

# THE OCALEEAN ENSIGN

Vol. 1, No. 8.

OCALA, FLORIDA, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1918

5 Cents Per Copy

## WILEY BURFORD

The world's greatest war has been going on almost four years. During the third year the United States entered. Official reports have come to us of the conditions existing among the warring nations, and of the hideous crimes committed by the armies of the Central Powers. But these reports did not awaken us to the reality of these truths until Saturday, when the tragic news came of Lieut. Wiley H. Burford's death. All hearts were saddened. Every face revealed the innermost feelings of each person. Such pathsos was this revelation that tongue nor pen can express it.

The sad news of their son's death came to Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Burford about 4:30, when they received the following message from the war department:

"Washington, Feb. 16, 1918."

"R. A. Burford, Ocala, Fla.:

"Deeply regret to inform you that it is officially reported that Second Lieutenant Wiley H. Burford, field artillery, died of a bullet wound February 14, 1918.

"McCain, Adjutant General."

No detailed information has yet been obtained. It is not known whether he received his wound on the 14th or prior to that time. But it is known that he died a noble death, the death of a brave soldier on the battlefield of France.

Lieutenant Wiley H. Burford was born October 31, 1893, in Ocala. He was the second son of Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Burford. His days of youth he spent here. Among the graduates of whom the Ocala High School delights to boast his name stands out prominent. After finishing here, he went to Princeton and graduated there with honors in the class of 1916. Choosing law for his vocation, he took up that course in the University of Florida. Before the close of the term he finished the junior year in order that he might begin officer's training at Fort McPherson. There he received his commission as second lieutenant, and was then sent to France. After arriving there, he went to a field artillery school. When he completed his course there he went into active service with the field artillery. The regiment in which he was stationed was the second to fire on the enemy. Here this noble young man gave his life that nations might live.

Lieutenant Burford was an ideal man, one of whom his home town, his county, his state, the nation and even the world can be proud. As a man he was an example for others to follow. The history of how he lived and died is one that should be read by younger boys. His life was clean, upright and pure. He was brave and courageous, daring always to do the right and shirk the wrong. He was a man of keen intellect, capable of judging between the right and wrong.

His short life as a soldier proved that he was just such a soldier as he was a man. The time of supreme test came with him; the voice of duty called, he went. He sacrificed all that he possessed to secure human freedom to vindicate the rules of humanity and laws of God. He, following the example of Christ, laid down his life that others might live. Greater sacrifice can no man make.

**Letter of Sympathy**

The following letter from the law college of the University of Florida, cheered the hearts of the bereaved:

Gainesville, Feb. 18, 1918.

Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Burford,

Ocala, Florida:

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Burford: We learn with unexpressed sadness of the death of your son, Lieutenant Wiley H. Burford, in action in France. He was the first of our law students, so far as we know, to lay down his life for his country. In an unusual way we came to love him, for intellectually, socially and morally, he was the highest type of American manhood. Our deepest sympathy goes out to you in your bereavement. May the Author of All Life sustain you and may you find consolation in the thought that you had such a son to give to the cause of freedom and humanity.

Harry R. Trusler,  
Walter L. Summons,  
Clifford W. Crandall,  
Faculty of the College of Law,  
University of Florida.

Mrs. Todd: "Now, Leonard, come in early tonight; won't you?"

Leonard: "Yes, mother, as soon as Anne Benton will let me go."

## Eighth Grade News

The eighth grades went into the study hall Thursday morning to attend the high school program and to help in the singing. They enjoyed it very much and hope they can come again.

The eighth grades gave a joint program last Friday. It was a patriotic program and was as follows: Patriotic medley, Over There. Goodby Broadway, Hello France! Keep the Home Fires Burning! —School.

### Pageant

Columbus ..... Lawson Cassels  
Indian ..... Jack Williams  
John Smith ..... Frank Cotton  
Pocahontas ..... Maudie Blacklock

Scene from "Miles Standish"  
Priscilla ..... Edith Edwards  
John Alden ..... William Ruff  
Miles Standish ..... Frank Rentz  
Patrick Henry ..... Harry Holcomb  
Washington ..... Harold Smith

Martha Washington ..... Alma Priest  
Betsey Ross ..... Olive Whaley  
"Star Spangled Banner" ..... School  
Two girls of 1812 ..... Inez Vaughn  
Lincoln's Gettysburg Address ..... Jack Camp  
Clara Barton ..... Nannie Lou Watson  
Grant ..... Moultrie Thomas  
Lee ..... Alfred Meadows

Susan B. Anthony ..... Juanita Lytle  
Frances Willard ..... Irene Carn  
Hoover ..... Joe Smedley  
Wilson ..... Guy Lane  
Drill ..... Boy Scouts  
"The Americans Come" ..... Wilfred Harold  
Prayer Verse ..... School  
Pledge and Salute ..... School

The B section of the eighth grade had a half-holiday last Friday. They are getting as many as possible this year, because they will be deprived of them next year.

The following is a poem written by an eighth grade student:

**A Soldier Over There**  
Though ocean separates us,  
And we are far apart,  
Though your sweet face I've given up,  
I'll always keep your heart.

When the golden sun was setting,  
And we went to bid adieu,  
Do you think, my darling, ever,  
Of those words I said to you?

Remember me in friendship,  
Remember me in love;  
Remember me, dear sweetheart,  
And we shall meet above.

Marie Robertson.  
Hoover isn't worrying over our cooking class at all. We are making delicious things of cornmeal which we like as well as wheat.

The eighth grades are very happy over the thought that they are to receive diplomas if they pass. We have all resolved to work twice as hard and make our class have the best record yet made.

We like out-door work, and the agriculture classes are looking forward to having a school garden.

## WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY SUPPER AND DANCE

The Lake Weir Yacht Club celebrated the birthday of "The Father of Our Country" last Friday night at its club house. Long tables were set in the reception hall, where over a hundred plates were served with supper. At six o'clock everyone was seated. Vases of beautiful pink roses adorned each table. After a bountiful spread, the tables were removed and the dance began. The dancers gave up the floor for a while to Mr. Goodwin, a former commodore of the club, whose address was thoroughly enjoyed. The L. D. D.'s and a number of other young people of Ocala enjoyed with the club members, their celebration. They were: Misses Ellen Stripling, Sara Dehon, Callie Gissendaner, Miriam Connor, Sidney Perry, Louise and Lourine Spencer, Ethel and Elizabeth Horne, Anne Benton Fuller, Kit Davis, Dorothy Klock, Theo and Virginia Beckham; Messrs. Charles Duval, Robert Hall, Mortimer Goodwin, Julian Rentz, Charles Carnahan, Harold Klock, Tom Wallis, Leonard Weston, Hansel Leavengood, Leonard Todd, Wellie Meffert, Paul Brinson and Robert Blake.

With unexpressed sorrow have we learned that Mr. Henderson passed physical examination. We do not intend to wish him ill, but we just regret that he will, perhaps, have to leave Ocala before school closes. He certainly is an apt man, and applies himself diligently to his work and duties. Uncle Sam will be fortunate in numbering him among the other "khaki-clad lads."

## Red Cross Play

**Mrs. Briggs of the Poultry Yard**  
The Temple was packed February 14, both upstairs and down, when "Mrs. Briggs of the Poultry Yard" was put on by local talent, under the direction of Mrs. Allie Van Davis.

Mrs. Davis herself took the leading role of Mrs. Briggs, successfully managing and providing for her four fatherless children. Although Mr. Briggs was not an evil man, "for he went to church once in an year," he did not raise the social environment of Mrs. Briggs, so she had to be as optimistic as she could and look on the bright side of things "for the children's sake." The happiest time of her life since Mr. Briggs' death was the realization of making a fortune by hatching ten thousand chickens from an "insulator." When this was done and her two sons "made good," "Ma's" happiness was complete.

Lucile Gissendaner, a member of the Sophomore class, with Catherine Strunk, of the class of 1917, took the parts of Alvira and Melissa, Mrs. Briggs' careless and care-free daughters. They were "perfectly natural" in their acting and as any child would do "take a two-bit tip" when it's offered them.

Wellie Meffert starred as the "black sheep" of the family in the first act, but we found a great reformation in his character when he "got religion" and hung out the clothes. Wellie was inspired to make a "man" of himself when he laid eyes on Daisy, a most charming young lady, who was a well-to-do friend of his mother, Daisy was characterized by one of the 1918 Seniors, Pearl Fausett. No one in the whole audience could blame Wellie for falling in love with the "beautiful" damsel, but everyone wanted Wellie to feel a little more at home in the love scene for he knew she was going to say "yes," as they rehearsed the scene the preceding afternoon.

Beatrice Boney as Virginia, was the daughter of Mr. Lee (D. B. Mayo), who left the home of her wealthy father because he objected to her associating with Ralf Briggs (Niel Ferguson). As the play progressed Ralf became the hero. He went to the city and became a successful business man. On returning home he found his mother's poultry farm rapidly moving to success. Here, too, he found his sweetheart, Virginia awaiting his return.

The role of Mrs. O'Connor, Mrs. Briggs' sharp-tongued but good-hearted neighbor, was cleverly taken by Caroline Borden of the Sophomore class. Her costume was rich, and her brogue excellent. Caroline has often entertained her school mates with dialect pieces at school, but never before has she made such a "hit" before the public.

Silas Green's character was taken by Mr. J. J. Gerig. As usual, Mr. Gerig was splendid. He "backed up" Mrs. Briggs' poultry farm and was very amusing when he feared that the widow was going to propose to him. After returning from the city, Silas was explaining a machine which would hatch out money. He said he put in three dollars and the man said, "When it's hatched, I'll forward the hatching to you." Do you suppose he ever got the three dollars?

Miss Alice Bullock as stuttering Mandy Bates became the bride of Silas Green. She looked quite fetching in her wedding dress, a cook apron and her bridal veil, a lace curtain.

## GATTY SELLARS TONIGHT

After repeated requests the world-famed English organist-composer, Gatty Sellars, is visiting the United States for a limited period, and will play at the Methodist church again this evening. This famous organist delighted his audience at the Methodist church last evening, and many who attended then will no doubt be present this evening.

At the moment of mobilization of the army Mr. Sellars was playing in Germany, where the Weite-Mignon company were recording his performances on their perforated rolls for after reproduction on their Philharmonic organs. He returned immediately to England and was requested to complete the contract at New York city, meanwhile being the first organist in England to be recorded by the Columbia Graphophone company.

This is therefore a unique opportunity to hear this famous artist in the same original organ compositions, performed for such "recording" where it is interesting to note Paderewski had previously been engaged to render some of his pianoforte work.

## Jokes

### "Pen"-itentiary Name

Guest: "What is the name of that intelligent-looking prisoner?"  
Guard: "No. 2206."  
Guest: "How funny; of course, it's not his real name?"  
Guard: "Oh, no, Miss, just his 'pen' name."—Ex.

Miss Mays: "Who can explain what is meant by a frugal life?"  
Francis T.: "Eatin' fruit."

### Who Borrows Them

Miss Duke: "How many days are there in one year?"  
Lamar B.: "Three hundred and twenty-five."  
Miss Duke: "Why Lamar, you know there are three hundred and sixty-five."  
Lamar B.: "No, ma'am; you see forty days are lent (Lent)."

### Shakespeare's Blunder

Miss W.: "Yes, indeed, Shakespeare was a very wonderful man."  
Reggie MacKay: "Do you think he was as clever as Robert Burns?"  
Miss W.: "Why, there's no comparison between them."

Reggie: "Well, one thing about Burns, he wouldn't write such junk as 'Uneasy lies the head that wears a crown.'"

Miss W.: "Nonsense, Reggie."  
Reggie: "You're right, it's nonsense, all right. Burns would have known better than to write of a king or queen either, going to bed with a crown on. He would have said they hung it over the back of a chair."

### Modest

A high school boy was in the market the other night buying some steak, when in walked a newly-wed bride, very shy and modest. It was her first visit to the local market.  
"What would you like, madam?" inquired the butcher.  
The young lady knew what she wanted, but—how could she say it?  
"I think, you might send me extra—er—a nice limb of lamb," she finally managed to say.

Miss Mays: "Louise, I'm surprised that you don't know when Columbus discovered America. What does the heading of the week's lesson read?"  
Louise: "Columbus—1492."

Miss Mays: "Well, isn't that plain enough? Didn't you ever see that before?"

Louise: "Yes'm, yes'm, but I always thought it was his telephone number."

Miss Pitchford: "Decline ego, Duncan."

Duncan: "I can't."  
Miss P.: "You had better open your book and learn, for during this fuel shortage blockheads are in great danger."

Miss W.: "Sam Phillips, make a sentence using the word 'notwithstanding.'"

Sam: "My father wore out the seat of his trousers but not with standing."

Mr. H.: "Reuben, what is a vacuum?"

Reuben: "I have it in my head but I can't express it."

Miss W.: "Walter Hardin, tell what 'ous' means."

Walter: "I don't know. What?"

Miss W.: "It means full of."

Walter: "Then pious means 'full of pie,' doesn't it?"

Reuben: "Mr. Henderson, why was the law of gravity passed?"

Mr. H.: "Why are rings around a coon's tail?"

Miss Pitchford: "Robert, get into your desk immediately."

Robert: "Miss Pitchford. I am afraid that I will be very much cramped."

Beatrice B. (reciting on Ben Jonson): "For a while he drove hacks."

The class laughed. But Beatrice "backed up" her statement with: "The book said that he did hack-work."

Ebbie Hugh: "Mr. Henderson, is it harmful to the nerves to be embarrassed?"

Mr. H.: "Yes."

Ebbie Hugh: "Well, I don't know my lesson, so don't call on me, for you might embarrass me."

## Musical Program

"Music hath charms to sooth the savage breast." All who heard the delightful musical program given by the high school last Thursday morning would testify to this statement. Under Miss Porter's directions the students gave the program in compliment to the members of the board of the Florida Federation of Woman's clubs.

Lovely little programs were designed for this occasion, painted with the beautiful club flower, the red poinsetia and on the cover was this very appropriate quotation: "The public school should lay the foundation of morals, and music is clearly recognized as one of the moral forces by all the students of sociology."

Before the first number of the program was given, Miss Porter introduced Mrs. Edgar Lewis, president of the Florida Federation of the Woman's club, who made a short talk, in which she paid special tribute to Mrs. Hocker for having done so much to put music in the school. Mrs. Hocker was then introduced and especially, did she pay compliments to Miss Porter for the excellent instruction that she was giving to the students. Following is the program that was prepared:

Selection—Orchestra.  
Hymn, "Come Thou Almighty King"—School.

Prayer—School.  
Story of the Star-Spangled Banner—Van Ferguson.

Flag Salute.  
Song, Star-Spangled Banner—School.

Life of Stephen Foster—Marguerite Edwards.  
Old Kentucky Home—Glee Club.

Old Folks at Home—School.  
Story of America—Reginald MacKay.

Song, America—School.  
Song, Carry Me Back to Old Virginia—Quartet.

Hymn, My Faith Looks Up to Thee—Quartet.

Medley, Popular Patriot's Airs—School.

Ocala High School Song—School.  
Each number of the program was excellent, but the mixed quartet composed of Anna Belle Wesson, Pearl Fausett, Harold Klock and Robert Blake deserves special praise. These students show unusual ability, which is being developed by Miss Porter.

## NECESSARY APPARATUS FOR PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Believing that playground apparatus is an important part of the equipment of a school, the teachers of the primary school have used all available funds for the past year in procuring the apparatus suitable for children of primary school age; and now they have on the playground, two giant strides, two see-saws, and a slide. Added to these in the near future will be a rocking board and several horizontal bars. These have all been procured without cost to the board or the patrons, the principal part having been derived from the premiums won at the Marion County Fair.

Primary children have not reached the age when organized games are desirable. When the "gang" spirit develops at about the age of twelve, replacing the spirit of egoism found in the younger children, organized games have their place. Before this time, there is a tendency so strong as to be characterized as an instinct, toward the use of muscular apparatus which prompts the teacher who realizes that the instinctive basis must be recognized in the child's education, to provide this apparatus, and so not only furnishes a pleasant and healthful form of amusement, but to contribute also to the education and growth of the child.

A small library of books that are easy for little children to read is another part of the equipment of the school that is greatly appreciated. By giving to the pupils the best books, ideals in reading find a beginning; the reading habit is encouraged, and the pupils gain power in getting and expressing thought. Credits for home reading are given, and numbers of children in the second and third grades have read several books since the beginning of school.

Be loyal and subscribe for the Ensign. If you don't get a copy every week you are a slacker. If you don't get a copy you should not muster up courage to borrow your neighbor's paper.