balanced meal, the girls are now going to put their knowledge into practice with home projects and serving at school. With the work started on the luncheon, plans have been made to entertain the teachers at such a meal on February 15.

Preparation of the noon-day school lunch has fallen to the lot of the 9th grade H. E. girls. They are having real success with the work, the pupils buying everything they cook. With thirty to forty pupils taking advantage of the service each noon, a new record is being established. The planning of the meals ahead and advertising them is contributing to the success of the undertaking.

A good speech club was organized by the sophomore English class members at Atlantic, Iowa.

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DESK EDITORS

Exchange -------- Gertrude Ashline
Historical ------ Francis Wooldridge
Alumni ---------- Aurelia Funk
Class and Faculty ------ Iota Miller
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WHY NOT?

In "Tinkles From the Farm", there is an article telling of the astounding success of the Clayton County Stock judging team. Why isn't there an Edgewood representative on the team Edgewood high school has a predominance of boys and girls from the farm. Most Edgewood farmers have shown themselves able to meet financial conditions that have reigned since the prosperous days of the great war. Through conservative planning and living, specialization in dairying and poultry raising and in providing many of the necessities of life, including fuel from their own farms, they have been able to make ends meet. No bank failures have occurred in this county.

Edgewood Hi should have representatives on future teams. Too many of the high school boys are planning to leave farms.

Among other things it is a lack of not knowing how to appreciate and enjoy farm life that is causing it. Interest in and knowledge of grain and stock judging are things that are contributing to the enjoyment of farm work. It is shocking to see what poor judges of such things the average person on the farm is. The fact that thousands of Wisconsin and Minnesota worn-out dairy cows have been dumped into Iowa at high prices is enough.

Grade Pupils neither absent nor tardy during the first semester:

5th: Maxine Barnes, Burdeen Possehl, Howard Bishop, Helen Waldron
6th: Florence Seward, Helen Rossow, Robert Smith.

CONCERT WELL ATTENDED

Two hundred people, including participants, attended the first Musical Festival, which was given in the high school auditorium last Tuesday by the girls and boys glee clubs and the high school orchestra. The orchestra, consisting of twenty-three high school students with the addition of Supt. Gardner, Mr. DiTella, the director and Mildred Blair of Manchester, opened and closed the concert, playing marches, overture, popular numbers and seranades. The organization was at top pitch for its first big concert.

The girls glee club in pretty dresses, singing numbers out of its new books made a fine appearance and impression with new songs. The boys in light shirt waists were well received when they presented their part of the program.

The numerous instrumental solos were given from memory. It was the first public appearance of every participant as a soloist and they met with the usual difficulties under such circumstances and acquitted themselves well.

So successful was the affair that those in charge of music are planning another big concert to be given in April. All songs and solos will be memorized for the occasion.

The program, revised since last issue, was as follows:

The Flying Ace, March
Light Cavalry, Overture
So's Your Old Lady
On the Hike, March
High School Orchestra
Out on the Deep
Watch the Corners,
The Man in the Moon
Boys' Glee Club
Saxonade, Saxophone solo,
Clyde Fisher
Serenade, Violin Solo,
Jerome Newman
Roll on Silver Moon, Girls Sextet
Humoreske. Saxophone Duet,
Gayle Peick and Charles Chapman
Canoe Song.
Gypsy Song
Joy and Courage
Girls Glee Club
Dreams of Love, Violin duet
Helen Hanson and Elinor Chapman
On a Canoe, Serenade,
Little Corporal, Overture
That Night in Araby,
The Skipper, March
High School Orchestra

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WISDOM RELATES EXPERIENCES

Earl F. Wisdom, who was superintendent from 1910 to 1912 in the high school days of Ralph Rizer, Leon Jones, Fern Sharp and Letha Sherman Phillips, made the alumni secretary happy by sending in a long letter. He says that the letter is from the whole family—"the same Mrs. W. whom you all knew, Lucille Jack, Bill, Bobby and Rosalie Ellen.

"Lucille, who used to disturb the assembly at the age of two is now a junior in East High school (Des Moines) member of the student council, president of the young people' division of the University Church of Christ Sunday school, member of the high school debating team, et cetera. Jack and Bill, who are as tall as their dad, are in junior high school. Bob is nine and Rosalie Ellen four.

"After leaving Edgewood, we spent three years in Larchwood, two in East Bend, and moved to Des Moines in 1917 to take a position in East High school. The next summer found the chief in the army. Upon discharge a position at East High school was waiting. Being ambitious and short of cash, we solicited editorial work with the Des Moines Register and filled a position on that publication for about a year, teaching at the same time.

"It was always an ambition with us to study law. The opportunity came in June, 1919 and we entered the Drake Law school, working on the Des Moines Register at the same time."

Mr. Wisdom was instrumental in getting afternoon law classes started in the University, his work being in the forenoon when the regular law courses were given.

"We had a struggle to put the idea of working and going to school at the same time into operation," he says, "but after three years of work day and night we received our degree and admission to the bar in 1922.

"Then began the traditional seven years of "starvation". We continued to teach for three years along with the practice in Des Moines and in 1925 became associated with the State Department of Banking, doing legal work in connection with failed banks in Des Moines. In July 1926 an appointment as Assistant Attorney General came out of contact with that office in the liquidation of banks. So

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CAMP FIRE GIRLS HAVE PARTY

Two Camp Fires under the leadership of Rose Ann Pope and Florence Johnson have been holding regular meetings and learning camp fire lore.

A Christmas party was given by the Nowetompatim'n Camp Fire group of which Miss Johnson is guardian, in the third and fourth grade room on December 20. Since then two meetings have been held in which work was done with bead looms and head bands such as used by Camp Fire girls, were made. In an early January meeting, the girls met one Saturday morning at 6:30 and supplied with bacon and eggs, journeyed to Bixby's Park where they had breakfast.

Cheskchamay is the Indian name chosen by Miss Pope's group, meaning "All Friends". A hike was taken by this group two weeks ago and last week met with Evelyn Thomas.

THE WELL GOES DRY

"You never know the worth of water, till the well is dry" said Poor Richard. Edgewood pupils did not know the truth of that saying until on Thursday and Friday the town water ceased working and many pupils sought the water fountains in a vain effort to quench their thirst.

The biggest joke was on our janitor, M. L. Stone, who spent all Thursday morning with hot water and blow torch trying to "thaw out" the water pipes which refused to respond to the treatment he administered.

Various explanations of the lack of water were given: One of the town pumps went out of commission; the water mains froze up: the standpipe was frozen up or frozen over. Frost, rarely seen on the water tower appeared there and to the students of physics indicated that something was wrong. On Friday, when it d'sappeared, there was plenty of water.

Kitchen utensils have been drawn in the still life work of the third and fourth grade art classes.

A series of silent reading books has been installed in the school and are in use from the first to the seventh grades.

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Tinkles from the Farms

ATTEND AMES HOME WEEK

Iowa State College at Ames is hostess to thousands of Iowa farm people this week. The best agricultural teachers in the world will give instruction to those who attend; some of the best livestock and agricultural education equipment on the planet will be used in classes; one of the greatest exhibits of grain possible will be open to those who attend.

Few people about Edgewood are attending but hundreds should go. Few farmers, their wives or their children have been able to attend an agricultural college. Many, however, who attend this wonderful home week at Ames say it is the next thing to a college course. The pith of college studies are given in a few lessons. Big lectures with speakers of national reputation are held and sociability is shown at the banquet at which 3000 covers are laid. Some farm families make the practice of having each member take his turn in attending. The railroads are making it easy with a one-and-one-third round trip fare to attend while Ames can be reached on good gravelled or paved roads from Edgewood every mile of the way. The college makes the stay enjoyable by making special preparation for board and room for all who attend. People who have been there urge Edgewood people, both old and young to attend this great in-gathering of progressive rural people. Such affairs have made Denmark the most prosperous agricultural country in the world.

CLAYTON COUNTY WINS

Although no Edgewood alumnus is numbered among the members of the team, Clayton county won the American stock judging contest at the International Livestock Exhibition in Chicago during the Christmas vacation. The team is to be sent to England where it will seek world honors.

The members of the Shortridge (Indianapolis) Latin club are to hold their annual party in the near future.

FRED SHERMAN BUYS GUERNSEYS

Fred Sherman, father of Fay, after selling off most of his Holstein cows at a recent sale, has purchased a herd of ten Guernseys, five of which are registered pure-bloods and the rest high grade stock, all of them between six months and four years of age. In the herd his has a junior yearling bull and a bull calf.

Economy in upkeep, gentleness and richer milk are the charasteristics Mr. Sherman says, that have attracted him to this breed of cattle, recognizing at the same time that they do not give the poundage in milk that the black and white. He plans to grade up his grade cows and build up a herd of profitable dairy stock from the foundation he has just laid.

NEED NOT TROMP SILAGE

Earnest Ash, father of Lawrence and Leo, believes it is unnecessary to tromp a silo in the middle when filling it with ensilage. A year ago last fall he did not have anyone tromping regularly in the silo when it was being filled. He took the distributor pipe off at the blower pipe hood and just blew the material into the silo. At different times he would go in there and tromp along the sides and put the doors in. He says that the ensilage kept well but settled about three doors.

This autumn he had one man in the silo all the time tromping the cut-up corn along the sides while the distributor was running at the same time. Again his ensilage settled three doors.

In each case he got good feed out of the silo.

Grade Pupils neither absent nor tardy during the first semester:

First grade: Keith Gifford, Tommy Scully. 2nd: Robert Fairweather, John Seward, Virginia Moser, Darlene Nichols, Laura O'Neal, Mary Siegel.

3rd. Kenneth Galizer, Genevieve Putz, Elenor Sherman. 4th Gerald Seward, Elane Barnes, Lucile Quinn.

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EXCHANGES TELL THE NEWS

Exchange papers received from various schools in the United States indicate that basketball is a universal winter sport, whether in the north or south.

Many freshmen are out for the basketball team at Coggan (Iowa). The boys' basketball team of Superior (Nebr.) has received new suits. They are red with white trimmings and letters. The basketball girls of Emmetsburg (Iowa) sold hot dog sandwiches at the last two football games in order to purchase sweaters for the girls team.

Football boys of Baton Rouge (La. enjoyed a dinner party, according to the "Flashlight" and the "W. C. H. S. Broadcast" of Wheaton (Ill.- tell how the football boys there were banqueted. "The Olinian" of Olin Ia. and the "L. H. S. Bugle" of Litchfield (Nebr.) describe the football feeds given by the players' mothers

Sixteen football boys received letters at Harris, Iowa, eleven at the Shortridge high school Indianapolis.

Plans were being made for the home declamatory contest at Ledyard (Ia.) "The N. H. S. News" relates that the declamatory work is well under way at Northwood (Ia.) Th winning readings of the home declamatory contest at Emmetsburg were "American and Her Immigrants," "Four O'clocks" and "Over the Bannister."

The Home economics students of Shreveport (La.) entertained the P. T. A. The Wheaton home economics girls entertained thirteen orphan children at a Christmas party. Old dresses were being remodeled by the girls of Northwood high school. The H. E. girls of Chillicothe. (Mo) gave to charity and also entertained the members of the school board. Hot noon lunch is being served by the girls at Emmetsburg. The Baton Rouge home economics girls gave a style show.

Glee club work is in full swing. The glee clubs at Olin gave the cantata "Emanuel" at Christmas time.

Those at Wheaton have special new uniforms of black with white trimmings.

Mothers were the guests of the daughters of the West High (Des Moines) school when they attended a Christmas party. The girls of Shreveport distributed Christmas boxes among the poorer class of people.

PLAY MTNY HOMF GAMES IN FEB.

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away" from the orange and black team with a final score of 85 to 3. In the second quarter Gibson was taken from the game with the result that only two points were scored. Edgewood showed considerable of the much desired agility during this game and together with some team work, but most of the few chances at the basket were lost. A much better showing will be made by the girls in the game here Feb. 12.

Fighting on its own floor the Lamont girls won over Edgewood 40 to 18 Friday evening. It was the best display yet made by the local girls in offensive work against a strong team. Their work seemed decidedly superior to that shown at Manchester. Ability to get across the floor quicker was the deciding point in Lamont's favor.

Midgets Show Fight

The Midgets team has maintained an average of 400 per cent in its four games, winning from Elkader 16 to 11 and being defeated by Colesburg, Strawberry Point and Hopkinton by the scores of 18 to 9. 10 to 8, and 10 to 5, respectively. Each game was closely fought and it seemed in each case that the Edgewood boys should have won. Home games should raise the average of the team.

Seconds Defeat Colesburg

In an exciting game, the Orange and black second team displayed basketball ability and defeated Colesburg 8 to 7. A number of the boys played their first interscholastic game at this time.

The boy with his boat, the girl with her dolls, will soon have passed this age of toys — but photographs of the children never grow up.

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ALUMNI RIPPLES

NEWS FROM RALPH RIZER

Ralph Rizer, Secretary of the Farmer's Co-operative Creamery Company of Edgewood says in regard to his experiences, "I attended the Edgewood High School for the entire course of four years, my brother Ralph and I making the daily trip of seven miles with horse and buggy regardless of weather, until we graduated with the "Eleven" of 1911 under the supervision of Chester Burnsides and Laura Beyer True."

Of his college education he says, "I gained my 'college education' by managing a farm until 1922 when I moved to Edgewood in order that my daughter might attend High School."

GODFREY MESSER WRITES

Mr. Godfrey Messer, superintendent of Edgewood schools for the last five years, responded to an invitation to write a letter to WOODLAND ECHOES. In it he outlined the wonderful expansion and improvement in the school plant, equipment, grounds course of studies and extra-curricular activities that took place during his administration which lasted from the fall of 1920 to the spring of 1926.

"The other evening," he writes, while attending a father and son banquet at the Teachers College High School Hi-Y, I was pleased to hear the speaker of the evening mention a former E. H. S. boy as a model for our boys to follow. Again, I would like to tell the student body of E. H. S. to "aim high" and then try to reach that mark as near as you possibly can. Work hard for E. H. S. not only to keep it up to the standard but that it may enjoy a steady growth."

In a letter that accompanied his article for the paper he said, "I have enjoyed reading the paper. I think it is a move in the right direction—"Please remember me to the teachers who worked with me and to my former pupils."

Mr. Messer is attending Iowa Teachers College where he is completing work towards a bachelor's degree. We understand he will receive the coveted diploma late this winter.

WISDOM RELATES EXPERIENCES

(Continued on Page Five)

here we are.

"We have gone into our struggle with some detail, not boastfully, but for a purpose. We trust it may be interesting "gossip" to acquaintances and our former students. But our purpose is more serious than that. One thing omitted from the story is the completion of a Liberal Arts course at Highland Park college in 1917.

"Our purpose is this: We have achieved the ambition of all the years—the admission to the practice of law. To go to college without funds is difficult. To go through two with a respectable standing in the eyes of the professsors and support a family of Rooseveltian size is no play. But we enjoyed the struggle and it has given us heart—courage to face the future with a smile and to look forward to some measure of success, at least.

"If we may be so bold as to offer advice, may we suggest some of the rules we have followed:

1. Never seek revenge. 2. Face failure with a smile of determination. 3. Be like a live golf ball, bounce the higher the harder thrown. 4. Forget the thing you seek and lose; it may not be best for you. 5. Chart your course with due consideration for your physical limitations and stick to it. 6. When you are 'up against it', be resourceful; if impossible to go through, go around.

Miss Pope of the 5th-6th grades and the high school have each just returned fifty State Traveling Library books and are expecting new ones to replace them soon.

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