

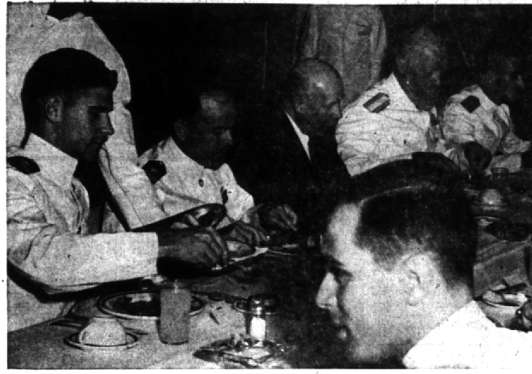
Beyond the control of erring and unpredictable mankind, our seasons come and go right now, as autumn leads itself into winter, our days are getting shorter . . . and our earth continues its perpetual whirling orbit around the less warming sun. Who but Divine Providence could so order season!

**berlitz** school of languages  
Birmingham

WHY HAS BERLITZ ATTRACTED SO MANY PERSONS IN THIS AREA?

1. Some wanted to travel!
2. Some wanted to develop a new skill!
3. Some could READ a language but wanted to SPEAK it (now we can't stop them from talking)
4. Some were linguists but wanted to brush up or explore new fields
5. Some wanted to have fun (they did)

MI 4-9200 or WO 2-7788  
FRENCH SPANISH GERMAN ITALIAN PORTUGUESE



**Dines With Secretary of Navy**

WHEN SECRETARY of the Navy Robert L. Anderson and Vice-Admiral Robert M. Pearie, commander of the sixth fleet in the Mediterranean, visited the USS Intrepid, Ensign Howard L. Parker, Jr., the youngest and newest ensign on board, was among those invited to attend a dinner in their honor. Parker, son of Mrs. M. M. Parker, 2822 East Dorchester, was commissioned in June at Yale university after receiving his BS degree in engineering. Left to right, above, are Parker, Cmdr. Raphael G. Semmes, the ship's executive officer, Anderson and Pearie. The Intrepid has since left the Mediterranean, returning to the states for overhauling at Brooklyn Navy yard, where it will remain until April.

**First Appeared the Hole . . .**

AWAY FROM the road amongst stately oaks, elms and maples nestles an attractive white ranch home. The proud and happy owners are Mr. and Mrs. August Brendel, 5675 Beech road. Years ago a dream was born by this courageous couple, to build a home with their own hands—a home of which they could be proud. The first milestone was in 1951, when they came upon an ideal setting that soon became a hole in the ground.



**. . . Then Construction Began**

TRIALS AND tribulations followed. During the first year Mr. Brendel fell from a ladder injuring his back and a year passed before work could be resumed. The Brendels' only help was a book on building and current magazines. Each phase of the construction was a challenge, discouraging at times, but they always looked toward the day when the home would be completed.



**. . . And Now It's a Home**

THE SPACIOUS dwelling is 62 by 28 feet, excluding the double garage. The exterior is of white pine, with a planter of Tennessee ledge rock. The attractive interior is of oak paneling with the highlight of the living room being a huge island fireplace of ledge rock. The Brendels are now beautifying the grounds with rock gardens and attractive plantings. The dream home is now a reality.



AFTER GLIMPING a phrase or series of words flashed on a screen by the tachistoscope operated here by instructor Harold VanDragt, a member of the reading improvement group will be asked to repeat what he saw. Participating in the reading exercises at Birmingham high school are (from left) Bev Ford, Judy Krempa and René Mouthrop

**Reading Service Helps High School Students**

EDITOR'S NOTE: Three years ago a class in reading improvement began at Birmingham high school, with eight students enrolled for instruction after school hours. Now about 100 students are enrolled in a reading improvement class held during the regular school day. Harold VanDragt, who formerly taught reading improvement to college students, instructs the course here. He describes the methods by which the Birmingham high school students are learning to improve their reading speed and comprehension.

By HAROLD VANDRAGT

Much has been written in newspapers during the past two years about "Johnny's" ability to read. Attacks have been made on the schools and their methods of teaching reading. But before this attack began, Birmingham had initiated in its high school a program to aid students with their reading problems. This program was not hastily organized as a defense against an attack, but as another service the school could offer its students. The program is now a part of the curriculum.

Each semester more students utilize the reading improvement service, a class for students who wish to improve their reading and study habits.

IT IS NOT A clinic where the work is presented on an individual basis. Nor is it a remedial reading class where phonics or word-recognition methods of reading are taught. Instead, it is an optional course for reading improvement, and students are not labelled as retarded readers by their classmates. Because most students wish to increase their reading rate, considerable time is devoted to this problem. The tachistoscope pictured above is used to increase eye span by flashing phrases, whole sentences and series of numbers before the class for one-hundredth of a second.

Students are called upon to repeat the items flashed on the screen. Because they don't have time to move their eyes from left to right, they learn to see the whole image in a single glance. Reading accelerators and pacers which move down the pages also increase reading speed.

LESSONS TO INCREASE comprehension include word study, proper use of various parts of a book, chapter study techniques and aids to concentration. To learn new words, students follow a series of steps, first looking at the word, then pronouncing, writing, tracing and using the word.

Techniques are offered to promote effective reading of newspapers, poems, graphs and mathematical problems, if students wish. After several weeks in which seven or eight lessons are given, students are free to work on their individual problems.

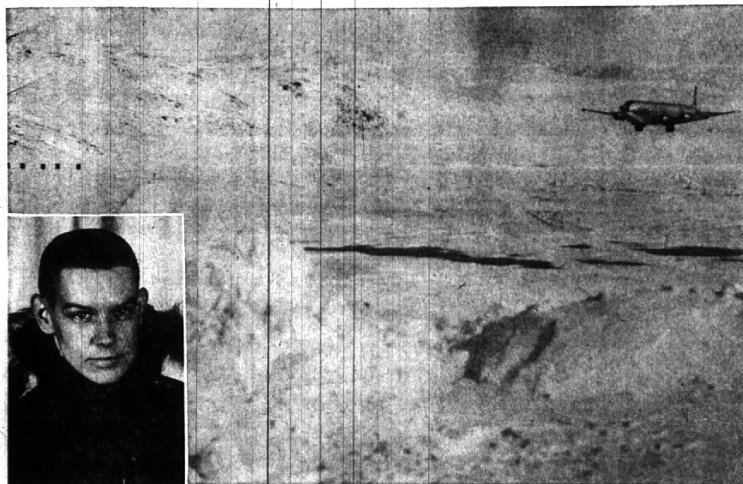


READING IMPROVEMENT class members enjoy helping their classmates by checking readers' eye movements in a mirror. Here Dick Hubbard (right) holds a small mirror to watch Tom McDaniel as he reads; Dick will call any stopping to focus on a word, re-reading, or pauses to Tom's attention.

BOTH STUDENTS and other teachers exhibit enthusiasm over the program. Students are encouraged by better grades earned through ability to read better and study more efficiently. Reading class members watch their progress with great interest. Since school began in September, Gail Christie has amazed her classmates by increasing her speed from 600 words a minute to 2,000 words a minute, with 100 per cent comprehension.

According to one test, the average American high school senior reads at about 250 words per minute. Carol Peck brought her reading rate from 300 to 400 words per minute since September. At the same time, tests show her comprehension is up 45 per cent, revealing that she was reading too slowly and her mind was wandering. Other examples of improved reading rates this fall include Mary Blackley, who increased from 250 to 450 words per minute; Sally Hanson, 450 to 550; Judy Walker, 340 to 480, and Michael Madeleine, 190 to 300.

The 1954 Oakland County harvest included 31,000 acres of corn, 29,000 acres of grain, 38,000 acres of hay, and 3800 acres of other field crops, reports the Oakland County Planning Commission.



**Assists in Air Drops at South Pole**

A 2/c WILLIAM E. LAWRENCE, son of Mrs. E. C. Lawrence, 340 Ferndale, Birmingham, is in New Zealand preparing to support first Air Force airdrops at the South Pole in connection with Operation Deepfreeze. Airman Lawrence, a 63rd troop carrier wing aircraft mechanic, is participating in

the operation in which 18th Air Force giant C-124 Globemasters will airdrop about 500 tons of equipment, buildings and supplies to be used for an international geophysical year scientific station to house 25 people for a year. Airman Lawrence has been in the Air Force 14 months.

**Jolly Jingles**  
for happy holidays



Bells will jingle with every step in these little or no iron cotton playtogs trimmed with multicolor bright tabs. The white broadcloth shirt or puff-sleeve blouse may be coordinated to make a complete ensemble.

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