

Why Not Use Our School Buildings Year-Around?

How can the American people obtain greater returns from the investment they now have in their public school educational plants all over this nation?

It is admitted today that there is a crying need for more schools and more teachers. This is because our youth population has increased tremendously, also that more young men and women are going to college.

There are two elements to the cost of education. One relates to the buildings themselves, in which the taxpayers have a gigantic investment. The other is the salary schedule for the faculties.

YET, BY AND LARGE, our public schools and colleges operate on an average nine and one-half month schedule. This means that thousands of buildings lie idle

during summer vacation months, while so many teachers are finding it necessary to get summer jobs to supplement their school salaries.

Currently, in Michigan, some of our educators and legislators are discussing the year-around use of the school and college systems.

We agree that such a pattern is worth deep consideration by all concerned.

IT WOULD RETURN more in value from the buildings. It would provide teachers with increased annual salaries. It would result in having to build fewer new buildings.

Here, definitely, is a practical challenge to our educators and our lawmakers.

An understanding and cooperative citizenry, too, will help in solving the problem.

Why People Honestly Disagree

Proof of the fact that there is an honest and rightful place for differences of opinion between people may be pin-pointed in President Eisenhower and his old and dear friend Gen. Mark W. Clark.

The latter recently criticized the United Nations, holding that it is not a workable organization, and suggesting that the free world ought to leave UN and set up one of its own.

The President heartily disagreed with

Gen. Clark, arguing that the present UN is better than none at all; that patience is needed by the free world in the hope that the Communists will some day decide to become honest and humane, dedicated to the cause of peace.

(The same inherent tendency of differing opinion between human beings causes one to be a Democrat, or a Republican, or to like spinach and others not. We should never forget, either, that freedom includes the right of people to differ.)

Commies Support "Liberal Leftists"

The Communist Party's National Committee recently briefed over one hundred delegates from twenty-four states on their role in the coming elections. The idea is for these delegates to work for candidates, irrespective of their Party loyalty, who favor co-existence with the Soviet Union.

The delegates were told to support candidates who believed in further negotiations with the Soviet Union, those who favored United Nations membership for Red China, and expansion of trade between the West and the Communist world.

THE COMMUNISTS — evidently abandoning hope of building any strength in Congress — will now concentrate on supporting candidates who come closest to

their foreign policy proposals.

It is obvious that the Communists have failed to build a party of significance in the United States in recent years. They are sure to fail in their efforts to influence U. S. policy by supporting candidates closest to their views.

In fact, this policy will result in the kiss of death for those candidates supported by the Communists.

In most areas of the country, endorsement by the Communist Party would be tantamount to sure defeat, and, therefore, we believe the Communists will have no more success in this line than they have had in trying to build a party strong enough to be represented in Congress.

Average U.S. Family Is Saving Money

An encouraging economic factor is the latest report of both the Government and life-insurance companies, which shows that savings are continuing to increase. Figures released recently indicate that Americans are putting up as much, or more, money this year than they did in 1953.

These savings go into U. S. savings bonds, into life insurance, bank deposits and other forms of savings.

The U. S. Treasury reports that in the first six months of 1954 it sold thirteen per cent more "E" and "H" savings bonds than it had in the first six months of 1953 — a boom year. The Institute of Life Insurance has reported record purchases of new policies in the same period.

IT IS ALSO reported that accident and health insurance policy purchases are higher this year than in 1953. The significance of these increases is to be seen when it is realized that total personal income in the United States is definitely down from the record total of 1953.

The combined effect of these statistics shows clearly that the average American is hedging for a rainy day, and increasingly turning his attention to the future and his future security.

In spite of the fact that there is more job security and Government-aid in this field than ever before, Americans are increasing their savings even while the nation's personal income total decreases slightly.

From The Eccentric's Point of View . . .

Just as President Eisenhower was about to sign the new Farm Bill, ink spurted from his pen, got all over his fingers, and sprinkled the document itself. Could it have been some kind of a pen being introduced in U. S. post offices, to take the place of those traditional inkless ones?

Birmingham, indeed all of southern Oakland County, faces a problem in getting sufficient water to meet the needs of its citizens. The rapid growth of this area already has proved that each community cannot depend upon deep wells for its

water source. The alternative is either to buy water from Detroit, or band together to get water from Lake Huron or Lake St. Clair. This problem now is being studied by officials of the various Oakland county communities.

It is reported by scientists that the continent of North America is moving away from Europe at the rate of 12 inches each year. Some U. S. citizens feel that the distance should be much greater, at a more rapid rate.

Too many folks apparently believe that money was made merely to spend — forgetting that it also was intended to be worked hard for to get.

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He'd Better Learn to Read



HORSE SENSE AND NONSENSE

BY ALICE E. MORGAN

It's the time of year again when a lot of housewives can start looking around for some really different materials to decorate their homes during the long winter months.

Whenever the open door calls the family out for a drive an interesting project of "looking for bouquets" can be inaugurated.

Along many a country road, ditches provide a whole series of choices for home decorations. Trazzle, those spiky looking "thistles" make ideal eye-catchers for tall vases by the fireplace. They take to sprigging in bright colors like a duck takes to water. Their spiny heads and angular lines do much to brighten a den or game room corner.

CATTAILS, either plain or sprayed, are attractive, too. They are slender and give a pleasing, tall, sleek line.

In the meadows and meadows there are the white heads of "ever-lasting"; the same aromatic weed our grandmothers loved to stuff sofa pillows with.

In a squat, fat vase of dark but not too dark, blue, white blossoms and silvery foliage are fine for mantels, book cases, and wide windowsills.

Along the fences on many a country road the bright orange clusters of "bittersweet" look. Cascading down the side of the vase and over the edge of a mantle they have a beauty all their own and provide a bright lot of color for the darker months ahead.

ROADSIDE stands, as well as our own gardens, offer the variety of shape and color from the ground

These odd little "characters" come in a number of sizes and shapes. Some present a solid color, usually in yellow, orange, white or others are mottled, combining the

ONE THING OR ANOTHER

By George Wm. Averill

Oakland County Clerk Lynn Allen, a member of long standing in that fraternity devoted to catching the elusive trout, came home from his Labor Day weekend at his Au Sable cabin with a story about a chain of fishy circumstances.

"I was fishing in a small trout which had grabbed the fly when I saw something else hit the line," Allen related. "Some minutes later I found out what — on the end of my line I now had a 61-pound northern pike which had decided to make a meal of my small trout."

It's quite a problem these days to tell high school boys and girls apart. The way I do it is to see who is wearing the lipstick.

Several dozen mothers in the area south of 14 Mile and east of Southfield are ready at a moment's notice to form a human barricade across Southfield at 13 1/2 Mile in order to see their children safely to and from newly opened Beverly elementary school.

As early as last February, Malcolm Ferguson, then principal at Pierce and who was going to be Beverly's chief administrative officer, initiated negotiations with Southfield township and Oakland county authorities for some sort of reliable traffic control.

BUT WHEN SCHOOL OPENED last week, Southfield township police officers Milt Sackett and William Reed found themselves working at a five-way intersection with cars, kids and confusion.

Meanwhile, school and township authorities were at odds over whose responsibility it is to provide the protection, which now seems to include a traffic signal as well as an adult supervisor of crossings.

Comments of these two mothers in that area are typical of the feelings of women in that area:

Mrs. Claude Whipple, 17331 Beechwood,

whose son, Kenney, attended Pierce last year, now is in 2nd grade at Beverly: "We definitely need a light at Beverly and Southfield for the protection of 300 children who have to cross Southfield."

"We feel the light should be erected immediately or guarantee us police protection for the safety of the children until the time the light is working."

"**IT TOOK QUITE** a while to erect the 14 Mile light, and there isn't as much need for that one as there is for the Southfield light. Also, no speed limit signs or school crossing warning signs are yet in evidence."

And Mrs. William Slocum, 17428 Beechwood, whose son Marshall is a classmate of Kenney Whipple, and who will have a brother Chris, I. attending Beverly next year: "I can't understand why they would go ahead and build a school without seeing that adequate safety facilities also were provided. I think a child's life is worth considerably more than the cost of erecting a light."

THERE IS A GREAT deal of attention focused these days on "how-to-do-it-yourself". It seems that a more practical approach to protect one's desires is "how-to-do-it-without-it" — overburdened pocketbook would be re-emphasis of the trend to "do without."

Everyone can be classified as a responsible person even though it only is for discrepancies.

In Birmingham, the fire department has been criticized for rescuing people before tackling the fire. In nearby Roseville, firemen were censured for starting on the fire before rescue operations were carried out.

Does this pressure future generations of two-headed humans?

Folders - - - ?

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Happenings of Long Ago

Bits of News Cleared From Old Files Of The Eccentric — The Items That Make Up The Historical Background Of The Birmingham Of Today.

50 YEARS AGO

September 18, 1904

Walter Donaldson, a young son of John Donaldson, who lives at the corner of 1st and 1st, met with a painful accident Saturday last. The boy led one of his stall farm horses out to a trough to water and the horse, being unaccustomed to the trough, reared and fell over the boy's head, crushing him.

Ex-Sheriff R. D. Belt is a candidate for the office of Sheriff of Oakland County.

At the Republican convention of 12th senatorial district held at Rochester the first of the month, Representative Thaddeus D. Seelye of Bloomfield township, was elected candidate for honors this coming November.

Theron Smith has purchased a building lot of San Mills at Pine Lake. He will build a cottage for next summer's use.

A. H. Porter, our farmer supervisor, showed us recently the first specimen of a potato we have ever seen, and it had a history too. It was raised from a Cuban potato planted early last spring, not the first crop, but a product of the first crop, making it a second crop potato, and raised in Michigan. Do you get that through your head? From this experiment it would seem that Porter could raise three crops of potatoes in one season is he wished to.

30 YEARS AGO

Sept. 12, 1924

Determined to prove to every resident within the trading territory of Birmingham that local stores can offer real merchandise at a great saving to shoppers, practically every merchant in this village has combined to stage a "Big Sale" on Thursday, Sept. 18. It will be the first fair of its kind ever put out by Birmingham business men.

Prizes have been awarded the young gardeners who, under the supervision of the community house board, have cultivated the

community house this summer. Four prizes were given with the young gardeners divided in two classes. Kent Gillespie was awarded the first prize and Bobby Marshall the second prize in the first class who started their gardens early in the season.

Dr. and Mrs. George P. Raynolds of Trout Lake and Boston, Mass. left last Sunday for Wyoming. The object of their trip was to be a horseback trip through Yellowstone National Park.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Smith and their children Evelyn and Harry from Vassar, were last weekend guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Hazzard of North Woodward avenue.

15 YEARS AGO

September 11, 1939

Cranbrook school for Boys will open its fall term on Wednesday, Sept. 20. An enrollment of 250 boys from 16 states is expected, from as far west as Texas and Oklahoma.

George F. Ford, son of Oscar L. Ford of 824 Wabash drive, has been awarded a freshman competitive scholarship by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Birmingham has had a postmaster for the past 115 years. Originally the office here was known as "Bloomfield." In 1818 the present name was conferred on the office. Sidney Dole, appointed March 24, 1821, by President James Monroe, has the honor of being the town's first postmaster. He was followed by Ezra S. Parks, appointed in 1826 by President John Q. Adams.

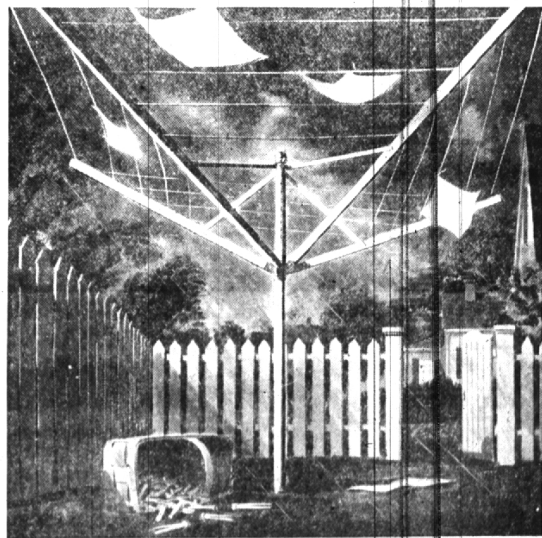
One lane of Hunter boulevard, the new super-highway by-pass around Birmingham's business section, has been opened to traffic.

right-of-way, was used for the first time Wednesday afternoon when northbound through traffic was routed on that thoroughfare.

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