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# The Maryland Bulletin

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No. 7

## I READ LIPS

—By Arthur G. Leisman—

*President of the Wisconsin Association of the Deaf*

—In the Wisconsin Times—

We have read with considerable interest and wholehearted agreement the article "I Read Lips" by Arthur G. Leisman, President of the Wisconsin Association of the Deaf, which appeared in a recent issue of the "Wisconsin Times." It would well repay anyone who is even remotely concerned with the education of the deaf, to read this excellent article by a man who has been deaf for almost forty years, who has married a hearing woman with whom he communicates by lip-reading and who has taken an active part in affairs both of the hearing and of the deaf.

We are thoroughly convinced of the value of speech and lip-reading where the deaf are concerned, and believe that each deaf child should be given the opportunity to learn to speak and to read lips, under the instruction of a well trained teacher in the art of speech and lip-reading. We are, however, in complete agreement with Mr. Leisman that lip-reading is hard work, and an art acquired by few to any great extent. We believe it to be an invaluable aid in our association, but a very poor substitute for actual hearing. There is too much guess work involved, too great a dissimilarity in manner of speaking, the limitations of distance and lighting are too universally present except under ideal conditions, to make our ability to read the lips serve for anything but a very poor substitute for actual hearing.

We are in complete agreement that the great publicity given to isolated instances of people with a greater than ordinary skill at lip-reading is harmful to the deaf as a whole. Again and again we have been embarrassed by people who either felt they were insulted, or who classified us as of sub-normal intelligence because we could not read their lips. They had heard of deaf people who could read the lips so well that their ability

made a perfect substitute for hearing, and they thought that every deaf person should have like ability. It is this misinformation and exaggeration which has made the deaf as a class so embittered toward the well intentioned advocates of speech and lip-reading. Were the facts presented fairly, were it admitted by all oral advocates that their objectives are completely attained in but a comparatively few instances, and were the public fully informed of the fact that proficiency in lip-reading and a well-modulated voice are not a fair index of natural ability and intelligence, this opposition and frank antagonism would melt completely away.

Less misinformation, and more sympathetic understanding from those pledged to prepare the deaf to lead their own lives after they leave the ideal conditions present in a school for the deaf, will go a long way toward making the deaf populace more sympathetic with and cooperative in the work of the schools.  
—R. M. G. in *The Ohio Chronicle*.

(The article referred to is reprinted below.)

Lip-reading has been my singular passport to the hearing world for nearly forty silent years. It has been dependable but not always reliable. And sometimes the results have been as insufferable as the backfiring of an old car. For lip-reading is an art that unexpectedly produces many a slip between the eye and the lip.

Ever since the age of five, when spinal meningitis took the measure of my entire sense of hearing, lip-reading and I have been of necessity inseparable companions. Expert teachers saw to it that I mastered the intricacies of the art.

During the past nineteen years I have valiantly kept it up with my hearing wife. And what measurable success I have had



I owe to constant practice, to my indefatigable eyes and to the kind consideration of those at the other end of the conversation.

That lip-reading is an extremely difficult art has seldom been brought to the fore. No two persons speak alike, and many lip-formed words are identical in structure. The rare understanding individual who forms words with his or her lips so clearly definable as to be beautifully readable deserves a niche in the halls of immortals, as far as the deaf are concerned. Only a small percentage of the populace is capable of doing so with passing success. As to the rest who attempt conversation this wise with deaf people, between them it is frequently a guessing contest.

The main trouble is that while the deaf have been and are being inexhaustibly trained to decipher lips, hearing people in general have seldom been told how to speak to them. Successful lip-reading requires the coordination of both parties to a conversation.

There is a decided difference between lip-reading and listening normally. The former involves hard work, depending wholly upon eye-sight and possessing not infrequently the element of guess work, while listening is a natural, pleasant diversion that may be enjoyed with the eyes closed and the nerves relaxed. No one relishes paying taxes, but everyone realizes the necessity thereof. Similarly, no deaf person can be said to be in love with lip-reading but he would not do without it. Stripped of its unavoidable perplexities, the art stands out as an interesting by-product of deafness, affording ready access to conveniences and pleasures otherwise denied the unhearing. Furthermore, without it many deaf people would soon lose the use of whatever speech and articulation they retain.

If only words like "sixteen" and "sixty" did not read alike on the lips. If only people would patiently co-operate and try to make themselves understood. Then there would be fewer misinterpretations, less recourse to the inevitable pad and pencil.

I have said that lip-reading and I have been inseparable companions. It is only when the results of a conversation have

been unusually satisfactory that I am generous enough to call it my bosom friend. The brickbats I hurl at him come when he has betrayed me or plunged me into an embarrassing situation. But even as I, filled with red-faced spite, roll up my sleeves, he has always a ready answer. His smile is that of a poker player holding the winning cards.

"Steady now!" he admonishes me, "Don't forget I didn't ask to be your partner. You took me on yourself. Remember the good turns I have done you. Yeah, you can leave me if you want to. That's your own lookout. I won't miss you at all. Listen, why don't you polish up on your powers of observation? Why don't you concentrate more? Then you will avoid blunders."

It all ends up this way. I can't get rid of him. I need him. He is sometimes as erratic as a compass in a thunderstorm, but I wouldn't do without him.

And so I grin and bear it and try to improve on the game. Half a loaf is better than none at all. And occasions arise when I thank God for that companion of mine. Especially when we both are victims of circumstances, and I feel sorry for him.

Then there are those lip-reading champions who assert that I could read lips on the talkie screen or on the lecture platform—if I would only try. Such a feat would be a miracle, indeed.

Once I was asked why I didn't come to church. The kindly pastor persisted, "If you would occupy the front pew, surely you would be able to read my lips and benefit by the sermon." Now I had seen him in action before, had ventured to catch understandable words as they poured from the lips, only to be reminded of the meaningless cackle of a hen just after she had laid an egg. I thanked him graciously but said there are other ways of obtaining salvation than by risking blindness.

Occasionally I am compelled to inhale the unpleasant breath of people who insist on leaning close and shouting into my face, despite all heroic efforts to convince them the batteries of my sense are absolutely dead. They stare at me unbelievably when I ask them to lower the voice and to move their lips slowly.

Lip-reading is also the mother of some white lies. That's when I think discretion



is the better part of valor. This happens when, not to annoy a charming friend with a request for repetition, I nod as if I read her lips correctly. Sometimes the nod is the desired answer, then all is well. And sometimes I learn afterwards, to my regret, that I should have replied in the negative. I feel pretty small when this occurs.

In the midst of a gathering of hearing friends I am as good as stranded, unless someone tactfully pays me special attention. When jokes are cracked and spontaneous laughter ensues, nine times out of ten I smile discreetly as if I also caught the full drift. On such occasions, in reality I am thrown for a loss of several yarns. More often than not I slip away to browse in greener pastures, mainly to prevent the encroachment of self-consciousness.

One of the pleasantest chats is made possible when a hearing friend tells me of his fishing experience. It is then that I am all attention. The subject is a familiar one to me, and my eyes tell me no fish tales. It is then also that the big words seldom get away. Usually the narrator supplements his spoken words with gestures that confirm what my eyes discern on his lips.

Outside of my intimate circles, I am admittedly a poor prop in any conversation. I can not keep up with the gait. People are generally impatient—hurrying with their talk as with everything else. So that when someone discourses on weighty affairs that drag in unfamiliar word formations, I look about anxiously for someone else to lead me out of the wilderness of doubt. The conversation, lacking reciprocal comment, dies almost abruptly, unless the pad and pencil are willingly used.

Despite the harassing ups and downs of lip-reading it is the apple of my eye in my home life. Dinner table conversations frequently last an hour or more, without recourse to other artificial means. It is invaluable at the office where I work. And it rings the bell clear and true whenever I bump into close friends down town.

Oh, the long parade of lips that have come before my scrutinizing eye since the days of despised moustaches! A veritable volume could be written about them. Red, white and blue lips—beautiful and sneering, provocative and self-contained, garrulous and lisping. Moist babyish lips; thin,

quivering slits in ancient faces; straight, business-like apertures. Perhaps the nicest pair of "bee-stung" lips to read belong, I venture to say, to a winsome young nurse in white as she bends over to insert one of those glass tubes between your own. Who knows but that upon her smiling, slowly moving lips depends a deaf man's chances of recovery?

Take for instance, the light-lipped guy. He rattles off his trisyllabled words in nothing flat, and when he discovers not one had clicked home, exclaims sarcastically, "thought you could read lips!" And that large lady with the small mouth who comes and insists on supplying me with some scrap of information. When I say "Beg pardon, but I cannot read your lips very well," her eyes widen with pained astonishment. The idea prevails among her kind that if I could correctly read the prosaic greeting, "How are you?" I should have equal success with all the rest of Webster's Unabridged.

Living with lip-reading as my companion has been an adventure. But it can be made a much more pleasant one if hearing people are willing to do their part. In order to render good lip service, they should articulate clearly, reduce the rate of speaking to some extent and avoid exaggeration. The speaker should face the reader directly, standing from three to six feet away. He need not speak audibly, although this is advisable. Above all, he must have the patience of Job, and be willing to repeat if his message is not understood at first.

So far as conversation among a group of totally deaf people is concerned, lip-reading has its limitations. On such occasions the finger alphabet and sign language are more practical. Services, meetings and conversations of the deaf are made possible by the use of sign and finger spelling. They form the life of their parties, the essence of their social happiness.

But in their proper place and at proper times both the sign language and lip-reading are indispensable. And fortunate is the deaf person who is master of both. Well might the young man in the following story have profited.

A deaf couple was about to be married by a hearing parson. The sweet young miss was an expert lip-reader, while the man's ability in this line was negligible.



When to respond to the minister's questions presented a problem for them. But the woman's intuition prevailed. She said to him, "I will have my arm in yours, of course." When the minister asks you, "Do you take this woman to be thy wedded wife," and so forth, I will simply nudge you. That will be your cue to reply, 'I do.' Simple, isn't it, dear?"

Came the wedding hour. The little chapel was filled with friends and relatives. Sunbeams filtering through the stained windows played upon the vested

clergyman and the young couple. She was radiant and confident, he was immaculate and nervous.

The minister came to these words: "If there be anyone present who objects to the marriage of these people, let him speak now, or henceforth hold his tongue." Just then a wandering fly alighted on the bride's bare arm resting in the groom's and in an effort to get rid of it, her arm inadvertently nudged his ribs.

Quickly, and in clear, forceful tones, the young man spoke out: "I do!"

## "A FORTUNATE MAN"

*The New York Sun* in a notable and "different" editorial the other day gave a definition of a fortunate man. In a series of terse statements, the blessings of American citizenship were enumerated. As the "*Sun*" set them down they are numerous, diversified and thought-provoking. We quote:

He is an American.

He hears an airplane overhead, and if he looks up at all does so in curiosity, neither in fear nor in the hope of seeing a protector.

His wife goes marketing, and her purchases are limited by her needs, her tastes, her budget, but not by decree.

He comes home of an evening through streets which are well lighted, not dimly in blue.

He reads his newspaper and knows that what it says is not concocted by a bureau, but an honest, untrammelled effort to present the truth.

He has never had a gas mask on.

He has never been in a bombproof shelter.

He belongs to such fraternal organizations and clubs as he wishes.

He adheres to a political party to the extent that he desires—the dominant one, if that be his choice, but with the distinct reservation that he may criticize any of its policies with all the vigor which to him seems proper—any other as his convictions dictate, even, if it be his decision, one which holds that the theory of government of the country is wrong and should be scrapped.

He does not believe, if his party is out of power, that the only way in which it can come into power is through a bloody revolution.

He converses with friends, even with chance acquaintances, expressing freely his opinion on any subject, without fear.

He does not expect his mail to be opened between posting and receipt, nor his telephone to be tapped.

He changes his place of dwelling, and does not report so doing to the police.

He carries an identification card only in case he should be the victim of a traffic accident.

He thinks of his neighbors across international borders—of those to the north as though they were across a state line, rather than as foreigners—of those to the south more as strangers since they speak a language different from his, and with the knowledge that there are now matters of difference between his government and theirs, but of neither with an expectancy of war.

He worships God in the fashion of his choice, without let.

His children are with him in his home, neither removal to a place of greater safety, if young, nor, if older ordered to serve the state with sacrifice of limb or life.

He has his problems, his troubles, his uncertainties, but all others are not overshadowed by the imminence of battle and sudden death.

He should struggle to preserve his Americanism with its priceless privileges.

He is a fortunate man.

He is an American.

We can add nothing to this impressive summary that would improve it. But we would underline the third paragraph from the end. Surely it is not only a privilege, but a duty to "struggle to preserve his Americanism, with its priceless privileges."—*Columbus Dispatch*.



## HERE AND THERE AMONG THE DEAF

### PULLMAN NAMED AFTER DEAF MAN

We have read elsewhere that the world's foremost dry-point etcher has been signally honored by the Pullman Company. This world-renowned etcher is none other than Cadwallader Washburn and his name graces one of the new pullmans. Mr. Washburn is deaf, matriculating at Gallaudet College and further honored by that college with a doctorate some years back.—*The Deaf Mississippian*.

### DEAF YOUTH MAKES RECORD

Although he has been deaf since birth, and was 14 before he could read, B. L. Pitcher, aged 26, of Worthing, England, has taken his B. S. degree with second-class honors at London University, and A. R. C. S. diploma. Pitcher has been an internal student at the Imperial College of Science for four years. His success is regarded by educators as a remarkable scholastic achievement.—*The Deaf Mississippian*.

### DEAF MAN DISCOVERS ERRORS IN ALGEBRA TEXT BOOK

Another feather has been added to Mr. E. S. Foltz's cap. He has received two letters from the author and publishers, respectively, of the new algebra books, now in use in our schools, thanking him for calling their attention to two errors he had discovered in the problems. It will be remembered that he won the first one some years ago when he had convinced the publishers of a text book, in use for a quarter of a century or more, that one problem he had encountered was wrong. The wonder was that it took Mr. Foltz to spike it.—*American Deaf Citizen*.

### DEAF WOMAN SUCCESSFUL IN BUSINESS

The Bay-Span Auto Court, on the Richmond Highway, owned and managed by Agnes Ormes, has been doing a brisk business. Fifteen more cottages were added this summer, and hardly was one of the twenty-eight empty but that it was immediately filled again, and many prospective customers are turned away. Mrs. Ormes is one of the few deaf women who have gone into business for themselves on such a large scale. She has our congratulations and our best wishes for the continued success of this responsible business venture.—*Silent Broadcaster*.

### DEAF MAN PASSES PILOT TEST

Stuart MacPherson, Jr., of 217 E. Calvert St., South Bend, Ind., who recently won an essay contest sponsored by the Indiana Air Service, Inc., made his first solo flight recently at Bendix field, St. Joseph County near South Bend. Although he is deaf, he was given a full solo course of the air service for winning the contest. Mr. Homer Stockett, manager and president of the Indiana Air Service, Inc., taught him flying lessons in one week. He received his commercial license last month after completing his Aviation Mechanic course at the Chicago Municipal Airport.—*Ohio Chronicle*.

### "HEARING EAR" AIDS DEAF WATER WORKS ENGINEER

You have heard much about the splendidly trained "seeing eye" dogs which aid the blind, but did you ever hear of a "hearing ear" dog?

Then meet Rags, pet and loyal friend of Fred Lewis, deaf chief engineer of the Aberdeen, N. C., municipal water works.

When Lewis starts the pump engine, Rags grabs his tail in his teeth and chases it around a few times. If all goes well, he lies still. But if anything is wrong with the machinery, Rags detects the change in sound and repeats his odd performance. Lewis then investigates.—*American Deaf Citizen*.

### GOOD RECOMMENDATION BRINGS JOB

Miss Ruth Milliard, '37, having finished a very complete course in beauty culture, has a good position in Buffalo at present. Ruth substituted for another operator in a beauty shop in this city last summer and we have been told that she did excellent work. Being unable to get a permanent position in Rochester, she wrote to the head of a business organization which has a chain of beauty shops all over the country asking to be placed wherever they had a vacancy. Much to her joy there was an opening for her in Buffalo and she has now gone to make a new home for herself in that city. Her employer in Rochester gave her a very fine recommendation which is no doubt the chief reason why she was given the good job which she now fills.—*Rochester Advocate*.



## ALUMNI AND OTHER DEAF

### ALUMNI SOCIAL, APRIL, 27

Plenty of fun for young and old is promised for the Leap Year Party to be held at Gehb Hall, Baltimore, on Saturday night, April 27, under auspices of the Alumni Association of the Maryland State School for the Deaf. There will be prizes and refreshments. Be sure to attend and bring a friend, yes, several friends. Admission is 35 cents per person.

Mrs. Janet Peebles Longenberger is making her home with her brother, Mr. J. W. Jackson, in Lonaconing, Md., her native town, at present.

Easter passed pleasantly for Mr. and Mrs. Faupel, their son, Murray, having come up from Bridgewater College to spend his brief vacation with them.

Mr. T. J. Basford, the beloved father of Miss Amelia Basford passed away on March 9 at his home after a long illness. His going was quite a shock to Miss Basford.

Sunday night, April 7, Rev. Edward Kaercher of Philadelphia conducted services at Christ Lutheran Church, Baltimore. Twenty-four deaf attended the services.

Mr. and Mrs. William Dilworth have moved and now occupy the second floor of a beautiful new house on Mt. Holly St., Baltimore, which their daughter purchased last month.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Kemp motored to the Eastern Shore on March 29 and enjoyed themselves visiting with relatives in Deals Island and Cambridge. April 1 they were back in Frederick.

March 17 church services were conducted in the city for the adult deaf and older pupils of the school by Rev. Daniel E. Moylan. They were the first services conducted since November 19.

Mr. William G. Stone has secured employment as a title searcher in the Baltimore Court House through the help of the W. P. A. He was given the work in preference to a hearing man as he can do it much better.

Mr. Lewis Longfellow motored to Salis-

bury by way of Elkton on Friday, March 29, and returned to his duties at school on Sunday the same way and covered over 500 miles. Saturday was spent in assisting his brother to move to a house he recently purchased.

Miss Elvira Wohlstrom enjoyed a restful little vacation in Virginia during the Easter weekend. The first night was spent in New Market and the next in Winchester. On Friday she visited the Endless Caverns. She thinks the limestone rock formations are too wonderful to describe.

Saturday afternoon, April 6, a motor trip was taken to Washington by the Bensons and the Faupels. They spent the evening at Gallaudet College where an excellent play lasting three hours was given by the Men's Dramatic Club. "Journey's End" was the title.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Quinn motored to Philadelphia on March 29, spent the weekend with relatives and returned late Monday night. The main reason for the trip was to see Mr. John Hagan, brother of Mrs. Quinn, before he left on a world cruise on the Dollar Liner S. S. Polk.

Miss Elizabeth Moss returned to her teaching duties at the Indiana School for Deaf after the Easter vacation travel wise. In the company of her mother she enjoyed a two weeks' tour of Mexico. A card received from the lady stated that they had attended a bull fight but did not like it. Perhaps it was too gory or brutal.

We had fewer alumni visitors than we expected at Easter time which was probably due to the unseasonably cold weather. Mr. Moreland Lawrence came from Portsmouth, Va., and spent two days, Sunday and Monday. Mr. Kermit Keyser was here Saturday and Sunday and Mr. Herbert Leitch, Monday. Mr. and Mrs. Lester Brown were brief visitors on Sunday afternoon.

Hardly a tournament passes without some Marylanders being present to root for the boys representing their Alma Mater. The following attended the recent tournament held at the St. Joseph's School for the Deaf in New York City: Mrs. Alma Daley Murphy of Trenton, N. J., Mr. William Williamson of New



York, and Messrs. Benjamin Myerovitz, Leonard Berman, John Geiger and Ziba Simmons of Baltimore.

Messrs. Arthur Winebrener and Harry Benson were in Washington on Saturday, March 30, to attend the second annual duck pin bowling tournament sponsored by Washington Div. No. 46, N. F. S. D. Those who participated in the events, together with the kibitzers numbered 250 or more. Mr. Winebrener tried his luck in the individual bowling contest but Mr. James Behrens attained to first place and was given the \$10 prize.

Miss Carrie Smith whose twenty-fifth birthday occurred on April 7, was given a surprise party on Saturday night the 6th by Mr. and Mrs. William Smith at their apartment in Baltimore. An appetizing lunch was served. Those present were Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Tucker, Mrs. Lizzie Shipley, Mrs. Clara Werner, Misses Sue Scheuerman, Helen Dziennik, Lucy Dixon, Katherine Strosnider, Messrs. George Barou, Otto Seibly, Jacob Hahn, Wilbert Silberman, John Geiger, George Graham, Thomas Miller, Mr. and Mrs. W. Smith and Miss Carrie Smith.

## ELY LITERARY SOCIETY

Our regular program was given in the chapel to the Ely Literary Society on March 9. It was opened by Larry Sisolak with Current Events. A reading, "A Dog of Flanders," was rendered by Vivian Leitch, and an essay, "Salt," was given by Mehrl Lutz. Stories by younger members were listed as follows: "A Good Dog," by Alice Bean, "A Famous Wrestler," by Fred Hill, "Tony's Lie," by Selma Meinhardt, "Ted's Pig," by Theodore Baraty, "The Lion and the Mouse," by Julia Kambarn, and "Franklin Catching A Thief," by George Emminizer. A comical playlet, "The Big Mistake," was acted by Rudolph Hines, John Myers, and James Barrack. A short but well rendered poem, "Who is She?" was given by Alice Smith. Mr. Faupel served as critic.

The usual weekly program of the Ely Literary Society was held in the chapel March 23. It was short as several reels of moving pictures were also shown that night. Dorothy McDonough opened the program with Current Events. A reading, "The Elephant and the Monkey," was rendered by Alton Boyer. Barbara Rankin told the story of "Alice's Easter Lily." A debate with Murray Rothstein on the affirmative side and Nettie Poe on the negative was given: Resolved, That a college education after graduation from high school is desirable. The decision of the judges was in favor of the affirmative side. A declamation, "The American Way," was recited by James Ferrell. Mr. Longfellow was the critic. The movies shown after the program were: "The Romance of Industry", "In and Around Monkton", and a comical film, "Just Neighbors."

Saturday evening, March 30, the boys of the Reading Room Club entertained the members of the Ely Literary Society with a very funny play called "Daddy's Birthday Gift." It was directed by Kenneth Brown and Larry Sisolak. The cast of characters follows:

Mr. Mike Dumberville	Edwin Markel
Mrs. Mike Dumberville	Larry Sisolak
Ruth Dumberville	Kenneth Brown
Ellen Dumberville	Robert Everhart
Larry Dumberville	Murray Rothstein
Jerry Dumberville	Robert Haines
Mr. Bill Powell	Herman Schwartz
Mr. George Field	Scott Snyder
Dickie Birdsong	David Jones
Uncle Charley	Joe Gelmini
Newspaper-Messenger Boy	Joseph Webster
Act I—A Big Surprise for Daddy	
Act II—The Family Plans a Gift for Daddy	
Act III—Daddy's Anxiety at Home	
Act IV—A Ruined Birthday	

*Catherine Hill, Secretary.*

### RESULTS OF THE BASKETBALL LEAGUES

M. S. S. D. Basketball League A—"Mussolini": K. Bowman, capt., G. Swindell, A. Nash, K. Brown, G. Emminizer, R. Jones, J. Webster.

"Stalin": M. Lutz, capt., F. Bowman, R. Hines, J. Meyers, J. Barrack, E. Young, F. Hill.

"Chamberlain": J. Ferrell, capt., A. Boyer, J. Hook, S. Tippet, J. Ruley, H. Manahan, R. Everhart.

The "Mussolini" team winning 10 out of 16 games played took first place in League A.

League B—"British": B. Tasker, capt., L. Sisolak, H. Brown, R. Pellegrini, W. Nixon, E. Rubinstein.

"French": J. Foreman, capt., W. Merrette, C. Livesay, C. Peddicord, C. Dziennik, J. Liberto.

"German": J. Krebs, capt., R. Duley, T. Baraty, B. Baylor, C. Curry, W. Campbell.

The "German" team came out on top in League B having won 9 out of 12 starts.

*Larry Sisolak, Athletic Reporter.*



# The Maryland Bulletin

*Published Monthly*

At the Maryland State School for the Deaf

DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR

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FREDERICK, MARYLAND, APRIL, 1940

## Easter

Not only did Easter Sunday fall upon the earliest possible date for that festivity, but the temperature was the coldest on record. The mean temperature in Frederick was lower even than that of any Christmas day since records have been kept. Despite the cold weather a large number of guests came to spend the day. A special Easter service was conducted in the afternoon while the usual Easter parties were held on Monday, with the following committee of teachers in charge: Misses Noland, Benson, Quinn, Radcliffe and Mr. Winebrener. An abbreviated egg hunt was held on the front lawn and due to the cold weather it was entered into with more zest than has usually accompanied that event, which with us has been a regular Easter Monday observance for the past twenty years.

## Bill to Establish a Department for the Deaf in the United States Bureau of Labor Introduced

A bill has this month been presented in the House of Representatives, the object of which is to establish in the Department of Labor a Bureau for the Deaf. The department to be under the direction of a chief who in turn will fall under the general supervision of the Secretary of Labor. The duties of the bureau, if established, to be as follows:

(a) To collect, tabulate, and make public statistics pertaining to the deaf, their employment, and their welfare;

(b) To ascertain what fields of employment are available to the deaf, and to endeavor to create new such fields of employment;

(c) To acquaint employers in private industry with the special capabilities of the deaf and to encourage the employment of the deaf on an equal basis with the hearing;

(d) To cooperate with the heads of the various departments of the Government and with the Civil Service Commission and States and political subdivisions thereof in expanding the opportunity for the employment of the deaf in public service; and

(e) To cooperate with any public or private agency in the vocational rehabilitation of the deaf.

## Convention Arrangements Under Way

Although the Convention of American Instructors of the Deaf will not hold its next meeting until June, 1941, it is gratifying to note that program arrangements are already under way as indicated by the fact that the host superintendent, Mr. Truman L. Ingle, of the Missouri School, recently paid a visit to the St. Augustine Florida, school, to confer with Dr. C. J. Settles, who as Vice President of the Convention, will have charge of the program arrangements. These gentlemen, ably supported by our progressive President, Mr. E. A. Stevenson of California, will undoubtedly provide a program of lasting benefit to those privileged to attend.

From time to time suggestions are made that would have been of much benefit to the committee in charge, but too frequently these suggestions have been submitted too late for material changes to be made in program plans. One such suggestion was made prior to the Berkeley Convention, by Dr. A. E. Krause of the West Virginia School.

We quote the paragraph and voice our approval:

"If we may be permitted to comment on the subject of Convention program, we hope that the trend toward regarding the academic and vocational departments of our schools as mutually exclusive to the extent of having important programs of the two going on concurrently in differ-



ent rooms, making it impossible for one person to be present at both, will not gain momentum at this meeting. There are many who would like to benefit from both academic and vocational discussions, but who would be forced to choose between the two or divide their time without doing justice to either if, as occurred to some extent at the last convention, the program requires a choice of one of two concurrent discussions. This is an age of specialization, but most of us cannot afford to devote our interests to one aspect of the education of the deaf to the exclusion of all others."

Unquestionably there are certain topics which because of their very nature would appeal to but a small group. Such discussions could probably be conducted simultaneously, but when a topic such as Social and Character Training comes in conflict with other subjects, valuable papers are lost to a majority of those in attendance. Such was the case at Berkeley when splendid papers on the above theme were read before a mere handful of delegates.

#### *It's Arbor Day (April 12)*

At only one school in Frederick was Arbor Day observed today with the planting of trees. The Maryland State School for the Deaf replanted ten trees about six feet in height, that had come up voluntarily over the campus and had to be moved to better positions. The ceremonies were conducted by the Boy Scouts. The public schools held special assembly programs or in their home room periods made observation of the day which is the culmination of Conservation Week, April 7 to 13, set aside by Governor O'Connor.—*Frederick News*.

#### *Demonstration at Rotary District Conference*

The 180th District of Rotary International held its annual Conference at Hagerstown, Maryland, on April 7, 8 and 9. The district embraces 79 clubs representing Maryland, the District of Columbia, Central Pennsylvania and a portion of West Virginia. Outstanding speakers were Robert Kazmayer, Utica, N. Y.,—"The Challenge of a Changing World"; Past President of Rotary International George Hager, New York City,—"Better Understanding between the United States and Latin America"; Harry Collins Spillman,

New York City,—"Fortifying Democracy at the Base."

At the Tuesday morning general session Dr. Bjorlee delivered an address on the subject of "The Deaf In Industry", concluding with a brief statement covering present educational methods and an appeal for a better understanding of the deaf child. Following the address a demonstration by older pupils from the school, under the direction of Miss Margaret Kent was given. This feature was received with cordial enthusiasm as may be determined by the letter which follows. It is significant that the General Chairman, Mr. Danzer, stresses the fact that the demonstration falls under the general head of Vocational Service which implies ethics in business, rather than using the term Community Service, under which title falls all of the various types of activity which usually call for a donation or for acts of charity.

April 11, 1940

Ignatius Bjorlee,

Frederick, Md.

Dear Ignatius:

I simply cannot let this conference pass into history without telling you what an impression your students made on the delegates and guests in Hagerstown.

More than 500 people witnessed a demonstration that was indeed quite a surprise to the great majority of them, for they had no idea that such results could be accomplished.

I wish I might convey to you the various expressions of commendation that have come to me since that time, but most of them conveyed the thought that it was one of the outstanding events of the conference.

It has a peculiar relationship to Rotary because it is a concrete demonstration of the term "Vocational Service" which we use so frequently in Rotary and which so seldom has a real meaning.

I want to express not only for myself but for the entire host club our keen appreciation of your efforts, and of your contribution to the success of the conference.

Rotarily yours,

"Tubby"

Roy Danzer

General Conference Chairman



*Easter Visitors*

On Good Friday we were favored by a visit from Mr. and Mrs. F. L. Muckey of Bloomfield, N. J. The Muckeys were spending a few days with friends in Baltimore and took the opportunity to call on their friends in Frederick. Deeply interested in the Robert B. Muckey Memorial Bookshelf, they were pleased to note the additions which have been made by friends. The latest book received is "The Nile" by Emil Ludwig, presented by Mrs. Scott Coleman. Mr. and Mrs. Muckey presented to the school 32 volumes of the National Geographic magazine which were formerly the property of Robert. The Geographics will be bound as part of a WPA project and placed in the Students' Library.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert A. Grorud of Washington, D. C., the former for many years attorney to the Senate Committee on Indian affairs, spent the afternoon of Easter Sunday at the School, having called on Dr. and Mrs. Bjorlee. On the return trip to Washington they were accompanied by Miss Esther Boe who departed the same evening for New York.

On Tuesday, March 26, Miss Harriet M. Hall, instructor at the New York School, and Mrs. Roy J. Stewart of Kendall School, were visitors and in company with Mr. McVernon, had an opportunity to see the points of historic interest in and about Frederick.

*Gallaudet Standards High*

The 76th Annual Catalogue of Gallaudet College, now at hand, indicates the increasingly higher standard required of its students, and the impressive character of the superior educational advantages afforded to young deaf men and women of our country. At present there are 103 men and 68 women pursuing its advanced courses, including the young hearing men and women, members in the Normal Department, who are being prepared to enter the profession of teaching the deaf. It is most gratifying to the friends of the deaf, especially to the Alumni of the College, to note the high standard already attained by the college. For this President Hall and the members of the Faculty deserve unstinted credit, the praise, encouragement and acknowledgment which is deservedly their due.—*Dr. Fox, N. Y. J.*

*Girl Scout Activities*

The Girl Scout organization at the School under the direction of Miss Mary Alice Benson, is rapidly branching out into numerous activities made possible by the fact that the Girl Scout movement is receiving much encouragement throughout the city. The group at the Maryland School was the first established in Frederick, in 1933, having succeeded the Camp Fire Girls' organization begun under the direction of Miss Margaret Kent in 1926.

Miss Benson accompanied a group of Girl Scout leaders on a week end training course at Bryn Mawr College, near Philadelphia, Pa., on March 29. Various camping excursions for the girls and other outings are contemplated for the remainder of the school year.

*Dr. Boe and Miss Esther Boe Here*

Miss Esther Boe, of Northfield, Minnesota, who is spending her second year at Columbia University, specializing in work for handicapped children, was the guests of Dr. and Mrs. Bjorlee during the Easter vacation, March 18 to 24. On March 20, Dr. L. W. Boe, President of St. Olaf College, father of Miss Boe, also paid a long deferred visit, coming down from New York where he had been in attendance upon sessions of the Executive Committee of the United Lutheran Church of America. On March 21, Dr. Boe and Miss Boe, together with Dr. and Mrs. Bjorlee, were dinner guests of Dr. Henry W. Hanson, President of Gettysburg College.

*CCC Anniversary*

Dr. Bjorlee was a dinner guest of the officers of the CCC Camp located on Frederick's water shed on Sunday, April 7. Guests had been invited to help the camp celebrate the seventh anniversary of its establishment in this beautiful mountain area. Following the dinner a twelve foot elm tree was planted in memory of Robert A. Fechner, Washington, late director of the Civilian Conservation Corps. The tree was planted by F. W. Besley, State Forester.

*Cadet Guns Received*

Brig. Gen. D. John Markey, presented to the cadets 15 drill guns to supplant a similar number that have been in use for many years and are no longer serviceable.



*Museum Receives Interesting Relic*

Miss Eleanor Johnson recently presented to the school museum a relic bearing the name of Major Daniel Hughes, inscribed on a brass plate. Accompanying the gift was the following statement of historic interest:

From stone in Mount Olivet Cemetery—"In memory of Major Daniel Hughes who was born in Canada on the 3rd of February 1771. Became a naturalized citizen of the United States on the 6th of August 1798. Received the Commission of Second Lieutenant in the Second Regiment of Infantry in the service of the United States on the 12th of February 1801. Passing through several promotions until the 1st of February 1815, when he received the commission of Major, taking rank as such from the 21st of February 1811.

"During the war of 1812 he was attached to the Southern Division of the Army and was one of General Jackson's staff at New Orleans. Soon after the war he resigned his commission in the Army, since which time he has resided principally in Frederick and vicinity. Departing this life on the 12th of February 1851. Aged 80 years and 9 days."

Major Daniel Hughes married Elizabeth Potts, daughter of Richard Potts and his first wife Elizabeth Hughes.

*Parlor Grand Piano Purchased for Auditorium*

The concert grand piano which for more than twenty years has seen hard service and daily use, has been retired to the basement of the academic building, being supplanted by a newer instrument for the auditorium. The needs of the school will be better served with two pianos, as the older instrument is still servicable and has been placed on a wooden platform so constructed as to give the children full benefit of the vibratory effect of the instrument.

*Rev. Merrill a Guest*

Rev. H. C. Merrill, Episcopal minister to the deaf of Syracuse, New York, was a visitor at the School on April 9 and 10. Rev. Merrill is actively interested in numerous activities that tend toward the welfare of the adult deaf and it is always refreshing to converse with him and to get inspiration from his type of philosophy.

*Stamp Club Meets*

Among the various hobby clubs at the school, the Stamp Club is taking on renewed interest. Friends from the Frederick Philately Club presented 14 stamp books to children who could not afford to purchase albums, while the four Scott catalogues have been made available in the boys' and girls' reading rooms.

On the evening of April 12, Mr. Robert Nicodemus, Mr. Irving Landauer and Mr. J. Harry Brandenburg, brought a splendid display of stamps to the school and discussed various phases of the stamp collecting hobby. Dr. Bjorlee acted as interpreter throughout the evening. Mr. Nicodemus and Mr. Landauer also presented to the club members small packages of stamps, as an encouragement to begin their collections. They also illustrated various methods of preparing sheets and arranging stamps in order to bring variety into the hobby.

Mr. Brandenburg displayed a very handsome collection of first day cover Presidential series stamps. His set is complete and received second prize at a recent Philately contest in Baltimore.

The visit of these gentlemen has added much interest and enthusiasm among the children, for while some have very creditable collections, the hobby has not been as universal as should have been the case. Miss Wohlstrom is directing the work of the student stamp club.

*Mr. Jochem Named Superintendent*

The Board of Directors of the New Jersey School have appointed Mr. Charles M. Jochem as superintendent of the New Jersey School for the Deaf to succeed the late Dr. Alvin E. Pope. Mr. Jochem was for several years director of the vocational training department of the New Jersey School and since the resignation of Dr. Pope, has served as acting superintendent. Mr. Jochem enters upon his new duties with the best wishes of the staff, students, and Alumni. Congratulations.

*Comment on Rhythm Demonstration*

"I commend you especially for your attempt to make the deaf child overcome the handicap of deafness as far as possible by developing his rhythmic sense. All life is made up of rhythm. And even the brick layer who would do a good job must learn to move rhythmically."



*Gallaudet Normals Pay Annual Visit*

On Friday, April 12, we were glad to entertain five members of the Gallaudet College normal class accompanied by Mrs. Lorna Werble of Kendall School. It is always a privilege to entertain the group from Gallaudet and they seemed very much interested in visiting all the departments. They were addressed briefly by Dr. Bjorlee on "Practical Aspects of Education Affecting the Adult Deaf."

*Guests from Iowa*

Mr. and Mrs. A. C. S. Rue and son, Truman, of Northwood, Iowa, who spent the winter in Florida, were guests of Dr. and Mrs. Bjorlee on April 11 and 12, being en-route to their home in the Middle West. Mr. Rue declared that according to his opinion the statements relative to low temperatures in the South were very much overdrawn, as the temperature rarely fell to 22 degrees. This would be a logical deduction for a resident of Northern Iowa, where temperatures frequently reach 22 degrees below zero.

*Cosmetology Notes*

Mrs. Ruth Yinger, teacher of cosmetology, spent the week of March 11, attending the international convention of beauty culture in New York City. Mrs. Yinger is delighted with the progress being made by the girls of her department. One of the girls is doing extra work at the local shop, conducted by Mrs. Yinger, and will undoubtedly obtain her state certificate upon completion of the prescribed number of hours of student work.

Mrs. Yinger accompanied five of her students to a demonstration at the Frederick Hotel, on the evening of April 8. The program was featured by a demonstration given by a stylist from O'Neill's, Baltimore. Dorothy Dorsett acted as one of the models at the demonstration.

*Deaf Scouter Assists Hearing Troop*

Fred Semler, a former student and now a resident of Smithsburg, Maryland, writes that he is acting as assistant Scoutmaster to a flourishing troop of hearing boys. It is gratifying to note that Fred gained from his Scout work a training which has made him an asset to his community as a leader among boys.

*Good Showing in Employment Made by Deaf*

Recently the Washington State Association of the Deaf reports that a survey taken shows that the percentage of unemployed deaf in that state is less than half the percentage of unemployed in the state as a whole.

Not long ago we attended a meeting at which there were 105 present, 38 women and 67 men. Of the women, 28 were house wives, six were workers and three unemployed. The three who were unemployed were very charming young ladies not long out of school and who will, if the nature of the male has not changed, soon be housewives. Of the 67 men, 10 were unemployed. One was suffering from a physical handicap other than deafness. Two were retired farmers, well on in years. Two are old age pensioners. One had just come to Michigan from another state and was stopping at a transient home. One is an able bodied man from another state who is a peddler of kettle cleaners and would not take steady work if it were offered him on a silver platter. One a farm hand who had, just that day, been laid off. Two were men of around 55 who were energetic, competent and willing to work and who probably would be able to give some years of good service but who have reached an age where it is practically impossible to have them placed in industry. Fortunately one of them belong to a family of considerable means and does not need to work. The other makes a living doing odd jobs.

Of the men who were working, almost all of them had very good jobs. They ranged from young men just starting to veterans who have held their jobs for years and who are enjoying seniority rights that give them a degree of social security.

While there are young men who have not yet found their place in industry we believe that the "sample" just analyzed would apply almost anywhere in the state. *From Article by Jay Cooke Howard.*

*Monday Musicales*

The Monday Musicales of Frederick were entertained in the parlor of the Maryland School on the evening of April first with Mrs. Bjorlee and Miss Kent acting as hostesses. Following a program of vocal and instrumental selections, delicious refreshments were served.



*The Problem of Youth and Unemployment*

Although business conditions in the United States are much improved, we continue to hear a great deal about unemployment. Every once in a while we see an article in the newspapers reporting on the number of people who are still without work. We read about the government's activities in providing relief for millions of people, and we listen to the pleas of charitable organizations for funds to help the needy. We cannot escape the grim fact that unemployment remains our most serious problem, and that it is causing steady suffering for a large part of our population.

According to the latest figures, 9,221,000 people are out of work in the United States—people who are fully able to work and who cannot find jobs. Altogether there are about 16,500,000 people who are receiving relief from state and local governments. These figures speak for themselves and show how great is this problem of unemployment.

But they do not tell the most important thing about that problem. They do not tell us that **one-third of all the unemployed workers in the nation are young people between the ages of 15 and 24.** Moreover according to studies made by the government, it is even more difficult for these young people to find jobs than it is for older workers between the ages of 25 and 55.

What does all this mean? It means that, to a large extent, the unemployment problem in the United States is a youth problem. It affects young people more seriously than it does people who belong to older age groups.

Educators, businessmen, and students of social conditions agree that this is a dangerous state of affairs, and that something should be done about it. They realize that if young people continue to be without work, they may be more willing to see the United States go to war, just to have something to do. They may be more ready to see our democratic system of government overthrown in favor of some dictator who promises them work. They may fall into criminal and evil ways.

—Reprinted from the *Junior Review*.

*Adamstown Women's Club Meets at School*

On April 10, a demonstration was given before the Adamstown Women's Club in

the school auditorium. Approximately 35 ladies were in attendance and were given an opportunity to see the method employed in instructing small deaf children and also to witness rhythmic exercises presented by various classes throughout the school. The ladies were very much interested in the domestic science and the cosmetology departments and before taking their departure, visited the museum in the ancient Barracks.

*Local News*

Rev. Arthur Boll of New York paid his regular monthly visit to the school on April 13.

Rev. D. E. Moylan, Baltimore, will address the pupils and adult deaf at the Calvary M. E. Church on April 28.

Miss Thelma Houchin recently spent a week end in New York City and enjoyed seeing the work at the Lexington School for the Deaf.

Mrs. Klipp surprised the children in the dining room on the evening of April first with an ice cream treat. And there was no hoax about it either.

Mr. Morris Axler, of New York, was a brief visitor on Saturday, April 6. Mr. Axler was a student of the editor's while at Fanwood, and the brief visit presented an opportunity to discuss the good old days of a quarter century ago.

A series of musical programs under the auspices of the Elizabeth Sprague Coolidge Foundation were held in Washington, April 12 and 13. Mrs. Richard P. Ross, Mrs. Robert Clapp, Mrs. Bjorlee and Miss Houchin attended one or more of the programs.

Miss Maragaret Kent was one of the lucky winners recently in a popular radio contest entitled "So You Think You Know Music." Miss Kent submitted four spring songs that were accepted in the contest and received three handsomely bound copies of The Opera Libretto Library.

Mrs. Florence Bramble, who retired from the service of the Maryland State School on March 1, is now comfortably settled at the Home for the Aged, Frederick, where she has completely recovered from an attack of the grippe. As a token of appreciation for many years of service, the staff and pupils presented Mrs. Bramble with a radio and lamp for her room, on the day of her departure from the school.



## PUPILS' ITEMS

## Girls' Items

If I dance well enough, I will dance at the commencement in May, because some of the girls, who dance, will graduate this year. I am learning a new tap dance. That will be the first time for me. June Kambarn is practicing tap dancing too.—Gladys Hartley.

On April tenth Rev. Mr. Herbert Merrill was a visitor here. He is an Episcopal clergyman from Syracuse, N. Y. At seven o'clock he gave us a talk in chapel. He has been a minister for twenty-five years. He stayed at the school until the next day. He went to Washington, D. C.—Esther Steele.

When I came back to school this spring, I brought along a book of Braille which was given to me by my friend who is blind. This book is about current events. Braille is the language for the blind. Blind people read it by running their fingers over raised dots of the paper. We could not understand it. I gave it to Miss Wohlstrom for our school library.—Ruby Howes.

For many years I have had the hobby of collecting different kinds and shapes of rocks. When I was a little girl I lived in the country near a creek which enabled me to get lots of rocks. The best rock of all my collection is a beautiful white crystal-like rock which I found near a race track at my uncle's home. That kind of rock is very rare. I hope some day that my collection will be useful in the study of science.—Lois Schaefer.

Since we have had the new rule in our Beauty Shop allowing teachers and students to come there and pay to have work done, we have been rushed. Seven teachers had shampoos and finger waves Wednesday afternoon. My! Were we tired? I feel that we are improving in our work, due to the patience and advice of our teacher, Mrs. Yinger. I hope all of our cosmetologists who have as their goal a job, will pass next January.—Marjorie Willey.

Saturday night, March 30, the Reading Room boys gave a successful comical play in the chapel. The setting was very good and looked perfectly like "Home." Larry Sisolak, in the leading role, portrayed the part of a mother very well. The father, Edwin Markel, also acted well. The children, I would say, were the funniest.

Most of us couldn't stop laughing at Buster Brown, could we? In addition to being funny, he acted exactly like our "kid" sisters at home.—Catherine Hill.

One day I went to Miss Cason's room to help her a little. She showed me an old-fashioned chest of drawers. It came from her great, great grandmother who lived in Virginia many years ago. This chest of drawers was made by the slaves who worked on her great, great grandmother's plantation. I was glad to know about it as I had studied about the slaves in the South this year in our history class. It was made of mahogany. I was very lucky to see that old historical piece of furniture since I'm very fond of history.—June Kambarn.

This is my first year at the Maryland State School for the Deaf. I am in the eighth grade and my teacher's name is Miss Kent. I like her very well. When class time comes we go up front and sit in a circle so we all face one another. We have Current Events first thing in the morning. The European War makes it very interesting now. I am glad I came here because I enjoy the school work. It was hard for me to get used to everything at first but I think I am acquainted now. We go to the chapel every evening. I often play the radio before study hour as I do at home. The people are very friendly here. It makes me feel as if I were at home.—Charlotte Kipe.

On Friday, three weeks ago Genevieve Evans and I went to Baltimore on the bus. We met Mrs. Evans. Then we got our bags and went to Mrs. Evans' home. That evening Mrs. Evans, Genevieve, her brother and I went down town shopping for Genevieve.

On Saturday afternoon we went to see Genevieve's aunt. At 5:30 we hurried home. After awhile mother, father, Aunt Anna, Uncle Ewing, Jimmie and Mildred came. I was very glad to see them. We then left and went to a movie.

On Sunday we went to Washington. We rode around and saw many different buildings. On Monday we drove to Hagerstown. We had a delicious dinner. After dinner we came back to school. I enjoyed my trip very much.—Wanda Middleton.

Tuesday morning, April 9, we went to



Hagerstown to give a demonstration for the Rotary Convention. When we arrived there, we waited for Dr. Bjorlee at the front of the Hotel Alexander. Then we went to the Colonial Theatre and we put on our costumes. Dr. Bjorlee made a speech and then we sang several songs for the Rotarians. They applauded for an encore so we sang their club song, R-O-T-A-R-Y and we noticed that they smiled as they were proud of their song. Eight girls danced several tap dances. There were more than five hundred Rotarians there. After the demonstration we had coco cola in the lobby of the theatre. Then we found a small restaurant to have dinner. I must not tell you what we had because I am afraid it would make your mouth water. About one-thirty we left for home, having had an interesting trip.—Grace Clevenger.

Tuesday afternoon, April 2, the Girl Scouts took a walk and we suddenly decided to go to the brick works behind our school. A man led us to a house where men were digging clay and grinding it to make it smooth. Then it was put into water to make wet brick. We went to another place where men were inspecting wet bricks. If some of them are not good, they are put back into the hopper again. Outside we saw thousands of wet bricks stacked up under a shed. They stay there for three days to make dry bricks. Then they are put into kilns for four days. Twenty-five tons of coal are needed to bake the fifty-five thousand dry bricks which are put into one kiln heated up to 1800 degrees. It takes three days for the bricks to cool after the heat is turned off. Then the man showed us the electric pyrometer which tells how long the bricks have been in the kilns and the temperature of the kilns.—Vivian Leitch.

#### Boys' Items

The boys are starting track work on Bjorlee Field now. There will be a field meet on May 17, with Frederick High School. I have tried out for the 80-yard dash, the 220-yard dash and the broad jump. I hope we can beat Frederick High School!—Bailis Hanke.

On March 27, after working in the shop, my team played basketball with Bailis Hanke's team for the championship. My

team won the championship. The score was 35 to 28. Joe Webster made 16 points and I made 10 points. I passed many balls to Joe. I made a wooden trophy board for my team, as it was victorious. It will hang on the wall in the boys' study hall.—Kenneth Bowman.

My father bought a new typewriter for my sister because she needed it for her school work. She went to night school to take a business course. She wanted to be a stenographer, but she is now doing other work. She fills bottles with different kinds of extracts and puts spices into small tin boxes. I am using her typewriter.—Harry Brown.

When I went home for the week-end recently, my aunt talked to me about a job at the Municipal Swimming Pool in Hagerstown this summer. My uncle and I will have lunch at ten-thirty o'clock every day and then we will take tickets at the pool while the other workers are having lunch. I will work from eleven A. M. to nine-thirty P. M. daily. I am sure I will find time for a swim now and then.—Roger Myers.

I read two books called "Blackbeard's Island" and "Blackbeard, Buccaneer." Both books are about pirates. They tell of Blackbeard, a pirate, whose real name was Edward Teach. He stole gold from people on the high seas in 1718 and was so fierce and cruel. He was the cruelest pirate in the whole world. I like to read about pirates because I am interested in gold.—Benny Tasker.

Two weeks ago Herman Schwartz and I went down town to buy a seaplane. I bought one that cost \$1.50. It is a very large plane. This seaplane cannot go on land but on water. Tuesday, I took it to the gym and was surprised to see the seaplane take off on the floor. I am going to Baltimore this summer and take it down near the water. I will have a good time and here's hoping it works all right.—Graydon Holler.

On Easter Sunday my family came to see me. My mother gave me one-half dozen Easter eggs. One of them was very strong to use to pick eggs. I won 13 out of 14. The next afternoon, I put my egg under the pillow. After we hunted eggs on the front lawn, I went upstairs and saw it. It was broken because I had jumped on my bed. I was sorry. I hope



next year my egg will be as strong as iron.  
—John Edward Hook, Jr.

My teacher sent off for a Current Events paper showing how the blind people can read. It is the Braille system. The blind people must study very hard to learn what the dots mean. I think it would be very hard to understand. A blind girl from Braddock Heights has a very fine position in the Congressional Library in Washington, D. C. She has charge of all books for the blind. My teacher knows her.—Arthur Potts.

Rev. Mr. Herbert Merrill visited our school last Tuesday morning, April 9. He used to live in Washington, D. C. He worked in the Weather Bureau in Washington for twenty years. Then he became an Episcopal preacher for the deaf in New York. He walked around our school and enjoyed seeing the boys play soft-ball. In the chapel that night Mr. Benson invited him to talk to us. He gave us an interesting talk about character. He stayed here from Tuesday noon to Wednesday noon.—John Meyers.

Last Wednesday night the stamp club had a meeting in the library at seven-forty-five o'clock. Miss Wohlstrom our advisor, invited several other girls and boys to see the collections of stamps which Mr. Brandenburg, Mr. Nicodemus, and Mr. Landauer from Frederick showed us. They gave each of us a stamp album and some interesting stamps. We were very much interested in the stamp exhibit. The men showed us how to paste stamps in the album with hinges. We saw many different stamps. Those men are very lucky to have so many fine stamps.—Mehrl Lutz.

On Good Friday twenty-four boys went with Mr. Winebrener on a hike after chapel services were over. We went to Walkersville and it was so windy and cold. We each took our lunch along. We ate it at the high school building. After eating and resting for awhile we started for home but returned a different way. We walked on a railroad track for a short distance. We saw something on the track and it was a big dog, which had been killed. When we got home we felt stiff and tired, but I was glad we had gone on the hike.—Raymond Hughes.

Wednesday afternoon at 2 o'clock we went downstairs into the cosmetology

room. We looked around for awhile Harold put his head in the hair-drying machine. Miss Neesam turned it on and Harold's hair flew up and Miss Neesam laughed. Then James got under it. He said, "It is cold." Miss Neesam turned it on hot. Then he said, "That's enough, it's hot!" Then Robert Lee came down. He put his head under it. He said, "It is too hot!" When he got out, he said it felt funny. I enjoyed looking around the cosmetology department.—Clarence Peddicord.

The Boy Scouts of Troop No. 16 went to camp on April the 6th. We hiked for five miles on the road and then through the woods with Mr. Winebrener. When we reached the camp I went to bed to rest for awhile. About 9:30 at night a wasp stung my ankle. The boys laughed at me. I think they had a good laugh at me. About 11 o'clock Mr. McVernon gave the boys some cookies and marshmallows. Then about 12 o'clock the boys suddenly heard noises and got up. We all got ready to throw our shoes. We thought someone was trying to bother us. At last Samuel Tippet and Raymond Hughes suddenly came to our cabin and laughed. They thought it was a good joke on us.—Harold Manahan.

There is no annual Easter vacation at our school but Good Friday is always observed as a holiday. That day, March 22, in the morning according to custom we assembled in the auditorium at 9 o'clock for services. Mr. Winebrener told the story of the first Easter. After the services a number of boys including myself took a hike to Walkersville with Mr. Winebrener. We took our lunch along. When we returned to school at 3 o'clock we had walked a total of sixteen miles.

Easter Sunday the parents of the children came to see them. A very interesting talk was given in the auditorium by Mr. Faupel at 3 P. M.

All went to school Monday morning and were dismissed at noon. After dinner most of the boys and girls went to the movie shows. After that they returned and had a brief Easter Egg hunt on the front lawn. An enjoyable Easter party was given at night. We were sorry that the weather during Easter was bitter cold, however we had a delightful time.—George Singer.



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## TREES

I think that I shall never see  
A poem lovely as a tree.

A tree whose hungry mouth is prest  
Against the earth's sweet flowing breast;

A tree that looks at God all day  
And lifts her leafy arms to pray;

A tree that may in summer wear  
A nest of robins in her hair;

Upon whose bosom snow has lain;  
Who intimately lives with rain.

Poems are made by fools like me,  
But only God can make a tree.

—*Joyce Kilmer*