

THE WIDE AWAKE CIRCLE

Boys' and Girls' Department.

Masses are being written. Write plainly on one side of the paper only, and number the pages. Use pen and ink, not pencil. Short and pointed articles will be given preference. Do not use over 250 words. Original stories or letters only will be used. Write your name, age and address plainly at the bottom of the story.

WIDE-AWAKE POETRY.

Little Brown Hens. They drive home the cows from the pasture. Up through the long, shady lane, where the quail whistles loud in the wheat fields. That are yellow with ripening grain, they find, in the thick, waving grasses, where the scarlet-tipped strawberry grows. They gather the earliest snowdrops, and the first crocuses buds of the rose. They toss the new hay in the meadow; they gather elderberry white; they find where the dusky grapes purple in the soft-hatched October light. They know where the apples hang ripest and are sweeter than any other; they know where the fruit hangs the thickest. On the long, thorny blackberry vines, they gather the delicate seedpods, and build their castles of sand; they pick up the beautiful hazelnuts, fairly hard and white as snow, and they wave from the tall, rocking treetops where the oriole's hammock nest swings. And at night time are folded in slumber by a song that is a fond mother's lullaby.

Those who tell brave's are strongest; the humble and poor become great; and so from these brown-headed children shall grow mighty rulers of state. The pen of the author and statesman—the noble and wise of the land—the sword, and the obelisk, and palette shall be held in the hand of a little hand.—M. H. Krout.

UNCLE JED'S TALK TO WIDE-AWAKES.

In these days much is heard about Americanism, and as we have just passed Washington's birthday we have not in all probability overlooked this great American and the important part he took in shaping the course of this country. As one of the nation's great patriots he is so closely identified with the early days when this country was struggling for independence and immediately thereafter that he must hold an important place in the estimation of every boy and girl as well as the grownups.

Washington long before Lincoln's time did much to guide this new nation. It will be only eleven years before there will be celebrated the 100th birthday anniversary of Washington. Conditions when he was a boy were much different than they are today, but there are similar opportunities today to what there were at that time and the most can be made of them if they are tackled in the Washingtonian manner.

Washington had more opportunities than did Lincoln but his education was limited and it was by making the most of every chance that came his way that he got ahead. He showed what he was made of, that he was prepared to tackle his tasks, big or little it was his policy to meet them where they were. Not many boys today at the age of 16 are entrusted with the job of surveying an estate, but that was Washington's job back in 1748, when Virginia was still a wilderness. With the same thoroughness he was commissioned to communicate with the French and accomplished what others had failed to do. It was such service in all things that equipped him for the greater responsibilities that were placed on his shoulders later on. Faithful and successful in his undertakings, he was looked to with confidence, and it is not surprising that he should be regarded as "first in war, first in peace and first in the hearts of his countrymen."

WINNERS OF PRIZE BOOKS.

- 1—Pauline Elizabeth of Colchester—Hilda's Mascot.
2—Alice Hanson of Ballto—The Potter Boys in the Front Line Trenches.
3—Margaret Pettin of Gales Ferry—The Potter Boys Under Old Glory.
4—Joseph Coy of Jewett City—Connecticut Boys in the Western Reserve.
5—Richard Langer of Eagleville—The Boy Scout's Victory.
6—Philip Copeland of Willimantic—The Boy Scouts on the Trail.
7—Ethel Parkhurst of Jewett City—Campfire Girls at Long Lake.
8—Grace Goodwin of Griswold—Campfire Girls on the Farm.

LETTERS OF ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

Louise Avery of Norwich Town: I was very much pleased with the book I received entitled "The Campfire Girls at Long Lake." I enjoyed reading it very much. Raymond J. Woods of Norwich: I received the prize book entitled "The Potter Boys in the Front Line Trenches." I have read it and find it very interesting. Thank you very much for it. Joseph Bell of Whitcomb: I wish to express my thanks for the prize book you sent me entitled "The Campfire Girls at Long Lake." I have read it and found it very interesting.

LETTERS WRITTEN BY WIDE-AWAKES.

A Cold War. Dear Uncle Jed: It was a bitter cold morning. I knew it as soon as I opened my eyes. It was the first day of winter that the frost had been so thick that I could not see the willow tree outside. I finally got up and after much shivering while dressing I ran down stairs to breakfast. I mean finished my breakfast and started for school. On the way I met some of my companions, but we did not stop to talk or play. We all wanted to reach the schoolhouse with the warm, steam-heated rooms. We finally reached there with frozen faces, chapped hands and frost-bitten ears. This was one of the days we were glad to see the schoolhouse again. CATHERINE McVEIGH, Age 12, Norwich.

My First Day Skating.

Dear Uncle Jed: My father bought me a pair of skates the other day and so I told me that I could go down on the pond and try them. I saw that there

of their cravat, or the cut of their coat, if young men, or upon the richness and style of their dresses, if they belong to the other sex. Franklin had what we would call true ambition. He, induced by an honorable ambition, went to a high school and civil station, as well as a commanding position in the scientific world. Columbus' ambition was to extend the limits of geographical knowledge. Now the boys of today ought to direct their ambition into worthy channels, so that even if they could not leave behind a great name, they might at least lead useful lives and the satisfaction of thinking that they had done some service to their race. JOSEPH CTR. Jewett City.

My Three Cats. Dear Uncle Jed: This is my first letter to you and I am going to tell you about my three cats. One is black, one is black and white and the other is gray. The black one is Blackie and the gray one is "Kittie Gray." The black hunter but Blackie is my favorite. The mother cat is the strictest and catches many mice. They sleep in the barn but in the daytime they are in the house. Yours truly, FRANKLYN ALBRO, Age 9, Ellipton.

Chief Rise Sky. Dear Uncle Jed: One afternoon when I came out of school there was an Indian in the school yard. There were about all the children around him. He said that he would be at the opera house at 4:15 and I went there. When I got there he was standing in the hall. He wore pants and coat made of skins, and wore an Indian headdress. Pretty soon he came on the stage. The first he did was to tell his name, then he played an instrument that I did not know the name of. Then he gave the calls of the different birds and the hen and rooster and the coyote bark. Then he gave the bugle call on a harmonica, then he gave the Uncle call and drums beating together on harmonica. He sang some songs and some of which were Indian songs and he also played the piano. At the last he gave the war dance and a war whoop and showed how they scalped the white men. PHILIP T. COBELAND, Age 19, Willimantic.

Loyalty. Dear Uncle Jed: George Washington was born on the two-second day of February many years ago. The birthday of this American should be remembered by all. Washington was one of the greatest leaders. He was the heart, strength and soul of the revolution. He helped his country during the war. With his aid we won the war. Later he became the first president of the United States. He held his office for two terms. People felt certain that the country had chosen a man who would always do his duty. The memory of Washington should cheer every American heart. WASHINGTON DIED IN MOUNT VERNON IN 1799. The whole country mourned the loss of the great and good man. IDA WINAKOR, Age 13, Colchester.

Plymouth. Dear Uncle Jed: Plymouth was the first colony in Massachusetts. It was settled by Pilgrims from England. They came to form a new government and their own religion and bring up their children to be God-fearing men and women. They sailed from Plymouth on a boat called the Mayflower. It was a very stormy voyage. On the way two new babies were born. They first landed on Cape Cod but it was not a good place to make a settlement so they sailed a boat to a bay to a good harbor and made their final landing at Plymouth Dec. 21, 1620. Before they landed they made a covenant to the God of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. They made a treaty with the Indians that lasted 50 years. The town never had a royal charter, although it existed over 100 years. The Plymouth colony was one of the members of the New England confederacy. GRACE GARDNER, Age 10, Griswold.

St. Valentine's Day. Dear Uncle Jed: I thought I would write to you and the Wide-Awakes, telling you what we did in school on St. Valentine's day. We made all of our valentines we were going to give a week before hand. We had a valentine box in which we put the valentines and the names of the boys who spoke valentine pieces and sang songs. When we finished our teacher opened the valentine box and called off our names. We each went up to get our valentines. After school we played pin the arrow on the heart. We could not get the arrow near the middle of the heart. We had a good time on St. Valentine's day and hope the Wide-Awakes did. JULIA TWARESKY, Colchester.

"You Were Lucky." Dear Uncle Jed: One day when I was out hunting with a boy of 17 we were walking upon the sound bank when we heard something rattling the bushes. The boy thought that it was a rabbit. When he was aiming at the spot where we heard the noise I heard something in the back of the bushes. So I turned around to see what it was, and it was a small bird hopping along in the bushes. He was going to kill it but I told him not to kill it because it was such a little bird, so he didn't. But then he got mad at me and he said that I made him miss his shot. He started to walk along the path which was by the side of the bank. When I started in back of him I saw that there was a dead bird in the bushes. I didn't say anything but kept on walking. The boys called to us and asked us where we were going. I said we were hunting for rabbits and the other boy who was with me was surprised to see them come out of the bushes. He said: "Where did you fellows come from?" And the boys said that they were playing old maid in the bushes. The boy who was with me only said "You were lucky." He started off and called me to come with him and I went along with him looking at each other. When we were walking along the boy told me not to say anything, and I didn't. Every time when the boy who was hunting would see the other boys he would say "You were lucky." The other boys never knew what happened then, and they do not yet know what happened, unless the boy who told them.

George Washington. Dear Uncle Jed: George Washington, "Father of His Country," was born on Pope's Creek, Westmoreland County, Va., on Feb. 22, 1732. He was the only child of a farmer, but was educated by his mother. When he was 17 years of age he became one of the most accurate land surveyors in Virginia. He was appointed public surveyor at the age of 18, and endured many hardships. In 1753 he was sent on a mission by the governor of Virginia to the commander of the French forces, making encroachments on the English territory. At the age of 27 he married the young widow Curtis, and they lived at Mount Vernon, where he pursued the business of a farmer until 1774, when he was chosen to serve in the Virginia legislature. In June Washington was appointed commander-in-chief of the Continental army. For eight years he directed the feeble armies of George's early life, showing how he owed to the careful training that his mother gave him. If she had not been such a true and noble woman, we might never have heard of George Washington at all. Washington studied hard at school. Some of his copy books have been kept to this day. Washington left school when he was about 18 years of age. He learned how to measure land and did a great deal of this kind of work. The governor of Virginia wanted to send an important message to the French for on Lake Erie. This was hundreds of miles away. Although Washington was only 21 years old the governor chose him to go on the errand. Washington died at Mt. Vernon. He is often spoken of as the "Father of his country." It has been well said of him that the first in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen.

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As One Raised From Dead Stomach Pains Gone

Etonic Made Him Well. After suffering ten long months with stomach pains, I have taken Etonic and am now without any pain whatever. Am as one raised from the dead. writes A. Perfield. Thousands of stomach sufferers report wonderful relief. Their trouble is too much acidity and gas which Etonic quickly takes up and carries out of the stomach to a healthy, active condition. Always carry a few Etonics, take one after eating, food will digest well—you will feel fine. Big box costs only a trifle with your druggist's guarantee. Lee and Osceola, 141 Main St.

What I Got for Christmas. Dear Uncle Jed: Christmas was I hung up my stockings. It was getting late to bed. When I woke up it was seven o'clock, so I came downstairs on a run. Santa Claus must have remembered me for I found many presents in my stocking. Among them were two sets of dishes, a ball-four story books, a paint book, two tablets, one pencil, and other things. It was very cold out of doors so I stayed in the house and played with my presents. I hope the Wide-Awakes bag as nice a Christmas as I did. VERONA McGOVERN, Age 7, Jewett City.

Field Day. Dear Uncle Jed: On June twenty-fourth there was a field day at the submarine base, sailors, marines, officers, grown-up people and children were there. The first thing I saw was a motorcycle race. They had a half-four story books, a paint book, two tablets, one pencil, and other things. It was very cold out of doors so I stayed in the house and played with my presents. I hope the Wide-Awakes bag as nice a Christmas as I did. VERONA McGOVERN, Age 7, Jewett City.

Thomas Hooker. Dear Uncle Jed: Thomas Hooker was born in England. He studied to be a minister. He preached in London for a little while. The king did not like his preaching and ordered him to stop. After a while Misor Hooker went to Holland. He stayed there three years. Some of his friends were going to America and they asked him to go with them as their minister. They landed at Boston where they stayed some time. Later Mr. Hooker moved to Connecticut in search of food and cattle and better soil. He led the people to Hartford, Windsor and West Hartford. ARMAND DOTAN, Age 9, Glasgow.

Cruel to the Cat. Dear Uncle Jed: One day a friend of mine told me a story and this is it: A nice fat cat was as old as she is now she had some chickens and the neighbors' cats used to kill them. So one day she went out in the yard and saw a nice fat cat asleep on the fence. She grabbed him by the ears and took him to the cellar for she thought "I will get even with you." Once in the cellar she put a rope around his neck and hung it over a nail on a beam over her head. Then she went over to the other side of the cellar and pulled the rope. The cat swung back and forth and howled and scratched at the wall. Her father could not get the rope off the cat's neck. When he went down after a while the cat quieted down and they were all glad to see the cat. He did not kill any more of her chickens. Yours truly, MARY JONES, Age 10, Gales Ferry.

Why We Celebrate Saint Valentine's Day. Dear Uncle Jed: Long ago there lived an old man who visited the sick and comforted the dying. If he was not able to go the people always received a little letter or card to show that they were remembered. The little children loved him dearly. One day the sick children failed to receive the letter or the visit from the old man. What could be the matter? He had never forgotten them in this way. The boys heard of his death. Poor old Valentine. Never again would he call on the little children, but today we have Saint Valentine's day, when children send loving remembrances to each other. The people thought that the old man was good enough to be called a saint, so ever since then the day on which he passed away, has been called after him. ANNE WILLIAMS, Jewett City.

St. Valentine's Day. Dear Uncle Jed: It was Valentine Day and all the school was busy. The children were waiting impatiently for the afternoon to come. They were all thrilling with excitement. If someone had asked the scholars what it was all about, they would have said "What is it? It means to say you don't know? Why, we are going to have an entertainment today, in honor of St. Valentine." And we are going to have a party, too. At last the afternoon came and many people came to the entertainment. They each had to pay 15 cents. The boys of the children were frightened, but they said they would try to do their best.

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THE BOSTON STORE

QUALITY INDIVIDUALITY SERVICE. The Boston Store's APPAREL SHOP. A SPECIAL PURCHASE SALE OF Women's Jersey Suits BEGINS TODAY. VALUES FROM \$25.00 TO \$29.50.

\$12.98. A fortunate special purchase of two lots of clever Jersey Suits give us the chance to offer you a genuine bargain. The suits are well made—the styles are good, two models being offered—the Tuxedo and the Nook Collar designs. THE COLORS ARE NAVY, TAN, COPENHAGEN, OXFORD AND HEATHER EFFECTS. ALL SIZES FROM 16 TO 44 IN THE ASSORTMENT. If you want one of these clever little suits we advise an early choice, for they will not last long at the price we ask.

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First, a girl had to recite a Valentine poem. At first she was afraid, but then she thought of the little Belgian children. Why was she thinking of them? Because this entertainment was for their benefit. With the money which the teacher would receive, they could buy necessary things for the orphans and bring a smile to many a Belgian face. This thought helped her. She knew that if she failed, the rest would lose courage also. She spoke her poem well, and the rest of the children seeing her do so well, did their best also. The play was a triumph. At last the people went away. How glad the children were that they had succeeded. They had made the entertainment on Valentine day, because on that day, our greatest pleasures are in giving to others, and nothing thinking of receiving. I hope you all agree with me. They were all very smiles you can give to the world. PAULINE EISENSTEIN, Age 12, Colchester.

George Bromberg left town Monday for a brief stay with relatives in New York and Brooklyn. Tuesday night he left New York for Jamesville, Wis., where he is to be peacher in a woolen mill superintended by Charles Luddie, formerly here with the Admore Woolen company. Mr. Bromberg has been in the men's department of the Reid & Hughes company, the Boston Store, in Norwich, for several months past, and was sexton of Grace church, Yantic. Mrs. Bromberg and family will remain in the village for several months. Samuel Crumblin of Three Rivers made a brief call on local friends Saturday while en route to Passaic, N. J., where he is spending the next few months with his niece, Mrs. George Acaby. Open house and parents' night was enjoyed by those accepting Troop 11, Yantic Boy Scouts of America, invitation last Wednesday evening. Those attending had a chance to see the active and pleasurable side of the organization. Scoutmaster Charles Bentley read the constitution and the scouts' oath was sworn. Frederick Kingsley, Jr., has been spending several days in New London, the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Leary. Susan O'Hearn was a visitor in Hartford recently. Miss Margaret Coughlin of New York has been spending the holidays in town with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Coughlin. Miss J. M. Pendleton has returned after a few days' stay in Danbury, the guest of Miss Rosa Watbury. Henry Murphy of Winchester has been spending several days with friends at Pine Tree cottage. Mrs. John Kilroy has returned from a few days' stay in Stonington with her sister, Mrs. E. Northrup. Mrs. R. Hewitt and Miss Ethel Stanton of Stonington have been spending several days with Mrs. Hewitt's sister, Mrs. Eliza Stockett. Miss Lucy Ladd has returned to Manchester after a brief stay with her mother, Mrs. Mary Ladd. Miss Gladys Pendleton is spending the week in Winchester, the guest of Miss Irene Murphy. H. J. Gibbs has been in St. Albans, Vt., for several days.

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SOUTH WINDHAM. Mrs. Gertrude Young underwent an operation at Hartford hospital Wednesday which proved successful. Miss Calista Backus went the week end with friends to Pomfret. W. P. Barstow has sold his house to Morris W. Golden of Willimantic. The Mission society met in the church parlors Thursday afternoon. Those who entertained were Mrs. Clarence Avery and Mrs. Harry Avery. The Good Will circle is to have a Washington supper in the church parlors. Mrs. W. P. Barstow is the church parlors' nice Mrs. Walter Appleby, and her daughter of Waterford. Mrs. C. A. Barstow visited her mother, Mrs. Gertrude Young, one day the past week. Mrs. Young is a patient in the Hartford hospital. Clarence Avery was in Hartford Thursday attending the automobile show. C. A. Barstow's daughter Margaret underwent a minor operation Monday. Mrs. Carrie J. Backus returned to New London the past week after spending three months with her son, Charles.

CENTRAL VILLAGE. A party of little folk was entertained Thursday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Greene in Kennedy City in honor of the 4th birthday of their daughter Leona. Cake, ice cream, candy, fruit and lemonade were served. Little Miss Greene received many pretty gifts. Mrs. James L. Gardner was in New London Thursday to attend the funeral of a relative, Herbert E. Lewis. The members of the Girls' club held a successful food and candy sale at their rooms Wednesday evening. About \$25

COULD HARDLY EAT ANYTHING UNTIL HE USED PE-RU-NA. NEIGHBORS FOUND IT A WONDERFUL MEDICINE. I was weak and tired and could hardly eat anything until I used Pe-Ru-Na. I had been sick and my strength returned. I told my neighbors and every one of my friends about it. They were all glad to get a dose of Pe-Ru-Na at my house so never was the war far from my mind. M. T. S. WASHINGTON, Box 58.

Catarrah of the many which suffer. Fifty years of experience behind. PE-RU-NA. Tablets or Liquid. Sold Everywhere.

Cuticura Soap. IS IDEAL. For the Hands. Cuticura Soap is ideal for the hands. It is a powerful antiseptic and disinfectant. It kills germs and destroys the cause of disease. It is the best soap for the hands. It is sold everywhere.

TOO FAT? Many persons 10 to 20 lbs. or more. Obese people are liable to many diseases. Cuticura Soap is the best for the hands. It is sold everywhere.

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BAD BREATH

Dr. Edwards' Olive Tablets Get at the Cause and Remove it. Dr. Edwards' Olive Tablets, the substitute for calomel, act gently on the bowels and positively do the work. People afflicted with bad breath find quick relief through taking them. Dr. Edwards' Olive Tablets are a vegetable compound mixed with olive oil. They act gently but firmly on the bowels and liver, stimulating them to natural action, clearing the blood, and purifying the entire system. They do that which calomel does, without any of the bad after effects. Take one or two every night for a week and note the pleasing effect. 15c and 30c a box.

Backus, and his family. Mrs. Addison Scofield of Norwich is the guest of Mrs. Walter Backus, and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Backus, with their son spent Sunday with the former's sister, Mrs. M. J. O'Connell, of New London.

MANSFIELD DEPOT. Some snow! Oh! John Brigham is the local weather prophet who predicted the great snowstorm of Sunday. Copied him again! A small Bible class, conducted by the pastor, was all the attendance last Sunday at Dunham Memorial church. Judge Briggs of Lebanon visited the Edwin Reynolds Memorial school Tuesday last week. The village school was closed Friday, the teacher making an all-day visit at the South Willington school. Clifford Bohman is ill. The latest spook in this vicinity is the outta band. Eyril Standaish of Storrs college has been visiting at the Hansen home since Friday last. This week's devotional meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Jane Stedman Thursday at 7 p. m. Mrs. Russell, supervisor of the women's department, Mansfield state training school and hospital, visited in Bridgeport last week. The Farmington is to be presided by the Rev. H. H. H. at Dunham Memorial. Waterbury.—In a movement to clear up gambling in Waterbury, the police have begun to enforce the law against renting places known to be used for gaming. The house owners are under arrest.

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