

WHEAT

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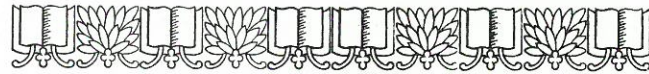
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"Wheat" is devoted to the interests of the Ritzville High School Students, Faculty and Alumni, and all those interested in the welfare of our school.

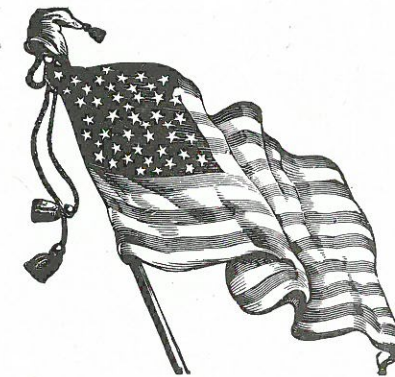
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Dedicated to "Our Boys"

The happy merry Juniors four
Have left us now and gone to war;
We wish them all much joy and luck,
And surely we admire their pluck.

They were the four who had the pep,
Since they have gone we step by step
Must try to fill the vacant place.
And thus begin a long hard race.

Five Seniors and a Sophomore their colors
show,
And of them 'tis true we know,
That for home and native land
They have given heart and hand .

So we miss the boys who fight
Always ever for the right
And we wish with all our might,
That their future may be bright.

Nine rahs for each dear boy,
Who has left with ears of joy,
To take up the honored stand.
For his home and native land.

L. S. '18



RUBY BAUER

"She is pretty to walk with,
Witty to talk with, and
Pleasant to think on."

Classical

Vice-Pres. Senior Class

Philo Class Play

"Polished Pebbles" Tennis Glee

Class Will



HENRY WELLSANDT

"Willing and Able"

Scientific

Senior Class President Class Play

President Forum '17

"Polished Pebbles"

Address of Welcome



GRACE MURRAY

"I would rather be than seem to be"

Classical

Vice-President Philo

LUCILE HEIN

"Let fools the studious despise,
There's nothing lost by being wise"

Classical Salutatory

Social Pres. Senior Class Class Play

Class Song Debate

Canning Club Philo Glee

Editor-in-Chief of "Wheat"



HARLEY HOLLENSHEAD

"The chief recommendation of
a young man is modesty."

Classical

President Student Body Forum

Class Play

Basketball "Polished Pebbles"



WINIFRED ROSS

"The same from the beginning"

Classical

Secretary and Treasurer Senior Class

President Philo

Class Play Wheat Staff

Class Prophecy



VERA HARRIS

"She moves like a goddess; she looks
a queen"

Classical

Class Play Philo

"Polished Pebbles" Glee

Class History



LEON BODINGER

"No talent, but yet a character"

Classical

"Polished Pebbles" Class Play



CAROLYN BAUMAN

"Infinite riches in a little room"

Classical

Class Play Canning Club

Secretary and Treasurer Philo

Memories



FRED LEWIS

"Honor follows him against his
inclination"

Classical

Basketball Wheat Staff

"Polished Pebbles"



HELEN SHOCK

"Now or Never"

Scientific

Class Play Philo General

Declamation Canning Club

Tennis Wheat Staff



GARRETT BILLINGTON

"His youth is warrant for his welcome"

Scientific

"Polished Pebbles" Tennis

Class Play Basketball

Advice to Seniors



ANNA SCOTT

"What a mighty spirit in a narrow
breast"

Classical

President Canning Club

Class Play Philo

Commencement Song



JOSEPH GAISER

"Your destiny is that of a man"

Classical

Valedictory Debate Glee

Class Play Forum President

Assistant Editor of Wheat, '17

"Polished Pebbles"



CARRIE OTT

"She is a winsome wee thing"

Classical

Canning Club Class Play

Philo, Major General

Class Poem



MARIE HORCH

"Smooth run the waters where the
brook is deep"

Classical

Class Play Philo



IRA ROWE

"The love of my country leads me"

Scientific

Captain Basketball

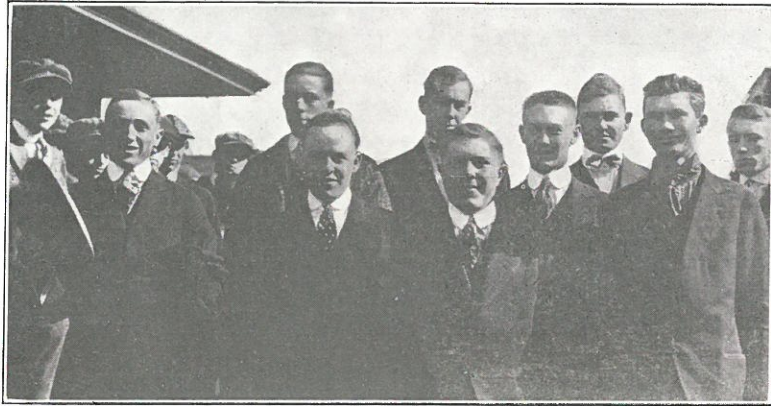


FLORENCE CARLSON

"Blue were her eyes as the fair flax"

Classical

Glee Club Philo



"OUR BOYS"



JUNIOR GIRLS

Editorial

The question has arisen recently, should lower classes be allowed the privilege of a "Class Day." It seems as though there has been a decided objection to the plan of a "Class Day" for Juniors, Sophomores and Freshmen, with none but the Seniors to have that privilege.

What evils arise from a "Class Day?" The only reasons have been that they excite jealousy and lead to quarrels. The benefits offset the evils. A "Class Day" arouses enthusiasm, brings about greater class spirit and demonstrates class unity. Especially this year "Class Days" have been badly needed for they would have helped to bring back a little "pep" into the high school. The question then arises, "Why are 'Class Days' disapproved of?"

"Aw, what's the use of living!" or "Ah, rats, I wish I were dead!" Did you ever feel like this? No? Well perhaps you have seen people who go about with such an expression on their face. Does not your heart go out to them? Do you not feel sorry for them and pity them? Then student, why not get out and make this despondent folk brighter and happier? Have you no kindly words in your vocabulary? Why not exercise the tender little unused muscles of your face and smile. You have no idea how much one single little smile will do. Why not make a practice of

welcoming everyone with a smile? Just try this, student, and you will see that your life will be made brighter and happier, too. What the world needs is kindness. Why not begin and do your little part, too? Smile, Student Smile!

Just because your most enthusiastic fellow student has left your school, you've no right to fold your hands and say your school's dead. Some say, "What's the use, there's nothing to do." Get busy and you'll find plenty to do. Help in whatever you can, and don't be afraid to tackle something that seems impossible. This idea that success comes without difficulty is all nonsense. Nobody ever made a success of anything unless he worked for it. Others say, "There's nobody left to keep up the school spirit, or edit a good paper." What are you good for? Are you going to "Let George Do It?" Surely not. Contribute to your school paper; boost it. make it lively. Maybe you're not an excellent story writer; maybe you're not a first class poet. but there's a job waiting for you somewhere if you'll just look for it. "Every little bit helps," is the old saying and you'll find it's more than true. Some people won't do anything themselves. yet they'll criticise the other fellow for what he does. Above all, if you can't do anything else, don't hinder him who is trying to do some good by being a knocker.

S is for Seniors, Oh! we'll miss 'em we know,
E is for Energy, we all like to show.
N is for Navy, where the brave boys have gone;
I is for Idleness we must not don.
O is for Olson, we all love him well;
R is dear old Ritzville, where we all dwell.

Lina Snyder, '18



The Sophomore party was held in the high school gymnasium Friday, the 20th. The class colors which are blue and white, were carried out prettily with the decorations. Each member was allowed to invite a friend, making a total of about forty. An interesting and entertaining program was provided by the members of the class.

During the latter part of the evening games were played. At a late hour delicious refreshments were served.

On April 28th the Glee Club went to Rocky Ford, on Crab Creek, for a picnic. Those helping in the Operetta were invited also, though few were able to attend. Three cars were sufficient to carry the crowd, as only twenty-one went.

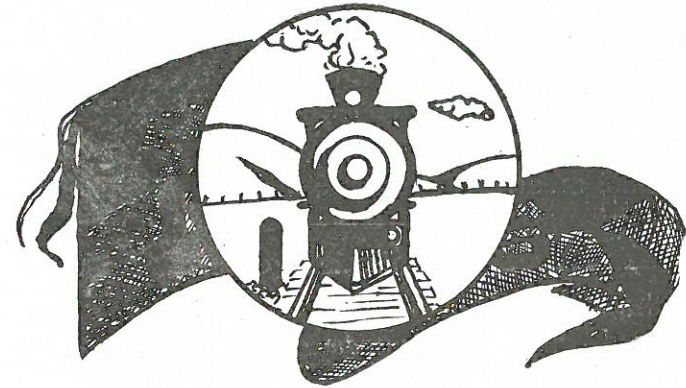
The Seniors were entertained at the Masonic Hall May 11th, by the Juniors, at the annual Junior-Senior reception. Red and white, the Senior class colors, were carried out extensively. The evening was spent in various entertainment, at the close of which delicious refreshments were served.

The Freshmen gave a party, Friday, April 13. The evening was spent playing games. Each mem-

ber of the class was called on to give an extemporaneous speech. After the program the guests adjourned to the kitchen where they made taffy. At a late hour delicious refreshments were served. About thirty were present.

The members of the High School gave the visiting contestants in the Track Meet a reception in the high school gym., on Friday evening, May 4th, at the close of the declamation contest.

The Alumni banquet was given May 17th.



LOCALS

Mr. Newbill, of the Washington State College, gave a very interesting and instructive talk to the students Monday, March 19, on the topic of Boys' and Girls' Clubs, which are being organized widely over the country. He succeeded in organizing a local club here.

The high school had a day's vacation Friday, April 6th.

Ira Rowe went to Spokane Wednesday, April 11, where he took an examination preparatory to joining the cavalry, but on finding the recruiting offices closed he returned and joined the navy.

The high school responded to the nation's call by the enlistment of the following into the various branches of the navy: Arthur Clodius, Elmer Miller, Fred Lewis, George Logan, Ira Rowe, Moritz Koch, Leon Bodinger, Melvin Lemman and Herschel Gillis. Those who were unable to pass the examination returned home Sunday.

Melvin Lemman underwent an operation at the local hospital Monday, April 23. He is getting along nicely.

Dr. Holland, of the State College, addressed the students of the high school March 23. His talk was along the line of higher education and was very interesting and his remarks were highly appreciated.

No school was held Friday, May 4, on account of the school meet.

Senior Play

The Senior Class Play, "The Crisis," given at the Rink, was a great success, and brought in \$190. Those taking part were:

Vera Harris	Virginia Carvel
Garrett Billington	Stephen Brice
Helen Shock	Mrs. Hopper
Henry Wellsandt	Judge Whipple
Leon Bodinger	Colonel Carvel
Earl Heater	Clarence Colfax

Much credit is due the coach, Miss Myrna Vance Jones, for her untiring efforts.

DEBATE

Debate has turned out very successful this year. Our team, consisting of Elmer Miller, Lucile Hein and Joseph Gaiser, was a credit to the school. The first debate after only a week of training, was held at Pasco, our team having the negative. Pasco won the victory. The next debate was held with Endicott at Ritzville. Ritzville had the affirmative and again lost. Our team then went to Colfax. Colfax had the affirmative, but Ritzville won. Owing to one of the teams dropping debate, Ritzville again debated Pasco, this time having the affirmative side of the question. She again lost, but in spite of these defeats she tied for second place with Endicott, each receiving six points.

PHILO NOTES

Philo has been discontinued for the last two or three weeks of school on account of other student activities. The following officers were elected for next year:

Presiden, Mary Lemman; Vice-president, Ruthe Adams; Secretary and Treasurer, Ada Helme; Major General, Leah Lewis; General, Pearl Lemman.

The Philo has decided to have their annual banquet and are planning for it. The date has not been decided.

The Senior girls are going to be missed greatly by Philo next year. They were all willing workers and showed good spirit.

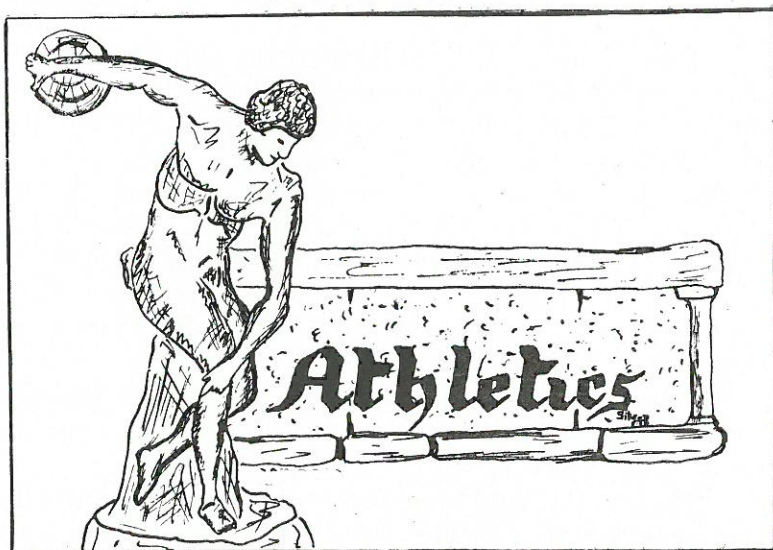
The Philo held a candy sale April 27, at the Senior class play. The candy was very good and they cleared \$10.75.

FORUM NOTES

Owing to the twice a month rate of holding meetings and the fact that joint meetings are held once a month with the Philo the number of Forum programs were diminished by half and more interest has been shown because of this. The meetings with the Philo have been very much enjoyed by members of both societies and visitors.

The Forum has received its pins and are evidently setting a standard of beauty for competitors.

Five of the students who enlisted in the navy were, or at so time had been, members of Forum, and several more are planning on deserting our ranks for those of Uncle Sam. Although we like to see them go, we dislike to have them leave us behind. They are still to appear on our programs through correspondence and so the programs will be more novel and interesting.



At the beginning of the year foot ball was started, but no games were played. Later the basketball season opened, a team was trained and Ritzville won all but three games. This spring it was decided to substitute track for baseball and have a track meet. However, since so many of our athletes enlisted, it was decided to have only tennis and industrial contests. The following program shows the contests and the results of the meet.

Cooking—Rachel Weber, Lind, first; Anna Scott, Ritzville, second.

Sewing—Leona McBride, Lind, first; Mayme Camp, Washtucna, second.

Manual Training—Wesley Mays, Washtucna, first; William Doell, Lind, second.

Industrial and Educational exhibits were on display in the gymnasium all day and the public was invited.

There was no charge for either the exhibits or the contests scheduled above.

The tennis tournament was held in the high school tennis courts, Lind winning all but the girls' doubles, and being awarded the championship banner.

The typewriting prizes were awarded to Odelia Greenwalt, first; Henry Urich, second. Leah Lewis won out in the penmanship contest. All are of Ritzville.

The grade declamation contest was won by Alice Porter of Ritzville, first; Kathryn Keyser of Lind, second; Melvin Simpson, Othello, third.

The high school declamation contest was won by Grace Moulton, Lind, first; Fanchon Metz, Hatton, second; and Helen Shock, Ritzville, third.

SENIOR NOTES

The Senior Class has finished Hamlet and Milton's poems. Before the end of the term they hope to finish Chaucer's Prologue.

H. S. (Ger. II)—“They sprang rattling (ras-selnd) into their saddles.”

March 23, the Senior Class had their Class party. The gymnasium was decorated in red and white. In the course of the evening the Senior Class, represented by Carrie Ott, was married to the World, represented by Johnnie Werttemberger. During refreshments Miss Jones announced the class play cast.

Miss Jones (Eng. IV)—“We'll have a little Hamlet in our exams.”

On May 5, the Seniors and Faculty met at the Central school, from which in automobiles they went to Rocky Ford to spend the day.

Miss Rapp (Ger. II)—“What is the opposite of gehoren?”

L. B. —“Passing in your chips.”

JUNIOR NOTES

Five of our best juniors, Herschel Gillis, George Logan, Elmer Miller, Melvin Lemman and Arthur Clodius, have joined the navy, leaving us with a class membership of only thirteen.

In a recent class meeting Mabel Robbins was elected president, taking Herschel Gillis' place, and Althea Johnson was elected vice president. Also the following were chosen to take vacant places on the Junior Wheat staff:

Fred Wood	Literary Editor
Jared Harris	Athletics
Martha Thiel	Exchanges

The Eng. III class, having finished Shakespeare's Macbeth, took notes on, and then wrote up, Emerson's Essay on Manners. A study of Browning's Shorter Poems was then taken up.

The candy sale given by the Juniors at the last number on the lecture course, netted about ten dollars and eighty cents.

The Solid Geometry class of the last few weeks has been very interesting, there being only two in it.

The Pie Sale, under the auspices of the Junior class, was given Wednesday, May 9th.

SOPHOMORE NOTES

The Sophomore English Classes have finished the “Merchant of Venice” and are now taking up “The Vicar of Wakefield.”

Miss Rapp (M. & M. Hist.)—“James, where is your mind today?”

J. S.—“It's out of town this morning.” ,

Miss Rapp (M. & M. Hist.)—“Henry, throw up that window.”

Student—“He hasn't swallowed it yet.”

Miss Rapp (German II.) talking in German:—
“Max, what was Tell doing with his axe?”

M. K.—“He was eating his dinner.”

FRESHMAN NOTES

The Freshmen held their Class Party April 13. The early part of the evening was spent in playing games and the latter part in pulling taffy. At a late hour refreshments, consisting of sandwiches, pickles ice cream and cake were served.

Miss R. (Eng. I) “We see that everything we says (say) should be true.”

H. B. (Anc. Hist.) “Did they throw spitballs in this war?”

The Algebra I class, Division II, have finished the book and are now reviewing.

C. H. (reading story in Eng. I) “I would have straw (wicker) chairs.”

G. B. (Anc. Hist.) "He went into a convent (monastery) at an early age."

E. R. (reading in Eng. I.) "If a chair (hair) of his head be singed I will kill thee."

R. K. (Anc. Hist.) "Hadrian's wall was seventy inches (miles) long."

Mr. Stewart (Bookkeeping, telling Carrie how to do bookkeeping) "Say, do you see; huh?"

Miss Rapp's English class have finished "Ivanhoe" and are now reading Glodsmith's "Deserted Village."

M. K. (Anc. Hist.) "Pompei was butter fingers because he let the crown slip."

M. K. (reading in Eng. I.) "They did wonderful corsets (cures)."

G. B. (translating in German I) "Let us go to the depot, 'can we get aboard.'"



SALUTATORY

Friends, Teachers, Classmates, Ladies and Gentlemen:

In behalf of the Class of 1917 I extend to you a hearty welcome. We are sincerely glad that you have come here tonight, for we are crossing a dividing line. In the past we have been living in a world made up of the schools. You have found us in the schools and in the school activities. In the future you will find us in the community and in the activities of the community. And so it is especially fitting that you as members of the community should have come here this evening to welcome us as we step across that border of the school life into the community life.

All that we have been; all that we are tonight is due to you. As parents, as teachers, as men and women, you have influenced us. You set the examples. You held up the standard and we followed. Now all this may be changed. If experience should show that some of your examples have not been the most helpful we will set those aside, making others that may prove so and retaining those that were beneficial. If the standards you have held were not high enough we will raise them so that the human race may go on until it reaches that perfection which was intended for it.

The Land of Tomorrow has been a land of radiant dreams. The road to this land has been long but we have not grown weary nor are we sorry that we started. It has not been all pleasure but just enough of sorrow and joy, work and play to give us the broadest and most helpful development. When the trials were severe we had the companionship of our teachers and classmates to cheer and strengthen us. When we were glad they rejoiced with us. And now, tonight we are stepping across the borders of

the Land of Dreams and tomorrow it will be a land of reality.

Yesterday we traveled together, tomorrow we must travel alone. But tonight is hardest of all, for tonight we must separate, each to go his own way. Tonight means the dismemberment of the class of 1917, the breaking off of friendships that have been dear to us, the losing of companions that we have loved. Tomorrow we must form new friendships, we must find other companions. But tomorrow is not sad.

Tomorrow is a golden opportunity. And this opportunity is like the cup of a hundred handles. It was said that if man were thirsty it was not necessary for him to walk around the cup looking for a handle. He had only to reach out and grasp it for there was always one directly toward him. And so it is not necessary that we go far to seek an opportunity for there is always one near us if we only grasp it. The whole world is at our door.

Never before in the history of mankind has there been so many or so golden opportunities for the young man and the young woman. And yet, we some times hear a young man say that he wishes he were dead, or that he had lived when things really happened. A prominent educator once gave a very striking illustration which I shall always remember. He said: "If you liken the historical period of the human race with its six thousand years of record to the twelve hours on the dial of a clock with the minute hand just approaching twelve, more has happened in the last five minutes than in all the rest of the time put together."

But what will happen in the next five minutes on this century clock? Think of the many things yet to be done, of the improvements to be made, of the wrongs to be righted, of the sufferings to be alleviated, of the industries to be developed. What was yesterday thought of as impossible is today a

reality. Thus it seems that there is nothing that man cannot do in this day and age.

And in what way are we to do our share in the work to be done? The members of this class may never become known world-wide, but that is not what counts after all. If we live as pure, good, clean men and women, if we make good citizens, we shall be known in our little corner of the world, and you shall not have labored and sacrificed in vain. If we do one thing to make this old world better we shall not have been a failure though we never reap a fortune or gain a great name.

And so before we go forth to do the work which we have chosen, we linger tonight, together the last time. We have at last gained an eminence from which we can see the country about us. Behind lie twelve years of work, pleasures and obstacles overcome. Before us lies the dim but rosy future. Into that future we cannot see as distinctly as we would like and what it really becomes depends upon us. Of your support and co-operation in this future we are assured because of your presence here tonight. We wish to express our appreciation for that pledge of co-operation and support.

It is with this feeling in our hearts that to these, our last ceremonies, the Class of 1917 bids you welcome.

CLASS PROPHECY

Book agent knocks at superintendent's door in orphanage. "I wish to see the superintendent of this institution."

Supt.—"This is the superintendent."

B. A. "Being the superintendent of an orphanage, no doubt you are interested in the welfare of children. I have some very interesting books along that line."

Supt. "If you will come in I might look them over."

B. A. (Comes in and both seat themselves by a table and book agent takes out book) "Now here is an interesting book on the rearing of children written by one of the greatest and most modern psychologists of the day, Marie Horch, one who has devoted her time and best interests to the welfare of children." (hands books).

Supt. "Marie Horch? Why, I used to go to school with her."

B. A. "You did? So did I."

Supt. "Could this be——Winifred Ross?"

B. A. "Y-e-s, and this——Anna Scott?"

(Rise and shake hands across the table. Sit down and agent pushes books away.)

B. A. "Let's just talk over old times. What have you been doing since we graduated from high school? Just think, it has been twenty years today since we graduated. Oh, it doesn't seem possible."

Supt. "Well, I finished Pullman in 1921, graduating in English. The next two years I taught English in the University of Paha. I never was satisfied with the work I had chosen and during the panic of 1925 I went to Chicago and took up settlement work and for three years I was most contented and happy in my new work, but after the Civil War I came back to Ritzville and started this orphanage. And what have you been doing?"

B. A. "After high school days were over, I took up newspaper work in Spokane in one of the branch offices of the New York Publishing Co. In 1927 I was sent to the main office in New York. Two years ago my health broke down and I was forced to spend more time out of doors so I am now selling their books. I visit only large cities and last week while walking up Broadway in Chicago, a neat sign with

the words 'Madam Kirkham,' attracted my attention. Going into the shop, I found it to be none other than our old friend and classmate, Ruby Bauer. She has one of the 'nifftiest' style shops I ever saw. I was unable to learn anything about her husband.

Supt. "Well! And I was reading in the Ralston Daily Times just lately where Mr. and Mrs. Leon Bodinger had returned from Europe where they have been studying dramatics and are booked to appear in Hamlet at the Empress Theatre in Lind tomorrow night. You know Mrs. Bodinger was formerly Helen Schock. She plays the part of Ophelia, while Leon plays the part of Polonius."

B. A. "Why, that is wonderful, but not any greater than what Lucile Hein is doing. She was recently made President of the National Suffragette League and this year they are planning to pass a law granting the right of franchise to women only."

Supt. "I didn't know about Lucile, but I did know that Grace Murray, the representative from this district, introduced a bill to that effect in Congress."

B. A. "Our classmates surely have made good."

Supt. "Oh, but did you read this morning's paper?"

B. A. "Listen." (picks up paper and reads article) "Garrett Billington, well known diplomat will be shot in Paris at sunrise, if the guards get up early enough. He is convicted of heart breaking."

B. A. "O, that's a shame. Did you know that Mr. and Mrs. Henry Wellsandt and twin daughters were spending the winter in Paris? You remember how devoted Carrie Ott and Carolyn Bauman were to each other in high school. They just couldn't just bear to be separated so Carrie is teaching English in the University of Paris and making her home with the Wellsandts."

Supt. "Oh, they must be so happy. I spent a few days last week with Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Bennington at their country home near Lind. They are such a congenial couple and Vera seems so contented."

B. A. (picks up paper) "Why this must be one of Florence Carlson's cartoons. She is sketching for the Seattle Daily Times."

Supt. "Fred Lewis and Ira Rowe are in Seattle, too. They have just discovered a new electrical property that will take the place of coal. This discovery has met with a hearty approval by Harley Hollenshead, now a noted scientific discoverer."

B. A. "While in Denver I had the privilege of hearing the famous German Quartette, of whom Prof. Joseph Gaiser is instructor. It surely was worth hearing. (Thinks) Oh, and Miss Cox, our Class Advisor, do you know anything about her?"

Supt. "Why, yes. She is still Miss Cox and is still advising Seniors how best to travel the rough and rocky path of life. She is now an honorary member of the largest high school in this city."

B. A. "O, I am just dying to see her."

Supt. "Well, do you want to go now?"

B. A. "Now."

AN INDICTMENT OF AMERICA

Valedictory

We are more or less concerned at present with questions of internationalism. Our nation is in a state of perturbation arising from the condition of existing war but the most important question before the American people today is domestic, not international. It is that of danger not from without but from within. This enemy has already crept into every part of the country and is the more dangerous because few people realize that it even exists. This same enemy has ruined individuals and corporations, it has even caused the downfall of great nations, and in the United States today it is one of the chief factors which have brought about the High Cost of Living. This unrecognized enemy which is threatening the downfall of the nation is wasterfulness.

When applied to the American nation the word wastefulness must be taken in its broader meaning. It is the first of all needless and lavish expenditures of money, such as we see about us every day. Secondly it is the waste arising from carelessness as fires which could be prevented, unnecessary breakage of various articles; diseases of plants and animals which cost the nation millions of dollars annually, and thousands of other losses arising from inefficient methods in our industries as well as in the other phases of American life.

Let us consider for a moment the nation's natural resources. The first settlers who stepped on the shores of this continent found a land where milk and honey flowed. Great forests stretched as far as eye could reach. Level plains of fertile soil formed the grazing grounds of bison, deer and other animals, and the earth was rich in coal, iron, gold, silver and other minerals. So vast in extent were the natural resources of the country that it seemed impossible that they could ever be exhausted, but today we are actually on the verge of a timber famine

due largely to the extravagance of the American people. We are not only threatened with a lumber famine, but soil impoverishment is also resulting. Much of the land which was once covered with mighty forests now is worthless, and soil erosion is carrying the fertility of the land into the lowlands and seas. The Mississippi river alone carries away one hundred million dollars worth of soil every year.

Again, it is estimated that our supply of iron ore can last less than one hundred years at the present rate of consumption. Our coal fields which were formerly the most extensive in the world, are approaching an end according to many experts. Statistics show that one billion cubic feet of natural gas, the most perfect of fuels, is wasted daily; enough to supply every city of more than one hundred thousand population in the United States. Each year twenty million dollars worth of gases are lost in the manufacture of coke, and a similar amount of ammonium sulphate is lost, besides many other by-products, by antiquated methods of mining coal, copper, gold, silver and other minerals. Our failure to harness and bridle the power of the nation's mighty streams causes a waste of thirty millions horse power annually, and at twenty dollars per horse power per annum, which is below the average value, this waste amounts to six hundred million dollars.

As enormous as the waste of these different natural resources is, it does not compare with the waste of that which is the source of life, namely: the soil. Wasteful agricultural methods are practiced throughout the nation, thus making the once fertile soil sterile and useless. The farmer by raising the same crop on his land year after year, draws the very life from it, when by a system of crop rotation he could easily maintain and even increase its fertility. He continually takes plant food from the soil in the form of crops without a thought of returning any fertilizer, and by neglecting to work his land

properly he wastes five hundred million dollars annually in this country. Secretary of Agriculture Wilson was right when he said "The greatest asset we have in the United States is our soil, and we are destroying that as rapidly as we can."

Turning from our natural resources let us look into a few of the losses in American industries. Of course it would be impossible to even touch upon all of our industrial leakage, but the following statistics may be interesting: America wastes annually seven hundred seventy-two million dollars in losses of income due to industrial diseases caused by unsanitary conditions. One billion and a half dollars is wasted yearly through loss of life and illness among industrial and other workers, due to preventative diseases, accidents, and general carelessness. These are only a few of the figures which could be given to show the wasteful methods employed in our industries, and to show the lack of efficient methods which would prevent such loss.

Other great losses are brought about through inefficient management and carelessness, among which we might mention fires. Fifty million dollars a year is the toll of our forest fires, while the fire demon exacts, besides this, a toll of four hundred millions, to say nothing of a like amount expended for city water in fighting him. Another of the wastes not so evident to us comes through the careless handling of eggs, which alone aggregates a waste of forty-four million dollars per year. What vast waste of careless freight, express and baggage handling amounts to it is impossible to estimate, but the sum is undoubtedly enormous. After making due allowances for industrial loss which is unavoidable, the total remaining is still a frightful indictment of American wastefulness, for it amounts to more than ten billion dollars annually. The enormity of a seven billion dollar war loan struck the country with horror, and yet we carelessly, thoughtlessly waste a greater sum than this every year; yes, we actually

waste a sum as great as the monstrous debt England has incurred since the beginning of the war.

But it is not only the industrial nation that is extravagant, for the governmental conditions are but little better. Senator Aldrich estimates three hundred million dollars annually, or just three dollars apiece for every one of our 100,000,000 inhabitants. By the "pork barrel" system huge appropriations are made for so-called improvements, which are both unnecessary and worthless. Many cases might be cited where enormous and expensive postoffices or other buildings were erected in small villages which had absolutely no use for them, and which were unable to pay one-quarter of the interest in the investment represented by the buildings. In other cases appropriations were made for the improvement of river and harbors which were as unnavigable after the labor and money expended upon them as before. Recently in Texas it was even attempted to convert an inland town into a seaport.

Yet great as is the extravagance in our industries and our government it does not exceed that which exists in the American home, which is considered a model of efficiency, of morality and of all that which represents a high degree of civilization. A wealthy American recently gave a dinner which cost two hundred and fifty dollars a plate. Another man gave a magnificent banquet in honor of a pet dog and in the midst of the ceremonies he decorated the dog with a diamond collar worth fifteen thousand dollars. Of course, these are extreme examples, but even in the homes of men of moderate income we find extravagance and wastefulness no less marked. Expensive clothes are purchased and then put aside after only a short time. The food wasted in the American home amounts to seven hundred million dollars annually, and the various other wastes bring the sum up to much more than this amount. And yet we preach economy and conservation; we boast of our efficiency, in spite of these statistics which

substantiate the indictment that America is the most extravagant and wasteful nation in the world.

The question naturally arises "Who is to blame for the extravagance of the nation?" Is it the government, the men controlling the industries, or is it someone else? We all try to put the blame on the other fellow; the capitalist blames the laborer and the laborer blames the capitalist. We are all right in so doing, for getting down to the root of the matter we find that each is to blame; in other words, the individual. How, then, are we to fight this evil? The answer is obvious. Legislation can do but little; it will not come through the sudden conversion of the masses; it must come through the individual. We must teach the children of America economy, both in the home and in the school. They are the ones who will be the men and women of tomorrow, and the training they have received must necessarily affect the whole nation. Not only should every individual practice economy, but there is a splendid opportunity for ambitious persons to inaugurate new methods in dealing with our resources and industries which will do away with the great waste which now exists. The time must come in the United States when efficient methods will be used, as it has come in Europe. It is a deplorable fact that we have not yet taken advantage of our glorious opportunity, but if our entrance into the war accomplishes this one thing it will have been a blessing for America. Perhaps some of the members of this, the Class of 1917, will in years to come be the means of bringing our nation to a higher level of efficiency and if so they will render as great or a greater service to the country than by fighting in the trenches.

Tonight we, the members of the Class of 1917, appear before you as such for the last time. We have reached the goal for which we have been striving, but mingled with our joy is a feeling of sadness at leaving these halls with their associations, which we have learned to love. We realize with regret that

the days of our high school life are gone forever, and will henceforth exist only in our memory.

Before leaving the Ritzville high school we wish to thank those who have made it possible for us to reach this important stage in our lives. We wish to thank those men whose wise management directed the affairs of the school, the Board of Directors. They have expended their time and energies in handling the finances of the school. Their wise judgment has aided in maintaining the efficiency of the school.

To the members of the faculty, our teachers, who have helped us to acquire knowledge, we extend our heartiest thanks. They have stood by us patiently, giving a word of encouragement when it was needed, and words of advice here and there. When everything seemed to be going wrong, our teachers helped us through for they were working for our welfare.

As we bid you, our schoolmates, farewell, we think of the enjoyable times we have had together. We all stood united for the glory of the Ritzville high school. In the various athletic contests, in oratorical contests, and in all the student body activities we were not divided into classes; we were all Ritzville high school boosters. The recollection of these associations and ideals will remain with us, and we hope with you as well.

Dear Classmates, as we step from school life into the commencement of a broader sphere of action we are filled with a determination to accomplish something worth while. In whatever walk of life we engage we feel that it is our duty to do our best both for ourselves and for the honor of our school. We realize that we will not always walk on rose-bordered paths but that our way will often be rough and hard. We know that to achieve success we must work from the bottom to the top; we know that "the elevator to success is not running," that we must "take the stairs," but this only serves to strengthen our determination, and it is with hope and aspiration that we now part.

As the last moments of our high school days vanish in the haze of the past, we extend our best wishes for the future prosperity of Ritzville high school and its community, and bid you, one all all, friends, teachers, schoolmates and classmates, farewell.

Joseph Gaiser.

CLASS WILL

We, the Class of one thousand nine hundred and seventeen, of the high school of the city of Ritzville, County of Adams, State of Washington, being of sound mind, deep affection, miraculous brain power and desiring to settle our worldly affairs while we have the strength and capacity to do so; with little prejudice do hereby make, publish and declare this to be our last will and testament:

Article I.

Section 1. To the members of the faculty we leave our boundless gratitude for their untiring efforts in our behalf.

Article II.

Section 1. To Mr. Olson we will and bequeath a supply of pens, paper and ink, this being all he lacks to write new text books in U. S. History and Civics.

Section 2. To Miss Myrna Vance Jones we leave a real live man full of noble ambitions, hoping that his greatest ambition will be to make her happy.

To Mr. Yeaman we bequeath a wedding ring with our united and individual congratulations upon the "coming event."

Section 4. To Miss Douglass we bequeath a gavel, hoping that she will be able to keep better order in "Glee" next year.

Section 5. To Miss Rapp we leave our heartfelt appreciation for the many times she has acted as dishwasher and general overseer in the kitchen at the school parties. Should she desire a position in the future we shall be glad to furnish recommendations.

Section 6. To Miss Cox we leave memories of our mutual agreements and the order conducted in all our class meetings.

Section 7. Lastly, to Mr. Stewart we will the odor of the first blown rose, the first meadow larks note, the hum of the bee, the early morning breezes, the purple haze of the distant hills, the bright sunshine, and everything that will make him contented and happy.

Article III

Section 1. To the East Wind we leave all our failures and impossibilities to blow out of Ritzville.

Section 2. To the roof of the school we leave all our aspirations, ambitions and ideals, so that they may settle as an aspiration over all future class-esc.

Section 3. To the manual training department we leave enough lumber to fully equip the gymnasium with a new "splinterless" floor.

Section 4. To Mr. Metzner we leave enough fuel to keep the building comfortably warm on the cold mornings next winter.

Section . To the Juniors we bequeath the honor of being the next wisest class to ever graduate from R. H. S.

Section 6. To the Sophomores we bequeath three crates of U-need-a-Bail-Hay Biscuits to be resorted to in case the "eats" are stolen at their next party.

Section 7. To the Freshmen we leave three years

of honest hard work, hoping at the expiration of that time, most of the greeness will be worn off.

Article IV.

Section 1. I, Henry Wellsandt, bequeath the privilege of keeping the Seniors supplied with gum to the Junior boy who most desires to be popular among the fairer sex.

Section 2. I, Winifred Ross, will my position as class treasurer to any one in the Junior class desiring to feel like a multi-millionaire for a few short months.

Section 3. I, Harley Hollenshead, bequeath my affections for a little Freshman lass to Merle Johnson, hoping that he will care for her and cherish her tenderly.

Section 4. I, Carrie Ott, leave to Arcola Glasgow my gymnasium suit, with ten cents to be used for lengthening and making all other necessary alterations.

Section 5. I, Fred Lewis, leave my pony to any one who hasn't one, with my sincerest wishes for a successful "ride" through life.

Section 6. I, Caroline Bauman, leave my Forum pin and 7-nights-a-week-caller to any Junior girl who will promise to have her physics lessons better than I.

Section 7. I, Joseph Gaiser, will the honor of being valedictorian and a member of the debating team to my little brother, David, as I wish to keep it in the family.

Section 8. I, Vera Harris, bequeath the last seat in the Senior row to the Junior who can get to school before 7:30 a. m., on the first day of school next fall.

Section 9. I, Grace Murray, will my quiet and unassuming manner to James Setters, hoping that during his Senior year he will be a little subdued.

Section 10. I, Florence Carlson, leave to Martha Thiel, an alarm clock which keeps one constantly aware of the time, and thus prevent all chances of tardiness.

Section 11. We, Helen Schock and Leon Bodinger, bequeath to Elsa and Jared, the many hours we have wasted roaming about the school building and streets, but advise them to spend the time more profitably than we have.

Section 12. I, Anna Scott, bequeath to the remaining class, a book of lullabies which I have composed to be sung to the Freshman Classes of the future.

Section 13. I, Marie Horch, leave my vivacity to Ruth Adams, warning her not to go too far in displaying same.

Section 14. I, Ruby Bauer, bequeath to Venita Lambert some of my occasional (?) neglect in preparing lessons, to prevent her from over working and having a brain storm.

Section 15. I, Lucile Hein, leave my place at the piano to Harry Bodinger, since I feel that he will also be able to lead the singing.

Section 16. I, Garrett Billington, leave my great and renowned athletic ability to Max Koehler. Success to you, gridiron hero.

In conclusion we hereby do appoint Mr. Eichberger as sole executor and administrator to this, our last will and testament.

In witness Whereof, We have hereunto set our hands and affixed the seal on this, the 18th day of May, in the year of our Lord, one thousand nine hundred and seventeen.

Signed,

CLASS OF 1917

CLASS SONG (Commencement)

Now our high school days are over;
Those dear days we loved so well,
And the Class of nineteen seventeen,
Bids to thee a sad farewell.
No more we'll haunt the class rooms
Where we labored many days;
We are leaving these forever,
'Tis the parting of the ways.

CHORUS

Those dear old high school days,
Happiest days of all our life,
Those dear old high school days,
Full of joy with little strife;
O, your memory we will cherish;
Guard those colors for always,
And our thoughts will oft turn backward,
To those dear old high school days.

Many were our joys as Freshmen;
Sophomore life we loved so well,
And as Juniors we were ever
Free from sorrow and from care;
Now those days have gone forever,
When our hearts were light and gay,
And we'll oft look back with longing
To our dear old high school days.

So farewell dear friends and classmates;
You have helped to cheer us on,
As we launch out in the future,
In the fight 'gainst right and wrong.
But no matter what betide us
As along life's path we stray,
We will still with pride look backward
To our dear old high school days.

Anna Scott

FAREWELL (Senior Poem)

Oh, dear old Ritzville High School,
To you we bid farewell;
Our hearts are filled with sadness
Too deep for words to tell.

Although we're sorry school is o'er,
As from old days we part,
We love our dear old red and black,
Sweet memories fill each heart.

Together as a class we've stood
Four golden happy years,
And now look back at days gone by
All filled with memories dear.

The praise we to our teachers owe,
Who always did their best,
Assisting us where e'er they could
To meet life's crucial test.

The path may oft seem dark and drear,
The way seem one of strife,
We hope their lessons then may prove
A guide through all our life.

Old Ritzville High we love you true;
In memory you'll remain;
In the years that come between us,
Cherished still we'll hold your name.

May we find our motto useful,
As a guide to reach the sky,
And our colors prove symbolic
Of success, what e'er we try.

So here's farewell old friends and school;
We bid you all goodbye;
Our memory of you never will fade;
We'll cherish it for aye.

Carrie Ott

CLASS SONG (Class Night)

Once in the golden autumn weather
We entered here, a class so green;
Our like was never seen together,
Nor will perhaps again be seen.
For upper classmen we played fool;
But we were loyal to the school,
As Freshmen never broke a rule,
Freshmen of Seventeen.

CHORUS

Here's to the dear old Ritzville High School,
Here's to the joys that won't come back,
Here's to the faculty and classmates,
Here's to dear old Red and Black.

Our Sophomore year we never hurried
For we knew time sped all to fast,
And that the day was not for distant
When Sophomore joys would all be past.
Making the most of every day
Mixing a little work with play
No other class was quite as gay
Sophomores of Seventeen.

As Juniors we were ever happy,
Boasting as Juniors always do,
But to the dear old Alma Mater
The Junior Class was always true.
We were the class that had a rep,
For making the best show of pep,
And ever mindful of our step,
Juniors of Seventeen.

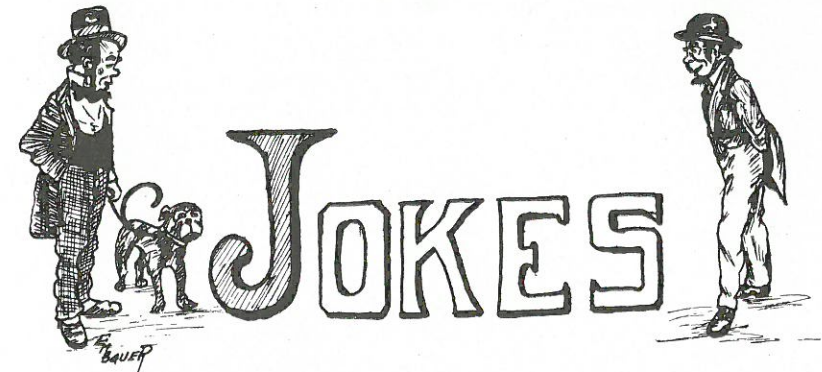
And now as Seniors here we're leaving,
Leaving our high school days for aye,

But in our hearts we'll ever cherish
 Memories of our Commencement Day.
 We are the class that know the way,
 To make the most of every day,
 Never a care or fear will stay,
 Seniors of Seventeen.

LAST CHORUS

Here's to the dear old Ritzville high school,
 Here's to the Class that is just right,
 Here's to the Seniors Nineteen Seventeen,
 Here's to the dear old red and white.

Lucile Hein



Judge—"What's the charge against this student?"

Reporting Teacher—"Stole seven bottle of R-Porter."

Judge—"Discharged; I can't make a case out of seven bottle."

Heard in Dom. Science. "Oh, we don't want to be spectators." (specked tators)

Prof. Eichelberger (Sol. Geom.) "Prove that, P D Q."

Miss Jones:—"Is Martha Absent?"

Student (awakening) "No, she isn't here."

Fresh—"They say she's some bird."

Senior—"Sure, she's a jail bird."

The president of an electric light company in giving an address, enumerated the good done by his company and finally concluded by saying: "In the words of the Immortal Poet, 'Honor the Light Brigade.'"

Voice in the audience—"Oh, what a charge they made."

Miss Jones "Everyone is surely familiar with
"That Old Sweetheart of Mine."

A certain Freshman was soliloquizing after the
night before. Said he: "I looked into her eyes——"

Eavesdropper: "And she looked in your ears."

Teacher—"Willie, please tell the rest in the class
the feminine of coy-boy."

Willie. "Milk-maid."

Fresh. "She was a bird of a——"

Soph. "Chicken?"

Fresh. "No; cook."

To our mind the bird of the cook is usually a
chicken.

Teacher: "What did Louis I do when he came
to the throne?"

Bright One: "Turned around and sat down
backwards."

WANTED—from some public speaker, rules and
regulations on "How to Speak in Private."— E. B.

A long letter (Minors need apply) A. H.

Two million pairs of pajamas—Russian army.



ALUMNI NOTES

Rosa Schragg '11, is now employed in the local
Washington Water Power Company.

Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Perkins (Mabel Thompson)
'09 and '11, are the proud parents of a son, Howard
Franklin.

Cecil Pettijohn and Albert Morach, '15, left for
Spokane to join the Army Hospital Corps.

Will Thiel, assistant cashier of the German-
American State Bank, has taken unto himself a
bride.

Joe Faucher, '13, has enlisted in the Aviation
Corps in Michigan.

Violet Johnson '14, who is attending the State
University, has undergone an operation for appen-
dicitis.

Virgil Kirkham, '12, Everett Pettijohn '11 and
Marjory Martin '13, are students at the State Uni-
versity.

Luetta Dirks '14, is assistant cashier and a di-
rector in the Othello State Bank.

Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Danekas '12, are now situ-
ated on one of the finest farms on Rattlesnake Flat.

John Stoops '09, the genial barber, is erecting a
fine ne whome on College Hill.

Awilda Harter '14, has just completed teaching
a term of school at Hatton.

Harold Martin '16 is taking post graduate work
at Lewis and Clark high school, Spokane.

Leroy Cross '14, who has been acting as deputy
city clerk, has enlisted in the navy.

Fred Haupt '15, is county clerk under J. C. Hauschild.

Roy Gilson '08 is engaged in the real estate business at Bend, Oregon.

Victor Lafrenz '14, has enlisted in the National Guard.

John Moon '12, is proprietor and manager of the local moving picture show.

Audrey Tiller '15, is deputy county treasurer.

Paul Fowler, '08, is operating the Ritzville Ice & Creamery Company.

Dr. H. G. Davenny '08, recently gave a talk before the Better Babies meeting on "Care of the Teeth."

Frank Jones '09, is teaching in a governmental school in Alaska.

BECAUSE THE FOLLOWING PARTIES HAVE made this publication possible through their contributions, we believe they should receive our support and patronage:

Ritzville Flouring Mills
German-American Bank
First National Bank
Pioneer National Bank
Ritzville Trading Company
White River Lumber Company
St. Paul & Tacoma Lumber Co.
Rex Theatre
Myers Shepley Company
Rosenoff & Company.
Adams County Abstract Co.
S. S. Frantz & Co.
A. L. Wiffin & Co.
Adams County Mercantile Co.
Harris Brothers Garage
Ritzville Garage
Ritzville Ice and Creamery Co.
Thiel's Cigar Store
Pastime Billiard Parlor
P. R. Clark
Link's Cleaning Shop
Dr. F. R. Burroughs

Ritzville Bakery
Big Bend Motors Company
Witt & Casey
Economy Stores Company
J. C. Penney Stores Company
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G. H. Fischer
Wm. O. Lewis
John Ott
John Truax
Charles Hollenshead
John Pelcom
Red Cross Baths
W. R. Peters
O. K. Baths
J. P. LaClair
Chas. Rathbun
Ed Bodinger
G. E. Lovell