

# FOR AND ABOUT TODAY'S YOUTH

MARTHA V. HURD, TODAY'S YOUTH EDITOR

## As Others See Us

By MARIT MAAREN  
From Soudford, Norway, Marit attends Birmingham high school. She is the youngest of Mr. and Mrs. T. Hollister Mabley of Birmingham.

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These are the reactions to American life, of the American Field Service exchange students in Birmingham area schools.

Spring has really come now. When I went out two days I saw the first little flower sticking up through the old leaves. The sun is shining so nice. I just love this kind of weather! Back home, in Soudford, Norway, they still have much snow and cold weather.

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During Easter we always go in the mountains for about 10 days and we ski every day. I should see the beautiful mountains there we ski. It is just white as far as your eye can see.

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THIS EASTER, in America, will always be unforgettable, that's for sure.

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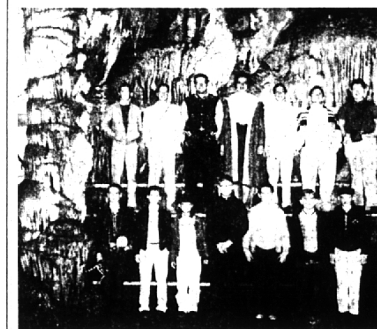
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# Desire for Recognition Is Cause of Delinquency



Visit Virginia Caverns

Cranbrook school students pose with their chaperones, Mr. and Mrs. Peter DeWitt (center, top row) in the Caverns of Luray, Va., while on their annual spring trip to Virginia. The DeWitts live at 13 Faculty Row, Bloomfield Hills.

## Girl Smokers Outnumber Boys In Senior Class

By J. J. MYERS  
Birmingham High School Swimming Coach

"I believe that in this high school there are more girls than boys who smoke."

That confident statement was recently made by a social studies teacher in Birmingham high. The young ladies in the class took issue. The ensuing discussion led to a survey conducted by the class to determine the facts. Using the medium of un-biased questionnaires, 1311 students were interviewed—with interesting results.

The most significant finding, to me, was that 63% of the senior girls claimed they smoked and 57% of the senior boys said they smoked. Most of these girls said they smoked because "it's the thing to do." Most of the boys insisted that they enjoyed it and that was the reason they smoked.

AN OBJECTIVE observer, however, might ponder both of these reasons and wonder if the young folks really know why they are smoking at such a "tender age."

Could it be the results of a lengthy, intensive and incredibly expensive advertising campaign? None of the youngsters, and not many adults, can recall the days when a lady was of very sad repute indeed if she was ever seen smoking a cigarette. There was a day, also, when no gentleman would smoke a cigarette because that would immediately classify him with the pool hall and saloon crowd.

IN THE 1920'S, however, a great campaign was started to bring about social acceptance of cigarettes. Immediately, advertisers placed cigarettes in the hands and between the lips of well dressed, usually young, men. Soon they began to place a lady in the picture who was not at all horrified to find this nice looking man smoking in her presence. Then the lady was moved closer and seemed to admire this fine young man's smoking. The next step was drastic—to get the young lady also smoking. A genius was at work, and he came up with, "Reach for a Lucky instead of a sweet." It worked.

SMOKE AND stay slender! Eat sweets and be obese! The lady, young and beautiful, was now actually smoking and for such a good reason, too!

Yesterday's young and beautiful ladies are today's mothers and grandmothers and they stay slender by reaching for a smoke instead of a sweet. If mother and grandmother smoke, there can be nothing wrong in it for daughter, who starts very young, indeed, now.

To this observer, for good or for bad, some advertising has drastically changed our morals and mores—or so it would appear!

## Babbling May Mean 'Music, Mama, Please'

In music, the most important development takes place in the babbling age of childhood, between two and four, says Ross Lee Finney, composer in residence in the University of Michigan school of music.

"We are likely to think of creative imagination as developing later in the child's education experience," he says. "But at the tender age of two or three, children often find their creative imagination frustrated by lack of parental understanding."

Professor Finney points out that "we exaggerate verbal learning at this early age and neglect the child's experiments with pitch and time and space—the substances of other human expressions."

"The parent is annoyed by child's experiments in lead and soft and high and low—the very life substance of music—but when the child says 'mama' or 'papa'—when the first verbal association is made—the parent is delighted."

"MANY A CHILD has been so conditioned before he starts school, that he has a feeling that musical 'language' is somehow naughty or funny, and not infrequently the whole musical training in school is built upon this inadequate foundation."

"The child is able to verbalize

## Up-in-Arms

TEEN PAGE PANEL  
The teenager of today is no different from the teenager of yesterday and yet it seems the problem of delinquency gets worse every day. The teen page panel has tried to pinpoint some of the problems and seek their solutions. Stealing, damaging property, disrespect to elders and lack of a desire to make the most of educational opportunities are some of the more outstanding present-day problems.

The panel members came to the conclusion that the behavior of a teenager reflects on his parents and his environment. Neglect of the teenager by his parents of the non-caring or "too busy" attitude causes the adolescent to seek his own ways of recognition.

IN MANY CASES, the teenager has not been taught (properly) the difference between right and wrong, a good constructive attitude towards life, and a sense of responsibility to his family and his community.

Many parents complain: "But we can't control our teenager!" The panel felt that this type of parent had better start soon, because if he doesn't—the police will.

A PLANNED family relationship, we feel, can help this unfortunate situation. Doing things as a family in the European custom, such as: going to church regularly, taking trips, and other pleasant things together makes a family more united and produces a feeling of sharing.

A suggested solution was intramural services which would help to keep the teenager busy as well as interested and develops coordination and team spirit. They want to see to all school activities of interest to each particular individual and to many opportunities for every interested and able student.

IF SEEMS, however, the faculties of present-day schools are assuming "much authority" over the students. This has led to a feeling of a need to revolt on the part of the teenager. He wants to be considered in the manner in which he is being governed.

Our panel decided that a true spirit of cooperation between the school authorities and the students would prove more effective than concerned. This also proves true in family relationships.

IN OUR OPINION, the teenager of today is not solely to blame for his misbehavior. It is a problem all should consider seriously—parents, school authorities, yes, even teen-agers themselves. All should work together with understanding and strong guidance in the home and at school.

This will lay a sound foundation for the development of well-rounded, mature and useful members of the community.

Do you have a question your Teen Panel can work on? Write it down, sign your name and address, the school you attend, and send to: TODAY'S YOUTH EDITOR, c/o The Birmingham Eccentric, Birmingham, Mich.

The Teen Panel will deliberate the question, and the answer will appear shortly thereafter in these columns.

about art and perhaps even get excited about the recreational activity of doing. He has built up restraints that prevent his becoming emotionally involved.

"Having denied the baby his normal experiment with musical 'language,' having discouraged in adolescent years a creative study of musical substance, we then hope, often too late, for creative imagination, late maturity."

SAYS PROFESSOR Finney, "An administrator of a fine scientific institution once bewailed to me the fact that the chemist (to take one example) is the creator for mature assemblage of his adolescent days during his undergraduate studies and at the time in his doctoral work when such imagination was most needed it seemed no longer to be there."

"It is possible that states that allow no outlet for creative imagination dull the student's vision and prepare him poorly for mature contribution? However that may be, I am sure that no curriculum in music that neglects the experience of emotional involvement in the learning of craft will succeed in stimulating creative imagination," he concludes.

## 'Betweeners' Active Around the House

This is the third in a series on problems of the "betweeners" young people between children's and adolescence, between elementary and high school. The author is associate professor in the department of vocational education at Michigan State University.

By DR. MARY LEE HURT

Seventh and eighth graders are more enthusiastic about helping at home than their older brothers and sisters whose friends and interests are beginning to take them out of the home more of the time.

A survey of this age group in three Michigan communities showed "betweeners" to be active and ambitious helpers at home.

They listed such activities as dusting, furniture, washing and waxing floors, using the vacuum cleaner, making beds and helping when someone was ill.

home to remove conditions which would cause accidents.

Next week: Getting Along with People.

THEY SAID they took care of their own rooms and their own clothes and did a lot of garden and lawn work.

Some families depend upon their young people to assume considerable responsibility in helping with the cleaning and care of the house—especially when the mother works outside the home.

Girls show an interest in flowers and plants and the boys enjoy doing garden and lawn work outdoors. "Betweeners" take seriously their responsibilities in preventing accidents at home.

Parents and teachers might plan some learning experiences for young adolescents anxious to share responsibilities at home.

They could put on demonstration to show how to make a bed so all the covers will stay in, and explain how to care for the vacuum cleaner and to check over the

## Smile-A-Minute

Sonny—Daddy, do you think Job ever had stone bruises on his heels?

Daddy—No, son, I don't suppose he did.

Sonny—Gee, Daddy, he didn't now anything about suffering, did he?

The nickname "Leathernecks" or "U. S. Marines" came from a black leather stock issued as part of the early uniform. It was designed to protect a fighter's throat from the sweep of a knife.

### Tadpole Corner

Interesting News from Gleaned from Our Elementary School Newspapers

The following three Aerostics are a result of a discussion on Johnny Appleseed in Room 31 at Pierce School:

How he lived of nature, Off to the hills, How he loved so little No one knows still, Never harmed a creature Yes, a man of good will, And people love him still, Paddling along in his canoe, Planting appleseeds in every clear spot.

Little by little the appleseeds grew, Everybody got an apple to eat, See Johnny had a lot of fun, Eating apples and planting trees.

Every bite had vitamins in it, Delicious they tasted, too! —By SUSAN WREATHLEY

A man of great strength, People beloved him, Person to person he met