

THE RIMROCK ECHO

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EASTERN MONTANA STATE NORMAL SCHOOL at Billings, Montana

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EDITORIALS

TEACHERS AND SAFETY RULES

The death of a 12-year-old school boy after being struck by a truck as he rode a bicycle along highway No. 10 east of Billings offers a very clear lesson to teachers regarding their obligations to train their pupils in the observation of safety rules on the highway. The boy was riding on the right hand side of the road directly in the path of the truck coming behind him. He failed to hear the warning horn, and veered suddenly toward the middle of the road to avoid a rough spot. The driver swerved out of the way, but was unable to avoid striking the boy, killing him instantly.

If the boy had been riding on the left hand side of the road—the side for pedestrians and cyclists—out of the path of traffic from the rear and facing cars coming from the other direction, the accident would not have occurred. Perhaps a teacher had failed in impressing upon the boy's mind the rules for traffic safety. Thousands of accidents every year are the inevitable result of inadequate training in these essential rules.

Prevention of accidents to pedestrians and school children on highways is a matter of deep concern to every progressive community. Proper training in the impressionable years of youth will reduce these needless accidents to the minimum. Teachers should regard instruction in safety as their sacred and inescapable duty. Prevention of accidents must begin with the child in the school. Every hour of safety instruction may mean that one more child may live a natural lifetime instead of being killed by a racing motor car.

To us who will become teachers in rural schools this tragedy has special application. Our pupils will come and go along the public highways where speeding motorists will threaten them constantly. Let us bear in mind that one ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. Once each day is none too often to admonish the children in our schools to walk always on the left side of the road.

BOOST—DON'T KNOCK

The time of graduation is rapidly approaching. Soon a large number of us will be leaving this school to go out and teach. We will have contacts with many young people, some of whom will be planning to go to college. That will be our golden opportunity to do something for the school that trained us and gave us every opportunity and aid in its power.

Of all the schools in the state, Eastern Montana State Normal School gives us the most for our money, gives us the most opportunities to broaden and educate ourselves, gives us the most intensive and best planned two-year course as a preparation for teaching. We should realize the service this institution has given us. If we don't realize it now we will later in life when we look back upon it all.

Some of us can't see the forest because of the trees. Some of us are blind to the chances we will have to do this school and ourselves a good turn. No one likes a knocker, and no one puts much stock in what a knocker says. We should give praise and support where it is due. Being loyal never has caused anyone regret. Let us as teachers, go into the communities of Eastern Montana with a bit of praise on our lips for the school we are leaving behind. It has given us unselfishly of its wealth, and its open doors will always welcome us back as friends or students.

TALKING IN THE LIBRARY

This homily is addressed to the library chatterers. We suggest that you consider your classmates a little and remain silent while you are in the library. After all, a library is a place to study, and if you don't want to study it would be well to go out and do your talking somewhere else. You don't like to hear the librarian tell you to stop talking; that makes you feel like a little child. Besides, such a request attracts the attention of even the most studious, disturbing their train of thought and wasting their time.

Show your appreciation for our library that is especially equipped for your convenience by cooperating with your friends and the librarian. You will accomplish much more work and so will your friends if you just keep in mind that you are there to study, not to gossip. Try it. We know your friends will appreciate it.

PATH TO EDUCATION SMOOTHED

The road to learning will be much smoother for E. M. S. N. S. students from now on. Two fine, broad sidewalks are now laid up the front campus to the entrance in place of the narrow, uneven board walk over which the eager seekers for knowledge have stumbled for the past sixteen months.

Sign in a Buffalo tea room: "What Foods These Morsels Be!"

The Japanese national hobby: Collecting China.

COOPERATIVE HOUSEKEEPING

Elsewhere in this paper is a story of a successful cooperative student dormitory at the A. S. M. College in Texas. In view of a dormitory being built on our campus this story is doubly significant. It illustrates the practicability of the cooperative dormitory, and outlines a tested plan which may be instituted in our own prospective dormitory.

Two major objectives may be realized by a successful cooperative dormitory. The cost of board and room may be reduced to the minimum, and the social spirit of the campus—which has been almost entirely lacking—may be stimulated greatly. Both of these objectives are worthwhile and necessary for the success of our college.

A survey reveals that automobile accidents netted 38,500 deaths in 1936, 1,500 more than in the previous year. This increase comes despite the safety programs carried on in almost all the communities in the United States. What can we do to curb speeding autoists?

He who hesitates is bossed.

Mussolini, the greatest seizer of them all!

Synonym is a word used when you can't spell the word you want.

It looks as if a diploma from E. M. S. N. S. is a sure ticket to a county superintendency. Nine graduates ran for county superintendent; eight were elected. The ninth ran against another graduate.

JOHNSON RESIGNS; LEEDOM APPOINTED

At the end of March, Hon. W. M. Johnston of Billings resigned from the State Board of Education, of which he has been a member for 13 years. First appointed in 1902, he served until 1905, when he resigned. He was again appointed in February 1927 and has been continuously a very active member, being the official representative of this school on the board.

No institution could have a more loyal and efficient spokesman and supporter than Mr. Johnston. He has given prodigally of his ability as a lawyer. He drew every bill relating to this school from the first agitation for it in 1913. When the state board had the task of deciding where in Eastern Montana the new Normal should be located, his arguments won the day for Billings.

Throughout the ten years of existence of Eastern Montana State Normal School he has been alert to do everything to advance the welfare of the school. He had much influence in passing the bill to permit the P. W. A. loan and grant which gave us our building, and he cared for the multifarious legal technicalities necessary to bring it to fruition.

All this service he has given freely to the cause of higher education—service which it would have been necessary to employ a lawyer to do, and which no lawyer who was not so wrapped up in the institution would have done so well.

It is a source of much regret to all of us that Mr. Johnston's ill health made his resignation necessary.

The new member of the State Board who becomes our representative is Mr. Reyn Leedom, who was appointed by Governor Ayers. Mr. Leedom is a local printer and member of the Billings City Council. He is also vice-president of the Billings Commercial Club. He was editor of the Lovell Chronicle of Lovell, Wyo., for 20 years. He was president of the Billings Kiwanis Club in 1933-34. He is now serving his second term as an alderman from the third ward.

Never kick away the ladder by which you climbed up. You may need it coming down.

Toogood Leads Honor Roll of 31 Students

The honor roll for the winter quarter was led by Mrs. Elsie Toogood of Roundup with an average of 2.89 per cent grade points per credit. Ruth Elgas of Ballantine was second with 2.88; Robert Wilson of Melstone was third with 2.87 per cent grade points per credit. Others who attained places on the honor roll are Ruth Blanchard, Fairview; Rosalie Blevans, Brandenburg; Genevieve Brunckhorst, Columbus; Vern Clark, Billings; Marilyn Duell, Billings; Rosa Eisenman, Park City; Alice Enevoldsen, Billings; Esther Epperson, Joliet; Bonita Everett, Billings; Benjamin Fleming, Cohagen; Alvin Guthrie, Absarokee; George Harrison, Belfry; Agnes Helgeland, Pryor; Barbara Hess, Glendive; Emma Kostoryz, Worden; Mrs. Bernice Kudrna, Billings; Ralph Loomis, Billings; Sylvia Neiss, Oregon City, Oregon; Maloa Nonhof, Winifred; Iva Pratt, Baker; John Schirmer, Billings; Jean Seaton, Cascade; Marybeth Shreve, Hardin; Vivian Smith, Helen Swan, Vern Wagner, of Billings; Donald Welsh and Ruth Woodhouse of Wibaux.

When Your Dollar Had More Cents

From Central State Life, school paper of the Central State Teacher's College at Mount Pleasant, Michigan, we learn that a backward look into the school's history reveals that in January, 1897, the faculty ruled that any student who absented himself from daily chapel exercises would be expelled. The article adds naively, "Two new rows of seats had to be added to accommodate the students."

Another clipping from a local paper January 18, 1907, states: "The boarding clubs at the Normal are offering little variety in price these days; no matter how freely a student spends money, he cannot pay more than \$2 per week for his board nor less than \$1.90. All the clubs are under student management and seem to be making a living." A month's allowance would have gone farther in 1907!