Public Schools Threatened

The public schools of the United States are threatened with disaster, according to the National Education Association of the United States, which says that:

(1) 350,000 qualified teachers have left the schools.

(2) 110,000 now teaching do not meet standard qualifications.

(3) 75,000 teaching positions are vacant.

(4) 5,000,000 children are not in school at all.

(5) There are very few college students preparing to teach.

The Association points out that the public school system is in "great distress" and will break down completely unless given greater financial support. It is trying to marshal public opinion to support a bill introduced by eight Senators, four Republicans and four Democrats.

The measure, known as S-472, provides Federal aid in the amount of $250,000,000 a year to assist public schools in the neediest states. It apportions the funds on the basis of need, determined by the number of children and the wealth of a State. It guarantees every child in every school district of every State at least a $40 per year education. It also safeguards local control of public schools and provides for fair distribution of Federal funds in connection with minority races.

The Association, in arguing for the passage of the measure, points out that wealth is unevenly distributed, with the people of the richer States having five times as much income per child as those of the poorer States. It says that much of the wealth created in the nation goes to great manufacturing and business centers and that many States, helping to create the wealth, have no power to tax it for the support of their schools. Only the Federal Government, concludes the Association, has the power to tax wealth wherever it is for the education of children wherever they live.

Somewhat surprising is the assertion that "if some States spent all their normal revenues for education, they could not support their schools as well as the average school of the nation is supported." Consequently, their children will never have the quality of educational opportunity unless the Federal Government helps pay for the school."

In the winter, women wear heavy coats and practically bare legs; in the summer they become bare-er.

Most laws are made to control the lawlessly inclined in our population. So why expect them not to be broken by some of those intended to be controlled?

Trains Cost Money

An illustration of the cost of modern trains comes from an advertisement by the Pennsylvania Railroad, which calls attention to the fact that in 1906 a train of six coaches and a locomotive cost $69,092.

After World War I, the size of trains increased, along with the cost, so that nine steel coaches, a diner and locomotive set the railroads back $257,000. Today's modern overnight coach train consisting of fourteen cars, diner and steam locomotive, requires $1,655,450.

A locomotive in 1906 cost $13,936, in 1922, $43,600 and the present-day locomotive varies in cost from $218,450 for steam-powered models, $320,000 for electric and $625,000 for a 6,000-horsepower Diesel.

We call attention to the cost of a full-sized modern train in order to discourage those who play with model trains from anticipating the purchase of a full-size outfit.

The only way to stop the growth of Communism is to stop it . . . exposing its members and their activities is one way; another is to do what you can to make democracy work better.

Many a person who loudly proclaims that "Honesty is the best policy!" has yet failed to prove it in every act of his own life. What our earth needs is more policy-holders of that conviction.

Economy moves in Congress today suggest that the New Deal's white-whiskered Santa Claus has partially packed his bag and may return to the North Pole for a long hibernation.

Physically, we all end up as a pretty small quantity of dust. Doesn't that suggest that, from the eternal view of life, we ought to pay more attention to our spiritual selves?

The Birmingham Eccentric

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NOTE: The Eccentric is pleased to publish brief contributed material providing it has news value; and suggestions are welcomed. Contributions are usually edited superficially so that they conform to general newspaper style. Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm or corporation which may appear in the columns of The Eccentric will be gladly corrected upon being brought to the attention of the publisher.

Happenings of Long Ago

50 YEARS AGO
1897

Everybody vote on the new school house. Yes or No, so that after the decision is made you can feel that you had your say.

Mrs. John Wilson wants to sell her home in this village. The location is fine for a boarding house or restaurant and someone is going to get a bargain.

A neighboring editor, on reading that a young lady in New York kneads bread with her gloves on, at once gave vent to his feelings in the following: "It is said a New York girl kneads bread with her gloves on, but we do more than that. We need bread with our boots on; and we need bread with our pants on; and if a lot of our subscribers don't soon pay up we'll need bread without anything on."

Warren Brown, the popular young conductor of the Oakland County Railway, it is announced, was married Wednesday evening to Miss Carrie Lee, one of Birmingham's fairest daughters, and who has many friends who will wish the new married couple a long and happy life.

20 YEARS AGO
1927

A new school at Oak street and Chesterfield avenue became more probable Monday night when Village Manager James W. Parry was instructed to prepare maps and diagrams for a pavement 32 feet wide, with curb and gutter, on Oak street from River Rouge to a point some 700 feet west of Chesterfield avenue.

Rev. Warner L. Forsyth, new rector of St. James Episcopal Church, will preach his first sermon in Birmingham Sunday. He will officiate at both the communion at 8 a. m. and the regular services at 11 a. m. The Rev. Forsyth and his family were expected to arrive to take up their residence in the rectory, which has been prepared for their coming.

The parade on Decoration Day brought to light one fact which is quite as significant as anything we can recall. The uniforms of all the soldiers and sailors in the march still fit them, which is actually astonishing in view of the fact that the war was fought and won some years ago, and that man, unless he be unusual, has a tendency, shared, alas, with woman, to become monumental as the years go on.

R. H. Grant, vice-president of the Chevrolet Motor company in charge of sales, today announces the appointment of H. J. Klingler as sales manager. Mr. Klingler was formerly an assistant general sales manager.

5 YEARS AGO
1942

Look for a red hot election here June 8 with the Adams area folks providing the steam. Many of them are dissatisfied with the consolidated junior high school; others are unhappy because the principal was not offered a contract next year. What makes it interesting is that both candidates, Mr. Seaholm and Mr. Mullin, are residents of the Adams district.

Four school records of long standing were tied or shattered by Birmingham's great track team this season. Captain Jack Steelman raced the 220 in 22 seconds flat to tie the mark set by Donaldson in 1934, and at Royal Oak Tuesday he tied the 100-yard dash record set by Collins in 1936, running it in 10.2 seconds.

Fred Zoellin waited most of the season to establish a new pole vault record but chose a dramatic moment when he copped the State title, topping the bar at 11 feet 6¼ inches. Frank Wangberg broke a ten-year-old mile-run record of 4:45 at Royal Oak Tuesday. He is a junior, back next year.

Don Fisher has repeatedly broken his own record and the school's in the shot put, his best distance being 47 feet, 4 inches, and the 880-relay team of Sterling, Murray, Steelman and Peterson broke the Royal Oak track record Tuesday, running it in 1:35.

Dr. J. B. Hassberger parked his car in the rear of the Wabeek building Monday evening. At 3:30 a. m. Tuesday it was recovered in Detroit, minus only a flashlight.

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

Default having been made in the performance of the conditions of the mortgage made by Roseland Park Realty & Investment Company, a Michigan corporation, to The Mortgage and Contract Company, a Michigan corporation, dated February 28, 1944, recorded March 2, 1944, in Liber 1607, pages 79-82, Oakland County, Michigan, Records, which mortgage was assigned by The Mortgage and Contract Company by New York Life Insurance Company, a New York corporation, by assignment dated September 1, 1944, recorded September 15, 1944, in Liber 1678, pages, 91-92 Oakland County, Michigan, Records, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due on the date of this notice the sum of five thousand thirty-two and 59/100 dollars ($5,032.59) and the attorney's fee provided by law.

Notice is hereby given, that by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, on Monday, June 9, 1947, at 12 o'clock noon, Eastern Standard Time, the undersigned will, at the Easterly or Saginaw Street entrance to the County Building, Pontiac, Michigan, that being the place where the Circuit Court for the County of Oakland is held, cause to be sold at public auction to the highest bidder the premises covered by said mortgage and hereinafter described, or so much thereof as may be necessary to pay the amount due as aforesaid due on and secured by said mortgage and any additional amount due thereon and secured thereby at the time of said sale, including interest at the rate of four and one-half per cent (4½%) per annum and all lawful costs.

The premises to be sold are described as follows:

Lot two hundred twenty-nine (229) and the south one-half of lot two hundred thirty (230) of McGiverin-Haldeman's Berkley Subdivision, of the east one-half (½) of the west one-half (½) of the southeast one-quarter (¼) of Section seven (7), Town one (1) North, Range eleven (11) East, according to the plat thereof recorded in Liber 34 of Plats, page 2, Oakland County Records, situated in the City of Berkley, Oakland County, Michigan.

Dated March 7, 1947.

NEW YORK LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY,
Mortgagee.

VOORHIES, LONG, RYAN and McNAIR,
Attorneys for Mortgagee,
2046 Penobscot Building,
Detroit, Michigan. 51-52-11

Sending a Boy to Do a Man's Work

People's Column

May 21, 1947

To the Editor:

Southern Oakland County business firms, being peculiarly vulnerable because of having manually operated telephones, have lost thousands of dollars worth of business because of the telephone operators' strike just ended. It could and probably will happen again.

Why don't you, through The Eccentric, advocate the immediate formation of a business men's committee to study measures to be taken to combat the situation if and when it arises again?

I am making a similar suggestion to the editor of the Royal Oak Daily Tribune.

JAMES C. GRAY
259 S. Woodward

Something to sell? Then try Eccentric Want Ads.

Invite Birmingham Residents to Join Washington Trip

The Plymouth Rock Lodge No. 47 of Plymouth, Mich., has invited any Birminghamite on a specially arranged four-day trip to Washington, D. C., Philadelphia and New York City, from Wednesday, June 18, at 6 p. m., to Sunday, June 22, at 11:30 p. m.

The Lodge originally arranged the trip for Plymouth residents, on a cost basis, through the cooperation of the Pere Marquette railroad, and have secured a special private eight-car train and arranged for 250 reservations at the Ambassador Hotel in Washington and the New Yorker Hotel in New York City.

The trip is primarily of an educational nature and is called a "family affair," similar to an educational tour to Washington which was well attended by Plymouth residents last year. Reservations may be made through Oscar E. Alsbro, Lodge Secretary, at 999 Penniman Avenue, Plymouth.

THE ECCENTRIC'S Camera Corner

J. McQuade

PICTURE OF THE WEEK. Concentration and suspense are written all over this young bubble blower. That plus the excellent lighting and camera angle are what mark it as an outstanding picture that you will look at time and again and not just another quick kid shot for the family album. Taken with a Leica on Superpan Supreme film. The exposure was 1/200 second at f 9.

Confronted with the hundred and one types and brands of film that he can buy for his camera, the beginner is apt to throw up his hands in despair and mutter, "Just gimme some film." After all, he merely wants to take a picture of the kids for the family album.

Wrong attitude, of course, but understandable. You do want good pictures, and the purpose of this column is to help you get more fun from photography by getting better pictures.

Everyone with a normal quota of curiosity has at some time taken a peak at undeveloped film. On one side of the transparent support is a smooth, creamy, yellow coating; on the other side is a dye, either blue-green or red. It's that yellowish coating (the emulsion) that does the trick. In it are suspended millions of tiny crystals of silver bromide, so sensitive to ligh that they turn black after exposure and development, the way they look on your negatives.

Dye Absorbs Surplus Light

That dyed gelatin coating on the back (antihalation backing) simply absorbs light that gets through the emulsion during exposure and keeps it from bouncing around and raising ned with the silver bromide crystals. The dye is decolorized during development.

Now for the two main types of black and white film that you will be interested in—orthochromatic and panchromatic. Sounds awful, but it isn't. Orthochromatic just means "true color" although that is a kind of misnomer because it is blind to red. It doesn't "see" red, and that is why you can use a dim red light in your darkroom when developing orthochromatic film. Panchromatic means "all color" and films of that type are sensitive to the whole spectrum, often more sensitive to red than your naked eye.

You can tell "ortho" films usually by the "chrome" in the trade name (as Plenachrome and Verichrome). They are excellent for general outdoor picture-taking and for night photography with photoflash. But, of course, anything red (ruby lips, sunburn and freckles, for instance) will show up darker in the print than it looks to the eye.

Uses of "Pan" Films

"Pan" film—Supreme, Superpan Press and Super XX are examples—give the widest color response and the most natural looking rendition of color in terms of black-and-white tones (which is all black and white photography is). They are particularly valuable for indoor work with artificial lights and under not-so-good light conditions outdoors. It's also best for close-ups of women and other types of pictures where reds should not record as a dark tone.

The important thing is to stick to one type ("ortho" preferably for the beginner) until you know what it does and what you can expect under a variety of conditions.

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