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TEXT OF PRIZE

WINNING ESSAYS

Ruth Muirhead and Vivian Gilmore
Win First Awards in Dry Federation Contest—Second Award

As was announced in the last issue of The Herald, the awards have been made by the judges in the essay writing contest conducted by the Box Butte County Dry Federation, the subject of the essays being, "Why Should Nebraska Go Dry?" The results, which were announced in the last issue, were as follows: First class, 7th and 8th grades—1st prize, Ruth Muirhead, 8th grade, Hemingford, 85 1/2 per cent, \$5. 2nd prize, Elsie Simpson, 8th grade, Alliance, 81 1/2 per cent, \$3. Second class, all below 7th grade—1st prize, Vivian Gilmore, 5th grade, Dist. No. 11, 86 1/2 per cent, \$5. 2nd prize, Edward Kinsella, 6th grade, Hemingford, 82 1/2 per cent, \$3. The judges, Rev. Layton, Mrs. J. J. Vance and Miss Mabel Young, recommended that Miss Mary Wilson, a fourth-grade girl of the Emerson school, be given honorable mention for having submitted an essay almost as good as Edward Kinsella's. She was given a percentage of 80, and her essay, with those of the above-mentioned four, are published below:

First Prize, First Class
Nebraska is one of the states about to decide the great question of Prohibition. Friends of saloons say that more liquor is consumed under Prohibition than high license; that taxes are raised, more law violation occurs, and business is depressed in a dry state.

Actual records made by the state and county officers of Colorado show that the amount of liquor consumed this year is one quart, to every forty-two barrels in 1915.

North Dakota has been dry ever since it became a state, and has the lowest tax rate of any state in the union. Police records show that over one thousand people are arrested daily for intemperance, and over one thousand convicts in our penitentiaries were brought there because of the use of intoxicants.

Poverty is often the product of alcoholic drinks; and more than one-third of the inmates of almshouses owe their state to the use of liquor. The amount spent annually for intoxicating liquor is over one billion dollars. Could not this money be used to better advantage?

Now that you see some of the results of liquor, Men of Nebraska, before you cast your ballot, stop and think, then vote Nebraska dry.

(Signed) RUTH MUIRHEAD, 8th grade, Hemingford, Nebr.
Second Prize, First Class
The quantity of beer used yearly by our people is over one billion gallons. The continued use of alcohol hurts the liver, kidneys, heart, blood vessels, and nervous system. The great statesman, Gladstone, said, "It is productive of greater evils than the combined scourges of war, famine and pestilence."

Alcohol in nearly every case causes poverty and crime. Police records show that over one thousand people are arrested every day for drunkenness.

The saloon eats up men's wages, and brings their families to want. The license is a bribe paid to people to let the saloon alone. The dry city will be found to be more orderly, and a better place to bring up children. The saloon causes men to go home and threaten to kill their families. When the saloon is ousted, the men who were once giving their money to the saloon will be seen in the dry-goods, grocery, and shoe stores, buying things for their families. The drunkard is a nuisance, and a disgrace everywhere.

About one million men are drinking every year to such excess as to cause evident injury to health. Whiskey is usually made in this country from rye or corn. The strong alcoholic drinks are composed of about one-half pure alcohol. It is certain that over ten thousand convicts in our prisons have been brought there through intemperance, and over thirty per cent of the inmates of the almshouses owe their unhappy state to alcohol.

Vote Nebraska dry.
(Signed) ELSIE SIMPSON, 8th grade, Alliance, Nebr.

First Prize, Second Class
There are several reasons why Nebraska should go dry.

Because it destroys the home, hinders the churches, robs the schools, and corrupts the ballot. For we have many school mates that we do not want to be drunkards. In the struggle for existence, we will need our money for necessary things. If we spend our money for clothing, food, house rent, or buildings, we shall have something to show for it; but if we spend it for saloons, we shall find that willful waste makes woeful want.

Why do you spend so much in educating your children and then vote the licensing of another place to tear down what the school and the home built up?

You cannot run a sawmill without logs, nor a gristmill without grain or even a rock crusher without feeding it rocks; and you cannot run a saloon without furnishing boys from these schools, churches, and homes.

Two children, Clarence and Beatie May, last January were left homeless, their mother dying in Lincoln from the beating of her drunken husband; their father is now in the Nebraska state penitentiary.

The wets of Nebraska are fighting these children. This is just one case of the many.

VIVIAN GILMORE, 5th grade, Dist. No. 11
Second Prize, Second Class
There are many reasons why Nebraska should go dry.

The most important one is that we need good sober men at the head of our homes, our state, and our nation. How can we expect to be a peaceful, industrious nation, unless

we have men with brains both clear and clean?

It is impossible for men filled with poisonous whiskey to have clear brains. Nebraska should go dry because we need men of our homes sober.

Just picture a father coming home intoxicated. Think of the anguish and horror of his wife and mother as her little children look at their drunken father. Picture those little children poorly fed and clothed, shunned by society, deprived of everything that will fit them for a useful life.

That poor, drunken father was once an intelligent man, making money, going with his wife and family to church, and spending happy evenings at home, until whiskey got its grip on him. See him now come reeling home, or, worse still, lying in the gutter by the saloon.

Now, this is why Nebraska should go dry.

EDWARD LOUIS KINSELLA, 6th grade, Hemingford, Nebr.

Honorable Mention, Second Class
The question has been asked, why Nebraska should go dry. I am only a little girl of nine years. I cannot vote, so I am not able to help any that way; but hope that the people who can will think of growing boys and girls, and will vote No Saloon.

I think that all the towns and cities would be better without saloons, our brothers won't have that temptation before them to learn to drink.

The man coming home from work won't have it so easy to drop in and take a drink if we have no saloon, but will save his money and spend it for his family. Some people laugh when they see a man reeling down the street, but I cannot laugh at such a sight; but have only pity for them. I cannot help but wonder if he is the father of any little boy or girl, and how they must feel when they see him coming home.

A man in such a condition would not be very nice to have home. When his brain is on fire with whiskey, he is sometimes mean to his family, and will do things that he would not do when sober.

(Signed) MARY WILSON, 4th grade, Alliance, Nebr.

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Adv—Nov

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