

The Looking Glass

Published Monthly by the Students of De Witt High School



AN UNFINISHED EDUCATION



MORE people are devoting themselves to a search after knowledge than to any other employment. The census of some years ago revealed that nineteen million of the youth of this country were attending the public schools, colleges and universities. But even these figures do not suggest how vast is the army of learners. The word which is commonly used to describe the graduation exercises of the schools, "commencement," implies that the search after knowledge has only begun in those classrooms, and that it is to continue through the years which follow. Life itself is the greatest of universities, the courses are innumerable, and the instructors are like the stars for multitude. Ever learning, is the term which describes most members of the human race.

One of the characters in Faust speaks these words in Bayard Taylor's translation:

I've studied now philosophy
And jurisprudence, medicine,
And even, alas, theology,
From end to end with labor keen;
And here, poor fool, with all my lore,
I stand no wiser than before.

That disappointed speaker represents a large class whose education does not bring them to the goal they hoped for, and that class was in the mind of the apostle when he spoke of those who are ever learning and never come to a knowledge of the truth.

America spends about a billion of dollars a year on the education of its youth. It employs more than a half million of teachers. The school buildings are among the most imposing in the community. And the state justifies the making of education one of the chief items of its business by pointing to the profit which the state gains, an educated citizenship, without which a republic could hardly endure. An illiterate people can never make a state peaceful, progressive, prosperous. The goal set before the public school is an enlightened citizenship. America is reaching that goal so far as intellectual attainments are concerned, and some day may recognize that moral development of citizens is as necessary as mental development.

The goal of an individual in seeking an education is often a selfish one, to be able to find more enjoyment, to gain a higher place, or to make more money. Knowledge is always a help in accomplishing those ambitions. A famous surgeon, who was requested to itemize his bill for a delicate operation, thus listed his charges: "For removing a safety pin from the lung, \$1. For knowing how to do it, \$999." It is knowing how that multiplies abilities by the thousand. That is what inspires many to seek after knowledge.

But the highest of all goals for an education is to come to a knowledge of the truth. Truth may sound like a vague word. To many it suggests only the opposite of "false." And education is worthwhile if it gives power to discriminate between the true and the false. But "truth," as the Bible uses it, is no abstract word. The greatest figure of the Bible stands before men with the calm announcement, "I am the Truth," "Ye shall know the Truth and the Truth shall make you free." That is a name which the Lord claims for Himself. The supreme goal of an education is to bring the seeker after knowledge to a knowledge of Him. And the tragic failure of many an education is that the student is ever learning and never able to come to a knowledge of the Truth.

The Looking Glass

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A YEAR AGO

We wonder if you remember what this month celebrates. Twelve months have passed since The Looking Glass came into existence. This month is our anniversary. It must be admitted that it has been a success. Its aims have succeeded, too, have they not? We are going to continue with those same aims, which are:

1. To promote cooperation between the school and the community.
2. To help the students of the school, by introducing journalism; and 3, to inform the patrons of our school of the work being carried on therein.

Our little paper has gained the interest of the students. Not a month has passed wherein those who work on this paper have not done their best to make a successful issue. Some of them are kept busy most of the time; for instance, the advertising managers. They deserve a separate word of praise. They have certainly "rustled some" to make the financing of the paper turn out even.

ORCHESTRA

The orchestra is planning on practicing in the morning at least once a week. It surely has been kept busy lately. The orchestra is also going to play at Laingsburg, March 25th. It hopes to surprise people with the new pieces that are being perfected.

The members are doing their best work and they all seem interested and willing to do their part.

HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

Both the Freshmen and Sophomore classes are studying Shakespeare this semester. "As You Like It" is the name of the book read by the Sophomores and "The Merchant of Venice" is being perused by the Freshmen.

* * *

The Biology class still has fish and snails in the aquarium that was started in the middle part of the winter. Now the class is going to plant different plants to help them in their study of Biology.

* * *

Eva Frances Wilson of Lansing was the room's only visitor this month.

* * *

The High School students enjoyed very much the party given at the Masonic Hall, February 22, 1930. The chaperons were Mr. and Mrs. Day, Mr. and Mrs. Ballu, Mr. and Mrs. Brainerd, and Mr. and Mrs. Stewart. Music was furnished by Reed's Orchestra.

* * *

All information needed for any study can now be found in the room, having just received the last six volumes of "The World Book." These were very much needed, because so many times reports were given out to the pupils and no material could be found. Now they have no excuse.

* * *

Tardies, my goodness, the room has had more tardies this year than they ever had before. Now let's make this our motto: "Go to bed early, so with the rooster we may arise."

GRAMMAR ROOM

The percentage of attendance for last month was 97.5%.

The seventh grade has been making health posters to illustrate the fifteen rules of health.

The new bulletin board is a welcome addition to the room.

The girls who belong to the Little Mothers' league are going on a field trip with Miss Ferriby, the school nurse, March 29th. They are going to visit the School for the Blind and St. Laurence Hospital.

The seventh grade has completed the work in geography and will begin the study of United States History.

The boys of the grammar room are going to compete in a track meet to be held some time in May. There are six schools in the contest.

SECOND INTERMEDIATE ROOM

The boys and girls who earned five months' certificates for perfect attendance are Russel Janz, (Concluded on Page 5)

HONOR ROLL

High School Room—Ruth Marzke, Gertrude Voisinet.

Grammar Room—Thomas White, Dale Bishop, Francis Sibley, Roberta Moon, Eleanor Smalley, Ford Schavey, Virginia Surratt.

Second Intermediate Room—Jean Balluff, Jean Marsh, Nell Perry, Norena Rossow, Levis Sibley, June Stampfly, Bertha Tolksdorf, Frankie Rose, Francis White.

First Intermediate Room—Bessie Helfrich, Mary Ryckman, Doris Sibley, Eloise Strong.

Primary Room—Mary Furgala, Doris Henning, Donovan Ellwanger, Keith Leonard, Richard Marsh, Bobbie Wilcox, John Woodruff, Ruth White.

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De Witt

WHO'S WHO

Certainly a man who has been a resident of our state sixty-four years, lived in our community eighteen years and is able to show a marriage certificate fifty-two years old, deserves a place in our local Who's Who.

Mr. Smith, although seventy-eight years of age, is still a very active janitor of this school and has been for the past seven years.

He was born in Huron county, Ohio, in the year 1852, and came to Michigan when fourteen years of age. During the sixty-four years in which he has been a resident of this state he has lived in the counties of Gratiot and Clinton. The house in which he is now living has been home to him for the past eighteen years.

He has one son and one daughter, who reside at Detroit and DeWitt, respectively.

The students of this school building hope that Mr. Smith may enjoy many more years of happy life.

MUSIC PROGRAM GIVEN BEFORE P. T. A.

At the meeting of the Parent-Teachers' Association, held March 11, an election of officers was held. The following people were elected: President, Mrs. S. C. Surrat; first vice-president, Mr. Levi Sibley; second vice-president, Mrs. Melvin Brooks; third vice-president, Mrs. Frank Booth; treasurer, Mrs. Merle Krass; secretary, Mr. Lawrence Woodruff.

The Social and Program committees gave reports on the year's work, followed by the treasurer's report, given by Miss Sadie Jones.

An interesting program was given, consisting of singing and music appreciation classes, several numbers by the orchestra and two songs entitled, "The Bells of St. Mary's," and "Big Brown Bear," were sung by the Glee Club. A saxophone solo was also played.

The meeting was well attended but it is hoped that the next meeting will be better attended.

INVITATION EXTENDED TO OTHER SCHOOLS

Everyone must be sure to leave all cares and worries behind and attend the Parent-Teachers' Association meeting April 8, and May 13. A good program, sponsored by the pupils of the Wacausta and Laingsburg High Schools, will be afforded you. Any-one staying away will miss a real treat.

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MUSIC GLEE CLUB

The Glee Club seems to be getting quite popular. It sang two numbers at the March P. T. A. meeting, namely, "The Bells of St. Mary's" and "The Big Brown Bear." The Glee Club also has an invitation to sing at Laingsburg. The date has been changed from March 17 to March 25.

Mr. Booth is now the leader of a Boys' Glee Club. This includes the boys of the eighth grade and those from the high school room. It won't be long before they will be singing if they keep up the pace they are going now.

VILLAGE NEWS

The Junior and Intermediate Departments of the Community Sunday School are holding a religious meeting at the church every Thursday afternoon at 4:00, during Lent.

* * *

The members of the Senior Sunday School class are meeting with Mrs. Strong, at her home, every Monday evening at 7:15.

* * *

Mr. James Richmond, former road commissioner of this village, passed away, March 8, at his home on Franklin street.

* * *

Eldorus Yanz, a member of the Sophomore class at St. John's High, and a member of the Senior Sunday School class of the Community Church, passed away at his home, after a long siege of illness.

* * *

Surprised, weren't you? Just go down to the post office and see the new postmaster. Mr. Mark Norris is his name, in case you don't know him. He served as rural mail carrier for twenty years and is very well fitted for the new job he has taken over.

SECOND INTERMEDIATE ROOM

(Concluded from Page 3)

Helen Kraas, Edna Ribby, Norma Rossow, Levis Sibley, June Stampfly, Lillian Stanton, Charles Surratt and Jean Marsh.

The percentage of attendance for February was 95.6%.

Perfect attendance for February, Junior Hiatt, Russell Janz, Helen Kraas, Edna Ribby, Eugene Rivett, Norena Rossow, William Schavey, Levis Sibley, June Stampfly, Charles Surratt, Bertha Tolksdorf, Lawrence Ward, Earl Kussmaul, Gertrude Ribby, Leonard Rossow, Pearl Stanton, Gaylord Ward, Francis White and Delma Young.

The fifth grade have completed the "Human Geography" book. They will spend a few weeks on special study of maps before reviewing the text. Division of fractions is the main work in arithmetic.

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St. Johns

correct use of irregular verbs in language and heroes of the Revolution in history.

The sixth grade are studying the Outlying Possessions of United States for geography, principal parts of verbs in language, and practical measurements in arithmetic.

FIRST INTERMEDIATE ROOM

The Health Nurse visited this room, at that time Shirley Schavey was elected Princess Cleanliness and Fay Ellyn Cutler Princess Laughing Water.

The fourth grade have memorized "Moon, So Round and Yellow, by Matthias Barr.

(Concluded on Page 7.)

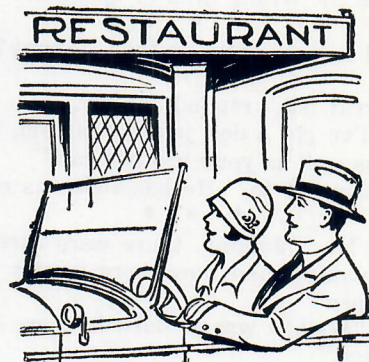
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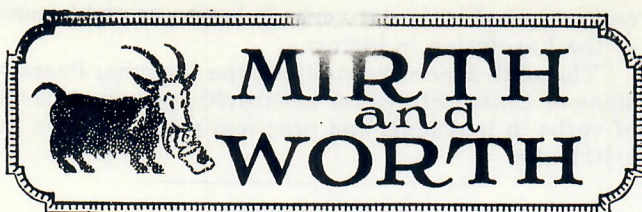
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Mich.



"How do you keep your children in at night?"
"I have an inclosed car."

* * *

Our idea of an optimist is the man who begins a cross-word puzzle with a fountain pen.

* * *

City Chap: "I say, is that bull safe?"

Farmer: "Well, he's very much safer than you are right now."

* * *

A seventh grade history class, which had just finished studying colonial life, was on examination. One of the questions was, "Discuss city life in colonial times." One boy wrote: "There were not many cities, and what there were, were out in the country."

* * *

Man in Elevator: "Fourth floor, please."

Operator: "Here you are, son."

Man in Elevator: "How dare you call me son? You're not my father."

Operator: "Well, I brought you up, didn't I?"

* * *

Mrs. Newwed (at dinner table): "I was going to have some sponge cake as a surprise for you, dear, but I confess it was a failure."

Mr. N.: "What was the matter?"

Mrs. N.: "I don't know for sure, but I think the store sent me the wrong kind of sponges."

* * *

"How old is your little brother, Johnny?" inquired Willie.

"Just a year old," replied Johnny.

"Huh! I've got a dog just a year old, and he can walk twice as well as your brother can."

"Well, he ought to. He has twice as many legs."

* * *

Johnny's Ma: "Johnny, there were three pieces of cake in the pantry, and now there is only one. How did that happen?"

Johnny: "Well, it was so dark in there I didn't see the other piece."

* * *

"My dear," remarked the young man, "did you ask the milkman why there is never any cream on our milk?"

"Yes, darling, and he explained quite satisfactorily. I think that it's a great credit to him."

"What did he say?"

"That he always fills the jug so full that there is no room for cream."

* * *

Teacher: "How is it you were not at school yesterday, Johnny?"

Johnny: "Please, sir, when I was coming to school I saw a steam roller."

Teacher: "Well, what about it?"

Johnny: "A man tapped me on the shoulder and said, 'Mind that steam roller, boy.' And I stood minding it all afternoon."

LA SALLE'S DREAM

ABOUT 30 years after the visits of La Salle and Marquette to the southwest shores of Lake Michigan another hardy Frenchman, Cadillac, founded Detroit. That was in 1701. A century later its population was 770 and still another century saw less than a half million in the Michigan metropolis. Today it claims more than 1,242,000.

The automobile may be credited chiefly for this mushroom growth in the past 15 years. But Detroit, like New York and Chicago, showed the most steadily marked population gains in the middle part of the nineteenth century, when famine and unrest drove thousands of north Europeans to our shores.

If you know that Wicaco was first settled in 1638 and further that it was a Swedish settlement, you probably would say, "What of it?" Nothing except that Wicaco was settled within the present boundaries of Philadelphia, our third largest city.

Forty-four years later in 1682 William Penn laid out the present nucleus of Philadelphia, "city of brotherly love," and in 1890 it was only 4,500 persons smaller than New York. Today it lacks but a few hundreds of having a population of two millions.

Other eastern and middle western cities show the same sort of growth due to northern European groups first and in more recent years to the Italian, the Slav and Maygar. But all these cities grew to prominence within the century. We are indeed a land of prodigies.

When the first fiery patriots of the colonies were drawing up the Declaration of Independence a modest group of Spanish was making the first settlement of our western metropolis of San Francisco, now a city of a half million persons.

San Francisco sprang up because of gold. From 2,000 persons in the early part of 1849 it became a city of 20,000 before the end of that hectic year. Growth since has been more steady with this seaport of the Pacific.

—o—

With a keen eye to good publicity two eastern railroads are wrangling over the question as to which is entitled to the distinction of being the "first" American railroad.

It's an honor that for several years has been claimed by the Baltimore & Ohio, but now the New York Central, celebrating its centennial, claims that the Mohawk & Hudson, initial unit in that great system, was the earliest railroad in the United States.

As a matter of fact neither is correct. A charter was granted the Delaware & Hudson in 1823 and Horatio Allen ran a contraption of a train called by the high-sounding name of the Stourbridge Lion over its tracks more than a year before a train was operated either on the Mohawk or the B. & O.

The really notable thing about these early railroads was that they were built as feeders to the canals, going into territory that could not be reached by water, instead of a complete transportation system. The vision of the future of the railroad was pretty narrow.

SPORTS

Here they are, De Witt's nine red shirts, all set for another winning season. A meeting was held Tuesday morning and Francis Klaver was elected manager while Francis Brainard was elected Captain. Only four veterans are left from last year, but the Grammar room shows some very promising material.

The boys have been going through some light practice for the past few weeks and several of the boys are developing a strong arm for pitching. The suits are to be given out next week and regular practice will then begin.

CLODHOPPERS GALORE

Fun seems sufficient for the actors and actresses of the play "A Little Clodhopper." The antics of Judy, played by Virginia Cutler, and Septimus, ably acted by Francis Brainerd, fill the practising hours with mirth. And Georgie (Lorrie Schavey) the delicate, cunning city dude, who is "mamma's darling," seems always to get in trouble with Judy. Virginia Stanton, the doting mamma of Georgie, is a scheming, cunning lady, whose name is Mrs. Chiggerson-Boggs, with a hyphen. Ocey Gump, alias Roy Shafley, and Miss Julietta Bean, likewise Ruth Marzke, turn out to be a perfect match and live happily, unaware of the deep troubles of Judy and Septimus. Charman Carter, known to us as Evelyn Marsh, who is Georgie's secret sweetheart, thinks she is a vampire; she does succeed in vamping Georgie, all unawares to his more careful mother, whose business it is to marry Georgie to Judy, who she knows is a heiress. Judy is not aware of the fact that she is a rich girl and has been the star boarder at the poor house for 12 years. In spite of the fact that Judy is a little clodhopper, a ragmuffin and an uneducated boarder at the poorhouse, her laughing, merry self completely overturns the heart of her "one and only," Septimus Green, the book agent.

Be sure to see this play and find how it turns out in the end. It will be showing Friday night, April eleventh.

FIRST INTERMEDIATE ROOM

(Concluded from Page 5)

The third grade have learned "A Secret."

The third and fourth grades are thoroughly enjoying the new library books.

PRIMARY ROOM

The pupils who were neither tardy nor absent for the past month are: Donovan Ellwanger, Merle Ellen Hiatt, Doris Henning, Keith Leonard, Wayne Norris, Elaine Richmond, Donovan Strong and Merlyn Stanton.

Ruth White, Donovan Strong, Donovan Ellwanger, Marjorie Brooks, Doris Henning, Elaine Richmond, Merle Ellen Hiatt, Mary Furgala, Richard Marsh, Duane Florian, Wayne Norris and John Woodruff sang several songs at the Ladies' Aid held at the home of Mrs. Clara Woodruff.

The percentage of attendance for last month was 91.4%.

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