

# Humboldt Lumberjack

VOLUME IX

HUMBOLDT LUMBERJACK

Thursday, February 3, 1938

Number 8

## STUDY CHANGES POSSIBLE IF ADVISOR SAYS OKAY; DEAN ISSUES STATEMENT

### "HOLIDAY" TO BE PRESENTED BY DRAMATISTS

"Holiday", one of the best of Philip Barry's plays and according to Garff Bell Wilson, a high comedy with a wealth of clever, smart lines and interesting situations, will be the next production of the college dramatic department.

Readings were held both Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons and the final cast will soon be announced.

"Holiday" has been given many times, but it is still a favorite with Little Theater groups. It was made into a movie many years ago with Ann Harding in the lead. Hollywood is producing it again this year starring Katherine Hepburn.

Mr. Wilson, who is head of Humboldt's department of drama, announced that his plans for the future include another long play, which will be exchanged with Chico who will bring their dramatic presentation here, and an evening of one act plays, now in preparation by Violet Susan, Richard Jarboe and Carl Owen.

### Estelle Koch To Replace Cluxton

Estelle Preston Koch, a Humboldt graduate, has been appointed to take Mr. H. T. Cluxton's place at the training school. Mrs. Koch graduate from the three year course at Humboldt some years ago and taught for a number of years in Sacramento. Last year she returned and finished the four year course, being very active in dramatics also. Especially worthy of note was her characterization of the frivolous old woman in the production "See Naples and Die."

Mr. Cluxton will continue his work on a part time basis. He will be included on the teaching staff of the training school and will also teach one college course, Math 20.

### SCIENCE STUDENTS IN TUESDAY NIGHT MEET

Members of the Science Club and also students interested in science met Tuesday night for a pot-luck supper. After the meal, Mr. Joseph J. Bognuda addressed them on the subject of "Earthquakes". A two reel movie showing "A Trip Across the United States" was also shown.

### Ugo Giuntini Will Teach At Junior Hi

Ugo Giuntini, a Humboldt graduate of 1933, has been appointed to a teaching position in the Eureka Junior High School for the spring semester.

Mr. Giuntini taught previously in the training school and since September was the principal of the Dyerville school. James Gulick who has been teaching at the training school will take Giuntini's place at Dyerville.

Students may make changes in their study cards—provided they make the changes with the approval of their advisors.

This was the "message" from the Dean's office to new students, sent out via the Lumberjack yesterday. For the benefit of new students, the details of the procedure are given as follows:

First, the student goes to the office of the Dean, in Room 125, and gets a petition-card for changes in program; second, he writes down in the proper place the titles of the courses he wishes to add or drop; third, he obtains the approval of his advisor for the proposed changes and gets the advisor's signature on the petition; fourth, he obtains the signature of any instructors whose classes he is adding or dropping; fifth, he files the card properly signed in the office of the Dean.

Students who drop classes without official approval may find that they will receive failures and those who add courses without official approval are likely to lose credit for courses so added, according to word from the Dean's office.

### Eastern Collegians To Visit Humboldt

Thirty students from New Jersey State Teachers' College who are making a field study course covering the continental United States have included Humboldt County in their itinerary. This arrangement was made by the Eureka Chamber of Commerce through the United States Touring Bureau of the Department of the Interior.

The group is in charge of Mr. Bye, director of field study courses. The tour will occur during the months of July and August of this year.

### Honor Societies Feted Recently

Miss Adella Johnson, of the language department, entertained the members of the two honor societies the Chi Sigma Epsilon, and the Rousers, at an informal tea held in her home last Wednesday afternoon.

Undergraduate members of the Chi Sigma Epsilon include: Myron Schussman, Hazel Nichols, Violet Susan, Eleanor McKay, Beryl Unsoeld and Ray Pedrotti. Graduate members who are enrolled here for special work are Lester Larsen and John Van Duzer.

Members of the Rousers who were elected last spring and are still attending college this semester are: Valerie Barker, Matthew Fountain, and Charles Glenn.

Jayn Harville, enrolled at Humboldt as a sophomore has been confined in Trinity Hospital for the past week due to illness.

Carol Hine, formerly attending the University of California, enrolled at Humboldt for the spring semester.

Eva Mathieson, who formerly attended Humboldt, has registered again for the spring semester after a year's absence.

## PHYLLIS BENBOW LEAVES SCHOOL

Phyllis Benbow, who enrolled at Humboldt State this fall as a freshman has been confined to her home at Benbow Lodge, and was unable to finish her first semester on account of illness, and she does not plan to return this semester.

While enrolled here, Miss Benbow was outstanding in dramatics, playing one of the leading roles in the fall comedy, "The Bishop Misbehaves." She organized and directed the College Radio Players who presented two half-hour dramas over the college radio program. She also gave readings and read some of her own literary compositions on various programs.

Her loss is a serious one to the college.

## FAMOUS PIANO TEAM APPEARS IN CONCERT

Ethel Bartlett and Rae Robertson, famous two-piano team appeared in the second of the community Concert series last Sunday in Eureka.

Authoritative music critics have placed them high in the ranks of two-piano duettists, and their concert here Sunday justified this praise. Perhaps the most striking feature of their performance was the complete understanding each artist had for the other's interpretation. They were truly "en rapport" an almost supernatural bond fused the four hands into one creative entity.

Charming and pleasant, the couple nevertheless maintained a certain reserve, the impersonal air which marks the artist. Their personality was always subordinated to the music they played, and the technique by its very excellence was effected.

The artists were brought here by the Columbia Concert Association. Next Thursday evening they will be Bing Crosby's guest artists on the Kraft Music Hall radio program.

The third and last concert of the series here will be given March 30. John Charles Thomas, baritone and Carol Hollister his accompanist will be heard. Mr. Hollister is a former Arcatan and his father at one time was on the Humboldt State College faculty in the social science department.

## HSC HOOPSTERS IN SAMOA WIN

Humboldt's husky basketballers rolled up their fourth consecutive victory last Wednesday night when they beat the Samoa Firemen 48 to 18 in the collage gym.

Samoa got off on a head start but after the first five minutes the State cagers took over the game and at the half led by 26 to 10. The reserves played the last ten minutes of the game and managed to pile up an even higher lead.

## THUNDERBOLTS SPLIT WITH S. F. STATE IN BASKETBALL DOUBLE HEADER ON WEEK END

The Humboldt Thunderbolts and the San Francisco State Gaters split their annual two game series last weekend in the bay city. In the first game the Thunderbolts were beaten by (1) an inferior team, (2) two paralyzed referees (3) wild passing and (4) weary bodies from a 275 mile automobile ride. The contest was a see-saw affair until about eight minutes before the finish of the game. It was then that Thayer, Johnson and Hammond of the Gaters started to tank bucket after bucket.

The second game was a hair raising contest. The Gaters started off by getting a six point lead. At this point John "Feather Head" McGrath was inserted into the scramble. He immediately inspired the Humboldt squad and in a short while the Thunderbolts were leading by six points.

The entire HSC squad was good. The outstanding man was "Hank Luisetti" Givens. He garnered 19 points. Biondini, Villa and Seidell were dangerous every minute of the game. The "Ebony Flash" Mr. Thornton looked like a different player over the first game. His recovery work and passing were superb.

The Gaters played an erratic slam bang game. Their defense was good but their offense was a prayer; they shot and prayed that it would go in. Their star forwards Sanz and Hammond are two of the best forwards that the Thunderbolts will play against this season.

## Co-op To Be Open Full Time; Clerks Added To Force

During the rush season when there are many demands for new textbooks the student co-op will be open full time, according to Bill Morehouse, manager. Additional clerks have been appointed to take care of the increased trade. Herb Gomez, Kenny Samuelson, Don Pozzo, Ray Pedrotti, and Richard Blackburn are working part time.

Bill Morehouse has accepted a position down at the training school and will only be in the co-op about two hours a day. The regular hours, which are effective as soon as the first of the semester rush is over will be from 7:45 to 9 in the morning, 11 to 4:30, in the afternoon.

## NEW VARSITY CANDY SHOP

Bob Gayhart, general proprietor of the Varsity Candy Shop announces that his new location in the New Theater Building will be able to serve the college students, even better than it has in the past. Saturday marks the gala opening of the candy shop in its new quarters and Mr. Gayhart cordially welcomes all of his student patrons.

### GAG OF THE WEEK

Being Personal: Do you really wear long underwear? Phil Browne: Sure, and it does not embarrass me either.

## FROSH RETURN DANCE FRIDAY

"Hi, toots! What say we shag down to the college gym next Friday night for a bit of the light-fantastic tripping. Finals are over and win, lose, or draw, "A" students will dance with "F" students with relieved minds."

The occasion is the annual Frosh Return dance tendered to the school by the freshmen in appreciation of the warm reception they received when they entered college and to socially welcome the new freshmen. The theme of the dance is to be "Let's Go Slumming" and the hall will be decorated in true tenement fashion.

Music will be furnished by Dan Oliver's college orchestra and dancing will be from nine to twelve. Several novelty dances, among them the "lemon" dance and the "shoe" dance will be the highlight of the evening.

Chairman for the affair were Helen Alberts and Michiel Chetkovich.

As to clothing, "Diamond" Jim Cady, president of the freshmen class says "No dressin' up."

So "you'd better be there when the band starts playing "because it is going to be SOME shin-dig."

## Dancing Class Draws Curious

The social dancing class has proved not only popular for the members of the class but has also proved a drawing card for large crowds of spectators. This is very flattering, but the spectators have proved most disturbing to the class and Mrs. Monica Hadley, instructor of the class has asked that students please refrain from congregating around the Little Gym between one and two on Tuesdays & Thursdays.

On the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month a class will be conducted at noon in the Little Gym to teach any student interested the latest ballroom dances. There will be no credits given for the course, but any student is eligible to attend. This class was arranged to take care of the overflow from the social dancing class.

Wednesdays, February 9, and 24 will be devoted to learning the Big Apple.

### GAG OF THE WEEK

One of the questions in the Geography final given by Dr. Fisher was what is one of the main resources of the jungle. Answer: The wild fruit that grows there in ecstasy.

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## HUMBOLDT LUMBERJACK

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## DO'S AND DON'TS

First and foremost we wish to welcome the new faces wandering helter and skelter about the campus and to assure them that in no time at all they will be flinging books around and cutting classes entirely at their ease and feeling right at home. Humboldt State, being small, is chummy. People are easy to meet and easier to know. There is a total lack of ceremony and informality is the order of the day.

To further your orientation we would like to mention various points of interest and outstanding personalities about the college. First there is President Gist. President Arthur S. Gist. Freshmen like him instantly and the whole college admires and obeys this man who sits secluded in his office but is never too busy to see even the lowliest frosh. He sincerely wishes to know the students personally and is glad to see them even if they come in to say "Good Morning, do you think it will rain today?"

Next comes the Dean of Women, Miss Zula Z. Ballew, and the Dean of Men, Garff Bell Wilson. They may be merely awe-inspiring names to you now, but once met, they turn into charming and delightful people who like nothing more than to share your problems, and who have made the Freshmen's cause truly their own. Miss Ballew is the blue-eyed Easterner who presided at the Information desk the first few days of school and she has the loveliest speaking voice in school. Mr. Wilson, among other things, dabbles in dramatics, rides horseback and is the last bachelor on the faculty.

Mr. Maurice Hicklin, the little gray-haired man addicted to wearing blue shirts presides in the office of the dean of lower division and will prove invaluable to you later on, in straightening out course difficulties.

As you go down the hall, to the right of you is the Social Unit, which you should never enter with the idea of studying. To the left is the library, presided over by Mr. and Mrs. Graves, which you should never enter with the idea of not studying.

At the end of the building is the Little Gym, where you will enjoy yourself at many informal functions and at the right, second door down, please, is the commons. Mrs. Ellen Walter has worked a remarkable change here in the decorations, as well as the bill of fare. And if you're nice to Larry, the cook, he'll sneak you an extra roll, but don't tell him we said so.

You should meet these people and visit these places. You'll like them. And may your stay here be a pleasant one.

## FACULTY HOLDS STAG DINNER

In honor of Dr. Raymond Fisher, associate professor of history, whose marriage to Miss Mary Corley took place in Pasadena on January 29, the faculty men of Humboldt State College held a stag dinner at the Hotel Arcata recently.

Fred Telonicher was toastmaster for the evening and Homer Arnold, Dr. Balabanis, President Arthur S. Gist, Dr. Harry MacGinitie, and Garff Bell Wilson gave short talks.

Others who attended were Raymond Fisher, C. E. Graves, Maurice Hicklin, J. Wendell Howe, Edmund C. Jeffers, Horace Jenkins, Leo G. Schussman, and Bert F. Wilson.

After the dinner the group adjourned to the home of Dr. Balabanis.

### SOME CRUST

Father: "When I was a little boy, I always ate the crusts."

Willie: "Did you like them?"

Father: Of course, I did!

Willie: "Then you can have mine."

## CAMPUS COMMENTATOR

The time has come for all good students to make resolutions about studying and stuff. Everytime a new batch of Frosh women come to Humboldt, State's reserve squad gets all in a dither.... Jim "Cupie Doll" Cady was hovering around several young and innocents the other morning, or vice versa.... Prosperity hit Bill Smith over the vacation—at least he was throwing four bit pieces all over the hall.... We don't think it was prosperity that hit Carl Owen. In fact, it was Sailor Elmes who opened up Carl's eyes.... And from now on gals, you will have to study to get good grades from Dr. Raymond "Canonball" Fisher for at 4 p. m. Saturday last, he took unto himself a wife.

In case you haven't seen Myron Schussman's advertisement, he is offering a Geog-book for sale with all the answers written in, guaranteed correct.

More darn kids had more darn fun.... Billie Goff fell in love with Ken Bowers.... Bettie McWhorter went all the way down to San Rafael to see Bud Sullivan.... Bud Villa took a jaunt down to San Jose to see his blond canary, we think. Of course he stopped off in San Francisco long enough to play a couple of basketball games.... Audrey Morell came up to the S. F. State game to see Mel Roberts play.... Three little gals from S. F. State made Collis Mahan's trip worthwhile.... Kep Goodwin coached Hank Givens from the sidelines to the tune of 19 points.... Brother Joe and Brother Miles were at the game. We couldn't be positive they were McGraths because they each had a girl hanging onto their respective left arms. Art says he couldn't bring Anthony McGrath because his hands were too dirty.... The San Francisco referees certainly don't call the games like Nelson and Mendes.

The McGrath brothers have moved into the dormitory. Johnnie will now have the unutterable thrill of seeing Jimmy Harris's eyelashes caress a tired cheek, and Art will take Toy's place, as Bill Farber's roommate. Jim is awfully sorry to see Futz go because now he has no one to make his bed.

### Who's Who At Humboldt

Everybody knows Miltie-Wiltie Villa now that he is a famous basketball player so your humble commentator takes this opportunity to further his fame. Bud's full name is Milton Ernest Villa, but to his friends he is known as the "Big Gun". Since his debut into the world of sports, he has become the darling of Al Santos, Curly Grieves, Bill Leiser, and all the boys. Miltie is far from being a lounge lizard, but he is a social lion from way back. As an exponent of the "Big Apple," Miltie has no peers. Blondes, redheads, and brunettes, he gets 'em all. P. S.—He's pretty too.

### ANOTHER ONE

A Scottish horseman went into a saddler's shop and asked for one spur.

"But why only on spur?" asked the puzzled clerk.

Replied Jack: "Well, if I can get one side of the horse to go, the other'll go with it."

— Neal O'Hara in New York Post

## Hoops-Hardwood

Some San Francisco character tried to sell coach Fred "Barney Oldfield" Telonicher the Golden Gate Bridge. "Barney" thought the price was reasonable but the 90% of the toll that he would collect was the sticker.

Jim "Fire Engine" Cady's famous basketball pass while in a game is, "Oh look at the blond in the third row."

Alvin "Hack" Biondini has been getting amorous letters and pictures from Monmouth. If he can get results like that for playing in one game what would he do in a two game series?

Bud "Big Gun" Villa is the Step'n Fetchit of the squad. He's the last one out of bed, the last one dressed for a game and the last scorer of the game. A perfect score for "Big Gun."

In the second game, John "Feather Head" McGrath, dribbled down the center of the court, jumped in the air, and shot one-handed, a beautiful two points. Too bad "Skinny" had his eyes closed.

Sanz, the Gaters' star forward, had a clean shot at the basket. Just before he shot, "Big Gun" Villa turned to Lee "Silent" Seidell and said, "Two bits he doesn't make it," and strange as it may seem, Mr. Sanz missed. By the way, "Big Gun" was supposed to be guarding Sanz.

Congrats to former Humboldters who showed the "Big City" to the boys on the squad. It shows that they haven't forgotten Humboldt's hospitality.

Some one asked Roderick "Sleep Walker" Belcher if "Pooky" Saunderson played basketball to which "Ronnie" quickly replied, "Gee whiz, what do you think he is, our mascot."

mascot."

The McGrath brothers, "Curly" and "Skinny," took some of the boys to have dinner at "Sloppy Joe, The Greek's." The floor show consisted of jokes at the expense of hamburgers "wid or widout dish wadder zupe." I think "Skinny" and "Curly" got a percentage.

Curt "Pretty" Wilson. Al "Hack" Biondini and Jim "Rolly Coaster" Cady spent all Friday afternoon and most of Saturday night at the beach riding roller coasters and merry-go-rounds. By the way, girls, "Rolly Coaster" Cady also won his kewpie doll.

The games with the Gaters were entry tests for the Thunderbolts. They will receive their mid-terms at Chico and their finals here against San Jose, and me thinkst they won't fail us.

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 Telephone voice: "All right."  
 Telephone voice: "Sorry, wrong number."  
 —Columbia Jester

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## NEW LEWIS BOOK NOW IN LIBRARY

"The Prodigal Parents," by Sinclair Lewis has just been received by the college library and may be obtained on the rental shelf.

If you are a father or a mother with young or grown-up children; if you are a young man or a young woman looking into the bewildering world beyond the shelter of parents or college; if you are curious about human problems today—Sinclair Lewis' new novel will absorb you and entertain you. With his genius for dramatizing thoughts that are on the threshold of every mind, he writes with affectionate sympathy of the problems of the successful man of fifty-five, his son and daughter, his wife, his business.

Frederick Wm. Cornplow, a shrewd middle-class realist, gradually wakes to find that Sarah, his selfish college-graduate daughter, and his son Howard, still irregularly playing football for Truxon, think of him as intellectually obsolete, as a convenience, as a walking bank account, to whom they need return neither affection nor thoughtfulness. He finds that his wife, Hazel, loves him as he loves her but that she is their ally. He discovers through the presence in his children's lives of a young communist and through the intrusion into his own life of a family of shiftless relatives and of a young girl far too good to love his son, that he has to look for the first time clearly into his own heart and mind.

He has to make a decision about himself and the people he has loved all his life. That decision and his escape from eternal servitude make a novel that stands besides "Main Street," "Babbitt" and "Dodsworth". There are a million bewildered Fred and Hazel Cornplows and their demanding sons and daughters in America today. "The Prodigal Parents" looks into their minds, strikes savagely at times with all of Sinclair Lewis' irony at stupidity and malice, but always with the saving grace of tenderness and humor. It provides a new Bill of Rights for the American Parents and it may bring a new understanding to their children.

## Horace Jenkins Is Author Of Article In Arts Magazine

The Industrial Arts and Vocational Education magazine has published in its February issue an article by Horace R. Jenkins, of the industrial education department of Humboldt State.

The article is "Simple, Inexpensive Weaving Looms, Part I." This is the first of a series of articles that are to be published by Mr. Jenkins.

## Sequoia Music Club Helps To Purchase Piano

The Sequoia Music Club of Eureka has given an added impetus to the progress of musical development at Humboldt College. From them the college music department was able to buy an 8 foot Steinway valued at \$1800 at a bargain. The money which the college paid to the club is to be used for music scholarships along with other money which the club has raised by concerts.

The piano, the smaller of the two used in last Sunday's Community Concert, is a very fine one and will be used in the auditorium. It is not however, for general use and will be kept under lock and key.

## BOIL IT IN OIL

Dear Boil it in Oil:  
 "Et to Brutus," and so Caesar died.

Mass education started and so came the era of dirty cords.

The education inflated some of the heads and pockets so the ones wearing dirty cords are labeled "Tramps."

Thus is the saga of my woe.

Psychologists say that it is impossible to judge civilization by one person. Mind you, psychologists say this, yet one of our ambitious freshmen (woman) judged about three quarters of the men students of the college by the action of one.

I don't know whether to class "Brownieing" as the ninth wonder of the world or just let the insipid words and the distorted, ideas of a freshman pass by as a breeze.

Yes, I am a wearer of "Dirty Cords." I wear them because the inflation of my pocket book is getting as it always has been very, very deflated. I wear them because I have enough ambition to go through college without being fed with a golden spoon. I wear them because my income comes from my hard, everyday work. Yet because of all these reasons I don't let my pride rabble off words in judgements of one that will hurt many.

About seventy five percent of the men students of H. S. C. wear dirty cords. Yet I can't involve all the others. It would be like saying that because one man owns a gun the rest of the men are murderers.

The author of the article "Brownieing" that was published in the last edition of this paper had something to say but didn't say it. The only thing she did was to show that it is the truth that hurts.

If the term "Brownie" didn't involve her why in the world write the article? If it did hurt why hurt many persons just to save her selfish pride? Why in God's name did she classify all of those wearing dirty cords as "A big thoughtless tramp of a boy dressed in foul smelling cords." Why didn't she name the person or why didn't she have it out with him orally? There is only one answer and that is because she is a Brownie and she hates to have some one say so.

I don't blame the author of the article entirely for its publication the English teacher that handed the article to the editor and the editor are just as much to blame.

Signed: Dirty Cords but a good Citizen.

P. S. Note to Editor: This probably won't be published for some unseen reason. If you had the intestinal fortitude to publish the other, why not this?

Editor's Note: I will publish your complaint, Mr. Dirty Cords, why haven't you the intestinal fortitude to sign your name to your little beef?

## Absence Leave Is Given Miss Sholty

Miss Myrtle Sholty, Professor of Education and Psychology, has been granted a leave of absence for the spring semester. Her classes will be taught by President Gist and Mr. Schussman.

Miss Sholty's absence is due to illness which, although not serious, requires a rest from the teaching routine. The Lumberjack joins with the school in wishing her a speedy recovery.

—H—  
**CANDOR**

He: "Sweetheart, I love you terribly."

She: "You certainly do."  
 —Annapolis Log

—H—  
 Father: "Say, it's two o'clock. Do you think you can stay all night?"  
 Sutor: "I'll have to telephone home first."

## FRESHMEN ARE WELCOMED BY MISS BALLEW

The Women's Hospitality Committee under the sponsorship of Miss Zula Z. Ballew, dean of women, has been busy the past week in welcoming and initiating the new freshmen to the customs and ways of the college.

Monday, registration day, members of the committee acted as guides to show the new students their way about the campus. Tuesday afternoon from 3:30 to 4:30 a "get-acquainted" tea was held in the Social Unit dining room for the incoming students at which Miss Ballew presided.

The Freshman Return Dance to be held on Friday night in the Big Gym will serve to further welcome the new students. Tuesday of next week Miss Ballew will be hostess to both old and new freshmen in the Little Gym from 6:30 to 8:30 at an informal dance.

## MISS BALLEW REVIEWS BOOK ON AIR PROGRAM

Last week's radio program was highlighted by a book review given by Miss Zula Z. Ballew, dean of women. Other numbers on the program included the song hit of the week, "True Confession" sung by Don Parker, two numbers from a new instrumental trio, Myron Schussman, bass, Dan Oliver, accordion, and La Verne Elmore, saxophone; Sherman Washburn, who interviewed Franny Moore, and Hope Dondero with the feature.

—H—  
**BIG ORDER**

She: "I want a lipstick."  
 Clerk: "What size, please?"  
 She: "Three rides and a house party."

—Capper's Farmer

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## PRESIDENT GIST AGAIN SPONSORS ESSAY CONTEST

President Arthur S. Gist announces his fifth annual essay contest which awards a prize of ten dollars to the most outstanding personal essay written by a Humboldt State Student.

May 14, is the deadline for these essays. They should be handed in to Mrs. Elma Folsom, of the Eng. department, typewritten, not exceeding 2500 words and unsigned. The students name and the title of the essay should be sealed in an envelope and handed in also.

Past winners of the essay contest are: Martha Sunnari, Myron Schussman, Wesley Wooden and Hope Dondero.

—H—

Blanche Lowry and Vesta Moxon spent the week-end in San Francisco where they took in the two Humboldt State and San Francisco State basketball games.

—H—

**TRY IT**

Frosh One: "I hear you got thrown out of school for calling the dean a fish."

Frosh Two: "I didn't call him a fish. I just said, 'That's our dean,' real fast."

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## MILLS COLLEGE VERSE CONTEST TO CLOSE FEBRUARY 7; \$25 FIRST PRIZE

February 7 has been set as the deadline for contributions to Mills College eleventh annual California collegiate verse contest. \$25 will be awarded the outstanding poem submitted for the anthology of student verse, "First the Blade," which Mills will publish this spring.

This anthology is sponsored by the Intercollegiate Fellowship of Creative Art which was founded at Fullerton Junior College in 1927. Since then different colleges universities, and junior colleges have undertaken the publication of an annual verse anthology.

Any undergraduate student registered during the scholastic year of 1937-38 in a California university, college, or junior college is

eligible. Students are urged to consult their English instructors about entries in the contest.

Humboldt State hopes to be represented in this anthology by the poems of Violet Susan and Phyllis Benbow, who plan to contribute. Miss Susan is the author of several published poems and Miss Benbow, a newcomer this year, has already shown herself capable of marked literary expression.

Miss Dorothy Dexter, former Humboldt State student, now majoring in English at the University of Oregon where she is teaching fellow in the English department and working for her Ph. D. degree, won the prize in free verse in 1934.

## THE LITTLE RED SCHOOL HOUSE OF MY EARLY TEENS

By Helen Hartsook

Just two miles south of the Humboldt County line, a small schoolhouse is perched in an unprepossessing, scarcely-noticeable hollow above the highway. Indeed, more often than not, the casual tourist fails to notice the small white building, with its green slanting roof, set back against the mountainside. Few other than the inhabitant of the school locality ever traverse the short dirt road leading from the highway to the schoolyard. Rising suddenly behind the school, a hill looms protectively. Standing guard above are several old and weatherbeaten firs. Eastward and westward are more mountains, while below is the highway, and beyond that, the river.

I shall never forget my first day at Piercy school. As I entered the schoolroom, the first thing of

which I was conscious was the intense and frankly curious stares of some twenty odd upturned faces. I, being a new pupil, was the object of profound interest. The next thing that held my attention was the room itself. The last school which I had attended had boasted several thousand students. Here, with all eight elementary grades in the same room, the enrollment did not exceed twenty-five students. The desks were small, movable to any part of the room, with drawers underneath for books and tablets. The desks of each grade were grouped roughly together. The side of the room having the desks was also the proud possessor of the only windows, as well as a large black stove. The floor was heavily oiled, with the result that much of the light was absorbed, and the corners farthest from the windows were rather dim. To the left, a door led into the boys' and girls' ante-rooms, and a door to the right led into the kitchen. The purpose of the kitchen will be apparent later. There was also a piano in the back of the room, while last, but far from least, was the large desk of the teacher, which seemed to overlord all smaller subjects. At my first glimpse of it, this room seemed to me the strangest I had ever beheld.

To anyone who has always attended larger schools, it will be hard for me to picture the unique experience of working in a room such as this. Some type of recitation was going on continually, as the grades ranged from the first to the eighth, and the ages from five or six years to fifteen, sixteen, and even seventeen. Practically all class work was done in tablets, rather than on regular lined paper. After he had completed the required work for his grade, a student could work as far ahead in other subjects as he wished. Thus it was that I found myself in the eighth grade in reading and literature,

and in the seventh grade as far as arithmetic was concerned.

Mrs. Lilley had more than a fair amount of artistic ability, and constantly encouraged free hand drawings, relief maps, water painting and clay models. She drilled religiously on penmanship, and it was then one of my most fervent ambitions to be able to imitate partly her delicate, flowery writing—an ambition in which I have failed sadly. Nor was she lacking in discipline. Plainly, she believed that "To spare the rod meant to spoil the child," for I have many memories of the manner in which she met misbehavior, particularly on the part of the boys. Should some small crime be committed to which no one would confess, she would instruct one of the boys to go out and cut her a long hazel wood switch. Then, large or small, each boy received his share quite soundly. As I think back, I cannot help wishing that some unseen camera could have recorded these scenes, for they certainly are not enacted today.

The social activity of the whole community centered around the school. Big events of the year were the Christmas and "Last Day of School" programs. Mrs. Lilley began preparations for these months in advance, expanding every possible effort for success. Such a program would usually include a song by the school, recitations for first and second-graders, small skits, duets, piano selections, a vocal solo or two, and crowning it all, the main drama of the evening, a play by the upper grades. What pride I had when a scrubbed and shining youngster of the third or the fourth grade would go bashfully forward to recite, overcome with shyness and awe before so many faces. If extra time were needed to make ready for a skit, Mrs. Lilley would call upon adults for announcements, speeches, or any contribution to the evening's entertainment they might wish to make. Inevitably, after much coaxing, a certain one of the younger men would arise and deliver "The Shooting of Dan McGrew" or "The Face on the Barroom Floor" with much gesticulating and redness of cheek. Mrs. Lilley made all costumes by hand, aided by various mothers, —a large and thankless undertaking. At Christmas time, she provided a tree, resplendently decorated, and from her own pocket bought a gift for every child in school.

After the program, the benches and chairs were pushed back to make way for the dance. Imagine

this scene if you can. The schoolroom was gaily decorated with fir boughs and crepe paper. On the blackboards, the children had drawn bright pictures with colored chalk. Illumination was furnished by kerosene lanterns, which swung from the ceiling. The "orchestra" consisted of the piano, drums, and possibly a saxophone or "fiddle." Parents and friends came in gayest regalia, with little regard for taste or fashion. The dancing, characterized by the peculiar side-step and swing of the locality, was wholehearted and boisterous.

Promptly at midnight, tables were set up on the dance floor. The baking, salad-making, or sandwich making, the result was a wondrous array of snowy or chocolate cakes, tempting salads, and appetizing sandwiches. As everyone contributed some kind of food, a delicious supper could be served free of charge. Hot coffee appeared in tin cups, and a royal banquet was never more enjoyed. When everyone had finished, the tables were cleared away, and the dancing was resumed, to last until daybreak.

I have tried to picture this unusual and memorable "Little Red Schoolhouse." There are few of its

kind left today. Great credit goes to Mrs. Lilley, the dominant figure of the school and its activities, who has been teaching in that section for more than forty years. Long ago, before the Redwood Highway was constructed she drove a horse and buggy to transport her pupils, often teaching only the required number of seven children. This little school is still much as it has always been; although its size is diminishing as larger and more modern grammar schools draw away its pupils. Nevertheless, Mrs. Lilley continues to teach her tiny school giving all she can to children who might otherwise receive no training. As the years pass, my appreciation of Mrs. Lilley and my memories of the Little Red Schoolhouse become deeper and fuller, never to fade.

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