

Mela Royall Wins Honors In Writing School Paper

Mela Royall was winner of an essay contest recently sponsored by the third period biology class. The contest lasted for approximately two weeks. Topic for the writing was "Conservation which had been the subject of several week's study. A table of judges was chosen from the students in the class.

Following is the winning essay.

By Mela Royall

At the close of the nineteenth century, Americans began to realize that their former limitless supply of natural resources was beginning to run short and consequently, they expressed their fear in a well-developed movement for conservation. Their first steps favored projects for extension of irrigation and attention to soil with views to restore fertility by scientific farming finding plants and methods which would bring crops to semi-arid areas and unirrigated deserts. Much was done to prevent exhaustion of timber and to prevent floods and droughts, and scientific study of forest problems was encouraged. Attention was turned toward the waste of coal, copper, iron and steel and substitutes were investigated and improved. Government control of privately owned resources was started to protect the interest of the public.

Interest Increases

During the Roosevelt administration, interest in this project increased. In 1907 the appointment of the Inland Waterways Commission was the first practical step toward the development and utility of the water resources of the country.

A movement for over-all conservation in May, 1908, when Roosevelt called a conference of governors, was the opening factor which brought on the National Conservation Commission. The fifty members making up this commission represented various branches of national conservation. Their work was directed by Gifford Pinchot, head of the forestry division. In 1909 they presented the first published national inventory of resources. This directed attention to the wastes in all phases and made people realize that at the fast rate of consumption many supplies, so long taken for granted, would be exhausted within a century or two.

The government's power increased year by year and people began to respect their heritage and its care more and more. The Department of Agriculture, which successfully protects and administers to the public interests in the national forests as well as in crops and farming, came to be a friend to all and

the bureau of "Forest Service" saved many acres of valuable timber land from waste and destruction.

Land Is Reclaimed

More recently the Federal government has begun active participation in the reclamation of arid lands by irrigation.

Congress has taken steps authorizing the President to withdraw public lands from preservation of forests or grazing lands, water power, irrigation possibilities, or scenic beauty.

One interesting phase of conservation is soil. In 1908 Theodore Roosevelt said, "When the soil is gone man must go; and the process does not take long." It takes years and years to build an inch of top soil which can be washed or blown away in a few weeks.

Luckily there is something that can be done. Ordinary crops deplete the soil, but it can be restored by a process of crop rotation, plowing under green manure crops, and fertilization.

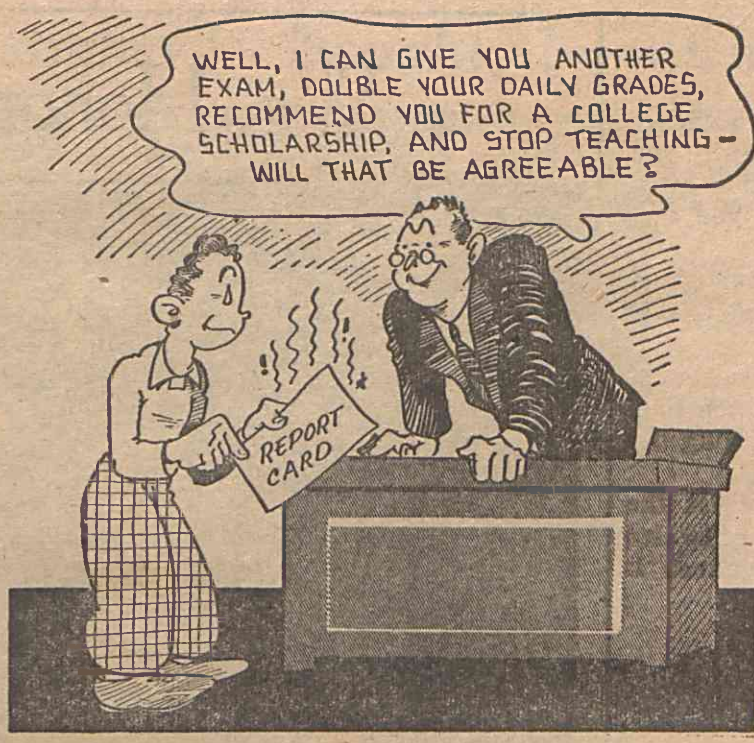
Rules To Remember

Erosion causes a terrible loss estimated at \$400,000,000 annually. Therefore some plan must be followed. Rules to remember are:

1. Plant farm crops only on fertile and level or gently sloping grounds.
2. Use steep slopes for forests or permanent pastures.
3. Practice rotation of farm crops.
4. Contour plowing, (plowing at right angles to the slope of the ground) and laying out of fields in stair-step terraces tend to hold water in the ground.
5. Plant close growing crops in between taller crops which do not hold the water well.
6. Place check dams in gullies and streams to halt the runaway of rainwater.
7. Preserve swamps, marshes and wet lands where necessary.
8. Limit grazing on pasture lands.

Nature Lovers Organize

Another illustration is found in the guarding of fish, birds and other wild game. Many sportsmen and nature lovers have organized to protect wildlife. Aided by local, state, and Federal government hunting laws and establishment of game refuges now help protect our wildlife. Careful guarding of forests also is another measure which lessens the destruction of game. Some fowl are raised and set free after maturity and the same is true of fish and mammals. Extensive study of the habits of these creatures makes it possible to further conserve and safeguard them.



Santa Claus Receives A Plea From G.H.S. Student

Dear Santa Claus:

Since I last wrote to you, quite a lot of changes have taken place in my life. I gave up smoking (too expensive), drinking is definitely out, beings that Wayne county voted dry (darn it) and I haven't lost my temper since the time I knocked Junior's front teeth out. I have made only one five. I have gotten my homework two nights this year and I haven't skipped school since Mr. Twiford gave me that nice vacation. I have done everything my mother told me to do except rake the yard, clean out the closet, sew the buttons on my coat, wash the windows and well—maybe just a few other things. All in all, Santa, I think I've been a pretty swell kid, (if I can only persuade him) so if it's possible I have a few little gifts I'd like you to drop my way. First I'd like you to leave the junior class a little more spending money with a little ole note reminding them of that little ole junior-senior that's coming up. Miss Janie Ipock could certainly use a new car, Lib Smith wants a husband, "Love" Bell wants a wife, Santa couldn't you sorta fix things up? David Crawford wants not one not two, but three book reports (by English authors please) Mr. Roberts wants a new Hi News staff. The seniors want an annual, the freshmen want to be let up in the lunch line, and the Sophomores (bless them) don't want anything. They think they've got it all (you can imagine that Santa?) The coaches want a winning basketball team,

Birds and insects aid man in his battle to save plants by warding off or consuming injurious insects. They too are raised to increase the supply.

All steps in conservation have one purpose. America, "The land of plenty," will not always remain so unless we, the common people, do everything in our power to prevent destruction of our natural resources by careless wastefulness. We must not vate use whenever important for throw our rightful heritage but guard it always.

"Pep" Vinson wants Nancy Hamil, Carolyn Howell, Peggy Hawkins, or Jane Elliot (Santa I believe is greedy). Junior Hallow wants to argue, Bob Mitchell wants to debate, Libby Lou wants Kenneth (which is very stupid 'cause she has already got him).

Poet Gives

Why Not Forget

Why do we always call to mind
Some old and hidden hurt
Or worry over little words
That sounded somewhat curt?
Why do we make an issue now
Of what is gone at last
Instead of overlooking it
And burying the past
Instead of spreading happiness
By turning wrath aside
And thereby helping other souls
To overcome their pride?
There is no good in jealousy
Or any vengeful gain
And every ounce of selfishness
Is finally in vain
They only lead to sorrow and
The deepest of regret

Disc Hits

Merry Christmas to all. Hi, guys and gals, how are all this happy, happy season? Fine? Well okay, let's review the latest in the music world then.

'Round about this time every year the oldies are brought back. Bing Crosby's ever popular "White Christmas". This has also been recorded by Frank Sinatra, Perry Como and Jo Stafford.

"Here Comes Santa Claus" and "Rudolph The Red Nose Reindeer" by Gene Autry are both very popular, especially with the younger generation.

The Andrew Sisters have recorded a very nice song titled, "Christmas Island." One of their latest records is "Barcarole." That's real pretty.

"A Thousand Violins," by Vic Damone is a dreamy love song, and says a lot words cannot say. Give a listen, huh.

To get to the Christmas music, "Silent Night" and "Adeste Fidelis" by Bing Crosby can not be forgotten. Year after year they return and are loved more by each generation.

So long for now. "Have yourself a Merry Christmas," and Happy New Year.

Songs and People

"Forever And Ever" "I'll Always Be In Love With You" "My Darling"—LaVain and Pat-sy.

A "Roomful Of Roses" just "For You" cause You're so "Sweet And Lovely"—Lina Had-dock.

"Give A Broken Heart A Break" because "I Love You" even though "It's All Over Now"—Dot to V. G.

"Blame My Absent Minded Heart" if I keep asking "Where Are You" but "It's You Or No One For Me"—Bobby to Martha. "As Years Go By" "I'll be Seeing You" in our "Land Of Love" "Dear One"—Peggy Lang-ley to Jackie Sutton.

"I'm Afraid To Love You" cause "You Were Only Fooling" when you said "I'll Be Yours"—Jimmy to Jean.

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