

SLOGAN IS "ONE FOR EVERY ONE"

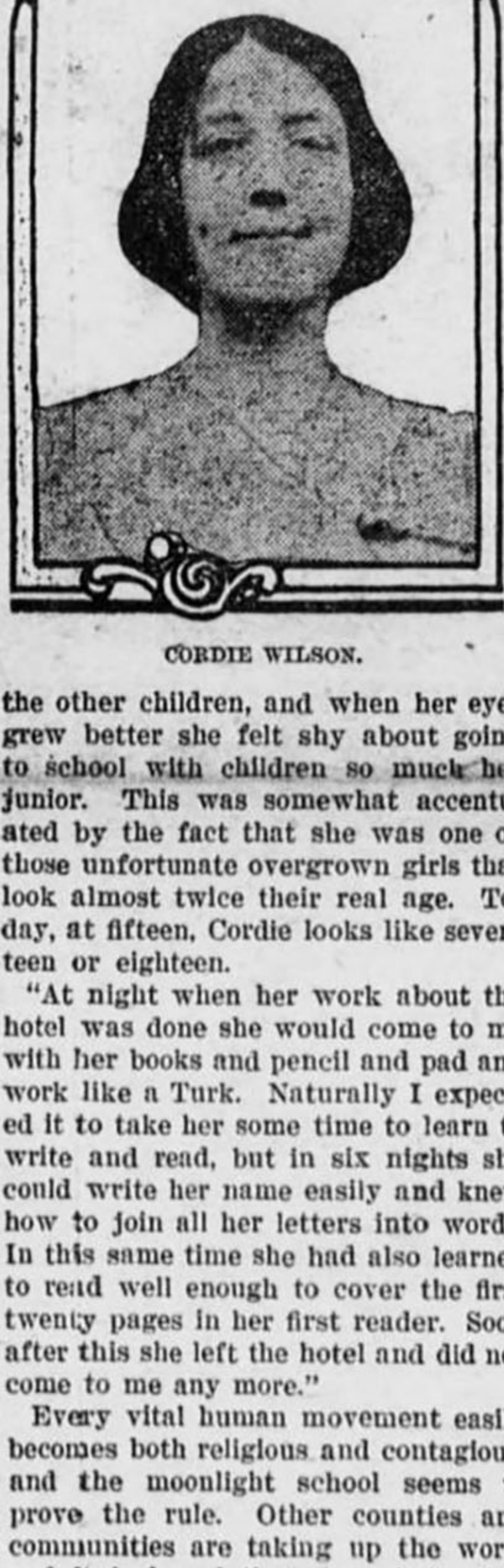
Cheerful Cry Adopted In Rowan County In 1911.

JEANETTE BELL ORIGINATOR

Practiced What She Preached on Poor Girl Who Got Behind In Her Studies on Account of Practical Blindness. Work Has Not Stopped, Either.

Last winter, when the enthusiasm of the moonlight school campaign was at its height in Rowan county, Miss Jeanette Bell, an official stenographer, decided to adopt and carry out the slogan, "One for every one." She looked about her in Moorehead, the county seat, for some person who was out of school and could not read or write. In the hotel in which she was living she discovered a pupil, Cordie Wilson, who was working as a chambermaid.

When asked about the work she had done for Cordie Wilson, Miss Bell smiled quietly and said: "It wasn't work at all. It was a pleasure, and a very real pleasure too. You see, Cordie was born in Effott county, and when she was quite young she was almost blind. Of course she did not go to school with



CORDIE WILSON.

the other children, and when her eyes grew better she felt shy about going to school with children so much her junior. This was somewhat accentuated by the fact that she was one of those unfortunate overgrown girls that look almost twice their real age. Today, at fifteen, Cordie looks like seventeen or eighteen.

"At night when her work about the hotel was done she would come to me with her books and pencil and pad and work like a Turk. Naturally I expected it to take her some time to learn to write and read, but in six nights she could write her name easily and knew how to join all her letters into words. In this same time she had also learned to read well enough to cover the first twenty pages in her first reader. Soon after this she left the hotel and did not come to me any more."

Every vital human movement easily becomes both religious and contagious, and the moonlight school seems to prove the rule. Other counties and communities are taking up the work, and it is hoped that the whole state will realize the value of a school for out of school folks.

In 1911 Rowan county decided to strive to get a number of her schools to open their doors for adults who could not read or write. Grown people do not care for a primer or a first reader, so Rowan county launched a paper, THE ROWAN COUNTY SCHOOL MESSENGER, that the pupils might have a real live paper to read. The first column of the paper, dated Sept. 16, 1912, is as follows:

Can we win?

Win what?

Win the first night school prize.

Of course we can. Just watch us try. And watch us WIN!

We are winners, we are!

Watch us grow. Grow what? Everything but weeds.

Our district shall win!

Our division must lead!

Let's all go to school. It is good for us. It will make us young again. It will make us more useful. It may start us on the road to greatness.

All night schools in Rowan county started on Monday evening, Sept. 16.

Each will try to have the largest number enrolled, the best attendance each night and the largest graduating class; also each will try to have the oldest pupil.

Rowan county has the finest building stone in the world.

Rowan county will grow the finest fruit in the world.