

The RIMROCK ECHO

Eastern Montana Normal School

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NO. 4

BEAT INTERMOUNTAIN MONDAY

BASKETBALL RECORD SO FAR POINTS TO SUCCESSFUL SEASON

The basketball team of Eastern Montana Normal School is showing very creditably in their season's playing under the coaching of Oscar Bjorgum of the Y. M. C. A. There are only eight men in the school available for basketball and only five of these have had any previous experience whatsoever, yet they have won three of the seven games played.

Our team won from Webster's Newsboys 32 to 21, when they met on the Y. M. C. A. floor Saturday, January 11. It was the teachers' first game and took the nature of a scrimmage. They showed good teamwork and had an offensive which the "Newsies" could not solve.

Taking the lead early in the first half of a hard fought game, January 20, the team defeated the Worden Teachers 39 to 28 on the Worden floor.

Playing the most thrilling game of the season Tuesday, January 21, E. M. N. S. lost to the Polytechnic quintet 22 to 33 in the Poly gymnasium. The teachers set a fast pace which swept the Poly players off their feet in the first half and kept the spectators in an uproar. Early in the second half the Normalites took the lead, but lost their advantage when the Poly tightened up on their defense.

With a grim determination to
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DEBATERS TO BE CHOSEN

Miss Dewey announces that try-outs for the debate team will be held Monday, February 10, at 7:30 in A5. The subject will be that chosen for intercollegiate debate. "Resolved: That the nations should adopt a plan for complete disarmament except for forces needed for police protection." Each speaker may choose the side on which he wishes to argue and may present a 15-minute constructive speech and a 7-minute rebuttal. An affirmative and a negative team will be chosen. The affirmative team will debate at home and the negative team will meet the opponents in their respective towns.

ORCHESTRA ORGANIZED

On Saturday afternoon, January 18, the Eastern Montana Normal School orchestra met for the purpose of giving beginners practice in ensemble playing. Flutes, clarinets, trombones, and violins are included in the orchestra. Dr. McMullen is assisting by playing the double bass.

LOYALTY OF FORMER STUDENTS EARNS PRAISE FROM PRESIDENT

As I address you I am filled with astonishment that there can be so many of you. I am wondering whether or not you realize that since September 12, 1927, when this institution opened its doors for the first time, 1092 students (including 155 extension students in Billings) have entered, that 141 have received their diplomas from the institution, that 236 students are enrolled now, and that approximately 700 former students are outside of our walls, many of them teaching and rendering a great service to the state of Montana, and rendering it in a better fashion because of the influence of this institution. And, as I think of your doing this magnificent piece of social service, which is teaching, I remember particularly your loyalty to this institution. From a logical standpoint a normal school should not be able to command great loyalty from its students. Compared with the time spent in grade school, high school or college, the time spent in a normal school is short and in many cases intermittent. But apparently loyalty to an institution is not a matter of logic, time or material equipment. Apparently it is a matter of loyalty to an ideal, the ideal in the case of the Eastern Montana Normal school and its students being the ideal of good teaching.

Much Progress Has Been Made

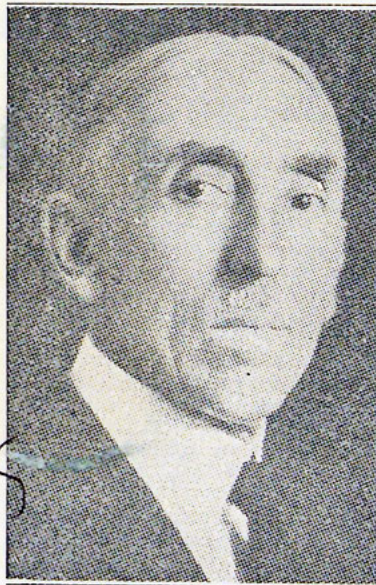
In regard to this ideal of good teaching I can report wonderful progress during the current year. In order to prevent some of the walking that has been necessary in previous years, the school has rented six rooms in the new Empire building, midway between the Administration building and the Washington school. These rooms have been equipped with the laboratory idea in mind, and the teaching this year is noticeably richer in discussion, in research, in concreteness and in the use of material in visual education. A number of classes are devoting themselves to projects that are extremely practical. The publication of the "Rimrock Echo" is made possible through the work of the class in advanced composition. The classes in Montana history are beginning the project of working out the history and geography of all the counties of the state. The classes in dramatics have undertaken one job of stage settings for a local organization, have written the usual Christmas play and have been called upon to write a pageant for a county organization. The class in tests and measurements is doing some testing in the Billings system, being chiefly concerned, however, with the interpretation of the great mass of data that has been collected in regard to the normal school students themselves. The music department, by the use of objective testing, is sorting out those students who have more than the usual amount of musical talent and is recommending them for special work in voice, orchestral instruments and piano. The usual practice work that you have found so applicable to the problems that you meet daily is going on in all departments.

While this increased interest in better teaching has been manifest on the campus of the institution (if it may be said to have a campus), we hope that the same wave for better teaching has reached you. We believe that it has done so in many cases because we have heard of many schools taught by former students of the Eastern Montana Normal school that have received the "superior" rating. If your school has been rated as "superior" please write to us at once so that in the next issue of this paper we may print such a list.

This greeting comes to you with the very best wishes of the institution of which you are a part and which will always be a part of you.

—L. B. McMULLEN.

If you want to know what a college is, the dictionary will tell you, but we would advise you to come and find out—it's far more interesting.



POET OF CHILDHOOD DELIGHTS AUDIENCE IN LECTURE SERIES

Miss Anna Bird Stewart, noted children's poet and lecturer, who was brought to Billings through the combined efforts of the Billings public schools and the Eastern Montana Normal School, spent January 14 speaking to city school children, normal school students and city organizations.

Programs for the Grade Schools

The primary grades of the McKinley and Lincoln schools gathered at the high school auditorium at 1:30 to hear Miss Stewart. She began her address by telling a story about a dog and then reciting her poem she had written about him. The biggest surprise came when she told them about the tufted caterpillar having a toothbrush fastened on his back.

Miss Stewart gave similar talks to the primary children at the Broadwater at 9:30, and at the Garfield at 2:30 for primary children of the Garfield and Orchard schools.

At 10 o'clock the children from the intermediate grades were entertained by Miss Stewart at the Babcock theater. She read some of her children's poetry, which was very enthusiastically received.

At 11 o'clock Miss Stewart spoke at the Babcock to the children from grammar grades. One of the most interesting parts of the program was a short skit showing how to get acquainted with a dog.

Talks Before High School and Normal School Students

The high school students heard
(Continued on Page 3)

SKETCH CLUB GOES ON SLEIGHRIDE

Members of the Sketch club, including the instructors, Miss Roberts and Mr. Manion, and a guest, Miss Irene Day of Livingston, spent a very enjoyable evening, January 18, sleighriding and singing songs.

All met at the Washington school at 8 o'clock, and they were off for a two-hour ride. At 10 o'clock Miss Jessie Lyons directed the way to her brother's home on Broadwater, where a very delightful hour was spent singing songs and visiting.

A most delicious lunch of chili and coffee was served; it was much appreciated after the cold ride.

RIMROCK SALE AND POPULARITY CONTEST ON

The Rimrock of 1930 will cost \$2 until March 19. After that date the price will be \$2.50. A deposit of \$1 entitles one to 25 votes in the popularity contest, which also closes March 19. Sign up with the sales leader of your division and take advantage of the reduced rates and the popularity votes.