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OTTUMWA IOWA APRIL 1910

FOR THE CHILDREN.

VOL. 5 NO. 37

The Courier Junior Published by THE COURIER PRINTING CO. OTTUMWA, IOWA. MATILDA DEVEREAUX, EDITOR.

A JUNIOR DEBATE.

Dear Juniors.—We think a Junior debate will be very interesting. While our debate cannot be an oral one (that is of the mouth) still we think the Juniors can write excellent essays on the following subjects, so excellent that every one will be interested in them:

ARE GIRLS OF 12 YEARS AHEAD OF BOYS OF 12 OR ARE BOYS OF 12 YEARS AHEAD OF GIRLS OF 12?

We want all the Juniors to work in this contest, but we also want their "debate" confined to 350 words. This contest will open on Monday and close May 2. We also hope to have the winners' picture when the prize debate is published.

Select a prize from among the following: A croquet set, solid silver spoon, book or a brooch.

THE SOUVENIR CARDS.

We want the Juniors to continue to write nice letters. The Juniors show a great improvement in their letter writing.

We will give a surprise prize at the end of April to the Junior who writes the best letter, as well as send souvenir cards whenever their stories or letters appear.

The Juniors can write on one of the following subjects and receive beautiful souvenir cards, if they do not care to write letters:

THE JOURNEY OF A 10-CENT PIECE.

A MAY PARTY. TOM'S FIRST BALL GAME. MY VACATION PLANS.

SEVEN RULES FOR THE JUNIORS.

- 1. Use one side of the paper only. 2. Write neatly and legibly, using ink or a sharp lead pencil. 3. Number your pages. 4. Do not copy stories or poetry and send us as your own work. 5. Always state choice of a prize on a separate piece of paper, with name and address in full. 6. Address the envelope to Editor, Courier Junior, Ottumwa, Iowa.

FUN COLUMN GOOD.

Our "Fun Column" today is very good. It is so good that we have decided to run the contest again today. All Juniors may contribute to the "Fun Column." We will give a surprise prize to the one sending the best joke or conundrum. These need not be original. All contributions will receive a souvenir postal.

Here are a few of the contributions received for the "Fun Column" this week:

PARODY ON LONGFELLOW'S HIAWATHA.

He killed the noble Mudjakewis; With the skin he made him mittens Made them with the fur side inside. Made them with the skin side outside.

He, to get the warm side inside, Put the inside skin side outside, He, to get the cold side outside, Put the warm side fur side inside. That's why he put the fur side inside.

Why he put the skin side outside, Why he turned them inside outside. (Not original). Oscar Root, 312 N. Court St., Ottumwa, age 11

One day a little boy named William had been to the barn with his papa and when he went into the house his mamma asked him what his papa was doing, and he said, "Oh, he is just out in the barn feeding the chores."

This is true. Mabel Skirvin, age 12. Floris, Iowa, R. R. No. 2.

When my little sister Ethel was a little girl mamma told her when got warm that she could go bare foot, and one day Ethel said that when it got warm she was going to go bare headed and wade in the pud-muddles. This is the truth as sister Ethel said it herself.

Mabel Skirvin, age 12. Floris, Iowa, R. R. No. 2.

As the train neared the city, the colored porter approached the jovial faced gentleman, saying with a smile, "Shall ah bring yo' off, sah?" "No," replied the man, "I prefer to get off in the usual manner." (This is not original).

Josephine Norton, age 14. Melrose, Iowa.

A little boy was watching his mamma separate the milk and he said I want a cup to catch some suds in. This is true.

Lloyd Fultz, age 8. Floris, Iowa.

A little girl when asked how old she was, said, I am as old as my tongue and a little bit older than my teeth. This is true.

Inza Fultz, age 5. Floris, Iowa.

Two little boys were out playing. Earl picked up the axle grease and he said, "What are you a-going to do with the buggy salve."

Original. Ida Fultz, age 12. Floris, Iowa.

Two little boys went out to the arm where their papa was and one of

the boys said, "Papa Ralph is putting hairs in the horses vitals."

Original. Everette Fultz, age 13. Floris, Iowa.

Once a farmer went to town and bought his little boy a pair of shoes. The boy put them on the wrong foot, after looking at the shoes for a while he exclaimed, "Papa you have bought the left shoe for the right foot."

I would like to exchange postals with some of the Juniors. Henrietta Plaster. Albia, Iowa, 501 S. Main street.

I have never written to the Courier Junior before. I will put something in for the fun column which is true:

Once we were sitting at the dinner table and my smallest sister was eating something and she burned her tongue, she said, "Oh mamma, open the door till I cool my tongue."

Mae Collyer So. Ottumwa, Iowa, 404 Williams St.

John Barker, the town marshal of Harrisonville, Kas., avers that he overheard the following conversation between two little girls who are not yet old enough to go to school: "What makes a horse act naughty when he sees an auto?" asked one.

"It's this way," the other replied, "Horses are used to seein' other horses pullin' rigs, and they don't know what to think of 'em goin' along without a horse. I guess if you was to see a pair of trousers walkin' down the street without a man in 'em you'd be scared too."

Daughter—"Mother, there was a mouse in the milk this morning."

Mother—"Well, didn't you take it out?"

Daughter—"No, but I threw the cat in."

Florence Wilkin, R. F. D. No. 1, Albia, Iowa.

A teacher instructed her pupils in what to say if a certain very strict man called upon them. "Children," she said, "If Mr. Smith asks you what you should do in case of a fire, what have I instructed you to say?"

The children all answered, "Rise and march out of the building." When Mr. Smith did come he said: "What should you say if I gave you a little speech?"

The children promptly answered, "Rise and march out of the building."

Juliette Eisenfels, age 12, 401 W. Park Ave., Ottumwa, Ia.

Here is a funny story for the funny column. It is original.

Little Leona's mamma had whipped her and scolded her and done everything in her power to make her be good, but it did not make her any better, for she always kept on making a noise when her mamma had a headache or ran off when she was busy to follow her. One day her mamma said, "Leona, I'm going to send you away for a long time because I've done everything I can and you won't stop."

Leona looked at her mamma and said: "But mamma, when you have the headache I have to take care of baby brother, and I have to make a noise to keep him quiet, so if you whip him I'll not need to make any noise."

Frances Norton, age 12, Melrose, Iowa.

The Lost Doll

I once had a sweet little doll, dears, The prettiest doll in the world; Her cheeks were so red and so white, dears, And her hair was so charmingly curled.

But I lost my poor doll, dears, As I played on the heath one day; And I cried for more than a week, dears, But I never could find where she lay.

I found my poor little doll, dears, As I played on the heath one day; Folks say she is terribly changed, dears, For her paint is all washed away.

And her arms trodden off by the cows, dears, And her hair's not the least bit curled; Yet for old time's sake, she is still, dears, The prettiest doll in the world.

Mabel Skirvin, age 12. Floris, Iowa, R. R. No. 2.

THE PETERKIN'S AT DINNER

This little incident happened in the Peterkin family. It was at dinner time.

"They sat down to a dish of boiled ham. Now the children liked fat and half liked lean. Mr. Peterkin sat down to cut the ham. But the ham was a very unusual one. The fat and the lean came in separate slices—first one of lean, then one of fat, and so on.

Mr. Peterkin began by helping the children according to their age. Now Agamemnon who liked lean, got a fat slice; and Elizabeth Eliza who preferred fat, got a lean slice. Solomon who could eat nothing but lean, was helped to fat, and so on. None had what he could eat.

It was a rule of the Peterkin family that no one should eat vegetables without meat. Although the children saw upon their plates, apple sauce, squash, and sweet potato, no one could take a mouthful, because no one was satisfied with his meat.

Mr. and Mrs. Peterkin, however, liked both fat and lean. They were

making a good meal, when they looked up and saw the children eating nothing.

"What is the matter?" said Mr. Peterkin. But the children had been taught not to speak at table. Agamemnon, however, made a sign of disgust at his fat and Elizabeth Eliza at her lean. So the parents understood the difficulty.

"What shall be done now?" said Peterkin. They all sat and thought for awhile.

At last Mrs. Peterkin said, "Suppose we ask the lady from Philadelphia what is best to be done."

But Mr. Peterkin said he didn't like to go to her for everything; let the children try to eat their dinner as it for awhile.

They all tried, but they couldn't. "Very well, then," said Mrs. Peterkin, "let them go and ask the lady from Philadelphia."

"All of us," cried one of the little boys.

"Yes," said Mrs. Peterkin, "only put on your india-rubber boots." And they hurried out of the house.

The lady from Philadelphia was just going to her dinner, but she kindly stopped in the entry to hear what the trouble was. After Agamemnon and Elizabeth Eliza had told her, she said, "But why don't you give the slices of fat to those who like the fat, and the slices of lean to those who like the lean?"

They all looked at one another. Agamemnon looked at Elizabeth Eliza, and Solomon John looked at the little boys.

"Why didn't we think of that?" said they; and they all ran to tell their mother.

—Lucretia P. Hale

STORIES—LETTERS.

ETHEL WRITES AGAIN.

Dear Juniors: I thought I would write again. I have got two cards from the Juniors and I thought they were nice and hope to get another this time. My school here is the 18th of April. I am in the fifth reader. I live a little over a mile east of Bunch and four miles west of Drakeville. My playmates are Nellie Kutch, Dollie Darnielle and Bertha Benge. We have twenty-five scholars in our school. We had six months winter school and two months spring term. I was down to my grandpa's on Sunday. We had a good time. I have two brothers and no sisters.

Ethel Hunt, age 10, Bunch, Iowa.

MEADOW LARK.

The meadow lark is a rather small bird but larger than a sparrow. Its back is brown but its breast is spotted and yellow. It has a black streak around its neck. It lives mostly in the fields and is about the color of the ground and so you can hardly tell it from the ground. It has a beautiful song and soars high up in the air. It builds its nest on the ground in the tall grass and its eggs are white spotted with brown. It walks on the ground instead of hopping like a robin.

Oscar Root, age 11, 312 North Court street, Ottumwa, Iowa.

RUSSELL HAS A DOG AND A CAT.

Dear Editor: I have never written before. I am a little boy two years old. For pets I have a dog named Fox and a cat named Mony.

Russell Snow age 2, Belknap, Ia.

ONCE UPON A TIME, ETC.

Dear Editor: I thought I would write a little story. Once upon a time there was a little girl. She was very selfish and she would give him dinner and go to the woods. She was going along and she came to an old man sitting on a bank. He stopped her and asked her if she would give him something to eat. She said "No, I want it myself." This old man was a fairy so he knew she was selfish and he changed her into a frog so she hopped every day, and at night her mamma and papa got frightened, and so they started to hunt for her. They passed her and she couldn't speak to them at all so she shy would give him and asked her if she would give him and never again was she selfish or naughty.

Sarah Snow, age 7, Belknap, Iowa.

JOSEPHINE HAS B'EN BUSY.

Dear Editor: I have been very busy at school and so I have not written for a few weeks. It is getting near the last of our school and so we have to work hard now in order to pass into the next grade.

I was in Albia Friday and was talking over the telephone to Lois Griffin. She is coming up to visit me this summer.

I did not write in the contest last week because I did not know anything about March of other years. But I think Leona Vest wrote a good story about it. I also think the fun column is very nice.

Josephine L. Norton, age 14, Melrose, Iowa.

A MAY PARTY.

It was in April that Bessie came to visit her grandmother. Bessie was used to having a party every day, and she wanted one this May. So her grandmother told her to invite ten children to go with her. They were all there that morning, each carrying a lunch basket with refreshments in it. Bessie's grandmother had made her cake, candy pies and tarts and so the gay party started off. But the worst trouble was where they should eat. Jim, the oldest of all wanted it beside a big tree. Tom wanted it on a large rock. But Pauline said "Let's make a crown of flowers and put it on some one's head and let them be queen and let the queen decide where we will eat."

—Loren Pedrick, age 7, 67 E. 4th St., Ottumwa, Iowa.

THE ROBIN.

The robin is one of the first birds to come north in the spring. The first robin I saw this year was the 25th of January. I think that is pretty early. The robin has a red breast. That is why it is called Robin Red Breast. The robin lays about four blue eggs in an orchard. They like to build nests with mud. The outside is made of grass and sticks. I think robins are pretty except when they are young. I will contribute to the funny column:

Dale McConnell, Drakeville, Iowa.

HAS 113 POST CARDS.

Dear Editor and Juniors: As I have not written for a long time I will now write you all a letter. I have 113 post cards and eight of them are from the Junior. I have received post cards from Leona Vest, Mae Shaffer, Edna Shimp, and Josephine Norton. They were all very nice and I thank them all very much for them. I would like to exchange postals with any of the Juniors. I have never worked in but one contest. I think the guess who contest was a fine one and I think Norma Daniele had a splendid letter. I am not going to school now as we have no teacher. I have two brothers and one sister. Their names are Edna, Dale and Darrell. I was 13 years old March 27. I received a very pretty birthday card from Josephine Norton.

Wilda Conger, age 13, R. F. D. No. 1, Fairfield, Iowa.

JUNIOR FLOYD'S FIRST LETTER.

Dear Juniors: As I have never written to the Junior page I thought I would write. I am a little boy six years old. I live in South Dakota. My parents came here last year ago in March from Iowa. I live in the country up here. The coyotes howl around and chase our dogs back to the house. I have seen lots of them. My two grandmothers live in Iowa. I would like to see them. I will close as my letter is getting long.

Floyd Riggs, Horse Creek, S. D., Box 63.

SOUTH DAKOTA GIRL WRITES.

Dear Juniors: I will write a letter to the Junior page. My aunt takes the paper and I enjoy reading the Junior page. I live in the prairie state of South Dakota and can see far. We can see the Black Hills and different mountains. My parents live up here. We have about three miles to school. I went to Dry Creek school. My teacher's name was Miss Montgomery. There were eight scholars and there a white Nellie and I would love to see her.

Ethel Evans, Horse Creek, S. D., Box 63.

LITTLE BOYS AT PLAY.

Dear Editor: Bernard was age eight and Neil was age three. They both had a block from each other. Every now and then they would go to visit together. One afternoon Bernard went over to see Neil. After he had been there a while Neil brought out his new tricycle and showed Bernard how to ride it. After they had ridden until they were tired went in and played with Neil's building blocks and his little wagon. After they had played quite a while it was time for Bernard to go home and after bidding each other good bye, Bernard started home having enjoyed a pleasant time.

Winifred Hunter, age 8, Blakesburg, Ia.

HAROLD'S GARDEN.

Dear Editor: As I have not written to you for a long time I thought I would write for a letter and tell you about my garden. I have a little 2 cornered patch of ground by the side of our chicken yard. My mamma and papa said I might have it for my garden, all my own. I certainly was glad. So one day before school I spaded up the ground all myself and set out my onions. Then that night I finished planting the rest of my seeds. I will tell you what I planted. I planted onions, lettuce, peas, ends, cucumbers, beans, potatoes, gourds and corn. Part of it is coming up. I must tell you about my stamp collection. I have stamps from the United States, Canada, Sweden, England, Cuba, Palestine and Germany. Recently Charlton had a Booster Day. All of the school children from the four buildings marched. Mrs. Carroll, the governor's wife spoke in the Temple theatre. Lots of other things happened.

Harold S. Maxwell, age 6, Charlton, Iowa.

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MAUD HAD A POSTAL SHOWER.

Dear Juniors: I wish to thank you all for the pretty birthday cards you sent me. I will answer them all in a little while. I have now received fifteen cards and I have got them all from Juniors. I received one from Susie Stewart, one from Juliette Eisenfels, one from Madge Heron, one from Helen Roberts, one from Caille Moore, one from Mary Baird, one from Bertha and Retta Ruark, one from Edna Cary, one from Winifred Hunter, and one from Josephine Norton. The rest are from relatives and friends. I would like for all Juniors to tell me when their birthdays are.

Maude Skirvin, age 12, R. No. 2, Floris, Iowa.

MARY'S FIRST LETTER.

Dear Editor: This is my first letter to the Junior. I live in the country and go to Eagle school No. 8. My teacher's name is Dessie Roberts. I like her fine. My playmates are Orpha and Ira Clark, Edith Anderson, Hazel Creek, Mabel Buchanan and Helen Halferty. I have a little baby brother. He is awful sweet. My school will be out the last of May. I like to go to school. For a pet I have a dog and a cat. The dog's name is Pug. My mother has been sick and my sister and I have been doing the work. I wash and wipe the dishes and sweep the floor. I have four brothers and two sisters. My oldest sister is married. I like to read the Junior letters.

Mary Tweedy, age 10, R. F. D. No. 7, Fairfield, Iowa.

MY VACATION PLANS.

Dear Editor: This is my first letter to the Junior. I am a little boy seven years old. I live in the country and go to Eagle school. My teacher's name is Dessie Roberts and I like her very fine. Our school will be out the last of May, and I am going to gather gooseberries and help my mother all I can. When the work is all done I am going to the city to visit my cousin's and have a fine time. My mamma has been sick all winter and we have a darling baby boy just three weeks old. His name is Harold Le Roy.

Well, I will close for this time, hoping to hear from the "Little Juniors."

Dannie Lee Tweedy, age 7, R. F. D. No. 7, Fairfield, Ia.

MISS PARK IS LOREN'S TEACHER.

Dear Editor: I go to school. My teacher's name is Miss Park. I am in the second grade. I like my teacher very well. We have writing and language and numbers and spelling and reading. My papa takes the Daily Courier.

Loren Pedrick, age 7, 67 E. 4th St., Ottumwa, Iowa.

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