

FINE CASH PRIZES FOR BOYS AND GIRLS

The Bee offers a great chance to children who can see good stories and write them.

ANY bright boy or girl can write an interesting little story if given the material with which to start. We are going to teach you how and where to observe real story plots in everyday life, and to the children who each week succeed in finding the best material and writing the best short stories on it, we will give liberal cash prizes.

Every boy and girl below the second year in the High School is invited to take part

This will be interesting and fascinating work for you and highly instructive. It will teach you to observe life, to use your imagination, and to express yourself in good language. And everyone has the opportunity to win a prize in cash.

Read carefully the instructions and the sample story which will show you how to go about it. Ask your father and mother, relatives and friends to help you select your plot and get started—but the story itself must be ALL yours—your own work.

The best story each week wins THREE SHINING SILVER DOLLARS

The second best story each week wins TWO SHINING SILVER DOLLARS

The third best story each week wins ONE SHINING SILVER DOLLAR

The next four win interesting books.

The seven first stories will be printed—one each day, following the Want Ads.

Every day dozens of little romances, tragedies, comedies and farces, in the life of a great city, are reflected in the little want ads of The Omaha Bee. The heart-throbs of a city, the fortunes and misfortunes, the ambitions and the needs, that make real drama when seen in stories, can be heard echoing in the Want Ads if you observe them closely.

Sample Story

FOR RENT—Nicely furnished front room, furnace heat, in West Farnam district, young man preferred. *Wm. care Bee. xx*

"I just won't stand this little roomed-up flat any longer," said Agnes to herself, after her friends had departed.

"It doesn't bother John any, so long as he has a place to eat and sleep and smoke in the evenings. But he ought not to expect me to put up with it all day long."

Agnes was thoroughly impatient. When they had married in the spring the little flat had seemed cozy and snug, and both thought they should enjoy it immensely. And besides it fitted John's salary which was not large.

But its smallness soon began to wear on Agnes' nerves. She wanted more room to entertain her girl friends, and she wanted room for her piano which was now in the store-house because there was no place to put it in the little flat. She just knew that her old friends were making fun of the little home.

She and John had talked it over before, but that night Agnes revolted. So Sunday they studied the "For Rent" ads in the Bee, and before the end of the week John had signed the lease for a fine little two-story house in the West Farnam street district.

It was delightful, and Agnes enjoyed getting settled in it. The extra furniture it required almost exhausted John's little bank account, but both were happy, so what was the difference?

But later came their first coal bill. It was enormous in their eyes. John had to draw some of his salary in advance. And the gas bills—how did they burn so much more gas than they used to? They thought it over and decided that they must not buy so much food. Theaters were out of the question. Agnes had planned for some new furs as winter approached, but dear me, they could not be thought of.

John struggled to save, but it was a hard task. Christmas was coming and both faced the necessity of giving up all purchases. One night they were forced to confess that the new house had been an extravagance. Agnes wept bitterly and took all the blame, but John was brave and generous.

"Never mind, little girl," he said, "I will try and get some night work to do to earn a little extra money."

"Oh, why can't I earn something," exclaimed Agnes.

Then a thought occurred to her.

"Let me rent our front room," she said. "We don't need it and I would just love to have a roomer. We could get some nice young man who wouldn't be any trouble, and it would bring in some extra money every month."

"How could we get the right kind of man?" asked the practical John.

"Why, I'll tell you," replied Agnes. "We could advertise just what we have. There must be lots of men read the Sunday Bee, and when they see such a nice room to rent we would have no trouble."

So the next Sunday there appeared in the Bee the little ad shown at the top of this story, and before the week was out, the room had been rented to the nicest man you ever saw.

He paid twenty dollars a month for the room, and Agnes and John had money to spend for Christmas after all.

Just a "Servant Wanted" might suggest to a keen imagination a pretty story of a young wife who couldn't cook, or an interfering mother-in-law. "Position Wanted," may be the sequel to a poor woman's struggle to keep a home for her young ones, or to a man's downfall through drink. "Lost a Dog," may echo the happy story of a youngster's love for a pet that had saved his life. "Wanted, furnished room," might have back of it a funny story of a young bachelor's quarrel with his landlady's daughter. "For Sale, a building lot," might be the despairing surrender of a struggling young couple's hopes for a home of their own.

There are sad things and funny things, tragic things and curious things among the Want Ads, if you but stop to see them.

STUDY THESE RULES:

Any boy or girl below the second year in High school can take part in this interesting contest without any fee or cost, whether you live in Omaha or not, but you must all observe these conditions or your stories will not be considered:

Your story must be based on a Want Ad appearing in the Omaha Bee of the week current, and must contain NOT MORE than 500 words—any number of words below that you may choose to make it.

At the top of the first page you must write plainly your full name and address, your father's or mother's name, the grade and school you attend, your teacher's name and your own age.

Next below paste the Bee Want Ad on which your story is based. When the stories are published any name or addresses in the want ads will be omitted.

Next write the title you have given your story.

Have you imagination? That is all that is needed to build up clever little stories from the Bee Want Ads.

Every child should be taught to look about it and see things, and to develop the ability to write the things it sees is indeed a wonderful thing. So the Bee is going to offer every Sunday some fine prizes to be paid each week in cash to the school children who find the best story plots in The Sunday Bee Want Ads, and write them the best. It is something which every child can do and will enjoy doing. Try your hand at this fascinating work, as it is loads of fun anyway, is fine training, and you can never tell when you are going to hit on the stories that will win the cash prizes.

Write neatly on one side of the sheet only. Stories will ordinarily be judged entirely on their merits AS stories, but in cases where two or more are of about equal merit, then penmanship and neatness, and the age of the author, will be considered in awarding the prizes.

Do not roll your manuscript—fold it, and address the envelope to

WANT AD STORY EDITOR, Omaha Bee.

If mailed, see carefully that the postage is fully paid, or, you can leave it personally at the business office of the Bee.

Do not enclose stamps for return as no stories will be returned at all.

Stories must be received at the Bee office not later than Thursday noon of each week. The prize-winners will be announced, and the prize stories published in the Bee from day to day.

You may submit only one story each week. Don't write more than five hundred words.

Make up your mind now to win one of these cash prizes

Here is lots of fun for you, and good practice, and a chance to win a reward in cash for your efforts.

Fathers and Mothers—Encourage your children to show their ability at observing stories in real life and writing them.

Teachers—This contest will materially assist you in cultivating your pupil's powers of observation and ability to write good English.

SEVEN PRIZES EVERY WEEK

Until further notice we will give seven prizes of \$3, \$2 and \$1 respectively, and four books each week for the best stories suggested by Want Ads appearing in the Bee of that week. Today opens the first contest, for which stories must be in our office by next Thursday noon.

Start now looking through the many Want Ads for one that suggests a story to you. Perhaps, if you read carefully the sample story printed on this page it will help you to see just what is needed. Here is fun, good training and profit for all children. Call on your family and friends to help you select your material, but remember the story must be all your own.

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WANT AD STORY EDITOR, Omaha Bee, Omaha.