

THE BLACKBIRD

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Louie's Invasion

Louie, the Rotten, slipped in Apple Basket No. 44 very late that night and began organizing a mob. Slowly, one by one, other citizens of No. 44 became one of his rotten gang. Little by little Louie the Rotten's gang worked themselves into the very center of the small community of 200 or more law abiding apples.

Gossip Mongers in Apple Basket No. 46 began to talk about No. 44, saying that the whole city was rotten, bers voted to buy a book, "Let's Indian, Pocahontas. Now there was 5. A cloud is unhappy. giving the innocent apples no credit at all. Actually, though Broadcast" and instructed their another Indian in love with her 6. Girls name, means charming they themselves were guiltless, the citizens of No 44 de- secretary, Kitty Friar to order it too. His name was chief Powhatan. 7. A card game.

served all the gossipers said about them.

Why? It wasn't up to No. 46 or anyone but No. 44 to give her a check. Kitty wrote but Abe won and he and Poca9. A kind of boat. plied his gang.

When No. 44 realized this, Mayor Winesap and a meeting that the letter had been of the penny. group of the people began a clean up campaign, ridding mailed without the check but the No. 44 of Louie and his rottenness. This restored the good matter was quickly remedied. The dency, he and his wife went to the reputation of the Apple Basket and stilled the tongues of treasurer wrote a second letter and theater to see Clarke Gable in his the gossips

Apple Basket No. 44 might be compared to a high had the check with it when he mailschool? To this high school? Where are the rotten apples? |ed it.

The bad spots? The remedies?

of Rocky Mount High School.

Saint Valentine's Motive?

Legend has it that Valentine's Day came about when Saint Valentine, who was awaiting execution in a Roman prison, wrote messages and greetings on little slips of paper and sent them by carrier pigeon to his friends all ents who attended the recent Youth over the city.

Traditionally, February 14 is a day for lovers. In medieval times young people in England, Scotland, and France used to assemble on Saint Valentine's Eve. They drew names by chance from an urn. Each person then became the "valentine," that is, the special friend of the

one whose name he drew.

The youth of today seem to have their own special way of greeting both friends and enemies alike. Feelings are hurt by cruel and sarcastic verses on valentines. An should live for Christ—not them-school and told her his problems Mrs. Jane, but he's in this stolen apology cannot erase the harm done to a friendship by selves. "A life for Christ is a fuller stabbed mockingly at her heart. car racket up to his ears." Blindly one of these so-called greetings. As said before, Valentine's happier life—one that will bring Warmth flooded her being when she followed them down to the worthy of a sincere message, it would be better not to with it." send one at all.

'But When I Became A Man'

"Well, it's a big responsibility" is the phrase so often heard around class election time. It's heard so much it

soon becomes trite and meaningless.

The word responsibility, however, is never trite but always means there's something to be done and done well. as quickly as it had come, leaving some boys. She thought of the Whether the responsibility is that of class president or that a feeling of cold dampness because many days he didn't some home for of messenger who simply carries a paper from one person they had only the heat of their supper until seven, offering no ex- knew. He hardly noticed her preto another, a responsibility is a trust given to one person by someone else, someone who has enough confidence in a person to believe that the job will be well done.

When class officers are elected the majority of the much. Food was a luxury to all began noticing that his old friends story of her son's ruin. class has expressed a trust in them. When a teacher assigns of them. homework she or he believes the student is canable of the assignment, and it is the responsibility of the student to be worthy of that belief.

Send A Note To Me

Valentine, Valentine, won't you be my Valentine? I will send you candy sweet, if you'll be mine.

Write a little note to me,

Place it in the apple tree. Be mine only and you'll see, I'll love you for eternity.

By Marcia Milne

Snowflakes Fall

Have you ever really thought how beautiful snowflakes are? Sometimes I think they are more beautiful than the loveliest star.

So graceful and smooth, so fluffy and white They fall continuously all through

the night.

By Julian Aldridge

Semester Resolutions

This semester I told myself I would improve my mind. My homework would be perfect; I wouldn't get behind. I'd keep my notes in order;

All my work would rate an "A". On tests I'd make "A hundred," I would be there every day. But time is slipping by, And once again I find

That on my notes and homework I'm just a bit behind.

By Marilyn M. Ezzelle

Double Check Check!

Radio Broadcasters Club mem-

double checked to make sure he newest role. While there some

For A Richer Life

One needs to be born again before he can be accepted into the kingdom of Heaven. This and many other truths were taught the stud-Revival at the First Baptist Church.

Mr. Bob Finley, outstanding evangelist, helped many students decide on the life's course of action by his soul-searching words. Reverend. Finley informed the crowds that unless they truly accept Christ be truly happy.

He stressed the fact that one joy to those who come in contact

Depression

and settled to the floor of their FORE!" "BEFORE"! home. The snowflake lay there a second in all the splendor a king Sunday when he hedged about the barely BEFORE. could own and then disappeared usual drive and finally left with bodies to keep them warm.

time when it snows.

By James Willoughby

A Shut-In's Idea Of Snow

dreary earth. This is what I see snow. as I sit by my window this chilly morning. It's nothing unusual you hit the ground first.

know I don't have to get up early in the morning to start a fire. But stop grumbling for a while and think of the children that are run- pillow on the cold dreary earth. ning around making snowmen, and

A white pillow on the dark playing in the soft feather-like

Just look here, out this window. Doesn't the sight of the neighbor's say! Well, you sit here in one small boy, who has just learned spot for 20 out of 30 years, seeing to walk, toddling around looking the same thing over and over day like a small snowman, make your after day, year after year as I old dried up heart shed all its have done. I just imagine you will wrinkles and sing for joy? Well, feel the way I do about seeing the it does mine. Stop thinking of the beautiful flakes stumbling over few people who are unhappy beeach other, racing to see which will cause of the snow and think of the few who are happy. The others Oh, yes, I know that I don't will be happy too if they will only have to bring in coal, or wood. I open their eyes and try to appreciate God's most beautiful piece of work.

Isn't it pretty? Just a soft white

By Becky Odom

What I Know **About History**

Abraham Lincoln was the first president of the United States. His family was very poor so he had to study by the light of the fireplace because his father wanted to save electricity. He had to wear old clothes and his pockets had holes in them. Now Abraham had only a penny for his week's allowance, and he had a hard time keeping the money because of the holes in his pockets. His mother had his picture put on one side of the penny so when he lost it it would be easy for him to find it.

and the treasurer, Edgar Bulluck So Abe and Powhatan had a war, 8. Soft blue material. It was discovered at the next his picture put on the other side

One evening, during Abe's presione of the beans hit Abe. It killed him instantly, but Pocahontas wasn't cheated. She got a return money for the tickets.

Later that year Eli Whitley discovered gin in cotton, but it didn't work long because Prohibition was soon born.

And that's all I know about history.

P. S .- Happy birthday to Abe, the man who is everybody, grown taller!

Platter 10

Below are some statements which indicate the titles of currently popular tunes. The object of the game is to see how many titles you can guess correctly.

- 1. Not easily forgotten.
- 2. No special time.
- 3. A slow person.
- 4. A place to go for vacation.

Answers

10. Just One More Chance. 9. Shrimp Boats. 8. Blue Velvet 7. Solitaire.

6. Charmaine, S. Little White Cloud That Cryed. pue spoots are a peut share cloud.

3. Slowpoke. 2. Anytime.

1. Unforgettable.

Before --- And After Heroin!

"Forget you even have a son," trolley, and its clanging bell resaid the stern hard-hearted cop as peated, "BEFORE! BEFORE! BEhe dragged the woman's boy away FORE!" leaving her standing there, not forories of the days BEFORE.

when on Sunday's he took her for home-BEFORE. they will never be saved and never drives in the country. Memories hit once again, that was BEFORE beginning of AFTER. -and the slow dejected sound of They watched as a tiny snow- her heels on the pavement took raving and shouting, "Shouting flake drifted in under the eaves up the haunting rhythm, "BE- for me, his mother," she had

had vanished and an older, rougher

At her corner she got off the getting, but with poignant mem- trolley, and the familiar sights and sounds of her neighborhood She remembered the happy times mocked her. She hurried into her she and her son had had before, house. The house that had been

Then she remembered the mornof the companionship they had ing when they came for her boy. shared when he came in from Th big cop had said, "I'm sorry she recalled that he was president police station, bewildered and hurt. of his class. Then the knowledge This was BEFORE, but it was the

At the station she heard her boy thought as she raced toward him. Then she thought of that first Even that was BEFORE, but just

When she reached her son, he was raving all right-but not for his mother, not for anything she planation, and going out after sup- sence. The cop had taken her away They were lucky to get the attic per every night and returning late. then and told her as gently as his to stay in, some didn't have that He became moody and nervous. She inborn gruffiness would allow, the

Now she was home, or what had After all birds do have a hard crowd had replaced them. This was been home BEFORE-BEFORE Heroin had taken her place, a Automatically she boarded the mother's place in her son's life.