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"Year By Year In Every Way They Are Getting Better and Better"

The coming to Keytesville last Thursday of the Kirksville debating team reminded the editor of a certain basket ball tournament held in the west not many years ago. A little town, Fairview, Mont., had entered its team at Glendive in the Eastern Montana meet. Apparently the map of the state had not been studied—everyone exclaimed: "Fairview! Can anyone tell where is Fairview? Say, hope we'll be lucky and draw Fairview!" Well, some of the larger towns conceded to have a chance to be eligible to play in the grand final, did draw Fairview, and in each case were set back, and the little town of Fairview played in the grand final and earned second place in the Eastern Montana tournament.

Lets see, the Keytesville 1922 debating team was in the running last year up next to the last debate for this section of the state, meeting defeat at Huntsville, and Kirksville, in turn won from Huntsville.

What was more natural in the general scheme of events than for Kirksville to expect to cop in this the opening debate in Keytesville. Sure, the dope could not be wrong, but dope don't always prove up in the finals.

In writing a story of this kind it is hard to confine one's self to pure English and ye editor must ask for indulgence of readers in slopping over in Latin, but for the benefit of all will attempt to translate a bit and, even thou transgressing in a bit of slang, shall we say, Latin, we feel that nothing else will fill the bill.

Kirksville came here expecting to go back to Kirksville with 'Keytesville scalps carelessly dangling in their belts, and the old war boast: "Veni Vivi Cidi" was reversed—"Veni Vivi Victus Sum!"

"I came, I saw, I conquered," was changed to "I came, I saw, I was overcome."

How It Happened
Along about 8 o'clock a small number of the faithful backers and supporters of the Keytesville school assembled at the High School auditorium. The high school orchestra entertained the audience with a few musical selections while the "gladiators" were being groomed for battle, after which followed the introductions of the two teams by C. C. Carlstead, county superintendent of schools.

The first debater to present the subject was Miss Dorothy Richardson followed by Marvin Wood of Kirksville. Allie May Latham then proceeded to "electrify" crowd in a manner that left but little to be desired. Ray Turned was the next to appear on the negative side. His address was well rendered, but it must be said that the Kirksville boys had not been properly coached. Their speeches showed a lack of driving home convincingly their arguments.

In rebuttal the Keytesville team covered their selves with glory, and

came back at the boys in a splendid manner, for the Kirksville debaters had actually so far forgotten themselves as to become almost offensively personal in their work. Twenty years or more ago the girl's debating team might have taken this sort of rebuff, and become rattled and lost by force of not being able to reply in like kind of procedure. Modernism, however, has done away with that sort of thing and the boy's personal queries were more than offset by the comeback staged by the Keytesville team.

Again the Keytesville team had been excellently coached. They knew their subject and their delivery was excellent. The Kirksville team show a lack of preparation and to their coach can be attributed a certain amount of reprehension for their defeat. It must be said for the Kirksville debaters they were game losers, and for the coach, she too, was a game loser, in that she was willing to continue the fight after the judge had decided for the affirmative.

Prof. S. E. Smith, of the Educational Department of the Kirksville Teacher's college at Kirksville had accepted an invitation to come to Keytesville to officiate as judge in this debate and his decision was generally approved by the audience and by the personnel of the school including both the faculty and the youngsters.

The Kirksville team was composed of Marvin Wood and Ray Turner and Miss Clara Foley accompanied the team as their coach. Miss Foley did not take kindly to Mr. Smith's decision and calmly (?) informed him that he was not a competent judge or words to that effect. The Kirksville team relied large on reports printed in the Literary Digest implying that the Digest is an authority. The fact of the matter is this: The Literary Digest does not claim to be an authority on anything. This publication prints certain reports of articles from papers the world over along certain lines—simply giving opinions on topics of the day as presented by some of the greater educators and writers. Mr. Smith replied to Miss Foley's criticism: "Who is the Literary Digest?"

The Keytesville team is the same as last year—Misses Dorothy Richardson and Ella May Latham. The only change being in the coach who is one of the new 1922-3 faculty—Miss Hazel Wilhelm.

And now a word about the subject: "Resolved that the coal mines of America should be owned and operated by the United States Government."

As compared with the subject of 1922 the 1922-3 question is debatable. The affirmative will have to overcome a certain prejudice against government ownership and control. But in view of the way things have been managed by the middlemen, the operators, the miners union there is a vast chance for improvement. A

fair minded judge open to conviction, even though against government control, should have no trouble in judging a debate on the question on the merits of the debaters themselves and the presentation of the same.

The decision last Thursday night could not have been rendered in any other way than in which Mr. Smith decided. On the face of the arguments presented by the two contesting teams, government ownership and control is most desirable.

What a pity John L. Lewis could not have been present. He would have heard a few things which possibly he never took into consideration. John L. Lewis and his United Coal Miner's union is one of the reasons why the subject of government control has been injected into the up-to-now topics of today.

A TRIPLET GIRL DIES FROM INJURIES OF AUTO ACCIDENT

Wilella McKinney, 30 years old, of Triplett, Mo., died Saturday at the general hospital in Kansas City as a result of injuries received there Friday night when she was run down by a motor car at Twenty-first street and Prospect Ave. Miss McKinney did not regain consciousness after the accident. She received a fracture of her skull, right leg and wrist and also internal injuries.

Following Miss McKinney's death, Dr. H. E. Moss, deputy coroner, placed a "hold" order on George R. Peacock, 37 years old, 702 Fuller avenue, driver of the motor car. Peacock was arraigned Saturday morning on a charge of driving while intoxicated, and committed to the county jail in default of \$2,500 bond, pending preliminary hearing.

The condition of Miss Vona Wilson, who was also struck by Peacock's car is not considered dangerous. She is at the German hospital. When struck the two young women, who have been staying at the home of Miss Wilson's aunt, Mrs. S. A. Palmer, 2104 Wash-bash avenue, were crossing the street on their way to a dancing school.—Bosworth Sentinel.

U. S. COAL BODY TO SEEK INCREASE IN ITS POWERS

Members of the federal coal commission have decided that it must have increased power to accomplish the results for which the body was created by President Harding. Investigation has progressed sufficiently, it is claimed to justify the conclusion that another big coal strike not later than April 1923, is inevitable unless drastic corrective measures are taken.

The decision to request increased authority was reached today. It will be embodied in the preliminary report to congress on January 15 covering the work of the commission up to this time.

Mrs. G. B. Hurt and son, Claud D. returned to their home in Citronella, Alabama, this week. Mrs. Hurt plans to spend her winters there and her summers in Missouri.

FIRE WHICH DESTROYS A. NEIDHOLDT'S HOME IS FATAL TO HIS WIFE

This community was shocked Friday when the report reached here that Mrs. Albert Neidholdt had been burned to death in a fire that also completely destroyed the house, located about 7 1/2 miles west of Keytesville.

The actual facts in connection with the fire will never be known. Although Mrs. Neidholdt lived from the time of the accident, about 10 o'clock, a. m. until shortly after 8 o'clock p. m., she was not able to give a specific connected explanation.

Mr. Neidholdt was in a field some distance from the house and all the children were away. A few minutes before the fire was discovered neighbors heard the unfortunate mother asking for some one to attend a school entertainment, with her, where a dinner was to be served in connection with a Christmas program. Failing to get anyone to go with her she had sent the last remaining child on to the school.

Soon after this smoke was seen in the direction of the Neidholdt home. A neighbor's son was soon on the scene. He was too horrified to render assistance and he returned to his home and told his mother Mrs. Neidholdt was terribly burned and clothing and bedding were rushed to the scene of the tragedy. She was placed in the car and taken to the home of Oswald Stomer, doctors were summoned and everything possible was done to relieve her suffering. Death mercifully relieved her early in the evening.

Sad Home Coming.
And when this great tragedy was being enacted the daughter, Alberta, who is a student at Kirksville, was speeding home to spend the holidays with her folks. Little could she have thought of the disaster, for her thoughts were of the happy home, of the holiday season with her loved ones. Together with her seven brothers and sisters her dream of the celebration time was changed in the twinkling of an eye as the sad message greeted her upon her arrival at Brunswick.

There are eight children, Alberta, Sullistine, Fred, Ivan, Jaunita, Majorie, Dorothy and Tillie.

Funeral services were held at the Methodist church near the home, the

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SEN. JNO. D. TAYLOR'S HOME DAMAGED—LOSS \$5000.00

This fall Mr. Taylor installed an oil burner for his heating plant fondly imagining all his troubles with furnace fires, coal, etc., had come to an end. Tuesday Taylor arose started the oil burner and after properly adjusting it, as was his usual custom, left for his law office.

During the forenoon he felt a strange presentiment that all was not well at the home. Finally he got into his car and ran up to see if everything was all right. When he opened the front door he was met by a rush of gas, coal soot and heat. In some way the burner in the furnace failed to properly function. More oil was feeding than the flame would consume with the result that great clouds of oil soot escaped from the furnace door. These fumes had completely filled the basement and then had seeped through the floors and rugs, under doors, up through the partitions into all sections of the house.

Absolutely nothing escaped. Closets on the upper floors with the doors shut were completely filled with the fumes. The walls of the house

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PROGRAM KEYTESVILLE CONCERT BAND

The Keytesville Concert band will give the following program at the court house, Monday night, Jan. 1, at 8:15 o'clock p. m.

- 1 "Quality Plus," March.....Jewell.
- 2 "Georgette," Fox Trot.....Henderson.
- 3 "Winter Dreams," Vocal Trio Misses Richardson, Jenkins, Staples.
- 4 "Mayflower" Overture.....Lauren
- 5 "Blushing Rose," Serenade.....
- 6 "3 O'clock in the Morning" Descriptive.....Robledo Waltz
- 10 Minute Intermission—
- 7 "Home Sick," Fox Trot.....Berlin
- 8 "Duo No. IV" Violin Duet.....Anna Blair Miller and Milton Bennett.
- 9 "Festal" Overture.....Hazel
- 10 "On Wings of Song," Quartette Mendelssohn, Misses Richardson and Staples, Messrs. Hansman and Swearingin.
- 11 "For The Sake of Auld Lang Syne," Waltz Ballad.....Bell
- 12 "Our Governor," March.....Leroy NICK HIATT, Director.

Admission 25 and 35c

FIRE DESTROYS ORIGINAL GEO. CHAPMAN HOME

The alarm of fire at about 11:30 o'clock a. m. Wednesday was passed about by force of word of mouth propelled by lung power that the old Geo. Chapman home, occupied by R. C. Temple, was on fire, and, in despite the absence of an electric siren or authorized fire bell, a large crowd gathered in an incredible short length of time and proceeded to speedily empty the house of nearly every movable thing.

The fire caught in the kitchen between the roof and the ceiling and before the family knew of the danger the whole roof of the home was ablaze. Fanned by a strong wind the home was soon in ashes.

A close watch was kept of the Arrington lumber yard, but the wind missed this property and comparatively little danger ensued.

It was a lucky thing that the fire happened in the day time. Else a smaller number of workers would have been on hand to help empty the house.

Keytesville has absolutely no fire protection, not even a bunch of ladders and town buckets available, so of course, the fire burned with no opposition.

However, the poorest kind of chemical outfit would have saved this home, as when the fire was discovered the fire had not spread over much of the roof.

It will be remembered that the waterworks system was voted down last summer by a few, and the destruction of this old home is the first direct result of those who were responsible for the defect of the proposition. The Chapman heirs can thank those who worked against and defeated the issue.

Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Temple and children also can express their sentiments along this line. Today their belongings are scattered all about the premises—all for the want of a couple of ladders, about three barrels of water, or a very small amount of chemical shot from a charged tank.

We wish to personally congratulate each and every worker against the bonding proposition which they defeated last summer.

As we go to press we have not been able to learn of the matter of fire insurance. Neither can we learn where the Temple family can find temporary headquarters.

"Good-Bye, Old Year!"



GOOD-BYE, Old Year!—the fickle World Pursues another Flame,
And Time—the ruthless, changing Time— Will now erase your name.

The big round moon and silver stars That lighted up your skies Will shine upon as many love- In just as many eyes.

And yet your younger rival with His aspect bright and new Is but an unread version of The hopes we had in you.

And he will bring the fragrant June When crimson roses nod, And hurry through the Summertime To flaunt the goldenrod.

The apple-blossoms of his Spring, The little seeds that lie Deep buried in the Heart of Earth, Will live again—and die.

The painted pathway of his Fall Will be with clouds o'ercast, Because his Winter footsteps reach The Portal you have passed.

He, too, will give the warmth of Sun, And days of slanting rain, As he deals out our yearly share Of happiness and pain.

Good-bye, Old Year!—we loved you well; We found your treasures dear, But you have died as monarchs die— And so—Long live the Year!

—Nan Terrell Reed, in N. Y. Times