

INTERSCHOLASTIC WEEK OPENS TUESDAY EVENING IN CHAMPIONSHIP DEBATE

Eleventh Annual Meeting of Representatives of Montana's High Schools Under Auspices of State University Promises to Be Best of All—Something Doing Every Minute After Opening Tuesday.

With attendant circumstances ideal, the University of Montana opens next Tuesday evening its eleventh annual interscholastic meet, the first of a second decade of high school contests. During the decade that has passed a state-wide series of debates and an essay contest have been added to the program of events and the number of participants has been increased until it is four or five times as large as at the start. In the athletic contests alone the entries have more than doubled. In addition, the debate league affects teams in every high school in the state and the declamatory contests draw this year 36 speakers.

The final debate of the Montana High School Debating League will be the first event of this year's meet. Gallatin and Custer counties will meet teams to the university campus to participate in the debate which is to settle the state championship.

These two teams have established their supremacy after a series of district and inter-district debates that included every high school of prominence in the state. A record of the preliminaries, extending throughout the winter, follows:

District Debates.
December 2, Broadwater county (Townsend) defeated Pony.
January 9, Custer county (Miles City) defeated Dawson county (Glenview); Gallatin county (Bozeman) defeated Park county (Livingston); Flathead county (Kalispell) defeated Havre, by default; Butte defeated Dillon, by default; Missoula county (Missoula) defeated Helena, by default.
February 13, Bismarck defeated Forsyth.
February 14, Columbia defeated Red Lodge.
February 27, Custer county (Miles City) defeated Billings.
February 28, Gallatin county (Bozeman); Missoula county (Missoula) defeated Alexander; Butte defeated Kalispell.

Inter-District Debates.
March 26, Missoula county defeated Butte.
April 10, Custer county defeated Columbia; Gallatin county defeated Missoula.

The Question.
The question for this, and for all of the preliminary debates, is: "Resolved, That the United States Should Take Immediate Steps Toward Granting Independence to the Philippine Islands, Such Independence to Become a Fact in 1920 and to Be Guaranteed for a Period of Ten Years Thereafter."
Dr. Carl Holliday, president of the league, will preside over the final contest. The judges have not yet been named.

Declamatory Contests.
As has been the custom for several years, separate declamatory contests for boys and girls will be held this spring. So large is the list of girl orators this year that four speakers will have to appear at the "Jolly-Up" on Friday evening. The contests this year are made more than ever interesting by the fact that each of last year's champions will appear. David Roberts of Missoula, state champion for two years, will speak Wednesday evening, and Miss Gladys Wasson of Victor, champion last year, will appear Thursday evening. The contest for boys will be held in Assembly hall at the university on Wednesday evening. The program follows:

Wednesday Evening.
Music: Orchestra
"How the LaRue Stokes Were Lost"
Charles N. Hood
Frank Taylor, Havre.

Tuesday.
8:30 p. m.—Interscholastic debate to decide the state championship. Assembly hall. The debate is to be between Custer county and Gallatin county high schools, winners in the preliminary contests.
Wednesday.
8 p. m.—Declamatory contest in Assembly hall.
Thursday.
9 a. m.—Meeting of the athletic contestants in the gymnasium.
10 a. m.—Meeting of the Montana High School Debating League in room 4, University hall.
10:30 a. m.—Reception on the campus by the Woman's league of the university.
11 a. m.—Meeting of the Montana High School Athletic association in Assembly hall.
2 p. m.—Athletic meet, Montana field.
7:15 p. m.—"Singing on the Steps," University hall.
8 p. m.—Declamatory contest, Assembly hall.
Friday.
9:30 a. m.—Sightseeing trip for high school visitors and students.
12:30 p. m.—Luncheon for visiting teachers at the president's residence.
2 p. m.—Finals in the athletic meet, Montana field.
8:30 p. m.—Jolly-Up and dance, assembly hall and gymnasium.
Saturday.
9 a. m.—Adjourned business meetings.

"The New South"—Henry W. Grady, Lewis Broussard, Teton county.
"A Plea for Madame X"—Bisson and McCannighy, Alfred Baumgartner, Broadwater county.

Music—Orchestra
"Experience With European Guides"
Mark Twain
Theodore L. Ramsey, Fernus county.
"Riot and Revolution"
J. A. Baisdel, Llewellyn Luce, Gallatin county.
"Jean Valjean"
Victor Hugo
Frank M. Grant, Pony.
Vocal solo—Miss Marjory Maxwell
"Mr. Dooley on the Griddle"
P. P. Dunne
John Sullivan, Flathead county.
"How the LaRue Stokes Were Lost"
Charles N. Hood
Dennis J. Sullivan, Butte Central.
"The New South"
Henry W. Grady
Noble Warham, Hamilton.

Music—Orchestra
"A Man Without a Country"
E. Hale
David Roberts, Missoula county.
Inaugural address—Woodrow Wilson
King Collins, Beaverhead county.

Thursday Evening.
The girls' contest will be held in Assembly hall on Thursday evening. The program follows:
Music—Orchestra
"The Music Master"
Charles Klein
May Klack, Great Falls.
"In the Path of the Enemy"
Ruth Line, Columbia.
"The Boy Orator of Zenobia City"
Richard Harding Davis
Elizabeth Beaver, Bridger.
"The Swan Song"
Katherine Ritter Brooks
Bernice J. Chapman, Eureka.
"Aunt Elvora's Hero"
Elizabeth Stuart Phillips
Elsie Krenner, Butte.

Music—Orchestra
"The Story of Peter"
Kate Wingless
Hazel Baird, Stevensville.
"The Song of the Yodis"
Merrett
Bertha Brozka, Glasgow.
"Little Brown Baby Wild Smuggling Eyes"
Paul Laurence Dunbar
Dorothy Young, Laurel.
"The Fall of Georgia Bassett"
Eloah Parkington
Gladys Wasson, Victor.

Vocal solo—Mrs. T. A. Price
"The End of the Task"
Bruno Lossing
Ada Baker, Plains.
"Helene Thaur"
E. S. Phelps
Geraldine Galvin, Hartington.
"From a Far Country"
Anonymous
Dorothy Powell, Billings.
"Jean Valjean"
Victor Hugo
Laurie McCracken, Park county.

Music—Orchestra
"The Wheels of Time"
Barclay
Camille Politrak, Belt.
"Mrs. Ripley's Visit"
Hamlin Garland
Arlis Perring, Sweetgrass county.
The following declamations will be delivered as part of the program of Friday evening:
"Fatsy"
K. D. Wiggins
Alice Jordan, Anaconda.
"Sweet Girl Graduate"
Marie Durfee, Granite county.
"The Gang of the White Swan"
Gilbert Parker
Lona M. Dorsey, Helena.

"SIX-AND-SIX" PLAN IS ADVOCATED BY CLAXTON

COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION PLEADED AT ACTION OF IN-LAND EMPIRE TEACHERS.

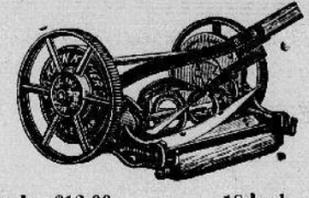
Emphatic approval of the "six-and-six" plan of school organization urged by the Inland Empire Teachers' association at their Spokane meeting was expressed by Dr. P. P. Claxton, United States commissioner of education. "I know of no valid reason for the present plan of eight and four years of school," declared Mr. Claxton. "There should be six years of elementary school and six years of high school, the high school period being divided into two sections of three years each. "There are many reasons for the change. Children 12 and 13 years old are at the beginning of the transition period between childhood and youth—they should not be kept doing elementary work. At present the pupils in most school systems mark time to a large extent through the seventh and eighth grades. This is especially true where the studies of the elementary schools are carried through these and the children are taught by women grade teachers. With a six-year elementary school it would be easily possible to promote the teachers with the children from grade to grade, thus gaining the large value that comes from teachers and children remaining together until the teacher knows the needs of the children, their strength and their weakness, and can build intelligently on all the work of previous years. "Furthermore, to begin the high school with the seventh grade will make much easier the departmental work, which should begin at least this

low down. It will also make it much easier to begin work in such high-school subjects as foreign languages, constructive geometry and real literature, at this point where they should be begun. The study of languages, especially of modern languages, should be begun in a practical way before children have passed the time when they can learn in this way. This plan will also make it possible to introduce manual training, domestic science and various forms of vocational work two years earlier than they are now begun. "Our secondary school work is now at a great disadvantage as compared with the work done in the Gynasien and Realschulen in Germany, the Lycees of France, and the so-called public schools of England. By giving six years to the high school, the boys and girls who go to college may easily have, on admission to college, a much larger amount of mathematics, languages and other subjects than they now have. I feel quite sure that by an arrangement of this kind and a little more care in the preparation and selection of teachers you may gain for most children two years in the 12.

"The division of the high school into two sections of three years each will make easier a second differentiation of work at the end of the first three high school years. "At present only about one-fourth of the children enter the high school. The compulsory school age in most states corresponds quite closely with the elementary school period. Parents and children are thereby confirmed in the idea that the elementary education is all that is needed. Besides, the break between the elementary school and the high school at this time suggests leaving school and makes it a lot more difficult to return. The great majority of children would be in the high school, doing high school work upon a par with those who are probably a much larger proportion of them would continue in school than under present conditions. "The Inland Empire Teachers' association, which adopted the resolution favoring the new plan, enrolls about 2,000 teachers from the states of Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Montana. The resolution passed unanimously.

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D. T. CURRAN

SYNOPSIS OF BILL CONCERNING LANDS

Washington, May 9.—(Special.)—Following is a synopsis of the bill just introduced providing for the disposition of coal, oil, gas, phosphate and sodine lands in the United States, which measure is the result of extended hearings and conferences before the house committee on public lands. This will be favorably reported, and has the approval of the departmental officials, and will be the basis of whatever legislation may be enacted during the present congress. A brief synopsis of the bill follows: Coal lands, exclusive of those in Alaska and excepting those for which applications for lease or purchase are pending at the time of the enactment of the law, may be acquired as follows: Upon the petition of any qualified applicant the secretary of the interior shall divide the area into tracts of 40 acres each, or multiple thereof, but in no case exceeding 2,560 acres. From time to time, at the request of any qualified applicant or on his own motion, the secretary may offer such lands or deposits to be leased on a royalty to be fixed by him in advance, by advertisement. Any citizen of the United States, may be awarded a lease. Banded companies are limited to one lease for each 200 miles of road. Upon satisfactory showing the secretary may award an additional lease to an applicant if it can be shown that the original lease will be exhausted within three years. Lessees holding lease blocks may consolidate their holdings, with the consent of the secretary, by the surrender of their original leases and the inclusion of such areas in a new lease not to exceed 2,560 acres. The secretary is authorized to fix all royalties and leases, the minimum royalty on coal being two cents per ton, payable monthly. The annual lease must not be less than 25 cents per acre for the first year, 50 for the second, third, fourth and fifth years, and \$1 thereafter. Rentals will be credited on royalties for the current year. Leases may run 20 years, subject to readjustment and renewal at the option of the secretary. Licenses limited to ten acres for ten years, giving the right to prospect for and mine coal without payment of royalty, provides for small local mines. Municipalities may secure a like permit for 160 acres if coal is used for municipal purposes or sold at actual cost. Oil and gas—qualified applicants may be granted a prospecting permit covering 640 acres, for two years, if the lands are within ten miles of a producing well, for 2,560 acres if lands are over ten miles from a producing well. Mining operations must begin within four months from date of permit, and within one year a well at least 500 feet deep must have been drilled; within two years 2,000 feet must be drilled. Prior to filing application for permit, the applicant must

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BEGGED OFF.

Portland, May 9.—Frank Richet, president of the Oregon Inland Development company, was released late today from the county jail, where he had been serving in default of a \$4,000 fine levied against him upon conviction, with J. T. Conway of having fraudulently misrepresented lands which the company sold. Richet obtained his freedom by taking the pauper's oath.

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NOTED CREDIT BOSS TAKES NO STOCK IN OLD STORY

Chicago, May 9.—"Our business is running ahead of last year," said F. A. Smith, credit manager for a large manufacturing, importing and jobbing house in Chicago handling food products. "We consider this a sure indication of the prosperous condition of the country. Where the people at large feel poor they buy less groceries, and when they are feeling easy financially they spend more money for their table supplies. Merchants are settling for their accounts a little less promptly than usual, but we have heard more complaints from other houses regarding poor collections than we have experienced ourselves. The head of an advertising agency said: 'There is plenty of money in the country to buy anything the public actually wants.' My analysis of the situation is that if you have something to sell that is right in line with the immediate demands the orders will be good. One of our firms which has been over 20 years in business is running 30 per cent ahead of last year in its sales. Its product is house dresses. One concern that is putting out a book which teaches the dancing of the latest tango and similar modern dances has more orders than it can fill. Another firm that is selling by mail a series of lessons and ragtime piano playing is doing a very large and profitable business."

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