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in view of russia's apparent development of its youth toward scientific studies, should U. S. schools curtail students' freedom to select subjects, and require more students to take scientific subjects?



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FOR AND ABOUT TODAY'S YOUTH

MARTHA V. HURD, TODAY'S YOUTH EDITOR

Lots of Young Acting Talent In Metro Area

By GRANVILLE RYAN

Greater Detroit is loaded with teenage acting talent. I discovered this situation two years ago when Don Blomquist and I began production of "Youth Bureau" over WXYZ-TV.

The chief objection to the show had been that it would be impossible to find youngsters who could reenact the parts of juvenile delinquents. When it came to re-enacting our first show, I was ready to agree with our detractors. There seemed to be no ready source for talent.

THEN CAME the "break." I was in the office of the Youth Bureau headquarters at 12th Street and Grand River in Detroit when a big, tough-looking kid walked by.

"Now, there's a perfect type for our show," I yelled to my partner. "Let's follow him!"

We did just that and found that he lived around the corner from the police bureau. I lost no time in meeting him and his family.

He was the first boy signed to play a part on "Youth Bureau" and he seemed to bring us more than our share of good luck.

ABOUT A YEAR later we were able to return the favor. Our first boy "actor" had not had steady employment for a long time due to illness. Although he was not able to do heavy factory work, I knew there were other kinds of jobs he could do and do well.

I sent him to see a friend of mine at WXYZ and, on my recommendation, he was given a job.

When he went to work, he still was wearing his hair in a long, duck-tailed cut and dressed like a kid in a dead-end movie. I saw him six weeks later and he was amazed to see he had a crew cut and his clothes had the traditional style of Madison Avenue.

The transition was complete: the ex-factory worker was now in the television industry. He was a TV man! That took place over a year ago and he's still with WXYZ and does well.

After the success of our first "Youth Bureau" telecast, we no longer had to worry about "actors." Boys descended on our office in the Fox Building in droves. They became such a familiar sight in our building that, if they seemed lost, the elevator operators would direct them to suite 917 for TV casting.

Of course, not all of these youngsters could act, but we use a competitive try-out system and we have been pleasantly surprised by those who can.

If you have watched "Youth Bureau," you know what I mean when I say acting talent among teenagers in Detroit is plentiful. And these kids can play a wide range of roles—they are not limited to type-casting.

Some day Hollywood will announce that several new young stars have burst into the TV movie firmament. My prediction is that they will hail from here, chances are good they received their start in show business on a TV show called "Youth Bureau."

THE FIFTH year of high school, the teacher takes her class on a two-week trip. I was fortunate enough to go with the German sister's class to the Black Forest. There we swam, biked, visited old castles, and sang folk songs in the evenings. I had the wonderful experience of meeting and talking with the 42 girls in the class.

Elvis Presley and Harry Belafonte are just a few of the names of the young people starting dating so late, they aren't as socially mature as American teenagers.

THE FAMILY life is very important, and the father is the true ruler of the house, although he isn't a dictator. An example of this occurred when we were hiking in the Alps. My German father insisted on leading the way even though he walked slower than the rest of us. We weren't even allowed to walk along side him.

German people are more affectionate than Americans. It is not uncommon for the mother and dad to hold their child's hand when they walk, even if that child is 10.

Girls usually hold hands when they walk, too.

For entertainment in the evening, we usually went for long walks by the Danube River, visited a little cafe, or stayed home and talked. Swimming is a very popular sport in Germany.

Birmingham's Buying These Top Ten

Compiled Each Week from Sales of Birmingham's Three Leading Record Shops
Reported by Carl Reynolds
Bham High School Senior

1. At the Hop Danny and the Juniors
 2. Waitin' in School Ricky Nelson
 3. Great Balls of Fire Jerry Lee Lewis
 4. Kisses Sweeter Than Wine Jimmy Rodgers
 5. Raunchy Bill Justis
 6. Oh Boy The Crickets
 7. April Love Pat Boone
 8. Peggy Sue Buddy Holly
 9. Sail on Silvery Moon Billy Vaughn
 10. Put a Light in the Window The Four Lads
- Up and Coming Discs:**
1. No Love Johnny Mathis
 2. You're the Greatest Billy Scott
- Detroit Area's Top Ten**
1. April Love Pat Boone
 2. Kisses Sweeter Than Wine Jimmy Rodgers
 3. You Send Me Sam Cooke
 4. Sail on Silvery Moon Billy Vaughn
 5. All the Way Frank Sinatra
 6. If I Can Help Somebody Billy Eckstine
 7. Put a Light in the Window The Four Lads
 8. Melodie D'Amour The Ames Brothers
 9. No Love Johnny Mathis
 10. Ivy Rose Perry Como

THE FINAL point which the panel thought was probably the most important factor in catching up with the Russian scientific development was the teaching situation in the United States. We need good teachers. If we want to remain any better than other countries in scientific research, the sooner we realize how important our teachers are and start paying them decently for the work they do, the sooner we'll start developing better educated people to keep our country a world leader!

Do you have a question you'll need panel sign 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.

As Others See Us

By "YUKEY" NOMURA

From Osaka, Japan, now attending Birmingham High School, "Yukey" is the house guest of the W. W. Birchard family, Birmingham.

Last week we celebrated Christmas. It is one of the most interesting festivals for me to know of here in America. Christmas is, perhaps, the biggest festival of a Christian.

Though I am not a Christian, I have never seen any German person drink. Their custom is just different than ours; temperature is a virtue.

The clothes styles are much the same as ours. You buy practically everything in Germany that you can in America. Most of the girls and about one-half of the women don't wear make-up.

On the whole, life is much slower and sometimes, I think, more pleasant.

THE BIGGEST festival in Japan is New Year's Day. It lasts seven days, from January first until January seventh. Of course, the school is closed. We don't exchange presents, but older people give gifts to younger people. Gifts are most of the time money. So we can buy anything we like.

We have special cookings for Christmas. There are rice cakes, sweet cakes, which contains very few alcohol so that young children can drink it. radish, carrots, beans, soup and so on.

The other thing I was looking forward to was a White Christmas. In my city in Japan, we hardly have snow. Since we did not have a White Christmas, this year, there's another year coming and I wish you a Happy New Year.

Humpty Dumpty

Humpty Dumpty sat on a wall. Humpty Dumpty had a great fall. All the King's horses and all the King's men Couldn't put Humpty Dumpty together again.

... And THEN What Happened?

"Opossa doodle do," said one of the King's men. "I believe, I really do believe I just heard a tremendous thud!"

"If you'll pardon me, Sir Master Horseman," snorted the King's horse Sherbert, "I suggest we trot over there, by the garden wall."

The King's Horseman rose up on his stirrups and shaded his eyes against the glaring sun.

"You know I'm near sighted," Sherbert said peevishly. "I can't see a thing."

"Sherbert, looking a sorry sight, "Excuse me, Master," he said, "you're leaning in the wrong direction. If Humpty Dumpty again, Sir, he's fallen off the wall this time."

"THAT'S WHAT he gets for sitting so much, too heavy to carry his own weight, gets himself into all kinds of trouble, all kinds of trouble," he repeated to himself.

"Poor Humpty Dumpty! There he was looking as good as dead, straight down into the biggest mudpuddle in all of England. His horse had no time to get another mudpuddle and his beautiful, white plume was no longer a very fine feather, all dirty and bedraggled.

"His thin little legs were kicking in the air as he hit the mud. His hands against the ground trying to pull his poor cracked head out of the mudpuddle.

"THE KING'S Horseman jumped off his horse and ran to the mudpuddle.

"Wade to her, signal to her, we must get her down. Wait," he added, "I'll just think the matter over. Humpty Dumpty's horse, Mother Goose's great white gander, Mother Goose's pecker, looking an empty tree trunk.

"The King's horse and man came to a full stop in front of Humpty Dumpty.

"Well, this is certainly a fine kettle of fish," said Mother Goose. "More like a fine mess of eggs, I'd say. I'll just think the matter over. You know we're in a hurry! The King's horse and man came to a full stop in front of Humpty Dumpty.

"No more wails for you," said Mother Goose putting a little, as she tied her bow back on her slightly askew bonnet. "Come, Goose Gander, we've got to be on our way!"

She backed her magic jumping rope back into her magic basket and climbed on the gander's back. "Goodbye, all adieu!" and off they flew until all you could see was a tiny golden speck in the sky.

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